The largest student-run philanthropy worldwide, THON, was held Friday, February 19th, 2021, through Sunday, February 21st, 2021. This year's event was a little different than previous years, as organizers needed to think out of the box to make this happen. For the first time in its 48-year history, THON was held virtually. By doing so, it allowed dancers to unite from all over the commonwealth to celebrate and dance for an amazing cause. THON organizers kept dancers engaged by streaming student-led dances, concerts by musicians, and a series of activities, such as scavenger hunts and trivia. While the dancers were permitted to rest between 12:00 AM and 6:00 AM, the rest of the time was spent on their feet and active. Members of SGA and other clubs and organizations were able to log in at various times during the weekend and rally behind our campus dancers.

This year, the dancers who represented Penn State Wilkes-Barre were Jenay Zelinka and Derek Ptashinski. This was the first time as co-chair for Jenay, a sophomore, although she has been involved with the THON committee for 2 years. Derek, a junior co-chair, has been involved for the last 3 years. This year's fundraising goal of $3,000 for Penn State Wilkes-Barre was met and surpassed, thanks to the committee's hard work and all the generous donations from the community. Altogether, Penn State Wilkes-Barre raised $11,893, placing the campus in the Top 10 among the Commonwealth Campuses for the first time in a decade. The total amount raised university wide was $10,638,078.62.

Congratulations to Jenay, Derek, and the rest of the THON committee! Despite challenges presented by the pandemic, over $10 million was raised and will go to support families and children affected by pediatric cancer. FTK!
Introducing PS-WB Head Soccer Coach Justin Cardamone
by Scott Schival

Welcome to Penn State Wilkes-Barre, Justin Cardamone! The 2021 Fall Season will mark Coach Cardamone’s first season as the Men’s Head Soccer Coach at Penn State Wilkes-Barre.

Before Penn State, Coach Cardamone served as the Assistant Men’s Soccer Coach at Keystone College, Men’s Head Soccer Coach at Lackawanna College, Academy Coach for the New York Red Bulls, Assistant Men’s Soccer Coach at Penn State Scranton, Head Soccer Coach at Lakeland Junior Senior High School, and Head Coach for Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association’s (EPYSA) Olympic Development Program.

At Keystone, Coach Cardamone helped guide the Keystone College Men’s Program to its second consecutive CSAC title in the 2019 season. The Giants finished their season 13-5-1, with a 6-1-0 mark in league play. The 2017 season, the Keystone Giants ended the season as CSAC Runners-Up.

During his time as the Lackawanna College NJCAA DI Head Men’s Soccer Coach, Cardamone led Lackawanna’s inaugural Men’s Soccer Program season to an 8-5-0 overall record and 2-4-0 in conference play. Four players were named to the NJCAA All-Academic Team and three players earned 2nd Team All-Conference honors.

Other coaching experiences include Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Olympic Development Program (ODP) Head Staff Coach for Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association (EPYSA,) where the youth team competes regionally and at the national level. Cardamone is also actively involved with local club organizations such as TNT Elite FC, Lakeland Youth Soccer, Valley Youth Soccer and NEPSAY.

Cardamone holds a United Soccer Coaches Premier, Director of Coaching, Goalkeeper Level III License and his U.S. Soccer National C License as well as other United Soccer Coaches and U.S. Soccer Licenses. He is a PIAA Official as well as SAY Soccer Official. Cardamone graduated from Keystone College in 2012 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Secondary Education with a Minor in Mathematics. He also completed a Master’s of Science from Wilkes University in 2015 in which he graduated Summa Cum Laude with highest honors.
Penn State Wilkes-Barre Athletics Update
by Scott Schival

Sports did not happen! Penn State Wilkes-Barre's Spring sports were brought to a halt. Our baseball team will sit out this season due to low roster size. Hope remains high that golf will be able to play their season with great success.

Despite the lack of athletic involvement, Penn State Wilkes-Barre's Athletics Department has been busy. The Athletics and Recreation Building (ARB) recently remodeled the bleachers in the gym, boasting the Penn State logo. To recognize the successes of our athletes, we have also received new trophy cases, this time with lighting. We are also in the process of hanging retired jerseys of former players and further expanding the Wall of Fame.

Our coaches and recruiting team have been hard at work to ensure full rosters to begin the 2021-22 season. We are also excited to announce that we are in the process of hiring new Head Coaches for soccer and baseball. Be on the lookout for their introduction profiles in the next issue of “The Revolt.”

Introducing PS-WB Head Soccer Coach Justin Cardamone (cont.)

Collegiate Coaching Record:
Keystone College: 4 seasons 38-15-3 (.678) Overall / 18-3-1 (.818), NCAA DIII
· 2019 Season: CSAC Champions
· 2018 Season: CSAC Champions (1st time in program 126-year history)
· 2017 Season: CSAC Runners-Up
Lackawanna College: 1 season 8-5-0 (.615) Overall / 2-4-0 (.333), NJCAA DI
· 2016 Season: 4 Players NJCAA All-Academic Team, 3 Players 2nd Team All-Conference honors.
Penn State Scranton: 1 season 4-8-0 (.333) Overall / 3-5-0 (.375), USCAA
· 2015 Season: 6 Players PSUAC All-Academic Team; 2 Players 1st Team, 3 Players 2nd Team
Films from Black Female Writers and Directors

by Grant Loose

Film is a wonderful medium that has the ability to explore so many endlessly fascinating themes and topics, but many of the most popular films are headed by straight white male directors or writers. Because of this, it can often be hard to authentic experiences of marginalized people played out on the screen. As February was Black History Month, and March is Women's History Month, here are some great (and deeply underrated) films by black female writers and directors.

1. Rocks (2019) – Rocks is directed by Sarah Gavron and written by Theresa Ikoko and Claire Wilson. It is a coming-of-age story about a British-Nigerian teenage girl named Rocks and her younger brother following their lives after their mother leaves them, and their struggles to survive, while Rocks is supported by her group of friends.

2. Pariah (2011) – Pariah is written and directed by Dee Rees. It's a coming-of-age (and coming out) story about Alike, a 17-year-old lesbian coming to terms with her identity, exploring her sexuality, and dealing with disapproval from her conservative parents.

3. The Fits (2015) – The Fits is directed by Anna Rose Holmer, while the story was created by Holmer, Saela Davis, and Lisa Kjerulff. It's an extremely atmospheric arthouse film about an 11-year-old girl named Toni that struggles to fit in and be accepted amongst her peers at her dance troupe while a strange outbreak of seizure-like fits breaks out amongst the troupe.

4. Rafiki (2018) – Rafiki is a Kenyan film directed by Wanuri Kahiu and written by Kahiu and Jena Cato Bass. Rafiki is a love story about two girls named Kena and Ziki that must deal with the struggles of their fathers being political rivals, as well as maintaining their relationship while homosexuality is illegal in Kenya.
5. The Watermelon Woman (1996) – The Watermelon Woman is written and directed by Cheryl Dunye and was the first feature film directed by an out black lesbian. It’s a comedy-drama about a black lesbian named Cheryl who attempts to create a documentary about an uncredited black actress from an old film, as she also balances her friendships and love life.

6. Daughters of the Dust (1991) – Daughters of the Dust is written and directed by Julie Dash. It’s a period drama film primarily about the lives of the women of the Peazant family, Gullah islanders that live off the coast of Georgia.

7. Eve’s Bayou (1997) – Eve’s Bayou is written and directed by Kasi Lemmons. It’s a horror-drama film about a young girl named Eve who begins to unravel the truth about her family and their existence, including her father’s infidelity.

8. Clemency (2019) – Clemency is written and directed by Chinonye Chukwu. It’s a drama film about a prison warden named Bernadine that oversees executions, and her mental state as she develops a connection to the next prisoner that is scheduled to be executed.

9. I Am Not a Witch (2017) – I Am Not a Witch is a Zambian film written and directed by Rungano Nyoni. It’s an arthouse drama film about an 8-year-old girl named Shula that is accused of witchcraft and is taken to a labor camp full of other accused witches.

10. I May Destroy You (2020) – I May Destroy You isn’t a film, but rather a 12-episode miniseries written and co-directed by Michaela Coel, known for her comedy series Chewing Gum. However, I May Destroy You, while it has comedic moments, is a serious and powerful story about Arabella, a popular novelist that is sexually assaulted after meeting with her friends at a bar. As Arabella struggles to remember what happened that night, the show raises many important questions about consent.
Penn State’s CCSG
by Kaci Grabowski

The first CCSG conference of the Spring 2021 semester, or Council of Commonwealth Student Governments, was held the weekend of January 29-30, virtually over Zoom. All CCSG conferences have been virtual this academic year, but they are still incredibly important to be had. CCSG brings students together from all Penn State Campuses, and in a virtual world, students from all over the country.

What was most important to me at this Council Weekend was the Diversity Summit. We were placed into breakout rooms, where we were given a Social Identity Wheel. It really put things into perspective for me about how alike we are, but also how different we are. At the end of the day, we are all Penn State students who have shared experiences with the University. Simultaneously, we all come from different backgrounds and walks of life and that is to be celebrated. The discussion was facilitated by one of Penn State’s own Mental Health Counselors, Amanda L. Collins from Penn State Fayette. Having her present as a resource was beneficial to the discussions and it was made clear that if we were ever uncomfortable with discussions that we were free to leave the call, as sometimes this can be a lot for people.

I strongly advise everyone to attend a CCSG Council Weekend because there is so much to share and learn. Last semester was the first that I ever attended CCSG, and while virtual, it has opened so many new doors for me and showed me how much power we actually have as students. You do not need to be involved with anything in particular to attend the conferences, and I strongly recommend joining us next council weekend, March 19-20th!
March is known as Women’s History Month used to celebrate and recognize amazing women past, present, and future. It’s no secret that women have not had it easy throughout history. However, there have many women who have taken that leap of faith, some even at the risk of their lives, just to make a difference in the world. Some that immediately come to mind are Harriett Tubman, Rosa Parks, Clara Barton, and Maya Angelou. You have Amelia Earhart, the first woman to fly solo over the Atlantic, and Sally Ride, the first American women in space. Marie Curie was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize for her research in radioactivity. The list goes on and on.

Women have had to fight for their rights for a very long time, some still fighting today around the world. In the United States, women did not have the right to vote until 1920 when a yellow rose in a Tennessee election turned the page for women’s rights. Even today, there are still issues such as the wage gap between genders or women in STEM fields. Slowly but surely, the tide is changing, and women are making huge strides. As women in a collegiate setting, it is time to lift each other up and take that step forward to make a difference. Whether you are a first-year student on campus or a senior getting ready for the workforce, there is always something you can do. Look for ways to get involved either out in the community or on campus. Our Student Government Association is a great place to share your ideas and make a difference on campus or even write for The Revolt to have your voice heard (inserting shameless plugs.)

Watch for emails from Student Affairs about great activities scheduled for Women’s History Month or check the PSU-WB SGA social media pages for awesome quotes from women who have made an impact. Remember to encourage other women and don’t be afraid to take that step and fly. It might be scary, but you can do amazing things!