

The BEACON

Wilkes University Wilkes-Barre, PA

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW
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Parking Overflow Temporarily Solved *Wilkes and city administrators address issue together*

BY JOSEPH DEANGELIS
Beacon Layout Artist

For the first time this year, all the spaces across the river at the Ralston Field parking lot are full. All 425 parking permits for the field have been sold bringing more aggravation to commuters and general parking problems on campus.

However, this week Vice President of Student Affairs, Paul Adams, along with J.J. Murphy City Administrator and Mayor Tom Leighton, entered into an agreement to lease two new parking lots to Wilkes, one on South Street, behind the Call Center and another parking garage on Main

Street. These new lots will help ease the congestion of Ralston Field and provide 141 new parking spaces for commuters and facility members.

"Certainly we would like to see some relief over in Ralston Field," Adams said.

For several years, Adams has struggled to find a parking lot close to campus for commuters and faculty members, but his patience finally paid off with the "right people in the right positions."

"It took a shift in the political profile of the city for us to be able to make this arrangement," Adams

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The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Ralston Field permits sold out this year - the first time since the lot's opening - leaving faculty and students to scramble for spaces.

Downtown Collegetown Party on the Sqaure



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Students take a ride on this menchanical bull at last weekend's First Annual Downtown Collegetown Party on the Square. The event, held on Public Square, was planned to draw the local college communities together.

Four Director Positions Eliminated in University Restructuring

BY JULIE MELF
Beacon Asst. News Editor

This article is the third and final installment in a three-part series reporting on the organizational changes that have taken place at the University during and since the summer. Part three will focus on the University's policies regarding the separations associated with restructuring. Last week, part two examined the changes within the President's Cabinet and the impact those changes will have on development initiatives and the capital campaign. Previously, part one looked at the changes within the Student Affairs Office.

WilkesUniversity officials continue to work to meet the goals outlined in the institution's

strategic plan. This summer the reorganization effort led to the elimination of specific positions in various campus offices.

Specifically in the past three months, the University eliminated four positions, which resulted in the loss of jobs for the Director of the Wilkes Fund, Carol Maculloch; Director of Alumni Relations, Stacey Smulowitz; Director of Marketing Communications, Vaughn Shinkus; and Director of Student Activities, Donna Thornton.

"The employee separations that were required were very difficult for all involved, but at the same time necessary to build the kind of organization that we want Wilkes to be," Wilkes University President Joseph E. (Tim) Gilmour said.

According to Carol Maculloch, who was employed by the University for over ten years, the entire departure took approximately ten minutes and she was surprised by the news of the elimination of her position. "The interim Vice President, Paul Adams called a Directors' meeting for Wednesday, July 29 at 4 p.m. There was no agenda and Vaughn Shinkus, Director of Marketing, Stacy Smulowitz, Director of Alumni, and [I] thought we would discuss the Vice Presidential Candidates that were scheduled to arrive on campus. Instead, Paul Adams entered the room and indicated that the University had made a decision to eliminate our positions. He asked Vaughn to

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SG Freshmen Officers and Reps Elected

BY KAREN E. SHOVAL
Beacon Correspondent

Voting took place on Tuesday, September 21, to elect this year's Student Government (SG) freshman class officers and representatives.

This year's election results are as follows: President, Nicole Krajewski; Vice President, James Juice; Treasurer, Anthony Scerbo; Secretary, Kimberly Toussaint; Representatives, Kevin Gorsline, Dana Zlotucha, and Robert Bireley. There are also three other students who were written in, and, if they each get fifty signatures, will also be named representatives of their class.

According to the SG Consti-

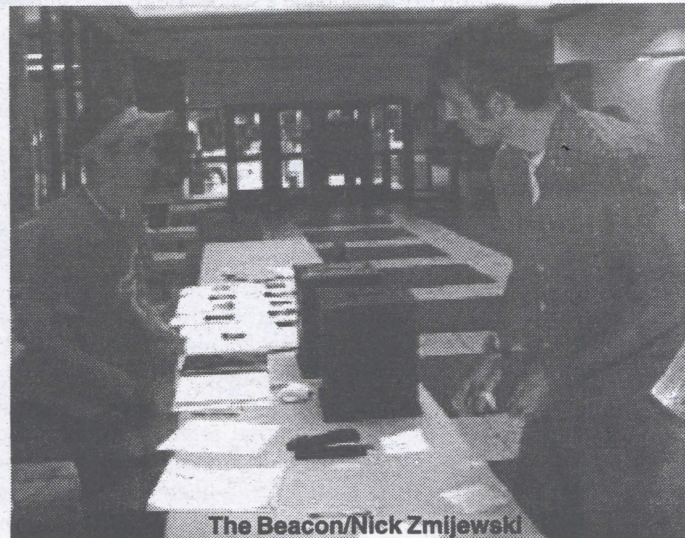
tution, the election committee consists of IRHC President, Parliamentarian, Commuter Council President, Senior Class President and Off-Campus Council President. Since last year, the OCC President position has been vacant, leaving the election committee with four student representatives.

IRHC President and sophomore business administration major Jenna Strzelecki, said that there are several steps that must be taken in order to obtain an elected position. "If you are interested in running, you have to get information and get a certain amount of signatures and then hand them in

[to Student Government]," Strzelecki said.

Jared Shayka, a junior pharmacy major, said a total of eleven people ran to fill the 10 positions available. "Three people ran for president, two people ran for vice president, two people ran for treasurer, one person ran for secretary, and three people ran for the representative position."

Unlike in recent years, this year's election was not executed through electronic means. "Usually we do an electronic election, but this year we had to use paper ballots because there was trouble in the online election process," Shayka said.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
T. Mick Jenkins, SG President, looks on as John Mishanski votes to fill vacant positions in the sophomore class.

ELIMINATED from Front Page

stay with him for his exit procedure....I was told that Josephine Panaganiban, Assistant Vice President for Human Resources was waiting outside the door to go over my exit procedures, and Stacy was asked to meet with Mary Lorusso to go over her exit paperwork. The entire departure took approximately ten minutes," Maculloch noted. She further explained that the University's restructuring was decided upon by the administration to provide the new Vice President for Institutional Advancement with the opportunity to build his own team that more or less follows the corporate model.

"I loved my time at Wilkes and made many wonderful friends and worked with many colleagues that I respected. It was an honor to serve my alma mater and I wish the University all the best in their fundraising ventures," Maculloch added.

Maculloch is currently employed as the Director of Annual Giving Programs at the University of Scranton and responsible for raising \$3.5 million dollars annually.

According to the Staff Policy Manual that is located on the Human Resources page of the University website, the nature of employment of all staff at the University is one that is "at-will"

(Policy #101- Nature of Employment). "At-will" means simply that the employer has the right to terminate employment at any time.

The University's policy outlines the process a manager must follow when an employee is not meeting performance or behavioral expectations. Wilkes University also has a policy that states what types of behavior are unacceptable and may result in a variety of sanctions up to and including termination of employment. Because Pennsylvania is an at-will state, the University has the right to reorganize and restructure its departments, which may sometimes result in the elimination of positions. As a result of position elimination, the incumbent loses his or her job. This type of separation is not a result of unsatisfactory performance or misconduct.

The University's policy in regards to the exit procedure of an individual separated from the institution can vary. According to Josephine M. Panaganiban, the

Vice President for Human Resources Development, a staff member from the Human Resources office helps the employee gather their belongings together and carry them to their vehicle if the separating employee chooses to do so at that point. If the separating employee chooses to come back another time to gather belongings, they will need to coordinate a time with their supervisor. The Human Resources Office notifies the Director of Campus Support Services when an involuntary separation is going to take place so that the Director can arrange for a Public Safety presence in the vicinity.

"Individuals' reactions in severance situations differ and are so unpredictable that it is prudent for the safety of all those involved as well as others in the area to have Public Safety unobtrusive but close by," Panaganiban said.

Individuals who have been separated from the University do receive benefits including a severance pay schedule for an em-

ployee that is consistently applied and it is based on an eligible employee's years of continuous service in a full-time capacity. Employees' health benefits are covered until midnight of the last day of the month in which their separation occurs. They are then eligible to continue health benefits through COBRA, (The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986), a federal law that provides for continued health benefits; however, the in-

dividual must then pay for continued coverage.

"Involuntary separations by their very nature are difficult actions. When we conduct these separations, the University looks out for both the dignity of the individual that is being separated as well as the protection of the University - its students and other employees. It is a balance we have to strike between these two factors," Panaganiban said.

Beacon Corrections

On September 20, 2004, *The Beacon* erroneously reported in a photo caption that the new marquee in front of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center was made possible through a gift donated by a member of the Board of Trustees. The gift, in fact, came

from Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Karambelas, friends of the University.

The Beacon continually strives for accuracy and fairness in all articles and photos. We regret the aforementioned error and appreciate readers alerting us to the problems.

The BEACON

Serving the community through fair and accurate reporting while supporting the views and opinions of our readers.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Courtesy: Associated Press

Campus Officer Fatally Shot

INDIANAPOLIS, IN: A man fatally shot a Butler University police officer during a confrontation Friday outside a school fieldhouse and fled on foot, authorities said.

Hundreds of officers searched the area around the campus on the city's north side, city police Sgt. Steve Staletovich said.

The officer was called on a report of a suspicious person in the building as the Butler women's basketball team was practicing, Staletovich said.

The man was outside the building when the Butler officer arrived and witnesses reported hearing a single gunshot and then seeing the man pick up a gun and run away, he said.

"Beer Belly Bandit" Strikes Again

TAMPA, FL: The "Beer Belly Bandit" has struck again after a 10-month break, adding to the dozens of bank robberies he has committed in Florida since 2000.

The robber, known for his bulging midsection, hit a bank on Tuesday, pulling a gun on two tellers.

Investigators are not sure where the bandit has been for the past 10 months. Jail is one possibility, but Davenport said police have the bandit's description and he probably would have been recognized.

The Beer Belly Bandit -- also known as the "Band-Aid Bandit," because he had a bandage on his face in some holdups -- has a skin condition on his hands and arms that makes his skin look bleached.

Mooney Gets Year in Prison

MILFORD, CT: A man who mooned the judge will be spending an extra year in his prison jumpsuit.

Richard Brown's June 23 pants dropping cost him a year in prison. He got six months for contempt of court and an extra six months that the prosecutor added to the sentence offered in a plea deal for robbery.

"Sir? Kiss my (expletive), sir!" Brown shouted, dropping the pants of his two-piece prison jumpsuit as he turned to expose his rear end to the bench.

Town Has to Wait 100 Years for \$100 Million

MONTPELIER, IN: Town elders plan to offer a \$100 million gift to this community. There's only one catch: It'll be a century before town leaders can collect.

Kenny Neff, who was mayor from 1983 to 1995, organized 10 donors to give \$1,000 each to the trust fund, but the city won't be able to tap it for 100 years. Neff said the goal was to give future city leaders an endowment.

The trust fund's stipulations state that the first use of the money in 2104 would be to "throw a citywide party and drink a toast commemorating the 10 individuals that provided the trust," Neff said.

Charges against 'Growing Pains' star

VENTURA, CA: Prosecutors filed three felony counts Thursday against former "Growing Pains" star Tracey Gold Marshall in the alleged drunken driving rollover crash of her sport utility vehicle.

The district attorney's office filed charges of driving under the influence of alcohol causing bodily injury, driving with a blood alcohol level in excess of 0.08 causing injury and felony child endangerment, Senior Deputy District Attorney Kim Gibbons said.

Marshall wasn't hurt when the SUV flipped, but her husband, Roby Marshall, 39, suffered neck injuries. The couple's 7-year-old son suffered a broken collarbone, and their 5-year-old son was cut, said California Highway Patrol officer Steve Reid. A 4-month-old son also in the vehicle wasn't hurt. Berk said the 5-year-old was also uninjured.

Marshall played Carol Seaver during the seven-year run of "Growing Pains," which ended production in 1992.

YMCA Street Fair Slated

BY JULIE MELF

Beacon Asst. News Editor

Make way, the YMCA's 3rd Annual Street Fair is coming to town.

Three years ago, local leaders had a dream to showcase the Wilkes-Barre YMCA and bring business and communities members together, and thus the YMCA Street Fair was born.

"We're trying to cross-pollinate between the college students and all of the businesses that we have in the downtown and...to get the students more involved in the different things, both in the town and here at the Y," Jim Thomas, Executive Director of the YMCA said.

Featured events will include food, live entertainment, games, prizes, basket and bike raffles, children's activities, and much more. Plans are also in the works to possibly expand the street fair into the Wilkes University greenway.

"I'm hoping that Wilkes-Barre can be like Lewisburg and Selinsgrove and get the college students coming here and that we can do things together for the community. I just think that colleges should be part of the city, a big part of the city, and it should be a college town," said Gretchen Severson, Executive Assistant for the YMCA said.

Plans for the new South Main Street Project, which include the movie theater, will also be displayed during the Street Fair. The event will be held on Sunday, October 3, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. on South

Franklin Street, between Northampton Street (in front of the YMCA) and South Street. With events like face painting and bands that range from oldies to modern rock, the YMCA Street Fair has something for the young and old alike.

"It gets a lot of people involved in Wilkes-Barre. There's not too much to do around here and this looks pretty interesting. I'm not doing anything that day and it



sounds like a lot of fun," Adam Motsney, a sophomore pre-pharmacy major said.

The YMCA will also be offering a one-day only special discount to those who show up to the festivities.

"We're offering a two for the price of one special that day for businesses and people that live in the community. They can join and bring their spouse or another person that they would like to work out with," Thomas said.

The YMCA is within walking distance from campus so it is a prime spot for students to get out of that dorm room and build stronger ties to the community.

Student Government Notes

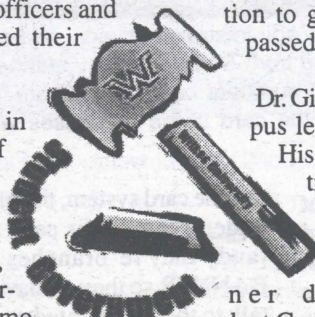
Newly elected class officers and representatives accepted their positions.

The Crew Club was in for a second hearing of its fund request. Their revised request totaled \$4,455 for a regatta entry fee, used boats, oars, and wood to build a storage unit for the boats. A mo-

tion to grant the Crew Club \$3,000 was passed 15-9-4.

Dr. Gilmour was unable to meet with campus leaders following the SG meeting. His visit will be rescheduled for sometime in October.

Tickets will be on sale all week for the Homecoming dinner dance in the lobby of the Henry Student Center.



Elimination of Social Security ID Numbers Moving Slowly

BY KEVIN FITZSIMMONS
Beacon Correspondent

Attention Wilkes University students: if you don't want to use your social security number as your student identification number--do something about it.

Without a federal or state mandate encouraging schools to keep Social Security numbers private, the trend of changing schools identification numbers to randomly generated numbers is happening slower than anticipated.

"One of the main things that SLAM has been looking at the past year is the issue of using Social Security numbers as the primary ID numbers at the University," said Dr. Donald Mencer, Chairman of Student Life and Media (SLAM), a joint committee of students and faculty.

A person's Social Security num-

ber is like an electronic fingerprint that is unique to the individual and remains on all personal accounts. The severe security risk these nine digits pose if they wind up in the wrong hands has proven both

costly and frightening to many who have struggled to regain credit after identity theft. "We have been doing our best to keep a private number for each individual," said Wilkes University Registrar, Susan Hritzak.

Social Security numbers have been taken off class rosters, student directories, and are not visually displayed on ID cards. The ID number change for alumni already took place; however, various computer systems share current students' information, making the switch increasingly difficult.

"The BANNER system can do it no problem, but you've tied into



Any student who wants a randomized number can get one. It's as easy as walking to the Registrar's Office in Passan Hall and filling out a form. Overhauling the entire student body is on the agenda, but it's not at the top of the list.

"They have been talking about it for a few years now, and the problem is getting it into the queue of how important it is, what priority it has to take over, to get the IT people to actually complete the process," Hritzak said.

One reason for the issue's low priority is the low vocalization from students. SLAM went to Student Government (SG) to see if there was any interest in changing the numbers on campus. SG members indicated that the issue was important, despite the fact that students across campus had not actively sought immediate change.

"Last week was more or less just to get a sense from SG if this is an issue that you guys are concerned about, and the feedback I got from the representatives was, yeah, this is something we want you guys to work on," Mencer said.

Initially incoming freshmen and transfer students were to have randomized numbers, but when the IT department went south, so did those plans.

Although Social Security numbers will always be behind the scenes for financial aid purposes, new ID numbers for students could be implemented as soon as summer 2005.

This issue will be addressed at the next SLAM meeting on October 14. The group meets on the second Thursday of every month at 11 a.m. in Breiseth Hall.

"If there's enough concern expressed by students that this switchover will happen, it's just a matter of timing at this point," Mencer concluded.

Sidhu School Launches Curriculum Innovation PPD Program Initiated

BY KRISTIN KILE
Beacon News Editor

Over the past year, the Business Division has experienced a metamorphosis largely due to the leadership of its namesake, Jay S. Sidhu, whose financial gift and vision charted a new course for the program. The most recent evidence of that ongoing change can be found in the implementation of a new program called Personal and Professional Development (PPD).

According to Matt Sowcik, coordinator of PPD, the program is a series of one-credit classes taken for seven semesters. The program targets personal and professional growth through assessment, de-

velopment, internships, and evaluations.

"The idea of internships is a great idea," Dean Frear, Visiting Professor of the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership said. "It gives real world experience to students while they're going to school, without the pressure of having total job performance. In other words, if they're not performing up to par, they're not going to lose their job."

Casey Grimm, senior business major is currently interning at Morgan Stanley. Grimm thinks that having the internship has been a good experience in learning sales techniques among other

It gives real world experience to students while they're going to school, without the pressure of having total job performance.

Dean Frear
Visiting Professor

velopment, internships, and evaluations.

"I think the Personal and Professional Development series of classes is not only unique to Wilkes, but in the research I have done and in the research some of the professors here have done, it is unique to universities nationwide," Sowcik said.

It is unique in that the program focuses on the development on both personal and professional levels simultaneously. According to Sowcik, during a student's freshman year the class focuses on self-assessment and looking for strengths and weaknesses. The sophomore year consists of building internal and external networks. Students will look for mentorships, faculty relationships and work in teams.

"I think from my understanding there is a real need to get experience within the school both academically and practical experience, and start building resumes, both in school activities and clubs, but also outside in the community," Sowcik said.

During the junior year business students begin to build resumes, leadership portfolios, identify their career focus and start applying for internships. Sowcik said a major

skills. "I've gotten some hands on experience in the financial industry. The best thing is communication skills and learning to communicate with people in the industry."

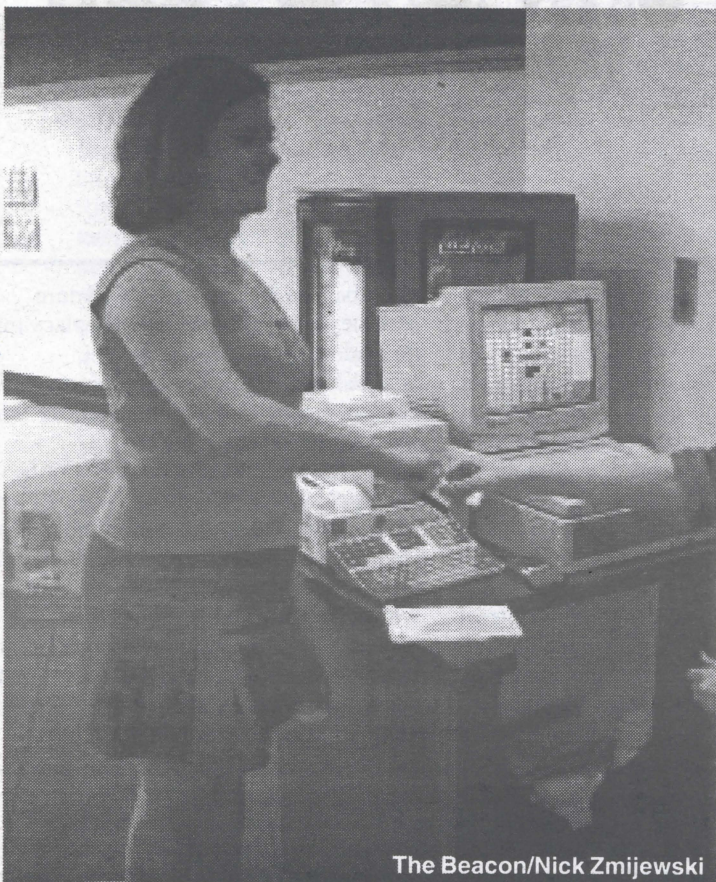
Grimm said he has been able to take what he has learned in the classroom and apply it to real world situations. He is also able to build networks and relationships out in the community.

"It gives [students] a lot of background and I think it makes them focus in on the fact that what they are learning here actually applies," Frear added.

The last semester of the program concludes by looking back at the past four years and looking towards obtaining that first job.

"I think there is a lot of emphasis on getting that first job. A job that is going to be not only interest of the students, but somewhere that can be promoted quickly, that it can really make a difference," Sowcik said.

All business majors are required to follow the PPD class series and complete an internship. "I think the business school will look to establish strong internships so companies know they're getting the best students," Sowcik said.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Julie Gilbert, junior business administration major, swipes for lunch in the HSC. Converting from Social Security number ID's to randomly selected ID numbers could complicate several programs, including the card swipe processes with meal plans.

ber is like an electronic fingerprint that is unique to the individual and remains on all personal accounts. The severe security risk these nine digits pose if they wind up in the wrong hands has proven both

the one card system, the meal plan system, the credit card system, [and] they're branches of this BANNER so they all have to also talk to these generated numbers," Hritzak said.

Students Swipe Their Way Through Campus

BY KRISTIN KILE
Beacon News Editor

Technological advances have swiped their way across campus and into the dorms. In spring 2004, Public Safety, along with Residence Life, introduced keyless entry to the dorms on the 300 block of South River Street and more are soon to come.

Instead of traditional keys, residents in 321, 325, 327 and 339 South River Street now will use their ID cards to obtain access to their dorms. Students were first introduced to the keyless entry when they came back from Christmas break last year.

"They were actually put on when they were acquired by the University about five years ago, but unfortunately even though the hardware was installed, it was never utilized," Mike Malkemes, Manager of Safety and Logistics at Public Safety, said about the card swipe device.

Both Residence Life and Public Safety officials work closely together to ensure that only students that reside in that dorm have access to it. "We rely on Residence Life for that information, an accurate listing for students and if someone moves they notify us, we change it. It's very simple to do," Malkemes said.

The card swipe access offers many benefits that traditional keys do not. Malkemes said that the level of security is improved with the card access.

"If someone loses a residence hall key, you have an issue there, is somebody going to find the key, do we need to change the locks? Whereas with keyless entry, if a student loses their ID card, all we do is delete that ID card from the system and we don't have to mess physically with the locks," Malkemes said.

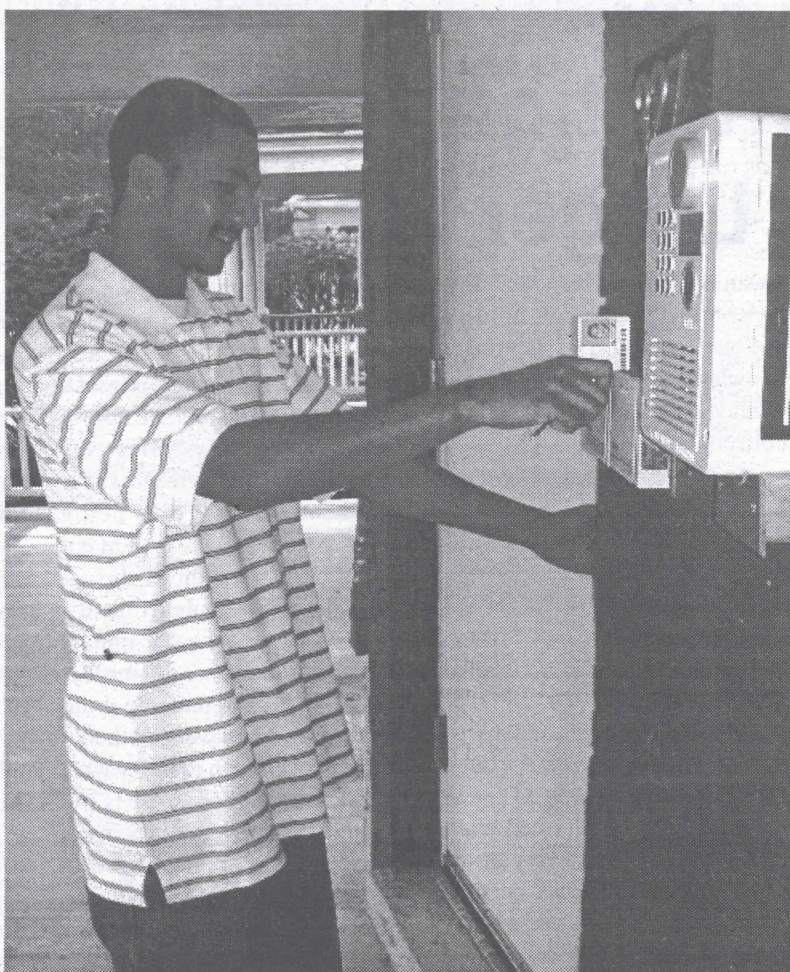
Public Safety also has tracking capabil-

ity to audit who goes in and out of the dorms. While Public Safety has not had to resort to using the tracking system, it is an advantage if a situation would arise.

Chris Leicht, Assistant Resident Director, agrees that there are many advantages to the card access.

"It's nice to have as many services as possible to use with the student ID--the cafeteria, now I know you can get into the gym and classrooms with it, so it's nice just to add the residence hall to that," Leicht said.

While the advantages appear numerous, there are also disadvantages to the technology. Power outages and downed networks can prove a problem. On Saturday, September 11, a car hit a telephone pole causing a power outage on South River Street. Malkemes said both Public Safety and Residence Life have keys to respond to a situation like that. In the future, Malkemes said that they hope the swipe machines will have battery back-



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
Ashish Patel, pharmacy major, swipes into his residence hall at 327 S. River St.

one thing Public Safety doesn't ever want to see is doors propped open," Malkemes said.

Another drawback happened in the beginning of the school year when a bad card reader was discovered at 339 South River.

"We had a bad card reader on one of the dormitories, that wasn't recognizing the cards. It was corrected as soon as it was reported...Our IT Department got the work order, responded, replaced the reader and so far we haven't had any issues with it," Malkemes said.

Currently, there is a plan to add card access to Slocum and Sullivan Halls. According to Malkemes, they hope to have those systems up and running by the time students come back for the spring 2005 semester. Both Leicht and Malkemes said a long-term goal is to expand the card access program campus-wide.

"We have more of a challenge here because of all the mansion style houses. [With] a lot of them, it's tough to install, and plus we have so many. That would be more of a cost, say, if we had two or three big halls," Leicht said.

Residence Halls are not the only buildings utilizing keyless entry. The Martz gym, computer labs, and classroom buildings re-

quire card access during certain hours. While campus-wide card access may be far from complete, students can expect to get good use out of their ID cards.

up. When a situation like this occurs, there is a security concern. "We would keep somebody there and do patrols to verify the access in and out of the building. That's

PARKING

from Front Page

said about the new college-friendly Leighton administration. "And it's a win-win because the spaces lie fallow right now. ...We're willing to pay the city some revenue and we get the parking."

With the largest freshmen class to enroll since 1988 at Wilkes, available parking spaces have been filling up faster than ever. "This year we found out that more resident students have obtained a Ralston pass versus previous years," said Matthew Yench, the Manager of Community Relations and Quality Assurance. When Public Safety officers make their nightly rounds at Ralston, they see that the field is almost half full, which probably means that those cars belong to residents.

The former Call Center lot, which can be entered by South Street, will be used for overflow commuters. Commuters who cannot find a parking space on campus can reroute to that lot. The Park-n-Lock on Main Street will be used as faculty parking, and

if need be, commuter overflow.

Last year, the Public Safety office leased a parking lot on Market Street across the bridge for a semester, but nobody was using it because there were not enough spaces at Ralston Field. Public Safety has since revoked that lease.

The lease of the new parking spaces does not guarantee that this will fix the parking problem on campus. Since the Call Center is good office space, a company might want to move into it, making the lot unavailable for Wilkes. "This is not a permanent solution for us.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel
The Call Center Lot, shown above, will be used as an overflow lot, accomodating commuter students parking in the Henry Student Center lot.

It will provide us with some temporary relief," Adams said.

With this in mind, the Public Safety office is always on the hunt for a new parking lot, which is getting increasingly harder to

do. "We are an urban setting and parking is very difficult to come by," Yench said. "Obviously we're here to serve the students and provide them with the best accommodations that we can."

Lack of Attention to Sudan Indicates Larger Issue

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL STAFF

Presently in the Sudan, horrific crimes against humanity are being committed. Colin Powell, U.S. Secretary of State, has even gone so far as to call what is happening "genocide." It's hard to believe that in 2004 genocide--the deliberate destruction of a racial, religious or political group--is actually occurring.

The Sudan is in the middle of a great civil war in which many speculate that the Sudanese government, in coalition with the Janjaweed militia, are committing a systematic elimination of the Black Africans in the region. It is believed that up to 50,000 people have been killed in Darfur alone, which is one of the world's poorest, most secluded regions, and more are dying everyday. And despite the fact that this has been going on for months, the situation is not getting any better.

Not to detract from the complete atrocity of the situation in the Sudan, but what makes the reality even more troubling is widespread American ignorance of the situation.

For instance, when we discussed topics for this very editorial at the weekly meeting of *The Beacon*, blank stares were plentiful in the newsroom when someone mentioned the Sudan. This lack of knowledge in the copy room of a newspaper, where young journalists are learning everyday, is testament to the fact that we, as a nation, are not as informed as we should be.

It is not that we do not watch the news or read the papers; that occurs for most of us on a daily basis. What is troubling, however, is that many of our peers today seem to shy away from active pursuit of the truth. Whether it is because of a lack of interest,

a waning sense of responsibility, lack of time and energy, or just a national apathy, this dearth of knowledge, no matter how slight it may seem, can have serious consequences.

As cliché as it sounds, young

not that we do not care. We do. But we care a little more about what is happening to us and around us, first and foremost. The bulk of the ignorance problem could simply reflect the American "me-orientation."

While being informed about the issues that directly impact us is important, the problem occurs when we stop there.

It is not enough to know what is going on at home. It is not enough to know simply what happens in those countries with economic ties to the United States. America is not an entity

in its own and many would speculate that our once superpower past is rapidly dissipating. Isolationism doesn't work. Therefore we must broaden our horizons into other places and unfortunately open our eyes to outside horrors.

The Sudan is an excellent example. This situation is clearly one of the worst things happening in our world today, yet do you know anything about it outside of what you read at the beginning of this editorial? This is something to which Americans need to pay attention, and by simply reading a daily newspaper, more people will become informed. The spread of knowledge is what initiates change.

What kind of future will we have if the uninformed young people of today mature into the uninformed adults of tomorrow?

people are the future. What kind of future will we have if the uninformed young people of today mature into the uninformed adults of tomorrow? Not a very bright one. Information has become more readily available than at any other time in history. Twenty-four hour news channels, numerous print media sources, and of course, the internet have made becoming informed as easy as opening your eyes and ears or clicking a button.

So what is the problem? Why do we stare blankly when we are asked about the Sudan? We obviously have more than enough resources at our disposal, so why are some of us just not using them? Have we become the lazy American with no interest in anything other than our satisfaction and ourselves?

Perhaps. It is

Nickle for Your Thoughts



BY JASON NICKLE

Street Beat

The Beacon scoured the campus in search of your opinions on the latest, most controversial issues. This week, we asked:

What overall opinions do you have of the Food Service?

Darlene Polanco
Freshman, biology major
and **Dorimar Bonelli**
Freshman, biology major

"They are really nice and the food is good. The people, especially, are very friendly."

Tanner Arthur
Freshman, political science major

"It's alright. That's about it."

Bryan Riley
Sophomore, pre-pharmacy major

"The Food Service hasn't changed at all from last year, which is disappointing."

Nick Durham
Junior, chemistry major

"Rifkin is a little slow. They need more people."

Sarah Murphy
Senior, political science major

"It's not bad upstairs."

Score One (or Three) for Women's Health

Third Judge rules partial birth abortion ban unconstitutional

BY MATT ZEBROWSKI
Beacon Asst. Op-Ed Editor

In 2003, President Bush and Congress put into law a ban on so-called "partial birth abortion" that was hailed by abortion opponents the nation over as a major victory. However, earlier this month, District Judge Richard Kopf from Lincoln, NE, infamous bastion of liberal politics that it is, became the third federal Judge to rule that the ban is unconstitutional. Why? Well, because it is.

Never mind my own personal adamantly pro-choice stance. I would hope that even the most passionate of social conservatives would be able to see through the rhetoric and admit that in its current form, the partial birth abortion ban poses a serious health threat to women. True, the ban states that the procedure is permissible in cases where the mother's life is jeopardized, but it does not leave a clause for other serious, yet non-fatal, health risks.

Thankfully, the nationwide trend, even in typically conservative areas like Ne-

braska, seems to be pointing towards rectifying this serious flaw in the legislation.

The thing that supporters of the ban don't tell you, though, is that "partial birth abortions" really never were as much of a horror story as they were made out to be. Even their choice of such a sensationalistic title (doctors refer to the procedure as "intact dilation and extraction") puts anyone choosing to argue with them at a disadvantage from the start.

They also don't tell you that since *Roe v. Wade* in 1973, an estimated 2,200 to 5,000 intact dilation and extractions have taken place per year, which is only about 0.4% of the 1.3 million abortions performed annually nationwide.

To compare that figure to another recent and controversial topic, the hotly debated semi-automatic weapons ban that expired last week outlawed weapons that were allegedly used in 1.2% of violent crimes (lest you think I'm overblowing my statistics, I got that number from a website called galleryofguns.com/shootingtimes, which, after simple browsing, gives the impression of being about as pro-gun control as Ne-

braska is liberal). I'll admit that I may be comparing apples and oranges here, but all I'm trying to say is that if 1.2% doesn't constitute a significant reduction in violent crime, why does 0.4% constitute a statistically relevant reduction in abortions?

Even in the relatively small number of times that the procedure was used, it was hardly ever used by women who progressed six months into their pregnancy and then got all willy-nilly like, deciding "Hey, I don't want this child anymore." Most doctors wouldn't perform the procedure under those circumstances, anyway.

Far from the graphic images presented by opponents of the procedure as something used mostly by baby-hating feminists out of their own lackadaisical irresponsibility and fickleness, the procedure was usually only used in instances where there was a severe risk to the mother's health or life. Which are pretty much the provisions that people have been pushing for in the ban all along. Go figure.

Fahrenheit 9/11 Sparks Sadness

Moore's attempt unsuccessful?

BY CURRAN DOBSON
Beacon Columnist

Perhaps Michael Moore's controversial film *Fahrenheit 9/11* was supposed to enliven the Kerry supporters into hating Bush, if they didn't already. Perhaps it was an anti-war campaign designed to keep people from supporting the continued American occupation in Iraq and Afghanistan. Even more probable was that it was functioning to open the eyes of the American public to the ways in which our government had duped us.

However, the only emotion I could identify was a deep feeling of sadness. Moore's film didn't change my mind about whom I will vote for in November, and it didn't make me feel any better about being lied to. I simply felt sadness at the various ways in which senseless loss has occurred over the past three years.

Moore's documentary brought back the horror and fear that resided in the hearts of Americans after September 11, 2001. Viewers were reminded of the devastation and despair that had gripped the nation for many weeks afterwards. As I sat there watching the film, I couldn't help but wish that we could put all the loss behind us as a nation and simply move forward. Moore is unnecessarily forcing Americans to re-

hash the pain and loss of that time with the release of this film.

Another saddening aspect of this film was the connection Moore draws between the bin Laden family and those in Bush's inner circle. Knowing that Saudi and Afghani billionaires were able to buy protection here in America because of their

terrorist attack has slid up and down from elevated to high so many times without any concrete information for the American public. Most of all, no weapons of mass destruction have ever been found in post-Saddam Iraq.

However, mass destruction has occurred in the search for these weapons. The images in Moore's film of dead and dying women and children are gruesome and make our American men and women look cruel and ghastly in their attempt to overthrow Saddam's regime. The loss of military lives here in America has continued to climb after major combat operations were deemed over and victorious for our country. I was moved by the grief and desperation of families who have lost these soldiers, and found it difficult to continue to watch.

After Moore's analysis of the ways in which our government has disappointed the American public, I was left solely with sadness. I did not feel a renewed strength in knowing I could help to elect a new leader for this country. Instead, I felt a great loss of faith in the American government, regardless who the head of this country is after the election. Moore did not succeed in my eyes in presenting any of his information in order to anger or inspire me. His film simply saddened me and allowed me to identify with those who criticize this country so harshly.

Moore is unnecessarily forcing Americans to rehash the pain and loss of that time with the release of this film.

influential oil capitals is a disturbing thought. Moore discusses the fact that twenty-four members of the bin Laden family were flown out of the country two days after 9/11 in order to protect them, while Americans nationwide were grounded, stranded from their homes and families. How can our government justify this protection for foreign families when American families are wrought by grief and intense fear for their safety?

Moore provided other shocking examples of how Bush and his government have failed the American people. Homeland Security has become an issue of the past, with states the size of Oregon having only seven state patrolmen out on the roads in any given night. The threat of a

Beacon Poll Results

The following are results of a poll that *The Beacon* conducted online this past week.*

The Beacon asked:
"In Wilkes-Barre's downtown revitalization efforts, what do you believe should be the city's top priority?"

- 31% Bringing in new entertainment venues (theatres, restaurants, clubs, etc.)
- 4% Bringing in new shopping venues
- 31% Cleaning up existing properties
- 0% Creating more public space
- 0% Encouraging more discussion amongst community members
- 19% Renovating and preserving historic buildings
- 8% Investing in riverfront development
- 4% Creating more parking
- 0% Creating more green space
- 4% Renovating the Hotel Sterling

Next week's poll question is:
If you could open any business in downtown Wilkes-Barre, what would it be?

- * Restaurant
- * Bar/Club
- * Retail Outlet (clothing, books, music, novelty, etc.)
- * Hotel
- * Technology development/support
- * Health-related
- * Recreation Facility
- * Theater
- * Art gallery
- * Other

Visit www.wilkesbeacon.com to cast your vote. Results will be published in next week's issue of *The Beacon*.

*The poll was unscientific and does not claim to reflect the overall feel of students on campus. Results based on 26 responses.

Your Voices

In response to the AWB Op/Ed

To the Editor:

[The author of the AWB Op-Ed] at no time regarded what he said as factual, but many people take what they see in front of them as fact and at no time research the issue themselves. This is one of the most potent powers the media have over their viewers; they can pretty much say anything and people will regard it as true. This is why people today view guns, especially "assault weapons" as bad and "vicious," as Wichitah stated.

He also stated that you could be able to "wipe out a whole gaggle of geese in just one round and in about two seconds. You could hit a bull's eye on a target 60 times before you could blink." I believe

Wichitah is mistaking assault weapons with machine guns. You see, there is a very big difference. Machine guns very well can do exactly what Wichitah described because they are fully automatic, being that as long as you hold the trigger down a stream of bullets will flow through the barrel. The assault weapons that the AWB banned are not fully automatic, but rather semi-automatic, in that you can hold the trigger down for 10 seconds, 20 seconds... and one only *one* bullet will be projected from the barrel...

...What makes these firearms more dangerous than a standard hunting rifle or handgun used in self-defense?

These firearms are not destructive. In

must be met along with the approval of local law enforcement, the state, the ATF, and the FBI. So what exactly did the 'Assault Weapon Ban' restrict? Under the Assault Weapon Ban, a rifle could not have more than one of the following characteristics: a folding or telescopic stock, a pistol grip, a bayonet mount, a flash suppressor, threads to attach a flash suppressor...

...The rifles that were produced during the ban function in the exact same way as rifles produced before or after the ban. The pre- and post-ban rifles simply look different.

So in reality, assault weapons are mainly owned by collectors and are simply used for target shooting if their owners shoot them at all. Assault weapons are usually not effective when used for hunting, are almost always not used to, "Wipe out a

fact, the Virginia task force on assault weapons found that only 2.8 percent of the homicides involved "assault-type weapons" during 1992. In fact, over 100,000 police officers delivered a message to Congress in 1990 stating that only 2% to 3% of crimes are committed using a so-called "assault weapon." In fact, of 161 fatal shootings in Massachusetts in 1988, three involved "semiautomatic assault rifles." From 1985 to 1991, the guns were involved in 0.7% of all shootings.

And it doesn't stop there; New Jersey, New York, California, Maryland, Florida, Illinois, and even the FBI have made similar accounts as to the dangers of assault weapons. Notice a key word in that string of

high school" in school shootings, and could not, "Hit a bull's eye 60 times before you can blink." Therefore, why worry about an expiration date? In this case, don't.

Michael Benulis
senior mechanical engineering major

sentences, FACT. That's just what those are, facts, something Wichitah's article wholly was without. Not one thing Wichitah wrote was fact. Now that you've heard the truth here, make your decision as to what you oppose or believe in. After all, it is your God-given right as an American citizen.

Jared Seiders
senior biology major

Editor's Note . . .

The Beacon reserves the right to edit all Letters to the Editor for content and to fit space constraints. Longer versions of submitted letters may be found on *The Beacon's* website (www.wilkesbeacon.com). Our "letters to the editor" policy is that the author's name, phone, and title or identifying information (i.e., year in school and major) must accompany all submissions. We will call to verify authenticity of all work. Individual authors are responsible for all claims made in letters and are encouraged to cite all sources used.

To the Editor:

Just for a moment, let's put our emotions aside and focus on the facts about assault weapons. What is an assault weapon? To put it in simple terms, an assault weapon is a semi-automatic firearm that has a military style appearance. A semi-automatic weapon is a firearm that shoots one bullet every time the trigger is pulled. Most of the weapons used in the military are fully-automatic, meaning as long as the trigger is held in, it will keep firing bullets until the ammunition supply is depleted.

The majority of guns available to the public are semi-automatic. For a civilian to purchase a fully-automatic weapon (or a machine gun as they are usually called), an extremely long list of requirements

Editorial Response

Continuing the conversation

BY WICHITAH LENG
Beacon Columnist

You're absolutely right. The assault weapons ban only banned 19 models of semi-automatic weapons, which, by its own adjective, is not a fully-automatic weapon.

A fully-automatic weapon, which has a proprietor go through stringent background checks, is capable of immense destruction. However, I did not say that the ban did anything significant in terms of gun control. I actually stated a point that nothing was really accomplished by this ban. Specifically, I said, "The actual bill itself did not accomplish what it was set out to do."

I actually disagree with my own statement. The bill did do what it was supposed to do, ban certain weapons. But, I also said, "The intent of the assault ban is one with which I agree." This is my point: intentions and consequences. "What are the consequences of having a bill that would attempt to take such vicious weapons out of the homes of Old Man Magee and his posse of disgruntled postal workers?" Examples of shooting geese in two seconds and the like are only used to provide the reader with my own opinion of the purpose of such weapons whether fully- or semi-automatic.

If you want to cut to the core of my argument, having an Uzi serves no pur-

pose that a revolver could not serve in the home to protect your family.

I could say that hunting is considered a sport. In any other sport, for example professional T-ball, you would want to keep it as fair as possible. You would not want the second baseman to be on steroids, that would increase his T-ball playing ability. One step up to the T-ball stand and out of the park he would hit it. He would run the bases with joy as his bulging muscles and shrunken testicles lead you to a loss of respect for that sport and that particular player. I would argue that if hunting is a sport, which it is, then a semi-automatic rifle is the steroids. How proud could you honestly feel after shooting a buck with an AK-47? If you strongly feel the need to have that kind of automatic loading rifle in the woods, maybe from buck to duck they should be issued bullet proof vests to make it more of a challenge. Isn't that the spirit of the game?

Allow me to insert a post script disclaimer. The article in reference you have just read about was an opinion. Please do not take opinions to be fact, as this may pose a choking hazard. Ideas and thoughts expressed in the "Opinion" section appear as a result of one's tweaked perception of facts. Please allow your minds to be open and always in search of the truth--it is, after all, your God-given right.

What Do YOU Think?

Is there an issue that you feel strongly about and want to comment on? Did you read something that you have formed a dissenting opinion about and want to voice it?

The Beacon wants your voice to be heard.

We are looking for columnists to express their views in an intelligent, humorous, coherent manner. If you are interested please contact *The Beacon* with the following information:

- 1 Contact information including your email address and a phone number where you can be reached.
- 2 A 300-word sample on a topic of your choice.
- 3 A paragraph about yourself, including where you stand on major societal issues.

Send your samples to:

wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com

FEATURES

SEPTEMBER 27, 2004

9

Jay Ungar to Bring 'Magic' to Wilkes Alum to serve as Distinguished Lecturer in Health Sciences

BY JAMIE BABBITT
Beacon Features Editor

"Please," "thank you," "may I," and "I'm sorry." Forgot those words even existed? Dr. Jay M. Ungar certainly didn't, and in fact, he considers them to be "magical."

Ungar, a 1970 graduate of Wilkes College and an internist and geriatric specialist at the Jewish Geriatric Services in Massachusetts, will be returning to his alma mater this Thursday and Friday to pass on his insights on how to be a compassionate, empathetic, and fun health care practitioner. Ungar is the sixth annual Distinguished Lecturer in Health Sciences for Wilkes University.

Ungar believes the magic words are the real key to getting along in the world. In everyone's busy lives, the importance of just doing the right thing and treating others with respect is forgotten. In an excerpt from his book entitled *Pre-Script-ion Magic*, Ungar notes, "It really doesn't matter how skillful you are; if you are perceived as intrusive, abrasive, or obnoxious there is no Magic."

Ungar very much enjoys putting a smile on his patients' faces. And he does, in fact, blend magic with medicine. He has been practicing magic since he was in first grade and has studied with top magicians in the country. If there is time and he feels his patients are up for it, he will perform a magic trick at the end of each visit. Ungar

says his magic humanizes the encounter and is the "whipped cream and cherry on top of the visit."

When Eileen Sharp, Coordinator for Health

"One of the things I try to encourage in our students here is to learn how to be a compassionate caretaker... and I think introducing them to people like this is a good way to do that," said Sharp.

Much of Ungar's expertise is with the elderly, which makes him very knowledgeable on the aging process and the things you can change in your life to ensure that you live to be 100 years old.

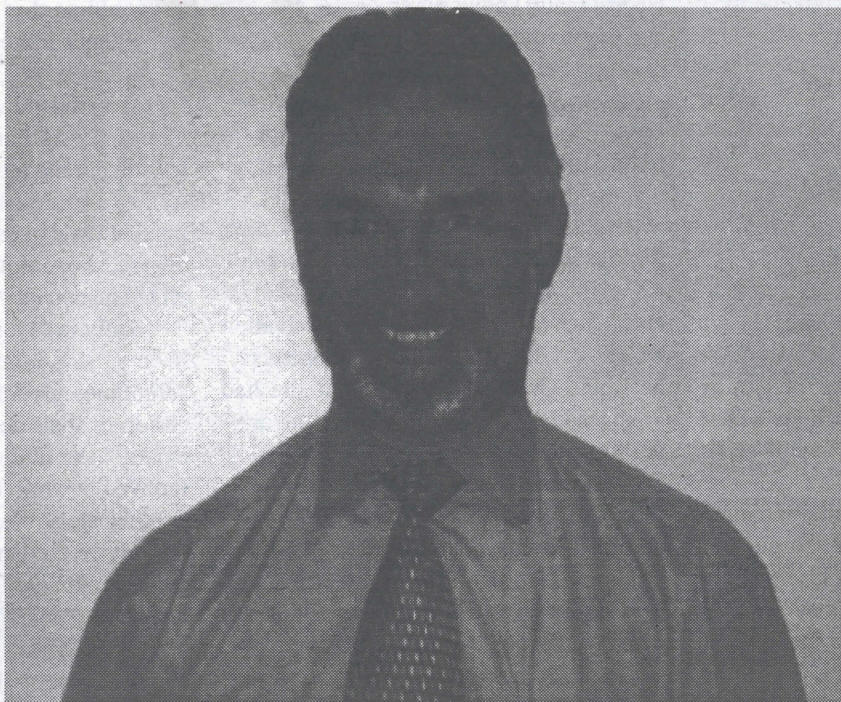
In his lectures, Ungar will discuss such topics as myths of aging and statistics of what people's chances are of making it to 100 or above. He will also emphasize "the sorts of things that are common 'sensible' but not common 'placible,'" for instance, eating well, exercising, and not smoking. Ungar will also break down the magic formula for living a long healthy life:

GG+GH+GL=ALHL.

"We're seeing people live longer and longer with all the medical things that have been done in this country and all the technological advances that we've got but there are still things that people can do as human beings to make sure they live a long life," said Sharp.

According to Ungar, the chance of living to be 100 years old in the year 1900 was one out of one hundred thousand. In the year 2000, fifty thousand people lived to be over 100 and in 2050, an estimated one million will make it to that age or above.

Ungar does not only use his talent in health care and magic at his workplace, but he also gives many shows and lectures at local hospitals, charity organizations such as United Way, senior centers, and nursing homes. "I love to be able to share the magic with my patients, friends, and anyone who cares to watch... My venue is my life," concluded Ungar.



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

Dr. Jay Ungar, internist, geriatric specialist, and magician is speaking at Wilkes this week as the Sixth Annual Distinguished Lecturer in Health Sciences for Pre-Med Day.

Sciences Professional Programs, learned of Ungar's unique method of practice, she immediately called him and invited him to be the keynote speaker at Friday's sixth annual Pre-Med day, entitled, "Making Magic Happen - Four Prescriptions That Could Change Your Life." He will also be giving a lecture open to the public at the Henry Student Center Ballroom on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. entitled, "You Should Live to be 100! The Magic Formula for Living a Long, Healthy Life."

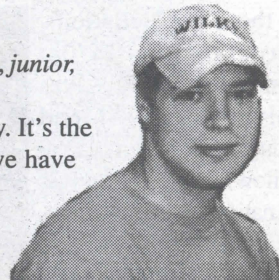
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Tell Us...

The Beacon's roving reporter, Meagan Brown, asked random Wilkes students: **What's your favorite spot on campus to hang out?** Check out the responses below.

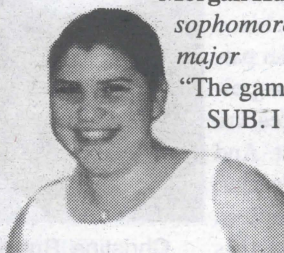
Chad Reinard, junior,
history major

"The greenway. It's the closest thing we have to a park here except for Kirby Park."



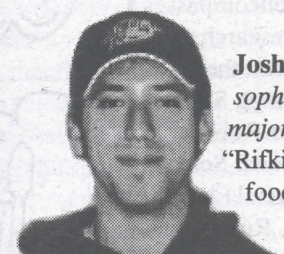
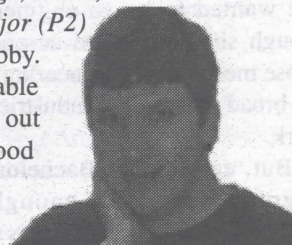
Morgan Kuhns,
sophomore, pharmacy major

"The game room in the SUB. I can play pool and hang out with my friends from different dorms."



Brad Honnage, senior,
pharmacy major (P2)

"The Stark lobby. It's a comfortable place to hang out and there is food readily available."



Josh Savitiski,
sophomore, biology major
"Rifkin Cafe. There's food there."

Danielle Alex, junior,
criminology and psychology major
"Rifkin Cafe, because there is a TV and a fireplace."





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A Look At Last Year's Grads: Christina Rubillo shoots for the stars

BY DONNA TALARICO
Beacon Correspondent

In the next few issues, the Beacon will spotlight a 2004 graduate, and their post-Wilkes endeavors. If you know of someone you'd like us to feature, please e-mail donna_talarico@msn.com.

Little Dipper. Big Dipper. Ursa Major. Ursa Minor. Canis Major. Canis Minor. Mechanical Engineering Major?

Like the stars that light up those constellations, Christina Rubillo, '04, shined bright at Wilkes University. Shined enough, that is, to land the Willow Grove, Pennsylvania native a full-ride graduate assistantship at New York's Clarkson University.

As an eighth grader, Rubillo pretty much hated math and science. Her parents' support and a poignant scene in a feature film changed all that. And now, almost a decade later, she finds herself back in the eighth grade-- this time as the one doing the motivating.

Before arriving at Wilkes, Rubillo knew she wanted to be an engineer, and although she considered aeronautics, she chose mechanical engineering because of the broad spectrum of industries she could work.

But, earning her Bachelor's degree was not enough. Clarkson University now gets to see Rubillo shine in a graduate assistantship that encompasses both teaching and research. She and a partner help run the K-12 Project Based Learning System, which according to Rubillo, is funded by the National Science Foundation and General Electric.

In this program, Rubillo and her partner teach two periods of eighth grade math and science at a local school three days a week, focusing on energy conservation and renewable energy.

"Most of the classes are hands-on, lab style. We try to get kids interested in math, science and environmental issues in their area," she said, continuing that she spent the summer train-

ing and developing the curricula for this program.

Aside from teaching, Rubillo works with a professor on his research on control of wind turbine blades, which is giving her wind of the true broad range of her major, making career decisions more difficult.

"My dream is to work for NASA, so we shall see. After getting into wind energy, I may be interested in working for the Department of Energy. I want to work in a place that has a large scale effect on our country and world," she said, continuing that if her dad has it his way, she'd be PhD-bound.



Christina Rubillo's senior picture.

Rubillo's parents were a major influence on her not giving up on math and science in junior high--and still are as her career path is still being carved.

"My mom was a math major in college and worked for General Electric on re-entry systems during the 'space race' and my dad is one of the national leaders in math education," she said.

Aside from family influences, Rubillo credits a 'genius,' Dr. John Orehtsky, professor of mechanical engineering, as well as the based-on-a-true-story movie, *October Sky*, where main character Homer Hickam almost fails math, but triumphs as a top NASA's engineer. Rubillo

jokes that when she wasn't getting differential equations, Homer made her feel better.

So, in Hollywood and history we have Homer, but in real-life, it's Wilkes University's Orehtsky. "[Orehtsky] was one of my favorite [professors]. He just really knows his students and how to motivate without harassing. He knew just when to push you and when to back off. Plus, if anyone in the world could build a time machine, it's Dr. O. He's a genius!" she exclaimed.

Orehtsky worked very closely with Rubillo in her senior project and got to know her quite well. "She was a clever student and had an excellent amount of motivation which made her stand out in my judgement," he said. Orehtsky added that she had great leadership abilities and was the driving force behind her senior project.

Dr. David Wells, Chairperson of Engineering and Physics, agrees with Orehtsky regarding Rubillo's excellent academic record at Wilkes and is proud of her successes. "It is doubly nice for her when you recognize that she has completed successfully against a number of graduates of other engineering programs to win a full-ride assistantship," said Wells, adding that he is happy that her Wilkes education is "opening new doors for her."

Rubillo attributes her cooperative education experience at Pittston's Techneglass as the reason she chose to go to grad school.

"I learned a lot about the day-to-day

workings of an industry, a ton about unions, and also how to work in

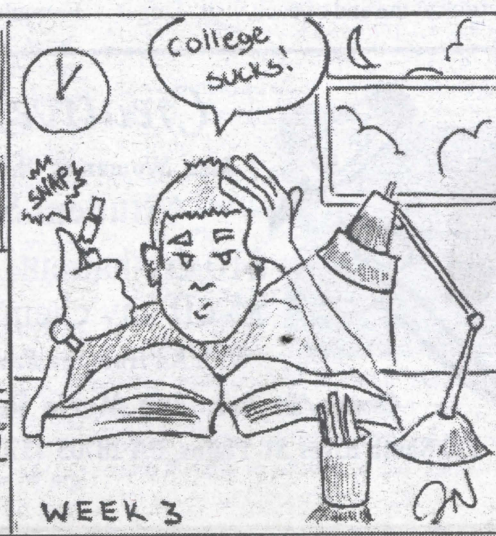
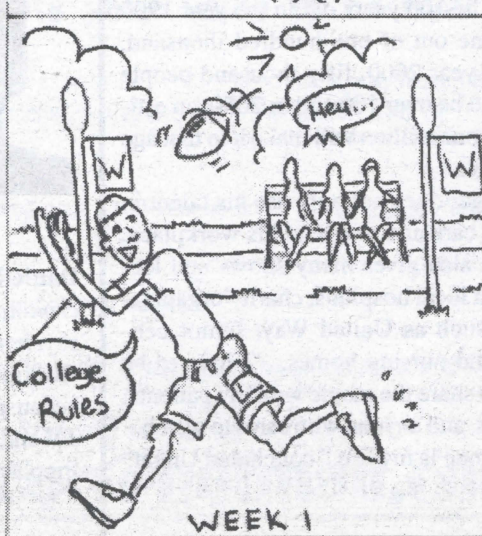
a high stress environment where everyone is fearing for their jobs. You learn how to make yourself irreplaceable," she said, adding that the co-op gave her confidence in her skills, and is an opportunity every Wilkes student should take advantage of.

But it was not so much the hands-on learning at the factory that aided her decision as it was the time consumption. Knowing that she'd eventually want an advanced degree, she reasoned that she'd rather do it all at once.

"Sadly to say, it is still the women who have to stay home at the beginning and sometimes give up their careers for their children. It's a double standard, but it still exists," she said. "I can handle work and family, but work, family and school...that's another story."

Clearly, there have been many inspiring factors in Rubillo's career choices --between Mom and Dad, Homer, and Dr. O -- and, of course, a single scene that lifted off Rubillo's career: "In Apollo 13, they stuck a bunch of engineers in a room and dump a bunch of stuff on a table. They are told to make this rectangular thing fit into this circular hole. They proceeded to do it. It fascinated me, and I wanted to think like that!"

Perhaps one day, it will be Rubillio who will do the inspiring.



By Jason Nickle

FIT Provides For a Stable Tomorrow

VISTA grant brings new coordinator, program to Wilkes

BY VICKY WHITE
Beacon Asst. Features Editor

Are you FIT? No, the question has nothing to do with whether you are breathing heavily when you reach the top of the stairs you have just climbed.

FIT--an acronym for Financial Independence for Tomorrow--is the new community program at Wilkes that aims to help educate members of the community about financial interests.

Rebecca Levin was recently hired as the FIT coordinator at Wilkes after receiving a VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) grant. Dr. Jeffrey Alves, Professor of Free Enterprise and faculty advisor of SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise), played a pivotal role in achieving the grant that brought Levin to campus.

Levin is a Pennsylvania native, originally from Jenkintown, who attended Penn State University where she received her bachelor's degree in Health Policy and Administration. Levin went on to graduate school at Syracuse University where she

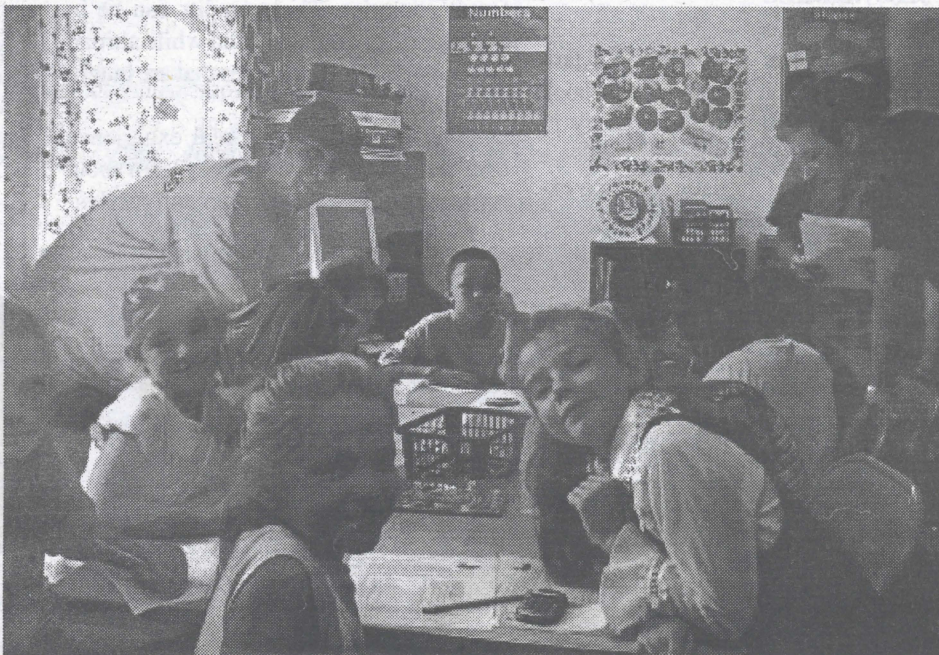
received her master's degree in public administration in May of this year.

Levin said, "I was looking at jobs in higher education and I thought this is a good position. I wanted to go into community service. I had worked with AmeriCorps people before through my community service work, but I had never thought of becoming a [VISTA] member until now."

The grant allowing for the VISTA position is a three-year grant, in which a new VISTA member will work each year. Levin serves as the first VISTA person who will facilitate the planning and running of the FIT program.

Levin said, "All VISTA volunteers are placed throughout the country and they sort of work independently. Part of the goals of VISTA is in ending or curbing poverty, which is what the FIT program aims to do."

According to Levin, "FIT is dedicated to educating individuals of all ages, so that they have the tools to achieve financial independence and success."



Courtesy of Rebecca Levin

Wilkes students volunteer at local after-school program.

FIT hopes to help many age groups gain understanding of finance. Dr. Jeffrey Alves said, "I would like to see us serving at least four separate demographics by the end of the first year."

Currently, students associated with FIT work with a variety of groups. REACH works with families with at-risk children. Local families, often younger parents and their children, are currently offered the REACH program, which was also started by Alves two years ago. Student members of Community Service also work with elementary students in after school programs. Members of SIFE and Community Service also offer talks at high schools, approximately four times a year.

In terms of other demographics FIT might influence, Alves would like to see either college students or the elderly targeted, as both demographics may experience financial difficulties.

The SIFE students realized that the families were economically challenged, and decided to help through providing programs that will educate on matters of money management and other financial complications.

"The programs of the past two years have included teaching about systematic savings, loans, managing credit cards and making the families pull their own credit reports," said Alves.

While the parents of the REACH families are learning how to help themselves to become more financially stable through FIT, students of SIFE teach the children for a few hours, once a month. The SIFE students "did lesson plans, and

then we began doing interactive things. We went to the television studio and let the children work with the equipment, and we went to Public Safety and taught the children about how walkie-talkies work," said Tara Smith, Graduate Assistant and former member of SIFE.

The REACH program is being used to help meet the goals of FIT and will be expanded beneath FIT to better meet the goals that have been set. REACH hopes to serve more families this year and possibly find a way to open their lectures on money matters to more members of the public. The goals of FIT for this year are to get programs started that affect each demographic that is targeted.

Another aspect of FIT is the student group. Members of the FIT student group met on September 14 to discuss future programs and upcoming events. In attendance at the meeting were approximately 20 Wilkes students who voiced their opinions on how best to help members of the community who may need financial counseling. The members of the student group will be actively participating in running the programs for each demographic. It is with the help of the students that the goals of FIT will be met.

REACH served as a starting point for the FIT program. Without REACH, the need for more comprehensive programs educating people on money matters may not have been seen. Through REACH the need was seen, and addressed through AmeriCorps and VISTA.

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World Travel Encourages Holistic Education

BY JESS NIEMIEC
Beacon Staff Writer

Anyone who has ever studied a language can tell you that learning from a book is possible, but going to the country in which the language is spoken provides a completely different, holistic learning experience.

Four Wilkes University students enjoyed the opportunities and educational benefits of travel this summer by doing some study abroad.

The Wilkes students who chose to study abroad this summer were: Ashley Ambridge, who studied in Costa Rica; Erin Williams, who went to Puerto Rico; and Jennifer Compton and Emily Vescovi, who both traveled to Spain.

"It [study abroad] opens your mind and horizons," said Dr. Paolo Bianco, Associate Professor at Wilkes and Study Abroad Coordinator. "There is only so much that you can do in this country. Once you go somewhere else you see culture, language, and a lot of things you would only see on TV."

Students have an opportunity to obtain six academic credits through travel to dif-

ferent countries. These credits can be in art, history, or language, and while abroad it is possible to take courses that are taught in English.

"The students get the real experience over there," said Bianco. "They learn about art from going to museums, and the lan-

"It was probably the best experience of my life," said Emily Vescovi, junior pharmacy major and Spanish minor. "It was great. There are so many things that you don't know about. It's a lot different."

The trip Vescovi undertook actually cost less than what she would have paid

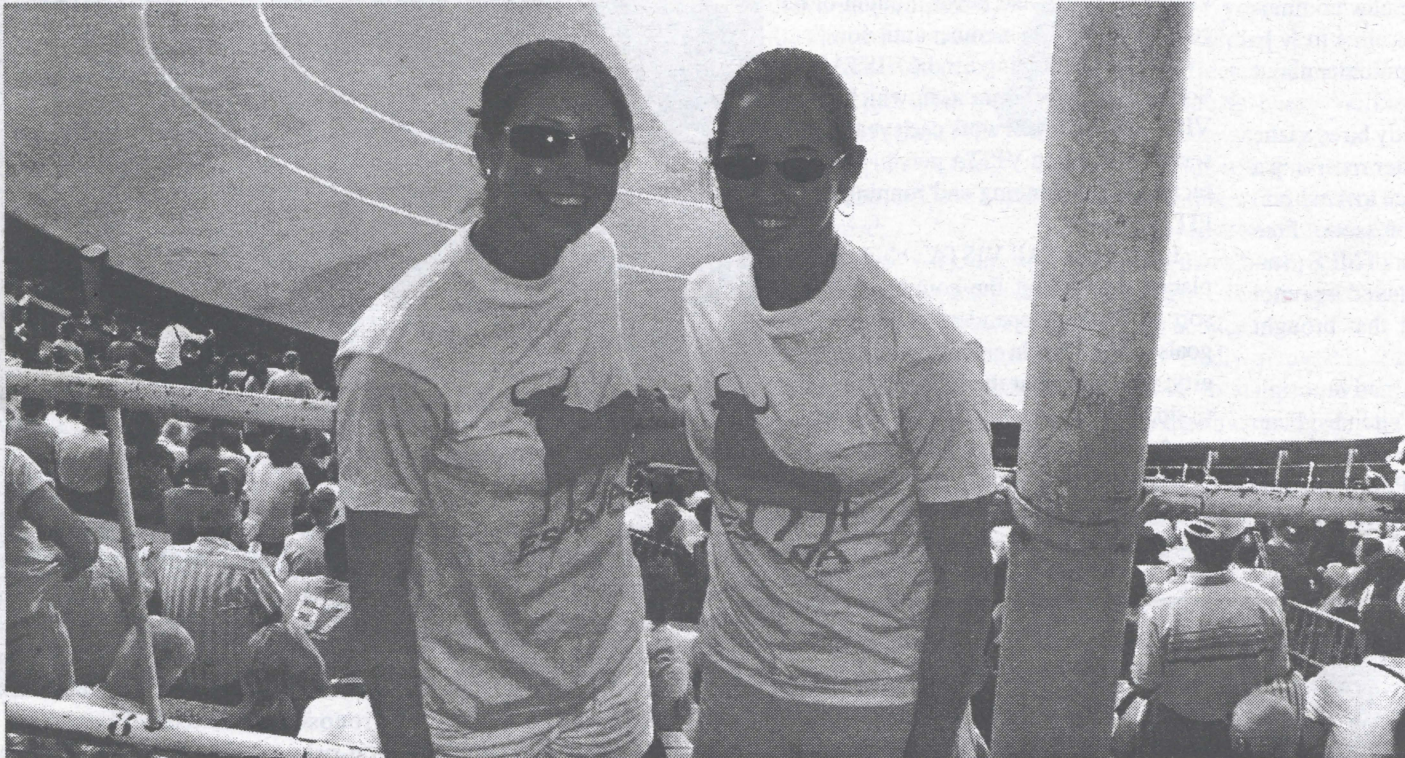
tures of things, they see the actual art."

Most students who travel abroad are impressed by the evidence of architectural history throughout the countryside. To learn more about the country's history in Spain, for example, Compton and Vescovi had the opportunity to visit famous monuments and the Roman Aqueduct in Segovia, Spain.

In addition to an intimate experience with Spain, the trip allows for a brief stop in France. After students go through Milan, they stop over in France and put the books down for a few days while they enjoy the trip and sightsee.

But fine-tuning language skills is usually the primary goal of most of those who take advantage of the trip. "I picked up a lot more of the language while I was there, simply because I was speaking it all the time," said Vescovi. "I went there to learn the language."

There are currently 14 Spanish majors in the program, as well as many minors, but the program is open to any individual who feels they would like to take part of the experience. Bianco noted she will be traveling to Spain next semester, while she takes a sabbatical to work on a book that will be coming out relatively soon.



Courtesy of Jennifer Compton and Emily Vescovi

Jennifer Compton and Emily Vescovi at a bullfight on their summer abroad trip to Spain.

guage from speaking it all the time," said Bianco.

All of the four Wilkes students who took advantage of the study abroad opportunity are majors or minors in Spanish, which meant the decision to take in Spanish culture was already of interest to them.

for six credits. The overall cost for travel and study in a Latin American country this summer cost approximately \$3,200 for a month.

"When talking about el Greco, they get to go right to the museum and see them," said Bianco, "[Students] don't just see pic-

ture of things, they see the actual art."

Sociology/Criminology Club Reflects Growth in Field

BY VICKY WHITE
Beacon Asst. Features Editor

With the nationwide growth in criminology majors mirrored here at Wilkes, students believe a Sociology/Criminology Club on campus is essential. Started over thirty years ago, the club is experiencing a period of re-growth and is actively recruiting members.

On September 23, a welcome back pizza party was held on the Greenway for prospective club members. The first official meeting of the semester will be held on October 7, at 11 a.m. in Breiseth 316. "We'll discuss ideas for our trip to New York, fund raisers for it, and a community service project," said Sarah Williams, senior soci-

ology major and co-president of the club.

The advisor of the club is Dr. John Natzke, Associate Professor of Sociology. "The club is a student thing that has the full support of the department. We have always tried to encourage students to get to know us as real human beings," said Natzke.

Last year the Club participated in fundraising, did community service and took an educational but fun trip to Philadelphia. This year the club is planning a trip to New York City. Williams said, "We are planning to visit a local venue that would be of interest, such as a jail."

One aspect of the Sociology/Criminology Club is to explore the different careers

that students will have after they graduate. Focusing on career choices as motivation for trips and tours allows the students to experience their possible future career once they leave Wilkes.

The mission statement of the club states that "The purpose of this organization shall be for the interested students to gather and share continued interest in the fields of sociology and criminology."

In addition, service is a part of the organization's focus. "The club participates in at least one community service project each year," said Natzke.

Senior sociology major and co-president, Cheri Stempien said, "We also plan on having a seminar for all social science,

political science, international studies, and anthropology majors in order to provide them with choices for career opportunities within their major."

As speaking events for the club are planned, the focus again is on what careers are available for people of their major. By focusing on career possibilities, the club hopes to provide students with a better knowledge of what awaits them.

The club will be meeting once every two weeks to discuss new ideas, fundraisers and concerns. Students of all majors are encouraged to join to learn more about sociology and criminology.

A & E

SEPTEMBER 27, 2004

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Benjamin Ptashinsky: A Man With a Dream

BY ELVIRAILLIANO
Beacon A&E Editor

Benjamin Ptashinsky, senior musical theater major, has established himself as a stand-out artistic talent on the Wilkes University campus over the past three years, starring in a variety of plays, most notably as the lead in *Fiddler on the Roof* last spring. *The Beacon* recently sat down with him to hear what he has to say about his past, present and future as an artist and a man who fights for what he wants.

Q: What is your greatest talent?

A: I am a really hard worker. I would say that is my greatest talent. My hard work has gotten me everything I have earned this far.

Q: If you had to choose one, what class or faculty member has helped you the most in pursuing your dreams?

A: Adam Hill. He proved to me that acting could be my life. Since my freshman year there has been nothing else.

Q: Can you name some of your Wilkes performances?

A: I've been in ten main stage productions. *The Good Doctor*, *Ernest in Love*, *Wonderful Town*, *Comedy of Errors*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*... *Guys and Dolls*, *The Madwoman of Chaillot*... *She Loves Me*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and finally *The Winter's Tale*.

Q: Which was your favorite?

A: *Fiddler on the Roof* because I put my entire heart and soul into it, to the ex-

tent of putting aside everything else. During the curtain call, I would take my final bow and the audience would jump to their feet. It was the most amazing feeling! At that point I knew I would have a career in musical theater and that theatre would be my life forever.

Q: Who is your idol?

A: Nathan Lane. I think he's amazing. He's played practically every part that I've ever wanted to play.

Q: What advice would you give Wilkes students?

A: Advice I would give Wilkes students? Follow your heart and work hard. Making it in this business [musical theater] doesn't come easy and unless you work hard, you fail...Dedication and hard work have to come first.

Q: Knowing what you know now about yourself and your talents, would you still have pursued an acting career?

A: Yes, I got firsthand experience this past summer in New Jersey with the "Surflight Theater." There I worked with equity and non-equity actors...They taught me that I will be working in this field [musical theater]...I firmly believe there is a place for me in this business. I won't stop until I get to Broadway!



Photo courtesy of B. Ptashinsky

Ptashinsky as the dairyman Tevye and T. Smith as Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof*.

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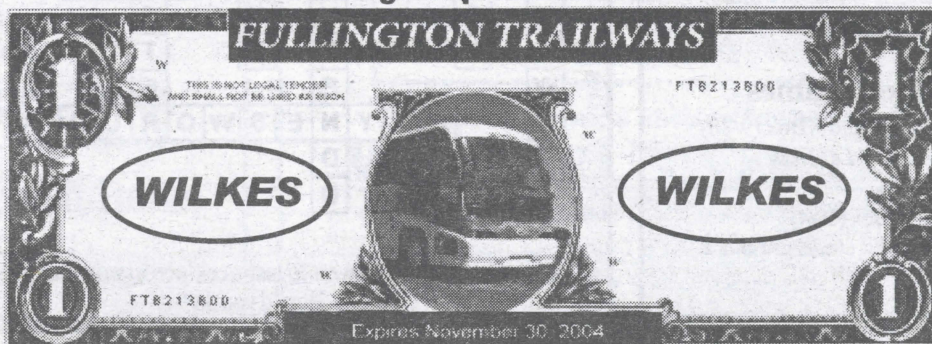
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HOT!

New Releases

BY NORA JURASITS
Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

Here are the entertainment industry's hot new releases:

CDs (9/28)

Rascal Flatts
Feels Like Today

Wu-Tang Clan
Disciples of The 36 Chambers

Hilary Duff
Hilary Duff

Joss Stone
Mind, Body & Soul

Video/DVD (9/28)
Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind

Envy

Walking Tall

In Theaters (10/01)

Ladder 49

Shark Tale

Books

California Girl
T. Jefferson Parker (9/28)

Against All Odds: My Story
Chuck Norris, Ken Abraham (9/30)

Video Games

Playstation 2 and Xbox (9/28)
Rocky Legends

XBox (10/4)
Tony Hawk's Underground 2

Quick and Easy Eats for Cheap

This Week: Surprise Sandwich

BY ELVIRA ILLIANO
Beacon A&E Editor

I was at *The Beacon* meeting on Sunday where we discuss content for the next issue. When it came to A&E, I had no idea what tasty meal I would propose for the week. Then someone gave me a great idea: why not try a fun sandwich--one of the main staples for any broke student's diet? The great thing about sandwiches is how creative you can be, while still satisfying the main goal of the meal--to sustain you for the next few hours. Although you may have to go out and buy some ingredients (it won't be more than \$5-10 depending on where you are shopping, I promise), it will be worth it!

Surprise Sandwich

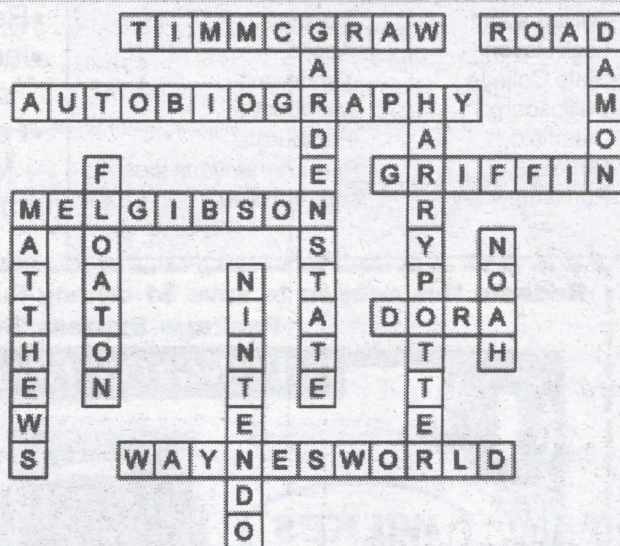
Here's what you need:

- A non-stick frying pan
- A plain, white Kaiser roll cut in half horizontally
- 3 eggs, beaten
- A couple of slices of ham and salami
- A slice of onion
- A small red tomato
- A few slices of sweet, green peppers
- A few slices of cheese (I like provolone)
- A tablespoon of vegetable oil
- Salt and Pepper (to taste)
- Paprika (to taste)

Here's what you do:

1. One at a time, chop the ham, salami, onion, red tomato, green peppers and cheese in a small bowl then add salt and pepper as desired;
2. Place the frying pan on the stove (which should be on low) and slowly add the vegetable oil;
3. Add the chopped up vegetables and cold cuts, stirring occasionally to avoid sticking;
4. Once the vegetables are almost cooked, add three eggs;
5. As the eggs begin to cook, you can either stir all contents together to scramble the eggs or slowly flip the mixture once cooked to make an omelet;
6. Once the eggs are ready, remove them from the frying pan and place them on the Kaiser roll;
7. Top the eggs off with a touch of paprika and enjoy!

Beacon Brainwork



Out to the Movies with *Super Size Me*

BY ALISON SHERRY
Beacon Staff Writer

Americans love to eat. No doubt while reading this article, some readers are probably eating breakfast, lunch, or dinner either in the Wilkes cafeteria, Rifkin Cafe,

and gains many different insights into why America is literally becoming so big.

However, there is also a twist during his expedition. Spurlock decides to go on a McDonald's binge diet. He must eat at

fat bills of fast food, the serious warnings from harrowing doctor appointments, and the shocking answers to what would and/or could happen if one man were to live on fast food alone.

Super Size Me is very educational. It is a film that everyone should see because it addresses such important issues as obesity. The film also discusses the horrors of school lunch programs, the lack of proper exercise in physical education classes, addictions, and the extreme measures to which people will go in order to lose weight.

Super Size Me is recommended to just about any viewer out there, not only for the humorous side of an inde-

pendent film, but also for a good lesson in eating healthy. There is only one warning: this film may just have the capacity to change your eating lifestyle and ways of thinking. "Welcome to McDonald's" will never sound the same again!

Although the film was released in May and is not currently playing locally, keep your eyes open for the independent film houses to continue featuring this documentary. *Super Size Me* is rated PG-13 and is given thumbs up!

McDonald's restaurants for breakfast, lunch, and dinner every single day for exactly one month. Yes, you read correctly, *one month*. Spurlock creates only three simple rules for himself:

- 1) No options. He could only eat what was available over the counter (including water!)
- 2) No super-sizing unless offered
- 3) No excuses: He must eat EVERYTHING on the menu at least once.

Sound impossible? At most times it is. Spurlock discovers the

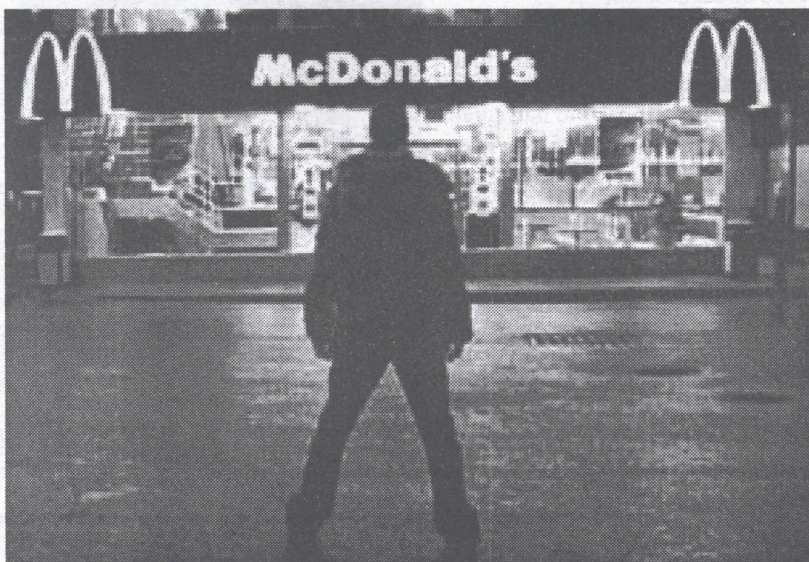


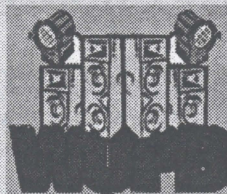
Image from Roadside Attractions / Samuel Goldwyn Films

or...perhaps even at one of the many McDonald's in the area.

Readers may want to put that burger down, however, after seeing the latest independent film that has America buzzing. *Super Size Me* is a self-proclaimed "tongue-in-cheek and burger-in-hand" look at how the fast food culture of the U.S. has impacted our wallets, our waist sizes, and our self-esteem.

According to the latest obesity studies, 37% of American children and adults are carrying too much fat, and two out of every three adults are overweight. Are Americans lacking in physical exercise, eating too much food, or are the fast-food corporations at fault?

Filmmaker Morgan Spurlock decided to find out the answer and hit the road to 20 U.S. cities, including Houston, supposedly the "Fattest City" in America. Spurlock speaks with surgeons, dieticians, physicians, lawyers, legislators, cooks, and even kids during his journey



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Dinner Dance 10/8
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Personacards 10/12
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Full Throttle Concert 10/13
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Balloon Man on Campus 10/21
11:00am-2:00pm on the Roth Concourse



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Hotel Universe Opens Season at DDD

This Week in History

BY MYLES RUMBEL
Beacon Staff Writer

September 27

Avril Lavigne, singer, born, 1984

September 28

Gwyneth Paltrow, actress, born, 1972

September 29

Bryant Gumbel, sportscaster, born, 1948

September 30

Barry Williams, actor, born, 1954

Cheers debuts, 1982

October 1

Walt Disney World opens, 1971

October 2

The Twilight Zone debuts, 1959

October 3

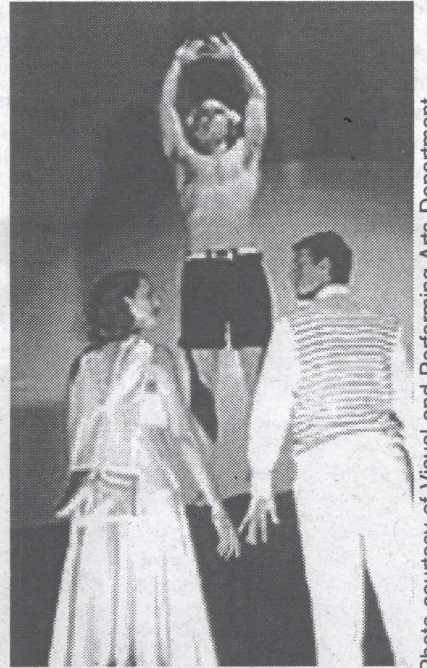
Gwen Stefani, singer, born, 1969

BY ELVIRA ILLIANO
Beacon A&E Editor

The Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for Performing Arts will open its 2004-2005 season with a french twist. *Hotel Universe*, by Philip Barry, will be performed from September 30 through October 3.

Hotel Universe will take the audience through the French Riviera. There, a group of energetic and engaging characters will break away from their pasts to move into the future with the hope of making their dreams come true.

The curtain will rise on *Hotel Universe* at 8 p.m. September 30, October 1 and 2, and the final performance will be an afternoon matinee at 2 p.m. on October 3. Tickets will be \$15 for the general public, \$5 for senior citizen and non-Wilkes students and free for students with a Wilkes ID. Tickets may be reserved by calling the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts Box Office at (570) 408-4540.



Hotel Universe

Photo courtesy of Visual and Performing Arts Department



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Jazz Cafe: Moving to the Music

BY JESSICA NIEMIEC
Beacon Correspondent

Moving to the music is something that everyone can relate to, and the River Street Jazz Café is one place where the movement is as constant as the Susquehanna.

"This place was built for music," said Tom Moran, the Operating Manager of the Café. "We have great music, and affordable food, and a really hip atmosphere."

The River Street Jazz Café has a name that can be deceiving. Owners don't only book live jazz music, though it is the genre of choice many nights. But the popular gathering space also supports a wide variety of blues, hip-hop, and rock, just to name a few. The goal of the club is to bring national and regional acts to the center stage.

"I'm doing the real McCoy," said Moran. "By bringing in acts that are proven to be good, and not just a lot of cover bands, I'm keeping it all about the music."

The Jazz Cafe's calendar includes one night that focuses just on college students. Every week Moran schedules 'dirt

cheap Tuesday,' during which the music played is on the verge of being big, but not quite there yet.

On Wednesday nights there is an open mic night that has two purposes. The first is to allow local musicians the opportunity to play, and the second is to find new talent to book in the club. Open mic night starts with a 45-minute set from The River Street Jam Band, who then is available throughout the night to play back-up to the variety of talent that decides to perform.

"It's a high end open mic night," said Moran. "There are a lot of great bands that show up, because they know if I like them, I might book them."

Coming up this month, on October 11 the Jazz Café is hosting The Slip, starting at 11. They are playing as part of the Bob Weir and Ratdog after party, which will be playing at the Kirby Center that same night.

On October 15 the Jazz Café will be hosting The Recipe, an eclectic West Virginia based band that calls their fans 'porch people.'

On October 31, they will be hosting the Lotus Halloween night, at which Lotus will take their national tour to plains for the Jazz Café patrons to enjoy.

But music is not the only thing that draws a crowd at the Jazz Café. The menu consists of real Philly cheese steaks, burgers, a Friday special of lobster tail, a Saturday special of prime rib, and much more.

"The cuisine is small style American cuisine, mixed with a little bit of oriental, with a little bit of Italian, to homemade potato pancakes, which are the real deal," said Moran. "Nothing comes in a box. It's all made right here." Moran notes that the Café offers a wide variety of beers and drinks as well, with high end beers such as Hoegaarden, Sierra Nevada, and Guinness on tap, with \$2.50 a pint Guinness on Thursdays.

For more information check out their website at www.riverstreetjazzcafe.com.

The River Street Jazz Café in Plains is where 'moving to the music' is what they do best.

Happenings at . . . Dorothy Dickson Darte

September 30

Hotel Universe

8:00 PM DDD Performing Arts

Main Stage

October 1

"Piano Master Class"

1 PM Gies Recital Hall (Room 41)

October 1

Conservatory Piano Class 4 PM

Gies Recital Hall (Room 41)

October 1-2

Hotel Universe

8:00 PM DDD Performing Arts

Main Stage

October 3

Hotel Universe

2:00 PM DDD Performing Arts

Main Stage



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American League Baseball Wild Card Race National

Red Sox will prevail

BY NEAL SANTOSKI
Beacon Correspondent

The American League wild card race has lived up to its name this year.



Though the Boston Red Sox have remained the top dog in the wild card it has been a tight race. I predict that Boston will win the wild card to beat out the Anaheim Angels and Texas Rangers. Here are a few reasons why.

The Red Sox have finally gotten a pitching staff together with the acquisitions of Curt Schilling as starter and Keith Foulke for the closer spot. After what seems like an endless struggle, the Sox have the depth they have needed all season for pitching. Schilling so far has met personal and team goals by compiling a record of 20-6 and he has struck out an impressive 197 batters. The Sox offense struggled after the All-star break so the team acquired Orlando Cabrera, a Gold Glove winner, from the Montreal Expos. The defense for the Red Sox has remained solid all year.

The Texas Rangers will take second place over the Angels. The Rangers' success started when they traded Alex Rodriguez to the Yankees for Alfonzo Soriano. The money the Rangers saved from A-Rod's outlandish salary meant they could improve the rest of the team.

The Rangers invested in a young prospect named Michael Young who now plays shortstop. Another good acquisition was David Dellucci.

His hitting in the last few days has saved them a few games against the West leading Oakland Athletics. Kenny Rogers's pitching has also been consistently superb for the team. He has a record of 17-8 this year with 119 strike outs.

But the Rangers won't make it to the October Show because the team is beset by suspensions and injuries. After a fight with fans, three of the Rangers' bullpen players are suspended, one of them possibly indefinitely.

The Angels were a surprise to be in the

wild card hunt, though they have been in the playoffs in recent years and also won a World Series. At the beginning of the season the Angels endured key injuries that hurt them. Now that they have everyone healthy, they have fared better in the win column.

One problem for the Angels has been their pitching staff. With ace pitcher Bartolo

Colon struggling this year with a record of 16-10 and an ERA of 5.31, the Angels are in trouble. Vladimir Guerrero may have a .329

batting average, but everything else has been a disappointing season for him. The Angels face the red hot Rangers who have been a threat all year.

The Angels' offense has struggled this year as well. Their bats have not come alive in games they needed the most. The one thing that will help the Red Sox pull off the Wild Card is experience. The Red Sox have been to the playoffs in the last few years with players that have been there before and know what is expected.



League Wild Card Race

Finish too tight to call

BY LUKE PISARCIK
Beacon Correspondent



In 1993 the San Francisco Giants won over 100 games, but didn't make the playoffs. In the same year the Philadelphia Phillies won only 97

games but were in the playoffs and eventually made it to the World Series. The Giants weren't happy at the apparent failings of the Major League Baseball playoff system.

In 1995, the wild card was introduced to the game. Boy, are the Giants happy it is in effect now.

With about a week left in the regular season the Giants trail the Chicago Cubs by only a half of a game and trail the N.L. West-leading Los Angeles Dodgers by a game and a half. All teams have about ten

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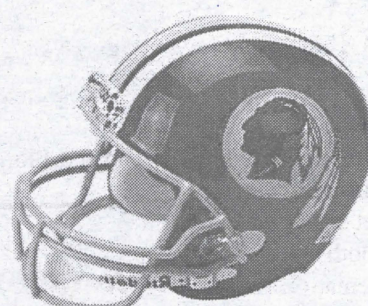


Monday Night Matchup

Dallas Cowboys vs Washington Redskins

BY TYLER JENKINS

Beacon Assistant Sports Editor



This Monday the Washington Redskins take on their NFC rivals the Dallas Cowboys on the primetime stage of Monday Night Football.

This will be the first time in about four years that both are considered good football teams. The hatred that the Redskins' fans have for the Cowboys always makes this a heated rivalry. But rivalry aside, as a football game it should be a dandy to watch.

Last week the Redskins had every chance to win and put the New York Giants in a hole. But turnovers made the Redskins into the Giants' best asset, and Washington ended up shooting them-

selves in the foot. Washington's offense needs to learn how to hold on to the ball. The G men were forcing fumbles on Clinton Portis all day. The man who hardly ever fumbles, fumbled twice--and one was returned for a costly TD.

Portis wasn't the only one who had problems. In fact, the quarterback problems never seem to leave Washington.

While Brunell was doing work on the New York secondary, he came up limping, forcing Joe Gibbs in to back up Patrick Ramsey.

Ramsey had a dismal outing; actually that's putting it mildly. Ramsey had four

interceptions in about two quarters of work. To make matters worse Gibbs has named Ramsey starter for this Monday since Brunell is still injured.

With all this stacked up against the

Redskins, look for Portis to handle a majority of the offense. All the chips are stacked against the Skins and make the Boys look like the clear favorites.

Scratch the fact the Vinny Testaverde has been in the league for a million years and has cement shoes on in the pocket. He still somehow knows how to get the job done. But with receivers like Terry Glen and Keyshawn

Johnson his job is a lot easier. With ex-Titan's running back Eddie George in the back field the passing game should open up. And if the Skins play the way they did in New York, expect the Boys to light up the scoreboard all night long.

With all the signs pointing in Dallas' direction, we'll predict a Dallas win by 20--Washington 17-Dallas 37. We just can't see Patrick Ramsey leading anyone to victory on a stage like Monday Night Football or against a team of veterans like the Cowboys. But for his sake, we hope he proves us wrong, because he wouldn't even be Wilkes's third string.

Prediction:
Dallas: 37
Washington: 17

Wilkes Rallies For 3-1 Women's Soccer Win Over Susquehanna

COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

Wilkes University scored twice in the second half to break open a tie game and post a 3-1 non-conference women's soccer win over Susquehanna University on Saturday afternoon at Ralston Field. The win improves the Lady Colonels to 6-3 overall. Susquehanna, which entered the match ranked ninth in the Mid-Atlantic Region, falls to 6-2 overall.

Susquehanna took a 1-0 lead at 14:22 of the first period when Lindsay Nevins scored off an assist from Jessica Paulshock. Wilkes would tie the game at 1-1 at 32:29 when Caitlin Dukas knocked home a shot off an assist from Kristi Barsby.

The Lady Colonels would take the lead for good on an unassisted goal

by Kami Roth at 50:04 of the second half. Wilkes gained some breathing room on a Bethany Head goal off another assist from Barsby at 68:23. Wilkes held a slim 13-12

shots on goal advantage, while Susquehanna gained a 4-3 edge in corner kicks. Lady Colonels goalkeeper Katie

Green earned the win in net by stopping seven shots. Susquehanna goalie Kimberly Wild finished the match with six saves.



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NL Wildcard May Be Too Close to Call

WILDCARD from page 18

games remaining and there are still six teams with wild card hopes.

Although the Phillies and the Florida Marlins need miracles to get the wild card bid, both are yet to be mathematically eliminated from wild card contention.

But much of the beauty of baseball lies in the battles that conclude the regular season. The real race for the wild card is currently between four teams for one spot.

The Chicago Cubs, with one of the best starting rotations on paper, lead the race heading into the final 10 games of the season. The Cubs play seven of their next ten games at home, and the last three are against the Atlanta

Braves, who could be resting their starters for the playoffs.

The San Francisco Giants are in hot pursuit of both the wild card and N.L. West leads. The Giants will decide their own fate

by playing their final nine games against teams with playoff aspirations. They will play the Los Angeles Dodgers six times in the next 12 days. The Giants and the San Diego Padres hook up for a three-game series beginning on Tuesday, September 28.

And just for fun... the Houston Astros are two and a half games behind the Cubs for the wild card.

The Astros play six of their next nine games at home vs. the St. Louis Cardinals and the Colorado Rockies. The Astros' two big aces in Roy Oswalt and Roger Clemens will need to win every start for the team to have any

chance at making a run into the playoffs. The Padres will be looking to make up some serious ground, because they trail the Cubs by four and a half games with only nine to play.

Although the Padres do have a favorable schedule the rest of the way in, including six games vs. the lagging Arizona Diamondbacks, they do have three games in that key series with the Giants starting Tuesday. The Padres can't afford to lose more than one game the rest of the way in.

With all these teams with playoff chances, it will certainly be an exciting finish to what was an incredible 2004-baseball season.

The race for the wild card will likely finish on the season's last day, October 3, when the San Francisco Giants visit the Los Angeles Dodgers for the conclusion of their three game series. The San Francisco Giants win or lose, are certainly happy to still have a chance to be in the mix of things and even if they don't win the division they could still be dancing in October--just ask the Florida Marlins from a year ago.

National League Wild Card Standings

Cubs	—
Giants	.5
Astros	2.5
Padres	3.5
Dodgers	—
Giants	1.5

FOOTBALL from back page
the lead to 24-12.

Later in the fourth, FDU's Tim Durkin was unable to handle a Wilkes punt. The fumble was recovered by the Colonels Jared Meckler at the Devils 13 to set up the final Wilkes scoring drive. A nine-yard run by Andreopoulos and a two-yard rush by Ryan Maghamez provided Wilkes with a first down at the FDU two. Andreopoulos would score on a two-yard run with 2:29 left to give Wilkes the 53-12 win.

Nine different Wilkes players ran the football as the Colonels amassed 204 yards on the ground. Porrino was successful on 6-of-12 pass attempts for 130 yards and a touchdown. Jordan was the Colonels leading receiver with five catches for 75 yards.

Bolsar had seven tackles, including three behind the line of scrimmage, to lead a Wilkes defensive effort that limited FDU to only 227 yards in total offense. Henninger added five tackles, two of those for loss, and one sack. Jon Jamison and Kyle Follweiller also had five tackles.

Tune into 90.7 WCLH for complete game coverage as the Colonels football team travels to Freedom Conference Rival Widener University.

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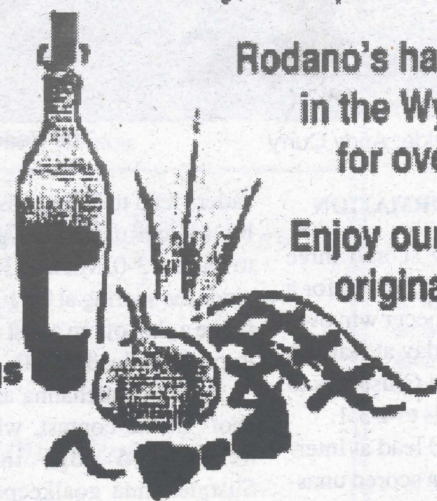
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Crew Club Experiences Jump in Members

BY GABE LEDONNE
Editor-in-Chief

Just a year after restarting the crew club, members from last year were pleasantly surprised at Club Day. The club, which had about a dozen members last year, had 86 people sign up and indicate interest--more than half of whom, are still involved with the club.

"It was extremely exciting," said club president Laura Nowicki. "Because we were a new club and it was just students starting it up, it was very exciting to have that big of a following."

Some of those newly interested made contact with team members prior to club day, and were able to practice with the team over the summer at Harvey's Lake.

Recently, the club--now more than 40 strong--moved equipment from Harvey's Lake to the banks of the Susquehanna River, where members will now be rowing.

While the team hasn't yet competed, Nowicki cited that they did

scout out the competition last spring at a Regatta in Philadelphia.

"We went to a competition last year. Most of those schools are

right with them," Nowicki said.

Coach Gere Reisinger was the original coach for Wilkes when the club was active in the 1990s.

"He actually started that pro-

last year, we found out that he was the last coach, and we got in contact with him... he said that he would still be interested."

"He's a very good coach. He gets people rowing well, very quickly," Nowicki added.

The club currently has two boats: a 4-man sweep, and a 4-man scull boat. The shortage of boat seats in comparison to the impressive number of new members has made organizing practices a bit complicated.

"We're splitting practices right now--a 6 a.m. practice and a 5 p.m. practice. If we have to, we'll even split it up more," said club secretary Dave Scarisbrick.

Crew members hope, though, that the boat constraints will be eased somewhat by their

anticipated new purchases.

"We are getting an 8-man sweeps, and a 4-man sweeps and a broken 8 man sweeps for part from Penn State," Scarisbrick said.

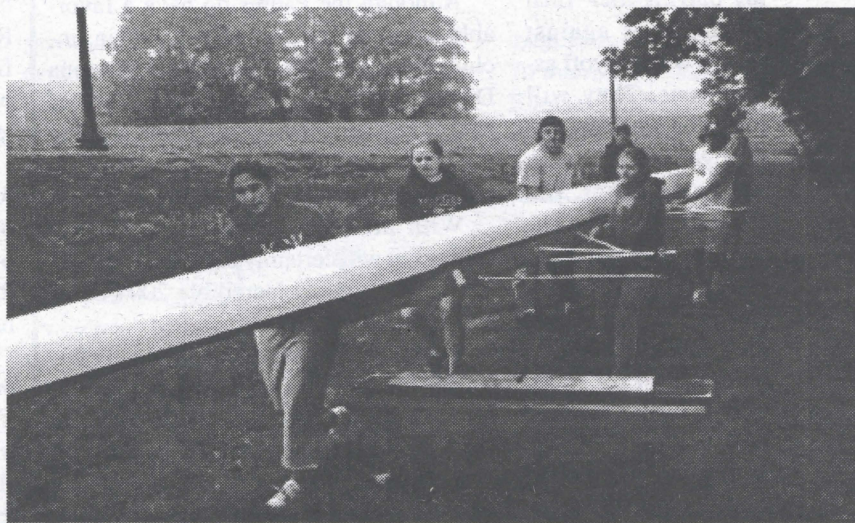
On Wednesday, Student Government allocated the club \$3,000 dollars to help with the costs of buying new equipment.

The money will allow the club to buy the PSU boats, which cost around \$2,000, and also get the club started on buying the oars they need for the new boats.

The club's original fund request was \$4,400 dollars-which means the club will be doing a lot of fundraising.

"We're going to be selling T-shirts... We're also going to get in touch with Gertrude Hawk and see what we can do," Nowicki explained.

On Sunday, October 3rd, the crew club competes for the first time in a regatta at Susquehanna University since its revival last year.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Members from the crew club move their equipment to Kirby Park, along the Susquehanna River.

very competitive. But our coach has informed us that we could be

gram," Nowicki said. "So when we wanted to start up the club

Men's Soccer Takes 4-0 Loss



Wilkes Midfielder Andy Curry

The Beacon/Todd Weibel

COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

Susquehanna University scored three times in the second half to pull away for a 4-0 non-conference men's soccer win over Wilkes University on Saturday at Ralston Field. The win improves the Crusaders to 6-2 overall, while Wilkes falls to 4-3-1.

The Crusaders took a 1-0 lead at intermission when Michael Keim scored unassisted at the 17:54 mark. The contest would stay that way until the second stanza when Susquehanna tallied three times.

Caleb Woolever notched an unassisted goal at the 50:34 mark to extend the Cru-

saders lead to 2-0. At 69:32, Keim scored his second unassisted goal of the match to make it 3-0. Michael Bobeck would conclude the scoring at 86:10 when he knocked home a shot off an assist from Justin Maker to push the lead to 4-0.

Both Susquehanna and Wilkes had 13 shots in the contest, while the Colonels held a 7-5 edge in corner kicks. Susquehanna goalkeeper Austin Kelsey registered nine saves, while Wilkes goalie Dominik Proctor finished with four saves.

The men's soccer team will take on Moravian College in a non-conference away game on Wednesday at 4:00

Wilkes Field Hockey Falls 1-0 to Ramapo in Penalty Strokes

COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

Ramapo College used a 3-1 advantage in penalty strokes to post a 1-0 non-conference field hockey win over Wilkes University on Saturday afternoon. The win improves the Roadrunners to 3-3, while the Lady Colonels fall to 5-3.

The two teams battled to a 0-0 stand-off through two overtime periods before the game was decided on penalty strokes. After the Lady Colonels missed their opportunity, Jacquelyn Garofalo scored for Ramapo to put them on top 1-0 in the best-of-five scenario. The Lady Colonels missed their next two attempts, while Ramapo failed on one try before Katie Stern made a successful stroke to extend the advantage to 2-0 after three rounds. Lara Judson kept Wilkes in contention in round four by converting her stroke, but the Roadrunners Erin Thomas was also successful in round four to give Ramapo the 3-1 strokes win.

Wilkes held a commanding 25-7 advantage in shots on goal, while also gaining a 17-6 edge in penalty corners. Katelyn Ferguson stopped 17 shots in net for Ramapo, while Wilkes goalkeeper Hilary Weber was required to make only one save.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Kortney Loss drives up field.

After 2 straight losses to Ramapo and Scranton the women's field hockey team is hoping to turn their current slump back into a winning streak as they take on Manhattenville on Wednesday at 4:00 here at home and on Saturday as they travel to William Paterson at 11:00.



COLONEL'S CLIPBOARD

23

CATEGORY LEADERS

WEEKLY RECAP

FIELD HOCKEY

Goals: Melissa Quinn 6
Game Winning Goals: Carrie Stolarick, 2
Assists: Kortney Loss, Melissa Quinn, and Carrie Stolarick, 3
Shots: Erin Henry, 33

MEN'S SOCCER

Number of Goals: Steve Uhas, 5
Game Winning Goals: Andy Curry, 2
Assists: Paul Gideon, and Mike Bridy, 3
Shots: Steve Uhas, 27

FOOTBALL

Rushing: Brett Trichelo 387 yards total for 2004 season
Passing: Duran Porrino 377 yards total for 2004 season
Receiving: Jim Jordan 200 yards total for 2004 season
Kick Returns: T. Andreopoulos 55 yards average/game

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Goals: Kami Roth, 7
Game Winning Goals: Kami Roth, 2
Assists: Kristi Barsby, 7 and Christina Waldele, 5
Shots on Goal: Kami Roth, 23, Christina Waldele, 16

VOLLEYBALL

Sets: Nikki Hahn, 591
Server Aces Per Game: Jillian Focht, .57
Blocks: Alicia Vieselmeyer, 31; Jillian Focht, 26

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Singles: Kelly MacDonald, 3-2
Doubles: Kristen Kile and Sara Ryder, 2-0

Football

(9/25) Wilkes 53 FDU-Florham 12
Men's Soccer
(9/25) Susquehanna 4 Wilkes 0
(9/23) Lycoming 1 Wilkes 0
Field Hockey
(9/25) Ramapo 1 Wilkes 0 (Penalty Strokes)
(9/23) Scranton 3 Wilkes 0
Women's Soccer
(9/25) Wilkes 3 Susquehanna 1
(9/22) Wilkes 3 Baptist Bible 0

Women's Tennis

(9/25) Lebanon Valley 6 Wilkes 3
(9/24) DeSales 5 Wilkes 4
(9/23) Wilkes 5 Lycoming 4
(9/21) Susquehanna 9 Wilkes 0

Women's Volleyball

(9/25) Lebanon Valley 3 Wilkes 0
Rowan 3 Wilkes 1
(9/20) Wilkes 3 Misericordia 0

THE WEEK AHEAD

Women's Volleyball

Tuesday - 7:00 p.m. vs Scranton
Saturday - 1:00 p.m. @ Vassar/Lehman

Field Hockey

Wednesday - 4:00 p.m. vs Manhattanville
Saturday - 11:00 a.m. @ William Paterson

Women's Tennis

Tuesday, September 28
4:00 p.m. @ King's
Thursday, September 30
4:00 p.m. @ PSU-Berks

Women's Soccer

Tuesday - 7:00 p.m. @ Scranton
Saturday - 1:00 p.m. @ FDU-Florham

Men's Soccer

Wednesday - 4:00 p.m. @ Moravian
Saturday - 1:00 p.m. @ FDU-Florham

Football

Saturday, October 2
1:00 p.m. @ Widener

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: KRISTI BARSBY

WOMEN'S SOCCER

BY ARIEL COHEN
Sports Editor

With this year's 6-3-0 start, the women's soccer team is well on its way to looking like conference champions, with the assistance of Sophomore, forward midfielder, Kristi Barsby.

In the Colonels opening week 7-1 win over Goucher College, Barsby scored 2 times and also had 2 assists. Barsby continued to prove her ability as she had another assist when the Lady Colonels blanked Keystone College 9-0 in a non-conference match on September 12.

Most recently, on Saturday, September 25, she had 2 assists in the team's 3-1 non-conference game against Susquehanna University.

Barsby who started on the team last year as a freshman, seemed to be on the team leaders board for consecutive season stats in almost every category. In her first season her at Wilkes, she finished with 7 shots on goal, 14 shots overall, 1 game winning goals, and 3 points.

Even with these amazing stats as a freshman Barsby is putting up even more impressive results already this season leading all players on the team with 7 assists and coming in third overall on the team with 4 goals.

The women have a bunch of tough matches still ahead of them this season including Scranton. Currently Scranton is in the top few teams of the Freedom Conference League with a conference record of 1-0.

"Scranton is tough and the game will be on their field [but] if we win it will be a big win, a really big win," stated Barsby.

With a total of 6 conference matches left in this season, and a current conference record of 1-0 the Colonels are looking to make a strong return to the postseason.

"If we play our game we will win," Barsby stated.

The team is looking to keep its act together this season and keep up those high scoring games with help from Barsby and the strong leadership of the team third year coach, John Sumoski, who helped lift the team to 2 straight Freedom Conference Playoff berths.

The key to winning any season is whether you want to or not and Barsby stated that, "If we want to we can."



Kristi Barsby

Quick Stat Box

Name: Kristi Barsby
Year: Sophomore
Position: Starting Forward-midfielder

2004 Stats

Goals: 4
Game Winnig Goals: 1
Assists: 7
Shots On Goal: 10

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

117

Number of yards run by Brett Trichilo in Saturday's Freedom Conference game against FDU-Florham. Trichilo now has 387 rushing yards so far this season.

7

The number of goals scored in the women's soccer teams three wins this week. With their current win streak the Colonels improve their record to 6-3 overall.

3

Kristen Kile and Sara Ryder's current winning streak in doubles for the women's tennis team.

7

The number of tackles for Mike Bolsar at last Saturday's football game. Three of those tackles were behind the line of scrimmage.

Sports

SEPTEMBER 27, 2004

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Colonels Post First Win with Victory over FDU



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

Senior running back Brett Trichilo rushed for 117 yards and two touchdowns and the Wilkes University defense limited FDU-Florham to 227 yards in total offense en route to a 53-12 Middle Atlantic Conference win on Saturday afternoon at Ralston

Field. The victory improves the Colonels to 1-2 overall and 1-1 in the MAC. FDU-Florham falls to 2-1 overall and in conference play.

Bo Tkach intercepted a Dan Huff aerial attempt on the first possession of the game to give Wilkes the ball at the FDU 41. Following an incomplete pass by Duran

Porino, Trichilo gained nine yards to set up a third-and-one from the three. Trichilo again took a handoff and bulled his way into the endzone to put Wilkes on top 7-0.

FDU would put together a scoring drive later in the first quarter. The Devils took over at midfield following a Wilkes punt and went the distance in six plays. After a seven-yard Huff to Louis Smith completion, Rob Felicetta took a handoff and threw a strike to Mike Smeja for 24 yards to give the Devils a first down at the Wilkes 14. Four plays later Mike Campbell scored on a two-yard run to cut the lead to 7-6.

Wilkes extended the lead to 21-12 at half-

time after marching 82 yards in 11 plays to reach paydirt. After three straight Trichilo runs totaling 19 yards the Colonels were again set up in a first and goal from the seven. On third-and-goal from the four, Trichilo raced into the endzone for a touchdown and Yurewicz tacked on the extra point to make it 21-12.

Tom Andreopoulos took the opening kickoff of the second half for Wilkes and weaved his way for a 75-yard return to the FDU 13. After the drive stalled, Yurewicz connected on a 32-yard field goal to push

FOOTBALL See Pg. 21

Wilkes Crew Club



**PAGE
22**

Barby Tops Soccer Team in Assists



**PAGE
23**

Campus Calendar

Monday (9/27)

* Pool Tournament 6 p.m. Commuter Lounge

Tuesday (9/28)

* Women's Tennis @ King's 4 p.m.
* Women's Soccer @ Scranton 7 p.m.
* Volleyball w/Scranton 7 p.m.

Wednesday (9/29)

* Coffee Hour 10 a.m. Commuter Lounge
* Field Hockey w/Manhattanville 4 p.m.
* Men's Soccer @ Moravian 4 p.m.
* Student Government meeting 5:30 p.m. Hiscox Rm. HSC

Thursday (9/30)

* Movie matinee 11 a.m. Commuter Lounge
* Women's Tennis @ PSU Berks 4 p.m.
* Distinguished Lecturer in the Health Sciences, Dr. Jay M. Ungar 7:30 p.m. HSC Ballroom Free Admission
* Theater Production: Hotel Universe 8 p.m. DDD \$5 student admission, \$15 general admission

Friday (10/01) **Pre-Med Day

* Theater Production: Hotel Universe 8 p.m. DDD \$5 student admission, \$15 general admission
* Cinemark Movies (Sponsor: WUPB) Tickets \$2, on sale Wed. & Thurs.

Saturday (10/02)

* Field Hockey @ William Paterson 11 a.m.
* Football @ Widener 1 p.m.
* Women's Soccer & Men's Soccer @ FDU-Florham 1 p.m.
* Women's Tennis w/DeSales 1 p.m.
* Volleyball @ Vassar/Lehman 1 p.m.
* Theater Production: Hotel Universe 8 p.m. DDD \$5 student admission, \$15 general admission
* Party on the Square, Wilkes-Barre Public Square, 4-10 p.m.

Sunday (10/03)

* No Events Listed

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The Beacon welcomes notices of events...

Post your event by visiting www.wilkesbeacon.com or email wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com