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WILKES The New Beacon

A Student run publication serving the Wilkes Community.

March 1, 2001 ♦ <http://wilkes1.wilkes.edu/~beacon> ♦ Volume 53 ♦ Issue 17

Wacky Winter Weekend at Wilkes



See page 2 for story and credits

Winter Weekend Wrap-up

By Josh Liebner
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and

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People had fun giving to charity this weekend by participating in Winter Weekend. The festivities started Thursday and went into Saturday here at Wilkes University.

The whoopla began on Thursday night with a concert by the Poptart Monkeys. (See page 14 for more info on the band)

Outside the concert, students enjoyed Sumo wrestling and inflatable Twister. Teams earned points by donating canned goods to charity.

Friday night brought a volleyball tournament. Teams also competed in a spirit, banner and T-shirt contest.

Saturday morning saw teams competing in various activities on the Greenway. Examples of these games are a bat spin, tug-o-war, hoola-hoop, and amoebae. Amoeb-

ae is a contest where the teams lock arms and walk across the Greenway.

There were 11 total teams with 20 people completing a team. The teams were split evenly with ten guys and ten ladies to a team.

Points were earned for participating as well as placing in a contest. Points were also earned based on the amount of canned goods collected. Team seven was the overall winner. Team eleven came in second, followed by team eight. For a complete breakdown of teams and winners. (See box)

Saturday's cold weather did not dampen the team's spirit during the outside competitions. The chill outside did not factor in the outcome of the events taking place inside.



Adam Polinger/Beacon

"We'll get Hammered, then Get Nailed" races to pass hola hoop through the line of team members.

The atmosphere of the whole weekend was very lively and energetic. The teams were extremely spirited and they seemed to feed off of each other's energy.

The big winner of Winter Weekend is the charity that benefits from

the donations. The participants also benefit from the experience. They have a fun time competing with each other. The campus benefits from the chance to bring the students and faculty together in a less formal setting.



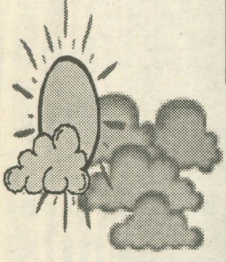
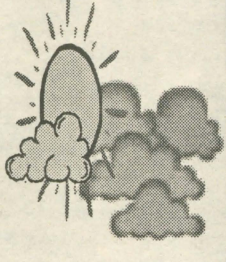
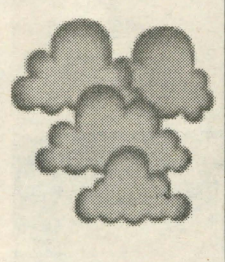
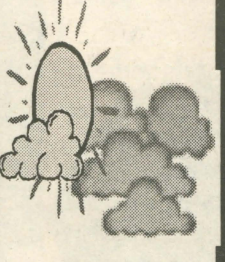

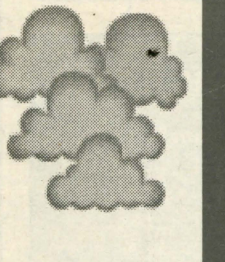

Adam Polinger/Beacon

"WasHer Before you Screw" tugs on the rope to enjoy fun.

Winter Weekend Team Names

1. Frank Carbone's FUBAR Construction Company
2. Strap-on Tools
3. Garden Hose
4. D.R.I.L.L.E.D.
5. Hose
6. We'll get Hammered, then Get Nailed -1st place in Volleyball
7. Washer Before You Screw -1st place overall -2nd place in Volleyball
8. Gettin' Lathed -3rd Overall
9. Screw'd
10. Go Nutz and Screw -1st place Spirit and Banner
11. Heavy Duty Hole Shooters -2nd Overall -2nd Spirit and Banner

Wilkes-Barre Weather

Today	Friday 23	Saturday 24	Sunday 25	Monday 26	Tuesday 20	Wednesday 21
						
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Scattered Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
High 32, Low 14	High 30, Low 17	High 35, Low 25	High 41, Low 25	High 39, Low 24	High 38, Low 28	High 40, Low 30

Beacon Prediction: We at *The Beacon* would like to inform you that Mother Nature is still angry with us, but we have taken great pride in predicting the weather correctly for you in the past, and will continue to do so. This week, barring any dramatic reaction from Ms. Nature, there will be precipitation in either a solid or liquid form. The temperatures will also be in the 30s during at least one day of the week. Continue to turn here for your most accurate weather source. Thank you. *The Beacon* Staff

All "real" weather was found at weatherchannel.com

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the author or source

quoted.

Staff

STUDENTS ROBBED IN HOME AT GUNPOINT

By Amanda Leigh Brozana
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Similar too a scene out of an action flick gone horribly wrong, four masked men invaded junior, Ron McIntyre's off-campus home packing semi-automatic weaponry Monday evening.

McIntyre, Michael Snider, Wilkes University sophomore, and McIntyre's cousin, Rodney Johnson of Newark, DE were in McIntyre's residence at 57 Regent St. when the men knocked on the door at approximately 8:30 p.m.

McIntyre asked who it was, and receiving no response, opened the door a little to see. Suddenly the glass broke and the perpetrators began to knock the door down.

"I tried to hold them off, but they overpowered me and broke down the door," McIntyre recalled.

From there, the assailants forced the men to the floor and proceeded to search through the house, stealing the valuables they could find, according to Sgt. Donald Crane of the Wilkes-Barre Police Department.

During the incident, McIntyre, Snider, and Johnson were kicked and beaten.

"One of the men had a gun to the back of my head," said McIntyre. He continued, "I grabbed the gun, trying to knock it out of his hand, but he hit me across my forehead and in the back of my head."

"They just kept hitting us and hitting us, saying 'give it up, where is it, we know there is somebody else here!'"

According to police reports, the men were looking for a large sum of money, but when they

did not find it, they took the wallets of their victims, as well as a Sony PlayStation, and jewelry.

Before exiting through the back, one of the assailants picked up the television and hurled it onto McIntyre's back. They then fled the scene in, what is described as, a small to medium sized vehicle. The car was possibly a 1986 to 1988 Chrysler LeBaron, purple.

Chief Cookus, Wilkes University Chief of Security, informed *The Beacon* Wednesday that "the police believe it was just the wrong house. Not often do you break into a college student's home and expect to find a lot of money."

The three victims were examined and treated for the minor injuries they sustained.

The police incident report identifies the suspects as "three black males, one white male, all in their 20s. One suspect de-

scribed as a black male, about 6'3", medium build, light complexion. The white male was described as about 5'10", thick glasses."

Wilkes University sent a maintenance crew to "secure and repair the home. The university took it upon itself to make sure the door was fixed and could be locked," said Dean Paul Adams.

"Our immediate concern (was) to make sure they (were) safe," said University Relations Director, Vaughn Shinkus.

Wilkes also offered McIntyre other housing accommodations.

"We are looking at ways to make (McIntyre's) living conditions safer," commented Shinkus.

When the University was contacted about the incident, Adams remarked, "Any time anything like this happens it is a wake up call for us. It shakes the entire campus and makes us realize that we are vulnerable."

"Our hearts go out to the young men, both for their physical and emotional suffering during this."

He added, "This kind of situation makes us aware of the fact that we must always remain vigilant, look out for one another, to stay safe and protected. These men were completely innocent and to be violated like that makes us aware of what kind of situation is out there."

McIntyre and Snider are both members of the Wilkes Men's Basketball team. It has been confirmed by Coach Rickrode that they are in satisfactory condition and will be competing in the playoff game scheduled for Saturday at Wilkes against the winner of this evening's game between King's Point Mariners and the Cabrini Cavaliers.

According to the police news release, "the investigation is continuing by the Wilkes-Barre Police Detective Division."

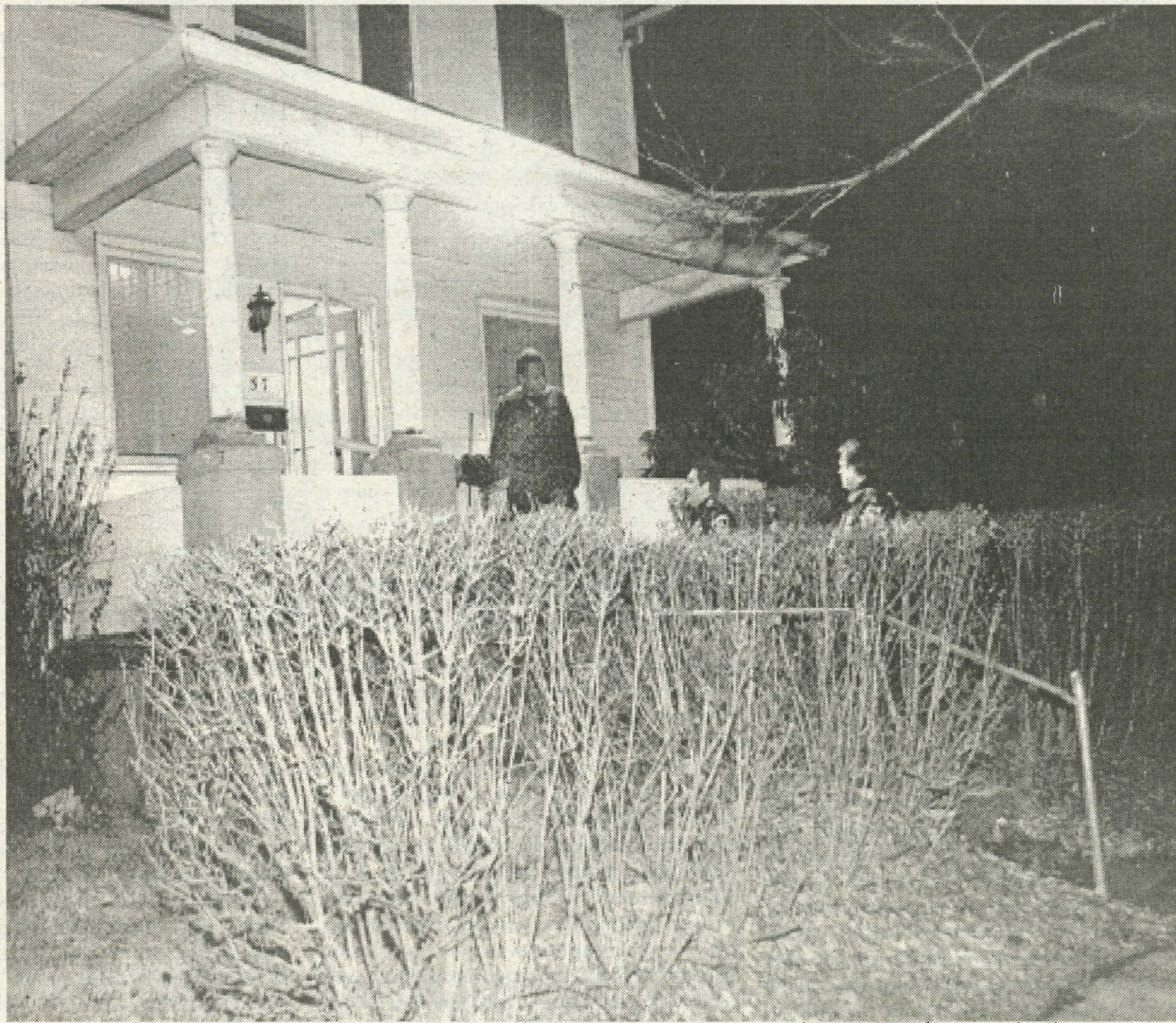


Photo Courtesy of Times-Leader Photo Department

Ron McIntyre's home at 57 Regent Street was the sight of the in-home invasion which occurred Monday evening at 8:31 p.m. McIntyre and two other men were victims of the 28th robbery to happen in Wilkes-Barre and surrounding areas so far this year.

SG Encouraged to Attack Campus Issues

By Josh Liebner

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Last evening's Student Government meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM in the Student Government Suite in the SUB. Quorum was met with only five members not in attendance.

The first issue addressed was whether or not to grant the Business and Accounting Club the \$675 they requested. The money will be used to pay for a charter bus to New York City. The club will raise the rest of the money as needed. In a vote of 23 to zero with three members abstaining, the club was granted that fund.

It was reported that the Freshmen Auction went well last week. It raised more money than expected, but no definite figure was given.

Winter Weekend was also a success. The winning team (Team Seven) chose the T-shirts as

their prize. Team 11 came in second and chose the sweatshirt. Team 8 came in third and their prize was a tool chest.

The NACA Conference was a success. The attending members enjoyed their time in Nashville. The presentation went "well" according to Student Government President, John Boshia.

Commuter Council reported that someone broke into the cabinet where they keep videos, near the Security Desk. A few videos were stolen. The Committee would like to get a new cabinet.

If you are interested in learning your future, you can talk to the Psychics that will be visiting campus on March 13.

The Resident Halls will be open until Sunday at noon now, instead of closing on Saturday as planned. This is for those students who wish to stay for the basketball game on Saturday. The number of Resident Assistants will be scarce, however, so be warned that if you lock yourself

out or another emergency should arise, it could be a problem to find help.

SG Representative Greg Collins brought up the issue that the Government should take initiative to get involved with small issues on campus. He said that as the Student Government of a college campus, they have the power to confront smaller issues, and should do so.

SG President John Boshia concurred and the floor was open to possible issues. Possibilities that were raised include paving the gravel path by the bell tower and placing a flashing light near the crosswalk between the SUB and Greenway.

In his closing statements, Boshia remarked on the importance of members participating in meetings. As he put it, "It is important to be at the meeting, but it is more important to be here and do something." Hopefully the members take their president's words to heart.

YMCA Decision Supported by Athletics

By Marcus Sowcik

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Wilkes University authorities can remove three items from their "to do list" with one stroke of the pen. By passing the YMCA proposal, which consists of three major sections, Wilkes can gain free access to the Y's gymnasium, can form a men's and women's swimming team, and can also add more on-campus apartments for resident students.

The first portion of this offer, which has been debated throughout the school for the past two weeks, gives students a reduced membership to the YMCA's facilities. The membership will allow students to lift weights, swim, and take work out classes for a fraction of the regular student membership fee, which costs about 80 dollars. Estimations project that the cost will run between 10 and 15 dollars, and will be added into student tuition fees.

Dr. Jim Rodechko, Vice President of Academic Affairs of Wilkes University, has monitored this situation closely, and is very optimistic about this

opportunity. "The main concern here is student happiness, and the majority of students seem to be in favor of it. I too agree with the students, and feel very positive about the proposal."

By accepting this proposal, the university also has the chance to add another collegiate sport to its list of 14. The YMCA has agreed to let Wilkes form a men and women's swim team, something the athletic department favors strongly.

Athletic Director Adelene Malatesta supports the proposal, and the idea of adding another athletic team. She feels that "the swim team could attract a variety of students," and can enhance Wilkes' competitive sporting persona. A part time coach would be hired, and the season would fit into the winter sports agenda.

The YMCA will be ready to host the swim team by adding a new Olympic size swimming pool for the athletes to use. By adding this second pool, it will eliminate congestion between the team and leisure swimmers.

Finally, the proposal could help eliminate the need for more on-campus housing. If Wilkes recognizes the offer, they will begin to construct an

apartment style house in the YMCA. The floor will be newly remodeled, and will hold between 20 and 25 students.

Dean Mark Allen commented on the new housing in a recent student government meeting, and said it would "ease the need for housing for incoming students." The house will hold one resident assistant, and will operate exactly like the other on-campus apartments.

The proposal has already passed through the Student Government by a large majority in a recent meeting. The proposal will now move on to be voted upon by the Board of Trustees, and if passed will go into effect in the fall of 2001.

The YMCA has already begun its construction of a new fitness center, new pool, and is ready to begin remodeling the floor for dorm students.

The Board will vote within the next few weeks, and Dr. Rodechko feels that it will pass the proposal as easily as the students did. "As long as there is overwhelming support from the students, I don't see why the Board wouldn't pass it. The main concern is the attitude of the students, since this is for them."

Community Service takes Students to India

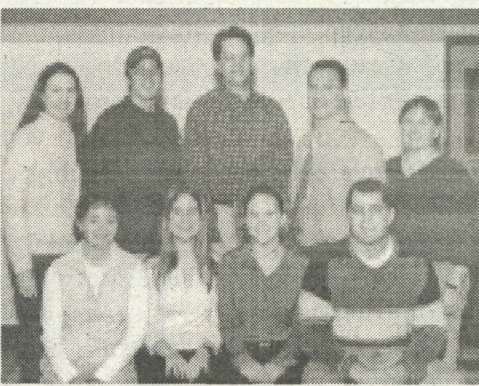
By Kathleen Awad

Beacon Staff Writer

A handful of Wilkes University students are being hosted by the JSS Academy of Technology to travel to India over the spring break. They are "goodwill" ambassadors to a group of forty students from India who will be studying at Wilkes next year as part of a student exchange program.

Wilkes ranked third in the nation last year for their successful participation of approximately 29,000 hours of community service to thousands of individuals from 100 area agencies. Now, Wilkes wants to spread its supportive wings across the globe to volunteer their time, energy, and skills in Delhi, India over the break.

The students who are participating in this two-fold mission are Sarah Becker, Deborah Brandt, Amanda Carleton, Michael Figueiredo, Kate Kulesa, Jennifer Lastovica, Shawn Perrine, and Joel Shrum. They will be offering "hands on" services to the poor in India, working at a center for mentally and



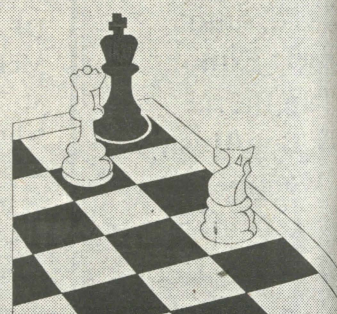
Participants of India Service Trip. Office of Volunteer Services and Campus Interfaith sponsors this trip.

physically handicapped individuals as part of their mission.

Thanks to all who helped with the fundraising, which made this trip possible. Your generosity will touch the lives of many over spring break. The Wilkes family would like to bid the students farewell and God-speed, and to commend them for their selfless decision to spend this time in India.



Adam Polinger
John Boshia, Student Government President, runs productive meeting.



Games Club at Wilkes is Looking for Members

By Ann Marie Miller & Brian Robb
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There is a club on campus that you may not have heard about. It is the Wilkes University Games Club. This club was started last semester but has not received much publicity or attention but we would now like to welcome all of you to join this club.

The club began last semester as a part of the ICS 220 Creative Pastimes class instructed by Dr. Anthony Kapolka. It entails the playing of various games and activities for a release of the stress of college life.

The club includes console video games, network games, athletic activities, chess, RPGs, and many other games and pastimes.

This semester the Games Club plans on expanding greatly. There will be many tournaments and competitions this semester along with general in club sessions.

If you are interested in joining the Games Club or at least showing up to check it out, feel free to stop by our first meeting this semester during the activities period on Thursday, March 01 at 11:30 in the second floor of the SUB.

The Games Club Email address is
games@wilkes.edu

Earthquake Rocks Washington

By Amanda Leigh Brozana

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One of the most powerful earthquakes to ever be recorded on the West Coast occurred yesterday.

The earthquake was centered 35 miles southwest of Seattle, WA, and it measured 6.8 on the Richter Scale. By current count, 25 people were left injured and one man dead.

Governor Gary Locke declared a state of emergency.

The quake, which lasted for a little less than a minute, produced tremors that were felt all the way from Oregon to British Columbia.

Officials reported damaged roadways and power outages throughout the area.

Metz Moves Towards Changes due to Lack Student Satisfaction

Nick Meadows
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After last week's *The Beacon* which included several negative references to the cafeteria and Metz Food Service, *The Beacon* please to announce that action has been taken by Metz to increase satisfaction with services provided.

Assistant General Manager, Malcolm May contacted *The Beacon's* Managing Editor, Amanda Brozana, on Friday afternoon for his meeting with Metz Regional Vice President, James R. Dickson, to discuss issues with the service as a whole.

Matters that were addressed included breakfast times, pre-made sandwiches, and to-go containers for food in the cafeteria.

Metz would like to make some changes by the time students come back from Spring Break. Currently, the service, as it stands now, is satisfactory to anyone," stated Dickson. Dickson met with Paul O'Hop, Vice President of Business Affairs for Wilkes University. After discussing concerns with Brozana

and Halliday, O'Hop was positive over the possible change. "We will do everything we can to raise the level of satisfaction," the Vice President of Business Affairs for the school commented.

Ideas Dickson took to O'Hop included the suggestion to make to-go containers available for all meals served in the cafeteria. Students would receive one entrée, two sides and a bottled beverage with this package as one meal.

O'Hop says that students are responsible for their food service. "You [the students] must take responsibility and talk to the Food Committee chairperson who should be representing the students."



Adam Polinger/Beacon

Students take time out of busy schedule to eat in cafeteria. Changes have been promised in system by Metz management.

Following up on SG in NACA Nashville

Meg Stevens
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The journey begins too early on a Saturday morning. You catch all the right buses and arrive in Nashville, Tennessee

and excited. Before you know it the shuttle is taking you up the Opryland Hotel. The Opryland Hotel stands before

as the most Immense, beautiful architectural building you have ever seen. You

are in awe of the impressive interior decorated by huge gardens, waterfalls, plan-

ing houses, stores, rivers, and furnishings. You soon get lost finding your room

among the other 3,000 rooms. Before long you discover that it is a marathon walk to the convention center mostly due to inevitably getting lost several times along your

journey. You find yourself among 2,000 other students with countless artists, comedians, lecturers, and various event staff.

Immersed by the people and your amazing surroundings, you sit down and pause. Ask yourself, "How can you get the most out of this experience and what can you bring back to Wilkes?"

The students attending the National Conference for the National Association of Student Activities this past week included Sheakoski, Jeff Brittain, John Bosha, Johnson, and myself. Brian, John, and myself were primarily focused on our

presentation on increasing activity fees. We wanted to be a source of guidance and support for other schools who desire to increase programming quality by increasing their activity fee. Our presentation was one of the few that was given by students, and we were proud to be representing our university.

Jeff and Fran were representing Programming Board at the convention. After seeing a variety of the activities currently

entertaining college campuses

across the nation, Fran has returned to campus with a passion to seek out student input on activities and deliver what the students want. Jeff would like to expand and develop better publicity to increase student involvement. Jeff also desires to develop more regular programming in the future.

Erica Trowbridge, Alumni Gold Coordinator and SG advisor, attended the conference as well. She was able to attend workshops to help her transition from active student into the role of advisor and full time employee. When asked what important message did she learn that students need to hear, she responded, "Before you can strengthen your organizations and the university as a whole,

you must first work on strengthening yourself."

After four long days with little sleep, little food, and painful blisters from all the walking, we tried to fit all the ideas and information we received into our luggage. Many lectures, workshops, presentations, showcases, and mainstages were attended with a lot of notes taken. If you ask John Bosha what he learned, he'll say, "There's so much!" Indeed, we have gained a wealth

of ideas, great memories, new contacts, and renewed energy to serve our student body.

There was much to be learned by all the delegates in attendance. Now the key mission the six of us have is to begin to implement these ideas and encourage students to take advantage of all the unique opportunities Wilkes has to offer. On behalf of the entire delegation from Wilkes, I extend my thanks to the student body for the opportunity and honor to represent you



Three members of SG and two members of Programming Board represented Wilkes at National Conference.

New Body Mass Indicator Helpful

Erick Bourassa-Lavoie

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The public know that being obese or overweight is not healthy for the body, but sometimes people do not realize how unhealthy it is for them, what being obese or overweight is, or how to deal with the problem.

Today, approximately 33% of adults are either overweight or obese. 13% of adolescents are overweight or obese. Compared to all other countries, America has the highest percent of obese people in the world. What is considered being overweight or obese. In the past, there was a simple height and weight chart that one would use to determine if you were overweight or not. Those scales were not accurate, nor were they practical.

Today, doctors have constructed a new measure of ideal weight. It is known as Body Mass Index, or BMI. The BMI also takes into account height and weight, but is more valid than previous methods. It also derives a numerical value, known as the BMI value, instead of expressing what a person would weigh exactly. The graph seen here includes the procedure for calculating a BMI, and also the health risk

potential that is associated with particular BMI. A BMI between 20 and 25 is considered a healthy BMI. If a person's BMI is above 27, they are considered overweight, and if the BMI is over 30, that is considered obese. Having a high BMI value has been associated with an increased chance of developing diabetes, stroke, coronary artery disease, kidney and gallbladder diseases, as well as breast, prostate, and colon cancer. Readers may feel that this is not correct information, or that it is given by the government to scare people to lose weight. It is not.

Approximately 300,000 deaths per year are associated with being overweight or obese. That makes it the second leading cause of unnecessary death. The reason that so many Americans are overweight or obese is because of the sedentary lifestyle and lack of exercise that we exhibit. Other factors, such as genetics and chronic medical problems also contribute, but American lifestyle is the biggest contributor.

C. Everett Koop once said, "[Decreasing] Caloric intake to match a drastically reduced energy expenditure is a formidable challenge to many of us, but not to all of us. This difference between individuals is crucial. The fact that some

people remain in energy balance without difficulty, whereas a growing number of others do not, is not surprising.

The development of physiological mechanisms that support a robust appetite and efficient energy storage were undoubtedly favored, as we have for centuries needed to engage in heavy labor in order to live. Now we do not, and this is a mixed blessing for 70 million Americans who struggle to re-establish a balance between their daily appetites and their daily expenditure of energy. Our society is evolving rapidly toward an ever smaller energy expenditure; our appetites are not keeping pace."

This couldn't have been said better. The reason that obesity is such a problem is because Americans do not need to be active to survive anymore, and our diets do not reflect this. But do not worry that society has given up on you. There are ways that you can combat obesity and being overweight. First, you must consider your diet. Is it healthy? Do you consume more than 2,500 calories per day? What percent-

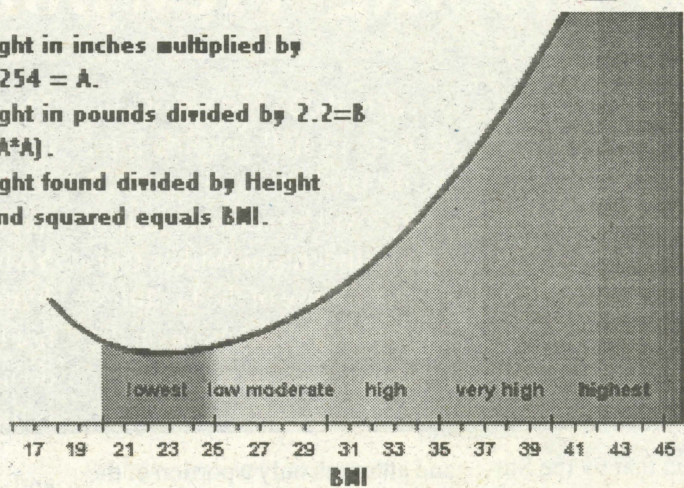
Height in inches multiplied by

$$0.0254 = A.$$

Weight in pounds divided by 2.2=B

$$B/(A^2) = \text{BMI}$$

Weight found divided by Height found squared equals BMI.



age of calories from fat do you consume? Then, you must consider your amount of activity. Are you active? Do you exercise regularly?

If you determine that you do not eat healthy, or are not active enough, you need to take steps to resolve these problems. Increase your daily activity, even if it is only walking. Try cutting out the McDonald's Double Quarter-Pounder and replace it with a more healthy meal.

If you follow a healthy regimen for a few weeks, and do not notice a healthy weight loss (1 - 2.5 pounds per week), then maybe you should see your doc-

tor. There may be an underlying medical condition, which is making it impossible for you to lose weight, and possibly made you put the weight on in the first place.

If you notice a healthy weight loss then keep doing what you are doing. While 1 - 2.5 pounds per week does not seem like much, it is 52 - 130 pounds per year, a considerable amount of weight. You are not alone in "the battle of the bulge." Approximately 33% of Americans are overweight to some point. Let all try to be healthier, and tip the scales of obesity.

A Survivor's Guide for Spring Break

Adam Czeponis

Staff Writer

This coming Friday, some of us are probably heading somewhere for spring break, whether to Florida (which is my destination) or to some places further away such as Cancun or Jamaica. For most of us, spring break will be a fun and most likely a rather intoxicating experience. What I would like to do is tell my fellow spring breakers is to provide some simple quick information that can keep you safe during your time away from campus.

I will assume that most travelers will be heading to climates full of warmth and sun. I'm sure you will be either lying on the beach gulping up the alcoholic beverage of your choice. But before you head out into the sun, do me a little favor and grab a bottle of sunscreen. A golden tan may be healthy and you may have to burn a little to achieve such a tan, but keep in mind that each time you get a suntan you increase your risk of skin cancer and that definitely does not look healthy at all. Try to use a sunscreen with an SPF (which stands for sun protection factor) of at least 30. You can go all the way up to SPF 45, but anything higher doesn't work any better. Be sure that it is waterproof and that it is applied about every hour. And don't be afraid to use the stuff; the more you use the less of a chance you will burn. If you intend on ignoring the information on sunscreen and get a nice little sunburn, the first thing I'll do is say

I TOLD YOU SO and now I'll tell you how to take some of the sting out of it. The first thing you want to do is take some ibuprofen or the name brand Advil. Take two tablets every four hours for the pain and swelling caused by the sunburn. Next take some Benadryl. This will take away some of the burning and itching. Take the dose recommended on the box. I understand that this is spring break and we all want to drink our faces off but be aware that Benadryl increases the sedative effects caused by alcohol. So if you get sleepy when you drink, this may happen a little quicker while taking the Benadryl.

Now we are going to talk about a topic very near to my heart-ALCOHOL. I will admit that I indulge in some occasional alcohol consumption with a few members of the Colonel baseball team and one of the Beacon editors as well. Actually, who am I trying to kid, I might over-indulge and I wake up with a terrific headache. The one drug that you do not want to take for a headache after drinking is Tylenol. Your liver is very busy trying to process all the tequila and beer that you consumed the night before. Taking Tylenol after drinking may cause liver damage so take Advil instead. If you wake up in the middle of the night, take two Advil with a full glass of water. When you wake up, your head will hurt less and the water will help in treating dehydration. If you are in Cancun, make sure the water is of the bottled variety so you can avoid spending most of your break in the bathroom. But just like anything else, too much of a good thing can be bad for

you. If two Advil take the pain away, don't think six will take it away quicker; you might give yourself an upset stomach.

The next area that should be addressed is an area in which I do not claim to be an actual expert in but I have some medical knowledge- sex and birth control. Sure, you're out getting wasted at Senor Frog's, it's two in the morning and all the guys and girls are looking beautiful. I watch the spring break shows on E! and I see people on spring break hooking up. That's great- just please use the proper means of birth control. Guys, use condoms. You may be a guy from a small northeast school located in downtown Wilkes-Barre and you have a chance to really get to know Dixie the head cheerleader from the University of Georgia. It may not sound like a good idea now but using a condom can prevent other things besides pregnancy such as explaining to your girlfriend who couldn't make the trip down with you why you're taking antibiotics. I mean you don't seem "sick" to her, now do you?

Ladies, no matter how much a guy tells you that he loves you, make him wear a condom anyway. Why take the chance of getting pregnant from some guy you will most likely never see again? And for those women on the pill, if used perfectly, there is only a 0.1% chance of becoming pregnant. But, the pill doesn't help in the least bit in the prevention of STD's. So, deciding to wear condoms should be an easy choice to make, although it is a choice often neglected more than it should be. For

both the guys and the ladies, you should all be familiar by now that condoms can prevent the spread of AIDS as well.

Well, I just wanted to briefly cover the topics that are most associated with spring break- sun, sex, and alcohol. So on Thursday night when you're packing for your destination, do me a little favor and throw a bottle of Advil, some

sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30, and some condoms in the bottom of your suitcase. These items may not be able to prevent or cure all the things that you may do on break, but they may help a little. Remember, the best medicine you can use is your head so just try and be a little careful. Have a very enjoyable and safe break.

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www.wellspan.org

Opposing Viewpoints

By Jennylee Yuhas
Beacon Staff Writer
yuhasjl@wilkes.edu

Recently, Wilkes University's Student Government agreed to a proposal by the YMCA which would allow all WU students, including off campus residents, free membership for

a year to the Y. Instead of students personally paying for a membership, a \$10 - \$12 charge will be added to tuition for all students of Wilkes University for use of the facilities. (For more information on the proposal, see last week's *Beacon*.)

Jennylee: I feel that by the Student Government giving \$48,000 to the YMCA, only half the student body will benefit from using the YMCA's facilities.

Jessica: Although the Student Government is using \$48,000 of funds to pay for something that only half the student body would use, I feel that it would benefit more students than it would harm. In fact, it wouldn't harm anyone or take away from anything else that the money could be used for. Student Government spends money on many different things that only a portion of the student body would benefit from.

Jennylee: (laughs) I feel that the money could be better used for other things. Things such as fixing our own gym. Not to mention the fact that additional money would be added to our tuitions. I know that it is only twelve dollars, but is that fair to the students that do not use the YMCA's facilities?

Jessica: The money could be used for other things, but not fixing up our own gym. The equipment in the gym not is very good, but there is no room for additional equipment. The money added to our tuition is only twelve dollars,

and although only a portion of the student body are planning to use the YMCA, the other half of students that are already paying for it may be motivated to use a service that is available to them.

Jennylee: One subject at a time. One. We could use the money to expand our own gym and buy additional equipment. If we are going to spend that amount of money, it may as well be on something that will benefit our school. To address the motivation issue, if the students would like to use a gym to remain fit that is all the motivation that they should need. I do not feel that a deal between SG and the Y will motivate anyone to work out more. You are the only person that can motivate yourself to do something.

Jessica: Where would we expand the gym? It is in the basement of the Martz where there are a bunch of other rooms that are used by different sports teams. Motivation is not easy to do by yourself. Some people need that extra kick to get them in gear. Therefore, it makes sense to use the money on expanding our gym. Expanding our gym will take time and a lot more money than making a deal with the YMCA would,

The following students have opposing views on the subject: Jessica Maguire thinks that having a contract with the YMCA is a great step, while Jennylee Yuhas feels that it is not fair to those students who do not use the facilities. Here is their debate.

and during that time students would have no facilities to use at an affordable price.

Jennylee: Slow down. Where could we expand the gym? Good question. I suggest converting Rumours into the main fitness room and leaving the gym as the workout room. Since the Student Union was built, there is really no use for Rumours. Most functions now take place in the Ballroom at the SUB. Also, I do not feel that by giving the YMCA our fitness contract we are motivating our students to work out. You are right, it is very hard to motivate yourself to do anything, but I do not feel that the deal provides motivation. Using the money for fitness and wellness is not even the issue here. I think it is a very good idea. Finally, the project could be finished by rearranging some equipment and getting rid of some rug. It could not take a great deal of time. I feel that if they start the project at the end of the semester and do it over the summer when not many students are on campus there would not be much of a disadvantage.

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Let's Hear It!

We would like to hear from our readers. Email us your responses for the following questions to: wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com

1. Do you participate in Community Service Activities?
2. About how many hours per month do you do Community Service?
3. What do you think some good Community Service activities would be for Wilkes?
4. Did you support the Alternative Spring Break Trip to India?
5. Would you have preferred they do Community Service in America? If so, why?

(according to Tim Millard, here is the)

EXTRA SUPER FAN@#%&TASTIC QUESTION!

What is your favorite Napster song you've downloaded?

What We Heard

Last week's Let's Hear It! must have struck a nerve, because we received a whopping three responses! The issue discussed was the \$48,000 allocation to the Wilkes-Barre YMCA.

Tim Millard, veteran Let's Hear It! answer-man, said that he used to use the gym, but was getting behind in his routine. However, since "Phil Tochelli has threatened to put (him) on the Navy SEALs workout plan, (he) thinks (he'll) be seen at the gym more often." Tim said, "If I'm going to use the service, I'll pay for it. If I'm not, I won't pay for it. It's as simple as that."

Patricia Ritchie and Jacqueline Ruane followed Mr. Millard's initiative last week, as they also responded to Let's Hear It!

In response to the question of paying for all students to use the "Y," Patricia said, "YES...for each interested student." She would be willing to pay an extra \$12 for a service she may not take part of, "because I MAY end up using it A LOT." As per renovation of our own gym here on campus, Patricia said that the facilities should be refurbished. She recommended that questionnaires be used to find out what machines the students want.

Jacqueline's response showed some resentment towards the facilities at Wilkes. She said, "No I do not go to the gym here at Martz because it is a joke. The machines are so old and rusty and somebody is going to get hurt and Wilkes will have a lawsuit on their hands. The only gym (here) is the one over at Ralston used by the football players...." "If Wilkes won't upgrade the gym we have no choice but to utilize the Y. At least the Y is upgrading their facility."

Students interested in voicing their opinions are encouraged to do so. They can respond to Let's Hear It! via e-mail at wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com.

compiled by Ann Marie Miller

By Amanda L
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brozanal@wilke

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Editorial

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March 1, 2001

OPINION

The Beacon 9

Editorial

By Amanda Leigh Brozana

Beacon Managing Editor
brozana@wilkes.edu

Since February, a recurring news item which *The Beacon* has been covering is the meeting of Student Government (SG).

In the first issue, we informed you of the first failed quorum in over a semester. In the next, we reported a full, active SG meeting. On February 21 you saw that once again quorum could not be met after the cheerleaders left for their duties at the basketball game. Last week, I attended a SG meeting that seemed very important with its extra large Executive Board session prior to the General Board meeting. Finally, this week, Student Government tackled a few small items such as giving \$675 to the Business and Accounting Club for their trip to NY.

Contrary to popular belief, we do not just cover these meetings to fill space in our News Section. If we only wished to do that, we would use more University Relations press releases.

Student Government is the hardest thing for us to cover, due to their meeting time and our layout schedule, but we continue to report it as best we can.

We do this because we feel SG is an important facet of student life here at Wilkes University. This is not just a belief, however. We can prove this just by reading the SG charter and constitution.

SG was established at Wilkes College on April 5, 1977. The reason for its formation was "to represent the entire student body, to act as a liaison between students and administration, to plan and coordinate activities on campus and to promote fellowship, scholarship, and the name of Wilkes University."

Student Government has evolved into more than just a liaison and PR corporation for Wilkes. SG has the power to "approve, re-

ject, or revoke any charter or constitution of any campus club, organization, or committee." They have student representatives on the Academic Standards, Admissions, Student Life and Media committees. SG has formed standing Parking, Security and Food committees who all help to make decisions in those matters on campus.

Student Government members are powerful campus leaders who make many important decisions for our campus and student body.

How, then, can those elected leaders of our school take their responsibilities so lightly? I think it is a combination of many things that makes this a prevalent attitude, but two stick out in my mind: the view that the campus has on SG membership and the example set by past and current SG members.

As a former SG member, I understand both of these factors.

Students do not realize the role SG plays in many aspects of Wilkes University. They look at SG as a group of socialites who meet each week to gossip about campus and organize games and activities. This view is quite distorted.

When I was elected to SG as a freshman, our roles were not very clear-cut. Our responsibilities were not shown as very important and nothing was done to portray the magnitude of our voting power.

According to the SG constitution, "any member of Student Government or one-fifth of the student body by petition may propose an amendment..." This means any SG member represents over 300 students in the undergraduate student body, and this places quite a bit of power in each member's hand; a power they don't realize they have.

As it currently stands, SG has 18 seats empty. Most of them are positions for representatives of the four classes in the undergraduate body.

Is this lack of representation because people don't want to take charge as powerful leaders on campus, or is it reasons such as a

feeling that SG is exclusive, petty or a latent organization on campus?

Student Government, when working correctly and seen in the right context, is the most powerful student organization Wilkes has. Even in times when it is not functioning at optimal levels, it is still the group with the most prestige and authority.

Their input in everything from housing conditions to academic standards, publicizing the week's sporting events to advising the administration on new policies for the university is profound.

Every week SG confronts issues concerning quality of student life and education.

As representatives of the student body, SG members offer insight for the betterment of the university as a whole.

We weaken the influence and prestige of Student Government any time we downplay its importance to this University.

Each open seat on the SG roster shows our failings as students to assume responsibility and gives the Administration more power when they present any case in opposition to what SG proposes.

If we do not fill the empty seats, it can be said that we hold no concern for what happens on this campus.

Participation in decision-making by a full 49-member board is not only good, but vital to have the views of students truly represented.

Do you feel that your interests are being adequately portrayed? If you have tried to take part in the organization or are currently a member, you are the members of the student body who have the right to criticize the decisions that Student Government has made for



Amanda Leigh Brozana

you. If you have not gotten involved, may I ask why? More importantly though, I remind you that you do not really have the right to complain. Only those who participate (or seeing that you must be elected, tried to participate) may object to the resolutions SG offers.

Within the next month, you will begin to see signs for the upcoming SG elections.

I encourage anyone who wishes to truly delve into the role of a leader, anyone who would like to service our institution and our student body, anyone who has concerns or issues that they wish to fight for, anyone who has goals they will work for, to step up to the call of action.

I miss my role as representative to SG, something I had to sacrifice to take on my position here. I hope motivated, responsible leaders move forward to take my place.

Editorial

The Wonder of Scooby-Doo

By Josh Liebner

Beacon Editorial Assistant
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When did life get so complicated? When did problems get so profound? Why does it have to be like this?

I liked life a lot more when the biggest question I faced day in and day out was whether or not the Harlem Globetrotters would be the special guest on Scooby Doo or not.

Life is not so fun anymore. The question that faces us now is, "Am I going to go broke or not trying to pay for an education?" Why does it have to be so hard?

Why are there people in my life trying to make it more complicated? Why do I have to check my email fifty times a day to see if we know where my friend is yet? Why won't he call me and let me know?

Why can't I be six years old again? I know it seems like I am sometimes, but that is just wishful thinking attempting to be reality.

I ask a lot of questions here. I do not have a definite answer to any of them.

Although I cannot answer any of these ques-

tions, I do have to accept them. It is a fact of life. We have to grow up and accept what comes along with it.

We gain a lot of independence and freedom with age. We also gain a lot of responsibility and pain with age.

The trick is to balance out the good parts with the bad. Take some initiative and solve the problems that plague you. It is not going to be easy, but there are people out there who care about you and will help you.

Believe me, I know life is confusing. I know it is hard. I know some things are easier said than done. I have been there and am still there.

You know what else I know? I know that it is better to talk about your problems than to keep them locked up and let them eat at you. That will just depress you and aggravate you.

Talk about your problems. Confront them. Beat them. Move on. Find someone you trust and tell them how you feel. It is really all you can do.

You have to grow up. I know it is not easy. It is not fun all of the time. But it has to be done.

If you get past your problems, it makes seeing Scooby Doo and the Harlem Globetrotters that much more fun.

HELP WANTED

14 entrepreneurial technology companies from northeastern Pennsylvania seek dynamic self-starters for positions in liberal arts, computer science, engineering, marketing, and other areas.

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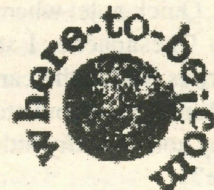
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F - Files

By Mark Falanga
Beacon Staff Writer
optomist2@wilkes.edu

This topic of the F-Files revolves around the one thing that this city hates the most: student cars. They're found everywhere you look in this three-block stretch of Wilkes-Barre. From the meter spots on South Franklin to the free spots that everyone vies for on South River, they can be seen clogging up road-ways, forcing plows to do half decent jobs, and giving joy to that gangly meter guy who gives us tickets. But the main focus of this article is not the problems they cause or about the horrid parking situation in this city. I think you're tired of reading those articles. Rather, it is about the cars themselves. What do students drive nowadays? That is the question for this week's edition of the F-Files.

Before I go into the story, I would like to say that my review of the following automobiles does not reflect my true opinion of the cars. I only buy domestic as I hope every American does because foreign cars...well, they suck. The only reason why they're so popular is because of the good gas mileage they have. Personally, give me a 1981 Ford Fairmount any day over a BMW Z3. Now without further adieu, I give you the F-Files.

The car that is most seen around campus is the Honda Civic from 1997 through 2001. These models of cars are very compact and great with gas mile-age (31 mpg). Two styles come with this car, a hatchback or a coupe. The prices of these cars new is about

\$10,000 which makes it a best buy for the average college student. Of the people I had asked about this car, all agreed that it handled very smoothly but wished it was more powerful. That is the only flaw with this car. Even in the most expensive models, it only has a four-cylinder engine making it a fairly weak car. But what it lacks in power it makes up in handling and reliability.

The Honda Accord is another car seen on campus very often. The models range from 1993 to 1999. Many refer to it as just a bigger Civic but it is much more than that. With an optional V6 engine, this car can really move in one of two styles, the coupe or the four-door sedan. It offers more than Civic in many areas such as leg-room and overall length of the car by adding 30 square inches of space in the interior. If you live in a snowy region, the models from 1996 and on have optional traction control to aid in a safe trip home in bad weather. Overall, the Accord is a very well equipped, well refined automobile for college students.

Another car that is seen on campus almost as often as a certain RA's backside is the 1988 through 1994 models of the Dodge Shadow/Plymouth Sundance. These sister cars are, without a doubt, a definitive staple of college design. Though plain in it's box-like exterior, the interior is anything but ordinary. Both four-door and coupe models have a very spacious inside with bucket seats and rear bench seat that folds down adding more space to the trunk. The standard 2.5

liter engine (largest in its class for those years) guarantees a smooth ride. Want more power? The ES model of the Shadow and the Duster package of the Sundance come with a 3.0 liter V6 engine. In short, a great car! This car is and always has been popular with the college crowd for almost forty years. That car is the Ford Mustang. The students here drive the 1991 through 1998 models of the All American classic. This is stylish coupe comes with many packages but the majority of the students opt for the 3.8 liter V6 with a hardtop roof. I've only seen two on campus with the 5.0 liter V8 engine with a convertible top. This car has plenty of pickup and, despite popular opinion, can withstand the test of time. Another added bonus of the car is that it is less expensive to repair or replace a part of the car than its rival the Chevrolet Camaro. It is also safer than the Camaro in that has better crash ratings but I highly doubt that anyone buys this car for safety concerns.

Well, those are the most popular cars driven by us Wilkes students. I must say it makes me feel a whole lot worse driving around my Dodge Intrepid. But me and those three other students on campus are the only ones who have the pleasure of getting 20mpg and killing the atmosphere as we speak. Hope-fully this informed you about cars, making you want to buy one, or wanting to curse the automobile industry for tak-ing away Plymouth and Oldsmobile (why, oh God, why!?) In any case, see you next week here at the F-Files.

Greetings from The Hot Box...

By Josh Liebner
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Well all right; it's that time again. Time to hear from me again. I know that I complained too much in the last two installments of this article, so I won't complain this week. I am going to tell you about my weekend instead.

While everyone else on campus was getting drunk, I was happily sober. On Friday night, I went to see a movie. We drove to Cinemark and saw Traffic. The movie taught me that I never want to use heroin. HEROIN BAD!!!!

Then the destiny quarter told us to take 315 to Wal-Mart. I hopped in a shopping cart and my friend Mike pushed me into the store. The old guy at the front of the store gave me a dirty look, so I waved to him. He gave me an-

other dirty look so I gave up on him. I was having a good time and was not about to let him and his cranky mood spoil it.

We cruised around the store until I got a cramp from being bent in such an awkward position in the cart. Then we hit the toy section and the night got really fun.

Mike and Al (another friend) decided to buy Styrofoam airplanes (some assembly required). Al also bought a Nerf dart shooting thingy. We decided to go home to play with our new toys.

Quick note; when we got back to Chesapeake, I saw "bunny" prints beside the car. Apparently Mortimer is now stalking me to my home. Crafty little rabbit, isn't he?

We put the planes together and spent the rest of the night flying them off the fire escape of our "resident hall." A good time was

had by all.

Saturday night we went to Krispy Kreme. We were not sure exactly where the place was. We knew it was in Scranton, but Scranton is a big place. We decided to let the destiny quarter lead us yet again. After all, it had done a quality job on Thursday and Friday night.

The destiny quarter showed us all of the correct turns and we made it to the donut paradise that is Krispy Kreme. If you have never had a glazed donut at Krispy Kreme, then I suggest you make the drive and try it. The product is very, very good.

I have spoken of the destiny quarter frequently this week. I have not explained what it is. I don't think I will. You will just have to be in the dark on this one. Only those whose life has been affected by its mystical ways shall

know what I speak of. BAH HA HA!!

Sunday was pretty uneventful. I slept late and studied for a test that was coming up. Then we flew planes again. That was the extent of our evening.

Monday night was fun, though. We went to Wal-Mart again. I did not cruise around in the shopping cart this time. I just bought some Mountain Lightening. That is the poor man's Mountain Dew.

We checked the toy isle again, but the selection was pretty thin. We decided to check out Toys R' Us instead. We get to Toys R' Us and have all sorts of fun. I got to ride a scooter around the store. They leave certain scooters and bikes unchained so you can ride them around the store. This behavior is encouraged and you don't get kicked out for it. I think I



with Josh

should go do that more often.

Then I wiped up the field with my friend Drew in some football game on PlayStation. He will point out that the score was tied 7-7, but we only played for like five minutes. If we played a whole game, I would of beat that hippy down. (I will apologize in advance for calling Drew a hippy. I hope he is not offended.)

MARDI GRAS

Tuesday, March 13
8pm @ SUB Ballroom

ADMISSION:
\$2 with mask,
\$3 without mask

Sponsored by MSC

SPORTS WRITING
Seminar
with John Sietzinger, S.I.D.

Thursday, March 1 6pm
Miller Conference Room
2nd Floor SUB

Thru

By Ann Mar
Beacon Copy I
millerab@wilkes.edu

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Through Our Eyes



By Ann Marie Miller

Beacon Copy Editor
millerab@wilkes.edu

Thank God for Spring Break... I can go home and get uninterrupted internet access! I'm sick and tired of getting kicked off the server. From what I heard now there is no research to back this up, so don't get your feathers ruffled if I am wrong, they were doing work on the server this past week. Let me ask you: wouldn't it make more sense to wait until we all go home for break to mess up the system, rather than doing it when we are here trying to get work done?

Oh, yeah. And thanks to the dysfunctional internet, we didn't get some of our articles to put in last week's Beacon because we couldn't access the internet. Instead of leaving at 1 or 2 am, we were there until 5:35 am. Thanks wonderful Wilkes webservice! I got about two hours of sleep and don't remember a darn thing that happened in my classes.

Anyway, I am writing this article in the middle of, what I would like to call, "Wino Weekend." I'm still trying to figure this one out. We, supposedly have a "dry" campus (at least, from what I've heard. It is, after all, what tour guides are supposed to tell the prospective students).

Well, I decided to consult the "Student Handbook" in the front of the planner we got at the beginning of the year. Here's what it says on page 38, and I quote: "Wilkes University does not encourage the use of alcoholic beverages by students." Isn't that a load of poopie?

Winter Weekend, as it is properly called, is sponsored by Student Gov-

ernment. Last time I checked, Student Government was sponsored by the university, and our tuition dollars. But "Wilkes University does not encourage the use of alcoholic beverages by students."

Now, we all know that we may not have the brightest people in the world working here, but come on. Do members of the administration mean to tell me that they have never seen the t-shirt designs of the Winter Weekend teams? And if the administration has seen them, do they mean to tell me that they didn't notice the references to alcohol on them? Not sure what I'm talking about?

Take for instance, Student Government President, John Boshia. Now, I happened to see Mr. Boshia when I was in the SUB on Thursday evening. And, Mr. Boshia, correct me if I'm wrong, but your team's shirt had half-full shot glasses on it. Once again, Mr. Boshia, correct me if I'm wrong, but you also had several students on your team who were under 21.

As President of Student Government, shouldn't Mr. Boshia be representing the university? Even The Beacon has to respect the university's alcohol policy. The university paper is told straight out that they cannot advertise alcoholic beverages, and even had to reword a paid advertisement in last week's paper in order to comply with this regulation.

Yet Student Government, one of the most powerful organizations on this campus, under the leadership of its President, Mr. Boshia, is allowed to endorse the use of alcohol? Something doesn't make sense here.

I'm not saying that the events of Winter Weekend facilitate the consumption

of alcohol, because no actual alcohol is provided at the events. There are a good many events that take place, such as Sumo Wrestling, Inflatable Twister, and a concert with the Poptart Monkeys that could be enjoyed by the public, if they were promoted. And the events should be promoted, because Student Government uses money, which comes from our tuition, to pay for the band and other things having to do with Winter Weekend.

According to Student Government Vice President, Beth Danner, who was in charge of Winter Weekend, the reason that the concert, which took place on Thursday night, was not open to the public was because "it wouldn't look good for a bunch of drunk Wilkes students to be with the public." If Ms. Danner's statement doesn't say it all, I don't know what does.

The university's apathy concerning this situation is ridiculous! And the police say they have "no proof" to do anything about the on/off-campus activities this weekend. What I want to know is, who paid the cops off? They have to know what is going on... I mean, parties are common every day of the week on and off campus here, but Winter Weekend is a big thing that everyone knows about.

Where are the police? And the President of the university? And the deans? And the professors? And the responsible members of student government?

Doesn't anyone care about the illegal activities that are going on here at the university? Well, I sure do, and that's why I decided to say something. I know people are going to be upset with me, but I also hope that I hear from some people who agree with me, because I



Adam Polinger/Beacon

"Heavy Duty Hole Shooters" team cheering in front of their poster which reads: "No matter how much we down, we still hit our mark. Heavy duty hole shooters powered by alcohol."

know that not everyone at Wilkes likes to go out and party. And to those of you who do like to party, why does alcohol have to be a component of your fun?

I have to applaud the professors who will give (well, I guess it's gave now...) tests on Monday. I'm not sure if it is intentional or not, but I think that scheduling a test for the first day back to class after Winter Weekend is a great idea. I mean, none of our "responsible" students on our "dry" campus will have hangovers after a nice weekend of good, clean, sober fun, will they?

So I think what I am trying to say is that Winter Weekend is a façade of sorts. Some people don't want to admit to what's actually going on. Other people are just oblivious to it, and there are more people who are all for it.

No matter what stance you take, in all likelihood, Winter Weekend will continue its legacy for many years to come. There will always be college students who like competition with each other, and there will always be college stu-

dents who love to drink. Only when you put the two together, will you end up with one fun-filled weekend, known to Wilkes U students as Winter Weekend.

Just a little side note, and this may be after the fact considering what I said in my article, but from what I heard over the weekend, three parties were busted on Saturday night. Maybe some people do care after all.

For those of you who think that I questioned Winter Weekend because I don't like to have fun, I would just like to tell you that you are wrong. Friday night, I watched movies. Saturday, I went shopping. Saturday night into Sunday, well... I guess you just had to be there... *wink*

Email me... I'd really love to hear your opinions about this one... millerab@wilkes.edu

Until next week, remember: "When you look back... on your love affairs... what you really find out is that the only person you really go to bed with is yourself."

© ® ª º ©

This is the world we live in, and these are the hands we're given. We were born in a land of confusion.

How come there are so many limping guys walking around Wilkes-Barre? All these scrubby dudes are limping around staring in your general direction with their good eye (the blue one). I don't think they're looking for the library. Maybe if better funds were available King's will find a better place for their professors to lounge. I'm about to hit the sack. Whoever ripped the side mirror off my car is going to die. I have to drive to Hazleton tomorrow with duct tape on the side. At least I have my crazy cats to keep me going. Also there's a sign outside the Ousterhout Library that reads "Mystery of the Herbs." I solved the mystery; they all go to Wilkes. Be good to each other. I'm out.

The Main Event with Crazy Bob

There was this chick at the gym I wanted to talk to for a long time. After a few weeks of making excuses and overcoming my initial shyness, I decided to go for the gusto. I hopped up on the treadmill beside her and attempted to woo her with my uncanny charm. At one point she said, "I work in the Admissions Office, how about you?" to which I replied, "No I don't work there." So everything was groovy and the Bobman wasn't doing half bad. That is, of course, until after twenty minutes of nonstop hardcore heart-pumping action I tripped on the cord behind me, smashing face-first into the treadmill at 8.5 mph. This caused the entire treadmill to shut down in an abrasive manner similar to Wyatt's computer exploding in Weird Science. The plugs in the cord had broken off in the

outlet rendering the machine useless. Two days later I spoke to her again; she gets married in April. Congratulations Admissions Girl.

I suppose I should say something about Winter Weekend. I bought and assembled a new entertainment center at K-Mart. I am sad to report that I will be returning it shortly. The system doesn't do anything entertaining, it just sits there. I've never felt so used in my life, unless you count the church picnic when I was eleven and the priest (EDITED BY THE BEACON FOR YOUR PROTECTION) with ants all over me. The thing about K-Mart I don't get is that I always get the cashier with

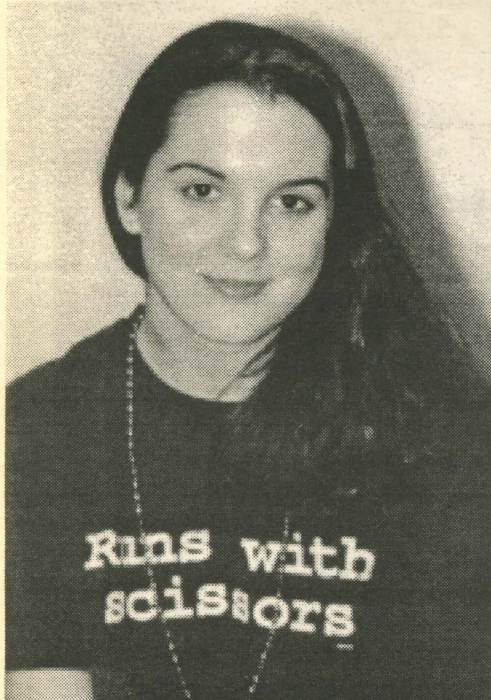
no thumbs. She likes to surprise you at the last minute, as if to say "What are you looking at jerkface? I don't have any thumbs!" Finally, a wrestling match I could win!

Speaking of wrestling this week I was pummeled to the ground by Metal Mullet. Words do not do Metal Mullet justice. You will all have to come over to my digs and check out the videotape. His actual professional name is Metal Maniac, but he is dubbed Metal Mullet by the younger wrestlers for obvious reasons. To psyche the crowd up I pulled my tights down and slapped my buttocks in a provocative fashion. Then in about one minute Metal Mullet beat me within an inch of my life.

So that was nice. Metal Mullet (or Mr. Maniac as I called him when introducing myself) you are my crazy cat of the week.

My boob jiggles. Hee hee that tickles. funny how this paper has articles about Student Government, current events, and crime while you're reading about my jiggle boob. That's why I love you guys. I'm doing this news video package thing for Basic Video where we must cover a campus event and edit the video. I made videos once. As a matter of fact it was the same church picnic where (NO WAY ARE WE PRINTING THIS) all over the internet. But you do what you have to do to make ends meet.

Smith Sole Musical Theatre Major



Jason McDermott/Beacon

Tiffany Smith smiles for the spotlight.

By Mario Romanelli

Beacon Staff Writer

A past issue of *The Beacon* contained an article focusing on a new major offered at Wilkes, Musical Theatre. Not only is the introduction of the major significant, but there is another feature making the new course of study unique. Tiffany Smith is the only student majoring in the field.

Smith is a freshmen at Wilkes in her second semester. She chose Wilkes because it was close to New York City, and because Wilkes offered Musical Theatre as a major. Several other schools offer similar courses of study, however, Smith noted that Wilkes stood out because of the specific Musical Theatre major.

If you have attended any of the productions that the Wilkes University Department of Vi-

sual and Performing Arts has performed this year, you have heard Tiffany sing. She has been practicing for some time; in fact she discovered her talent at the age of 14.

In the city of Hampton, New Hampshire, Tiffany was cast as Snow White in a Summer Stock Playhouse production of Snow White. The role required singing and Tiffany had doubts as to her ability to perform. However, she quickly learned that she was talented, and through hard work, her voice could become even better.

For Tiffany Smith, singing instructors have come and gone since the age of 14. One example of a memorable instructor is Seth Riggs, who Tiffany was a student under in Los Angeles. Riggs has had students by the names of Madonna, Mariah Carey, and Michael Jackson.

Another instructor Tiffany encountered is Wilkes own Sue Minsavage. "She uses her knowledge, and portrays it in an imaginative way," Tiffany Smith said, "which is what makes a good teacher good." The student further complimented her instructor by referring to her teaching style as "unique" and "very efficient."

Singing on stage has come in several forms for the freshmen. Tiffany recalls her days in Hiltonhead, South Carolina when she was the lead singer of the band called "The Rhodorus." With her band, Tiffany would sing at local establishments.

Besides music, there is another love in Smith's life, theatre. Since the age of five, Tiffany has been entertaining crowds.

Writing, directing, acting, producing and choreographing are some things that have taken center stage in the freshmen's life for many years. Since the time when she was a little girl, Tiffany has enjoyed children's theatre for all aspects, whether it is production, participation or watching shows.

Smith also already has a portfolio of television commercials that she carries with pride. She had done commercials for companies like Disney, and also local advertisements in Hiltonhead, South Carolina.

One of the favorite characters portrayed by Smith was Jane. Jane was the lead role in the Christopher Durang play *Identity Crisis* in which people close to her for her entire life told Jane that she was insane. But in reality Jane was the only sane one, a twist that Smith enjoyed about the character.

In her span as an actress, Smith has encountered many roles and many dramas. "Moo moo, the coast is clear" was her single line when she was the "back end of cow" in *Beauty and the Beast*. Tiffany was fourteen at that time.

Another significant part, Smith said, was the part of Reno Sweeny in *Anything Goes*.

When describing her stay at Wilkes thus far, Tiffany used the phrase "hard work" quite often. She believes that she has the dedication needed to do the laborious work that is required in theatre.

More so than anything, Tiffany wants to learn about other things. "I want an educational, college experience. I want to be well-rounded," Smith said.

When asked about being the single Musical Theatre on campus, Smith said that it did not matter. "I don't concern myself with labels like that. I am focused on working hard and enjoying the fruits of my labor."

So far this year, Smith has had major roles in *The Hostage*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *The Pajama Game*.

In general, Tiffany Smith is having a "good time." She looks toward the future with humble and curious eyes.

Student Profile by: Mark Falanga



Name: Mike Brown

Major: Biology

Favorite Band: The Beatles

Person You Most Admire:

Mark Falanga, because he is so smooth with ladies.

Favorite Cartoon Character

and Why: He-Man because he has the power.

Most Embarrassing Moment

Being hit on by a gay guy over the computer (because my friend decided to be funny).

Greatest Accomplishment:

Resisting Starcraft and not being kicked off of the radio (yet).

Future Goals: To be a doctor

Future Car You Would Like

to Own: A 1981 Checker Marathon model A-11.

Favorite T.V Show: I don't

watch any. The computer is much more fun.

Name if You Were a Super

hero: Dr. Cheese.

Pet Peeves: Starcraft and my girlfriend.

Favorite Movies: Monty Python, Army of Darkness,

and Orgazmo.

Favorite Brand of Clothing:

Wal-Mart (not really).

Quote You Would Like to be

Remembered by: "I'm not paying you to talk."

Aspirations: To figure out the

point of Bio labs and to understand women (Oh wait, neither of those will ever happen.)

Upholding the Constitution; Inside Student Government

By Ann Marie Miller

Beacon Copy Editor
millerab@wilkes.edu

As students, faculty, and administrative members of Wilkes University, we are probably all aware of the weekly meetings of the Student Government that take place in the Student Government Suite on the first floor of the Student Union Building every Wednesday evening. But do we really know what actually goes on?

I was asked to attend last evening's Student Government meeting, with the possibility of becoming a correspondent for *The Beacon* concerning Student Government. It was an eye-opening experience, to say the least.

The agenda was very clear and up front, and it was adhered to. The technical business of Student Government was completed, the new and old business discussed. Reports were received from the Student Government Committees and the Academic Committees. Class reports were given, and all present at the meeting (which included all but five members of Student Government) participated in a Leadership Initiative activity, which was designed and carried out by Meg Stevens.

Then came comments From the Floor, Class Officers, Representatives, Executive Board, and Advisors. The meeting ended with comments from President, John Bosha, and motions to adjourn by two members.

For a full report on the information discussed during the meeting, please see Page 4.

Sounds like a normal, organized meeting of an organization designed to meet the needs of the students, faculty, and administrative members of Wilkes University, right? It was...for the most part.

Before the meeting began, everyone was asked to take an egg from a basket. The eggs contained "Leadership Putty." Putty is always an innovative idea.

For the most part, the members of the Executive Board were in tune with what was going on during the meeting. It's a shame that the same cannot be said for the other members of Student Government. During the meeting, other representatives to Student Government could be observed talking, eating, and playing with their "Leadership Putty." It's a shame that the elected representatives cannot take the 45 minutes the meeting lasted and give their full attention to the issues at hand.

During "Comments From the Floor," I posed a question to Student Government President, and webmaster, John Bosha concerning Public Information about the meetings.

By consulting Article VIII, Section IV, Part D, Paragraph 2 (which is available for reference at: <http://wilkes1.wilkes.edu/~sg/constitution.html>), one learns that there is a committee in charge of this task, that being the Promotion Committee. The constitution states that "the Corresponding Secretary (Kyla Campbell) will be the chairperson of this committee," and that "every freshman representative (which,

according to the webpage of the Student Government General Board, <http://wilkes1.wilkes.edu/~sg/repsexec.html>, don't exist) must be a member of this committee...to produce and distribute the Student Government newsletter every other week."

Considering the fact that, according to the website, which hasn't been updated since July 15, 2000, the places for the freshman representatives of Student Government who are supposed to spearhead the newsletter are still open, it is no wonder that there is no newsletter. The look on Mr. Bosha's face said it all. His face seemed to communicate colorful metaphors. A short time later, Mr. Bosha admitted that there was no newsletter, stating that the reason for this was that there has been a new constitution drafted, but it has not been posted on the webpage yet.

My response to Mr. Bosha was, "My information is only as good as the information you provide me with."

Ms. Campbell had no response concerning this issue.

Since Student Government is obligated to the entire student body of Wilkes University, would it not be in their best interest to inform the students in a timely and accurate manner, both in hard copy form and on the Internet? Since this issue was brought to the attention of Student Government last night, maybe some changes will be initiated in the near future.

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March 1, 2001

Album Reviews

Little-Known Gem

By Mario Romanelli
Beacon Staff Writer

The band's name is Laidlaw, and their 1999 debut, "First Big Picnic," was one of the best albums of 1999 that no one knew about.

The opening track, "Send My Baby Home," is reflective of the whole album: bluesy, riff-laden, and catchy. "Burnin'," "Sweet Leanna," and "Wastin My Time" are also well-composed, Blues-Rock songs. However, screaming guitars and impassioned vocals make "Stoned" the brightest part of the jewel.

A "smokin" rendition of Rick Derringer's "Rock and Roll Hoochie Koo" is a tribute to the 1970's era of classic rock. Simply listening to "First Big Picnic" once makes evident the classic rock influences.

The cut "Catfish Stew" mixes conventional rock instruments (guitar, bass, and drums) with Cajun Zydeco sounds. Laidlaw's attempts at slow songs such as "Just Might Do Me In," come across as "country-westernish," pushing the band's Nashville roots to the surface.

Laidlaw sounds like a perfect mixture of Led Zeppelin and Guns 'n' Roses with a strong Southern overtone. The five band members are from Nashville, TN. The sound is like loud, guitar-driven edginess put to Lynyrd Skynyrd tracks.

The vocals of Tommy Roberts and the combination of Buzzy James' slide guitar and Craig DeFalco's six string give Laidlaw a distinctive sound. The rhythm section of bassist Michael Norton and drummer Darrell Millar back up the leads with bluesy rock beats.

Making guest appearances on "First Big Picnic" are The Honkettes (Dale Krantz-Rossington and Carole Chase) who have sung back-up vocals for Lynyrd Skynyrd for years. Journey's frontman, Steve Perry, sings backup vocals on "Send My Baby Home," and "Sweet Leanna" was co-written with Bruce Kulick, who played guitar with KISS during their 10+-year period without makeup.

Laidlaw traveled around undiscovered for nearly 10 years under the name Moonshine. The name got changed to Laidlaw (lead singer Tommy Roberts' real last name) at the urging of producer Nikki Sixx of Motley Crue.

Laidlaw's first big exposure came when they opened for Motley Crue on the "Greatest Hits Tour" of 1988.

Sixx owns Americoma Records and uses the label to help new bands. "First Big Picnic" was Sixx's first attempt at production, and he contributed a noble effort. The sound quality is nearly perfect. Sixx's technique of not taking over and letting the band be themselves highlights Laidlaw's talents and uniqueness.

Not Another Project!

By Kristin Hake
Beacon Staff Writer

Your project if you choose to accept it, is to check out The Berlin Project.

Five members make up this Punk Rock band.

Although these guys have a punk sound to them, you will be able to pick them out of a crowd. Vocalists Brad and John have a very distinct sound. If I had to pick one or two bands that they sound similar to, I would have to say The Get Up Kids and Less Than Jake.

My favorite song off the album entitled The Transition Radio E.P. was number four-called "Runaway." The song starts out very simple with just two guys singing then goes into an energetic song. I like the tune because it has a live sound to it and it gets me energized.

These guys are no strangers to the Pennsylvania area. The band recorded their albums in PA.

"The first two were recorded at Studiophonix, in Mt. Pleasant, PA. The Transition Radio E.P. was recorded at Soundscape in Pittsburgh," as stated on the website under FAQ.

I only wish this CD had more songs on it. The CD has only five songs featured. All in all, it is a good album.

You can check out this information and lots more on their website at www.berlinproject.com. Once you hear these guys, come on out on March 29th at Tink's in Scranton or at State College on March 31st at The Co-Op to check them out.

Looking on their webpage, they have played with lots of bands already so they're not new to the stage.

I can't wait to see them live and I hope to see you out at the show!

FEATURE

The Beacon 13

King's Corner

By William Heckner
King's Correspondent
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The college student will put all of her resources and ideas into a research paper, right? Yeah, sure, we all do. Well, there's another source we can all use for papers and/or research, Questia.com. Better Papers. Faster. This being their motto, the new internet service will help anybody with all the processes of researching and writing a research paper.

How, you might ask, will this service help you? Questia.com's mission is to supply undergraduate college students with the opportunity to research and write papers faster and more effectively. When that ten-page psychology paper is due the next day, and all you have done is picked a topic, Questia.com would be a very welcoming hand.

Mr. Troy Williams, CEO of Questia Media Inc., says Questia.com's mission statement is to "provide undergraduate college students unlimited access to the full text of tens of thousands of scholarly liberal arts books and journals...the research tools allow students to quickly locate the most relevant information on their topics, automatically cite sources, and instantly format bibliographies. With its holistic research environment, Questia.com helps students perform more thorough academic

research and write better papers. Questia.com also provides you with a wide range of powerful search and composition tools that can help you create better papers."

OK, what's the catch? There must be some fee, monthly payment or something, right? Unfortunately, yes, there is a monthly subscription fee of \$19.95. However, Questia.com does offer a 48-hour free subscription to their service to let you decide before any commitment.

Dr. James Wallace, chairperson of the English Department at King's College, says, "Questia.com has, like everything, its good and bad sides. I'm sure the credibility of the site is good, and I think it would be a great help to students and professors alike. The advantage is that I don't have to leave my room to walk over to the (Corgan) library. Sometimes I just don't feel like getting up and walking over there to see if one book is in stock, so I access the library's database from my computer. Questia.com offers the same thing, but now students can do entire papers without leaving their dorm room.

However, there is also a more prevalent opportunity to plagiarize. Furthermore, there are resources that Questia.com does not have. Reference librarians, for example, are excellent tools. They can tell

you how to use the computer systems, where to find a book, and anything else you want to know about books and library materials. The library also has things one can't get on the internet, such as that feeling of turning a page of a book that is over one hundred years old. Lastly, the library is an excellent communal area. Unlike the internet, one can run into a friend, a colleague, a professor, whatever. So, as I said before, there will always be that stiff balance between the internet and the library. If a student wants to use it, he or she will. It's just a matter of how she will use it to her advantage."

Carmel Kaluzavich, a junior English and Spanish major at King's College, agrees with Dr. Wallace and says, "The service would be great, especially if you don't have access to a library. Some authors like to live in rural areas, so this service would be great for them if they ever needed to look up a book or journal article."

Some students speculate this service, or something similar to it, will eventually be used by colleges across the nation, possibly the world. Think of it: an entire library available through a click of the mouse. Would you invest in it?

Window to the Past

With Casey K. O'Brien

March 1, 1803 - Ohio entered the United States of America as the 17th state.

March 1, 1867 - Nebraska entered the United States of America as the 37th state.

March 2, 1974 - Stevie Wonder received five Grammy Awards for his album, "Innervisions" and his hit songs, "You Are The Sunshine of My Life" and "Superstition".

March 3, 1931 - "The Star-Spangled Banner", written by Francis Scott Key, officially became the national anthem of the United States of America. The anthem is currently ranked as the most difficult national anthem to sing.

March 3, 1845 - Florida entered the United States of America as the 27th state.

March 4, 1791 - Vermont entered the United States of America as the 14th state.

March 4, 1925 - Calvin Coolidge took the oath of office in Washington DC. The Presidential inauguration was broadcast on radio for the very first time.

March 5, 1924 - Frank Caruana of Buffalo, New York, became the first bowler to roll two perfect games in a row and 29 strikes in succession.

March 6, 1972 - The 'Golden Bear', Jack Nicklaus, captured the Doral Eastern Open golf tournament to run his career earnings up to \$1,477,200. At this time, Nicklaus passed Arnold Palmer as golf's all-time money winner. Tiger Woods is currently the all-time leader with \$21,049,307.

March 7, 1987 - World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight champ, 'Iron' Mike Tyson, became the youngest heavyweight titleholder ever as he beat James Smith in a decision during a 12-round bout in Las Vegas.

Poptart Monkeys Kick off Winter Weekend; Impress Crowd

By Josh Liebner

Beacon Editorial Assistant
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You may not have been aware of this, but there was a concert on campus last Thursday night. The Poptart Monkeys visited us here at Wilkes.

This band prides themselves on the energy they bring to the stage. They did not disappoint the small crowd gathered in the SUB ballroom. They were as energetic during the last set as they were when they hit the stage.

The band is based out of Berwick, PA. They play a host of cover songs as well as some originals.

On this night, they stuck mostly with covers. They played two sets and two original songs. Overall, the show was well done.

The first set kicked off with a cover of the Papa Roach song, "Last Resort." The highlight of the set was a cover of The Beastie Boys "Fight For Your Right To Party."

As I said earlier, they also played an original. The song was called "Thrift Store Chair." I really liked this song. There is a lot of talent running through this band.

The second set was just as exciting as the first. The best part of this set was when they covered No Doubt's "Just A Girl." Lead

singer Paul Anthony Reddon strapping on a pair of fake breasts and a blond wig highlighted the show.

The use of props and crowd interaction are definitely a strong point of the band. They know what they are doing on stage. I hate when a band gets on stage and looks like

a deer in headlights. This is definitely not a problem for the Poptart Monkeys.

This band has roots back in my hometown. I hope to see more of them in the future. They will be playing at Tink's in Scranton on Wednesday, March 28. I encourage all of you to go check them out.

(For more info on the band, check them out at www.poptartmonkeys.com)

(While at the show, I was given a CD by the band for a review. Read on and find out more about the band.)



Poptart Monkeys rock the Student Union Building, Thursday, the opening night of Winter Weekend 2001.

Travis Keck/Beacon

PTM: A Bunch of Lunatics

By Josh Liebner

Beacon Editorial Assistant
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The Poptart Monkeys performed here at Wilkes to kick off Winter Weekend. They also gave me a copy of their first album, "Dancing With My Lunatic."

Overall, I really enjoyed the album. It has its ups and downs, but it is a good album.

The band is known for its covers, but this is mostly original material. I think their original music is very good. They have a lot of talent and are more than a cover band.

You can see the talent they have by listening to the different styles of music they play on the 12 track album alone.

The second song, "La De Da", is an upbeat, catchy song. The tune is humorous and shows a lighter side of the band.

Songs like "Choked" and "Only Human" show a painful side of the band. They are filled with angst and despair. These are the best songs on the album in my opinion. I feel that this is the best side of the band.

The cover of EMF's "Unbelievable" is a good cover. I think that if a band is going to record another band's song, they at least have to do it justice, if not make it better. PTM definitely do the bands that they cover justice.

Songs like "Dancefloor Collision" and "Bounce With Me" are harder than the other tracks on the album. They are in the realm of Korn and Limp Bizcut.

I did not really like these songs. I felt that these songs did not really showcase the band's true talent. I thought that the lyrics were unimaginative, especially compared to other songs on the album. I heard the gripping lyrics to "Choked" and was let down by the these two tracks.

PTM will be releasing a follow up sometime in 2001. I hope to snag a copy for myself and give it a listen.

Poptart Monkeys: Gigs



- March 2: Spectators, Bellfonte PA (10-2am)
- March 3: Willow Run, Berwick, PA (10-2am)
- March 5: Club Lavela, Panama City, FL (Spring Break Week)
- March 6-11: Club Lavela, Panama City, FL (10-3am)
- March 16: T.J.'s, Lock Haven, PA (10-2am)
- March 18: The Statium, Pottsville, PA (10-2am)
- March 22: Pelligrines, Altoona, PA (10-2am)
- March 23: Electric Ave., Holtzdale, PA (10-2am)
- March 24: Coal Hole, Shamokin, PA (10-2am)
- March 28: Tink's, Scranton, PA (10:30-2am)
- March 29: The Hurricane, Ocean City, MD (check website)
- March 30: The Silo, Reading, PA (10-2am)
- March 31: Memory Lanes, Frackville, PA (10-2am)

Broody's Box Office Reviews

By John Broody
Beacon Staff Writer
broodyjp@wilkes.edu



Erin Brockovich

Plot:

Directed by Steve Soderbergh ("Out of Sight") and based on a true story. While working as a file clerk in a small law firm, twice-divorced mother of three young children Erin stumbles upon a cover-up involving contaminated water in a small desert community that is causing devastating illnesses. Infuriated by the deception, she convinces her boss to allow her to investigate. Although the local citizens are initially leery of becoming involved, Erin's brash manner and ability to speak to them clearly and compassionately earns their trust. With over 600 plaintiffs signed up, the unlikely duo go on to win the largest settlement ever paid in a direct-action suit...\$333 million.

Review:

One of the first things they teach students in film school is to have a sympathetic main character, and unfortunately 95% of these filmmaker wannabes think this means they have to be a noble and totally PC lead. That's probably why "Erin Brockovich" is such a refreshing American movie, thanks to the fact that Director Steve Soderbergh realizes that a character can be abusive and bitchy, and yet audiences will root for them - a technique foreign filmmakers have been using to great effect for decades and one which the US has begun waking up to again recently (e.g. "The Talented Mr. Ripley", "Payback").

Make no mistake this is a one-woman show with the entire movie resting on Julia Roberts who gives us her most interesting performance in years. Erin is a fully three-dimensional character with qualities both admirable and appalling. She's a struggling single mother who cares deeply for her kids and tak-

ing on a fight against big business so you're behind her right away. On the other hand she's pushy, abusive, bitchy, constantly swears and certainly uses her sex appeal to get what she wants. That may not make her role model material, but it certainly makes her a more engaging and true to life personality than some moral do-gooder with all the ethics of Mrs. Brady.

In fact one of the reasons the movie works so well is Soderbergh's push for gritty urban realism. The scenery is bleak, the rooms are dimly lit and dirty, and the air is all sweaty and humid. There's no capped teeth or model-quality looking people around, these actors and settings are so realistic and unflashy that at times it's disconcerting to remember this is a studio-produced picture. Combine that with the lack of any pontificating courtroom scenes, and you've got a drama that a lot of people can relate to because it feels very everyday.

Helping that along is the casting of the brilliant Albert Finney in the lead male role. Finney's work is always interesting, and here we have a gruff and experienced character shocked by the whirlwind that is Erin, but he is the only one who will put her in her place when she needs to be. I can imagine some exec wanting a good-looking older actor in the part (eg. Clooney, Ford, etc.), but that would seem not only a little false but also introduce other difficulties. The casting of Finney allows him and Roberts to have a great on-screen male/female chemistry with the issue of sex never clogging up the running time. The little bits of humor between the two every fifteen minutes or so are great to watch and help lighten the mood at times when things get a little slow or repetitive.

Sadly the weak area would have to be Erin's relationship with a biker, and, while Eckhart gives a good performance, the sub-plot feels thin and overly long. The 135-minute running time could've used some edits, and most of them should come from here. The plot about the case itself is also kind of bare, but, as this is a character drama, the plot is usually thin anyway.

Quills

Plot:

Banished to a secluded Paris asylum, the Marquis de Sade (Geoffrey Rush), whose groundbreaking works changed the language of sexuality and literature, continues to threaten the moral conservatism of Napoleon's France by secretly smuggling out his spicy manuscripts with the help of the asylum's most alluringly innocent member: the young maid Madeleine (Kate Winslet). The asylum's young priest, Abbe de Coulmier (Joaquin Phoenix), humanely tries to rehabilitate the Marquis' twisted soul while keeping Madeleine at a safe distance, both from the Marquis and himself.

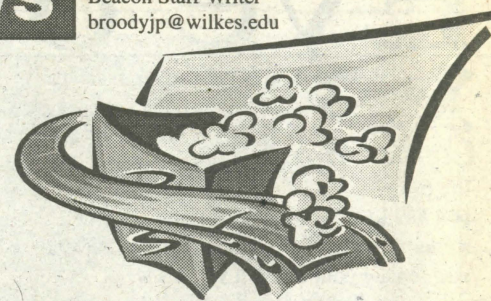
Through the endless days and nights at the asylum, the two opposing men form a tentative relationship of mutual tolerance. But, neither is willing admit the one secret they have in common - their feelings for Madeleine. The three form an unlikely and dangerous love triangle that proves to be the ultimate test of the priest's sanctity and the Marquis' wrath. Keenly aware of human weakness, the Marquis prays on de Coulmier's humanity and on Madeleine's innocence. But the feisty young woman has her own reasons for defying orders, and de Coulmier's faith is stronger than the Marquis imagined.

As the Marquis' popularity continues unabated in France, the brilliant and notorious Dr. Royer-Collard (Micheal Caine) is hired to "cure" the insatiable writer and to supervise de Coulmier. Royer-Collard and de Coulmier form an unfriendly alliance to stifle the irreverent Marquis' work and improve the image of the asylum. But the Marquis cannot and will not be silenced, and Madeleine refuses to be controlled. The more Royer-Collard and de Coulmier try to censor, the higher the stakes become in this extraordinary battle of wills between young and old, innocence and malevolence that careers through the asylum's haunting corridors.

Review:

Biographical films come wide and varied from the epic in scope "Amadeus" to the quiet and more personal "Shine", but none that I can recall come as dark and yet mesmerizing as this film. "Quills" proves to be one of the most original, elaborate, funny and truly sinister movies of the year - a thoroughly well crafted and intricate film steered by great actors giving excellent performances, kept afloat by a clever script with some truly great lines, and backed by very timely issues and themes of free speech & censorship.

Rush's previous over the top performances in "Shine" and "Shakespeare in Love" have scored him Oscar nominations (one of which won), but neither compares to this - he's over the top sure, but it's totally believable, and it's just one facet of



the character. This is a guy who'll leave you laughing one second with a great quip, and then in the next shot will hit his wife for not helping him - you love him at one point, and then despise him the next. The take on De Sade is also interesting - he's portrayed as a literary hero, a man with an obsessive compulsion to write and spends most of the film doing so with cruder and cruder equipment as each piece is taken away from him. Rush also is very brave spending half the film naked and while his very understated work in "Elizabeth" remains my favorite role I've seen him play, this comes a close second. Winslet does one of her standard solid performances as the Marquis' helper, though it's Phoenix as the benevolent and struggling to hold true to his faith priest who should have got an Oscar nomination. Caine plays the one-dimensional bad guy role and does it well, but can't help but feel tacked on a bit. There's also a slightly out of place sub-plot about Caine's wife though stunning beauty Amelia Warner and the 'younger Dougray Scott' looking Stephen Moyer will both get a lot of work from these scenes which are good but just don't really flow with the rest of the film.

Onto the subject matter and its frank, dark and amazingly direct for an American-made feature. Sure it's about history's most famous pervert (after all this is the guy who was pretty much the first to give voice to S&M, fetishes and all sorts of kinky sex - they're term 'sadist' was named after him), but sex wisdom aside from some lewd dialogue there isn't anything terribly erotic here. The film is, however, darkly violent, as this was after all 18th century France, with some content likely to distress viewers - lots of blood, at least two acts of rape, mutilation, full frontal nudity and a dash of necrophilia.

Does the film work - yes and no. A really good comparison is "Bram Stoker's Dracula." That was a film with all the elements it needed to create the ultimate film version of Stoker's tale - yet it didn't quite make it, getting only about 60% of the way there - it was just lacking that central core of 'narrative energy' thus we didn't get swept up into it as we should have. "Quills" does manage to tap that energy a bit and comes out as an excellent movie but is still only about 80% of the way there - there by it stops just short of becoming a classic. Nevertheless, in a month where films all seem to be floating in the 'mediocre' and safe waters of formulaic plots - it's great to see a film like this break out of the mold with a fervent energy.

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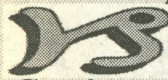
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Capricorn

You have the tendency to want things done your way. Well, this is not one of those times. Just accept anything that life brings your way, and don't worry about how you would have done it, or criticize how someone else is doing something. In the end, it will reduce your stress level this week, as you have enough right now to cope with at the moment.



Aries

You are going to have a wonderful week. Do not let your imagination run wild with you though. There are limits to what you can accomplish this week. Do everything that is expected of you, and most everything that isn't expected of you, but stay within your limits.



Cancer

Things may have been worrying you recently. DO NOT get discouraged, for this week, if you try to relax, things will get better. If you still feel like you are not "together," it is because of self-doubt and worry. Whatever is worrying you, get rid of it. Everything will sort itself out.



Libra

This week, you need to focus on helping others get from "point A to point B." Do not let your own agenda get in the way. This is a time of focusing on others needs, and it will pay off in the end.



Aquarius

This week, you have some major decisions to make. As you make them, do not change anything drastically in your life. While things may seem to be going at a slow pace, you are really going 150 mph down the road, and the slightest adjustment could hurl a large and drastic change. Be careful of the change you make in your life this week.



Taurus

You are only seeing what you want to see this week. You need to focus on your life more objectively than subjectively. Things will not be going your way, but prepare for a revelation at the end of this week.



Leo

We are trained to conform to society. But this week, the opportunity arises to let you be free. The only question now, is; do you have the strength to be yourself? If the answer is yes, then do it. If the answer is not, you need to look closer, and see why you cannot be yourself.



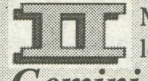
Scorpio

It has been a tough road, but you know where it will inevitably lead you. With newly found information, you need to make a decision. Stay with a current commitment, or let it go. Is this commitment necessary to your life still? Probably not. Venus says that you need to disregard this commitment, but in a compassionate way, to not hurt other's feelings.



Pisces

Things may seem to be going along at a snail's pace, and you are sick of waiting for exciting things to happen. Don't become impatient, but don't stop looking for changes to occur. Things are about ready to take a drastic turn for the better, and the planets do not want you to miss it. Just picture this past week as a slow motion scene in a movie. Once this scene is over, its all uphill from here!



Gemini

May you need to take a deeper look at yourself. 21 - June 21 You have been having a rough month. It is okay, because everything will seem to fall into place this week. With your newly acquired sense of direction, you will know where to go and how to go about getting what you want. Do not lose this energy that Mercury has given you.



Virgo

Things have not been going your way, lately. Life situations have been holding you down. Do not let them anymore. This week, you will be able to sort things out, and your productivity level will dramatically increase. Take advantage of this newly found energy. Everything will seem to be better if you can follow through with your feelings.



Sagittarius

You are very talented at improvising, Sagittarius, and you need to take that power and make something useful out of it this week. You have had an idea planned that you have wanted to do, but have not had the right opportunity to do it. THIS IS YOUR WEEK. Take advantage of it. Everything will go well.

Top 5's...

Compiled by: Josh Liebner

Top 5 Rentals

- 1) Me, Myself & Irene
- 2) Gladiator
- 3) The Cell
- 4) What Lies Beneath
- 5) Coyote Ugly

Top 5 Movies

- 1) Hannibal
- 2) Down to Earth
- 3) Recess: School's Out
- 4) 3000 Miles to Graceland
- 5) Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon

Top 5 Albums

- 1) Shaggy: Hotshot
- 2) The Beatles: 1
- 3) Soundtrack: Save The Last Dance
- 4) Dido: No Angel
- 5) Jennifer Lopez: J. Lo

Top 5 Singles

- 1) Joe featuring Mystikal: "Shutter"
- 2) Shaggy featuring Ricardo "RikRoc" Ducent: "It Wasn't Me"
- 3) Jennifer Lopez: "Love Don't Cost a Thing"
- 4) Lenny Kravitz: "Again"
- 5) Shaggy featuring Rayvon: "Angel"

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Men's Volleyball compete in Round Robin Tournament

by Casey O'Brien
Beacon Staff Writer

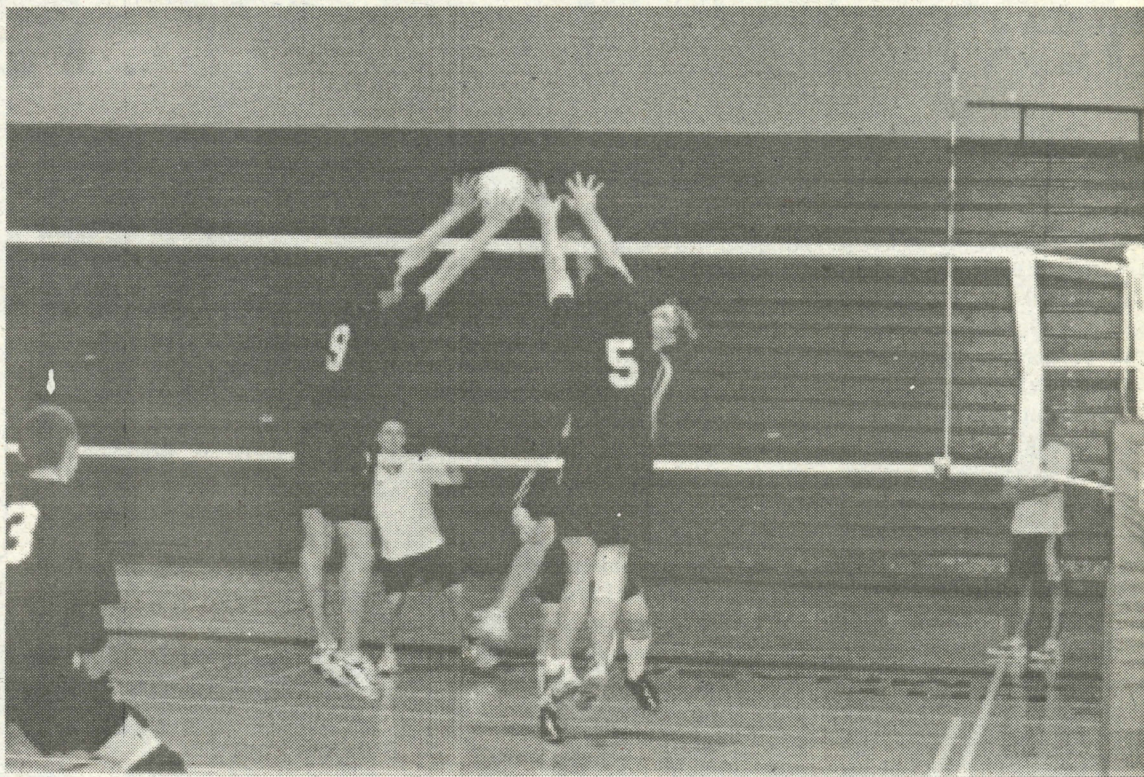
On Sunday, February 25th, Wilkes University Men's Volleyball Club competed in a Round Robin tournament at the Marts Center.

The tournament was designed to send the top two teams over to King's where they would face the top teams in a tournament there. Although they remained competitive throughout the

matches, the Colonels fell to the three schools they faced Villajuli, Westchester and U.S.V.B.A.

Scott Vanvalkenburgh, the coach of the team couldn't say he was thrilled with the performance of his team. However the young coach remained positive concerning the tournament.

"We are still a pretty inexperienced team. In time we'll learn how to compete under the gun," Vanvalkenburgh commented.



Colonels Capture Freedom Laurels

By Kevin Sickle
Beacon Staff Writer
sickleks@wilkes.edu

The Middle Atlantic Conference handed out their end-of-season awards Tuesday, with Colonels capturing the top three honors in the Freedom Conference. Senior point-guard Dave Jannuzzi was named MVP, Dave Plisko was selected Freshman of the Year, and Coach Jerry Rickrode is the Coach of the Year.

"(Dave Jannuzzi) is just the most positive, unselfish leader that I have ever encountered," Rickrode recounted. "...[It's] not necessarily the scoring and the passing. Just the control he has on the game makes all the difference in the world. Anybody who knows anything about basketball (and) watches him play realizes that. That's why he's been named the three-time MVP of the conference."

In regards to Dave Plisko, Coach Rickrode had this to say, "He's playing (only) about

eighteen minutes a game and is contributing a lot of things. He's going to be a whale of a player." Rickrode also loves Dave's determination. "He's got great work ethic, too, so I think there are some good things to come for him."

Rickrode, always modest, did manage to say a few words about his award as well. "It's an honor whenever you get selected for an award that is voted on by your peers." He also understands that coaching is not a one-man job. "A lot of credit has to go to the players...(They) make my job easier and my assistant coaches have done a great job. I take the honor, (because) it's in my name, but a lot of other people have helped me get it. The coach guides the team, but the team wins the games."

Each of these recognitions handed down to the players and coach show the promise of the future and glories of the past, but the time is now for the Colonels.

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Georgia Trip Prefaces Season

By Kevin Sickle
Beacon Sports Writer

Coaching changes are usually difficult to adjust to once, but the Lady Colonels are now under the leadership of their third coach in the last two seasons. Coach Frank Matthews will have the first game under his belt in a little over a week as his Lady Colonels head down to LaGrange, Georgia for the NFCA DIII Leadoff Classic to open up their 2001 campaign.

While most students are home enjoying their break or working to have a few extra dollars for the rest of the semester, the softball team will be hard at work getting ready for the season. They will stay here and practice early next week before heading off to Georgia. There they will begin play in a pool format going up against Methodist (NY), Cortland State (NC), and Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

The six pool champions along with two at-large teams will advance to the Gold Championship tournament. The remaining second-place teams and four at-large squads go to the Silver Championship and the rest of the teams will play for the Bronze Championship.

There is slight concern over the number of games to be played in such a short time frame.

"We don't have a lot of players on the team," Matthews explains. "We only have sixteen. Of those sixteen, fifteen are going to make the trip to Georgia. That's a very small number."

Not just overall numbers, but injuries to the pitching staff are also a concern. "We have three pitchers. All three have had some type of physical problem," continued Matthews. "We've got our fingers crossed for the pitching rotation...It is probably our most delicate situation. We need at least a minimum of two healthy pitchers, and right now

that is a hanging in the balance." Senior Alice Fink and junior Lisa Hartman will be the aces for Coach Matthews, as long as they remain healthy. Julie Dalmas will help by taking on the remainder of the available pitching duties.

Lisa had this to say about her injury, which caused her to ease off for about a week: "I was having a few problems with my collarbone in the beginning of our practice indoors a few weeks ago, but at this point it is back to 100% so I don't think it will be a problem at all during the season." It also looks as though Lisa has been able to add to her already strong repetuar of pitches. "I have been working on improving all of my pitches and possibly adding a rise this year."

The ladies know that the offense could use some work as well. "Offensively, our team failed to produce last year," junior Erin Priestman said. "This preseason we have concentrated a great deal on our hitting and we hope to score a lot of runs."

Following the NFCA Classic, the girls return home for a few days of practice only to leave for Salisbury, MD to play in the Sea Gull Invitational Softball Tournament* at Salisbury State University on Friday and Saturday. Although not a true tournament, the ladies will get a chance to play some quality opponents in Moravian, Cabrini, Bates, and host Salisbury State.

"Between the two tournaments, if I remember correctly, there are sixteen nationally-ranked teams, so we are going to be playing probably five to six of those ranked teams," explained Coach Matthews. "We



Robyn Mendygral

may get beat up a little bit, but we'll be very prepared for the season."

"The part of our spring break trip I am looking forward to most," says Priestman, "is the chance to finally get outside to play. We have yet to practice outside, so it will be exciting to be out in the sun." They also know it won't be all fun and games, though. "The competition this year in Georgia should be very good and the team is looking forward to seeing how well we can do," she added.

Lisa also agreed. "Spring break is always a good time for the team to really get to know one another and to have a good time while being competitive."

After playing numerous top-ranked teams in both of the tournaments, Wilkes will return home and immediately face their toughest in-conference opponents in their first full week back. The Wednesday after they are back on campus, the Lady Colonels go up against Misericordia at home. Their next two doubleheaders will be against their biggest rivals, Lycoming and King's.

Senior Robyn Mendygral sees the first week as a challenge. "We need to take things one game at a time. The most important thing is that we get started off on the right foot and take it from there."

Coach Matthews feels that if they get through the tournaments and those difficult early doubleheaders with a decent record and no injuries, his team will have a good shot at winning the Freedom Conference championship. Before they will be able claim that crown, they have to finish the season against another gauntlet of quality opponents. They will be home against Susquehanna before traveling to Delaware Valley, Messiah, and Lebanon Valley within a span of just six days.

As is always the case, you have to beat the best to be the best. The Lady Colonels will soon find out just how good they are. "Let the journey begin!"

Key Returnees

- Robyn Mendygral, sr, SS
- Alice Fink, sr, P
- Lisa Hartman, jr, P
- Erin Priestman, jr, 3B
- Melissa Babcock, so, 1B
- Kim Chapman, jr, OF
- Brooke Shreaves, so, OF

Key Newcomers

- Melissa Mendygral, fr, 2B
- Julie Dalmas, fr, P
- Desiree Podrasky, fr, C
- Andrea Chabala, fr, OF

Coach's Outlook

"I'll feel a lot better if we come out of (Salisbury) healthy...Lycoming and King's, as always, will be very strong. They will probably be our two biggest tests, and we get both of them within the first week of returning. It's going to be critical being ready the first week back.

"I put us somewhere in the mix of those three (Lycoming, King's, and Wilkes). I think of those three, we potentially have the best pitching...Wilkes last year lost some critical people...We are trying to replace number one, three, and four in the batting order.

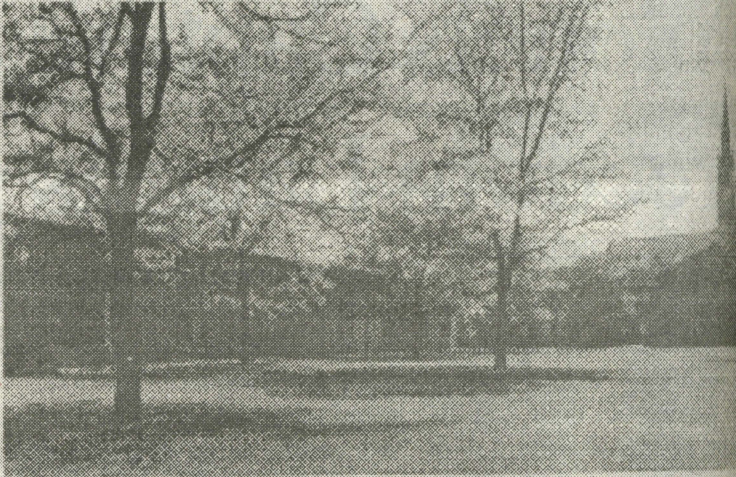
"I'd say we are probably in the top three teams, but there are a lot of question marks."

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Schedule

March 8-11	NFCA DIII Leadoff Classic in La Grange, GA			
March 16-17	Sea Gull Invitational Softball Tournament at Salisbury State University, Salisbury, MD			
Wednesday March 21	Misericordia	H	3PM	
Saturday March 24	Lycoming	H	1PM	
Wednesday March 28	King's	A	1PM	
Saturday March 31	FDU-Madison	A	1PM	
Tuesday April 3	Scranton	H	3PM	
Thursday April 5	Marywood	H	3PM	
Saturday April 7	Allentown	A	1PM	
Monday April 9	Baptist Bible	A	3PM	
Friday April 13	Drew	H	1PM	
Tuesday April 17	Susquehanna	H	3PM	
Saturday April 21	Delaware Valley	A	1PM	
Tuesday April 24	Messiah	A	3PM	
Thursday April 26	Lebanon Valley	A	3PM	
Friday May 4	Freedom			
	Conference Playoff	A	TBA	
Saturday May 5	Freedom			
	Conference Champ	A	TBA	

NCAA Spot

By Kevin Sickle

Beacon Staff Writer
ksickle@wilkes.edu

After the win over Scranton Saturday in the Freedom Conference final, Wilkes was guaranteed a spot in the NCAA Division III Men's Basketball Championship's field of 48. When they would play and what seed they would be wasn't much in doubt, but we had to wait until the official announcements were made on Sunday, beginning at 9PM.

Unfortunately most of us weren't able to get the selection live via the Internet as was provided by Yahoo! and the people at D3HOOPS.com. Due to the tremendous popularity of the live feed, it was unavailable at both the press conference in the Marts Center and at most other locations.

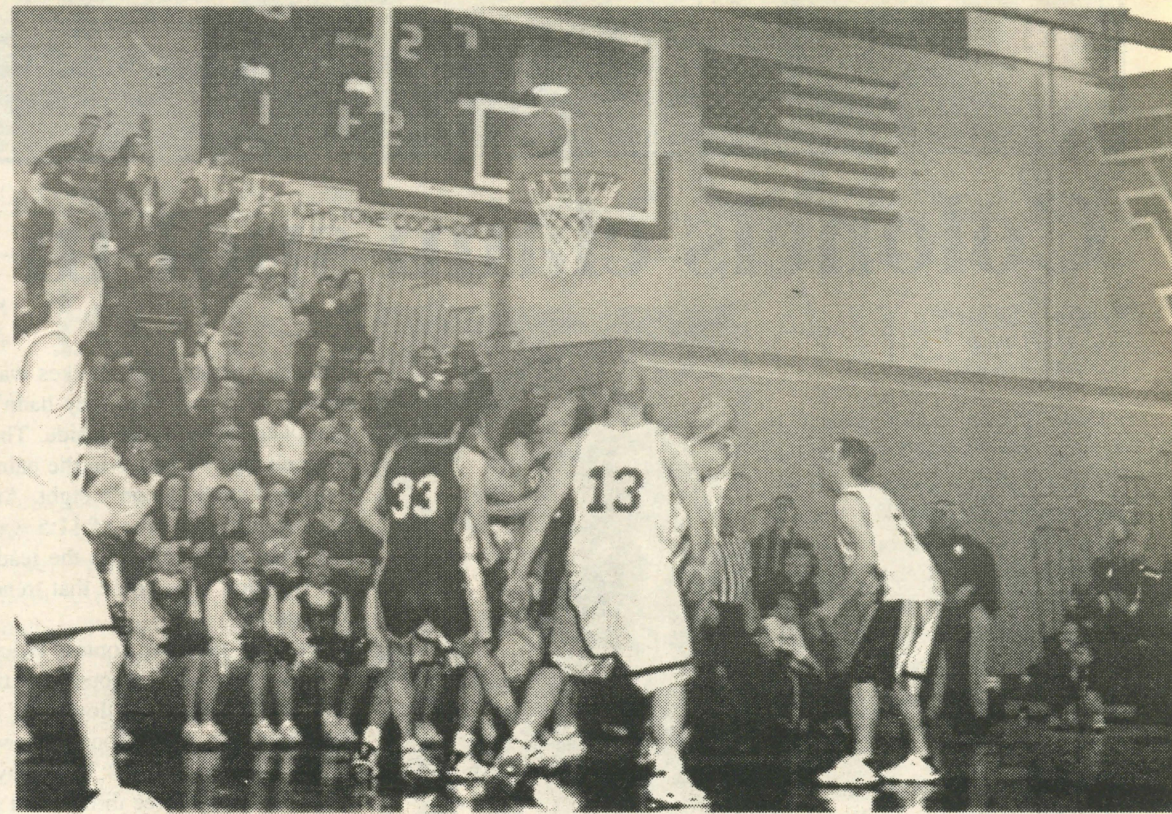
When the traffic to the two sites slowed down after about half an hour, Wilkes learned that they are a number one seed, thus earning a first round bye. They will host the winner of Thursday's first round game between the Kings Point Mariners, out of the Skyline Conference with a record of 20-7, and the Cabrini Cavaliers from the Pennsylvania Athletic Conference (PAC), with a record of 21-6. This second round match-up will be held Saturday at 7:30 PM in the Marts Center.

Coach Rickrode and the team have been working on a few

changes in the offense, but now are preparing for both possible opponents. "On Tuesday, we basically worked on our own stuff. Trying to get better at what we do," Rickrode commented. "I think the guys have gotten much better at reversing the ball and letting it happen rather than trying to make things happen right away." And as always, the offense will work the ball to in to guys like Brad Sechler, Kevin Walsh, Tom Stambaugh, and Ron McIntyre first. "We try to work the offense from inside out," added the ninth year coach. "Now, (on) Wednesday (and) Thursday, we will prepare for both. And then after we find out who wins on Thursday, we will concentrate on that team."

Wilkes doesn't know all that much about Kings Point, but the Colonels have seen some of the talent that Cabrini has. Back on November 21st, Wilkes was able to pull out an 82-78 victory over the Cavaliers, who have Division III's all-time winningest program. Rickrode knows they are no pushover. "We had a close game with Cabrini down there. It's a tough place to play and they're pretty good," but there is no guarantee that they will see them again. "The team that they're playing in the first round could easily beat them."

The other top seeds in Wilkes' bracket include: the Clark Cou-



Players look on as ball drops for another Jannuzzi score.

Travis Keck/Beacon

gars out of the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) with a record of 22-4, the Pioneers of Widener, winners of the MAC's Commonwealth Conference championship with an overall record of 21-5, and the Hobart Statesmen from the Upstate Collegiate Athletic Association (UCAA), owners of a 20-7 record.

Should Wilkes win Saturday, they will most likely host the sectionals the following Friday and Saturday. The winners of the four sectionals then advance to the

Final Four March 16th, with the third-place game and the championship scheduled for the 17th. Come out and be a part of Marts

Madness Saturday at 7:30 as the Colonels start their journey to the Final Four.

Playoffs

Continued from Page 20

Leading the way for Wilkes was Stambaugh and Jannuzzi with 19 points apiece. Dave also had 11 assists. Brad Sechler and Kevin Walsh were the other Colonels in double-digits, as both finished with 18. Sophomore Derek Elphick finished with 23 points for Bessoir's Royals. Kevin Courtney added 18, with Al Callejas finishing with only 7.

Although not a high-man for Coach Rickrode, freshman Dave Plisko was the man of the hour. His shot erupted the Colonel faithful and all but clinched a number one seed for Wilkes. "The shot clock was running down, so I had to shoot it," Plisko said. "Dave (Jannuzzi) just passed me the ball...must have had confidence in me to make it."

"I was wide open and just knocked it down. It felt good" continued Plisko. "If it would have came out, they probably would have run out of time anyway."

Coach Rickrode had no problem putting Plisko in with the time waning, although it was originally for his defense. "I feel confident with him in there in clutch situations."

The game was as competitive

as one could hope for a championship game to be.

"It was a battle, it really was," Coach Rickrode explained. "They executed, but offensively I thought we did pretty good...They made a lot of open jump shots. I think we combated (them making open jump shots) by getting the ball inside," continued Rickrode. "We got the ball inside to the three, four, and five, Tommy, Kevin, and Brad pretty much at will."

Shooting 50.9 percent from the field, 52.6 percent from behind the arc, and 90 percent from the charity stripe go a long way towards winning basketball games as well. "Our shooting percentages) and the assist to turnover ratio has been winning us games," Rickrode concluded.

The win gives Wilkes a record of 23-2 and a spot in the NCAA tournament. (For more, see my other article.) It sends Scranton coach Bob Bessoir off on a losing note, but that doesn't take anything from his coaching career. No comments were needed. Just watching Bessoir walk out of the Henry Gymnasium with his wife, waving goodbye as he left told more than any number of quotes could.

Goodbye to a legend, hello to the NCAA's.



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Colonels claim spot in NCAA playoffs

By Kevin Sickle
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Dave Plisko didn't expect to come to Wilkes and have such an impact on such a game as a freshman. He selected Wilkes because of their nationally recognized program and because Coach Rickrode gave him a chance to play. Little did he know that his last-second shot against Scranton would help propel the Colonels into the NCAA tournament as a number one seed.

Wilkes quickly gained control of the contest when Kevin Walsh hit for two on the Colonels' opening possession. A Scranton free throw cut the lead in half, but buckets by Brad Sechler and Tom Stambaugh increased the lead to five. John Boylan and Walsh then exchanged baskets with the Royals before Wilkes went on a 7-0 run over the next two-and-a-half minutes to bump their lead to double digits, 17-7.

Scranton then was able to scrape back to within three until Walsh hit



Travis Keck/Beacon

Ron McIntyre looks to pass. another lay-up, with Ron McIntyre following with one on the fast break. After that, however, Wilkes saw their lead quickly dissipate. The Royals went on a 7-0 run of their own, with the help of two Wilkes turnovers and two missed lay-ups.

The Colonels found the lead again, thanks to a hoop and free throw from Sechler and a Plisko lay-up, but it was short-lived, as Scranton quickly tied it up again and took their first lead at the four-minute mark of the opening half.

The Royals would up their lead to as many as five on two different occasions, but lost the lead for good as Tom Stambaugh knocked down a trifecta, giving Wilkes a 39-38 lead with just over a minute to play in the half. Stambaugh was then fouled on the defensive end, giving him a one-and-one. He converted both and the lead went to three. Scranton's Don Loftus then hit one of two from the stripe to close out the first half scoring with Wilkes up

41-39.

In the opening half, Wilkes was capable of doing what they hadn't done well lately, score inside. The Colonels had 20 points in the paint compared to Scranton's eight. An assist-to-turnover ratio of 11:5 was also what kept Wilkes in the lead. The question was would that trend continue?

Scranton tied the contest twice in the opening seconds until Stambaugh's lay-up, followed by a foul shot, put the Colonels ahead for the duration with 18:30 to play. A pair of Sechler free throws and a pair of triples from the hand of Dave Jannuzzi then gave Wilkes a 54-45 lead.

The two squads exchanged buckets over the next nine-plus minutes until Wilkes couldn't keep up. Their lead dwindled to three with 4:40 left on the clock. Scranton had a chance to tie the game up but a Loftus three-point attempt caromed off the rim and John Boylan was able to snag the board. A pair of free throws from both Jannuzzi and Stambaugh took the Colonels lead back to seven with just under three minutes to play.

Coach Bessoir's Royals still fought it out for their retiring coach. Brad Sechler's fifth foul sent him to the bench with a standing ovation, but it gave Scranton some life. Senior star Al Callejas hit a pair from the stripe and a money ball got the Royals to within two. Jannuzzi stepped up to hit two more from the line, which was matched by Scranton's Don Loftus, getting them to within a bucket at



Travis Keck/Beacon

Tom Stambaugh leaps for the tip. 83-81.

After the free throws, Coach Rickrode took a timeout to settle the guys down and set up the remaining 33 seconds. Following the timeout, Kevin Walsh took the in-bound, but was able to get the ball to Jannuzzi before he could be fouled. Coach Bessoir elected not to foul Jannuzzi, who was shooting 85.7% from the line going in. When the double team came to Jannuzzi, he found Plisko in the corner open for a three. With the

shot clock winding down, Plisko put one up from behind the arc and...

It went down. The trifecta set the Marts Center abuzz as it gave the Colonels a five-point lead, one that was insurmountable in five seconds. The Royals took the ball in, but that was that. Wilkes brought home their sixth Freedom League/Conference championship in the last seven seasons.

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Jannuzzi hits it. Travis Keck/Beacon



Marts Madness in full effect.

Travis Keck/Beacon



The bench watches the action on the court.

Travis Keck/Beacon