

# The BEACON

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

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## Sturdevant hall damaged when fire sprinkler leaks



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Room 102D experienced extreme water damage after the sprinkler head on the second floor of Sturdevant hall leaked out all of the water from the sprinkler system.

BY VICTORIA WHITE  
Beacon News Editor

Thousands of dollars in damage were reported last Wednesday, November 30, when a malfunctioning second floor sprinkler head pumped out enough water to damage the floor below.

In the second floor hallway, a sprinkler head leaked water into the hallway, which subsequently leaked down into the first floor. Christopher Leicht, Assistant Residence Life Director said, "It looked like a sprinkler head on the second floor was faulty and ended up leaking out."

On the first floor of the residence hall, two rooms received damage due to the water, though one more significantly than the other. The ceiling tiles fell in room 102D due to the weight of the water that the tiles were absorbing.

Resident of room 102D, Erika Barletta, junior nursing major said, "It was a complete nightmare

walking in and seeing my stuff ruined."

According to Christopher Bailey, Director of Campus Support Services, some of the damage in the first floor room can be attributed to the immense amounts of water and the pressure created in the sprinkler system pipes.

The incident at Sturdevant is still under investigation according to Bailey and Leicht. Bailey said, "It is still under investigation. It did not just go off."

Bailey explained he is continuing the investigation because the failure rate of the crystal sprinkler heads is very unusual. "The random failure rate of a crystal sprinkler head is about 1 in 16,000,000. That was the older models, the new models that we have it is more like 1 in 20,000,000 are likely to randomly fail. You have a much better chance of getting struck by lightning than for one of these to

See **SPRINKLER** page 3

## Grandparents' Day cards outrage students

*Development Office criticized for soliciting using students' names*

BY VICTORIA WHITE  
Beacon News Editor

What originally appeared to be a nice gesture--reaching out to send a personal message to let grandparents know they were on the minds of their Wilkes students--turned into a Development Office appeal for money, a ploy some Wilkes students found offensive and deceptive.

Last Wednesday, students aired their

grievances at the SG meeting over what they claimed to be a covert and tasteless Development appeal.

In late October, Development officers set up a table on the first floor of the Henry Student Center and asked students to help them celebrate the Wilkes University Grandparents' Day.

Students were encouraged to personalize Grandparents' Day cards and to write down the address of their grandparents. Students

contended they were told that their grandparents would receive a free gift in the card, a 'proud grandparent' window cling. However, students were not told anything else would be included in the envelope that was being sent to their grandparents.

Ashley McBrearty, senior Biology major explained, "They had a table set up and they had the cards sitting there and all they said was that Wilkes created a Grandparents' Day and we want to send all grandparents

a card. They had this little bumper sticker that was really cute. I signed my name on it and put a personal message and they sent it out to my grandma."

But when grandparents received the cards, a Business Reply Mail Envelope (BRE) had been included with the card. The BRE offered space for grandparents to announce

See **CARDS** page 4

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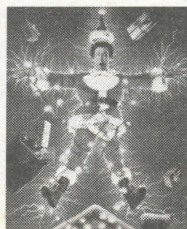
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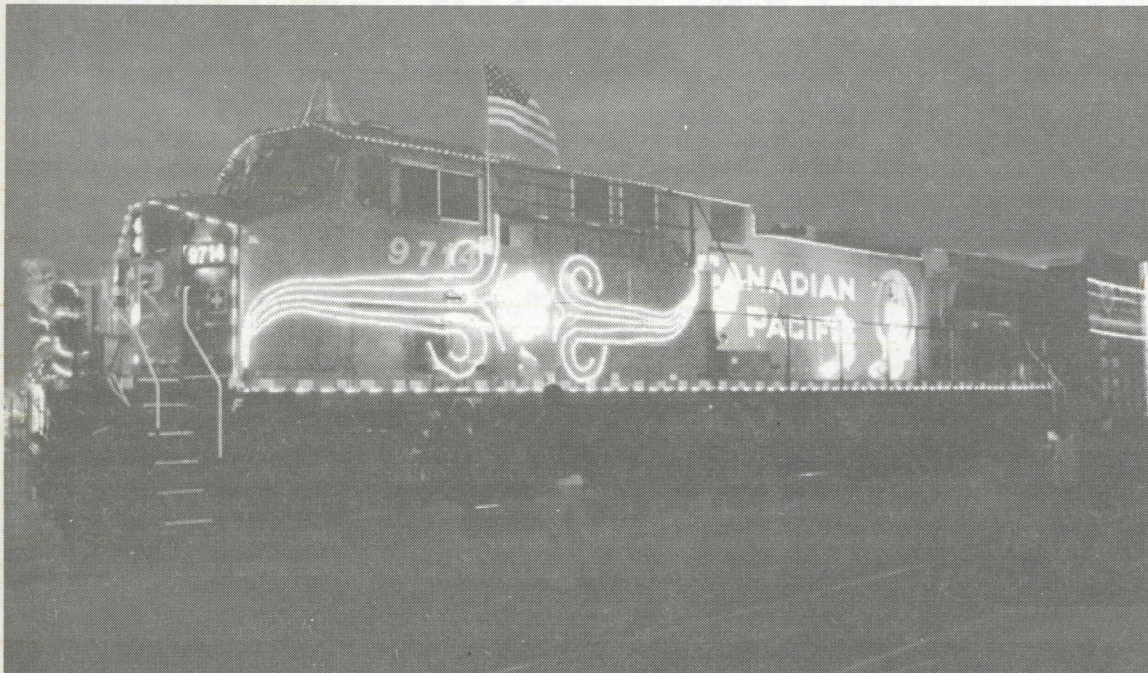


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## Canadian Pacific Railway Holiday Train Student Government Notes



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

On Wednesday, November 30, a very special train rolled into the Steamtown National Historic Site, Lackawanna Avenue Station--the Canadian Pacific Railway Holiday Train.

The holiday train was decorated with hundreds of thousands of LED Christmas lights and collected food and money in order to raise awareness for local food banks.

Each year Canadian Pacific Railway hosts two holiday trains, one in Canada and one in the Northeast and Midwest United States.

## Financial services and campus facilities offices restructured

BY JEANNE STAPLETON  
Beacon Staff Writer

In order to maintain success, change is a must.

Recently the Financial Services department underwent some significant change--the process of reorganization.

"This was a positive reorganization aimed to realign the operations of Financial Services," said Christopher Bailey, Director of Campus Support Services. The reorganization took place just before classes resumed for the fall semester.

The university is aiming to take a more proactive rather than reac-

tive approach to problems.

Routine maintenance on things such as HVAC systems, for example, will save time and money in the long run. The custodial workers and general maintenance personnel act as the first line of defense in handling reactive or responsive situational problems. "The new reorganization allows for more resources to be dedicated to capital planning and projects," said Scott Byers, Vice President for Finance and Support Operations.

A part of the reorganization included campus ground maintenance to become an internal operation except for specialized

work such as the maintenance of the athletics fields and landscaping. By making this an internal operation it allows for more hours of resources to be used for things such as snow removal, event set-up, moves and custodial cleaning.

Under the new configuration the reporting structure and responsibilities of financial services has also been altered. Employees in such areas as public safety, contractors, purchasing, operational parking, shuttling, ground maintenance and custodial services are now part of the Campus Support Services.

"These changes will be a multi-year process," said Byers.

### November 30 Meeting

- A motion was made and passed 26-0-3 for a maximum amount of \$82,500 to be allocated for the construction of the ropes course in the UCOM building. The money will be taken out of the buffer fund.

-The Choral Club appeared for their first reading in the two-week process that allows groups to attain club status.

-Winter Weekend will be held February 17-19. The themes were chosen for vote by the student body as:

Nickelodeon tv shows  
Candy bars  
Cereal

-Study Break Party will be held on December 11 from 8-11 p.m. in the Cafeteria.  
8-9 p.m. is karaoke  
9 p.m. the band Lessen One will be performing  
Food will be from Rodano's, Domino's and Quizno's.



## The BEACON

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

### Editorial Staff

**Editor-in-Chief:** Kristin Kile  
**Managing Editor:** Rebecca Goodman  
Email: wilkesbeacon@gmail.com  
**News Editor:** Victoria White  
Email: beaconnewsline@gmail.com  
**Op/Ed Editor:** Curran Dobson  
Email: thebeacon.oped@gmail.com  
**Features Editor:** Sarah Herbert  
Email: thebeaconfeatures@gmail.com  
**A&E Editor:** Donna Talarico  
Email: thebeaconae@gmail.com  
**Sports Editor:** Ryan Dippre  
Email: beaconsports@gmail.com  
**Photo Editor:** Nick Zmijewski  
**Advertising Managers:** Jamie Babbitt  
Kristyn Ostman  
Email: thebeacon.ads@gmail.com  
**Advisor:** Dr. Andrea Breemer Frantz

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Box 111, Wilkes University  
192 South Franklin Street  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766  
(570) 408-5903

wilkesbeacon@gmail.com

www.wilkesbeacon.com



# Annual safety report: serious crime down, alcohol incidents up

BY DANA ZLOTUCHA

Beacon Staff Writer

Each year Wilkes University, in accordance with the Federal Right To Know Act, publishes the "For Your Safety" security report.

The report provides information on the number and types of laws that are broken on or near campus each year, as well as statistics on how each instance is handled by Public Safety and other University officials.

Recently, Wilkes officials released this year's report. A comparative analysis of the statistics indicates that overall area crime has remained fairly steady. But a shift in the level of crime indicates that more serious personal crimes have decreased. While more serious crimes, such as vandalism, assault, and burglary have decreased, there has been an increase in other alcohol-related crimes, such as underage possession/drinking, public drunkenness, and disorderly conduct.

"A lot of these crimes, you can't prevent them, they are individual crimes of opportunity: vandalism, public intoxication, underage drinking. These are the things you see at a college campus," explained Christopher Bailey, Director of Campus Support Services.

Gerald Rebo, Manager of Public Safety Patrol Operations, said that the increase in documented incidents was due to the more active role that public safety officers have had on campus over the last few semesters. "The officers now are patrolling [farther] away from [the central part of campus],

down to the off campus housing...and to the apartments."

In terms of harsh crimes, there were only four assault cases reported last year, with only one of those occurring in a residence hall. While assault was down, the rate of theft is high, with 45 incidents reported. Positive aspects of the report were the zero incidents of rape, sexual assault and robbery.

Liquor law offenses with University sanctions were reported at 57 occurrences, with 26 of those being liquor law criminal offenses.

The officers are also almost constantly patrolling campus instead of staying at one post or working behind a desk. "You see more officers out there, interacting with the students...with more officers you see around, you feel safe, and the perpetrators are also [deterred]" added Rebo.

Bailey commented that proactive measures are taken for "Crimes that we can prevent, like petty theft. [For example], we make sure buildings are locked down and prevent theft from within the University that way."

"Wilkes is providing a better level of safety and overall security today. Our ability to respond to instances is much greater and more effective, and we have a much more conscientious group of officers, a much more professional organization" stated Bailey.

Rebo noted that the watchful eyes of public safety officers on campus have inspired

| Wilkes University FTE Used: |  | 2004              |           |                 |                  |                  |            |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------|
|                             | 3627                                       | Offenses Reported | Unfounded | Actual Offenses | Offenses Cleared | Cleared Under 18 | Crime Rate |
| Murder /                    | On Campus                                  | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
| Non-negligent manslaughter  | In Residential Facilities                  | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | In or on a Non Campus Building or Property | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | On Public Property                         | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | <b>Totals</b>                              | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | As a Hate Crime                            | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
| Negligent Manslaughter      | On Campus                                  | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | In Residential Facilities                  | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | In or on a Non Campus Building or Property | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | On Public Property                         | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | <b>Totals</b>                              | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | As a Hate Crime                            | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
| Rape / Sexual Assault       | On Campus                                  | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
| (Forcible Sex Offenses)     | In Residential Facilities                  | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | In or on a Non Campus Building or Property | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | On Public Property                         | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | <b>Totals</b>                              | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | As a Hate Crime                            | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
| Robbery                     | On Campus                                  | 2                 | 0         | 2               | 1                | 0                | 0.06%      |
|                             | In Residential Facilities                  | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | In or on a Non Campus Building or Property | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | On Public Property                         | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | <b>Totals</b>                              | 0                 | 0         | 2               | 1                | 0                | 0.06%      |
| Assault                     | On Campus                                  | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |
|                             | In Residential Facilities                  | 1                 | 0         | 1               | 1                | 0                | 0.03%      |
|                             | In or on a Non Campus Building or Property | 0                 | 0         | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0.00%      |

Courtesy of Wilkes University Public Safety

The annual report lists by offense crimes committed on campus and breaks down the number based on where the incident happened. The report can be viewed in its entirety at <http://www.wilkes.edu/campuslife/safety/stats.xls>.

greater confidence among faculty and students in the relative safety of the Wilkes campus. The crime on campus "Is very

low compared to that of the city...we don't have the violent crimes like [the city] does," added Rebo.

## SPRINKLER

from FRONT PAGE

randomly fail."

Although none of the residents of Sturdevant Hall have admitted to taking part in or seeing any actions that could have led to the sprinkler head leaking, Bailey said, "If [the sprinkler head] was going to fail, it would have done it within minutes of installation, when water first gets to it in the system, not two years later."

Bailey was skeptical about the fact that no students have stepped forward with helpful information. Bailey explained that it is not uncommon for something as simple as students playing ball in the hallway to hit

the sprinkler and make it go off. Bailey said, "We are not looking to place blame, we were looking to see if somehow with insurance the costs of the damage could be split."

Bailey went on to explain that there is an estimated \$6,000-\$8,000 in personal property damage plus the costs of the damage to the second and first floor hallways.

Leicht said, "It leaked on the second floor and down into the hallway and two rooms on the first floor. The [heavily damaged] room was pretty bad. It looks like the room probably won't be ready until Monday."

Barletta said, "I think they [the University] have really put my situation as a top priority. My room should be done tomorrow [Monday]."

Room 102D in Sturdevant hall was severely damaged along with the personal property of resident Erika Barletta. A major part of the damage in the room was a result of ceiling tiles in the room falling on her belongings. Residence Life offered to find a place for Barletta to stay while her room is repaired but she chose to stay at home with her parents until the room is repaired.



The Beacon/Nick Zmiewski



# WilkesNet moves to UCOM over winter break

*IT network plans include username and password changes for all*

BY STEPHANIE DEBALKO  
Beacon Staff Writer

Over winter break, the University will take steps to transition the network database, WilkesNet, from the data center in Stark Learning Center (SLC) to the UCOM data center.

Mike Salem, Chief Information Officer, described WilkesNet as, "A campus-wide network that interconnects all building computers allowing them to communicate and exchange information both on campus and with the Internet."

Salem described this network as similar to a spoke in a wheel, where there is one central hub and four distribution centers, each of which is connected to several campus buildings.

"All of these connections utilize fiber optic cable, which is the newest technology for transmission of data," said Salem.

Ross Thompson, president of New Era Technologies, Inc., the low voltage commu-

nication cabling company contracted by the school to perform the transition, explained that the cable plant in place is a decentralized plant that allows for a much safer and productive process. If one building goes down for some reason, the others will still be able to operate.

During the week of December 23, that central hub will be moved from SLC to the UCOM center for a number of reasons. One main reason, explained Thompson, is that, in order to install the necessary fiber optic cables, the entire campus has to be taken down for about a week. The only week that the campus can be down is over winter break.

Salem also explained that, because Wilkes is contracting with a new Internet Service Provider (ISP) in the new year, it is more cost effective to make the move now, before the University is under contract with the new ISP.

Moving the database in such a short amount of time seems to be a challenge, but

Thompson explained that, while it is complex, it is not an impossible achievement.

"It's a lot of work in a short period of time... it is a very aggressive schedule, but we have 21 employees [and] we have a very good plan," said Thompson.

Additionally, a great deal of preparation has already gone into the process, and Thompson explained that everything will be in place for the move later this month. Both Salem and Thompson seem confident that the changeover will run smoothly, especially if weather permits.

Thompson also addressed security concerns, stating that the transition of the network over the break will not affect any aspect of the security system, including access to these buildings.

This "migration," as Thompson described it, will be beneficial for the campus community. "The UCOM facility that Wilkes just acquired has a data center with a backup generator which the data center in SLC lacks. Having a backup generator in

addition to an uninterruptible power supply (UPS) battery backup system will ensure that Wilkes is able to continue operations through power outages," said Salem.

Some important changes that directly affect all network users will also be implemented early next semester. These changes include changes in user ID, passwords, and file services. According to Salem, everyone with a Wilkes University account will be issued a new user ID and password. The file services will also be enhanced, "The new file servers will be faster, more reliable, and will offer more space than the current service."

Thompson has a great deal of experience in this area, considering this is the thirteenth college campus that he has cabled. He believes that Wilkes is taking the right steps, especially in terms of the cable plant that is now in place, where everything is installed and documented. "I would say right now Wilkes has the best cable plant as well as network in the area," said Thompson.

## CARDS

from FRONT PAGE

any news that they would like to see in the *Wilkes Universe* magazine along with a place for them to bequeath money from their estate to the University. There was also space for them to make any other contribution they would like.

Executive Director of Development, William Behm said, "The grandparents could choose if they wished to give a gift. They could indicate that they would like to put Wilkes in their estate plans. They could say they could give a dollar, or a thousand dollars. Or they could choose to send just the news sections. It is not an envelope that is just used for fundraising."

But some students felt they'd been duped into soliciting from their own grandparents. Jennifer Ramil, senior biology major said, "My name was on the card when it was given to my grandparents. Having my name on that card, making it look as if I was the one that wanted my grandparents to give money, I thought that was really shady and completely uncalled for."

Behm said, "I wish when we were asking them to sign up for this that BRE was on the table. I genuinely do. It was inadvertently left off the table. It wasn't deliberately left off."

Because the BRE did have a space for any news grandparents wanted to share and that it did not specifically ask for a donation, Michele Zabriski, Director of Individual

Giving said, "They could choose to just look at this and say, 'Isn't this a nice proud grandparents sticker? Isn't this a nice card,' and that is that. No one followed up with a letter or a phone call or anything."

Although students had many grievances regarding the campaign that the development office launched towards grandparents, Behm said, "Nowhere on the envelope does it say that you must give money. It doesn't even ask for it. This is as gentle of an ask as we could have thought of."

James Juice, sophomore class president said, "I think they crossed the line in tar-

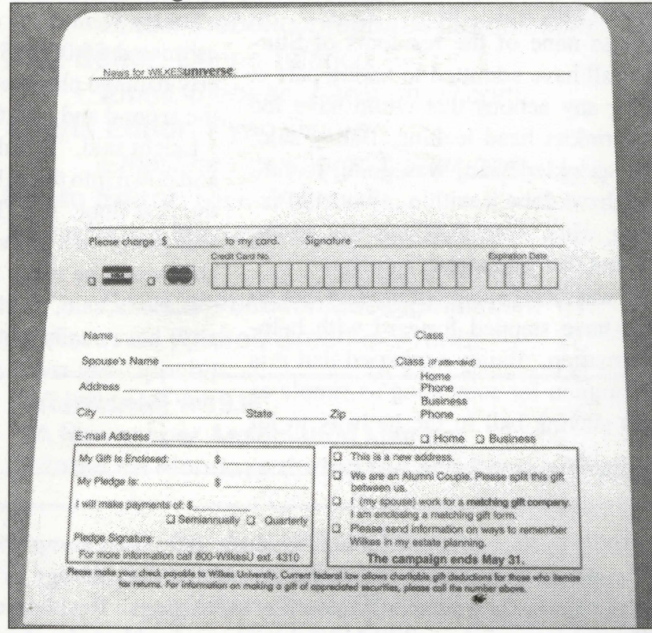
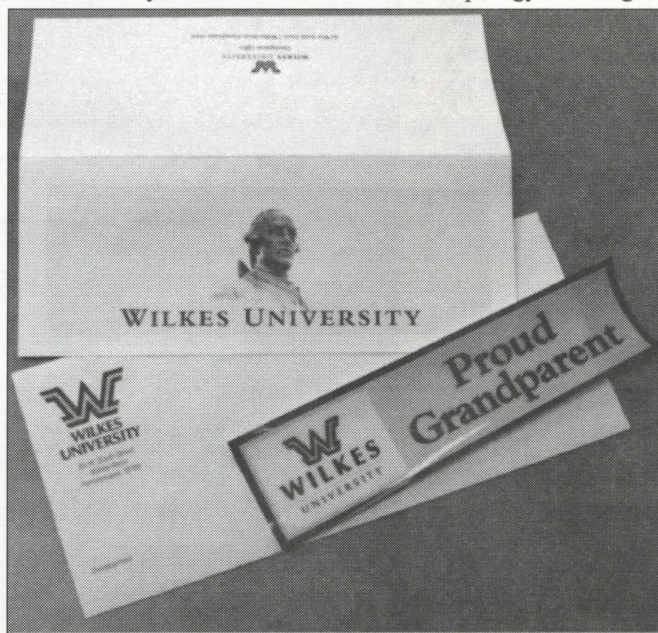
geting grandparents. If they want to target me and my parents, that's one thing, but this was over the line."

Behm explained the reason that grandparents were sent the cards was, "We were looking to identify anyone who would have a vested interest in Wilkes. And in terms of statistics, grandparents have the most expendable income."

McBrearty and Ramil were both outraged at the inclusion of the BRE and the idea that Development is not issuing an apology in any form other than the verbal apology Behm gave at the SG meeting on

Wednesday night. Ramil said, "I was very, very upset. I think that an apology is called for, whether they think it is or not."

Behm said, "Next year, if we decide to do something like this, we will be sitting with Student Government first. To let them know what we are going to do and to work with them to develop a plan that accomplishes what we need to accomplish in a way that allows them to participate without feeling that we have tried to pull something over on them."



Courtesy of Development Office  
On the left was the spread on the table in the Henry Student Center when students signed the cards and gave their grandparents addresses. On the right is the BRE that was put in with the card and gift.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## New Masters degree offered in engineering

*Unique program will incorporate both business and engineering*

BY JOSEPH DEANGELIS  
Beacon Staff Writer

For the new graduate program in engineering management at Wilkes, Dr. David J. Wells, chairperson of the division of engineering and physics, wanted something different and unique to best represent the college and deviate a bit from the standard "me too" program.

"I don't want to come up with some program that every other school's already done and we'll say, 'Well, we'll do that too because they're all filled with lots of students,'" said Wells. "I would rather come up with something that positions Wilkes University uniquely because we have unique strengths at Wilkes University."

In order to do this, Wells took the department of engineering and business and combined it with the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business to form the Engineering Op-

erations and Strategies (EOS) graduate program, which will launch officially next semester.

"This, I think, represents one of the best examples of how we can take two strong programs—one very quantitative in engineering and one very qualitative in management—and combine them for a special program in engineering operations and strategies," said Wells. "I think it really helps to set Wilkes University apart from other programs. This is really quite a unique program. It falls under the general umbrella of what we would call engineering management but really centering on operations and strategies."

Faculty in the Sidhu School of Business agree with Wells about the interdisciplinary value of the program. "You don't get that very frequently," said Dr. Anthony L. Liuzzo, professor of business and economics and the director of the master of business admin-

istration (MBA) Program, referring to the combination of the two programs. "We have a clear desire to mentor our students."

EOS does not focus on engineering in general, but problems commonly found in industries and businesses such as project and process management and quality, and logistics.

Students will be required to take four courses from the MBA and at least five courses in engineering operations. The program will require 36 credit hours long and so far approximately eight or nine students have signed up. The courses tackle a number of important issues such as modeling and modeling uncertainties, decision processing, modeling flows of materials, people and information and looking at where there are risks.

The decision to pursue a graduate program in engineering management emerged from

survey data garnered from local industries and businesses. The survey asked what local industries and businesses seek in terms of education when hiring new employees.

"They really wanted a program that would maybe be a little bit more quantitative in the modeling than an MBA program, and these companies all tend to recruit MBA students too for other purposes," Wells said. "For them it's not an either/or."

The survey also indicated that engineering business skills were of major importance to industries, such as finance, accounting and human resources.

While attending the graduate courses, most students will be also working in industries, giving them the opportunity to gain experience both in the workplace and in the classroom.

"This is going to prepare them for promotion," said Wells.



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## South Park answers current events needs for today's "entertain-me" generation

BY THE BEACON  
EDITORIAL BOARD

For most of the teen and young adult viewing audience, *ABC World News Tonight* is no match for *Desperate Housewives* or MTV's *Real World* when it comes to ratings.

Not to discredit *ABC World News Tonight*; even without Peter Jennings, it's clearly important television. But for most young people, straight up news just plain isn't as interesting as the drama surrounding *Grey's Anatomy* or as funny as the jokes on *Family Guy*. We are, in many ways, the entertain-me generation.

That said, it is important for teenagers and young adults to know the news, to be aware of the

events and conflicts across this nation and the globe. An informed nation is always better than an uninformed one, and it's just good sense to be prepared when someone starts discussing the pros and cons of Bush's new exit strategy for Iraq. What happens across the globe and in our backyards affects us, and in order to respond, we have to know about it.

Older generations of Americans who may consider themselves far more informed than today's youth need to take a closer look. While MTV may not be necessarily informative television, Comedy Central's *South Park* is an example of a popular program watched by millions of young Americans that brings information and news to young adults in the form of com-

edy. While it can be crude at times and while it does not hesitate to take anyone and anything on, it is a means of providing information to those who may not watch any other form of "news."

Granted, the creators of *South Park*, Matt Stone and Trey Parker, will never be regarded as news icons like Peter Jennings or Walter Cronkite. But for an entire generation of Americans who grow increasingly bored with even the most modernized conveniences and must be ever entertained, *South Park* ensures at least avoidance of total ignorance.

Its satirical tone does place a specific political spin on newsworthy events, and viewers are rarely, if ever, confused about where the writers stand on con-

troversial issues; however, the plotlines are still based on news happenings. For a generation of young adults who may otherwise not get the news at all, *South Park* is the answer. Many young viewers are unwittingly educated while watching the show when really all they were expecting was some potty humor.

For example, a recent episode of *South Park* poked fun at the institution of Scientology. At the same time, the episode unearthed for many people who actually had no clue what Scientologists actually believe, the basic principles of the religious sect, flashing "This is what Scientologists actually believe" on the bottom of the screen during the episode. In addition to explaining some of the basic principles to Scientology, few can argue that the satiric take on the subject wasn't funny. Other episodes follow a similar structure, entertaining at the same time that they provide real-time information.

*South Park* decries political correctness and tramples new sensitivities to all kinds of topics including race, religion, sexual orientation and the handicapped. But in some respects, its delivery of "news" serves as a breath of fresh air for young people with no patience for the dry, objective delivery of government-sterilized facts and statistics. And it's funny, whether it's offensive or not.

*South Park*, *The Daily Show* and others of their ilk ultimately offer a brief taste of what's happening out there to young people who might not otherwise be exposed to a newspaper or CNN. And they do it through humor, which brings viewers back time and again. They also offer the possibility that by tackling today's socio-political issues—even through humor—they may inspire some young people to flip to CNN to learn more.

## Beacon Poll Results

The following are results of a poll that *The Beacon* conducted online this past week. The poll was unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on campus. Results are based on 33 responses.

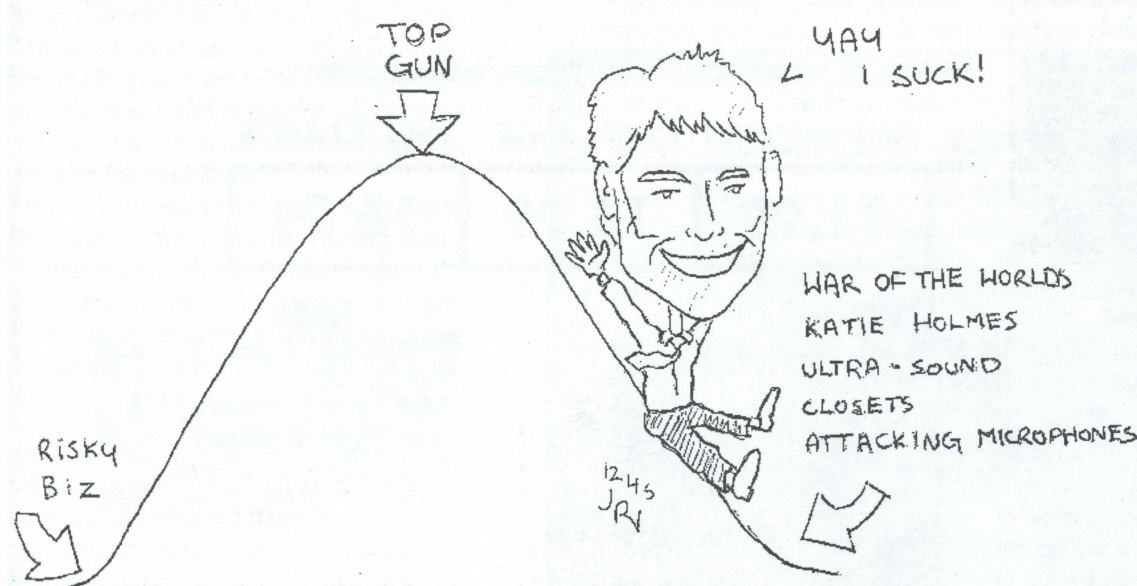
### The Beacon asked:

What do you hope for most for the world for 2006?

- A more stable environment - 0%
- New American political leadership - 21%
- Resolution in the Middle East - 9%
- Cure for AIDS or cancer - 21%
- Increased global awareness of poverty - 0%
- Discovery of renewable energy source - 15%
- Discovery of life in space - 6%
- Finding of Osama bin Laden - 12%
- Bringing troops home from Iraq - 27%
- Other - 0%

## Nickle for Your Thoughts

By Jason Nickle





## Holiday season reminder of value of individual beliefs

BY AMANDA MCMAHON  
Beacon Correspondent

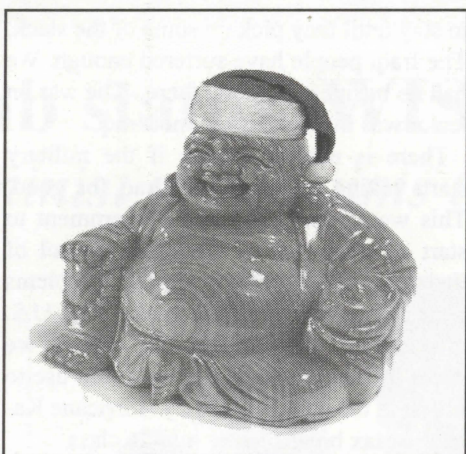
As I sat at my desk pounding away at the keys on my laptop hoping the words would fall into the right places, I thought about how I was going to write this particular article.

I had planned for a week to talk in brief about the religious holidays that are celebrated during this time of the year. After all, though Hanukkah, Kwanza, Christmas and numerous other holidays vary in their meanings from minor to drastic differences in origin, purpose and practice, they seemingly all involve a sense of warmth (think of all the lights) and good will.

However, trying to examine religions as if I understand what any one of them fully means would be to lie to myself and my readers. I would merely recount notions of religious experiences and credit those explanations to my own personal understandings of or feelings for any of those holidays.

Instead, I have decided to heed Dr. Thomas Hamill's advice to "Write what you know," as he instructs my English class before each test, and discuss my understanding of the spirit of the season in the only way I know how.

Raised a Lutheran, I was baptized before



Courtesy of google.com

my long term memory was intact, made to attend Sunday school for about seven to eight years since the age of five, and confirmed (formally made a member of my church and religion) after two years of Catechism class. Naturally then, my family and I have celebrated Christmas as a religious holiday.

We have participated in the whole kit and caboodle: reading the Psalms, lighting advent candles and arranging Nativity sets. As well, my family has even experienced the whole commercial aspect of Christ-

mas; yes, Santa Claus is still a favorite at my house, as my youngest sister is still a "believer."

Yet, while I understand the concept of the religious meaning to the holiday I have been participating in before I was old enough to be fully aware, I do not truly understand it through faith, the common thread that links all religions.

So then, am I an atheist who must sadly sit out on the spirit of the season because I don't have a religious belief?

Quite frankly, the word "atheist" scares me. Or rather, I fear the kind of label that the word imposes. There's something about it that associates "no belief in a god" with "no belief" that I simply despise. Furthermore, the label seems to suggest that I am an immoral individual; I don't deserve the exchange of presents that occurs between my family and friends or the sugar cookies my grandma makes in the shape of an angel. "Atheists" have no place of belonging within the spirit of the season.

But what if I want to be part of a holiday that is based on a religion I don't believe in, or, as I like to look at it, a religion that is not part of who I am?

I have come to the conclusion that life is for living, whether we believe in a place or time to follow or not, and we are only able

to live the life that is our own. Therefore, it is important for people to be who they are, to seek out what they wish, and to believe in what they will. Like issues of sexuality, race and ethnicity that make us who we are, religious beliefs, or lack thereof, are no different. What is important is that people celebrate who they are by revelling in that which helps them to be whom they are. For me, hanging white lights and red glass balls on a pine tree, giving gifts to friends and family and eating an abundance of food all on the 25th of December is what I need to complete who I am. Those acts are what fill my spirit with joy to last me the entire year through.

I encourage you, too, to find what is important to you and not just treasure it, but celebrate it. Maybe it's religion or maybe it's a lack of faith in religious beliefs that are a part of your being. Perhaps, even, you possess a combination of both, depending on how much you need an "A" on a final exam and the sudden deal you are willing to make with a supreme being that you never bothered calling on before.

Either way, instead of feeling isolated for your differences or isolating others based on their differences, accept who you are and who others are and choose to celebrate together.

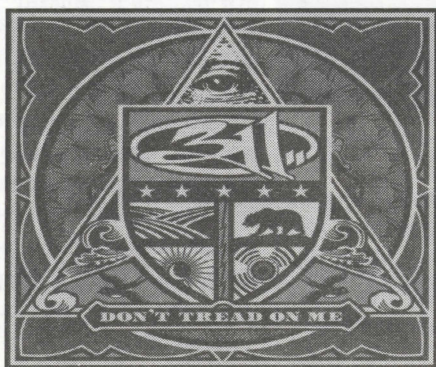
## How to save rock and roll

BY MATT ZEBROWSKI  
Beacon Asst. Op/Ed Editor

However bad your Thanksgiving may have possibly been, I bet that the holiday shared by former Creed frontman Scott Stapp and members of 311 was worse. Apparently, Stapp and three of the guys of 311 got in a bar fight at some ritzy hotel in Baltimore. I'm sure that would be enough to put a damper on anyone's Thanksgiving, especially if you're the type of person whose life already sucks as a result of the complete lack of integrity that comes along with making really, really awful music.

The drummer of 311 alleges that the situation started when Stapp walked up to them and said "311, I am ready to fight," which is quite possibly the funniest thing that I have heard in the past six months. Just picturing Stapp, with his leather pants and hairy chest and soulful brown eyes, walking up to the frat rejects in 311 and saying "311, I am ready to fight" (which totally sounds like it came out of an episode of Dragonball Z) made me laugh so hard I almost cried.

Once I finished laughing, though, I started to think. This is a great idea. If we could



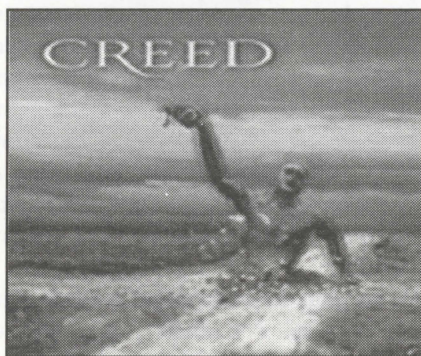
Courtesy of amazon.com

somehow get all the crappy rock stars in the world to fight each other instead of making music, I am firmly convinced that the world would be a better place. If the record industry turned into some sort of gladiator industry, the people who are only in it for money would just be pounding the tar out of each other and the music could be left to the people who really care about it.

This would greatly improve the quality of radio and MTV and all of that, and I bet that the Spike network would be willing to carry a show about drugged out money hungry losers committing acts of violence against

one another. Hell, I bet just about any network would be willing to carry it. See just about every reality television show ever for examples of this. The contestants may not be actually fighting, but they're never very nice.

Anyway, though, this would be huge. History proves it. The Romans did this sort of thing with Christians and the crowds gobbled it up, and they didn't even have commercials or billboards to promote it. In fact, the infrastructure for this sort of television show already exists. We could just take



Courtesy of amazon.com

American Idol and make it about dodging lions and fighting other fledglings instead of about singing, and if you advanced far enough you'd have to fight famous former rock stars. Plus, we could get rid of that obnoxious Brit, because who needs judges when all the other contestants are severely maimed? Clearly, the winner is the last one standing. That way, when the gladiator industry (formerly the music industry) vomits its "next big thing" into the eager toilet bowl of the American public consciousness, at least whoever happens to be chosen would be getting undeserved attention for doing something useless to begin with and not for trivializing something totally worthwhile like music.

Of course, I'll admit that this idea may sound a little far-fetched at the moment. But I'm sure that if enough crappy rock stars get into fights and enough people pay attention to it, someone will get the idea to capitalize on it. Then the rest will fall into place and music will be saved. So, hey Nickelback! I hear Dave Matthews has been talking trash on you. I'll go get my camcorder.



## United States occupation of Iraq cannot end soon

BY ROB DONAHUE  
Beacon Correspondent

In the past couple of weeks there has been a growing public outcry for U.S. troops to pull out of Iraq. Who can blame anyone?

The world was given false rationale as to why the U.S. should invade Iraq; U.S. citizens were lied to about the cost; growing numbers of Iraqis want the U.S. to pull out; troops are going on long extended tours of duty; and finally the big one: the U.S. credibility and title as the "world's lone super power" is now in jeopardy.

A couple of weeks ago Pennsylvania Congressman and decorated Vietnam vet-

eran John Murtha dropped a bombshell on the Bush administration by calling for full troop withdrawal immediately. His words sparked echoes throughout the country to get the troops home.

Despite public outcry, the President's resolve has remained. As much as I dislike President Bush, I must stand with him and say that he is doing the right thing by not pulling the troops out of Iraq.

The U.S. cannot pull out of Iraq right now. Not only would an immediate withdrawal keep Iraq in turmoil, leaving Iraq would show that the U.S. is weak and who knows what country would try and challenge that perceived weakness. We owe it to the Iraqis

to stay until they pick up some of the slack. The Iraqi people have suffered enough. We had no business of being there. The war on terror was in Afghanistan, not Iraq.

There is nothing wrong if the military starts taking troops out of Iraq for good. This would force the Iraqi government to start seriously taking complete control of their country. We have enough problems here at home and we are broke. The U.S. government is forgiving the money we spent in Iraq...money that we could use to invest in the area affected by Hurricane Katrina or tax breaks to the middle class.

We need to leave Iraq desperately but we can't. That is sad. I also don't believe in a

public exit strategy because then the terrorists that now occupy Iraq (they weren't there prior to the invasion in 2003) would better prepare them to destroy the country. What we need to do is put all the politics aside, come out with the truth on how the progress is going and get U.N. peacekeepers in Iraq to take over.

Leaving Iraq right away would be a mistake...Anyone remember Saigon during the Vietnam War? The same thing could happen if we left Iraq right away.

## Media continues to comment on the way Aruba is handling Holloway case

BY SARAH HERBERT  
Beacon Features Editor

On Nov. 6, 2005 NBC broadcasted a special two-hour episode of *Law & Order: Criminal Intent*. For at least a week before the show aired, the network ran commercials chock full of teasers stating the story line was "ripped from the headlines." I just knew what it was going to be about: Natalee Holloway.

I couldn't have been more right. Not only was the episode "ripped from the headlines," but it seems like it was pasted into the script. The similarities were alarming and the differences almost too subtle to be seen.

The basic plot of this episode was that a high school aged girl from Iowa was on a school trip to New York City and disappeared the night before she was to return home. The actress chosen to play this girl just happened to be fair-skinned and blonde. Coincidence? Probably not, and it gets even better.

The first suspects the police take into custody are two boys who swear they are innocent. Sounds a lot like the Kalpoe brothers to me. It turns out these two really were innocent. I'm not so sure this is the truth for Deepak and Satish, but the similarities in the facts were still there.

The next suspect they arrested was a young, arrogant man with a huge gambling problem and enough stupidity to broadcast his social life on his personal blog. In my opinion this character was screaming Joran van der Sloot. Turns out his mother was overprotective of him, and his father was a judge. Still not convinced that this character



Courtesy of abc.com

The story of Natalee Holloway, who has been missing for over six months, was recently reenacted in an episode of *Law & Order: Criminal Intent*. The American media seems to be commenting on the inefficiency of Aruba law enforcement, as the episode ended with a resolution and the discovery of the character's body.

was based on the younger van der Sloot?

If you have been following the Holloway case at all, it's no secret that there has been a great deal of controversy over van der Sloot's judge father Paulus's involvement in the alleged crime. Especially concerning the older van der Sloot telling his son "no body, no case." Well wouldn't you know that the judge father's character on *Law & Order: Criminal Intent* said the exact same thing to his son. Needless to say, my jaw hit the floor.

At this point I couldn't wait to see the end of the episode. It's obvious that NBC, or even the American media as a whole, is trying to say something about the case. This

media commentary in the form of one of the most popular shows on TV fascinated me.

However, I wasn't let down. The *Law & Order* team certainly did their homework on the Holloway case. At one point, the investigators uncovered a photo of the suspect posing with a friend. In the photo he had his belt tied around his friend's neck in a leash-like fashion. Coincidentally (or maybe not so coincidentally) the same type of photo was discovered on one of van der Sloot's blogs. That detail is something only the most well-informed would know.

Alright, so it probably seems like I am just giving a recap of the episode. However, I don't think I can prove my point without first offering this background information.

The similarities between the show and the real life case are so alarming I expected there to be no end, as Natalee has not yet been found. On the contrary, the *Law & Order* team was able to uncover the young girl's drugged, raped and strangled body in a pond, of all places.

In my opinion this episode was designed by NBC to speak out against Aruba authorities. Officials in Aruba have been reluctant to communicate with the FBI or the American media from the very beginning.

It doesn't even seem like they are trying to solve the case.

Perhaps NBC was saying if this happened in the United States the case would have been solved months ago. In fact, many people feel this way about the case and in turn angered Arubans for criticizing the abilities of their officials.

All in all, I'm pleased with the attention that the media is giving this case. I do indeed feel that if this had happened in the U.S., the FBI would have found the body or at least some evidence.

Furthermore, the FBI would never have allowed so much time to elapse before investigating the last people she was seen with. Unfortunately Aruba officials have made so many mistakes in this case, the little evidence they do have isn't worth much.

If at all possible, the politicians governing that island are even more nauseating than the ones we have here in the United States. They don't want to communicate, and they certainly don't want to utilize the manpower to find this girl.

I wish for Natalee's sake, as well as the entire Holloway-Twitty family, that the police in Aruba realize the importance to find this girl. Unfortunately, it's not a television series, and there isn't a clean resolution at the end of an hour-long episode. Hopefully, that clean resolution will come someday soon.



# FEATURES

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## Despite no club status, WISE UP thrives

*Feminist group aims to raise awareness of issues*

BY MEAGAN BROWN  
Beacon Staff Writer

The F word. No, not *that* one.  
Feminist.

Too often, the word "feminist" carries negative connotations among today's users. However, WISE UP, a new feminist group on campus, is aiming to change that perception.

WISE UP, which stands for Women's Interest Society Empowering the University Population, formed as a group for both women and men to meet and discuss women's issues.

The group recently requested club status from Student Government, but was denied for lack of organization.

Shannon Curtin, sophomore English major and president of WISE UP, said, "We didn't really understand why we were denied. We are having an SG member come to talk to us about it. I guess they wanted us to hold more activities. But, they were very encouraging to have us propose our club again. We need to get more members, and a better view toward what we want to accomplish."

Currently, WISE UP members still meet in an attempt to encourage more interest. Meetings usually draw 15 to 16 people consistently, with more people expressing



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

**WISE UP, Women's Interest Society Empowering the University Population, conducts one of their weekly meetings on Monday. Group members Conrad Miller, Angelina Teutonico, Nicole Leader, and Shannon Curtin discuss activities, upcoming speakers, and women's rights. Meetings are held on Mondays at 5 p.m. in Breiseth Hall.**

an interest to join.

Junior English major and new member Conrad Miller said he came to the meeting because it aligned with his personal views. "I consider myself to be a feminist. I remember going to *The Vagina Monologues* last year. It [feminism] has been brought up in classes and among friends," he said.

WISE UP members are currently planning a conference next spring. The conference will focus on area schools and bring in a variety of speakers.

"We'll be bringing in outside speakers and speakers from Wilkes to talk about women's issues and try to bring more awareness to issues on campus," said Curtin.

WISE UP was formed when Curtin and faculty advisor, Theresa Kintz, director of the Women's Studies minor and assistant professor of anthropology and sociology, were in a class together. A class, taught by Ms. Kintz, was the inspiration for the group.

Kintz said that the group is interested in deep issues relating to women. "The students in WISE UP are interested in what feminism means to different people. They want to reflect on those power relationships," she said.

Conrad Miller said he joined because he had seen what feminism meant to other people. "I have more guy friends than girl friends and feminism has been brought up, but always with negativity. Unfortunately, the word has harsh connotations," he said.

In the interest of feminism, WISE UP members also hope to bring the Guerilla Girls to Wilkes.

The group, which produces theatrical events and propaganda, is interested in women's rights as they relate to the arts. The women, who will come to campus for a full day, will perform in gorilla masks that they will not take off.

WISE UP meets every Monday at 5 p.m. on the third floor of Breiseth in the Faculty Lounge. Anyone interested can attend.

Beacon staff writer Meagan Brown was curious about what Wilkes students are thinking. Here is what she found out.

## Tell Us... What was the worst holiday gift you have ever received?



**Kristina Johnson-** freshman, nursing major

"Socks, but at least they were cute."



**Salman Puneekar-** junior, business administration major

"I got one dress sock. I guess it was a joke."



**Krishna Kinariwala-** freshman, pre-pharmacy

"I got encyclopedias once as a major present."



**Cassie Sailus-** junior, biology major

"I would have to say a flip-flop keychain in the middle of winter."



# Clearing up the coffee confusion on campus

## *Students' opinions vary when it comes to java*

BY ERICA LEO  
Beacon Staff Writer

For students who tend to pull late nights, have early morning classes, or just like the taste, coffee can be a very important part of the daily routine.

Luckily, Wilkes University's Medallion Dining, provided by Sodexo Campus Services, sympathizes with students' need for caffeine and provides several convenient sites on campus where everyone's favorite early morning elixir can be obtained.

Specifically, Sodexo offers three on-campus locations that provide students with three different coffee brands along with a variety of their flavorful concoctions.

So why three separate on-campus sites that sell three different brands of coffee?

"Mostly it is for variety," said Mike Raub, Retail Manager of Wilkes' Sodexo Campus Services.

"By offering three different kinds we're able to pretty much please everybody with the kind of coffee they like to drink," he added.

Also, because Sodexo has three separate coffee vendors, the decision about which brand of coffee goes where depends on what coffee appeals to whom and also the number of flavors that are offered.

Seattle's Best brand can be found in Rifkin Café because it offers several different flavors including "Henry's Blend", Colombian, and even Cinnabon coffees.

"Seattle's Best is in Rifkin Café generally because it has all different levels of flavor that could appeal to more people," said Raub.

Sodexo decided to put a Starbucks vendor on the first floor of the Stark Learning Center because, although the brand is still a favorite among students, it does not offer a lot of different flavors but can accommodate those who have classes in or around the building.

The third brand of coffee on campus is Green Mountain which can be purchased in the cafeteria on the third floor of the SUB.

Like Starbucks, Green Mountain does not offer a large variety of flavors but is still one of the most popular retail brands.

Green Mountain also offers a special "perk" for patrons. The company is Fair Trade Certified and offers Latin American, Asian, and African coffee farmers a fair price on their product so they can afford to feed their families and pay for schooling for their children.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Green Mountain coffee, a fair-trade beverage, is served exclusively in the cafeteria on the third floor of Henry Student Center. This is the coffee of choice for politically conscious students as well as those who just enjoy the mild taste of the java. While Green Mountain doesn't offer as many flavored blends as its competitors, it is the only brand to offer an organic blend.

So which brand is the most popular on campus?

"They're all pretty close" said Raub.

Raub added that Green Mountain brand probably sells the most in volume because of the large number of students who eat in the cafeteria, but that does not necessarily mean that it is the favorite.

"Just from conversation on campus I hear the Seattle's Best brand compared to Starbucks is better because of the flavor. Starbucks has a tendency to have a stronger,

bolder flavor and not a lot of students like that," said Raub.

Megan O'Brien, senior sociology major, is a Seattle's Best fan and agrees that this brand is the most popular on campus.

"I think the flavor is better than the other kinds and there are more options," said O'Brien.

Despite the numerous on-campus sites where coffee can be obtained, for commuters it is sometimes easier to stop for a cup on the way to school and head right to class.

Erin Mangan, senior communication studies major, is a commuter and finds it easier to get her coffee in transit.



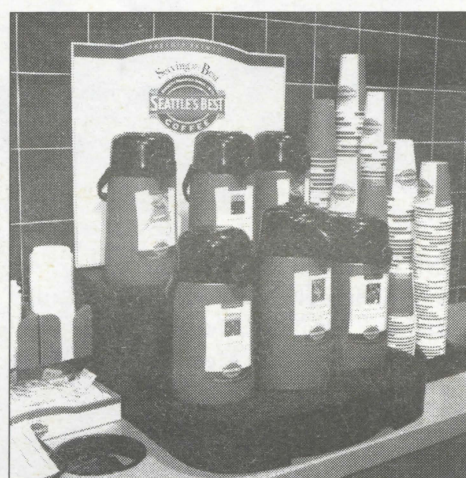
The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Starbucks, which is arguably the most popular coffee in the country, is served in the lobby of the Stark Learning Center. Starbucks offers a stronger, bolder flavor than the other two brands that are offered on campus. Despite being popular nationwide, Starbucks was voted least favorite in a survey conducted by *The Beacon*. The popular coffee house chain is not limited to the United States and can be found in countries such as Japan, Germany, Australia, Turkey and Spain just to name a few.

"It's more convenient for me," said Mangan.

Taste is also an issue for Mangan, who prefers Dunkin Donuts coffee to the brands offered on campus.

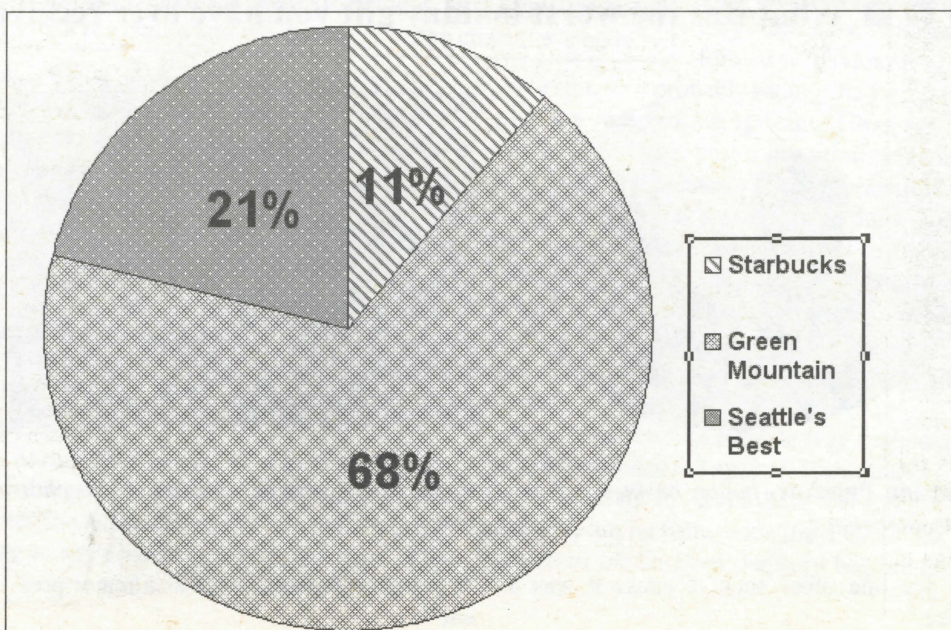
"Dunkin Donuts is my favorite coffee so if I do have time in the morning, I will go there."



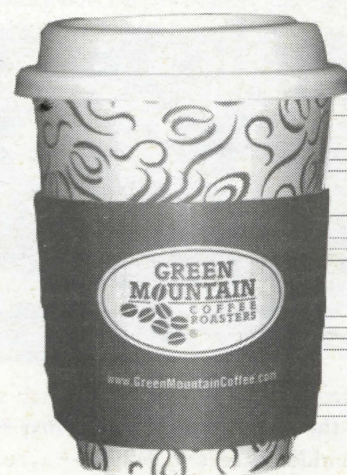
The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Seattle's Best coffee is served in Rifkin Café on the first floor of the Henry Student Center. This brand has the best variety in flavor, which includes Cinnabon and vanilla as well as special blends like Colombian, mild and strong roasts.

*The Beacon* conducted a random survey of 100 Wilkes students, faculty and staff to see what brand is favored on campus.



And the winner is...



**Green Mountain**



# Wilkes students lend hand in community

BY ASHLEY AMBIRGE  
Beacon Correspondent

Batman was the superhero of Gotham City, Spiderman in New York and Superman of Metropolis, but it's Wilkes University students taking on the role at the First United Methodist Church.

Though they may lack any stereotypical superhero powers, like x-ray vision or super-human strength, some Wilkes students are helping to make a difference in another

way. By using the power of kindness, they are eliciting smiles from many of the less fortunate in Wilkes-Barre city. Although not quite comic book status yet, the students certainly are valued volunteers at the Crossroads Coffeehouse each Wednesday evening from 7 to 9 p.m.

The Crossroads Coffeehouse is not a typical coffeehouse; rather it is a warm place to go for a warm meal and fellowship. "The name is a bit deceptive; it isn't exactly a coffeehouse--we do serve coffee--but the big thing is that we serve dinner. Most of the people who come in are homeless or extremely poor, and they don't get good meals very often," said Catherine Simone, a regular Wilkes student volunteer.

More than just an average soup kitchen, volunteers have a larger goal in mind. Ann Loyek, coordinator for community service noted, "Yes, we help them serve food and clean it up, but one of our more important roles is to just talk with the people that are there."

Upon entering through the back of the church, in plain view is the social hall in which the coffeehouse takes place once a week. Attached is a kitchen where food is prepared, with a counter that serves up meals including spaghetti, salads, hot dogs, cookies and even pies around the holidays. A hot cup

of coffee is always available and patrons are always guaranteed a good meal; there's no limit on seconds.

The Crossroads Coffeehouse began several years ago by members of the church and has thrived due in part to help from both King's and Wilkes' students. "They look to college students to bring an atmosphere to it...to play the guitar, sing, play cards with them...get to know them," said Loyek.

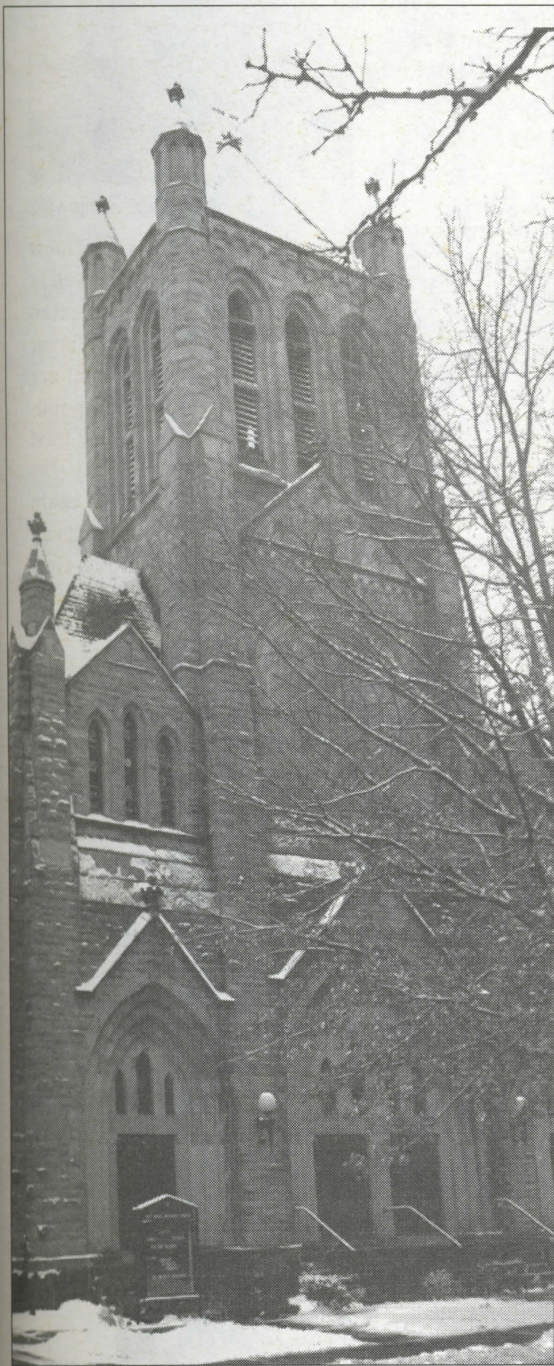
Yet beyond doing the people a service, students seem to get something from it as well. "Going is a bit of a stress reliever for me because I get away from all the school work that I have to worry about and focus on what other people need instead," said Simone.

Sophomore Nicole Leader also regularly

volunteers and stated, "It's like you have a date with these people every week. They expect you to be there."

Transportation to the First United Methodist Church does not pose a problem, considering its location is close to campus on North Franklin Street. But if a club or large group of students is interested in volunteering, a ride can be easily arranged.

On December 7, a group of students will go and spread some holiday cheer by singing Christmas carols and playing music. If interested in participating on that date or any other, contact Ann Loyek at extension 5905. "It's about atmosphere. It's about relationships. Yes, we serve good food, but we bring so much more than that," said Loyek. The coffeehouse is held each Wednesday.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

First United Methodist Church, which serves as the home for the Crossroads Coffeehouse is located on North Franklin Street in Wilkes-Barre. Local college students gather here on Wednesday evenings to socialize with those in need.

## Students enjoy winter wonderland



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

A few Wilkes students took advantage of a snowy Sunday to engage in an afternoon snowball fight on the Greenway. After a seemingly endless stream of warm November days, snow finally began falling on Friday evening and continued throughout the weekend.

Just the  
**FACTS** **COLLEGE**  
**DRINKING**  
**CONSEQUENCES**

Drunk Driving: 2.1 million students between the ages of 18 and 24 drove under the influence of alcohol last year.

(Hingson et al., 2002)

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## Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire to top Christmas box office list this holiday season

BY MEAGAN BROWN  
Beacon Staff Writer

Christmas presents aren't the only boxes worth opening this holiday season. The jolly movie giants are also lighting up the box office with what they hope will be holiday hits. The Beacon recommends *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*.

There are two kinds of people in this world. The first kind loves the Harry Potter series, movies, toys, posters, etc. The second kind loathes the mention of the Boy Who Lived and the movies that follow. The newest cinematic installment of the J.K. Rowling series panders to both.

*Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, the fourth of the projected seven novels and movies by the popular British author, is a master work of special effects and drama driven plot. Even though the movies have been rushed to keep up with the novel series and popular demand, the quality has been better with each movie.

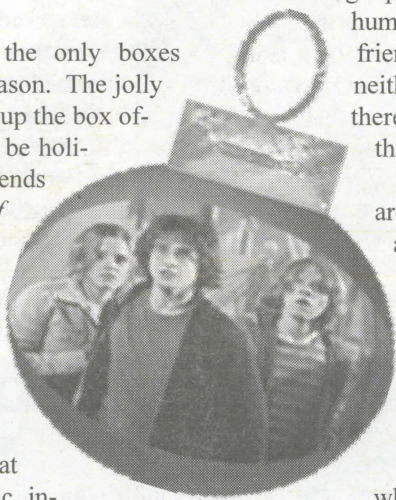
In this movie, Harry faces some of his worst fears. There is death, dragons, mer-people (who aren't as nice as fairy tales would have us think) and Harry's worst nightmare comes true. This definitely isn't the movie for the typical young Potter fan.

The most memorable scenes of the movie are those with special effects. A six foot boy is turned into a ferret before the viewers' eyes. Harry is chased by a Hungarian Horntail (a particularly nasty type of dragon), and Quidditch, the wizard sport, no longer looks like a video game. The effects helped to make the movie better than the past ones, for the images were sharper, the effects looked real, and they added to the plot, which in past movies hasn't been the case.

The plot of this movie is really what makes it so spectacular. The

little kids from the first installments are growing up and showing signs of true human emotion. Romance and friendship play a huge part, and neither is particularly rosy. Yet, there are some points of the movie that drag on.

These are the scenes that are way too long for comfort and have little to no action. Thankfully, these scenes are few and far between. In this fourth installment, it becomes clear, sometimes painfully clear, that Harry and his friends have moved from being the naïve children who liked to dabble in spells to angst, and hormone, ridden adolescents. Grade: A-



### Beacon Top Ten Holiday Movie List

10. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
9. Miracle on 34th Street
8. Muppet Christmas Carol
7. A Charlie Brown Christmas
6. It's a Wonderful Life
5. The Santa Clause
4. A Christmas Story
3. Home Alone
2. Elf
1. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation

## Ghosts of Holiday Movie Past

BY ALISON SHERRY AND DONNA TALARICO  
Beacon Staff Writer and Beacon A&E Editor

While many will flock to the theaters to see some of the hottest hits of the year over the holiday seasons, others may opt to rent or catch a television broadcast of a classic. Here are some recommendations:

*It's A Wonderful Life* has holiday season tradition written all over it. In my hometown of Tunkhannock, I have the distinct pleasure every Christmas to watch a viewing of *It's A Wonderful Life* in the local movie theater, where it is shown for free with free popcorn. It has now become a tradition for my friends and I every year. How many people can say they've seen a 1946 movie in a theater today? The story focuses on the life of George Bailey (James Stewart) who had big dreams of breaking out of his small town of Bedford Falls and traveling the world. Suddenly, life happens, and he finds himself sacrificing everything for the good of his town. On Christmas Eve, George finds himself eight thousand dollars in debt and wishing he had never been born. It is up to his guardian angel, Clarence (Henry Travers), to help George realize what life would be like without him. You will laugh, cry and even come to appreciate life. Because let's face it...it really is wonderful. -AS



Courtesy Crazy4Movies.com

*Home Alone*-Who can forget infamous Kevin McCallister (played by Macaulay Culkin), the best house defender in the world? When he put his hands to his face and screamed, he instantly began a holiday phenomenon. The movie raked in over \$533 million internationally, and launched Macaulay Culkin as the highest paid child actor in history. *Home Alone* clearly is and always will be a comical holiday favorite. Eight-year-old Kevin McCallister is accidentally left at home when his very large family hurries off to catch a plane to spend the holidays in France. Once alone, Kevin realizes he gets to do all the things he never would have been able to do if his family were there. Life is good for a while, but then he realizes that two burglars, Harry and Marv (Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern) are plotting to rob his house. So begins a series of hilarious antics to show the burglars who's boss. -AS

*Miracle on 34th Street*- The holidays are a time to believe in miracles, whether it is praying that Santa Claus is real or that you don't have to pay full price on any presents. *Miracle on 34th Street* is definitely a movie that makes us believe that miracles can happen. It seems silly for any college student to believe in Santa Claus, but you will find yourself rooting for Kris Kringle as he proves that he is the real Santa Claus. The 1947 classic stars young Natalie Wood as Susan, a six-year-old who already knows the cold hard truth about Santa Claus from her mother. Needless to say, Susan doesn't expect to receive the most important gifts on her list. That is until a special department store Santa Claus, who calls himself Kris Kringle, begins to make Susan have doubts. There are also doubts from the rest of the city about Kris's sanity, and he is sent to an asylum for the insane. When a nice young lawyer, Fred Gailey decides to defend his good friend, they set out to show the world...even little Susan and her mother...that Santa Claus really does exist and he exists in the person of Kris Kringle. So for one day, just forget what you already know, revisit your childhood, and root for the belief in Santa Claus...nothing will get you into the spirit more. -AS



Courtesy Crazy4Movies.com

See MOVIES page 15



# The 1...2...3...to Winter Fashions

## For Girls and Guys

BY MEGAN MANCE AND MYLES RUMBEL  
Beacon Correspondant and Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

The weather forecasters are calling for another frigid day. While it's important to look good, it's also important to avoid frostbite. If you follow the 1...2...3's of fashion, you can be both warm and fashionable this winter.

### Guys...

1. A trend that's still going strong - the worn jeans.

They are still around and still available everywhere. As the Armani Exchange site boasts, "These jeans have all the elements of your oldest and coolest pair that took you a lifetime to create." These jeans are great. Now you can't actually wear a pair of jeans forever and then think they are in style, because those jeans just look... well old. However, with these jeans, if they tear more, or if you splatter paint on them, all the better - you just made them your own.

2. For the top, sweaters are all the rage. The argyle, V-necks are especially popular this year. Not only are they stylish, but they are comfortable as well. "This lightweight cotton sweater keeps you comfortable all day long," claims the American Eagle website. For a little extra warmth, add a tee underneath that is just a little longer than the sweater, or layer the sweater over a button-down shirt - leaving the collar out of course. Not only will you be warm, but it'll up your style points too.

3. Now, for the ultimate warmth, you are going to want to go with the biggest trend this season - fur. Animal lovers fear not, this year faux fur is getting its fifteen minutes of fame. Jackets are sporting faux fur as both linings and for decorative touches. And if you watch, you can see a mix

between the worn jeans and faux fur jackets. Items such as Abercrombie's "Floodwood Pond Deck Jacket" have the warm feel of fur and that worn in look of season

### Girls...

1. For a walk in the snow, you can keep your tootsies warm with a fashionable pair of sweater boots. Literally, they look like a sweater wrapped around your feet.

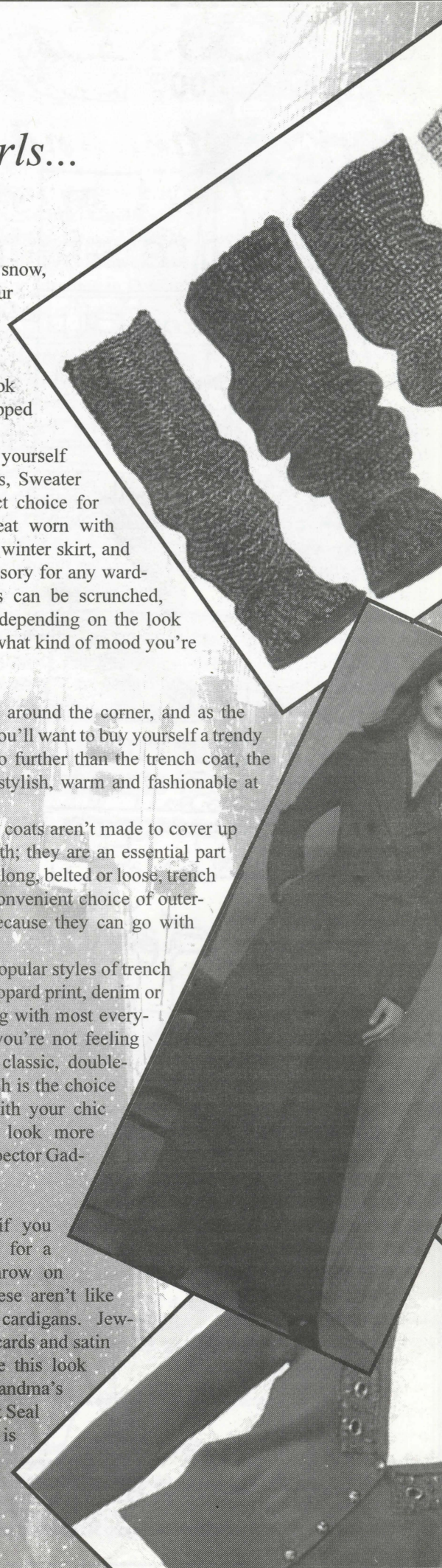
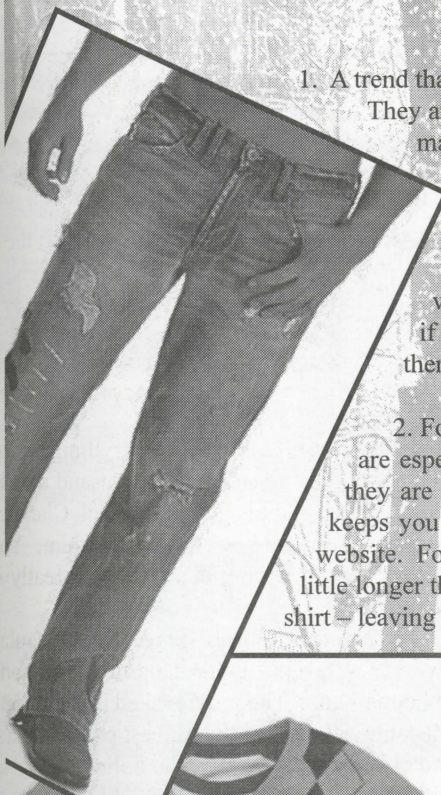
If you can't bring yourself to wear leg warmers, Sweater boots are the perfect choice for you. They look great worn with pants or even a nice winter skirt, and are the perfect accessory for any wardrobe. Sweater boots can be scrunched, rolled or extended, depending on the look you're going for or what kind of mood you're in.

2. Winter is right around the corner, and as the temperature drops, you'll want to buy yourself a trendy winter coat. Look no further than the trench coat, the easiest way to stay stylish, warm and fashionable at the same time.

These days, trench coats aren't made to cover up your outfit underneath; they are an essential part of your outfit. Short, long, belted or loose, trench coats are the most convenient choice of outerwear for women, because they can go with just about anything.

The newer, more popular styles of trench coats this year are leopard print, denim or satin, which go along with most everything. However, if you're not feeling risky quite yet, the classic, double-breasted belted trench is the choice for you. Ladies, with your chic trench coat, you'll look more fashionable than Inspector Gadget ever did!

3. And ladies, if you aren't in the mood for a trench coat, just throw on a cardigan. No, these aren't like your grandmother's cardigans. Jeweled cards, cropped cards and satin trimmed cards make this look much better than grandma's old sweaters. As Wet Seal says, "This cardigan is a must have for the holidays."







cool, I brought  
up a few  
left overs too



## Students, staff and faculty to cook for a cause at 'Taste of Wilkes'

BY DONNA TALARICO

Beacon A&E Editor

Sure, they can brew up a mean syllabus, but ever wonder if your professor is a good cook?

The 13th annual Taste of Wilkes will be held tomorrow from noon until 1:00 p.m. in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. Attendees can sample the menu of concoctions from new and returning Wilkes University 'chefs,' including simple dishes, appetizers, desserts and hors d'oeuvres.

According to Ann Loyek, coordinator of community service at Wilkes, once you hear the menu the event becomes irresistible.

"The food definitely takes center-stage, and we all look forward to those returning favorites such as Doug Lynch's Lasagna, Jane Jeffrey's Banana Split Cake, Christine O'Hara's Warm Artichoke Dip and Romaine Szafran's Heavenly Halushki. This year, we have newcomers, with Mark Carpentier's Chicken Enchilada Dip, and Megan Boone's 'Cuss Like a Sailor' Spinach Dip, named because it's that good!"

Loyek also added the student involvement is greater this year than in the past, adding that work-study stu-

dent sophomore Nicole Leader, who has coordinated much of the behind-the-scenes planning, will contribute her mom's deviled eggs recipe.

"It's so much food, so much fun. You get to eat for an hour. Everyone has their own special thing and you get to have homemade food, which we don't usually get," said Leader.

Student chefs also include Rob Tonnessen, Frank Velez, Melissa Bracone, Kristen Potsko and Becca Schaal.

Also, an auction will be held for gift certificates donated by local stores and restaurants such as Woodhouse Day Spa, Michael Mootz Candies and Barnes and Noble. All proceeds for both admission and the auction will benefit the United Way of the Wyoming Valley, which supports local organizations such as the American Red Cross, YMCA, Head Start, VISION, Victims Resource Center and Children's Service Center.

Admission is a donation of \$6, with students entering for \$3. Clubs with five or more will receive discounted admission, and chefs will get in for free.

## Sounds of the season from VPA

Since the holidays have entered our minds, hearts, and souls, it seems that music has as well. Throughout the month of December, just in time for "happy holidays," there will be all sorts of musical performances happening on an around campus:

-Tuesday at 6:00p.m.- Voice Recital with the students of Susan Minsavage, Gies Hall, Dart Center

-Thursday at 8:00p.m.- Faculty recital with Rebecca Simon-Brown and Mary Ellen Flint, Kirby Hall

-Friday at 7:00p.m.- Studio recital- Musical Trends in the 20th Century, Kirby Hall

-Sunday at 4:00p.m.- Choral Chamber Singers concert at St. Stephen's Church on South Franklin Street.

So, the air is filled with all the joys of music that you could ever want to hear. It's a little something sweet for the ears instead of the mouth for a change.

-Jaclyn Francese

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BY DONNA TALARICO  
Beacon A&E Editor

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## A&E Profile: Comedian Joe Ohrin

BY DONNA TALARICO  
Beacon A&E Editor

Joe Ohrin, 38, of Wilkes-Barre has been laughing at and impersonating comedy great George Carlin since he was a kid. Now a polished comedian, Ohrin performs both locally and in neighboring New York and New Jersey. And, some of his jokes are used by someone quite famous... read on to find out who, in this recent online correspondence with the NEPA funny man.

**The Beacon:** What is your first memory of wanting to make people laugh?

**Ohrin:** When I was a kid, I would walk around doing bits from George Carlin. The clean stuff was all that I heard. I would do the jumbo shrimp routine, waffle iron, etc. I felt funny as a youngster but I was also shy. It took a lot to get me going.

**The Beacon:** Where was your first public appearance?

**Ohrin:** My first public show was an open mic night at a bar called Trax in Edwardsville. It's since remodeled as Shanix. There were mostly musicians, but my friend really encouraged me, so I worked up about three minutes of material and gave it a shot. Some stuff got laughs, some didn't, but the crowd was friendly. I did that a few times and then did some coffee houses at King's College while attending. I moved to New York to work in the music business and would do comedy on the side, open mics on Long Island and the city.

**The Beacon:** You are married correct? I saw the announcement. So-since you are cohabitating-have you gotten any new material? (Read: what dumb thing has your woman done that made it to the stage...)

**Ohrin:** Yes, I'm married, and that has brought a slew of material. She sometimes makes fun of me to her friends at work when I do something dumb. But when she goofs up, it gets played out on stage to hundreds of people at a time! You want commitment, you got it! "I am committed to embarrassing you publicly, for the sake of humor!"

**The Beacon:** Where do you perform?

**Ohrin:** Locally, I have performed at the FM Kirby Center which is awesome, Lackawanna County Stadium opening for Beatlemania, and otherwise at clubs in New York such as Dangerfield's, and Stand-Up NY, also Coconuts in Florida and The Comedy Store in Hollywood, California. I don't do as much far traveling as I used to. I stay mostly in the local, Philly, Jersey, New York area. I perform at Wisecrackers a lot, www.wisecrackers.biz. (free plug) It's cool having a bunch

of great comedy rooms so close to home. They are in Wilkes-Barre, Scranton at the Clarion Hotel and State College. They also do occasional shows in various places for fundraisers, etc.

**The Beacon:** Talk about bright lights, big city, man! You have written for Leno and 'starred' in *A Beautiful Mind* with Russell Crowe-tell me what it's like to see your words come out of a late night show hosts mouth- and hear America laugh. And what was it like having being a bit part player on a major motion picture?

**Ohrin:** Yes, I contribute jokes to *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*. That feels absolutely awesome. When the biggest comedian on the most famous show thinks enough of your jokes to tell them to 200 million people, it's a huge compliment and a terrific rush.

I had a small part in *A Beautiful Mind*, but unfortunately it was mostly cut out. I was sitting on a bench at Princeton University in the scene playing a board game with a guy when Russell and Ed Harris walk in behind us, stand and chat. Then we get up and they take our bench. They shot us for about two hours and in between takes Russell Crowe is talking to me about how much he likes Willie Nelson, Ed Harris is patting me on the shoulder and then the director comes over. He says, "Okay, Joe. Here's what I'd like you to do now." The director was Ron Howard, and I'm thinking, "Richie Cunningham knows my name!" He was cool and came back into the scene a few times to direct me in different ways. That was a good day! I also did some work on an indie film with Molly Ringwald. She was fun, too.

**The Beacon:** What is your favorite type of comedy?

**Ohrin:** My favorite type of comedy is semi-intelligent...George Carlin is my fave. I'm not much into *Dumb and Dumber* stuff.

**The Beacon:** Say something funny about downtown Wilkes-Barre.

**Ohrin:** In the spring, the farmers market opens on the square, they sell food, art and turn on the fountain. Then the mayor passes a law that says "bathing in the fountain is prohibited" Has he seen the people ON public Square? Bathing should be required!

**The Beacon:** Say something funny about me.

**Ohrin:** I know because you're blonde, you can't read fast, so I wrote my comments r-e-a-l-l-y s-l-o-w-l-y!!!



Courtesy Wisecrackers

### MOVIES from page 12

**Scrooged-** In this 1988 comedic play on Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, Bill Murray plays a stereotypical cold-hearted and cynical TV executive Frank Cross. His network is preparing to air a live version of the famous Christmas tale and meanwhile, his selfish antics are taking a toll on his employees and loved ones. He is visited by the ghost of Christmas past, present and future, each showing him how he should change. This is a classic storyline with a twist of comedy and a very memorable appearance from Carol Kane. -DT

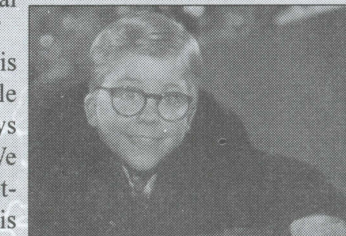
**National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation-** Chevy Chase and Beverly DeAngelo are back as Clark and Helen Griswald- and as usual- the kids are different actors and different ages. But, instead of trekking across the country or jetsetting to Europe, the funny family decides to stay home. From Audrey turning blue while Christmas tree hunting, a destroyed turkey, a wrapped cat from an Alzheimer-patient aunt, rodents, a memorable speech from Chase to his selfish boss, a Christmas bonus check and dreams of a pool, this movie has plenty of antics to put a potty-break on hold. Randy Quaid steals the show, as in all of the Lampoon's movies, as redneck Cousin Eddie. By chance, if you haven't seen this hysterical movie, do. It may be the best present you give yourself. -DT

**A Christmas Story-** All little Ralphie wants for Christmas is a Red Rider bee-bee gun. The movie follows Ralphie, his little brother Randy, his endearing mom and cussing father, the days before Christmas. Will Ralphie get his Christmas wish? We nearly forget the plot as we follow Ralphie and his gang getting chased by a yellow-eyed school bully, his pal getting his tongue stuck to a pole on a triple-dog-dare, his father winning a 'leg lamp,' Randy 'eating like a piggy' and plenty more. Almost as funny as Lampoon's, this goes down in Christmas comedy history. You'll be reciting lines for days following: "Ho-Ho-Ho," "You'll shoot your eye out," and "Oh Fudge!" -DT

These feel-good and funny holiday classics are perfect for that, and just as much a staple as a tree and egg nog. Watch a few, or watch them all.



Courtesy IMBD.com



Courtesy Yahoo! Movies

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## COMMENTARY

## Good call, Andy Reid

*Ryan gives a tip of the hat to the coach that fought a superego and won*

BY RYAN DIPPRE  
Beacon Sports Editor

Now that the arbitration is over, and Eagles receiver Terrell Owens is off the field for certain, it is time to look back on this whole disastrous incident and applaud the man who proved to fans around the country that pro football isn't entirely a greed-driven, immediate-results business: Eagles head coach Andy Reid.

In truth, Owens acted in a manner that would have caused him to be cut from any team long ago if it weren't for his talent. He insulted all-pro quarterback Donovan McNabb, chastised offensive coordinator Brad Childress, and picked a fight with for-

mer teammate Hugh Douglas (but not before getting proper fighting footwear from his locker, proving once and for all that he would make a poor McGuyver).

Of course, he kicked off this series of antics by holding out for more money at the start of camp. After so effectively proving himself to be such a malignant cancer to the team, any coach would be crazy not to get him off of the roster...if it weren't for his talent.

And therein lies the rub. Take away the holdouts, take away the well-planned fist-fights, take away my personal belief that T.O. is just trying to out-fine Randy Moss, and what is left is one of the best receivers in the league today. Owens didn't earn

five straight pro bowl invitations by chance, and his 101 touchdowns didn't happen by accident. Whatever his mental state, T.O. is an established star capable of turning the momentum of the game by himself.

This sort of talent is exactly what the Eagles could use right now. Several starters are on the sideline with injury, most importantly Donovan McNabb, and the Eagles have been having trouble winning the close games. Great players know when to take the game into their own hands, and when T.O. does it, the Eagles usually end up winning the game. Even if he doesn't catch a pass, other teams are forced to spread themselves thinner by respecting the threat that he poses.

If T.O. were back in the lineup, the Eagles might have another win or two. Andy Reid knows better, though. Just as he did during his first year at the helm--when he kept McNabb on the bench in favor of Doug Peterson--Reid is looking to the future. His goal isn't to have a good season; it's to win a Super Bowl. Maybe that won't be accomplished in 2005, but the groundwork will be laid for future seasons. With a talented squad and strong support from the Eagles' institution, Reid can look at the big picture.

Good call, Andy Reid. If other coaches in the league had that much vision, there might be more than a handful of teams in the NFL worth watching.



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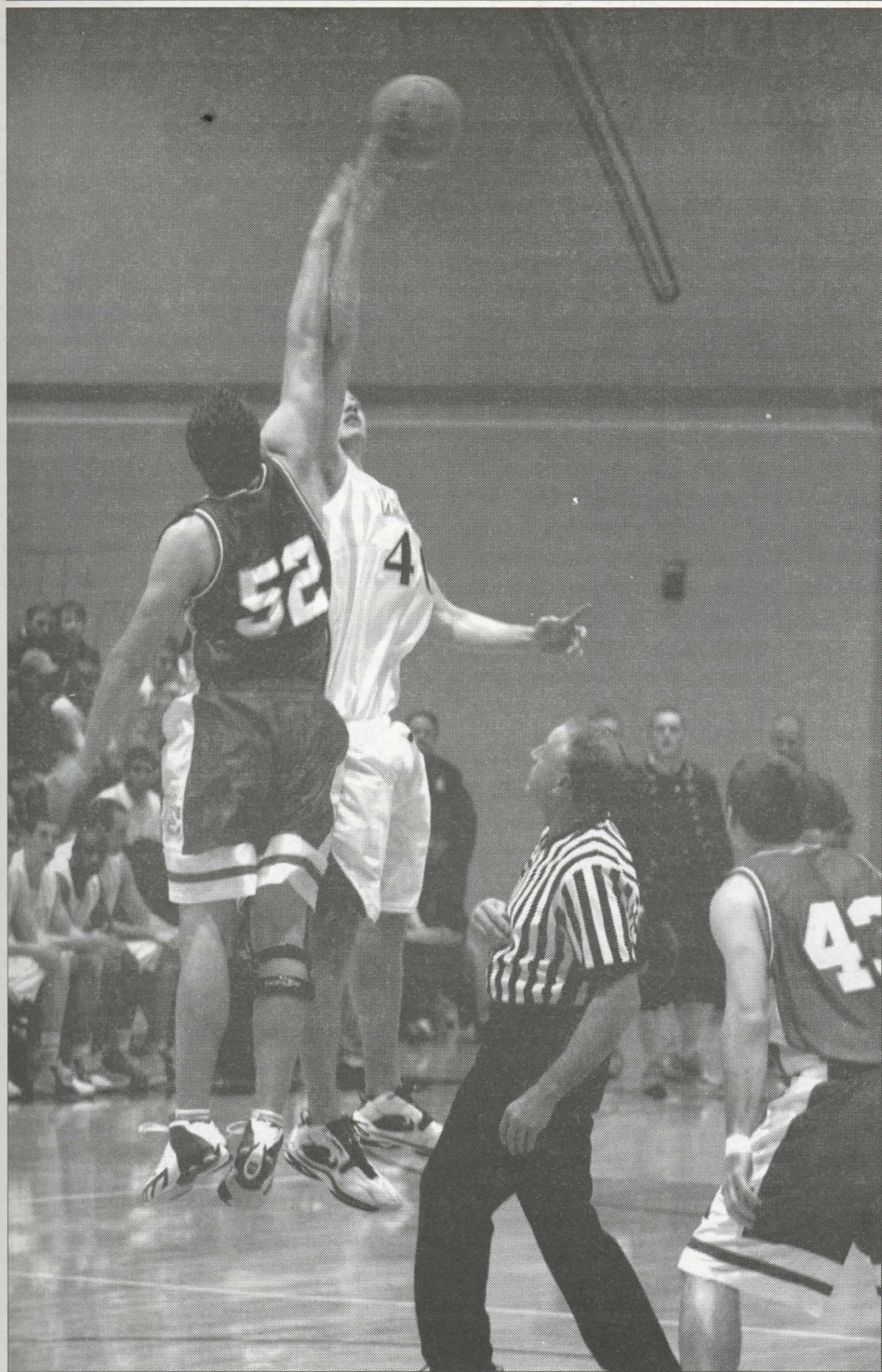
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The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Senior Center Evan Walters (right) fights for the tip-off against John Soboleski from King's on November 30. Chris Shovlin hit a three-pointer with seventeen seconds left to force overtime, and the Colonels took control to win 77-76. Walters posted 23 points in the game, while Shovlin scored 22. Michael Constantine also chipped in with eleven points. The win over the defending Freedom Conference champs gave the Colonels a 1-0 record to start conference play. The Colonels moved to 4-1 overall and 2-0 in the conference after posting a 71-68 victory over DeSales University on Saturday. Wilkes will travel to Immaculata on December 7 to face off against the Mighty Macs. Immaculata is currently 0-6 overall, with an 0-3 record in the Pennsylvania Athletic Conference. Tip-off will be at 8pm.

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## Fields of Dreams: Did you know?

BY NICK PODOLAK  
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

Sometimes a physical playing field can be overlooked in the thrill of the game, but for some fields, a whole lot of history can be missed. For example, did you know that Wilkes' own Artillery Park has a few famous connections? We take a look at some of these connections and other fun facts about the playing fields at Wilkes this week.

Babe Ruth hit the longest homerun of his career at Wilkes' very own Artillery Park. After losing the 1926 World Series against the St. Louis Cardinals, the Babe returned to Wilkes-Barre two days later and smacked a shot estimated to have traveled over 600 feet.\*

Remember the commercial where the Kansas City Chiefs groundskeeper accidentally spells "Chefs" in the end zone. That was Edwardsville's very own George Toma. Toma got his start as head groundskeeper at Artillery Park before moving on to be the head groundskeeper for the Kansas City Chiefs. He has also been in charge of the grounds for 39 Super Bowls and count-

ing.#

Ralston Field was named after the school's first football coach and athletic director, George Ralston. The field opened September 25, 1965.

### Pop Quiz:

- 1) George Toma's nickname is:
  - a) "The Marque de Sod"
  - b) "Sod God"
  - c) "King of the Grass"
- 2) Which historic home run did the Babe hit before his shot at Artillery Park?
  - a) The "called" shot at Wrigley Field
  - b) The homer he promised to a hospitalized boy
  - c) His first major league home run
- 3) Before the Red Barons were the Philadelphia Phillies minor league affiliate, whom did they represent when they were the Class A Wilkes-Barre Barons at Artillery Park?
  - a) Cleveland Indians
  - b) New York Yankees
  - c) Boston Red Sox
  - d) Baltimore Orioles

Answers: 1, A; 2, B; 3, A  
\*wilkes.edu

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| Commentary |

# GAME OF THE WEEK

*NBA: Miami Heat versus San Antonio Spurs*

## The Champs vs. the Favorites

BY KEVIN REED

Beacon Staff Writer

After many months of watching recycled video of San Antonio's Tim Duncan holding up the NBA Championship Trophy in one hand and the MVP Trophy in the other, the NBA is back on the courts. This week, a marquee match-up of powerhouses will be played in Texas: a great inter-conference battle between the Miami Heat and the defending NBA champion San Antonio Spurs.

The first player that probably comes to mind is Miami's biggest draw, Shaquille O'Neal. Shaq is arguably the best player in the game and can dominate the paint like nobody's business. Over the off-season, the Heat bulked-up an already explosive offensive lineup by acquiring former Boston Celtic Antoine Walker, as well as guards Jason Williams and Gary Payton. When you put them on the court with perennial all-stars like Shaq and Dwayne Wade, you have an incredible amount of scoring punch. Right now, Wade is currently their leading scorer, averaging about 25 points per game. With so much offense, can they play defense? So far this season, they haven't had any trouble, with their defense near the top of the league's rankings and their record at the top of their division.

The San Antonio Spurs have all of the elements to repeat as league champs. Just like last year, they have either a star player or an experienced role player at every position. Led by forward/center Tim Duncan and guard Manu Ginobili, the Spurs are poised to dominate and they have already gotten off to a great start. Like the Heat, the Spurs are already at the top of their division as well. Flanking Duncan and Ginobili are defensive specialist Bruce Bowen, leader Brent Barry, and guards Tony Parker and Nick Van Exel. Duncan leads the team in scoring, averaging around 21 points per game.

As for the match-up, the main thing to watch is the obvious: Shaq against Duncan. The ability to control the space in the paint will make a big difference in the outcome of the game. As always, turnovers will also be a factor. Considering the Spurs will probably have a more experienced veteran lineup in the fold, the Spurs should come out on top in the turnovers. Finally, the thing that would be the worst for the Heat would be fouls. If the Spurs can get the Heat in foul trouble early in the game, then the Heat's lack of depth on their bench would be exploited, giving the Spurs a definite advantage.

I think that the Spurs depth and their experience will loom large in the late stages of the game, so I give them the edge.

*The Pick: Spurs 96, Heat 88*



### Quick Info:

Miami Heat  
vs.  
San Antonio Spurs  
Time: 9:00 PM  
Channel: ESPN

### Standings

Heat: 10-7 (1st place Southeast division of Eastern Conference)  
Spurs: 13-3 (1st place Southwest division of Western Conference)

## Double Take

*Sarah examines the stats that truly matter*

BY SARAH HERBERT

Beacon Features Editor

The time has finally come to examine an NBA game. I was starting to have football nightmares, so I welcome the NBA with open arms.

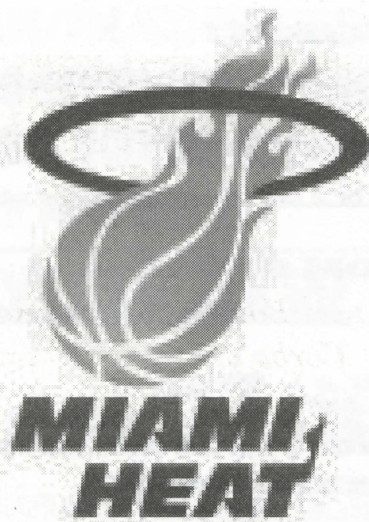
Basketball is just an all around exciting game. The coaches get mad, the players get mad and the refs get mad. It's got the emotional drive of a hockey game minus the brutality.

I have to admit, while I do enjoy a good game of basketball, the NBA usually doesn't cut it for me. I'd much rather watch an intense high school game or an exciting NCAA face-off. Nevertheless this week's game features the Miami Heat against the San Antonio Spurs.

When it comes to professional basketball I usually go with my gut. And to be honest, I just don't think the Heat has what it takes to burn out the Spurs.

Unfortunately, neither team has a catchy name. You've got the Heat, a direct correlation to the climate in Miami. Then you've got the Spurs, which is just so stereotypical for a Texas team (i.e. Cowboys).

Ordinarily I probably wouldn't go with a Texas team, but I'm fairly confident this time. The Spurs are going to ice the Heat and take the game. Ride 'em cowboy. Go Spurs.



versus





## Athlete of the Week

### Men's basketball: Chris Shovlin

BY RYAN DIPPRE  
Beacon Sports Editor

An overtime 77-76 win on Wednesday night against King's capped off a 3-1 start to the men's basketball season at Wilkes. Leading the way during this fast start to the season is sophomore guard Chris Shovlin.

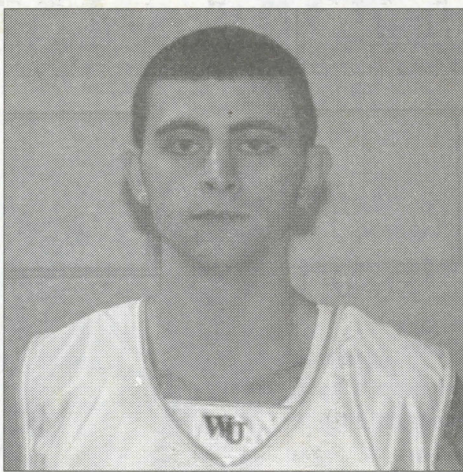
"We went into the season thinking that we've got the best guard in the conference, even though he's only a sophomore," said head coach Jerry Rickrode. Shovlin has responded well to the adulation, posting 61 points in his opening four games, averaging 15.3 points per game.

"He's under a lot of pressure," said Rickrode, now in his 14th season at the helm of the Colonels. "We need him to know that he doesn't have to do everything...but, if we need something, he can take control of the game."

Shovlin is coming off of a freshman year in which he averaged 18.8 points per game during his eighteen games. Shovlin transferred to Wilkes last season after beginning the year at Division I Monmouth. With fifteen starts under his belt and a chance to play a full season, Rickrode expects Shovlin to have an easier season. "This year is going to be a lot easier for him because he's been here from the start of the season," said Rickrode.

Shovlin has taken the opportunity presented by his previous playing experience to help lead the team through the beginning of the season. His leadership has also changed somewhat from last year. "He's much more vocal," said Rickrode.

Leadership can be difficult for lowerclassmen, often because elder members of the team can resent the attempt at leadership. In the case of Shovlin, however, this hasn't been a problem. "It's a lot easier for him," said Rickrode. "He's got a personality you really like."



Courtesy of Sports Information

**Shovlin posted 22 points in last Wednesday's game against King's College, including a key three-pointer to send the game into overtime.**

Senior Drew Amoroso agrees, "He's vocal and he leads by his play. People follow that."

Shovlin's biggest factor for success has been "the ability to create, for himself and his team," said Rickrode. "He had a level of quickness higher than most players at this level," he said.

"He's able to drive by guys pretty easily," said Amoroso, "but he's also a deadly three point shooter. You can't play him too tight or too loose."

Although Shovlin has had an impressive freshman year and an excellent start to his sophomore year, Rickrode feels that the best is yet to come. "He's still got a ways to go," said Rickrode. "He's got an ability level greater than others. The sky's the limit for him."

Should the rest of the Colonels continue to reach for the sky as well, the men's basketball season may well turn out to be a dream come true.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

**Freshman guard Holly Leszyk moves downcourt against King's on November 30. The Lady Colonels had an eight point lead going into the half, but could not overcome a late King's rally and fell 64-56.**

## WEEKEND RECAPS

### Men's Basketball

Mike Constantine nailed a key 3-pointer with 1:01 remaining to squeak Wilkes past DeSales in a crucial Freedom Conference match up Saturday afternoon. Chris Shovlin had 15 points and seven assists, Steve Kline had 13 points, and both Constantine and Evan Walters put up 10 points each as the Colonels improve to 4-1 overall and 2-0 in the conference.

### Women's Basketball

The Lady Colonels could not overcome DeSales' 14-2 run to lead after the first half, losing 80-58. Randi Corbo had 14 points and Lacey Andresen had 12 tallies and nine rebounds as Wilkes drops to 1-4 overall and 0-2 in the conference.

### Wrestling

The 19th ranked Colonels took second place in the RIT tournament Saturday. Joe Barowski (157) headlined six wrestlers who placed in the event, beating six-seeded Nate Baumann from RIT 6-3 in the final. Also placing were Angelo Dileo (third place, 175); Rex Harris (third place, 184); Erik Smith (fourth place, 149); Felipe Queiroz (fifth place, 125), and Adam Penberthy (fifth place, 141).

## NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

# 101.5

Points amassed by the wrestling team in Saturday's RIT Tournament. The Colonels placed second out of 18 teams in the event.

# 37

Points scored by sophomore Chris Shovlin in two men's basketball games this week.

# 6

Number of wrestlers who placed in Saturday's wrestling tournament at RIT.

# 14

Points scored by Randi Corbo during Saturday's women's basketball game against DeSales University.



# Sports

DECEMBER 5, 2005

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## Wrestling Preview: Wilkes/King's/Lycoming *Colonels to face cross-town rival and ranked opponent this week*

BY ARIEL COHEN  
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

As finals and other end-of-the-semester schoolwork inspire the last minute push among most Wilkes students, Colonel wrestlers have an additional challenge on their shoulders.

Wilkes wrestling heads into a busy week competing against cross-town rival King's College and Mid-Atlantic rival Lycoming College.

The Wilkes wrestlers head into the upcoming matches ranked 19th nationwide, only seven spots behind 12th ranked Lycoming College, and are also coming off the R.I.T. Wrestling Tournament this past weekend.

"We have had two impressive championship wins so far this season including the second place win at the R.I.T.," said senior wrestler Rex Harris.

Facing off against a higher

ranked team this coming Friday, these matches are crucial because to date, the home team has yet to win. If the Wilkes wrestling team can pull off the win over King's and the upset over Lycoming, it would be the first time that a home team has won in a match this season.

"Keeping the pressure on them and utilizing the kind of conditioning we have will be some of the keys to winning the matches this week," stated wrestling head coach John Laudenslager.

According to Laudenslager, it will be hard to judge who will emerge as the key grapplers in the upcoming matches, especially with the fact that five of the starters are freshman. Through the first few matches, several of the returning wrestlers, including 174 lb. senior Rex Harris, have started well.

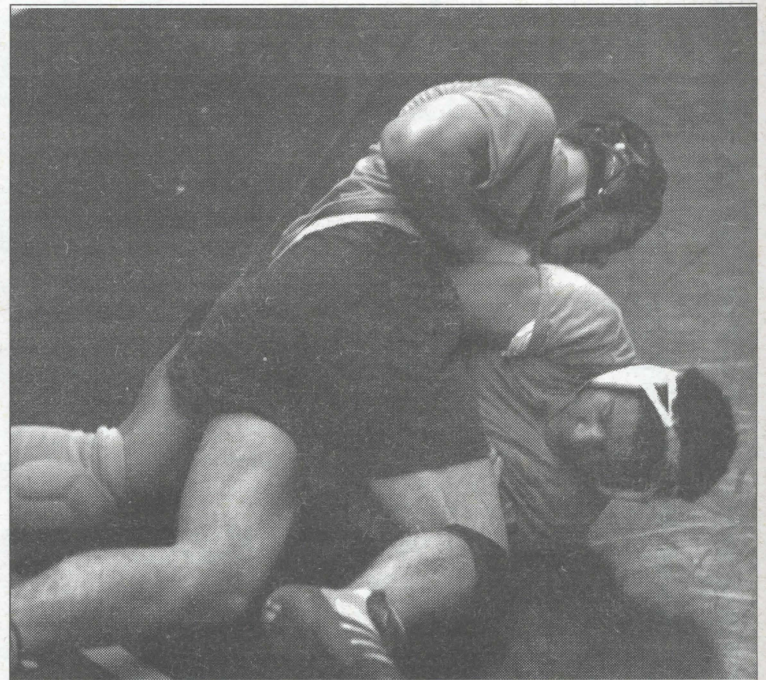
"I am pretty confident in the team, and I think that we are capable of

winning," said Laudenslager.

With last year's match against King's so close, ending in a 22-19 win for Wilkes, the Colonels are looking to make it back-to-back wins over the Monarchs.

Harris stated that, "The team is all fired up and you always have to be excited about wrestling the Monarchs."

The match against King's will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, December 7 at home. The Lycoming match will be 7 p.m. Friday, December 9, also at home in the Arnaud C. Marts Center.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Josh Sperling and Joe Yutko work out during a practice. The Colonels will enter the matches against King's and Lycoming with the momentum of two first place finishes and one second place finish in the last three tournaments.

## W Campus Calendar

### All Week

\*Hideous Beauty, Sordoni Art Gallery

### MONDAY (12/05)

\*Trivia Night sponsored by the Junior Class, HSC Miller Conference Room -- 8 p.m.

### TUESDAY (12/06)

\*Taste of Wilkes, HSC Ballroom -- 12 to 1 p.m.  
\*Student voice recital, DDD Geis Hall -- 6 p.m.  
\*Women's basketball vs. Elmira -- 7 p.m.  
\*General Colin L. Powell - Jay S. Sidhu Outstanding Leaders Forum, F.M. Kirby Center for Performing Arts -- 7:30 to 10 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY (12/07)

\*Crossroads Coffee House, First United Methodist Church -- 7 to 9 p.m.

\*Wrestling vs. King's -- 7 p.m.

\*Men's basketball @ Immaculata -- 8 p.m.

### THURSDAY (12/08)

\*Food and clothing drive, Office of Community Service  
\*Mindy Davis Sterling Silver Sale, HSC -- 10 a.m.  
\*Women's basketball vs. Misericordia  
\*Faculty recital, Kirby Hall -- 7:30 p.m.

### FRIDAY (12/09)

\*Food and clothing drive, Office of Community Service  
\*Men's basketball vs. SUNY Oswego -- 6 p.m.  
\*Piano/Collaborative recital, Kirby Hall -- 7 p.m.  
\*Studio recital "Musical Trends in 20th Century America," Kirby Hall -- 7 p.m.

\*Poetry reading, Barnes & Noble -- 7 p.m.

\*Wrestling vs. Lycoming -- 7 p.m.  
\*Ballet Northeast's Nutcracker, DDD -- 7:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY (12/10)

\*Food and clothing drive, Office of Community Service  
\*Men's Basketball @ RIT Tournament -- 1 p.m.  
Women's basketball vs. Susquehanna -- 1 p.m.

### SUNDAY (12/11)

\*Food and clothing drive, Office of Community Service  
\*Chorus and Chamber Singers concert, St. Stephens Church -- 4 p.m.

Due to winter break, The Beacon will resume publishing next semester.

## Find this Picture on Campus and... WIN CASH



This photo was taken somewhere on Wilkes University's Campus. When you find it, email us the answer at: wilkesbeacon@gmail.com. Be sure to put "Campus Picture" as the subject heading, as well as your name, phone number, and either campus mailbox or mailing address in the body text. A random winner will be picked from the correct responses and will receive a \$10 cash prize courtesy of the Programming Board.

Congratulations to David Scordino, who correctly identified last week's secret shot of the railing on the River Street side of Kirby Hall.