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THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

President Announces Tuition Hike at SG Meeting

BY MARCUS SOWCIK AND BETH A. WEIR Beacon Managing Editor and Beacon Features Editor

In an attempt to draw input from the student population, President Tim Gilmour announced his 2002-2003 budget plans Wednesday evening during a Student Government Meeting. The plans include a 4.7 percent increase in tuition and fees and other enrollment changes.

Gilmour began by explaining his desire to involve the student population because he feels "the more we interact, the more successful we'll be." He went on to say that he understands the delicacy of the topic regarding tuition and that "in the administration, we are truly sensitive to, what I think, are rightful concerns about increased costs in higher education."

The strategic plan would include an implementation of a fully balanced budget, which would require the University to live within its means and not borrow from savings. The budget

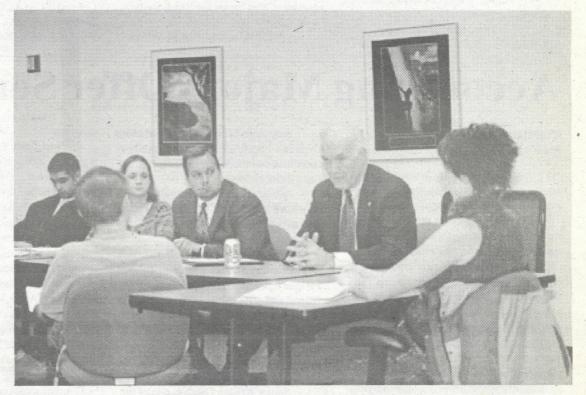
also proposes an increase in tuition fees from \$18,020 to \$18,860, and an overall increase (includes room and board) from \$25,800 to \$26,952.

According to Gilmour, the increase would have an impact on information technology services. "I hope over this year you are going to begin to see improved network speeds, improved network performance, gradual improvements in equipment, improvement in staffing, and ultimately I hope that you will be able to use technology more effectively," he said.

In comparison to other schools across the nation, Gilmour highlighted that private institutions will see an average increase of 5.5 percent and public institutions will increase an average of 7.7 percent. Locally, Gilmour noted the fact that most schools will increase anywhere between four and six percent.

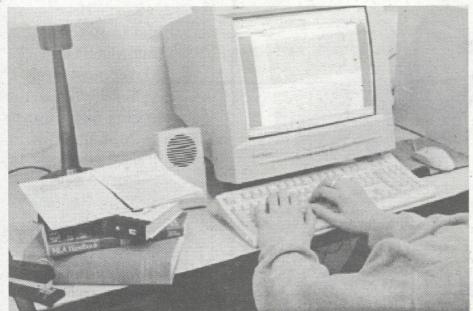
After his preliminary comments, Gilmour opened the

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President Gilmour explains changes in tuitions and fees for 2002-03 to students in attendance at last night's Student Government meeting. To Gilmour's immediate left in the photo is new Vice President for Finance and Operations, Scott Byers. (Beacon Photo/Adam Polinger)

Committee Facilitates Process for WI Designation



At midterm, many students find themselves writing and rewriting numerous papers, many of which are required, for courses designated as Writing Intensive. (Beacon Photo/Kristin Hake)

BY DENNIS FERENCHICK Beacon News Editor

When used to describe a college course, the phrase writing intensive seems to strike fear into the hearts of both students and professors alike. While many students shriek in unrelenting horror at the thought of taking a WI class, some professors sigh uneasily at the anticipated amount of extra preparation needed to properly teach the course.

Despite all the adverse affects that WI designated classes might have on students and professors, the fact remains that these classes are embedded in the curriculum at Wilkes. The bottom line:

students must take three WI courses to graduate.

According to Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences and Professional Studies Dr. Bonnie Bedford, the majority of students have not had much trouble in fulfilling this requirement.

"We were looking at the core requirements two years ago and, in doing so, looked at how many waiver requests had gone to academic standards," said Bedford. "We found that it was only around four or five, primarily from transfers, because the programs have done a pretty good

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Student Government Happenings

BY JEFF GELLER Beacon Staff Writer

Student Government held its weekly meeting Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the Hiscox Suite of the Henry Student Center. President Gilmore and Scott Byars, vice-president of Finance and Business attended the meeting. Topics discussed include the 4.75% increase in tuition and the 4% increase of room and board. Tuition would rise to \$18,860 and \$26,952, respectively.

The request for funding of PCCA@P*CUETICS Institute Scholarship Convention was tabled until March 13.

Commuter Council (CC) will hold

a BOwl for Kid's Sake on March 3. A trip to New York City will be held April 20. Also, there were no entries for the logo contest.

Off Campus Council (OCC) has announced that bands for Block Party have been booked.

VISION will be visiting Wilkes

The Spring Fling will be held April 5 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets will go on sale the week after spring break.

Innovative Teacher Award nominations are due Friday. Forms can be picked up from Lynn Baynum on the second Floor of the Henry Student Center.

A Freshman Auction will be held on March 13.

Student Community Service Council (SCSC) will hold Campus Care the first week of April. Also, SCSC and OCC will hold a Bowl for Kid's Sake on March 23.

The Beacon

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Accounting Majors Offer Services

BY BETHANY YENNER Beacon Staff Writer

Just ask any Wilkes accounting major what season it is, and they are sure to reply with two words: tax season.

Currently, 15 junior accounting majors are volunteering their time on Saturday mornings to help people with their taxes.

The Wilkes University students are participating in the Volunteer Income Tax Program, also known as VITA. The VITA program is a tax service offered in conjunction with the Internal Revenue Service and the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue. Trained volunteers offer free tax help to taxpayers with special needs-including senior citizens and lower-income individu-

Associate Professor of Accounting Cynthia Chisarick has been the faculty coordinator of the Wilkes VITA program since its inception in 1984.

"Students are able to apply what they have learned in the classroom as well as provide community service," Chisarick said.

Wilkes students have offered their services every Saturday morning in February and have completed over 100 federal and state income tax returns. The student-volunteers are all upper-level accounting majors who have completed coursework in tax preparation. They also received additional training from the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue.

Senior Kristen Owen is one of the student coordinators of the Wilkes VITA

"I feel that VITA has provided me with a good foundation in taxes for when I enter the workforce," Owen said. "I think that the people who are involved in VITA are happy to see that they have provided a good service to members of the community who would otherwise not know how to do their taxes."

Chisarick explained that strong student support and dedication have been the key elements in the long-term success of the Wilkes VITA site.

"The clients regularly express their appreciation to the students and many continue to return for the tax service year after year," she said.

Accounting students who participate in VITA do it on a completely voluntary basis.



News Briefs

Courtesy of DataCall Online

Hiring of Foreign Workers Frustrates Native Job Seekers

At a time when few technology companies are hiring and many have laid off hundreds of thousands of workers, the government issued tens of thousands of coveted H-1B visas that allow foreign workers to hold jobs in the United States for up to six years.

For years, American tech companies insisted the visas are essential to their ability to hire the right people for key jobs, and several times they've persuaded Congress to increase the number of visas in the H-1B program. But many unemployed American engineers and their advocates see it as a giveaway of jobs to cheaper foreign labor.

Government statistics on foreign workers are incomplete. But the Immigration and Naturalization Service said this week that 28,000 skilled foreign workers were approved for visas during the last three months of 2001, down from 50,000 during the same period a year earlier, when employers were rushing to submit applications before a fee increase took effect.

The 28,000 are in addition to the 163,000 applications the INS approved in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30 including six months when, economists say, the recession was in

Immigration analysts suggest tens of thousands more workers entered the country in the past fiscal year to work for research institutions, colleges and other employers that aren't included in INS statistics.

The H-1B visas more than half of which have been used to fill engineering, programming and other computer-related jobs allow U.S. companies to sponsor skilled workers from overseas to work here for at least six years. Employers are supposed to certify that they cannot find qualified Americans to fill the jobs, but critics of the socalled high-tech visa program say such rules are routinely flouted. Georgetown University scholars estimate that as many as 710,000 H-1B permit holders are in the United States.

New Security Measures Changes Life at Mexican Border

All eight lanes of the giant World Trade Bridge are packed, Mexican truck drivers honking and cutting around one another in an hour-long traffic jam to clear the U.S.

Many of the downtown stores are closed, and police seem to be everywhere at the water plant and the tiny airport, at the four river bridges where federal agents are seizing record amounts of drugs.

Before Sept. 11, Laredo and the other major U.S.-Mexico border crossings seemed headed for an era of unprecedented openness, born of a mandate from the top levels of government to integrate the two countries politically and economically as never before.

Instead, the security crackdown triggered by the terrorist attacks has dramatically changed life on the border even though none of the terrorists who crashed planes into the Pentagon and World Trade Center entered the United States from Mexico.

"The problem with U.S. Customs and the INS at the border is that after Sept. 11, they felt there was some kind of terrorist problem here too," said Rene David Mejia Quintana, the Mexican consul alternate with offices in Laredo. "So right now everything is much more difficult. We are never going back to Sept. 10."

The silver lining, most agree, is that tougher law enforcement and greater security should pay off in the long run for border towns whose history of lawlessness is legendary. Laredo, for example, has begun advertising to tourists that its border is much safer

But to prosper, towns such as El Paso and Laredo depend on an open border. Community coffers and local merchants thrive on the free flow of tourists and shoppers and cargo traffic. Now these communities are adapting to a new reality that prosperity takes a back seat to security.

Speed of T. Rex Is Now a Bone of Contention

He was big, and he was mean. But was he fast?

For years, scientists and moviemakers have speculated about the top speed of Tyrannosaurus Rex, the fearsome predator of the Cretaceous. Some paleontologists have theorized the creature could gallop after its prey at 25, 30, even 45 miles per hour.

Slow down, say a pair of researchers.

Using computerized biomechanical models, the two scientists, specialists in biomechanics, have reduced T. Rex to no more than a trotter. To actually run, according to their studies, which are published in the journal Nature, an animal as big and heavy as the Tyrannosaurus would need leg muscles so massive they might make up as much as 86 percent of its body mass leaving little room for lungs, a skeleton or much of anything else. Typically no more than 50 percent of an animal's body mass is composed of muscle and usually only 5 percent to 40 percent is allocated to the legs.

Researchers John R. Hutchison and Mariano Garcia used a mathematical model and information from dinosaurs' living relatives birds to determine how much muscle would be necessary for T. rex to achieve a fast run. Hutchinson, now at Stanford and Garcia, now at Borg-Warner Automotive, performed the research while both were at the University of California, Berkeley.

Early assumptions about dinosaur speed were often made based on physical similarities to living animals if Ornithimimus looked like an ostrich, it must run as fast as one.

Other methods to determine top speeds were hampered by holes in the fossil

record

Alleged Attacks by Black Teens on U-Va. Students **Stir Hate Crime Debate**

BY CAROL MORELLO The Washington Post

It's hard to say what was more disturbing to the citizens of this bucolic college town when a group of teenagers was arrested in a series of sometimesbrutal assaults on students at the University of Virginia.

It was bad enough that the accused were 10 local high school students who police believe beat up college students on six occasions just for the thrill

But when a police investigator announced that three of the suspects said they had chosen targets because they looked different, residents reeled, contemplating how run-of-the-mill, town-andgown friction could turn so ugly. The suspects are black, and the victims are

Once the race issue was out in the open, the police chief hurried to say that the investigation is continuing, that more students could be charged as accessories and that it's premature to assign motive.

But the attacks already have aroused passion throughout the city, known for its tolerance, liberalism and the dominance of the university founded by Thomas Jefferson. With four out of 10 city residents attending the school, and many more working there, the arrests of black teenagers charged with assaulting mostly white college students has generated an intense debate over racial issues and the definition of hate crimes.

A white-rights group called European-American Unity and Rights Organization, headed by former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke, is publicizing the case nationwide and demanding that the African American teenagers be prosecuted for hate crimes against whites.

With EURO threatening to demonstrate on the steps of City Hall, officials are striving to keep the incident a local matter. They play down calls to treat it as a hate crime. They say the people who have called or written e-mails criticizing the city's handling of the case often used vulgar language and don't understand the law or the nature of what happened, much less the city's torn émotions.

"Race and everything else aside, these are our kids, on both sides, victims and suspects," said Police Chief Tim Longo, who has received vituperative letters about the case challenging everything from his manhood to his moral courage. "We need to talk about why this happened and what we can do as a community to make sure it doesn't happen

Until a police investigator mentioned that race may have been a factor, there was no hint of anything more than a rash of simple assaults. The first incident was in September, but most of the attacks occurred in December and January, police say. The assaults were centered around Rugby Road, a lane abutting campus and home to many sororities and

fraternities. The victims were male and

In all, 10 people were injured in the six incidents that occurred between early evening and late at night, police say. In each assault, the victims told police they had been kicked and punched by a group of at least three African American youths. A robbery occurred in at least one instance. Police said the victims suffered a range of injuries; several were as minor as scrapes on the face, but one suffered a concussion and another had broken cheekbones that necessitated surgery.

Nine of the 10 high school students arrested early this month are minors. One, however, turned 18 just days before the latest attack and is being prosecuted as an adult. The charges include misdemeanor assault and felony assault by mob.

Under Virginia law, when race is a motivating factor for some misdemeanors, charges can be upgraded to felonies with a punishment of five years in prison. Several of the suspects already are charged with felonies punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

EURO contends that hate crime prosecutions are applied unfairly, used only when the victim is a minority. "It's one-sided," said Vincent Breeding, national director of EURO. "There are no whites who are victims whose assailants are being prosecuted. If we're going to have a tolerance of diversity in society, it can't be a one-way street."

Ron Doggett, head of the Virginia chapter of EURO, said he has asked almost 10,000 people on his nationwide mailing list to pressure city officials to invoke the hate crime provision. He also asked the U.S. Justice Department to intervene, but FBI spokesman Lawrence Barry said agents are convinced police are investigating appropriately.

Alvin Edwards, a former Charlottesville mayor and pastor who has three of the student suspects in his congregation at Mount Zion Baptist Church, believes class, not race, lies at the root of the assaults. He said many local teenagers, particularly African Americans, resent the university because they consider it largely inaccessible to them. He also doubts race was involved because two students in the clique, who were questioned and released without charges, are white girls.

"How can it be an attack on whites when whites are involved?" he

At Charlottesville High, where eight of the 10 suspects attend school, students have trouble believing their lifelong friends may be racists. The student body of 1,200 is 51 percent Caucasian and 48 percent African American. The city itself is 70 percent white, 22 percent black and 5 percent Asian.

Calling All Bachelors and Bachelorettes

BY AMANDA LEIGH BROZANA Beacon Staff Writer

Bachelor Number One, what would you do to find your special someone? What about you Bachelorette Number One?

How about being a contestant on Wilkes' newest game show being produced by Dr. Mark Stine's Advanced Video Production class, "The Connection."

"It's just like the old Dating Game show," said junior Communication Studies major and producer BJ Kosich. "We wanted a show that people would want to watch, and you come to college to meet people, so we figured we'd have a little fun with the project and film a dating show."

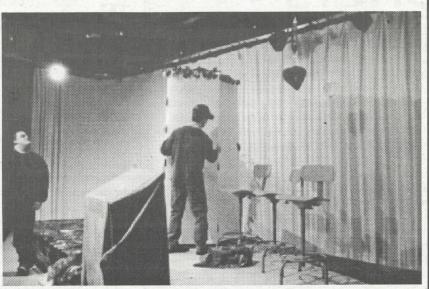
Taping will begin in the Shelbourne Telecommunication studio after spring break. The class is still looking for contestants to fill the bachelor and bachelorette spots on six shows.

"We need one bachelor and three female contestants or three male contestants and one bachelorette for each show, and it will air after Wilkes Today," Kosich said. Those who sign up to be contestants will be picked at random from a hat to actually appear on the half-hour show.

Just like The Dating Game of the 70s, the three female contestants or male contestants will face a series of questions to answer from one side of a screen in the studio. The lucky bachelor or bachelorette who is choosing his or her date will be hidden from their view, as they will be from his or hers.

Junior Communications Studies major
Dennis Ferenchick, the
host of "The Connection," will award the two free
movie tickets at the end of the
show, and possibly dinner for two
at a local restaurant.

"We're all excited, and everyone we talk to says it sounds like a cool idea," Kosich said about the completely student run production. "It will be an opportunity to see fellow classmates on TV."



Students of Dr. Stine's Advanced Video Production class work on the set for their upcoming dating game show "The Connection." (Beacon Photo/Kristin Hake)

But if you want to try your luck at finding a special someone – or even just someone to hang out with for one Friday night – you better act soon, because after this six show season, "The Connection" will probably be lost forever.

"It's going to take at least 10" dedicated people to do it, and

once people have had this class, they usually go on to get good jobs and internships and just can't spend that much time producing a show like this for the campus any more," Kosich said.

To become a contestant, please contact Kosich by phone at 819-2957.

To All Seniors:

Mark your calendar for your senior picture to be included in Amnicola, the Wilkes University Yearbook.

Davor Photography will be in the Henry Student Center the week of March 18 to take your picture at no cost.

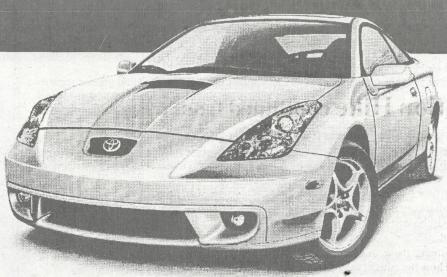
Please make sure you schedule a few minutes to get your picture taken!



TOYOTA

Celica— The Inside Story

On the outside, it's easy to see that Celica is race-track inspired. But the real excitement is on the inside...under the hood. Take the Celica GT-S...Toyota worked with Yamaha to build a 180 HP engine redlined at 7800 RPM...equipped it with Variable Valve Timing with intelligence...a computer that constantly monitors and retunes your engine for maximum performance...a cam with two sets of lobes to provide two ranges of valve lift and duration for more usable horse-power. There's direct ignition for greater reliability... iridium-tipped spark plugs for reduced maintenance...a stainless steel exhaust manifold...a water-cooled oil cooler. And mated with Toyota's 4-speed electronically-controlled automatic "Sportshift", you get transmission shift switches on the steering wheel...just like Formula 1 race cars. Sweet.



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WI Designation continued from page 1

job of offering the WI classes."

"Usually, it tends to be more difficult for transfer students to fulfill the writing intensive requirement, because they're coming in needing to take specific classes for a particular major," Bedford explained.

According to Writing Center Director and Assistant Professor of English Dr. Janet Starner, if a student finds himself or herself struggling to fulfill the WI requirement by their senior year, it is usually for several different reasons.

"First of all, it's possible that students aren't getting word from their advisors on the proper way to schedule the writing intensive classes," Starner said. "Ideally, the way it works is that you take English 101 your freshman year and then one W.I. class as a sophomore, one as a junior, and one as a senior."

"Another reason is that students may be so resistant to taking a writing course that they put it off until the very last second," Starner explained. "That's understandable, but then if you do that as a student, you get yourself into a bad situation where your frantically trying to get into a WI course, and then you either don't get in, or have to take some course that's not in your major."

According to Humanities Chairperson and Associate Professor of English Dr. Darin Fields, due to the aforementioned reasons, there has been an increase over the last year and a half in the number of individualized WI designations.

"What this means, is that if a student is a junior or senior and doesn't yet have the three writing intensive courses, and is at the point where none of the courses they have remaining are already designated WI, they can petition for an individualized WI class," Fields said.

"Basically, this increase has occurred in order to avoid having those students go

to academic standards and petition for a waver of the WI credit."

According to Starner, since taking over as Chairperson of the Writing Intensive Committee in September of 2000, one of her goals has been to reduce the number of these individualized WI classes.

"Because a writing intensive class is a course where writing to learn is the pedagogy, part of that is exchanging drafts with peers and having a real collaborating learning experience," Starner explained.

"If you're doing the work all by yourself, like you would be in an individualized WIclass, then it defeats the purpose."

While students have the ultimate responsibility to make sure that they keep themselves on an "ideal" schedule for taking writing intensive courses, professors have the responsibility to make sure that their WI classes continue to meet the specific guidelines. This involves resubmitting their course syllabi every three years to the committee for re-evaluation.

When Starner joined the WI Committee a year and a half ago, she immediately set out to create a structure that would facilitate all of the writing intensive course proposals submitted by various professors.

"It became apparent that it would be difficult for us to physically get together that often, so I created a web site, initially just open to the people on the committee, where we could post proposals and talk about the decision process," Starner said.

"That worked pretty well, so we met once and didn't have to meet again because things circulated on-line, and people would document their opinions."

According to Fields, a former member of the WI Committee,
Starner's newly created "structure" has played a big part in the committee's rejuvenation.

"There was a period where we

had a Writing Intensive Center director who was chairing the WI and just really let it fall away," Fields said. "And thus, a lot of the designations lapsed and a lot of the departments lost track of which courses were WI and which were not."

"What Janet Starner has done is clean up the record keeping to a certain degree, which has meant that some faculty have had to re-submit their proposals, and in some cases those syllabi didn't meet the guidelines."

Starner explained that while the committee immediately approves the majority of the proposals for writing intensive classes, there are times when certain proposals don't seem, on paper, to meet these guidelines. Thus, it is the job of the committee members to suggest places where there's a void, and ask faculty members to re-submit their proposals after revision.

"This new committee, and it's really not new since they've been together for a while now, really is scrutinizing carefully—but I wouldn't say with an intention to make it difficult for the faculty," Fields explained. "I think in every instance that there was a rejection, there were very specific recommendations [from the committee] about what needed to be done to make it fit those guidelines."

"Now, is it the case that once you've got an effective committee—meaning you get people who are receiving proposals, evaluating them, and starting to look at them—some get turned down? Yes, no question about it," Fields said. "But any

faculty member can go on the web site and read the deliberations of the committee.

There's nothing secret or hidden about it—
it's actually wide open."

Along with creating a web site and offering their recommendations on what aspects need to be improved for certain proposals, the WI Committee has also held (and will continue to hold) workshops for faculty members on writing intensive

Dean Bedford has been instrumental in promoting these workshops and in supplying the funds to run them.

"We encourage faculty who are having difficulty [writing proposals] to attend these workshops so they can get guidance and assistance from committee members as well as people who have taught WI courses successfully before," Bedford

"These workshops will provide faculty the chance to make sure that there isn't any disconnect between the writing intensive guidelines and what they're doing.

The bottom line is that we're required to offer three WI courses to our students, and we've got to make sure there are enough to satisfy that requirement—or we're not doing our job."

For more information on the Writing Intensive Committee, guidelines or classes, visit http://course.wilkes.edu/WIssues, or contact Dr. Starner at 408-4536.

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floor to questions and concerns from the student body. Some of the issues discussed included a decrease in the number of classes, program cuts, a freeze in new hiring of specific departments, an increase in enrollment, and the overall benefits of the new budget proposal.

Among those questions, students queried how the current target market for new students will change with the tuition increase. Gilmour responded, "The answer is not with the tuition hike. In fact we're hoping that we're roughly right in the middle of the rate of increase or below. As I said, it was between 4% and 6%...But we'll know after the beginning of March when Financial Aid packages come out. However, in our Strategic Plan one of the things we are doing is in no way reducing our commitment to Northeastern Pennsylvania, but we think a significant proportion of the increased numbers are going to have to come from students from outside of this region. We need to think of ourselves as an institution serving the Mid-Atlantic region."

Dean of Enrollment Services Mike Frantz added to Gilmour's thoughts, "Though we will continue to go from a local to a regional perspective, we will not de-emphasize our traditional area that we draw students from."

Additionally, students asked specific questions regarding dorm space availability for increasing numbers of students and whether academic scholarships would increase commensurate with the tuition hike. Many of Gilmour's responses to such questions indicated that much of the planning for these changes was in the preliminary stages of development and specificity was not possible.

When asked about the increase in tuition, Frantz also noted, "The goal is not to increase tuition. There are a number of goals, one of which is to find the right balance of programs. Of that mix, we look at what we can afford to

Donna Kowalczyk's Salon at 419

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Corporations' Waste is a Poor Child's Hope

Uncharitable Acts

Beacon Editorial

The ideas and

positions expressed in

the editorial are those

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According to the 1990 census of Luzerne County one out of six residents 18 years old and younger live in poverty. That figure merely represents Luzerne County; the numbers can fluctuate as shockingly high as one out of every three children live in poverty when examining various inner cities across the United Sates.

These children get their best nutrition from the meals served at their schools. For some that may be their only meal of the day. Kids are carted off to school in the early morning then picked up from school by after school organizations to be cared for through the evening and in some cases into

the night until their often single parents can finish work and pick them up. They are taken home and sent straight to bed because it is already past their bedtimes.

For many children in our area and throughout the country this is all they know. They are lucky to be cared for by after school programs and fortunate to have learning centers where they are welcome and accounted for. These programs make it possible for these children who often were born into their life of poverty to obtain help with their homework and interact with their peers in a safe environment free from drugs and violence.

The majority of individuals who contribute their time and effort to these non-profit endeavors are volunteers. The others who work with

these children are paid miniscule amounts. These organizations are dependent upon the goodwill of others and the federal system of grants.

National chain Dick's Sporting Goods apparently doesn't believe in the notion of goodwill or is far too wrapped up in the

profits and the figures of a corporate operation. This past week the corporate office instructed all stores (approximately 125 across the US) to disassemble and destroy four basketball stands that were on display including backboards, rims, nets, poles and bases. This was in order to make room for newer basketball models to be set up for display in the stores.

Dick's Sporting Goods' Corporate
Office was unavailable for comment
regarding the supposed logic behind
destroying four perfectly good basketball
set-ups. We cannot conceive of any reason
that would explain why these barely

touched one-year-old models could not be given to organizations that would utilize them everyday.

There are numerous organizations in our area that help kids by giving them a place to go after school. Why can't corporations help them by giving them what they view as trash? Dick's Sporting Goods store is not alone. Bookstores continually clear out old paperbacks by ripping off covers and throwing them away. Gas stations, drug stores and other chains who sell magazines monthly tear off those covers and toss them into the dumpster. Massive food chains waste gigantic quantities of food in a variety of ways.

Has all the money that surrounds the high-powered administrators of Corporate America blinded these individuals to the

reality of our country? Poverty is running rampant through our cities and is claiming more and more children. Corporations have a plethora of resources at their fingertips; all they have to do is think. If they used some brain power maybe they could see how their useless garbage has potential to honestly better a child's life.

What Goes Around, Comes Around



BY JENNIFER KLAIPS Beacon Staff Writer

How many times have you meandered down the streets of Wilkes-Barre and seen graffiti spray-painted along the sides of buildings or empty bottles or trash strewn in people's front lawns or shrubbery?

What did you think?

Chances are it probably didn't capture your attention for more than a few seconds, if it even phased you at all.

I used to be the same way. Remember the graffiti spree that struck Wilkes-Barre last year? I watched it on the news. It made me think for a couple seconds, but I soon forgot about it.

Remember the Elby's Big Boy that was stolen and later discovered in the residence of King's students a couple weeks ago? I watched that too. I laughed, and again, I didn't give it much thought—until last week.

At some time around midnight on Friday during the infamous Winter Weekend, someone who is close to me was the victim of vandalism.

Apparently, in an effort to top off all the drunken yelling and outbursts that filled the Wilkes campus that night, someone decided that smashing out a car window would be a nice grand finale.

Or, maybe someone was in too much of a drunken stupor to even retain an ounce of his or her morals or conscience. Or, maybe someone thought that they would look "cool" among their friends if they took out a window. I mean, if that isn't a popularity booster, then what is?

Regardless of the motive, I thought it was an utterly pathetic and sad act.

It's sad because I'm sure that the person who did this doesn't even feel the slightest bit of remorse. It's also sad because an innocent person who just happened to park their car along a street on campus had to pay over a hundred dollars to replace the window—among the numerous other expenses of a college student. Add that surprise bill to this month's list of expenses. Nice.

But do you know what else is sad? This isn't just an isolated incident. This isn't just a case of some jerk vandalizing a car on the Wilkes campus. This is one example of our society. This is one person who is just like the person(s) who infiltrated Wilkes-Barre businesses with graffiti or the students who stole the Big Boy.

Isn't it sad that we have people like this in our society—people who could care less about the property of others and would think nothing of destroying it?

Guess who pays for the repairs? Obviously not the people who caused the damage. (If that were the case, I could rest assured that an envelope with money to repair the window would have been left on the car.) But that's not the way it works. No, instead, innocent people pay for the stupidity of others.

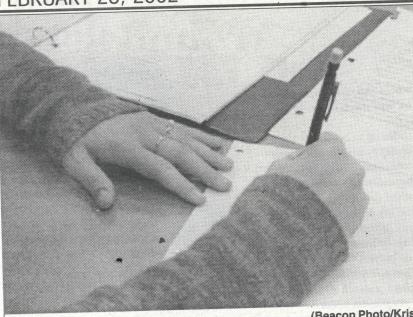
Who do you think pays for the refurbishment of the vandalized businesses or the Elby's Big Boy statue? The owners or the customers, but definitely not the vandals. So the next time you eat an over-priced meal or pay for an over-priced service, just think—maybe you're paying a little extra to compensate for the company's losses in vandalism repairs. Nice, isn't it?

Personally, I couldn't live with myself if an innocent stranger had to spend his or her hard-earned money to pay for something that my ignorance caused. But I guess that not all of us are blessed with a conscience.

I think we can add this incident to our personal collections of life's little lessons. Not everything is fair. But maybe I can still find a little peace of mind. I believe that what goes around comes around, and sooner or later, in some form or another, I know that justice will be served. And then I'll have the last laugh.

When you are content to be simply yourself and don't compare or compete, everybody will respect you.

-- Lao-Tzu Chinese Philosopher



(Beacon Photo/Kristin Hake)

Two more days. Finish up your papers, take your last midterms, get through your presentations because it's close enough to taste -- Spring Break is upon us. Go see your families, lie on the beach, ski the powder - hit the moguls, leave your books behind! There's plenty of time to be studious later, right now take the time that we're given to relax. Live it up -- oh, and be safe!

-Beth Rosenberg Editorial Board Chair

All Things Foreseen

Courtesy of DataCall Online Originally published in Los Angeles Times

It's been really amazing to watch Miss Cleo, hasn't it? The Caribbean clairvoyant's late-night TV ad popped up amid pitches for incredible stain removers, precise vegetable dicers, easily cleaned rotating ovens and impressive breast enhancement creams that, according to the animation, work in seconds. For only \$4.99 a minute, the Psychic Hotline's Miss Cleo could see things invisible to mere mortals. Right before our eyes she listened to one female caller and knew instantly the caller's boyfriend was fooling around with a coworker. But that's not all. Miss Cleo also knew the caller herself had been fooling around. Incredible! The caller confirmed it. "Call me now!" Miss Cleo said. And thousands did.

Webster's defines clairvoyance as "the hypothesized ability to perceive things that are not in sight." But was it necessary for Noah Webster, the noted 19th century prig who foresaw the need for a popular dictionary, to be so skeptical? Anyone can be clairvoyant. Many, for instance, have predicted that a parent or spouse would be angry if they returned late or crashed the car. Some even predicted the precise words uttered upon delivery of that news.

Over the years some of us concentrated real hard and saw in the future's mists a new scandal coming to Congress. It

had something to do with money or sex or both. Bingo! We were regularly right. Others saw Congressional investigations and predicted questions sounding more like speeches. Uncanny.

Many of us, even without calling the hotline and being stalled past the first free minutes to accrue a bill averaging upward of \$60, also foresaw that eventually Miss Cleo and her off-camera employers would run into legal trouble. Now it's happened. Not because her predictions were off, but because Miss Cleo could not see that the Federal Trade Commission would find fault with free three-minute psychic readings that weren't really free because operators allegedly took too long to complete credit card paperwork. Seeing the future can take time, on the phone anyway.

Since cave days, humans (even Libras) have shown a powerful curiosity about the future, whether those insights emit from the Delphic oracle's obtuse observations or by analyzing pigeon innards, tea leaves, palm lines, ouija boards, Nostradamus, fortune cookies or weather and traffic reports. We're pleased the FTC is on this case. We see something else though. It's coming into focus now. We see large lawyers' fees and ample news coverage. Oh, and Miss Cleo will be replaced by TV ads for new music tapes and CDs, not available in stores. We foresee shipping and handling charges adding another \$5.95, no, \$6.95 to the advertised cost, with rush delivery also available.

The Changing Role of the Modern Nurse



BY DIANE O'BRIEN RN, MSN, CRNP

When one thinks of a nurse in the traditional sense, the picture of a quiet, motherly, humble caregiver that answers to the doctor's beck and call might be visualized. This, however, is quite an antiquated view of such a dynamic profession. In the changing face of health care, the modern nurse must be looked upon as an innovator, because of his/her critical thinking skills.

Nurses are called upon to be teachers who advocate healthy lifestyles and disease prevention. In the acute care setting, nurses must deal with cost-cutting measures, limited staff, and continue to find a way to provide competent and compassionate care with fewer and fewer resources. Nurses must be able to organize their care and prioritize tasks, so that patient care is not compromised. Nurses play vital roles in our community setting, where teaching is often the focus. Nurses also act as case managers, independent

practitioners, and other vital roles in the community.

Nurses have a great deal of autonomy in the plethora of settings in which they practice. On a daily basis, today's nurse must make a great number of decisions that will ultimately affect the lives he or she touches. Because of the decreased enrollment in nursing schools, the nation is facing a nursing shortage of significant proportion. Without qualified nurses, the health care industry in America is losing its life-blood. It should be a priority of institutions of higher learning to encourage young people to go into this profession, because good health care is synonymous with good nursing care.

Young people can reap the rewards of this respected profession while giving back to the community in which they practice. Opportunities abound today for qualified health care professionals, and those who are ambitious enough to embark on this challenging journey.

The nurse as an obedient servant wearing a white hat is gone. Nurses must now fill roles that are ever-changing, but today's nurse will overcome obstacles using skills, intuition, knowledge base, and experiences to attain these processional

In closing, it is my opinion that nursing is a worthwhile undertaking for anyone interested in a challenging profession. It is a profession with room for advancement and one that will allow a person to make a significant difference in their community as well as humanity.

Letters to the Editor

Feel like you've got something to say?



Here's your chance to express your . opinions. Whether it's about Wilkes University, the city of Wilkes-Barre, or the nation, here's your opportunity. Write a letter to the editor, and let the community

know how you feel. The Beacon does reserve the right to edit or not print any article submitted due to space constraints. However, letters to the editor are a welcome addition. All letters can be sent to Beth Rosenberg, Editorial Board Chair, at rosenbem@wilkes.edu or wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com.

Getting to Know... John Sumoski

BY BETH A. WEIR Beacon Features Editor

Take a stroll past the athletic offices in Marts and you'll run into a brand new face. John Sumoski, the head coach of women's soccer, began his new position on Monday and he already loves Wilkes.

"When I interviewed for the position I asked why I should come to Wilkes. It may not have been something that someone usually asks in an interview, but I was pleased with the answer. They gave me examples of people who were here and came back. That really impressed me because it made it seem like a close knit community and family and that's exactly what I found."

Sumoski, a native of New Jersey, earned a B.S. in computer science at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and his M.S. in physical education and coaching at the University of Michigan. When asked about the switch in career focus, Sumoski commented on the difference in work worlds. "I got tired of working in the corporate world where I had no spare time. I was also coaching while working and I had barely enough time to devote to that. I knew I wanted to become more involved in athletics and get out of the corporate world."

From 1987-1990, Sumoski's playing career at Pitt-Johnstown was filled with milestones. The standout soccer player set school records for most goals in a season and most goals in a career and was named a Regional All-American.

Sumoski has an Advanced National Diploma in coaching from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. He also has an "A" License from the United States Soccer Federation.

Sumoski comes to Wilkes after coaching at three other colleges, Carnegie Mellon University, Carlow College in Pittsburgh, and Central Michigan University. He was also the head coach for the Pennsylvania West Girls Olympic Development program. Prior to coaching at the college level, Sumoski was an active high school girls' soccer coach for four years and worked with a youth select club which won seven state championships.

Sports have been Sumoski's focus since childhood. "I was involved in wrestling and baseball as a kid, but injured myself playing both. I decided to try soccer and ended up loving it. I played at the amateur-professional level for a year, decided I was doing too much to my body, and realized I didn't really want to follow through at the professional level. I decided to stay involved with sports by coaching. I

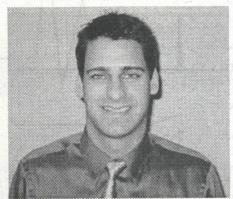
didn't think I would like coaching, so I was surprised at just how much I love doing what I'm doing."

As for choosing to coach a women's sport, Sumoski makes an interesting point. "Women's soccer is more challenging than men's. I was basically thrown into women's soccer. One of the first things that I learned was that my intense personality and mouthy way of coaching was the biggest challenge to face. I learned that it's ok to be hard on players during practice, but not in the game. I realized that I also wanted to do more research about women to understand my players better."

Sumoski's research into women led him to read books about women and to do further in-depth analysis. "I did research on brain base differences in women and men and how the brain affects emotions. That's the basis of the thesis I'm completing. I'm researching both men and women's perceptions of coaching behavior and their preferences. It's important that a coach knows facts about how players react and why they react so that they can be effective."

When Sumoski is not busy coaching here."

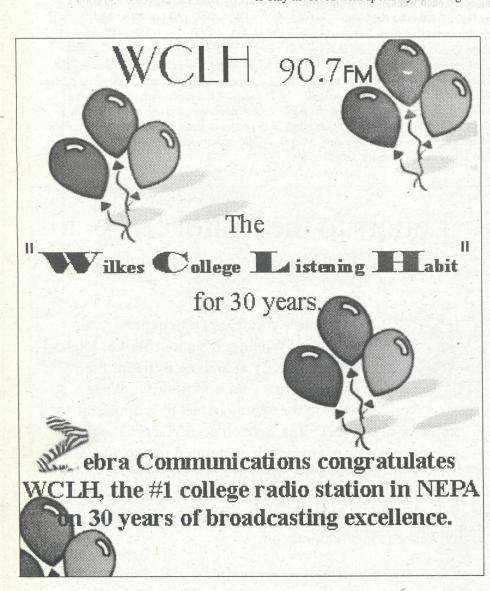
and completing his thesis, he spends his free time in the sports world as well. "I like rollerblading, wakeboarding, and exercising. I also run a business in Michigan. It's a fall, W. ... And the coache of exercise on sexual fall and the coache of exercise of exer

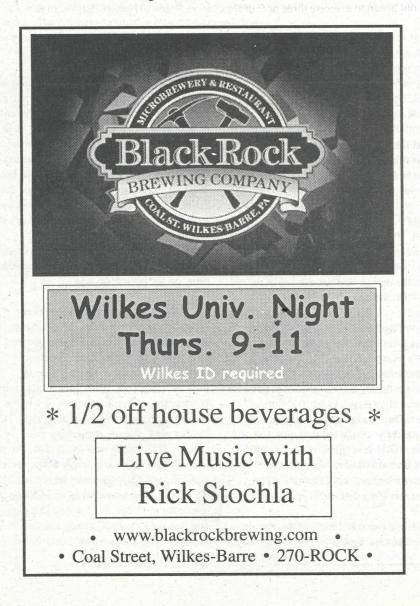


John Sumoski is the new women's soccer coach. (Photo courtesy of Wilkes Web Page)

a clinic that teaches soccer skills."

As for his new position at Wilkes, Sumoski plans on staying around for some time. "This market is hard to get into, especially because I'm a guy coaching a women's sport. I've only had two interviews of the 100-150 applications that I sent out. So, when I found a head coaching position at a college that I really like, I was thrilled. I'm also close to my best friend from high school and to my family who lives in Lancaster. I love it here."





Health

Beat

BY BETH A. WEIR
Beacon Features Editor

Better sex now! Sounds like one of those over-played radio spots. The truth is, nothing can get one in the mood faster than increased physical activity that gets the blood pumping. That's right. There's no better sex drive booster than good old exercise.

According to Dr. Ronald Deitrick, program director of Exercise Science at the University of Scranton, courtesy of msnbc.com, "Exercise goes a long way in improving circulation to all parts of the body, including, of course, the pelvic region and genitals." Detrick also mentioned that "physical activity also increases the amount of blood we produce, as well as distributing it more effectively. This would definitely help erectile functioning" and presumably, its female equivalent.

Dr. Tommy Boone, the founding president of the American Society of Exercise Physiologists and professor and chair of Exercise Physiology at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN, adds: "Exercise often lowers LDL cholesterol, which in turn may alleviate the narrowing of arteries, including those in the genitals, which reduces the probability of sexual difficulties." Moreover, Deitrick notes, exercise elevates hormone levels that are implicated in sexual functioning, including testosterone, which plays a big role in libido and arousal for both men and women.

The amount of evidence is increasing. There is a link between lifestyle and sexual activity in men and women.

In the now-famous Massachusetts Male Aging Study, scientists tracked men between the ages of 40 and 70 over a span of several years. Those who exercised regularly were much less likely to suffer from erectile dysfunction.

Similarly, researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health discovered that proverbial couch potatoes were twice as likely to suffer from erectile dysfunction as men who exercised "vigorously" for just 20 to 30 minutes daily, and that significant weight gains increase the risk as well

Results from the University of California San Diego encompassed a broader look at the impact of exercise on sexual functioning. When middle-aged men with no history of working out began to exercise three or four times weekly, for an hour each time, they not only reported firmer and more reliable erections, but also better orgasms and greater frequency of sexual activity than their counterparts who remained sedentary.

Ok, so guys are having better sex. What about women? While far less evidence exists regarding the positive sexual side effects of exercise for women, a University of Texas study of women ages 18 to 34 found that a 20-minute session of aerobic exercise amplified blood flow to the vagina by 169 percent, thereby enhancing the women's sexual response shortly after their workouts.

After all that evidence there will probably still be a few exercise phobics who refuse to get their bodies moving, even for the sake of sex. Would gymnastic sex change their minds? Stretching, cardiovascular workouts and strength training all improve the body's flexibility and stamina and alleviate many aches and pains, enabling the body to have long, gymnastic sex.

Exercise can, moreover, preserve one's sex life as one ages, because keeping in shape lowers the strain on the heart during sex, itself a fairly intense physical activity, Boone notes. People of all ages might want to note that mental-health professionals routinely recommend an exercise regimen for its salutary effect of alleviating depression and anxiety, two major causes of sexual dysfunction. "Exercise may even activate beta endorphins, the opiate-like substances in the brain which give rise to pleasurable sensations," Boone says.

As with most things in life, there can be too much of a good thing. Excessive exercise can actually lessen levels of testosterone in men and estrogen in women. Plus, Deitrick makes an important point, "It takes time between workouts to replenish muscle protein. It's a matter of recovery. If you keep breaking down muscle without letting it repair and get stronger," fatigue and a compromised immune system will eventually impair your sex drive. Boone defines overtraining as "more than an hour of exercise at a time, more than five days a week."

After taking that all into consideration, the important question is just how much exercise is ideal for sexual champions? Experts advise consulting a fitness professional to learn a routine that is suited to one's individual needs. "I'd think that in order to get generally fit and also derive sexual benefits, you would need to develop exercise habits that are above average," says Deitrick. Translation: working out three or four times a week, "a combination that's about two-thirds aerobic exercise, one-third strength training."

So, get a move on. Dust off that barely used stair-master and drag out those never viewed aerobic tapes. Better sex can be a reality; just exercise regularly!

Getting to Know... Holly Whitner

BY BETH A. WEIR
Beacon Features Editor

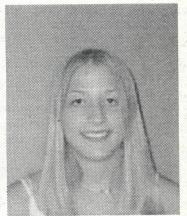
Holly Whitner, a sophomore prepharmacy major, is a focused student who plans on succeeding in life without forsaking her family in the process.

Regarding her future goals, Whitner is positive of the direction she'd like to take in the pharmacy field. "I'd like to work in a lab for a pharmacy company. Compounding drugs has always interested me because I like the idea of mixing drugs to form different doses for different age groups. The goal is to individualize the process."

Although Whitner likes what she is studying, this year she's run into subjects that aren't what she expected. "Right now I'm taking organic chemistry and physics. For me, the labs are not as guided and organized as I'd like them to be. The classes also require a lot more study time and lab completion which leaves little social time."

Despite a demanding major, Whitner, a native of Hazleton, makes a point of spending some time doing things not related to academics. "I chose Wilkes because it was close to home. I really didn't want to go far away. I make a point of going home each weekend to spend time with my family. I also try to get to as many student activities as possible to spend time with my friends."

Whitner's family is a big part of her



Holly Whitner is a sophomore Pre-Pharmacy major. (Photo courtesy of Security Desk)

life. Her dad is a civil engineer who works for the Department of Environmental Protection in Wilkes-Barre, her mom is a manager at the Hazleton Walmart and her younger brother and sister are finishing their educations. Whitner considers her family when planning for her future. "I would like to move away for a few years just to get experience away from home. But I do plan on moving back within a few years of leaving because I wouldn't want to be away from my family for a long period of time."

Although Whitner's college career isn't exactly what she expected and comes with a lot of study and research requirements, she is happy that she chose Wilkes. "The people are easy to get along with and that has helped me adjust."

Where's the G.O.L.D?

(Graduates Of the Last Decade)

Name: Greg Collins Class year: 2001

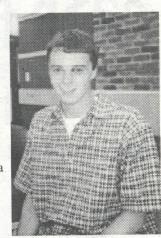
Degree: BS in Mechanical Engineering,

BA in Physics and minor in Communications Company: Lutron Electronics Co.

Position: Manufacturing and Quality Engineer

Location: Coopersburg, PA **Hometown:** Nazareth, PA

My years at Wilkes helped to prepare me for a career as an engineer. More importantly, though, they got me ready for life in the "real world." Working with people who knew what life was like inside and outside of academia, I gained an understanding of what it takes to get ahead.



Submitted by Erica Trowbridge G.O.L.D Coordinator, 00'

Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to contact Erica Trowbridge at ext. 4136 with any alumni that would be good to highlight in future Graduates of the Last Decade to be printed in *The Beacon*.

On Location: Grico's River Street Jazz Café

BY KRISTEN BRADIGAN Beacon Staff Writer

Sometimes, you want to go out, but you don't feel like dealing with the club scene, or loud, heavy bands. Instead, you want a place to sit with friends, or even with your date-someplace that is "happening," but not overwhelming. For heaven's sake, you just want to RELAX.

A place like this does exist, and quite close to Wilkes University. Grico's River Street Jazz Café, Plains, located this side of the Hwy 309 exit on River Street, offers food, drinks, and entertainment, but in an intimate atmosphere.

The Café

The lights are dimmed, and a huge, bright mural of figures dancing and playing music immediately catches your attention. Customers can sit close to the stage to view the band, at the bar to hang out, or in the back for more privacy. Wherever you sit doesn't matter; this is a place to unwind.

Carol Falzone, Head Bartender of 4 1/2 years, assuming the role of Manager until the owners return from vacation, stated that the Jazz Café attracts people of all ages, and that this place is unique from all other local bars.

The Food

The Jazz Café is open for lunch Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Dinner is served from 5 to 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday through Saturday. A late night menu is also available.

Falzone describes the food as "bright American food," because some entrees are not typical of what other restaurant/bars offer in the area. She also mentioned that there is food especially for vegetarians offered.

The lunch menu offers the turkey sandwich to the grilled vegetable sandwich, and every sandwich in-between. Prices range from \$3.75 to \$5.50. Lunch specials are offered each day.

The soup of the day changes with each week, and choices vary from chicken noodle to carrot with dill. Soup costs \$1.95 for a cup and \$2.50 for a bowl. The salads range from Caesar and Antipasto to Greek and

Cobb. Prices vary from \$3.75 to \$6.95. Pasta dinners are available, and cost \$6.95 to \$7.95. Desserts on the menu are as simple as a cookie, which costs fifty cents to the chocolate bombe, which is a combination of a mousse/cake, costing \$6.00.

On the dinner menu, the choices are more unique. Appetizers range from devilled crab cake to fried calamari to oysters stuffed with crabmeat. Prices go

from \$2.50 to \$9.95, depending on what you order. Pasta dinners cost anywhere from \$8.95 to \$14.95, and range from linguine with clams in white or red sauce to capellini with jumbo crabmeat and fresh tomatoes. You could also order any type of pasta with a variety of sauces.

Other entrees include filet mignon, pork loin filet stuffed with crabmeat, veal marsala, chicken with scampi sauce, catfish, and much more. Entrees cost from \$12.95 to

> Vegetarians have choices as well, ranging from grilled vegetables with herbed balsamic dressing to baked eggplant made with two cheeses, both costing \$8.95. Finish off

dinner with an espresso or a cappuccino, costing \$2.50 to \$5.50 with some dessert. Fine cigars are also available at the bar.

On the late night menu, the choices range from french fries and chicken tenders to bruschetta and crab cocktail. Prices range from \$2.50 to \$8.95.

The Bar

Enough said about the food. On the tap is Guinness Stout, Lager, Bass Ale, and Miller Lite. All kinds of beer from Coors

Light to Corona are available by the bottle. Liquor includes everything from Jack Daniels to Absolute Vodka.

The Entertainment

What's food and drinks without entertainment? Every week, from Wednesday to Saturday, live entertainment graces the stage.

Falzone mentioned that the Café's style of music is, of course, blues and jazz, but also includes hip/hop and R&B as well.

The Jazz Café brings in both local and out of town acts, and managers also book concert acts every once in a while. Falzone also said that the out of town acts play their own original music.

Some popular local acts that appear include The Collective and Crush. Some out of town acts include Fathead (groove and funk) and George Wesley (reggae).

On March 23, Peter Tork from the Monkees will perform at the Jazz Café with band Shoe Sueded Blues.

The Specials

Every Thursday night is college night-free entrance with college/university I.D.. All drafts are \$1 from 9 to 11 p.m.

Every Friday, happy hour runs from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. In addition to drink specials, Falzone also mentioned that free food is

"The Jazz Café is different from any place around here," said Falzone. "It's kind of like something you'd see in New York City. It's quite relaxing."

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Brother's Greenery Brings Early Spring Indoors

BY TARA DEROSIERS Beacon Staff Writer

Spring made its way indoors February 26 when Brother's Greenery brought the sweet aromas and brilliant colors of classic spring flowers and lush green plants to the Henry Student Center.

Splashes of green, red, pink, and purple adorned the tables in a variety of flowers, plants, cacti, bonsai trees, and even Beta fish, which were all part of the annual traveling sale.

Owned by Randy and Kevin Skolnick, Brother's Greenery is located in Great Neck, NY and regularly travels across the country to various universities and colleges. Some university groups use the Brother's Greenery plants and flowers as an opportunity to raise funds for specific causes or projects. Other schools, like Wilkes, simply welcome the Skolnick brothers to campus so that individual employees or students can dress up and

personalize their own spaces like offices or

"Brother's Greenery celebrated its 19 year anniversary on Valentine's Day," said Randy Skolnick. He also added that he has been formally working with plants for 28 or 29 years so you can be guaranteed that he knows what he's talking about.

"I try to do colleges that have 50% women, are the most expensive, and the best." said Skolnick. He adds that once he finds the colleges, he reads about them, calls them and then makes an appointment. Thus, he is able to make some money and more than likely to come again.

"This was a good idea. Since I'm a plant person I decided to come down right away. It was overall a good experience," Judi Wienckoski, student affairs employee

"I thought it was great," Jared Seiders, a freshman biology major said.

Brothers Greenery will return sometime in the fall of 2002.

The Book Nook: Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West

BY JOHN BROODY Beacon Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Glinda: "Are you a Good Witch or a Bad Witch?"

Dorothy: "I'm not a witch at all. I'm a little girl."

If you have participated in that ritual of childhood fantasy, the yearly viewing of "The Wizard

of Oz," which began in 1939 and continues to this day, then you recognize those lines. And if you do, you have a treat in store for you.

Gregory
Maguire has
written the great
revisionist Oz
book of all time,
Wicked: The Life
and Times of the
Wicked Witch of
the West (Harper
Collins, New York
1995). That's

right, a biography of that greenfaced childhood icon of evil, the Wicked Witch herself. She was ugly, she was scary, she had an army of winged monkey minions. When Dorothy melted her into green goo, we all sang "Ding dong the witch is dead" and rejoiced.

But what if she wasn't a witch at all? At some time was she just a little girl? In Wicked,

Maguire tells us the whole story, cradle to puddle, all the stories you probably never thought to wonder about. One of these great stories is the sibling rivalry between the witch sisters.

Legislated discrimination against certain minority groups work their way into the story as well as assassination plots and dens of

iniquity. Maguire creates a complex, sophisticated Oz as a backdrop for Elphaba, someday to become the Wicked Witch of the West. Her life story makes her our contemporary; childhood traumas overcome, college majors changed, choices and mistakes made and paid for, and throughout it all

right a biography of that green we know how it has got to end. It faced childhood icon of evil, the Wicked Witch herself. She was fascinating tale.

Wicked is much more, though, than a tell-all memoir of someone we all grew up loving to hate. It's about the nature of good and evil, how you tell them apart, and what makes you one or the other. In Wicked, Gregory Maguire showcases a variety of belief systems and their tenets on Right

and Wrong. Organized Religion, Education, a Cause, the lower class, the upper class, the tribal class, each of these groups indoctrinates its members with the Truth about Good and Evil, and each appears in some guise or other in Maguire's Oz. All this as our previous two-dimensional opinions about the Wicked Witch of the West are turned inside out by reexamination in light of additional information. "Give me a child until he's six and he's mine

for life" some thoughtful dictator once said. Wicked makes you think about what else you absorbed at the age when you learned without questioning that Elphaba was a Wicked Witch and therefore deserved to die.

But Gregory Maguire's excellent book doesn't even stop there. In Elphaba he builds a compelling and highly sympathetic character, a reasoning intellect that assesses the world around her and sets out to make it

a better place. Her intent is pure, whatever her methods, a champion of the underdog and a just and honest soul. Yet her actions in the final chapter of her life, immortalized in Technicolor, brand her wicked for all time. Is intent or action what makes a person good? Or wicked? At its deepest level Wicked made me examine my own understanding of morality and the path of the ethical life. You can't ask for more than that. Pick up a copy of Wicked and enjoy.



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VPA Offers Contemporary Music Weekend

BY DALE R. HELLER Beacon Staff Writer

On Friday, March 15, at 5 p.m., in the Darte Center Upper Lobby, the Wilkes University Department of Visual and Performing Arts will present the third concert in the New and Unusual Music concert series

The NUM series presents contemporary music in a manner that makes it accessible to any curious member of the Wilkes community. This is an opportunity to experience music heard nowhere else in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The concert, which is free and open to the public, features both music and dance. Sophomore Joseph Ziegler and Dr. Ellen Flint will perform the first movement of the "Sonata for Clarinet and Piano" by Leonard Bernstein.

Junior Desirae Triplett and Dr. Ellen-Flint will perform the "Ballade for Flute and Piano" by Frank Martin.

Artists at Work

Dancers Melissa Lasecki, Beth Danner, Jennifer Ward, and Beth Rosenberg will accompany percussionists Bruce Harris and Robert Burns, in their performance of "Just a Little Rhythm Thing" with choreography by Kris Cross.

The NUM concert is just one piece of the contemporary music weekend being presented at the Darte Center. On Saturday, March 16, the Wilkes Opera Workshop, under the direction of Susan Minsavage, will present scenes from two 20th century operas, Tom Johnson's "The Four Note Opera," and Gian-Carlo Menotti's "The Medium."

The evening will feature an ecclectic mix of Johnson's modern, absurdist and minimalist writing with Menotti's lyrical, dramatic and lush sounds.

Professors Ellen Flint and Stephen Thomas will provide piano accompaniment.

The performance begins at 8 p.m. in the Upper Lobby of the Darte Center. Admission is free and open to the public.

You remember the old saying, "What goes around comes around." Isn't funny how clothes that were popular forty years ago are popular again? Most of the styles seem to go in a continuous cycle. Well, now the same holds true for food.



BY MELISSA GALLUP Beacon Staff Writer

In the seventies, polyester and bellbottoms were the rage. But not too far behind was fondue, the art of melting and dipping. It was the grooviest way to eat with your friends before heading out to the

disco. People everywhere were enjoying melted cheese and bread for dinner and smooth, warm chocolate-covered strawberries for dessert.

So next time you are in your very best platforms, be sure to really get into your seventies groove by preparing fondue the retro way.

Three-Cheese Fondue

Recipes courtesy Gourmet Magazine

1/2 pound Gruyere, coarsely grated (about 2 1/2 cups)

1/2 pound Emmenthal, coarsely grated (about 2 1/2 cups)

1/2 pound Doux de Montagne, harvati, or Vacherin Fribourgeois, coarsely grated (about

2 1/2 cups)

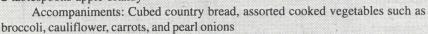
2 tablespoons cornstarch 1 garlic clove, halved

1 cup dry white wine

3/4 cup water

2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice

2 tablespoons apple brandy



In a large bowl, toss together the cheese and the cornstarch. Rub the inside of a heavy saucepan with the garlic, leaving it in the pan, add the wine, water, and the lemon juice, and boil the mixture for 1 minute. Stir in the cheese mixture gradually and bring the mixture to a simmer over moderate heat, stirring. Stir in the apple brandy and simmer the mixture, stirring, for 2 minutes. Using a spatula, transfer the fondue to a fondue pot. Set the fondue pot on its stand over a low flame. Set bread cubes and the vegetables for dipping into the fondue on a platter.

Fruit Fondues

Recipe Courtesy of Curtis Aikens

Assorted fruits, cut up Jar of caramel sauce

Chocolate chunks

In a saucepan, stir caramel sauce until heated. In a large glass measuring cup, microwave chocolate chunks until almost completely melted, then stir. Using skewers, dip fruit into sauces.

Prep Time: 10 minutes



On February 28th in Entertainment History:

The Mural Painting class under the guidance of Ms. Sharon Bowar, Associate

floor of the Henry Student Center. (Beacon Photo/Kristin Hake)

Professor of Art, is currently working on a mural in the Savitz TV Lounge on the second

1910 - Russian dancer Anna Pavlova made her United States debut at the Metropolitan Opera in New York.

1930 - For Columbia Records, Ted Lewis and his orchestra recorded "On the Sunny Side of the Street." Lewis was also the featured vocalist on the song that has been recorded hundreds of times.

1970 - Simon and Garfunkle's Bridge Over Troubled Water zoomed to the Number 1 spot on Billboard's record charts on this date, and remained there for 6 weeks. The album and the single went on to win six Grammy awards.

1984 - At the Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, Califonia, Michael Jackson set a record for most wins by taking home eight of the statuette awards. He broke Roger Miller's previous record of six awards, set in 1965. The reason for his success was the biggest selling album of all time, "Thriller," which sold over 35-million copies around the world soon after its 1983 release.

All of these facts were provided by www.uselessknowledge.com

Chocolate Fondue Three Ways

Recipe Courtesy of Emeril Lagasse

3 pounds high quality chocolate, finely chopped

2 1/4 cups heavy cream

Splash of Creme de Mint

Splash of Nocello

Splash of Grand Marnier

Garnishes:

Pound cake, cut into bite-size pieces

Shortbread cookies

Biscotti

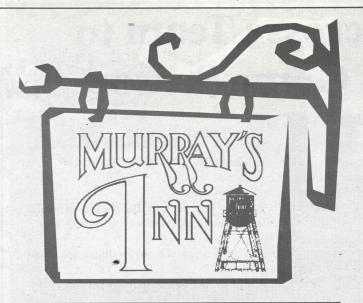
Coconut macaroons

Large strawberries with stems

Bananas

Place 1 pound of chocolate in its own fondue pot. Turn the pot setting to medium or 5. In a saucepan, heat the cream. When the cream comes to a simmer, remove from the heat and pour 1/3 over each pot of chocolate. Whisk each pot until smooth. Splash a different liquor into each pot and whisk until smooth. Serve the fondues with the various garnishes.





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3/1 - Ben Andrews (acoustic blues)

3/6-The Recipe



3/9 - Brothers Past

3/17 - Uncle Sammy *All Ages

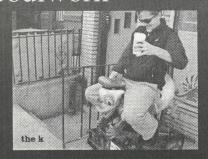
3/21 - Psychedelic Breakfast *All Ages

4/5-Mindface



4/6 - Vital Information *All Ages

4/27 - Soulwork



Fri. Mar. 1st

Ben Andrews

Free food buffet at 6pm

Sat. Mar. 2nd

Antigone Rising
Black Dog to open
**All Ages

Weds. Mar. 6th

The Recipe *All Ages
Open for lunch all day

Thurs. Feb. 28th *All Ages Leon Russell



Mar. 17th Uncle Sammy *All Ages



April 6th Vital Information *All Ages



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Fleisher Wins MAC Heavyweight Title

Beacon Assistant Sports Editor

On February 22 and 23, the Wilkes University wrestling team made a strong showing at the Middle Atlantic Conference Championships at Messiah College. The team finished in a tie for fourth place overall with the host team Messiah.

The highlight of the day for the Colonels was watching junior Cory Fleisher win his weight class, taking home the heavyweight title. Fleisher cruised through the first two rounds with convincing victories over Al Fluman of Lycoming (16-1) and King's Jared Potsko (9-2).

Fleisher's two wins placed him in the championship bout against Albright's Ben Hammond. The two had a great match, going the distance. When the decision was announced, the Colonels' Fleisher had won on a 5-3 decision. Fleisher's conquest earned him a berth in the upcoming NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships.

Senior Jason Hills also had a successful day, finishing third in the 141-pound weight class. His run to the top was halted in

the semifinals as he lost a tough bout to Delaware Valley's Bob Fieger, 4-0.

Hills then gathered his composure and came right back with a consolation victory, pinning King's Tim Martinez in 6:23. Hills then moved onto the consolation finals to wrestle for third against Scranton's Tim Simansky, where Hills won by a decision of 7-5.

Wilkes saw sophomore Jon Neyerlin and freshmen Rex Harris and Andrew Helms all finish fourth in their respective weight classes. All three reached the semifinal round of their weight class, but despite a wonderful effort,

they all lost close bouts. Neyerlin, Harris, and Helms all rebounded in the consolation round, putting them in the consolation finals to wrestle for third place. Again, despite great efforts by all three Colonels, each came up short, finishing fourth in their respective weight classes.

For one Colonel, the season is still not over. Beginning March 1, Cory Fleisher will proudly represent Wilkes University in the NCAA Division III Championships at the First Union Arena in Wilkes-Barre.

Wilkes Lacrosse Team to Play Eight Game Season

BY KIMBERLY WHIPPLE Beacon Staff Writer

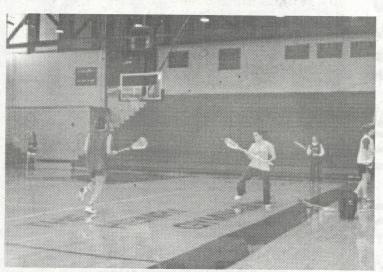
Young, energetic, enthused and dedicated all describe the members of Wilkes first-year women's lacrosse team.

Lacrosse has become a growing sport in the recent years moving state by state across the country and into smaller communities. This year, it has found its way onto the campus of Wilkes University.

For their first season, the Lady Colonels are considered a club team and will play a limited schedule consisting of eight games, several of which are against other first-year programs. Come next year, they will be a full-fledged NCAA program.

Although the team's roster holds 23 players, only two of them have had previous experience in the sport. Because of the team's lack of familiarity with lacrosse, practices not only consist of learning the basic skill to play the game, but also consist of gaining an understanding of the rules of the game.

Despite those particulars, an excited Coach Kristin DiMarzo



Wilkes women lacrosse players practice in the Marts gym until spring weather prevails. (Beacon Photo/Kristin Hake)

stated, "We have nothing to lose. We can only gain." She notes that an advantage to being a new team is that "players can only improve and get better."

All of the preseason conditioning and practice will be put to the test in the season opener at Elizabethtown College. The team has been excitedly looking forward to their first game to test their skills. Afterwards, they have a little over two weeks to fine-tune and prepare for their next opponent, Kutztown University, who is a Division II club

All players share in DiMarzo's positive outlook on the upcoming season. Maria Currier, a veteran high school lacrosse player, stated, "Everyone has been dedicated to learning and improving. Even though most of the opponents are more experienced, because of everyone's enthusiasm and effort, we should be able to come away with some victories in our first year."

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Division III leading field goal percentage by Wilkes' lone Freedom Conference All-Star, senior Ron McIntyre

90

Pounds that junior Cory Fleisher will give up in his weight class this weekend at the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships

34

Number of medals the United States earned in the XIX Olympic Winter Games

Successful Season in Sight

Men's Tennis Welcomes Three Promising Newcomers

BY SELENA BEDNARZ Beacon Staff Writer

Optimistic, confident, anxious, prepared -- these are all words running through the minds of the Wilkes University men's tennis team as they prepare for what they hope to be an amazing season. Starting in just three short weeks, the team will finally get the opportunity to show their abilities and talents to the rest of the

For those of you unfamiliar with how a match is played, there are six singles matches and three doubles matches. So basically the teams that dominate the league are those with strength throughout their whole starting line-up. And that's exactly what Coach Fawbush's team has

According to freshman Madhan Srinivasan, an upcoming star for the team, "By bumping last year's number one down to fourth, it just shows the depth of our line-up, and how strong our upper and lower half will be."

Fellow teammate and freshman, Hassan Shah, added, "I'm definitely ready to become a key player for the team. My experience in high school districts and as two-time state champion should help the

Both Srinivasan and Shah were outstanding players at their respective high schools, and Wilkes is quite fortunate to pick them both up to make this years tennis season an outstanding one.

Shah is a four-time high school Pennsylvania State medal winner and fourtime district champion while competing for

Blue Mountain High School. Shah won the PIAA Class AA doubles state championship twice and finished third and fourth in

Srinivasan was the captain of the Wyoming Seminary tennis team that claimed the PIAA Class AA state championship title. As a junior, he reached the PIAA Class AA doubles semifinals and followed that with an appearance in the finals as a senior. Srinivasan is a two-time district runner-up.

Peter Nguyen is a junior transfer from Elizabethtown College and will round out the top four. Nguyen spent the past two seasons competing in the top six for the Bluejays' tennis team, where he reached the district quarterfinals in doubles his senior year. As teammates in high school, Nguyen and junior Jason Leach contributed greatly to the most successful season in Annville-Cleona's tennis team history, as the team

Leach, the captain of the team, will be a third year starter this season. Leach

played in the one slot last year and will probably play in the number three or four slot this year. Leach commented that, "There is already an immediate effect having Madhan, Hassan, and Peter join the

team this year. Everyone's game is improving tremendously."

The team also looks solid at the lower end of the singles line up as well, which is also

very important. Freshmen Abhishek Nemani, Ian Spaulding, Nikhil Harjnath, and Keith Heim, along with sophomore Brandon Clark and junior Matt Ralph, will all be competing for the last two starting spots.

Some key matches to look forward to this season are King's, Drew University, and also Lebanon Valley College, all of which are top teams in the league. Despite the challenging schedule, Leach is looking forward to the competition. "We're going to show a lot of people that we can play up there with these top teams, and win!"

Low & Outside

BY DAVID DIMARTINO Beacon Staff Writer

I want to give some Olympic input to start this column...The Olympics are about the world uniting -- all nations coming together right? Well, after two weeks, we've learned the following:

- The French hate the Canadians. - The Russians hate the French for
- admitting they hate the Canadians. - The Russians hate the U.S.A.
- The Canadians hate the U.S.A.
- The South Koreans hate the U.S.A. The U.S.A. still hates the South Koreans for the whole Roy Jones boxing
- The U.S.A. wins a lot of medals in cool sports like skeleton, snowboard, &
- We all like Wayne Gretzky, but Wayne Gretzky is convinced everyone hates Wayne Gretzky.

- Everyone now hates Canada because Wayne is whining way too much.

Other Olympic issues worth noting: Jim Lampey did a terrible job hosting for two weeks, but I give him credit for doing his best to sleep with sideline reporter Summer Sanders...Sarah Hughes (the gold medal winner in figure skating) looks and sounds a LOT like the "Band Chick" from American Pie...Short Track skating is about as much of a sport as the WWF and its lead character is this annoying Apollo 13 Ohno...And finally, figure skating would be MUCH more interesting if they let the women wear thongs underneath those dumb outfits...The SI Swimsuit issue has been a huge hit with this columnist in the past few years, especially the section with the athletes and their wives. I love to see what kind of tail an athlete can pull, and in

the recent issue, I want to give congrats to Javy Lopez, and the racecar guy (his name is irrelevant, he drives race cars). And I want to say "What the Hell are You Thinking" to NL Rookie of the Year Albert Pujols, the woman with the horse jockey (the man is four foot nothing, and you know what that means), and Chi-Chi Rodriguez gets a really huge "What the Hell are You Thinking" with the looks of his wife. Even worse, SI "What the Hell are You Thinking," putting that lady in a swimsuit...A partner of mine conducted an experiment while watching the "Best Damn Sports Show Period." The show is very entertaining even though Tom Arnold is a butthead (nicest term I could find). In that episode, co-anchor John 'Spider' Salley said the word "bro" 39 times in a 30-minute show, actually more like a 22-minute show after commercials. Salley has a vocabulary as good as a punch-drunk boxer...Texas pitcher John Rocker is currently playing a slasher-killer in a movie called "Greenskeeper." Others in the movie include Steve Rickman and Playboy model Christi Taylor. Good casting by the director of this guaranteed blockbuster, no minorities or foreigners. Things would have gotten really ugly...This just in: the Fountain of Youth really does exist in the Dominican Republic. Just ask the four hundred baseball players caught in the last week that have come from the Dominican that have been claiming to be younger than their birth records indicate. Really, what's the deal with those guys, if any Latin player is on your team, just add two years to whatever he says, they're good for it...I'm David D. and I just missed LOW & OUT-

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WE CALENDAR

Today, Feb. 28

Club Period 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Ski Club Trip to Montage For info. call x4456

Women's Lacrosse - at Elizabethtown, 4p.m.

Friday, March 1

Spring Break Begins - 5 p.m.

Faculty Recital: George Sprengelmeyer, Guitar and Art Exhibition - DDD, 7/8 p.m.



Saturday, March 2 - Saturday, March 9

Baseball - Spring Training at Cocoa Beach, Fl

Friday, March 8 and Saturday, March 9

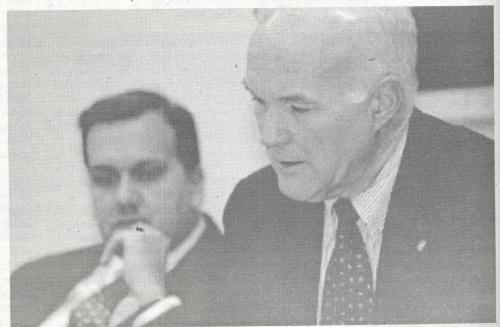
Softball - at Virginia Wesleyan Tournament

Sunday, March 10

Baseball - at FDU-Madison, 1 p.m.

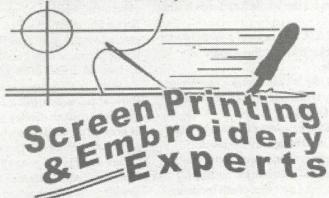
Monday, March 18

First Day of Online Registration for Seniors 8:30 a.m.



Vice President for Finance and Operations Scott Byers listens to President Tim Gilmour address the student body at a recent Student Government meeting. (Beacon Photo/Adam Polinger)

The Beacon welcomes notices of events. Publicize...it's free!



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