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THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

University Responds to S. Franklin Street Murder

BY GABE LeDONNE
Beacon Managing Editor

Wilkes-Barre and Pennsylvania State Police are still searching for the individual(s) who attacked and shot a woman six times in her South Franklin Street apartment early Thursday, February 12.

The woman, who died from the wounds Thursday evening, was identified by Wilkes-Barre authorities as 42 year-old Sheryl Spiros. Spiros was discovered in her apartment at 292 S. Franklin Street early Thursday morning when fire fighters responded to a small kitchen fire there.

The apartment building is located two doors south of the Arnaud C. Marts Center—too close for comfort for many university community members.

"When you have something like this, especially so close to campus, it's going to have everybody's hairs raised. It's such a heinous, violent crime," said Chris Bailey, Director of Public Safety.

"In response, the university will take whatever measures we can to hopefully reassure that the safety of the campus is not at risk," he added.

Bailey explained that immediately after he learned of the murder, he and Jerry Rebo,

Manager of Public Safety, sent out a community notification through both mass e-mail, and postings across campus.

In addition to alerting campus to the incident, the notification included a description of the car that the assailant was thought to have fled in: Spiros's 1992 Blue-Green Pontiac Grand-Prix. Authorities announced over the weekend that the automobile was found on Custer Street in Wilkes-Barre Friday night.

Bailey also commented that patrols across campus will be stepped up in response to the incident. "We're going to have at least two to three additional officers just out and about—not assigned to any duty, just doing patrols," he said.

As for how long the escalated patrols will last, Bailey asserted that it will "probably coincide with how the story goes; as the investigation continues, we will find out what happened and how it happened and why it happened...But for the near future, I would say at least one to two weeks. And afterwards, we'll reassess the situation."

Bailey added that one advantage in dealing with such a situation is the open source of communication from local authorities.

"We have a great connection with the local police department, so information is flowing pretty freely. I would like to believe that we have



The Beacon/Kristin Hake

This is the apartment in which a 42-year old woman was shot six times on Thursday, February 12, 2004. No suspects have been implicated in the murder, which has caused concern on the Wilkes campus.

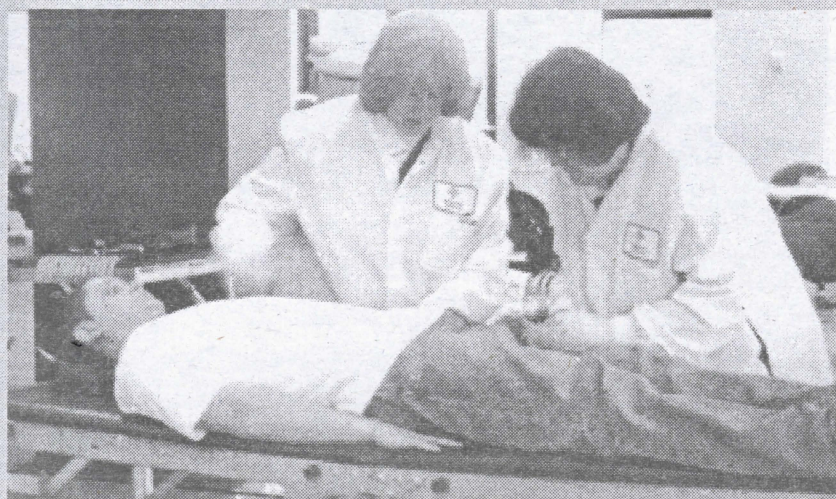
as much information as the police can legally release to us," Bailey said.

Bailey pointed out that such an incident is further support for the new Use of Force

Policy, which would allow Public Safety officers with Act 235 certification to carry pepper spray, batons, and handcuffs.

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Red Cross Blood Drive



The Beacon/Kristin Hake

A Wilkes student donates blood to the local chapter of the American Red Cross who was on campus Tuesday, February 10, 2004. Tuesday's Blood Drive was the third drive held here on campus over the course of the 2003-2004 school year as the University helps to alleviate the stress of a blood shortage in the Wyoming Valley.

Boiler Problem Leaves Wilkes Students Out in the Cold

BY GABRIELLE LAMB
Beacon News Editor

Many Wilkes students were left out in the cold this past Monday, February 9, after a broken boiler left the tenants of an off-campus apartment building without heat. The potential health hazards of having no heat or residents using inefficient, unsafe sources of alternative heat, eventually led to the building being condemned, and more than 50 Wilkes students were faced with having to quickly find another place to stay.

However, Wilkes University officials wasted no time coming to the aid of those Wilkes students displaced by the heating malfunction. According to Gretchen Yeninas, Director of Resident Life, by the end Monday night, 19 students were housed at the Ramada Inn on Public Square, as others moved in with friends and family for the duration of the investigation by

city officials. The number of those in need of shelter steadily increased through Tuesday.

"On Monday night, some of them needed a place to stay, since the building was officially condemned due to there being no heat. I spoke with each student to find out if they had family or friends they could stay with or if they needed a hotel room at the Ramada hotel on the square. On Monday night 19 students took us up on the offer of the hotel

Boiler Problem Continued on Page 5

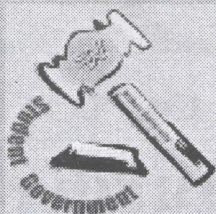
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SG Happenings

Notes from the Student Government Meeting on February 4, 2004.

The Speech and Debate Club is requesting \$1373 for a two day competition in which 30 schools will be participating. The club will come to the meeting next week for a vote on the funding.



Motion passed 23-0-1 to donate \$550 to the Fourth Annual Tom Bigler Journalism Conference to be held on Friday April 16, 2004. The money will be used towards student guide tee-shirts so that they are more recognizable in the crowds.

Discussions will continue next week regarding the proposed game room after both negative and positive feedback was heard from the student body. Concerns include spending more money on a room, only to move it again in the next few years.

SG meets every Wednesday at 6pm in the Hiscox Meeting Room, 1st Floor of the Henry Student Center. Meetings are open to the public.

Safety Officers Foil Late Night Theft Attempt

BY GABE LeDONNE
Beacon Managing Editor

Two students were caught allegedly trying to steal a couch from the Stark Learning Center early on Sunday, February 8. Because the case has not yet been brought before Student Affairs Cabinet, *The Beacon's* policy is not to report names of students involved in the complaint.

Public Safety Director, Chris Bailey, while unable to provide specific details about the incident while still under investigation, offered some specifics from the report.

"On Sunday morning--approximately 2 a.m.--our public safety officer [PSO] observed two students removing a piece of furniture from the Stark Learning Center, a couch. The students were approached by a public safety officer. When confronted, they [the students in question] split up in different directions. They both ran from the public safety officer. They did not obey any commands," Bailey said.

Bailey stated that the officer took chase; however, "one individual escaped almost immediately because there was only one PSO

at the time." Bailey pointed out, though, that three PSOs eventually responded.

"The pursuit ended when the individual who was being chased left university campus. He was observed heading off campus, and was observed heading toward the dike."

While some reports claim that the student's flight ended when he fell into the Susquehanna River, Bailey said he could not

The pursuit ended when the individual who was being chased left university campus. He was observed heading off campus, and was observed heading toward the dike.

Chris Bailey
Director of Public Safety

confirm that detail.

"The students were identified later, after some investigative work," which Bailey pointed out was made significantly easier since "the student dropped his ID" while running from the officers.

According to Bailey, both students in question have met with Student Affairs officials, and will go before the Student Affairs Cabinet for a disciplinary hearing sometime this week.

Mark Allen, Dean of Students, is one member who serves on the Student Affairs Cabinet, and briefly explained the cabinet's purpose and process that the students will go through.

Allen stated that "any infraction of student conduct goes through the Office of Student Affairs, and specifically the Student Affairs Cabinet." Allen explained that make-up of the cabinet consists of administrators and student leaders.

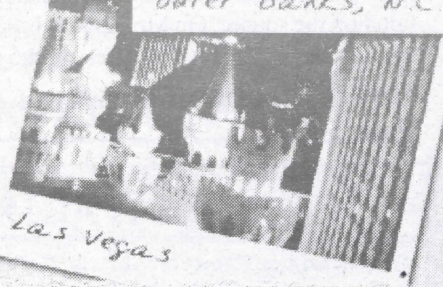
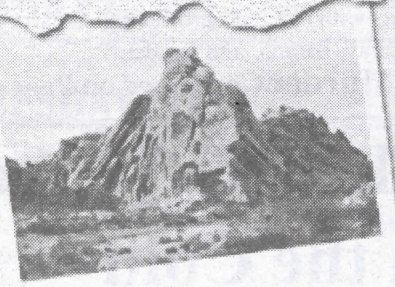
"We have a responsibility to the students to hear the cases as quickly as we can, and the students have their right to due process. If they do not feel as though they received a fair hearing, or the penalty did not

fit the crime, or there is some sort of hardship as result of the penalty they can then appeal to the University Judicial Council."

Similar in make-up to the Student Affairs Cabinet, the University Judicial Council consists of administrators, staff members, and students.

Both the University Judicial Council and the Student Affairs Cabinet are outlined in the Wilkes University Student Handbook.

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News Briefs

Courtesy of the Associated Press

Wal-Mart greeter who complained of stalker fatally stabbed

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (AP)—A man found stabbed to death inside his apartment worked as a Wal-Mart "greeter" and told a neighbor that he was being stalked and threatened by a man whom he had caught shoplifting.

Frenchwoman marries her dead boyfriend

NICE, France (AP)—Under French law, Christelle Demichel became both bride and widow as a result of a posthumous wedding ceremony, which was performed at Nice City Hall on the French Riviera.

According to French law, a marriage between a living person and a dead person can take place as long as preliminary civic formalities have been completed that show the couple had planned to marry. Before the ceremony can take place, it must be approved by the French president.

Animal rights group urges town to change name

SLAUGHTERVILLE, Okla. (AP)—Slaughterhouse administrator Marsha Blair received a letter from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, or PETA, urging the town to change its name from Slaughterhouse to Veggieville.

Slaughterhouse mayor Ron Bledsoe, who operates a cattle ranch, said he hasn't seen Friedrich's letter, but figures the town wouldn't change its name to Veggieville.

Teen accused of tricking car dealer into sending him luxury BMW

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—A teenage boy posing as a banker duped an Ohio car dealership into delivering a \$123,000 BMW to him at his high school, police said Thursday.

He told Midwestern Auto Group that his bank would confirm the wire transfer, authorities said.

After completing and returning paperwork that was mailed to his home, the teen called the dealership pretending to be a banker confirming the transfer, police said.

That same day, he ordered a second car. But when Midwestern Auto Group learned that the first payment was never made, the dealership contacted police.

Man's Hawaiian shirt helps police solve robberies

LITTLE ROCK (AP)—A man who failed in an attempt to rob a convenience store and successfully held up a bank 20 minutes later was caught after TV images of the robbery showed off his taste in loud clothes.

Police say Undra Williams, 24, of Little Rock, was wearing a bright-orange Hawaiian shirt when he visited an E-Z Mart and Arvest Bank last Wednesday. Security camera video of the incidents was shown on local television later in the week and Williams was arrested Sunday.

Williams was charged with two counts of aggravated robbery and one count of theft. He was being held in the Pulaski County jail.

Typo changes ad for sewing machine into 'Brother for sale'

VANCOUVER, Wash. (AP)—Barbara Bennett wanted to sell her Brother brand sewing machine, so she bought a classified advertisement.

Instead, the words "sewing machine" were accidentally dropped, leaving a "BROTHER" for sale ad.

One caller wanted to know if the price was negotiable. Another, upon hearing what was really for sale, said merely, "Thank you," and hung up.

Bennett, 41, a customer service representative, said Tuesday she has two brothers in California and is not putting either on the block. Newspaper officials agreed to run a corrected ad.

Woman calls police to report stolen marijuana

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP)—A woman who told police her marijuana was stolen faces a felony drug charge.

Shane N. Walker, 25, of Charleston, faces a count of possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance after Charleston Police found three ounces of marijuana inside a gym bag belonging to her boyfriend's brother, according to a complaint filed Friday in Kanawha County Magistrate Court.

Walker also told police she sells the drug and showed authorities a collection of plastic sandwich bags in which she stores the substance.

She told police that she thought her boyfriend was hiding more than 3 ounces of marijuana belonging to her. Authorities contacted the man, who agreed to have his brother turn over the drug.

Bush on the defensive after questions about Iraq, military

An AP News Analysis

BY TERENCE HUNT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—A growing stack of problems, from questions about his military record to faulty intelligence about Iraq, has thrown President Bush on the defensive, driven down his poll ratings and caused Republicans to fret.

If the election were held today, Democrat John Kerry would beat Bush, according to some polls that are causing GOP anxiety.

Bush's campaign strategists insist the race is exactly where they thought it would be because of all the attention on Democrats during the presidential primary season. They say the president will rebound when he steps fully into the campaign, taps his \$100 million-plus political war chest and unleashes a torrent of television ads next month.

One of Bush's biggest problems concerns his credibility, the idea that he's a leader who speaks the truth and isn't afraid to level with people. It was one of the attributes he stressed four years ago in trying to distinguish himself from President Clinton.

Now, Bush is getting the lowest ratings of his presidency on whether people view him as honest and trustworthy.

The credibility problems became noticeable last month when Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill asserted that Bush began laying the groundwork to invade Iraq just days after taking office in 2001. Then former weapons inspector David Kay came out with his headline-grabbing conclusion that Saddam Hussein did not have the weapons of mass destruction that Bush claimed he had as America went to war.

"Obviously there have been some severe jolts to his credibility and it's showing up in a bunch of polls," said Mark Schulman, who conducts national surveys and is not attached to any candidate.

Credibility questions are just one of Bush's headaches. Americans are still worried about the economy and the loss of 2.3 million jobs on Bush's watch. Politically important states like Ohio, Pennsylvania and Michigan are struggling with the disappearance of good-paying manufacturing jobs.

And then there is Iraq, where more than 500 Americans have been killed.

Kerry and other Democrats have used the election primaries to criticize the president on the war, the economy, jobs, leadership, trustworthiness and other issues.

Bush's job approval rating—in 60s and high 50s most of last year—now is in the high 40s to low 50s in many polls, including 47 percent in an AP-Ipsos poll last week. An ABC-Washington Post poll this week found that just over half of respondents, 52 percent, viewed him as honest and trustworthy, while 45 percent did not.

"It's early in the game. But if I were Bush looking at the poll numbers now, there are

causes for concern," said Schulman.

Republicans say Bush has muffed some recent opportunities to recover.

Conservative columnist Robert Novak wrote that Bush's State of the Union address was the most ineffective in recent years, and he said Bush "has not seemed energized on the campaign trail." Bush has been shadowing Democrats in presidential primary states and battleground states, traveling a day or two a week.

Peggy Noonan, former speechwriter for President Reagan, wrote that Bush seemed "tired, unsure and often bumbling" when he appeared on NBC's

"Meet the Press" to answer questions about Iraq and suggestions he shirked his military duty during the Vietnam War.

Questions about Bush's service in the Texas Air National Guard persisted throughout the week and kept the White House on the defensive, as Democrats played up Kerry's war-hero image. Hoping to quell the controversy, Bush released his military records Friday evening, but there was no new evidence to demonstrate he showed up for duty in Alabama—the issue questioned by Democrats.

Striking back, Bush's campaign released its first direct attack on Kerry in a video that called him "unprincipled" and "brought to you by the special interests." The video was sent via the Internet to millions of people.

The administration also is stepping up its economic sales job. Treasury Secretary John Snow, Commerce Secretary Don Evans, Labor Secretary Elaine Chao and Small Business Administrator Hector Barreto will go to Washington and Oregon next week to promote Bush's economic policies.

Bush will go to Florida on Sunday to open the Daytona 500 in front of NASCAR fans, an important group of voters, and on Tuesday he'll speak to a military audience at Fort Polk, La.

"We're obviously looking forward to when the president starts getting into campaign mode," said Matthew Dowd, chief strategist and poll-watcher for Bush's campaign.

"It will be a two-phase campaign," Dowd said. "One phase will be presenting the president's vision and defending his record. And the other phase will be sort of outlining who the Democrat is and what has been mischaracterized about him."

In an interview this week, Dowd said questions about Saddam's weapons and O'Neill's charges and other issues would be sorted out by voters.

"They put everything in context, the things they like and the things they don't like," Dowd said. "Obviously we believe in the end, the things that they like about the president and what he wants to do in the next four years is going to outweigh anything they might have"

Murder Continued from Page 1

The policy, already gaining the approval and support Student Government last month, is pending approval by the President's Cabinet who requested that a preamble to the document be attached before it goes into effect.

"In light of this incident, we would like to have it as soon as possible--the sooner the better," Bailey said. He says that the preamble is nearly completed and estimates that the policy could go into effect as soon as Wednesday.

In addition to Wilkes University Public Safety's response to the murder, the Offices of Student Affairs and Residence Life also responded.

Soon after the incident, Residence Life Director Gretchen Yeninas sent out an e-mail notification to Resident Assistants making them aware of the situation and advising them to "use caution when walking at night...and use your common sense when out and about."

Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Paul Adams, also sent out a letter on Friday, February 13, to the homes of undergraduate students, making parents or guardians aware of the university's response to the incident.

Adams explained his reasoning for the letter. "When you look at the demographic of the university undergraduate population, such a high proportion of the students are coming from this region of northeastern Penn-

sylvania, so our media outlet of Wilkes-Barre/Scranton reaches as much as 75 percent of the families that belong to our undergraduates. So [a parent or guardian] seeing this on

the news...might immediately have some anxiety," he said. While the incident did not occur on University property, most local media outlets made reference to the incident in the context

of the university's proximity, some going as far as to report the murder primarily from a Wilkes perspective.

"Clearly Wilkes University is not involved in this crime: so do I think that to tie the University to this is fair? No, I don't. Do I think that from time to time, we can be victims of sensationalizing? Sure," Adams said in response to the links made by local media to the crime.

However, Adams said while he doesn't approve of some of the angles and choices made by members of the media, he can understand why the local press has made such an issue of the murder's propinquity to campus.

"I think campuses are generally viewed as relatively safe places, and so the fact that something so horrific could happen in such close proximity I'm sure is intriguing to the media, and creates a buzz," Adams said.

Adams also pointed out that "We [the university] do have a responsibility to provide an environment which people can learn and be safe...whenever that gets violated; we're going to take notice."

Public Safety officials urge anyone with information about the incident to contact the Wilkes-Barre Police Department at 911 or 826-8106. Callers wishing to maintain their anonymity can call the Wilkes University C.A.R.E. hotline at 408-CARE (2273) or ext. CARE (2273).



The Beacon/Kristin Hake

Although the crime at 292 South Franklin St. is not connected to Wilkes, campus officials are encouraging each student to use caution when travelling off campus.

Commuter Council Offers Weekly Coffee Hour

University offices to sponsor breakfasts

BY VICTORIA WHITE
Beacon Staff Writer

Coffee anyone? That's what members of Commuter Council (CC) are asking with the implementation of a new program designed to tie students, commuters, and university services together.

CC developed the idea of a Coffee Hour from a suggestion made by members of Student Affairs last semester, and CC members have been working since then to implement the program. The first Coffee Hour will be held on Wednesday, February 18 from 9AM to 11AM in the Commuter Lounge (basement of Conyngham Hall).

The basis behind the program is to give offices on campus a chance to reach out directly to commuter students. The office presenting at the Coffee Hour, will be the sponsor and be responsible for the breakfast offered to all students in attendance, making the Coffee Hour free to students who wish to attend.

Commuter Council President, Lindsey Wotanis, said, "Hopefully, the program will get off to a good start with the first Coffee Hour and other departments will be eager to follow."

The various offices and departments on campus that wish to sponsor a Coffee Hour will have a unique opportunity. The offices will be able to speak to the students on a more personal level, in a more personal setting. Providing the Commuter Lounge as the venue for the Coffee Hour allows students a sense of comfort that is often missing when they enter offices that are foreign to them.

"The hope of the Commuter Council, is to allow commuter students a chance to unite with offices and departments on campus that commuters may not know about, or may not be familiar with," said Sarah Herbert, sophomore CC member.

Becky Goodman, sophomore CC member said, "I think it comes down to the fact that

menting with great success at other colleges and Wilkes hopes to find the same success with the program. Goodman said, "I think that if they are there often enough, people will check them out, if for no other reason than wondering why all these offices are offering a free breakfast."

CC is trying to keep all of the Coffee Hours

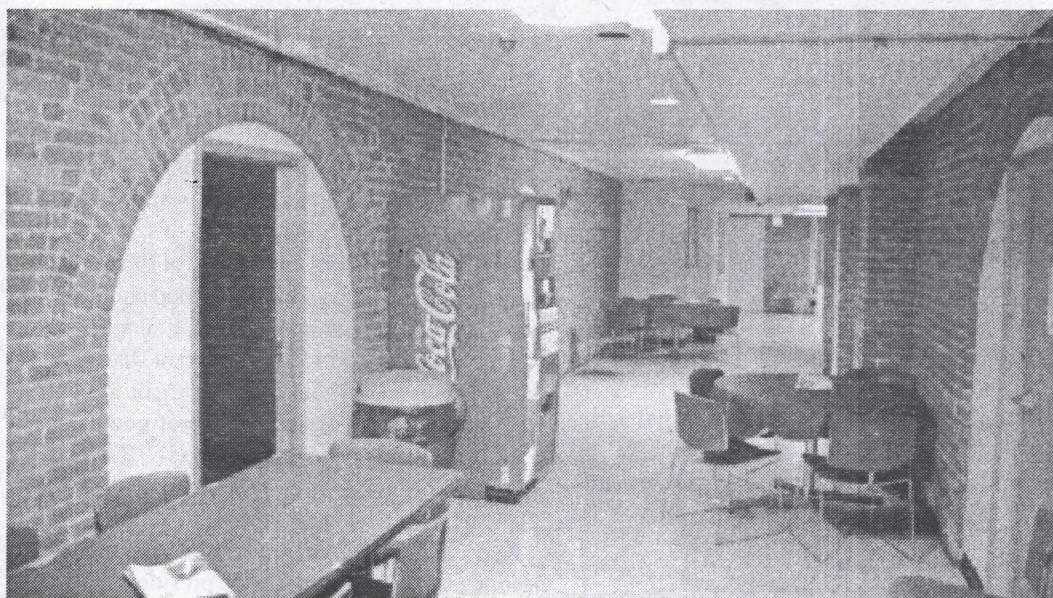
on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9-11 is the heaviest traffic; the lounge is packed to capacity. Choosing Wednesday was just a convenience in hopes that more students will attend."

The Coffee Hours are available to all students, but the focus is on commuter students. Rich Hannick, Treasurer of CC said, "We hope to get commuters to attend so that they may get to know one another and the club itself while learning about the departments and offices on campus and how each effects commuters."

Wotanis said, "The Coffee Hour really has no direct benefit for the Commuter Council. Our job is to improve commuter life on campus and we feel that this program will help to do that by providing an outlet for commuters to get together in a social setting and meet one another, as well as to become more acquainted with various campus services available to them."

With high hopes and for the new program, all campus departments were informed of the opportunity to reach out to the commuter population, and CC is planning Coffee Hours for once a week. Wotanis said, "I hope to get at least fifty people at the first Coffee Hour, and I would love to see that number grow as the Coffee Hour catches on and hopefully becomes a regular event for commuters."

The Coffee Hour program is expected to continue for spring semester, and based on success, long-term plans will be made to continue the program. With the first Coffee Hour on Wednesday, all commuters are invited to attend and experience a unique opportunity to network with other commuters and with departments on campus.



The Beacon/Ryan Klemish

The Commuter Lounge located in the basement Conyngham Hall will soon be the location of Coffee Hour, an event intended to connect commuters and university departments.

commuters don't have as readily available resources as residents do. This way we can still get in touch with the offices, while being off campus. The offices come to us, so we don't have to go and try to find them, as some commuters may not be very familiar with all of campus."

The Coffee Hour program has been imple-

mented on Wednesday, but the group admits that it may change depending on the office or department that will present, and when they are available to send a representative. The day and time of the Coffee Hour may seem a little strange to some but Herbert said, "In trying to find a time, we (as a club) looked at when the lounge is most populated. We found that

Boiler Problem Continued from Page 1

room. By the end of the day on Tuesday, that number grew to 31," Yeninas stated.

The building in question is referred to as the Riverside Apartments and is located on the corner of West River and West Ross streets. The complex, owned by Jay Robinson, housed approximately 57 individuals, 50 of whom are Wilkes students.

Junior nursing major, Elise Hiley, who is currently staying at the Ramada Inn, claimed that on Saturday morning when she woke up the heat was not working. The lack of heat lasted for about 48 hours, and the thermostat in her apartment did not read above 56 degrees until the apartment was evacuated Monday evening.

"The police officers came to the door and told us to get our stuff ready as fast as possible and we were going down to the Dorothy Dickson Dart center and would be sent out from there whether we would be staying with friends or family, or going to the hotel," said Hiley.

Hiley also stated that it was an elderly woman's home health nurse that was finally responsible for notifying the police and the university.

"She is a bed-ridden, elderly woman and the police were called by her home health nurse, I believe, because it was so cold in there and we didn't have electricity for a short period of time, also, because of the space heaters shorting out," explained Hiley.

According to Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Paul Adams, the messy situation began on Monday evening, and possibly won't conclude until a new boiler is installed sometime this week.

"The first notification came into Public Safety early in the evening Monday night. As would be the university's protocol, Public Safety would have notified the Student Affairs officer on duty, who was Gretchen Yeninas... We have a certain protocol that we would jump into in certain situations like that and she just jumped into it and just did a fabulous job of responding from our perspective," Adams said.

Adams added that Public Safety and Wilkes-Barre police officers worked hand in

hand to evacuate the individuals inside safely.

"I think initially when we first heard about it we really didn't have a sense for how broad the problem was. I think after the initial call we thought it was only several students, but it mushroomed to 50 plus and that is a significant amount of people to be displaced all at one time," Adams explained. "But clearly what we would do in situations like that is try

to create a common gathering place so that it is easy to share information with people and that night we used the lobby of the Dart center to do that. We worked to facilitate the arrangements for people to stay, getting shelter over their heads was what was most important. Sometimes it is easier for the public officials, whether it's the fire department or the police department or any of the inspectors for the city, to work with the university directly, and it saves them from having to have 30 other different contacts... sometimes it's helpful for us to be that go between, and, you know,

The police officers came to the door and told us to get our stuff ready as fast as possible and we were going down to the Dorothy Dickson Dart center and would be sent out from there whether we would be staying with friends or family, or going to the hotel.

Elise Hiley

Riverside Apartment Resident, Junior Nursing Major

Gretchen got everybody who wanted to go down to the Ramada situated."

Meal plans for lunch and dinner privileges were provided to the students by the university, but according to Adams, the landlord has offered to reimburse the expenses that resulted in the lack of heat.

"Other things that we did on their behalf was try to act as an advocate for them to their landlord, and the landlord I think did the right things. The landlord is picking up the expenses for the young people for their housing and meals, since they can't be in their building at night," Adams said.

On Tuesday night, February 10, members of the Student Affairs team held a meeting with

the students who were evacuated to discuss the latest news on the boiler and any other concerns that arose. As Adams pointed out, students asked questions about when they could move back into the apartment complex, which appears longer than originally anticipated.

pated.

"We tried to help them with answering some of those questions. We had some of the folks from the Neighborhood Impact Team (NIT) from the city and they were able to provide us with those answers... We invited a representative from the realty company (J.R. Wilkes) to be there and he was able to be there and did come, and he was able to share the latest news from their perspective. While there was good news that the boiler was going to arrive early on Thursday [February 12], they still knew it was going to be a multi-day project. I think they are still looking into next week before they [student residents] are going to be back in there," Adams explained.

Adams said students were encouraged to go back to their apartment during the day to collect items of value, because of concerns that the media coverage could lead to crime in the complex. Both Wilkes Public Safety Officers and city patrols were increased in the area, since it was empty and a prime location for possible theft.

Students also voiced concerns about their lease agreement with the owner, and if they would be able to break it if they chose to seek

another place of residence.

"To the landlord's credit, yes, certainly I think they can take steps throughout the local magistrate if they wanted to do that [break their lease]. But the management company's response when we talked about that, was that anybody who wants to leave, there would not be any legal impediments of breaking the lease. They were very responsive to the students' needs and were willing to accommodate anybody who wanted to change their place of residence. If that was a problem, then I think the counsel we received from the city was to go through the magistrate and given the circumstances it would be likely that the magistrate would approve of the lease being terminated," said Adams.

However, as a two-year resident of the building, Hiley explained that this is the first major problem she has encountered while living there and to move out at this point would be a hassle.

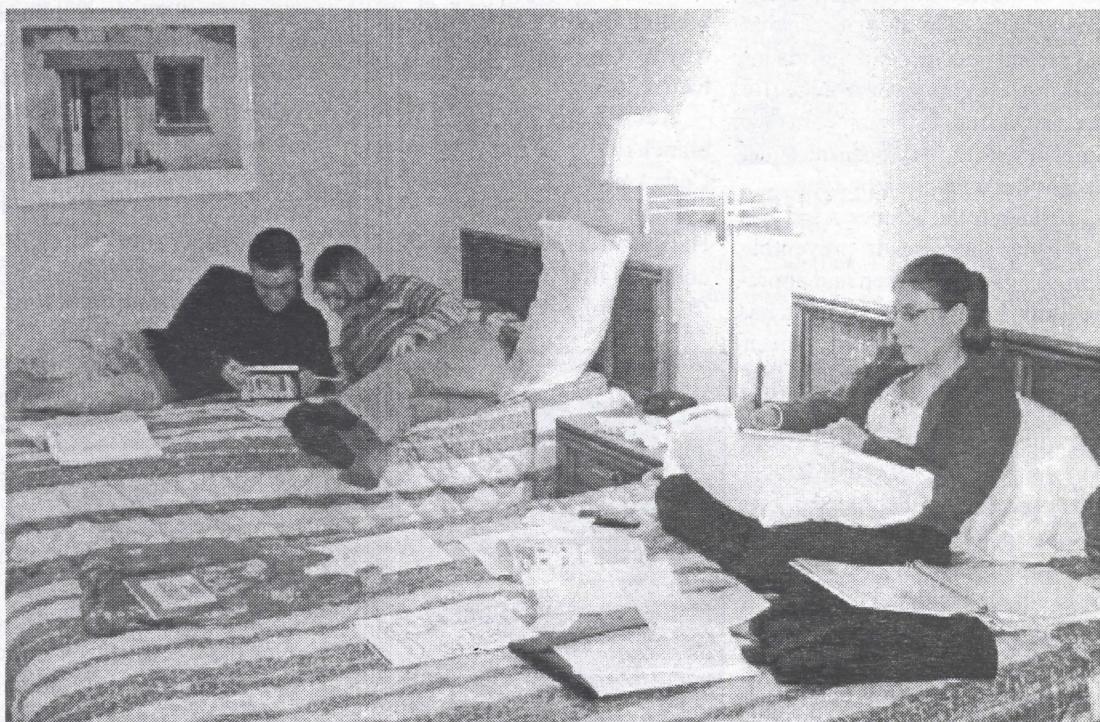
"Quite honestly, my roommate is a senior, so she will be moving out at the end of the semester, anyway. So it would kind of be silly to move to a new apartment and then have to leave that again. So for us it really wasn't an option to go to a different building. If it was the beginning of the fall semester, we probably would," she said.

Although the inconvenience has been a burden on residents, Hiley explained that the university stepped right in to lend a helping hand.

"Wilkes is great with accommodating us as far as working with the landlord, contacting the landlord, so it has been good at the Ramada."

In the meantime, students at the Ramada like Hiley are anticipating when the whole manner is resolved and they can get back to their apartment.

"It looks like we can go back Tuesday, [February 17] hopefully," Hiley concluded.



The Beacon/Kristin Hake

Elise Hiley (middle) and Lindsay Fries (right) with guest, Dan Yadrnak, are pictured doing homework at their temporary residence, The Ramada Inn.



The Beacon/Ryan Klemish

Elise Hiley bundles up in her apartment on West River Street.

Amber Alert Fails in Florida's Carlie Brucia Case

The Amber Alert system has been in the news quite a bit lately, mostly because of the sad case that has recently occurred in Florida involving eleven year old Carlie Brucia. Most in the country are now familiar with the car wash video that caught her abduction on tape.

Although the Amber Alert has had many successes in preventing crimes against children and apprehending kidnappers since it has been instituted, if you have been following this case you know that tragically the Amber Alert failed to prevent the death of Carlie Brucia. The Amber Alert for Carlie Brucia was cancelled on February 6, following the discovery of her body. Her kidnapper, Joseph Smith, has been charged with her murder.

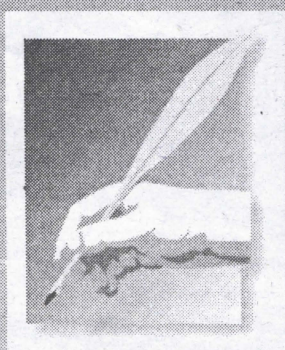
Since Carlie Brucia's death, the media and citizens alike have voiced many questions and plenty of criticism. Mostly the criticism has focused on the Florida Justice Department, because the court system had repeatedly let Joseph Smith seemingly slip through its hands despite an impressive and disturbing rap sheet.

But there are also questions being raised about the attitudes of law enforcement concerning the Amber Alert, and their use of it. Specifically: why is it that Florida law enforcement agencies didn't issue the Amber Alert for Carlie until twenty-seven hours after Carlie Brucia's initial disappearance? What was the rationale behind not issuing the Alert sooner? The quicker the alert is put in place, the greater the likelihood that it will work and the suspect will be apprehended before any serious harm comes to the child involved. This is simple statistics.

Before delving into the reasons being cited for the delay in this case, and the issues surrounding the current situation in Florida, perhaps it

is important to briefly review some details concerning the Amber Alert: what exactly is the Amber Alert, why was put in place, and how effective is it?

According to the Internet branch of the Amber Alert system, CodeAmber.org, the Amber Alert system is named for Amber Hagerman, a nine-year old who was abducted from her Texas home. In the case of Amber Hagerman, a



Beacon Editorial

The ideas and positions expressed in the editorial are those of the Editorial Board which is comprised of Managing Editor, Editorial Board Chair, News Editor, Features Editor, Arts and Entertainment Editor, Sports Editor, and Photo Editor

neighbor was able to remember some crucial identifying details about the suspected kidnapper and the vehicle the person might have been driving. Unfortunately, at this time, there was no way of "getting the word out" to all citizens and law enforcement personnel so that there would be a greater chance of someone recognizing the suspect, Amber herself, or the vehicle. Tragically, Amber was murdered by her

kidnapper and her body was discovered a few days later. This unfortunate case lead to public outcry for a widespread emergency response system to relay information amongst citizens, media, and law enforcement in the case of an abducted or endangered child, similar to the emergency alert system used to notify the public of severe weather warnings. This is how the Amber Alert came into being.

Currently, 47 of the 50 states have a statewide Amber Alert system in effect; the only exceptions are Ohio, North Carolina, and Hawaii. Also, Congress recently voted to establish a national Amber Alert Plan. How does an Amber Alert go into effect? Notification of a possible abduction and descriptions of the child and the suspect (if available) and/or vehicles that might be transporting the child and abductor are broadcast over the airwaves--the media is saturated with the information, with tickertape updates playing on TV and also over the Internet. One source of information that has proven to be effective are the electronic billboards that are posted in places over the Interstates. Motorists read the information and keep an eye out for the vehicle described. The Interstate Amber Alert was crucial to the successful recovery of two abducted California teens that made headlines across the nation last August.

In states that have the Amber Alert, the system is supposed to be put into effect immediately after a child is considered kidnapped or endangered. So what happened in the case of poor Carlie Brucia? Well, the key word in the first sentence of this paragraph is considered: it is the old story that so often comes up in discussing law enforcement and missing persons--a Miss-

ing Persons report usually is not issued until twenty-four hours after a person has gone missing, if not more. In cases involving missing children, law enforcement are encouraged to move faster, but many police officials are reluctant to issue the Amber Alert before twenty-four hours is out or before they receive evidence that the child has in fact been abducted. The reasoning is that they do not want to "overuse the system" if it is a case wherein the child has simply run away or is at a friend's house and forgot to call home.

When friends and relatives of Carlie Brucia became concerned, and asked that police issue the Amber Alert, law enforcement responded by saying they could not do so because they did not yet have any evidence of foul play, and because Carlie was almost twelve they had to consider it first as a runaway case until they received evidence to the contrary--despite the girl's friends and relatives reiterating that

Carlie had no motive to run away and showed no signs of intending to do so. She was walking home from a friend's house when she disappeared. This is disturbing mostly because it begs the question how a missing child--any child, whether it's a five-year-old, a pre-teen or a teenager--doesn't immediately raise red flags with the police. Is it possible that by following protocol, police are unlikely to take a report seriously at first? Just because the missing child is a teenager or pre-teen, and yes, hormone-driven and emotional, it is more likely they ran away? Even if it had turned out that Carlie Brucia had run away, what would be the harm in issuing the alert if it led to her being taken safely home?

There are many cases cited of the success of the Amber Alert. A possible conclusion in the case of this failure is that it is not the Amber Alert that is flawed, but the attitudes of law enforcement in hesitating to implement it.

THE BEACON

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Background

- * Established in 1944
- * Member of the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association
- * Printed on Mondays, with the exception of holidays
- * 1,500 papers distributed weekly

Your Voices

Dear Beacon Editorial Staff,

I have been reading over your editorials for about a semester and a half now. I have to say that I am dissatisfied that I do not agree with most of your editorials. Scanning over your editorial for February 2, I thought there was a glimmer of hope when I saw the title "Does the Media Determine America's Political Choices?" I was expecting to read about how the media would do all it could to get a democrat elected to the White House in 2004 (They announced that John Kerry had won the Washington and Michigan caucuses on Sportscenter!! I could go on and on but I won't). However, all you wrote about was how the media has not supported Howard Dean recently. The media gave Dean support initially. That is how he became the frontrunner for the Democrats. After Dean lost the Iowa caucus, the media began to focus on John Kerry.

My main point in writing to you is that I am upset about your latest editorial "Patriot Act Serves as Modern Reminder of McCarthyism." On July 11, 1995, the US government released findings from a top secret project, the Venona Project, that involved Soviet cables that had been decoded. These cables proved that McCarthy was indeed telling the truth about Soviet spies in the government. Therefore, the liberal notion of "McCarthyism" is a complete fallacy. Today, the Patriot Act is in place and liberals are continuing to shout "McCarthyism." The Patriot Act is not going to make American citizens afraid to express their opinions openly. The purpose of the act is to monitor foreigners, who are from terrorist nations and have possible terrorist connections, when they come into the United States.

We should not forget that over three thousand people were killed on September 11, 2001. Terrorism is real; let's not turn on our backs on it.

Bryan Riley

Point/Counterpoint**The Diet War: Are Low-Carbs Really the Answer?**

BY GINGER ESLICK
Beacon Op-Ed Editor

The newest innovation in our dieting industry is the low-carb diet. Heightened by the media attention and chain restaurants, the public has yet to see the last of this diet craze. The health issues and failures that are rumored to be associated with this diet create a great deal of controversy. This controversy leaves us wondering if low-carb diets really do provide the answer to all of our weight-loss concerns or if they are simply a passing fad.

Ginger Eslick

Low-Carb Diets End the Ongoing Weight-loss Battle

Let's face facts. Americans are overweight. Their health is in danger and they are unwilling or unmotivated to get out and work up a good old-fashioned sweat by heading the

gym. We live in a society that craves ease. What could be easier than a diet program that lets you eat foods you like, such as meat, cheese, fish, nuts, eggs and certain low-carb/low-sugar vegetables and fruits?

Granted, you must watch your carbohydrate intake; however, many restaurants are counting your carbs for you. Restaurants such as Subway and TGI Fridays are making your weight-loss success even more achievable with meals that are "Atkins Friendly," letting you know exactly how many carbs are in the food you have to consume.

Now, here are a few facts about the Atkins diet. According to atkins.com, following the Atkins Diet can actually make you a healthier person because the vitamin and mineral intake is greater than other typical American diets. The benefits of the Atkins diet are two-fold. Not only can the diet help with obesity, but it can also help regulate diabetes. More and more scientists and doctors are categorizing the Atkins diet as an effective and easy way to win the battle of weight-loss.

The Atkins diet is hard to follow, right? Wrong. Once you learn how many carbs are

in each food choice and what foods are off limits you are on your way. In other words, if you are serious about losing weight and commit to the diet for more than a week, you will develop a system and you will quickly learn how many carbs are in each food choice. Ending the days of when you had to look up the carb count for each food.

My advice is to give the diet a chance if you are serious about losing weight. You may find that you can actually get appetizing food choices, convenience and health all on the same platter.

Kerri Parrinello

Stop Counting Carbs and Live Happily

Everyone at some point in their lives searches for that one thing that could bring them money, love, and acceptance: the perfect diet. Over the past few years, the newest fad has been the low-carb diet.

Atkins and South Beach, in particular, boast that if a person controls his or her carbohydrate intake, the body will begin to burn stored-up carbs until the carbs are gone, at which point the fat will begin to melt away.

Having attempted the Atkins diet for almost 6 months, I'd lost 6 pounds in my first



BY KERRI PARRINELLO
Beacon Layout Artist

two weeks, and then I lost nothing for 3 weeks and on and on. At the end of the diet, I'd only lost 10 pounds.

I'm sure that with the proper discipline and some really hard work, the low-carb diet could work, but who has the time to check their carb intake at every meal? Some fast food restaurants, such as Subway, now boast low-carb sandwiches, which makes eating out easier, but no one knows how many carbs there are in a Whopper.

It's entirely impractical to try to monitor how many carbs you take in every day, and frankly, I couldn't live without bread or pasta again. So the moral of the story boys and girls is this; eat what you want. You only live once, so you may as well be happy and full.

Environmental Sensitivity is Key to Avoiding Catastrophe

BY STEVE FAHAY, P.J. REGIS, ERICA ROBACZEWSKI and LAURA SCHILLY,
Students from Dr. Mike Case's Fall '03 GES Global Climate Change course

Sea ice and glaciers in the Arctic are melting. The permafrost, a layer of permanently frozen earth just below the surface, is thawing. The tundra is yielding to an advancing tree line and shrubbery. That sounds bad, but we're not polar bears; we do not rely on the Arctic for our existence, or do we?

Nestled in a valley of the Appalachian Mountains, students here at Wilkes University may be uninformed about the changing north polar conditions. But the fact is that the Arctic exerts control over the climate of the entire earth. If the Arctic ice cover continues to melt, less sunlight will be reflected back into the atmosphere, thus warming the climate of the entire planet. In addition, there are vast stores of carbon in the form of peat that underlie much of the tundra in the Arctic. As the Arctic thaws, the carbon is released as carbon dioxide, further enhancing the greenhouse effect. Arctic air temperatures have increased by 0.5 degree Celsius each decade over the past 30 years, thus increasing the melt rate of the sea ice covering the Arctic Ocean.

The thawing permafrost causes major problems by increasing the freshwater discharge into the Arctic basin. The increase of fresh water causes the global ocean circulation to change dramatically thus radically affecting the climate. Also, researchers have concluded that the Arctic meltdown will have long-term implications for flooding globally.

For example, coastal erosion is already a problem in the U.S. The rise in sea level will increase storm surge and increase erosion.

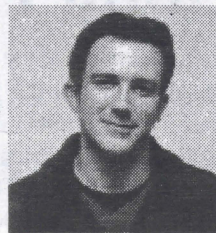
Just think of what Hurricane Isabel could have done with less coastal region to work with.

Despite all of the research and new discoveries, predicting what will happen is laden with difficulties. The processes that are causing the Arctic to melt are not completely understood by scientists and researchers. However, they are certain that whatever is causing the meltdown will have global effects. In the vicinity of the Arctic, the reduction of sea ice leads to the loss of a unique marine ecosystem abounding with polar bears, seals and whales. The Earth would see far more absorbed solar radiation, including the Arctic where newly open seas absorb more sunlight.

For some business people and politicians, the diminishing sea ice can be seen as having a positive effect. With less Arctic ice, new marine trade routes would be available, facilitating the transportation of goods. Tourism would also benefit with new routes for site seeing.

Our responsibility as educated men and women is to be aware of the impact our actions have on our environment. We need to anticipate rather than react to changing conditions in order to hopefully prevent what could be catastrophic global conditions. If you think this will not affect you in your lifetime, you are mistaken. This is something your children will have to deal with and the grandchildren of people living today will be affected. We have an obligation to them. As far as we have come, we are still dependent upon the Earth for our survival. Sitting back and hoping everything will work out may be the biggest mistake we can make.

No Child Left Behind Leaves Kids and Schools in the Dust



BY MATT JONES
Beacon Columnist

Upon perusing the "No Child Left Behind Act" I discovered something that didn't really surprise me much: I didn't understand most of it. I unfortunately have not been blessed with a political mind or the patience to decode legislative texts. Thankfully though, this handicap won't completely hinder me from discussing two key points from the bill that are of interest to me.

First up, the stuff that made me mad. The core idea of the bill, stating that evaluations in math and reading are required every year in grades 3 through 8, is a grim reminder of the fundamental fallacy of the SATs: subjects other than math and reading comprehension DO EXIST. Never...NEVER should academic testing of a student's overall ability be weighed solely by math and reading. It's an unfortunate fact, but some people are just inherently stupid when it comes to these disciplines. I, for example, am essentially considered marginally retarded in relation to my math scores throughout my academic career. I understand that a completely comprehensive examination of all core subjects would be a difficult one to compose, but let's not have the kids suffer just because some educational bigwigs are too damn lazy to write up a longer or more thorough test.

Worse yet, the results of these exams will directly correlate with how much funding

schools will receive. And if things couldn't get worse, the schools that scored poorly actually receive *less funding* than those that scored better. This is the single most backwards way of distributing money ever conceived by anyone, ever. So, those schools struggling are essentially coated in blood and left outside for the wolves while those that scored higher can now place 70-inch plasma screen televisions in the teachers' lounges and have enough money left to buy the golf team solid gold clubs (if you catch my drift on that one).

The only worthy article contained in this Act was tied to arts education. In this component of the legislation, the arts were listed as a core subject that, by law, must be supported with a certain amount of appropriated funds. Unfortunately, the law does not say anywhere that an equal amount must be spent on core subjects, so music could theoretically be placed at the bottom of the list if local educators so choose. Despite this, the national recognition that arts are a core subject is at least a step in the right direction of familiarizing students with a subject that is largely, if not entirely in some cases, ignored. The value of arts education is immeasurable in regards to introducing students to forms of creativity and expression that may have been absent in their lives, especially in schools that may be struggling academically.

While this victory in the art field does not make up for the atrocious regulations surrounding the No Child Left Behind Act, it does offer at least a small beacon of hope. God willing, future generations will be exposed to the arts and can discover on their own the therapeutic and life-affirming qualities the field possesses.

Civic Responsibility at Wilkes Begins With Recycling



BY DR. MISCHELLE ANTHONY
Visiting Professor of English

Oddly, just as my grandfather predicted, water is often no longer free, but complimentary catalogs are in abundance. Order one pair of thermal socks and win a lifetime supply of slick JCrew copy. And then there is the *Sierra Trading Post*, with a page-one company ethics policy. The *Post* will keep costs as low as possible while simultaneously operating "according to the principles of Jesus Christ."

Jesus had an interest in the garment industry? He approved of polar fleece? I had no idea! But imagine my surprise when I realized that Christ must also, according to this company, approve of farming out U.S. industry to sweat shops in China and small island countries like Bangladesh and

Mauritius. Every last item of the *Sierra Woman* (insert lavender tulip here) spring catalog is imported (read: made by children and women in poverty who are whipped/starved/harassed by said company). *Sierra* will receive an email from my somewhat culturally aware fingers later today.

And now for the appropriate segue: *Sierra Trading Post* is like most of us. We want to make a good impression, to be upright—perhaps not through following the ever-popular Lamb of God, but to sleep without guilt pouring over us. I know very few people who would say, "My main ethical concern is to make more people suffer." And companies like the *Post* know this: it's all about the rhetoric. The word "imported" for all their garments, in tiny print, barely makes the item description. Jesus appears in large font on page 1 on an Easter-ish lilac-colored background. It's all in the presentation. Life is rhetoric. My connection here is to something many of us are not aware of on this campus: recycling.

****STAY WITH ME. I WON'T HARRANGUE YOU WITH WOE-FILLED TALES OF LITTER AND LANDFILLS**** although I could. But that's not good rhetoric, is it? My awareness of recycling began last August, when I moved to a nicely renovated 1-

bedroom in Wilkes-Barre. I came from a community that one could call less than progressive. Crowds pour into the Tumbleweed bar ("Weed" to all its regulars) every weekend, and the one more rabidly attended event than the annual bedlam football game against "that other Oklahoma University" is the calf-fry (testicle festival-really). "Make Mine Beef!" vanity plates proudly proclaim, and large diesel pick-ups requiring more than four tires-Dooleys-are common transportation vehicles. ("My other car's an SUV.") *Playboy* finds a large percentage of its models in the Oklahoma/Texas region. My home state is ranked 49th in state education funding while simultaneously being the third highest in state legislator salary. Last year Oklahoma fired nearly 200 teachers in a district whose student population continues to grow.

Yet Stillwater, Oklahoma recycles everything—all plastics, including those rings off milk jugs that cats chase around, all cardboard, even the hot pink child-porn Barbie packaging, enthusiastically. When the Stillwater City Commission decided to shut down its recycling facilities because "they weren't profitable," the dozens of group home residents, who worked at the site, sorting recyclables, were sent back to their

starchy food and outings. And Stillwater's people got mad. The next commission meeting, always open to the public but rarely attended, was packed. There was spirited conversation and raised voices the like of which had not existed since a few downtown businesses proposed making local charity donations part of city taxes (an idea quickly, head-spinningly gunned down by people who do, mostly, have some type of rifle hanging in one or another of their vehicles). You get the idea.

Anyway, because several citizens made a ruckus, the city backed down. They reinstated recycling and, because of all the attention, raised awareness of environmental concerns among diverse populations in that locale. Stillwater recycling is going strong. Not just hemp-wearing sprout-eaters, either. Grandparents, soccer moms, whole elementary schools and, yes, I swear I saw-rosy-necked young men reaching behind the gun rack to grab those empty beer bottles from the cow roping yee-haw party of the previous weekend.

If Stillwater, a place of 44,000 tending-toward-the-close-minded-side-of-reality types can recycle, why doesn't Wilkes, a place that "engenders a sense of values and civic responsibilities?"

Push 2008 Pennsylvania Primaries to an Earlier Date



BY J.W. DAVIES
Beacon Columnist

With states like New Hampshire, Vermont, and South Carolina receiving an extensive amount of attention during the beginning of the primary season, Pennsylvanians are finding that, by the time the primaries wind down, their much-anticipated votes will not even matter. The 2004 Pennsylvania primary is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, April 27th, but many residents, including Governor Ed Rendell, have suggested the idea of moving the 2008 primary to an earlier date so that Pennsylvanians would have the opportunity to choose from the entire menu of candidates.

At this point, in the middle of February, almost half of the candidates have dropped out of the race. The battle for the Democratic nomination, however, will only become more intense through March. And for Pennsylvanians, who are actually following the race, the idea of being left with only one candidate to choose from in April will start to seem quite possible.

Senator John Kerry's recent surge in popularity and his dominance in the early primaries have left many voters with the impression that he is the sure choice for the nomination. He has already racked up 538 delegates compared to Howard Dean's 182, and Sen.

John Edwards' 166. If Kerry continues on this pace, especially through the March 2 California primary, which has 441 delegates at stake, Pennsylvania's 178 delegates will be useless. It is very similar to the dilemma faced by Pennsylvanians in the 2000 Presidential primaries when then-Governor George Bush had already secured the nomination much earlier than Pennsylvania's late April contest. And it will continue to be a dilemma for Pennsylvanians if steps are not taken now to move future primaries to an earlier date.

The problem with having such a late primary not only effects a private citizen's particular preference for a certain candidate, but it also has damaging effects on overall voter turnout, which, in turn, could possibly end up adversely impacting turnout in the general election.

Another negative effect of the late primary is that it leaves Pennsylvania, a state of historical importance when it comes to presidential elections, out of the candidate selection process. In the general election, there is no doubt that Pennsylvania is one of the "must win" states. When it comes to the primaries, however, smaller states such as New Hampshire and Vermont are given more credence based solely on their placement on the primary schedule. These states get the full experience of the election process. They have the opportunity to see, or possibly even meet the true underdog candidates, the ones who are simply running on passion and heart. They also get to see the sheer force and manpower of the more experienced and well-funded candidates. These states get to witness the battle from the front lines, where every candidate must find his or

her own way to win the vote of each and every resident.

For Pennsylvanians, however, the primary does not seem like nearly as much fun. We get the backwash of the campaign process. If we are lucky and there is more than one candidate left, the chances are that they are merely riding it out to the end. There is no

more enthusiasm like that, which we saw in the coverage of the New Hampshire and Vermont primaries. It is all but over.

Therefore, it would be in the best interest of the state, the voters, and of the candidates to work together to move the 2008, and all future Pennsylvania primaries to an earlier date.

Nickle For Your Thoughts

A Cartoon by Jason Nickle





Dr. Thomas Baldino

Dr. Thomas Baldino is a Professor of Political Science and has been teaching at Wilkes for the past 13 years. He is also the advisor to the newly reactivated Political Science Club. Here, he talks to The Beacon about why he loves politics and why young people should get more involved.



Beacon: What draws you to the field of political science?

Baldino: I've always enjoyed watching government function and why decisions are made. . . It's a field that I enjoy reading about and studying but I don't think that I ever want to practice it. It's gotten dirty and nasty. . . It's nice to talk about and study and watch other people do it, but it's not for me.

Beacon: Are you working on any research right now?

Baldino: I am working on a project with another gentleman on the city of Wilkes-Barre and the evolution of its form of government. Wilkes-Barre's had four distinctly different types of government in a fifty-year period and we are investigating why those changes happened and the consequences of those changes. . . And...I've written over 30,000 words on various aspects of Congress for an encyclopedia. I've done ten entries and I've got two more to go.

Beacon: Why do you feel it is important to reactivate the Political Science Club on campus?

Baldino: There have always been a small number of students that have had a passion for politics. . . and those students have not had a focal point. So, bringing the club back in an organized fashion will help to focus their energies so that we can hopefully have more activities for them. . . I believe in synergy. People come up with ideas and run with them. It's not about a particular political orientation. It's just the opportunity for people who enjoy politics to talk about it.

Beacon: If you could give one piece of advice to Wilkes students in regards to the upcoming presidential election, what would it be?

Baldino: Educate themselves. Learn about the issues and the candidates and take two perspectives. Take a very self-interested perspective. [Ask] what will this candidate do for me, but then, even more importantly, which candidate is more likely to lead the country in the right direction. . . You have to start with a self-interested perspective, because without the self-interest, it's tough to get interested.

The Political Science Club

Karen Wesolowski and April Burko, freshmen PS majors, are currently in the process of reorganizing the club. Below, Wesolowski and Burko tell The Beacon why they decided to start it up again and why students should get involved.

Beacon: Why did you decide to reorganize the Political Science Club?

Wesolowski: There are clubs for almost all majors. Political science, however, did not have one...so we decided to restart the program for political science students, and anyone else interested in politics--locally, nationally, and internationally.

Beacon: What is the mission of the Political Science Club?

Burko: The Political Science Club has the mission of increasing public awareness of political issues and institutions and encouraging active involvement in political life.

Beacon: What is involved in restarting the club?

Wesolowski: We mostly have paper work to do. We contacted Dr. Baldino, who will be our staff advisor, and also Student Government to see what was needed to become a club. Like any other organization that is just starting out, we are also looking for ways to let the student body know we exist.

Beacon: How will new members help you reorganize the Political Science club?

Burko: We want students to get involved in club activities and participate in making students aware of our club's presence.

Beacon: What will the Political Science Club do?

Wesolowski: We will provide an environment for students to debate political topics, listen to political speakers, and there are a few trips that are being discussed.

Beacon: Why should students get involved with the Political Science Club?

Wesolowski: Anyone who is of age to vote should be aware of what is going on in politics and what it is that they are voting for. This is the way for them to do that.

Beacon: Is your club open to only political science majors?

Wesolowski: Our club is open to anyone interested in having a voice and some fun, too.

Beacon: How can interested students get involved?

Burko: Contact us at wilkespolisciclub@yahoo.com. You can also go to the website: www.geocities.com/wilkespolisciclub.



Slippery Conditions Can Lead to Winter Injuries

BY JEREMY ZUCKERO
Beacon Correspondent

Winter is a very memorable season, maybe the most memorable. Some people despise it and count the days until spring, but to others winter is a time to indulge in their favorite sports. The problem is, winter sports (and indeed, winter activity in general) can be dangerous, and just the right injury can put a person out of commission for quite a while.

As anyone who has sustained such an injury can tell, those related to winter sports are fairly common. According to Mrs. Diane O'Brien, Coordinator of Health Services at Wilkes University, out of twenty to twenty-five visits to Health Services each day, three or four are winter-related. She sees a definite increase in sports related injuries every winter both in Health Services and in the

while pursuing your interest(s) helps. There are more concrete things you can do, however.

"The biggest thing is to try to mimic as closely as possible the thing that you would like to do. [For example] ... skiing. You can try simple isometrics like jumping over a box, little things like that where your body is going to have to absorb the shock, but at the same time push off. Or, for snowboarding, you can do side-to-side one-legged hops. [In general], stretching out, trying to do some cardio ... or weightlifting."

Unfortunately, all the preparation in the world doesn't guarantee injury prevention. Anyone who participates in a sport, winter or otherwise, has a chance of being injured. One of the more common kinds of injuries



The Beacon/Kristin Delunas

Snow and ice make walking and driving tricky in the winter months.

emergency room in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital where she also works.

So how then do people typically get these kinds of injuries? Keith Klahold, Fitness Facility Director of Marts Gym, said, "...Poor preparation. ... They [athletes] didn't necessarily do anything, they may have just sat around ... and not been physically necessary ready [to participate in a winter sport]."

Readiness certainly seems to be an important idea, but even extremely prepared athletes occasionally sustain injuries. "The other thing is just the weather. We might get complaints every now and then about how warm it is [in the fitness center], but everybody is better off that way because when you are hot and then cold, when you try to do something ... you can pull a muscle," said Klahold.

Well, although not much can be done about the weather, there are ways to properly prepare for any winter activity. One way is simply to think about it; being aware of some things that could possibly go wrong

is a pulled muscle. Pulled muscles, when treated correctly, are not extremely serious, but therein lies the problem: they are often not treated correctly.

"The best is to ice the pull as soon as you can. After that, as soon as it starts to feel better, try to use it. The biggest mistake people will normally make is they will pull a muscle, wait three weeks until it feels completely fine, then try to do what they did ... and wind up pulling it again, whereas if you exercise the muscle (after a pull), and even if it's maybe five pounds on say a leg curl, it helps make the muscle stronger than what it was before," said Klahold.

If you do get an injury, pulled muscle or not, remember treatment and over-the-counter medicines are free at Health Services for all Wilkes University students, faculty, and staff, so stop by because untreated injuries only get worse. Enjoy winter sports, but be careful and take care of any injury right away!

Winter Weather Cancellations Wreak Havoc on Schedules

BY LINDSEY WOTANIS
Beacon Features Editor

The forecast for the coming weekend is rain with temperatures in the mid-40s.

That is quite a stretch from the weather we've experienced in the last several weeks. Snow in the forecast had students praying for a snow day, while many of their professors hoped classes would go on as scheduled.

The spring 2004 semester has already seen some snowy days, clouded with compressed schedules and cancellations, and it's only week five. Many students caught some extra winks when classes were delayed, and others breathed sighs of relief when they heard the news that their night classes had been cancelled. But, while the snow caused excitement for many students, it also caused nightmares for University administrators.

Dr. Paul Adams, Dean of Student Affairs, is responsible for making the decision to compress or cancel classes in the event of poor weather conditions. Adams finds himself constantly checking the forecast.

"During the winter months, those of us who have this responsibility are always monitoring the weather and looking at the forecast so when you see a weather event coming, it's something you have been anticipating for several days and watching develop," said Adams. "Generally speaking, the decisions on what we do in regard to weather is a collaborative one, made in consultation with College Misericordia and King's College because we share a common calendar and have a cross registration program. Our students are visiting each other's campuses and because of that we need to be consistent in our approach."

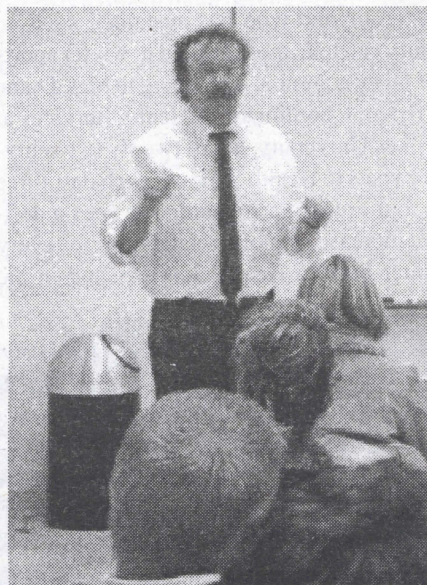
Adams finds himself up as early as 5 a.m. on predicted snow days. At that time, he touches base with those at the collaborative schools, where they exchange notes in hopes of reaching a decision.

"All of us are doing data gathering, whether it is from Internet weather sources, local media weather sources, talking with the staff on campus at Public Safety and asking what the conditions are like here,"

said Adams. "Then it is just a matter of being on the phone with these colleagues from the other schools and coming to a consensus decision on what is the best approach."

Once a decision is made, it is generally posted on the Wilkes website. A message also appears on the University's snow hotline, 408-SNOW. Adams' goal is to have the decision made and announced by no later than 6 a.m., because he realizes that many students travel a distance to get to campus.

However, last week, Adams was forced to make some tough decisions when the forecast was calling for not only snow, but also



The Beacon/Kristin Hake

Dr. Jeffery Alves meets his Tuesday night class for the second time this semester.

sleet and freezing rain.

"It really created a lot of concern. Once you get people to school, you have got to be able to get them home, and I think the freezing rain is something that everybody takes much more caution with," said Adams. "I think we're probably more tolerant of conditions when it is snowing because it is easier to drive in, but the ice is a whole different story."

The timing of a storm also causes problems for Adams when trying to make these kinds of decisions. Sometimes, as was the case on Friday, February 6, going on a com-

pressed schedule would not have helped, since the weather was supposed to intensify through noon. Instead, Adams made the decision to close the campus.

So far, the University has experienced four weather events this season, two of which caused Tuesday's night classes to be cancelled.

Dr. Jeffery Alves, Allan P. Kirby, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship, teaches BA 281, The Nature and Essence of Entrepreneurship on Tuesday evenings. Alves has already lost two of his class sessions due to the recent inclement weather.

Alves had to cancel his class on week two, and on weeks three and four, classes were cancelled because of the snowy conditions, so as of week five, his class of eight had only met one time previously. However, the students did participate in a twenty-hour out-of-class project—an entrepreneurship workshop at Victoria's Inn—so, as a result, he feels confident that they can make up the lost time.

"It's not like we've lost a lot of time, but we did have stuff scheduled for those two days [that were cancelled] and as a consequence we've had to reshuffle our schedule," said Alves. "We are going to compress the coverage on several topics and we are going to drop one topic entirely. But, my objective is to have us back on schedule by spring break, and I think we can do it."

Adam Hindmarsh, a sophomore and recently declared business administration major, hadn't even been to one of Alves' classes before last Tuesday. Because Hindmarsh switched majors this semester, he was added into the class after the first week.

"Considering it's been four weeks into the semester and I joined the class late, I hadn't even been to one class yet. So basically, I had no idea what to expect. I didn't even know if we were behind or not," said Hindmarsh.

Other faculty have required students to make up lost Tuesday nights at different times, which is an option in these cases.

As for making up the lost time, Adams said that no concrete plans have been made to reschedule the lost Tuesday time. However,

there is a chance for it to be made up at the end of the semester if the need arises.

Adams also pointed out that the weather we have been experiencing this year is no different than past winters. With the exception of the 2001-2002 school year, every year since 1998-1999 has had a total of five weather events, meaning some action, whether it is compressing or canceling, had to be taken. As of right now, the University has experienced four weather events this year.

To try and prevent so much lost time, Adams has developed an alternative to the compressed schedule and complete cancellation. He has sent the notification of this new alternative to all students and faculty via e-mail. Posters will also be hung around campus to alert people of the possible new procedures.

The e-mail read, "During inclement weather, as an alternative to the compressed schedule, the University may choose to open at noon, remaining on a regular class schedule. This option will preserve afternoon and evening classes, and allow an extra two hours for road and weather conditions to improve."

Adam also realizes that many of the University's students commute from broad distances.

"The University recognizes that our commuting students come from a wide geographic area and that road conditions can vary greatly throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania. Common sense and good judgment should act as a guide as to whether or not students can get to the University, or if a departure from campus earlier than closing time is required. We anticipate that the Faculty will respect student judgment in these matters," further read the email message.

Adam concluded that in his many years working in Student Affairs, he has never run into problems with faculty not understanding a student's judgment call in harsh conditions. Though he often second guesses the decisions he is forced to make, he said he can only make his decisions based on the local predictions, and always makes his decisions with the safety of the students, faculty and staff in mind.

Study Abroad Experiences Round Out Education

BY JESS NIEMIEC
Beacon Staff Writer

People choose to travel for many reasons. There's the thrill of bagging the big game in some deep jungle, the ability to absorb a culture completely, and, for some, the excitement of travelling to learn.

Wilkes University offers a study abroad program designed to send students to various reaches of the world with an educational mission. The students who participate are submerged in a completely new culture for months at a time, and their abilities to adapt are put to the ultimate test.

This program includes an entire semester in a foreign country, of the student's choice, during which the students learn, play, and speak in an entirely new and different way.

"It is a very rewarding experience for the

students," said Dr. Paola Bianco-Sobejano, Assistant Professor in the Foreign Languages Department and the Study Abroad Coordinator. "They can get so much from learning in a different setting. I want all students to realize they can be helped by this experience."

Classes are chosen while they're still here, with the help of their academic advisor, so that the curriculum fits nicely into their ultimate class plan. The advisors choose classes to replace some that are in the Wilkes course of study, so that the students do not lose a semester in terms of required coursework.

The overall experience depends on the culture and school setting that the student chooses to submerge themselves in.

"There are many areas of the world you can choose from. We have students that have gone to different places, and they all

come back with great and different experiences," said Bianco.

Three Wilkes students have recently returned from studying in foreign countries: Jenna Marks, Christine Bilhart, and Maria Karn. Each of these students were able to bring something different from their experience that will, in the end, further their education, whether it be from a social standpoint, or an academic one.

Those students that are involved seem to come back with a good experience, as well.

"I had an amazing time," said Marks, a senior political science major who has returned from Australia. "I'm not sure why I came home. It's so cold here versus there."

Currently, there are two Wilkes students studying in Rome, Italy. Elvira Illiano, junior communications studies major, and Matthew Grammard, junior biology major. Both stu-

dents will conclude the spring semester while in Italy, and will then return to the States this summer and complete their remaining schooling at Wilkes.

"Study abroad is something everyone should consider," said Marks. "You learn a lot about yourself, and the world."

Anyone interested in getting more information about the study abroad programs that are offered at Wilkes can contact Bianco at extension 4519 or by e-mailing her at biancop@wilkes.edu.

"[Bianco] is a lot of help to anyone that is interested. [Those interested] should talk to her. She's a wonderful lady who is interested in everyone, realizing that there is so much you can do with your four years, beyond staying within the walls of Wilkes University," said Marks.

Wilkes Welcomes Visiting Japanese Students

BY JAMIE BABBITT
Beacon Asst. Features Editor

Going to a foreign country and seeing firsthand how people live is an experience like no other. Students cannot get the full understanding of other cultures by merely reading about them in a textbook.

Eight education majors from Tamagawa University in Japan had the opportunity to come to America and stay with a family for two weeks this semester. The students arrived at Wilkes University on Friday, February 6, and are staying in the homes of Wilkes faculty members for the duration of their stay.

"Since 1990, we've had fabulous relationships with Tamagawa University whereby every year, usually in February or March, a group of students comes to Wilkes... they stay with host families... and they come to attend Wilkes classes," said Dr. Diane Polachek, Chairperson of Education and Psychology and Coordinator of the Tamagawa program.

Polachek, along with faculty members Dr. Sid Halsor, Dr. Maryanne Rexer, Dr. Mary Kropiewnicki, Dr. Darin Fields, and Dr. Michael and Margaret Steele are serving as host families for this year's program. "The hosts that we've been using from Wilkes University have been host families over the years and the families usually have children, so that is one of the criteria," said Polachek.

For Fields, this is the third year he's hosted a Japanese student. "We decided to be a host family because we've done it in the past and it's always been a valuable and rewarding experience. It's a lot of fun. I have two children and the Japanese students always love to be around little kids and so they have a good time. My kids love having a Japanese student in the house," said Fields.

Fields compared the experience of having a Tamagawa student stay at his home to having a friend stay over. "They occupy a spare room and they eat with you and there are some language barriers so you have the fun of working through those things. You learn a little about their culture and they certainly learn how we live," said Fields.

Whenever there is an addition to a household, temporary lifestyle changes must be made to accommodate that extra person. For Fields, these changes pertained mostly to his family's morning routine. "We all have to get up a little bit earlier so we can get one more person through the shower and get down to eat something... She does all the things we do. If we go shopping, she goes shopping... We don't really do anything differently because that is kind of what they want, to really see how we live," said Fields.

The process of coming to America was not a simple one. "There were many applicants for the Tamagawa program and we decided to limit it to eight because it's a small number so we could give them good, individualized instruction in English. We can take them from school to school. It's a manageable group... but they had to go through

Wednesday. They also did origami with the children and taught them how to write their names in Japanese.

The students also visited Dallas Elementary School for four days to observe classes and participate in classroom activities. "They will be teaching assistants from anywhere from kindergarten up to fourth grade and so we are really excited about that because we believe that it's going to be a wonderful experience for them," said Polachek.

For the Japanese students, coming to the United States was not just a learning experience academically. They also learned a lot about how Americans live. Some of the students were surprised that their host fathers helped with the cooking, because in Japan only the women cook. The closeness of the family is a lot different here as well. "There is more hugging and kissing with the children," said Norie Shiraiwa, one of the Tamagawa participants.

Some of the qualities the students liked most about Americans were their open heart, kindness, and positive thinking. "When I asked [my

host student] what surprises her most about... America and American people, she said that

she believes that Americans are warm and generous and have big hearts and are always enthusiastic with a smile," said Polachek. "One thing the students didn't like about America was the greasy food."

According to Polachek, in the past, some of the students who came to America loved it so much that they decided to come back for a longer period of time. "As a matter of fact, some of the students that have come have gone back to get their degree at Tamagawa and come back for their masters program in education at Wilkes," said Polachek.

Currently, Tamagawa is the only school that Wilkes has this type of program with, but there are plans for doing similar projects in other countries in the future. "We have a couple of contacts in France and Switzerland so those will be possibilities in the future and we would like to get our students to go to France and Switzerland as well," said Polachek.

Fields would also like to see our students experience more of other cultures. "The reality is... that [my host student] speaks quite a bit of English and we speak no Japanese whatsoever. And so it says something about our culture that we don't learn other culture's languages but in Japan people study English from grade school, on... It would be nice if we could speak some Japanese," said Fields.



The Beacon/Kristin Hake
Wilkes undergrads helps students from Tamagawa University, Japan with their English skills in their ESL class.

a serious process [to get here]," said Polachek.

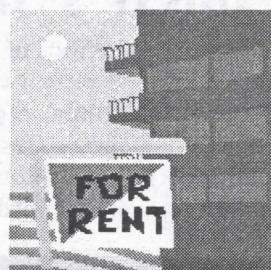
According to Polachek, the students are attending Professor Gina Morrison's class, ED 220: Multicultural Education. They will attend the class four times during their stay and they are given assignments just as the rest of the students in the class. The students are receiving two credits from Tamagawa University for their trip so they will be graded on how they do in their class, with their host family, in their elementary classes, and on their English skills.

The students are not only attending classes here. They actually have a fairly rigorous schedule. "A daily schedule might go something like this: the host families give them breakfast and they might have some things to do around the house in the morning like help the children get dressed, and then they bring them in to Wilkes," said Polachek. "Then they will have a little bit of English as a second language instruction (ESL) where Wilkes students and faculty help them improve their English through conversation and the written word."

After the students practice their English skills, they have a lunch break to go to the cafeteria with their designated Wilkes student-partner and eat with other students. They are also free to explore the area, such as walking downtown to Boscov's to shop.

In the afternoon, the students are taken to various elementary schools in the area to observe and also teach fun activities to the children. The first school they were taken to was Chester Street Elementary School where they read children's books written by American authors to the students last

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Live Music Review:

Jared Campbell

BY SETH BARNETSKY
Beacon Correspondent

John Mayer, Jason Mraz, Josh Kelly...Jared Campbell? In the list of the new artists emerging in an explosion of acoustic performers these days, Jared Campbell still comes up as the one few of us have yet heard of.

Like each of the artists in this emerging category, Campbell has a unique flair in his music that makes it distinctively his. He adds a bit of soul and vocal strength in the song "In Your Heart," that is not as prevalent as other artists. His songs are moving as well as heartfelt, and his feelings and soul pour out through the harmonious chords of his guitar.

Dressed casually in blue jeans and a t-shirt and wielding a guitar and a harmonica, Campbell put on an extraordinary set at the Rifkin Cafe on Wednesday night. His eclectic mix of melodies and humor delighted the crowd when he opened the set with a song that he wrote when he was in 7th grade called "I See the Beauty" and continued with songs like "Rainy Labor Day."

With a constant smile and a great sense of humor, he entertained requests and told stories about the music he has written comparing his time here to a VH1 Storytellers set. One story about a song he had written about

growing up in the business and the struggle of trying to make a position for himself as a musician was particularly moving and heartfelt. In the emerging scene of acoustic singer/songwriters, Jared Campbell possesses strong potential to become a key figure. Even on covers ranging from Fleetwood Mac's "Landslide" to Dave Matthews Band



Courtesy of www.jaredcampbellmusic.com

"Crash," his expertise on the guitar shone as did his extraordinary vocal talent.

Comments from those in attendance ranged from "He's cute" to "I love his voice." After the show, Campbell entertained some questions about his career. He said that he had been playing guitar for about seven years and when asked why he still pursues music he said: "Just the love of people. I love being around people and I love being involved. Music makes everybody happy." All in all, Campbell was an all around hit with those in attendance.

CD Review: ohGr's *SunnyPsyOp*

BY MATTHEW JONES
Beacon Columnist

The most enduring trait of legendary Canadian industrial outfit Skinny Puppy was that they could, somehow, effectively simulate the sensation of having your soul sucked out of a stab wound. Nihilism has rarely enjoyed so literal a denotation, and that was largely thanks to ohGr, vocalist and co-song writer for Puppy. So it may be a surprise to some that his second solo offering is such a pleasing, soul-intact album to listen to.

Building on the format Trent Reznor laid down with *Pretty Hate Machine*, ohGr

has composed a millennial dance album for the disenfranchised. *SunnyPsyOp* could be the soundtrack to Chaplin's *Modern Times* if Tim Burton had directed it. Dance floor-filling opener "HiLo" trades lazier verses for a gigantic chorus anchored by a terrific synthesizer hook. OhGr's penchant for delivering his lyrics in a stream-of-consciousness rant is forgotten on the album, and his voice is uncharacteristically treated with only mini-

mal effects or vocoders, letting his surprisingly mellow voice take the forefront.

Album highlight "maJiK" probably sounds closest to ohGr's work in Skinny Puppy. Industrial white noise wheezes over explosive yet danceable beats in the opening before the verses, which are accompanied by backing vocals that sound like a choir of trolls, let the tension build slowly. Just before the song builds to its frenzied climax, a brief and dreamy interlude sneaks in before erupting back into martial breaks.

Later songs range from pulsing hypnotism ("JaKo") to haunted house sinister ("SunBurn"). The instrumental "ShiTe" features some impressive telegraph-wire beats delivered at breakneck speed.

While the album isn't exactly for everyone, fans of Nine Inch Nails or other industrial-tinged dance music should find the album to be a gem. And if you have a neophyte's interest in Skinny Puppy, this album should whet your appetite before you move on to the real deal.



From the Cutting Room Floor: *In America*

BY ALISON SHERRY
Beacon Staff Writer

When we think of immigration to New York City, the first thought that might come to mind is the turn of the century when our ancestors came over from many parts of Europe looking for a new and better life. Many passed through Ellis Island, and "Give me your tired, your poor" became the American mantra for generations.

We tend not to think much about what life would be like today for an immigrant. However, Director James Sheridan thought about just that when he decided to use his real-life story about bringing his family to America as the basis of his new film, *In America*.

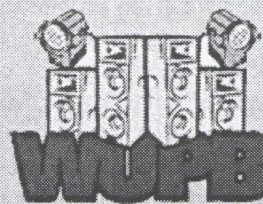
Emotional, yet humorous, *In America* follows the true story of the Sheridans, an Irish family looking to establish a new life for themselves in New York City a year after a family tragedy. Big city life isn't at all what they expected it to be for Johnny (played by Paddy Considine) and Sarah (played by Samantha Morton) along with their two young daughters (played by sisters Sarah and Emma Bolger). There isn't much money and luck isn't always on their

side in such an overwhelming place. There is not much to rely on except their love and strength as a family. Ultimately it is their contagious kindness that rubs off on an aloof apartment neighbor (played by Djimon Hounsou) whose ingenuine response builds their new home.

If you enjoy stories that make you believe that hope can spring from tragedy and loss, then see *In America*. Director James Sheridan definitely fulfilled that purpose. It wouldn't be a huge surprise if Sheridan turns up as an Academy Award nominee for next year's Oscar awards for best director, and the dynamic and talented cast could also round out nominations in the acting categories.

In America falls in the same genre as *Under the Tuscan Sun* or *Calendar Girls*, both of which were given very favorable reviews in the column. Consistent with the latter two films, *In America* does several things extremely well: offers great storytelling, characters the viewers feel they can know, and realistic, human situations. After all, a story based on true events such as this does not happen on the big screen every day.

This movie is rated PG-13 and receives 4 W's.



WILKES UNIVERSITY
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ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS CALENDAR FEBRUARY

2/16 Penguin's Hockey Game, 7:05 p.m.
The Penguins match up against Binghamton.

2/26 Son of Glam in the Ballroom, 9p.m.

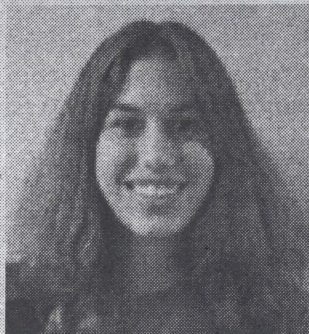
An "80s Hair Band" Rock Tribute Group, playing the best from AC/DC, Bon Jovi, Def Leppard, and many more.



2/29 BINGO in the Ballroom, 8p.m.

For more information, contact the W.U.P.B. at wupbpub@yahoo.com

Today's Recipe: Beef in a Leaf.



Dorm Room Dining

Every week you will find a new recipe that is simple enough to make in your dorm room yet scrumptious enough to satisfy any tastebud. So get out your pots and pans and start cooking!

BY LORI GRAUSAM
Beacon Staff Writer

Every week you will find a new recipe that is simple enough to make in your dorm room, yet scrumptious enough to satisfy any tastebud. So get out your pots and pans and start cooking!

Directions:

- 2 tsp. olive oil
- 1 lb lean sirloin steak, cut into 2 x 1/4 inch strips
- 2 tbs. reduced-sodium soy sauce
- 2 tbs. balsamic vinegar
- 2 tbs. honey
- 1/2 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes, or to taste
- 4 c. cooked capellini (angel hair pasta)
- 1 head red leaf lettuce, separated, washed and patted dry

(When I made this I left out the lettuce and meat, but it's up to you. You can be creative)

Ingredients:

1. In a large nonstick skillet, heat the oil.
2. Add the beef and cook, turning as needed, until browned, 5-6 min
3. Add the soy sauce, vinegar, honey and pepper flakes
4. Cook, stirring constantly about 1 minute.
5. Add the pasta and toss to coat;
6. Cook until the pasta is heated through, about 1 min longer.
7. Transfer to a serving dish
8. Arrange the lettuce leaves on a large platter; place the serving dish in the center.
9. Spoon about 1/4 cut of the beef mixture onto each lettuce leaf; roll up and eat with your hands

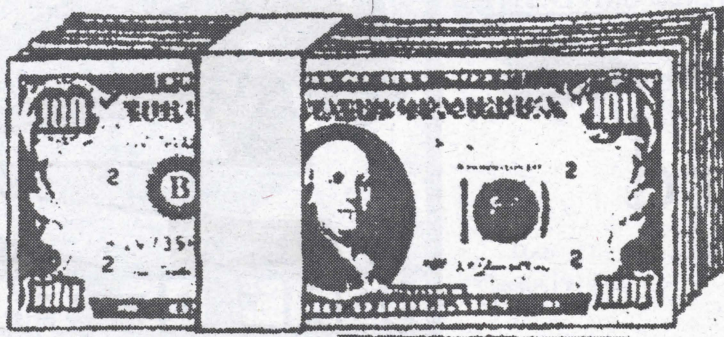
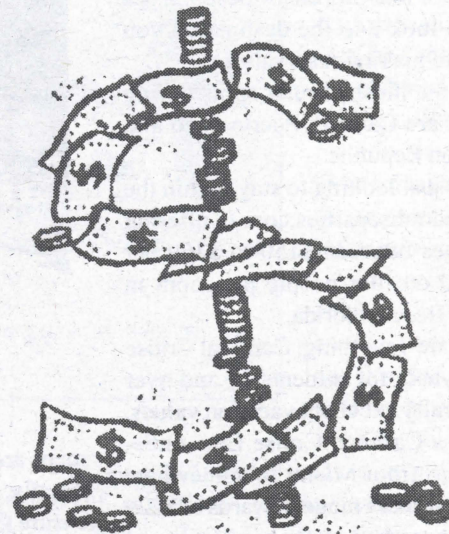
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Last Minute Spring Break Ideas and Tips

BY MELISSA JURGENSEN
Beacon A&E Editor

Spring break is only one month away, and the clock is ticking to take advantage of some of the remaining deals out there.

Wilkes University's spring break is March 6-14, and some students have been planning trips for months. For those who haven't started planning a trip, here are some last minute tips and ideas to show you how to get there inexpensively and have a wonderful time once you're ankle-deep in sand and sun!

Every destination has a different atmosphere to it. Some places are going to have reputations for being wilder, while others are a better pick for relaxing on the beach. It is a good idea to look into the destination you choose before making reservations.

Three of the most popular spots during spring break are Cancun, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic.

If you are just looking to stay within the U.S., www.paradiseparties.com is offering hotel packages between \$150 to \$369 per person based on four people per room in Panama City Beach, Florida.

If cruises are your thing, Carnival Cruise Line is enjoyable for students 21 and over and are generally excellent vacation values. The cost for a Carnival Cruise Line three-day round trip from Miami to somewhere like the Bahamas can range upwards of \$229 per person, depending on the availability of the cruise when travel arrangements are

made.

Cruises aren't the only option for spring break trips. Although cruises are popular among college students, flying to nice destinations is also a way to go.

All-inclusive packages that include air fare, hotel-stay, all meals, gratuity and entertain-

"Many all-inclusive packages fly to popular spring break locations. There are packages for Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic for \$559 per person and one for Cozumel, Mexico, which is a three-night package for \$484 a person. There is also a two-night package to the Bahamas that in-



ment are also available. Not only are they usually at a good price, but such packages ensure that the traveler doesn't have to worry about carrying a lot of money.

cludes everything except meals, for \$409 per person," said Linda Grazioso of Liberty Travel.

Perhaps, then, you are planning to just

get in the car and go. What could be more fun than driving around the country for a week with three of your closest friends without a destination or care in the world? You can have a ball touring the Gulf Coast of Florida or the cities of the South.

Don't spend too much time trying to decide which hotel to book. You will have a great time regardless of where you stay. Some places may be more convenient than others, but that doesn't mean it is going to ruin your trip if you don't get the best hotel possible. Where you go and what you do is what really counts.

Bojan Milasinovic, junior Pharmacy major, said that he hasn't begun making plans for spring break yet, but he isn't worried about finding any remaining deals. "You can always find something, no matter how late it is."

Sometimes procrastination turns out pretty well. At the last minute you might be able to take advantage of someone else's canceled trip that may be purchased inexpensively so that there are no empty seats on a plane or empty rooms in a hotel. The problem is that you might not know where you're going until the week that you leave.

Last but not least, spring break should be about one thing--forgetting about the daily grind of classes and homework and alleviating some stress. And if you're not going anywhere special during spring break, make sure you do something special for yourself. Diving back into classes won't be fun or productive if you haven't had a chance to kick back and rejuvenate yourself.



The Darte Board

PERFORMING ARTS AT WILKES UNIVERSITY

BY BRIDGET GIUNTA
Beacon Staff Writer

Wednesday, February 18, 2004--Performance Hour--1 p.m. in Gies Hall. Performance Hour is free of charge and open to all.

Musical theater production *Fiddler on the Roof*:

Friday, February 20, at 8 p.m.

Saturday, February 21, at 8 p.m.

Sunday, February 22, at 2 p.m.

At the Dorothy Dickson Darte main stage. Wilkes students, free with ID, other students & senior citizens, \$5, general admission, \$15

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Theater Review: *Fiddler on the Roof*

BY MONICA CARDENAS
Asst. Beacon A&E Editor

I could not have asked for a more entertaining way of passing my Sunday afternoon than to have spent it before the very talented group of Wilkes students in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center.

On February 13, 14 and 15, the Department of Visual and Performing Arts presented *Fiddler on the Roof*. Everything from the set, the orchestra, and especially the performance was top notch.

The musical, written by Joseph Stein, Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick, is set in a Ukrainian village named Anatevka, which is overflowing with fantastic characters and a rich Jewish tradition.

Benjamin S. Ptashinsky delivered an astonishing performance as Tevye, the poor milkman with five daughters and wife, Golde, who not only played opposite Ptashinsky with style, but truly held her own throughout. As the couple tries desperately to make a dowry while marrying off their three oldest daughters, it becomes impossible as they repeatedly break tradition.

Tevye accepts their decisions, despite his

inclination to keep with the conventional way of doing things, and allows his daughters to marry for happiness instead of money. This becomes increasingly difficult for him as the girls become bolder, and especially as he tries to explain the

plans to his rough wife.

Adding color to the performance was Yente (Jennifer Zubernick), the town matchmaker, who quickly finds herself out of a job. However, this does not stop her from serving as the town gossip, bringing much humor to this heartfelt musical.

Peter Mario Baldo brings in a note of seriousness as Perchik, the progressive who tries to persuade this traditional crowd to accept the changes going on in the world around them. They are reluctant, but are forced to face these truths as they are ordered to pack up and leave the only home they have ever known.

From Tevye's hilarious discussions with God to Yente's attempts at matchmaking, be ready to laugh. But also, don't plan on leaving without "Matchmaker" still ringing in your head--and a lot to think about.

We are all forced to decide about whether to speak out for our beliefs, as Perchik does, or whether to quietly obey. With much humor, this

performance begs a serious question: Tradition, or a new way of doing things?

Catch the show again next weekend, February 20 and 21 at 8 p.m., and 22 at 2 p.m.



Wilkes University's Department of Visual and Performing Arts presented *Fiddler on the Roof*. Additional performances will be held next weekend February 20 and 21 at 8:00 PM and 22 at 2:00 PM.

First Row: Andrea Kinal, Netta Clemens, Meghann Babo, Tiffany Diane Smith, Shana Weinstock, and Abbey McCann. **Second Row:** Benjamin S. Ptashinsky

Urban Legends *More Recent Additions*

- * A California man is suing CBS, Janet Jackson, and Justin Timberlake over the breast incident during halftime at Super Bowl XXXVIII.
- * Apple seeds contain a cyanide compound.
- * On average one person is killed by lightning while talking on the phone each year.
- * A Nike shoe advertisement employs terrorist-related imagery.
- * Power companies are fining customers for keeping their holiday lights up past the festive season.
- * Thieves are now using camera cell phones to capture credit card information.
- * An Associated Press dispatch mistakenly sent to newspapers home phone numbers of hundreds of well-known sports figures.
- * A law professor demonstrates that the results of the 2000 presidential election correspond to an 18th century historian's prediction of conditions accompanying the downfall of democracy.

This Week in History

- 16th--The first airplane flight between Los Angeles and San Francisco took place, (1914)
- 17th--Michael Jordan, NBA, (1963)
- 18th--Mark Twain's "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" was published in the U.S. for the first time, (1885)
- 19th--Dick Clark premiered the "American Music Awards," (1974)
- 20th--The U.S. Supreme Court ruled the power of the federal government was greater than that of any individual state, (1809)
- 21st--McGraw-Hill, Inc. outbids eight other American publishers for the U.S. rights to Hunter Davies' authorized biography of the Beatles. They paid \$150,000 for the rights, (1968)
- 22nd--In Utica, NY, Frank W. Woolworth opened his first 5 and 10-cent store, (1879)

Wilkes Splits Tri-match Against Lycoming and Gettysburg

BY WILL MIDGETT

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

The Wilkes University wrestling team took on Lycoming College and Gettysburg in a tri-match on Saturday. Wilkes lost to nationally ranked Lycoming 44-0 but was able to come back and soundly defeat Gettysburg 30-15.

Junior Jeremy Mayer started off the match against Lycoming for the Colonels at 125. Mayer went into the match with a record of 26-14 and faced Lycoming's Sean Cullen. Cullen scored an early takedown on Mayer, and rode him out for the rest of the period. Cullen chose to start on bottom in the second and made a quick escape to advance the score to 3-0. Mayer scored his only point of the match early in the third period with an escape of his own.

Toward the end of the third period, the score was 4-1 and Mayer was trying desperately to catch up. With 19 seconds left in the match, Mayer shot in for a takedown which dropped Cullen out of bounds. Time ran out with Mayer trying to get control of Cullen while still staying in bounds, but he was not in a position for the referee to call a takedown and the match ended at 4-1, giving Lycoming 3 points on the board.

Sophomore Joe Yutko took the mat for the Colonels at 133 pounds, matched up against Lycoming's Kyle Hopkins. Hopkins scored an early takedown on Yutko in first, and was able to keep him on the mat for the entire period. Similar to the 125 pound match, Hopkins was able to earn an early escape in the second period.

The score was 3-0 in favor of Hopkins going into the third period. Early in the third, Yutko surprised Hopkins, as well as the crowd, with a quick maneuver that took his opponent to the mat for 2 points. However, with time running out, Yutko was unable to turn Hopkins over for any back points and Hopkins ended up winning 3-2.

Wilkes chose to forfeit at the 141 pound weight class in both the Lycoming match and in the Gettysburg match as well. The forfeit then set the stage for Wilkes' 8th ranked fresh-

man Mike Ferrara.

Ferrara faced Lycoming's Sean Reese in a hold-out, drag-down match with neither wrestler able to make a move on each other. The match remained scoreless until early in the third period when Reese made an escape from the down position. Ferrara was unable to score any points on Reese causing him to lose the match 1-0.

At 157, freshman Joe Diliberto faced off against a tough Jason Smith. Smith took down Diliberto in the middle of the first, and so much like the rest of the Lycoming team, he was practiced in keeping his opponent on the mat. In the second period, Smith caught Diliberto on his back long enough to earn himself three near-fall points.

Smith chose to start in the down position to start the third period. After a quick escape, Smith then took Diliberto down to the mat once again and was able to roll him over for an additional three near-fall points. By the time the buzzer sounded, Smith had won a 12-0 major decision.

Wilkes freshman Kyle Lenio wrestled a hard fought match at 165 for the Colonels against Lycoming's Clint Swartz. Swartz struck first in the second period with two escapes, and a takedown in the third. Lenio answered back with a takedown of his own, but it was too little, too late, as Swartz took a 4-2 minor decision.

At 174, senior Fritz Delva made the first of his last two home appearances in his Wilkes career. Delva, a tri-captain for the Colonels, was honored before the match with a ceremony for Senior's Day, since he was the only active senior for the Colonels at the match.

Delva faced Lycoming's Grant Brindle,

and at first looked like he could take home the victory. Delva made the first point of the match with an escape early in the second period. Brindle then snuck in a quick takedown and caught Delva on his back. At the 3:19 in the second period, the referee slapped the mat signifying the pin.

"I had that first match," says Delva. "It should have been mine, but I made a mistake and got caught."

At the this point Lycoming was up 28-0 on the scoreboard with only three matches left. Wrestling for the Colonels at 184 was sophomore Nick DeAngelis, who face Lycoming's Andy Hull. Hull

wasted no time taking DeAngelis down in the first period, and pinned him at the 1:20 mark.

At 197 pounds, Lycoming's John Battaglia earned a 12-1 major decision over freshman Vince Abbot. Battaglia spent the entire second period scoring takedowns and near-fall points on the frustrated freshman.

Andrew Steinberg capped off the Wilkes lineup at the heavyweight

spot against Lycoming's Tommy Snyder. Snyder earned three takedowns against Steinberg before earning a fall at 3:29 in the second period. The pin sealed the shutout for the Warriors, and Wilkes then regrouped and made ready for the match against Gettysburg.

Jeremy Mayer started off again at 125 pounds for the Colonels against Gettysburg. After a tough loss to Lycoming, Mayer vindicated himself with a dominating performance against Gettysburg's Brian Norcross. Mayer was leading the match 11-2 in the third period before pinning Norcross with 23 seconds left in the match.

Joe Yutko also displayed a completely dominating match against Kevin Dougherty at 133 pounds. Yutko was scoring takedowns almost at will, and earned several near-fall points, winning him a 12-4 major decision.

Wilkes then forfeited for the second time at 141 pounds. At 149 pounds, Mike Ferrara an-

swered back from his loss to Lycoming. Ferrara quickly disabled Gettysburg's Matt Denholtz with a takedown, and received a pin at the 1:20 mark of the first period.

At 157, Joe Diliberto turned into a scoring machine, taking down opponent Mark McDonald six times throughout the match. With 1:22 left to go in the match, Diliberto scored his last takedown making the score 17-3, and earning a technical fall. Kyle Lenio then earned a 9-3 decision at 165 against Josh Kaplan.

At 174, Fritz Delva wrestled the last home match of his career. Facing Gettysburg's Michael Denholtz, Delva made two quick takedowns in the first period, including a impressive double-leg that took Denholtz to his back. At 2:10 in the first period, Delva pinned Denholtz for the victory.

"It felt good," commented Delva on his last home match. "I should have had the first match but now I'm looking forward to the MAC's."

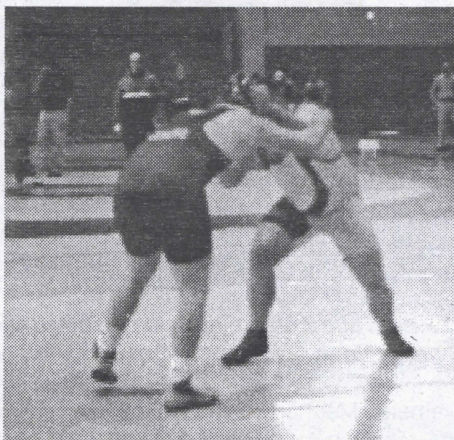
Gettysburg's Chris Coogan earned the first victory for the Bullets. Coogan won a nail biting 6-5 decision against Wilkes sophomore Sandrino Plutino.

Gettysburg would then win the next two matches against the Colonels. At 197, Jeff Morgan won a 7-4 decision over Vince Abbot, and Mike Pattanite earned a 4-3 decision over freshman heavyweight Keith Altieri.

Despite losing the last three matches, Wilkes wrestled well enough in the early rounds to earn a 30-15 victory, splitting the Tri-Match.

Wilkes wrestled another tri-match the day before against Scranton and SUNY-Maritime, sweeping both matches. The Colonels first beat Maritime 42-10 in a lopsided victory. Then against Scranton, Wilkes cleared a close 23-22 match that was decided in the heavy weight match. Keith Altieri won a close 3-1 decision over Scranton's Mike Kelly to seal the deal for Wilkes.

Wilkes will now compete at the MAC Championships at the University of Scranton on Friday and Saturday.



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Klahold Takes Wilkes Community Fitness Seriously

Trainer challenges athletes to go the extra mile

BY KYLA CAMPBELL
Beacon Staff Writer

Whether in season, off season, or in pre-season, athletes on the Wilkes University campus have been getting in shape and are feeling healthier. Who is the person behind the shift in attitude and determination? Keith Klahold.

Klahold, the director of the fitness center, has made a huge impact since his arrival late last summer. He has worked one-on-one with the university's staff and students. Most recently, he has spent his time training the spring athletes during pre-season. Klahold has worked particularly closely with the baseball and softball teams.

Klahold's work with the baseball team has focused on trying to get the most out of the players and get them in the gym.

"Some of them are still in the stone age of baseball. They grew up in a time and area where lifting is a taboo," said Klahold. "But, lifting doesn't negatively affect flexibility and speed. Today's baseball players are seeing Mark McGuire and Sammy Sosa play, and their abilities are results of spending time in the weight room."

Klahold tends to focus on overall conditioning, while including cardio and agility training in the athletes' workouts.

"The spring athletes are starting to look like athletes again," joked Klahold, referring

to those who often put off getting in shape for their sport's season. "They were given workout programs at the end of last semester, and they knew they were expected to come back from break in shape to play."

However, at the baseball team's first practice, seven players threw up from the intensity. "Some obviously didn't come back in shape," added Klahold.

But, that isn't discouraging to him. Many of the athletes have increased their strength, both on the baseball and softball teams.

Klahold feels the softball team has a good level of dedication to the gym. "Quite a few have made big strength gains, and their conditioning has improved."

Junior softball player Alexis Petite credits Klahold with her personal improvement. "He has helped me with my overall athletic ability. He's helped me work on conditioning, agility, and strength. He definitely motivates me," said the Lady Colonel's third baseman. "He always keeps me interested with variety and mixes things up every week. That way it isn't boring."

Petite feels that Klahold has had a big

impact on her teammates as well. "Everyone is more self-confident in their abilities. They see and feel the difference in the way they are playing."

Frank Matthews, the Head Coach of the softball team, agrees. "He has been an im-

playing ability," commented Klahold. "So, now we start backing off the weights," said Klahold. "It is time to focus on maintaining strength instead of getting stronger."

The spring athletes have a great asset—a strength and conditioning coach that has helped many at Wilkes. But the remainder of the campus—faculty, staff, students, and former athletes—have also begun to count on Klahold to get them in shape and help them maintain their bodies.

For example, senior Mike Liberski, who ended his final football season in November, has lost forty pounds since August 13. "Training in the new gym and working hard throughout football season really helped me get in better shape," he said. "Keith also set me up with a great workout in order for me to maintain my overall physical condition and improve my health."

Liberski feels that Klahold is a tremendous help for everyone at Wilkes. "He's able to cater to all athletes. He has sport-specific, athlete-specific, and detailed individual workouts. He even helps those who aren't athletes."

"Coach Klahold is so knowledgeable and a great motivator. It's obvious he's made a big difference for me and many others," Liberski added.

Luckily for Wilkes, Klahold intends to continue his career on campus. "I like it here and have no plans of leaving," he concluded. "My wife and I are very happy here. In fact, she hasn't seen me this happy in a long time."



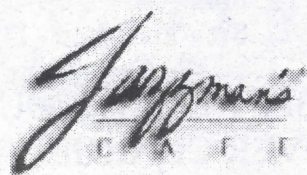
The Beacon/T. Mick Jenkins

Keith Klahold, Director of Fitness Center

mense help all winter," he said. "The strength-building and pre-season conditioning was exceptional, and we're looking forward to outstanding results."

The plans for keeping in shape alter with the beginning of the spring sport season. "For example if a pitcher comes in and lifts heavy expecting to play a game two days later, it could have a negative affect on their

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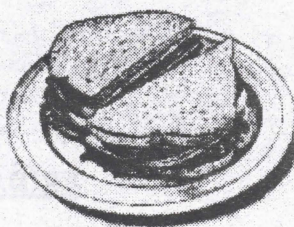


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Lady Colonels Fall to Scranton, Del Val

BY ARIEL COHEN
Beacon Correspondent

One of the biggest games of the season for the Lady Colonels started off better than the women had originally anticipated as the Scranton Royals showed up late for warm-ups giving the Colonels a slight boost to begin the game with a quick 6-0 run. But that was the only time during the entire game that the Wilkes women would be on top as Scranton quickly pulled its act together to go on and beat Wilkes at home 65-38.

The first seven minutes of the game looked positive for the Lady Colonels as Andrea DeMaranville does what she always does, posting the first 9 points of the game for Wilkes and going on a solo 6-0 run before Scranton even had the opportunity to score.

After the initial explosion from the sole Wilkes player able to score, the Scranton Royals tied the game up at 9-9 after number 20, Katie Dougherty, was fouled making just 1 of 2 from the free throw line. This would be the last time during the entire game that the Lady Colonels would see the lead in their favor as Scranton would go on a solid 21-2 run.

After a nearly five minute scoreless period, and a 6-0 run by the Royals, Rena Bolin put up a much need 2 pointer with 8:34 left in the first half.

The Scranton women would continue their overall 21-2 run, by keeping the Lady Colo-

nels nearly quiet as they went on a 14-0 run until finally, with 3:53 left in the half DeMaranville made four consecutive free throws and a quick lay-up, while Corinne Stewart added two with a nice jumper. The Lady Colonels would find themselves in a growing hole down at halftime by a score of 40-19.

The Lady Colonels tried to rally as they scored 10 points within the first 9 minutes of the second half with shots from DeMaranville, Kresock, and Bolin.

But the hard fought effort from the Wilkes women was not enough to hold back the Royals, as Scranton would score another 25 points in the second half, shooting just over 23 percent from the floor. The Lady Colonels defense finally did kick in with 10 minutes to go in the half as they held Scranton to just 6 points.

Taryn Mellody added 13 points for Scranton and was their only double-figure

shooter. Eileen Webster gave the Royals nine points and nine rebounds, and nine points, six rebounds and five steals from Kelly Lewandowski.

Andrea DeMaranville led all scoring for Wilkes with 21 points and 11 rebounds. Corinne Stewart, finished with six points, and took away a game-high 12 rebounds.

On Saturday, February 14, the Lady Colonels traveled to 12-10, Delaware Valley. The Aggies used an early 12-0 run and never stopped the dominance in an 82-66 victory over the Lady Colonels. Wilkes was led by DeMaranville with 27 points, 4 rebounds, 2 blocked shots, while Gimble and Bolin both chipped in 12 points a piece.

The Lady Colonels take on Lycoming at home, on Tuesday, February 17 and DeSales away on Thurs-

day, February 19.



The Beacon/Ariel Cohen
Wilkes' Danielle Kresock attempts a free throw shot.

Basketball Continued from page 20

"The difference in the second half is...we ended up with 15 offensive rebounds. We didn't shoot the ball well, but we did get after it the second half," commented Jerry Rickrode, Wilkes Head Coach, "Pressley off the bench big, 8 boards. Dave Plisko obviously had a really big half. If we play with the intensity we had in the second half, we have to shoot the ball better, we just got to take this as a positive and move on."

Plisko led the way for Wilkes scoring a game high 31 points, 29 of which came in the second half, and Pressley had a team high eight rebounds.

O'Donnell had an impressive game for the Royals totaling a game high 17 rebounds and team leading 17 points. Burke and Sean Clark also scored in double figures for Scranton.

On Saturday, the Colonels traveled to Delaware Valley for a conference game against the Aggies (4-18 o/a, 3-9 conf). The Colonels torched the Aggies 100-80, while Plisko had his second consecutive 30-point game in which he shot 12 of 20 from the floor.

John Yaniello also threw in 11 points along with Ryan Milford scoring ten.

For Delaware Valley, five players ended in double figures with Erik Tegethoff leading the way with 18 points and Mike Thornton adding 17.

The Colonels next game is Tuesday, February 17, at the Marts Center against conference rival Lycoming College.



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COLONEL'S CLIPBOARD

CURRENT STANDINGS (2/14/04)

MEN'S BASKETBALL

	Conf.	O/A
DeSales	8-2	18-3
Lycoming	8-2	16-5
King's	8-3	17-5
Wilkes	6-4	13-7
FDU-Florham	5-6	10-11
Delaware Valley	3-8	4-17
Drew	2-8	5-14
Scranton	2-9	4-18

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Scranton	10-1	21-1
DeSales	8-2	18-3
King's	8-3	17-5
Delaware Valley	6-5	11-10
Drew	4-6	11-8
Lycoming	4-6	12-9
Wilkes	1-9	2-18
FDU-Florham	1-10	4-17

WRESTLING

	wt	record
Jeremy Mayer	125	27-15
Dustin Bloss	125	4-4
Joe Yutko	133	12-19
Brian Sashko	133	0-2
John Muscarella	141	12-3
Michael Sciulara	141	5-24
Mike Ferrara	149	25-6
Keith Jones	149	1-3
Daniel Giancola	149	2-12
Joe Diliberto	157	18-14
Joe Yenchak	157	6-11
Nick DeAngelis	165	2-5
Alessandro Plutino	165	15-20
Kyle Lenio	165	25-14
Fritz Delva	174	15-23
Sean Davies	184	6-7
Jon Neyerlin	184	15-5
Vince Abbott	197	9-13
Diego Alvarado	197	1-8
Andrew Steinberg	285	1-12
Keith Altieri	285	11-18

WEEKLY RECAP

MEN'S BASKETBALL

(2/11) Wilkes 68 Scranton 66
(2/14) Wilkes 100 Delaware Valley 80

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

(2/11) Scranton 65 Wilkes 38
(2/14) Delaware Valley 82 Wilkes 66

WRESTLING

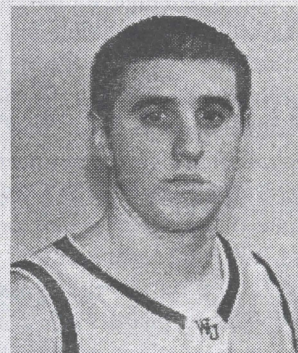
(2/13) Wilkes 42 Maritime 10
(2/13) Wilkes 23 Scranton 22
(2/14) Lycoming 44 Wilkes 0
(2/14) Wilkes 30 Gettysburg 15

THE WEEK AHEAD

February 17:
Women's Basketball vs. Lycoming 6:00 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. Lycoming 8:00 p.m.
February 19:
Women's Basketball @ DeSales
Men's Basketball @ DeSales
February 20:
Wrestling @ MAC Championships
February 21:
Wrestling @ MAC Championships
Baseball @ St. Mary's
Women's Basketball vs Drew 1:00 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs Drew 3:00 p.m.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

DAVE PLISKO Men's Basketball



On Wednesday night, Dave Plisko, senior guard, scored 29 points in the second half against Scranton to help lift the Colonels to a much-needed conference victory. He totaled 31 points on the night along with five rebounds.

On Saturday afternoon at Delaware Valley, Plisko shot 12 for 20 from the field scoring 30 points and also had four rebounds, two assists and two steals.

NCAA the TOP 25 Men's College Basketball

1. Duke (21-1) did not play. Next: at No. 21 North Carolina State, Sunday.
2. Stanford (20-0) at California. Next: at Southern California, Thursday.
3. Saint Joseph's (22-0) beat Rhode Island 73-59. Next: at Fordham, Wednesday.
4. Pittsburgh (22-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 5 Connecticut, Sunday.
5. Connecticut (19-4) did not play. Next: at No. 4 Pittsburgh, Sunday.
6. Mississippi State (20-1) at Arkansas. Next: vs. Alabama, Saturday.
7. Gonzaga (20-2) at St. Mary's, Calif. Next: vs. Portland, Wednesday.
8. Kentucky (17-4) lost to Georgia 74-68. Next: vs. Arkansas, Wednesday.
9. Louisville (17-4) did not play. Next: at Texas Christian, Tuesday.
10. Oklahoma State (18-2) vs. Baylor. Next: at Oklahoma, Monday.
11. Texas (17-3) at Iowa State. Next: vs. Texas A&M, Wednesday.
12. Kansas (15-5) did not play. Next: at Nebraska, Sunday.
13. Cincinnati (17-3) did not play. Next: at No. 20 Wake Forest, Sunday.
14. North Carolina (14-7) did not play. Next: vs. Maryland, Sunday.
15. Georgia Tech (18-6) lost to Virginia 82-80. Next: at Maryland, Thursday.
16. Arizona (15-6) vs. UCLA. Next: at Oregon, Thursday.
17. Wisconsin (16-4) vs. Ohio State. Next: at Illinois, Wednesday.
18. Texas Tech (17-6) vs. Kansas State. Next: at Colorado, Wednesday.
19. Utah State (20-1) at Pacific. Next: vs. UC Riverside, Thursday.
20. Wake Forest (14-6) did not play. Next: vs. No. 13 Cincinnati, Sunday.
21. North Carolina State (15-5) did not play. Next: vs. No. 1 Duke, Sunday.
22. Florida (14-6) vs. LSU. Next: at Georgia, Tuesday.
23. Southern Illinois (19-2) at Southwest Missouri State. Next: at Evansville, Wednesday.
24. Providence (17-5) beat Boston College 61-52. Next: vs. Miami, Saturday.
25. South Carolina (19-5) vs. Vanderbilt. Next: at Arkansas, Saturday.

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

- 48** Number of points Andrea DeMaranville had in two games last week
- 61** Number of points Dave Plisko had in two games last week
- 44.4** Percentage of shots made from the free throw line by men's basketball on Wednesday night
- 5** Number of pins Wilkes wrestling had on Friday night

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Wilkes Wins Tight Home Game Against Scranton

Colonels torch Aggies later in the week 100-80

BY STEVE KEMBLE
Beacon Sports Editor

On Wednesday night at the Marts Center, the Colonels men's basketball team (14-7; 6-4 conf.) didn't take a commanding lead until less than six minutes remained on the clock. In the end, the Colonels were able to fight off the Scranton Royals (4-17; 2-8 conf.) 68-66, in a nail-biter finish that left the big home crowd breathless.

The Royals didn't waste any time taking a lead in the first half by going up 5-0 with just over a minute ticking away on the clock when Scranton's Bill Burke, forward, hit a three pointer, and then on the next possession, Michael Riccobono, guard, made a lay-up.

The Colonels would eventually take the lead 13-11 at the 12-minute mark in the first half when Evan Walters, forward/center, was fouled while making a lay-up and completed the three-point play by canning the free throw.

Wilkes would hold the lead until there were nine minutes left in the half when Brian O'Donnell, forward, made back-to-back free throws to put the Royals up 17-16.

After that, the lead seasawed back and forth until Scranton was able to take control

of the game towards the end of the half and take a 38-29 lead into the intermission on a three-pointer by Sean Clark, guard, with nine seconds remaining.

"The first half we played pretty bad, and I don't know if we took them lightly or what the problem was. They're 2-8 or something in the league and we just came out and played sloppy," said Dave Plisko, Wilkes guard.

The second half started out a lot like the first with the Royals continuing to build on their lead. Eventually Scranton went up by 12 points with 18:35 left in the game on a lay-up converted by Nick Alfier, guard, to make the score 42-30.

The Colonels got the score to within four points with 16 minutes left in the half when Plisko made a lay-up to make the score 45-41 before the Royals would once again build their lead back to eight points two minutes later when Mike McGowan, guard/forward, hit a three-pointer to increase the score 49-41.

After that, the Colonels really got in the game and fought hard to tie the game up at 56 when Plisko, on fire in the second half, nailed a three.

"The second half was huge. I thought I had to step up because I only have a couple

more games left and really didn't want to lose to Scranton," remarked Plisko.

With about five and a half minutes left in regulation, Wilkes started to take some control of the game when the Colonels would take the lead and be able to hold it until there was under a minute left on two made free throws by Plisko, which made the score 60-58.

With 39 seconds left on the clock, the Royals regained the lead 66-65 when Matthew Snyder, guard, hit a lay-up, but on the Colonels next possession, Wilkes was able to take the lead for good when Plisko ended his 29 point second half by hitting a jump shot, which put the home team up 67-66 with 24 seconds left in regulation.

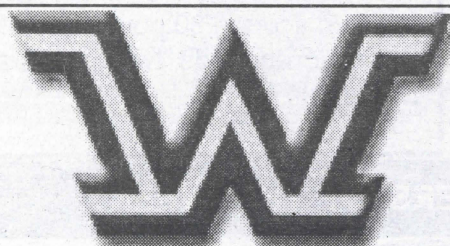
The final score ended 68-66 in favor of the Colonels after Rashawn Pressley, Wilkes guard, made a free throw, and then Greg Cardamone, Wilkes forward, pulled down a huge offensive rebound on a missed free throw.

Basketball Continued on page 18



TheBeacon/Todd Weibel

Dave Plisko attempts a jump-shot at Wednesday Night's match-up against Scranton.



Campus Calendar

TODAY(2/16)

Mikes Jewelry Sale @ Roth Concourse
11:00 AM
Hockey Game - Penguins vs. Binghamton
@ 7:05 PM

TUESDAY(2/17)

Mikes Jewelry Sale @ Roth Concourse
11:00 AM
Commuter Council Meeting @ MSCTV
Lounge 11:30 AM
Women's Basketball vs Lycoming @ 6 PM
Men's Basketball vs Lycoming @ 8 PM

WEDNESDAY(2/18)

Commuter Coffee Hour @ Commuter
Lounge/Conyngham Hall 9 AM

Learn Bridge @ JCC 7:30 PM

THURSDAY(2/19)

IRHC Meeting @ Hiscox Room 11 AM
Winter Weekend Opening Night @
HSC Ballroom 9-11 PM
Women's Basketball @ DeSales 6 PM
Men's Basketball @ DeSales, 8 PM
Career Info Session, Breis 106 @ 11 a.m.
GRE and GMAT Info Session, Breis 208,
11 a.m.

FRIDAY(2/20)

Spirit Contest & Volleyball Tournament @
Marts Center 7:30 PM

Fiddler on the Roof @ DDD 8 PM

SATURDAY(2/21)

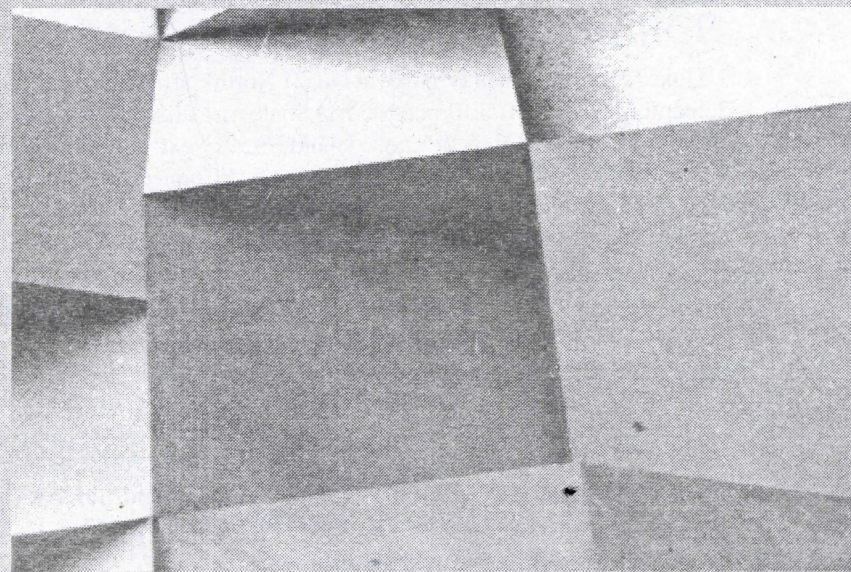
Winter Weekend Games @ Greenway 10
AM- 12 PM
Wrestling @ MAC Championships
Scranton, PA 10 AM
Baseball @ St. Mary's (DH) 11 AM
Women's Basketball vs Drew @ 1 PM
Men's Basketball vs Drew @ 3 PM
Fiddler on the Roof @ DDD 8 PM

SUNDAY(2/22)

Fiddler on the Roof @ DDD 2 PM

Congratulations to Ryan Laubach, who correctly identified last week's "Find This Picture" first. As Laubach pointed out, last week's picture depicted a stained glass window on Fortinsky Hall. Laubach will receive a \$10 cash prize courtesy of the Wilkes University Programming Board.

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



TheBeacon/Ryan Klemish

This photo was taken somewhere on Wilkes University's Campus. When you find it, email us the answer at: wilkesbeacon@hotmail.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. The first person to correctly identify the location of this picture will be recognized in next week's issue, and will receive a \$10 cash prize, courtesy of Programming Board.

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

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