

The BEACON

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Director of Multicultural Affairs Dismissed

Students participating at diversity retreat offer differing accounts



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

The Office of Multicultural Affairs advertises for its weekend diversity retreat.

BY NICK PODOLAK & TABITHA HAPEMAN

Beacon News Editor & Asst. Features Editor

A controversial diversity leadership retreat held September 8-10 at Camp Ladore in Waymart, Pennsylvania has been the source of criticism and discord among 12 Wilkes student participants. While no direct connection had been confirmed, Andita Parker Lloyd, Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs, was in attendance at the retreat and was fired Friday according to university administrators.

Dean of Student Affairs Mark Allen stated, "While we understand the interest in Ms. Parker-Lloyd's status, the University is unable to respond or answer questions regarding personnel matters. I am able to confirm that Ms. Parker-Lloyd is no longer employed at Wilkes University." Vice President Paul Adams also confirmed her dismissal.

According to participants, the second annual retreat started off on a positive note on campus Friday night. The event facilitator Ron Feldhun, a personal development consultant from New Jersey, said he planned a weekend of building leadership skills centered on diversity. On Saturday, the students traveled to the camp where they were introduced to both Feldhun and a list of beliefs titled "The Top Ten Concepts for Maximizing Success." It was at this point some students claim events started to unravel and become confrontational.

After getting through the first three items on the list with ease, the fourth prompt caused some friction between the facilitator and a number of the participants. The statement read, "It's always about ourselves first." In order to illustrate that concept, Feldhun posed

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New alcohol education program aimed at freshmen

Failure to complete results in disciplinary action

BY ALISON WOODY

Beacon Asst. News Editor

Wilkes University recently took a significant step forward in helping incoming freshmen become more educated about a topic many college students already know a lot about--alcohol.

According to a recent letter sent out to freshmen, AlcoholEdu is "a thoughtful, educated and educating program for adults committed to thinking about their life

choices." It is also now a requirement for all freshmen, with stiff penalties for failure to complete.

AlcoholEdu is a two-part program. Part one takes approximately three hours to complete and includes two surveys, a pre-test, chapter readings and an exam.

In order to move on to part two, the student must earn a grade of 70 or higher to pass. Part two of the program consists of another chapter reading and a final survey.

Mark Allen, Dean of Student Affairs and

co-coordinator of the program, explained how the idea for a substantial alcohol prevention course came about. "The AlcoholEdu program was discussed at an alcohol task force meeting in the spring. The company was asked to make a presentation to the group and did so. AlcoholEdu is a population level prevention program, which by definition 'leverages students' social networks to produce significant improvement in alcohol-related perception and behaviors, and inspires social and cultural change'."

Over 450 campuses nationwide and 250,000 students participate in AlcoholEdu. Allen noted that the program has been touted as effective. "This is a program that has been independently researched and evaluated. Among the findings, students who had completed the program had 50% fewer negative social and academic consequences

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Rwandan students strive to make impact

International student population grows to record levels

BY NICK PODOLAK

Beacon News Editor

Since its first international student graduated in 1965 (a Korean majoring in engineering), Wilkes has welcomed students from over 57 different countries. This semester, the largest international class since 1987 will call Wilkes home.

"In recent history this is a high-water mark," said Vice President of Enrollment Services, Mike Frantz. "It's the most international students we've seen in one term in my eight years."

But perhaps one of the most intriguing stories to come out of the influx of internationals is that four undergraduate students are natives of Rwanda. Two of the four students were prompted to come to Wilkes by the efforts of Matondo Filawo, an African native living in Chicago who has a business that builds roads in the Congo. His plant is based in Sweet Valley.

"Matondo is very interested in helping students identify and

acquire U.S. educations, so they could then go back to Rwanda and be highly educated, contributing members of those growing economies," Frantz said.

When Yves Ngabonziza, the first student from "The Land of a Thousand Hills," introduced Matondo to Frantz, Frantz was never to forget what he said.

"He said, 'Yves, when you graduate and go home, you will be the only environmental engineer in the country who is a native of Rwanda.' Talk about having an impact on a country. Through education he can have a significant impact on a growing country and economy," Frantz said.

That is exactly what Christian Makuza intends to do after he graduates. Makuza, who is majoring in computer information systems, was lucky enough to live in Rwanda's capital and largest city, Kigali, where internet cafés are literally the only means of getting access to a computer.

"For people who live outside the capital, it is impossible for them to

get a computer," he said.

After he graduates, Makuza plans to return to his homeland and teach, which will have an immediate impact on a war-torn country in the midst of recovery. A civil war between the Hutus and Tutsis in 1994, while lasting only four months, resulted in the genocide of nearly a million people and left the country devastated.

"After all we've been through in Rwanda, we have to build everything from the start," he said. "Everything was destroyed in 1994, so we need all the knowledge possible to get the country out of poverty."

When asked how he and his fellow Rwandans picked up the English language, he said in school, through T.V. and most surprisingly, American hip-hop.

"Yeah, it makes you learn English," he said with a chuckle. "We like Tupac."

Though there may not be any mountain gorillas in Wilkes-Barre, Makuza should feel right at home with his Rwandan counterparts,

who are all striving to further their education to help rebuild their oppressed country.

The rest of this year's international undergraduates include four Saudi Arabian students, three students from China and representatives of the British Virgin Islands, South Korea, Kuwait, Germany and India.

Six Saudi English-as-a-second-language (ESL) students and 13 international graduate students with degrees in electrical engineering will also grace the campus this semester.

"This is all part of our interest in seeing Wilkes continuing to be a warm and welcoming environment to persons of every variety of background. Be it religion, race, nationality, gender, whatever it may be. And we will continue to look for qualified students who are a good fit for this institution that meet our long-term diversity goals," Frantz said.

The BEACON

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The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Students from Rwanda call Wilkes home to acquire U.S. educations. Their hope is to return to Rwanda as highly educated individuals who can contribute to a growing economy. From left: Kanyabugoyi (Gael) Somayire, Christian Makuza, Yves Ngabonziza, Brice Biruta.

Bagels, baby:

Einstein Bros. Bagels set to open in November

BY DAVE SEBELIN
Beacon Correspondent

If nothing else, the buzzword on campus this fall has been *change*.

An expanded greenway, newly hired faculty and a movie theater complex within walking distance of campus are a few of the changes since the spring [see corresponding stories in the issue September 11th of *The Beacon*: "Freshmen aren't the only new faces" and "Believing in downtown W-B"] .

Many of the new developments on and off campus have been in the discussion and planning stages for at least a year, and may not surprise campus members. However, what may come as a surprise is that the university will soon be 'rolling in the dough' this fall.

Where will it get all the dough? Perhaps by passing the cost on to students? No, university officials have not decided to increase tuition or raise book prices just yet; rather, 'the dough' will be available to students and faculty across the entire campus - all eighteen different varieties of bagel dough, that is.

Tentatively set to open by mid November, Einstein Bros. Bagels will become the latest addition to the Wilkes dining experience. Providing a series of food choices such as sandwiches, coffee and, of course, bagels, the café will serve students, faculty and the

public from its new location on the first floor of the UCOM facility. When completed, Einstein Bagels will offer students a fourth choice in dining on campus, and a few new selections to add to any breakfast or lunch-time menu.

Situated across from University Towers and the parking garage along South Main Street, the new dining area is intended to be another convenience to students entering the university. Christopher Bailey, director of campus support services, describes Einstein's as "a one stop shop for faculty, students and staff . . . a place for offices, athletics and now dining."

Bailey added, "Our intention is to make this area one of the centers of university activity."

With soon to be over a hundred staff members housed in the UCOM, foot traffic from the pedestrians, and nearby residence of University Towers, officials hope Einstein Bagels will draw crowds during the morning to mid day hours. Hours of operation, while subject to change, are Monday through Friday 7:00am to 3:00pm and weekend hours of 8:00am to 1:30pm. The dining area will provide a variety of food including hot grilled panini sandwiches and omelet bagels. Coffee and fruit drinks will also be on the menu for anyone just stopping in or ordering a

complete meal. A seating area will also be part of the design, accommodating customers who are interested in a relaxing meal. In addition, the dining area will be presented in a theme developed by the organization.

The Einstein Bros. brand and design come from a national chain owned and created by New World Restaurant Group located in Golden, Colorado. According to the organization's website, it currently operates 355 locations and 69 licensed businesses across America. In the case of Wilkes University, Einstein Bagels was licensed by Sodexho as a part of New World's franchising policy. Sodexho, the primary provider of food on campus, will officially run the café while maintaining the style of the Einstein brand.

According to Michael Raub, retail manager of dining on campus, "Einstein's theme is not unlike Panera Bread but less formal. It has breakfast and lunch menus while also serving fresh baked goods."

Since Einstein Bros. will be run by Sodexho and located on campus, university meal plans will apply to the new dining area. Raub explained, "Einstein is along the same premise as Rifkin Café. . . you will be able to use dining dollars and flex dollars to pay for meals."

While Einstein's Bagels offers another opportunity for students to satisfy their hunger

pains, many wonder if there really is a need for another sandwich style dining area like Rifkin Café.

According to Christopher Bailey, "The intention isn't to replace Rifkin, but rather to compliment it. We obviously don't want to cannibalize our market...We haven't really had a chance to discuss what will happen to Rifkin in the future, but we were looking into turning it into a convenience center, not unlike a Wawa. . . but this would need to be discussed first with the Student Government."

Whether Rifkin Café is redesigned to compliment Einstein remains to be seen, but undoubtedly the new dining area will play a vital role as the university expands away from the river and into the city.

Steve Felter, a sophomore history major, when asked about Einstein's, commented, "I think it will give students another place to eat . . . from my point of view Rifkin is closer, but the people in university towers have a very good location to eat and don't have to worry about walking very far."

Einstein Bros. Bagels is scheduled to open in November of 2006 inside the UCOM facility. Though no date has been officially set, information will be released as further progress is made.

DIVERSITY from FRONT PAGE

a hypothetical situation to the group: Which would you rather have, \$1 million or your best friend? According to participant reports, seven of the 12 students stated that they would rather take the money than sacrifice their relationship with their best friend. The remaining five students opted to refuse the money.

Feldhun explained, "In order for you to be a [diversity] ambassador...you have to understand the truth about yourself but also about how other people see things." He added, "[Point number 4] says this - someone is going to do things for themselves first." The million dollar question was meant to illustrate this idea.

The students who opted for the friend over money were not only aggressively challenged for their opinions, but claim they were also segregated because of them. The participants acknowledged that it was at this point that the "A-Team" (those who chose the money) became privileged and the "others" were ostracized.

According to Nitasa Sahu, sophomore

nursing student and retreat participant, the smaller team was told that the larger team would not be working with them because of the differing opinions on the issue. Sahu said she was shocked by this strategy and criticized Feldhun for it. According to Sahu, he pointed to another participant and replied, "If you can call me phony, then I call you a terrorist."

After this incident, participants report that sophomore nursing student Josh Pauling, who is of Asian descent, was singled out and the rest of the team was allegedly encouraged to chant "chink" in his direction. But, he stated that the group had his approval to do this. Pauling explained, "We were told that the whole weekend was an act...it wasn't to be taken completely seriously. It showed that I was willing to be part of the group and there weren't any hard feelings...they were chanting it. They were told to say it."

Sahu noted that she felt he appeared uncomfortable during the experience, and she was "disgusted" by the experience.

The accounts of Saturday's retreat differ as to whether or not the students were provided with meals. Sahu charged that they were not fed for over seven hours.

Feldhun stated, however, "I can tell you with 100% certainty...none of that took place...What they're saying happened... never happened."

Sahu said that she and two other students, one who was unavailable for interview and another who was unwilling to comment on the controversy, approached Parker-Lloyd after the retreat and asked why she allowed the weekend to continue as it did. Sahu said that Parker Lloyd replied that there was no such thing as diversity.

Junior communication studies major Mark Congdon, a member of the so-called 'A team', recalled this scene differently. He did not deny that the statement was made, but clarified that Parker-Lloyd was speaking of diversity on the Wilkes campus only.

The Beacon contacted Parker Lloyd and offered her the opportunity to respond to student allegations regarding the diversity retreat. However, she refused to comment.

While some student participants such as Congdon claim that the retreat's unconventional methods were "life changing" in a positive sense, others believe that the confrontational approach was detrimental and extreme.

Avni Vaschani, sophomore pharmaceu-

tical science major said, "If I had to rate [the experience], I'd give it a four. I did learn something, but I think it was a waste of time. Everyone has a different perspective...I didn't like it when he called us 'terrorists.'"

Alberto Prado, Coordinator of Academic Services, Tutoring and Supplemental Instruction will serve as interim coordinator of Multicultural Affairs according to Vice President of Student Affairs Paul Adams.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
Andita Parker-Lloyd

Myspace, Facebook runs risks for job seekers

Social networking causes more harm than good for college students

BY SARAH DOMAN
Beacon Asst. News Editor

With one click of the button it is possible to find almost anyone or anything on the internet. People can find lost schoolmates, new friends, stalkers, child predators and now the reason for a job rejection.

The increasing popularity of web-based communities such as MySpace.com and Facebook.com promote connections on the internet that are now being fully recognized and exploited.

According to creators of Facebook.com, "Facebook is a social utility that helps people better understand the world around them. Facebook develops technologies that facilitate the spread of information through social networks, allowing people to share information online the same way they do in the real world."

Facebook launched in February of 2004 and now has over nine million registered users. It also sees the seventh most web traffic on the internet.

Mary Waldorf, coordinator of leadership development, attended the APCA leadership conference last week at which attorney Adam Lambert presented a workshop on MySpace and Facebook. She said, "Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research asked a group of 18-24 year olds (not just college students) if they have a personal website, page or blog, and they found that 52% have a Myspace page, 34% were on Facebook and nearly 50% of all incoming freshman had a Facebook account before orientation. Another interesting fact students and I learned at the APCA leadership conference came from research conducted by Student Monitor. They report that Facebook is now just as popular with college students as beer."

Social networking sites such as Facebook.com are open to the public, and since the internet is viewed as a public space, virtually anyone with a computer can view the content of these pages. Users can join Facebook.com simply by providing a valid e-mail address from an organization or school, making the site popular with the college crowd.

Amanda McMahon, senior English/secondary education major has had her Facebook account for approximately two years. "One major benefit of Facebook [is that it] actually helps out my job as a resident assistant because I can post announcements or message all members of the group I created for my dorm," she said. Facebook allows members to post messages, pictures, as well as personal information such as contact information and interests.

However, it is the content that students choose to display in their account that can be cause for some negative consequences now and in the future. McMahon said, "I have noticed that the popular kind of 'harm' done does not come from stalkers, as often warned, but rather through the kind of images students choose to portray on these sites. These images, often viewed as an accurate representation of the character of a person, can affect the professional and academic life of the student."

Media sources such as CNN and the *Chicago Tribune* have warned the public about social networking sites and the harm these sites can cause students both inside and outside of school. More and more employers and institutions are searching sites like Myspace and Facebook to find information about prospective employees and taking the information they find on these sites into account during the hiring/firing process.

Richard Hannick, a 2005 graduate of Wilkes University, works as an interim manager for FYE. "I got rid of Facebook because I saw on CNN that employers do background checks and they can look at it as part of it," he said. "Going into the workforce and finding out about Facebook really freaked me out." Social networking accounts are not preventing college students from having a professional and personal life, but the content they chose to display is, especially when it comes to employers.

"Students don't need to totally remove

their personal pages on MySpace and Facebook, but if they are in the process of searching for internships and jobs, it may be in their best interest to portray a professional image on those sites as well. Students can clean up their pages and use them as an opportunity to make a positive first impression. I guess a general rule of thumb when it comes to social networking sites and internship/job searches could be, if you wouldn't put it on your resume, don't put it on the web," said Waldorf.

Some students agree that content can be a factor in the job search. "Often, the choice of what gets posted particularly pertains to the person's moral and ethical self, a self they employers are wondering about, but that interview questions and criminal record checks may not be able to pick up on," said McMahon.

With this in mind, Waldorf said, "Employers wouldn't necessarily be telling potential interns or recent college grads they are not being offered a position because of the content of their pages. What's even worse is the possibility exists that students may not even be getting the initial interview because of what they have posted on such accounts, and they would never know why."

Students are aware that for some future careers it will be necessary to deactivate their Facebook accounts. "I will definitely discard my accounts based on my occupation. I will be applying for a secondary education position and it is very risky to have any kind of public information on the internet, especially when I do get hired. If I want the

respect from seniors in high school, then I should not have a MySpace/Facebook account with pictures of what I do in my spare time and who my friends are," said Alicia Demer, senior English/secondary education major.

However, some students may not feel it is necessary to edit their pages or remove them all together. Waldorf said, "Greenberg found that 83% of students surveyed were not concerned with the impact their online behavior may have on them getting a job."

Gretchen Yeninas, director of residence life said, "In the course of hiring Resident Assistants, we do not search those sites for additional information about students. However, if something comes to our attention, the RAs know that they will be held responsible for what we see on their pages."

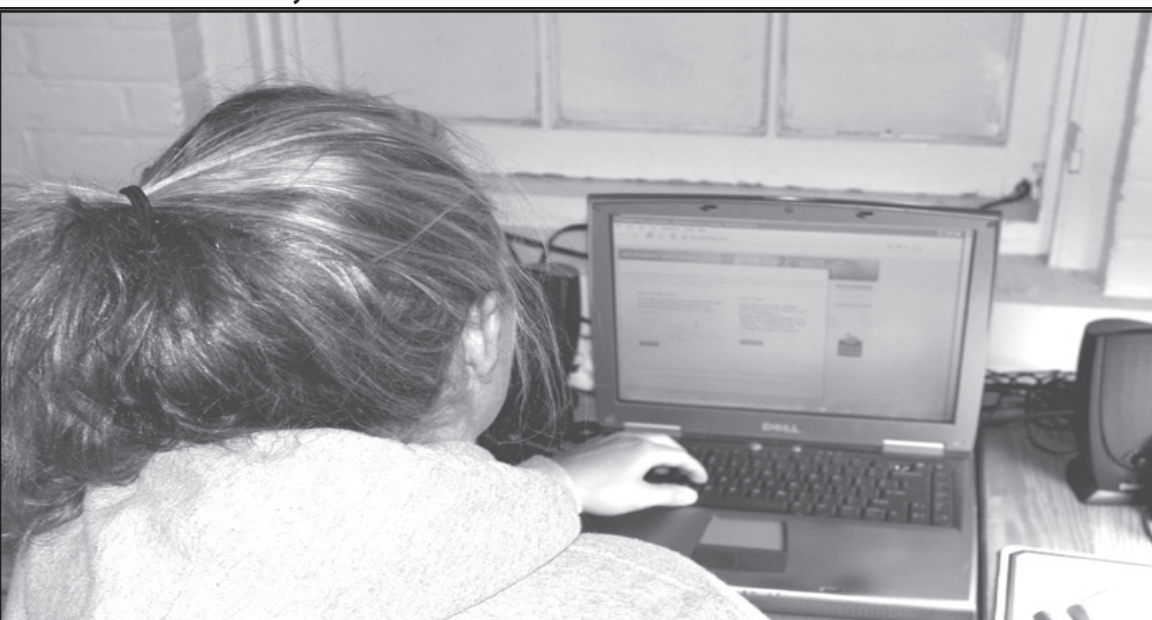
The most popular form of incriminating evidence across college campuses is the infamous profile picture of underage drinking. Students often post photos of policy violations, which can cause for disciplinary measures to be taken by the university.

"A bigger concern has been that students at many campuses are posting pictures of themselves violating student codes and local laws. Another concern is that by posting personal information and even class

See **FACEBOOK** page 5

The screenshot displays a Facebook profile for a user named 'Wilkes'. The profile includes a cover photo of a baseball field, a profile picture of a person, and various details such as sex (Male), relationship status (Single), and interests (Writing, Film, Poker, Boston Red Sox, Philadelphia Phillies). The Mini-Feed shows recent activity, including a post by Matthew Burian and a friend request from Kara Koster. The right sidebar shows a list of friends including Pam/Jenna, Sara, Nicole, and Seth.

Social networking sites like Facebook.com and MySpace.com are popular with many college students. Students can post class schedules, contact information, interests and activities. However, employers caution against posting information that may affect a student getting hired.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Kim Baldino, freshman education major, participates in the AlcoholEdu prevention program. All freshmen are required to participate, and failure to complete the program will result in an alcohol violation, disciplinary action and a monetary fine.

ALCOHOL from FRONT PAGE

related to drinking than students who had not completed the program."

He added, "Through their learning experience it is hoped that there will be a greater awareness with respect to the effects of alcohol, thus challenging students to think specifically about choices as alcohol relates to academic and personal success."

All Wilkes freshmen are required to take part in the program and Allen noted that university of-

ficials are taking the program seriously. Those students who do not successfully finish AlcoholEdu will receive an alcohol violation, disciplinary action by the University and a monetary fine.

The Office of Student Affairs proposed the penalties for AlcoholEdu; however, Allen said, "Certainly disciplinary action is not the motivation for this program. It is hoped that all students will complete the program....The issue of alcohol misuse and abuse is prevalent on many college campuses and our connecting this to an expectation for completion reinforces the message that this is an

area students need to think about and reflect upon. It is a proactive attempt to avoid problems and, at the same time, promote wellness."

Jade Eskovitz, freshman undecided major, feels that the university's penalties may be extreme. "I feel the punishments for not completing AlcoholEdu are slightly severe. I never thought I could actually get an alcohol violation without ever drinking," she said. "However, I feel the university is trying to make a point that alcohol is a serious problem on college campuses. Sure, the main reason students are taking part in

FACEBOOK from PAGE 4

schedules, students are making themselves targets for predators. Unfortunately, the mentality tends to be 'it won't happen to me,'" said Waldorf.

Although the internet is a public place, many students question whether or not employers have the right to look at the information on social networking sites, and whether or not they have the right to base the hiring/firing of a person because of it.

Demer said, "I think that what the applicant does on his or her own time is their private business and until their personal and private life affect their performance at work, it should not be the employer's business."

When asked if employers have the right to look at these sites, Yeninas said, "Personally, yes, but it is a fine line. Students need to remember that it is a pub-

lic domain and anyone could be looking at their page. They need to think about what kind of first impression their page makes."

Many of these sites, including Facebook, have privacy and security settings that allow the user to personalize to their account. However, this does not completely eliminate the sharing of personal information to the undesired, and, for professional development, many students are getting rid of these accounts. The internet is a public space and employers will continue to search, especially with the growing competition in the job market.

Social networking contributes to social life, but also makes having a private life virtually impossible. "As long as the internet in general continues to work the way it does, I feel that none of us contributing to the online world will ever truly have private space," said McMahon.

the program is to avoid the disciplinary actions, but hopefully after completion they will feel better educated about alcohol usage," said Eskovitz.

"The connection of a consequence to successful completion of the program is a common practice among several schools in an effort to insure that all students are presented with the experience," Allen said. "Alcohol is the drug of choice on college campuses. Many of the negative behavior is-

issues brought to Student Affairs are related to alcohol use. Again, not uncommon in a college setting. This is a prevention program that has shown success on many college campuses in reducing this behavior. If it provides an opportunity for students to make better choices, which translates into a successful personal and academic experience, then the program is well worth it."

Busted Drinking Myth:

"I'm having as much fun as I can while I'm in college. As soon as I graduate, I'll get my act together."

Reality:

Your drinking habits can keep you from attending class, studying regularly, or getting involved in a career-oriented club or internship. Plus, if you're thinking of going to grad school, you still need to be making the grade so that your transcript looks good to graduate schools. One other thing to keep in mind: even though no one goes to school intending to become an alcoholic, heavy drinking behavior in college can ultimately lead some people to full-blown alcoholism after college.

Sponsored by Health Services

http://www.factsonatap.org/factsonatap/alcohol_and_student_life/eight_myths.htm



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

On Thursday September 14, 2006, Wilkes-Barre hosted its annual party on the square from 6-9pm. The event is free to all students from the participating schools. This year students were entitled to free pizza for the first 750 students as well as discount cards, backpacks and \$1 drinks. Students could try their skills on the mechanical bull or enter the pizza eating contest. Local bands performed including The Five Percent and Go Go Gadget. Local schools who attended and participated at Party on the Square were Wilkes University, King's College, College Misericordia, Luzerne County Community College and Penn State Wilkes-Barre.

First graders should stop and smell the roses

Push for smarter, younger students erases their creativity

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL BOARD

Now that we're in college, don't we all look back on the good ol' days of our childhood, when the worst thing we had to worry about was what color crayon to use on our latest artistic masterpiece or whether or not our parents would let us stay up past our bedtime?

As adults, we are forced to juggle numerous responsibilities, finding the balance between the need for money, the stress of studying and the time constraints of work. Sadly, long gone are the relaxing, carefree days of elementary school.

In a startling trend that is gathering momentum across the United States, first graders are losing their own sense of what it means to be a kid and are being forced to read at

a younger age than what is deemed appropriate, in increasingly stringent and demanding programs. According to a September 11, 2006 *Newsweek* cover article, kindergarteners are being bombarded by reading lessons, and those first graders who haven't mastered the skills attend remedial sessions for extra help.

In the race to educate children faster, parents are also concerned with making their children the best and the brightest. Parents of first graders are already worried about Ivy League colleges and top-notch high schools, citing concerns that if their child struggles with reading in first grade, they will surely struggle with more difficult subjects later on in life, leaving them behind in the race. The same *Newsweek* article states that recess, music and art classes, and in

some schools, social studies, have all been cut to spend more time on reading, writing and spelling.

The push for better, brighter, *younger* students is enacting a heavy toll on the students themselves. Pressured by demands they are unable to handle at such an age, more and more students--and not just first graders--are being held back a grade, creating shame and feelings of failure. Teachers and school administrators alike feel the crunch as well, pressured by Bush's No Child Left Behind act. Schools run the risk of losing funding if all students do not perform well on state-mandated tests. As the *Newsweek* article explains, starting the learning process in earnest at an earlier age does not necessarily mean first graders will be smarter or more intelligent down the line. Each age has appropriate

lessons and skills to learn, which shouldn't be rushed or skipped.

While students our age can identify with these pressures, which are similar to the competitive rush to ace the SATs or even the GREs, we are better equipped to handle stress than these 6-year-olds. Imagine the burnout these kids will experience in 12 years, when they are ready to go to college. If the race starts when the kids

should be painting and singing songs, they will be ill-equipped for the long haul and will lack the stamina and endurance to even make it to senior year.

And, when they do make it to senior year, where will their sense of creativity and ingenuity have gone? Will they know how to relax, laugh at themselves and the absurdity of the world? Or will they reflect the physical and mental toll exacted upon them by the work-aholic elder generation?

These students will be focused on making the grade, acing the test or winning the spelling bee. No child left behind inspired mandates and teaching methods are wrongly indicating to students that value is located exclusively on winning and being the best and first. They will hear only that the world values book smarts and high reading levels to the exclusion of the rest of what rounds us out and makes us human.

Perhaps, then, the issue lies less with teachers and parents and first-graders, but instead with America's mentality about what we will value. While we all need the brainiacs to perform surgeries and build bridges, we also still need artists, musicians and actors to put the fun back into the world. We need caregivers for our children, men and women to police the streets and those who will save us from a burning building. We need to find a way to value every child, every man and woman, for the gifts and talents they can offer us all.

And, we must remember that our children are growing up in a world where hate and greed and envy exist. Let's spare them a full dose of reality until they're ready to tackle it, and leave time for childhood pursuits. Responsibility comes soon enough.

Beacon Poll Results

The following are results of a poll that *The Beacon* conducted online this past week. The poll was unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on campus. Results are based on 46 responses.

The Beacon asked:

What addition or change to downtown Wilkes-Barre are you most excited about?

- Movies 14 complex - **28%**
- Barnes & Noble shared college bookstore - **24%**
- The promise of a cleaner, safer downtown - **20%**
- Club Mardi Gras - **13%**
- The promise of Public Square wifi - **7%**
- Downtown streetlights - **4%**
- Billiards parlor - **4%**
- More downtown housing options - **0%**
- Wilkes University parking garage on Main Street - **0%**
- Other - **0%**

Next Week's Poll

Question:

How can President Bush raise his approval rating?

- Grow a beard
- Dress like a dinosaur
- Buy everyone a puppy
- Carry a man-purse
- Find bin Laden
- Have an affair with an intern
- Fire a cabinet member
- Get breast implants
- Wear an eye patch
- Speak with an Austrian accent

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Republicans' foothold tenuous at best for November

Erosion of public support justified in the wake of Iraq, Katrina and lies

BY ROBERT DONAHUE

Beacon Correspondent

Well, here we go again! Another election year, and this time Republicans are even more desperate.

In the 2002 and 2004 elections, Republicans were successfully able to exploit 9/11 and terrorism to keep their majority. Recent polls show President Bush's approval rating in the lower 40's. Three separate polls reveal that 53% of people feel that the war in Iraq was a mistake, 51% feel that there is no connection between Iraq and the War on Terror and a full half of those polled feel that President Bush is spending too much time on Iraq to consider other threats.

So now the Republicans' strongest platform might actually hurt them in the 2006 election.

This could explain why the Republicans are more desperate than ever to attack the Democrats on anything. On the fifth

anniversary of 9/11, President Bush used his television time to talk about Iraq and how it is the front for the War on Terror. Democrats had no intentions of making 9/11 a day of partisan attacks; however, the President started it and the Democrats responded.

To add fuel to the fire, House Majority Leader John Boehner (R-OH) told the news media, "I wonder if they're [the Democrats] more interested in protecting the terrorists than protecting the American people."

Whoa! Harsh words Mr. Congressman, but I think it sounds like someone is extremely desperate to hang on to their majority spot. Let's take a look at just how the Republicans are "protecting" the American people, shall we?

No one disputes that Osama bin Laden is responsible for attacking our country on 9/11. Where is he? The United States military had Osama bin Laden in its sight at Tora Bora, and according to a MSNBC report, CIA commander Gary Berntsen says, "He and other U.S. commanders did know

that bin Laden was among the hundreds of fleeing al Qaeda and Taliban members..." The decorated career CIA officer criticizes Donald Rumsfeld's Defense Department for "not providing enough support to the CIA and the Pentagon's own Special Forces teams in the final hours of Tora Bora."

Additionally, President Bush is destroying the democratic values we are trying to spread all over the world. Illegal domestic wiretapping without court orders, secret U.S. prison camps (which the president finally came out and admitted), reading the mail of American citizens, holding people in prison for years without any criminal charges and the list goes on and on. When news of the NSA's warrantless wiretapping of millions of Americans became public, Democrats communicated justifiable outrage. Are there really over ten million possible terrorists in the U.S.? I highly doubt it.

With this next issue, all I am going to say is...Hurricane Katrina. I think the situation speaks for itself, since the lack of speedy, efficient response from his administration

did kill President Bush's approval rating.

Finally, I once heard that President Bush was going to be the first U.S. President since John Q. Adams not to exercise his veto powers [notably Adams served only one term]. Instead Mr. Bush has rewritten hundreds of bills passed by Congress to suit his own needs through his "signing statement" power. Didn't our founding fathers create three branches of government so there would be a separation of powers? Most recently, the Supreme Court has indicated that President Bush's desire to control things is not only out of control, but bordering on unconstitutional.

If Republicans really want to win this election and maintain their majority, then they better stop giving President Bush a rubber stamp. That should have happened two years ago anyway.

So the question is: who really cares about protecting Americans? Surely it isn't this current Republican President nor the Republican Congress, which I might add has a lower approval rating than the President.

This is How We Do It (Learn, That is)

BY NORA JURASITS

Beacon Features Editor

Admit it...you're listening to the radio and "Shoop" by Salt and Peppa or "(You Gotta) Fight for Your Right to Party" by The Beastie Boys comes on...not only do you sing along, but you know every word. I know I do.

While rocking out to one of these songs, or another old school hip-hop song I haven't heard for years, I wonder how it is that my brain chooses to remember all the lyrics to these songs, yet definitions I learned in class only last week don't seem to make the cut.

Especially around finals time, I find myself wishing I could somehow turn my useless ability to remember words set to a beat into a way to help me ace my exams.

Enter Flocabulary. Alex Rappaport and Blake Harrison, two white guys in their mid-twenties, have turned hip-hop into a way to teach vocabulary, history and even Shakespeare to students across the country. Go figure. Rappaport and Harrison use the basic rhyme and beat elements of hip-hop to make the information more memorable.

Flocabulary is mostly used in high schools right now, but who knows how long it'll be before it makes the crossover into other

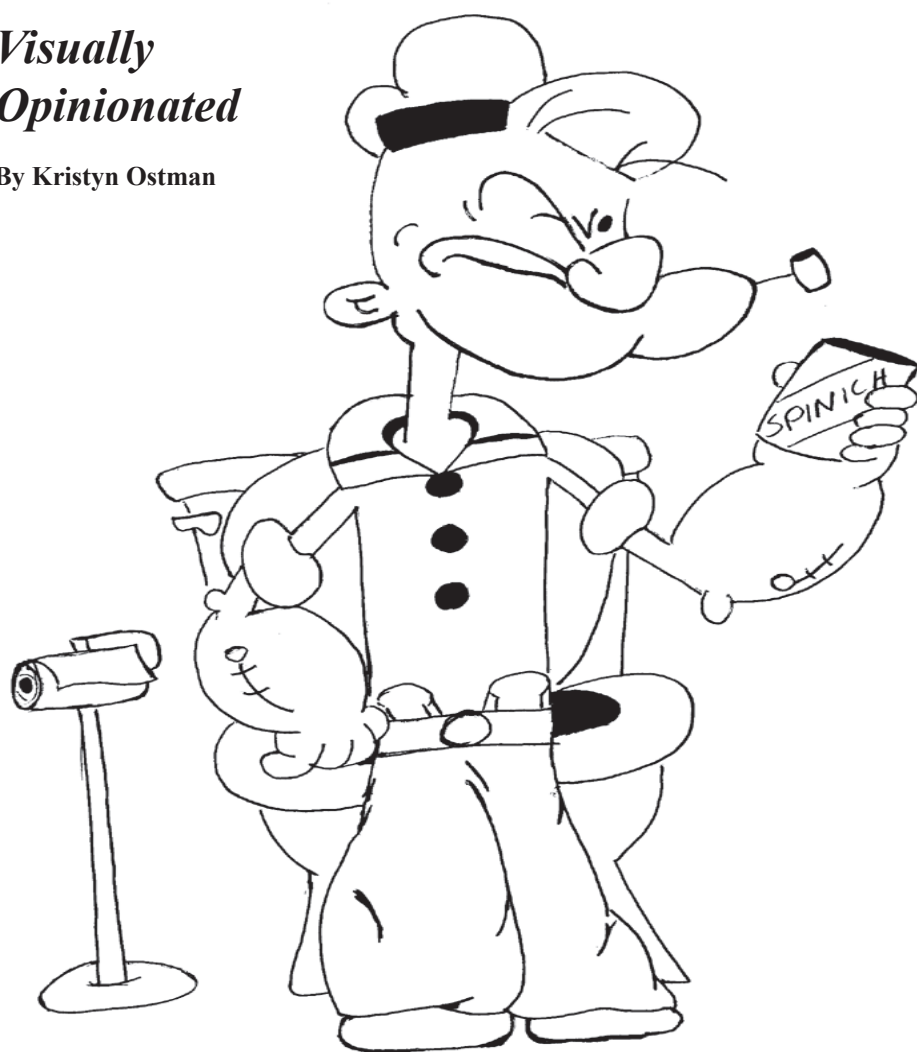
educational settings. I would love to show up for an 8 a.m. biology class and hear my professor rapping to us about protozoan and amino acids. When you look back at your notes a week later, not only do you see the words on the page, but you hear the beat along with it in your mind.

When interviewed on CNN, Rappaport and Harrison were asked how the Flocabulary CDs and accompanying lyric books will be made available to schools that may not be able to afford them, but may need them the most to boost scores. Although schools with limited funding may need to raise scores, I'd bet there isn't a school in the United States that wouldn't want to boost scores. And with the increase in popularity of hip-hop among students of all ages, races and wealth levels, it seems that Flocabulary has the potential to reach a multitude of learners.

Right now, Rappaport and Harrison, whose Flocabulary emcee name is the clever Emcee Escher, write all the rhymes and put them to their own beats... but with the rising increase in popularity of the program, due to spots on ABC News, MTV News and CNN, among others, who knows how long it'll be before Ludacris joins the Flocabulary team to teach physics to America's youth.

Visually Opinionated

By Kristyn Ostman



"I'm gonna need a new theme song...what rhymes with e. coli?"

YOUR VOICES

Positive cultural dialogue a must for diversity to exist

Dear Editor:

An event occurred during the orientation weekend that I feel deserves some attention. Since I did not see it covered in your first issue, I would like to address it here. A program was offered on our campus entitled “NWC” -- the title comes from the three initials of derogatory names for people of color. Apparently, it was a Chris Rock style of comedy, complete with expletives and epithets, meant to bring to light the offensive nature of certain terms. I have been told that it was a mandatory program for first year students.

I have three concerns with such a program. First, it is offensive. Such language only sets a negative tone for subsequent diversity discussions. If my own African American daughter were required to attend a ninety-minute session in which she was subjected to foul terms for her own race and other people of color, I would expect her to withdraw from the university. I cannot imagine any justification for exposing our new students to an offensive treatment of diversity issues, as there are countless more positive programs to be had.

Second, it seems divisive. Since there is no derogatory word for white people in the title, it potentially sets up an “us/them” situation between minority and majority group members. This seems a dangerous choice for entertainment in a school that is 93% white, and it concerns me. In this country we have a long and unpleasant history of derogatory humor aimed at people of color. Too many people of color have had to denigrate themselves in order to find employment or acceptance with majority members. I can’t imagine Wilkes wanting to be a part of that pattern, no matter how funny the comedians were. Somehow, hearing that there was a standing ovation only makes me feel worse.

Third, there was no debriefing. Apparently, after ninety minutes, the performers opened it up to questions and answers, at which time almost all of the audience left. I am worried that students who are unaccustomed to diversity will not realize how inflammatory these terms are and will use them. These are trigger words that are packed with emotion and, to me, are simply not funny, whatever the context.

Your readers who want to defend the program might ask how I can judge the program without having been there. My response is that, even if I had known about it (which I didn’t), I would never attend a program with the N-word in the title. Hearing it makes me cringe. Why would I spend an hour and a half wanting to hear more of it? I certainly don’t support spending several thousand dollars of student activities fees to pay for the program. I frankly don’t understand how or why that decision was made, and I don’t know why the students are not questioning the use of their money for it. That decision was a mistake -- it was far too costly, in so many ways.

I wonder what can be done now, as a campus, to move forward from here. Perhaps this unfortunate choice of entertainment can provide us with a reason to talk -- to really talk about the sensitive issues. We truly need to begin a positive intercultural dialogue, one that will increase awareness of majority group members, validate minority group members and begin to repair any damage that might have been caused by NWC. Waiting any longer to process this event, in my opinion, is very dangerous.

Sincerely,
Gina Zanolini Morrison, Assistant Professor of Education

Magnifying differences highlights segregation, not acceptance

How exactly do we celebrate cultural heritage?

BY KRISTYN OSTMAN
Beacon Opinion Editor

I realize this may seem a bit of an overstatement, but I’ve been hearing about “cultural heritage” since I was in elementary school.

My school district, back home in New York, was big on making sure every culture was catered to. As the only person I’ve ever met who is even part Swedish, I was upset that I had to explain to my teacher exactly what St. Lucia Day was all about and how to properly respect it. She stood there stupefied by a 5-year old.

Whenever I hear about a new diversity event on campus, I always remember that experience. Why do we all have to celebrate other people’s customs? Certainly, we can respect the beliefs and traditions of others, but I find it arrogant and upsetting that anyone feels that they can take part, because half the time they are so unaware that they go about it all wrong. I’d rather have no cultural heritage events than watch some yuppie pervert the customs of my culture because it makes him feel good and proves to himself and others that he is in no way

racist. Of course you are a racist; you are defining in no uncertain terms that “this is my race,” which is by its nature an act that excludes.

Does celebrating our differences really

of all three cultures and I honor them in my own way. However, even in feeling connected to my heritage, it’s nearly impossible for even me to properly indulge. Swedish women are notoriously cold and the entire

considering yourself an American. If we could muster up a little nationalism for this country instead of having an event for every obscure foreign holiday, we might bring ourselves closer together. In no way am I telling anyone to ostracize foreigners. Given the make up of the United States, we should welcome foreigners and fold them into one American culture.

I was not born in Sweden and I’ve never been there, so what right do I have to take part in St. Lucia Day? I do, however, enjoy the 4th of July. Why? Because I am an American. Of course, if anyone was to start bashing Swedes, I might step in to educate them, but not out of some sense of Swedish pride. I’d do so because most intelligent humans realize that discrimination against another ethnicity is born of ignorance.

Many countries have a strong sense of nationality that would probably demonize a mutt like me. As an American, I feel it is my duty to respect other cultures while not confusing them with my own.

I’d rather have no cultural heritage events than watch some yuppie pervert the customs of my culture because it makes him feel good and prove to himself and others that he is in no way racist.

bring us together? It stands to reason that magnifying how diverse we are segregates us more. Why shouldn’t it? Now I know exactly what makes you different from me... and for whatever petty reason, I can choose to hate you for it. Sure, it sounds stupid and unreasonable, but most hate is based on silly, shallow reasons that really have more to do with our personal problems than the culture the hate is directed against.

I am a mutt. I am half-Italian, a quarter Swedish and quarter Austrian. I am proud

society exemplifies few Christian values. Italians are warm, strict Catholics. Kind of a huge difference--and that’s if I only go by stereotypes. Truthfully, since these cultures are very different (and it would be pretty pretentious of me to claim full knowledge of them) I can’t go around living as if I was a foreign national.

Instead, I consider myself an American. This encompasses all of my cultures including the one into which I was born.

There is nothing wrong or shameful about

University pays tribute to Jake Simonis

Students band together and raise money to build memorial

BY NORA JURASITS
Beacon Features Editor

On August 1, Wilkes University lost not only a vibrant member of its student body, but a friend and good man. Jake Simonis, who would have been a junior this fall, was killed in a motorcycle accident that occurred on River Street in Wilkes-Barre, in front of Evans Hall.

Simonis was known by many for his white Del Sol and his love of country music, and the fact that he "couldn't walk around campus without saying 'hi' to people he knew," according to close friend Laura Hanna.

Soon after his death, those close to him began raising money to construct a memorial in his honor.

Fundraising was done on a personal level by Hanna, his girlfriend Kathy Harrington, and Jake's roommates, Ryan Gallagher and Ed Smulligan.

"People who knew Jake in any capacity have been very generous. The reaction has been very positive," said Harrington, a sophomore pre-pharmacy major.

Junior class president Matt Brown said when he heard about Simonis's death, he immediately knew he wanted to do something to raise money for a memorial. "Wilkes University is a small school, and something like this affects the entire university. When someone passes away, it affects us all, and we work together as a whole to memorialize him."

Brown contacted Simonis's close friends at Wilkes, as well as the Simonis family, and worked with them to plan a fundraiser. "They offered moral support and kept us abreast about what was going on," said Pearl Simonis, Jake's mother.

The junior class cabinet, consisting of Brown, president, Kristina Erat, vice president, Megan Badach, secretary, Tony Scerbo, treasurer, and representatives Alison Woody, Danielle Namiotka and Kate Bass organized a raffle.

They approached the Wilkes-

Barre/ Scranton Pioneers, who donated two jerseys signed by all of the players. Mericle Construction, Inc., for whom Simonis worked, then contacted the Simonis family and told them they wanted to help. They donated four Penn State football tickets, along with parking passes and a gift basket, valued at approximately \$250.

Pearl Simonis said the football theme of the raffle prizes was very appropriate because football was a huge part of her son's life. "[He] played football when he was a freshman, but decided against it after that. He always loved it and followed it."

His father, Jerry Simonis added, "He wasn't playing [this year], but he knew what was going on. He was a part of the

team."

Although raffles of any kind are usually against the rules of the university, Dr. Paul Adams, vice president of student affairs, said an exception was made because of the cause of the sales.

"The very specific nature of the circumstances gave us cause to allow the raffle," Adams said. "Obviously, the result speaks that it was a good decision."

Tickets were on sale at Club Day on September 7, and were also available on a daily basis at the Information Desk in the Henry Student Center. They were also sold at the Wilkes football game on Saturday against Delaware Valley. They were priced at 1 ticket for \$3, 2 tickets for \$5, or 5 tickets for \$10.

We needed to memorialize him in some way, remind people he was here. People he loved are here and people who loved him are here.

Kathy Harrington
sophomore pre-pharmacy major



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

The check for \$1,227 was presented to Dr. Paul Adams at the Wilkes football game against Delaware Valley last Saturday. Simonis's family, along with Student Government members and those who participated in fundraising, were part of the presentation.

At half time, the winning tickets were chosen and prizes were awarded. Don Middleton and K. Milligan received the autographed jerseys, and Lance Peyton won the Penn State football package.

Altogether, \$1,227 has been raised so far for Simonis's memorial fund. The money was presented to Adams and student affairs during the half time ceremonies to be put towards the construction of a memorial, which will be located in front of Evans Hall, on River Street. Plans are in the making to include a bench, some shrubbery, as well as a plaque commemorating Jake's life.

"This honors a young person who was a vital part of the campus community," said Adams. "It speaks very well of the sense of community and the desire to preserve it and give back."

Specific aspects of the memorial are still being discussed, and a quote from the Emerson Drive song, "A Good Man," may possibly be included on the plaque. According to Hanna, the quote, "When I'm gone, I wanna leave a legacy/ Of love and laughs and honesty behind me,"

as well as other lyrics in the song, exemplify the kind of person Simonis was.

Since the construction of the memorial, as well as the physical components of it, are quite expensive, much of the work will be done by Jake's friends and classmates, as well as by family members, and will be supervised by employees of Mericle.

"He went to this school and a lot of people knew him," added Harrington. "He called this his home. We needed to memorialize him in some way, remind people he was here. People he loved are here and people who loved him are here."

A memorial service for Simonis will take place on Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom, on the 2nd floor of the Henry Student Center.

Thrills and chills on the agenda for prospective students in October

BY NORA JURASITS

Beacon Features Editor

Usually when prospective Wilkes students take tours of campus, the goal is not to scare them away, but this fall, the admissions department is aiming to up the fright factor during their Haunted Wilkes open house. High school juniors and their families visiting campus on October 28 will be greeted by costumed tour guides and students showcasing their particular department or organization.

"The idea for Haunted Wilkes was to create a fun, eye-catching on-campus experience for high school juniors," said Melanie Mickelson, director of admissions. "We haven't done an open house program targeted towards this group in a long time, although more and more students are beginning their college search earlier. We thought this could be a unique way to in-

troduce them to the campus."

The program is open to all Wilkes students, not only those in organizations. Students of the same major can also register to create a display to represent their area of study. The integrative media major, a fairly new program, has already signed up to participate.

Eric Ruggerio, director of the Integrative Media department, will be working with students to decorate the Integrative Media studio located in the basement of Breiseth Hall.

Ruggerio said that as well as attracting potential new students, the creation of the display is also a great unifying project for those who are already studying within the major. "It's great for the current students because it builds critical team work skills and camaraderie as a department."

He said there was talk of collaboration with other offices located in the vicinity

of the studio. "We plan to get together as a group soon, and get some ideas about the specifics of our display." While no definite plans are established yet, Ruggerio said because of the nature of the major, the display will most likely be very "visually themed," and possibly include use of the computer monitors, as well as content projected on the walls.

"What we really want to do is show off our campus and the involvement of our student organizations," Mickelson said. "We have left site preparation entirely in the hands of the participating student organizations."

Becky Laughman, who serves as assistant director of admissions, as well as the main coordinator of this event, said there will be no profanity or nudity allowed, but short of those guidelines, students will have free reign on what their displays consist of.

"We wanted a way to incorporate stu-

dents," said Laughman, assistant director of admissions. "We're really proud of students and know they can be creative. This lets them show what they're good at using their creative side, and we can offer prizes."

After the prospective students and their families have completed the tours, evaluation forms will be distributed and they will vote on which displays they thought were the best.

The display that receives the most votes will receive \$500 to be used in any way for their club or major. Second place will be rewarded with movie tickets for all members of the club. Third place will win a pizza party.

Students can register their site by contacting the admissions department by Monday, September 25.

Faculty-student duo to compete in marathon together

Solitary sport becomes a shared passion

BY TABITHA HAPEMAN

Beacon Asst. Features Editor

The latest wire reports that one-fifth of all children will suffer from the adverse health effects brought on by obesity once again put health and wellness topics on the front page for most Americans.

But awareness of the benefits of exercise and healthy diet is something at least one Wilkes faculty member has had since 1994. Dr. Kyle Kreider, assistant professor of political science, has been running long distances for over ten years.

Next month, Kreider will be participating in his fourth marathon--the Steamtown Marathon in Scranton. While he might be considered a "veteran" by marathon standards, this year he will be running alongside one of his students for the first time. Kreider's running partner and student, Art Redmond, started running seriously in 2003. Together they have been training for the marathon and it will be Redmond's first effort at the extreme distance.

Redmond said that "none of the club sports fit me well or my schedule," but he found that running, a more solitary yet very competitive sport, fit his life style and personality best.

The two met when Redmond was a student in Kreider's class. Soon after that, the two met in the YMCA while Kreider was running, and a dialogue began about training together and shooting for the marathon. Interestingly, it was one of Kreider's

professors who got him interested in running marathons when he was in college.

"I had a college professor that ran long distance...He approached me to see if I wanted to run in the Philadelphia marathon." After that, an obsession was born.

Kreider added, "For me, once I started, I formed a habit... You're competing against yourself."

The sport is, according to the marathon duo, "inherently competitive... [and] very individualistic."

Both runners found that after they started the habit of running, they felt unfulfilled if they didn't run for too long a period of time.

Kreider explained, "If I didn't run...my moods would shift. If I go a day or two without running, I don't feel right."

Redmond agreed. "You're pushing yourself...you feel you've been productive on some level."

Kreider's best time so far in a marathon has been 3 hours 30 minutes and 52 seconds. He stated that "3.30 has always been a goal of mine."

For Redmond, this marathon will set the precedent for all others to follow. He expects to finish near the same time as Kreider.

The standard length of a marathon is 26.2 miles. The event will start at 8 a.m. There will be 2,500 volunteers to offer support at the race and approximately 13 aid stations along the way.

"I think I can speak for both of us;

we would both recommend this to other people. It's a common man's sport...anyone who can buy sneakers can be a runner. I would recommend this to anyone," said Kreider.

For those looking to participate in a sport

but who lack the inclination or talent to join a team, running may be the answer. According to Kreider and Redmond, it takes time to develop the habit, but it can eventually become a passion. Redmond added, "You have to push yourself the first few weeks or even months."

In terms of training, Redmond noted that he runs either five or six times a week. Kreider, who regularly employs a pedometer, said he "likes to see seven or eight miles a day." If he has not reached this goal by the end of the day, by either walking or running, he'll go for a walk

at night.

While the two runners do not always train together, they will be running together in the marathon, examples of the race for health and wellness.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Dr. Kyle Kreider and Art Redmond make the individual sport of running into a team activity. The two are training for the upcoming Steamtown Marathon in Scranton.

Self-publishing a growing trend in book industry

BY STEPHANIE DEBALKO

Beacon A&E Editor

In the past few decades, advances in technology and the resulting independent I-can-do-it-all-by-myself attitudes have broken down the previous gatekeepers to all kinds of public speech and action.

Podcasting now allows nearly anyone with anything to say to not only say it, but to broadcast it on the internet. The same is true for video through software such as iMovie. Bills can be paid with the click of a button. Pants are no longer required for shopping, since it can be done entirely online.

And now virtually anyone with the motivation and the resources to publish a book can do so.

Self-publishing, the latest trend in the book industry, is now opening doors to would-be writers that previously could only be opened by agents, connections and a whole lot of luck.

This process differs in many ways from the traditional route of publishing through a particular publishing house. Mike Burnside, managing editor of Etruscan Press, outlined the traditional way of publishing a book. "At the most basic level, there will be a writer with a manuscript and an agent," he said. He added that the agent, or the writer, depending on the situation, markets the book to publishing houses. If the book is picked up, the house offers a variety of services, from editing and proofreading to book design. From there, a contract is drawn up and the manuscript goes to press, after which time a distributor makes the book available to all the channels, such as bookstores and online stores. As with any technical process, there are many variations on this, such as determining percentage cuts and movie rights, but most traditionally published books follow some form of this route to publication.

Self-publishing, on the other hand, requires most of the work to be placed on the shoulders of the writer. In actuality, there are two forms of self-publishing that fall under this umbrella term. Burnside explained that there is "vanity press" and "print on demand."

Vanity press has been around for quite some time, and requires the writer to pay for basically every part of the publishing process. This type of publishing is not the most reputable way to publish in the book world, however, because many doubt the intentions and the talent of the authors who choose this route.

"[Vanity press] is for people who have not been able to find another way to get published and are willing to pay to have their book published and marketed," said Burnside. He also explained that, while some of the reasons for looking down upon vanity press are valid, it really depends on what is right for the author.

Print on demand has, according to Burnside, sprung up more recently with the advent

of certain kinds of technology. Print on demand is practiced by a number of companies, but perhaps the most well-known is iUniverse. The process for publishing with a company like iUniverse begins with the writer producing what is called a "camera-ready" manuscript. This means the manuscript has been proofread and edited, and the design of the book has already been determined. Depending on the package chosen, the print on demand company offers a wide range of resources, and the book is then sent to print. It is then the job of the writer to market the book to stores.

iUniverse also has a "roadmap" on its website in order to make the process as simple and easy to follow as possible for potential published authors. The following statement from the company's website also displays how quickly one can get published, "Depending on the publishing package and services you choose, our publishing process may take as few as 30 days for our Fast Track package to 120 days for our Premier Plus-the fastest turnaround in the supported self-publishing industry!" The website also provides tips on

how to get a manuscript in "camera-ready" shape, as well as how to market it. In actuality, the writer is aided by the company a great deal, and although the responsibility of getting the manuscript ready and marketing the book still belongs to the author, companies like iUniverse still provide some assistance toward reaching goals.

While both have been gaining popularity, print on demand is slightly more reputable among industry leaders than vanity press. Another big difference is that vanity press is substantially more expensive, and the author gets far more copies than they would with print on demand, which may not be a positive thing if the book does not sell.

Burnside explained, "The tradeoff is that with vanity press, first of all you have to overcome the reputation of vanity press...but if they can figure out how to get it marketed they also get a higher percentage of the retail price [than with print on demand, where the author generally gets 20% of sales]."

Bonnie Culver, director of the Master of Arts in Creative Writing program, explained that the program consists of three core elements. The first is

teaching the craft and technique of writing and the second is informing students about the life of a writer and how to do well while living such a lifestyle. The third element addresses the publishing business.

Culver explained that self-publishing is not always seen as the best route to take because it appears that the author's work has not been validated by someone. She expanded by mentioning that the program allows students to become familiar with small publishers, and that the networking that comes from pursuing a more traditional route to publishing is strongly encouraged.

Overall, it really depends on the author's preferences and what lengths he or she is willing to go to in order to get his or her voice heard, as well as how long they are willing to wait to do so.



The Beacon/Cara Koster

Individuals browsing the local authors section at Barnes & Noble, Wilkes-Barre, may find more than a few titles for sale by authors who have self-published.

What's Happening

Tuesday, September 19

- Movie *After Innocence* showing at 7 p.m. in the SUB
- Roller-skating at 5:45, meet at the SUB
- The Let Go performing at Slainte

Friday, September 22

- Nerve Gas Tragedy performance at Backstage at 6 p.m.

- GSL Records Video Premiere at Café Metropolis at 8 p.m.

Saturday September 23

- Teenage Girls and Livingston performing at Backstage at 6 p.m.
- "A Streetcar Named Desire" at the FM Kirby Center at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday September 24

- Idol After Party performing in the Grand Ballroom at the Woodlands at 9 p.m.

Monday September 25

- Yo Soy Latina! at Burke Auditorium, King's College at 6 p.m.

VPA Production Preview: *The Laramie Project*

BY SHANNON CURTIN

Beacon Correspondent

As the fall semester gets underway and students of all disciplines are settling into college life, the Wilkes University department of visual and performing arts is preparing for its first show of the academic year.

The theatre department is kicking off this year with the production of a popular and relatively new production, *The Laramie Project*.

The Laramie Project deals with the nationally publicized murder of 21-year old University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard. On October 6, 1998, an unconscious Matthew Shepard was discovered tied to a fence, having been viciously beaten in what was thought to be an anti-gay hate crime. Five days later, Shepard died from his injuries, and 21-year-old locals Aaron McKinney and Russel Henderson were charged and convicted of first degree murder. McKinney and Henderson are currently serving two consecutive life sentences, but in a 1994 ABC News 20/20 report they claim that their crime was motivated not by anti-gay sentiment but by a drug induced rage.

Whether or not the Shepard case was indeed a hate crime, it has since become one of the most noted cases of such in the country, spawning gay-rights awareness campaigns and anti-hate rallies, and, of course, artistic efforts like *The Laramie Project*.

The play, written by Moises Kaufman, is compiled from interviews with the people of Laramie, Wyoming, as well as from some of the journal entries of Kaufman's recording crew, the Tectronic Theatre Project. Due to the construction of the play, the production contains a multitude of independent characters instead of the traditional lead and supporting roles.

Though this approach to theatre may be appealing to the audience, it is certainly a challenge for the actors. The production calls for a small cast, eight to ten performers, but boy do those artists have their work ahead of them. Senior Sabrina Krichten is playing eight different roles during the two and half hour show and said that, "going from one character to another while still on stage" is the biggest challenge facing her in the production.

Sophomore Daniel Pascoe also feels the pressure of taking on various roles simultaneously. "Over 60 people are portrayed by ten actors in *The Laramie Project*. I play everything from a foul-mouthed limousine driver to the notorious Reverend Fred Phelps who runs the website www.god-hatesfags.com and protested the funeral of Matthew Shepard. These are all real people and I hope to present them as real people."

The performance of a somewhat controversial production is something new for the theatre department, but Director Joe C. Dawson thinks theater-goers are ready for a shift in focus. "I think there are some people that we serve who have been waiting a long

time for us to do something politically and socially motivated," he said.

The cast is also excited about taking part in the nationally known production. Krichten and her fellow cast members are hoping to receive a large turnout when the show opens September 28. We really hope to get a big turnout for this show because of the content matter and the fact that it didn't happen too long ago. Most people know [some part of] what happened, even if you only know the name Matthew Shepard." The controversial topic of the production will hopefully aid in a large audience turnout when the show opens later this month.

Some students are already looking forward to the production. Junior Zachary Bremmer has seen the production performed previously and plans to attend the Wilkes University production sometime during its run. Bremmer feels *The Laramie Project* is "a very good production about a very important issue concerning tolerance of those who are different than us. Even though the events that happened to Matthew Shephard were horrible, I believe that we must use this as an example of how hate can react in extremely violent ways, and use that knowledge in order to prevent further cases of such abuse."

Pascoe shares Bremmer's opinion and believes that *The Laramie Project* is a great production to be performed at Wilkes University. "Laramie is a college town, not unlike Wilkes-Barre. Even though it's set in Wyoming, people will find that when they

see it, the events that occurred could have just as easily happened in Wilkes-Barre--or any college town for that matter. You'd expect to meet some of the people depicted in this play right here on campus," he said.

According to Dawson, the authors of the play hoped to "focus attention on the psychology of hate crimes. They wanted to motivate people to political activism by urging legislations that would prevent violence against minorities or gender identification." These are certainly honorable intentions, which, at least in Bremmer's case, have proven to ring true. He feels that *The Laramie Project* is a "very moving performance and should be attended by all in order to further the acceptance of diversity that we all experience in our everyday lives in order to prevent events like this from ever taking place again."

Certainly the cast and crew of *The Laramie Project* hope the rest of the student body and local community feel the same way. Dawson states that viewers can expect "good performances, some surprises scenically and profanity" in the Wilkes University rendition of this "very important contemporary American drama that is innovative in terms of its politics, theatricality, and narration."

The Laramie Project opens at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center on September 28 at 8:00 p.m. and will run at the same time on September 29 and 30 along with a 2 p.m. matinee on October 1.

CD Review: The Mars Volta's *Amputechture*

BY KYLE CORTRIGHT

Beacon Correspondent

I'm going out on a limb when I say that The Mars Volta's newest album, *Amputechture*, is one of the best albums I have heard in a long time.

Besides being a band that is at the height of musical prowess in comparison to many other groups out there, Mars Volta's music itself is unfathomable when one considers just how intricate and well-placed every part seems to be. Despite a few flaws that ruin the continuity, *Amputechture* is a solid addition to the rest of their albums.

Rising from the ashes of the late At the Drive-In, a post-hardcore band that started in the early 90s, The Mars Volta departed from the former band's genre into an experimental group, relying on influences ranging from salsa to blues, as well as plain old rock. The Mars Volta began in 2001, starting with a fan base of those who had followed them since their At the Drive-In days. However, the transformation that lead singer Cedric Bixler underwent--Zavala and bassist Omar Rodriguez-Lopez was too much for some--made The Mars Volta into a niche group. They traded in their notoriety as a post-hardcore band for a

much more psychedelic sound.

Amputechture is a continuation of the trend of music they have created and a departure from it as well. While the album is somewhat of a concept album like their last two, it also touches upon multiple events and stories, consisting of possessed nuns, immigrant marches and inside stories from the band. This differs from past albums, *De-Loused in the Comatorium* and *Frances the Mute* (the former dealing with the suicide of a close friend and the latter focusing on a story from a former bandmate who died of an overdose.)

Besides subject matter, there is a noticeable difference in their sound. *Amputechture* continues with the experimental riffs and ten minute plus songs that they have become famous for, but the influence of salsa in comparison to *Frances the Mute* and *Amputechture* has been downplayed in an effort to add a more Transylvanian theme to it. Besides the track "Day of the Baphomets," a lot of the tracks feature slower build-ups that seem to capture an eerie vibe.

Despite these changes, the salsa influence, along with rock and blues, play a key role in

this album. Kicking off the album is "Vicarious Atonement," an eerie, slow piece that focuses heavily on chimes, bass and a guitar riff that mimics vocalist Cedric's singing. It fits the mood of the album, as it takes on the paranormal aspect that coincides with the overall theme.

However, the problem itself is that, for a band like The Mars Volta, the experience lies in the overall album, especially since each song plays an important part in allowing the listener to understand the overall message. A perfect example lies in *De-loused in the Comatorium*, which is by far their best album. Not to say that *Amputechture* is a bad album by any means, but for those who wonder if they will enjoy The Mars Volta, *De-loused* would be the best place to start.

For *Amputechture*, the album seems to jump from slower tracks and then shifts to more intense songs. This switch between both phases bothered me somewhat, which would lead me to skip tracks I found less appealing. Despite this complaint, it was still very enjoyable. What I did notice however, is how the last few tracks pick up the slack, leaving an impressive conclusion. This

is especially evident for "Day of the Baphomets," the second to last song on the album, which is the most noteworthy in comparison to the rest of the tracks. The opening bass solo accompanied by maracas and bongos is incredible, while the end consists of an amazing salsa riff.

For the guitar portions, it is evident that the comparisons between Jimi Hendrix and Omar Rodriguez-Lopez (both of which are left-handed) make sense. The riffs are both incredibly complicated and unorthodox, drawing influences from other musical acts and then placing an entirely new spin on things.

Overall, the album itself has a few trips in continuity and lacks some of the magic that they produced in former albums, but the overall judgment is that *Amputechture* is still an album fitting for a band like The Mars Volta. Tracks to check out if the album is of interest would be "Viscera Eyes," "Meccamputechture," and "Day of the Baphomets." If a collaboration of salsa, rock, blues and more interests you, then I recommend at least giving it a listen...you may just like it.

Fall TV: One editor's top picks

BY STEPHANIE DEBALKO

Beacon A&E Editor

It's that time again. The leaves are changing colors. The air is getting crisp. I get to buy new shoes. But perhaps most importantly, or at least equally as important as the shoes, our favorite television shows are returning for the new fall season. Since I have no idea what to expect from the new shows debuting for the first time this fall, and since there are so many returning programs, I've decided to highlight my top three returning shows to let you know when you should, in my opinion, be sure to tune in.

All of the television shows I am previewing ended in a romantic cliffhanger, a predictable ending I have come to expect since my *Beverly Hills, 90210* days. However, each program did so in a very different way, adding its own twist on the classic cliffhanger season finale, not to mention each one is different simply because the characters and dynamics are so diverse.

So grab the remote, slip on your footsie pajamas and get ready to settle in for some optimum television viewing.

The first show I am waiting for with bated breath is **How I Met Your Mother**. The show centers on five 20 to 30-somethings living in New York City, but don't worry, it is not a *Friends* rip-off. When we last saw them, most of the main characters were embroiled in some sort of romantic tribulation: Marshall and Lily and Ted and Robin are the two couples we are keeping tabs on. Ted, who has been in love with Robin since their first date, realized, yet again, that he needed to try to get out of the friend zone with her. He staged a hugely romantic, if not extreme, attempt at winning her affections, only to be rejected. Soon after, however, the girl finally came to her senses. Luckily, Ted had still not given up, something he's become fairly famous for, and he showed up at her doorstep in the pouring rain. Long story short, they *finally* got together. On the opposite end of the relationship spectrum, Marshall and Lily had a huge blowout about their future, and the season finale ended with Ted getting home from Robin's to find Marshall on their front stoop holding the engagement ring he gave Lily.

We return to the crew this season to find Ted and Robin in a



The cast of *Grey's Anatomy*.

Courtesy givememyremote.com

because the dynamic of the show would be far too awkward if they didn't, since most of the time it consists of all five of the characters sitting at their local bar together. And as history has shown, Ted will probably screw things up with Robin sometime soon. Maybe this time he won't say, "I love you," too soon, but perhaps it will have something to do with his ex-girlfriend Victoria, who, in what seems to be the grand tradition of the people on this show, went halfway across the world in pursuit of her dreams. Tune in to CBS on Monday, September 18 at 8:30 p.m. to see where they go from here.

Next up is **Grey's Anatomy**, entering its third season and still holding strong. The show focuses on five doe-eyed interns at Seattle Grace Hospital, whose love lives and personal endeavors are constantly under the microscope. The season finale of this show left me in tears. Ok, so that's not exactly a great feat, but I think many others would agree it was pretty intense. The show ended with a prom at the hospital (in my opinion, the only really contrived aspect here) and many of the characters hanging by the edge of that proverbial cliff by their fingernails.

For starters, Meredith hooked up with her still-married ex, "McDreamy," while both his wife and Meredith's current beau, a cutie veterinarian, sat unaware of what was going on in another part of the hospital. The death of Denny, a heart patient with whom Izzie fell in love, left her in a state of desperation and sadness. After a touching entrance back to the prom, with her fellow interns following, Izzie tendered her resignation from the hospital. Meanwhile, Meredith was left with a choice: does she pick McDreamy, or cute veterinarian guy? Personally, I don't think Izzie will actually leave the show. If she does, the dynamic of the show will change and I'm not sure they would take that risk right now, while it

is so incredibly high in ratings. And as far as Meredith goes, I'm fairly certain she will choose McDreamy. I mean, come on, the man is beautiful! And if you ask me, they've been meant to be since the beginning. I also believe that something will complicate Meredith's choice if she does choose him, because past experience has shown that nothing in these fledgling doctors'

love lives ever comes easily. Check out whether my predictions are completely off by tuning in to **Grey's Anatomy** ABC Thursday, September 21 at 9 p.m.

The final show I saved for last, as one often does with the best, because it is so incredibly close to my heart. If you take nothing else from this, I hope you sit down on Thursday nights and enjoy the painfully hilarious hit **The Office**. The show, based in Scranton, focuses, documentary-style, on the hysterically familiar everyday lives of the employees of Dunder Mifflin Paper Company. While all of the characters on *The Office* are inherently appealing and recognizable (come on, everyone knows someone who is just like Dwight), it may just be the innuendo-laden relationship of office pals Jim and Pam that has kept me coming back for more. Well, perhaps it was a little bit Dwight, too.

After two seasons waiting for Pam to break up with Roy and get together with Jim, my wishes have finally come to fruition--sort of. At Casino Night, hosted in the company warehouse, Jim finally got the nerve to tell Pam how he felt, and after some complications, they kissed for the first time after all the flirting and the obvious interest they've had in each other. I swear I could literally hear sighs of relief from throngs



The cast of *The Office*.

Courtesy juneauempire.com

of fans across the country when that image graced our television screens last season.

While the other characters experienced minor transitions in the finale, it was definitely the revelation in Jim and Pam's relationship that was most jarring.

As for this season, I'm pretty sure they will get together because...well because they have to! I realize that is my general response for every couple in every show I've discussed thus far, but anyone who watches *The Office* understands where I'm coming from. Jim and Pam are the Ross and Rachel of this generation, so I think at some point they will end up trying to make a relationship work. If they do make it, it may be interesting to see how Michael and the rest of the crew respond to an open inter-office romance, especially if it is against company policy. And who knows? Perhaps Dwight and Angela will bring their relationship into the light. I would definitely like to see a double date between the four of them, and Michael would probably end up crashing it. Hilarity would surely ensue. Tune in to NBC Thursday, September 21 at 8:30 p.m. I dare you not to laugh.



The cast of *How I Met Your Mother*.

Courtesy givememyremote.com

blooming romance, but what will happen with broken-hearted Marshall, who will be spending the summer alone? It was mildly shocking that they broke up at all, considering that Marshall and Lily were kind of like that couple that everyone knows who seems like they're pretty much going to be together forever. My prediction is that at some point they will get back together, if only

PAID INTERNSHIPS

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Phone: 408-2950*

| Commentary |

American League MVP race still too close to call

Can the Yankee captain capture his first MVP?

BY TIM SEIGFRIED

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

There are two questions that MVP voters are likely to ask themselves in October:

1) Can the MVP be a player who is feared by opposing pitchers, but whose team has fallen by the wayside?

2) Can the MVP be a light-hitting number two hitter in a lineup full of sluggers?

The first player is David Ortiz, the power-swinging, clutch-hitting, absolutely-the-last-guy-you-want-to-face-with-the-game-on-the-line designated hitter for the Boston Red Sox.

The second is Derek Jeter, the team captain and all-star shortstop for the American League East leading New York Yankees, who is looking to capture his first career most valuable player award. If successful, Jeter, along with teammate and 2005 AL MVP Alex Rodriguez, would become the first back-to-back Yankees to win the award since the '62 and '63 seasons when Mickey Mantle and Elston Howard won the awards, respectively.

Two radically different players, two different debates.

Ortiz, a.k.a. Big Papi, who was having an absolutely dominant season by leading the American League in homeruns and RBIs, was the only contender for MVP for most of the season.

That was the case until August 18th, when Boston hosted a five game series with their historic rivals and AL East leading New York Yankees.

After the Yankees won all five games, the walls came tumbling down.

That series, coupled with an injury ailed roster, led to a downward spiral for the Red Sox, who went on to have an 8-21 record

in the month of August, essentially ending their season.

Despite his tremendous offensive numbers, Boston's losing ways have all but lost Ortiz the MVP, simply because they are no longer in the playoff race, a fact that ultimately has an impact on the voters.

Prior to the series with the Yankees, the Red Sox were very much in the hunt for the AL East and the AL Wild Card, but those days are only a memory as Boston finds itself staring up from the bottom of the pile.

On the top of that pile sit the New York Yankees, comfortably nursing an 11.5 game lead, due to the fact that they have one of the most feared lineups in baseball.

But one player is standing out among the rest of the Bronx Bombers; and that player is Mr. November himself.

Jeter, who is arguably the face of the Yankees, is having a good season, though not a great one. Despite the fact that he isn't in the top ten in the league in homeruns or RBIs, Jeter's name is still being tossed around in the MVP talks.

One reason is his .343 batting average.

Another reason, and perhaps the most important one is that he is just "being Derek Jeter."

What that means is that he brings to the table a number of intangibles; qualities that cannot be measured in a record book or viewed on the back of a baseball card.

He will never hit for 50 homeruns or have 140 RBIs, but he will hustle, and he will play the game with such heart and integrity that even the most hardened Yankee haters will have to tip their cap.

Jeter may want to hold off on writing his acceptance speech at the moment, as there are other players who are making a case for themselves in September, including the 2005 World Series MVP, a couple of teammates and a former AL MVP having a comeback season.

The first, Chicago White Sox right-fielder Jermaine Dye, is emerging as a clubhouse leader for the reigning world champions, as his offensive numbers speak for themselves.

He leads his team in batting average (.320), homeruns (42) and RBIs (117), and is one of only two players in the top ten in the AL in all three categories, numbers which no doubt have helped carry the White Sox during the last month, when their roster has struggled due to injuries.

Currently the White Sox are 3 games out of the wild card, with only 14 games re-

maining in the season.

However, the team they are trailing could very well provide the first co-MVP winners in American League history.

Of course, I speak of the fresh faces of the Minnesota Twins' offense: first baseman Justin Morneau and catcher Joe Mauer.

Morneau has made his presence known by hitting 33 homeruns and 123 RBIs for the typically light-hitting Minnesota, while Mauer, on the other hand, is on his way to making history to become the first catcher in nearly 100 years to win the AL batting title.

Mauer is currently leading the AL with a .344 average, which is remarkable by itself, notwithstanding that he plays arguably the most difficult defensive position because of the increased wear and tear as the season progresses.

When confronted with such a talented, deserving group of players, how does one choose who takes home the award?

The sure-fire way to determine a player's true value is to take him out of his respective lineup and watch what happens.

If you take Derek Jeter off of the Yankees, would the team struggle offensively?

If you replace Jermaine Dye with a player of a lesser caliber, would the White Sox still be in the race?

If Morneau and Mauer weren't on the Twins roster, would their pitching and defense have been enough to propel them to the top of the wild card?

Keep in mind the award is for the most valuable player, not the most valuable hitter.

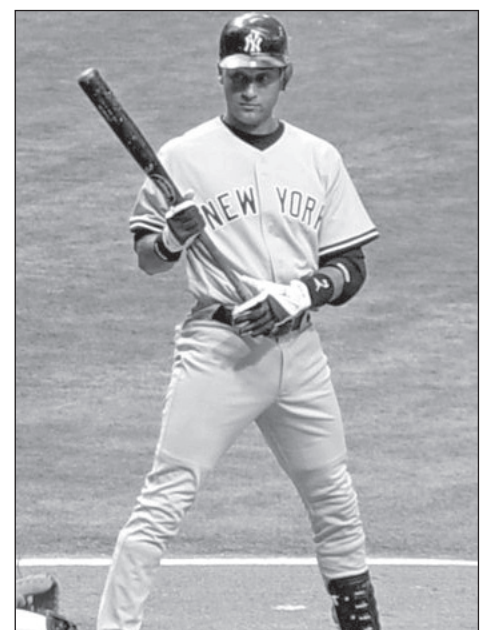
First, the Yankees would be where they are with anyone playing shortstop, because their offense is just that good. They've been without several key players for most of the year, yet they've still managed to play great baseball.

Jermaine Dye has been consistent throughout the year, but it wasn't until recently when he really started to step up as a player. Without his late season performance, Chicago may have fallen out of the race weeks ago.

The Twins, despite their phenomenal pitching staff, were given a shot in the arm offensively with their dynamic duo; especially Morneau, who is the first Twins player to hit 30 homeruns in a season since 1987, a year the Twins won the World Series.

Four players, three teams.

And with a little over two weeks left, something has got to give.



Derek Jeter

Courtesy of wikipedia.org

STATISTICS

Thru 9/16

Derek Jeter, SS
New York Yankees

Average: .343

HR: 13

RBI: 93

Jermaine Dye, RF
Chicago White Sox

Average: .320

HR: 42

RBI: 93

Justin Morneau, 1B
Minnesota Twins

Average: .322

HR: 33

RBI: 123

Joe Mauer, C
Minnesota Twins

Average: .344

HR: 11

RBI: 79



Athlete of the Week: Jason Acquaye

BY ARIEL COHEN

Beacon Sports Editor

A Wilkes train barrelled onto a Chester, PA football field and wouldn't slow down for anything in the Colonels' Mid-Atlantic conference football opener win over Widener University. The engine-that-could defense was able to hold off the Widener offense and was led by junior defensive lineman, Jason Acquaye.

For play-by-play fans, there was Acquaye with a block, a stop or any kind of wall that helped the Colonels get back in the game and come away with the victory. It is not too often that fans see someone on the defensive line acknowledged for work on the field, but his tackling master class makes Acquaye the obvious choice for *Beacon* athlete of the week.

Acquaye's gold star performance began when the Colonels were behind on the board and in desperate need to show that they are worthy of being dubbed number one in the MAC. It was then that Acquaye was able to drill his way into the backfield, where the Pioneers were pinned against a wall in their own territory, and sack Widener quarterback Adam Parcell in the end zone for a team safety. Acquaye's move also gave Wilkes its first points of the game.

Acquaye would end the day with 8 tackles, which included 1.5 sacks and the ability to say that he not only got the first points for Wilkes but also helped to set up the plays that would allow the Colonels to tie the game up 20-20.

"It just so happened that in that game I was in the right position at the right time to make the right plays," commented Acquaye about his performance.

This past Saturday the defensive performance was also key in the Colonels' 14-7 overtime win over visiting 12th ranked Delaware Valley College. Acquaye contributed .5 sacks in the game for a loss of six yards.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Junior defensive lineman Jason Acquaye jumps to block a pass in Saturday's home opener against 12th ranked Delaware Valley College. Acquaye had .5 sacks in the game for a loss of 6 yards.

The rest of the defensive line's performance was equally impressive, with the line having a total of five sacks in the game including 16 tackles for a loss.

Acquaye added that, "For our team to have so many sacks over two games just shows the strength that we have as a team."

Acquaye and the rest of the Colonels football will be back in action this Saturday on the road against FDU-Florham before returning home for the homecoming game against Lycoming on October 7.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Kristina Naveira goes after the ball in Saturday's 5-1 win over Manhattanville.

WEEKEND RECAPS

Women's Tennis

Wilkes University kept its unbeaten record intact by posting an 8-1 Freedom Conference win over DeSales University on Saturday at Kirby Park. The Lady Colonels improved to 5-0 overall and 3-0 in conference play with the win. The Bulldogs suffered their first defeat of the season and fell to 5-1 overall and 2-1 in the conference.

Football

Tight end Matt Pizarro caught a 25-yard touchdown pass from Al Karaffa in overtime and the Wilkes University defense held Delaware Valley College on downs to lead the 19th-ranked Colonels to a 14-7 Middle Atlantic Conference win over the 12th-ranked Aggies on Saturday afternoon at Ralston Field. The win snapped Delaware Valley's 22-game regular season winning streak.

Women's Soccer

Three different Wilkes University players tallied goals to lead the Lady Colonels to a 3-1 non-conference women's soccer win over Moravian College on Saturday afternoon at Ralston Field. The win improves Wilkes to 4-1 overall, while the Greyhounds see their overall mark slip to 2-3.

Field Hockey

Lauren Risser scored a pair of goals to lead Wilkes University to a 5-1 Freedom Conference win over defending conference champion Manhattanville College on Saturday afternoon at Artillery Park. The win improved the Lady Colonels to 3-1 overall and 1-0 in the conference, while the Valiants fell to 0-5 overall and 0-1 in conference play.

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

5

Number of wins by the Lady Colonels' tennis team after beating DeSales 8-1 on Saturday to remain unbeaten this season.

210

Number of total offensive yards for the football team in the home opener 14-7 overtime win over visiting Delaware Valley College.

5

Goals scored in the field hockey team's win over defending conference champions Manhattanville College.

4

Total combined saves for women's soccer goalies Liz Pauly and Jessica Berkey in the 3-1 victory over Moravian.

GAME OF THE WEEK

NFL: Cincinnati Bengals versus Pittsburgh Steelers

Week three features a rematch of last year's AFC Wild Card matchup

BY TIM SEIGFREID

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

The last time these two teams met was on January 8, during the AFC Wild Card playoffs in Cincinnati. Pittsburgh, the underdogs, overcame an early deficit to defeat the Bengals 31-17 on their way to their fifth Super Bowl victory.

Cincinnati was not so lucky.

On only the second play from scrimmage, Cincinnati quarterback Carson Palmer left the game with a knee injury, leaving the game in the hands of backup Jon Kitna.

The Bengals lost the game, but more importantly, the future of Palmer was in question as it was revealed that he had suffered

significant knee damage that required surgery.

This time around things are going to be a little different.

The most notable difference is that Cincinnati quarterback Carson Palmer will be in full swing come Sunday.

Palmer, making his first start since surgery in the preseason against the Green Bay Packers, looked as though he never left, throwing for 140 yards and 3 touchdowns in only 14 attempts.

He wasn't as successful during his first regular season game, a victory against the Kansas City Chiefs, but he will be looking to recapture last season's form against a Pittsburgh defense.

The Pittsburgh Steelers have had quarterback troubles of their own, as Ben Ro-

ethlisberger has had to recover from both a motorcycle accident and a recent appendectomy.

Steelers fans need not worry, because backup Charlie Batch showed poise and skill during week one in a victory against Miami.

Will this week three contest be a battle of the ailing quarterbacks, or will each team look to their other weapons to pull out a win?

The Bengals will look to wide receiver, Chad Johnson, coming off a tremendous season, to add a spark to their offense.

Running back Rudi Johnson, in his third full season as a starter, will look to improve on 2005 season where he scored 12 touchdowns and ran for over 1,400 yards.

The Steelers will need to counter the offensive onslaught from Cincinnati, but as they say, the best offense is a good defense.

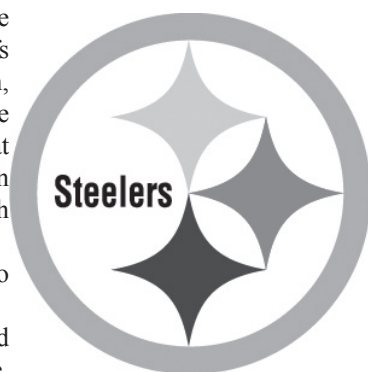
Led by linebacker Joey Porter, Pittsburgh is looking to recapture the days of the steel curtain by pressuring the quarterback and stopping the rush.

Oh yeah, and they have some offense, too.

Wide receiver Hines Ward, the reigning Super Bowl XL MVP, will be leading the downfield charge alongside backfield dynamo Willie Parker, who looks to fill the rather large shoes of

retired running back Jerome Bettis.

Bottom line: Defense wins championships.



Athlete of the Week: Women's Tennis

Xiaoqiao Zhang

BY ARIEL COHEN

Beacon Sports Editor

Her small frame belies enormous power.

When Xiaoqiao Zhang, freshman communication studies major, steps out onto the court, fans might think that they have been suddenly transported to the U.S. Open tennis championships.

Well, not quite. But so far this season that is the way it has felt for the women's tennis team phenom who remains unbeaten in her debut season in a Lady Colonels' uniform.

This past Saturday Zhang proved just how good she is when she took to the court against DeSales University's unbeaten Courtney McClurkin beating her in straight sets 6-3 and 6-0. With the win, Zhang extended her 2006 win record in singles play to 5-0.

"Zhang has really adjusted well to the college game," stated head coach Chris Leicht.

It was all Lady Colonels at this match when they jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the



The Beacon/Ariel Cohen

Xiaoqiao Zhang playing in a singles match on Sunday against Lebanon Valley

match taking away three tallies in the win column in the doubles matches. Then it was Zhang's turn. Her commanding dominance over a player clearly well established as a contender, made the Wilkes lead 4-0 in the overall match. The team would walk away from Ralston Field with an 8-1 win over DeSales.

Leicht commented that, "She is a great addition to the team. She gives me the opportunity, playing her in the first position, to be able to strengthen the other spots."

Zhang will be back in action on Wednesday when her and the rest of the lady Colonels take center court against FDU-Florham at 3:30 at home.

Pittsburgh: 30, Cincinnati: 10



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game against King's on Thursday, September 21, but Sumoski owns King's, beating them four years straight, every year he has been coaching.

King's enters the contest with a 2-1 record, but this game holds great significance, because not only is it a rivalry, but this will be the first conference game for both teams. Hard work and execution is key for Wilkes as junior Briana Bertoni noted, "We need to come out and play hard and show King's and the rest of the conference that we are still as good as last year".

Although Sumoski is indeed victorious against King's, he believes the overall game should be an interesting contest rather than a brush off the shoulder. "They always come ready to play, and they are always excited to play us, and they have improved," said Sumoski.

Preview of the Week: Women's Soccer

Lady Colonels go on mission for payback and pride

BY CARLTON HOLMES
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

The Lady Colonels soccer team will be marching into a huge week, taking on both Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey and arch rival King's College.

Both games go far beyond kicking the ball into the net and denying the opponents' attempts at a goal just to get the victory. We can expect a lot of emotions as the Lady Colonels leave their blood, sweat and tears on the field in search for payback and pride.

Stevens Tech

Sometimes revenge can be the sweetest joy. Well, that's the kind of joy the Lady Colonels will be searching for as they try to avenge last year's playoff loss to Stevens. Although both teams attended the same preseason training camp,

they are far from acquaintances. "In the back of our minds we were thinking, that's the team that beat us. Time for payback," said head coach John Sumoski.

The Lady Colonels, last year's Freedom Conference champions, enter the game against Stevens with a 3-1 record, posting wins against Eastern, Lebanon Valley and Elmira, while the Stevens Tech Ducks are sitting on a shocking 1-2-2 record.

Although this match up has the potential for a playoff game atmosphere, there is less at stake, because in the end the loser gets to play another day. Sumoski said, "I believe this is a different kind of game, because no pressure plays a factor."

Junior Dana Lehman from Red Land, PA stated, "We have been preparing to play Stevens Tech ever since we were beat by them

in the first round of the NCAA playoffs. The team is very bitter and is looking forward to this year's rematch."

The Lady Colonels will be in action against Stevens today at Ralston Field.

King's College

There is nothing like hundreds of fans screaming at the top of their lungs in support of their school as they take on a rival. And one of the biggest rivalries in D-III sports takes it to the soccer field as the Lady Colonels square up against King's College.

The Lady Colonels come into the game with a different look, losing two seniors and a transfer while acquiring six freshmen. Those changes may play a factor in the

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The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Freshman Kayla Wolfe defends the Lady Colonels' goal in Saturday's 3-1 win over Moravian. The Colonels' improved their record to 4-1 overall. This week the women will take on Stevens Tech, who beat them last year, and later in the week, the team takes on cross-town rival King's College.

Campus Calendar

All Week:

*Sordoni Art Gallery Exhibit, Penumbra

Monday (9/18)

*Women's soccer vs. Stevens Tech - 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday (9/19)

*Senior class meeting, SLC 101-11 a.m.

*Men's Soccer @ King's - 4:00 p.m.

*Field hockey vs. Elizabethtown - 4:30 p.m.

*Roller skating, meet in the HSC lobby - 5:45 p.m.

*Movie "After Innocence", HSC ballroom - 6:30 p.m..

Wednesday (9/20)

*Women's tennis vs. FDU-Florham - 3:30 p.m.

*Women's volleyball vs. Scranton - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday (9/21)

*Women's soccer vs. King's - 4:00 p.m.

*Senior Social, meet at Murray's-9 p.m.

Friday (9/22)

*Student Development Weekend Series heads to the New York Mets baseball game. Meet in front of the Marts gym at 2:30 p.m.

*Women's tennis vs. Keystone - 3:30 p.m.

*Women's volleyball @ Elizabethtown Tournament - 3:30 p.m.

Saturday (9/23)

*Women's volleyball @ Elizabethtown Tournament - 9:00 a.m.

*Men's soccer vs. Susquehanna - 12:00 p.m.

*Football @ FDU-Florham - 1:00 p.m.

*Field hockey vs. Delaware Valley - 1:00 p.m.

*Women's soccer vs. Susquehanna - 2:30 p.m..

Sunday (9/24)

*No events scheduled.

Find this Picture on Campus and... WIN CASH



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

Congratulations to Andrew Toth who correctly identified last week's shot, which was taken outside of the Health Services entrance to Evans Hall.