

# The BEACON

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

## Winter Wonderland Wreaks Havoc on Spring Schedules

BY GABE LeDONNE  
Beacon News Editor

Snow happens.  
This week's winter storm allowed some to sleep in and forced others to dig out.  
The entire Northeast, including NEPA, received record level snowfall with some New England areas recording as much as 4 feet. For many on the eastern seaboard, this was the most severe winter storm to hit since the infamous blizzard of 1996.

Although Wilkes-Barre did not receive the heaviest brunt of the snow, the 18 inches that landed in the area caused some major problems for the entire community.

Along with many other area schools, Wilkes was forced to close both Monday and Tuesday of this week.

Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Paul Adams, made the decision to close on both days. Although Monday was an unavoidable cancellation, he explained that Tuesday's decision was a carefully considered one.

"Originally for Tuesday it was certainly in the plan to open up at noon. We really felt that that would give adequate time to clean up. But I was on the phone with...King's and College Misericordia...and we all decided that it was in the best interest of all the institutions to just let Tuesday go." He added, "We've always made the decision to do these things together."

Adams explained that one of the key factors in the multi-collegiate decision was that "there were people who had to come in from a distance. We want to make sure faculty is there to teach. The worst thing is to have students come in and not have faculty there."

Although the long weekend sponsored by Mother Nature was a welcome break for many, it does create some problems for classes on campus that have lost time that is not easily recovered.

Dr. Brian Redmond, Professor of GeoEnvironmental Science, discussed some of the problems he had with his classes. Redmond explained that in addition to losing class lecture time for his GeoEnvironmental 105 class, he also lost class time for two of the five corresponding lab sessions. In order to work around the weather, Redmond explained his solution for the lab sections.

Redmond explained that in order to ensure labs don't get too far out of sync and to stay up with what is going on in lecture, he will cancel one of the three labs for the remaining sections.

However, as Redmond noted, "Lectures are tougher to make up."

Another problem Redmond pointed out involved evening classes, that lost an entire week's worth of class. In that case, like many other professors, "What that means is I have to go faster, be a little less thorough, hit the high points, let some of the minor points slip," he said.



The Beacon/Kristin Hake

Wilkes students shovel snow from underneath their cars Monday, after the biggest snowstorm of the year dropped over 15 inches across the region.

However, in the long run, Adams says that the loss of time will be absorbed over the course of the rest of the semester. "At this stage, I don't think that it will affect them at all. Certainly the faculty who lost

the night classes are regretting the loss of time, but we have the rest of the semester to make that time up." Adams also explained,

**Snow**  
continued on page 4

## President's Cabinet to Sponsor Campus Conversations

BY GABRIELLE LAMB  
Beacon Assistant News Editor

Campus Conversations, a dialogue with the President's Cabinet regarding the strategic plan for the year 2010, will be held on February 20th at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and February 21st at 8:30 a.m. in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. Wilkes faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend the two-hour meetings.

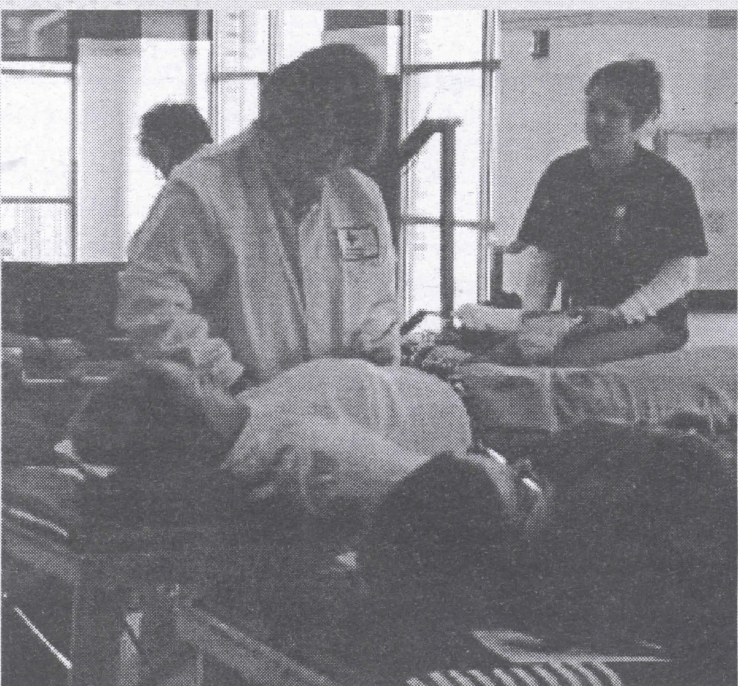
According to a memo addressed to the Wilkes community on February 7th, the dialogues are designed to report on "progress made by the strategic initiative task forces on the implementation of our Vision for Wilkes in

2010," and encourage frank and open discussions. The dialogues will also "review and discuss a draft of the Vision 2010 document...and to illustrate how the strategic planning process is driving

**Conversations**  
continued on page 2

### Index:

News.....	1-4
Editorial.....	5-6
Features.....	7-9
Arts & Entertainment.....	10-12
Sports.....	13-15
Calendar.....	16



The Beacon/Kristin Hake

The Blood Drive welcomed over 115 donors and received 89 units of blood that will be used to save lives across the county.



## SG Happenings

Wilkes' Chapter of the American Pharmaceutical Association presented the second part of its request for \$1,000 toward expenses for its trip to New Orleans for the annual AphA meeting and exposition. SG voted to decline the fund request 9-10-11.

Construction of the new game room

area in the Student Center will begin on February 28, and is scheduled to conclude on March 10.

Dean Mark Allen invited the entire Wilkes community to an open discussion in the Student Center Grand Ballroom (2nd floor) on Tuesday, February 25 at 11 a.m. The discussion will focus on the interna-

tional topics of terrorism and the current threat of war with Iraq.

Programming Board announced that Wilkes has won the bid over the University of Scranton to host the musical group Green Wheel on March 23.

## Conversations Continued from page 1

University decision-making."

Dr. Joseph (Tim) Gilmour, President of Wilkes University, invited the students because he feels their views will make the future of Wilkes a success and the vision a reality.

"Wilkes students are critical to our future. The strategic plan is about providing them with the learning experiences they need to be successful throughout their lives," said Gilmour. "For this reason, we need their best thinking on what Wilkes should do to meet those learning needs in order to serve them better. Without them there, the process will not have the benefit of the thinking of this very important group."

Wilkes University Provost Dr. Maravene Loeschke agrees that all opinions should be discussed openly at the meeting.

"Dr. Gilmour and I believe, very strongly, in seeking student opinion as we

develop the strategic plan," said Loeschke. "Students have an essential perspective that is invaluable to the process. It is also our hope that students and faculty will have an ever-increasing awareness of the multitude of dimensions that are involved in creating and implementing a strategic plan and a vision for the University for the next five years. Continuous communication and campus community involvement at every step is what we are seeking."

The planning process began in August 2001. Since then, many members of the Wilkes community have been working on strategic initiatives to achieve the Wilkes vision for 2010.

"We are continuing the participatory approach to development of [the] Wilkes strategic plan we started with a campus-wide convocation in August 2001," said Gilmour. "In this spirit, we want to bring the University community together to provide a progress report on the implementation of

the strategic plan, unveil an expanded version of the University vision for 2010, receive comments from the Wilkes community on the draft, and seek a renewal of commitment to the Wilkes strategic plan and its future."

Three initiatives are outlined in the memo including proposed improvements to academic programs to increase competition with other colleges and universities, developing an "exceptional support environment", and to "develop a financial strength that supports Wilkes growth and agility," according to the February 7th memo.

Gilmour also noted in his memo that it is his hope this meeting can lead to a draft that can be sent to the Board of Trustees.

"It is my hope that together we can craft a final draft of the vision for the Trustees' consideration that will ensure Wilkes a promising future."

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## The Beacon

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# News Briefs

Courtesy of the Associated Press

## Pa. homeland security director consulted for disgraced firm

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP)—Gov. Ed Rendell's choice to lead the state Department of Homeland Security resigned from a Lancaster TV station in 1990 after it was learned he was consulting for a Lancaster arms company that was in the news.

Keith Martin, who had accepted a \$10,000 consulting contract from International Signal & Control, said he resigned as anchor from WGAL-TV to spare the station from bad publicity.

The company's owner was later indicted and is serving 15 years in federal prison for fraud, money laundering and \$50 million in illegal arms sales. Martin wasn't accused of any wrongdoing.

Martin, 56, a retired brigadier general in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, was named Thursday as the state's new homeland security director.

Rendell spokesman Ken Snyder told The Patriot-News of Harrisburg that "an incident that occurred 13 years ago doesn't appear at the moment as a disqualifier."

ISG founder James H. Guerin pleaded guilty in 1991 to helping South Africa evade a United Nations ban on weapons imports, laundering \$958 million and falsely inflating the price of his company.

Munitions and weapons components worth more than \$50 million were illegally sent to South Africa. Some of the weapons ended up in Iraq and were used against American forces in the Gulf War, prosecutors said.

Martin, 56, was hired as a news anchor at WBRE-TV in Wilkes-Barre days after he resigned from WGAL. His last TV appearance was Friday; he starts his new \$110,000 state job on Tuesday.

Martin told the *Times Leader* of Wilkes-Barre last week that he helped Rendell's staff "look under my shoes and in the closet and everything else... They've had every opportunity to look in the Martin woodpile."

## One-time county candidate sentenced to probation on drug charge

SCRANTON, Pa. (AP)—A tax official whose campaign for Lackawanna County commissioner was derailed by allegations of drug use was sentenced Tuesday to a year of probation.

Thomas Harrison, 47, of Scranton, pleaded guilty to a federal cocaine possession charge in November.

U.S. District Judge A. Richard Caputo said that under a federal program for first-time drug offenders, Harrison's criminal record would be expunged if he has no other offenses for a year.

"We are gratified that the judge saw things our way," said Harrison's attorney, James A. Gibbons. "All things considered, he is pleased with the sentence."

Harrison's election campaign was in full swing in 1999 when a year-old police report surfaced detailing a traffic stop during which the former head of the county's tax-claim bureau had been accused of trying to toss aside a packet containing cocaine.

Charges had not been filed in the incident, but the allegations spoiled Harrison's political bid. They also prompted an FBI investigation into the initial handling of the case by local police.

Federal prosecutors filed charges against Harrison last March, four years after the initial traffic stop. He had faced up to a year in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

Harrison now works for the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue, Gibbons said. "He does not use drugs," Gibbons said. "Whatever issues he had are over. Big time."

## Horse finds its own way home

WAKARUSA, Ind. (AP)—Viola and Willard Miller always knew their horse was special.

And now everyone in their northern Indiana hometown of Wakarusa knows it too.

The Millers' horse, named Special, managed to find her way home Saturday despite navigating a driverless buggy.

Special took Viola Miller and her children about a mile from their home into Wakarusa for a bite to eat. The Millers tied the horse to the post designed for buggy parking and walked the few blocks to a restaurant.

But when Viola Miller returned to the post, Special and the buggy were gone. "I figured she went home," she said. "Horses aren't that dumb."

Wakarusa policeman Noe Gonzalez said he received two calls from people who spotted Special navigating roadways alone.

Viola Miller and her children caught a ride from a downtown motorist and arrived home shortly after the horse.

Special, 14, has been with the Millers for about five years. Willard Miller said it only takes about six months of routine for a horse to get to the point where it can find its way home. "Horses find their way in snowstorms even when drivers can't," he said.

# Mass anti-war marches in London, Rome, Berlin and clashes in Athens on day of global protest

By Robert Barr  
Associated Press

LONDON (AP)—Millions of protesters—many of them marching in the capitals of America's traditional allies—demonstrated Saturday against possible U.S. plans to attack Iraq.

The protests that started Friday in Australia continued through the weekend with a massive Sunday demonstration of more than 100,000 people in Sydney. The protests were the biggest in Australia since the Vietnam War three decades ago.

In a global outpouring of anti-war sentiment, Rome claimed the biggest turnout—1 million according to police, while organizers claimed three times that figure.

In London, at least 750,000 people demonstrated in what police called the city's largest demonstration ever. More than 500,000 each attended rallies in Madrid and Barcelona.

Spanish police gauged the Madrid turnout at 660,000. Organizers claimed nearly 2 million people gathered across the nation in one of the biggest demonstrations since the 1975 death of dictator Gen. Francisco Franco.

More than 70,000 people marched in Amsterdam in the largest Netherlands demonstration since anti-nuclear rallies of the 1980s.

Berlin had up to half-a-million people on the streets, and Paris was estimated to have had about 100,000.

In New York, rally organizers estimated the crowd at up to 500,000 people. City police provided no estimate of the crowd, which stretched 20 blocks deep and two blocks wide.

"Peace! Peace! Peace!" Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa said while leading an ecumenical service near U.N. headquarters. "Let America listen to the rest of the world—and the rest of the world is saying, 'Give the inspectors time.'"

In Los Angeles, thousands of chanting marchers filled Hollywood Boulevard from curb to curb for four blocks. Organizers estimated the crowd at 100,000, although police put it at 30,000.

London's marchers hoped—in the words of keynote speaker the Rev. Jesse Jackson—to "turn up the heat" on Prime Minister Tony Blair, President Bush's staunchest European ally for his tough Iraq policy.

Rome protesters showed their disagreement with Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's support for Bush, while demonstrators in Paris and Berlin backed the skeptical stances of their governments.

"What I would say to Mr. Blair is stop toadying up to the Americans and listen to your own people, us, for once," said Elsie Hinks, 77, who marched in London with her husband, Sidney, a retired Church of England priest.

Tommaso Palladini, 56, who traveled from Milan to Rome, said, "You don't fight terrorism with a preventive war. You fight terrorism by creating more justice in the world."

Several dozen marchers from Genoa held up pictures of Iraqi artists.

"We're carrying these photos to show the other face of the Iraqi people that the TV doesn't show," said Giovanna Marenzana, 38.

Some leaders in German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder's government participated in the Berlin protest, which turned the tree-lined boulevard between the Brandenburg Gate and the 19th-century Victory Column into a sea of banners, balloons emblazoned with "No war in Iraq" and demonstrators swaying to live music. Police estimated the crowd at between 300,000 and 500,000.

"We Germans in particular have a duty to do everything to ensure that war—above all a war of aggression—never again becomes a legitimate means of policy," shouted Friedrich Schorlemmer, a Lutheran pastor and former East German pro-democracy activist.

In the Paris crowd at the Place Denfert-Rochereau, a large American flag bore the black inscription, "Leave us alone."

Gerald Lenoir, 41, of Berkeley, Calif., came to Paris to support demonstrators. "I am here to protest my government's aggression against Iraq," he said. "Iraq does not pose a security threat to the United States and there are no links with al-Qaeda."

In southern France, about 10,000 people demonstrated in Toulouse against the United States, chanting: "They bomb, they exploit, they pollute, enough of this barbarity."

Police estimated that 60,000 turned out in Oslo, Norway; 50,000 in bitter cold in Brussels, Belgium; and about 35,000 in frigid Stockholm, Sweden.

About 80,000 marched in Dublin, Irish police said. Crowds were estimated at 60,000 in Seville, Spain; 40,000 in Bern, Switzerland; 30,000 in Glasgow, Scotland; 25,000 in Copenhagen, Denmark; 15,000 in Vienna, Austria; more than 20,000 in Montreal and 15,000 in Toronto; 5,000 in Cape Town and 4,000 in Johannesburg in South Africa; 5,000 in Tokyo; and 2,000 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

"War is not a solution; war is a problem," Czech philosopher Erazim Kohak told about 500 people in Prague, the Czech Republic.



# Tricouncil Formed to Bolster Student Voter Rosters

BY GABRIELLE LAMB  
Beacon Assistant News Editor

The Wilkes University Tricouncil, a council comprised of members from Off Campus Council, Commuter Council, and Student Government has formed a committee that will attempt to increase voter registration on campus.

Dean Mark Allen, advisor to Student Government, said the voter registration project will aim to connect with Wilkes students in different ways.

"I had assembled a group of student leaders, along with an interested alum and Professor (Jim) Harrington (President of the League of Women Voters), to develop a strategy to increase voter registration drives in residence halls, at events, door to door, etc," said Allen. However, Allen stressed that this committee is looking to achieve more than just a larger number of registered voters.

"The committee will not only focus on increasing voter registration. They will also look at opportunities to educate students regarding the issues in the upcoming May primary," said Allen.

Although many students may not realize it, Allen stressed that one vote can make a difference in the outcome of an

election. "The importance of the power of voting was so clearly illustrated in the last presidential election. As you look down to the local level, so many elections can be won or lost based on a handful of votes. Everyone's vote counts," said Allen.

In order to be successful, Allen predicts the Tricouncil will need more than 500 voter registrations. Although the University has attempted to inform students about voting, the information often goes ignored.

"The University, as a matter of policy, distributes voter registration materials to all incoming students; however, students often do not follow through and register," said Allen.

This trend was apparent based on a national survey conducted by [www.youthvote.org](http://www.youthvote.org) following the 2000 election. Out of the 26,917,473 U.S. citizens between the ages of 18-25, 45.8% were registered to vote. However, only 14.4% actually showed up at the polls for the presidential election.

Fifty-one percent of 18-25 years old said that drawing connections between issues that young people care about would convince them to head to

the polls. Although students may feel ignored during elections, Allen stated that if more students voted, candidates will not ignore their views.

"The lesson for students is that it is important to empower themselves so they are not a forgotten demographic to political

platforms," said Allen.

"Politicians will obviously cater to those who they know will get, and keep, them in office. This often comes at the expense of those who are underrepresented at the polls," Allen added.

## All Aboard: Reading Railroad Debuts on Ch. 66

BY GINGER ESLICK  
Beacon Correspondent

Saturday shows such as "Hatchy Malatchy" hosted by Miss Judy are no longer in existence.

These days, children wake up in the morning with a bowl of Fruity Pebbles, plop in front of the television set, and watch Power Rangers or Sabrina the Teenage Witch. Quality educational shows are just not as prevalent on television as they once were.

The new "Reading Railroad" television show, originated by Dr. Diane Polacheck, Wilkes University Education and Psychology Chairperson is about to change all of that and bring back some of that television magic experienced years ago.

"Reading Railroad" is a show dedicated to encouraging children ages four to eight to develop a love for reading. Educational values and fun are tied together in this show hosted by Courtney Stolarski, senior Psychology and Early Education major at Wilkes.

Stolarski is not alone in her hosting duties, she will be joined each episode by "Station Master Bear" and "Caboose Mouse," the two puppet co-hosts.

Stolarski will read a new story each week, which will be brought on the set by "Reading Railroad Express." In the pilot,

*Forth of July on the Plains* will depict a family heading west in a Conestoga wagon while celebrating the Forth of July.

Carl Brigido, Wilkes University's Television Facilities Coordinator and Chief Engineer remarked, "Children love to read. We are encouraging them to read and actually teaching them history as well."

Polacheck is not a newcomer to children's television programs. In the past she worked with a show titled "WOW," which was also geared towards children and used a book as the basis for the each program.

Polacheck recognized then as she does now, the need for quality programs for children to view. "We have got to encourage children to read. The television is such a wild influence in children's lives," commented Polacheck. "Just like nutrition has to be good for kids, television has to be good for kids as well."

Dr. Mark Stine, Assistant Professor of Communications at Wilkes, is also a part of the team working to get the show in production. "We are trying to produce a high quality children's show," Stine said. "There are very little locally produced programs in the area...if we are successful in doing that, I think the show has great potential."

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## Snow Continued from page 1

"Should we lose another Monday or Tuesday night...there is an option at the end of the semester to make up whatever night class we're missing."

In addition to classes, many Wilkes activities and events were postponed or came to an early end as the valley anticipated the bad weather.

The Pennsylvania Forensics Association's State Championship Tournament, which was held this weekend, ended early

Sunday to give visiting colleges and universities a chance to head home safely.

Jessica Niemiec, team captain for the Wilkes Speech & Debate Team, said the early end to the tournament eliminated some important categories.

"Usually there are three preliminary rounds, but in order to end before the snow came, we had only two preliminary rounds, so that the other schools had a chance to get home," said Niemiec. "The

tournament was originally scheduled to end around 9:30 p.m. Sunday night, but instead it ended at about 4:30 p.m."

With another less significant storm forecast to begin Saturday, many are wishing for spring--countdown, 30 days.

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## NASCAR's Popularity: In the Fastlane

It's a sport associated with the colors of a stoplight, the pattern of a chessboard, and the incorporation of rainbow colors in its emblem.

It is popular to the young and old, the professional and the local yokel, to the sports savvy and those that might not know the difference between a slam-dunk and a touchdown.

It is a sport that pays athletes to hop into a technologically advanced heap of metal, race, bump, tap, pass, and draft to be at the front when the last lap is finished. Finally, it is a sport that has a long and rich history and has developed into the fastest growing sport in America today.

That's right, we're talking about NASCAR Winston Cup Racing—and with the traditional opener, the Daytona 500, the green flag has been waved and the racing season is off. Although this year's Daytona 500 was cut short thanks to unfavorable conditions on the track (too much rain), the race still showed fans why NASCAR is the sport of choice for so many across the country.

According to *NASCAR for Dummies*, "In 1998, more than six million fans went to see NASCAR Winston Cup Series races." Furthermore, "the NASCAR Winston Cup Series is the most watched and glitziest division of stock-car racing, with attendance quadrupling since 1980 and nearly doubling since 1990." NASCAR has beat out the NHL, the NFL, the NBA, and Major League Baseball by the sheer number of fans that follow the sport.

But, why is NASCAR so popular? What does it offer fans that other sports don't?

First of all, NASCAR has a rich history. Its roots are in dirt track racing with everyday Joes working on the family Buick, Pontiac, Chevrolet, etc. to make it into a racing hotrod for the weekend. You drove your car from the road to the track and hopefully you drove it back to your garage with minimal damage so you can do it all again the next weekend.

Over the years several small stock-car-racing circuits came about, but the one that would remain was NASCAR. Bill France, Sr. organized the National Association for Stock-Car Racing in 1947 and the rest, as they say, is history. NASCAR has its legends and heroes, its bad guys, its ups and downs, but all in all NASCAR

appeals to the masses for a few very simple reasons.

The first reason why people are so drawn to the sport is that its premise is built on a common, everyday occurrence: driving. Joe Menzer says it best in his book *The Wildest Ride*. He states, "Driving is part of NASCAR's connection with the common man: in what other sport can you envision yourself being a participant while motoring along in a 1993 Ford Taurus station wagon with a baby seat in the back?" This, of course, is a purely rhetorical question.

The second reason fans are drawn to the sport is its high level of competition. The NASCAR

interesting watch. Race fans wait for the big crash like hockey fans wait for the big fight to erupt on the ice. However, cars crashing, metal flying, and vehicles being launched in the air and flipping over can be seen as far more exciting than two guys punching it out. Now don't get the wrong idea; no one wants anyone to get hurt. Accidents simply create drama accelerates the level of excitement at a race event as morbid as that may sound.

Finally, on a lighter note, NASCAR is one of the fastest growing and most popular sports today because of the access fans are given to their favorite drivers. In fact NASCAR has a stronger relationship with its fans than any other sport on the market. Menzer states that 96% of fans enjoy a strong relationship with NASCAR as compared to 63% of fans who have a strong relationship with the NFL or the even more surprising mere 37% of fans who feel they have a strong connection to players in the NBA.

With time trials, pit/paddock passes, garage passes, and guest appearances, fans can get to know their favorite drivers up close and personal. In no other sport will you be able to talk to an athlete right before an event other than NASCAR. The fans are the people who made the sport what it is today and the sport is just as happy to give back to the fans that have supported them along the way.

More young people are being drawn into the sport by hip sponsors and younger, better drivers who represent Generation X; the thrill of hearing the hum of the engines as they come towards you; or the family-like atmosphere that exists within the racing community and the sport as a whole. The list can go on and on, but you get the idea.

If you still don't understand why NASCAR is one of the fastest growing sports in America and one of the most entertaining, then maybe you should tune in and see for yourself. Once you pick a driver to cheer for, you'll understand what all these people see in cars going around a track for what seems like forever. A few times watching and like the commercials for NASCAR you'll be asking yourself how bad have you got it? NASCAR is truly that intoxicating and addicting...ask any race fan and they'll tell you the same.

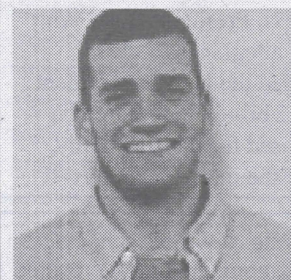
### New Sport of Choice? Beacon Editorial

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

season extends ten months and every week that cars are on the track a fan can see his or her favorite race team, and since every race is televised fans can keep up with all the action their team is involved in. Unlike other sports, race fans never have to complain about not getting to see a game their team is involved in. The greatest part is that instead of having two teams competing against each other NASCAR has 43 different race teams all bidding to finish first. This makes for interesting racing and an ultimately interesting sport.

Fans are also drawn to NASCAR because of the inherent danger involved in the sport. Every time a racer steps into a racecar they are risking their lives. High speeds ranging from 100-200 miles per hour, 43 manmade cars, concrete walls, and other barriers all make for terrifying odds, but an

## Finding Political Identity in a Pool of Contradition



BY J.J. HANSON  
Beacon Assistant Sports Editor

I have been asked frequently, "What party do you belong to?"

To the dismay of most who pose this question, I reply that I am a staunch Democrat. That's right, I am registered and proud to be a part of the Democratic Party.

My decision to join the Democrats was primarily hereditary, with both of my parents being Democrats. The odd thing about my registration is that although I am a Democrat, I also consider myself a conservative. Most people consider this an oxymoron and by all means it is, but in a country that bases its political system on hypocrisy, my irregular ideology holds water.

In fact, the Conservative Democrat (aka: Moderate Republican) is a very popular ideology among the American middle class. The confusing name might make some people believe that they do not belong in the same political category as me when actually you're probably not too far off. So for those who are a little confused about political identity I will clarify just what each party stands for.

The first of the major parties is the one with which I am proud to be a part. The **Democrats** are the party that called US servicemen baby killers during the Vietnam War, yet would fight to the death to protect a woman's right to choose. They are the champions of the common man. Send us your tired, your sick, your poor, and we'll tax the hell out of them. The party has produced such great men as Clinton, Carter, Kennedy, and Roosevelt (Franklin) to name a few. In my personal opinion the only problem the Democratic Party has is the ultra-left liberals. They are all a bunch of pretentious, tree hugging, anti-war, over-indulgent idealists that are willing to sell their souls to anyone for a vote or two.

On the other side of the political spectrum is the **Republican Party**. These guys are just as

crazy as the Democrats. They claim to be advocates of the Everyday Joe. Yet they are life members at the Fat Cats' Club, and practically invented big business. I think it is a prerequisite of the Republican National Committee to exploit a least 200 lower class workers, close two US factories and build six foreign ones, and then make people think they are protecting them from the evil, donkey-loving Democrats. If a candidate in the party can achieve these feats then they are worthy of the Republican Machine.

Both of the two major parties play different variations on the same ideological tune. The Democrats have moderates and liberals, and the Republicans have moderates, conservatives, right-wingers. These party differences make for some interesting politics in primary elections, but in theory all members of a party are supposed to come together in the general election for the good of the party.

In addition to the main parties there are a bunch of insignificant little parties, all of which have come and gone throughout the years. Some have occasionally made an impact, but the main parties are very good at keeping their well-oiled machines running smoothly.

The most recent "third party" to make its way in to the US political landscape is the **Green Party**. I think that the Green party is the most ridiculous thing of all time. The Greens are the Democrats that were too liberal for the liberals. The Green platform consists of singing *Kumbayah*, hugs, Quaaludes, feminism, and screwing over the Democratic Party. This party consists of many young people who are a little confused over their political identity, but they'll figure it out as soon as daddy's money runs dry and they are forced to step into reality and register Republican.

In addition to the Greens there are scores of other worthless parties one could find on the election ballot. My top five are: Expansionist Party of the United States, The New Party, The Puritan Party, The Socialist Party, or the Utopian Anarchist Part, who seek to overthrow the US government and not replace it.

**Pool**  
continued on page 6



# Driving into the Future on Hydrogen

BY DR. SID HALSOR  
Geology Professor

Imagine that you suddenly got tickets to a concert in Philly and you want to transform your chunky SUV into a sleek, sports car for the event. You're thinking . . . just a dream . . . not in my lifetime, right?

Well, think again. After much tinkering around the edges, rapid advances in automotive power systems are accelerating the time frame for a viable alternative to the internal-combustion engine.

Leading the revolution in automotive technology is the hydrogen fuel cell, which by 20th century standards was considered too costly and dangerous to present a serious challenge to the petroleum-fueled engine. But innovative design concepts and declining costs are rapidly transforming the potential of fuel cell vehicles (FCVs). Every major automotive company is getting involved in the development of an FCV. Furthermore, fuel cell research and development is receiving an infusion of support from the

highest level of the federal government.

In his recent State of the Union address, President Bush, who has a strong allegiance to the oil industry, urged the U.S. government to invest \$1.2 billion in research on hydrogen-based fuel cells. Finally, the future of the internal combus-

Venezuela). Secondly, and perhaps just as significant, hydrogen FCVs would emit only air and water vapor as byproducts. Currently, fossil fuel-based transportation alone accounts for a third of U.S. carbon dioxide (greenhouse gas) emission. Imagine a time when our

Still, the rate at which technological barriers have been surmounted up to this moment in time provides a great deal of momentum to override the remaining challenges--probably sooner, than later.

-Sid Halsor  
Wilkes University Geology Professor

tion engine, that highly successful but inefficient and polluting power system, is dimming.

Why all the excitement about FCVs? Well, there is plenty to be excited about. First and foremost, hydrogen gas can be extracted from a variety of fuel and energy sources, including water. This means, ultimately, that hydrogen fuel represents a renewable resource. Imagine a time when our country would be less affected by the whims of oil-rich countries that control the petroleum market and disrupt supply (Iraq crisis, recent strike in

country achieves meaningful reductions in greenhouse gas output and associated impact on climate.

Thirdly, the hydrogen FCV would be twice as efficient as the petroleum-fueled car being driven today. Even with the application of new technologies, expected efficiency of the internal combustion engine is an unimpressive 30 percent. Hydrogen fuel cells can double that figure and thus require half the fuel energy. Imagine a time when our country's primary mode of transportation is

sustainable, non-polluting and efficient.

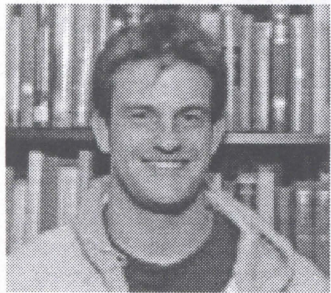
FCVs will also present the consumer with some new and exciting choices. Hydrogen fuel cells would allow the use of a flat chassis akin to a skateboard. In a GM FCV prototype called "Hy-wire" (for hydrogen and new wire technologies), this thin, skateboard-like chassis would house the fuel cell, electric drive motor, hydrogen storage tanks and electronic controls as well as braking and steering systems. Keep in mind that the elimination of an internal combustion engine, combined with the application of "drive-by-wire" technology, eliminates the bulky engine compartment and conventional steering wheel and dashboard, that awkward hump over the transmission, the drive train, and wheel axles.

Not only does the flat chassis concept give vehicle designers enormous freedom to create a wide range of body styles, but the body styles themselves are designed to be interchangeable. In the GM prototype, according to a recent article in *Scientific American*, an "owner could have new,

personalized bodies 'plugged in' to their used chassis at the dealership, or do it themselves--turning, for example, a family sedan into a minivan or a luxury car." And perhaps you thought interchangeable, designer eyewear was innovative!

Although hydrogen FCVs are at the forefront of sustainable vehicular design, there are technical obstacles yet to overcome, such as the safety and size of onboard hydrogen storage tanks, driving range, vehicle weight, and fueling infrastructure. And even with dramatic reduction in costs, fuel cell technology remains uneconomical. Still, the rate at which technological barriers have been surmounted up to this moment in time provides a great deal of momentum to override the remaining challenges--probably sooner, than later. If President Bush makes good on his follow-up comment to the effect that an FCV could be the car driven by a child born today, it is my hope to be around and rejoice in the phase-out of fossil-fuel based transportation by "popping the top" on my own hydrogen FCV.

## No More Excuses: Crimes Against Persons are Crimes



BY CHAD ALTIERI  
Beacon Staff Writer

On Trial: Kari Engholm; Adel, Iowa.

Sometimes I think we are living in a world where no one wants to take responsibility for his or her actions. Clara Harris wanted the jury to think about her two twin children at home. Well, maybe she should have thought about that before she ran over her cheating husband with her Mercedes multiple times.

Every day, I see more evidence that people in this country are always looking for others to bail them out.

Claire Engholm was 7-months-old when she was left in her mother's minivan for 9 hours. Her mother, Kari Engholm, dropped her 5-year-old son Eric off at his daycare that morning. Kari went to her job that morning and worked a

full day. In the meantime, her tiny infant, Claire, strapped into her car seat directly behind the driver's seat in the minivan, was "forgotten." The temperature outside that day was a scorching 107 degrees Fahrenheit. Claire helplessly baked to death inside the minivan.

Kari Engholm is charged with neglect and involuntary manslaughter. She says it was a terrible accident. I have trouble with that claim.

Little Claire was one of 56 children this year alone who have been lost to just this sort of neglect.

In the media and among those who know her, the question arose as to whether or not Kari Engholm should even be on trial for this accident. Yes, it appears this was a horrible, tragic mistake, but it seems ridiculous to not hold the mother accountable for her actions. According to Court TV analysis and former prosecutor, Nancy Grace, "There are no 'tragic accidents' in...families anymore, due to all of the abuse. It is now up to the law. The line is just too hard to determine. All who are thought to have 'accidentally forgotten' must be tried."

It is not a question of whether Kari Engholm committed the act, because she did. She has freely

admitted her guilt there. The question is should she be held accountable for her actions? Since the two sides agreed to a bench trial versus a jury trial, the judge will determine the crime, and what type of sentence will be imposed. I trust that the judge will come back with a verdict that says "yes; she should be held accountable for such an action."

According to Iowa law: Anyone who recklessly exposes a child to endangerment and he or she negligently leaves that dependent unattended, is liable for the actions and outcomes.

If convicted of neglect and involuntary manslaughter, Engholm could face up to 12 years in prison. Is 12 years enough for the sort of stupidity that cost the life of a 7-month-old baby? Engholm is on trial for neglect. Her neglect killed her daughter. Some would argue that 12 years isn't enough punishment.

The prosecutors are arguing that the mother was negligent and that she should be charged with involuntary manslaughter. •

The defense argues that it was a tragic accident and that the death of her child is punishment enough. They say the mother is torn about what she did, and that

she truly forgot.

This isn't a normal mistake where one accidentally leaves his or her book at home. This is a case where a baby doesn't seem that important. It has been stated in court by her husband that her job was hectic at the time. She actually had been taking her work home with her. She rarely ever did this. Her husband stated that she had a lot on her mind. Let's get real here. A baby is a dependant. Claire couldn't help what her mother did. Kari Engholm was responsible for this child, and she failed.

Personally, I do not feel that stupidity and a lethal lapse of memory should be a legitimate excuse for letting a parent off the

hook here.

Engholm is on trial for neglect and this is what she did. It is clear that she is no Andrea Yates. She is no Susan Smith. There probably was no gross neglect, but irresponsibility that ends with a fatality cannot be passed off with merely a slap on the wrist.

I am sure she has incredible grief about what she did. I am sure that losing a daughter serves as some part of the punishment, but justice does not and should not give out free passes. Kari Engholm does not deserve a get-out-of-jail-free pass because she is hurt by the fact her daughter is dead.

### Pool Continued from page 5

Wow, they have to be out of their minds! One doesn't realize how many insane people live in this country until they get into politics.

Political parties have become a necessary evil in American society. In my search for a clear representation of my views, I chose the lesser of the two evils and became a Democrat. Personally, I think parties are pointless because they are all run by the elite upper class who basically screw the

middle class left and right (no pun intended). Maybe one day the middle class will bind together and reject the parties that dictate the way we live. Until then, I'll keep on calling myself a Conservative Democrat, and if you think that is a contradiction, that's fine because there are thousands in Washington who get paid very handsomely to contradict themselves on a daily basis.



# Integrated Media Specialist to Keynote Bigler J-Conference

BY LAUREN BRENNAN  
Beacon Correspondent

Linda Thurman, president of Digital Window Media Inc., a media firm she founded in 2000, will serve as keynote speaker at The Tom Bigler High School Journalism Conference, April 11, 2003, at Wilkes University.

Thurman is an integrated media specialist who combines her television and film writing with the internet and web development. She offers insight into the future of information delivery using new technologies.

According to Thurman, the internet exploded in the mid 1990's and she became involved with several organizations such as the Internet Developers Association and the Association of Internet Professionals in Los Angeles. She also participated in a "Think Tank" in Marina Del Rey, California, where she led discussions and learned from other members developing practices that we now take for granted on the internet.

From 1992 to 1995, Thurman worked as the managing editor for the Hollywood Creative Directory. During her tenure with the company, she initiated and launched the *HCDOnline*.

Prior to working with internet devel-

opment and prior to the availability of cable television in the early 1970s, Thurman found other ways to encourage community



Linda Thurman

development through the media. She produced a video on food co-ops that was shown to over 90,000 food stamp recipients in distribution centers in New Orleans.

Thurman has also produced confer-

ences for the National Association of Broadcasters on new media. She has worked with Microsoft, WorldCom and

Enron in their early attempts to create integrated media. After those efforts, Thurman focused on interactive television and integration of television and internet.

Thurman has worked with United Artists, Norman Lear's Act III Productions, and HBO Pictures. In addition, she worked on films such as *Fried Green Tomatoes*; *Sweet Dreams*; and *The Hitcher*.

A popular speaker, Thurman has done presentations for the Better World Campaign of the United Nations, Hollywood Film Festival,

Fuji Television, Prentice-Hall, Equipment Manufacturers Institute, Black Screenwriters Association, MIT Club of Southern California, eTV World, Mac World and Internet Content West.

At the annual Tom Bigler High School Journalism Conference, Thurman will address emerging opportunities for high school students when they are ready to enter the work force. She will also interact with the students on future trends in technology.

Thurman said, "The amount of information is growing exponentially and managing information is becoming more and more vital. Information overload threatens our capacity to understand. Technology means a greater amount of data can be organized into information which when interpreted becomes knowledge. Knowledge combined with experience becomes wisdom. People are being swamped by data and it is up to the individual to attain knowledge and wisdom."

The Tom Bigler High School Journalism Conference will be held April 11, 2003 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Wilkes University.

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# Wilkes University's "Best Kept Secret"

BY LIZA CARDAMONE  
Beacon Correspondent

*This is the first in a series of three articles that we are calling "Wilkes University's 'Best Kept Secrets'".*

On the second floor of Farley Library is one of Wilkes University's best kept secrets known as the "Treasure Room."

Nestled in a small, secluded area is a cache of well-established local and historical books pertaining to the Wyoming Valley, Wilkes-Barre Area, and the establishment of Wilkes University—a treasure few on campus know about.

The books not only contain valuable information but have an important history of survival and worth.

During the flood of 1972, historical books pertaining to the Wyoming Valley and Wilkes community were stored in a vault in the basement of the library. The vault and its contents did survive the flood,

but would soon be moved to a different location. The new home for the historical works would be on the second floor of Farley Library, an area now known as the "Treasure Room." Surprisingly, the "Treasure Room" is not a room at all. It is a secluded area, carefully monitored so the publications don't leave the library.

Heidi Selecky, Co-Director and Acquisitions Librarian of Farley Library, believes it got the name "Treasure Room" since the information was valuable and stored in a vault for many years. Selecky also stated, "The Treasure Room is kept under close watch. The books are not allowed to be signed out because of the importance of the publications. The room includes Wilkes University yearbooks, publications of *The Beacon*, manuscripts, bulletins, publications by the Sordani Art Gallery, and each Master student's thesis."

However, the Treasure Room does not just contain Wilkes University history.

It has information on the Wyoming Valley, Wilkes-Barre, and surrounding areas.

Also kept in the Treasure Room, are autographed books. Joyce Carol Oates signed her book *What I Lived for Her* and Al Gore autographed his book, *Earth In Balance*. These are two very important pieces to the room's coveted collection.

Joan Ford, Acquisition Assistant at Farley Library, believes the most important aspect of the room is its value. "Students, alumni, and local lawyers find a lot of interest in the materials because some of the information may not be found elsewhere. The sources in the room are valuable and students use it a great deal," she said. Ford also believes the room is like an archive for the community due to its contents. The information found within the room is helpful to anyone doing research because of the wide variety of topics and the many different books, articles, and manuscripts.

However, as the shelves begin to get heavy, there is talk of expanding the area. Old catalogs from the 1700s have been in storage and there is a plan to put them out with the rest of the information. Selecky believes there will be an expansion of the area pending approval.

Dr. Harold Cox, Wilkes University Professor of History, has shown a great deal of interest in the publications and establishment of the room. Therefore, if the plans go through, he will be working closely with the development of a new and improved Treasure Room. The plans right now are vague, but there are hopes to move the information into another part of the library to make an actual room.

For now, the information is kept safe and used wisely. Students are encouraged to use the resources available to them and to visit the Treasure Room when doing research on local history and the establishment of the University.

## The Spring Break Search: Sunnier Skies and Sandy Beaches

BY MISSY MACIUN  
Beacon Correspondent

Tickets. Money. Passports. It's that time again...spring break!

For those looking to trade in the winter coat and book bag for a swimsuit and tanning lotion, get ready, because spring break is a week away.

But before setting off on vacation or booking an appointment with a travel agent, do the necessary homework to make the experience a positive one.

Right now there are many travel specials tempting students to break away from the cold temperatures and take time to relax in sunny tropical locations. After this week's snowstorm, who isn't primed for a break from the snow and cold temperatures? Some traditional spring break "hot spots" include Florida's Daytona Beach and Panama City along with Cancun, Mexico, and numerous places in the Caribbean.

But some of the traditional sunny destinations are no longer student-friendly, say travel experts. "Fort Lauderdale is no longer accepting 'spring breakers' at any of their hotels or resorts," said Hollie Evans a customer relations representative who works at Travelocity at 22 South River St. in Plains. Evans explained that places in Fort Lauderdale no longer accept the "spring break" crowd because of a history of damage that occurs at the resorts and surrounding areas.

Evans also explained that there are certain properties—such as "The Beachcomber" and "Treasure Island"—in the Daytona Beach area that will accept the college crowd; however, student travelers should expect to pay an additional \$100 damage deposit directly to the hotel. Another stipulation is that everyone in the room must be 18 years of age or older. But the extra investment may be worth it—

Daytona Beach has a lot to offer from lying on the beach to going to nightclubs to a short drive to Disney World.

Panama City, Florida also invites students to come relax and party. Located on the warm water of the Gulf of Mexico, Panama City offers 27 miles of sugary white sand beaches. There are also a wide variety of clubs and outside bars that sponsor events such as live concerts. Both Panama City and Daytona Beach have one-week accommodations packages and prices do vary from time of check in to check out.

Another "hot spot" for spring breakers is Cancun, Mexico. Many travel experts note that when it comes to letting loose and having a good time, Cancun is the place to go. "Cancun is the number 1 spring break destination," Evans said.

"Spring breakers are looking for fun, sun and alcohol. Thousands of college students, miles of white sandy beaches and enormous nightclubs make Cancun the most popular for a spring break vacation," she added.

The legal drinking age is 18 in Mexico, and there are many resorts that offer "sharing privileges" with sister resorts. For example, the Palace Resorts is a conglomeration of several resorts that share privileges. Those associated include the Aventura Spa Palace, Beach Palace, Cancun Palace, Moon Palace, Sun Palace and the Xpu-Ha Palace. The Palace Resorts are "all-inclusive" resorts, which means that students can take part in any of the non-motorized water sports, daily entertainment, evening theme parties, selected tours and best of all eat and drink as much as they like, at any of them. The effect of the sharing privileges is that resort guests can stay at one resort but literally play at all six.

If you're looking for a Rastafarian vacation, look no further than Jamaica, mon! Jamaica is the heart of the Caribbean. Air Jamaica is the official airline and has

daily flights departing from Philadelphia and Newark at reasonable prices. Jamaica offers unique sites from Negril to Montego Bay. Negril stretches along Seven-mile Beach which is lined with beachfront hotels. Adrenaline addicts may choose to visit Negril's Westend with its dramatic cliffs overlooking the sea to experience cliff driving or snorkeling or just kick back and view a breathtaking sunset. Montego Bay offers great beaches and day cruises, shopping and nightlife with the convenience of a city.

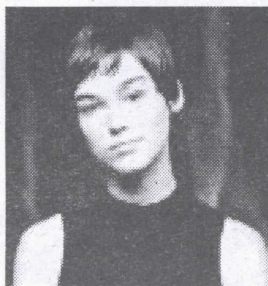
Here are some other tips for travelers: first, pack proper identification and passport if "vaa-kaying" outside the U.S.

(even if you're not, bring it anyway). A birth certificate with a raised seal and a driver's license will often serve as accepted alternative forms of identification in the islands or in Mexico.

Also, Evans warned, "Be aware of what you are booking online. What you want may not be what you booked. Make sure that you read the fine print, restrictions and extra charges may apply."

Finally, Evans also warned that all prices are subject to change until deposit is made and hotels have the right to kick out disruptive guests with no refund.

So, for those of you lucky enough to be changing latitudes, adios amigo!



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# Broody's Box Office Review: *Chicago*

BY JOHN BROODY  
Beacon Alum

## Plot:

First appearing in its current format as a 1975 Bob Fosse "musical vaudeville" by Kander and Ebb, *Chicago* is based on a 1926 play that led to *Roxie Hart*, a 1942 Ginger Rogers movie comedy. Revived on Broadway in 1996, where it is still running, *Chicago* has become one of the most successful modern musicals of all time.

Roxie Hart is a married chorus girl with hopes of being a headliner in vaudeville. Velma Kelly is a former headliner. What do these two have in common? They both are murderesses. Roxie killed her lover when he walked out on her, and Velma killed her husband and sister, who were having an affair. *Chicago*'s newspapers love the nitty-gritty and Velma is at the top of the headlines.

But then Roxie comes along and Velma is old news. They find themselves competing for not only press attention, but also the focus of their shared lawyer, the suave Billy Flynn. Add to the mix a sob sister, Roxie's hapless husband Amos, a warm prison matron who watches out for her girls (if there's something in it for her), and you have *Chicago*.

## Review:

After being stuck in years of development, *Chicago* has finally arrived on the big screen and the result is spectacular. The modern stage version of *Chicago* with which most audiences are familiar is famous



for its lack of sets or props. Yet the film version offers one of the most lustrous looking visual feasts of the year with every number utilizing clever tricks with mirrors, absolutely stunning

lighting rigs, and rich costume detail to give the performances that much more weight.

Considering this is Director Rob Marshall's first foray onto the big screen, it comes as quite a shock. A somewhat muddled opening 10 minutes or so is not indicative of the rest of the film. After that first 10 minutes, the rest of the production is shot with a strong level of confidence and skill that most filmmakers just can't do.

The comparisons with *Moulin Rouge* are inevitable, and whilst Baz Luhrmann's musical epic was a flashier and more energetic piece of cinema, it also suffered from choppy editing and a weak script, which caused the second half to be a bit of a struggle as Luhrmann's message that "love is the greatest thing and conquers all" was basically screamed at us until our ears bled. It was a collection of great

stolen pop songs done in an elaborate whimsical style and organized around a rather flimsy premise stretched a good 20-30 minutes beyond comfort level. Yet it worked quite well.

*Chicago*, on the other hand, is sourced from a far smarter pedigree. Baz may be a great filmmaker, but Bob Fosse was pretty much the master of his domain. The message of *Chicago* is not so grand, but much more contemporary, and works its material far better. Kudos should go to Bill Condon's script, which brilliantly incorporates fantasy visions and reality (a real life hanging mixed with a dream circus performance dive is the film's most memorable scene) whilst making subtle changes to the storyline to give everything a more interesting and well-paced flow.

Performances are perfectly solid right across the board with Renee Zellweger delivering absolutely astonishing vocal numbers while handling the more dramatic yet black humored material with the exact sense of fun and weight it needs. Catherine Zeta-Jones was known for her stage production roles long before she became a movie actress, and so it's not surprising she just lights up all her scenes. Richard Gere is the absolute out-of-nowhere shock. He can sing (albeit not with much range), but he makes out very well in all his numbers. And finally, Queen Latifah just rocks as the tough but lovable warden Mama.

Musically, well, everyone has different opinions with regard to different songs. As much as I love "All That Jazz"

as a song, it suffers from firing so early out of the gate here, despite the lavish visual look. "Cell Block Tango", "When You're Good to Mama", "Roxie" and "Razzle Dazzle" all utilize amazing set pieces and tricks to help these already solid songs reach stratospheric levels. "Mister Cellophane" is a sweet song and Reilly is a surprisingly good singer, though aside from a light trick towards the end, it's a bit of a mood downer. On the flipside "We Both Reached for the Gun" is a brilliantly choreographed number utilizing a string puppet trick. And the finale, "Nowadays," perfectly caps off the movie.

*Chicago* is utterly superb filmmaking done with love, care, and attention to detail while still providing a deftly enjoyable narrative. One of the year's absolute best.

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# Alto Saxophonist to Perform Feb. 25

## Dave Glasser is latest artist in Jazz at Wilkes series

BY MELISSA JURGENSON  
Beacon Staff Writer

On February 25, Dave Glasser, alto saxophonist, will be the featured performer for the latest installment of Jazz at Wilkes. The concert will be held in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts at 8 p.m.

Jazz at Wilkes has been in existence for twenty years. Mr. Andrew Sordoni III, a benefactor to the university and jazz enthusiast, engages the some of the greatest living jazz artists in the world to perform at Wilkes.

Glasser has been a member of the Clark Terry Quintet since 1995 and has performed extensively with the Count Basie Orchestra. He has recorded two CDs, his most recent entitled, *Dreams Askew*, *Dream* new.

As an instructor, Glasser currently teaches Bebop Harmony, Charlie Parker

Ensemble, Ear Training and Applied Saxophone at the New School for Social Research in New York City. He was a faculty member of the Clark Terry International Institute of Jazz Studies in Le Mars, Iowa, and has been as a clinician at numerous universities and high schools around the world.

"Jazz is a unique art form. A beautiful thing which grew out of ugliness. African slaves brought here against their will brought them to this country the melodic sounds and rhythms of their home country. When exposed to European harmony via church hymns and American



Dave Glasser

popular song a new and wonderful sound was born. Combined with the African-American experience the blues and unique feel of Jazz developed into a music for all Americans to contribute to and enjoy," said Glasser. "Any student with moderate intelligence and interest in American History, art, and music should be very interested to see the creation of jazz music and the spontaneous emotion exchanged between performers

and their audiences."

Some preceding Jazz at Wilkes performers include Dick Hyman, who received an honorary doctorate a few years ago here at Wilkes, Bucky Pizzarelli, who performs on the international circuit and who resides at the Delaware Water Gap, Jerry Harris, a singer who is the father of Wilkes percussion major Bruce Harris, and other internationally acclaimed performers such as last year's guest artist Leon Redbone.

"Students should attend these events, they would have to hear some of the greatest jazz artists in the world, and the performances are free," said Lecturer of Visual and Performing Arts and Faculty Associate to the Vice President of Student Affairs, Jim Harrington. "This series is one of the best in the Northeast United States and I would encourage students to take advantage of these programs."

# Composer-in-Residence to Perform at Music at Mid-day

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The newest addition to the Visual and Performing Arts Department is Dr. Ellsworth Milburn who will serve as Wilkes University's Composer-in-Residence.

Dr. Milburn will present a number of performances in the University's Music at Mid-day concert series, held from noon to 1 p.m. on select dates through April in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts.

During his first performance on Thursday, February 13, Milburn discussed two of his pieces, *String Quartet No. 2* and *Salus...esto* for orchestra.

Composed in 1988, *String Quartet No. 2* was premiered by The Blair String Quartet of Vanderbilt University and recorded by The Lark String Quartet.

*Salus...esto* was commissioned and given its premiere performance by the Springfield, Missouri Symphony Orchestra to celebrate its Golden Anniversary season. The work was composed with the assistance of a fellowship-grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Milburn's next appearance at Music at Mid-day will take place on Thursday, March 13, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Darte Center. Milburn will discuss one of his favorite twentieth-century works, Bela Bartok's landmark *String Quartet No. 4*. Milburn's presentation includes an analysis of Bartok's structural use of the Fibonacci series in this quartet.

The Music at Mid-day series concludes on Thursday, April 10, when Dr. Milburn discusses his two works for solo piano, "Scherzo" and "The Stone Forest,"

and the first movement of his most recent composition (2002-2003), a work composed for Ellen Flint (piano), Matthew Smallcomb, and Bruce Harris (percussion). Performances of these works by Flint, Smallcomb and Harris will be featured during this Music at Mid-day presentation.

As a composer, Milburn has received four grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, a Presser Foundation Grant for publication of his *String Quartet #1*, ASCAP Awards, and residencies at MacDowell Colony and Yaddo.

Among others, he has received commissions or performances from the Houston Symphony, the Springfield (MO) Symphony, the Párdubice (Czech Republic)

Chamber Symphony, the Concord, Blair, and Lark String Quartets, the Da Camera Society, and the National Public Radio's "Performance Today."

Dr. Milburn has also been recorded on CRI, Grenadilla, and Summit labels. His most recent CD, on CRI, features two string quartets and other chamber music.

His most recent composition, *Entre nous*, is a trio for violin cello, and piano and was commissioned by the Pennsylvania Music Teachers' Association. It received its premiere by the Kandinsky Trio on November 8, 2003, at Susquehanna University.

Currently, he is working on a piece for piano and percussion, which will be performed at Wilkes this semester.

## This Week in Entertainment History

**February 20, 1982** - In Hawaii, singer Pat Benatar married musician-producer Neil Giraldo.

**February 21, 1992** - 1984 - In New York City, the Toy Manufacturers of America met to display the top toys of the year, including: Menudo; Michael Jackson, whose accessories were sold separately; Mr. T.; and Judy Garland from *The Wizard of Oz*.

**February 22, 1965** - The Rodgers and Hammerstein musical *Cinderella*, starring newcomer Lesley Ann Warren, debuted on CBS. It received a Nielsen rating of 42.3 and was among the highest-rating single programs in the history of television.

**February 23, 1985** - Breaking with tradition, the television show, *Gimme a Break*, was broadcast live before a studio audience, making it the first sitcom seen live since the 1950s.

**February 24, 1973** - Roberta Flack's *Killing Me Softly With His Song* jumped to number one on Billboard's hit record charts, and remained there for five weeks. It was rumored that the subject of her song was folk singer Don McLean.

**February 25, 1963** - The second Beatles album released in the United States, *Please Please Me*, hit the shelves. Some labels carried a misprint, making it a collector's item, listing the group as The Beattles.

**February 26, 1951** - James Jones' novel, *From Here to Eternity*, about military life in Hawaii just before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, was published in New York by Scribners.

\* Information provided courtesy of [www.uselessknowledge.com](http://www.uselessknowledge.com) \*

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## Wilkes Grapplers End Dual Match Season 17-13

BY WILL MIDGETT  
Beacon Staff Writer

The Wilkes wrestling team traveled to Gettysburg College on Saturday for a quad match with Scranton and Lycoming. Wilkes won two out of three matches as the Colonels beat Scranton and host school, Gettysburg.

Wilkes won a close match against Scranton winning 25-22, and had an easier

time against Gettysburg winning 27-18. The team also lost a tough match to Lycoming, 24-14. Lycoming is one of the top teams in the MAC and is also ranked 13th in Division III nationwide.

Wilkes has been plagued with injuries all season and had to wrestle on Saturday without two of its starters--freshman Erik Hansen (157) and junior Jon Neyerlin (184). "We held out a guy who has 27 wins

(Neyerlin)," said head coach Alan Zellner. "Without these two, it made some matches close."

Wilkes forfeited Hansen's 157 spot against Scranton, but the Colonels were still able to win enough matches to overcome the loss.

With the MAC championships coming up this week, the team will need Neyerlin to produce a good showing, but

Zellner is optimistic of his return. "We've rested him for two weeks," said Zellner. "He will be back."

Sophomore Rex Harris (174), freshman Eric Bleich (197), and senior Cory Fleisher (285) all came away with three wins apiece in Saturday's event. Harris (31-3) won two technical falls against Lycoming and Gettysburg, and pinned Scranton's Ron Saglimbene in 3:51.

Harris had to wrestle at 184 against Scranton because of the absence of Neyerlin. Against Scranton, junior Fritz Delva filled in at the 174 spot and won a 10-4 decision against Mark McDonald.

Bleich (19-12) earned two decisions against Scranton and Lycoming, and pinned Jeff Morgan of Gettysburg in the first period at 1:42.

Fleisher (30-2), who has recently been ranked eighth in the latest Division III poll, had a close 1-0 match against Lycoming, a 12-0 major decision over Gettysburg, and a pin against Scranton.

Junior John Muscarella wrestled twice on Saturday and won both of his matches. He won in the 133-pound weight class against Scranton and at the 141-pound weight class against Lycoming.

All three matches on Saturday started at the 149-pound weight class, which gave Wilkes the advantage against Scranton and Gettysburg. Wilkes usually has to wait for the heavier weight classes to build momentum, but with the team's big guns in the middle of the lineup, Wilkes was able to gain momentum early. "Teams don't build up a big, giant lead," said Zellner. "They are forced to wrestle our upper weights."

Saturday marked the end of the dual match season for the Colonels. The team ended with a record of 17-13. "As a coach, as a competitor, I want to win all of them," commented Zellner. "But it was a successful season. You can't complain when you beat 17 teams."

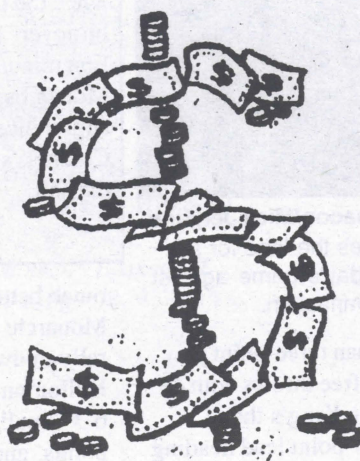
The MAC Championships, which start on Friday and continue through Saturday, will be held at King's College. The winner of each weight class will be given a berth to the NCAA Division III National Finals to be held on the campus of Ohio Northern University in Ada, OH.

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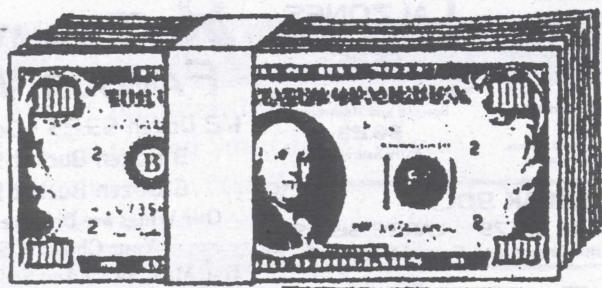
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# King's Cruises in Cross-town Doubleheader

## Monarchs Too Much for Colonels in 2nd Half

BY DENNIS FERENCHICK  
Beacon Editorial Board Chair

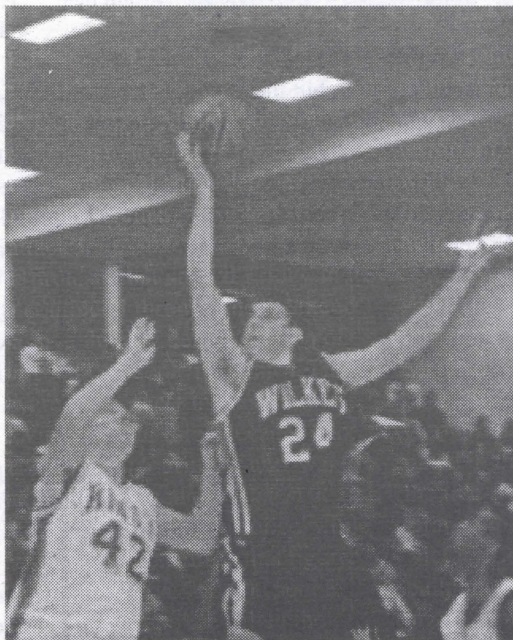
With the opportunity to secure a Freedom Conference playoff berth, the Wilkes University men's basketball team headed across town into hostile waters Wednesday night. Unfortunately for the Colonels, they were unable to weather the storm... a storm named Kasim.

Senior Kasim Holloman poured in a season-high 36 points, grabbed seven rebounds, and blocked three shots to lead King's College to a convincing 78-61 conference victory over Wilkes University at Scandlon Gymnasium.

Junior Dannie Evans added 13 points and six assists for the Monarchs (15-9 overall, 8-5 in conference), who now control their own post-season destiny. With a win at FDU-Florham on Saturday, King's will clinch a spot in the conference playoffs for the third straight season.

Freshman Rashawn Pressley scored a team-high 22 points and grabbed seven rebounds, while Dave Plisko added 19 points for the Colonels (17-6 overall, 8-5 in conference), who need a victory against Scranton and a King's loss in order to make the post-season.

The Colonels led almost the entire



The Beacon/Mick Jenkins

Junior Dave Plisko drives the lane for a bucket during Wednesday's game against King's at Scandlon Gymnasium.

first half until a Holloman three-point play and four technical foul free throws with 49 seconds remaining gave King's the momentum and a seven-point lead heading into the locker room.

Unfortunately things did not get

## Wilkes Women Dominated

BY FAITH MARTIN  
Beacon Staff Writer

The Lady Colonels failed to improve in the Freedom League Conference Standings last night when they fell to the Lady Monarchs in a 78-48 decision.

Wilkes, 12-12 overall and 4-9 in the Freedom Conference, was led by sophomore Andrea DeMaranville with 16 points and senior Whitney Bull followed with 15 points and 11 rebounds.

Any question of the game's outcome was answered in the first seven minutes, when the Lady Colonels committed several turnovers and scored just five points in the first minutes of the game. The Lady Monarchs, 20-3 overall and 11-2 in the conference, took full advantage of the Colonels struggles and took a 24-45 lead at the half.

much better for Wilkes in the second half. The Monarchs were able to withstand a Colonel rally midway through the period, and Holloman's play was simply unstoppable. The 6'3" small forward scored 26 second-half points, and the Monarchs outscored the Colonels 48 to 38.

For the game, King's shot 45.8 percent

The Lady Colonels would get no closer than 20 points for the rest of the game. Led by Nikki Kingston, who scored a game-high 23 points, the Lady Monarchs won the battle down low on their way to the win.

Freshman Andrea Kacprowicz went 6-for-6 on the free throw line and in total the Lady Colonels went 16 for 22 in free throws, while King's was 10-for-12.

Kacprowicz chipped in with 8 points and two assists, while Janna Ward added five points to the Lady Colonel effort.

Jen Wozniak netted 12 points with seven rebounds for King's and Beth Jordan followed with 10 points.

The Lady Colonels will host Scranton in Saturday's season finale at 1:00 p.m. in the Marts Center.

from the field and held Wilkes to just 32 percent. The Monarchs were also 20 for 27 from the free throw line, while the Colonels shot a dismal 9 for 21.

Wilkes looks to rebound this weekend at home when they take on the Scranton University Royals on Saturday afternoon at 3:00pm in the Marts Center.

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## Colonel Clipboard

### On Tap

#### Friday

*Wrestling*  
MAC Championships at  
King's, 7 p.m.

#### Saturday

*Women's Basketball VS.*  
Scranton, 1 p.m.

*Men's Basketball VS.*  
Scranton, 3 p.m.

*Wrestling*  
MAC Championships at  
King's, 10 a.m.

For more sports information,  
visit: [www.wilkesbeacon.com](http://www.wilkesbeacon.com)

### Crowning the King

#### Men's Basketball

	King's 78			Wilkes 61		
	fg	ft	tp	fg	ft	tp
<i>Wilkes</i>						
Pressley	10	2-5	22			
Plisko	7	3-3	19			
Morgan	1	3-3	5			
Walters	1	0-0	2			
Hairston	2	1-4	5			
Calarco	1	0-0	2			
Dorzinsky	1	0-2	3			
Moore	1	0-0	3			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>9-21</b>	<b>61</b>			
<i>King's</i>						
Evans	3	5-6	13			
Holloman	14	7-9	36			
Hite	2	2-3	6			
O'Hara	2	0-1	5			
Marks	2	2-2	6			
Moore	2	0-0	4			
Veet	2	2-2	6			
Abney	0	2-4	2			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>20-27</b>	<b>78</b>			

### In Review

#### Saturday

*Men's Basketball*  
Wilkes 61, Del Val 58

*Women's Basketball*  
Del Val 68, Wilkes 58

*Wrestling*  
Wilkes 25, Scranton 22  
Lycoming 24, Wilkes 14  
Wilkes 27, Gettysburg 18

#### Wednesday

*Men's Basketball*  
King's 78, Wilkes 61

*Women's Basketball*  
King's 78, Wilkes 48

For more sports information,  
visit: [www.wilkesbeacon.com](http://www.wilkesbeacon.com)

### Athlete of the Week

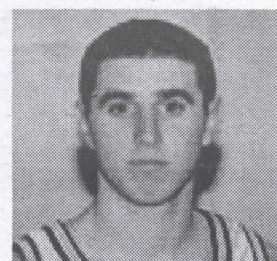
#### Dave Plisko, Basketball

The junior, who won Athlete of the Week honors two weeks ago, led the Colonels to an 82-72 victory over DeSales University at the Marts Center on February 12 and a 61-58 victory over Delaware Valley College on February 15.

Against the Bulldogs, he scored 22 of his game-high 27 points in the second half to lead his team's comeback.

Plisko, who led the Colonels in scoring eight straight games, poured in 22 points against the Aggies, including the game-winning basket with 32 seconds remaining.

Plisko, a graduate of Hanover Area High School, hails from Sugar Notch, PA.



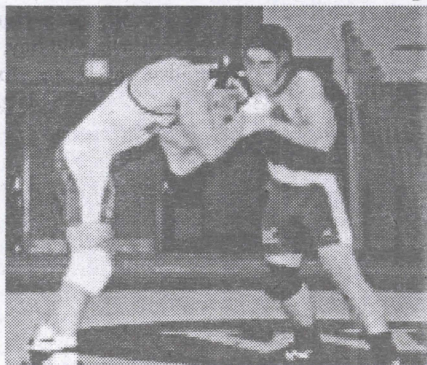
### Numbers Of the Week

- 15** Number of days until the Wilkes women's softball team takes the field for the first time this season
- 15** Number of consecutive wins by sophomore wrestler Rex Harris in the 174-pound weight class
- 15** Car number of driver Michael Waltrip, NASCAR's 2003 Daytona 500 Champion

### Beacon's Best Bet

**Wrestling, MAC Championships at King's**  
Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 10 a.m.

Senior Cory Fleisher, sophomore Rex Harris, and freshman Eric Bleich are contenders for individual championships.



The Beacon/Mick Jenkins

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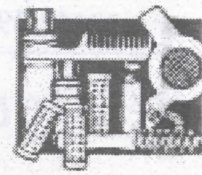
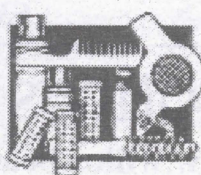
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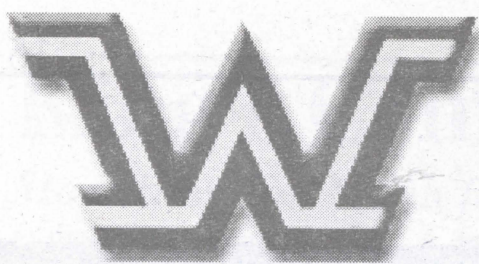
Weds. and Fri 9-5

Sat. 8-4

Mon., Tues., Thurs., and  
Evenings by appointment







# Campus Calendar

## Today, February 20

*Winter Weekend Dance:*

8 p.m., Henry Student Center Ballroom

*Discussion on Medical Malpractice with Dr. Dan Kopen:*

7 p.m.- 9 p.m., Briesth 106

*Interscholastic Pride Meeting:*

8 p.m.- 10 p.m., Inspiration Coffee Shop

## Friday, February 21

*Volleyball/Spirit/Banner Contest:*

8 p.m., Marts Gym

*Guys and Dolls:*

8 p.m., DDD

*Wrestling at MAC Championship:*

TBA., King's College

## Saturday, February 22

*Winter Games:*

11 a.m., Greenway

*Guys and Dolls:*

8 p.m., DDD

*Wrestling at MAC Championship:*

TBA., King's College

*Women's Basketball vs. Scranton:*

1 p.m., Marts Gym

*Men's Basketball vs. Scranton:*

3 p.m., Marts Gym

*Meet The Players:*

After the Games, Marts 213 and 214

## Sunday, February 23

*Guys and Dolls:*

2 p.m., DDD

*Neighborhood Cleanup:*

1 p.m., Henry Student Center

## Monday, February 24

*Corporate Governance and Responsibility*

*Discussion:*

7 p.m., DDD

## Tuesday, February 25

*Jazz at Wilkes:*

8 p.m., DDD

*Dr. Marteng Shows*

9 a.m.- 5 p.m., Henry Student Center



The Beacon/Kristin Hake

Wilkes recently held its annual Mardi Gras in the Student Union Ballroom. The event offered a variety of delicious foods for students to snack down on.

## Wednesday, February 26

*Penguins Game:*

7:05 p.m., First Union Arena

*Women's Basketball at Freedom Playoffs:*

TBA.,

*Men's Basketball at Freedom Playoffs:*

TBA.,

*Towson University Guest Dancers Performance:*

3 p.m., DDD Main Stage

*Master Class on Modern/African Dance:*

4 p.m., DDD

## Wilkes-Barre Weekly Weather



TODAY  
42/29



FRIDAY  
52/38



SATURDAY  
62/44



SUNDAY  
63/48



MONDAY  
61/49



TUESDAY  
54/41



WEDNESDAY  
47/31

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