

The BEACON

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

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Bill Clinton speaks at Wilkes before primary

Only the second president to speak at university

BY ANDREW SEAMAN

Beacon News Editor

President Bill Clinton spoke to a thin crowd of approximately 300 on Saturday, April 19, at the Wilkes University Arnaud C. Marts Center gymnasium on behalf of his wife, Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-NY.

President Clinton's stop at Wilkes is his second to Wilkes-Barre in a month; he spoke at Coughlin High School in March.

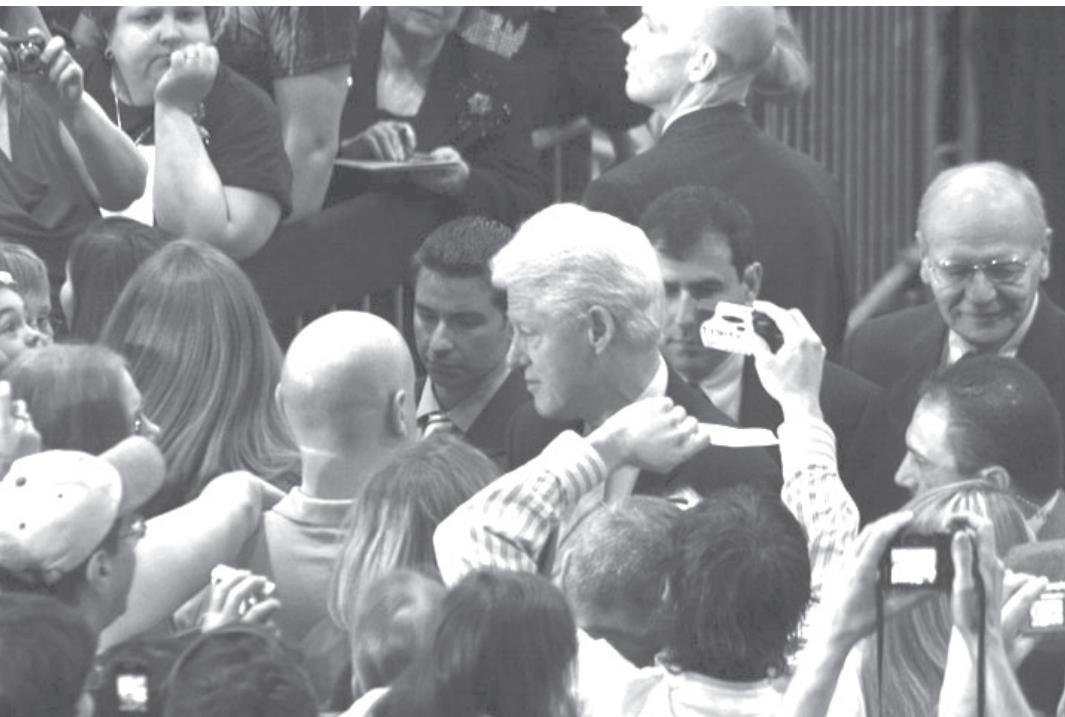
Congressman Paul Kanjorski, D-PA, who supports the New York Senator's candidacy, introduced the president.

Speaking fondly about the levee system located along the Susquehanna River, Kanjorski noted how instrumental President Clinton was in its creation. "... It would not have happened without this president," said Kanjorski.

When President Clinton took the stage he began his address by thanking several people.

Angela (Alex) Wood, President of the Political Science Club at Wilkes University, was one of the people President Clinton thanked.

See CLINTON page 5



The Beacon/Gino Troiani

President Clinton works the crowd of people along the rope line in the Marts Center gymnasium. Clinton spoke briefly about why his wife should be the next president of the United States and was then off to his next campaign visit.

Committee decides not to fund enhancements

Departments must go without additional resources for now

BY ANDREW SEAMAN

Beacon News Editor

As part of the budget process for the 2009 fiscal year, each department forwards a list of enhancement requests for the coming school year. The requests can range from new support for existing programs or initiatives, new equipment, or new projects.

This year, however, none of the enhancements were approved, except one for the Information Technology (IT) department to build a new computer lab.

"Part of the budget process is to ask every department if they have any enhancement requests, and they can submit them along with their regular budget," said Petra Carver, Vice President of Finance and Support Operations.

According to Carver, an enhancement is something new and not currently included on their budget.

According to documents from the budget

committee titled "Summary of Budget Enhancements," enhancement requests reached \$1,047,492 for this year. The requests included projects from all different parts of the institution.

The size of the various requests varies significantly. From the listing of Social Sciences, for example, is a small request for \$40 for postage and shipping. From the College of Science and Engineering there is a request of \$53,555 for various things including ABET, which is the Engineering accreditation. From the chemistry department there is a request of \$11,837 for things such as the implementation of a three-year program to replace equipment that is used on a daily basis.

According to Carver, the enhancements are "whatever they would like to submit for the budget committee to consider. The budget committee reviews and then depending on availability of funding we would prioritize."

Mike Frantz, Vice President for Enrollment and

Marketing, echoed this. "It depends on available funds in any given year. I don't know that there has ever been a year that I've been here that we were able to fund every request," said Frantz.

Carver said that the committee did not approve any this year except for "one big one."

She added that, "We did not approve any of the departmental ones that were submitted. What we did approve was an additional computer classroom, because both the IT committee and the budget committee felt that there is a need for additional computer enhanced space, because it is kind of tight...and that left nothing over for other enhancements."

There is hope, however, that additional enhancements will be approved, but there are a few possibilities.

"It could go both ways...we have to have a balanced budget...meaning we can't spend more than we take in on the revenue side. Should we

See BUDGET page 5

Farley Library institutes “Forgiveness Month” to reclaim overdue materials

BY AMY FUSCO
Beacon Staff Writer

The Farley Library has recently commenced a “Forgiveness Month” for Wilkes University students, faculty and alumni.

For an entire month, people can return their overdue library materials, which includes books, DVDs and other resources without penalty. The forgiveness initiative began April 16 and will last through May 16. When people return materials, whether six months or six years overdue, no questions will be asked. Additionally, returns are only accepted if the materials were overdue before April 16.

“Our library, like all libraries, has problems with materials being returned on time,” said Brian Sacolic, reference librarian and co-director. “Forgiveness Month” is not unique to the Wilkes community, he explained, but it is a product of a problem that comes

with the library profession. Typically called “Book Amnesty,” public libraries tend to do it more than academic libraries.

“We just decided it was time to do it again in an effort to get our books back,” commented Heidi Selecky, co-director of the library. “Part of this has to do with an inventory of various parts of the library sometime in the near future. It won’t be complete unless we get the books back,” she added.

Forgiving fines is not an annual occurrence at the Farley Library, but happens every three or four years. Sacolic explained that it is frustrating to students and others who go upstairs with the book call number and cannot find the book because someone did not return it. It is the students’, faculty members’ and alumni’s responsibility to return the library materials on time, which will avoid any fines and keeps both sides content.

Kyle Cortright, a pharmacy stu-

dent at Wilkes, checks out books on several occasions and has rented a few DVDs from Farley Library and is responsible enough to always bring the materials back, meaning no fines. As to whether “Forgiveness Month” will be beneficial to the community, Cortright said, “probably, if they [people with overdue materials], are hesitant to deal with the fine or if having the money to pay the fine is an issue.”

The fine for overdue books is ten cents per day after the due date and one dollar a day for DVDs. Although it is not a high fine, it adds up after several days of being overdue. The librarians have witnessed fines up to \$50.00. “We hate to fine the students because money is tight, but we do have to enforce the policy,” Selecky commented. Even if the DVDs or books are damaged, the library is still asking for them back.

“The books that are checked out

tend to be useful, popular subject books, so we will have to replace them anyway...we have to take out book money to buy lost books, so there’s less money for new books,” said Sacolic. “We are given a finite amount of money, so we would much rather use the money to buy new books than older books,” Selecky added.

Occasionally, transfer students forget to return books after they leave Wilkes University. Furthermore, returning a book or library material may slip from faculty members’ minds since they are able to check them out for a whole semester.

“We hope it’s very positive...it

is forgiveness of fines...We hope that the faculty and Wilkes community responds to us,” said Sacolic. In the past, the library observed a fair amount of return.



The BEACON

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

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The Beacon / Gino Troiani

“Forgiveness Month” at the Farley Library began April 16 and will continue until May 16. Students and faculty members with overdue library materials are urged to return them between these dates so they will not be charged with fines. Although fines for overdue books are only ten cents a day and one dollar a day for DVDs, Farley librarians have seen fines add up to \$50.00 in the past.

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William Kennedy to serve on Creative Writing advisory board

Pulitzer Prize winner takes seat and visits campus next June

BY MEGAN KRISANDA

Beacon Staff Writer

Another Pulitzer Prize winner makes his way onto the Creative Writing Masters Program's advisory board. A master of almost every genre of writing, William Kennedy, will be contributing new ideas to the program.

Kennedy is a close personal friend of the late Norman Mailer, who served on the advisory board until his death in November. The advisory board searched for a replacement with equal stature according to director of the Creative Writing Masters Program, Dr. Bonnie Culver.

"He's a major national contemporary author and we spoke with him about the program and asked if he would give us the same advice and attention that Norman always had," said Culver.

Kennedy will serve on the board immediately, but will not make his first campus visit until June of 2009. Board members of the program attend campus during the time of residency on a rotating basis delivering special readings, handing out awards and serving as keynote speakers according to Culver.

Kennedy won the Pulitzer Prize for his novel "Ironweed" which he converted into a screenplay. The movie version starred Meryl Streep and Jack Nicholson, both nominated for academy awards for their leading roles. He was born in 1928 in Albany New York and pursued a career in journalism until 1959 when he decided to pursue a full-time career in fiction writing.

"Kennedy writes in many genres, such as fiction, nonfiction, screenplays, stage plays. So, our program offers tracks in five areas, the only area I think he hasn't done yet is poetry. But he is quite accomplished in those areas," said Dr. J. Michael Lennon,

advisory board member.

Kennedy is the head of the New York State Writer's Institute in Albany. The institute's aim is "to enhance and celebrate literature, writing, and performance, and to recognize the position of writers as a community within the larger community", according to their website www.albany.edu/writers-inst. The institute offers writing programs, film series, summer writing programs, young writers programs, writing and theatre workshops, and a writing online program.

"He is a major figure in the American literary scene. I think he's one of the most important American novelists alive today. I think we're very fortunate he has agreed to serve on our advisory board," said Lennon.

"He's right in the middle of the creative writing game. He has significant accomplishments and we choose him to be the lead speaker at the Mailer memorial at Carnegie Hall last week because we knew he had great teamwork ignition and he did a fabulous job," added Lennon.

Lennon is responsible for the addition of Kennedy to the writing program. Lennon has known Kennedy for many years through Normal Mailer.

"Kennedy has been involved with the Norman Mailer Society and of course Wilkes University is deeply involved with the Mailer Society because Wilkes students go there every conference and give dramatic readings," said Lennon.

Lennon and Culver were looking for someone who could help advise the program and Kennedy fit their idea of a candidate for the open seat.

"His has a strong reputation as well as a tie to Norman Mailer, the society and to creative writing. He was interested in advising us on how the program might be run and might be improved," said Lennon.

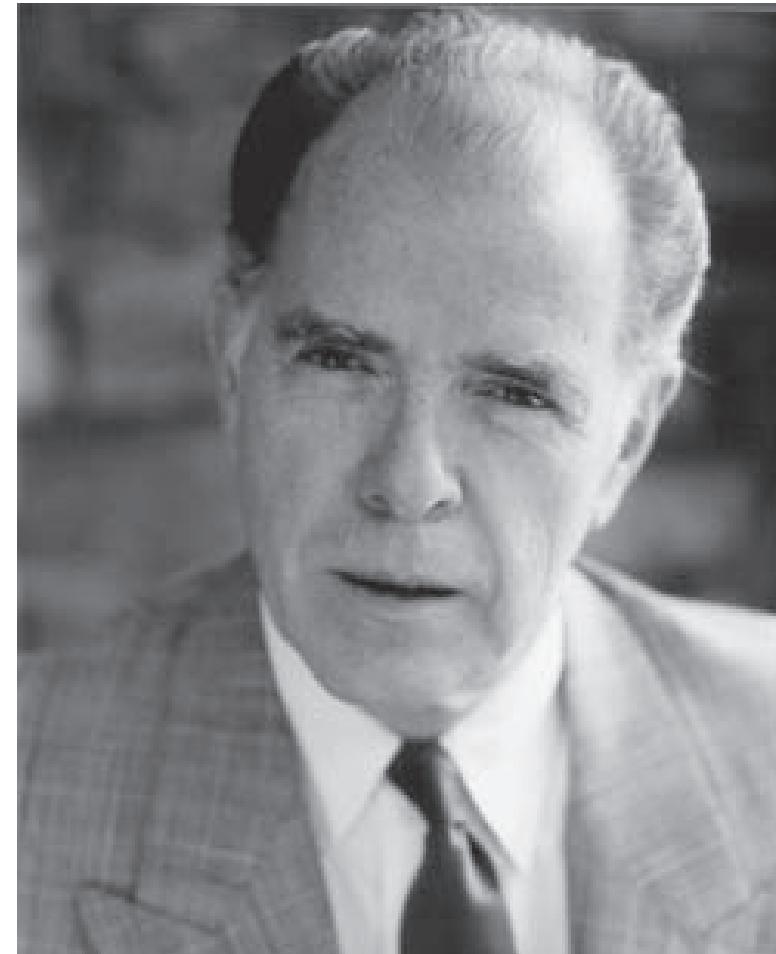


Photo Courtesy of www.upress.state.ms.us

Pulitzer Prize winner William Kennedy will join the Creative Writing advisory board next summer. Kennedy started his career as a journalist, but began a full-time career writing fiction in 1959. Aside from fiction, Kennedy also writes nonfiction, screen plays and stage plays. Kennedy's Ironweed (1983) won the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Critics Circle Award for fiction.

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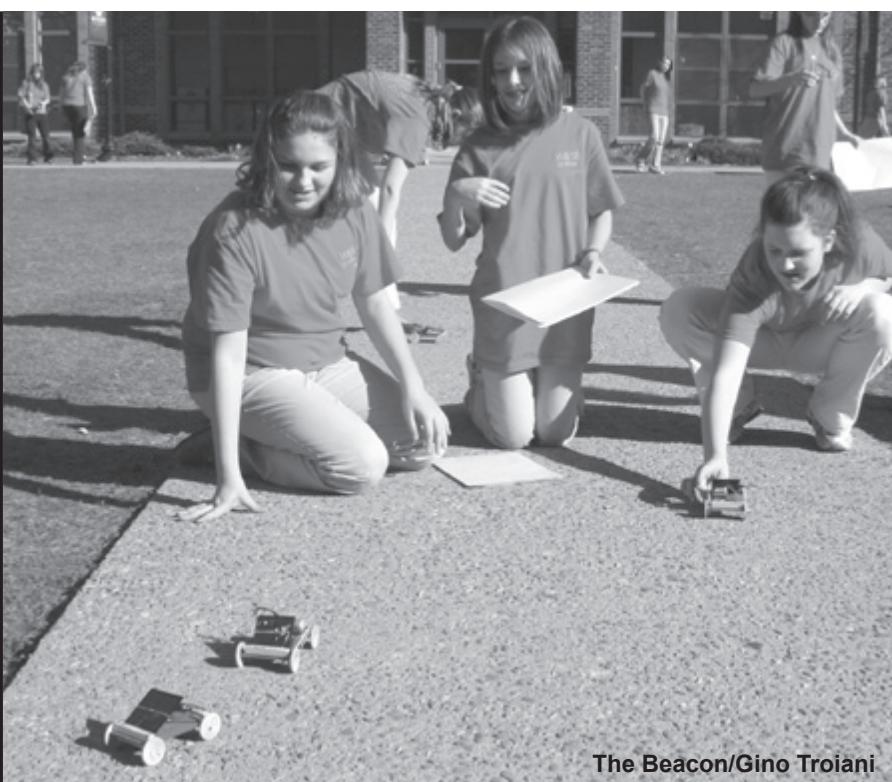


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Elementary students participating in Wilkes' Women Empowered By Science (WEBS) program race hand-crafted solar cars on the greenway, Tuesday April 15.

A second solar car event was held at Kirby Park on Friday, April 18, in honor of Earth Day. Students from area schools will also be on campus Friday, April 25, for the biology department's annual Adventures in Science.



SG Notes April 16, 2008

Treasurer's Report

All College: \$4,135
 General: \$4,008
 Special Projects: \$2,150
 Spirit: \$1,560
 Leadership: \$4,550
 Conferences: \$6,051
 Start-Up: \$1,200

Club Reports

The following clubs presented updates on their events:

Programming Board

New Business

- Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) fund request* - Several members of SIFE came to SG and asked for a fund request of \$4,000. The money will be used to pay for their trip to Chicago to attend the national competition, in which they will compete. The organization has already done extensive fundraising for the trip. This was approved by SG.
- APhA Donation Request* - asked SG for approximately \$1000 to help make a larger donation on behalf of their 5K. SG decided to grant them \$500 to their project.
- Lacrosse fund request* - The Lacrosse Club asked for \$1,773 to pay for

games and some equipment. There was much discussion over the team's constitution and whether or not the money could be used for equipment. After the motion was approved by the board, SG President Matt Brown vetoed the action of the board. After a failed attempt to overturn the veto, SG members decided to grant the lacrosse club its fund request without the equipment.

- Faculty/Staff Choice Awards* - Several faculty and staff positions were named for the awards. The nominations were narrowed down to five and was voted on in the presidential election survey sent to students.

Old Business

ICA Fund Request

Zebra Donation

OCC's Block Party

Events

Relay For Life - April 26 and 27, on the greenway

Commuter Council Trip to NYC - April 26

IRHC's Study Break Party - May 4, HSC first floor lounge

* At 8 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn the SG meeting. The motion was approved.

(SG meetings are open to all students. They are held every Wednesday in the Miller Conference room on the second floor of the HSC.)



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DRINKING HABITS

Compare your habits to those below to gage how appropriately you use alcohol. It is not necessary for a person to have every symptom to fit these categories.

A Social Drinker Typically:

- Drinks slowly
- Knows when to stop drinking
- Eats before or while drinking
- Never drives after drinking
- Respects nondrinkers

A Problem Drinker Typically:

- Drinks to get drunk
- Tries to solve problems by drinking
- Experiences changes in personality
- Drinks when he/she should not (before class/work)
- Harms himself/herself/family/friends/strangers

An Alcoholic Typically:

- Spends lots of time thinking about drinking and planning where and when to get the next drink
 - Keeps bottles hidden
- Loses awareness of the amount consumed
 - Denies drinking
- Drinks alone & before facing stressful situations
 - May have "blackouts"

CLINTON from FRONT PAGE

"I have...played a role in the set up of the events as well as getting the word out about them. Campaign stops tend to be very last minute, and you usually get confirmation about the event 48 hours before the event, if you're lucky," said Wood.

She added, "It can be rather hectic, but it's great. I love it. When [Clinton] thanked me in his speech, I was totally blown away.... It's amazing to be able to do something you love, and get recognized by someone that you admire. I feel so blessed and so lucky."

As for the rest of his speech, the former president kept things brief, only about 13 minutes.

He included many themes touched on in previous speeches as well as the one delivered last month at Coughlin High School rally.

One point he raised was the fact that Sen. Barack Obama, S-Ill., does not take money from oil companies. Clinton says this is because it is illegal to take their money. He noted that Sen. Obama's claim that he doesn't take the money is akin to someone saying, "I don't rob banks, vote for me."

Another point he emphasized was that while his wife has been "outspent" in the some states, she manages to win them, or in his words, "She won anyway."

Referencing his own experience, President Clinton talked about the economy and providing jobs to those unemployed. Then after talking briefly about some other points,

President Clinton made one final plea for everyone in the audience to vote and he was off to his next campaign stop.

"On Wednesday night's debate we all saw who should be the next president of the United States. With your help on Tuesday

she will win and it will be a very different world," said President Clinton.

Wood said that she was happy with the turn out, but admitted it was thin.

"I think the crowd was [thin] for several reasons. The first being the time of day and the day of the week. Many students, and people for that matter, sleep in on Saturday and asking them to be up and at the door at 7 a.m. can be hard." She added, "Another reason, I think, is that because we have had so many political events, especially in the past three weeks, many students may have already attended an event and therefore, may have decided not to attend this one. The last reason is the short notice."

As the Pennsylvania primary looms this week, President Clinton's stop at Wilkes signaled the end-run efforts of both candidates. Sens. Clinton and Obama both have scheduled stops in Scranton over the next few days. Sen. Obama will also bring Sen. Bob Casey, D-PA, and Caroline Kennedy as his guests.

President Clinton is the second president in Wilkes' 74-year history to make a visit to campus. The first was President Nixon in the early 1970s after the flood of Hurricane Agnes to discuss funding for the college.



The Beacon/Gino Troiani

Three young girls applaud President Clinton during his speech at Wilkes University on April 19. The youngsters were just three of the approximately 300 people who attended the former president's speech in the school's gymnasium.



Rob Tonnesen, Rob Donahue and Dave Sborz stand in front of the C-SPAN bus during its visit to Wilkes University on April 19. Students had the chance to upload videos that they created in the bus' portable studio to YouTube. Students were asked about their thoughts on the issues in this election.

BUDGET from FRONT PAGE

have a revenue windfall, meaning enrollment exceeds what we have budgeted or we have some additional revenue that is not included in the current budget, then we can go back to enhancement requests and distribute some of the extra revenue to these enhancements," said Carver.

On the other side, "Should we have a revenue short fall, we will have to go back and take another look at what we will need to eliminate. So, it goes both ways," added Carver.

Currently it is unclear whether the budget will experience windfall or shortfall, meaning the budget is still a work in progress.

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APRIL 22, 2008

School violence indicates need for character education

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL BOARD

According to a recent article on USA Today.com, an art teacher in a Baltimore school district was attacked by one of her students after she told the student to sit down and behave. Someone from the class recorded a video on their cell phone and posted it on the internet. The teacher, Jolita Berry, now says she is afraid to go back to the classroom.

Unfortunately, this disturbing violence--and students' apparent attitudes that real violence in the classroom is actually a form of entertainment--is not an anomaly. In Waycross, Georgia, a group of approximately six to nine third-graders plotted to hurt their teacher after she scolded a student for standing on a chair. WSBTV.com, the local ABC News affiliate out of Atlanta, Georgia, recently reported that the students were caught after a pupil told a teacher that one of their classmates brought a knife to school.

Waycross Police Chief Tony Tanner said, "The scheme involved a division of roles. One child's job was to cover windows so no one could see outside. One was assigned to clean up the blood after the attack."

WSBT TV.com went on to report that, "Police seized a broken steak knife, handcuffs, duct tape, electrical and transparent tape, ribbons and a crystal paperweight from the students, who apparently intended to use them against the teacher."

These incidents are admittedly extreme examples, but reports of violence in schools are on the rise and indicate myriad issues

for communities. First, if third graders are organizing gang-like plots of violence, communities are challenged to look inward to examine how and why such behavior has emerged. Where are children learning that violence is the solution to anger? Additionally, if the first response among children who observe such behavior in the classroom is to grab the cell, record the incident, and post it to YouTube, what are young people learning at

kindness, generosity, courage, freedom, equality, and respect?"

The goal of character education is to "raise children to become morally responsible, self-disciplined citizens. Problem solving, decision making, and conflict resolution are important parts of developing moral character. Through role playing and discussions, students can see that their decisions affect other people and things."

"Character education...is proven to reduce aggressive behavior, increase self-control, increase children's ability to tolerate frustration and increase effective conflict-resolution strategies."

Susan Biskup, Wilkes University Campus Counselor

home and at school about social responsibility?

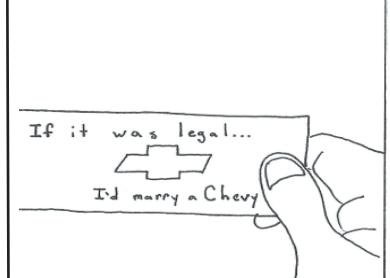
A potential solution was offered by Maryland State Schools Superintendent, Nancy S. Grasmick. She called for "increased character education, community partnerships and parental responsibility."

The Beacon staff agrees with Grasmick that character education and other security steps are necessary not only for the safety of the teachers and students, but also has the potential to enhance the learning environment. Since students are influenced greatly by what they are taught at a young age, character education should first be taught in elementary schools and continue to be taught throughout the duration of high school.

The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development defines character education as, "teaching children about basic human values including honesty,

Susan Biskup, Wilkes University Campus Counselor who taught character education in schools before coming to Wilkes University, believes schools should incorporate character education into the curriculum because it works. "Character education teaches students emotional literacy, self-control, social competence, positive peer relations and interpersonal problem-solving skills. It is proven to reduce aggressive behavior, increase self-control, increase children's ability to tolerate frustration and increase effective conflict-resolution strategies. There are curricula developed and implemented in some schools at the present time... it is necessary to amend the public school code to mandate the implementation of behavioral modification programs in all public schools to be administered by the department of education in grades k-12," said Biskup.

A Sight for Sore Eyes: By Aleksander Lapinski



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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 31 responses.

The Beacon asked:

What's your favorite spring-time activity?

- Tanning on the campus greenway - 0%
- Frisbee - 6%
- Flying a kite - 0%
- Horseshoes - 0%
- Wiffleball - 3%
- Skipping class - 52%
- Walking or Running outside - 19%
- Eating ice cream or Rita's Italian Ice - 13%
- Picnic in the park - 6%
- Other - 0%

Next Week's Question:

Who do you want to be the vice-presidential candidate for the Democratic party?

- Barack Obama
- Hillary Clinton
- Bill Richardson
- Al Gore
- John Kerry
- Nancy Pelosi
- Oprah
- John Edwards
- Joe Biden
- Other

Visit www.wilkesbeacon.com to cast your vote. Results will be published in next week's issue of *The Beacon*.

Character education could also decrease bullying in schools and lead to a learning environment in which students feel safe, welcome and respected. This type of safe and valued atmosphere could also encourage students to do better academically.

Biskup added, "Ensuring student safety in school is a crucial matter, but it is one that cannot simply be resolved by installing more metal detectors and doling out different

forms of punishment. We need to effectively address the root causes of these violent behaviors--why children are bringing weapons to school or committing acts of aggression."

Though it should be the responsibility of parents to foster character in their child, social circumstances such as divorce, economic need to work multiple jobs to pay the bills and resulting lack of supervision often limit parent-child contact hours. As a result, in many cases, the job simply is being left to peers, media messages, and formal education.

Though some parents may teach values many are not or can not, and as a result, individual students' disruptive behavior adversely impacts peers. Thus, teachers spend valuable class time trying to solve disputes and conflicts.

"Though parents, guardians or caretakers are the first teachers of children, they are not always the most informed teachers," acknowledged Biskup. "Through lack of parenting education and sometimes their own hurtful past experiences, parents sometimes do not know how to be effective, loving, nurturing parents."

In order to enhance the learning environment and safety of schools, other steps should be taken. Police officers and metal detectors should be placed in schools in order to try to detect and deter weapons and bad behavior. Additionally, mentoring programs with teachers and school officials as well as peer mentoring programs should also be utilized.

The Angry Rant: Smoking is for losers

BY TIM SEIGFRIED
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

Ah, cigarettes. Man's gift to the masses. The little cancer stick that could. The bar of tar. The purveyor of many a case of bad breath and a nagging cough, leading to many spoiled nights in the back of a car at a place that is known as "Makeout Point."

The life of the tobacco industry has been an interesting one. In the 50s, everybody smoked. Literally. Doctors, lawyers, garbage men. Everybody.

As time passed, cigarettes began to lose steam (or smoke, as it were) until it culminated into a civil lawsuit that cost the tobacco industry over \$200 billion, which pretty much confirmed what we already knew: cigarettes are bad.

I know what you're thinking. It was shocking to me, too. I mean, how could cigarettes be bad for you? Some of our most beloved entertainers smoked! Johnny Carson, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr. liked to light them up every now and again, and it's not like they died from complications related to emphysema or throat cancer or anything.

These days, cigarettes are a pariah of the public, and the television shows and the movie studios took notice, all but eliminating casual smoking on camera in their productions, avoiding harsher ratings and protests from the anti-smoking groups.

While Hollywood seems to be cleaning up its act, the same cannot be said for our nation's teenagers. While the smoking rate among teenagers is on a steady decline, I can't help but feel that not enough is being done to curb this problem.

Case in point: A few weeks ago I was outside of the Mall at Steamtown, and there was a gaggle of teenagers smoking, despite the fact that none of them were over the age of 16 or possessed a valid driver's license.

To say that I was appalled is an understatement. Maybe I'm just getting old, or maybe I never understood why a 15-year-old needs to smoke (too much stress? I guess the last episode of *The Hills* was really upsetting), but the sight of a group of kids smoking was just infuriating.

Why is it that teenagers feel the need to smoke? Is it some sort of initiation to high school freshman? Do kids need to have a black lung to graduate these days? It's not like cigarettes have a good taste or anything. In fact, one could argue that smoking a cigarette is akin to having a bonfire set on your tongue that consists of human hair and poop.

Seriously, does anyone light up for the first time and say "Wow, this is delicious; I could see doing this for the next 20 years, while dropping a small fortune and

effectively cutting 30 years off of my life! Awesome!" No. They don't. That would be ridiculous.

weeks ago. A family came into a restaurant; an older man, a younger woman and a baby who was no more than 16-months-old. It

times.

Maybe I'm wrong here (I'm not), but if you're smoking in front of an infant, then you're no better than someone who drives drunk with children in the car. A child cannot voluntarily unbuckle themselves from their car seat to get away from their chain-smoking mother, who is probably too busy looking at her dye-job in the mirror while talking on her cell phone to her bouncer boyfriend, debating with him about whether or not to get another tattoo of Bret Michaels.

The moral of the story is this: Kids, don't smoke. You literally have no reason to. It doesn't make you look cool. In fact, it makes you look miniature versions of Burgess Meredith from *Rocky*. Do you want to look like that guy? A short, haughty man with pastey-white skin and a voice that sounds like a rusty chainsaw? Do you want to look like that guy? I didn't think so.

So instead, why don't you spend your precious allowance on the *Juno* soundtrack. At least it's a little more intelligent.



Photo design created by Gino Troiani

This looks just as stupid as when you do it!

The problem I have with the whole situation is that kids can smoke all they want in public; however, no one ever does anything about it. If you get caught consuming alcohol while under the age of 21, then you could get into some trouble with the law. Why aren't cigarettes viewed in the same light? How can these babies smoke on the sidewalk in plain view of police officers and not be punished or reprimanded? Do I need to tell you that two of leading causes of death in this country is heart disease and cancer? And guess what? They are both linked to smoking.

This country needs to pull its head out of the sand here, and take a look at the bigger problems. Everyone wants to complain about illegal immigration, or abortion, or this or that, but it seems that smoking is never given enough attention.

Smoking is a proven killer, whether it's first hand or second, but yet there are no laws to prevent people from doing it illegally.

Here is what I propose: If you can't buy cigarettes, then you can't smoke them either. That means that all those kids who like to smoke with their little friends should get punished, or fined, or something.

Furthermore, if you are of the legal age to smoke, then you shouldn't be allowed to smoke in the presence of those who can't smoke. Which means that you can't smoke in front of your four-year-old kid who is sitting across from you in the smoking section of a restaurant.

Honestly, I witnessed this travesty a few

wasn't bad enough that they were letting the baby drink soda, but the man decided to smoke right in front of the kid. Several

Here's to you... Mr. Foreign lotion salesman!

BY GINO TROIANI
Staff Writer/Photographer



Drawing By: Zac Wilson

With such persuasive lines as, "Let me show you something amazing," and "One minute of your day can change the rest of your life" how could anyone turn down your free lotion samples? I envy you because you are the hustler of all hustlers. Your crafty marketing schemes have led you to prey on unsuspecting women in malls all around the U.S. Keep on keeping on!

Rules of engagement ignored in Haditha case

BY LAUREN SALEM
Beacon Staff Writer

On March 28, the US military dropped all charges against Stephen Tatum, a marine, who was involved in the civilian killings in Haditha, Iraq, on November 19, 2005.

Tatum was charged with "two counts of involuntary manslaughter, of unarmed children, reckless endangerment and aggravated assault" according to the BBC News. Spokespeople for the Marine Corps said that they dropped all charges "in order to continue to pursue the truth-seeking process into the Haditha incident."

"I'm not satisfied with the outcome because the punishments don't come close to the crimes committed in Haditha," Abdul Rahman Al-Mashhadani, a member of the Hammurabi Human Rights Organization, said in the *Frontline* feature "Rules of Engagement." "We expected that the soldiers would be exonerated. I thought the soldiers would be let off or...claim insanity."

According to official reports of the incident in question, after a roadside bombing, U.S. marines were told to clear all the houses around the area. Tatum claimed during his trial that he was told by his squad leader to treat the houses as hostile, according to the *Frontline* report. Tatum said that he heard shots had been fired before he entered

the house, so he threw a grenade into the room he thought the shots were coming from.

"The grenade just went off, dust was in the air, smoke was in the air, couldn't really make out much more than targets," Tatum said. As a result three men, two women, and a child, all unarmed innocent victims, died, because Tatum failed to positively identify them.

Rules of engagement require that soldiers must positively identify enemies before firing. According to Gary Solis, Adjunct Professor at Georgetown Law School; Marine (Ret.), 'positive identification' means simply that: "Before you can fire on an individual, you must positively identify that individual as representing a threat to you or your fellow Marines or soldiers."

Tatum proceeded into a second house using the same procedure and never took more than two to three steps into any of the rooms, which resulted in the death of five more children and two more women, according to the *Frontline* story. Tatum said he did not see the women and children and only fired because he was coming to the aid of a fellow marine who was already shooting.

The prosecution argued during the trial that the marines should not have used aggressive house-clearing tactics and they presented evidence that there was enough

light for soldiers to identify the women and children before shooting.

"I'm not comfortable with the fact that women and children died that day," Tatum said in his *Frontline* interview. I know I might have had a part in it. I don't know if my rounds impacted anybody. That is a burden I will have to bear."

Tatum should have received some form of punishment, because it was clear that he was not following the "rules of engagement," one of which includes positive identification. The rules of engagement entitle every soldier the right to defend themselves against threats, but also tells them when and against whom they can use deadly forces against.

If the military and government courts choose not to prosecute soldiers who violate such important and long-standing rules, the United States could face a military that runs amok. Defense of the nation is about discipline and following orders, both of which seemed, at least in the moment at Haditha, absent.

Based on the evidence, this was not a situation that required deadly force and maybe Tatum would have realized that if he actually looked at the people he was about to kill. The courts and military personnel need to carefully examine the potential fall-out from a decision to drop the charges in this case.

What do you think?



The Beacon wants your voice to be heard. Your Voices is the opportunity for students to voice their concerns. If you want your voice to be heard, please contact *The Beacon* with the following information:

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- 2 Your name, major, and year
- 3 Your opinion

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The Beacon reserves the right to edit submitted pieces for space and content.

but not least, viewers could sit back and do absolutely nothing at all.

Also according to MSNBC, there are an estimated 15 million households that still use analog transmissions, so to help relieve these people of the financial burden, between January 1 and March 31 2009, the NTIA will be distributing up to two \$40 coupons per household that can be used for the purchasing of converter boxes. Citizens are able to obtain these coupons by calling 888 DTV 2009, or going to DTV.gov.

Although many people are upset about the conversion, in time it will prove to be a wise decision by the NTIA. As a former volunteer firefighter, I know how important and crucial communication between first responders can be.

When the coupon is used, the consumer should only have to pay between \$10 and \$30 for a conversion box, a small price to pay for free television broadcasting. In addition, analog television sets will most likely become extinct in the near future. If and when this happens, there will no longer be a need for the analog conversion boxes.

Make way for all-digital format

Analog television goes the way of the dinosaurs

BY GINO TROIANI
Beacon Staff Writer/Photographer

I remember the good old days as a young boy sitting around my parent's blocky old television set with rabbit ears topped off by long strands of tin foil rolled up reaching towards the ceiling.

Since the early 1920s, analog transmissions have been, and still are, the industry standard for broadcasting. But, as of February 17, 2009, all broadcasters will be mandated to shut down analog broadcasts and switch to a digital format.

Why is this happening?

In 2005, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) designed the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act, which laid the guidelines for the switch from analog to digital transmissions.

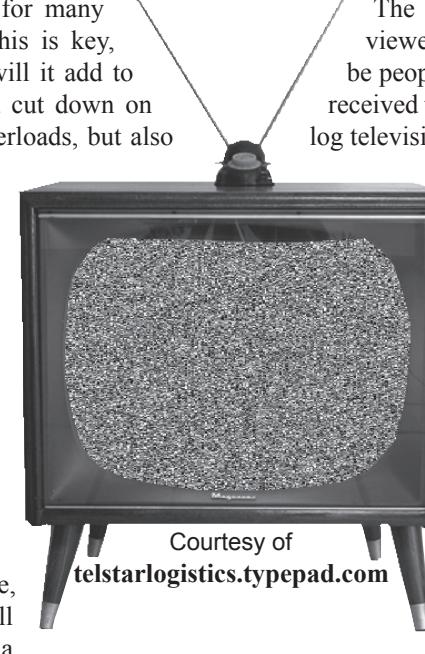
The transition will be most beneficial to first responders who use radio signals to communicate with each other. Once analog television broadcasts are terminated, previously used airspace will be auctioned

off, and available for many first responders. This is key, because not only will it add to open airwaves and cut down on communication overloads, but also the ability to transmit over higher and more powerful frequencies will be available.

This could help tremendously in the case of a catastrophic event, and could very well end up saving human lives.

In addition to freeing up airspace, HDTV viewers will be able to enjoy a broadcast with enhanced audio and video quality.

According to MSNBC, an estimated 85% of Americans pay for their television programming via cable or satellite providers.



The switch will not impact these viewers. Those directly affected will be people who rely on free broadcasts received through an antenna and an analog television set.

For those who still rely on analog broadcasts, there are a few options out to help compensate for the switch.

First, analog television owners can buy the converter box, which is expected to run anywhere from \$50 to \$70. The box will act as a medium between the antenna and television, converting the digital signals to an analog format.

The second option is that viewers can go out and buy a digital television set, which will automatically be compatible with digital signals.

A third option is to obtain a membership with a cable or satellite provider. And last

Autism Awareness Weekend involves family, community

BY CHRISTA SGOBBA
Beacon Lifestyles Editor

Like many little girls, six-year-old Deanna Capece loves to color, play with her dollhouse, and watch the latest Disney movies.

But unlike most of those girls, Deanna would have difficulty telling you any of this.

Deanna, a kindergarten student at Tamaqua Elementary School, suffers from autism spectrum disorder, a diagnosis that encompasses a group of neurodevelopmental disorders that cause substantial impairments in social interaction and communication. As a result, Deanna's speech and nonverbal communication with others is limited.

"Looking at her, you would never think that there was anything wrong with her," said her mother, Gloria Capece, a psychology major at Wilkes University. "She has issues with communication and eye contact. She talks to me more than she does with anyone, but that's probably because I'm her mother."

Since the 1990s, autism diagnoses in the United States have increased rapidly. According to the Autism Society of America, autism has increased 172 percent during the 1990s, compared with a disabil-

ities increase of only 16 percent. Currently, one out of every 150 children born in the U.S. will be diagnosed with autism.

In order to raise community awareness for the growing number of cases, April has been designated as Autism Awareness Month. Autism organizations and support groups nationally and locally have been hosting events this month to bring about greater community involvement.

The Autism Coalition of Luzerne County will be sponsoring its first annual Autism Awareness Weekend from April 25-26. A candlelight vigil will be held at the Luzerne County Courthouse on April 25 at 6:00 p.m. The next morning, an Autism Awareness Walk will take place at the Forty

a sibling support program," said Koretz.

The children who were diagnosed in the 1990s spike are now entering their teen years, bringing about a whole new set of needs for the affected population. Before, autism support was focused on young children and their educational needs in the classroom.

Now, organizations such as the Autism Coalition are looking to implement programs that can ease the transition from childhood to adulthood, whether it is by providing services that can allow more independent living or help with jobs.

"Currently, a lot of support exists until they graduate high school, with many students not graduating until they are 21. After

Deanna.

In school, Deanna attends a regular-education kindergarten classroom in the morning with the help of an aide, and an autistic support program in the afternoon. She receives speech and occupational therapy during the school day. Outside of school, she has Therapeutic Staff Support, where the TSS worker comes to her home or within the community to help her one-on-one. Capece also enrolled her daughter in a swimming program for aquatic therapy, and is looking to find a dance program for her.

Within community programs, Capece says that sometimes instructors are a little shaky with autistic children because they don't entirely understand what the disorder entails.

"I found that some of the instructors were a little put off," she said. "They'll say they're not scared, but you can tell they're standoffish. Especially my daughter, she can tell when they're like this."

The sharp spike in the number of autism cases makes it especially important for the community to understand the disease, since it is becoming more and more prevalent in all areas.

"The community needs to understand and talk about autism," said Koretz. "Many of these kids are nonverbal, they have extreme sensory reactions, and limited social interactions. It's harder to interact with them, because they look very typical, and it's not until you talk to them that you see something is not right."

Capece believes that better community awareness is necessary because some community members may demonstrate a lack of understanding when confronted with the behaviors of an autistic child.

"They think if your child is acting up in a store, then it's necessarily a bad child. It's very frustrating sometimes. My daughter's gotten a lot better at this, but when she's throwing herself on the floor and flipping out, people kind of look at you like 'why can't you control your child?'" she said. "If people are aware of the extremes, it makes things a lot easier,

not just for yourself, but for your child."

They think if your child is acting up in a store, then it's necessarily a bad child...If people are aware of the extremes, it makes things a lot easier, not just for yourself, but for your child.

Gloria Capece, psychology major

Fort Recreation Complex, with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. There will also be children's activities, a silent auction, and tables set up with information from various mental health agencies.

"It's an opportunity for families to come together and support each other," said Tara Koretz of the Autism Coalition. "The goal of this is to raise awareness and money for the cause. We hope to make it a yearly event."

According to Koretz, all of the money raised from the silent auction and registration for the walk will be used to support the programs in the area for children and adults with autism.

The money raised from Autism Awareness Weekend will provide the startup costs for a new program that will aid families with autistic children as they enter young adulthood.

"We're raising money in the hope of creating another program for children and adults with autism, like a more transitional program to help autistic children out of

high school, and

that, there is a definite lack of support services," said Rebecca Mehnert, a professor at Wilkes who is also a Behavior Specialist Consultant and a Mental Health Evaluator at Children's Service Center in Wilkes-Barre. "At this time, the Bureau of Autism Services is focusing their efforts on developing programs to assist adults with autism, including providing assistance as young adults transition from school to work or college or other programs."

Locally, the Autism Coalition works to bring about those changes in the area. The only organization like it in Luzerne County, it joins together community resources that can offer more help and support for the community members affected by autism.

"It's a grassroots program that can help promote ongoing progress," explained Koretz. "We work together to come up with ideas for more programs. We help more of the community as a whole, not just one specific family."

Capece, whose daughter was diagnosed when she was just over three years old, has utilized the programs available in her area for

Real Conversations bring real issues to the forefront

BY LAUREN SALEM
Beacon Staff Writer

Students voiced their opinions about social economic discrimination in Real Conversations on April 15, an event hosted by Dr. Ebonie Stringer, an assistant sociology professor.

"This is a good topic to start on because so many students deal with economic issues," Stringer said. "As a matter of fact, one might argue that the economic strain of being a college student is one of the top issues that students are dealing with."

Richard Czyzyk, a graduate assistant, developed Real Conversations, which is a series of monthly events at which students can engage in meaningful conversations about thought-provoking topics of their choice. This discussion design encourages students to use language they're most comfortable with to talk about issues facing their campus or the nation, in a safe environment.

The Center for Global Education and Diversity also helped develop the program, along with support from Dr. Maria Suarez, Dr. Ellen Flint, and Brenda Stanley.

"[Students] needed an outlet to speak," Czyzyk said. "We wanted to provide an environment that was safe and protective, where they didn't have to fear being ridiculed or laughed at, or physically attacked."

The program was created to get students to step out of their comfort zones and ask questions about current issues in the world. The conversation was mostly generated by students, but Stringer started the discussion with an introduction on social economic discrimination.

"It's hard to wrap your brain around it, but our economy is suffering, and because of that the gap between the classes is increasing which is apparent everywhere," said Valerie Martinez, a junior political science major. "This is certainly a problem that concerns the institutional body of Wilkes University because we all pay Wilkes for something or get paid by Wilkes for something, so we have economic ties."

The conversation was well-structured and included one-on-one talking along with group discussion, which was informal and comfortable, according to Amber Kozo, a freshman psychology and criminology ma-

jor.

"I think the real conversation event allowed students with different opinion[s] on a topic [to] speak their mind and help broaden the knowledge of those in the room," Kozo said. "It brought together different people on campus who may not have ever met otherwise."

At the pilot meeting, 22 students attended and said that they would like to have future conversations about racial discrimination, college social grouping, the negative and positive aspects of virtual communities (Facebook and Myspace), the presidential race, gender equality, religious tolerance, the digital age, sexism, and college student & social implications.

"The world that they [students] enter into when they graduate isn't just going to be



The Beacon/Cara Koster

Dr. Ebonie Stringer facilitated a Real Conversations event about economic discrimination on April 15. The series of monthly conversation are meant to provide a place for students to talk about important issues in a safe environment.

in their home communities," Czyzyk said. "They have to prepare for a global economy in order to be successful and we want them to start thinking about multiple perspectives and providing them these outlets will be a great opportunity for that."

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Student of the Week: Oanh Nguyen

BY MATTHEW GOGAS
Beacon Staff Writer

Oanh Nguyen is a first-generation Vietnamese immigrant currently in her fourth year of pharmacy school. Though she is extremely busy, she still finds time to help out in the community.

Nguyen volunteers as a translator for new Vietnamese immigrants trying to establish themselves in the local community in her hometown of Binghamton, New York. Here at Wilkes, she decided that she wanted to continue helping others by taking an independent study class while she volunteers at a local clinic helping less fortunate people receive free medical care.

In addition to volunteering, Nguyen also helped organize drives to raise funds for the community and obtain supplies for the clinic. Because of the volunteer work she does for Vietnamese immigrants in her hometown and for the people here in the Wilkes community, *The Beacon* has chosen Nguyen as its Student of the Week.

The Beacon: Why did you decide to come to Wilkes?

Nguyen: My decision in coming to Wilkes dates back to when I was child. Initially, I made the decision of becoming a pharmacist at the age ten years old when I first came to the United States.

With my unique background, I have seen through fresh eyes how healthcare can affect people's lives, especially those who are new to this country. The healthcare system is a mystery for the general public with its convoluted language, extensive

procedures, and confusing traditions, which only become more frustrating for people who do not speak English. I witnessed first hand how nurses and physicians have treated Vietnamese immigrants. They can be unprofessional, careless, and inappropriate in failing to honor their promises to provide quality patient care.

For example, the Vietnamese elderly use traditional creams and lotions that have scents unfamiliar to health care professionals of the Western world. As a result, physicians and nurses would assume that these patients are unkempt and unsanitary. They would then speak to these patients from the hallway or use sticks to perform physical examinations. The patient was left feeling inhuman and unfit to be in the presence of the doctor. To make things worse, even the pharmacists treated them with indifference. Consequently, so many of these Vietnamese immigrants would take their medications incorrectly and were discouraged from obtaining further medical assistance and advice.

I wanted to become a pharmacist to serve as a communication bridge between the health care system and patients. I chose to attend Wilkes because its pharmacy program was still developing, which would

allow for a more dynamic learning experience. I knew that by getting involved in such a school, my comments and concerns would be taken more seriously and have more influence than going to other more established schools. I know that decisions made because of my class will affect the future of graduating Wilkes pharmacists.

The Beacon: Explain this volunteer program that you are involved in.

Nguyen: The volunteer program in Binghamton, New York, has many services. Since the new immigrants are not accustomed to life in the United States and do not speak English, they need help with many things. We help with all facets of everyday living: explaining cultural differences, translating paperwork for health insurance claims, accompanying patients to physician visits, and even getting a prescription refilled

at the local pharmacy. As a pharmacist, I will have that much more knowledge to impart on the community, hopefully making life easier for a few more people.

The Beacon: Why did you decide to volunteer?

Nguyen: Volunteering was not a hard decision. I was once an immigrant to this

country and also needed help. I was fortunate enough to learn English and advance in society. I remember how hard acclimating to society was. Volunteer work is a rewarding experience because I know that I am offering a helping hand that no one did for our family.

The Beacon: What do you plan to do after graduating? Do you plan to do more volunteer work in the future?

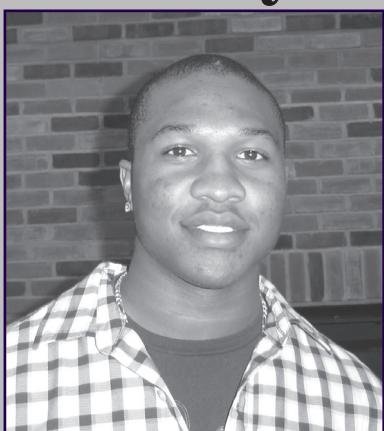
Nguyen: The program is experiencing new changes to the population. We have a decreasing number of actual immigrants to the area; however, new complex issues have arisen. These issues include alcoholism and drug addiction. Therefore, the program needs a different type of volunteer because solely time and effort is not sufficient. Last year, I decided go to the University of Utah School of Alcoholism and other Drug Dependencies. Not only did I learn about addiction to drugs, but I also realized that addiction is much more complicated than it seems. Addiction can arise from not only poor choices but also genetic predisposition and just plain unfortunate circumstances.

I also learned a lot about myself on this trip. I learned how obsession could be a form of addiction and that blaming yourself or others is not a healthy way to deal with addiction. Blame is an active way to ignore a difficult situation. The only real method to deal with addiction is to accept it and actively pursue those steps towards resolving the true problem at hand. Hopefully, when I graduate, I can return to New York to start a service to help as many people as I can find those steps.



Photo courtesy Oanh Nguyen

Are you voting in the April 22 primary?



"Yes I am, because I think voting is essential. I think everybody should vote. You actually get to voice your own opinion for something."

Ryan Holmes
junior, English major



"Yes because I think that we have a voice and people forget that we have a voice..."

Ashley Yob
sophomore, psychology major



"No, I'm not planning to vote. The reason being I really don't follow politics, and I don't believe I should have a vote on something I have no idea about."

Joshua Pauling
junior, nursing major



"Yes, I'm planning to vote because it's my first opportunity to do so."

Katie DeBias
junior, education major

LOCAL BAND SPOTLIGHT: THE BIG GREEN

BY NICOLE FRAIL

Beacon Asst. News Editor

Three years after competing in a local high school talent show, The BIG Green has switched gears, battling area bands of all genres for prizes as big as a stage on the 2008 Van's Warped Tour.

Inspired by the Disney movie, *The BIG Green*, the ska band frequently plays at Cafe Metropolis. After a few member changes and a self-described unforgettable "crappy" band trip, The BIG Green has settled down and formed a stable fan base in Wilkes-Barre.

The Beacon recently sat down with Pat Zeigler, sophomore communications major, and Matt Duffy, undeclared freshman, to speak about a band that was formed in order to get into ska shows for free and has since become something that all six members of The Big Green are passionate about.

The Beacon: How would you describe your music?

Zeigler: I would describe us like... Thanksgiving dinner. It's just a lot of different stuff coming together, but ska is definitely the mashed potatoes for our dinner because it's our common ground. Everything we do is based off of ska, but we have a huge punk influence and we're all secretly emo fans deep down. We all enjoy metal, hip hop, rap, and reggae.

The Beacon: Who are the other members and what do they play?

Zeigler: Tim Bendick is our drummer. Mike Galli plays sax. Duffy is rhythm guitar, if you want to get technical. Rick Berry is bass and Billy Barnes is lead guitar. And I'm trombone.

The Beacon: What makes your band unique?

Zeigler: We all basically write and sing all of the songs.

Duffy: It's not one person. We don't really have a leader. That's something a little different about our band, you know? Usually bands have a set leader, but we definitely don't.

Zeigler: When we're onstage we all talk, we all lead songs, even Bendik on the drums.

Duffy: It has its ups and downs, though, but that just comes with the territory of sharing responsibility.

The Beacon: What would you say are your greatest influences?

Duffy: It changes every week. I'll find a new band that I love and listen to them all the time.

Zeigler: Old Catch 22, Suicide Machines, Op Ivy, Rancid. We all love The Slackers and The Toasters and we take tips from them... We always try to break down and bring in horn parts and bring in really strong powerful music. Sometimes I think we may even be inspired by Streetlight Manifesto.

The Beacon: Tell me about your first show.

Zeigler: It was the Dallas High School talent show almost three years ago.

The Beacon: Did you win?

Zeigler: I don't remember.

Duffy: We had fun. That's all that matters.

Zeigler: We made fools of ourselves and just had fun. That's basically what we do.

The Beacon: Have you won any other contests or shows?

Duffy: Second place is our forte. We never quite move up but we don't suck completely, so we're always right in the middle.

Zeigler: We're usually always second place and I think we're really cool with that because if someone was like "Yeah, we got first!" we'd be those guys that go, "Well first is the worst and second is the best!"



Photo courtesy The BIG Green

The Big Green competed for a spot on the Vans Warped Tour on April 19. Here [left to right] Pat Zeigler, Mike Galli, Tim Bendik, Matt Duffy and Rick Berry perform at the Sherman Theater. Missing from the picture is guitarist Billy Barnes.

The Beacon: What is the biggest show you've played?

Zeigler: The Toasters; it was absolutely incredible...

Duffy: I think another big highlight for me was the first Metro show ever. We might not have played as well as we do now - like we were terrible - but I just loved it. It was like a dream come true, almost. I always wanted to play in Metro and we finally did and it was awesome.

Zeigler: Bigger Thomas was a big show, too. And they actually liked us.

The Beacon: Are you currently working on any projects?

Zeigler: Right now we're kind of taking a hiatus to get new stuff together, but we have some shows coming up... We're also working on trying to get in to play at some colleges next fall.

Duffy: I want to play at Wilkes really bad.

Zeigler: We're trying to finalize a CD. Right now it's all up in the air because we don't have money. We're broke musicians.

The Beacon: What do you want the Wilkes community and your fans to know about you?

Duffy: That we're single.

Zeigler: And that we like to have a good time. We're always down to play; we'll play anything. We love to play music and get together and hang out. Basically, that's all we want to do: play music for people, even for people that aren't into ska. I think most people never give it a chance.

Duffy: I've had people come up to me at shows before and say, "I've never listened to ska before, but I liked you guys." And that's what keeps me going.

Zeigler: We're just trying to represent the genre in this area and give it a good run... Basically, we're ready and willing.

Emo culture endures violence abroad

BY MARISSA PHILLIPS

Beacon A&E Editor

The emo subculture just never seems to win.

In terms of subculture satire, emo is the losing party, always the brunt of the jokes. In terms of subculture warfare, emo kids are struggling in a battle that seems almost surreal.

As absurd as it may sound, subculture war isn't just some notion reserved for song lyrics and periodic music venue scuffles. Recently and pretty close to home, problems have reached newsworthy proportions. In the passing months Mexico has seen an anti-emo movement that's grown to significant proportions and resulted in multiple acts of violence.

According to *Rolling Stone* magazine, "...800 young people came to the city of Queretaro with the sole purpose of finding emo kids to beat up." News of the violence has made it into numerous other news sources outside of Mexico, such as *TIME* magazine and *L.A. Weekly*. Log onto *Youtube.com* and you can even find footage of mobs attacking their victims and chanting "Death to Emos."

For those who may not be entirely well-versed on what emo is, it is a subculture, comparable to punk or goth, in that it extends from a particular musical preference. While emo is a genre of music, there is also a fashion style and value ideology that is usually associated with the subculture. Although, as with any subculture, it is impossible and unfair to place a set of stereotypical standards, a general description of the subculture offered by laweekly.com notes, "They are drawn to the music of bands such as Dashboard Confessional, Hawthorne Heights and Alesana. They like the style - shaggy bangs, skintight jeans, studded belts...and the loose ideology of getting 'emotional.'".

One of the key issues that led to the attack on the emo subculture is the fact that popular TV host Kristoff, of the Mexican channel Telehit, went off on an anti-emo rant on television, calling emo kids "idiotic" and attacking their subculture and lifestyle (*mtv.com*). Although the host attempted to dismiss his statements as a joke after the attacks, the damage was already done.

After the incident in Queretaro, more violence occurred, with emo kids as their vic-

tims. In response to the violence, emo kids organized a non-violent march in protest, but despite well-intentioned efforts, that eventually turned violent as well.

Although the U.S. hasn't seen any grand-scale anti-emo movement comparable to Mexico, it can't exactly be said that emo kids are accepted with open arms. Former Wilkes student, Andrew Pryor stated that in the U.S. "Emo kids are viewed as the annoying trend jumpers." He explained that he could imagine events similar to the ones in Mexico "happening among the more immature scene kids."

A search of the world wide web bears a slew of anti-emo games, songs, blogs, and articles. Go to *Newgrounds.com* and you'll find the game "Kill the Emo," and look up "emo" on popular site, *urban dictionary.com* and one of the listed definitions is, "Something all stereotypes agree on they hate."

If You Have this Hair Cut Expect a punch in the face on 6-6-06



6-6-06 National Emo Kid Beatdown Day

There may not be a large-scale anti-emo movement in the U.S., but the subculture still suffers from a heavy amount of criticism, as seen in this picture from *duckduckrevolution.com*

Whether or not the events in Mexico directly effect the U.S., the incidents certainly demonstrate subculture disdain to an extreme. Although there may not be an anti-emo movement resulting in large-scale acts of violence, it's impossible to determine when a long-running joke can turn ugly.

Former King's student, Pete Phillips, explains that he doesn't rule out the possibility of conflicts to increase in the US in the near future. "People in America wouldn't let that get that far on a grand scale because parents are ridiculously overprotective. But if you ask me if something like that can happen ten years from now. Based on current events...I think grand scale violence is on it's way to becoming more prevalent."



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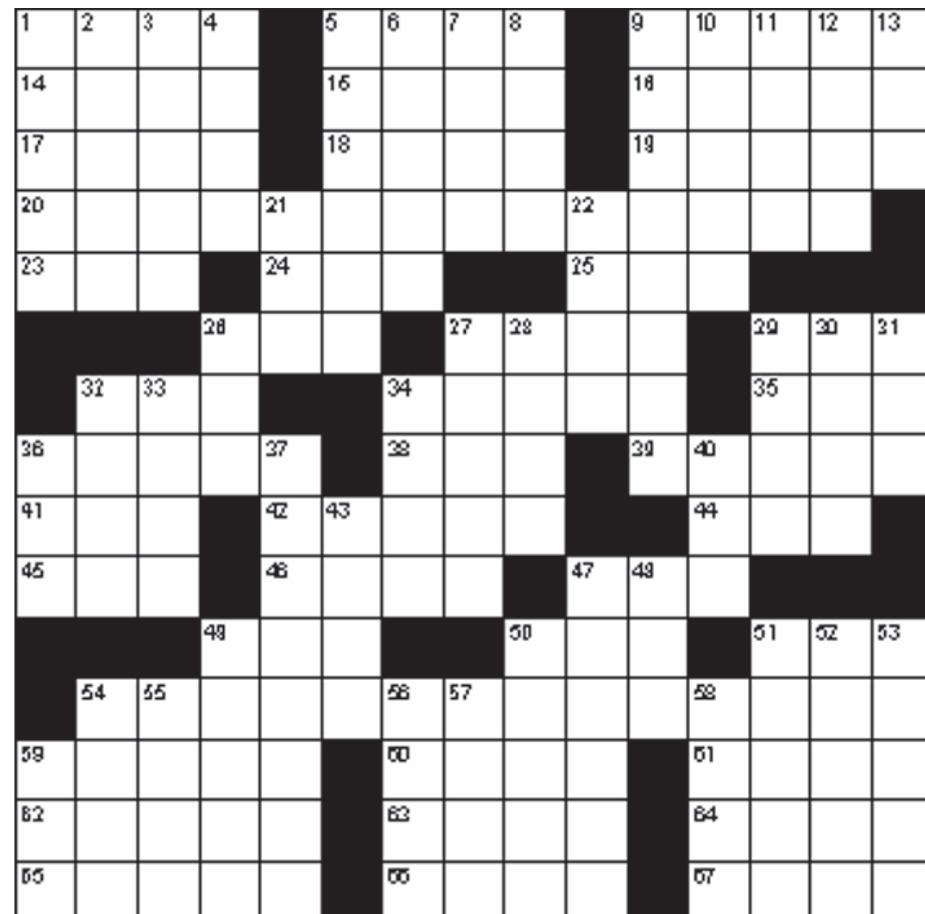
BY CHRISTOPHER KUDRAK
Beacon Staff Writer

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- 15 Catch sight of
- 16 Pluto's number
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- 55 Wretchedly bad
- 56 Little demons
- 57 Encounter
- 58 Quickly
- 59 Inquire



Answers 4/14



*Web site
of the Week*

Perezhilton.com

BY STEPHANIE GERCHMAN
Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

If you're like me you love to keep up with what's going on with all of the celebrities. Well, I get all of my information from PerezHilton.com, Hollywood's most-hated website.

It's probably Hollywood's most-hated website because it exposes drug problems, flopped records, plummeting careers, and ugly fashion choices. With celebrities described as being "gay, gay, gay," "shiteous," "icky icky

poo," and "yummy yummy screw," no one can top Perez's way of insulting everyone. He also throws in random news bits that are interesting or bizarre and labels them "News of the Weak."

Well, you're probably wondering who is this Perez Hilton guy, anyway? His real name is Mario Armando Lavandeira, Jr. He got the name Perez Hilton as a play on Paris Hilton, of course. He claims that they are friends and the name is all in fun. Originally he began his career as an actor and got into media relations for GLADD and started blogging from there.

Since then he has taken pride in outing gay celebrities and telling the truth about others. Perez not only blogs, but he is also launching a radio show in early May. He acts as a celebrity news correspondent for MTV's TRL and he has his own show on VH1 called "What Perez Sez."

He never posts information before he is sure about it, so you know what you're reading is true. He posts pictures and videos that will be sure to make you laugh...or at least smile. I give Perezhilton.com an F... for Fabulous!

Dinner Review: River Grille

BY ALISSA LINDNER
Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

With the summer heat fast approaching, a relaxing dinner on the patio after a long day of work can be just the fix. But where, locally, can diners go for an affordable meal while still enjoying the outdoor atmosphere?

River Grille, which opened approximately two months ago, is just that, affordable with the luxury of outdoor dining.

Located at 670 North River Street in the Waterfront Business Complex, the River Grille varies from affordable prices for burgers and sandwiches to more costly pasta and meat entrees.

The casual fare and burgers menu ranges from \$7.00 for a "half pound Angus" burger to \$10.00 for a sampler, which includes mozzarella half moons, zucchini fries and shrimp. All burgers are served with fries and a pickle.

The pricier entrees range from a grilled chicken dish for \$13.00 to a 10 oz. Angus filet mignon for \$28.00. Entrees are served with either soup or salad and the appropriate sides.

Hoping to dine outdoors on a warm Friday evening, my guests and I arrived at River Grille at approximately 6:00 p.m. Unfortunately, the outdoor patio was filled with guests enjoying the Happy Hour specials. Already hungry, we opted for a table indoors.

The atmosphere of River Grille is casual. Some fellow

diners appeared to have come straight from office while jeans and a nice top were certainly also appropriate. The actual dining room felt private, offering a great option for a summer date. The outdoor patio and bar seemed more playful, definitely a place to meet old friends to catch up.

Our server was very prompt in bringing our drinks and warm Italian bread with an oil and herb dipping sauce. My guests decided to split the Maryland crab cakes as an appetizer and we all chose meals from the casual fare menu, as we are college students on a budget.

The Maryland crab cakes for \$9 were a bit pricey, and deceiving. Although delicious and full of flavorful crab, the appetizer is one 4oz. crab cake. At almost \$10, despite good flavor, the crab cake was not worth the money.

Our meals arrived approximately 20 minutes after placing the order. Each was sizzling hot and presented very neatly on white plates.

I chose the BBQ cheddar burger, which comes topped with cheddar, BBQ sauce, bacon and onions. The burger was served on a large Kaiser roll and grilled to medium-well perfection. The BBQ sauce was a bit spicy but not unbearable and fries are always the perfect side to a burger.

One of my guests also opted for a burger, choosing the half pound Angus. Her burger, grilled to medium and served on a Kaiser roll with lettuce, tomato and onion was "perfect," in her own words. The delicious produce of the



The River Grille is located in the Waterfront Business Complex on North River Street.

spring season was evident in the juicy tomato and crispy onion served on the burger.

The other guest chose the sampler, which offered chicken tenders, onion rings, shrimp, mozzarella half moons and zucchini fries. For \$10 the sampler was small; however each option was full of flavor.

At approximately \$40 for three meals, tax and tip, River Grille offers affordable prices for casual dining. The atmosphere is more appropriate for a date night; however, those wishing to dine with friends may enjoy the outdoor patio.

Grade: A-

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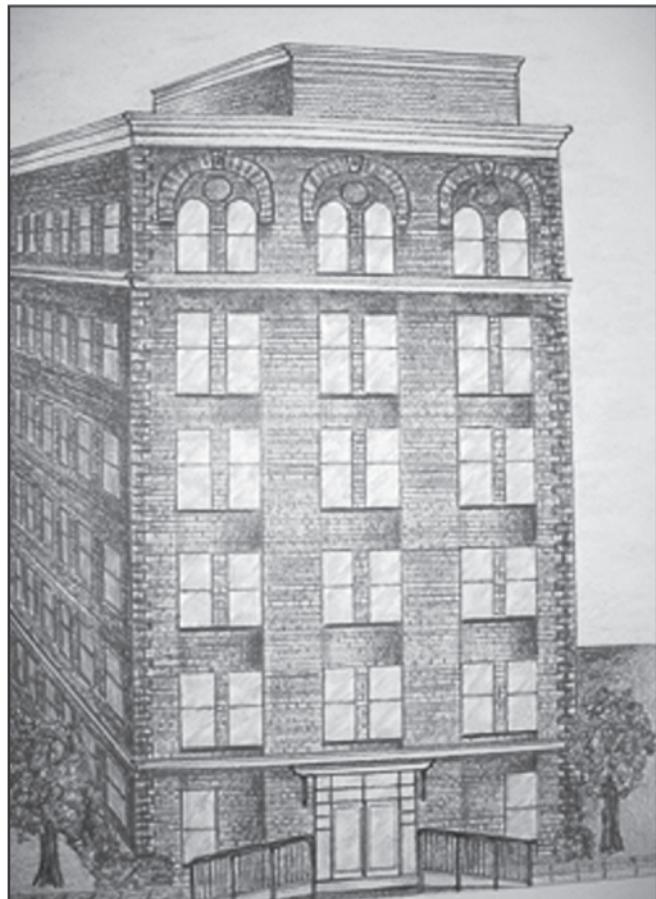
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Commentary

GAME OF THE WEEK

MLB: Atlanta Braves v New York Mets

NL East rivalry heads to Queens

BY TIM SEIGFRIED
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

For 11 years, there was only one team to beat in the National League East: the Atlanta Braves. During that stretch, they went to the World Series five times while winning one, in what is accepted as one of the greatest stretches of success in baseball history.

That run ended in 2006, however, as the New York Mets easily won the division, becoming, almost overnight, the future of the NL East.

Now, one season after both teams failed to make the playoffs, all bets are off.

The Atlanta Braves let long-time centerfielder Andruw Jones walk in the off-season, opting instead for an outfield that consists of Matt Diaz, veteran Mark Kotsay (.220, 1 HR, 3 RBI) and future star Jeff Francoeur (.281, 3, 12).

They bolstered their starting rotation by bringing back Tom Glavine (0-1, 2.38), who spent his formative years in Atlanta before spending five years with the Mets. Glavine, who brings two Cy Young awards and 300 wins to the team, will join ace Tim Hudson (2-1, 3.38) and future Hall-of-Famer John Smoltz (2-0, 0.82) in one of the more formidable rotations in the National League.

On the offensive side of the ball, the Braves find themselves busting at the seams with youthful talent, including catcher Brian McCann (.271, 3, 9) shortstop Yunel Escobar (.345, 3, 11) and second baseman Kelly Johnson (.261, 1, 4), who join the veteran switch-hitting tandem of Chipper Jones (.404, 2, 11) and Mark Teixeira (.204, 2, 6).



While the Braves are packed with veteran leadership and young stars, the one problem that has arose with the team has been in their bullpen, as Peter Moylan and Rafael Soriano have landed on the disabled list, joining fellow reliever Mike Gonzalez, who is currently recovering from Tommy John surgery.

While many have predicted the Braves to be a contender in the division this year, they first need to get by their stiff competition in the form of the New York Mets, who made the biggest splash of the off-season when they acquired pitcher Johan Santana from the Minnesota Twins.

His help is needed on the Mets, who are still trying to forget last season, when they memorably blew a seven game lead with 17 games left to play to lose the division to the Philadelphia Phillies.

Santana (1-2, 3.05), a two-time Cy Young winner, makes an already solid pitching staff even better, as he leads a young staff that consists of John Maine (1-1, 3.78), Oliver Perez (1-0, 3.38) and Mike Pelfrey (2-0, 1.50).

The Mets are currently without veteran ace Pedro Martinez, who injured himself during his first start of the season and will be out until at least the middle of May.

While the starting rotation for the Mets is a major strength, their bullpen will need to remain healthy if they want to be effective in September.

Led by veteran closer Billy Wagner (2 saves), the bullpen consists of setup men Aaron Heilman (9.2 IP, 5.59) and Pedro Feliciano (3.1 IP, 5 K), as well as sinkerballer Joe Smith (6.2 IP, 1.35) and the hard throwing Duaner Sanchez (1.0 IP, 1 K), who is back after missing the

entire 2007 season due to injuries.

The lineup, which is as potent as ever, is anchored by rising star David Wright (.313, 4, 15), who is turning into one of the best third basemen in the game, while his partner on the left side of the infield, shortstop Jose Reyes (.292, 7 runs, 1 SB), is looking to rebound after a tumultuous 2007 campaign where he hit .251 after the All Star break.

The slugging duo of centerfielder Carlos Beltran (.289, 1, 7) and first baseman Carlos Delgado (.245, 1, 5) round out the offense, although the newcomers Ryan Church (.340, 2, 9) and Angel Pagan (.348, 9 runs, 10 RBI) have made a splash in the young season, helping to offset the absence of injured veteran outfielder Moises Alou.

The Mets and the Braves have had their fair share of memorable games over the years, and this series should prove to be no different.

The veteran pitching of the Braves is deeper than the young guns of the Mets, although Johan Santana is the most proven arm of the two teams.

Although the Braves' offense has a slight edge, the series is going to come down to relief pitching, where the Mets' late-inning arms will make the bigger difference.

The Pick:

Game 1: Jurrjens vs. Pelfrey
New York Mets: 6
Atlanta Braves: 2

Game 2: Hudson vs. Maine

New York Mets: 3
Atlanta Braves: 2

Game 3: Smoltz vs. Figueroa

Atlanta Braves: 6
New York Mets: 3

Double Take
Steph examines the stats that truly matter...

BY STEPHANIE GERCHMAN
Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

This week we've got the New York Mets vs. the Atlanta Braves.

I can't compare these to animals. Making fun of uniforms and color has been done. This time, I thought of three things that come to mind when I think "Mets" and three things that remind me of "Braves." Clearly, that would be the most accurate way to choose a winner.

First, for the Mets would be "metrosexuals." Basically, they dress better and use more hair products than the average woman. They are feminine, yet manly, they have got to be ready to take on anything with the strength of a man and a woman. Next, is the "Met," that museum in New York City. It's huge and the stuff inside is worth a lot of money. Last, I've got the Metro, the subway system in Washington D.C. It's confusing, it's dirty, but it's fast. If the Mets are well dressed, manly, worth a lot of money, confusing, dirty, and fast... they are sure to chase away the Braves.

The Braves bring to mind a song by the Olsen Twins called "Bravery." Yes, I used to watch Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen videos with my cousin. She was Ashley, I was Mary-Kate. Mary-Kate grew up to be a creeper. Judge me all you'd like. Anyway, "Bravery" is about not being afraid of rollercoasters and shots and monsters under the bed. I'm pretty sure that if the Braves can man up to the monsters under the bed, they can take on the Metrosexuals. Next, is possibly the best movie ever, *The Brave Little Toaster*. You can't beat a movie in which the heroes are used appliances, led by the bravest of all, Toaster. Finally, just the word brave. If you are brave, you definitely aren't afraid of the Mets.

So, who's the winner? Well, my silly little analysis one would guess the Mets will win. I didn't have much to say about the Braves. Contrary to what you may think, the Braves are going to win. After all, this is the land of the free and the home of the Braves.



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Will Formula 1 return to America?

Announcement expected on future of U.S. Grand Prix

BY GERRARD HETMAN
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

For many American sports fans, the international motor racing series known as Formula 1 is often overlooked in favor of American-based series such as NASCAR and the newly-formed IndyCar series. Pitting the world's top drivers and racing teams against each other on an international tour, Formula 1 has traditionally struggled to gain widespread acceptance in America, despite holding races in the US for many years. In the coming weeks, however, an announcement on the series' future in America is expected that could affect its popularity with Americans for years to come.

For the first time since 1999, the Formula 1 calendar does not include a grand prix race in the United States in its 2008 lineup. From 2000 through 2007, the series was an annual visitor at the fabled Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS), often considered to be the cathedral of American motor sports. However, the race- known as the United States Grand Prix (USGP) - was not scheduled for 2008 after IMS owner Tony George and Formula 1 CEO Bernie Ecclestone failed to reach an agreement on extending the contract for the event beyond 2007.

Ecclestone, who is known for making inflammatory statements in the world press, expressed no sorrow over the departure of Indianapolis from the F1 schedule. However, the loss of the race ignited a firestorm of complaints from racing teams, sponsors, and car manufacturers- many of whom were furious that their names and products would lose exposure in the huge American consumer market. Since then, many of the teams and sponsors have demanded that the series return to the United States, with Indianapolis being the only venue in America capable of hosting an F1 race without extensive modifications. Media reports have suggested that George and IMS administrators are exploring options to bring F1 back to Indianapolis as soon as possible- perhaps as early as 2009, when the venue will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

"It's hard to judge from the outside, but certainly there's been more buzz about the United States Grand Prix coming back than there has been on other recent occasions when a Grand Prix has been dropped" said Keith Collantine, editor and publisher of the blog f1fanatic.co.uk. "There are strong rumors that the car manufacturers and many

sponsors were unhappy at the race being dropped."

A major key to the return of the series to Indianapolis is finding a title sponsor for the race to help pay the exorbitant licensing fees demanded by Ecclestone's administration. According to press reports, IMS officials have hired a sports marketing firm to help secure a title sponsor in order to put forth a proposal to bring F1 back to the world-famous venue.

Before coming to Indianapolis, F1 had been a regular visitor to American tracks. The series held a grand prix at Watkins Glen, NY from 1961 through 1980, while also racing on temporary tracks built on city streets in Long Beach, Detroit, Dallas, Las

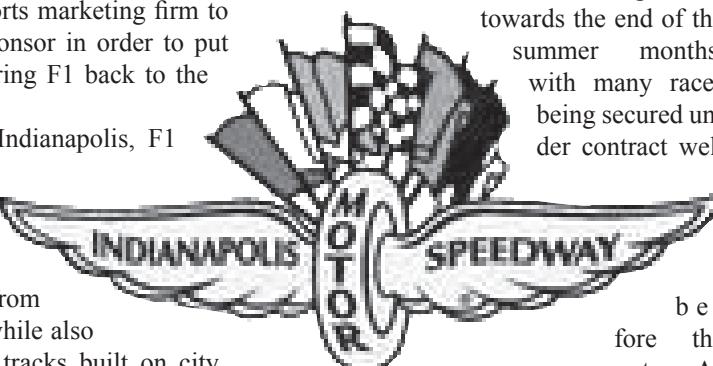
Vegas and Phoenix in the years during and after the Watkins Glen races. F1 pulled out of the US after the last of three unpopular races in Phoenix in 1991, but appeared to find a solid home at Indianapolis. The first F1 race at the track

drew over 200,000 spectators, and the 2007 USGP saw rookie sensation Lewis Hamilton score his second straight career win. However, Indianapolis has also endured criticism after several races failed to meet fans expectations. Most notable among these was the 2005 USGP, when only six cars started the race after most of the teams withdrew over safety concerns with the tires they were running on.

While Indianapolis seems a logical choice, the possibility remains that F1 could return to America at a different venue in 2009 and beyond. Ecclestone is keen to feature venues that promote glitz and glamour, and has long suggested the possibility of a race on the streets of a major city, such as Las Vegas or New York. Other purpose-built tracks that feature a road course layout, such as Road America in Wisconsin or Laguna Seca in California, have also been suggested by fans and commentators. However, some of these tracks

are in remote locations that create logistical difficulties, and may also require millions of dollars worth of modifications to make the tracks compliant with guidelines for hosting Formula 1 races.

Formula 1 officials normally announce the F 1 schedule for the following season towards the end of the summer months, with many races being secured under contract well

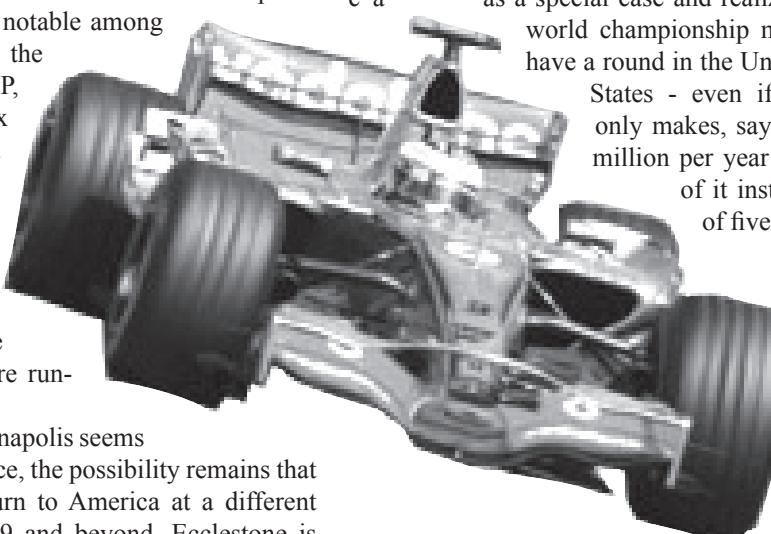


before the announcement. As

the 2008 season races on, teams, drivers, sponsors, and fans alike anxiously await an announcement to see if F1 will return to Indianapolis- or any other venue in the United States- in 2009. With Formula 1 expanding into new markets in Asia and the Middle East, some question if a United States Grand Prix is still relevant for the commercial success of the sport. However, many fans and experts believe F1 can succeed in the United States with a little give and take.

"I do think the United States Grand Prix can become a regular fixture - after all, it was from 1959-91 and in 1982 alone there were three Grands Prix in America," Collantine added. "Ecclestone needs to treat Amer-

ica as a special case and realize a world championship must have a round in the United States - even if he only makes, say, \$2 million per year out of it instead of five."



Will F1 make a grand American comeback in 2009? For the sport's dedicated fan base, it's time to wait and see.

Golf team headed to playoffs

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA
Beacon Staff Writer

In the shuffle of the other spring sports here on campus, the Wilkes University golf team has the possibility of going unrecognized for their hard work. However, the 2008 squad has been quietly fashioning a tremendous year on the fairways and is unlikely to remain anonymous for the rest of the season.

The team came into last Thursday's prestigious Susquehanna Invitational with an overall record of 6-1 in tri and quad matches. The lone loss stemmed from a single, questionable stroke to the pre-season conference favorite Devils from FDU-Florham.

While the team came up short at the invitational, finishing in 16th place overall, the golfers are optimistic about the rest of the season which includes the upcoming Freedom Conference Championships later this week.

"Overall, we did a fair job. We could have done better, we just didn't get the breaks today," offered assistant coach Guy Rothrie. "It was the team's first time playing on the course and there were a couple of tough holes and some tight fairways we had to squeeze the ball onto. The local golfers had a much better knowledge and feel for the course, but we missed some easy putts that beat us up a little in the end."

Sophomore Sean Madden, who carded the low round of the tournament for the Colonels with an 83, echoed Rothrie's statement, "We did all right, but we missed some easy shots." Madden added, "[The team] played respectable, but we definitely could have done a bit better."

A tribute to the team's success this season can be credited to a trip they took to the Peach State during spring break. They also got some added help from one of the local pro golfers from the area. "It was amazing," acknowledged Madden. "We got to golf for six straight days and relax with the team. It was a big advantage for us as we got to work on our game and become more comfortable with our swing a couple of weeks before we could get outside back at home."

"It kick-started the season and got us going early," offered Rothrie. "Spending a week together really helped out team chemistry and I think it prepared us for the season."

Colonels advance to Freedom Finals

COURTESY OF
SPORTS INFORMATION

The second-seeded Wilkes University men's tennis team defeated third-seeded Manhattanville College 5-1 on Saturday afternoon at the Ralston Complex in the semifinals of the Freedom Conference team playoffs. The win improved the Colonels to 14-2 overall, while the Valiants saw their overall record fall to 9-6.

With the win, the Colonels advance to the Freedom Conference championship game, where they will play top-seeded FDU Florham in hopes of winning their first ever conference crown.

Needing only five team points to advance, Wilkes took the early lead by winning two out of the three doubles matches. The Valiants received their only team point at first doubles, as Julian Oribe and Allen Cheon defeated Kyle Ungvarsky and Chris Cozzillio by an 8-5 count. However, the Colonels would have control the rest of the way, by

winning five straight matches.

Wes McCollum and Jon Rohrbach earned a 9-8 (11-9) victory over Lance Dorfi and Kevin Lyons at second doubles, while Josh Gardner and Brian Fanelli handled Gabriel Mallen and Tim Crakes 8-2 at third doubles.

Heading into singles competition, Wilkes needed three points to seal the win. Ungvarsky got the Colonels one of those points at second singles, defeating Dorfi 6-2, 6-3. Cozzillio would beat Cheon in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4 at third singles, and Gardner would win at fifth singles over Crakes, 6-1, 6-1 to earn Wilkes the trip to the finals.

Matches between McCollum and Oribe at first singles, Rohrbach and Lyons at fourth singles, and Fanelli and Mallen at sixth singles were unfinished due to the outcome of the match already being decided.

GOLF from PAGE 18

How far has that team chemistry evolved? We will find out later this week on Saturday when the Freedom Conference championships tee off. At the play-offs the Colonels will get another crack at heavily favored FDU. "Our goal is to win the conference and qualify for Nationals," said Madden.

It sounds like a good plan, but winning the conference is not an easy feat, as the last conference championship for the Colonels came in 1979. "We are pretty confident," said Madden. "As long as we stay focused and play like we know we are capable, we should be all right."

Baseball from PAGE 20

little flat in the second game," said Garofoli. "Woz pitched a hell of a game but the bats didn't do it for him today."

The Aggies 2-1 series win over the Colonels puts them in second place with an 7-6 conference record while the Colonels are 6-7. The Colonels are home against Baptiste Bible tomorrow at 4pm. On Friday, they play the initial game of a three-game series with the DeSales Bulldog at home before going on the road Saturday for the final two games.

Freedom Standings

1. Manhattanville 9-4
2. Delaware Valley 7-6
3. DeSales 8-7
4. Arcadia 8-7
5. King's 7-8
- 6. Wilkes 6-7**
7. FDU-Florham 5-11



The Beacon/Jenna Stephens
Wilkes freshman Wes McCollum takes a swing during a match on April 19 against Manhattanville College. McCollum won his doubles match 9-8. Wilkes would go on to defeat Manhattanville by a score of 5-1.

"DODGING FOR DOLLARS"



The Beacon/Gino Troiani
The Dodging For Dollars tournament was held to benefit Candy's Place, a treatment and therapy oasis located in Forty Fort, PA. Over \$1,200.00 was raised.

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

16

Number of season wins for the Lady Colonels tennis team following their playoff win on Saturday.

3

Home runs in the first game of the Colonels baseball double-header versus Delaware Valley in Saturday's 9-2 Wilkes victory.

35

Total number of goals scored in the Lady Colonels shoot-out loss to Manhattanville in Women's Lacrosse on Wednesday afternoon.

4

Hits by Gina Stefanelil in the softball team's two-game sweep of Susquehanna on Wednesday afternoon including a grand slam homerun.

APRIL 22, 2008

20



The Beacon/Jenna Stephens

Colonels split with Delaware Valley

BY CARLTON HOLMES
Beacon Sports Editor

An eight-run blowout by Delaware Valley Friday night left fire in the bellies of the Colonels for Saturday's doubleheader against the Delaware Valley Aggies. The Colonels smoked the Aggies in the first game 9-2 but in the second game the bats fell asleep resulting in a 4-2 loss that left Wilkes in sixth place for the conference playoff race.

The bright side to this year's playoff picture is there is only a three-game difference between Manhattanville (the number one seed) and the Colonels with five conference games remaining on both teams schedule. This means the Colonels still have a shot at home-field advantage throughout the postseason.

"We still control our own destiny. If we win out, we can get

back into the playoffs," said 13th year head coach Joe Folek. "Because once you get in, you can make some noise. That's our goal and we can still do that."

As for sneaking into the playoffs at the fourth spot, the Colonels are two games behind Arcadia and that's only because the Knights played two more games than the Colonels. Had Wilkes won both games against the Aggies, they would be sitting in second place.

During the first game of Saturday's doubleheader, the Colonels posted a six-run rally in the fifth inning after already holding a 3 to zero thanks to a two-run homer by senior Kyle Follweiler and a single homer by senior Brad Woznisky in the third.

A single grounded to left field by Follweiler helped start the rally and senior Corey Helfrich followed with a ground hit to right

leaving runners on both first and second base. Woznisky's double to right field sent Follweiler to home-plate and Helfrich to third. Later, sophomore Randy Dengler's singled to right resulted in two RBI's. And the Kingston Army trucks felt all of Bill Sisko's solo shot with one out on the board.

The Aggies sat gullible pitcher, Dan Metague, and the inning ended on an Eric Wetzel strike out and a Mike Andrews ground-out to third-base. Helfrich pitched six innings, faced 27 batters, gave up one run on five hits while striking out four.

The Colonels needed a similar rally in the second game but to no avail. Woznisky surrendered a two-run homer to left center in the first and third innings which left

the Colonels playing catch-up for the duration of the contest but to no avail.

"We couldn't get the big hit when we needed it and unfortunately we have to settle for a

split," said Folek.

The team's best chance came in the third with one out on the board but Garofoli's hit into a double play left three stranded.

"It's seems like we came out a

Intramural B-Ball Final Four

Shocker Squad

April 23

Dandies

Finals

April 24
8:30 PM

The Dudes

April 23

Jaytorade

See Baseball page 19