

The BEACON

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2005

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Volume 58 Issue 2

UCOM is one more step in master plan

BY VICTORIA WHITE
Beacon News Editor

The former Call Center on the corner of Main and South streets became the new Wilkes University UCOM (University Center On Main) late in July.

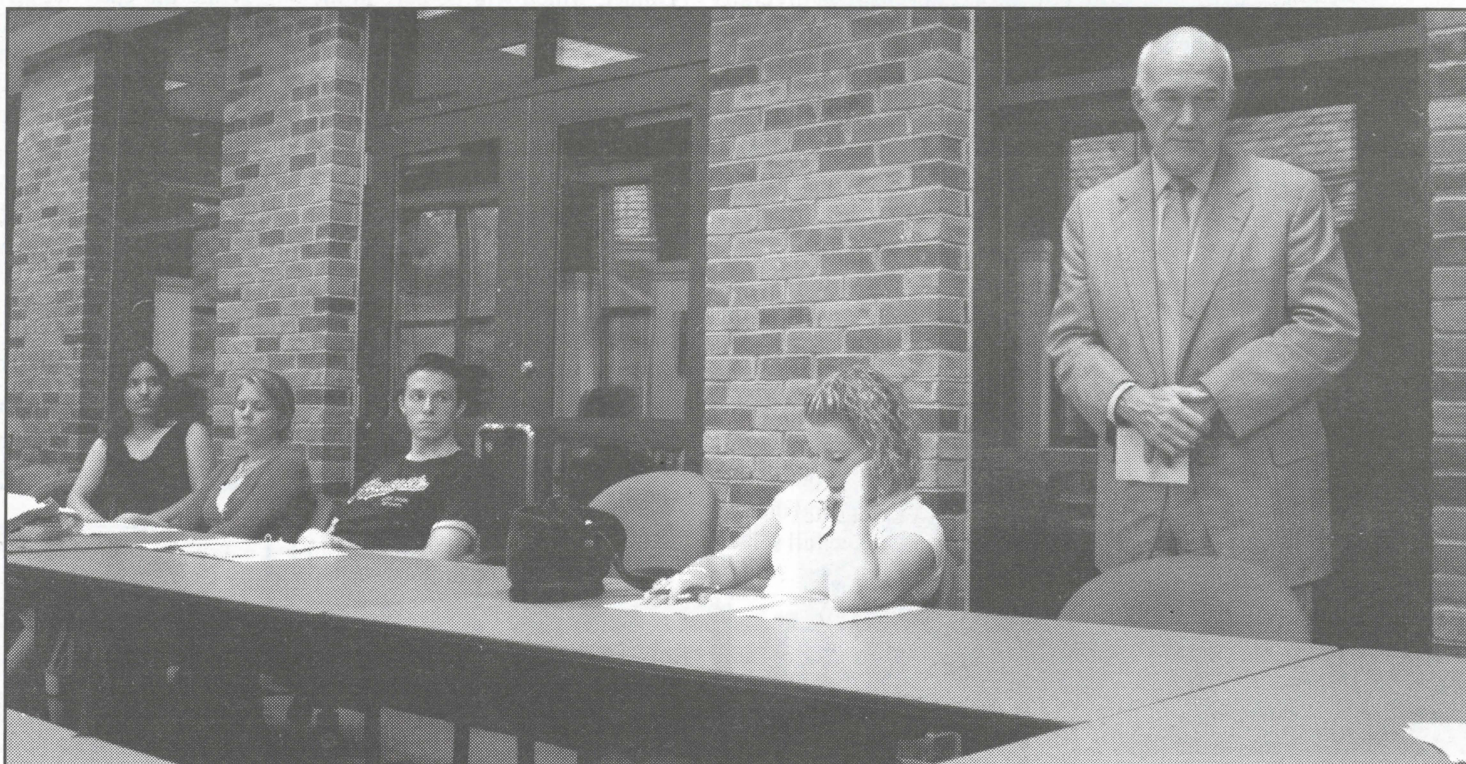
The seemingly quick purchase of the building caught many community members off guard and introduced a new building to students returning to campus this fall. With the rumor of a possible purchase arising in March and the approval from the Board of Trustees coming in April, the closing of the property on July 27 made for a seemingly hasty series of events.

The University will spend \$7.9 million on the complex, and it affords Wilkes to begin completing key elements of the facilities master plan.

Scott Byers, Vice President of Finance and Support Operations explained exactly what the complex provides for Wilkes. "To provide us with what we call world class support, we felt that we needed to consolidate our [administrative] offices and services into one location so that students didn't have to get sent all around campus. Two, we needed additional space for athletics, especially the spring sports. It provides an auxiliary gym or open space. Three was the parking."

Although it sounds easy, Wilkes still faces many challenges in the full transition to UCOM. The move to UCOM is set to occur in three phases, with the first as the completion of the parking garage, which should be

See UCOM, page 2



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Wilkes University President Joseph E. (Tim) Gilmour speaks to Student Government members at Wednesday night's meeting. Class conflicts have left many SG members forced to take sabbaticals this semester, cutting down the number of representatives significantly.

SG reps take sabbatical due to class conflicts

Attendance raises concern about representation

BY MEAGAN BROWN
Beacon Correspondent

Student Government (SG) leaders appear unable to get people to show up for meetings.

Last Wednesday's meeting saw a voting pool of 16 people, far short of a majority of the group and not enough diversity to represent the student body, according to some in attendance.

The first few meetings of SG have seen low attendance, but it's not because students are skipping. A significant number of represen-

tatives from the sophomore class in particular have decided to take sabbaticals due to class schedule conflicts.

According to James Juice, sophomore class president, night classes that start early are the cause of sabbaticals.

"Some people have biology classes that were moved. They were scheduled not to be a conflict at the end of last semester, but have now been moved to a different time. The class starts at six, so they would miss too much of the meeting," said Juice, a pre-pharmacy major.

Nicole Krajewski, sophomore biology ma-

jor and spirit committee chair, has also decided to take a sabbatical. "I discussed it with the president of student government, Andrew Steinberg, and we decided it would be in the best interest to take a sabbatical," said Krajewski.

She also noted that she understands the conflict, but couldn't avoid it. "I needed biology 225, and it was only offered on Monday and Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m. It interferes with the meeting; I wouldn't even be there to

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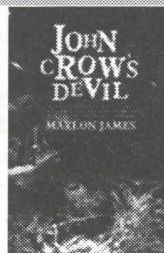
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Early Homecoming falls in step with semester bustle

BY JEANNE STAPLETON
Beacon Correspondent

From the chitter-chatter in the Henry Student Center to sounds of professors lecturing, Wilkes has come alive once again with the start of a new school year. And with the new year comes one of the most anticipated annual events... Homecoming.

This year's homecoming weekend is scheduled for September 23-25. The early date for homecoming deviates from the customary date sometime in the month of October.

The reason that homecoming is scheduled earlier this year is because there were only two weekends during the football season that would work for homecoming, with one of those weekends during the students' fall recess. So the Alumni Board and Student Government (SG) opted to hold the event early.

Some of the events scheduled in conjunction with homecoming include the pep rally, which will take place on the Greenway Friday, September 23 at 6:00 p.m. Directly following the pep rally, comedian David Russo, class of '93, and his fellow alumna Terri Granahan, class of '94, will perform live in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. The stand-up comedy evening is free of charge to Wilkes students and open to the Wilkes community including alumni.

The homecoming game will be

held at Ralston Field Saturday, September 24, at 1:00 p.m. against the Fairleigh Dickinson University Devils. This year's homecoming king and queen will be announced during the halftime show.

Saturday night the homecoming dance will be held at the Waterfront, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are still on sale and can be purchased at the information desk in the student center. The dance was switched to Saturday to ensure that athletes who wished to attend had that opportunity. The dance had previously been held on Fridays and athletes were often forced to choose between a good night's sleep before the game and the biggest social event of the fall semester.

New to this year's homecoming agenda is the John Wilkes Society Dinner, which will be held in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. This invitation-only black tie dinner is held to honor and celebrate major donors to Wilkes University. The celebration is the beginning of a new tradition at Wilkes.

Also new this year is the Reunion Under the Stars. This casual event is an opportunity for alumni to catch up with fellow classmates.

Sandra Carroll, director of the Alumni Office, stated that the planning of this year's homecoming has been quite successful so far. Even though classes began just a few weeks ago students are not overly extended with homework and activities yet. This factor has worked

in the favor of planning homecoming.

While the early date for homecoming has the potential to cause some tension in a schedule not yet settled for the semester, SG representatives see the early celebration as fitting naturally into the early flow of activity on campus. "It is

not a problem. It is a challenge, and we enjoy it," said Andrew Steinberg, SG President.

"Homecoming is a good culture to develop while you are here, because it is something that will always bring you back here to Wilkes," said Carroll.


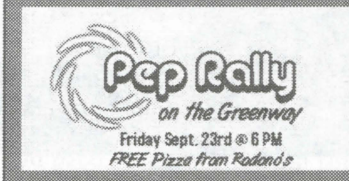
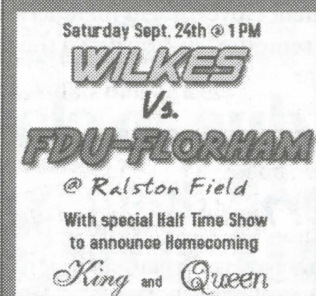
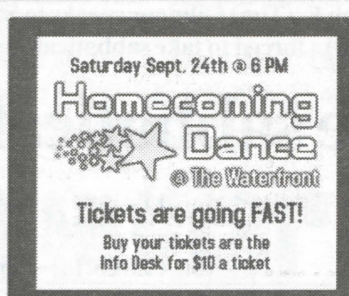
Homecoming Nominations

Women:

Megan Mance, Stephanie Victor, Ashley McBrearty, Janelle Chwalck, Sarah Herbert and Jamie Malt

Men:

Bill Conaboy, John McClave, Cory Ogden, Arvin Narula, Mark Hunter and Nguyen Nguyen

Courtesy Shuja Shafqat

UCOM from FRONT PAGE

completed this month. The second move will be of the athletic/recreation area, and according to Byers, that should be completed by the beginning of winter semester, January 15. The final phase of transition will be of the administrative offices around May of 2006.

Aside from the many opportunities that UCOM offers Wilkes, there are also benefits to be shared by the City of Wilkes-Barre. According to President Joseph E. (Tim) Gilmour, "We essentially took a million dollar a year bill off of their plate. We have essentially occu-

pied the center and will have a lot of activity around that corner, which will by nature improve the safety of the area."

There is the hope that by next year there will be some form of a draw for students to the building other than the administrative offices, such as a possible coffee shop or café to occupy the front corner of the building. It is with an eye on the future of Wilkes University and the city of Wilkes-Barre that UCOM is such a strategic building for the university.

Beacon Correction

In last week's Student Government notes, *The Beacon* reported that only ten members of SG attended the retreat over the summer due to a miscommunication. To clarify, the company conducting the retreat canceled, and it will be rescheduled sometime this semester.

KRISTINKILE
Beacon Editor-in-Chief

DR. ANDREA FRANTZ
Beacon Advisor

The BEACON

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Lung cancer in the spotlight

BY STEPHANIE DEBALKO

Beacon Correspondent

This summer some high profile cases forced lung cancer into the media spotlight, and locally, campaigns for awareness about this and other types affecting residents in Northeastern Pennsylvania became suddenly more noticeable.

On August 10, Dana Reeve, wife of the late Christopher Reeve, announced her diagnosis with lung cancer. In addition, long-time ABC World News Tonight anchor Peter Jennings died after a four-month battle with the disease.

According to Kristin Hake, Community Relations Coordinator, Northeast Regional Cancer Institute (NRCI), the top four cancers present in northeastern Pennsylvania are colorectal, breast, lung, and prostate cancer. While lung cancer has been gaining attention due to recent events, these other cancers are also very much a concern to all residents.

"Colon and rectal cancers are the most frequently diagnosed cancers in Northeastern Pennsylvania. These rates are about 20% higher than the U.S. average," she said.

The overall goal of the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute is to "ease the burden of cancer in Northeastern Pennsylvania." This mission statement relates to all types of cancer. However, Hake noted, lung cancer is "the leading cause of cancer death in NEPA."

In Luzerne County, incidence of lung cancer is significantly higher for men. The percentage of men afflicted in Luzerne County is also higher than the national average for

men, according to the NRCI. Also, in Luzerne County, incidence of lung cancer is lower for women than in the US statistics.

Although smoking significantly increases the risk of developing lung cancer, many non-smokers, including Dana Reeve, also suffer from this disease. According to the NRCI, 48% of younger adults (18-25) smoke, and less than 10% of older adults (65+) smoke.

Both smokers and non-smokers on campus have varying opinions on the issue. "Honestly I've heard about it, but not in great detail. I think I was well educated in grade school about the effects of smoking and also neither of my parents smoked," said junior pharmacy major, Christine Durdach, about her decision to remain smoke-free.

Junior Joe Walton, a pre-pharmacy major, believes that although this is an important choice to deal with, the increased media attention will not impact his day-to-day decisions. "I hear about people getting cancer every day, so one person that I'm not close to doesn't affect my addiction to nicotine," Walton said.

Some students, at the very least, remain unaffected by the information covered in the media when it comes to smoking and lung cancer.

Hake said, "While it is unfortunate that lung cancer has taken a spotlight in the media, it is increasing the awareness of this cancer."

New campus club gives voice to sexuality issues *Gay and Straight Alliance established*

BY VICTORIA WHITE

Beacon News Editor

Student Government (SG) passed a motion by Stephanie Victor, senior representative and Programming Board President, to allow the Free Spirited Gay and Straight Alliance to be awarded club status on Wednesday, September 14.

Three years ago the last Wilkes group associated with gay and lesbian interests disbanded; thus, organizers argued it was again time for an organization of this type to form at the University. With Wilkes remaining one of the few local schools without a club of this nature, students took it upon themselves to find an advisor and to fight for their cause.

At the forefront of the fight were sophomore communications studies and political science major, Mark Congdon and sophomore occupational therapy major Raquel Wheby. Using their ties to the Multicultural Student Coalition (MSC) for support, the two began the journey to earn club status, and picked up an advisor along the way.

Wheby explained, "We didn't want to pick someone who would be overwhelmed, someone new who wasn't really bombarded yet. We picked her [Dr. Evane Estwick, assistant professor of communications studies] because she is also an immigrant and we realized that if we picked someone who has been through some type of discrimination or some bias it would benefit us."

With high hopes, the club embarks on what they know will be a fierce struggle for social recognition and acceptance. Andita Parker-Lloyd, coordinator of multicultural affairs said, "Homophobia is still by far the one thing that many of our students, even some faculty and staff, still have a hard time dealing with. Homophobia is the one [bias] that takes the longest [to overcome]. There are still people out there saying inappropriate things."

The club has already helped one student,



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Mark Congdon and Raquel Wheby express their delight when the Free Spirited Gay and Straight Alliance was awarded club status at the SG meeting.

Congdon explains, "I was nervous to go in front of SG because it was the first time that I had come out in front of a lot of people. I was basically throwing my sexuality out there and I was kind of nervous about that."

The club helped Congdon realize that there are many people at Wilkes who are in support of gay rights, and knowing that helped to give him the courage to face SG and others.

The Free Spirited Gay and Straight Alliance sponsored a table at club day and according to organizers, 105 people signed in support of gay rights, and those names were in addition to the 30 students who had already shown support for the club and its cause.

Wheby said, "Diversity includes sexuality, and I want to support that."

Wilkes campus has a new club with a new goal. The club welcomes people of all sexual orientations to join them to discuss sexuality issues.

Parker-Lloyd said, "For this club to have been established here, we're on the right track, to getting rid of that last [area of] discrimination that I think is acceptable here on

SG Notes

September 14 meeting

-Shuja Shafqat made a motion to pay \$10 per student, up to \$2,000, to allow students free admission to Dave Russo Friday, September 23 in the Ballroom. Motion passed 14-0-2.

-President Joseph E. (Tim) Gilmour addressed SG about physical changes taking place around campus.

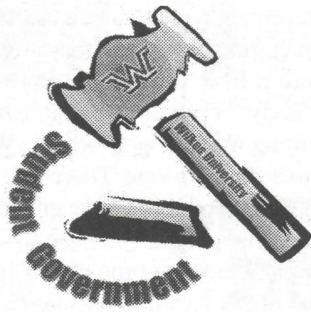
-Stephanie Victor made a motion to accept the Free Spirited Gay and Straight Alliance as a club. Motion passed 16-0-1.

-Dave Scordino made a motion to accept the Pre-law Club as a club. Motion passed 17-0-0.

-Shuja Shafqat made a motion to grant the Lacrosse Club the full amount of their fund request, \$4,000. Motion passed 15-1-1.

-Rodano's will donate free pizza for the pep rally on the Greenway, Friday September 23, 6 p.m.

-IRHC announced that every residence hall must have a representative at the meeting in order for a residence hall to be eligible for winning the banner or dorm decorating contest.



Former Blasi property becomes part of campus

Wilkes will use space for parking, storage and greenway

BY DANA ZLOTUCHA
Beacon Correspondent

Wilkes became the new owner of the former Blasi Print Center property on August 31.

The parcel borders the rear of the Henry Student Center parking lot and includes two buildings. According to Wilkes officials, this addition to the school had been sought for some time, but only recently became available.

The acquisition is a part of the University's master plan that utilizes existing and congruent space to both enlarge the central campus area and keep the property out of the hands of those with adverse interests to the university.

The recently acquired parcel will serve a new function, initially with the older one of the buildings scheduled to be transformed into additional parking spaces, and the other temporarily used for storage this year. Construction for the new parking area is expected to begin in approximately 60 days. John Pesta, Director of Capital Planning and Projects, commented that once work begins "it should take less than a week to have [the demolition] done."

Concerning the parking lot that will replace the building, Pesta said, "Within a week or two weeks once the project starts most of it should be completed."

The additional parking spots will immediately add options for students and faculty



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Acquisition of the Blasi Print Center property will help to ease the pain of parking within a short time. In the future the parking will be eliminated and the space will be used to provide recreational green space on campus as part of the University's Master Plan.

on campus, although the construction may slow traffic going in and out of the existing lot. "For that period of time, we may have to close [the lot] down, especially when they're demolishing the building...and make arrangements for those individuals to park somewhere else...only so there isn't damage to someone's vehicle accidentally," Pesta re-

marked.

The other building will eventually be transformed into additional dormitory space. Chris Bailey, Director of Campus Support Services, said he expects the parking lot to be used for about three years and then turned into additional green space. By that time, Wilkes expects parking challenges to mostly be re-

solved as full use of the parking garage on Main Street will be implemented.

"A residential backyard to the campus, long term, and short term to provide additional parking for the campus community," Bailey said of the plans for the newly acquired space.



The Beacon/Kristin Kile

Local band, Maybe Someday, kicked off the Party on the Square with an acoustic set on Thursday evening. The party was widely considered a success with hundreds of college students in attendance

SG REPS from FRONT PAGE

hear the entire roll call," she said.

Because of the open positions, Juice, as the sophomore class president, will be able to recommend temporary replacements, but said that he had not decided who or how he would decide to replace current members.

Jenna Strzelecki, vice president of the executive board, said the decision will come soon. "James (Juice) will bring nominees to the executive board for decision right after the replacement and freshman elections."

However, Juice noted that the current numbers were a little too low to represent the student body. "There are not enough people representing Wilkes as a whole. We need people to be there to vote. There isn't enough balance, and there needs to be greater diversity in the way people vote," he said.

This week's meeting brought out 16 voting members of SG. According to Juice, this is a low number. "There are about 17 out of 46

available positions, but that is without freshman, who get ten positions, so there will be about 27 positions filled out of the 46 maximum positions," he said.

Andy Eckert, vice president of the junior class and an accounting major, said that the low numbers haven't had an effect on the votes. "I believe we still have a majority for all of our votes, and the attendance hasn't changed the way we vote," he said.

However, empty chairs at the meetings illustrate that the numbers in attendance are low and may not be representative of the student body at Wilkes. The vote this week on donating money to the comedy act coming to campus had a final vote of 14-0-2.

The members of SG seem optimistic that the positions will be filled and things will continue as normal. As for the members granted sabbaticals, they will return next semester, barring any more class conflicts. But for right now, Krajewski will miss the group.

"Student Government is a great club to be involved in, and I like it a lot. I miss it already," she said.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Wind turbines cause a stir among local residents

BY JOSEPH DEANGELIS
Beacon Asst. News Editor

As gas prices rise and fossil fuels are depleted, the search for alternative sources of energy is becoming more serious.

Recently, the Bear Creek Township supervisors and residents explored alternative ways of producing energy by discussing the feasibility of a wind farm in Bear Creek Township. However, over the summer, plans for the installation of the wind farm created some controversy.

"I think [the people who are objecting to it] are sincere, but they don't really understand what the project is about," said Dr. Kenneth Klemow, Wilkes University Professor of Biology who worked on the project. "They are objecting to things without even looking at the documentation and studies we have done."

The main concern is about sedimentation in nearby Crystal Lake caused by the construction of the turbines. The sedimentation could ruin the quality of the water along with aquatic life in it. The objections also deal with the condition of a rare type of plant



Courtesy www.communityenergy.biz

Wind turbines like these can soon be found in Bear Creek Township.

in the area called scrub oak scrubland. Some birdwatchers have also objected because the turbines could kill off the birds of the region.

However, Klemow conducted surveys so that the turbines could be constructed while minimizing the effects on the surrounding environment.

"We have done a lot of work to reroute the roads and to reposition the turbines to avoid conflicts with those communities," said Klemow.

Area scientists have also conducted avian studies and concluded that local bird species will not be endangered by the construction of the turbines. Another study on bats will be conducted after the turbines are built.

Earlier this month, construction began on the wind farm by Community Energy Inc., and its partner Global Winds Harvest. Community Energy was founded in 1999 as a way to bring wind energy to the market.

The farm will be located off of Bald Moun-

tain Road in Bear Creek, and is designed to have 34 turbines. These turbines will generate 1.5 megawatts of energy from the wind--a renewable resource. Each turbine will be able to supply energy to 500 homes.

When the entire wind farm is complete, 17,000 homes will be able to receive energy. Community Energy estimates the project to produce up to 70 million kilowatt-hours of wind energy by December 2005.

Wind farms of this type have been successfully implemented in a variety of geographical locations throughout the country over the past two decades. According to its website, Community Energy is also developing two other wind farms in Atlantic City, New Jersey and Crescent Ridge, Illinois.

"It should be providing enough [energy] to power a relatively large town," such as Nanticoke, Kingston or Forty Fort, Klemow said.

Bear Creek Township Chairman of the Board, Edward Benkoski, said that the construction is moving right along.

"They already have 12 bases in," said Benkoski, who expects the project to be done by Thanksgiving.



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Opinion

SEPTEMBER 19, 2005

6

Katrina illustrates gaps in U.S. readiness for crisis *Catastrophe should wake nation up to misplaced priorities*

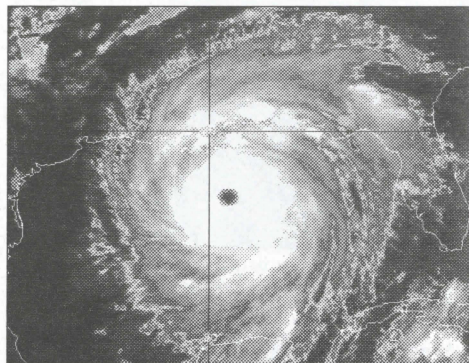
BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL BOARD

Has the War on Terror cost us the city of New Orleans?

The American government has been so busy rebuilding the lives of the Iraqis overseas, that it failed to pay enough attention to the blip on the radar screen that was Hurricane Katrina.

While many National Guard troops were stationed overseas, millions of dollars were spent helping Iraq get to the point where it could write a Constitution, and Congress funneled domestic funds slated to strengthen infrastructure in the Gulf elsewhere, we have lost a major city, untold millions in Mississippi and Louisiana property, and hundreds of lives.

Americans have been displaced, have died, and have suffered through a crisis that should never have occurred because our government's head was turned. Once the hurricane finally did hit, FEMA's response was slow and awkward.



Courtesy of UWisc/CIMSS

The stark photos in the *New York Times*, *Time*, and *Newsweek* magazines, and certainly the 24-hour coverage on CNN and other networks illustrate that the federal government is out of touch with average people. The poor and the elderly were literally trapped in the drowning city of New Orleans.

Perhaps more disturbing than the stories of elderly residents of a nursing home drowning together is the thought that the entire country has been told for the past four years

that we need to stand at the ready for a terrorist attack here on our soil at any given moment anywhere throughout the country. How do Americans have faith we can survive such an attack when relief efforts for those huddled in fear in makeshift shelters took nearly a week to emerge?

In this country, we have the ability to predict with a decent amount of certainty the scope and timeline of weather-related disasters. As Americans, we have all been under the impression that we also have the ability to predict attacks on our soil from terrorists. However, when relief efforts for Hurricane Katrina took days to get underway, our respect and faith in our government seemed to dwindle. Americans were faced with some tough questions and doubts concerning our readiness for a disaster of any kind, including a full scale terrorist attack.

Truly, how *can* we be said to be ready? Sure, we have the color-coded chart that alerts us to an increased level of terrorist activity. But what exactly does that mean for American citizens?

Presumably it means that the government has beefed up its espionage and its security. Presumably, it means we realize the potential threat leveled at us and therefore will take the necessary precautions. Presumably, the chart functions to let American citizens know that the government is doing its job.

However, the government needs to do its job across the board. Assessing the potential threat that looms from al-Qaeda is necessary. At the same time, so is assessing the threat to the nation from other sources--extreme weather, poverty, lack of education, and a wholly insufficient health care system.

Hurricane Katrina has done more damage to the nation in the past two weeks than terrorists have done in the past two years. With the technology available to our nation, no one should ever have to suffer through a catastrophic event the scope of which Americans have never seen before. Instead, the same level of detail that the government says it is putting into rebuilding the country of Iraq should have been put into practice to save the people along the Gulf Coast.

But families went days without food, water, medicine, or shelter. Rape and murder, looting and chaos reigned in what was hours before a civilized, law-abiding city. How can we not question the readiness of a government that allows these fatal delays to occur?

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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 112 responses.

The Beacon asked:

What will be the biggest challenge in the Hurricane Katrina recovery?

- Locating and identifying victims - 15%
- Relocating survivors to new communities - 25%
- Paying for the damage - 18%
- Assessing environmental damage - 9%
- Repairing emotional damage among victims and workers - 13%
- Prosecuting those who perpetrated crime - 4%
- Repairing social schism between the "have's" and "have-not's" - 10%
- Answering questions about response time - 5%

Next Week's Poll Question:

What is the biggest threat to stability in the U.S. right now?

- Terrorism
- Anti-American sentiment abroad
- A weakening dollar worldwide
- Energy crisis
- Climate change/natural disasters
- Poverty
- Healthcare crisis
- Education system lagging behind other nations

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

Nickle for Your Thoughts

By Jason Nickle



The First Sign of the Apocalypse

YOUR VOICES

Sheehan has put war back on front page

Dear Editor:

You are incorrect in [claiming] when Bush met with Cindy Sheehan it was two months after Casey's death in June of 2004. They met near Seattle on a military base surrounded by other military personnel. I think most rational people would agree that Ms. Sheehan and her immediate family were still in shock or traumatized during that time period by her son's recent death.

What she has done is to put the war back on the front page. It is truly amazing. We need to humanize this war. America needs to understand that collateral damage means dead Iraqis and many of them are innocent civilians. They are non-combatants and like our troops, they deserve a better life. The cost of war is very real and must be in our daily consciousness.

Only the natural/man-made disaster called hurricane Katrina took the war off the front page. That is another neo-con shrink and privatized FEMA operation that greatly exacerbated the effects of Katrina. The Bush administration didn't even read the disaster plans for a category 4 or 5. The lack of preparedness funding was another of their tax cuts gifted to the wealthy few. So this was at least a partially man-made disaster.

Sincerely,
George McAnanama
US Army 1966-1968
Veterans For Peace NYC Chapter 034.

Americans confronted by many dangerous distractions on the road

Dear Editor:

Matt Zebrowski's September 12, 2005 article, "Cell phones in cars: what's the big deal?" addressed the hazards of driving distractions on the road. As the sponsor of the Response Insurance National Driving Habits Survey, the survey that launched the current debate on distracted drivers, we would like to weigh in on this issue.

Although cell phone use seems to receive much of the attention, our surveys revealed American drivers are being distracted by many activities.

When asked what drivers fear the most about other drivers, aggressive driving and drunk driving are now taking second and third place to the fear that the other driver is simply not paying sufficient attention to the road. People are putting a higher priority on making better use of their time, than getting to their destination safely. Seventy-six percent of those polled indicated they engage in one or more distracting activities while driving. They are eating, reading, talking on the phone, and combing their hair --- everything except paying attention to the road. Amazingly, 20% are so busy multi-tasking they acknowledge steering their car with their thighs on occasion.

There is a battle underway on America's roads. It is literally a battle for drivers' attention. Ultimately, it will not be won through legislation. It will be won in a way similar to how we began addressing drunk driving --- by a change in public perception of the stakes involved.

Sincerely,
Ray Palermo

Sheehan confronted Bush earlier

Dear Editor:

Curran Dobson's piece on Cindy Sheehan ["Cindy Sheehan's Protest: Too Little, Too Late" 9.12.05] states that Cindy Sheehan met with President Bush only two months ago. I have followed the press on this story closely and as far as I know Ms. Sheehan claims that her only meeting with the President occurred fifteen months ago and barely two months after receiving the shocking news of her son's death only a few days following his arrival in Iraq. In numerous conversations and interviews with the press Ms. Sheehan has repeatedly addressed the issue of why she did not confront the President at the time of her meeting. Ms. Dobson does not seem aware of this. Meanwhile, it would be interesting to know her source for the statement that she met with Mr. Bush only two months ago.

Diane S. Bonds
New York, NY

Hey, look over there! That's what should really count

Dear Editor,

In his Sept. 12 opinion piece ["Cell phones in cars: what's the big deal" 9.12.05], Matt Zebrowski made an important and valid point - and one worth expanding upon.

I agree with Zebrowski that the relatively recent popularity of cell phones is just another added distraction to drivers across this nation - on top of stereos, fellow passengers, shoulder-side scenery and whatever else. Banning cell phones is just a scapegoat for a much larger problem - unsafe and, frankly, stupid drivers. It's not the cell phones, stereos, mascara, coffee, cigarettes, or any of the other things so many people use while driving that cause accidents; it's the idiots who use all of those things while driving that cause them.

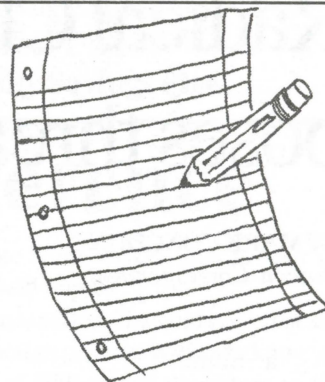
However, what I take issue with is Zebrowski's blaming of the government for distracting us from the "real" problems of the world: what he calls, "the biggest distraction of all: the constant "Hey! Hey! Look over there!" of government pointing in the opposite direction of things that really count."

Government is a largely reactionary force. They launch bills against cell phones, and they jump on the Terri Schiavo bandwagon, and they appallingly stare at Janet Jackson's nipple because we, the public, tell them that is what they should ban, where they should jump and how they should stare. The problem - the much larger problem - is that the public doesn't want to deal, really deal, with those big and complex problems of the world: healthcare, education, moral issues and the like. We repel them. We'd rather simplified and manageable problems.

And cell phone bans are in reaction to that. We, as a public, don't want to deal with the more complex issue of unsafe driving on the whole. And so mobile phones become the whipping boy. Cell phones are a simple, small piece of the problem that can be easily broken down and digested.

So do not blame the government - believe me, there are plenty of other things to blame it for. Blame us for not demanding more than triteness from our government. Criticize us for there not being more of us pointing to those real problems and saying, "Hey! Hey! Look over there, government! *That's* what you should be dealing with."

Gabe LeDonne
Charlottesville, Va.
Class of '05



Radical Christian right poses threat to Republicans

BY MARK CONGDON
Beacon Correspondent

As a homosexual, Christian, and a Republican, I am very disappointed in some of the radical Christian rights groups.

For instance, this summer, members of a Kansas church attended fallen Iraqi soldiers' funerals. The purpose of their visit was not to offer condolences on the loss of young lives, but rather to protest their death because the activists believed that they were killed because America is letting homosexuals have more rights, and this is upsetting God.

Recently, American Christian leader Pat Robertson called for the assassination of Hugo Chávez, the Venezuelan President, because he is a "threat to democracy" and controls many oil refineries. Robertson noted on his television show *The 700 Club*, "We have the ability to take [Chavez] out and I think we should exercise that ability." After first denying he said it, Robertson later apologized.

As a result of Robertson's brash call for violence, many Christian groups publicly opposed Robertson's view because they don't believe in assassinations, and they didn't want him to portray the Christian Republicans in a bad light.

Not only did Robertson anger Christian groups, but also former Senator Bob Dole, Donald Rumsfeld, and President George W. Bush. In addition, Hugo Chávez called for the U.S. to investigate Roberts or he planned to denounce the U.S. government at the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS).

Not only do these instances make the Republican Party members and Christians look bad, they also make the U.S. look arrogant to other nations. In order for the Republican Party to gain more respect within the nation and the world, we need to distance ourselves from extremist people and groups like these that turn off people's interest in the party and religion.

In order for the party to survive and maintain power in the upcoming elections, it will



The Beacon/Jason Nickle

need to distance itself from radical extremists like Robertson and the Kansas "Christians."

Thanks to an existing bad reputation among other countries in the world, the last thing the U.S. needs right now is the President of Venezuela complaining to the U.N. and the OAS that the U.S. denounces terrorism elsewhere, but has extremists like Pat Robertson, calling for what might be termed elsewhere as, well, terrorism.

After all, since I am gay, I often find myself questioning some of the extremists on the right, and, if given the chance, what they would do to individuals like me. Extremists like these not only turn away other gay Republicans, but also turn away moderate Republicans and conservative Democrats.

I urge not only the Republican party, but also Christians to stay away from and denounce the radical Christian right, because such individuals are only putting the Republican Party and Christians in danger of looking racist. The Republican Party is already having trouble registering new people, and it will continue to have this problem if more politicians do not denounce these extremists.

Politicians should try and distance themselves from receiving political contributions from the right radical Christian groups. Even though the right radical extremists make up a small part of the Republican Party, they have a negative effect on it as a whole. As a member of this party, I would like for the Republicans to gain more strength in the country and we will not do that if these extremists continue doing what they are doing.

After all, how does it make the Republican Party look when it denounces terrorism, but there are radical Christian right groups promoting certain types of terrorism?

Dear MoveOn.org: please stop e-mailing me

BY MATT ZEBROWSKI
Beacon Asst. Op/Ed Editor

About a year and a half ago, I did something that has now proved itself to have been a really stupid move.

Thinking that anything that pissed off right-wingers so much couldn't be all bad, I signed up for MoveOn.org's e-mail list. And since that day, I don't think a week has gone by that I haven't received at least one e-mail from those friendly, albeit a bit too idealistic, folks.

At first, they weren't so bad. They were well-documented and well researched, so they gave me a whole bunch of new reading to do about the shenanigans of the Bush administration. But now that the public at large seems to have realized about ten months too late what a tremendously horrible job Georgie and Co. are doing, the research and documentation of those at MoveOn.org isn't really necessary anymore.

Rather than being squelched by what seemed like a near-invincible PR machine, news stories critical of the administration are making headline news, and, for the first time that I can recall, staying there. I can just as easily go to CNN.com or MSNBC.com or anywhere else I like and get the same stories on the main page, thank you very much.

So since the links aren't really of value to me anymore, I began to realize just how annoying MoveOn.org really is. After the election, those of us on the left were shocked by how organized the right had become. I still don't know how they pulled it off, but I'm virtually certain it wasn't through spam and bake sales and some sort of inane house party 50 miles from my house like every other freaky week.

And what's this fixation with petitions? Have any of the things that MoveOn.org petitioned for actually occurred? I certainly can't recall any, and even if they have strictly out of coincidence, enough of the petitions have fallen flat on their faces that I really don't see why they still try. I mean, if there's one thing that'll change Congress's mind about the likely confirmation of John Roberts, I bet it's a bunch of form letters compiled courtesy of MoveOn.org.

I know that I can remove myself from this list at any time, or so the e-mails say, but I haven't tried. I know that sort of thing is probably handled by some sort of robot somewhere (it could even be magic elves for all I know about the internet), but on the off chance that someone actually has to physically take my name off of a list I can't seem to

work up the guts to break it to them. It's like when you have one of those friends who's a complete embarrassment to you but you just feel sorry for them so you put up with them anyway.

I don't have the guts to take myself off the list and in effect say to them "Listen guys, we blew it last time around. I know it hurts, but we did. It wasn't just you; it was everyone. The Democratic party is in no place to feel too good about itself right now either after fielding such a terrible candidate (who, coincidentally, also won't stop e-mailing me with his own mountains of rhetoric and useless petitions-what is it with you people?) and losing a virtually unloseable election.

But come on, quit pretending. You're not really doing much right now but making people mad, and this time it's the people who agree with you. Why don't you just lay low for awhile and gather your strength? I mean, there's always next time. I'm sure you'll do better then."

And we will. People are finally so fed up with Bush right now that I have a hunch that it will be virtually impossible for anyone who has anything to do with this administration to win much of anything in 2008, let alone the presidency, no matter what kind of disgustingly huge budget the Republican Party can come up with for the campaign. Granted, whomever the Democrats run probably won't be much better, but hopefully it will at least be a step in the right direction.

And the best part of it is that no matter how often people like those at MoveOn.org trip over their own feet, in the long run stuff always seems to work out because they don't really matter at all to begin with. President Bush is suffering from such low approval ratings right now not because of anything that any sort of ephemeral 527 group did, but because four years of mismanagement are finally catching up to him. Public opinion swayed because one by one people made up their own minds and realized what a sorry and broken state our country is in right now.

This means that money raised by groups like MoveOn.org would be better spent on advertising encouraging people to consistently watch and/or read a variety of news sources, not just Fox or the *New York Times*, so the public would be better informed and therefore less likely to let four years worth of mismanagement build up in the first place. Best of all, that doesn't require petitions or house parties. Just information. No more agenda, no more rhetoric. And, most importantly, no more e-mails.

FEATURES

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Wilkes alumni stay in W-B to make a difference

BY JAMIE BABBITT
Beacon Business Manager

Living at a university for four years, a student becomes acquainted and often grows attached to the community in which they studied.

Some students even stick around after they have graduated to raise a family, start a career, and find ways to improve on the place they now call home.

Gabrielle Lamb, '04 Wilkes graduate, and Bridget Giunta, '05 Wilkes graduate, have both done just that. They became so invested in the city of Wilkes-Barre during their time at the University that they sought local jobs to use their skills and make a difference in the community.

Lamb began working for the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce this past May as an Economic Development Specialist. "What my job entails is selling the area to people who are interested in it and [ensuring] the businesses that are here, stay here," said Lamb.

She believes that the local colleges are the best resources to make Wilkes-Barre a successful city and hopes that "we really truly become the college town that we are."

Lamb stayed in the area after graduation for many reasons. She has family and friends here, and wanted to stay close to them. But she also saw many opportunities in the area, and with the revitalization of downtown Wilkes-Barre, she believes that even more

opportunities will open up in the future.

"I think it's a very common misconception and I think it's the easy answer to say that there isn't [opportunity here]," she said.

Giunta began working for Mayor Thomas Leighton as an intern while she was a student at Wilkes, and now holds a full-time position as an Administrative Coordinator. She works with the coordination of special events and juggles a variety of responsibilities in public, media, and community relations for the city of Wilkes-Barre.

Her enthusiasm for the potential of the area began her junior year when she saw an announcement in *The Beacon's* Student Government notes requesting two student volunteers for the Downtown Collegetown Initiative. She signed up and spent a great deal of her time brainstorming ways to improve the city using the area colleges and students.

This group led her to her present career, which focuses on taking that potential and using it to improve the city.

"I hope Wilkes-Barre becomes a place where the people that are from here and live here take pride in it and are not in any way ashamed to say that they are from here...I hope it becomes a place that values the young adults in the area and incorporates them into the city," Giunta said.

Like Lamb, Giunta also believes that there is so much opportunity here to take advantage of. "I'm a firm believer that students can find a way to invest themselves in the area and take a piece of it and put their name on it.

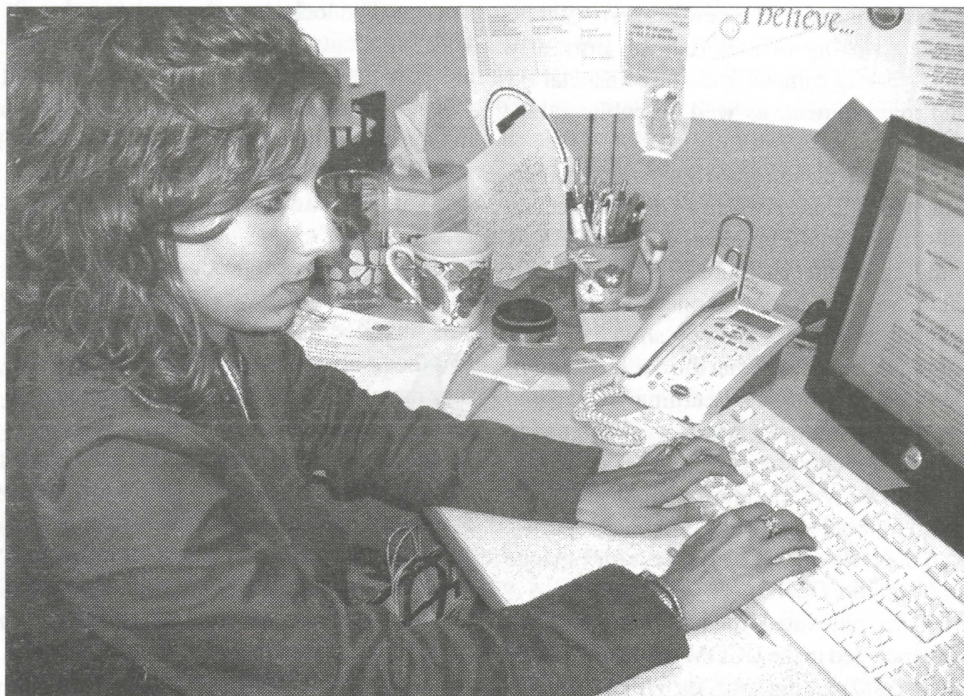
Then they will be that much more willing to stay here and see it through," she said.

Both alumni hope that if Wilkes students don't stay in the area after graduation, that they at least care about the future of the city.

"The last thing in the world anybody wants is to think that you're alma mater isn't doing well because of the city it's in...This isn't just about your four years. When you

graduate from Wilkes, that is your tie forever," said Lamb.

Giunta added, "I would hope that students take enough pride in Wilkes to know that the future of Wilkes and the future of the city depend on each other very much. As cliché as it sounds, you can make a difference if you care to, and I would hope that everyone would care to."



The Beacon/Jamie Babbitt

Bridget Giunta, '05 Wilkes graduate, secured a position as the Administrative Coordinator for Wilkes-Barre Mayor Thomas Leighton upon graduation. Giunta hopes that area college students use their knowledge to help the area improve.

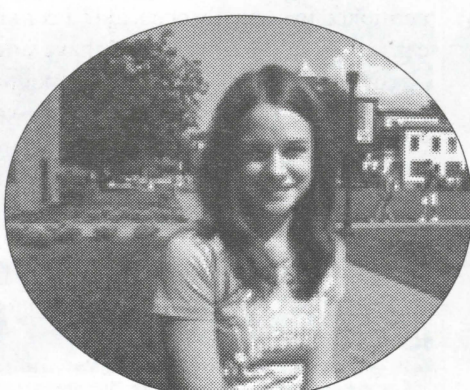
Tell Us... What is your favorite breakfast cereal and why?

Beacon reporter Nikki Yozviak was curious about what Wilkes students are thinking. Here is what she found out.



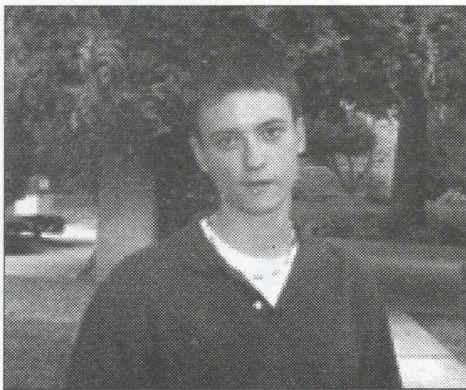
Amanda Dubil, sophomore, pre-pharmacy major

"Fruit loops because they're colorful and sugary."



Lindsey White, freshman, communication studies

"Rice Krispies Treats cereal because



Chris Hodorowski, junior, English major

"Booberries because they're so haunting."



Earlene Bosga, sophomore, pre-pharmacy major

"Captain Crunch with berries. It has a sweet berrylicious flavor."

Campus expansion underway

Wilkes to grow greener with changes

BY NORA JURASITS
Beacon Correspondent

Wilkes University has recently lightened its wallet and expanded its boundaries, spending over \$8.5 million dollars on the purchase of two new properties and the leasing of another two buildings.

The University Center on Main (UCOM) includes an office building, a parking lot and a parking garage. The new property will be home to many offices that are currently spread across campus, including financial aid and management, as well as public safety and university service offices.

Director of Campus Support Services, Christopher Bailey explained that the fact that all offices would be located in the UCOM building would be a more effective and efficient way to provide services to students, creating a sort of "one-stop shop."

Bailey also noted that the data center will be moved from Stark Learning Center into the UCOM building, which was designed to be highly technological.

"UCOM will also allow additional athletic space for both varsity and intramural sports," said Scott Byers, Vice President for Finance and Support Operations.

Once renovated, the parking lot and garage included in the UCOM property will add almost 600 parking spots for Wilkes students and faculty. Currently, about 290 spots are in use. By the end of November, Public Safety and University Services will be moved into the offices located in the parking garage.

The former Blasi Printing building on River Street has also been purchased, and the building will serve as storage space, while

the lot features another 70 parking spaces.

Buildings on Northampton Street and Ross Street have been acquired under a one-year lease. The buildings have been renovated, and are currently housing approximately 40 students each.

Bailey explained that the UCOM building has required the most work, since the two dorms were renovated by the owners, and the Blasi Printing property is being used as storage. The locks have been changed to fit with university settings, and the buildings are now patrolled by Wilkes Public Safety. "Overall, the building is in very good shape: the air conditioning is functioning, and the roof is good. The athletic areas just need to be set up, and offices need to be reconfigured."

Byers said the properties were purchased as part of the university's Master Plan, which was unveiled in November 2004. The plan was the result of collaboration with many faculty members, staff members, students, and local government officials.

He explained that the acquisition of additional parking spaces on the UCOM and Blasi Printing properties will allow Wilkes to turn currently existing lots into recreational areas, which follows the plan's concept of creating a greener campus with more open space.

"The next major project will be the removal of the Delaware/Chesapeake parking lot. It was supposed to start in the summer, but it will get underway sometime this fall," Bailey said. "It'll improve the campus community in terms of beautification. It's in an urban setting but we want it to be green and friendly campus, while still adequately handling parking needs."



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Wilkes recently purchased the University Center on Main (UCOM), which will house many offices on campus such as Financial Aid and Public Safety.

Gone but not forgotten



The Beacon/Lindsey Klish

Former residents of the 234 South River Street dorm were separated after the building suffered extensive damage from a fire nearly a year ago. The demolition has opened more drive space behind the Henry Student Center.

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Political clubs aim to erase voter apathy on campus

BY ERICALEO
Beacon Staff Writer

What's your stance on abortion and gay marriage? How do you feel about affirmative action? What about the war in Iraq?

Students are currently seeking answers as well as voicing their opinions on these and other hot political issues through their involvement with some of the political clubs at Wilkes.

Whether a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or not politically active enough to feel comfortable with a label, the political clubs offer students an opportunity to explore what they value and articulate where they stand on decisions that government leaders make that impact their lives.

The Student Political Action Forum (SPAF), was founded at Wilkes two years ago and serves as the pioneer of political clubs on campus.

One of the original founders of SPAF, Chris Pray, a senior biology and pre-med major at Wilkes, states that the club does not align itself with a particular political party which distinguishes the group from the other political organizations on campus.

"The fundamental basis on what we do is being motivators and educators of politics. We don't limit ourselves or try to label people but rather get a whole bunch of people in and let everyone voice their own opinion and hold a variety of effects that represent a lot of different issues," said Pray.

This semester, SPAF will hold two Hurricane Katrina relief concerts--an a capella concert scheduled for October 8 and a rock concert which is in the planning stages for sometime in late October or early November.

Two other clubs that target, but are not limited to, specific political affiliates are Col-

lege Democrats and College Republicans which were both formed last year.

College Democrats co-founder and history education major at Wilkes, Rob Donahue, conveyed that the club has a lot of plans for the semester.

Some of these plans include bringing in state and local officials to speak at the University, a voter registration drive, and a trip to Harrisburg to analyze the inner workings of the Pennsylvania state government.

Donahue outlined that the primary differences between the College Democrats club and the other clubs on campus are the philosophies that each group maintains, but that does not mean that the clubs can't work together.

"We are the next generation who is going to be in charge, and we have to learn to work together," said Donahue.

The College Democrats and College Republicans collectively have been contemplating co-sponsoring a televised debate between the two groups to be held sometime this semester.

College Republicans advisor Dr. Mark Stine, associate professor of communication studies, remarked on the similarities between his club and the other political clubs on campus.

"I think the goals of these clubs are very similar. They are to make young people more aware of politics, make people more aware of what's going on around them, and prepare them to be informed voters in upcoming elections."

Because the College Republicans club is relatively new--it was just established at the end of last year--the members are throwing around ideas for upcoming activities and are open to suggestions from prospective members as well as the rest of the student body.

CEO offers Family Savings Program

BY DONNA TALARICO
Beacon A&E Editor

Aside from student loans, grants, scholarships and federal work-study programs, many college students, traditional and non-traditional alike, find themselves still scraping. After the financial aid awards are given, many may still owe a balance, or perhaps have to learn to live without things they had to sacrifice in order to pay for school (like a car).

The Commission on Economic Opportunity (CEO) offers a program called the Family Savings Program, which is a savings account program that matches enrollees dollar for dollar. This means that a student who can save \$2,000 will get \$4,000 back.

While the program is not specifically geared toward college students, they are welcome to apply. In fact, this summer, campus bulletin boards were decorated with fliers encouraging students to request information.

Natalie Price, FSA coordinator posted the fliers up at Wilkes for a reason.

"For post-secondary education, there is tuition, fees and books. I know there are also a lot of non-traditional adult students on campus," said Price.

Price explains that the first step is to call the CEO office to request an application. Price reviews them, and if the applicant meets the income requirements, the applicant is called for an intake meeting where the information is also verified. Once everything is approved, students can choose a participating bank to begin a savings account. Then, for every dollar students save, up to \$1,000 per year, they are matched dollar for dollar.

"Students must save for at least one year, and only up to two years," she said. Price also added that the bank charges no fees for these accounts and that CEO has access to monitor the account.

The FSA program can help people with tuition and other educational fees, a home, repairing a home or starting a small business. When applying, students must have set a specific goal. Price said this will allow CEO to offer them the right classes.

"[Students] are required to take four financial literacy workshops on topics like budgets, credit or getting a loan. There are also additional programs on financial aid and on buying a home," she said.

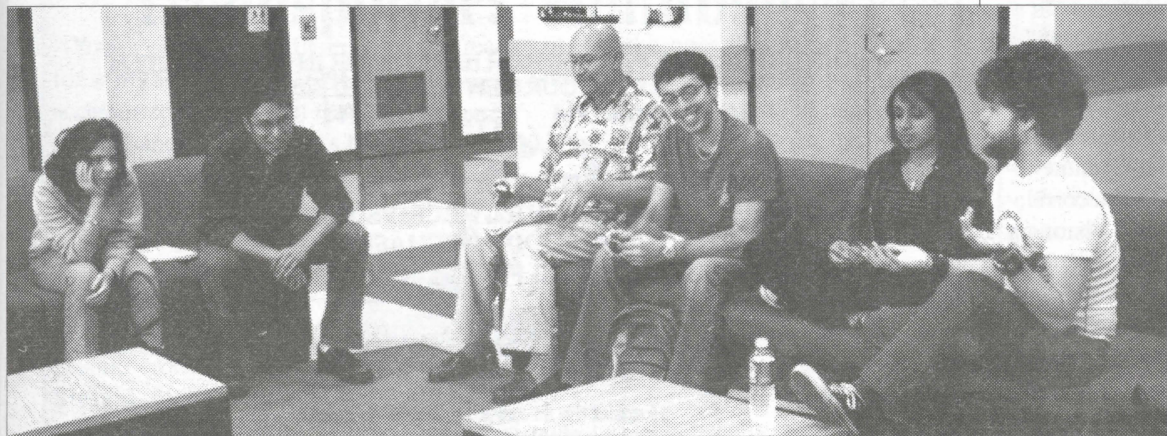
Currently, Price says there is a wait list, but CEO is still accepting applications for their next enrollment period.

Wilkes University graduate student Andy Ulitchney, who is majoring in special education, says a program like this can kick start the next step in many students' lives.

"At the point I'm at, I'm ready to buy a home. If I were to start this program now, by the time I complete my master's, I'll have an extra \$2,000 toward a down payment on a house," he said. "Or maybe--there is a new car in my future."

Price said that all goals fit just about any type of applicant as long as they meet the guidelines, and she encourages students, staff or anyone in need to apply.

"I just think it's a great program. I wish more people would take advantage of it. I look forward to getting the word out," she said.



Members of S.P.A.F. meet for their first meeting of the fall semester Tuesday, September 13 at 11 am. Pictured from left to right are: Alex Woods, Kamran Kalim, advisor Jim Harrington, Chris Pray, Marissa Phillips, and Matt Zebrowski.

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Interdisciplinary task force crosses curriculum boundaries

Surgeon Shlain launches year-long link of art and science

BY DONNA TALARICO

Beacon A&E Editor

For many, it's an either/or.

Words or numbers, experiments or performances, right brain or left brain. Some are afraid to enter the Stark Learning Center because the thought of equations and smell of formaldehyde do not exactly calm those scientific jitters. And, others cringe as they walk into art or public speaking fearing they are not creative enough. But little do students know how intertwined their worlds are.

The Wilkes University Interdisciplinary Task Force blossomed from that realization, and has worked for the past year to weave the different academic worlds of students through the implementation of classroom and cultural events that are one in the same.

Last Friday, the task force welcomed Dr. Leonard Shlain, one of the nation's most acclaimed patron saints of interdisciplinary education, to campus to kick off a new lecture series- just part of a new way of learning at Wilkes which will also include music recitals, exhibits in the Sordoni Art Gallery (see page 13) and other blends of art and science. Dr. Ellen Flint, associate professor of music and member of the interdisciplinary task force explains the group will embark on creating a broader worldview for the entire Wilkes community.

"We plan to work around an annual theme and select speakers, topics, and other events according to the theme. In addition, the concept of a lecture series has expanded to include art exhibits at the Sordoni, open discussion sessions for faculty, students, and staff, class projects (at the discretion of instructors), and the like," she said.

Flint said the primary interest and initial guide in selecting an interdisciplinary theme for this year was to draw together the arts and sciences, which are strongly represented on our campus. Several members of the group read Shlain's book *Art & Physics: Parallel Visions in Space, Time and Light* to build a foundation for their own mission on campus.

"[They] were most impressed with the breadth of Dr. Shlain's knowledge and the depth of his thoughts. After conducting further research about Dr. Shlain, who gained immediate and high praise for his first book and who is an international consultant and lecturer on interdisciplinarity, we thought, 'who better to invite as our inaugural keynote speaker?'" said Flint.

Shlain is an oft sought after speaker on



The Beacon/Donna Talarico

Dr. Leonard Shlain speaks to packed house Friday evening.

campuses and a best-selling author, but he is only a writer by passion. He is a surgeon by trade, and openly admits he was not always interested in art.

"I would have to say science was my first love. I took a compressed pre-med course and had limited humanities courses," he said. "I arrived [at art] in my thirties when I took my twelve-year-old daughter who was interested in art to New York City to see the museums. She was asking me to explain the works and I was scratching my head. I didn't really understand it."

But soon, Shlain would. He began to read widely, everything from Buddhist teachings and philosophy to science textbooks and Greek mythology. He was also inspired by Marshall McLuhan who he says gave him a new way of thinking about communication with "the medium is the message," a concept Shlain used in all three of his books.

"It was almost as if I was meant to be this channel. I was doing all this research and I didn't know why. And then it all came together," he said. "I started to see a correlation between art and physics. Visionary artists envision the world in a new way through their works and physicists use numbers and equations to show that."

Shlain used this new way of thinking to author three best-selling books, for which there has been both acclaim and controversy. A speaker, surgeon, author, Shlain is also a teacher, and well beyond the confines of his own classroom. Somewhat of a pioneer in the field of interdisciplinary stud-

ies, all three of his books are used as texts in art, philosophy, anthropology, physics, sociology, communications and more. "I am so pleased and humbled that these books are used in classrooms. There have even been courses designed based on these books," he said, adding that his favorite part of giving presentations is when he can visually see the audience learning.

"What I like best is when I look out and see the 'a-ha' expression. It gives me a lot of pleasure. The question and answer session also stimulates new thought," he says.

But when it comes down to it, Shlain's day job is still as a surgeon, though he has come to accept that he is an artist even in that capacity.

"I am a surgeon and the training is very scientific. But, it is an art form. If it isn't beautiful it won't function beautiful. It is an aesthetic judgment with every stitch," he said.

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Shlain's open thinking was a driving force behind the interdisciplinary task force; thus, his lecture was the first of many cultural events that will follow his lead.

"The Interdisciplinary Forum and Dr. Shlain's keynote address stand as real and vital venues for connecting learning and thinking across disciplines, for embarking on the interconnected learning journey that lies at the heart of the Wilkes Undergraduate Experience," said Flint.

Connecting the dots. That's literally what Shlain wants to do.

"The brain grows by axons and dendrites connecting. If I can create new connections I've satisfied what I've set out to do," he said. "[The arts and sciences] have been too long separated by this wall. It's time for each to learn to appreciate the contributions of the others." For more on Leonard Shlain, please see the web version of this story at www.wilkesbeacon.com.

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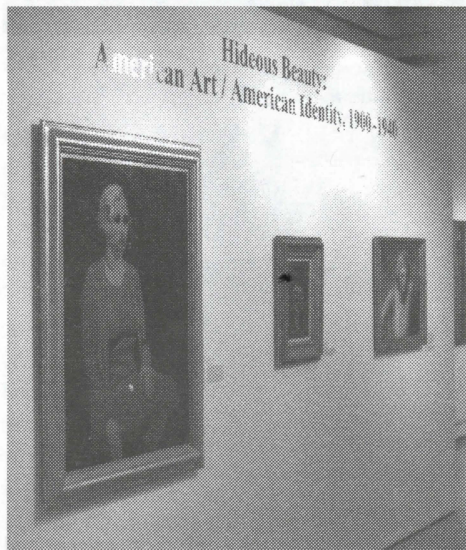
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Hideous Beauty aims to draw students to Sordoni

BY MYLES RUMBEL

Beacon Assistant A&E Editor



To students, art galleries often invoke images of boring white rooms filled with old paintings by dead people. They are the destinations of class field trips or the acceptable Sunday afternoon outing with the family while Aunt Bessie is in visiting from Pasadena. Or from watching movies, some students may think an art gallery is simply an ultra hip, ultra chic place where you need to be cooler than cool to enter.

Whatever preconceived notions students may have, the Sordoni Art Gallery is looking to change them. Along with the opening of the Sordoni's new exhibit, *Hideous Beauty*, Director of the Sordoni, Ronald R. Bernier, and Coordinator of the Sordoni, Brittany Kramer are employing new tactics to get students into the gallery.

"We wanted to introduce ourselves, especially to first-year students," Bernier explained. While trying to achieve that goal, the Sordoni staff aligned with the First Year Foundations classes on campus. "The ef-

fect was [to get faculty] to work their class into the exhibit." To aid faculty, Bernier and Kramer made more extensive information available on both the paintings and the artists. Dr. Diane Polachek, Chairperson of the Department of Education, and Dr. Mischelle Anthony, Assistant Professor of English, have taken classes to *Hideous Beauty*. Polachek said her goal was to show, "how important it is for future teachers to be able to go to a gallery exhibit and be able to relate the art [to students]." Anthony, who took her composition class to the exhibit, said "Our class has two purposes. One is to learn to write well, and this involves using a lot of detail. And the second purpose is critical thinking. And, I think the art gallery can show us both of those things."

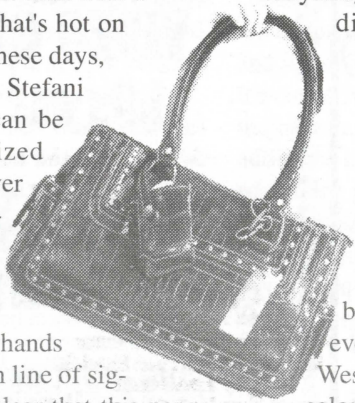
Bernier and Kramer have also been going directly to students. On club day, Kramer ran a scavenger hunt for students in the gallery. The winners received gift certificates. "It was a good way of getting new students to be thinking about the gallery," Bernier explained. The Sordoni is also looking to continue to heighten visibility on campus. "Basically, the idea is to get both students and faculty to use the gallery as a resource for learning."

The current exhibit, *Hideous Beauty*, is a sampling of art from the Sordoni's permanent collection. It highlights artists from the "Ash Can School" of art, who painted from near the turn of the century until the start of World War II. The Sordoni has already had over 200 people at the exhibit and it only opened on August 29. "It's really off to a great start," Bernier said, explaining that some exhibits run the entire time with only 150 visitors in total.

Hideous Beauty runs through December 11 from 12-4:30 every day, however Bernier and Kramer are willing to work with interested faculty and staff for special meeting times.

Trendspotter: Handbags

You've got a killer outfit on and you're ready for a night out. What better way to accessorize a cute outfit than with a trendy handbag? So what's hot on the handbag scene? These days, celebrities like Gwen Stefani and Lindsay Lohan can be seen carrying oversized leather handbags all over town. And others--everyone from Gwen Stefani to Pamela Anderson--have taken matters into their own hands and designed their own line of signature handbags. It's clear that this particular accessory not only spices up any out-



fit, but the ones that have caused a buzz this fall are large enough to fit just about anything. The latest fall bags come in all different colors, patterns, and prints, but are versatile enough to go with any outfit. Although celebrities tend to lean towards posh labels, such as Fendi and Chloe, it doesn't mean that students on a budget have to. Be on the lookout for these trendy handbags because they can be spotted everywhere. Pictured here is a Nine West handbag retailed at \$72 in the color Coffee Bean.

-Megan Mance, photo by Nick Zmiwiewski

A&E Profile Marlon James, novelist

Highlighting contributors to campus and community culture

BY ADRIENNE RICHARDS

Beacon Correspondent

Kingston--not across the Susquehanna--but across the Atlantic in Jamaica is not only where Marlon James, a Wilkes University Masters student in creative writing, calls home but also where his first novel takes place. *John Crow's Devil* was released earlier this month by independent publisher Akashic Books. James is on a cross-country book tour and in his spare time is working on his MA thesis, or rather, his second novel. *The Beacon* recently had a chance to chat with James via e-mail during his tour.

The Beacon: Hey, Mon! What was your inspiration for the book?

James: If anyone deserves full blame for this book, Salman Rushdie does. In 1999, I had written this huge, dare I say it, opus about two men and two women caught in the horror of a Jamaican election. Back then I was pretty proud of myself for having finished this 400-page novel. Then I read Rushdie's *Shame*, and all I held dear as writing shattered.

The Beacon: Why?

James: I had never read so preposterous a book...the world had a woman walking on all fours who ripped men apart. The country was clearly Pakistan and *Shame* exposed the violence, oppression and corruption of the state. But it was the style that got me: huge, lyrical, wry, epic, a little show-offy and so in control that Rushdie could tell the reader on page two which character was going to be killed off on page 50. How dare he? Who told him he could do that? Who gave him permission to do such things? By asking those questions, Rushdie gave me the permission to write.

The Beacon: Where'd you get the idea?

James: I was still in Rushdie mode so the idea of butchering a sacred cow still appealed to me. The original draft was bluntly satirical and loaded with characters that had no redeeming quality. In Jamaica there are more churches per square mile than anywhere else in the world, but we kill close to seven people a day. The contradiction was too tantalizing to ignore. As I wrote, the characters became real to me, flesh if you will, and instead of laughing at them, I started to wonder what they were about. Why did the holy man kill? Why did the village tramp lose her self-respect? Why is the crotchety old

woman crotchety? If these people are so broken, who or what broke them? Eight drafts and two years later, I had a real novel.

The Beacon: Summary, please?

James: *John Crow's Devil* is about that point where religious fervor becomes cult behavior and group cohesion becomes mob mentality. But it's also about redemption and humanity and good versus evil. I don't know if there are any Gibbeahs in reality, but the mindset is still there. And the potential. Take religion, add ignorance, then multiply with poverty and you have a cult on your hands. There have been local movement like this before, but the Jim Jones Cult that fled the USA for Guyana in the 1970s inspired me.

The Beacon: Advice for future novelists?

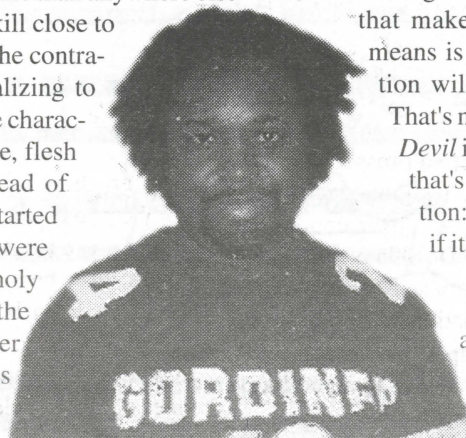
James: To write, you have to make your writing area your world even if that means using props. The novel I'm writing now is set in slavery so I take archive photos and notices with me and lay them out wherever I am like a shrine. It works.

The Beacon: Anything else?

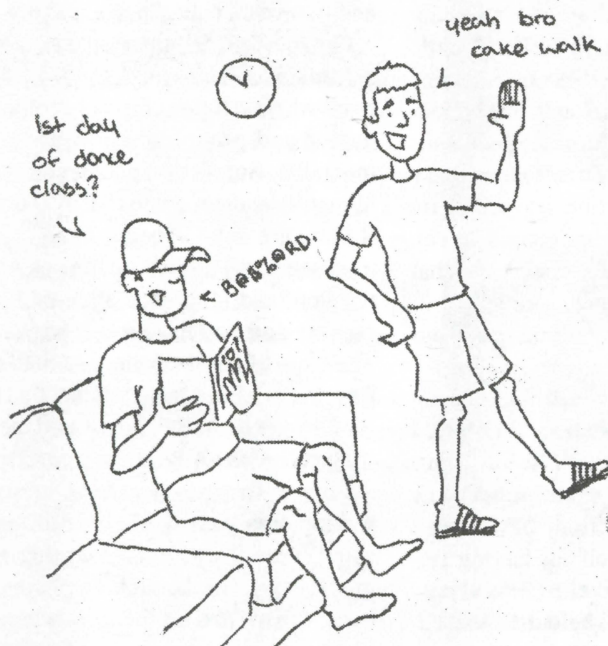
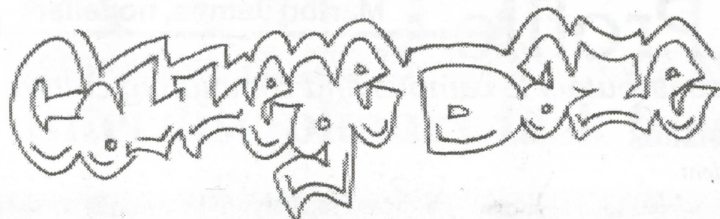
James: The one thing that separates good writers from bad is how much they read. To this day many of my friends disagree with this and to this day none of those friends have written a good book. How can you blow away any reader with your prose if you've never had the experience? That's like a virgin giving Casanova sex tips. The writer provides the materials but he cannot make a book come to life. That's the reader's job. And if you have never done such a thing as read, then you'll have no idea how to make a reader respond to you. This validation of your writing comes from reading. Nowhere else.

....The industry has never been worse, despite what agents may tell you. Publishers are spending millions trying to attract people who do not read (A Jenna Jameson book?), while good readers are being disconnected from good writing. As a writer the stakes have never been higher. But in a perverse way, that makes it worth it. What this means is that in the end great fiction will not be denied its time. That's not to say that *John Crow's Devil* is even remotely great, but that's another cool trick of fiction: you can believe anything if it's written well enough.

John Crow's Devil is available in hardcover from most book retailers.



Marlon James



Off The Charts

Music Review



BY MATT ZEBROWSKI

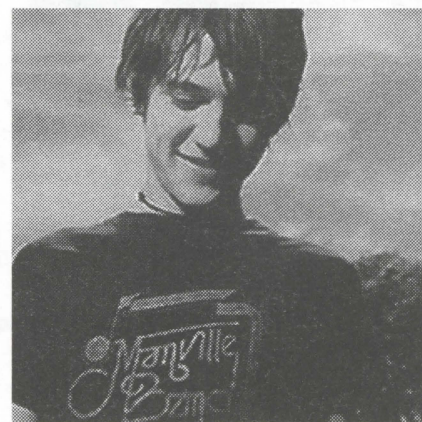
Beacon Op-Ed Assistant Editor

If you had asked me a few months ago about king hipster Conor Oberst's one man band Bright Eyes and his two newest albums, *I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning* and *Digital Ash in a Digital Urn*, I probably would have said something completely different than what I'm about to say. I'm a little ashamed to admit that I sort of liked them.

But the novelty wore off, and fast. After the first few weeks that they were out, I began to listen to them less and less, and until I revisited them for the purpose of this review, I hadn't listened to them for roughly half a year. Most of *Digital Ash's* beats, programmed by Jimmy Tamborillo of the Postal Service, sound exactly like the Postal Service would sound if they were totally boring, and *Wide Awake* is even worse. After an absolutely ludicrous spoken-word introduction in which Oberst misuses the word "arduous," the album bludgeons you half to death with the most inane "acoustic folk" that I have ever heard.

So, bored to death with the music, I decided to take the unanimous advice of the Bright Eyes fans that I know, most of whom find Oberst's "poetic genius" to be so great that the fact that Bright Eyes as a musical act is barely mentioned, and listen to the lyrics in a desperate attempt to find something new to like. And after one listen to the two new albums with the linear notes in my hand, I was almost convinced that I fell victim to some sort of cruel practical joke.

Even if I could get past Oberst's rarely on-key whine, the lyrics on these albums are so awful that I would honestly rather read your pubescent sister's diary, as the content is probably about the same and the diary



Courtesy of artistdirect.com

wouldn't be written in a pathetic attempt at verse and rhyme.

In fact, the only times that he's not kvetching like a stereotypical pre-teenage girl are when he's flaunting his alcohol problem for extra tortured-artist-points ("I got a flask inside my pocket" in "Lua;" "I found a liquid cure for my landlocked blues" from "Landlocked Blues;" "There's this burn in my stomach and there's this pain in my side when I kneel at the toilet" in "Hit the Switch") or using absurd "metaphors" that make absolutely no sense ("I see some flowers on a hillside like a wall of new TVs" from "Old Soul Song;" "I'm a single cell on a serpent's tongue" from "Poison Oak;" and "My twitching muscles tease my flippant thoughts" from "Easy/Lucky/Free." GAG! Need I go on?).

Pick up *any* other album in the store. But for God's sake, don't pick up this.

Overall grade: if there was something worse than F, this would get it.

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Dinner and a Movie

BY MYLES RUMBEL

Beacon A&E Assistant Editor

See: Crash

While race issues are always a part of the social fabric in the U.S., every so often, racial tensions are thrust into the national spotlight by a specific story or happening.

The most recent example of this was the conflict over Hurricane Katrina.

And it's almost too coincidental that *Crash* was released to DVD shortly after that disaster. *Crash* deals with modern race relations. From the opening scene of a car accident between a Hispanic woman and an Oriental woman, to subsequent scenes involving corrupt white police officers pulling over a law-abiding black couple, to a Persian family victimized because of anti-Arab sentiment (forcing the mother to question, "When did Persian become Arab?"), the entire film has racial tension written all over it.

It's impossible to describe each of the multiple storylines to any satisfaction, especially because of the way each storyline intertwines with each other. However, the all-star cast including Sandra Bullock (*Miss Congeniality*), Don Cheadle (*Swing Shift*), Matt Dillon (*There's Something About Mary*), Brendan Fraser (*The Mummy*), Ryan Phillippe (*Cruel Intentions*), and rapper Chris "Ludacris" Bridges, does a superb job of bringing their characters and these stories to life.

Now, half of the fun of a DVD is the special features. The *Crash* DVD includes an introduction from Director Paul Haggis, a look behind the scenes, a music video and running commentary from Haggis, Cheadle and Bobby Moresco (a writer of *Crash*). The introduction from Paul Haggis is simply that, an introduction - short, sweet and all around not needed. The music video was one of the worst songs I've ever heard.

And, while admittedly I'm not one for running commentary, I was annoyed to the point that I turned it off before the opening credits were over. The bright spots of additional features were the behind the scenes which I found both interesting and entertaining.

Ultimately, the movie itself was awesome. It's thought-provoking and heartfelt, and at times, dare I say, a bit of a tear-jerker. And trust me, coming from someone who laughed at *Titanic*, I'm not one to get overly tearful. While the special features are lacking, who really cares? That's not the important part of a movie anyhow.

Grade: A-

Food: CJ's Pizza

It's important to understand that my original goal for this week was to create a recipe-something quick, fun and tasty to make in a dorm room that would be the perfect companion to a relaxing night at home with a new DVD. But because cooking anything from scratch just seemed like too much work at the end of the week, I defaulted to the Standard College Plan B and delivery seemed like a much better plan.

Not really knowing a lot of places to go for delivery, or what I even wanted, I visited dailyjolt.com (see "Nothing But Net") and found CJ's Pizza and Subs. Other students rated it as one of the best places from which to get delivery, so I decided to find out.

The first criticism I have of the place is the lack of menu availability. What I mean is, even if there is a menu in the phone book, typical students don't have a phone book. In addition, menus are not available online. This caused the problem of needing to drive to CJ's to get the menu before I ordered. Yes, I had someone drive me there so I could pick up a menu, return to campus and order, thereby making a delivery person come to campus. I'm reviewing delivery food - so sue me!

I ordered at 8:11 p.m. At the time, they said it would be about 45 minutes. At 9:26, I was still waiting patiently for food. At that time, I called to make sure everything was okay, because it's hard for delivery people on the Wilkes campus. Shortly after the call, my food arrived. Typically, I'm a very impatient person, and nearly an hour and half would have aggravated me to no end.

However, what I quickly learned was that CJ's was well worth the wait.

The food was out of this world. Between the three people who ordered, we had mozzarella sticks, a small pizza, an antipasto and a chicken cheese steak. I think the chicken cheese steak was the best I've had anywhere. All of the food had great flavor. It was tasty and flavorful, and just all around good. And, it even arrived piping hot, which is always a major concern when ordering delivery. In addition, the entire bill (with two dollars added for gas by CJ's) and a generous tip only cost \$35.00! And the portions were more than enough to fill a hungry college student. My advice is order from CJ's. Maybe you need a drink to hold you over, but it's worth it.

Grade: A

Nothing But Net

This week on the web

BY ANDEE SCARNATINO

Beacon Correspondent

Do you often find yourself facing the problem of having twenty windows of Internet Explorer open at one time?

Let's face it: the internet is huge, and college students are compelled to navigate through dozens of websites on a daily basis, many often simultaneously. How can we eliminate the hassle?

The answer? The Daily Jolt, a website directory with hundreds of links to frequently accessed sites including all web-based email (i.e. Hotmail, Yahoo! Mail and Wilkes' email), a good starting point for checking multiple accounts. There are boxes with their own navigation bars to different news sources including CNN, ESPN, and *The Beacon*. Each of these links features the news source's top highlights. Other boxes include links to what's happening both on and off campus this week.

You can even view the menu for food services on campus via Daily Jolt. Aptly named, this site provides a useful tool for university students to get started each day.

The Daily Jolt is not an official Wilkes Uni-



Courtesy of: wilkes.dailyjolt.com

versity website. While the Jolt is available to all colleges and universities, a student from each of the 95 participating campus-specific websites must serve as a webmaster and update the site regularly. The student who took on the responsibility for Wilkes is junior Cory Chevelier. He has done an amazing job in keeping our organized web-based phenomenon up-to-date!

The Daily Jolt is an interactive site, so upon registration, you can use all of the site's exciting features. Forums are placed on the site for students to engage in conversation about lively topics (i.e. cafeteria food). The Daily Jolt has many additional features as well. The daily crossword is my personal favorite! I recommend all of you who enjoy compulsively checking other internet sites to add the Daily Jolt to your "favorites."

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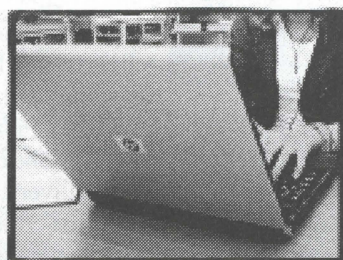
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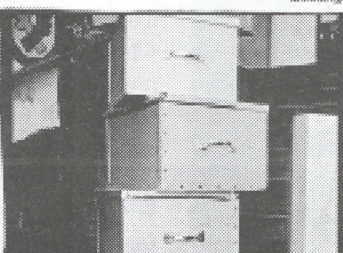
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New field hockey head coach transitions smoothly into role

BY ADRIENNE RICHARDS
Beacon Correspondent

When former Wilkes University head field hockey coach Todd Broxmeyer resigned on April 15, 2005, the rest of the athletic department and field hockey players knew they'd need to work quickly to keep the team in synch and looking toward the future.

The athletic department immediately formed a search committee and posted the position, hopeful they would hire a full time coach by the month of July.

Coach Sara Fuller took over the reigns of the Wilkes field hockey team on July 6, 2005.

Fuller is familiar with the area as she graduated from Crestwood High School, located in Mountain Top, PA. After graduation Fuller attended Susquehanna University where she played defender on the Lady Crusader's field hockey team. With her four years completed at Susquehanna, Coach Fuller knew she wanted to coach. She accepted a graduate assistant position at Goucher College located in Baltimore, Maryland.

In December 2003 she graduated from Goucher College with her M.A. and accepted the head field hockey coach at the University of Scranton two months later.

Field hockey wasn't the only sport Fuller coached while at Scranton. She was the assistant softball coach as well. Eager to find a full time head coaching position, Fuller knew she wanted to stay in the area. It just so happened in July 2005 the position Fuller was looking for opened.



The Beacon/Todd Wiebel
Field hockey coach Sara Fuller, middle with clipboard is 4-3 in her inaugural season as head coach.

Athletics Director Addy Malatesta said, "We feel very fortunate to have Coach Fuller on the staff at Wilkes. She has been an integral part of highly competitive and successful field hockey programs both as a player and a coach."

Fuller's own players feel positively about the transition to a new coach. Junior defender

Courtney Eleazer noted, "I felt very good about Sarah from the start. We could tell she understood our style of play. She knew Todd, our old coach, and had coached against us as the head coach of Scranton. Although Sarah was the first interview, we felt good about the idea of her as the new coach."

But don't think there hasn't been some

amount of change under the new head coach. One change is evident on the field with the team's new formation. The team now plays with a high forward and has had to transition from being a defensively-minded team to more of an offensive strategy. Proof of this came in their win against Misericordia, during which the team scored two goals in just 57 seconds.

But how accepting is the team of the change? Sophomore Forward Megan Farrell feels, "[Fuller] brings a lot of intensity and a love of the game. I don't think there would be a better coach for our team right now."

When asked what she thought the greatest attribute she brings to the team Fuller replied, "What I'm going to try and do with this team is to make them into a family. I think you play better when you're playing with a family."

Coach Fuller also gives credit to assistant coaches Elizabeth Holtzman and Amy Jones for helping her accomplish what she wants with the team. Holtzman mainly works with the offense, while Jones works with the team's goalkeeper.

"She is doing a fantastic job," said sophomore forward Lindsay Thomas of Fuller. "She's very positive and pushes us to our full potential. Coach Fuller believes in all of us, which helps us to stay focused. She's very friendly, understanding, patient, and knowledgeable about the game of field hockey. Wilkes really picked the right one for the job. We couldn't be happier."

Wilkes names new women's head basketball coach

BY NEALSANTOSKI
Beacon Correspondent

Rachel Hartung was named head coach of Wilkes University's women's basketball team last Tuesday, September 12.

Hartung comes to Wilkes after two seasons at the helm of the Centenary College Cyclones, where she was also an adjunct professor of sports management.

A 2001 graduate of DeSales University, she majored in sports management and marketing. Hartung also played four years for the Lady Bulldogs, helping them to capture an 82-30 record while scoring 898 points, grabbing 691 rebounds, and blocking 116 shots. After graduating from DeSales, Hartung moved to East Stroudsburg University and became a graduate assistant for the Warriors.

One of the major reasons for Hartung's move to Wilkes was the competitive conference, "Being back in the Freedom Confer-

ence is like coming home for me. Having played at DeSales, I am familiar with the coaches and the programs in the conference."

Hartung has already begun working on improving the Lady Colonels' strength and conditioning program. "Coach Hartung met with me last week," confirmed Fitness Center Director Keith Klahold.

Hartung is expecting more player turnout for off-season workouts, and is considering taking 20 or 30 minutes out of practice in order to allow Coach Klahold to condition the players.

Hartung is also determined to smooth any rough edges from the head coach transition. In order to accomplish this, she has retained Wilkes' two assistant coaches, Kate Franks and Samantha Bedford. "They are going to play a key role in making this transition as seamless as possible."

Hartung also plans to meet with the seniors on the team, because "this is really their year since it is their last one, and I want them

to enjoy their final season."

Hartung's move to head coach has created a level of excitement throughout the Wilkes athletic community. After what Athletic Director Addy Malatesta called "a very positive interview," and with Hartung coming off a season at Centenary that saw the Lady Cyclones double their regular season wins, expectations certainly are high.



Courtesy of Sports Information
New women's basketball head coach Rachel Hartung.

COMMENTARY

GAME OF THE WEEK

National Football League: Eagles vs. Raiders

Oakland to outlast Philly...

BY RYAN DIPPRE
Beacon Sports Editor

Die-hard sports fans tend to suffer little from the cold, hard facts of reality. Unfortunately for Eagles fanatics, the birds seem to want to give their die-hards a run for their money.

Yes, just a scant seven months after a narrow defeat at the hands of the New England Patriots in the Super Bowl, the Eagles came out of the blocks gimping and dropped a 14-10 decision to Atlanta.

In the process, quarterback Donovan McNabb bruised his sternum, middle linebacker Jeremiah Trotter was ejected from the game, Warrick Dunn rushed for over 200 yards for Atlanta, and the Eagles' run game apparently vanished into thin air.

Now enter the Oakland Raiders. The Raiders dropped their season opener as well, a 30-20 loss to the New England Patriots. In the process, however, quarterback Kerry Collins threw for 265 yards and three touchdowns, with no interceptions. Runningback LaMont Jordan, fresh out of Curtis Martin's shadow, managed to 110 yards rushing and receiving. Wide receiver Randy Moss rounded out this impressive offensive showing with five

catches for 130 yards. The silver and black run defense also put on an impressive show, holding Corey Dillon to just 63 yards on 23 carries.

Luckily for Philadelphia, it had a chance to work out some kinks by beating on the borderline mediocre San Francisco 49ers this past weekend. McNabb's sternum should be fully healed by Sunday, which means he'll be more mobile than he was against the Falcons. Trotter's return to the starting lineup will also give the Birds' defense its leader back, which matters more than stats can truly show. Expect veteran kicker David Akers to shrug off his missed kicks from the Atlanta game and make a strong showing against Oakland.

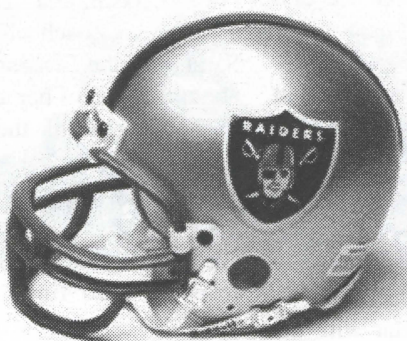
Throw in another 100 yd-plus performance from Owens, and Oakland may find itself pitted against a high-powered football team. But will it be enough? Probably not.

Philadelphia has a history of coming back strong from losses like the Atlanta game, but they simply aren't playing as a team right now. Andy Reid is a great coach and will no doubt end up bringing his team together, but he may not be able to

do it so quickly.

The Eagles have no doubt improved in the two weeks since the Atlanta game, but so have the Raiders. The Raiders, meanwhile, already offer a solid run defense to combat the Eagles struggling run game, and have a strong ground offense of their own to bring to Sunday's game. Oakland's secondary may have given up 300 yards to Tom Brady in the season opener, but unless the Eagles' offensive line begins protecting McNabb, the ball won't even make it into the air.

Prediction: Philadelphia has the tools to win on Sunday, but unless they begin playing as a team—a team that made it all the way to the Super Bowl last year—expect a hard fought loss to the Oakland Raiders.



...Or will Philly outlast Oakland?

BY ARIEL COHEN
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

Green! Black! White! The colors of Philadelphia Eagles are everywhere. The question is: will it be lucky season number five when they pull off the one thing that they want the most, to win the Superbowl?

Coming off a disappointing end to the 2004-2005 season with a loss to the New England Patriots in the Superbowl and then an opening week loss to the Atlanta Falcons, the Birds are in desperate need to take flight. This coming week's battle will see them soaring above their home turf at Lincoln Financial Field where they will host the Oakland Raiders.

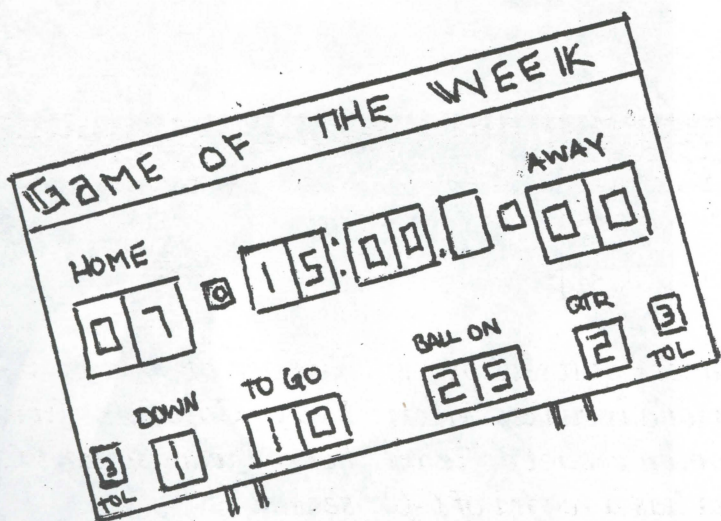
The last time that these two teams met was back in the 2001 season where the Raiders wound up beating the Eagles 20-10 meaning that Oakland is winning the overall series 4-5. This record will not affect the Eagles at all.

The key for the Eagles in this game will be to pull themselves together to work as a team. They have the offense

and they have the defense. The issue was and remains the fact that there were too many off season tensions especially between McNabb and Owens.

Despite childish arguments and some teamwork problems, the Eagles are looking strong. One challenge this week will be that the team needs to work together to protect McNabb after the hit he received in week one.

Prediction: Although the Raiders have the lead in the series overall, the Eagles are an extremely proud team and they do have the 3-1 advantage at home. In my opinion the Eagles will take this one.



Double Take

Sarah examines the stats that truly matter

BY SARAH HERBERT
Beacon Features Editor

I've come to realize that I just don't like Philadelphia sports teams.

This week the Philadelphia Eagles will take on the Oakland Raiders. The die hard Eagles fans will just have to face another loss. But hey, they are used to that, right?

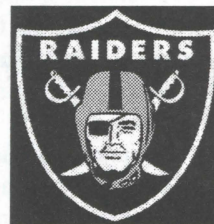
Last year the birds came close to salvaging the little bit of their reputation that was still intact. De-

spite the final loss, they still may have been able to do so had it not been for those aggravating fans screaming E-A-G-L-E-S everywhere they went.

Aside from the temperamental, obsessed fans, there is just too much drama surrounding the team this season. The Eagles have quickly turned the NFL into some sick soap opera. Who cares about that T.O. guy anyway?

Anyhow, the Raiders have much

nicer uniforms. The clean crisp look of the black and silver is more visually appealing than the drab hunter green that the birds sport--fashion first, even in football. Go Raiders!



SEPTEMBER 19, 2005

SPORTS

19

Athlete of the Week

Football: Al Karaffa

BY REBECCA SCHAAL
Beacon Correspondent

After his stand-out performance against Widener on September 10, and very steady play this past week-end against Delaware Valley, sophomore quarterback Al Karaffa's leadership for the Wilkes Colonels is tough to deny. Karaffa is *The Beacon's* Athlete of the Week.

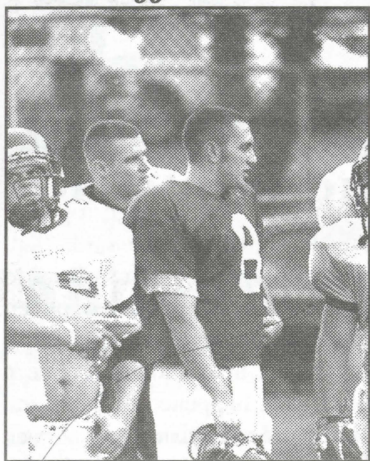
After a season opener loss against William Paterson, the Colonels were more than enthusiastic to play Widener and put their previous loss behind them, September 10, and they did so with an impressive win, thanks in part to Karaffa.

In the end, they produced the team's first shutout over the Pioneers, and Karaffa was a large part of that adrenaline rush. "I felt confident with the offense this game," said Karaffa. "They improved a lot from the first game. Considering that Widener is number two (in the conference), this was a pretty big game for us, and it felt great to win."

Karaffa was 15-22 with 223 yards passing against Widener. The coaches could not ask for a better performance from either the team or Karaffa. "It was a perfect situation," said head coach Frank Sheptock, "Al controlled the ball on the offense and they capitalized when it was needed."

The defense had great execution, was very poised. Al made solid decisions, didn't take risks and got into his rhythm early."

According to Coach Tim McNulty, in his first year as Offensive Coordinator for the Colonels, performing at such a level doesn't come easily to Karaffa. McNulty noted, Karaffa "pushes himself to be a student of the game."



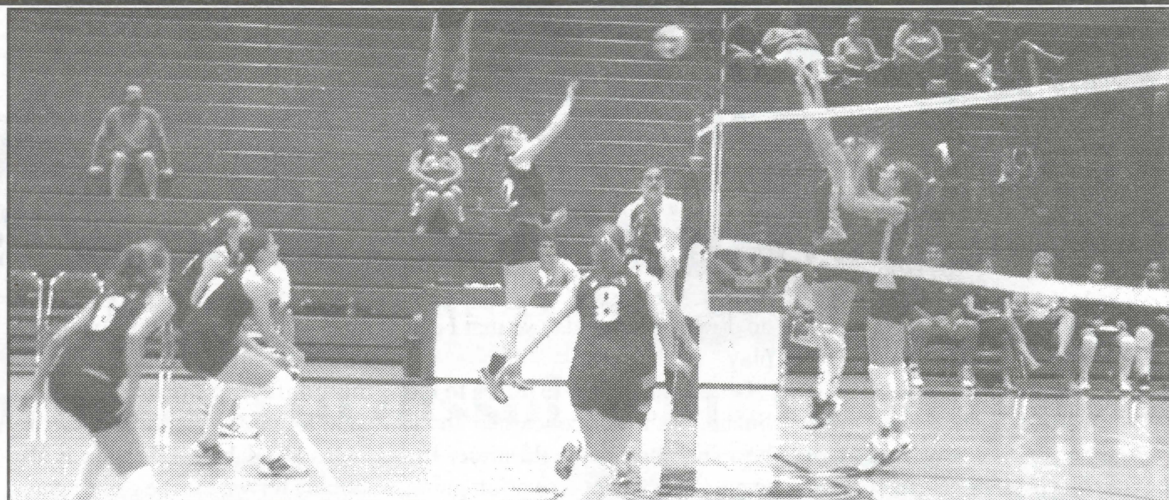
The Beacon/Todd Wiebel

Sophomore QB, Al Karaffa

Karaffa often spends time outside of the vigorous practice schedule each week to improve his game. He also takes his own time to throw the ball, lift, and watch film in order to better learn the offense. Karaffa has kept the same intensity he had last year when he was competed against three other people for the quarterback spot. This time last year he was not the starting quarterback, but with his hard work and dedication he was able to capitalize on his opportunities and was eventually named as the Colonels starting quarterback.

Although he has fewer than ten starts under his belt, Karaffa is "getting better every week," according to Sheptock. "He plays smart. He hasn't even scratched the surface of how good he could be." With players like Karaffa and the solid defense the Colonels were nearly able to topple the reigning MAC champs on Saturday.

Against top rated Delaware Valley this weekend, Karaffa also offered up an outstanding performance. He was 22-38 throwing for 292 yards and a touchdown.



The Beacon/Todd Wiebel

Senior Amanda Larian leaps for the ball during the Lady Colonel's win over St. Lawrence on Saturday.

WEEKEND RECAPS

Football

Bill Miller nailed a 30-yard field goal with three seconds left as the Colonels lost a heartbreaker to tenth ranked Delaware Valley. As time ran out, Aggie quarterback Adam Knobloch launched a Hail Mary down the sideline that was grabbed by wide receiver Dave Carmon to set up the game-winning boot. The Aggies improve to 3-0 overall while Wilkes falls to 1-2 (1-1) in the conference.

Women's Volleyball

The volleyball team split a pair of matches at the Scranton Invitational on Saturday, besting St. Lawrence 30-28, 30-21, 20-30, and 30-22. Jillian Focht had 12 kills, 18 digs, and three blocks while Alicia Vieselmeyer had 12 kills and 17 digs. Kristen Linhart, Amanda Harlan, and Nicole Hahn also factored into the win.

Women's Soccer

The Lady Colonels beat Moravian 1-0 in a tight match up of regionally ranked teams. Jennifer Compton scored the game-winning goal with 7:53 remaining as Wilkes stays perfect at 6-0.

Field Hockey

Abbe Grimes' unassisted goal with 2:12 remaining proved to be the death blow as Manhattanville downed Wilkes 3-2. The Colonels slide to 3-4 overall and 1-0 in conference play.

Men's Soccer

The men's soccer team beat Moravian 2-0 on Sunday afternoon at Ralston Field. Mike Leaman and Matt Foreman scored the two goals for Wilkes while the Colonels goalkeeper, Dominik Proctor stopped all five shots on goal.

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

12

Tackles by sophomore Kyle Follweiler on Saturday's football loss to Delaware Valley.

40

Assists by junior, Nicole Hahn during Saturday's volleyball win against St. Lawrence University at the Scranton Invitational.

139

Reception yards caught by junior Jimmy Jordan in Saturday's football game against Del Val.

0

Number of losses by the regionally ranked Wilkes women's soccer team that has a record of 6-0

4

Number of wins by the Lady Colonels field hockey team so far this season.

Game Preview: Colonel's Soccer vs. Scranton on 9/22

BY RYAN DIPPRE
Beacon Sports Editor

On Thursday, September 22, the Colonel's men's soccer team will face off against the University of Scranton at Ralston Field.

The game will be the first conference game for the Colonels, who are currently 5-2 overall on the season. The Royals, who will also open conference play on Thursday, are 2-2-1 overall.

Scranton leads the all-time series 25-6-5. The 2004 match-up between the teams ended in a 1-1 tie despite two overtime periods.

The Colonels may go into the contest minus offensive leaders Steve Uhas (five goals, four assists) and Mike Bridy (four goals, one assist). Uhas suffered a broken cheekbone in a head-butt that occurred in Thursday's game and may not return to the lineup by Thursday. "It all depends on when the swelling goes down," said Uhas, a junior. "They put about a quarter-sized plate in with six screws. Hopefully the swelling will

go down by Thursday so that I can play."

Uhas is in a hurry to return to the lineup, but is not concerned about how his absence could affect the team. "We've got a rotation going

right now, and it's working well. We should be strong for Thursday. It's the conference opener, and we want to make a stand."

Head Coach Phil Wingert is also looking forward to the game against

Scranton. "We've been together since August 18," he said, "and we've all been looking forward to the Freedom Conference opener. Our intensity level is good."

Wingert also showed concern over what happened to Uhas and Bridy. "Hopefully Steve will be back by Thursday, and we hope for the best with Bridy. We're going to help Mike throughout whatever he has to do." Bridy injured his knee and is currently awaiting test results.

Although he was concerned for his players, Wingert was not worried about how the team will perform without his top two scorers. "We're a different team without them. We're stronger with them, of course, but we can win without them. We'll just continue to play our style of soccer."

Wingert has good reason to feel

confident despite the temporary loss of Uhas and Bridy. The Colonels played Moravian on Sunday afternoon and posted a 2-0 victory without either of them in the lineup. With their offense apparently unimpaired despite the loss of Uhas and Bridy, the major factor in this match-up will be how Scranton handles the Colonels' offense.

Although Scranton's defense has played stingy enough to bring three games into overtime, the Royals offense has been unable to secure the victory. In fact, the Royals have an 0-2-1 record in overtime so far this season. If Scranton's defense can hold strong, perhaps the Royals offense can get started. If not, however, the Royals may find it hard to hang with Wilkes in an offensive shoot-out, with or without Bridy and Uhas.



The Beacon/Todd Wiebel

Junior Steve Uhas, pictured above, suffered a broken cheekbone and may be out for Thursday's conference game against the University of Scranton.



Campus Calendar

All Week

*Voter Registration Drive, HSC -- 11 to 1 p.m.

MONDAY (9/19)

*Blood Drive, HSC Ballroom -- 10:00 to 4 p.m.
*Women's Tennis vs. Baptist Bible -- 3:30 p.m.

TUESDAY (9/20)

*Career Services Open House, Max Roth Center -- 11 to 1 p.m.
*Women's Soccer vs. Scranton -- 4 p.m.
*Field Hockey @ Elizabethtown -- 4:30 p.m.
*Terrorism: Rage. Revenge.

and Reconciliation, SLC 101 -- 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY (9/21)

*Women's Tennis vs. Scranton -- 3:30 p.m.
*Field Hockey @ Scranton -- 7 p.m.

THURSDAY (9/22)

*Mindy Davis Sterling Silver Sale, HSC -- 10 to 2 p.m.
*Men's Soccer vs. Scranton -- 4 p.m.

FRIDAY (9/23)

*Homecoming Blue & Gold Day
*Volleyball @ Elizabethtown

-- 4:30 p.m.

*Pep Rally on the Greenway -- 6 p.m.

*Women's Soccer @ Susquehanna -- 7 p.m.

SATURDAY (9/24)

*Volleyball @ Elizabethtown -- 11 a.m.
*Football vs. FDU -- 1 p.m.
*Homecoming King and Queen announcement at halftime
*Field Hockey @ Delaware Valley -- 1 p.m.
*Men's Soccer @ Susquehanna -- 4 p.m.
*Homecoming Dance, Waterfront -- 6 p.m.

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



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

Congratulations to Drexel Siox who correctly identified last week's picture which was of the inspectors sign in the first floor stairwell of the Henry Student Center.

Post your event on the Campus Calendar
E-mail it to us at wilkesbeacon@gmail.com, with the subject heading "Calendar Event"