

The Beacon

Volume 44, No. 9

WILKES UNIVERSITY'S WEEKLY

November 14, 1991

Campus media goes high tech

By **MISSY MARGIS**
Beacon News Editor

WCLH, the campus radio station, is one of the first radio stations in the area to adopt the AP Newsdesk computer. Newsdesk is the latest news wire service available to radio stations. Of the more than 12,000 radio stations in the U.S. less than 1,000 have Newsdesk.

The computer replaces the AP wire service previously used by WCLH and most other radio stations.

This computer is used to bring in current national and state news stories, weather, and sports.

According to Dr. David Bradbury, professor of communications and advisor to WCLH, the station adopted the computer for several reasons.

"Most importantly, this is an essential learning tool for the communication students. We lost a lot of paper with the old wire service and we were also missing a lot of information because we turned off the computer at night," said Bradbury.

The station has made many new changes in the past two years. Last year the station began using a lot of new technical equipment, including replacing a twenty-year-old transmitter.

"This was the next item to improve the radio station. Our main objective is to make the station as professional and real life as possible," said Bradbury.

Wilkes broadcast journalism students, the Wilkes Today TV News Show, and WCLH staff will be the

main users of the Newsdesk computer.

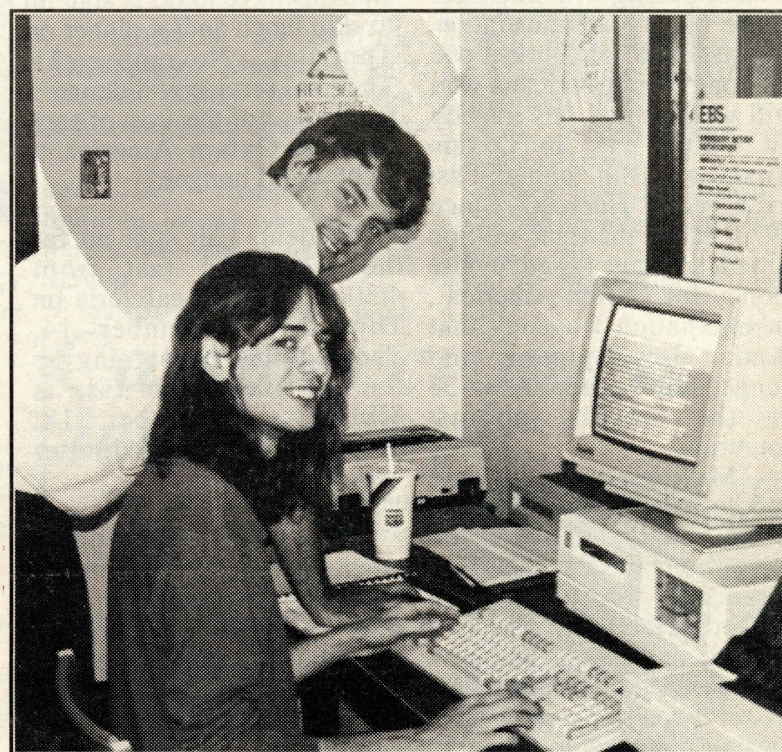
Paul Flynn, public relations director for WCLH, said the Newsdesk is "extremely handy."

"You can call up exactly what you need for your broadcast. There are news minutes that are very convenient," said Flynn.

Flynn said, "The news we do broadcast is much more current than before. We get stories in every minute."

Bradbury said this is the first step in improving the news broadcast sat WCLH.

"I would like to have news broadcasts at least twice a day. Newsdesk is still new and it's too soon to tell if the news broadcasts are better. I am sure we will start to see a big difference soon," said Bradbury.



THE BEACON/Brian J. Zupko
Getting the Story- Members of the WCLH staff Brian Malina, seated, and Paul Flynn work with the Newsdesk computer.

Open house was a hit...



Open House-prospective Wilkes students and their parents inspect the library on Saturday afternoon

By **CHRISTINA CLINE**
Beacon Staff Writer

The Admissions staff of Wilkes recently played host to over 450 visitors to campus for the University's annual Open House.

Helen Barrett and Dean Emory Guffrovich organized the Open House that was held this past Saturday. The day began with refreshments at the Arnaud C. Marts Center.

Afterwards, a general meeting with the University Officers took place.

Department meetings which included The School of Business, Society and Public Policy, The School of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences and The School of Sciences and Engineering, provided potential students will all the information they wanted to know concerning the University.

"Open House provides potential Wilkes students an excellent opportunity to talk to department heads, who are available all at the same time," said Mary Ellen Sloat, a secretary in the Admissions Office. According to Sloat, the entire day ran smoothly and many concerns and worries were put to rest.

Specific departments such as: Accounting, Psychology, Allied Health Programs, Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Science, Communications, Engineering, Math, and Physics, held sessions with formal presentations. A question and answer period and lab tours took place after the presentations.

A Financial Aid Workshop ended the day's annual program.

Carvey a blast at Marts

By **CAROLYN DOUGLAS**
Assistant Feature Editor

Who could it be? Satan? No, it's Dana Carvey! After a month long delay the long awaited stand-up performance by the Saturday Night Live star was a stand-up success.

The show began, shortly after the designated 8 p.m. starting time, to a full capacity crowd at the Arnaud C. Marts Center on Sunday November 10, 1991.

The opening act, David Spade, was introduced as a close friend of Mr. Carvey's by Programming Board President Nicolette Yevich. Mr. Spade is a very talented performer who was only on stage for a far too short 20
continued see Carvey p. 6

A time to fast is here

By COLETTE ELICK
Special to the Beacon

Every day, almost one billion people around the world go hungry. Every day 60,000 of them die--two thirds of them children under five.

On Thursday, November 21, 1991--a week before Thanksgiving--Wilkes students, along with members of the faculty, administration, and staff will join almost one million other Americans who will work to end this tragedy by taking part in Oxfam America's 18th annual Fast for a World Harvest. Since 1973, more than six million Americans have fasted to raise money for Oxfam America, an international agency that funds development and hunger relief programs in 33 of the world's poorest countries.

"Millions of the world's people have no choice about going hungry," explains Joe Barberio one of the Fast organizers. "Most of us in the United States do have a choice, and that's why, on Thursday, November 21, we're choosing to give up a meal or more and to donate to Oxfam America the money we would have spent on food."

Members of the Wilkes community can choose to participate in Oxfam America's Fast for a World Harvest on Thursday, November 21, 1991 by stopping by the Stark Lobby between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. and making a contribution in cash or check made out to Oxfam America.

Note that Oxfam contributions are tax deductible.

"This year the Wilkes University Food Service, (Morrison Custom Management Corporation), is making it easy for students on the meal plan to participate in

the fast," said senior biology major Michele Corbett, one of the Fast organizers. "All students have to do is sign up to skip lunch and/or dinner on Thursday, November 21. The food service will donate a percentage of the cost of each meal to Oxfam America to fight world hunger."

Students can sign up for the meal-plan fast from 4:30-6:30 in the cafeteria on Thursday, November 14. The deadline for signing up for the meal-plan fast is Monday, November 18. Students can also sign-up with their RA's.

Note that individuals wishing to participate in the Fast who are not on the meal plan can make cash/check contributions during any of the above-mentioned times at the sign-up tables in the cafeteria. On Monday, November 18 and again on Wednesday, November 20 a table will be set up to take contributions.

The day of the fast, Oxfam America volunteers will be in Stark Lobby, the SUB snack bar, and in the cafeteria throughout most of the day.

Oxfam America is a nonprofit, international agency that funds self-help

development disaster relief projects in poor countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. It also produces and distributes educational materials for people in the United States on the issues of hunger and development. Oxfam America is distinguished from other aid agencies by its independent status and this philosophy that, given the proper resources, poor people are capable of planning and carrying out their own solutions. Oxfam America was formed in 1970 and is based in Boston, Massachusetts.

"What I like about Oxfam is they are an organization which focuses on long-term development and not just on 'quick-fix' short term solutions," said Barberio, a staff member at the library and a graduate student at Wilkes. "Oxfam helps empower people by teaching them techniques which will allow them to gain control over their lives."

The name Oxfam comes from the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief, founded in England in 1942. Every year on the Thursday before Thanksgiving Oxfam America unites more than one million Americans in a national expression of concern about world hunger. People organizing locally in the United States are helping to make global changes community by community in the poorest and most remote regions of the world.



THE BEACON/Sam Ireson

FAST SIGN — Wilkes student signs up for the Oxfam Fast for a World Harvest

Ex -Wilkes prof. to discuss chemical risk

An environmental science presentation will be given at Wilkes by Dr. Clyde Houseknecht, an scientist for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The discussion will be in SLC, room 319, tonight at 7 p.m. and is open to the public.

The presentation entitled, "Chemical Risk: How is it

measured and what does it mean?" , will examine methods used by the EPA to assess potential risk from chemicals accidentally or deliberately released into the environment.

Houseknecht, a former professor at Wilkes, is the author of numerous technical reports and publications on the topic of environmental risk assessment.

Scholars Society names officers

BY LYNNE KRUTZ
Beacon Staff Writer

The University Scholars Society elected officers at its recent meeting. Plans for upcoming events were also discussed.

David Crake was elected president of the group. Sophomore Kathy Zoka and freshmen Sue Fritz will serve as vice-presidents. The club treasurer will be Sue Stanski and Suzanne Bianchi was elected secretary.

The club, which is in its second year as a campus organization, was developed in conjunction with the University's new Core Curriculum Honors Program. To earn a core honors designation upon graduation, University Scholars need to complete four core courses on an honors basis. The group is under the direction of Paul Adams, the Dean of Academic Support Services.

According to the club's president, David Crake, the group hopes to hold several cultural events to enhance the academic experience that is Wilkes University in the future.

For more information about application procedures into this program, contact Dean Adams at Conyngham Student Center, second floor.

Notice: Operation Alert is a program designed to reduce the risk of personal attack on and around campus. The program utilizes a personal alarm device that is easily activated if you feel physically threatened. The device can also be hooked up to a door and will sound when the door is forced open.

C.A.R.E. is a program that allows students to phone in anonymous tips to security regarding suspected criminal activity on campus. The extension is #2273.

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Here to serve campus is . . .

By STACY HECK
Beacon Staff Writer

The Development Office is a very important tool for graduating seniors. Being a Wilkes alumnus means special benefits, such as the "Quarterly" magazine, and various gatherings and social events at which many prospective employers attend.

The Development Office is a very intricate system combining fund raising, community relations and alumni relations.

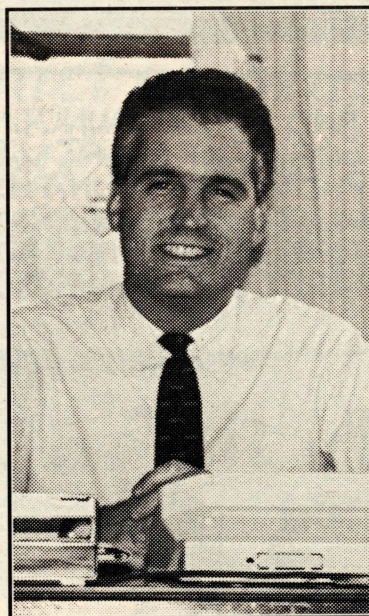
The system begins with Thomas B. Hadzor, vice-president for Development. He is the "Chief Fund Raiser" for the

university and is mainly concerned with the decision making and administrative responsibilities of the office.

He is also responsible for overseeing all the other work being done throughout the office and supporting the president.

"You had a relationship for two to five years and you think it's over, but it's not. We want to keep one with you," said Hadzor. "When you graduate, your relationship with us will change and we will attempt to get to know you better and to be involved in the alumni and support the annual fund."

Sandra A. Beynon,



THE BEACON/Sam Ireson

Mr. Thomas Hadzor, vice president for Development

executive assistant to the Hadzor, deals mostly with the University Council.

Beynon is also involved with planned giving, which is when people include Wilkes in their wills. She also is in charge of legislative initiatives-getting people to write or call their state government to protest cutting funds for the university.

Anthony J. Shipula, Director of Alumni Affairs, makes plans for alumni gatherings and special events

such as Homecoming, reunions, whale watches, and the current trip to see "Miss Saigon."

Shipula agrees with

Hadzor on keeping a relationship with the alumni.

"Have pride in Wilkes, don't hesitate in saying you attended the University. By doing this you are building a better reputation of Wilkes, and a better degree for yourself," said Shipula.

Wanda L. Willis, assistant director of the Capital Campaign, is one of many solicitors who helped raise the \$23 million goal. The money went to fund such projects as the Marts Center, Rifkin Hall, Fortinsky Hall, the Bell Tower, endowments and faculty salaries.

If you have any questions about the Development Office, contact Mr. Hadzor at ext. 4300 or Mr. Shipula at ext. 4130.

Guthrie scholars announced

Wilkes University, the Hahnemann University School of Medicine in Philadelphia, and the Guthrie Healthcare System in Sayre have announced the first Guthrie Scholars, an Integrated Undergraduate/Medical School Program.

The students chosen to participate include: Jeffrey Costello, Atlas; Christie Meyers, Kingston; Ron Nardell, West Wyoming; Jodi L. Powlus, Berwick; Harry J. Rose, Exeter; and Daniel Williams,

Tunkhannock.

The Guthrie Scholars of the Hahnemann/Wilkes Program is a cooperative effort motivated by the regional need for physicians interested in serving rural and semi-rural health care delivery. Each institution is also interested in attracting students and staff members of superior abilities and accomplishments.

Established in January, 1991, the program gives outstanding Wilkes students assurance of early admission to the Hahnemann University School of Medicine, allowing

them to focus their attention

on academic excellence rather than the admissions process.

As Guthrie Scholars, these students are simultaneously admitted to the Hahnemann Medical school, contingent on an interview at Hahnemann and their maintenance of a B+ or higher average in their pre medical science courses at Wilkes. There will be significant financial aid support for the Guthrie Scholars in their senior year at Wilkes.

Junior wins debate honors

The Speech / Debate Union at Wilkes was victorious recently at the 28th running of the Bloomsburg University's "Madd Hatter" Forensic tournament.

The Wilkes team consisted of just one student but that student compiled an impressive set of victories - capturing seven trophies for the competition.

Junior, Al Mueller, finished the tournament as the top overall speaker out of a field of 123 contestants.

"Al went out there and showed fifteen other institutions of higher learning just what type of competitor Wilkes really is. I am very pleased with his progress as a



SEVEN UP — Mueller rolls lucky 7

public speaker," said Dr. Bradford Kinney, coach of the speech and debate team.

The latest Wilkes win moved the Union closer to receiving an invitation to the American Forensic Society's Grand Championship tournament to be held in April in St. Louis. Only those schools that qualify are invited to this nationally ranked tournament.

The next tournament scheduled for the team is the NJ / PA Pi Kappa Delta Invitational Tournament hosted by Monmouth College. Wilkes plans to enter all categories of competition from Debate, Public Discussion to eleven different fields of Public Speaking competition.

Campus crime is lecture topic

The Presidential Committee on Faculty / Student Interaction will hold a forum on Wednesday, November 20th in the Marts Center from 7 to 8 p.m.

"Campus Crime - who is really responsible?", is the topic for the discussion that will be held as an effort toward student and faculty development.

Panelists will include Dr. Liuzzo, Dean Lampe-Groh, Officer Curtis Brand and two or three students.

Student Chair for the committee is junior Al Mueller, member of the Wilkes Speech and Debate Union.



Dean Lampe-Groh, dean of Student Affairs

THE SEARCH IS NOW ON! "MISS PENNSYLVANIA USA" PAGEANT

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Catherine Weber
Miss Pennsylvania USA

If you are an applicant who qualifies and are between the ages of 18 and under 27 by February 1, 1993, never married and at least a six month resident of Pennsylvania, thus college dorm students are eligible, you could be Pennsylvania's representative at the CBS-nationally televised Miss USA® Pageant in Feb., 1993 to compete for over \$200,000 in cash and prizes. The Miss Pennsylvania USA® Pageant for 1993 will be presented in the Grand Ballroom of the Palace Inn (formerly Howard Johnsons), Monroeville, Pennsylvania, March 6, 7 and 8, 1992. The new Miss Pennsylvania USA® along with her expense paid trip to compete in the Miss USA® Pageant, will receive over \$2,000 in cash in addition to her many prizes. All girls interested in competing for the title must send a recent snapshot, brief biography, address, and phone number to:

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WASHINGTON, PA 15301-3399

Tri-State Headquarters Phone Is 412/225-5343

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FORUM

Spread the truth

"I want young people to realize they can practice safe sex. Sometimes you're a little naive about it and you think something like that can never happen to you."

These were the words of superstar Magic Johnson last Thursday afternoon as he announced that he has tested positive for the HIV virus and that he would be retiring from professional basketball.

The world was stunned. And so they should be. Finally, after years and years of talk about the dangers of AIDS, we are now beginning to realize that *anyone*, not just drug addicts and homosexuals, can contract the deadly disease.

EDITORIAL

Just a few days following Johnson's announcement, Rev. Douglas B. Dandridge, a Harrisburg pastor, told his congregation that he too is infected by the virus. Dandridge, father of five, contracted the disease while serving as a medical missionary in a Connecticut AIDS clinic. While removing a needle from a patient with open sores, Dandridge accidentally stuck himself in the hand.

Dandridge's action not only communicates to us that people who are considered the "pillars" of the community can be infected by the disease, but it also demonstrates that the virus can be contracted through "innocent" means.

The most important lesson we can learn from Magic is that the key to remaining healthy and happy is **safe sex**. Johnson has recently revealed that he contracted the virus during the "bachelor's life" he lived while traveling with the Lakers. Johnson claims he was never without female "companionship" while on the road, and he says that he was infected with the HIV virus by having "unprotected sex with a woman who has the virus."

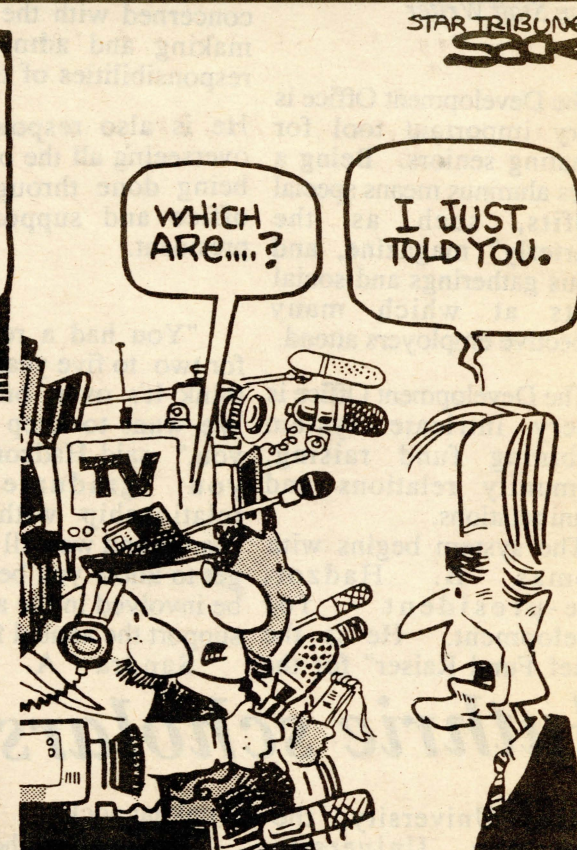
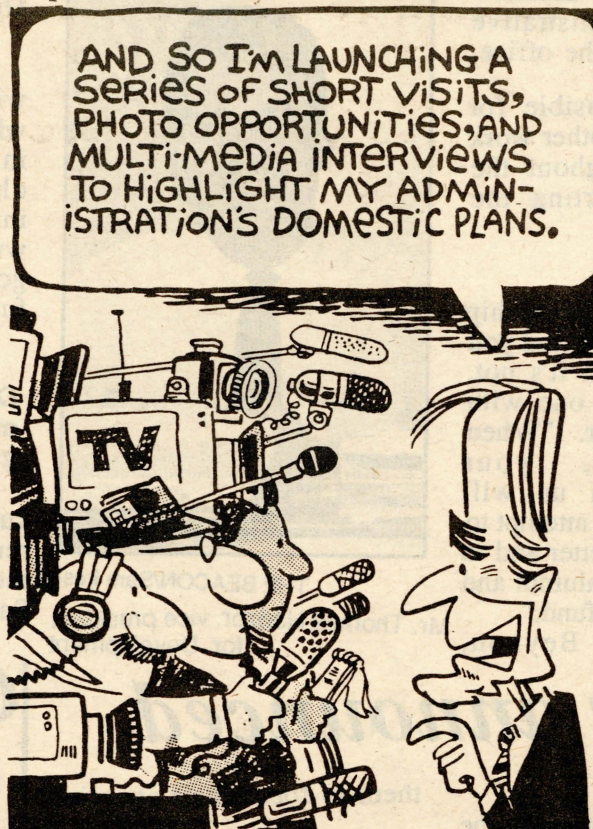
Johnson's revelation should strike fear in the hearts of every American, especially young people. The thought that you could develop the virus from someone you slept with a few years back is absolutely terrifying. What can we, as college students, do to protect ourselves against this deadly disease?

First of all *everyone* needs to practice safe and reliable methods of sex. Before becoming involved in any type of sexual relationship, we should know not only where we've been, but also where the person we're with has been. Believe it or not, people infected with the AIDS virus may remain free of symptoms for an average of seven years, and may not develop full-fledged AIDS for 10 or 11 years. So, in other words, the person you're sleeping with could be infected with the AIDS virus and not even know it.

Probably the most important thing we can do to help stop the spread of AIDS is to become better educated in the facts about the contraction and development of the virus. Many people have been subject to false myths about the virus and do not realize that AIDS can affect them. By learning all the facts concerning the virus, we can help dispel some of these unfounded myths.

Although it is a terrible tragedy, Johnson's experience with HIV and AIDS is just beginning to heighten awareness of a truly terrifying disease. Hopefully, because of Johnson and others like him who are now coming forward, we will soon be able to spread truth and not AIDS.

Editor's note: "Anyone... Anyone... Bueller?" It seems that this just about describes the attitude of the majority of students on this campus. Have you no opinions? Well, if you do, then why don't you express them? We're literally dying to hear from you, so *please* write!



Is someone telling us something?

AIDS.

Magic Johnson.

The Supreme Being must be trying to tell us something.

People from all walks of life are talking about Magic Johnson and his contracting the HIV virus. By him being a worldwide figure and a national hero, it makes one think about the destiny of the world.

I hope that now people will realize that they can get AIDS too. You don't have to be poor. You don't have to be Haitian. You don't have to be black. You don't have to be homosexual. You don't have to be an intravenous drug user. You can be who you are and not practicing safe sex to contract it.

The hopes of professionals in the medical field coming up with a cure for AIDS in the near future seems to look sort of grim. I know that most Americans wish they would come up with a cure and right now. Especially those who adore Magic Johnson.

Magic has always projected love to all, even when he was angry on the court. You have to say to yourself, the Supreme Being must be trying to tell us something.

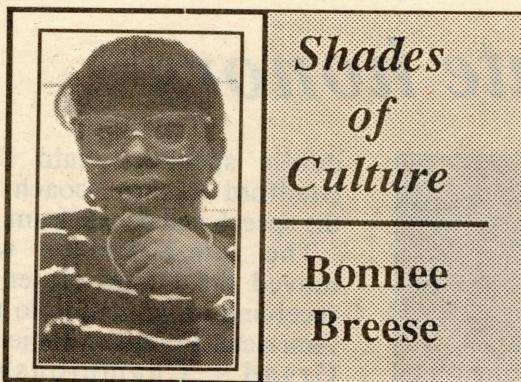
If by now you don't realize the magnitude of the AIDS epidemic, then wake up. It is out there and it can get you. It's like a plague that may eventually leave no survivors.

It's very scary, yet it is hardcore reality.

A college campus is a perfect breeding ground for a disease like AIDS to manifest itself. It is important that we don't forget, if deciding to have sex, to do it safely.

If the person that you are intimate with doesn't want to practice safe sex, then it is up to you to make a heavy decision. Be smart, be safe, so we don't have to feel sorry.

Not sorry ourselves, but sorry for you. The message is clear, Magic says it himself: Practice safe sex.



*Shades
of
Culture*

**Bonnee
Breese**

Magic in his ever fun-loving manner, has not changed. He said on the *Arsenio Hall* show that now he has a new job. That job is to better inform people of the world to practice safe sex.

Safe sex, not abstinence. All it takes are a few steps and simple precautions to save yourself from the life-threatening disease, AIDS.

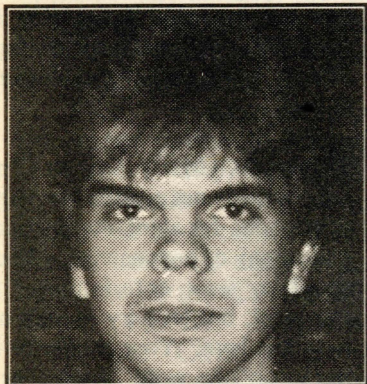
Yes, sex is good, sex is fun, but it can be deadly.

By
SUSAN
MERCHANT

OPINION IN FOCUS

By
JENNIFER
SPITZER

Do you feel that the impact of Magic Johnson's situation will cause Wilkes students to practice safe sex?



Ed Gall
Senior

Maybe, because it will sensitize people for a period of time, but then they will go back to their old ways.



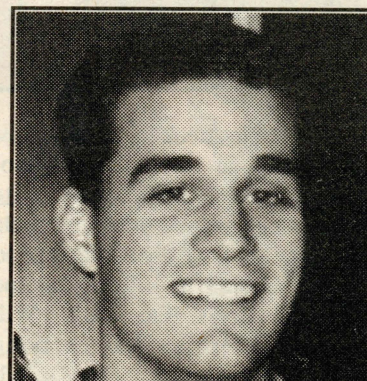
Toni Barnett
Senior

No, because Wilkes students have no concept of reality and they don't think it will happen to them.



Eric VonHoltum
Freshman

I doubt it; people are pretty much set in their ways and until it happens to someone closer to home they won't practice safe sex.



Rob Felton
Freshman

I don't think so because college students don't act responsible in the heat of the moment.



Teri Granahan
Junior

Yes, I think Wilkes students will think about it because anyone can get it.

The Beacon

Wilkes University's Weekly

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EDITORIAL POLICY

THE EDITORIAL REPRESENTS THE COLLECTIVE VIEW OF THE BEACON EDITORIAL STAFF. ALL OTHER VIEWS ARE THOSE OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITER. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOMED, PROVIDED THEY ARE NO LONGER THAN 500 WORDS. LETTERS EXCEEDING THIS LENGTH MAY BE EDITED OR REJECTED ON TERMS OF SPACE. ALL LETTERS MUST BE SIGNED, BUT NAMES MAY BE WITHHELD.

ADDRESS — 2ND FLOOR HOLLENBACK HALL, WILKES-BARRE, PA
PHONE — 824-4651 EXT. 2962

Letters to the Editor...

Dear Editor:

In response to the November 7 article concerning the New Orleans Sports Foundation and the running of David Duke for Louisiana State Governor, we do feel threatened!

David Duke is a person who has had an unforgiving history. As the former Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, he has indoctrinated Americans with hate for blacks and Jews. As stated in the U.S. News and World Report, no one questions David Duke about his selling neo-Nazi literature as recently as 1989, including such tracts as "The Holy Book of Adolf Hitler." No one wants to know about the map Duke published in his white supremacist newsletter in 1984, advocating partition of the United States along racial lines. And no one cares about Duke's racist associations, his plastic surgery to improve his

appearance and even his authorship of a graphic sex manual. BUT WE SHOULD...AND WE DO CARE!

The Wilkes University's Multicultural Student Coalition wishes to express that although Duke has come this far and is probably able to win the election, we would feel threatened if he wins. If a state is able to elect a racist Governor, it could mean less occupational and educational opportunities, and less social and financial support for the black and Jewish community. Which in turn could mean a decrease in their economic, political, and social status. This is a time where racial equality has come a long way. Electing Duke would only prove that we, as a culturally diverse nation, are moving backward and not towards an enriched multicultural future.

The Multicultural Student Coalition

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the entire Wilkes University Admissions Staff, I would like to thank the following groups who helped us before and during our November 9 Open House:

Admissions Work/Study Students
American Building Maintenance
Morrison's Custom Management
Printing Center
Air Force ROTC Detachment
Men's Varsity Basketball Team
Northeast Grounds Maintenance
Staff and Faculty
Resident students who made their rooms available for tours

Student volunteers who helped with campus tours
Again, our sincere thanks for a job well done!!!

Emory P. Guffrovich, Jr.
Acting Dean of Admissions

Drop off your letters and comments at the BEACON office, 2nd floor Hollenback!

FEATURES

Use the force Luke, it's only AT&T

TAR WARS 10: CORPORATE AMERICA

Planted upon the couch a few days ago, I was watching something mindless on the television when I was beset with visions of (no, not Christmas commercials) that American corporate powerhouse, American Telephone and Telegraph (known to the headline writers as AT&T.) Have you ever noticed that the AT&T corporate logo looks remarkably like the Death Star? Seems to me that AT&T is trying to send a not-so-subtle message to the Other Long Distance Companies that these commercials are trying to convince us are the source of all evil. What's next, a picture of Darth Vader?

"I see your schwartz is as big as mine...now let's see how you handle it." — Dark Helmet, Spaceballs

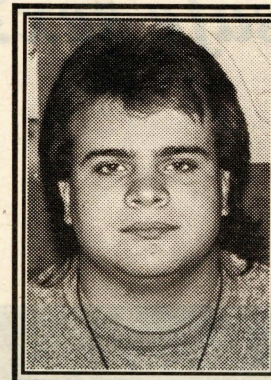
GOOD, GOOD, GOOD, GOOD VIBRATIONS

As if the Beach Boys weren't enough, and the New Kids on the Block haven't made you lose quite ALL of your day's munchies... this Marky (gag) Mark and the (snicker) Funky Bunch (cough) has got to be the most repulsive development of 1991. What twisted personage in the record industry had the

Carvey cont. from pg. 1

minutes, but in that time he proved how versatile and entertaining he can be. He performed the typical stand-up fare as well as some not so typical impressions. Spade did a very accurate and yet still entertaining impression of Michael J. Fox. He made it seem like Michael J. Fox was there on stage.

Spade was a "warm-up" for



The Bottom Line

Jarrod
Norton

misanthropic streak required to foist this particular twit upon us? No, please, your brother wasn't quite bad enough, do you think you could do some more aesthetic damage to the music biz? Will Rocky escape the evil Boris Badenoff? Will Natasha overdraw her checking account again and pay her Visa bill with MasterCard? Will Bullwinkle ever learn that the rabbit has vacated the hat? Watch for next episode: Natasha sings the Credit History Blues — or — Billy Bob and the Brady Bunch

SWAMI CAUSES HAVOC: READERS ALTERNATELY EXPRESS SUPPORT AND SLING MUD

[please note: Due to space constraints, we can't print all of the letters I receive at once.]

O Great and Wise Swami,

I'm writing to you in response to the assault on engineers by the "free thinking" English major. I for one would like to know what the hell an English major does for a living and how they intend to "live" life doing it. As for "sucking" the life's blood out of the rest of the English majors, I'm afraid I am not going to be able to explain what they can suck. As for living life, at least I know that I will be able to entire argument is. I thought that engineers were supposed to work with the environment when designing new projects. You want to destroy it. There are not many natural sites left on earth, because live in this world with a good career and succeed in the life that I have chosen. I am not saying that

the highly anticipated main event, which was not too soon in coming.

Carvey who wowed the 2,100 member crowd with his repertoire of schizophrenic type material proved why he is regarded as one of the premier talents in the world of comedy.

During his nearly 80-minute performance Carvey exposed

the audience to some of his very famous and some of his not so famous characters. Carvey. One of the highlights of the show was the grumpy old man. The old man gave his views in many different areas of life.

Carvey bounced back and forth between his many characters. The audience never knew what to expect

English majors cannot be successful in life, but I think they need to wake up to the real world and fight for the things that are really important. I am talking about the homeless problem, education, and the unemployed. — A very PO'd Engineer

Well, there exist some who might take your view as — um — extremist, but I agree that this "righteous" English major was way out of line with his/her name-calling tirade. I beg to differ: engineers tend to be well-read, and I for one do not appreciate generalizations such as the one oppressively given to the engineers. I let it go last week because I do not want an otherwise fairly intelligent discussion to degenerate into name-calling. And speaking of name-calling:

POISON PEN LETTER FROM A "FELLOW"

To a Future Republican Engineer:

In response to your articles about Walden Woods, I would just like to say that your total lack of any real evidence in support of your position proves just how weak your money-hungry developers with personalities like yours build things with no regard for the surrounding area, which causes serious pollution, and destroys irreplaceable

resources. It's time for people to start going back to basics. Everyone should love and appreciate this one beautiful Earth that is ours. We've done too much damage already. — A Fellow Engineering Major

Thank you, Grizzly Adams. You are obviously not qualified to judge your name, let alone the political philosophy of anyone else. Your soapbox was entertaining, if irrational, but let's try to stay on the topic here. Your first error is the use of the word "future," as I am already a Republican, thank you very much, and I am not the least bit ashamed of it. Second, I am not required to prove my viewpoint. The burden of proof lies with you. Since you are so convinced that your opinion is incontrovertible, offer your evidence that yours is the more correct view. Convince me, and the readers. It appears at this point that you have a powerful affection for the ridiculous. I simply stated that the uproar over the whole controversy is simply ridiculous. This is a view which is not vulnerable to empirical argument. My argument stands fine the way it is, according to the majority of the written response. So prove us wrong. Third, I don't want to destroy the planet. What an inane notion. Also, I fail to see

See BOTTOM LINE, p. 8

next. The audience was exposed to Franz of the world famous body-building team, Garth from Wayne's World and the soon to be released Wayne's World The Movie. No one was left free from the wrath of Dana's comedy, not even his parents and family.

Periodically throughout the evening the crowd began to raise the excitement level

when Carvey hinted at probably his most famous character The Church Lady.

A new character of Dana's is his Uncle Rico who was in conflict, however unsuccessfully, with The Church Lady. That provided a fitting ending to a evening of fun, frolic, and fantastic comedy.

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Blues guitarist to perform at Chicory house

Chris Smither, widely hailed as one of the smoothest guitarists, most gifted songwriters and brilliant song interpreters performing today, will regale the audience with his soulful and affecting fusion of acoustic blues, folk and rock-and-roll when he appears in concert at the Chicory House in Wilkes-Barre, Friday evening, November 15.

The nonprofit, volunteer-operated Chicory House, Northeastern Pennsylvania's only venue dedicated to presenting folk music, holds its coffeehouse concerts in the Community Room of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, South Franklin Street across from Boscov's, in downtown Wilkes-Barre.

The performance starts at 8:30 pm; doors open at 8:00.

No newcomer to the music scene, Chris Smither was born and raised in New Orleans and made his way, in the mid sixties, to the Charles Street folk clubs of Boston, where he quickly became a favorite. Very active as a performer and recording artist though the next decade, he shared stage and studio with

the likes of Van Morrison, Jackson Browne, Taj Mahal, Arlo Guthrie and Jorma Kaukonen. He's still best known for writing "Love You Like a Man" and "I Feel the Same," which became two of Bonnie Raitt's signature tunes.

After dropping out of sight for some years, and enduring some personal hard times, Smither reemerged in 1985 with the album "It Ain't Easy," which was re-released in 1989 to tremendous critical and audience response. "Smither plays acoustic guitar, which is to say Edward Hopper painted pictures," maintains the critic

for the *Hartford Courant*. "His guitar playing is a fluid stream of ringing, emotive moments. His smoky voice is tingled with wisdom, melancholy and a raunchy joy...the finest interpreter of material on the acoustic scene in years," says Dan Gewertz in the *Boston Herald*. In the *Washington Post*, Tom Zito flatly states, "Quite simply the best musician I've seen in a long, long long time."

Chris Smither is an intense and entrancing performer with a vocal style that resonates with his southern roots, while his dazzling fingerpicking guitar technique is reminiscent of legendary bluesmen. Beyond folk and blues, classic rock-and-roll is a major ingredient in Smither's music, particularly the work of the man he describes as "a folk chronicler of the American way of life"-Chuck Berry.

Performing classic American songs, by rockers like Berry as well as a well a wide range of writers in other styles, Smither is a powerful and sensitive interpreter who wrings unexpected insights, humor and poignance from his material. As a songwriter, Smither is one of the most original voices on the scene today-his songs, intelligent, complex and imbued with a wry wisdom, reflect the mature vision of a seasoned writer.

Be sure not to miss Chris Smither Friday Night at the Chicory House in Wilkes-Barre!



JAMMIN — Guitarist Chris Smither sings the blues

Club building a bridge to the future

By CAROLYN DOUGLAS
Beacon Assistant Feature Editor

When you hear the word engineer, what do you think of? Physics? Bridges? The nickname for Lehigh University sports teams? Or one of the most popular, or at least one of the most talked about majors here at Wilkes. Confused? If you are there is a club on campus which can help clear up any confusion you might have, the Engineering Club.

The Engineering Club is returning to Wilkes after being missing from the Wilkes community for some time. The club hopes to bring together engineering majors as well as other students who are unsure about what engineering is or are considering it as a major.

The executives of the engineering club are John Neddoff, President; Jay Kurowsky, Vice-President; Sue Draus, Secretary; and Rob Palandjan, Treasurer; the advisor Dr. Miomen.

The engineering club works in conjunction with the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers (I.E.E.E.). I.E.E.E. is another club but it is a more select group and requires membership dues. I.E.E.E. is an international, specialized group that has had a chapter at Wilkes for some time and is advised by Dr. Armand.

The clubs have several different activities upcoming. They are currently planning a fund raiser, as well as trying to find a club room, and organize some volunteer work. Their major project for this year is a bridge building contest which will take place next semester during engineering week.

According to Neddoff the way the contest will work is simple. There will be teams competing against one another, with supplies given

to them by the club. They will get two hours to create bridges that will be judged on their stability and the materials used in creating it.

The club also wants to get a plaque in order to recognize the winners of the bridge building contest.

The engineering club is becoming more and more popular and interest is growing due in part to an engineering club picnic held last year, which had a huge turnout.

The club usually meets in either SLC room 270 or 223, on Tuesday or Thursday, once or twice a month depending on what is going on with the club.

If you are interested in knowing more about the club, feel free to stop by the next meeting. If you become involved maybe you can do more than just build a bridge.

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'Twelfth Night' at Kings

"Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them."

"I'll be revenged on the whole pack of you."

These and other lines penned by the great William Shakespeare have been reverberating in my brain for the past five weeks.



**STAGE
DOOR**

**Paul
Winarski**

These lines come from the play "Twelfth Night" and are spoken by Malvolio Steward to the countess Olivia of Illyria. This role that has been occupying my every move, and shall do until the production opens on Tuesday, November 19th at the King's College Theatre.

Comedy

BY STEPHANIE KRAMER
Beacon Staff Writer

Students looking to break out of "hump day" took to the C.P.A. last night for a little bit of comedy, with comedian Pat Godwin.

The show began sometime after 8:00 (?). Turnout was smaller than expected, due likely to a confusion as to the actual starting time and place of the show.

Godwin captivated his viewers by actively involving them in his performance. Remarked sophomore Kevin Barno, "Audience participation was a key factor in his great success."

Godwin himself was obviously very comfortable with his show, even making up a great portion of it as he went along. "He did everything on whim," said senior Jason Testa. Many song lyrics involving members of the audience were created right onstage by Godwin as he strummed his guitar.

Godwin performed variations of popular modern rock and oldies songs, including "Dancing with Myself" and "Rockin Robin". He has opened for such national artists as Hall and Oats, Billy Joel, and Peter Townshend.

"Twelfth Night" is Shakespeare's most festive comedy, written just before his dark period. It is also tinged with havoc and dark horror.

The plot concerns a grand trick played upon a stuck up Steward by one Sir Tuby Belch and his counterparts, the wimpish Sir Andrew and Belch's girlfriend the ladies maid, Maria.

The story also concerns the yearning of a lovelorn Duke for a young countess. Tying these two plots together is the story of a young woman named Viola, posing as a man trying to discover the fate of her lost twin brother.

The cast is under direction of King's former Professor J. Gerald Godwin, and consists of many familiar faces, along with a host of newcomers. As stated before I am portraying the Steward, Malvolio, Stephen Lewis has the role of Toby Belch and Noel Hammerbacher will play Viola.

Stage newcomer Sharon McDonnell will play Olivia, and Eric Kawaleski is the Duke.

King's veterans Bridget O'Brien and Tim Trach play Maria, and Feste, the fool. Sam Troy has the role of Antonio. Dan Raygin, also a newcomer, will portray Andrew.

"Twelfth Night" opens November 19th and will run Tuesday through Thursday and Saturday at 8:00p.m.

BOTTOM LINE, continued from p. 6

how an office building causes more pollution just because it happens to be located in Massachusetts.

Get back to basics? How quaint. I assume you use no plastics, wear no synthetic clothing, hunt your own food, and don't drive a car. Sorry, but some of us live in Reality. (And some of us live in Wilkes-Barre. *snicker*) You, friend, need a reality check. Republicans are not inherently evil. It looks like you've been swayed by the bleeding heart liberal (I love that phrase) Democrat propaganda. But now that you know, you can act to correct your erroneous assumptions.

English-Major: I read your response last week, and to sum it up, I pretty much got a "Walden is important, but since you aren't an English Major, I wouldn't expect you to understand" message.

This is roughly akin to saying that you have to be Dr. Ruth to appreciate sex. Now, while squinting and talking in a thick German accent might turn some people on, that's another topic entirely...

However, the question is: where do we draw the line? Thoreau wrote some nifty books, I'm sure, but don't we have copies of the books? Isn't his work more symbolized by his writing than his geographical location during said writing? I can envision you say 15-20 years from now, taking your children there and saying, "(Insert politically-correct gender here), I fought for this land, behold..." Are they going to say, "Gee, I feel so inspired! I can feel the warmth, the anxiety, the joys and sorrows ... I feel like writing something that will make my name be remembered for all generations to come!" No, they're going to say, "Great. Now where's McDonald's?"

My whole point is, we can't preserve everything we see. Imagine a group of construction workers designing an eight lane highway, and saying, "Oops. Hey, didn't Ronald Reagan say something witty on this spot? Well, scrap that... lets try to relocate this farmer over here instead..." Making a parking lot near Walden will NOT detract from anything Thoreau said! (Or Ronald Reagan for that matter). Its not like they're going to backfill the pond with concrete and spill acid all over the place, its only a parking lot. Turn your back and you see the pond, turn around again and see the lot. Everyone's happy, right? -- G.H.T.

Drama competition

Wilkes University will host the regional finals of the Pennsylvania Speech and Drama League's High School Play Competition on Saturday, November 16, 1991. In addition to the six plays that will be performed, Wilkes faculty and students will conduct a series of theater workshops and master classes all day Saturday for students attending the competition. All events and workshops are free of charge.

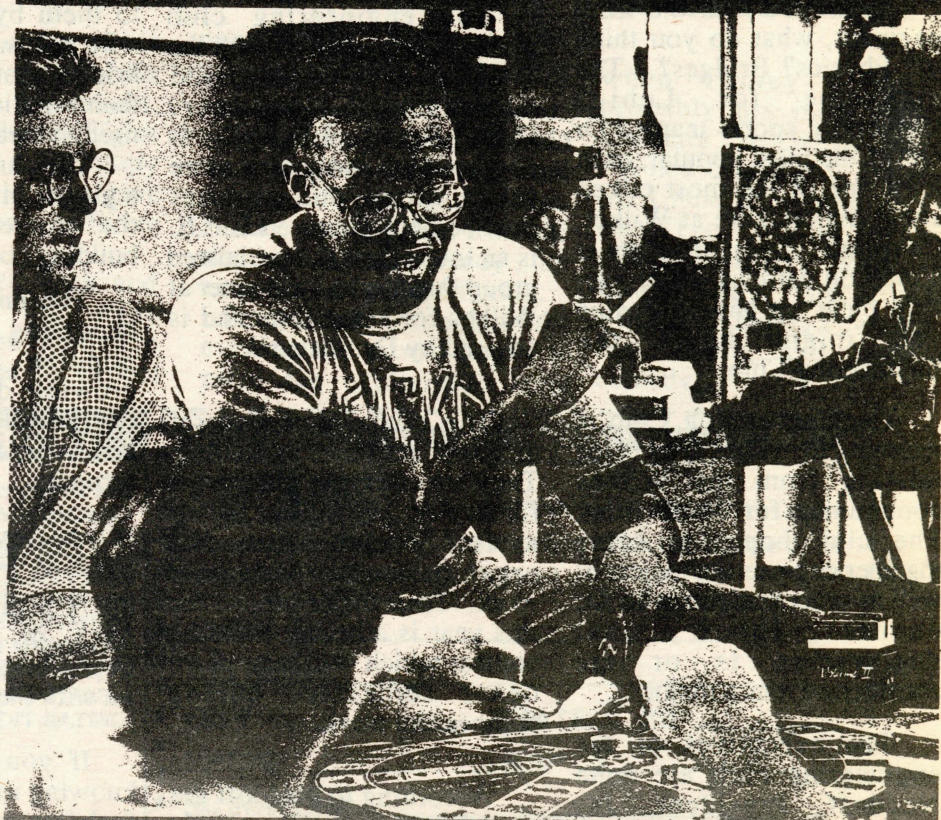
Technical rehearsals with Wilkes students and staff for competing high schools will take place at the Darte Center on Friday evening and Saturday morning, November 15 and 16, and will continue into late Saturday afternoon. All are welcome to attend any of the performances in the Darte Center throughout the day.

In addition to the performances on stage, there will be workshops for high school theater students in Darte Hall. Each workshop will run for forty-five minutes. Students are encouraged to attend any or all of the workshops that appeal to them.

Tours of the plush 500-seat Darte Center for the Performing Arts, including the professional-caliber backstage and shop areas, will be available throughout the day. Information on the theater program at Wilkes will be provided at a special display area in the Darte Center lounge. Members of the Wilkes University admissions office also will be on hand to provide students with information about Wilkes and to arrange tours of the campus during the day.

The Darte Center for the Performing Arts is located at the corner of South and West River Streets on the campus of Wilkes University. Parking is available near the Performing Arts Center all day on Saturday.

You're smart enough to get your
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And you're still smoking?

Campus Announcements

° Writing Contest

Attention all closet writers—the Manuscript Society is sponsoring a writing contest. Categories and page limits include: Fiction- 7 pages typed (double spaced); Essay- 7 pages typed (double spaced); Drama- 10 minute reading time (typed); Poetry- 100 lines (2 pages typed).

You must include your name and address on the back page of each entry (A pseudonym may be used). Deadline for submissions is November 18th.

Place entries in the Manuscript Box in Stark

lobby or bring them to the Manuscript office in room 306 of Chase Hall.

° Attention: Communications Majors!!

There will be a Potluck Dinner held on Wednesday, November 20 in Rumours from 6:30 to 8 p.m. All Communications majors and minors, regardless of concentration, are invited to attend.

Any contributions to the "potluck dinner" would be greatly appreciated.

° Amnesty International

The Wilkes Chapter of Amnesty International meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month at 11:00 a.m. in Room 209 of Stark and the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 3 p.m. in the same location.

All interested students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend.

° Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Alliance

There will be a meeting of the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Association on Sunday, November 17 at 6 p.m. in the Alumni House. The organization welcomes anyone in need of support because of his or her sexuality, and all others who wish to help create change on campus.

The group can be reached at Box 1921 at Wilkes. All letters of inquiry containing a return address or phone number will receive a reply. Unless you specifically request otherwise, all correspondence will be kept confidential.

° Bus Trip

There will be a free bus trip to the Lycoming football game on Saturday, November 16. The bus will leave from in front of the SUB at 10 a.m. Sign up sheets are available at the Information Desk in Stark Lobby. Come out and support your team in the last game of the season!

° Blood Drive Results

The first blood drive was a huge success! A total of 153 pints of blood was donated by both students and faculty plus some generous persons not associated with the University.

The following donors were recipients of prizes donated in conjunction with the drive:

Ken Pidcock	Gift Certificate from Stroud's
Carla Alfano	Tickets to F.M. Kirby
Christopher McCarty	Tickets to F.M. Kirby
Karen Haag	Floral Arrangement
Kim Karrott	Lunch for two at Ramada

In addition to these prizes, the following dorm prizes were also awarded:

1st prize	Ross Hall	\$50.00
2nd prize	Butler Hall	\$30.00
3rd prize	Slocum Hall	\$20.00

° Interfaith Calendar

Coming events sponsored by Interfaith include: *Shopping with a difference to make a difference*, a bus trip to Lancaster, Pa. to self-help crafts. Do your holiday shopping while helping families in developing countries. There is a \$15 fare, and interested persons are asked to please register early.

Native American Spirituality, an afternoon retreat at Mercy Center in Dallas led by Ted Williams, a native American and author of *Reservations*. The fee is \$5 (please note the change in price) and reservations are required.

These events are open to all, and interested parties may contact Ned Smith, Interfaith liason, at 823-4168, or Constance Kozel, director of the Interfaith Resource Center, at 823-9977.

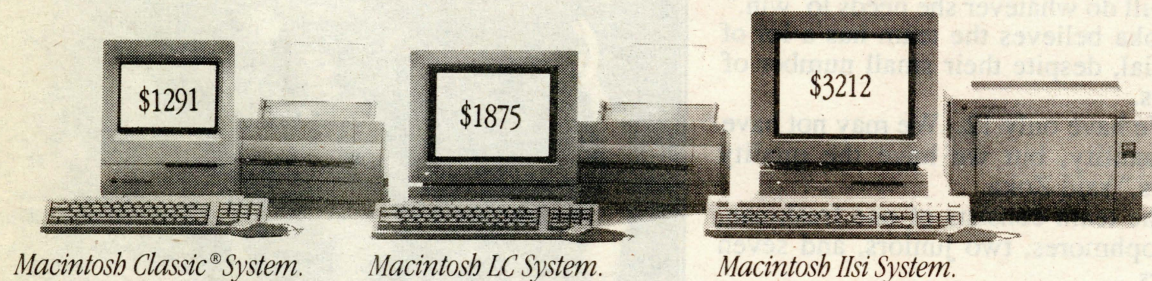
° Soviets coming to Wilkes

The Soviet Union Junior National Wrestling team will be coming to Wilkes on Saturday, November 16 to wrestle the Colonels. The Soviets are the foremost wrestling power in the world and they will bring their expertise to Wilkes as part of a U.S. tour. The match with the Soviets will start at 8 p.m., but other events are being planned in conjunction with their visit.

Just a reminder...

All announcements must be received by 6 p.m. each Tuesday in order to appear in Thursday's issue.

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SPORTS

Grapplers debut in wrestle-offs

By **BOB SIMMONS**
Assistant Sports Editor

Looking for some new faces in the upcoming winter sports season. But just are not sure where to find it?

Look no further.

The Wilkes University wrestling team is loaded with some new talent, that is mixed in with a few veterans.

According to head coach John Reese, the team has the talent, but is lacking experience in some of the weight classes. "We have new people in the line up and are confident they will produce once the season gets under way," said Reese.

The team held their annual Wrestle Offs Monday night before a large crowd in the Marts Center. Reese said "I was very pleased with the turn out, especially the number of students that attended."

"This gives us a chance to perform in front of people and will give us confidence for the season," added Reese.

The people in attendance saw some great matches and realized that the Colonels' wrestling team means business.

The first match at 118 lbs. had Lou Leeds taking on Brady Taylor. "Leeds has more experience and this caused the

match to be one sided," Reese said.

At 129 lbs. Ray Markulies will get the starting job for the Colonels. There was no elimination in this weight class because Marty White was unable to wrestle due to sickness.

The best competition occurred in the 134 lb. weight class and also had the most impressive and intense wrestler, Dave Bonomo. The first wrestle off had Paul Stuart going up against Dave Russo. Stewart took Russo into overtime to capture the victory. In the second wrestle off Stuart faced Bonomo, and Dave came away with the win.

In the 142 weight class Barry VanScoten defeated Mike Evans in a close match.

The 150 lb. class had co-captain Eric Feese defeating Nester Nunez 6-2.

At 158 lb. there was a battle of newcomers. Freshmen Scott Stepe took on sophomore Josh Gray. Stepe won the match by a score of 7-4.

The 167 lb. class had co-captain Anthony Guidi going against Marty Strayer. Guidi won the match.

There was no wrestle off in the 177 lb. class. Chris Gardner will be starting in this weight class.

The same was the case for the 190 lb. weight class. Aaron Tufankjian and his brother Dearon Tufankjian are the two wrestlers in the weight class. "Both young men have wrestled each other in practice about four times. So there was no need to have them wrestle," Reese said.

The heavy weight class has Kevin Williams, who is out with an injury, Darren Hack, Eric Palmer, and Reggie Stencil. Eric Palmer wrestled Darren Hack in the first wrestle off. Palmer won the match 4-2. In the second wrestle off, Palmer took on Reggie Stencil who won the match in overtime.

On Saturday, November 16, at 8:00 p.m., the Colonels will take to the mat against the Soviet Junior National Wrestling Team.

This will be an exhibition match and Reese hopes his team will gain some experience that will carry over into the opening match.

"This will be something that these men will remember for a life time. It will be a great experience for all of us and we will gain international exposure," Reese said.

In looking to the upcoming season Reese said, "we need to get experience and get our injured people back and ready to go. We'll get better as the year goes on because we will gain experience."

Seniors guide Lady Colonels

By **CAROLYN DOUGLAS**
Assistant Features Editor

1991 is the year that marked the end of one decade and the beginning of the last decade of the 20th century.

It is also the year that marks a time of change for Wilkes University's Lady Colonels' basketball team.

With the addition of a brand new head coach and some player changes, the Lady Colonels are primed and ready for the 1991-92 season to begin.

The Lady Colonels have already had several scrimmages and will have a few more before the official beginning of the season.

One scrimmage that took place last Friday may have ended in a loss but according to junior Missie Chinchar, they were able to work out a lot of their problems.

Two-time captain Krista Zoka has several goals for the team, as well as some personal goals.

One goal Zoka has for the team is to make it to the Middle Atlantic Conference Championships. In order to qualify, the team would have to finish in first or second place.

Zoka believes the team is coming along well together. "The key is to stick together," added Zoka.

As for her personal goals, Zoka said "she will do whatever she needs to win."

Zoka believes the team has a lot of potential, despite their small number of players.

"We have only 12. We may not have the quantity, but we have the quality players," said Zoka.

The team consists of one freshman, two sophomores, two juniors, and seven seniors.

Although the team is ranked fourth in their division, it is believed they will end higher, and improve on last year's 13 and 12 record.

Chinchar believes Wilkes' toughest competition will be from nationally ranked Elizabethtown.

The first official game of the season is Saturday November 23, against Carnegie Mellon.

If desire and determination decide a basketball team's record, then this year's Lady Colonels squad should go undefeated.



HIGH REACH — Women's basketball fires up for new season

Skins' on the East warpath

By **JOE MOSCHELLA**
Beacon Staff Writer

The NFC East is filled with five of the most competitive teams in the NFL. What makes this division so unique is that every team has the ability to erupt into Super Bowl contenders at any time.

Presently the Washington Redskins sit at the top of the division with a perfect 10-0 record. They have the most explosive offense in the league, with the exception of their AFC counter parts, the Buffalo Bills. The Bills match up close to the Redskins offensively, but defensively they can't come close. The Redskins defense is healthy, mature and most of all mean. If the Redskins can

stay healthy for the remainder of the year, they can probably start sizing their fingers for their Super Bowl rings.

The defending Super Bowl champion New York Giants (5-5), played the Redskins about as well as they could be played. The only problem was they forgot about the second half.

The Giants talent wise, could have the best team in pro football. They have one of the best blends of age and youth along with depth that could be asked of a team. The problem; injuries, lack of leadership, desire, and confidence. The Giants could still land a wild card spot with a win over Dallas on Sunday, but the way they have been playing, don't put money on it.

The heart-break of the division is the Philadelphia Eagles. The Eagles (5-5),

command the number one defense in the NFL, but lack an offense to make it payoff.

The offense suffered its biggest loss of the season with the injury of All-Pro quarterback Randall Cunningham. Randall gave the Eagles one of the most explosive offenses in the league, without him the offense seems like a college without parties. Jim McMahon has done an admirable job filling in for Cunningham, but Philly needs its acrobatic quarterback in uniform to contend this year. A wild card berth seems realistic with the outstanding play of the defense.

The Dallas Cowboys (6-4), are one of the most improved teams in recent years. Jimmy Johnson has worked wonders with this once 1-15 team, but the time for this team is in the future. The youth seems to show to often and the defense has to many weak links.

The Cowboys are in a good seat for a Wild Card, but remainder of their schedule poses too many threats. Look for the Cowboys to be a dominant threat in the future through excellent coaching by Jimmy Johnson and masterful running by Emmitt Smith.

At the bottom of this intense division is the Phoenix Cardinals. The Cards seem to have the ability to upset any of the other teams in the division.

Head coach Joe Bugle has installed a powerful running game behind Johnny Johnson and Anthony Thompson, but the team is still too one dimensional. They need to expand the quality of play from the defense and the Cards might just surprise a lot of people in the future. Presently with the intensity that this team plays with, it makes them a great threat to any of their opponents.

The NFC East offers the most explosive football in the league out of every team in it. The biggest question it poses today is, who can stop the Washington Redskins?

NFC EAST STANDINGS

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Washington	10	0
Dallas	6	4
N.Y. Giants	5	5
Philadelphia	5	5
Phoenix	4	7

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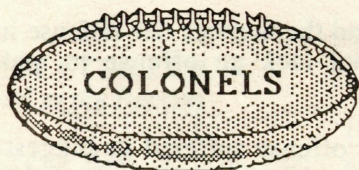
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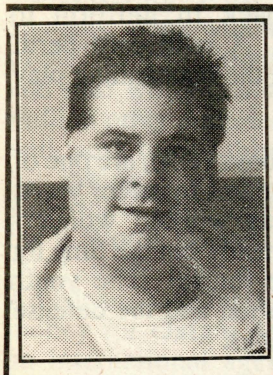




Sports



"Magic" will always be Magic!



From
the
Bleachers

J. R.
Rupp

"Because of the HIV virus I have attained, I will have to announce my retirement from the Lakers today."

Those are the words of Earvin "Magic" Johnson as he announced last Thursday that he has tested positive for the AIDS virus.

A deadly disease that has been a part of American life for almost a decade, has now hit close to home.

For those of us who did not realize it as a growing problem, we have just learned a harsh lesson in life, and realized that it can happen to us.

Johnson has become the most prominent American known to have contracted the HIV virus.

For a man who was just diagnosed as having a deadly disease, he was anything but somber. He displayed a beaming smile, similar to the ones he always displayed while on the court.

The point at hand is that Magic does not have AIDS, but the virus that eventually leads to the disease. Magic is now stepping forward as a spokesman for the HIV virus and AIDS and its prevention.

Myself, being a fan of the Celtics, I always had a hate relationship towards the Lakers. Well, now it is time to put away the sport team favorites, and take a look at a man who is no longer fighting for the winning edge in a game, but fighting for his life against a disease that has taken many before him, and will take many after him, if a cure is not found soon.

Johnson is truly an ambassador of the game of basketball around the world. Johnson is part of a select group that we can recognize by just one word. Larry, Isiah, Michael, Magic.

Magic was to be a member of our 1992 Olympic team. He will not go as a player but he plans to go as a motivator for his fellow NBA stars.

People will begin to talk now. Why all the publicity over Magic Johnson? After all others have contracted the disease and a big deal has not been made. However, something like this finally makes people stand up and take notice, that it can happen to anyone.

I know this is a deadly disease, but let's get off the subject for a minute, and discuss Magic the basketball player.

Johnson displayed some awesome career numbers. He was a member of five World Championship teams while with the Lakers, three Most Valuable player awards, and the NBA record for assists.

Johnson grew up in Lansing, Michigan and was a product of Everett High School. He stayed at home to continue his education at Michigan State, where he excelled in basketball.

Johnson left Michigan State after his junior year, but not before he staged one of the most exciting NCAA finals ever.

His Michigan State Spartans squared off against Larry Bird and his Indiana State Sycamores, before 15,000 fans at the University of Utah Special Events Center. Johnson and his teammates came away with the title. This was the beginning of many great matchups between Johnson and Bird.

The players of the NBA have put aside their league of competition, and have reached out with a league of friendship. Johnson received an outpouring of support from all NBA players, old and new.

Johnson's former coach Pat Riley was stunned by the news. Riley, who now coaches the New York Knicks, had to hold back the tears when he heard the news. That night before a Knick game against Orlando, he asked a sold-out Madison Square Garden crowd for a moment of silence before leading everyone in the Lord's prayer.

Just this past Tuesday the Philadelphia 76ers', Charles Barkley announced that he is changing his number from 34 to 32. Number 32 had been retired by the 76ers in Billy Cunningham's name, however, Cunningham gave his consent.

Also, the corporations that Johnson represents, all called to tell him that they are behind him.

We all see the love and support that Magic has been receiving. Yet, there are millions more out there who have this deadly disease, and are left to die alone.

Johnson had the courage to go public with his his announcement, and for that he should be commended. For those who are HIV positive or possess the AIDS virus, they should not be afraid or ashamed for what they have. Our country showed their compassion towards Magic, the same should be directed towards those who are also afflicted with this dreadful disease.

It is unfortunate that something like this has happened, but it makes us take notice on how fragile our lives can be. This is more than a story on sports it is a story on life. Even a sports fanatic like myself, had to stop and think for a minute, this is bigger than I ever imagined. It seems that safe sex is now the norm instead of the alternative.

Even though you do not wish for something like this to happen, God could not have picked a better spokesman. He will give this disease a big fight.

Magic, your on court performances will be missed, but always remembered. But as a Celtic fan I am glad to see you retire, but not for these reasons. Somehow, I always envisioned you and Larry Bird retiring side by side.

The Earvin "Magic" Johnson era as a member of the Lakers is over. However, now he begins his biggest fight, the fight for his life, and the fight for a cure.

Hats off to the "Magic Man," a superstar both on and off the court.

Good Luck Magic!



WEDDING MAGIC — Cookie and Magic Johnson at the altar