

The BEACON

Wilkes University Wilkes-Barre, PA

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

MARCH 21, 2005

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University master plan readied for Trustees' scrutiny *Call Center acquisition highlights campus expansion.*

BY MYLES RUMBLE
Beacon Correspondent

The Wilkes University Master Plan, which anticipates the physical future of the campus over the next 15-20 years, is finally ready to be presented to the Board of Trustees next month.

The plan includes proposals to change various physical aspects of existing buildings as well as possibly what the buildings house for the next 20 years.

The plan calls for a "divestiture plan" in which some of the current buildings on the Wilkes University campus will be relinquished by the University. The plan also calls for the acquisition of some buildings not currently owned by the university.

Perhaps the most dramatic is the proposed acquisition of the former Call Center at the corner of Main and South Streets. The Call

Center may be converted to consolidate several offices into one building.

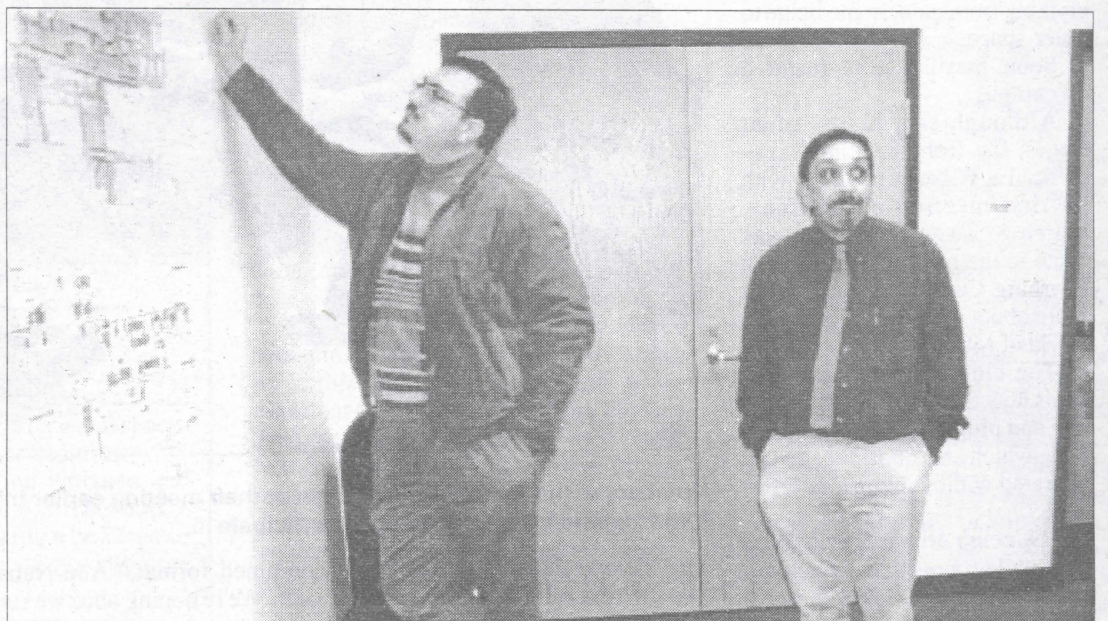
New to the final presentation of the Master Plan was the addition of a time schedule for when these changes might take place. While most of the changes are far into the future, some will begin almost immediately.

"Within the next 60 days, we will begin negotiating with the city for the Call Center," said John Pesta, Director of Capital Projects and Planning.

Other projects that will begin shortly are renewal of the Darte Center, renovations to Chesapeake and Delaware Halls, and planning of the new Health and Sciences building.

Pesta warned that the Master Plan is not set in stone. It still

See **PLAN** Page 5



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Jason Parise, Associate Director of Admissions, and John Pesta, Director of Capital Projects and Planning look over the Master Plan at the open forum last week. The Master Plan is now set to be presented to the Board of Trustees.

New Members on Exec. Board



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Julia Buss, former Vice President of Student Government (SG), assumed the position of President after the recent vacancy of the office. This left a vacancy in the Vice President position. Members of SG held nominations where junior Andrew Steinberg and sophomore Mike Meoni accepted the nominations and senior Madhan Srinivasan and junior Ashley Joslin respectfully declined. Steinberg won the vote for Vice President. For more on happenings in SG see Student Government Notes on page 3.

Career Fair plans to help students for the future

BY MEAGAN BROWN
Beacon Correspondent

With midterms just over and finals creeping around the corner, it is easy to forget that one day college will be over and students will all have to get a job. That is why Wilkes has career services, which exists to help students get a job, an internship, or even apply to graduate school. This year, Wilkes University career services are combining forces with four other area colleges to bring potential employers and students together.

Wilkes University, along with College Misericordia, King's College, Marywood University, and the University of Scranton, will sponsor Employment Fair 2005 at the Wachovia Arena on Thursday, March 31. Carol Bosack, Director of Career Services, says that the joint fair came out of a hope for a bigger student presence. "When you're a small school you want to promise employers that they can meet hundreds of

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Strength for a Reason



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NEWS

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Robots set to take over Wilkes University

BY JOSEPH DEANGELIS

Beacon Layout Artist

Robots have often been featured in sci-fi thrillers like the recent film *I-Robot*; but they've also been used more practically in everything from modern medicine to outer space.

Soon, they'll also be featured on campus.

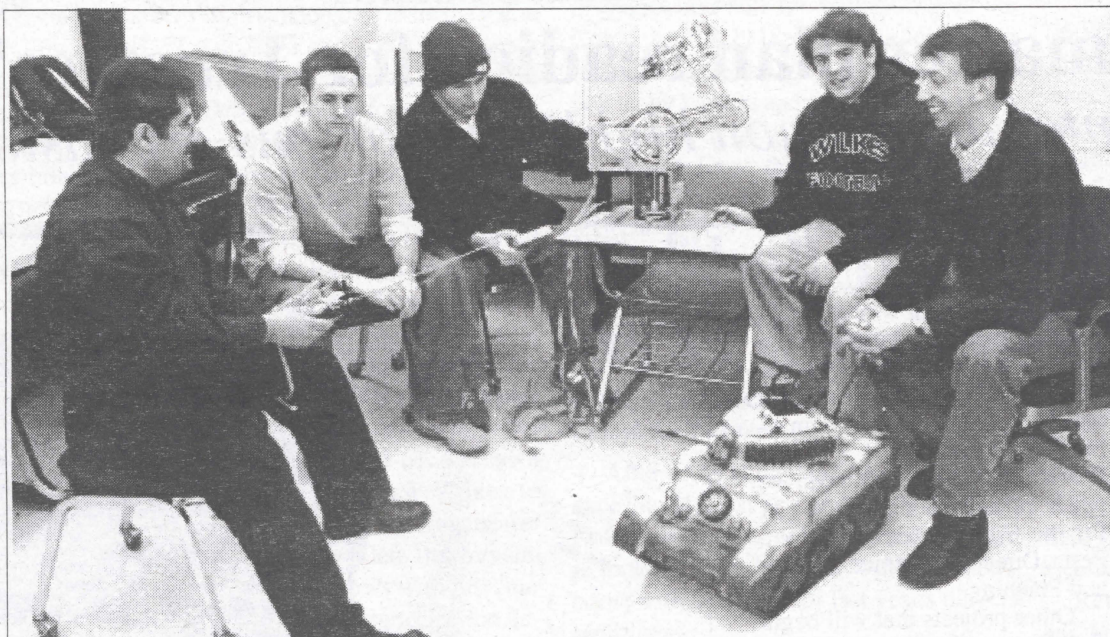
Although still in its infant stages, the Robotics Club commenced at Wilkes University with its first meeting on Tuesday, March 8. Twenty-four students came to the meeting in the Stark Learning Center (SLC) to learn more about both the club and the world of robotics.

The club aims to teach students how to build, operate, maintain and program autonomous robots, which are robots that can be operated without human interference.

"Our club primarily will focus on mobile robots that are autonomous," said Matt Zukoski, an assistant professor of mathematics and computer science and a co-advisor for the club.

"The Robotics Club started with an idea from the CS (computer science) and the engineering department combined," said Hisham A. Abu-Nabaa, an executive engineer who serves as co-advisor to the club. "Both departments have an interest in starting robotics courses," he added.

Robotics courses have not been offered at Wilkes for some time because of a lack of instructors proficient in the discipline. Abu-Nabaa and Zukoski were specifically hired to fill this void.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Members of the Robotics club gather at their meeting earlier this month to discuss plans for future events the club is going to participate in.

They believe that there is a growing interest among students to learn about robotics, which is becoming an ever-growing field in engineering.

In fact, the U.S. Department of Defense has mandated that by 2015 one-third of all military vehicles must be autonomous.

"There's a growing interest across the country in robotics, partly due to the war in Iraq," said Zukoski. Because of this, along with an increasing demand for robots in manufacturing industries, there will be more careers available in robotics.

"Robotics is very interesting, in my belief, to the students and it really puts some application to all that they learn in classes in a

combined format," Abu-Nabaa said. "We're hoping once we start producing some of the products that we're working on and have students participating in competitions it will gain more interest in the public and the students eyes." One such product, Abu-Nabaa explained, is autonomous robots.

But before these student-built robots are able to invade campus, there are several meetings and events that the club is planning for the near future.

Members of the robotics club will start off by participating in an obstacle course race on Saturday, April 30 in the Arnaud C. Marts Center. The race will feature toy tanks that will be oper-

ated by the students with a remote control. The tanks will have a computer and a camera installed in them. Since everything will be color coded, the software will have to determine what is an obstacle as the tank tries to get its way through the course.

Both Zukoski and Abu-Nabaa plan for the club to participate in

national competitions such as RoboCup, a competition between robotic dogs playing soccer, and Battle Bots, a competition between two homemade robots. Also, they plan to enter an elite robotic race, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Grand Challenge, which is a race between schools across the country of autonomous robots for 175 miles of desert roads and trails. The winner receives a grand prize of \$2 million. So far, the farthest a robot has traveled was seven miles.

Since it involves a lot of disciplines, the club is open to all majors. In particular, they need computer scientists for the software, mechanical engineers to build the robots, electrical engineers to do the wiring and psychologists to study the social application of these robots, such as how they get along with humans.

The Robotics Club will also be a part of the new Center for Computational Intelligence, which will be in SLC 127. This center is to foster research in artificial intelligence, computer vision, computational assistant, robotics and undergraduate research.

Fair from FRONT PAGE

students. So there is a strength in numbers," said Bosack.

The job fair has been held for about 15 years. "The colleges took turns hosting each year, and this is about the fourth year we've been together at the arena," said Bosack of the joint fair.

This year, the job fair hopes to bring out approximately 100 potential employers. Employers from all fields will be present and they will be from various areas of the state. Lisa Mulvey, Career Development Coordinator at Career Services, said there will be a diversity in the areas.

"We do get school districts

from Boston and the state police department to come to the fair," said Mulvey.

Students can find out what employers will be at the fair by visiting www.collegecentral.com/npecemploymentfair.com.

According to Bosack, the job fair is meant to act as a preliminary screening. "A bad resume and a bad interview can kill a job opportunity and the job fair will help students learn how to present themselves," said Bosack.

Students attending the job fair are expected to dress professionally, which means suits and ties for men and appropriate business

attire for women. They should also be prepared with plenty of résumés for potential employers to look at.

Bosack says that students who want to attend the job fair should have their résumé checked by career services before March 29.

Students can go to career services for more information or have their résumés checked. Students can contact career services at careers@wilkes.edu, 408-4060, or by stopping by the Max Roth Center on the corner of Franklin and South Streets.

The BEACON

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

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Courtesy: Associated Press

Jury acquits Robert Blake of killing his wife

LOS ANGELES, CA--A jury acquitted tough-guy actor Robert Blake of murder Wednesday in the shooting death of his wife four years ago, a stunning verdict in a case that played out like pulp fiction.

The jury also acquitted Blake of one charge of trying to get someone to kill his wife, but deadlocked on a second solicitation charge.

The 71-year-old star of the 1970s detective drama "Baretta" dropped his head, trembled with emotion, and let out several deep breaths after the verdict was read.

Courthouse shooting suspect appears before judge

ATLANTA GA--Ringed by 19 officers in a cinderblock jail room, his hands and ankles shackled, the man accused in the crime spree that left an Atlanta judge and three others dead went before a judge Tuesday for the first time since the rampage.

Brian Nichols, 33, was informed that authorities plan to charge him with murder.

Nichols was held without bail on the rape charge he was on trial for Friday, when he allegedly overpowered a guard at the Fulton County courthouse, stole her gun and started a rampage that terrorized Atlanta and left four people dead.

Suspect in girl's death returns to Florida

HOMOSASSA, FL--The convicted sex offender who authorities say confessed to kidnapping and slaying 9-year-old Jessica Lunsford returned to Florida in shackles Sunday as her family grieved for the girl who vanished from her bedroom.

John Evander Couey was booked early Sunday on a probation violation and failure to register as a sex offender, officials said. He was being held without bail.

Couey, 46, confessed to kidnapping and killing Jessica after taking a lie-detector test Friday in Georgia, officials said. The girl's body was found early Saturday, more than three weeks after she was snatched from her bedroom.

Doctors remove Terri Schiavo's feeding tube

PINELLAS PARK, FL--Lying in her hospice bed with a crowd of protesters gathering outside, Terri Schiavo stopped receiving nourishment through a feeding tube that has kept her alive for more than a decade.

Doctors removed the tube Friday despite an extraordinary, last-minute push by Republicans on Capitol Hill to use the subpoena powers of Congress to keep the brain-damaged woman alive.

Schiavo, 41, could linger one to two weeks, provided no one intercedes and gets the tube reinserted--something that has happened twice before.

NEPA Experiencing Growth Shoppes at Montage breaking ground

BY JULIE MELF

Beacon Asst. News Editor

It almost seems every time you turn a corner a new business is developing in NEPA, and this spring will prove to be no exception.

With a groundbreaking ceremony set to take place in April, Shoppes at Montage is expected to open its doors to shoppers in the late summer of 2006.

The 325,000 square foot mall will be located near Cinemark Theaters, Montage Ski Complex, and the Lackawanna County Stadium. The mall will be the region's first upscale shopping complex and hopes to attract customers touring Montage Mountain.

"[The mall] will be situated in what's becoming a very strong tourist area and we're thrilled to add and expand to the draw that Montage Mountain has already been successfully achieving," said Tracy Nemenz, marketing director for Jeffrey R. Anderson Real Estate, Inc.

Shoppes at Montage will be one of one hundred lifestyle shopping centers nationwide and will feature a long wish list of fashion and home furnishing retailers such as Williams Sonoma, Coldwater Creek, Ann Taylor Loft, Chico's and NY & Company. Side restaurants may also include Claddagh Irish Pub, Max & Erma's, Panera Bread and Bravo! Italian Cucina. Anderson is also looking into adding local merchants to the list as well.

Although stores may be a bit pricey for the average college student, senior and junior business majors Tara Priest and Sara Toole plan to check out the new complex and do some bargain-saver shopping.

"I'd go window shopping and buy from

the discount racks...it's good for the economy, but then again you can always buy the cheaper 'knock-off' stuff online," Priest said.

"I don't have money now, but when it's built in a few years I will, and then I can go," Toole said.

However, this expansion, and possible boost in NEPA's economy, has not gone without controversy similar to the protest behind building the Wachovia Arena back in 1999.

In the February 24, 2005 edition of the *Scranton Times*, the Moosic Borough Planning Commission heard opposition for the mall before unanimously approving the project's development plan. The protest came from Tim Rubin, a vice president of Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust, which owns the Viewmont Mall in Dickson City and the Wyoming Valley Mall in Wilkes-Barre, and James Walsh, the general manager at the Mall at Steamtown. Both worried about the impact it will have on their businesses and added that the demographics of the area do not support the level of shops being proposed.

Besides adding jobs to the area, Anderson Real Estate will also be spending over \$50 million on the project and feels it will not take away from other local businesses. Nemenz stated that comparing the Shoppes at Montage to malls is like comparing "apples to oranges" and that Shoppes at Montage will be "filling a large gap in NEPA and featuring merchants and restaurants that are not available anywhere else in the region and is in fact no way competing with other malls for business."

Student Government Notes

At the March 2 meeting:

Student Government assumed a new meeting time, 5:15 p.m. (previously 5:30 p.m.) as of Wednesday, March 16. Meetings are held in Marts 214. All students are encouraged to attend and participate.

SG announced the schedule for the upcoming class officer, representative, and presidential elections:

Class officer/representative elections (student body vote via Wilkes email): Tuesday and Wednesday, March 22 and 23

SG/CC/IRHC President nomination signatures due: Friday, April 1 @ 4 p.m. in the SG office, 1st floor HSC

SG/CC/IRHC President elections (student body vote via Wilkes email): Thursday, April 14

SG executive board nominations (in-house nominations -- only newly elected SG representatives are eligible): Wednesday,

April 20 @ SG meeting, 5:15 p.m. (Marts Center, 2nd floor)

SG executive board elections (in-house vote): Wednesday, April 27 @ SG meeting, 5:15 p.m. (Marts Center, 2nd floor)

The Equestrian Club appeared for a second reading for club status. SG voted 32-0-1 to recognize the club.

The Psychology Club came for the second reading

of its fund request for \$1,274.46.

Money would be used to attend the Eastern Psychological Association Conference in Boston, Massachusetts. The conference was March 10-13. SG voted 17-5-4 to give them \$800.

SG voted 17-3-6 to allocate \$100 to participate in the Saint Patrick's Day parade on March 13.

At the March 16 meeting:

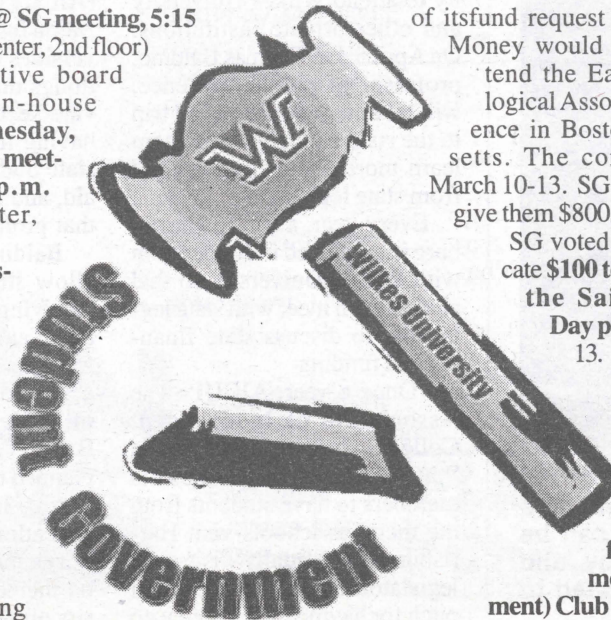
The SAM (Society for Advancement of Management) Club appeared for the

first reading of its fund request. They are asking for \$1,000 to send 16 students to the National SAM Conference in Las Vegas, NV. The conference will take place from April 2-6 and students will present a business case in the competition. They will appear at next week's meeting for a second reading and vote.

The Biological Society appeared for the first reading of its fund request for \$5,330. They are asking for the money to send 13 to present research at the American Society of Plant Biologists in Seattle, WA from July 15-21. They will appear at next week's meeting for a second reading and vote.

A bookstore committee was formed to come up with ideas for future changes to the bookstore.

Members of the Month are Candice Davis and Jen Cerra.



Chutzpah Award winner slated to speak at Max Rosenn Lecture Series

BY KRISTIN KILE
Beacon News Editor

Irshad Manji, award-winning journalist and author, will be the speaker for the 24th annual Max Rosenn Lecture Series in Law and Humanities, April 10 in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center at 7:30 p.m.

Manji is the author of *The Trouble With Islam: A Muslim's Call for Reform in Faith* and most recently won the first-ever Chutzpah Award—an honor sponsored by Oprah Winfrey.

The lecture series was established by his law clerks in 1980 as a tribute to Judge Max Rosenn of the Third Circuit Federal Court of Appeals. The series has featured numerous speakers who have touched on subjects from politics, international studies, to foreign affairs and terrorism. Rebecca Van Jura, coordinator of special events said Manji was recently featured in an article in the *New York Times*, which caught the attention of many of Rosenn's law clerks.

"In light of her coming here,

Judge Rosenn had responses from his law clerks from all over the country...saying, 'wow, this is a great choice of speakers this year,'" Van Jura said.

Manji is expected to speak about her book *The Trouble With Islam: A Muslim's Call for Reform in Faith*. According to her website the book explores the inferior treatment of women in Islam, the Jew-bashing in which many Muslims partake, and the continuing of slavery in countries ruled by Islamic regimes.

"The goal is to create a leadership center that will attract young, reform-minded Muslims to network with one another so they see that they're not alone," Manji told the *New York Times* earlier this month.

Along with the Chutzpah Award from Oprah Winfrey for "audacity, nerve, boldness, and conviction," Manji has also received numerous other awards. She was named Feminist for the 21st Century by *Ms. Magazine* and received the Simon Wiesenthal Award for Valor.

"I encourage students to come. I really do. I think these are issues that are very topical for all of us, especially young students and minds that are coming into of age and are questioning what things are all about instead of taking this as they are and not stirring the pot so to speak," Van Jura said.

After the lecture, Manji will take questions from the audience. Van Jura said she would like to see students in attendance because many of the lecturers like to hear questions from students. There will also be a reception after the lecture in the upper lobby of the DDD.

"There will be a book signing. She will be there. People will be able to purchase her book and also get it signed by her," Van Jura said.

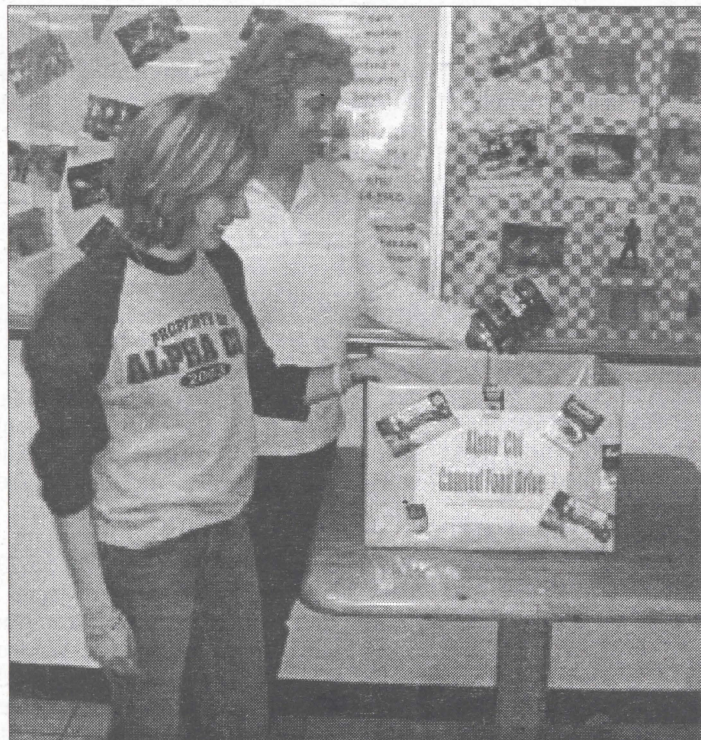
The university bookstore will be selling her book prior to the lecture and it can also be purchased at the reception. For more information on Manji visit her website at www.muslim-refusenik.com.



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

Irshad Manji was chosen to speak for the Max Rosenn Lecture Series on Sunday, April 10.

Alpha Chi Food Drive



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Alpha Chi, National Honor Society, will be holding a canned food drive through March 23. Boxes can be found in the Henry Student Center, Stark lobby, and Breiseth lobby. All items collected will be donated to REACH, Inc.

Trip to Harrisburg will provide outlet for financial aid concerns

BY JEREMY ZUCKERO
Beacon Staff Writer

State financial aid is an integral part of many students' ability to attend Wilkes University and other private institutions. On April 5, Dr. Thomas Baldino, professor of political science, will take students on a road trip to the state capital to help them learn more about financial aid from state legislators.

Every year, a trip to Harrisburg is organized in cooperation with Wilkes University so that students can meet with state legislators to discuss state financial aid funding.

"Once a year, AICUP (The Association of Independent Colleges and Universities) in Pennsylvania organizes its members to have students from the member schools visit Harrisburg and actually visit state legislators and make a personal pitch for having more money go

into the financial aid pool for private school students," Baldino said.

According to Baldino, Wilkes is a member of the AICUP. "It [AICUP] acts as a spokes-organization for private colleges and universities in Harrisburg advocating things that are important for private sector schools ... (such as) having more money put into the state budget for student financial aid, and for (creating) legislation that promotes higher education."

Baldino said that this trip will allow students, especially those receiving state assistance, to learn about and discuss the importance for financial aid.

Dr. Paul Adams, Vice President of Student Affairs, agrees with Baldino's assessment of the planned trip and said that the University is happy to sponsor this educational opportunity. He believes this trip reflects positively on the education Wilkes University aims to provide.

"One of the things we strive to do with the Wilkes education is to help young people take what they learn in the classroom and apply to real-life situations and here is an opportunity for them as undergraduates to get involved in some legislative lobbying activity, on behalf of their own interests and the interests of private higher education in Pennsylvania. It's about creating an experience that can't be duplicated in the classroom," Adams said.

Students who are interested in attending the trip should contact Baldino at campus extension 4474 or via email at tbaldino@wilkes.edu, as seats are still available. The trip is open to all students. The van will leave campus at approximately 7:15 a.m. on April 5 and depart from Harrisburg at approximately 3:00 p.m.

MASTER PLAN from FRONT PAGE

must be approved by the Wilkes Board of Directors. "It's probably 90% accurate or complete in this form," Pesta said.

When students return to campus next fall, they may see some changes. These changes could include the addition of the Call Center to the campus and some renovations to Chesapeake and Delaware Halls.

"Some functions may be in the Call Center, but I don't think it will be fully occupied," Pesta said.

In addition, Chesapeake and Delaware Halls will still be functional. "We are doing it in two phases, so it [Chesapeake/Delaware] will still be functional as a residence hall," Pesta said.

The Master Plan discussions on campus have taken place throughout the past calendar year. Students, faculty and staff were invited to review the revised Master Plan and given one last opportunity last week to sound off about the proposed changes to the campus.

"There have been a lot of people. We've seen a good representation from faculty, staff and administration," said Becky Mullins, Principal of Gould, Evans, Goodman and Associates. She estimated there had been roughly 60-75 people in attendance during the first three sessions. Mullins also stated that response as been positive from those in attendance.

Jackie Aiello, a freshman psychology major, was on hand to take a look at the plan. "They're making the campus bigger, which is good," Aiello said in regard to the plan.

Aiello also hoped the Master Plan will keep the older look of the campus. "I like the older look of the campus," Aiello said. "If they keep that kind of design - that would be good."

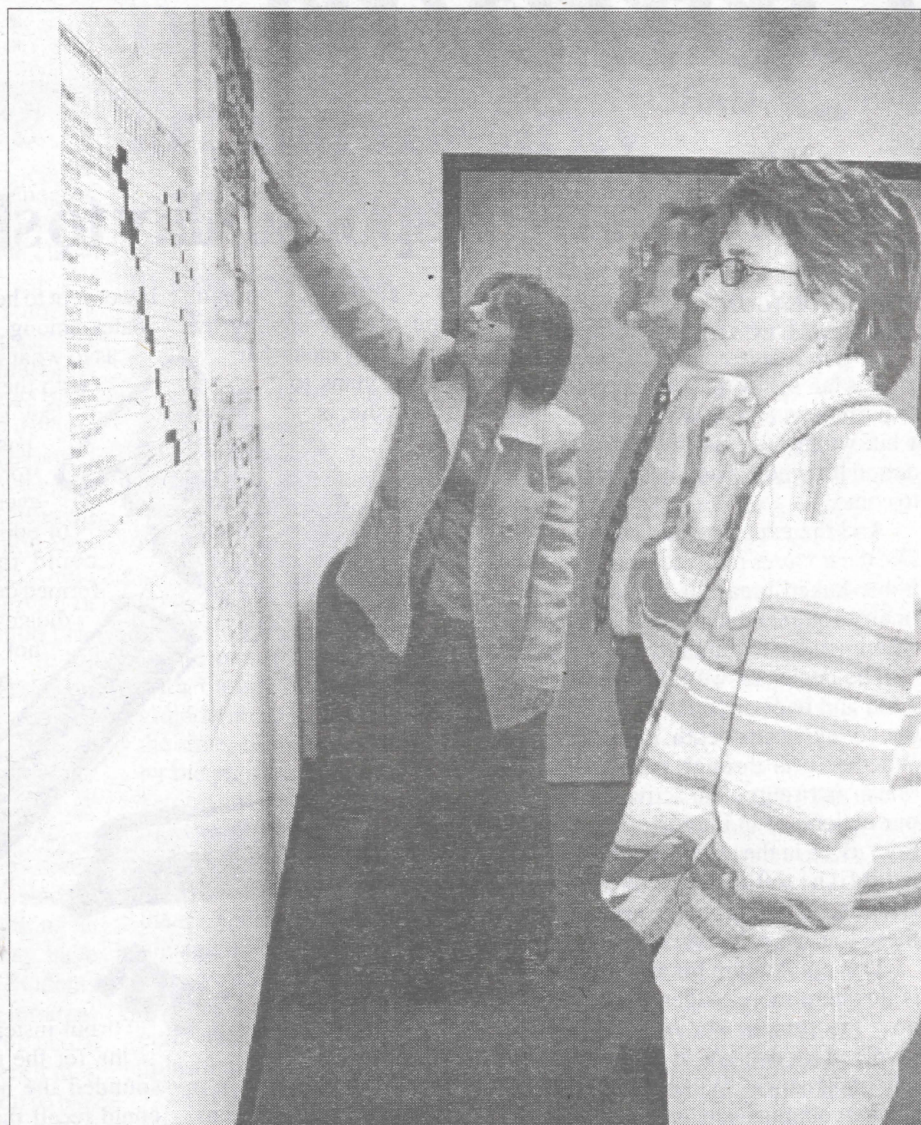
Mullins commented that a lot of the detail is still in the air. "When you master plan, there is always the next level of detail," Mullins said. However, part of the plan includes the physical relocation of some historic and important buildings on campus.

Aiello felt the most interesting part of the Master Plan will be the renovations to the Stark Learning Center (SLC). These renovations are scheduled to take place while some current students will still be attending Wilkes. The renovations include the demolition of the east and south wings of SLC and converting the rest of the building into different uses, including part as dorm rooms. In addition, a new Health and Science Building is proposed for construction on South Franklin Street between South and Ross Streets.

Some students who currently use the SLC were shocked at news of the planned transformation and relocation of the sciences. Jeanie Stapleton, a sophomore psychology major and neuroscience minor asked, "Why would you tear down a building that has been here for how many years? And it seems to be efficient the way it is." However, Stapleton did admit, "I do think Stark could use some remodeling and updating."

With regard to the students concerns, Mullins also said that the buildings chosen to tear down or relocate, such as parts of SLC, "are in poor condition or are poor contributors to the institution."

The next step in the Master Plan is to present the final project to the Board of Trustees. The board has to approve the plan in order for changes to begin. Once it is approved, Wilkes will be on its way to achieving its goals.

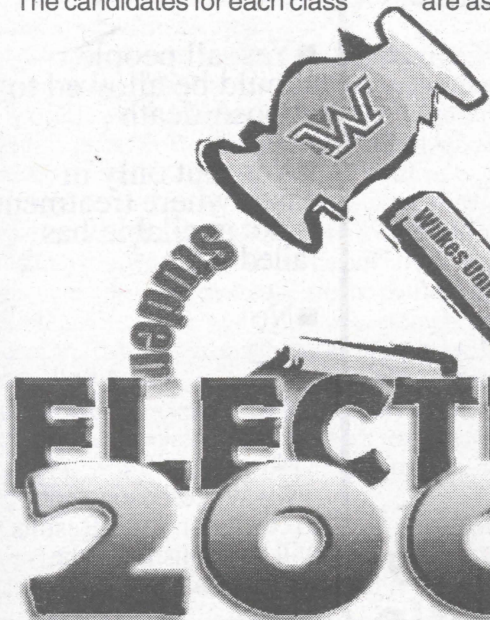


The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
Becky Mullins, Principal of Gould, Evans, Goodman and Associates discusses the Master Plan with members of the Wilkes community.

Parliamentarian Releases 2005 SG Candidate List

Student Government (SG) Parliamentarian Jared Shayka released the names of candidates for the 2005 SG General Board Election, which will be held on Tuesday, March 22 and Wednesday March 23.

The candidates for each class are as follows:



Sophomore Class

Class Reps

Alison Woods
Dana Zlotucha
Melanie Duncan
Courtney Zanatski
Mark Congdon Jr
Nicole Krajewski
Robert Bireley

Treasurer

Tony Scerbo
Amanda Yardchik

Secretary

None

Vice President

Kimberly Toussaint

President

James Juice
Michael Vertuli

Junior Class

Class Reps

Amanda McMahan
Jennifer Lutz
Jenna Strzelecki
Shuji Shafqa

Treasurer

Sarina Kapoor

Secretary

Jenn Cerra

Vice President

Andrew Eckert

President

Dave Scordino
Candice Davis

Senior Class

Class Reps

Allyson Bazarsky
Andrew Steinberg
Jared Shayka
Jonathon McClave
Crystal Wah
Sara Grab
Ashley Joslin

Treasurer

April Kostick

Secretary

Ashley Mcbrearty

Vice President

Jennifer Ramil

President

Stephanie Victor

ELECTIONS March 22 & 23
***Check your Wilkes email**

| | |
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| Narconon Program | 7 |
| Art and Vulgarly | 7 |
| Your Voices | 7 |
| Death with Dignity | 8 |
| St. Patrick's Day | 8 |

Students have responsibility to share in governance

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL BOARD

It is fair to say that our campus experiences shape who we are while we are here, and lay the foundation for who we will be in years to come.

And the experiences can vary like the textures of bread-- hearty, home-baked bread of substance or airy commercial bread that rips when you try to butter it.

The decisions we make--both good and bad--are ones that give our college years depth, richness. Whether it is through participation in extra curricular activities in our majors, or in internships that train us, or in the relationships we establish with mentors and friends, what happens *now* in these four years *matters*.

This preparation for the future is nowhere more evident than in how the student body becomes involved (or doesn't) in its everyday governance. Wilkes University is a community in its own right; therefore, one of our most important responsibilities as members of the student body is that we actively participate in it.

Perhaps most important among our responsibilities as active, vital community members is to elect appropriate Student Government (SG) officials and representatives. When such opportunities for involvement arise, all Wilkes students have not only a right, but a responsibility to act.

Luckily, we have an immediate opportunity on our campus. Elections for student body representatives for the upcoming year are in full swing on our campus. With this opportunity available to us, we need to take the time to look at past elections and make the sorts of decisions that truly reflect our values and our hopes for Wilkes.

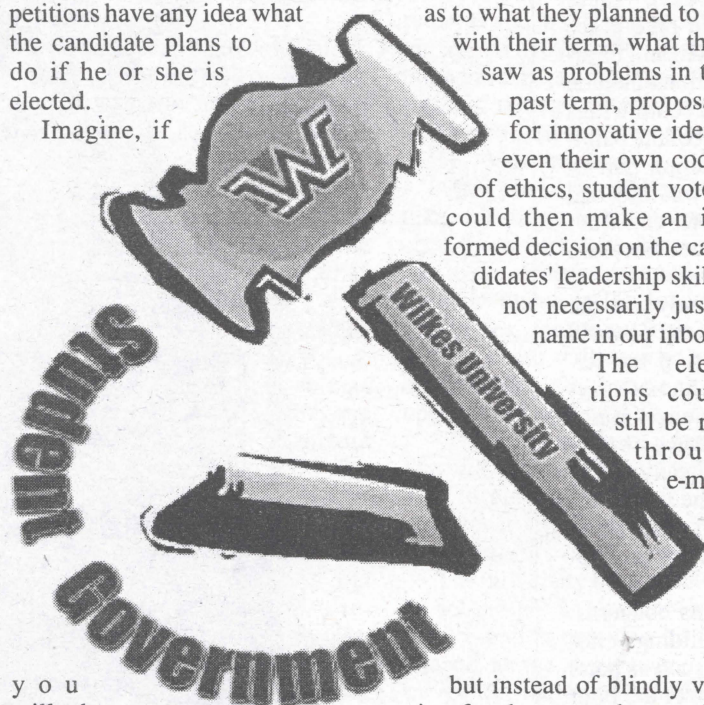
In recent years SG elections have been electronic. The students actually interact physically only when candidates collect signatures for support. But even then, some of us end up blindly signing a paper for a person who we merely know from occasional interaction in the caf. Nevermind if the would-be representative actually offers the sort of leadership

Wilkes students need. Nevermind if those signing the petitions have any idea what the candidate plans to do if he or she is elected.

Imagine, if

If we were to hear speeches or debates among all the candidates as to what they planned to do with their term, what they saw as problems in the past term, proposals for innovative ideas, even their own codes of ethics, student voters could then make an informed decision on the candidates' leadership skills, not necessarily just a name in our inbox.

The elections could still be run through e-mail,



you will, that we ran our elections like our most recent presidential elections.

but instead of blindly voting for the name that we felt sounded the most familiar, we could recall the winner of a de-

bate about a particular campus issue or we could remember what that person stood for and what they planned to do if they were to become a representative.

The bottom line is that SG controls a great deal more money than most students know--and, like taxes, most of us should have some desire to see *our* money spent wisely. Beyond money, SG also makes policy decisions--policies that impact Wilkes students' lives. SG members are addressed by campus administrators on larger issues of technology, space, tuition, and many other things. How many of us know where our representatives stand and can make informed votes?

Wilkes students, like the American public, need to reclaim the democratic process. We need to act like responsible voters: call for debates and community discussion of issues, ask questions of candidates on things that matter, and then we need to *act*.

Beacon Poll Results

The following are results of a poll that *The Beacon* conducted online the past two weeks. The poll was unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on campus. Results are based on 40 responses.

The Beacon asked:

Which technological device could you not live without?

| | |
|-----|----------------|
| 60% | Cell Phone |
| 0% | PDA |
| 3% | iPod |
| 5% | Digital Camera |
| 8% | Jump Drive |
| 25% | Laptop |

Next Issue's Question is:

With the Supreme Court considering the Death with Dignity Act, should assisted suicide be legalized?

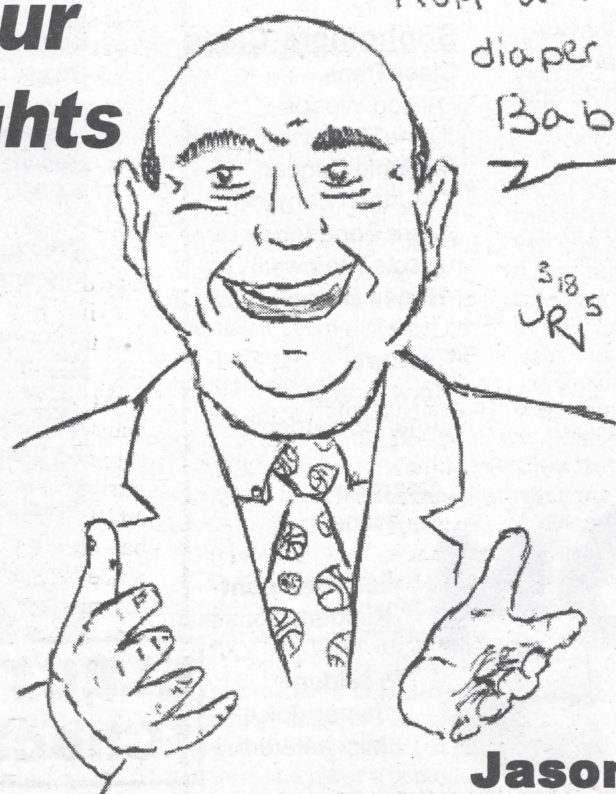
■ Yes, all people should be allowed to choose death

■ Yes, but only in cases where treatment is not available/has failed

■ No

Visit www.wilkesbeacon.com to cast your vote. Results will be published in the April 11 issue of *The Beacon*.

Nickle for Your Thoughts



By:
Jason Nickle

California Narconon program: *Truth in drug education relative*

BY CURRAN DOBSON
Beacon Staff Writer

Pride.
My Anti-Drug.
Friendship.
My Anti-Drug.
Colored Ooze.
My Anti-Drug?

According to an anti-drug program taught in Sacramento, California's public school system called Narconon Drug Prevention and Education, drugs produce a colored ooze as they exit the body. This anti-drug program also states that drugs can be sweated out in high temperatures, such as in a sauna, and can also store themselves in a person's body fat and cause repeated flashbacks of previous highs.

Narconon is a secular program based on the research and writings of L. Ron Hubbard, who also founded the Church of Scientology, but the program has been criticized for teaching students a variety of inaccuracies about drug abuse. Other misinformation included incorrectly explaining that the amount of a drug that a person took determined whether the drug acted as a depressant or a stimulant. Some proponents even de-

scribed drugs as ruining a person's creativity and dulling a person's senses.

While this anti-drug program has been removed from the public school system in Sacramento, I have to question why it was ever permitted to run in the first place. Didn't the superintendent of the school district review the proposed material and the syllabus before initiating it? I understand that the school may have thought any drug prevention and education program was better than no program; however, I have to disagree. While teaching these inaccuracies would promote a negative response to drug abuse among the students, it is not appropriate to send students the wrong messages.

Students should be taught the accurate facts about drug abuse and be allowed to deduce from the correct information the dangers and problems with taking drugs. I believe that telling students what prolonged cocaine use can truly do to your body is much scarier and more effective than having them believe that a green ooze will suddenly emanate from their pores hours after sniffing a line of coke. Colored ooze may seem frightening; however, it is a ridiculous claim to make in

a world where most teenagers have previously been exposed to drugs prior to entering the classroom.

Many high-school students may already know that there is a difference between depressants and stimulants, a difference other than the amount of a drug that you take. When a student is exposed to a supposed fact that they know to be untrue, they may discredit the rest of the information presented to them as false as well. This underscores the purpose of having any drug prevention program at all.

Members of the Sacramento public school system may have thought that hiring a group of people to teach students *anything* about drug prevention was better than students knowing *nothing* about drugs. However, in this case, teaching a student inaccuracies about something as serious as drug abuse can have serious ramifications. Students may wind up discrediting information they learn about drug abuse from their schools or elders if they are exposed to information so blatantly untrue. While it is important for students to become knowledgeable about drug prevention and abuse, they will not benefit at all if they are taught lies.

Drawing a line between art and vulgarity *What is art, anyway?*

BY KRISTYN OSTMAN
Beacon Guest Writer

I like to consider myself a bit of an art connoisseur. I try to visit the museums, I go to art shows and galleries and I keep up with the news, not that the art world has much.

Many were shocked and offended with the pieces shown in the exhibition, "Sensation," where paintings were adorned with blood, feces and pornographic images. I admit that, at the time, I too was taken aback by the premise of the show. But getting older has not completely disillusioned me enough to shrug off everything.

My recent news findings in the art world are disturbing. Going against the laws of nature, I bring you, Gunther von Hagens. He is a German artist that has earned his fame from the art of "plastination."

What is plastination? I'm glad I was sitting when I learned. Perhaps you should too. Plastination is the process of taking a corpse and replacing natural body fluids with soft plastic. This gives the body enough rigidity to be displayed. Before you start wondering how this is legal, he has run into some problems regarding his dealings with bodies but I'm afraid that I do not know European law regarding this matter.

Now, von Hagens has set his sights on a new project. He wishes to build a factory in Poland devoted to creating and displaying his "art", suggesting that this factory will create 300 jobs for workers in the area. I don't want to get into the exhausted rant of "our desensitized society." Instead, this raises an intriguing question of 'what is art?' It is a nebulous concept that has allowed people around the globe to call anything art, including, my personal favorite, an upside-down garbage can titled, "Empty Room."

By no means am I objective. Like anyone, I have particular tastes. Just because I am horrified by von Hagens's techniques,

it does not give me the authority to say that it isn't art. But how can he retain the title of artist? I feel cheated. He is no more than a charlatan force-feeding us his disturbed hobby under the pretense that it is art. The real tragedy is von Hagen making a living off of people who are unwilling or unable to draw the line between art and vulgarity.

We cannot continue to use the excuse that "art is anything" as a reason to pass off repulsive images as remarkable. He perpetuates the belief that the absolutely revolting is somehow striking. Obviously, this is not empowering, inspirational or beautiful. Here is where my emotions get the best of me, suggesting that art needs to be beautiful.

Being horrifying and distasteful is not a difficult task; however, inspiring the human spirit takes pure brilliance. Even pieces that are not attractive can have a deep and lasting effect. For this article, I've done a bit of research into what scholars believe is the definition of art. What I've learned is that we have allowed ourselves to believe that art cannot be held within the strict confines of a single description. We fear that even an open-ended definition would stop our aesthetic growth as a culture.

Artwork is part of the foundation of our culture, which is why it is critical that we prevent this downward spiral. Over the course of human civilization, nations have risen and fallen. For fear of trivializing the entire span of human history, we have gained most from what our ancestors left behind in the different art forms. From architecture, jewelry, and literature to the tiny drawings on coins; we have been given a glimpse into their views on politics, religion and so much more.

Perhaps the solution does not lie in knowing exactly what art is. Instead, we should know what it isn't. If we begin with a strong definition of indecent and crude work, then society can evaluate a piece and know where it stands. It's not just art; it is part of our statement as society to future generations.

Your Voices

Dear Editor,

Prior to this week's edition of *The Beacon*, I received a phone call from Neal Santoski asking for comments about this year's softball season. After completing the phone interview, I hung up feeling excited that Wilkes softball was finally going to be covered by a student writer, instead of using the SID's articles found on the web.

Now that I have read Santoski's published article, I am more disappointed than excited. Unfairly, he forgot to name about half of the members and starters on the team! I understand how redundant an article becomes simply listing names, but Santoski's "infield" is falsely described. This includes forgetting to mention two members of the MAC all stars, Senior Andi Dominick and Junior Jan Nunemacher; respectively shortstop and catcher, two key starters on our team.

Also, there are two freshman pitchers, as reported, named Sarah Plavchak and Kristy Bogdany, that will be part of our infield. Both names I feel should have been mentioned. As it reads now, the article makes it seem like Bogdany will be the only freshman playing, which is not true. For whatever reason that sophomores were not mentioned in the outfield, Shelly Pheiff, who was a starter last year, will once again be out there, and should have not been forgotten when explaining the members of the outfield.

I understand that only so much can be highlighted in an article, but when the infield and outfield was being described for the "starters" specifically, I feel that all of our starters names should have been mentioned giving fair and well deserved recognition. Overall, there should have been more research completed about the outlook of this year's team before the article was published.

I hope that Wilkes Softball will be covered in *The Beacon*, but more credibly, for this will be an exciting season to come!

Sincerely,
Alexis Petite, Senior, softball team member

Like it or not . . . the people have spoken

BY MATT ZEBROWSKI
Beacon Op-Ed Asst. Editor

As anyone who has ever read more than one of my editorials is probably painfully aware by now, I work part-time in retail.

Not exactly a conservative dresser, I try to avoid wearing leather or suede or any other products that are made from animal hide. Except in some instances where I haven't been able to find a durable and waterproof alternative. But, when I'm at work and someone comes into the men's department asking me to help them pick out a conservative, conventional leather jacket, I realize that society says my role as a cashier is to show them that jacket, so I have to put my ideology aside and, well, do my job.

Not to compare apples to oranges here, or to make light of what some consider to be a very serious situation, but sometimes I wish that people in other professions, specifically health care, thought the same way.

While medicine is by no means retail, they are both jobs. With a job comes the responsibility to fulfill the duties of that job, whether or not they are compatible with your political, philosophical, or religious views. For instance, if you should choose to be a pharmacist, but you morally object

to contraception, it's still your job to fill your customers' birth control prescriptions anyway. Them's the breaks, buddy. It's what society says pharmacists do.

The whole issue of sometimes having to distinguish between "my job description" and "the things I think about when I'm not at work" seems like such common

case brought by the United States government considering the constitutionality of the law.

But I really

The Death with Dignity Act may change the job of a doctor in Oregon, but that's Oregon's business until Oregon changes its mind, or the nation as a whole decides to overrule it.

sense to me, especially because if the two are *really* incompatible there's always the option of, you know, finding another job. So, I never really thought the issue was much of an issue--especially not in the rare cases where citizens actually *voted* as to what that job description entails.

Oregon is currently the only state in the nation to have legalized physician-assisted suicide for terminally ill patients through its Death with Dignity Act, and the Supreme Court agreed last month to hear a

case brought by the United States government considering the constitutionality of the law. But I really don't understand the uproar. It's not like those crazy Oregon lawmakers just made this up without the approval of their constituents. No, the Death with Dignity Act is 100% voter-approved. So I really don't understand how opponents of the act say that physician-assisted suicide is not part of the duties of a doctor. I mean, isn't that what the vote was for? Didn't Oregon's citizens decide that they *wanted* it to be part of the duties of a doctor?

It's also not like Oregon doctors are forc-

ing anyone into anything. Soilent Green this is not; the law contains specific and stringent requirements concerning the physical and mental state of who can and cannot request physician-assisted suicide.

In the interests of full disclosure, I'll admit that I personally have mixed feelings about the whole physician-assisted suicide business. I like to think that if I were stricken ill, I'd learn to live with the pain, no matter how intense, and, hopefully, experience great emotional and philosophical growth as a result of my suffering (see also: *Life as a House*). But that doesn't mean I would want to force everyone to suck it up, and besides, when it came down to it, look at where all the tough-guy posturing got Hemmingway. The fact of the matter is that, right or wrong, the people of Oregon have spoken.

Allow me to clarify by citing another recent example: the gay marriage bans that passed in several states last November. Do I agree with these bans? Absolutely not. Was I mighty pissed off when they passed? Affirmative. Do I support the rights of the citizens in these states to have a ban if the majority of them want one? I do, even though I think they're wrong. Now that they've been passed, no matter how disgusting, bigoted, and discriminatory I think these bans are, until a second statewide vote overturns them or a federal amendment reversing them is ratified by the people of the nation as a whole (which, thankfully, I think is only a matter of time), I see no way that we can fairly say that the voices of the people in these states do not count.

Such is the case with the Death with Dignity Act. The people of Oregon have spoken, and until they speak differently or there is a federal mandate outlawing physician-assisted suicide, like it or not, I don't see how we can't say that the vote stands. The Death with Dignity Act may change the job of a doctor in Oregon, but that's Oregon's business until Oregon changes its mind, or the nation as a whole decides to overrule it. So now that doctors in Oregon have a redefined job, it's up to the people who may not like it to, well, do *their* jobs as citizens and vote.



Top o' the Morning

A revisionist approach to St. Patty's Day

BY WICHITA L LENG
Beacon Correspondant

Saint Patrick's Day is the holiday for wearing green and being Irish. Being that I am 100% Irish, it is a great tradition that pays tribute to my favorite Saint.

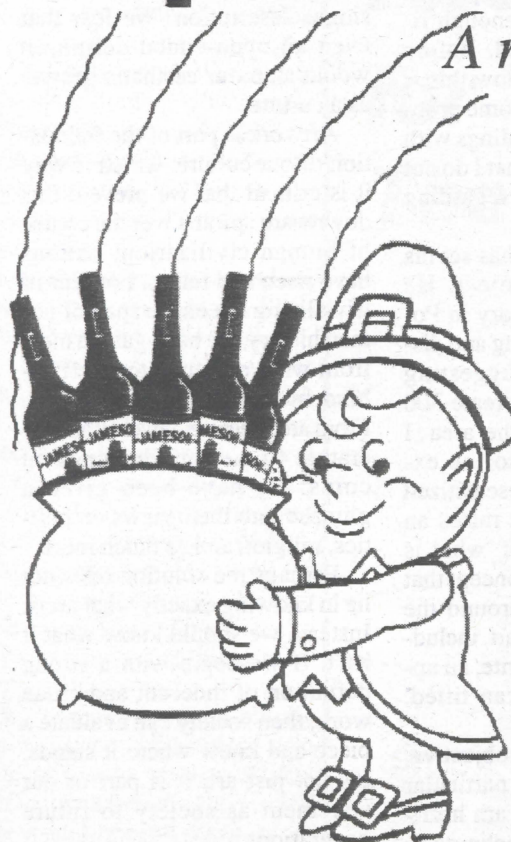
During Saint Patrick's Day everyone remembers Irish culture: Saint Patrick, the Blarney Stone, leprechauns and the four leaf clover. Yet, everyone forgets to mention the notorious Irish Potato Phantom. The Potato Phantom was born of angry potato parents. You see, it was the Irish that started growing potatoes as a vital part of their diet. The potatoes were upset at their abuse and formed a union. They elected a representative who was strong and bold in his actions. The Irish people never knew his real name; he was only referred to as the Irish Potato Phantom.

Equal to Saint Patrick's feat of driving out snakes from Ireland, the Potato Phantom drove the Irish out of Ireland. What

was hailed as a great victory by the potato community dealt a devastating blow to the local human community. These events forced thousands of Irish immigrants to the loving and open arms of America.

Saint Patrick was not only hailed for driving the snakes out of Ireland, but is also lesser known for abolishing the Potato Phantom. He did this with his knowledge of potatoes. St. Pat knew that potatoes could not hold their alcohol worth a cold tater's tuckus. One night Saint Patrick himself took the Potato Phantom out for a night on the town. That next morning, after 38 consecutive games of beer pong, all that was left were potato skins and a pile of hash browns. After all the news had spread, everyone celebrated the Potato Phantom's defeat by paying homage to the method of his demise. They dressed in green (for the Irish) and abused alcohol.

Still to this day, the tradition holds true. This past week, we celebrated it again. Enjoy Saint Patrick's Day responsibly and also remember the history behind it.



FEATURES

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JCC news hour keeps community informed

Former Wilkes president gives locals something to talk about

BY ASHLEY GIBSON
Beacon Correspondent

News -- It is all around us and affects us in one way or another. But it is rare that we can come together with fellow citizens to "talk" over the news. Former Wilkes University President Bob Capin is trying to change that.

Understanding current world events is an important part of being an American citizen in today's culture and Capin values the importance of the news so much that he offered to lead a group at the Jewish Community Center (JCC) to keep locals up to date on current events.

Every Tuesday from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m., a group of 30 to 50 senior citizens gather at the JCC in Wilkes-Barre to discuss local, national, and international news.

"When they first asked me to start this I thought five people would show up and it would be over in two weeks," said Capin. Luckily the current events sessions were a success and are still thriving today, 11 years later.

Tom Bigler, a Professor Emeritus at Wilkes, is a good friend of Capin and frequently attends the news sessions. Bigler describes Capin as "a very outgoing and helpful individual."

Bigler believes that it is critical for everyone to be aware of what is going on in the world. "The world is coming together. We are one world and what happens in the deepest darkest part of Africa does affect us because we are all interrelated," he said.

Although Capin serves as the moderator, everyone is encouraged to participate in discussing current event topics. Capin brings a selection of news material that he has researched throughout the week to open conversation. Different headings are written on a board with several numbered subheadings. Capin then begins to discuss the first few and eventually gives the group the option to choose which number they would like to discuss.

"The numbers allow me to be organized with each article so that I have easy access to them," Capin said. This method allows participants to target what is most important to them.

Past topics include the election results in Iraq, the most dangerous jobs in the United States, and a Neo Nazi march in Dresden, Germany. Some topics spark debate while others bring the group to roars of laughter.

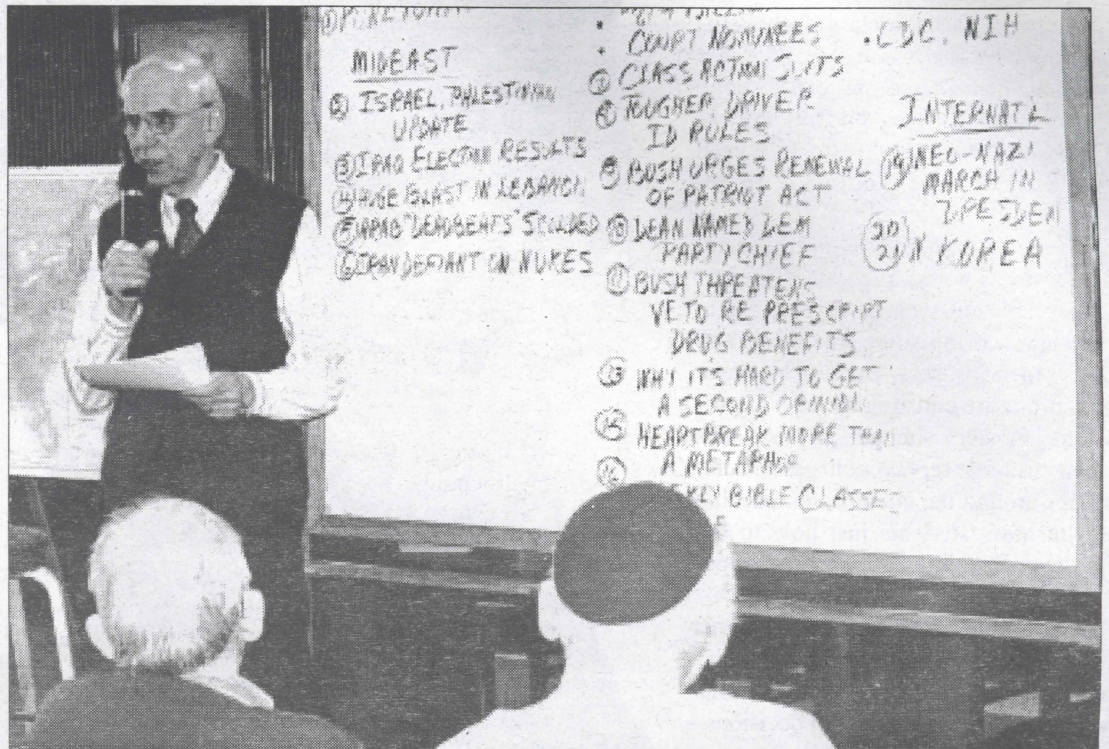
The sessions are not only informative, but the group members have also formed a bond through their attendance. They speak

freely and often in the group setting. Capin said, "If we didn't have this to look forward to we would sit home and watch television or do nothing. This keeps us alive in a sense."

"[Capin has a] very loyal following and is always open to questions, comments,

and feedback," Bigler said.

Capin and the rest of the group encourage young people to join their group on Tuesdays. "We would love... more students to [attend] the sessions... People need to know what is going on in the world," said Capin.



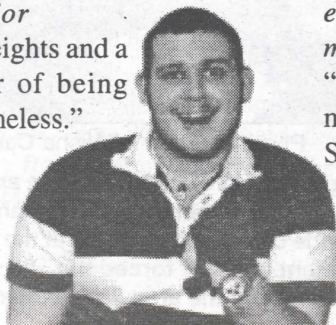
The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
Former Wilkes University President, Bob Capin, at a recent news hour discussion. This group was founded 11 years ago to get locals together to discuss important current events for an hour each week. The news hours are open to all and are held at the Jewish Community Center on Tuesdays from 12:15 to 1:15.

Tell Us... What is your greatest fear?

Adrienne Richards, *Beacon* Correspondent, scoured the campus asking random students what wakes them up screaming in the middle of the night.

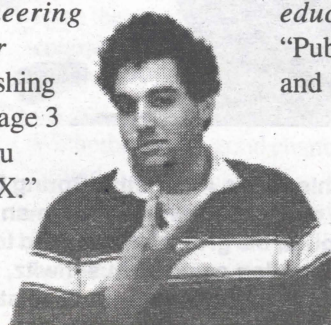
Seth Barnetsky
sophomore, pharmacy major

"Heights and a fear of being homeless."



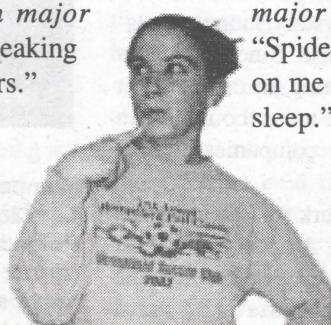
Adam Dick
freshman, mechanical engineering major

"Smashing my stage 3 Subaru WRX."



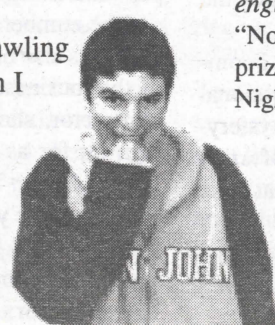
Kristi Barsby
sophomore, elementary education major

"Public speaking and spiders."



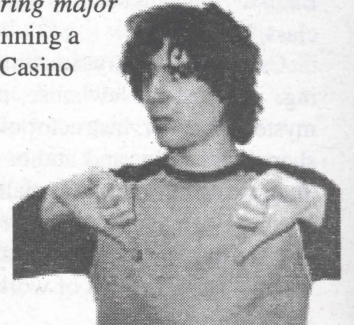
Nick Testa
freshman, psychology major

"Spiders crawling on me when I sleep."



Andy Curry
freshman, mechanical engineering major

"Not winning a prize at Casino Night."



A business major the next James Bond?

Batory's Consumer Behavior class teaches mystery shopping techniques

BY DONNA TALARICO
Beacon Staff Writer

Your typical business class teaches students how to become managers, CEOs, and advertising gurus. But, one of Dr. Anne Batory's classes teaches students the exact opposite of what they might have been expecting: how to be shoppers . . . in secret.

Mystery shopping, a booming sector in the business world, presents an opportunity for business execs to get paid to shop while scoring some free meals and products in the process. Because big name corporations are enlisting the help of professional mystery shoppers to keep tabs on their customer service, colleges and universities around the country are teaching their business students just how to become a professional mystery shopper through real world practice.

Wilkes University's BA: 328 Consumer Behavior, taught by Batory, does just that. Students get a sense of how motivations and culture can sway consumer decisions.

"It's absolutely essential for anyone in any field to understand the influences and behaviors of consumers," said Batory. "This course aims to help students understand and appreciate what makes a consumer tick."

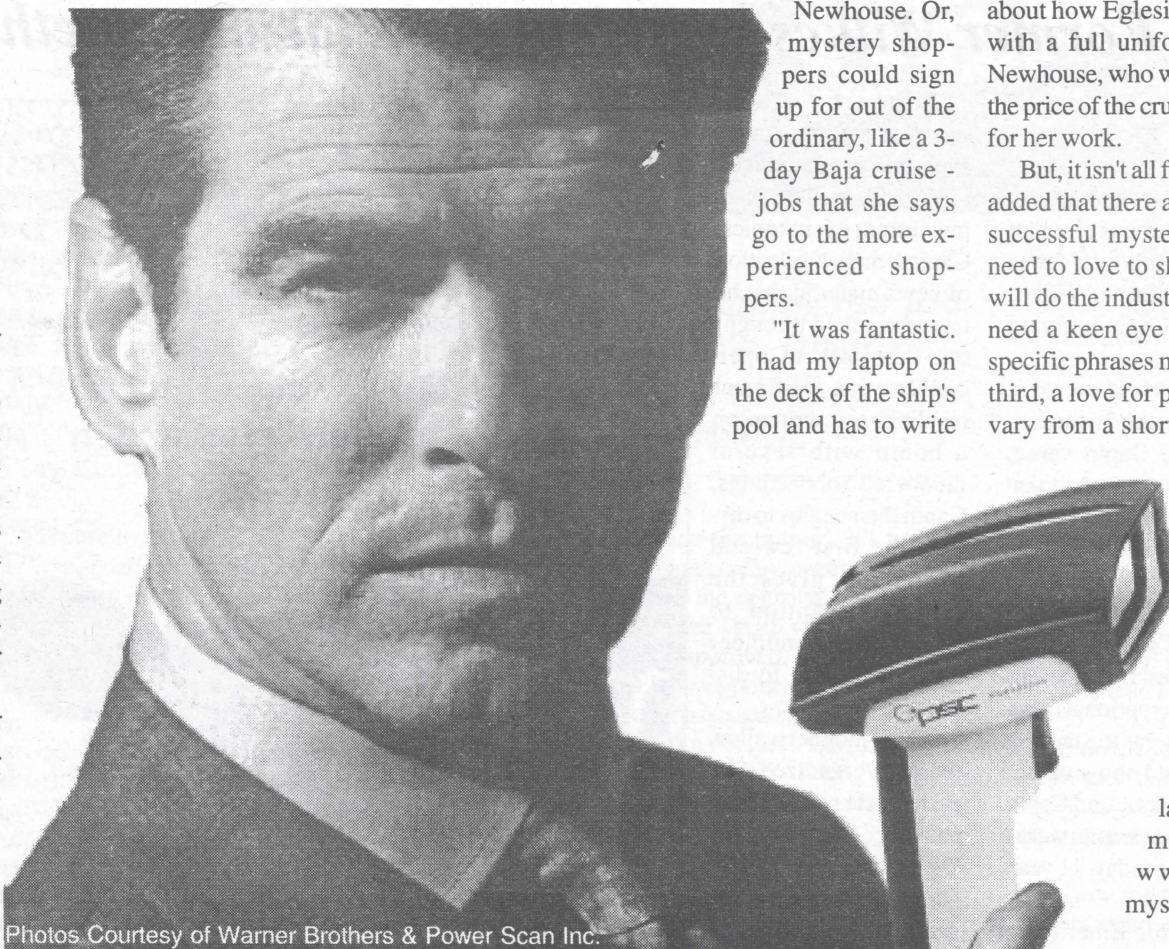
Students enrolled in the class participate in a mystery shopping service learning project in conjunction with Wilkes' Small Business Development Center (SBDC). The students visit SBDC clients anonymously evaluating their business from a customer point-of-view.

Students not only learn about influences that impact consumer behavior but also report back to the business owners about their quality of service. In the real world, such analysis can cost businesses thousands of dollars, but SBDC clients get these services for free through the Wilkes business department.

"It's a win-win situation for both," said Batory. "Students seem to really enjoy the class."

Careers in mystery shopping are booming. Dr. Ilishia Newhouse, professional mystery shopper, instructor of a mystery-shopping course, and author of *Mystery Shopping Made Simple* explains that there is a huge demand for shoppers.

"You can be a mystery shopper anywhere. There is a ton of work out there," said Newhouse.



Photos Courtesy of Warner Brothers & Power Scan Inc.

Newhouse. Or, mystery shoppers could sign up for out of the ordinary, like a 3-day Baja cruise - jobs that she says go to the more experienced shoppers.

"It was fantastic. I had my laptop on the deck of the ship's pool and has to write

about how Eglesias served me a margarita with a full uniform and nametag," said Newhouse, who was reimbursed \$7,000 for the price of the cruise, as well as paid \$5,000 for her work.

But, it isn't all fun and games. Newhouse added that there are qualities essential to a successful mystery shopper. "First, you need to love to shop. An angry customer will do the industry no good. Second, you need a keen eye for detail, as names and specific phrases must be remembered. And third, a love for paperwork, as reports can vary from a short yes/no questionnaire to

a 500-page report with lengthy narratives," she said.

People of all ages and ethnicities are in demand because mystery shopping is often used to ensure businesses are abiding laws, such as the Fair Housing Act or liquor laws. To learn more about mystery shopping visit www.allstarjobs.com/mysteryshopper.

Industries from gas stations to real estate companies hire mystery shoppers through hundreds of market research companies across the country. Mystery shoppers are usually trained on-line about the specifications of each client and/or job. With the explosions of big box stores in Wilkes-Barre and Dickson City, opportunities are on the rise locally. Batory cautions however, that this does not mean a full-time income for shoppers in our area.

"I know a woman in New York City who makes \$80,000 per year doing mystery shopping, but here there are not enough national chains to make that sort of income. It would be a good part-time job here," she said, adding that the average pay for a completed shop is about \$20.00.

The number of mystery shopping customers is also on the rise. Since the nature of this business is being an independent contractor, shoppers are encouraged to sign on for as many companies as they want.

"The more you work for, the more options you will have. A tip is to do what you like, or would do anyway, such as the dry cleaners or gas station," said

Alternative Spring Breakers Return

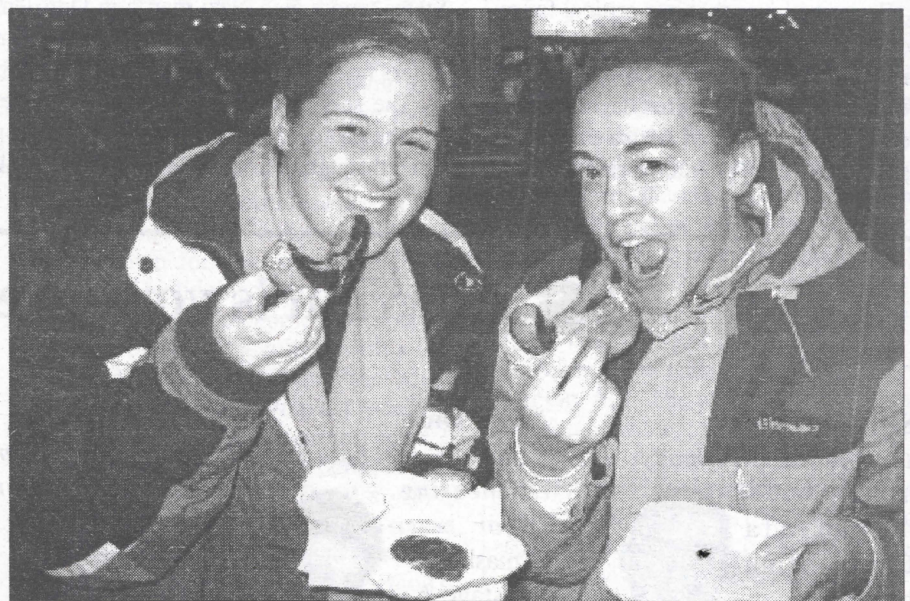


Photo courtesy of Alisha Cain

Members of this year's Alternative Spring Break service group, Alisha Cain and Lara Judson, enjoy some wurst, a German sausage, from their trip to Germany, Poland. Although the group had planned to provide community service at the former concentration camp at Auschwitz, inclement weather forced the service project to be cancelled. Instead students toured the area and learned about history and culture.

Road to recovery leads Wetherbee to Wilkes

BY VICTORIA WHITE

Beacon Asst. Features Editor

Envelope one: rejection. Envelope two: rejection.

This was what high school senior Julie Wetherbee faced when she applied to colleges in the spring of 2003. Being rejected from your top two colleges is hard enough on someone, but it was even harder on Wetherbee because she was recovering from a life-threatening coma.

At the end of the summer of 2002, Wetherbee suddenly slipped into a coma for two and a half weeks. Her mother, Judy Wetherbee, came home one day to find her daughter unconscious on the living room floor.

Wetherbee, the youngest of three children and the only girl, was rushed to the hospital and then airlifted to Hershey Medical Center where she spent the next two and a half weeks in a coma. Her mother and father made the trip down to Hershey where they stayed by her side the entire time. Mrs. Wetherbee said, "It was the worst time in my life, like a horrible bad dream that seemed like an eternity. The doctors didn't give us any hope at all [that Julie would come out of the coma]."

While in the coma, doctors realized that Wetherbee was suffering from viral encephalitis in which the skull fills with fluid and crushes the brain. "Viral encephalitis is not actually the virus. It is just a symptom of a virus. It is just the swelling of the brain. The virus that caused my encephalitis is the one that normally gives people a cold sore, but it went to my brain. The viruses that cause mono and west Nile can also cause it. It just depends on how they affect you," said Wetherbee.

It was the worst time in my life, like a horrible bad dream that seemed like an eternity. The doctors didn't give us any hope at all [that Julie would come out of the coma]. -- Mrs. Judy Wetherbee

When Wetherbee awoke from the coma she could not hear anything. Her parents and doctors communicated with her via white boards. The encephalitis had affected the part of her brain that deals with hearing.

Over time Wetherbee's hearing slowly came back. Now Wetherbee hears fine but suffers from auditory agnosia. She can hear, but the part of her brain that processes what she hears is a little slow with comprehending and remembering what she has heard.

The encephalitis also affected Wetherbee's memory. "The whole summer before I got sick is gone from my memory, and now I have to write everything down so that I remember," she said.

It was after Wetherbee had left the

tance letter, but she still was not thrilled about going to Wilkes. Even after orientation Wetherbee had her doubts.

Once Wetherbee got to Wilkes in the fall of 2003 she became depressed again, this time because her grades were not what

first year, I love it. I feel like I definitely appreciate the things [like the Learning Center] here at college a lot more than other students."

As for her agnosia, Wetherbee says that it is getting better and she has fewer prob-

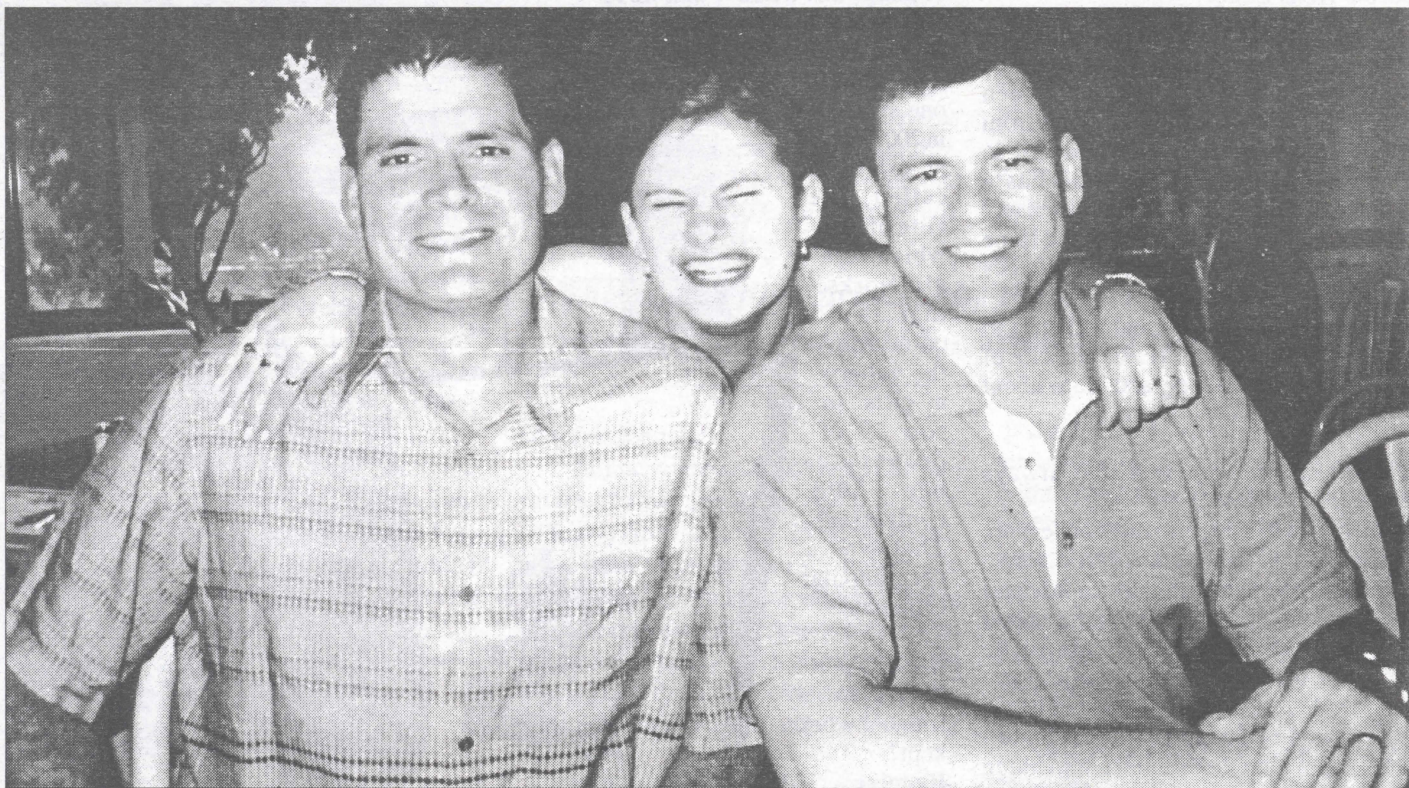


Photo courtesy of Julie Wetherbee

Julie Wetherbee (center) and her two brothers. Three years after the incident that put Wetherbee in a coma for two and a half weeks, Wetherbee is now able to live a normal life. Her experience inspired her to want to help others struggling with diseases get better.

Hershey Medical Center and returned to her final semester of high school that the rejections began to come from her top choice colleges. In her college applications, Wetherbee had to include her short-term

they had been in high school. Wetherbee came to Wilkes as a biology major, but because of her short-term memory loss, she was struggling with the tests.

Upon talking to some people at Wilkes

she was diagnosed with auditory agnosia. To help Wetherbee cope, Billings

contacted Wilkes about her problem. He explained that having note takers in Wetherbee's classes, giving her extended time for tests, and having tutors would help her.

The Learning Center stepped up to the challenge. They have provided everything that Billings suggested and Wetherbee now spends a great deal of time there doing her work.

Wetherbee said, "I thought that Wilkes might just be a good school to recuperate and get the feel of college, but after the

lems now than she did shortly after the coma. Wetherbee found that changing her major from biology to psychology has helped her to maintain a better GPA and feel like herself again.

Mrs. Wetherbee said, "I know that Wilkes is doing amazing things for her and it is in part due to the wonderful support that she gets."

For Wetherbee, it seems like an eternity since her coma, but her doctors say it is a miracle that Wetherbee has come so far in such a relatively short amount of time. Wetherbee looks forward to finishing her degree and putting it to use someday.

"I don't know what type of title it would be under but, I would love to give kids struggling with diseases the type of support that I was given," said Wetherbee. "I know what it is like to struggle to recover and I think that my story can inspire others to keep trying and working hard to get better."

Bernier reveals the secrets of Wilkes vault

BY NORA JURASITS
Beacon A&E Editor

The Sordoni Art Gallery, located in the Stark Learning Center, often features exhibitions and works that have been borrowed from other galleries or from individual artists. But unbeknownst to many on campus, Wilkes also has a permanent collection that features many pieces of art that are rarely seen, and some that can be seen everyday in offices around campus.

Recently *The Beacon* had a chance to speak with Ronald Bernier, the Director of the Sordoni Art Gallery, and learn about Wilkes' permanent collection.

Beacon: Are there pieces that always remain in a collection here?

Bernier: We have a permanent collection. We have about 1,300 works of art. ...Some pieces we bought, but for the most part they're gifts. We don't just take whatever anyone wants to give, it has to be something that fits within our collection.

For instance, we have a policy that we are focused on 19th and 20th century art, so if it fits within there and it's something we don't have or an artist we don't have, and it makes a good fit with our collection, we'll take it.

Some of the works came to the university before the gallery came here. The gallery was instituted in 1973, after the flood, and by the Sordoni family, named in honor of Andrew Sordoni, who was a state senator. Their gift entailed works of art plus a certain financial gift to be able to keep going, and build on the collection...

The exhibition that we do in the summer every year is a always permanent collection

show. It is our time to showcase the kinds of things that we have that we're only able to bring out once a year because we only have this one space, but in 2003, we did an exhibition called The Gift of Art, which was all works that had come into the gallery as gifts...to sort of celebrate our 30th anniversary. That was a very popular exhibition.

Beacon: Where are all the works kept?

Bernier: The vault is downstairs. It's in the basement level of [SLC]. You may have noticed there's a big vault door, like in a bank with a big combination lock. It's where everything is stored, apart from the things that are out on campus. If you go into an office on campus, if you see a painting, chances are it belongs to us. We try to do that as much

as we can.

We've given things from our collection for the president's house because that is a place where a lot of people important to the university go. Everything else is stored in the basement.

In fact, in September there was the threat of a flood and the university was evacuating everything from the basement...because of the threat that the river would crest, we came in and carried every single piece to this level and put it in the gallery. Then we had to bring it back down.

Beacon: Is everything organized in a computer database?

Bernier: It's all organized in the computer. Every piece has or should have its own page that tells us the artist, everything we know about the piece: the artist, the title, the date, what its made out of, who gave it to us, or how it came into our collection, whether it's been exhibited somewhere else, because sometimes, just as much as we borrow from someplace else, other galleries for special shows will borrow something from us. In fact there are two places that

are borrowing things from us in the coming year--one as close as the Everhart [in Scranton] and others in New York and other places.

Beacon: Is the database available to the public?

Bernier: One of the things we would like to do is make part of the database available so students could go on there and get basic information and get a title, date and maybe even a basic image of it. We're not there yet, because it's a huge project and there are only two of us. Some of the information we would have to keep confidential, like the value of the piece and who gave it to us... That's something I would like to do because you could imagine having a computer out in the gallery where a person could come in and get some basic information. That's something we have on the horizon that we want to do, but at the moment if anyone wants to see a piece, do research or just look at something we have, they can make an appointment with us and we can make it available for them to look at.



Ron Bernier, director of the Sordoni Art Gallery, notes that the Wilkes University vault is home to the permanent collection

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Spirit Night tomorrow

Pizza Wars, Battle of Bands booked

BY KACY MUIR
Beacon Correspondent

School spirit, good food, and good music are what will define Tuesday, March 22 at Wilkes.

The first ever Spirit Night, along with Pizza Wars and Battle of the Bands, will all be taking place throughout the course of the day.

Students will be offered three activities as a way to help them be a part of a campus community and interact with other students. Jenna Strzelecki, Inter-Residence Hall Council President, said, "Student Government along with Programming Board are doing a ton of new things this semester to increase student involvement and participation on campus...we hope everyone comes out and gets involved."

The day will begin with the spirit portion, which is intended to bring a sense of community throughout the Wilkes campus. Not only will the Henry Student Center (HSC) be decorated in blue and gold, but

all students attending the event are also asked to wear blue and gold to signify the colors of pride at Wilkes University. By wearing the school colors the cost of the night is free.

Later that evening, Pizza Wars, which was organized by the Programming Board, will be returning to the Ballroom. While Pizza Wars was an offering last year, Programming Board representatives wanted to make the experience bigger and better this time around. There will be twice the pizza available and students will have the chance to vote for their favorites. The Battle of the Bands will also take place the same night, and students can enjoy a variety of local sounds and performances.

Sophomore SG representative, Amanda McMahon said, "I had felt as though the Wilkes community could use a little boost in the spirit department. I encourage everyone to come out and help Student Government and Programming Board put a little pride back into the heart of Wilkes."

Out to the movies:

The Jacket opened 3/4

BY ALISON SHERRY
Beacon Staff Writer

Think you have seen it all? Guess again. Director John Maybury has taken a new twist on terror in the movie, *The Jacket*.

It may sound like the next big intrigue from the previews, with such actors as Adrien Brody and Kiera Knightley starring, but movie-goers should be reminded that some movies such as *The Jacket* just look

destiny.

This movie does prove to be the psychological thriller it intends to be, but only for about half the time. By the end, the tone turns too "sweet," like a Hallmark card ending. It seems as if this movie is trying to describe what the war does to soldiers who return, but it is difficult to conceive the notion in the way it is presented.

This movie does prove to be the psychological thriller it intends to be, but only for about half the time.

better on the rack.

Military veteran Jack Starks (Brody) returns to his home in Vermont after suffering from amnesia. He is no sooner home than he is accused of murder and finds himself in an insane asylum. While there, he meets a well-meaning doctor, who prescribes a heavy dose of experimental drugs, puts him in a straight-jacket device, and locks him away in a body drawer of the morgue.

This horrific and claustrophobic process transports him into the future where he foresees his death, which will occur in four days. However, he is unsure how his death occurs or who kills him. While in the future, he meets Jackie Price (Knightley) who may be the only one able to save him from his

Soldiers may change, but *The Jacket* tends to exaggerate and over-dramatize that point. The only aspect worthy of applause is the acting. Adrien Brody has always been a fine actor and just that alone will make this movie worth seeing. So if you take a chance on *The Jacket*, just be cautioned that it may not fit quite the way you expected.

This movie is rated R and receives 2 kernels.



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Performance hour prepares for profession

BY SARAH HERBERT
Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

There's no business like show business. Unfortunately, it can be very difficult to break into that business.

Luckily, the university offers a class to prepare hollywood hopefuls for auditions. Every Wednesday at one o'clock, students participate in a performance hour.

The performance class is required for all music performance, music education, and musical theater majors. According to Dr. Terry Zipay, Chairperson of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts, the class offers students the opportunity to perform in a "formal recital context."

Despite the fact that the class counts for no credit, a lot of work is put into each performance. A program is printed for each performance, adding to the formality of the presentation. Performers must also spend time practicing the piece they have chosen.

Senior musical theater major Benjamin S. Ptashinsky said, "For a singer, a lot of work goes into the pianist. One of the hardest things is making the performance a duet with a piano. This can be hard when you are used to practicing by yourself."

"It is open to the public but its not presented as the finalized formal event although we treat it that way," said Zipay. Several faculty members also attend the performance hours and offer the students valuable constructive criticism.

Students also receive feedback from their peers. "Students also have a concert attendance requirement where they're going out and hearing their colleagues perform. They're also going out to community performances to experience other performers and experience other literature," said Zipay.

The performance hour counts toward the attendance requirement and teaches the students how to critique their peers.

Giving students the opportunity to perform once a week for an audience gives them insight to the reality of life as a performer.

"Performing is my life and every time I do it I gain some life experience. It really is a necessity to perform all the time; because that is the way the acting business works," said Ptashinsky.

Band brings new strength to music scene

BY KRISTIN LUCZAK
Beacon Staff Writer

Established in 1997, Strength For a Reason (SFAR) is a hard-hitting, in-your-face band that harkens to the old New York hardcore style of music forgotten in

The Hoods, hitting cities like Las Vegas, San Diego, and Hollywood. This past October, they traveled overseas to tour throughout Europe.

According to James Walwrath, the founder of Thornz Records, "Strength For

I feel comfortable--it's a lifestyle. Our shows are a lot different than mainstream concerts. You're probably a little confused if you think that Disturbed is hardcore and Ashlee Simpson puts on a punk rock show," said Ed Banja, the band's drummer.



Photo courtesy of strengthforareason.com

Strength for a Reason members Karl Kivler (left) and Tom Thompson (right) and former member Steve Baran (center) jam at a show at Hurricane Billiards in Sayre, PA.

the mix of other trendy, hybrid hardcore pop sounds. The band has stayed true when selling out to popular sounds is mandatory to become the next big thing.

The Nanticoke-based band of 20-somethings includes Karl Kivler on the mic, Ed Banja on drums, Josh Rhinheimer on bass, Jack Siergiej on guitar, and Tom Thompson on guitar. Their current full length CD, *Show and Prove* features 11 original tracks. SFAR signed to Thornz Records in 1998 when they proved the strength of their work on the CD compilation, *Step to the Plate*.

Locally, SFAR has earned a few musical titles, taking 1st runner up in *The Weekender's* readers' poll for "Best Local Original Band." The band has also been described as, "one of Pennsylvania's best and fiercest bands around" by Frenzy Radio, an online hardcore radio station.

Over the years, SFAR has shared the stage with some of the most influential acts on the scene such as Agnostic Front, Hatebreed, and Madball. They have played clubs all along the East coast and ventured to the West coast to tour with

a Reason has taken a lot of different styles, put them together and made them totally work. They are one of the best bands out there now, and it's because they're true to themselves and their fans. I like to work with bands that I can relate to and the positivity in their lyrics is what really drew me into the band."

The band responds to fan support by returning encouragement in the form of lyrics laced with positive themes of unity, religious faith, and being yourself, which is unexpected coming from a band with a sound that hits you like a ton of bricks.

"Our songs are mainly about the importance of friends and family in your life, showing respect for people, staying true to yourself and your beliefs, and not letting anyone take advantage of you for any reason," said Jack Siergiej, the band's guitarist.

Siergiej added, "There is nothing like having someone come up to you and say that you've helped them get through tough times. It gives you the motivation you need to keep going as a band."

"Hardcore shows are the only place that

"The reason I book SFAR is because musically they are one of the tightest bands in the area, and they consistently put on fun performances," said Matt Zavacky, a local club promoter. "They promote themselves well and have a very dedicated following of fans who show up to every show, just to see them, no matter who else is on the bill."

Partly due to this reputation, SFAR just recently signed to Spook City Records(USA)/Burial Records(Europe), sharing a label with bands like Blood For Blood, Death Before Dishonor, Dead and Buried, and Slapshot. Their new album, *Blood Faith Loyalty*, is due to hit stores in late May or early June. Previews indicate it has more in-your-face, circle pit-makin', straight up old school hardcore sounds than the last album.

SFAR will be making two appearances in the area next month. On April 4, there will be a show in Scranton at the Tripp Park Community Center, and on April 8, they will be playing at Wilkes University. More information can be found at their website, www.strengthforareason.com.

Beacon Horoscopes: What's in your stars?



Happy Birthday, Aries.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Think things through in April. Make sure you know what you're getting into before you commit too quickly to anything. Once you do commit, though, don't look back. Push until you reach success.

Lucky numbers: 7, 18, 53

Famous Arians: Alyson Hannigan, March 24, 1974; Vince Vaughn, March 28, 1970; Al Gore, March 31, 1948; Eddie Murphy, April 3, 1961; Hugh Hefner, April 9, 1926; Sarah Michelle Gellar, April 14, 1977; Kate Hudson, April 19, 1979.

Love Match: Gemini-Wonderful alliance. This is an exciting, sexual encounter that can last. Both you and Gemini are so spontaneous and full of life that there is no time for either of you to become bored.

Love Clash: Cancer-The Crab is far too sensitive and slow for your speedy and hot tempered nature. You will have difficulty listening to the Crab's nagging and negativity. This is really a poor match up right from day one.

Information courtesy of <http://www.astroadvice.com>



Taurus (April 20-May 20): Make sure to take advantage of past contacts you have made. Those who have known you best in your past can help you build a strong future. These past contacts will come into play in an important decision you face in the next three weeks. Lucky numbers: 3, 10, 22



Gemini (May 21-June 21): Waters may seem calm, but brace yourself for an unexpected wave. Tap into your creativity for a possibly unorthodox solution. You may surprise several people with your decisions in the next month. Be prepared to answer questions. Lucky numbers: 8, 35, 45



Cancer (June 22-July 22): Now is the time to break out of the shyness that has been surrounding you. Being yourself will lead you to new friendships if you let it. Challenge yourself to get out in one social setting soon, and then really surprise yourself by initiating a follow-up. Lucky numbers: 13, 37, 50



Leo (July 23-August 22): Be conscientious with your work. If you concentrate on getting ahead of the game, the upcoming weeks will be much smoother. But all work and no play, makes the lion a dull cat. Get ahead of work and then relish the freedom from it by enjoying an early spring day. Lucky numbers: 14, 27, 48



Virgo (August 23-September 22): Passion and romance are peaking this upcoming week. Don't be afraid to leave yourself open to experiencing it for all it's worth. Conversational risks break down barriers, so ask questions or voice your opinion. Lucky numbers: 9, 17, 32



Libra (September 23-October 23): Anger can be a driving force or a hindrance in the next two weeks. Use the aggression to your advantage, and let it lead you to be more on task and prove others wrong. Watch frustration levels, though, during this time. Blowing up rarely wins friends or influences people. Lucky numbers: 12, 34, 55



Scorpio (October 24-November 21): Follow what you believe to be true; others may be trying to lead you astray in important matters this month. Rely on facts you can point to, rather than the emotions others are trying to stir in you. Know that what you want to be can become a reality. Lucky numbers: 25, 41, 49



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): As hard as it is, sometimes being nice is a better way to deal with your enemies than hostility. By keeping your cool, you will confuse them and keep your sanity. Also, pay attention to physical needs this week and next. When your body is tired, sleep. When your body is hungry, eat. Lucky numbers: 3, 7, 21



Capricorn (December 22-January 19): Look to form a bond with someone you are often around or working with. This partnership will benefit both of you. In this partnership, pay heed not to come on too strong with the compliments. Stick with honesty and professionalism initially and see where it may lead. Lucky numbers: 20, 30, 31



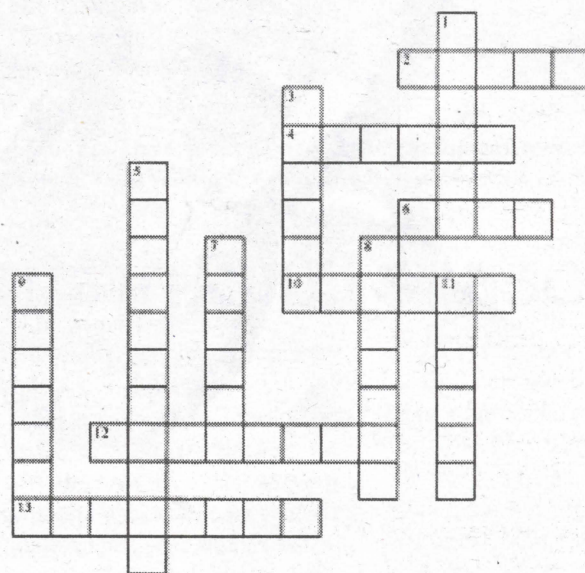
Aquarius (January 20-February 18): Take stock of your life, and try to set goals. Planning a path of action will help you get where you want to go. Use your intuition to locate something precious you thought was lost. It's actually just in front of you. Lucky numbers: 2, 11, 40



Pisces (February 19-March 20): Welcome change as a part of life. By trying to resist, you are just making things unnecessarily difficult. Others in crisis want to draw you in. Do your best to support but not take on someone else's baggage. Lucky numbers: 1, 19, 42

These horoscopes are for entertainment purposes only

Beacon Crossword Puzzle



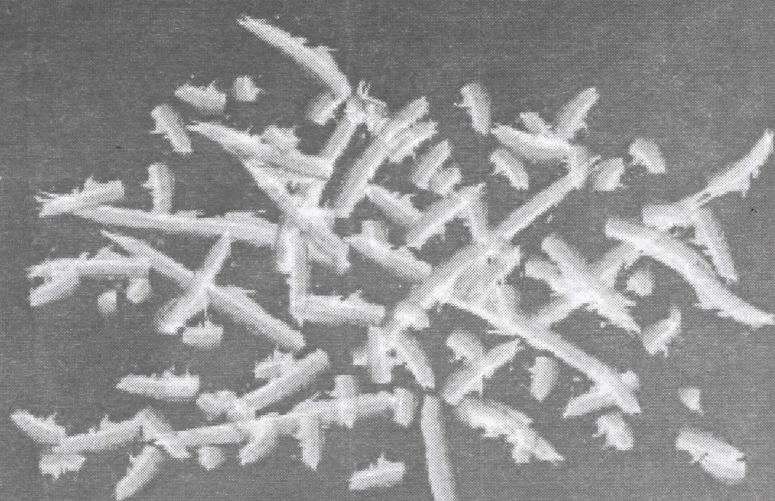
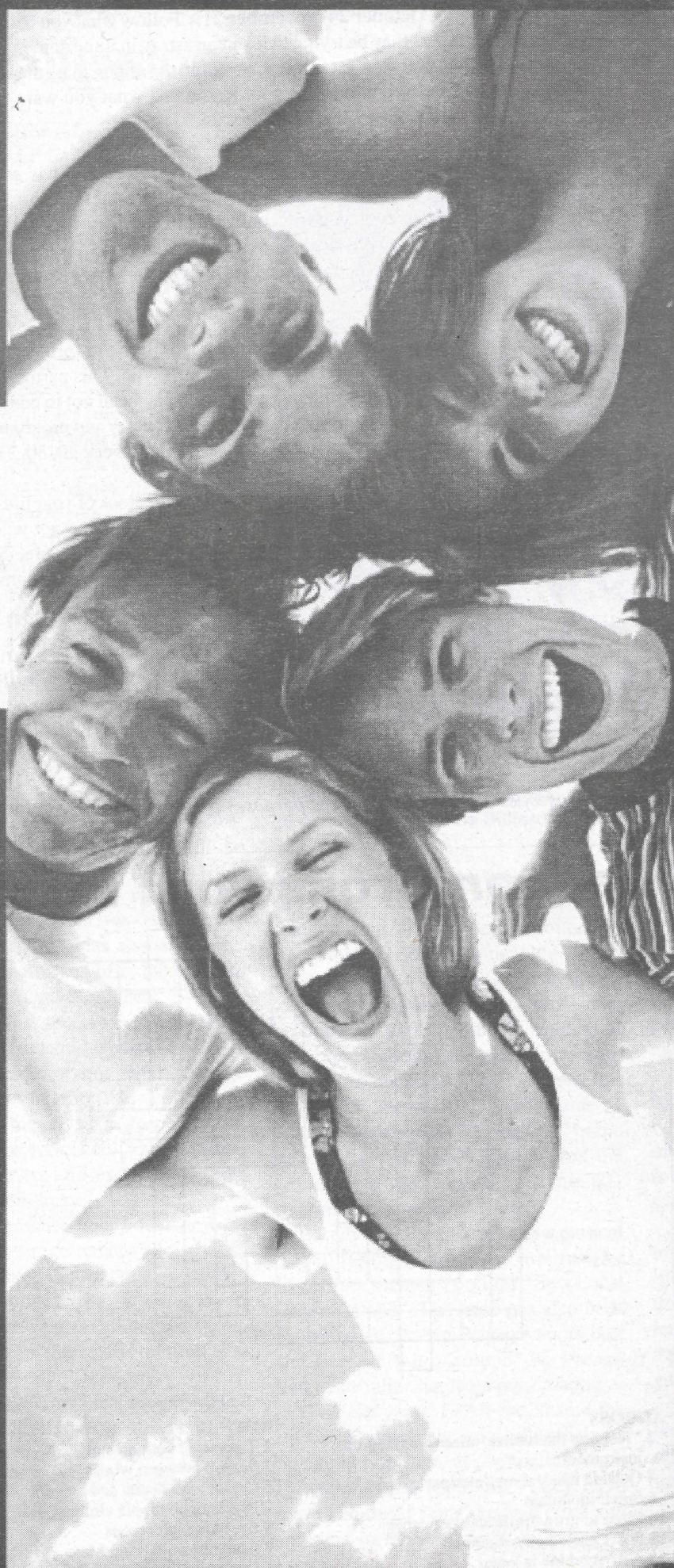
ACROSS

- 2 "Tickling the ivories" means playing this instrument
- 4 Outside meal, sometimes packed in a basket
- 6 Small mountain
- 10 Place to grow fruits and vegetables
- 12 Sport played on a diamond
- 13 Activity done in water

DOWN

- 1 Two piece bathing suit
- 3 Season between winter and summer
- 5 Cereal with hearts and clovers
- 7 Psychedelic hippie clothing design
- 8 Big name in crayons
- 9 April showers bring May _____
- 11 Upcoming holiday involving a bunny

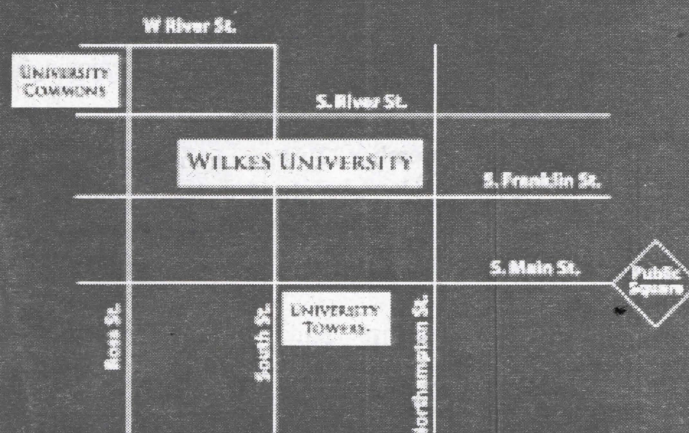
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MARCH 21, 2005

SPORTS

17

Four Wilkes spring athletes earn honors

COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Four Wilkes University spring student-athletes were recently honored by the Freedom Conference for their athletic performances.

Sophomore pitcher Laurie Agresti (Central Dauphin East/Harrisburg, PA) and senior third baseman Alexis Petite (Caldwell/Middletown, NJ) have been named the conference's softball Pitcher and Player of the Week respectively. Freshman Chris Mayerski (Wyoming Valley West/Swoyersville, PA) was named the baseball Player of the Week, while senior Hassan Shah (Blue Mountain/Orwigsburg, PA) was honored as the men's tennis Player of the Week.

Agresti was dominant on the mound for the Lady Colonels. The Division III leader in strikeouts per game last season, Agresti picked right up where she left off. The right-hander posted a 4-1 record on the mound with an impressive 0.20 earned run average. Agresti tossed five complete games with three shutouts. She allowed only 15 hits in 35 innings of work, while striking out 77 and walking only 10. Agresti whiffed at least 13 hitters in each of her five starts and averaged an amazing 15.4 strikeouts per contest.

Petite started all 10 games at third base for the softball team and

helped the squad return from its spring trip with an 8-2 mark. The third baseman hit .419 during the ten-game stretch with two doubles, three homeruns and nine runs batted in. Petite also chipped in with 11 runs scored and had an outstanding .774 slugging percentage and .500 on-base percentage.

Mayerski enjoyed a tremendous start to his collegiate career. In six games during the week Mayerski hit .550 with four doubles, one triple and two homeruns. The utility player had at least one hit in each game and helped Wilkes improve its overall record to 7-2 after a 5-1 week. Mayerski drove in 12 runs, scored 11 times and had a tremendous 1.010 slugging percentage.

Shah played a key role in helping the Wilkes men's tennis team rattle off three straight wins during their spring trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Shah cruised to three consecutive singles victories in the Colonels wins over Penn State Behrend, Eastern and Division II Slippery Rock. Shah allowed only 10 games to his opponents in six singles sets. In doubles competition Shah teamed with Josh Gardner to allow only eight games as the tandem posted a perfect 3-0 record.

OPENER from BACK PAGE

in tossing the complete-game for Vassar. Kevin Konschak, who allowed six hits and three runs in 5.1 innings of work on the hill suffered the loss for Wilkes.

Aldins had three hits and Noonan had two hits for the Brewers. Stover finished with three hits in the opener to lead Wilkes.

In game two, Vassar took advantage of two Wilkes errors in the ninth inning to grab the win. Nate Webb reached on an error to start the inning and moved to second on a single by Ivan Cedillo. A sacrifice bunt by John Mandel allowed both runners to move up a base. Aldins followed with a two-run double to give the Brewers a 6-4 lead. A two-out Wilkes error would allow Aldins to cross the plate and make it 7-4.

Vassar held a 4-2 lead heading into the bottom of the seventh inning before Wilkes rallied for two runs to force extra frames. Follweiler and Chris Mayerski hit consecutive one-out singles to start the rally. With two outs Dave Evans reached on an error to load the bases. Josh Turel laced a two-run single to knot the contest at 4-4.

Dan Orme, who pitched the final two innings and did not allow a run, picked up the win for Vassar. Barak Gohn took the loss after giving up two hits and three runs in two innings of work. Gohn came on to replace starter Mike Toomey, who tossed seven innings and gave up eight hits and four runs.

Cedillo and Mandel had three hits each for the Brewers. Adam Najemy contributed a solo homerun. Turel drove in three runs with three hits, including a

double, for the Colonels. Charles Hampton, who doubled, Follweiler and Mayerski had two hits each as well.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Junior pitcher Kevin Konschak hurls the ball toward home plate. Vassar beat Wilkes 7-4 in game two of Saturday's double header.

Men's tennis looks to ace opponents in 2005 season

COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Last year the Wilkes University tennis team broke the school record for most wins in a season with 11 wins and 3 losses.

"The record had been held for 30 or 40 years," said head men's tennis coach Chris Leicht.

The team also went to the Mid-Atlantic Conference (MAC) finals, also the best showing for any tennis team at Wilkes University. In a conference of fifteen, Wilkes placed second in the MAC.

So the Colonels' toughest chal-

lenge this year looks to be to best what they accomplished last year.

But competitors abound, and the consistent thorn in the side of the Colonels is Drew University. For the last three years Drew has won the coveted prize--the MAC Conference title. According to members of the Wilkes University tennis team, however, this will be the year they make good on the promise to bring it home. So, the first order of business is to beat Drew.

"They are a good team and tough to beat," said Leicht.

The Wilkes tennis team is look-

ing to get back into the MAC finals and beat Drew this year for the conference title.

"We are hoping to add a championship to this season since it is our last," said senior Hassan Shah. Shah along with fellow senior captain, Madhan Srinivasan are returning this year after breaking records at Wilkes previously.

This season Srinivasan is off to a 5-0 start as Shah is off to 4-0 start. Shah also earned the MAC Player of the Week distinction for the week of March 14.

"This is our senior year. This is the last time we will be able to

play with a team at this competitive level," Shah said.

Shah, Srinivasan, juniors John Lowe and Arvin Narula, and sophomores Ben Holwitt and Salmon Puneekar all contributed to the team last year and are returning to add depth and experience to the team. Freshman, Josh Gardner, has joined the team and jumped right into a starting spot. Gardner has already stepped up with a 3-2 record.

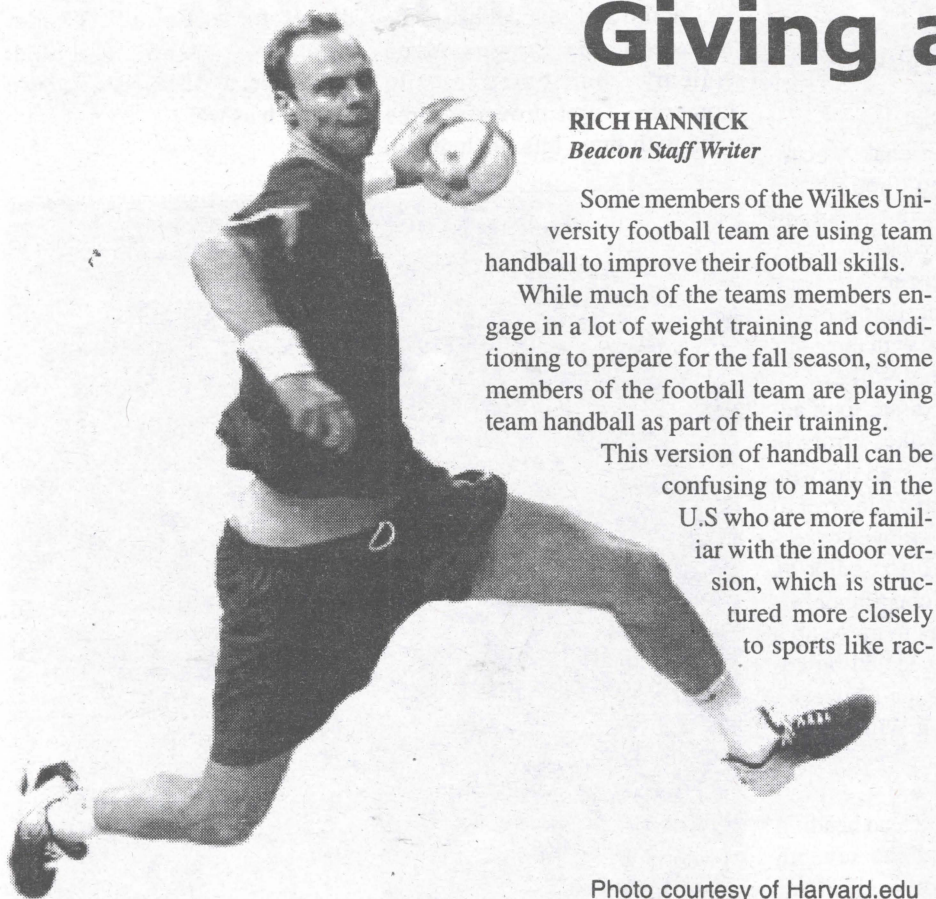
"I am glad to be playing for Wilkes as a freshman. It means a lot to me," Gardner stated.

Not only will Wilkes have a

tough conference schedule, but the Colonels will also face a grueling non-conference schedule. The Colonels will play both Lebanon Valley and Muhlenburg who are among the top teams in the Freedom Conference.

The team has already begun its spring season playing three touch matches at Hilton Head, SC during spring break. The most notable win was against Division II team, Slippery Rock University, where the team won 5-4.

Giving a "hand" to Football



RICH HANNICK
Beacon Staff Writer

Some members of the Wilkes University football team are using team handball to improve their football skills.

While much of the teams members engage in a lot of weight training and conditioning to prepare for the fall season, some members of the football team are playing team handball as part of their training.

This version of handball can be confusing to many in the U.S who are more familiar with the indoor version, which is structured more closely to sports like rac-

quetball and squash.

Team handball, on the other hand, is better described as "soccer played with your hands rather than your feet." It is the second most popular sport in Europe (behind soccer).

Jake Grande, a sophomore communication studies major, said handball helps with cutting and endurance and since spring practices are right around the corner, it is a great way to keep in shape. "It helps so you're not all tired in the springtime," says Grande.

Ed Mallas, a freshman mechanical engineering major, is a defensive end for the Colonels. Handball helps him hone his skills. "[It helps with] quick hands and quick feet. You need to catch the ball," Mallas says. Players need to be able to move their feet rapidly and change directions on a dime.

And while handball is fantastic for building and maintaining agility, endurance, and coordination, it is also one of the safest sports to play. According to U.S. Hand-

ball Association, "it's a relatively injury-free. Most injuries that do occur are muscle strains in the shoulder, elbow and back, but those are avoidable if you follow a basic conditioning, strengthening and stretching program."

The football players get together four to five times a week to play handball. They usually play as long as they possibly could, but their playing time is largely dependent on the other sports programs' schedules and when they have the room. The only other thing that stops them is the amount of participants, and how much time they can devote to playing. The team also welcomes others from outside the football program to participate. Mallas says, "Anybody can play. We don't mind."

The Wilkes football team is not the first to use handball to build and maintain their skills off-season. According to *Men's Fitness*, many in the NFL, including Hall-of-Fame quarterback George Blanda, have also credited the sport for keeping themselves fit.

Photo courtesy of Harvard.edu

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RICH HANNICK
Beacon Staff Writer

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COLONEL'S CLIPBOARD

19

COMING UP IN WILKES ATHLETICS

WILKES ATHLETIC RECAP

BASEBALL

3/22 Wilkes vs Marywood @ Artillery Park @ 3:00 PM
3/24 Wilkes @ Scranton @ 3:00 PM
3/26 Wilkes vs Scranton @ Artillery Park @ 12:00 PM
4/1 Wilkes @ FDU-Florham @ 3:00 PM
4/2 Wilkes vs FDU-Florham @ Artillery Park @ 12:00 PM
4/3 Wilkes vs Misericordia @ Artillery Park @ 1:00 PM

SOFTBALL

3/23 Wilkes @ William Paterson @ 3:00 PM
3/29 Wilkes vs Moravian @ Ralston Complex @ 2:30 PM
4/2 Wilkes vs Lycoming @ Ralston Complex @ 1:00 PM
4/3 Wilkes vs Keystone @ Ralston Complex @ 1:00 PM

MEN'S TENNIS

3/23 Wilkes vs Lycoming @ Ralston Field @ 3:00 PM
3/29 Wilkes @ Marywood @ 3:00 PM
4/2 Wilkes vs DeSales @ Ralston Field @ 1:00 PM
4/3 Wilkes vs Lebanon Valley @ Ralston Field @ 1:00 PM

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

3/22 Wilkes vs St. Thomas Aquinas @ University of Scranton @ 4:00 PM
3/24 Wilkes vs Lycoming @ University of Scranton @ 4:00 PM
3/29 Wilkes @ Moravian @ 4:00 PM
4/2 Wilkes @ Susquehanna @ 1:00 PM

BASEBALL

3/5 Wilkes 9 Ursinus 3
3/6 Wilkes 11 Medaille 4
3/6 Washington 14 Wilkes 3
3/7 Wilkes 13 Case Western Reserve 8
3/7 Wilkes 7 Waynesburg 3
3/8 Wilkes 17 Ursinus 10
3/10 Wilkes 11 Washington 9
3/10 Wilkes 6 Medaille 5
3/11 SUNY Old Westbury 7 Wilkes 4
3/13 Wilkes vs Keuka (PPD)
3/18 Wilkes 5 Muhlenburg 11
3/19 (Game 1) Wilkes 2 Vassar 5
3/19 (Game 2) Wilkes 4 Vassar 7
3/20 Wilkes vs Lincoln (PPD)

MEN'S TENNIS

3/8 Wilkes 5 PSU-Behrend 2
3/10 Wilkes 5 Slippery Rock 4
3/11 Wilkes 5 Eastern 2

SOFTBALL

3/7 Wilkes 12 Villa Julie 2
3/7 Arcadia 11 Wilkes 10
3/8 Wilkes 5 Wesley 0
3/8 Wilkes 8 Regis 7
3/9 Wilkes 7 Gordon 5
3/9 Wilkes 6 New Jersey City 0
3/11 Wilkes 1 Virginia Wesleyan 0
3/11 Wilkes 8 Manhattanville 2
3/12 Wilkes 3 Oneonta St. 1
3/12 Cabrini 8 Wilkes 0
3/16 Wilkes @ Marywood (PPD)
3/19 (Game 1) Wilkes 9 DeSales 1
3/19 (Game 2) Wilkes 2 DeSales 4

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

3/15 Wilkes vs Wilmington (PPD)
3/19 Wilkes 5 Widener 13

Evans puts team first, sets high bar

RICH HANNICK
Beacon Staff Writer

A power hitter with lightning feet and a team heart, first baseman Dave Evans returns for his final season with the Colonels this spring.

Evans, a senior business administration major, fell in love with baseball when he was eight years old. Growing up in Ocean City, New Jersey he lived right next to a baseball field and played at every opportunity.

He came to Wilkes as a junior from Lackawanna Community College and battled through a shoulder injury to become one of Coach Joe Folek's premier players. Folek has coached the Wilkes University Colonels baseball team for the past sixteen years and has great admiration for everything Evans has done for the team.

Folek knows Evans can help the team both offensively and defensively. "He plays first base for us...He has good feet. He is a big target. He digs the ball out of the dirt well," said Folek. Folek admits, though, that even though Evans' defense is good, his most notable attribute is his offense. "He is without a doubt one of the premier power hitters in the con-

ference," says Folek.

Evans is very team-oriented. Even when he was injured, he helped the team by rehabbing to get back as quickly as possible. His swift journey to recovery was an inspiration for the rest of the team. He plays with a lead-by-example mentality, always finding ways to improve not only his own skills, but the team's skills as well. His greatest goal is not improving his own statistics, but for the team to win the conference championship.

Evans is very optimistic about this season. The Colonels have a lot of returning starters, including Evans' fellow seniors Charles Hampton (1B/DH), Josh Turel (C), Derek Sheruda (2B), Steve Imdorf (OF), and Tyler Trutt (SS), described as "great defensive players, very powerful offensive players," by Evans.

What he is looking forward to most this season is the Colonels' rematch against DeSales. "They beat us 1-0 in the MAC championship last year," said Evans. He feels they played DeSales seven strong innings, and if they beat them this year, the Colonels will take the MAC.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Senior first baseman Dave Evans (33) reaches for a throw Saturday afternoon against Vassar. Evans, one of several returning seniors, had four at bats and scored one run for the Colonels during the season opener. Wilkes fell to Vassar 7-4.

Vassar sweeps Wilkes in home baseball opener

COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Vassar College scored three times in the top of the ninth inning to pull out a 7-4 win over Wilkes University and complete a sweep of their doubleheader on Saturday at Artillery Park. In game one, the Brewers notched a 5-2 victory. The two losses leave the Colonels with an overall record of 7-5. Vassar improves its overall mark to 3-7.

In the opener, Vassar plated a pair of runs in the fourth inning to take a 2-0 lead. Kristaps Aldins singled and would race around to score when a single by Marc Ramos was misplayed. Ramos would score later in the inning on a ground out to give the Brewers a 2-0 advantage.

Wilkes cut the lead in half in the fourth. Kyle Devlin drew a

two-out walk and advanced to third on a single by Matt LoPresto. Justin Popovich would plate Devlin with a single to make it 2-1.

Vassar scored a single run in the sixth when Aldins doubled and scored on a single by Paul Noonan. The Brewers added two runs in the seventh to extend their lead to 5-1. Aldins had an rbi-single during the inning, which featured another Wilkes error that allowed the fifth run to score.

The Colonels would get a double from Kyle Follweiler in the seventh and a run-scoring single by Kyle Stover to close to within 5-2. But, that is as close as they would get.

Nate Webb scattered eight hits

See **OPENER** page 17



Junior Casey Kulago (22) reacts to a punch thrown by Vassar's short stop after Kulago's controversial slide. Kulago and Vassar's shortstop were ejected from the game shortly after the play.

Campus Calendar

MONDAY (3/21)

*No events listed

TUESDAY (3/22)

*Class Officer/Rep Elections, 11 a.m. Henry Student Center

*Mindy Davis Sterling Silver Sale 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. HSC

*Sovereign Bank Professional Development Program 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Max Roth Center, free admission for students

*Men's Baseball w/Marywood 3 p.m.

*Women's Lacrosse w/St. Thomas Aquinas 4 p.m.

*Battle of the Bands/Pizza Wars 8 p.m. HSC Ballroom, free

WEDNESDAY (3/23)

*Men's Tennis w/Lycoming 3 p.m.

*Women's Softball @ William Paterson (DH) 3 p.m.

*Student Government meeting 5:15 p.m. Marts Center 214

*Holiday Recess begins @ 10 p.m.

**Classes resume Tuesday, March 29 at 8 a.m.

THURSDAY (3/24)

*Men's Baseball @ Scranton 3 p.m.

*Women's Lacrosse w/Lycoming 4 p.m.

FRIDAY (3/25)

*No events listed

SATURDAY (3/26)

*Men's Baseball w/Scranton (DH) 12 p.m.

SUNDAY (3/27)

*No events listed

Upcoming Events through 4/11

3/29 -- Meeting for May Graduates 11:15 a.m. HSC Ballroom

3/31 -- Professional Employment Fair 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. @ Wachovia Arena, free

4/1 -- Spring Fling Dinner Dance 6 p.m. @ The Waterfront, \$10 tickets

4/3 -- Mountain Biking Adventure Series, Jim Thorpe \$5 (contact Student Development)

4/5 -- American Red Cross Blood Drive 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. HSC Ballroom

4/5 -- Campus Invasion: live broadcasts by BHT Radio Station, 10am-12pm and 97X Radio Station, 1-3pm

4/9 -- Washington, DC Cultural Tour \$40 (Contact Student Development -- Overnight Trip)

**See page 19 for upcoming sporting events.

Editor's Note: Because of holiday recess, *The Beacon* will not publish again until Monday, April 11.

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@hotmail.com.** Be sure to put "Campus Picture" as the subject heading, as well as your name, phone number, and either campus mailbox or mailing address in the body text. A random winner will be picked from the correct responses and will receive a \$10 cash prize, courtesy of Programming Board.

Congratulations to Jim Thiemann, who correctly identified last week's campus picture, which depicted the top of the wall behind the Weckessar Annex.

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