

The Beacon

Volume 44, No. 6

WILKES UNIVERSITY'S WEEKLY

October 24, 1991

Eyesore now, 'optic' future later

BY MISSY MARGIS and
MARLENE MANGAN
Beacon News Editors

Students and faculty will eventually benefit from the excavation taking place in the area between Stark and the three adjacent campus dorms.

The construction will better communication on campus because it will allow for an increase in video, computer, and telephone lines. These lines are called fiber optic because they are transparent lines of plastic which can transport beams of light from one destination to another. The fiber optic lines can carry more information than the commonly used copper lines.

"We picked fiber optics because of performance and security. Before, anyone could tap into a system. Now, with the fiber optics, they can't," said Robert Collins, director of the

Computer Support Center.

According to Collins, there will be three major benefits from the installation of the fiber optics. First, people will be able to call the school directly without using extensions. Secondly, the computer labs throughout campus will have access to the mainframe computer in Stark. Lastly, cable signals will travel easier throughout campus. In the past, television cable signals would 'get lost' while being transmitted.

Raymond Woods, director of facilities management, said, "The reason the construction was held off until now was that in the summer other renovations were taking place on campus."

The excavation will take place in other areas on campus within the next few months.

The installation of the fiber optics is the first phase of a two phase project. The second phase of the project is still in the planning stage.



The Beacon/ Missy Margis

Digging the way to a new tomorrow- Ray Woods supervises the fiber optic installations

Alcohol myths spilled on campus



The Beacon/Sam Ireson

Alcohol Awareness Week- A picture is worth a thousand words

By PATTY PUERLING
Beacon staff writer

Know when to say when. This is the main theme of the National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week being observed October 21-27.

This week is packed with programs set up to make the students more aware of the problems of drinking. "The programs are geared to make students more aware that it can turn into a problem and that there is help out there" responded Diane O'Brien, Wilkes nurse.

The week started off with an Alcohol Awareness Kick Off Promotion that was held in the Stark Lobby on Monday, October 21. This was to get the students interested in the weeks events by distributing sun glasses, buttons Safe Ride cards and schedules. There was also an opportunity for students to register for the Dry Run scheduled for Sunday.

The main goal is to get people to think before they drink. "I think it is a tough age group to hit. You can tell them what can go wrong but until they have something happen to them or to someone they know it doesn't hit home as much" commented Diane O'Brien.

Well ...isn't that special!

BY MARY JO BABIOSKI
Beacon Staff Writer

Many students have anxiously been awaiting the stand up comedy of Dana Carvey. But the show on October 20th was canceled due to Carvey's illness.

Mike Nolf, coordinator of Student Affairs, said, "I feel that the tenth of November is a good date for the postponement because it is only three weeks away and the performance is still on a Sunday."

Some students, however, disagreed. "I thought it was inconvenient because my dad was coming to see it, and it was not canceled until the night before," said freshmen Valerie Marano.

'Father Earth Day' addresses student concerns

BY JEFF WALSH
Beacon Staff Writer

Senator Gaylord Nelson seems to be more of an old movie character, instead of a politician, considering what passes for a politician nowadays. Only this "Mr. Smith" is real -- a man of the people who has fought for his cause his entire life.

He is liberal, fights for the good of the environment, is the founder of "Earth Day," and is Counselor to the Wilderness Society.

Nelson, who had served in public office for 32 years, as both a Senator and Governor of Wisconsin, was recently part of a three-day Resident Scholar program at Luzerne County Community College (LCCC). One of his duties involved an afternoon student press conference in the college's Advanced Technology Center.

Nelson was the key figure in the passing of the legislation in 1970 proposing we have an "Earth Day," which earned him the title of

questions from the 60 to 70 students from Wilkes University, King's College and LCCC.

Throughout the hour-long program, Nelson dealt with questions regarding Earth Day, environmental concerns and "green" politicians.

"Father of Earth Day."

"We have to raise a conservation generation," Nelson said of the importance of Earth Day. "It was founded to institutionalize annual events. Every year, thousands of schools are engaged in Earth Day events."

In addition to his fatherly duties, Nelson is also the Counselor to the Wilderness Society, the only national group that exclusively addresses national land areas, which encompasses 610 million acres (roughly 18 times the size of the state of Illinois).

"Our fight is to keep the Park Service from over developing the parks -- which they are," Nelson said, adding that it is all "our" land.

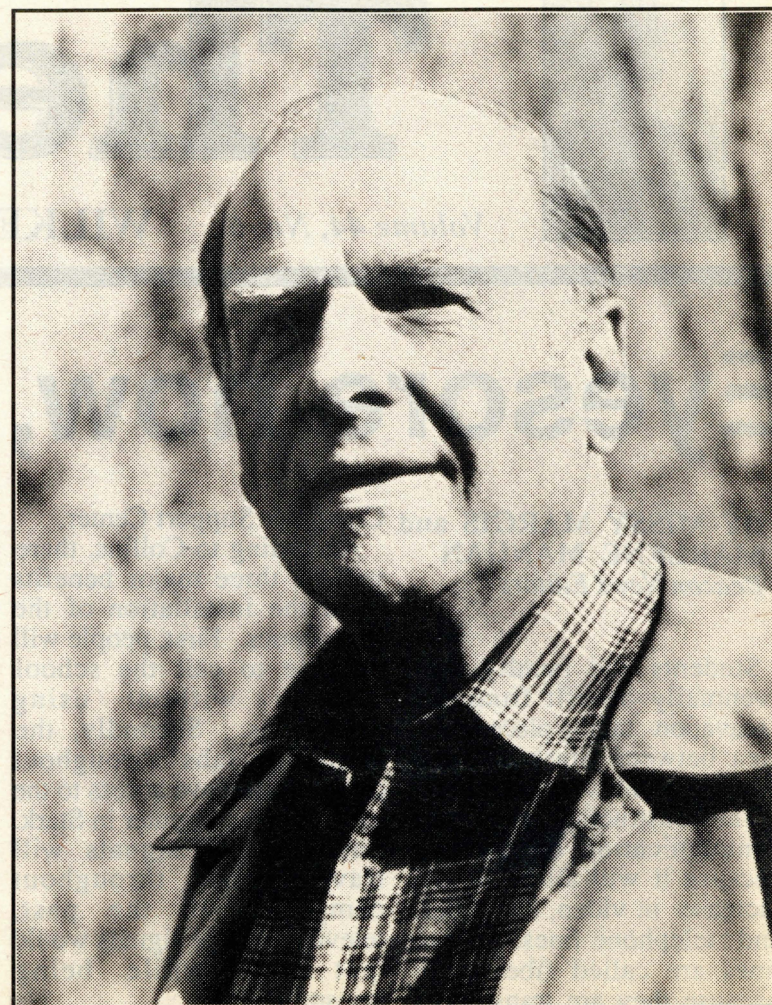
Nelson also fielded

"They'll all say they're environmentalists," he said, "even though they don't know what they're talking about. Bush will say he's an environmentalist, until it interferes in the economy. I don't feel they know the issue very well."

Nelson frequently made jabs at the current and former administrations. "Bush redefined wetlands so he could get rid of them legally," he said, going on to poke fun at Reagan's attitudes on conservation. "I don't think he understood any of it," he said. He also offered an impersonation of Reagan, "You seen one redwood, you seen them all, so what do you need two for?"

Nelson finished his presentation by recalling how his own interest was cultivated, thinking back to when he was a boy living in a small town of 700 people.

"I was a freshman in high school and I tried to organize a tree-planting on the sides of the roads," he recalled. "It didn't work, but I just kept reading and reading and it became an important issue."



Sen. Gaylord Nelson-the founder of earthday recently visited LCCC

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The Beacon/ Carolyn Douglas
King's and Wilkes students work together to haunt the halls
of Denison.

The Evil Estate-The nightmare returns to Franklin Street, a haunted house sponsored by the Wilkes and Kings Circle K, will benefit the Wyoming Valley Habitat for Humanity.

The haunted house will be on October 25-26 and 29-31, and will be open from 8 to midnight at Denison Hall (Across from the Marts Center). It will be \$2.00 at the door and children four and under will get in free.

Registration Order Changes

By WENDY RAUGHLEY
Beacon Staff Writer

The Academic Affairs Cabinet (AAC) reversed a previous decision concerning the order in which students register for classes.

The AAC "decided to return to it's more traditional order," said Dr. Jack Meyers, registrar. The order of registration will be seniors, juniors, sophomores and freshmen.

The registration order for the spring previously had been seniors, freshman, juniors, then sophomores, in an experiment suggested by Wilkes Retention Task Force to keep more freshmen at Wilkes.

Scott Bodfish, director of Wilkes Research Planning Department, said that the dropout, or attrition, rate for freshman is always greater than any other group in the student body. In 1990, 35 percent of the freshman class did not return for their second year.

The AAC has not totally done away with the idea of reversing the order in the future, according to Dr. Meyers.

Letters to the editor...

Dear Editor:

Attempted restriction of the right to think! Unfortunately, I'm not writing about the Salem Witch trials, I am referring to recent events which have occurred at Wilkes University. Recently, the Philosophy department has come under a major offensive from the powers that be. For the past eight years, only one 300-level course has been offered. The department tried to offer two such courses last semester, but they were canceled. The problem is: No one really knows why.

It could have been the numbers. Rhetorical Criticism has only seven students, yet it's being allowed to continue. But the Advanced Philosophy of religion course had seven students, the same number as Rhetorical Criticism, and it was canceled.

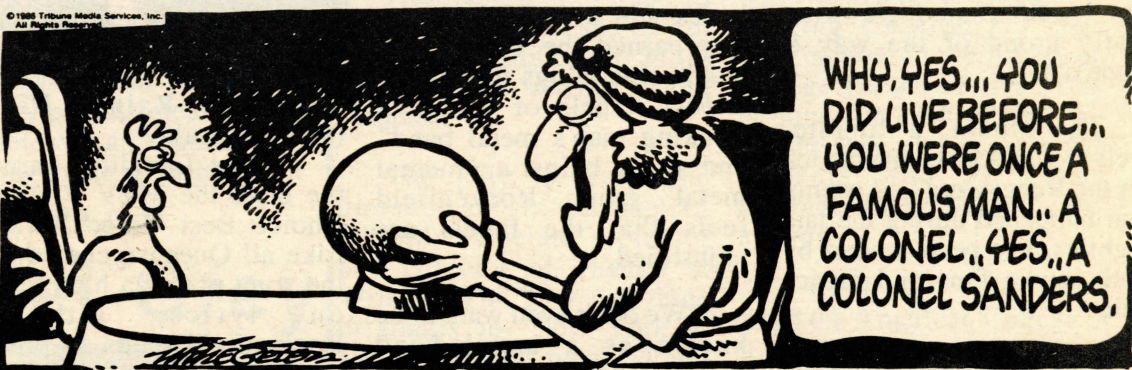
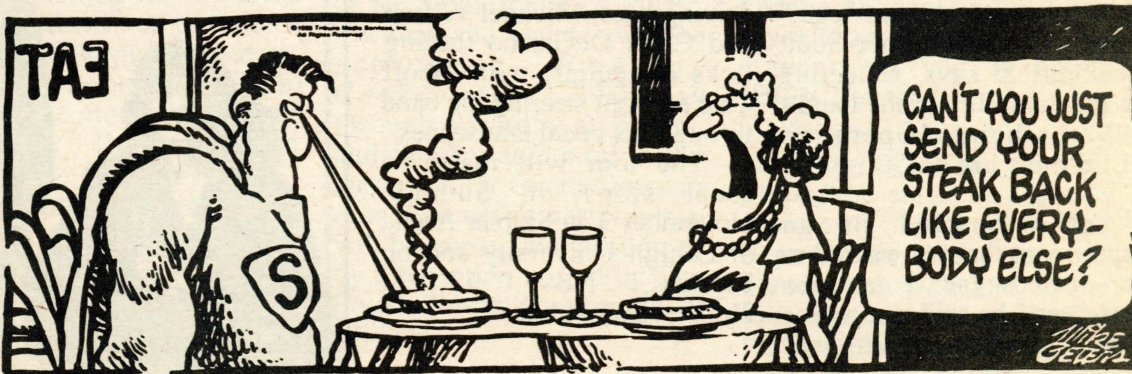
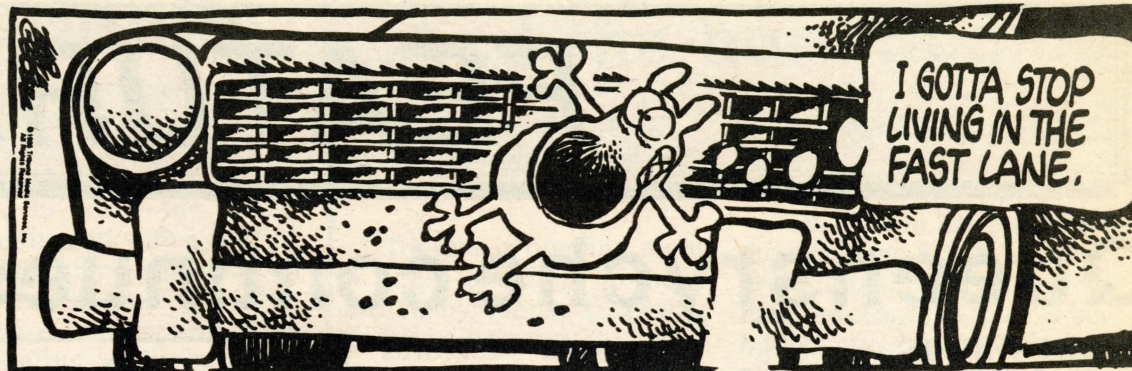
My question is: If it's not the numbers, what is it? Could it be that the administration doesn't want students to think? More to the point, why even bother to offer a philosophy major if the administration is not going to let students take the courses they need?

Such actions do not bode well for Wilkes. What really is incredible is the fact that the administration was negligent.

According to administrators at another local university, it was the responsibility of the Wilkes administrators to inform the students and the instructors that they had the right to petition en masse for the reinstatement of the courses. No such statement was ever made. Why not? It would be an incredible embarrassment if the administrators didn't know about this fundamental responsibility, and it is even worse if they were aware of this duty and simply neglected to perform it.

When the first idea is repressed, the chains of oppression fall upon us all. It starts out innocently enough, but it is an amazingly short road to outright tyranny. The administration has forgotten that the Philosophy department stems from ancient Greece, where they devised an ingenious way of dealing with their problems. The Greeks didn't address the problems themselves, but redressed the people causing the problems, usually in the bloodiest way possible. Since the administration desperately wants to resume the Salem Witch Trials, perhaps they wouldn't mind if the philosophers tried the Greeks' method of problem-solving.

Sincerely,
Judas Matthews



The Beacon

Wilkes University's Weekly

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PUBLICATION GUIDE (1991- 92)

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New Registration Schedule

Seniors:

M-R 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Tues. Nov. 5
S-Z 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tues. Nov. 5
A-E 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Wed. Nov. 6
F-L 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wed. Nov. 6

Juniors:

M-R 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Thurs. Nov. 7
S-Z 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thurs. Nov. 7
A-E 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Mon. Nov. 11
F-L 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mon. Nov. 11

Sophomores:

M-R 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Tues. Nov. 12
S-Z 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tues. Nov. 12
A-E 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Wed. Nov. 13
F-L 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wed. Nov. 13

Freshmen:

M-R 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m. Thurs. Nov. 14
S-Z 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m. Mon. Nov. 18
A-E 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m. Tues. Nov. 19
F-L 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m. Wed. Nov. 20

FEATURES

Queensryche continues to build 'Empire'

By **JEFF WALSH**
Beacon Staff Writer

"It's got some serious legs," Queensryche drummer Scott Rockenfield says, reflecting on the durability of the band's 1988 album "Operation Mindcrime."

"It was kind of an experiment that we wanted to do -- of how far we can take ourselves," he said in a recent phone interview. "We had always wanted to do a conceptual record since we got together, and we were really proud of the way it came out."

The album, a literate, well-thought-out counterattack on the Reagan era and events that happened during the late eighties, has been lauded by both music fans and critics alike.

"It's a satirical look at how some people weren't happy about what was going on in the United States at that time and wanted to change the way things were running," the 28-year-old drummer said. "But by doing it in a negative way-- murder, drugs, manipulation, scandals, government, religion, and a couple of twisted things thrown in, like prostitutes that become nuns."

"It's kind of a milestone in our careers. It came out three years ago, and it's still selling right now and we're touring backing that record now, as well as the 'Empire' album."

The band features Rockenfield's pounding rhythms, Eddie Jackson's driving bass, Michael Wilton and Chris DeGarmo trading licks on guitar, with Geoff Tate up front steering the band through his vocal landscapes.

The tour will make its local stops on Sunday, November 3, at Stabler Arena at Lehigh University and on Friday, Nov. 7, at Hersheypark Arena.

"Empire", with its pointed lyrics and sweeping music, also earned the 10-year-old band some things they didn't expect, labels of being "a thinking man's metal band" and them being a "mental metal" group. Rockenfield feels that the labels are unjustified.

"We don't even want to be known as a metal band anymore," he said. "We just want to be known as a band that writes good music. With the style of music that we choose to write, and the subjects we choose to write about, people just tend to give us that tag. It's not something that we really like."

Most bands tour to support one album, but Queensryche has two, since this is their first headlining tour, they were unable to play "Mindcrime" previously. The band's fourth full-length album features the radio-friendly "Silent Lucidity," "Jet City Woman," and their newest release



Queensryche-Eddie Jackson, Michael Wilton, Chris Degarmo, Geoff Tate, Scott Rockenfield.

"Another Rainy Night (without you)."

"Silent Lucidity" earned the band the MTV Viewer's Choice Best Video Award. Like all Queensryche songs, the song places a high value on lyrics, although Rockenfield tends to prefer the musical aspects in Queensryche's creative process.

"Personally, I've never one to get into lyrics. I don't know why. Chris and Geoff basically take care of the lyrics. Although it is definitely a five-way brainstorm effort whenever we write any songs."

One thing the band did avoid was to do another concept album right after "Operation Mindcrime."

"We didn't want to turn around and do Son of Mindcrime or Mindcrime Part Two and get stuck into a rut of doing conceptual records that are never as good as the

original," he said. "So we wanted to take a completely different turn and experiment with stuff that we hadn't done before."

"We wanted to try just a collection of songs that really didn't have any concept tied through them, and 'Empire' was born. We didn't really have to stick to any thread, so we were able to really go off and do different types of feels -- blues feels in a couple of the songs and keyboard-sequence fields and different topics for the songs and stuff like that."

The band is also releasing "Operation LIVECrime" on November 5, which will be a home video of the Mindcrime portion of the current tour, and if purchased before January, a CD or cassette of the live audio will also be included. ("It would make a great Christmas gift," Rockenfield adds.)

In addition to his musical relationships, Rockenfield is also a newlywed, taking a recent break in the tour to marry his new wife, Cara.

He also says that the band enjoys its current position in the music business, and that the band gets along together great.

"One thing that's kept us together through the years," he said. "is that we started out as being friends and not a band. And then the band gelled out of that. We definitely don't take anything that we do for granted. We just enjoy the music that we make together and I think that keeps us together. We're not in it for the money. We enjoy writing and being creative and trying to be artists. It's pretty hard in the business world these days, but we're doing it."

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#3 Seed Barnum 2-3
Extra Gold 0-5

AFC

#1 Seed Shooters 4-1
#2 Seed EMO 3-2
#3 Seed Gamecocks 3-2
Falcons 0-5

Scores of 10/20

Shooters 12 EMO 0
Bloodsport 40 Chaos 0
Gamecocks 40 Falcons 8
Barnum won by forfeit over Extra Gold

Elimination Tournament Schedule

Sunday 10/27--1:00

EMO vs. Barnum
Chaos vs. Gamecocks
Bye--Bloodsport & Shooters

November 3--1:00 Semis
November 10--1:00 Final

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Lady Colonels break record, but lose game

BY MISSIE CHINCHAR

Beacon Staff Writer

The Lady Colonels dropped a 5-0 decision to arch rival Scranton on Tuesday at Ralston Field. The Lady Royals built up a 3-0 lead at intermission and put the game away with two second half goals.

However, there were some bright spots for this year's squad.

When the Lady Colonels Soccer team began this season their expectations were high. The team's balance of both freshman and upperclassmen produced a recording setting season.

The team broke the school record for most wins in a season establishing the new mark at five. This is quite an accomplishment considering the youth of the program.

One of the brightest moments this season was the return of junior goalie, Diane Gibbs.

"I feel that the key to our team's success is mainly our defense. It's not one of us that has a good game, it's all of us working together that brings results," said Gibbs.

Overall, the Lady Colonels can look back on this season and realize that not only did they rebuild for seasons to come, but they molded together as a team and established a new mark to set their goals for the future.

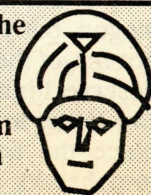
The women's soccer season comes to a close Saturday with a conference game against E-town.

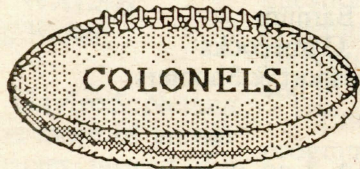
Congrats girls on your new school record and good luck in the future! Hoss, Moose, Steph, and Tiff - you'll be missed. (And Shawn, we haven't forgotten you and your leg).

Be sure to listen to the

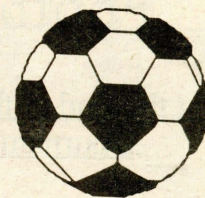
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Sports



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From
the
Bleachers

J. R.
Rupp

Well Homecoming 1991 has come and gone. The Wilkes football team gave it a great try on Saturday against Delaware Valley only to come up short. Nice try guys. Once again you showed heart and determination.

A nice crowd was on hand to see the game, however, all those on hand did not see the game.

Wilkes decided that it would be best if the tailgating by students was taken from the parking lot and put into the practice field.

In my opinion this took away from the number of students who actually watched the game. In past years the students would tailgate and stand by the fence in the endzone. Whether they were in the field or outside the gates they still saw the game and were there to support their team.

The practice field looked like a battlezone after Saturday. It looks like there was more negative done than positive, by the decision to switch locations.

Really, the only game where excessive tailgating is held is homecoming. Give us a break.

Tailgating is often considered a part of a football Saturday. Let's keep it that way. Put the "tailgate" back into tailgating.

* * * * *

Well, let's get to a more positive attitude. How about those Braves? (Bubby must have Arkansas rocking). No, I am not jumping on the band wagon, but you have to admire them. Do not forget the Twins. Both of these clubs deserve high praise. They are the first two teams to go from last one year to first place the next year. So get out your tomahawks and your "homer hankies," and help bid farewell to another baseball season, as we crown a new champion.

Hopefully next year the Yankees will be back in it. (Right!).

* * * * *

With all the hoopla surrounding this year's fall classic there is a bit of controversy stirring.

It seems that Native Americans are calling for the stop of all the "chopping" by Braves fans. Indian protesters said that baseball fans are making a mockery out of them.

Give these fans a break. They have never had a winner, they were bound to go crazy. Even Braves' Coach Pat Corrales, who is part Indian, says he sees nothing wrong with the cheers.

But wait, the saviors from the South have stepped forward.

Braves owner Ted Turner and his fiancée Jane Fonda, have said that they will stop doing the chant because of the feelings of Native Americans.

Where was Fonda's feelings for her fellow Americans during the Vietnam War?

Is Hanoi Jane feeling some guilt? She should be!

* * * * *

One last baseball note. Thumbs down to the Cincinnati Reds' front office for their treatment of pitcher Jose Rijo.

Rijo had a clause in his contract that said, if he pitched 205 innings he would be given a bonus.

Well, Jose spent a month on the disabled list this year and still led the team in wins. However, he ended up with 204 and two-thirds innings pitched. The Reds refused to give in. This to a man who has given percentages of his salary to purchase medical equipment and supplies for his home town in the Dominican Republic.

* * * * *

Looking at the NBA, as the season quickly approaches, I think I will ruffle some feathers.

On October 1, the world champion Chicago Bulls were honored in a rose garden ceremony at the White House.

However, the Bulls visit was minus Michael Jordan. Jordan gave the excuse that he was spending time with his family, but only the day before it was revealed he was playing golf.

Jordan was criticized by his teammates for snubbing the President.

In my opinion it was not a smart move on Mike's part. Well, maybe if

Mike can repeat he will have another chance next year for a rose garden ceremony.

But! Do not be too sure. Larry's healthy. Go Celtics!

* * * * *

One last thing. It has hardly anything to do with a sports section, but I wanted to include it.

The other night I saw Billy Joel, Don Henley, and Sting in a benefit concert for the Waldon Woods Foundation. Don Henley said something in relation to his fight that he is conducting to save Waldon Pond. I think it can be used as a motivator.

He said, "when your going to fight for something, make sure it is big enough to matter, and small enough to win."

TIME OUT FOR TRIVIA

(Every week The Beacon Sports Staff will venture into their secret vault and pull out a "trivia question of the week," answers will be given in the following issue)

Rod's Carew's .388 batting average in 1977 made him the American League's leading hitter. Which team did Carew play for?

