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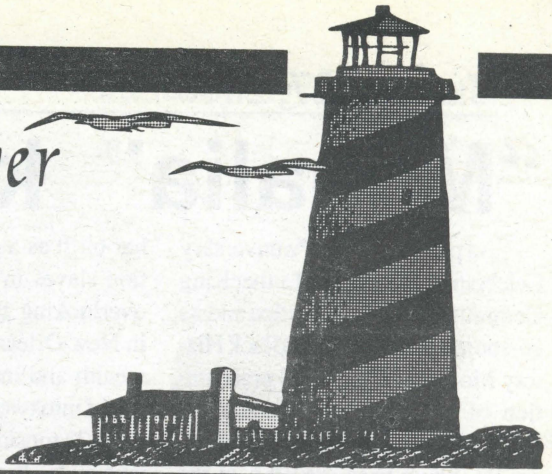
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A Wilkes University Student Newspaper
The Beacon



January 27, 2000
www.wilkes.edu
Volume 52 Issue 14

send us your
comments... email us at
beacon@wilkes.edu

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Pickering saga comes to an end



The life of Pickering Hall comes to an end, but its history lives on.

By Jill Stankoski
Beacon Staff Writer

Many new change are being welcomed to Wilkes University this year. Last semester they dealt with the finishing touches on the new Student Union Building and this semester the destruction of the old cafeteria and Pickering Hall. All that remains is a pile of rubbish of what once was. Greg Johansen, who lived in Pickering hall for two years said, "I have memories of living in Pickering Hall such as playing miniature golf and throwing football around the 'pit.'"

"We had a great deal of fun and was a relaxed atmosphere. While I lived there Rick Seipp and Nate Lipton were my RA's. They were

strict enough to prevent problems but gave us enough room to enjoy ourselves. Pickering was an eyesore but I will always remember my first two years at Wilkes because of Pickering."

Having this construction limits the parking spaces in front of Fortinsky Hall on South Franklin Street and the back entrance to the Student Union is inaccessible. Senior Jeff Reichel said, "They need to unlock the doors to the Student Union Building, and I will miss the food fights in the old cafe." Sophomore Justin Lewis said, "I was surprised that Pickering was torn down because they did not tell students it was coming down. It caused parking problems for the commuters. They pay

money to have accessibility to the Pickering parking lot and now it is limited because of construction."

When asked about construction and the project Dean Adams said, "He will be very happy to talk about the Pickering Project but he encourages people to speak with Mr. O'Hop, Vice President for business Affairs and Auxiliary Enterprises, regarding plans for the Pickering site. He is in the best position to speak with regarding the campus master plan."

The company that is responsible for tearing down and removing Pickering is the John Bardick Construction Company. Construction worker Dave Connors said, "we were delayed in demolishing the building because of asbestos problems. It is

also hard to say when this project will be completed because weather plays a factor in the rate at which we can work."

Junior Lisa Donaldson said "I am happy that it is being torn down because it was a dump, but I will always had fun there."

Junior Tara Barrie said "I think that it is a shame that they are tearing down Pickering because now where are the rats and roaches going to live?"

Pickering Hall is just another part of Wilkes history that people will never forget.

Junior Cathy Donlin said, "It is sad to see it go but it had to go. All good things come to an end but the

"Mahalia" kicks off Black History Month

As part of its 20th Anniversary Celebration, The Martin Luther King Committee for Social Justice and its co-sponsors will kick off Black History Month with a special presentation of the musical "Mahalia" at Wilkes University on Friday, January 28. Show time is 8 PM. in the Edward Darling Jr. Theatre of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts, corner of South and West River Streets. Complimentary tickets are available, but must be reserved and picked up by Wednesday, January 26. For reservations, contact either the hotline at (570) 408-4035 or the box office at 408-4540.

Performed by the touring company of Encore Attractions in New York, "Mahalia" is a celebration of Mahalia Jackson, one of the world's greatest and best loved gospel singers. This moving "gospel musical" traces Jackson's life and career from

her birth as a grandchild of plantation slaves in a three-room shanty overlooking the Mississippi River in New Orleans, through her rise to wealth and international fame. Divided into two Acts, "Mahalia" features 22 musical numbers and negro spirituals. It was written by Tom Stolz and is directed by Joy Vandervort-Cobb.

Taking on the role of Mahalia is Chaundra Cameron, a native of Birmingham, Alabama, who has performed in more than 50 productions in the U.S. and Europe. The characters Dr. King, Reverend Lawrence, Thomas Dorsey, Cousin Fred, Pastor, and the Reporter are portrayed by Daniel Burghardt, an accomplished actor, singer, songwriter and flutist from New York. Aunt Duke and Mildred will be performed by Sharlene Nelson, of Newark, N.J., a former international cast member of "Mama I Want

To Sing." Assistant musical director Don Corey Washington, of East Orange, N.J., will play the character Francis.

Little is known about Jackson's life, which was always concealed in the shadow of her musical talent. It was a life plagued with the prejudices of the time, and included odd idiosyncrasies such as distrust of banks so deep-rooted that she concealed her fortune on her body—tens of thousands of dollars at a time—rather than entrust the money to a financial institution.

Jackson was one of six children. Her daddy was a waterfront stevedore by day, a part-time barber by night, and a preacher on the weekends. By the time she was five years old, she was singing gospel in her father's church choir.

From her earliest teens, Jackson worked as a maid and a laundress. It was at this time that she

discovered her secret love, The Blues, playing Bessie Smith records while she worked. When she was 16, Jackson moved to Chicago to study nursing. On weekends, she was the featured singer at the South Side Greater Baptist Church, where she caught the attention of Thomas Dorsey, the famous gospel composer. He presented her on tour and wrote many of the songs for which she became famous.

Jackson's breakthrough occurred after a much praised performance at New York's Carnegie Hall. The rest of the world took notice of her and suddenly Jackson was in demand, performing before two American presidents and European royalty.

Jackson never forgot her roots or strong connection to black people's request for equality. As the "Voice of the Movement," she performed at rallies in the South during

the "Struggle for Civil Rights" and stood beside her friend and mentor Dr. Martin Luther King, at a rally in the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., and sang prior to his famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

Co-sponsoring the Mahalia performance are: Temple B'nai B'rith; Keystone Games; Diversity Initiative; First Heritage Bank; Times Leader; Commission on Economic Opportunity; King's College; Multi-Cultural Affairs; First Presbyterian Church; PNC Bank; University Institute; Rosenn, Jenkins Greenwald; the Annette Evans and the Wilkes University Cultural Student Coalition, Leadership Counsel, Student Government Board, and Development Office.

For more information, contact Martin Luther King Committee members Alan Zellner, 408-4035 or Bonnie Sutton, 823-5808.

Wilkes joins JOBTRAK.COM to help students find jobs

LOS ANGELES -A new opportunity is available to students at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Wilkes University has teamed up with JOBTRAK.COM, the largest and most popular online job listing service in the college market, to provide a job posting and resume database service accessible to its students and alumni 24 hours a day via the Internet.

Unlike other job listing websites, JOBTRAK.COM has a password-protected database that can only be accessed by students and alumni of partner schools. This security allows employers to target their recruitment efforts to Wilkes University, as well as other colleges and universities nationwide, assuring them a highly qualified, extremely motivated pool of candidates. The service is provided for free to students and alumni while employers pay a nominal fee to post their positions.

The Wilkes University Career Services Office coordinates on-campus interviews for its graduating students, bringing employers to campus to conduct recruitment interviews with qualified candidates. Students can obtain assistance in identifying interest areas in their chosen career, learning about career options, ob-

taining general information about a variety of specific careers, identifying potential employers, learning about positions available in specific geographic areas and preparing for on-campus interviews. Internship and cooperative education opportunities are also added to the website by the staff of Wilkes Cooperative Education & Field Experiences program.

"We are happy about partnering with JOBTRAK.COM," said Carol Bosack, Director of Career Services at Wilkes University. "Utilizing our JOBTRAK.COM database will give our students and alumni many job opportunities, access to more career resources and will make them more marketable for the new millennium."

"According to a recent survey by the Student Monitor, finding a job is the number one concern among college students and recent graduates," said JOBTRAK.COM President Connie Ramberg. "We are excited to be working with Wilkes University, in providing this valuable service."

In addition to the job listing and resume database, other features of Wilkes University/JOBTRAK.COM system include Career Forums, where students can post questions to college counselors and employers; the

Career Contact Network, which allows students to find mentors in a diverse number of career fields; and the Job Search Guide, which includes tips on everything from how to write a resume to how to negotiate a salary.

JOBTRAK.COM is the dominant player in the college job listing and resume markets. The company has formed partnerships with and provides private-label, co-branded job listing and resume databases for more than 950 college and university career centers, alumni associations and MBA programs nationwide. More than 400,000 employers have utilized

JOBTRAK.COM targets college students and alumni for internships, full-time and part-time employment opportunities, and, in 1999, more than 300,000 job listings representing over 900,000 job openings were posted on its site. In excess of 35,000 job-seeking students, graduates and experienced professionals access the JOBTRAK.COM website daily.

In 1997, 1998 and 1999, JOBTRAK was rated the most-visited, college-targeted career site on the Internet by Student Monitor, LLC.

Article Courtesy of Keri Resh, Public Relations Manager

High School Sophomores Accepted Wilkes Upward Bound Program

By PAULA GENTILMAN
Communications Assistant

Wilkes University Upward's Bound Program has accepted 54 area high school sophomores to participate in the pre-college program designed to prepare students for success in post-secondary education.

The new members join the 81 current members who attend weekly academic classes and workshops in

career and self-development. Accepted students have the opportunity to attend the summer residential program, take educational trips, and participate in leadership activities.

Upward Bound is a federally funded TRIO program and has been hosted by Wilkes since 1967. Then, hundreds of the area's high school sophomores have achieved their goal of attending successful college graduates.

Wilkes faculty members on local talk show

Carol Bosack, Wilkes University's Director of Career Services, Henry Steuben, Director of Part-Time Programs, and Donald Hindmarsh, a senior Sociology major, will be the featured guests on the January 29 episode of For the Community.

Hosted by TV personality Paula Degnan, For the Community is a weekly half-hour show broadcast at 11 a.m. on TV station WB 38. Bosack, from Wilkes-Barre, Steuben, from Dallas, and Hindmarsh, from Wyoming, will discuss current trends in the job market, as well as Wilkes programs available to traditional and non-traditional students.

For more information on such programs, contact Bosack at (570) 408-4645 or Steuben at 408-4237.

New PR Agency opens its doors

The Communications program is happy to announce the opening of a new public relations agency, Zebra Communications, a student-run, full service public relations agency at Wilkes.

"The opening took place on Friday, January 28, in the Ballroom of the Student Union. Zebra Communications invited Wilkes community members to join in the festivities.

Please call ext. 418 for more information on the PR agency.

No lon

You probably noticed that we had begun to talk about scholarship, credit, and I didn't know that they do but actually story.

Recently we were a way to compensate receive. The individualship for his grades, so to Wilkes University was reduced the ex Beacon. So, instead student by awarding his 18 credits, so he minor, and work or

You may be noticed that too many are forced into this program as well-rounded time jobs and doing university so that we hey, if that doesn't \$60,000 in debt at the want to go to grad possibly can when interest debt, which I again I didn't want alright too. What the

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Student Union

Month No longer a matter of money

by Joanna Gaydos

uggle for Civil Rights." She side her friend and mentor in Luther King, at a gathering at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., and sang prior to the "I Have a Dream" speech. We had begun to advertise for positions on staff. We promised scholarship, credit or work study. You may have thought, "Wow! I didn't know that Wilkes offered things like that!" Well, they say they do but actually giving it to those awarded the job is another story.

Recently we were faced with the dilemma of trying to figure out how to compensate a staff member for scholarship he wouldn't receive. The individual I speak of happens to have a full scholarship for his grades, so instead of realizing that this person is an asset to Wilkes University and should be treated as such, his scholarship was reduced the exact amount that was awarded to him by The Beacon. So, instead of easing the stress of this particular college student by awarding him the extra money he is forced to balance his 18 credits, so he can graduate with a double major and double minor, and work on and off campus to support himself.

You may be wondering how a person does this but I've noticed that too many college students, particularly here at Wilkes, are forced into this position. We load up with credits so that we can graduate as well-rounded students while holding part time or full time jobs and doing as much as we can around campus or for the university so that we have enough scholarship to cover tuition. But if that doesn't cover it, just get another student loan. Being \$10,000 in debt at the age of 20 is nothing to be ashamed of. I didn't want to go to graduate school anyway. I'll just get any job I can when I graduate so I can start paying off my high school debt, which I probably won't pay off until I'm 40, but then I didn't want to get married or have kids either so that's right too. What the heck!

They say scholarships are for those who need it. At least that's what they tell me. But if I'm working two jobs to put myself through this school and not being recognized for it, then who is getting all of this precious money?

So this I pose to Wilkes University: You want a student newspaper, then give the students what they deserve to create one.

Accepted and Program

and self-development. Students have the opportunity to participate in the summer residential program, educational trips, and leadership activities. The program is a federal TRIO program and has been in place at Wilkes since 1967. Several hundred of the area's students have achieved their goal of becoming successful college graduates.

PR Agency

The Communications Department is happy to announce the opening of Zebra Communications, a full service public relations agency. The opening took place on Friday, January 21, in the ballroom of the Student Union. Zebra Communications invited the community to join in the celebration. Please call ext. 4158 for information on the agency.

Student Union Events

Thursday, January 27— 10AM-2PM US Army Recruiting/Voter Registration Student Union Corridor

Friday, January 28— 7:30PM "Eyes Wide Shut" Student Union Ballroom

Saturday, January 31— 10AM-5PM POSTER SALE Student Union Corridor

Sunday, February 1— 11AM-2PM HAND-WRITING ANALYSIS Student Union Corridor

Tuesday, February 3— 8PM SEXUAL JEOPARDY GAMESHOW Student Union Ballroom

Wednesday, February 4— 7:30PM "Joy Luck Club" Student Union Ballroom

Your opinion belongs here.
Write us.

The Beacon

Box 111
Wilkes University
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766
(570) 408-5903 or 408-2962
Fax (570) 408-5902
E-mail:
beacon@wilkes.edu

Background Information

- Established in 1947
- Member of the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association
- Printed on Thursdays, with exceptions for school holidays and final exams
- 1,100 to 2,500 papers are distributed weekly
- We're on the World Wide Web
<http://wilkes.edu/~beacon/>

The Beacon is the student newspaper of Wilkes University. All editorial decisions are made by the student editors. All opinions expressed within The Beacon are those of the author or source quoted. The Beacon office is located on the second floor of Hollenback Hall.

Staff

Managing Editor
Joanna Gaydos
News Editor
Bhavika Patel
Features Editor
Joe Porto
Sports Editor
Corey Yanoshak
Advisor
Joe Valenti
Copy Editor
Harris Ahmad
Copy Editor
Vanessa Scheffner
Web Manager
Kevin Siegel
MAC Technician
Joe Porto
Business Manager
Liz O'Neill

CUT THIS OUT

The Beacon is accepting applications for editorial staff, managerial staff, staff writer and staff photographer positions for the spring of 2000 academic year. Work study money, credit, and scholarships are available.

Positions Include:

Managing Editor (1/2 scholarship)	Assistant Editor (1/4)
Sport Editor (1/4)	News Editor (1/4)
Features Editor (1/4)	Advertising Manager (1/6)
Circulation Manager (work study)	Copy Editors (1/6)
MAC Computer Technician (ws)	Web Page Manager (ws)
Staff Writers (credit)	Staff Photographers (credit)

• Please e-mail the following to beacon@wilkes.edu or jvalenti@ptd.net

Name:

Address/Telephone:

Major/Year:

Position(s) of interest:

Please give a brief explanation of why you would like to work for The Beacon and list your experience, if any:

Applications must be dropped off c/o Joe Valenti at The Beacon Office, 2nd Floor, Hollenback Hall, or e-mail the information to: beacon@wilkes.edu or jvalenti@ptd.net by December 8, 1999. Applicants for editorial and managerial positions must know their services will be needed for at least ten hours per week and must be available on Wednesday nights. For further information, call The Beacon at 408-5903.

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2 Small Pizzas \$9.95

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Bucket of 30 wings \$10.95

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Fri.-Sat. 11 AM - 12:30 AM

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Mrs. Bradley couldn't seem to get
enough parents involved in the school
even though she
really, really, really,
really, really, really
tried.

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Showtime

With Kathleen Awad

It was about ten degrees outside when I pulled into the mall sized parking lot of the Cinemark Theater in Moosic. I easily parked my car and ran into the giant establishment. As soon as I walked into the spacious lobby I took off my coat and glanced up to see that there were many theaters playing different movies. I took a few moments to decide which film I wanted to see and as I approached one of the ticket booths, a pleasant ticket booth attendant greeted me with a smile. There was absolutely no wait, perhaps because there are four box offices and many ticket machines.

I went through the big doors and entered a beautiful lobby with a restaurant on the left called Studio Eats, where people were enjoying their food and there was a nice game room off to the right. As I approached the ticket collector I noticed, a very large snack bar stretching the entire length of the lobby. An attendant tore my ticket in half and told me that the twenty theaters that my show was playing and directed me to where all of the amenities were. By then I had forgotten about the weather outside and was ready to enjoy a couple of hours of atmosphere, warmth, quiet, and entertainment.

My movie was in the right wing and as I passed what they call one of their satellite cafe snack bars I was thinking, "Let me see there are satellite cafe snack bars, a restaurant and the big snack station in the lobby, yeah this will work!" All walking space was wide and accessible with soft and comfortable lighting that made me feel at home. I walked through the doors of theater number eleven and entered into a truly great experience. Stepping through the foyer lit by the soft lighting aimed for footing, brought me right into the seating area. I could choose any area I preferred in the theater of 598 reclining seats.

As soon as I sat down, I raised the arms to the seat and leaned back, noticing that even with my outstretched arms there was plenty of extra room in front of me. I was a bit early, but was constantly entertained by trailers of films and even some film history until my show began. The screen stretches from one side of the theater to the other and is so large that I sometimes found myself following the characters across the screen by moving my head from side to side. The high definition screen quality with the DTS and Dolby Digital Surround Sound made me think of the line "Is it real, or is it Memorex."

When the movie was over, I wished that I had bought two tickets because I could have stayed for another movie. It was the best theater experience ever, and it is surely worth the ten-minute drive on Interstate 81 North to Wilkes-Barre to the Montage exit 51.

The Hurricane, brilliantly played by Denzel Washington, was an intense true story about a man who was wrongly accused of murder and sent away for life in a State Penitentiary. This movie was a shocking example of the corruption of our justice system in the United States. It should be required learning for all Social Science courses of any University, considering it's accurate portrayal of the have mores and the have lesses, and the overall inequity displayed in American society. The Hurricane was so moving a picture that when it ended I had moved a muscle. The entire sold-out theater remained seated and we all read every last credit before leaving our belongings to leave. I highly recommend this movie; you will definitely enjoy and appreciate the entire story.

The Movie Girl Interrupted, was a true story about a young impressionable girl from a city like Wilkes-Barre with the big historical buildings everywhere. She finds herself placed in a private mental institution by wealthy parents who thought she needed help to overcome a teenage depression. The movie takes place in the 1960's, which gives it a retro flair. Winona Ryder gives a great performance as the troubled main character and the movie afforded a perfect role for Vanessa Redgrave as a psychologist who is an interesting character playing opposite Ryder. Whoopie Goldberg plays the attendant who has the most success at reaching her. There are too many colorful characters to mention and the gamut of emotional experiences ran from funny to interesting. I recommend this movie for an entertaining and inspirational experience.

Stuart Little was a lighthearted movie that recaptures your youthful innocence. It is meant to be a children's movie, but the adults that were there seemed to enjoy it just as much as their children. The movie was about a family of humans who adopt an adorable mouse and introduce him as a brother to their human son and then the fun begins. The family Cheshire car has one hilarious line after another, which kept me in stitches. The film is packed with star cameos and Michael J. Fox is the voice for Stuart Little. If you just want to get away from it all for a little while, I recommend that you sit back and enjoy Stuart Little, I did.

The Green Mile, starring Tom Hanks was filmed in a prison depicting a fantasy that takes place in the south in the late 1940's and was a testament to the racially charged atmosphere of the day. The movie was about you, because everything is factual concerning the racism, the treatment of the prisons inmates by each other and by the corrections officers. It was entertaining and Tom Hanks gave his usual "thumbs up" performance, but over all I was disappointed in the content of the picture.

Man on the Moon was an excellent comedy about an eccentric comedian who was a friend of Danny Devito. Jim Carrey plays Andy Kaufman, the nutcase comedian who inspires the story. Danny Devito plays the manager and entertains us throughout the picture. The movie is filled with Saturday Night Live humor and is as funny as it is funny. I recommend this film to anyone who has just had enough of life and wants to get a laugh.

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BICENTENNIAL MAN (PG) 11:00a, 1:55p, 4:50p, 7:45p, 10:40p
CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG-13) NO PASSES 1:10p, 4:15p, 7:15p, 10:20p
DEUCE BIGALOW: MALE GIGOLO (R) 1:25p, 3:35p, 5:45p, 7:55p, 10:05p
GALAXY QUEST (PG) 12:10p, 2:10p, 2:40p, 5:10p, 7:20p, 7:50p, 10:25p
GIRL INTERRUPTED (R) NO PASSES 1:20p, 4:25p, 7:25p, 10:35p
THE GREEN MILE (R) 12:00p, 1:00p, 3:45p, 4:40p, 7:30p, 8:30p
HURRICANE, THE (R) NO PASSES 12:40p, 3:50p, 7:00p, 10:15p
MAGNOLIA (R) NO PASSES 12:05p, 4:00p, 8:00p
MAN ON THE MOON (R) 11:10a, 2:05p, 4:55p, 7:35p, 10:20p
SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) 11:30a, 4:50p, 10:35p
SNOW FALLING ON CEDARS (PG-13) NO PASSES 12:50p, 3:50p, 7:05p, 10:00p
STUART LITTLE (PG) 11:55a, 12:25p, 2:15p, 2:45p, 4:35p, 5:05p, 7:30p, 9:55p
SUPERNOVA (PG-13) 12:20p, 2:45p, 5:20p, 7:50p, 10:00p
TALENTED MR. RIPLEY (R) 1:05p, 4:05p, 7:10p, 10:10p
TOY STORY 2 (G) 11:45a, 12:15p, 2:20p, 2:50p, 4:45p, 5:15p, 7:45p, 10:15p
WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG-13) 7:15p, 10:25p
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Iowa First to Decide Delegates

by JASON BROCIOSUS
Beacon Staff Writer

No major surprises emanated from the Iowa Caucuses Monday night, as citizens met in approximately 4,200 locations across the state to vote for their choice of presidential candidates. Caucuses are very different from primary elections in that votes are not cast through a secret ballot system. Republicans and Democrats each gather within their precincts and discuss the candidates prior to making their selection. Republicans then mark a ballot right in their seats, whereas Democrats either have a simple headcount or use a sign-in sheet system to determine the votes.

The result was as expected, with George W. Bush and Al Gore both winning by comfortable margins. Vice President Gore, who hopes to ease his way into the White House by the coat-tails of the booming national economy he helped create, received 63% of the Democratic vote. His competitor, Bill Bradley, received 35%. Bradley is running

on a platform of liberal ideals, which includes instituting a national healthcare system.

Texas Governor G. W. Bush, who is running on a platform of marginal-rate tax cuts and "compassionate conservatism" received 40% of the Republican vote, an exceptional number considering the large field of six candidates. His biggest threat nationwide, Senator John McCain of Arizona, finished a poor fifth-place, receiving only 5% of votes. McCain, who supports campaign finance reform and using the budget surplus to cut taxes and fund Social Security and Medicare, did not expect to fare well in Iowa since he did not campaign there.

Coming in a strong second with 30% was the well-established billionaire Steve Forbes, who plans to institute a flat income tax (where all Americans would pay the same rate) if elected president. He also positions himself as a candidate committed to outlawing abortions. Former UN Ambassador Alan Keyes, perhaps the most conservative candidate, placed third with

14%. He hopes to abolish the IRS and institute a national sales tax. Keyes is also a strong pro-life candidate.

Gary Bauer, who is also running on a fundamentally conservative platform, placed fourth with 9%. Bauer was a part of the Reagan Administration during the 1980's.

Perhaps the largest story to surface after the Caucuses was the apparent submission of Utah Senator Orrin Hatch. Hatch, who only received 1% of the Republican vote, had expected support due to his very strong congressional record. He had been dismayed by lack of support from the strong Christian faction of the GOP, claiming that he was discriminated against because he is a Mormon. He was expected to announce his decision to quit on Wednesday.

The candidates now move on in the race to the northeast with New Hampshire, which holds its primary on Tuesday, February 1. Gore is expected to win there, but polls put John McCain level with or leading Governor Bush.

The Main Event

With Crazy Bob



"What a Bob wants, what a Bob needs, whatever blah blah blah something something." Yeah baby! Crazy Bob is back in 2000 with the hippest column this side of the Mississippi. Now all of you fat, sweaty, lazy, and uneducated hicks finally have something on Thursdays to look forward to other than Sloppy Joe Day at the cafeteria.

I saw some good ECW shows over break. First I went to the sold-out West Chester County Center in White Plains, NY. This was the craziest show I've ever seen in my life, and I've seen Primus! Since this was a TV taping, they delivered four straight hours of chair-smashing, table-breaking, balcony-diving entertainment. The Sandman was nice of enough to spit beer on me. Bless his clogged heart.

Next I caught a show at a community college in Danbury, CT (at least it's not Pennsylvania). People, I have to address a few issues here. First, there is the issue of respect for women at wrestling shows, or lack thereof. I know ECW fans have grown accustomed to vulgar chants towards their favorite female valets, but they're professionals and no one is twisting their arm. But chanting towards another female fan that's passing by is not cool. They bought a ticket like everyone else; they are not part of the show and did not pay to be harassed so back off.

The other thing I don't dig is the fights in the audience. I don't mean when wrestlers take the brawl into the crowd, although you should watch out for each other when the mob passes. I'm talking about fistfights among the fans. I've seen them at every ECW show and they're usually about one of three things:

Either someone won't sit down, someone likes a different wrestler/promotion, or someone offended another dude's chick. Last Friday I saw ten guys all brawling against each other. It took five security guards to run into the stands and they literally began tossing people down the steps. One guard had a fan in a headlock and started punching him in the face. I think "security" is an inside joke in ECW. If you start this, you're not extreme and you're not hardcore-you're stupid. You're all very stupid people. Go easy on the booze and the ganja and leave the women alone.

The Royal Rumble pay per view aired this week in the Ballroom. Aside from being the first Royal Rumble that stands a chance of actually overshadowing Wrestlemania, it matched King of the Ring '98 as being the most violent WWF ppv ever. For all of you crazy cats that were there last Sunday, then you too saw one of the most vile, disgusting, sickening, brutal acts of humanity ever witnessed inside the squared circle. It was difficult to watch. Of course, I'm talking about Mae Young's seventy-year old naked body. The world title and tag-team matches were pretty brutal too.

Speaking of which, it was so good to see Cactus Jack one more time in a high profile match. He brought back a lot of old school tactics that the WWF tends to bypass. I like the way he builds the match slowly, allowing time for the tension to rise, as opposed to the modern-day fast-paced opening and then dying down into a list of spots. I've missed those old school promos that consist of genuine passionate dialogue as opposed to worn out catch phrases without a shred of genuine emotion. And I've missed the madman from New Mexico! Welcome back Cactus Jack! The rest of you I don't like. I'm kidding; you kids play nice.

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Grapple Contests

By COREY YANOSHAKE
Beacon Sports Editor

The Wilkes University team got a fast start in the new year with night matches in 2000, with over 500.

The team stands at 11-1 in matches at Albright, with Wrestling at 6 PM.

Fourth-year junior John Colonels in all categories and eight pins. Senior captain next with an impressive five pins. Junior Matt Zurbrugg the pin lead as eight of his fall.

The Colonels most recent match was a victory over Delaware State, defeating

McIntyre

By MATT REITNOUR
Beacon Staff Writer

In the last two M.A.C. Championships, sophomore transfer went onto the floor and showed why Wilkes' head coach is very high on him in the early

In Wilkes' 88-71 win over the last Wednesday night McIntyre was a major factor in the career-high 24 points. On New Jersey, McIntyre won 25 points in the Colonels' victory. The Colonels' straight games, all in the currently find themselves in Scranton for a showdown Center.

McIntyre was named League Honor Roll for the first time in the game against Drexel. He fought sluggishly and went into the point count as McIntyre won 25 points. In the second half McIntyre took the game off

A case

By DAVID DIMARTINO
Beacon Staff Writer

The last time we left off, the Freedom League were 5-4, 1-2 in the Freedom League off a sweep of their opponent. Comfort Inn/Lady Colonels' performance looked as if it was going into the second semester of the first Middle Atlantic Conference since the 1996-1997

Turn ahead to the pre-season. The Colonels' team in desperation, fighting their last four contests. Freedom League battles.

Since the Christmas break

Grapplers above .500; Conte unbeaten at 24

COREY YANOSHAK
Sports Editor

The Wilkes University wrestling team is off to a strong start in the new year, having won five of six matches in 2000, with six wrestlers currently above .500.

The team stands at 11-8 heading into tonight's match at Albright, with Ursinus. The squad begins wrestling at 6 PM.

Fourth-year junior John Conte (133) leads the team in all categories with 24 wins, 0 losses, and eight pins. Senior captain Duane Ritter (165) has an impressive mark of 17-2, along with Junior Matt Zurn (HWT) ties Conte for team lead as eight of his 11 wins have come by pin.

The Colonels most recently won two of three matches at Albright, defeating Howard and the hosts, Delaware State, defeating Howard and the hosts,

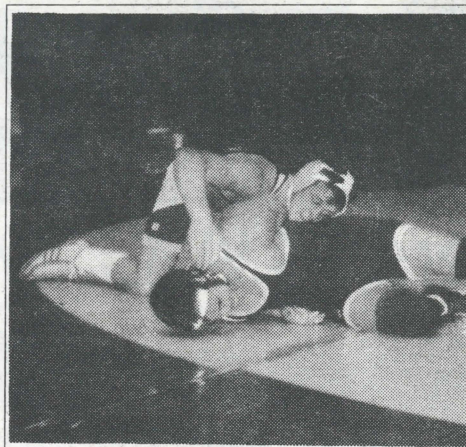
35-9 and 22-19, respectively. Wilkes dropped a tough 27-21 loss to Western Maryland at the tri-meet.

In the new year, the Colonels have also beaten Muhlenberg 43-6, Oneonta 26-12, and Rhode Island 35-9. Their losses have come at the hands of New York University, in a brutal 19-18 decision, and national-power Delaware Valley College 31-12.

The team has rotated many wrestlers at different weights, trying to find the right combination in time for the playoffs.

Senior heavyweight Heath Fleisher, who has not wrestled this season due to arthritic knees, is believed to be back with the squad to beef up for the Middle Atlantic Conference Playoffs.

Senior Corey Luce has compiled a 15-4 mark this season at 125-pounds, while sophomore Scott Henshaw, at 149-pounds, has recorded five pins in his 16-12 season. Jason Hills stands at 13-9 at 141-



Scott Henshaw (top) has racked up five pins en route to a 16-12 record as a sophomore.

pounds, while 197-pounder, Gary Mensinger, is 11-10 with five pins.

Elijah Shutt has filled in nicely at 125 and is 8-8. Jed Starner has rotated between three weight-classes and has seen action in four total as he is 8-9 on the year between weights 141 and 165. Steve Tornambe and Kevin Baker have both seen action at 174, while Baker has been up at 184 and Tornambe down at 165 as the senior, Baker, is 4-16, while sophomore Tornambe is 4-6.

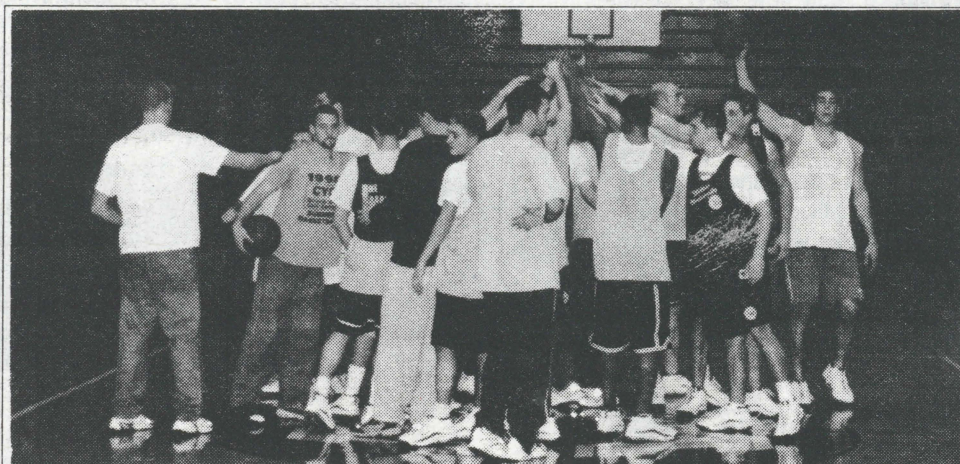
McIntyre in the middle

MATT REITNOUR
Staff Writer

In the last two M.A.C. Freedom League matches, sophomore transfer center Ron McIntyre went to the floor and showed everyone exactly what Wilkes' head coach Jerry Rickrode was so high on him in the early part of the season.

In Wilkes' 88-71 win over Allentown College last Wednesday night in the Marts Center, McIntyre was a major force in the paint with a career-high 24 points. On Saturday in Madison, New Jersey, McIntyre went one better, dumping in 25 points in the Colonels' 74-70 win over Drew University. The Colonels have now won three straight games, all in the Freedom League, and are currently finding themselves staring at fierce rival Scranton for a showdown at 7:30 PM in the Marts Center.

McIntyre was named to the M.A.C. Freedom League Honor Roll for the second straight week. In the game against Drew, the Colonels started slowly and went into the half down by a nine-point deficit as McIntyre was held to just three total points. In the second half, the Colonels and McIntyre took the game over. McIntyre scored 22



The men have rallied around Januzzi's (left, facing front) decision to redshirt, now tied for first in the Freedom League heading into Saturday's showdown with Scranton.

second half points, including a 14 for 18 performance from the charity stripe en route to finishing with a game- and career-high 25 points. Senior Chad Fabian scored 18 points while sophomore Kevin Walsh added quality points and rebounds after coming off the bench.

Saturday will be the 93rd meeting in the Wilkes/Scranton rivalry. Scranton leads the all-

time series 60-67-25, but the Colonels have won the last seven straight including a 65-62 win on Dec. 4 in the John Long Center.

Wilkes will have a chance to get some revenge on their cross-town rival, King's College, on February 1 at King's. King's ended the Colonels' 33-game home unbeaten streak with a 70-61 win over then nationally-ranked Wilkes.

A case of Dr. Jekyll and Ms. Hyde

DAVID DIMARTINO
Staff Writer

The last time we left the Lady Colonels, they were 4-4, 1-2 in the Freedom League, and coming off a sweep of their opponents in the first ever Liberty/Lady Colonel Classic. The tournament looked as if it was going to serve as a catapult for the second semester and a possible run at their Middle Atlantic Conference playoff appearance since the 1996-1997 campaign.

Turn ahead to the present and we see a Lady Colonels team in desperation of a win after dropping their last four contests, all of which were Freedom League battles.

Since the Christmas break, the Lady Colonels

are 1-4 with the sole win coming on January 8 in the Marts Center versus New Jersey City University. The Lady Colonels had their way with the Lady Gothic Knights in a 71-47 drubbing. The team was led by senior Katie Watkins (16.9 ppg. and 7.5 rpg, both of which lead the team) who poured in 22 points and 11 rebounds. Three other Lady Colonels scored in double figures as sophomore Lauren Elwood had 12 tallies, senior Allison Pikulski added 11 points and junior Robyn Mendygral chipped in with 10 points.

On January 12, the Lady Colonels resumed their Freedom League play on the road at Lycoming College against the Lady Warriors. The Lady Colonels played strong in the first half and went into the intermission with a 28-23 lead. But in the

second half, Wilkes was outscored 38-30 and dropped a 61-58 decision. Watkins again led the team with 22 points. The Colonels out rebounded the Warriors and shot 51% from the field, but committed 34 turnovers which led to their demise.

Caitlin Lee and Rena Gorish have shined at times and senior Liz Burchill has put in valuable minutes as of late.

Overall, the Lady Colonels need to find a way to win.

The Lady Colonels will have another big game on Saturday when the nationally-ranked Lady Royals of the University of Scranton come strolling into the Marts Center at 1 PM.

Head coach Karen Haag has completed one of four cancer treatments and is back on the

That's what I say... but who cares?

- with Corey Yanoshak

This past weekend, I had the opportunity to attend the prestigious W-B Touchdown Club's seventh annual Melberger Awards banquet and I must say that it was most impressive.

For those of you who don't know, the Melberger Award is handed out annually to the nation's Division III football Player of the Year. This is not local — this is big time, this is national, this is the biggest award our city is a part of. Granted, there were no Wilkes players selected as finalists, but Wilkes was a part of the banquet.

For starters, Wilkes' senior running back Mike Hankins was given the Middle Atlantic Conference Most Valuable Player award. Hankins won one of six awards that the Touchdown Club hands out to M.A.C. players. As Hankins admitted, his years of record-breaking yards and a most impressive career in the backfield probably gave him the edge for this award, rather than just this last season's stats. But who cares, whatever reason he was chosen was well-deserving and the Maryland native certainly earned the award, his second banquet award in three years, as he also was selected the M.A.C. Offensive Player of the Year in 1997.

But now to the main point — the Coach of the Year. For the fifth straight year, Lycoming's Frank Girardi was named the conference Coach of the Year as his team won the Freedom League and the M.A.C.

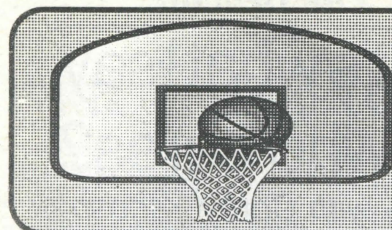
As I was watching the awards being given out, I noticed Wilkes' head football coach Frank Sheptock clapping for his nemesis as Girardi received the award. And although I attended the banquet as a professional journalist, a little "Colonel Pride" may have shown through as I just hoped that maybe Sheptock will upset Girardi for the award next year. I have nothing against Girardi, but it's time for his reign to end. And it's time for Sheptock's to begin.

It may not be as easy as it sounds, but it was certainly close enough for the Wilkes community to taste. As I'm sure Sheptock already knows, all he has to do is earn that elusive win against the Warriors and the voters should have no choice but to select Sheptock as the Coach of the Year.

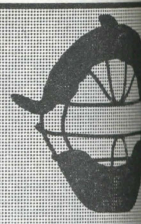
Why? For one, Sheptock has not beaten Girardi as a head coach, five years in the running. Secondly, Girardi's Warriors are regulars in the NCAA Division III Playoffs and are the best team in the M.A.C., so if Sheptock can upend Girardi, no one else would be able to claim the feat that Wilkes had pulled off and Sheptock would be left as the clear choice. Third, Sheptock is quite a few years younger than Girardi and isn't expected to produce such quality teams as he has, but he still needs to claim that one victory that was inches away last year.

There was also more of our school involved as the three finalists, hailing from University of Redlands in California, Trinity University in Texas, and Westminster College in Missouri, were invited to our campus for the President's Breakfast Series, which unfortunately was cancelled due to the inclement weather. These remarkable football players had the chance to visit our school and that fact was recognized by the club's president, giving Wilkes a little free press.

So coach, I look forward to talking to you after next year's Melberger Awards and interviewing you as the Coach of the Year. And Mike, congratulations, if someone deserves this award, you certainly do.



The Back Page



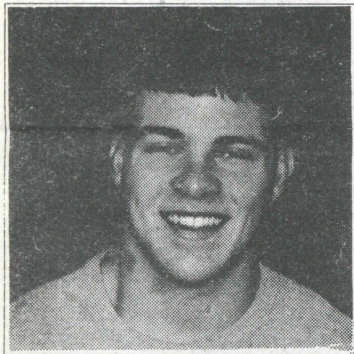
Hankins garners M.A.C. MVP at Melberger Awards

Senior rusher named conference MVP at national awards banquet over weekend.

By COREY YANOSHAKE
Beacon Sports Editor

This past weekend, Wilkes University senior football player Mike Hankins capped off his career by winning the Middle Atlantic Conference Most Valuable Player award, given annually by the Downtown Wilkes-Barre Touchdown Club at their national awards banquet.

The club awards six plaques in the M.A.C. category, while also giving out the prestigious Melberger Award, given to the nation's top player in Division III football.



Mike Hankins ends his career as the career leading-rusher in the M.A.C. with 4,000+ yards.

Hankins and King's College senior Rob Johnston both took home awards as Johnston was named the Offensive Lineman of the Year.

"There are so many great offensive players in the conference and I was kind of surprised that I would be receiving the award," said Hankins, the M.A.C. career-leading rusher. "But it's great to be here and great to get this award."

Johnston added, "I'm proud, but I didn't do it by myself. There were a lot of great people around me, especially my teammates. It feels nice to have all the hard work and dedication that goes into a season to be recognized."

Hankins credits his steady career and impressive numbers with possibly putting him over the top for the honor, and will look to take those numbers to Cleveland, Ohio, where he will participate in a senior all-star game in April.

"I'd like to continue playing. It's hard to give it up after playing for so many years," admitted Hankins. "It doesn't hurt to try and I figure I should do it while I'm able to."

As a sophomore, Hankins won the M.A.C. Offensive Player of the Year award and has been nominated for the Melberger Award the past two years. Even though he has never been a finalist, Hankins had nothing but praise for the three finalists.

"This is every kid's dream and these guys are great players. They truly exemplify Division III football and the people that play it."

The winner of the "Division III Heisman Trophy" was Westminster College's Scott Pingel, who became the first wide-receiver in the award's seven-year history to win the Division III Player of the Year.

"I'm overwhelmed right now. I gave the other two the edge because they were quarterbacks and they have more responsibility," said Pingel. "I gave myself a 33% chance because I thought it was pretty even."

Pingel was up against stiff competition as last year's winner, Mike Burton of Trinity University in Texas, was back for another run, and newcomer Danny Ragsdale, another quarterback from University of Redlands in California, put up some impressive numbers in the fall.

"I'm speechless right now," said Pingel's coach, Scott Welty. "All of the finalists were well-deserving, but Scott got what he deserved. He's worked real hard and I'm so proud of him."

The three finalists were treated to two days full of events, including dinner at the Westmoreland Club and a Friday night hockey game at the newly-named First Union Arena at Casey Plaza. The three finalists and the award's namesake, Cliff Melberger, dropped the ceremonial first puck to start the game. On their way to the game, traffic was backed up so bad that the three finalists had to leave the car and run 1/4 of a mile to get to the game on time.

"We went out, but we didn't talk about the award much," said Pingel. "If someone asked us who the favorite was, we all said somebody different because it was so equal."

Along with Hankins and Johnston winning M.A.C. awards, Juniata College's Matt Eisenberg was selected

Offensive Player of the Year, while Widener University's Tom Eisenhower was named Defensive Player of the Year. Susquehanna University's Denny Bowers was honored as the Defensive Lineman of the Year, while Lycoming's Frank Girardi won an unprecedented fifth consecutive Coach of the Year award.

Hankins' award is the fifth award won by a Wilkes athlete or coach in the seven-year history of the awards. The club also gives out awards to the Centennial Conference and Presidents' Athletic Conference, as well as handing out a national championship trophy, given this year to Pacific Lutheran University.

While Hankins and other award recipients received a plaque marking their accomplishment, Pingel's hardware was a little more upscale.

For the first year, the winner was given a ring, in the Heisman tradition, to mark his achievement. And for the seventh year, the winner was given a 50-pound trophy which is regarded as one

of the nicest in the nation. The trophy is of an old-style football helmet made of coal on a stand which reads "The Melberger Award, presented to the Outstanding Division III Player of the Year by the Downtown Wilkes-Barre Touchdown Club."

The event is a formal affair held downtown at the Ramada Plaza Hotel.

The finalists and their guests—parents, girlfriends—arrived Thursday afternoon and stayed until Sunday morning.

"We're just two local players winning a name for our schools," said Hankins of he and Johnston. "It feels nice to be here and we will definitely help our programs."



Head coach Frank Sheptock (left) talks to the offense early in the year; Sheptock will need to replace the career-rushing leader in Mike Hankins.

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Past M.A.C. Honorees

1997: J.J. Fadden - Defensive Lineman of the Year

1997: Mike Hankins - Offensive Player of the Year

1993: Joe DeMelfi - Coach of the Year

1993: Jason Feese - Defensive Lineman of the Year

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This week's

sports

Thursday, 1-2

• Wrestling @ Albright Ursinus, 6PM.

Saturday, 1-2

• Wrestling @ Oneonta, 12PM.

• Women's B-ball @ Scranton @ Marts Center, 7PM.

• Men's B-ball vs Scranton @ Marts Center, 7:30PM.

• Hockey - Penguins vs John's @ FUA, 7:05PM.

Tuesday, 2-4

• Women's B-ball @ Kingston, 6PM.

• Men's B-ball @ Kingston, 8PM.

• Hockey - Penguins vs Albany @ FUA, 7:35PM.

* FUA = First Union Arena, Wilkes-Barre Township.

17

The number of wins wrestling captain Duane Ritter has amassed this season.

28

Basketball player Ron McIntyre's season-best points in a game.

35

The number of steals basketball player Robyn Mendiya has in 14 games.

.4

What the women are out-rebounding the men by in rebounds per game.

February 3, 2000

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