

The BEACON

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Preliminary Masterplan Presented in Open Forum

BY KRISTIN KILE
Beacon News Editor

On Tuesday, November 30, the Wilkes Masterplanning Committee presented a tentative plan to students, faculty, and staff at an open forum in the Eugene S. Farley Library and welcomed any feedback the audience had to offer.

The committee, along with various committees and Gould Evans Associates Architectural firm, has been working to construct a plan to improve campus space and atmosphere for the past two months.

According to Becky Mullins, Principal of Gould Evans Associates who presented the plan at the open forum, said the planning is still in its primary stage. The two main features presented were a series of "green spaces" and consolidation of services for students.

"I think the main idea, or the structure or the concept of the Masterplan is to build on what you have already started, which is an urban campus...So we're looking at creating academic quads and recreational quads,"

Mullins said.

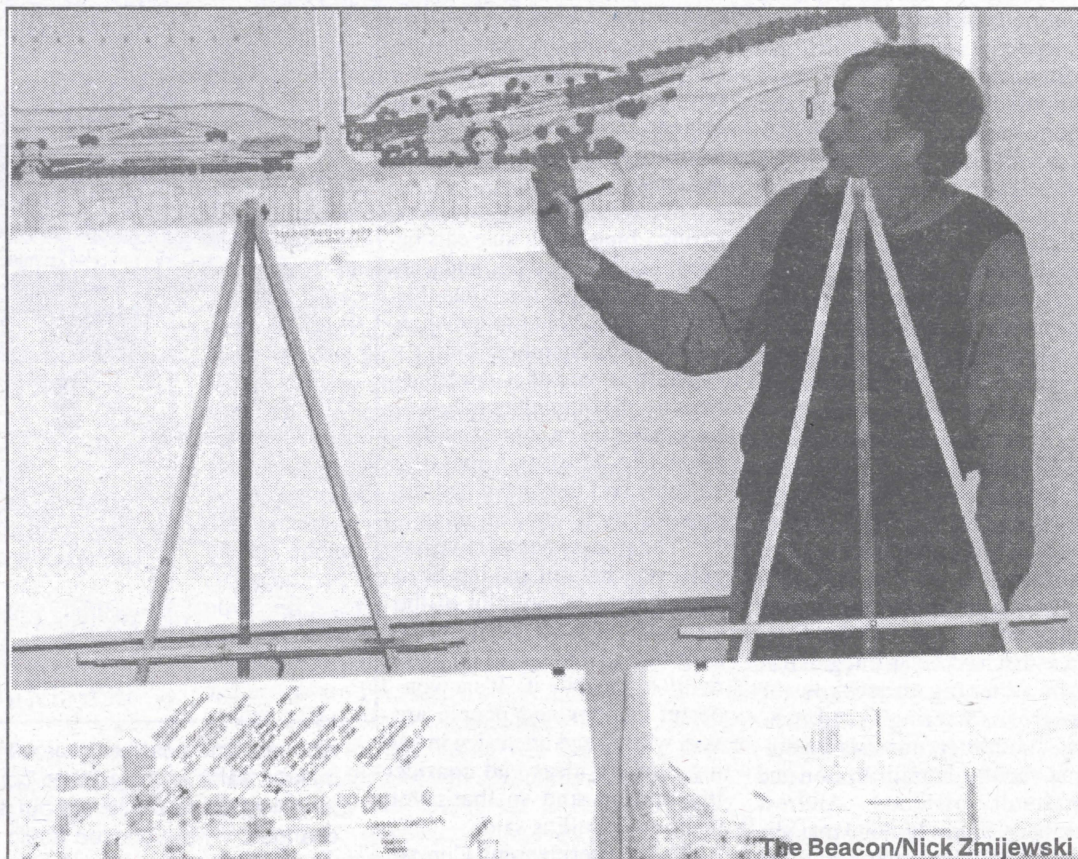
Mullins said she sees three needs of the University that they would like to solve in the Masterplan. Those needs are, bring the science building up to current standards for teaching and indoor air quality, solving the problem of on-campus housing, and addressing student life issues related to recreational space.

One concept mentioned at the forum was a "one stop shop" for campus services. This facility would house administration, financial aid, registrar, business offices, and admissions under one roof. Such a move, the Masterplanning Committee believes, would make utilizing these services simpler and easier for students.

Currently the Farley Library is being seriously considered as a possible spot for this "one stop shop," however, no final decision has yet been made.

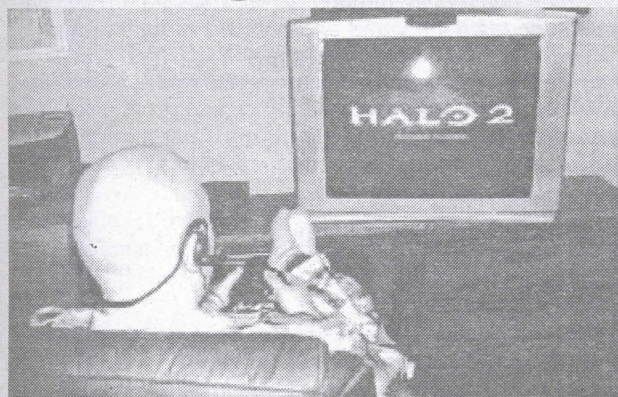
"What we're looking at first and foremost is how do you use this existing building efficiently and does that mean we can sort

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The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
A member of the masterplanning committee explains part of the preliminary masterplan on November 30 in the basement of the Eugene S. Farley Library.

Gaming Addiction



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

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Campus Renovation Projects Progressing

BY JULIE MELF
Beacon Asst. News Editor

As previously reported in a September 20 article in *The Beacon*, a variety of campus physical plant renovation projects were scheduled to begin or be completed this semester.

According to the Director of Capitol Projects and Planning, John Pesta, although some of these projects encountered difficulties and became delayed for various reasons, he is still happy with the overall impact that these changes will have on students.

"I think [renovation projects] support various initiatives the University is working on, specifically Strategic Initiative 2, which is an endeavor to improve the support environment of the University," Pesta said.

One of the projects that faced delay included the Henry Student Center addition. The proposed renovations will expand the second and third floors of the Henry Student Center and call for a bigger game area in the Hiscox Room on the first floor. The current game room will then serve as an office

space for Programming Board and Student Government (SG). SG will also then conduct meetings in an enclosed area on the second floor. According to Pesta, the initial proposal went \$150,000 over the original bid and forced University officials to call for new bids and look for another construction company. Once the contract with the new bid is completed construction will begin.

Pesta also reports that although progress is moving nicely

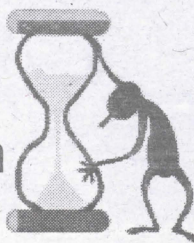
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PLAN from Front Page

of consolidate some of the services here and more closely match with what the needs are for the campus. So the needs in the building may be more study space, it may be more spaces where students can gather informally or it might be some study rooms that are needed in the building," Mullins said.

A possible replacement for the current library system is an off-campus facility that would store rarely used resources and making a retrieval system here on campus.

"You can use the building on-campus more for people. But it does require from you to have a retrieval system where students get on-line, request a book, and it's delivered to the library and then they can pick it up," Mullins said.

Mullins added they would also like to make key entry points to the campus or physical connections to features such as the river commons.

Various groups have had input on the tentative plan. One committee that has had an integral part in the planning process is the Masterplan Steering Committee. This committee consists of students, faculty, administration and community officials. Andrew Steinberg, junior biology major is one of the student representatives on the committee. Steinberg said their job is to come up with a plan for the University and give feedback.

"What we're doing as a com-

mittee now is setting the priorities of what would be done in the next three to five years as opposed to what should be done 10 to 15 years down the line," Steinberg said.

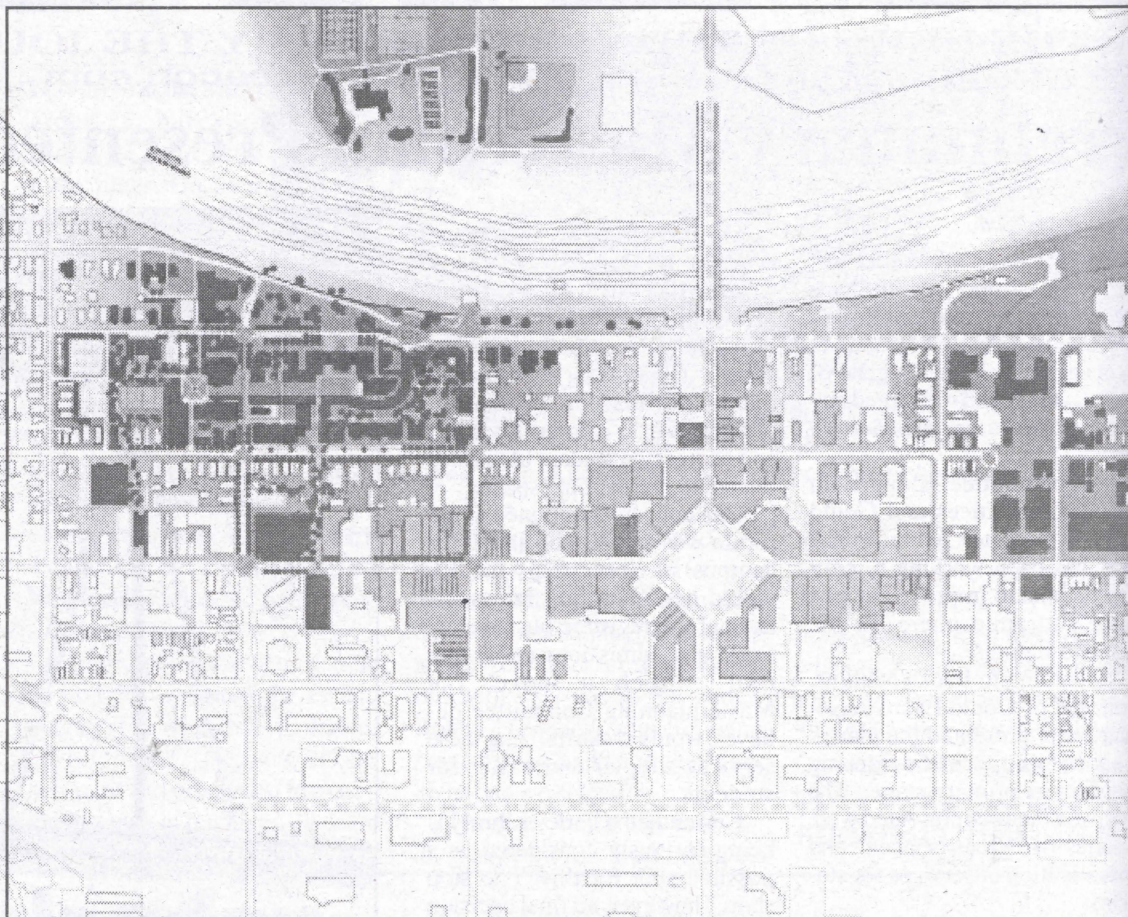
From information he gathered while talking to students, Steinberg said the main issues concerning students are acquiring the call center and parking center, renovation of The Stark Learning Center and residential housing.

"We would like to see a very strong...blue print that can be used, can be viewed, and can be the footprint for what this University is going to be when we're all 50," Steinberg said.

Mullins said that contributions by all committees involved have been taken into consideration and Mullins hopes the students feel they have had the opportunity to have an input.

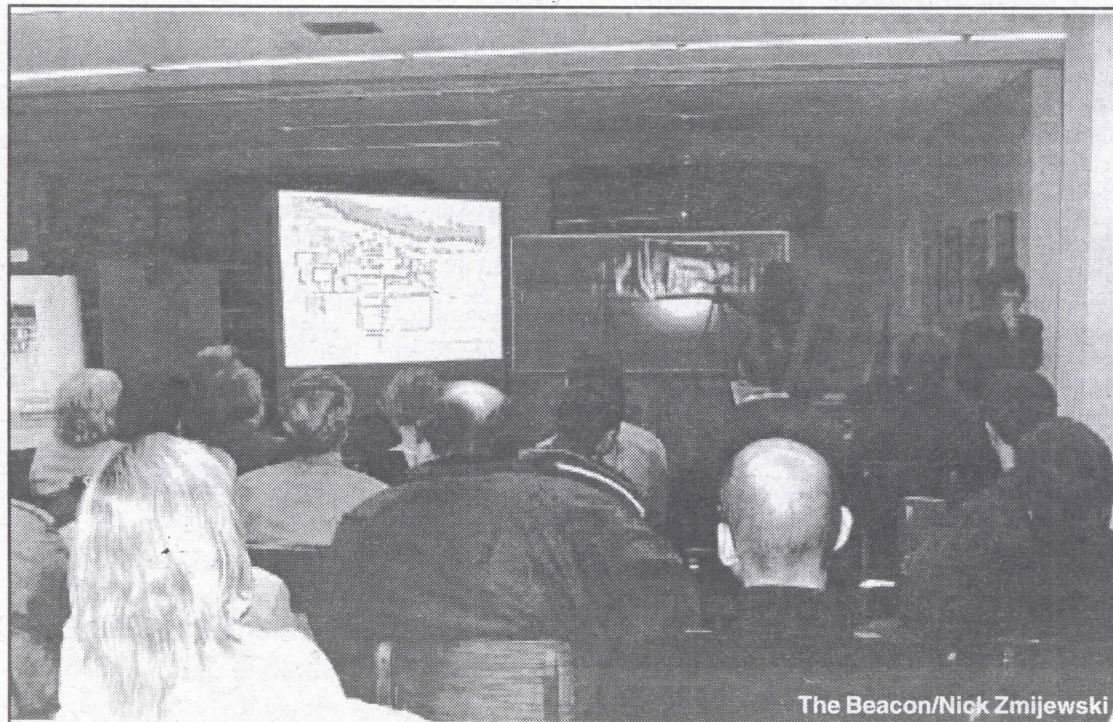
"The student perspective has been very helpful and has been very influential on a lot of the decisions or a lot of the planning that's been going on. We really appreciate it. It's a wonderful campus and people are very willing and interested in talking through ideas and considering options and so that's very positive," Mullins said.

The Masterplanning Committee will next present their proposals to the Board of Trustees on December 9. More open forums are planned in the future to unveil new plans and get more feedback.



Above: One possible improvement discussed at the meeting was diverting traffic on River Street to make it safer and the River Commons more accessible. Mullins said they would like to divert traffic to Wilkes-Barre Boulevard but it is up to Penn DOT and the City of Wilkes-Barre to make those changes. The proposed traffic pattern is also displayed on the map.

Below: Students, faculty and staff gather to listen to a presentation on the masterplan and offered feedback and suggestions of possible improvement to the campus.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

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

Body Matching NBC Executive's Son Found in Wreckage

MONTROSE, CO: Investigators probing what caused a private jet to crash during takeoff want to know whether it was de-iced before it went down, killing NBC Sports executive Dick Ebersol's youngest son and two other people, a federal official said Tuesday. They have not ruled out other possible factors.

The plane carrying Ebersol and two of his sons crashed Sunday while taking off from the airport outside this small town 300 kilometers (190 miles) southwest of Denver. A snowstorm had moved through the area and there was light snow and fog at the time of takeoff.

Digging through the charred wreckage, investigators on Monday found what is believed to be the body of 14-year-old Edward Ebersol, youngest son of Ebersol, 57, and his wife, actress Susan Saint James.

The couple's oldest son, Charles, and the plane's co-pilot remain hospitalized and are expected to recover. Saint James and the middle Ebersol son, 18-year-old Willie, were not on the flight.

Also killed were the pilot, 50-year-old Luis Alberto Polanco of the Dominican Republic, and flight attendant, 36-year-old Warren T. Richardson III. The co-pilot was in critical condition at a burn unit in Denver.

Dispute Over Turkey Blamed for Stabbings

WORCESTER, MA: A man was charged with stabbing two relatives who allegedly criticized his table manners during Thanksgiving dinner.

Police said the fight broke out when Gonzalo Ocasio, Jr., 18, and his father, Gonzalo Ocasio, 49, reprimanded an uncle for picking at the turkey with his fingers, instead of slicing off pieces with a knife, the Worcester Telegram & Gazette reported Friday.

The uncle, Frank Palacious, 24, of Worcester, allegedly responded by stabbing them with a carving knife.

EBay Bidding Ends at \$28,000 for 10-year-old Sandwich With Image

HOLLYWOOD, FL: A woman who said her 10-year-old grilled cheese sandwich bore the image of the Virgin Mary will be getting a lot more bread after the item sold for \$28,000 on eBay.

GoldenPalace.com, an online casino, confirmed that it placed the winning bid, and company executives said they were willing to spend "as much as it took" to own the 10-year-old half-sandwich with a bite out of it.

MBA Student Develops Glow-in-the-dark Thong

HOUSTON, TX: Beau Carpenter, an avid runner who also works at NASA, initially thought of creating glow-in-the-dark jogging clothes, but practicality evaporated when thongs captured his attention during his Internet research. He enlisted Chris Harris, an electrical engineering student at Rice, and Marcus Brocato, a chemistry lab manager at the Houston private university, to develop the GloThong.

The thongs have lightweight, water-resistant batteries that, when fully charged, illuminate the straps for two hours in various neon colors, including blue, pink and yellow. Wearers can use a wall adapter to charge them up, but car chargers are available for those on the go.

The thong will be available for \$49.95 by mid-December, but the group intends to expand their offerings to include luminescent bras and bikinis.

Father's Attempt to Teach Daughter a Lesson Backfires

NEWARK, NJ: A father's attempt to teach his daughter a lesson about abusing alcohol backfired when the teen led authorities to a stash of drugs and illegal weapons inside his house.

The incident began at 2:45 a.m. Friday when the 16-year-old came home drunk and unruly. Winston called police, but when they arrived, the girl told police she feared for herself and her four sisters--aged 3 through 15--because her father stored drugs and weapons there.

She led them to a hidden crawl space above the ceiling where they found four semi-automatic guns, including an AK-47; a sawed-off shotgun, 9-mm handgun, .22-caliber rifle and more than 70 rounds of ammunition. They also found 617 vials of cocaine plus drug paraphernalia.

Internet and Gaming Addiction On the Rise

BY JULIE MELF

Beacon Asst. News Editor

As the fall semester winds down and students return home for the holidays, thoughts of holiday shopping and spending time with loved ones come to many minds. Others may use the vacation break as a chance to simply relax by either surfing the Internet or playing some video games.

However, for an increasing number of young adults in America, spending time on the Internet and playing video games has turned into an addiction. The huge popularity of the Internet and video games has led to issues of addiction. Two years ago the video game industry reported a net income of over \$6.3 billion surpassing the movie industry. Instead of watching Sam and Frodo slay evil creatures, these gamers may be off saving kingdoms and slaying evil monsters themselves for hours at a time. What researchers are learning, however, is that excessive gaming may even lead to players ending relationships, shirking responsibilities, and developing a series of other serious side effects as a result of this new phenomena.

"They sometimes refer to game software as 'heroinware' because...it's very much like an addictive substance...an addict will constantly crave the adrenaline rush that they get from playing and will constantly think about gaming and when's the next time [they] can play or how can [they] rearrange [their] schedule to play...it's this wonderful rush that keeps this problem going," explained Professor of Psychology, Dr. Robert Bohlander.

In fact, the problem is becoming so prevalent that the next edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* will include a category for Internet and gaming addiction. Also, gamers anonymous groups and organizations such as Mothers Against Videogame Addiction Violence (MAVAV) have also begun to pop up all over the country.

"I do see people who skip out on class, or doing homework assignments or studying for an important test that they had planned and really changing their plans because they say 'Oh I'm only going to play for a few minutes,' and then pretty soon it snowballs and then they are playing for quite a while," sophomore, computer science and math major John Mishanski said.

According to Game Daily, Nielsen Net ratings reported that over 46 million people, or one in three on-line Americans, visited an on-line game site in May 2004.

Some warning signs or symptoms of video game addiction include falling behind in school or work, an inability to stop the activity, neglect of family and friends, feeling empty, depressed, irritability when not at the computer or playing the game, and craving more and more time with the game or computer. Also, compulsive playing tends to be a result of compensation for other serious problems such as poor social skills, low self-esteem, and anger.

"Now that we know that people can become addicted to the Internet and video games, we can watch for the warning signs, we can let people know about it... and then we can find out what the best ways are in treating the problem. Research is currently being done on cognitive behavior theorem and showing that it's a very effective treatment for this kind of problem," Bohlander said.

And although Internet and gaming addiction is becoming more widely known, it will still continue to rise.

"When portable gaming units come down in price and continue to get better, then we will see more students using them and with wireless networking becoming prevalent in the next ten years, people will be able to access Internet games everywhere such as in cars and stores, and then you'll see more of [gaming addiction]," explained Dr. Matthew Zukoski, Assistant Professor of Computer Science.

Student Government Notes

Student Government addressed the following on December 1 during their weekly meeting.

The Society of Automotive Engineers came for their second meeting and SG passed a motion 26-0-6 to recognize them as a club.

SG passed a motion to donate \$750 to the United Way.

SG's Holiday Party service project with the learning center will be December 6 at 5:30 in

the Ballroom.

The SLAM Committee met to discuss the social security ID issue and worked on setting a time table for the change. They also discussed food issues and the library survey.

Programming Board is sponsoring masseuses, who will give students free massages at IRHC's

Study Break Party to be held on December 12 in the Henry Student Center.



Comedienne/Poet Teaches Sex Education

BY SARAH HERBERT
Beacon Coorespondent

Think back to high school sex education classes. In those classes, students were informed that abstinence doesn't have to be the only option, right? Probably not.

Even the most liberal high schools try to avoid informing students that there are other options.

On Tuesday, November 30, comedienne/poet River Huston spoke to a large group of Wilkes Students about the facts and myths of safe sex. The lecture was held in the ballroom where nearly every seat was filled.

Debra Chapman, Professor of Biology, organized the event and said, "It's not a lecture saying you should or shouldn't do something. It should get people to look at these issues, but almost in a comical manner so that the issues are easier to deal with."

The event was organized to commemorate World AIDS Day, which was December 1.

Huston has been lecturing on

the topic of safe sex ever since she found out she was HIV positive 14 years ago. Some will argue that Huston's techniques are offensive, but the students at Wilkes seemed to enjoy the comic relief she added to such a serious subject.

"It's so rare that you find humor with such a topic, but it was presented very well and I thought it was effective," sophomore English and communication studies major Keith Hubbard said.

Huston told students that it is okay to choose abstinence, but it is also okay not to choose abstinence. Huston stressed the issues of self-image and confidence. She asserted that the key to being comfortable with another person is first being comfortable with yourself.

Huston also urged students to make a choice that is right for them. If that choice is not abstinence, Huston made some suggestions that would make safe sex a fun choice.

"I thought it was so hilarious. I'm still red from laughing so hard,"

junior biology major Jennifer Ramil said.

Huston also demonstrated the dangers of mixing sex and alcohol. Two students from the audience were blindfolded and placed on opposite sides of the room. They had to find each other relying on sound alone and place a condom on a demonstration penis. This exercise proved to be quite difficult and students quickly realized that sex and alcohol don't mix.

And, it wasn't until Huston broke the ice and got the audience's attention that she revealed she has AIDS. Huston told the audience, "I love life so much. I was shown how short life could be and I love my life. I hate being sick."

Some students were shocked to hear about Huston's condition. "I found it very shocking that she has AIDS. She took a serious turn but still managed to keep the lecture light and funny," Ramil said.

Since the day of her diagnosis, Huston has committed her life to educating people about the dangers of unprotected sex. "I feel like my life has meaning. I know I'm not going to change people completely and totally; but, if one person feels better about themselves and makes a better choice, that means a lot to me," said Huston.

For more information about River Huston and her crusade for safe sex education, visit her website at www.riverhuston.com.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Comedienne/Poet River Huston entertained a large crowd in the ballroom with her discussion on making safe sex desirable.

Outstanding Advisors Award Established

BY JOSEPH DEANGELIS
Beacon Layout Artist

Some might consider them to be the unsung heroes of Wilkes University; they are the academic advisors, who teach classes and advise up to one hundred students each semester. Starting this year, they are going

Associate Professor of Environmental Engineering and member of the Teacher Recognition and Effectiveness Committee (TREC) tasked with gathering nominations and making recommendations for winners. "There are a lot of advisors on campus that have a very

and have proven themselves to be an excellent advisor by leading students in the right path. For this award, the students may nominate their advisor by submitting a form that could be found in the cafeteria or on the first floor of the Henry Student Center and submitting it into the TREC box at the Information Desk.

"We're just asking for students to nominate their advisor," Troy said.

The deadline for nominations is March 15. The

students will then be asked to fill out a quick questionnaire about why they feel their advisor should win the award. TREC committee members will evaluate the nominations and information that the nominees provide, such as an advising philosophy, and make

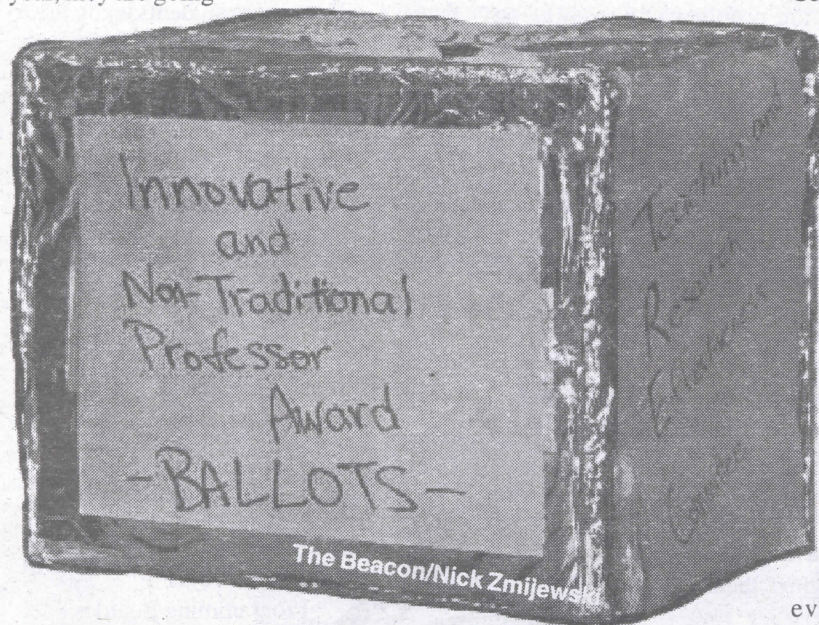
recommendations to Provost Maravene Loeschke. One winner from each College will be announced in the fall 2005 semester.

The award is just part of TREC's mission to recognize outstanding teachers on campus. Another substantial award for teachers is the Innovative Teacher Award. This award recognizes teachers who teach in a different and unique way.

"We want them to be really innovative," said Mischelle Anthony, Assistant Professor of English and committee member of

TREC in charge of the award. Anthony said that the teachers who are nominated for this award do something different than just putting notes on a blackboard and regurgitating the information back on a test. The teachers are "teaching them (students) concepts that we want to come across in new ways so that they can go 'oh hey, where did that come from?'"

Due to his collaborative projects with students and hands-on teaching techniques, last year's winner was Dr. Mike Steele, Associate Professor of Biology.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

to get some recognition with the first annual Outstanding Advisor Award.

"We thought that there were a lot of people that worked very hard and that deserve...some recognition," said Dr. Marleen Troy,

may advising load and also we found that a lot of them had really made a difference."

According to Troy, the award is for those academic advisors who have been active for at least a year

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Voting for Winter Weekend Theme Tomorrow

BY MYLES RUMMEL
Beacon Correspondent

It's the time of year again to break out the winter coats and curl up in a nice warm blanket. It's also time for the planning of Winter Weekend 2005.

February 11-13 has been slated as the date for Winter Weekend. This annual event is sponsored by Student Government (SG) and serves as a donation drive for the community and a fun activity for students. Julia Buss, SG Vice President and Winter Weekend Chairperson said Winter Weekend is a "time for students to get together as friends."

Buss said that there are many ways for students to get involved. The first way is to vote for Winter Weekend's theme. Voting will be held tomorrow, December 7 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on the first floor of the Henry Student Center. The themes from which to choose include: Cereal, Farm Animals, Ice Cream and Movies. SG members are hoping to announce the results of the vote before the winter break.

In addition to gathering with friends, students can also win prizes and help out the community. Last year, Winter Weekend efforts raised two vans full of canned goods for local food banks. Buss estimated last year's turnout produced at least 1,000 cans of food.

Since Winter Weekend 2005 is still very much in the planning phase, Buss was not able to give details concerning the particular activities that will be taking place. But she said traditionally, the first night of Winter Weekend is a dance. Buss said in addition, there might be karaoke and other events, in what Buss called, "an opening night festivity."

In past years Winter Weekend has consisted of a volleyball tournament, dance, canned food drive, games and relay races among other events.

In addition, students can get together and form teams. Buss said, "Students can elect a team leader, and get together with a group of ten guys and ten girls." Teams must register and sign ups will be on the SG door. Buss reminded that news and updates about Winter Weekend will be posted at the SG offices.

Last year, 17 teams with 20 people each participated, accounting for over 300 people. "People take it seriously, but at the same time, it's a lot of fun," Buss said.

"We are excited to be part of Winter Weekend and to help the experience be a positive one for students," Phil Ruthkosky, director of Student Development said.



The Beacon/Archives

Team G.I. Joe pulls towards a victory during last year's Tug-of-War contest at Winter Weekend. Planning has begun for this year's Winter Weekend and voting for the theme is tomorrow from 11-1 in the SUB.

Campus Update from Front Page

on the new women's softball field, builders had many difficulties getting started because of the authorization needed by both the municipal and county authorities.

"The field itself is currently completed, and the fencing should be completed today [Friday, December 3]. We still need to provide electrical service and mount field lighting for night games and that will be completed prior to softball season next semester," said Pesta.

located. The desserts will then be moved to where the cold cereal station is located and the cold cereal will then combine with the bagel station.

"Making these changes provides food service more flexibility and an ability to serve the students and gives them an area especially designed for things like calzones, and pizzas you generally see on the market nowadays," Pesta said.

"I think it's going to be great to improve

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I think [renovation projects] support various initiatives the University is working on, specifically Strategic Initiative 2, which is an endeavor to improve the support environment of the University.

John Pesta

Director of Capital Projects and Planning

Another renovation project involved moving *The Beacon* newspaper offices from Hollenback Hall to the first floor of Conyngham Hall, in the former cafeteria area. Despite the fact that the majority of work has been completed on this project, a delay in the delivery of an air handler that is needed for heating has put off full completion of the project until winter break.

Sodexo Dining Service will see updates over the winter break as well. Pesta explained that a pizza station complete with a new brick oven will be installed where the International Station is currently located. The grill station will then be expanded in size, and the International Station will be moved to where the desserts are currently

both the offering and services that students expect," explained Sodexo Food Service Manager, Michael Raub.

Another project in the works to increase student safety on campus is the addition of auto dialer fire alarms in all of the residence halls. Currently, when a fire alarm goes off, a Resident Assistant must call the Public Safety office and/or the fire department, but with the new alarms, an automatic signal will be sent to Public Safety, so crucial minutes will not be lost.

"We're currently completing specifications for the equipment and once we place out bids the installation will immediately follow. This will probably be completed the first part of next year," stated Pesta.

Banks: Mass Murderer Granted Stay of Execution

What Constitutes Cruel and Unusual Punishment?

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL BOARD

What is "cruel and unusual" punishment? Historically, when the words cruel and unusual are applied to the justice system, images of medieval torture such as drawing and quartering and tools like the rack come to mind.

In modern society, however, the phrase conjures no such stark pictures. What constitutes cruel and unusual punishment now can be varied and unique to each case and such punishment can be insidious enough to not even leave visible scars. As U.S. citizens, our laws aim to protect us from whatever might be deemed cruel or unusual forms of punishment for crimes. However, such guarantees of protection may well need further scrutiny.

This past week, convicted murderer George Banks was slated for execution after spending the past 22 years on death row. In 1982, Banks shot and killed thirteen people in cold blood in the Wilkes-Barre area, five of whom were his own children. The crime rocked Wilkes-Barre and its surrounding com-

munities, and when the trial of Banks finally concluded, he was convicted and sentenced to death for the murders. Since his conviction he has been in jail awaiting execution.

Counsel for Banks has filed many appeals and one prior stay was granted before this week, but the fact remains that for 22 years, he has been waking every morning knowing that he is to be killed by his own country sometime in the near future. Banks has been evaluated and studied by many psychologists and psychiatrists and has been found to be afflicted by several mental ill-



Photo from
http://www.crimelibrary.com/graphics/photos/notorious_murders/mass/banks/2a.jpg

nesses including multiple personality disorder and schizophrenia. Most authorities agree that Banks is severely mentally ill, and may not even know or understand the legal process and therefore his cir-

cumstance. Banks also believes that he has been exonerated of his crimes by God.

Due to his severely deteriorated mental state, Banks' attorneys continue to file appeals and requests for stays. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court granted the latest stay last Wednesday.

Despite his mental illness, there is certainly no doubt that Banks committed the murders. This fact cannot and will not change. What needs to be considered, however, is that there is a certain degree of suffering Banks is experiencing due to the fact that he has been waiting so long to be executed. Although he does not understand what is going on with regard to his own legal situation, one has to wonder what it feels like to spend every day waiting to be executed.

The fact that he has been in legal limbo for so long not only warrants discussion about whether such treatment might be considered cruel and unusual, but it also questions the very nature of our American concept of "justice."

If Banks were to be executed now, what good would it do? His crimes were committed 22 years

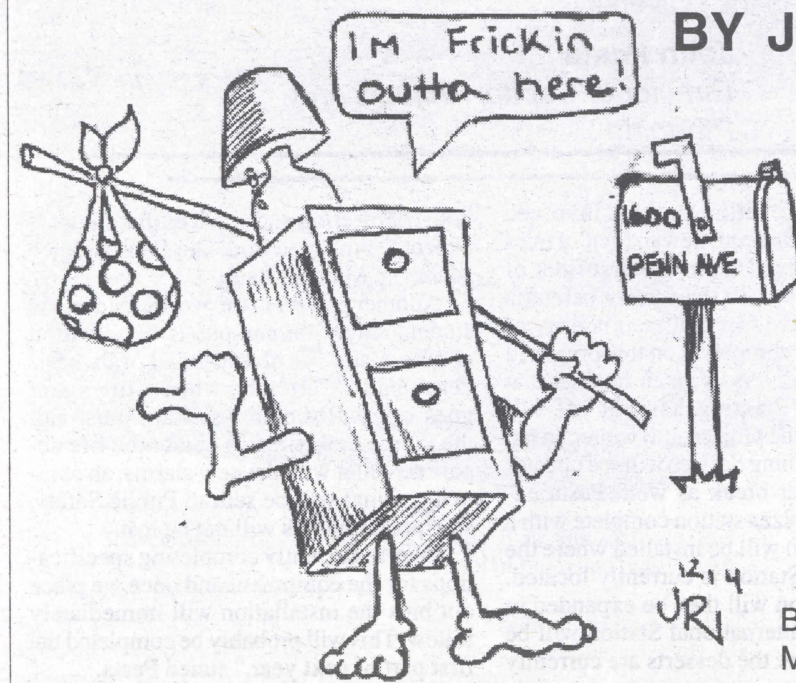
ago and his execution almost seems irrelevant now. Execution is often touted as the means by which society achieves "an eye for an eye" as well as means of deterring socially unacceptable behavior. But who or what is vindicated with Banks' death at this point? Justice is supposed to be administered in a timely manner, but Banks' case is an example of what many others are experiencing across the nation. In addition, who will be deterred from committing murder with George Banks' death?

George Banks should not be executed. On December 1, the Court hedged its bets and ordered a new evaluation of Banks' mental state. This ruling also opens a door for Banks' death sentence to be overturned. If this were the case, Banks would remain in prison, but would no longer be awaiting execution. Therefore he would no longer be suffering on death row.

As far as society has come from its early bloodlust for public hangings and drawing and quartering, we have to wonder if we have really progressed much at all when the U.S. continues to allow for such inhumane treatment of its prisoners.

Nickle For Your Thoughts

BY Jason Nickle



Bush's Cabinet
Moves Out.

Beacon Poll Results

Last week, *The Beacon* asked:
In a future professional job or internship what single thing is most important to you?

And you said...

- 9% --The job is challenging
- 5% --It pays well
- 0% --It is located near family
- 9% --It offers opportunity to learn
- 27% --It offers room for advancement/promotion
- 27% --It is emotionally rewarding
- 5% --Your contributions will immediately impact the organization
- 18% --It is intellectually stimulating

The poll was unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall feel of students on campus. Results are based on 22 responses.

A Consumer's Cinematic Christmas

Forget what the movies say; there's still hope

BY MATT ZEBROWSKI
Beacon Asst. Op-Ed Editor

I'm going to make a confession. See, I love Christmas movies. I always have, ever since I was small.

I'm a complete sucker for movies about Santa Claus and elves and saving Christmas and all that, and I just can't possibly have Christmas without watching *It's a Wonderful Life*. So, I must say that I was heartbroken when I saw that the inevitable deluge of holiday movies this year seems to contain films that deal more with very real postmodern capitalist angst than feel-good seasonal magic.

Judging by the previews for *Christmas With the Kranks* and *Surviving Christmas*, it seems like the dominant theme this winter is that people are actually bored with the holidays. I still can't wrap my mind around that fact, but I saw another Christmas movie this week that showed me the root of the problem.

Jingle All the Way is perfectly representative, without even really trying, of exactly why people are seeing this time of year less and less as a time for joy and love and more and more as just another stressful period to get through.

For those of you who haven't seen it, it involves an overworked and forgetful Arnold

Schwarzenegger, who is in big trouble with his son for missing a series of important events due to his job, struggling to get back in his child's good graces. The best way to do this, in Arnold's estimation, is by promising to buy him a TurboMan action figure for Christmas, unaware that it is the year's hot seller. He scrambles from store to store in his disgustingly huge SUV trying to get the toy, committing a number of felonies (assault and battery, theft, hit and run, impersonating an officer, etc.) in the process. Hilarity ensues.

There are a few really disturbing things, though, that the movie seems to take for granted. The first is the premise that being the stereotypical "breadwinner" and never spending time with your family is okay as long as you buy them cool stuff. In this movie, Arnie's validation as a father hinges on whether or not he can find a toy. The second is that his child is actually willing to accept the toy as validation.

Another thoroughly scary aspect of modern commercial Christmas illustrated in the movie is that Arnold's son has the commercial for his TurboMan doll memorized, word for word. The only character who seems to be at all frustrated with the "fat-cats" making money off of hard-working par-

ents scrambling to buy their kids the next big thing (Arnold's nemesis, a mailman played expertly by Sinbad-whatever happened to him anyway?) later admits that he himself still has the commercial for his favorite childhood toy memorized as well.

And therein lies the problem. This is why society apparently views the holidays as something to be dreaded (or, "survived"). Holiday spirit has been co-opted by commercialism and, at the risk of sounding really cheesy, the gift has become more important than the giving. But whenever I'm feeling frustrated with dealing with huge crowds, irate salespeople, and understocked shelves when I shop for gifts, I always try to remember how I felt as a kid going into the holiday season, or the way I still feel like a giddy buffoon after watching any of my favorite Christmas movies.

I also try to remember that I'm so incredibly lucky simply to be able to shop for gifts for the people I love, and that every year the Salvation Army and Toys for Tots and countless other charity drives are more than successful in their holiday efforts.

So while the consumerism of this time can bring out the worst in people, never forget that the holidays bring out the best in people as well. I don't quite know

how it happens, maybe it is magic, but while seasonal marketing bombardment seems to make people focus more on material items, the holidays always seem to simultaneously remind people to remember the big picture, to forget their differences, and help the less fortunate. That, more than anything in any movie, always convinces me that this really is the most wonderful time of the year.

Tickle Me Buddha

BY WICHITAH LENG
Beacon Columnist

What did Christmas mean to me growing up Buddhist?

One of my very first memories of Christmas was waking up one morning and for whatever reason my dad had purchased a tree. It had lights and ornaments and a bright star on top. I was smaller then, but it seemed huge. I always assumed that trees that big should be outside in the yard or somewhere else. With the technology we have, it's a wonder why there aren't more people with silicone or artificial trees that they could buy once and reuse. Pine needles would stay on, you could spray artificial pine smell and if you wanted to, you could pour sap on parts of it to achieve the maximal annoyance factor of having a real-life Christmas tree in your house.

At about six I understood that Christmas wasn't just about trees, but also about buying a lot of useless things that other people you were buying those things for didn't want. Regardless, you feel compelled to give it to them at Christmas time and you wrap it up in hopes they incorrectly guess what it is that you got them that they didn't really want anyway. Thanks to the gift receipt, December 26 is now the most popular day to return unwanted presents.

In my household, Christmas was very much a commercial holiday. It had no religious connotation at all. It was very difficult to even discern why we celebrated this holiday. All I knew was what I saw. Don't get me wrong. I know now it's about the birth of Christ, but when your parents are from another country where all they know is Buddhism and they are not conversant in Christianity, things are left to your own imagination.

So my young mind's perception of Christmas was molded by images of crowded

parking lots at malls, Black Fridays when people lined up at some God awful hour of the morning to save five more dollars on that special Swiss army knife with extra nose hair clippers, and of people trampling fellow human beings for the last Tickle-Me-Elmo.

For that reason I believed Christmas to be a brutal holiday that drove otherwise reasonable people mad. They say a full moon brings out craziness. Christmas was like having a full moon for a month. What other time of the year is it acceptable to hang lights outside the house rather than inside where it could be used for some practical purpose? Why did all my M&Ms only come in green and red?

As I got older, about 8 or 9, I realized that Christmas was about a very special man, a man that through his sacrifices provided humanity with an uplifting and inspiring message: "ENSLAVE THE ELVES AND MAKE THEM BUILD TOYS," Santa Claus. The elves must build these toys year round so that Santa can deliver them to little children all over the world. Almost like Michael Jackson, but without the lawsuits. Could you imagine if Santa were real? He would have been sued out of the North Pole. Breaking and entering and vandalism would be just some of the charges, not

to mention adultery. Yeah, I saw mommy kissing Santa Claus too, kid. Would you like to testify in court?



What Do YOU Think?

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- 2 A 300-word sample on a topic of your choice.
- 3 A paragraph about yourself, including where you stand on major societal issues.

Send your samples to:

wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com

The Hidden War on Terrorism: Corporate Terrorism

BY NATALIE BAUR
Beacon Guest Columnist

It's in the news every second of every minute of every hour of every day. The media, whether liberal or conservative, reminds Americans that we are united in a fight, a war, against terror.

But when most of us think about the current administration's War on Terror, we think of places like Afghanistan, Iraq, and perceived hostile Middle Eastern countries. We think of people like Osama Bin Laden, the late Yasser Arafat, and members of Al Qaeda.

We fear hijackings, suicide bombers, and kidnappings. Most of us fail to recognize, by no fault of our own, that the things we buy from the big chain discount store on the corner may be the biggest, and closest, depot for terrorism. The silent forces of corporate terrorism are constantly calculating and planning their attacks on unwitting Americans.

Corporations are everywhere. They are in the food you eat, the computer on your desk, and the clothes on your back. What most people don't realize is that the materials needed to manufacture the goods you buy in stores like Wal-Mart do, in fact, come from somewhere.

Corporations are everywhere. They are in the food you eat, the computer on your desk, and the clothes on your back. What most people don't realize is that the materials needed to manufacture the goods you buy in stores like Wal-Mart do, in fact, come from somewhere.

Most often these raw materials come from poor, underdeveloped or developing countries, where the people are going hungry and the government will do anything to survive, including sacrificing the environment so that large corporations from rich, developed countries can mine, excavate, and harvest raw materials very cheaply where environmental regulation is scant if not nonexistent. The local and indigenous peoples of these areas are introduced to toxic chemicals, new disease, and often are forced to leave their homes be-

cause of extensive environmental damage.

For example, in Kashipur, India, people are going hungry because the World Bank put economic restraints on grain distribution. Their forests were decimated by the pulp and paper industry. The locals are trying to fight back in the midst of the corporate mining companies' push for bauxite excavation rights, so that aluminum can be made and Americans can have their Coca-Cola in cans and the Bush administration can build more fighter jets for the War on Terror.

However, the Indian government has usurped the right of the Kashipur people to have control of the allocation of their resources and has allowed corporate mining companies to excavate. The people of Kashipur are starving due to environmental degradation caused by the devastating effects of invasive mining.

And if you think that corporate terrorism is only happening in developing countries, you have been misled. Large biotech firms, such as the Monsanto Company, have been tightening their grip on American family farms. Farmers have literally been forced to buy genetically altered seed that

is resistant to RoundUp pesticide from Monsanto; both the seed and the pesticide are manufactured, patented and marketed by Monsanto.

This creates a dependency on genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and products, which in turn means that farmers are forced to buy their seed each year rather than being able to save their own seed from season to season. This has led many farmers on a steady road to debt. The loss of generational farms to industrial farms that can afford to purchase expensive GMO products, plant more, and sell for less, is driving smaller operations off the face of the planet.

Many of these family farmers are devastated by the time they finally lose hope and surrender the farm to foreclosure in a final act of desperation. We are forgetting the principles that this country was founded on, and agriculture as we knew it is vanishing into thin air. Is this how we want to be treated by large corporations?

The next time you pass a farm, go to Wal-Mart or buy Coca-Cola or turn the key in the ignition of your car, think about the larger implications of your actions. Become an informed consumer in this consuming culture country. Corporations take advantage of the ignorance of the masses. That is terrorism.

Fear Undermines Freedom in Post 9/11 Society

Patriot Act instills fear of labels and reprisals

BY ALEX WOOD
Beacon Guest Columnist

When I first started writing this piece I was so optimistic.

I thought I could open eyes to what's really going on in our nation, but it didn't go exactly as I planned.

At first, I began calling local mosques asking for an interview, but none of the mosques within 50 miles of Wilkes-Barre would give me one. I became frustrated and decided to widen my scope and searched for mosques in New Jersey, but unfortunately I ran into the same problem as I did in Pennsylvania. No one would give me an interview. I was still in denial. Surely there would be someone willing to answer my questions. So once again I broadened my search and called mosques in my hometown of New York City. It shocked me that just like in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, the people of New York were scared. The country that I was taught about as a child was no more.

I finally gave up trying to get an interview. I had made more than 70 calls. Some actually answered when I called but denied that they were a mosque. Some all of a sudden could no longer speak English. A few put me on hold for over an hour, and five just hung up on me. It was after the last phone call that I realized that per-

haps I wasn't optimistic before; I was just naive.

After those phone calls, reality hit me. Our government, the same government that is supposed to protect our freedom and foster democracy, has intimidated and scared the people to such a degree that no one will speak out.

After recovering from my clash with reality, I began to ask questions. How did we

After recovering from my clash with reality, I began to ask questions. How did we as a nation allow our rights and our voices to be silenced, and who allowed them to be silenced?

as a nation allow our rights and our voices to be silenced, and who allowed them to be silenced?

We all know what happened on September 11, 2001. Our nation was attacked and was changed forever. Unfortunately, America lost so much more than 3,000 lives in those attacks; we also lost what at one point made us such a great nation. The attacks in September were not over yet; after the dust settled and the last of the flames was extinguished, the Muslim community was attacked.

Only 45 days after 9/11, Congress passed the Patriot Act, allowing the rights of the American people to be sacrificed in the name of safety. Although, the Patriot Act is hundreds of pages long, I want to focus on two sections of the act. The first is section 802 which broadly defines what a terrorist is. According to the section a terrorist is "anyone who appears to intimidate or coerce a civilian population." So what does that mean exactly? Well, if you for example,

label you a threat, and the phone tapping and computer monitoring goes much further than your personal phone and computer. For example, if a student at Wilkes University was labeled a threat, the government could legally tap her phone and computer, her friends' phones and computers, the computers in the computer lab, and public phones.

So where does all of this leave us? Are we really a safer nation, or perhaps are we so naive that we'd rather believe that somehow all of these violations of rights are ok than instead believe that our government has betrayed its own people?

As a nation and a society we must realize that not all Muslims are terrorists. It is instead a fanatical few who initiate terroristic acts. Fear in no way gives us the right to violate the rights of others.

So who is responsible for the fear-mongering? Congress. Representatives passed the Patriot Act, but the American people are to blame as well. We re-elected a man that while smoke still emerged from the towers, signed a bill that allowed the rights of the American people to disappear.

If a group of people is too afraid to speak out, how can we as Americans try to spread democracy and freedom when we don't have it here at home?

were to protest the last election in Washington D.C there is nothing preventing the government from labeling you as a terrorist, and therefore a threat to America. Once you are labeled a threat, the government can and most likely will take you to the infamous prison in Guantanamo Bay.

The second section I want to examine is section 203, which allows the government to tap your phone and computer as long as they say it's because you somehow pose a threat. The problem with this is that the government doesn't need any evidence to

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Student Response to Classes Sought and Valued

BY ASHLEY GIBSON
Beacon Correspondent

As the end of the semester approaches, students are given an extremely important power: to voice their opinions about their classes.

The Student Response Surveys (SRS forms) are distributed to students by each of their professors at the end of every semester. These forms are a confidential way for students to give constructive criticism about their classes and professors.

One side of the form asks students to rate different areas of the course on a scale of one to five. Questions vary from the organization of the syllabus to the enthusiasm shown by the professor. On the back of the survey, there are spaces that allow students to write in their own comments or suggestions for the course.

With the help of the students' input, Wilkes administrators are able to determine the strengths and weaknesses of a professor and a course, and therefore are able to make changes when needed.

Most students are aware of the SRS forms, but are unaware as to how they are used. The main reason for this is because after a student fills them out, the forms are then processed, and the students rarely hear about them again. Many students think that they are either not looked at or thrown away after they are completed.

But the forms are kept confidential. Only the Provost, Deans, and faculty Chairs see them, and are often held in high regard when evaluating the performance of a professor.

Dr. Michael Steele, Chairperson of the Bi-

other opportunity for students to be completely honest about their feelings of a course in absolute confidence.

Faculty members at Wilkes take the surveys very seriously because they can

be used to help enhance their performance. Dr. Dale Bruns, Dean of the College of Science and Engineering, said, "The faculty wants to know if they've tried something new if it's working. You don't want to take something away if the students like it." By reviewing the students comments, professors are able to determine what methods of teaching really worked best for the students, and what did not, to improve future classes in that subject.

Steele added that they are important in

"seeing trends and identifying any major patterns."

Both Bruns and Steele agreed that although the SRS forms are important, they couldn't be the sole source of an evaluation. Steele said, "You have to be careful not to use the scores as an automatic measure of success or failure of a faculty member. Its just one index of performance."

The SRS forms are mostly seen by the Dean of a department when issuing tenure and promotions to a faculty member. After a professor teaches at Wilkes for six years, they are reviewed for tenure and the forms from each class they taught are looked at. According to Bruns there is "one whole binder filled" with the original surveys from each year the professor is there and they are analyzed.

Bruns said, "They (SRS forms) have importance as a learning tool for faculty as life-long learners themselves." Students should keep in mind that they have a great opportunity to help in the process of improving the education Wilkes students receive and the continued education of the faculty.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
Mathew Armstrong, sophomore pre-pharmacy major, fills out an SRS form in Dr. James Truscott's psychology 101 class.

ology, Chemistry, and Health Sciences Department, believes that students make valid and useful comments when filling out the forms for the most part. "It is infrequent that we see a student not taking them seriously. I've never seen any evidence that students aren't being sincere [when evaluating a professor]," said Steele. This is a key reason why they hold such importance. There is no

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Tell Us...

The Beacon's roving reporter, Meagan Brown, asked random Wilkes students: **What are you asking Santa for this Christmas?** Check out the responses below.

Megan Fulmer,
sophomore,
education major



"A new car!
That'd be very nice. Doubtful, but nice."

Nicole Matsko,
junior, business
administration
major



"Money."

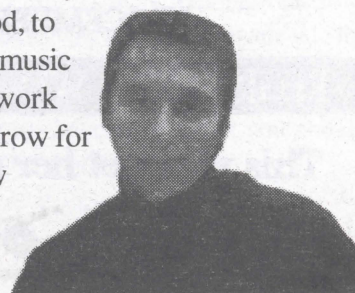
Courtney Hunt,
sophomore,
criminology
major



"I want a pocket size digital camera. They are so much easier and they save money."

Anthony Previte, junior,
bio/chem major

"An iPod, to listen to music when I work out and row for the crew team."






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Jewish Community Celebrates Holiday Season

BY MICHAEL SIMON
Beacon Correspondent

When you think of the holiday season, what comes to mind? Santa, presents, snow... dradles?

While the focus of the holidays tends to feature Christmas, some forget about the 8 day and 8 night - long celebration of Chanukah. This year, the Wilkes-Barre Community Hillel will make sure it's not forgotten by offering fun and festive events open to all.

Paula Chaiken, the assistant director of the Jewish Federation, said the purpose of the events is for "students to come celebrate the Jewish holiday within the Wilkes-Barre Community."

The festivities began on December 5 with a Leadership Development Workshop. At this event "students [had] the opportunity to develop leadership and public speaking skills; learn about anti-Semitism, how it has an impact on students' lives and how to confront it in a constructive way," stated Chaiken.

The workshop was sponsored by the Jewish Federation and by the Anti-Defamation League and was designed not only to learn about anti-Semitism but also to allow students to meet other Jewish students and add an impressive activity to their resumes.

The first night of Chanukah will be cel-

ebrated with a "Mayrutz Run," which involves the community traveling with torches from different Jewish institutions and then gathering at the Jewish Community Center to light the outdoor menorah. Students are invited to participate in the kick off of the Chanukah celebration on December 7 at 4 p.m. Starting at the Temple Israel, students will "run" and light the outdoor menorah. An individual lighting of menorahs and a celebration of songs and dinner will follow the lighting.

The last activity will be a fun-filled celebration at Montage Mountain Ski Resort. On December 11, all Hillel students are invited to the Chanukah Family Festival where they can hear a live Chanukah band, the great Barry Silver. The festival will also have a circus sideshow, fire artist, and the grand menorah lighting.

Lift tickets will be discounted and transportation may be available.

Joy Lander, President of the Wilkes-Barre Hillel and Wilkes University student, promised that the programs will be enjoyable and informative. "Students can meet people in their community," she said. "The events are a first for the Jewish community that involve students from local colleges and universities."

For more information on the activities or to get involved contact Chaiken at pchaiken@tsconnects.com or at 824-4646, ext 318.



Jazzman Traveling With Students Over Break

Rifkin contest rewards most exotic location

BY JESSICA NIEMIEC
Beacon Staff Writer

Where in the world is Jazzman's?

Within the Wilkes world, it's located in the Rifkin Café. But Michael Raub, Retail Manager at Wilkes University, hopes Jazzman's will be visiting some new and interesting places this winter break.

"We're basically trying to get the students to take a picture of themselves in the Jazzman's T-shirt in a unique or distant location and send in the pictures," said Raub.

The café is hosting the contest to discover the craziest places to which the Jazzman's name has traveled. The contest coincides with the release of the new Jazzman's 2004 holiday T-shirt. The T-shirts depict holiday scenes as well as the Jazzman's name, and have been on sale in Rifkin Café since November 15.

"It's a good way to

show where students are going for winter break," said Raub. "Many times they go to really interesting places, and this is a good way to show that off."

Raub went on to say that those pictures that are appropriate will be used as promotional purposes. Many will be blown up and then hung around the Henry Student Center as a new and interesting decoration for spring.

The T-shirts are on sale any time the Rifkin Café is open and the contest is open to anyone in the campus community. The Café hours are Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. until 8 p.m., Fridays 7:30 a.m. until 12 a.m. and Saturdays 8 p.m. until 12 a.m. serving Starbucks coffee, Krispie

Kreme doughnuts and many other goodies for whatever the craving.

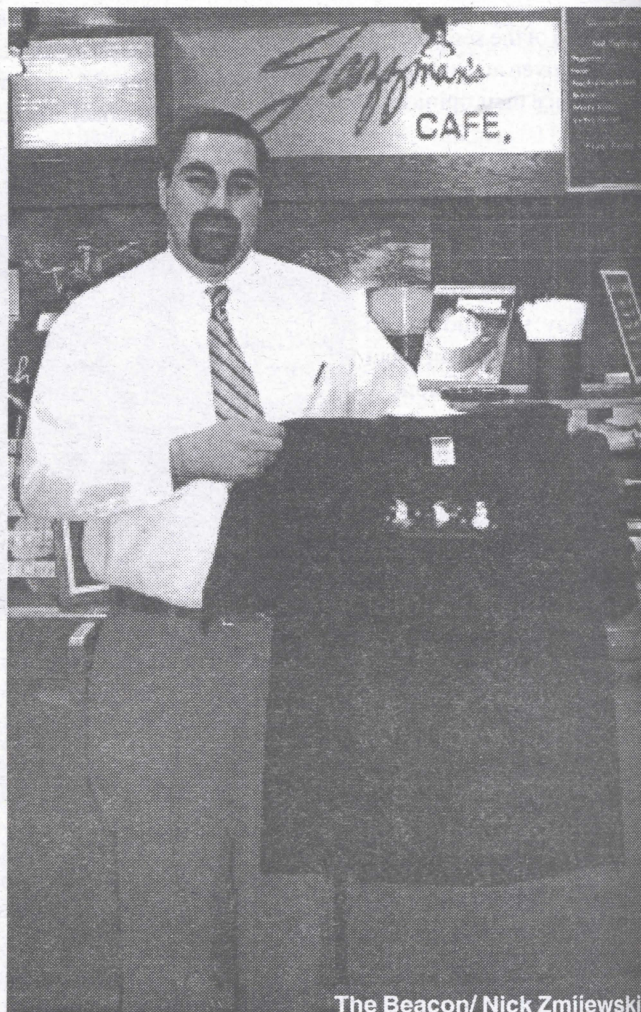
"It'll be a fun thing for the students to get involved in, and it's an opportunity for them to win a gift basket," said Deirdre Kennedy, General Manager of Sodexo Campus Services. "I think [the t-shirts] are really cute."

The winner of the contest will receive a gourmet gift basket filled to the brim with all the goodies Jazzman's is known for.

The last date to enter a picture is January 10, which means students have plenty of time over break to get some great pictures in their Jazzman's T.

Entries can either be dropped off right at Rifkin or e-mailed to Michael Raub at Raub@wilkes.edu. Once all the entries are in the winner will be chosen on January 15.

"It's just something a little more fun," said Raub.



The Beacon/ Nick Zmijewski

Michael Raub holds up Rifkin Café's holiday t-shirt, which will be used in the winter break contest that awards the person who takes a picture at the most exotic place wearing the shirt.

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The Perils of Procrastination Can Catch Up with Students

BY DONNATALARICO

Beacon Correspondent

How much time has lapsed between the time you picked up this issue of *The Beacon* and when you actually began reading it? Better yet, how many assignments, readings and projects have piled up, leaving you with a heavier-than-usual workload at semester's end? Sounds like you may be putting things off....

If your personal creed is, "I love deadlines. I love the whooshing sound they make as they go by" or "One of the greatest labor-saving inventions of today is tomorrow," then you just may be a procrastinator. And, you are not alone. Most people will admit to putting something off once in a while. But to others, the problem is more serious than an occasional postponement, resulting in serious issues that can hinder education, career and personal goals. This is not just something that affects the lazy, unmotivated population, as it can happen to the most capable and educated folks.

Dr. Mike Garr, Professor of Sociology, explains that procrastinators have problems prioritizing.

"Procrastination is often simply prioritizing what's important and immediately gratifying from what is considered less important and less gratifying. All other things equal, the immediate is real and the distant is less real so we put less importance on the distant. Unfortunately we move closer and closer to the distant until it becomes the immediate; then we act on it," he said.

Why We Do It

But aside from instant gratification, or lack thereof, why do people get themselves into ruts? For several reasons, says *The Procrastinator's Handbook* author and motivational speaker, Rita Emmett, explaining that people are afraid.

People are afraid of:

- Imperfection
- The Unknown
- Judgment
- Making Mistakes
- Success
- Change
- Too Much Responsibility
- Feelings
- Making the Wrong Decision
- Rejection

Procrastination Adds Up

Procrastination can be costly. In situations where money is owed, putting it off until the last minute can be costly. But still, some simply hope that by putting off a task, it will go away. Such people as one Wilkes University junior who asked not to be named, who let some parking tickets go, hoping they'd disappear.

"I accumulated five \$10 parking tickets this semester, and even when I passed the police station with money in my pocket, I let it go. I now have fines in excess of \$400 with the city. I guess I thought, 'out of sight, out of mind' but it sure caught up with me!" she admitted.

Garr insists this is a normal thought pattern among those who'd rather do it tomorrow.

"If it is a painful act, we procrastinate with the secret hope that maybe it will go away. Of course it usually doesn't and we are forced to deal with it anyway or it deals with us," he said. Just like the parking tickets. Or getting teeth cleaned.

Emmett's book says that sometimes procrastinators end up paying so much money to catch up, they can never get ahead, and mentions examples such as late fees, bounced check fees and high interest rates. She also mentions how people can miss out on grants, scholarships and more because people wait until it's too late to apply.

As members of the academic community, students are faced with many tasks. There is, of course, schoolwork, and then athletics, clubs, work and volunteer activities. Not being able to balance these roles can lead to last minute scrambling. This can put professors in an awkward position if they know what students are up to, and get caught in a Catch-22.

Garr elaborates, "In terms of school work, it puts faculty in a 'damned-if-you-do-damned-if-you-don't' situation. If an instructor gives lots of time to do an assignment, students often take the opportunity to procrastinate because of the distant reality. So a day or two before the assignment is due, or the night before, the assignment is worked on. However, if the instructor asks students to turn in an assignment with a short deadline, the instructor is being unreasonable," he remarked.

Beating the Demon

Procrastination can be overcome. If you find yourself cleaning off your desk instead of writing a paper, sunbathing instead of mowing the yard and raiding the fridge instead of doing the dishes, you may want to listen up.

According to a book by Jane Burka and Lenora Yuen, *Procrastination, Why We Do*

It and What to Do About It, the first step is to take a personal "procrastination inventory." Think about when and what you postpone. Do you tend to procrastinate in one or many aspects of your life? For instance, you could always have schoolwork done ahead of time, but your dorm room is a mess and your car always runs out of gas.

Often-procrastinated tasks:

- Household- chores, bills, errands, repairs, car maintenance, organizing
- Work- punctuality, paperwork, deadlines, asking for raise/promotion
- School- attending classes, reading, projects, writing papers, returning library books, applying for financial aid/admission
- Personal- diet, exercise, grooming, quitting habits, relaxing, hobbies
- Relationships- calling/writing, visiting, cards/gifts, attending social events
- Finances- tax return, paying taxes, paying bills, credit cards, balancing checkbook, paying parking ticket fines, loans, budgeting

Then, look at the consequences caused by the above actions. Did you lose money, a grade, a job, an internship, a good credit rating or did any tension develop between you and someone you work for or have a relationship with? Have you ever gotten anxious, over stressed or embarrassed? These are typical of habitual procrastinators. And, these traits are all good enough reason to make a change.

In order to overcome procrastination, Emmett offers a few tips:

- Make a list- a to-do list can help get things done and provide direction. Crossing off items gives a tremendous feeling of accomplishment.
- Break down the job- Is it just a portion of the project you are dreading? If you genuinely love to write essays, but hate researching- get to the library first! The rest will come easier.
- Reward yourself- think of little rewards to give yourself for accomplishing a task.
- Positive reminders- give yourself some positive self-talk, or leave yourself notes.
- Watch Your Own Excuses- keep an ear out for your trite excuses
- Say no!- You need some free time- don't let your niceness lead to more procrastination!

With finals just around the corner, it's time to start the procrastination recovery process. Trust us, your professors are not going to procrastinate handing out those blue books. Now that you've made it to the end of this article, let's ask a question. What were you supposed to be doing, rather than reading for leisure? Perhaps you should get back to studying!

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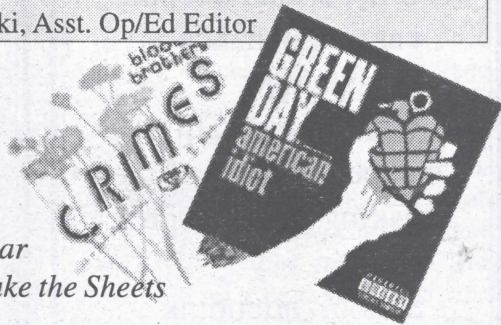
A LOOK AT: THE BEST & WORST OF 2004

This year has seen some of entertainment's most innovative moves along with decisions that made us cringe and ask, "What were they thinking?" Media critics across the country will soon be offering their own best/worst lists, and at The Beacon, some editors have opted to get a jump on that conversation. The following picks are offered up solely by the writers credited and do not necessarily reflect the attitudes or opinions of the newspaper as a whole.

TOP TEN ALTERNATIVE CDs

By Matt Zebrowski, Asst. Op/Ed Editor

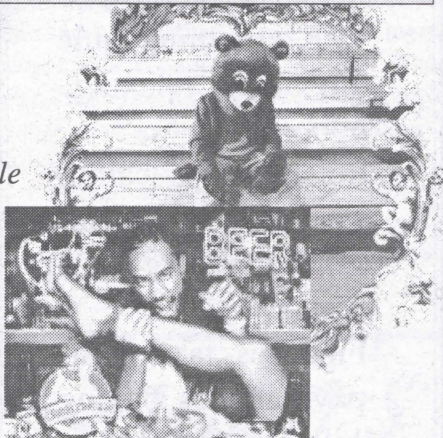
1. Blood Brothers, *Crimes*
2. Green Day, *American Idiot*
3. Wilco, *A Ghost is Born*
4. Converge, *You Fail Me*
5. The Good Life, *Album of the Year*
6. Ted Leo & the Pharmacists, *Shake the Sheets*
7. Pedro the Lion, *Achilles Heel*
8. Blonde Redhead, *Misery is a Butterfly*
9. Medeski Martin & Wood, *End of the World Party (Just in Case)*
10. Interpol, *Antics*



TOP TEN HIP-HOP/RAP CDs

By Tyler Jenkins, Asst. Sports Editor

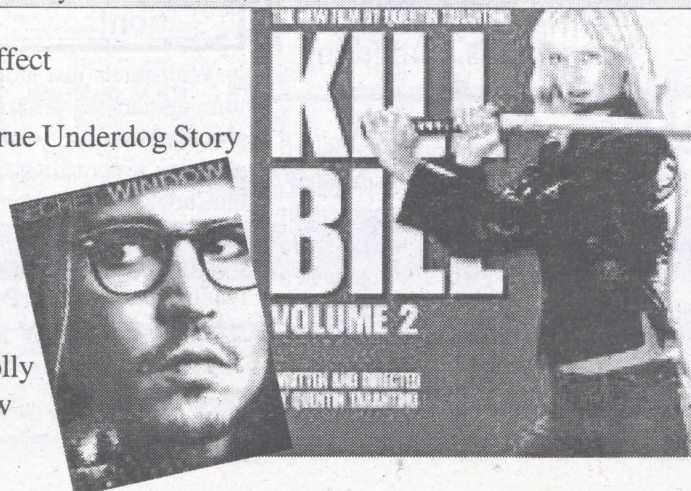
1. Jay-Z, *Black Album*
2. Kanye West, *College Dropout*
3. Jadakiss, *Kiss of Death*
4. Young Buck, *Straight Out of Cashville*
5. Lloyd Banks, *Hunger for More*
6. Jay-Z/R. Kelly, *Unfinished Business*
7. Juels Sanana, *Freak Me to U*
8. Luddacris, *Chicken and Beer*
9. Twista, *Kamikaze*
10. Akon, *Trouble*



TOP TEN MOVIES

By Jamie Babbitt, Features Editor

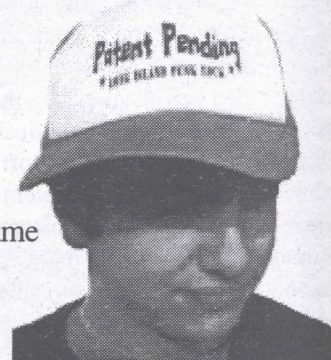
1. The Butterfly Effect
2. Man On Fire
3. Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story
4. Kill Bill Vol. 2
5. Spiderman 2
6. Anchorman
7. Ray
8. Mean Girls
9. Along Came Polly
10. Secret Window



TOP TEN WORST TRENDS

By Matt Zebrowski, Asst. Op/Ed Editor and Nora Jurasits, Asst. A&E Editor

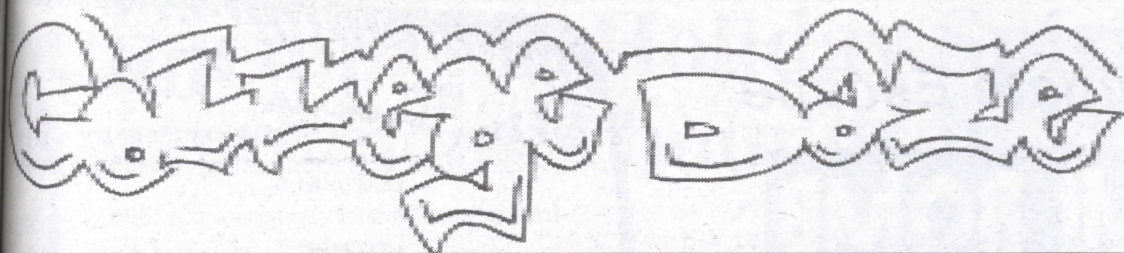
1. Cuddle parties
2. Shawls
3. Popping shirt collars up
4. Wearing a skirt with pants underneath
5. Cutting carbs
6. Accessories with the first letter of your first name
7. Fuzzy boots outside of jeans
8. Wrist bands
9. Trucker hats
10. Scarf with no coat indoors when it's really not that cold



TOP TEN NEWS STORIES THAT MADE ME CRINGE

By Matt Zebrowski

1. Ten-year-old burnt grilled cheese sandwich allegedly bearing the image of the Virgin Mary fetches \$28,000 on eBay.
2. Janet Jackson flashes America during Super Bowl halftime show, adding "wardrobe malfunction" to the American lexicon; FCC throws hissy-fit.
3. Hall of Fame pitcher Jim Bunning re-elected to Kentucky Senate seat, despite childish swipes at opponent, befuddlement about current events explained by open admission to not following the news, baseball metaphors ad nauseum, and rumors of mental deterioration.
4. "Bennifer."
5. Indiana forward Ron Artest shows his inner bully by jumping into stands at Pacers/Pistons game and sparking a brawl between players and fans; several people hospitalized.
6. Christian conservatives convince the school board of an Atlanta suburb to put controversial warning labels on science textbooks emphasizing that the theory of evolution is "a theory, not a fact." Note the lack of similar skepticism about Einstein's *theory* of relativity, sub-atomic *theory*, or *theories* about the physical composition of the planet Jupiter.
7. *Friends* ends 10-year run as purveyor of hip urban yuppieism; people actually care.
8. Pop star Ashlee Simpson storms offstage during her performance on *Saturday Night Live* when a technical mishap makes it evident that she is lip-synching (an ever-so-uncommon practice in show business); people actually care.
9. Gymnast Paul Hamm receives an Olympic gold medal due to judging error then refuses to give it back.
10. Hip-hop star P. Diddy launches youth-oriented "Vote or Die" campaign backed by celebrities such as 50 Cent and Paris Hilton, who aren't even registered, and are obviously still alive.



BY:
JASON NICKLE



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Out to the Movies: *Christmas with the Kranks*

BY ALISON SHERRY
Beacon Staff Writer

No 'ho-ho' this Christmas? That is the question director Joe Roth must have asked when coming up with the synopsis of *Christmas with the Kranks*. A movie about Christmas tradition may sound like the same-old December Hollywood offering at first, but rest assured it is no fruitcake. *Christmas with the Kranks* has an all-star cast of comedic actors who liven the spirit of holiday fun.

Based on the best-selling novel, *Skipping Christmas* by John Grisham, *Christmas with the Kranks* is a story about Luther and Nora Krank (played by Tim Allen and Jamie Lee Curtis) who instantly suffer from empty-nest syndrome after their daughter Blair (Julie Gonzalo) decides to participate in a stint with the Peace Corps for the holiday season.

Distraught by Blair's decision, Luther gets the "brilliant" idea to skip Christmas all together and go on a not-so-Christmas vacation with his wife instead. However, not everything goes according to plan when Blair decides to come home for Christmas at the last minute. Now Luther is quickly forced to figure out a way to put Christmas back together. Hilarity ensues.



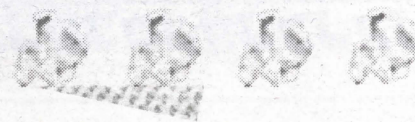
© Copyright Revolution Studios
Tim Allen in *Christmas with the Kranks*

The movie also stars Dan Aykroyd, Cheech Marin, and Caroline Rhea.

If you are not in the Christmas spirit yet, *Christmas with the Kranks* will definitely solve that problem. This movie will get you ready for the holiday season in a humorous way.

Christmas with the Kranks is unlike any holiday movie ever made, and it will definitely give you an appreciation for the holiday season.

Christmas with the Kranks is rated PG and receives 4 kernels.



CD Review:

Tsunami Bomb's *The Ultimate Escape*

BY KRISTIN LUCZAK
Beacon Columnist

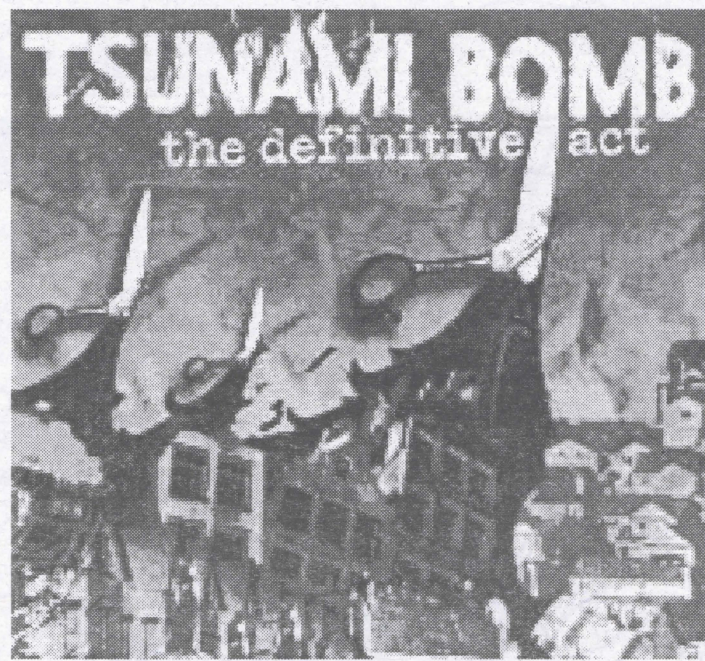
After two solid years of touring, and hundreds of thousands of miles put on their van with the 2003 "Van's Warped Tour" promoting debut album *The Ultimate Escape*, Tsunami Bomb has finally released its sophomore album on Kung Fu Records titled *The Definitive Act*.

The new album shows the band's sound in its purest form. The vocals are ridiculously awesome not just because you can tell they come from the heart, but because they come from a female. Die-hard fans will connect with band on this album, and scores of new fans will be crowding their concerts.

The first single off the album "Dawn on a Funeral Day", is a beautifully composed pop number with dark lyrics. The song is about a struggle between making it big and sacrificing art. The line "They've taken art/ turned it into something they think we'll buy" explains it all.

"4 Robots and an Evil Scientist" is a little too heavy to be labeled punk, but it still has a definite hardcore feel to it with a Coheed and Cambria vocal approach.

The album is extreme, and that's what is so great about it. Every song is filled with catchy lyrics, from time to time heavy riffs,



Courtesy WCLH

and foot tapping beats. Tsunami Bomb has a lot of similarities to The Dollytots, taking that hard hitting approach to pop punk rock but with the whole female vocal thing.

The folks at Alternative Press have written about the band in almost every issue in 2004 thus far and they had this to say, "Equal parts introspective and propulsive, soothing and charging, 'The Definitive Act' is, to date, Tsunami Bomb's most varied and finest effort, building upon a remarkable spectrum of the band's history of vibrant composition."

You can catch Tsunami Bomb

rockin' out with Motion City Soundtrack and Maxeen this winter. *The Definitive Act* will be the album that launches this group into full-fledged stars. The album hit college radio, including WCLH on November 23. Highly Recommended.

This Week in History

BY MYLES RUMBEL
Beacon Correspondent

- December 6**
-Ira Gershwin, famous composer, born 1896
- December 7**
-Third installment of the boxing trilogy between Sugar Ray Leonard and Roberto Duran, 1989
- December 8**
-Pearl Harbor bombed by the Japanese 1941
- December 9**
-John Lennon murdered by Mark David Chapman, 1980
- December 10**
-The Grateful Dead first perform under the assumed name, 1965
- December 11**
-Muhammad Ali's last fight; 1981
- December 12**
-Nikki Sixx of Motley Crue born, 1958

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Getting into the Holiday Spirit: Entertainment Abounds in W-B

BY ERICA LEO
Beacon Staff Writer

This holiday season offers Wilkes students and faculty more entertainment than just egg nog samples at the local BiLo. In fact, some big names are making their way to the Wyoming Valley to deck the halls.

For starters, the Wachovia Arena will host Kenny Rogers, a well known Christmas crooner and frequent visitor to the area. Rogers' "Celebrate the Season" tour will feature beautifully decorated sets and elaborate lighting concepts to heighten the Christmas spirits of all who attend. Also, to add to the excitement, two-time Grammy award-winner Rebecca Lynn Howard and noted singer/songwriter Billy Dean will open for and sing with Rogers during the show. The show will also include several area children as well as a local choir group who will carol with Rogers onstage.

"Celebrate the Season" will take place on December 9 at 7:30 P.M. Tickets range

from \$26.50 to \$39.00 and can be purchased through the Ticketmaster Box Office located near the East Gate at the Wachovia Arena.

The F.M. Kirby Center in Wilkes-Barre offers more traditional theatrical options, such as "A Christmas Carol" and the Moscow Ballet's "Great Russian Nutcracker."

The Kirby will offer "A Christmas Carol" on December 14 at 10:00 a.m. This re-creation of the timeless tale by Charles Dickens will be condensed into a one-hour production featuring a musical score of Christmas carols by Matt Eisenstein.

The "Great Russian Nutcracker" will take place on December 22 at 7:30 p.m. The performance features 50 professional dancers and over 400 newly designed costumes. The show also features puppets and animals that are more than twelve feet tall and wide. The talent of the performers as well as the music and special effects promise to awe the audience, providing the viewers with a truly magical Christmas ex-

perience. Tickets for the "Great Russian Nutcracker" range from \$25 to \$55 dollars.

Tickets for both "A Christmas Carol" and the Moscow Ballet's "Great Russian Nutcracker" can be purchased in person at the F. M. Kirby Center Box Office at 71 Public Square or by calling the box office at (570) 826-1100. They can also be purchased at all Ticketmaster locations including Boscov's and the Gallery of Sound.

The F.M. Kirby Center offers half-price balcony tickets, depending on availability, to students beginning the day prior to the performance. These tickets can only be purchased at the F.M. Kirby Center Box Office window and students must present a valid student ID to receive the discount.



Courtesy Jennifer Lester/www.nutcracker.com

The "Great Russian Nutcracker" will take place at the F.M. Kirby Center on December 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Hey Wilkes Students!

Still have too much left
in Dining Dollars?

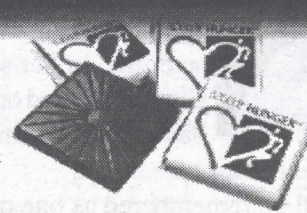
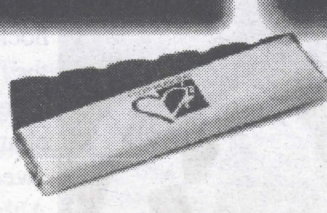
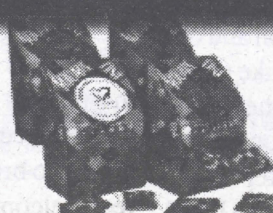
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THE BEACON SALUTES

WOMEN'S TENNIS



Liz Roveda, senior captain for the 2004 women's tennis team had a 5-6 record at the number 3 spot while she went 2-9 in the number 1 doubles spot. Coming in as a season she had the previous seasons best winning percentage record, going 8-1 overall.

As the captain Roveda provided valuable leadership and brought much spirit to the team as a whole through her constant smile. According to her head coach, Chris Leicht, "Roveda was a hard worker [who] was dedicated to the team and teammates."

"Next year we will miss Liz's leadership and experience. She was a wonderful captain, always willing to help her teammates," exclaimed Leicht

magnets who pulled the team together outside of just practice and the games. Head Coach John Sumoski stated, "Jill will be missed for what she did for the team climate. She was able to take the standard team player relationship and turn them into positive friendship relationships."



As a young player, still in her sophomore year, **Sarah Polacheck** was limited in what she could do and was considered a very predictable player. Now having completed her final season playing for the Wilkes soccer team, Polacheck is probably the most improved player with enormous drive and dedication to training, including becoming a consistent player defensively. "We always knew what we were going to get from this very physical player," Coach John Sumoski said about Polacheck.

Polacheck was known to her coach and the players as the 'heart of the team' who always gave 100 percent to learning new skills quickly. According to Sumoski, "We will miss her most for her consistency."

the time, she could always be counted on when it came to making that big stop when the team needed it the most.

As a person Kemper was always one of those people who thrived under extreme pressure and somehow managed to come off as calm. Although she has that type of personality, Broxmeyer said with a grin, "I wouldn't ever want to be on her bad side" in reference to her sometimes energized reactions.



Kerry Zellner was one of the most dominant forces and probably one of the best senior athletes that played in any of the field hockey games that Broxmeyer has ever seen. "She is what we call a 'leader,'" said

Broxmeyer also acknowledging that she, "gets the team fired up as she is a very vocal leader."

During her senior year Zellner played in all 19 of the regular season games. She also chipped in with one goal and one assist on 8 shots on goals throughout the 2004 season.

WOMEN'S SOCCER



Katie Green is a four-year veteran of the women's soccer team. Changing positions several times throughout her college career, Green was always up for the challenge. Two years ago she was converted to a defender

and as a junior she was a field player before ending up this year as the number one goalie for the Lady Colonels.

Green was known as the 'mother of the team' because of her warm heart and the abundance of care that she showed for the team. The main reason that Green was placed in goal was not only because she easily adjusted to what was placed in front of her but also because of her versatile athleticism and quickness, which she carried over from her softball days.



Jill Chiucchi was a consistent playmaker. She showed much strength when it came to beating defenders one on one and breaking straight through the defensive line. In her senior year Chiucchi scored one goal and had a total of three assists

as an outside midfielder.

Chiucchi will be remembered as one of the team

FIELD HOCKEY



As a senior, **Erin Henry** was the go-to woman for goals for the Lady Colonels field hockey team. She was a two-team All-conference performer. "Not even the top team in the country could stop her," noted Head Coach Todd Broxmeyer. During her senior season, Henry led all scoring with 12 goals with 7 assists, and a total of 41 shots on goals.

In addition to being a leader on the field, Henry has been commended by her coach for being a very "hungry athlete" that is on the pitch and who helps to spark enthusiasm amongst the other players on the team.



"Fiery and charged" are two words that describe exactly what senior **Kathy Kemper** meant to the field hockey team both on and off the field. Kemper, like many other players on the team, changed her position from a sweeper to a center back. Although overlooked a lot of



Reserved and far from a flashy style of play describes senior, **Kortney Loss** to a 'T'. As a midfielder she had one goal and four assists throughout her final season as a Lady Colonel. She was one of those players who

when she had the ball it was very difficult to take it away from her.

MEN'S SOCCER



A four-year veteran of the men's soccer team, **Ryan Strange** goes into the history books as one of the hardest working players on the team. He was someone that was

always out front about things and always seems to put himself in the position for many scoring opportunities. Upon graduation from Wilkes his Head Coach Phil Wingert said that he will be "heading to Florida."

In terms of leadership, Wingert noted that all of the players on the team seemed to get along with Strange because of his communication skills and his ability to bring the underclassman in and make them feel welcomed into the "soccer family."

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Senior
Megan R

FALL SENIOR ATHLETES



As the top defensive starter for the Wilkes Colonels men's soccer team, senior **Jordan DesAutels**, will be leaving after four years after accepting the challenge to be the best defensive striker. DesAutels

was an individual who wanted to defeat people not so much in a group situation but one on one. Coach Wingert said that, "DesAutels was the solidifying aspect of the defense because of his consistency."

When it came to being a role model, he was there for everyone on the team. He seemed to bring a pleasant environment to the locker room and was always looking out for the underclassman not ever thinking twice about being a completely giving person.



season in Lady Colonels uniforms. Barber had 66 sets and 35 blocks while Riley had 15 sets and 16 blocks. The two stand-outs are indeed only a part--albeit a major part--of a steadily building and improving team led by these two senior captains.

"They've really helped turn the program around from a team that's struggled for years and years into a team that right now is on the verge of something great," Head Coach Scott VanValkenburgh said of Barber and Riley in an



interview earlier this season.

played for the offensive line as a strong running back while Jamison and Morales both played hard and extremely well on the defensive line.

All of these players, although not record setting, provided their best during every single game that they participated in during their career here at Wilkes. Gallagher had a very decent season--rushing for 160 rushing yards (one of the team's best) while averaging over 15 yards per carry. Jamison and Morales were extremely well talented on the defensive combining for a total of 105 defensive tackles for a loss of 14 yards on the season.

While time and space does not permit us to feature every senior football player, we at *The Beacon* still recognize and value all of the graduating seniors who put their heart into the Colonels football team.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Senior volleyball players, **Jeanine Barber** and **Megan Riley** both had a terrific season in their final

FOOTBALL

Senior captains **Kyle Gallagher**, **Jon Jamison**, and **Julian Morales** were both solid players this season and outstanding team leaders. Gallagher

#3 Maleek Mills, RB	#29 Brett Trichilo, RB
#5 Steve Donlin, LB	#43 Matt Grammond, RB
#7 Dave Breuder, WR	#50 Matt Begansky, OL
#10 Adam Mihalko, DB	#74 John Guarnieri, OL
#13 Matt Kaskie, DB	#75 Fran Quinn, OL
#24 Dave Flynn, LB	#80 Paul Bilous, TE

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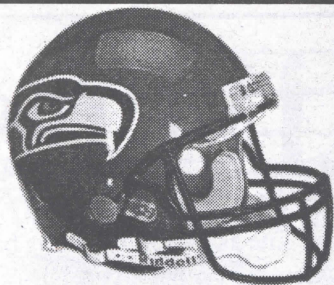
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Monday Night Matchup

Dallas Cowboys vs. Seattle Seahawks

BY RYAN DIPPRE
Beacon Sports Writer



The Dallas Cowboys will travel to Seattle on Monday to face the Seattle Seahawks for their second Monday Night game in the past four weeks. Seattle is currently in the top of the NFC West division, and Dallas is fighting for a winning season as it struggles to remain out of the divisional basement. Amazingly, the 4-7 Cowboys still have an outside shot at a playoff berth.

Dallas coach Bill Parcells will have to make a decision about starting quarterbacks. Drew Henson started against Chicago on Thanksgiving, but was pulled at halftime with a 7-7 tie in favor of Vinny Testaverde. Testaverde played well but offered no fireworks, throwing for 92 yards with

a touchdown and an interception.

According to the Dallas Cowboys website, owner/general manager Jerry Jones believes that Henson should have remained in the game. "Vinny is one play away from being out for good," said Jones. "I'd have liked to see him (Henson) be on the winning end of this game." As the game against Chicago proved, whoever starts may not remain on the field for the entire game. The decision of who to play at quarterback may change from day to day or even quarter to quarter during the game.

Holmgren's Seahawks, meanwhile, are coming off the worst defeat of the season. After a game in which they surrendered 434 yards to the 5-6 Bills, the NFL website quoted Holmgren as say-

ing, "I expect more from the team in all areas. We flat-out weren't very good." The Buffalo defense limited Seahawks' runningback Shaun Alexander to a mere 39

Prediction
Seattle: 28
Dallas: 24

yards on 13 carries, and the Bills were not forced to punt until the end of the third quarter. The loss for Seattle was the second home loss of the season.

This Monday Night game will be a contest of near-equals. Seattle's rank in the conference title chase is deceiving; the NFC West is an extremely weak division. In fact, every other team in

that division has lost its past two games. As it is with the rest of the NFL, these two teams are on equal footing when compared statistically. The largest gap is in rushing offense, where Seattle leads Dallas 136.5 to 103.1 yards per game. The passing game falls in favor of the Cowboys, who lead with 225.4 yards per game to Seattle's 212.8. Special teams are largely equal, and Seattle's defense only gives up five more yards per game than Dallas' defense.

The game tonight will come down to coaching and personnel. Parcells needs to find a leader for his offense. Vinny Testaverde is injury-prone, and Drew Henson will not play as well as he can if he is not given the necessary trust and support by the staff and team

alike. This lack of quarterback stability can ruin an effective offense, as can the lack of a reliable running back. Eddie George hasn't started in two weeks, and although Julius Jones played great against Chicago, he is still young.

Seattle, on the other hand, has Shaun Alexander as its workhorse back. They also have Matt Hasselbeck calling the shots from under center, which adds even more stability to a team with a confident run game. Although underestimating a Parcells-coached team is not always a good idea (the 1999 N.Y. Jets are a good example of this), Holmgren and crew should bounce back from last week with a 28-24 win.

Casualties of Pizza Wars

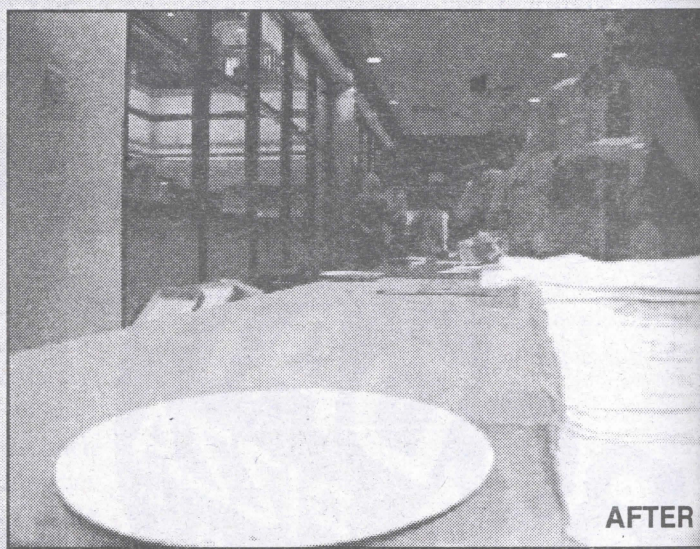


BEFORE

In the most hotly contested vote since the November election, Rodano's edged out Revello's to win Wilkes' first ever Pizza Wars. Over 300 students turned out for the event, which featured pizza from CJ's, Tommy's, Rodano's and Revello's. It was one of the biggest student turn outs this year. The event, sponsored by Wilkes Programming Board, also featured Six Second Yellow to entertain the diners.

Programming Board plans on hosting a similar event again--possibly next semester.

The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski



AFTER

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~Donna Kowalczyk~

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COLONEL'S CLIPBOARD

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SPORTS BRIEFS

WEEKLY RECAP

WRESTLING

(11/20) 8th of 9 at Oneonta St. Invitational

For the second consecutive year Wilkes University senior wrestler Jon Neyerlin has won the 184-pound title at the Oneonta State Red Dragon Invitational. Neyerlin, who posted four straight wins to claim the crown, helped Wilkes finish eighth with 74 points. Oneonta St. earned the team title with 128 points, followed by New York University with 111.5 points.

Two other Wilkes wrestlers finished fifth in their respective weight classes. Mike Colagiovanni fashioned a 5-2 record for the day to earn a fifth-place finish at 141-pounds. Keith Altiery went 3-2 at 285-pounds to also finish fifth in his weight class.

(11/13) 3rd of 11 at King's Tournament

The Wilkes University wrestling team finished third of 11 teams at the King's College Monarch Invitational Tournament on Saturday. Wilkes finished with 143.5 team points, one-half point better than 14th-ranked York College. Ursinus College,

Matt Carey was a finalist for the Colonels at 285 pounds. Carey opened his day with a 5-3 win over Stephen Sedon from King's. He then disposed of Mike Pattanite from Gloucester 5-2. Carey topped James Bishop from King's, 3-1, in his semi-final bout, before dropping a 4-2 verdict to Josh Stewart from Oneonta in the final.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

(12/1) Kings 71 Wilkes 31

King's College remained unbeaten with a 71-31 women's basketball win over Wilkes University on Wednesday night in the Scandlon Gymnasium. The victory in the Freedom Conference opener for both teams improves the Lady Monarchs to 5-0. Wilkes sees their record fall to 1-3.

(12/4) DeSales 79 Wilkes 59

Jenn Osborne scored 26 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead DeSales University to a 79-59 Freedom Conference women's basketball win over Wilkes University on Saturday. The Lady Colonels see their record fall to 1-4 overall and 0-2 in the conference.

MEN'S BASKETBALL:

(11/29) Wilkes 82; N.J. City 69
(12/1) King's 69; Wilkes 66
(12/4) Wilkes ; Desales

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:

(11/23) Wilkes 66; Marywood 62
(12/1) King's 71; Wilkes 31
(12/4) Wilkes ; DeSales

THE WEEK AHEAD

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Tuesday:

At Home vs. Albright @ 7pm

Thursday:

At Home vs. Marywood @ 7pm

Saturday:

At Misericordia @ 2pm

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Tuesday:

At Elmira 7pm

Thursday:

At Misericordia 6pm

Saturday:

At Home vs. Mary Baldwin 6pm

WRESTLING

Tuesday:

At King's @ 7pm

Friday:

At Lycoming @ 7:30pm

December 28th & 29th

Wilkes Open Tournament @ 10am

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: JOHN YANNIELO

NEAL SANTOSKI

Beacon Correspondent

Fourteen years ago, local residents could regularly see a gangly six-year-old relentlessly shooting baskets at the Pittston YMCA.

Now, nearly a decade and a half later, that relentless effort has paid off and

Wyoming Valley basketball fans can make the short trek to the Marts gym to see one of their own leading the Wilkes University Colonels men's team.

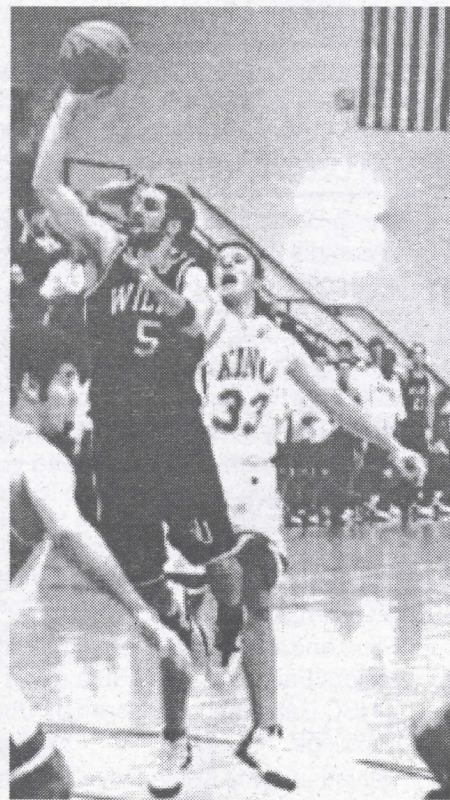
That player is Johnny Yanniello, a 6'2" Guard from Old Forge. After playing last year with a bad knee, and some serious rehabilitation, he feels that he is back to 100%. "Last year there were times when I was playing that my knee just started to hurt," said Yanniello.

Yanniello credits his good start this year to Head Coach Jerry Rickrode and his assistants. "The coaching staff this year is great...They all work hard to get the team ready for the games. They are always there when we need them."

Despite the Wilkes loss to King's December 1, Yanniello played a key role in keeping the Colonels in the game to the last seconds. He was high scorer with 15 points. In fact, in the first three games of the season for Wilkes, Yanniello has led the team in points, scoring 50 points overall.

Yanniello is looking forward to another great season. He

thinks when the season is over that Wilkes will be back in the MAC playoffs.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

John Yanniello goes for the lay-up in the Colonel's December 1 game against King's College.

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

12

Points by which the men's basketball team beat visiting Lincoln in their 2004-2005 season opener.

8

Placing of Colonel's wrestling team in Oneonta St. Invitational.

15

Total points scored by Colonels' John Yanniello in the Freedom Conference opener against King's College.

7

Points scored by the Lady Colonels' lead scorer, Andrea Kacprowicz, in the game against cross-town rival King's College.

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Sports

DECEMBER 6, 2004

Colonels Rally To Beat DeSales

20

Courtesy of Sports Information

Wilkes University fought back from an 11-point first half deficit to knock off pre-season Freedom Conference favorite DeSales University, 63-56, in the Marts Center on Saturday afternoon. The win improves the Colonels to 3-1 overall and 1-1 in the conference. DeSales slips to 3-2 overall and 1-1 in Freedom play.

The Bulldogs used an 11-3 run to jump out to a 22-11 lead midway through the opening stanza. Leading 9-8, Sedale Walton, Eddie Ohlson and Kyle Koch converted field goal attempts to extend the DeSales lead to 15-8. After a field goal inside by the Colonels Tyler Jenkins cut the deficit to 15-10, Koch scored five straight points and Michael Venafrá added a

bucket to push the lead to 22-11 at the 9:27 mark.

After Wilkes' John Yanniello and Venafrá traded baskets to make it 24-13, the Colonels went on a 19-4 run to take the lead for good. A three-pointer by Mike Constantine and a three-point play by Jenkins pulled Wilkes within 24-19 at the 8:15 mark. Greg Cardamone added a field goal inside to make it 24-21.

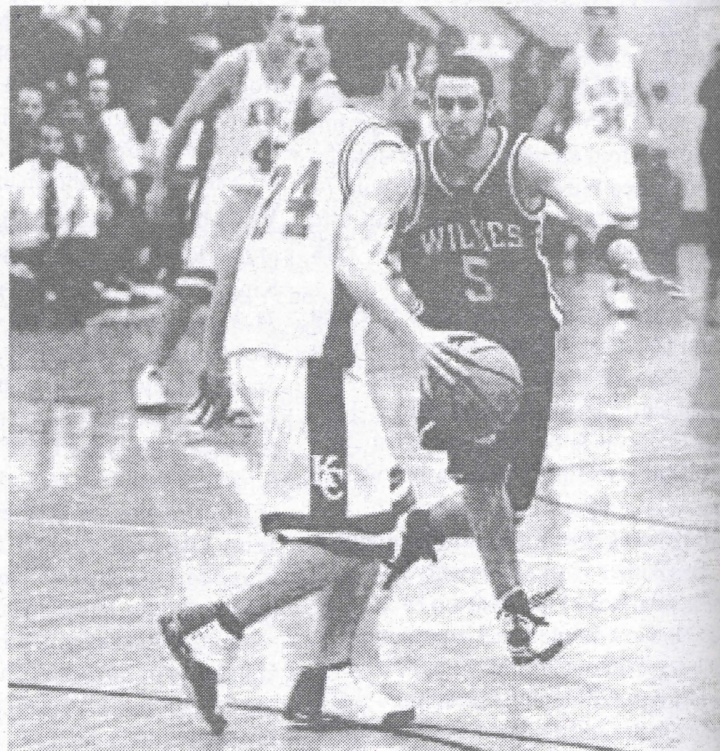
Leading 36-34 early in the second half, Wilkes went on a 13-0 run to take their biggest lead of the game. Two free throws by Walters began the spurt and gave the Colonels a 38-34 lead. John Sclafani scored the next 11 points for Wilkes, including three three-point field goals, to make it 49-

34 with 10:54 left in the game.

The Bulldogs would remain close throughout the remainder of the contest, but were unable to get any closer four points the rest of the way. The final time DeSales came that close was 58-54, after a Koch bucket with 42 seconds left. A free throw by Sclafani and four consecutive charity tosses by Milford in the remaining time would seal the Bulldogs fate.

Milford, who had seven rebounds, and Sclafani both finished with 12 points to lead the Wilkes attack. Yanniello added 10 points and four assists.

On 12/1 the Colonels opened their Freedom Conference schedule with a game that they lost to crosstown rival Kings College 69-66



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

#5 John Yanniello plays defense against the Monarch's Brendan O'Malley in Wednesday's match against King's College.

Campus Calendar

MONDAY (12/06)

- *Salvation Army Kettle Drive 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., HSC Lobby, sponsored by Zebra Communications.
- *The Sociology/Criminology Club will hold a bake sale from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Henry Student Center.

TUESDAY (12/07)

- *Mindy Davis Sterling Silver Sale 10 a.m.
- *Running Club Bake Sale 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., HSC
- *Alternative Spring Break Fundraisers 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., HSC
- *Men's Basketball w/ Albright 7 p.m.
- *Women's Basketball @ Elmira 7 p.m.
- *Wrestling @ King's 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY (11/08)

- *Student Government Meeting 5:30 p.m., HSC Hiscox Room

THURSDAY (12/09)

- *Board of Trustees Meeting, all day
- *Alternative Spring Break Fundraisers 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., HSC
- *Commuter Holiday Party, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Commuter Lounge
- *Women's Basketball @ Misericordia 6 p.m.
- *Men's Basketball w/Marywood 7 p.m.

FRIDAY (12/10)

- *Board of Trustees Meeting, all day
- *Classes End for the semester @ 5 p.m.
- *Men's Wrestling @ Lycoming 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY (12/11)

- *Men's Basketball @ Misericordia 2 p.m.
- *Women's Basketball w/Mary Baldwin 6:00 p.m.

SUNDAY (12/12)

- Wilkes' Chorus & Chamber Singers Concert, 3 p.m. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, S. Franklin St., free admission
- *IRHC Study Break Party w/Massagers 8 p.m. - 10 p.m., HSC Cafeteria

OTHER EVENTS

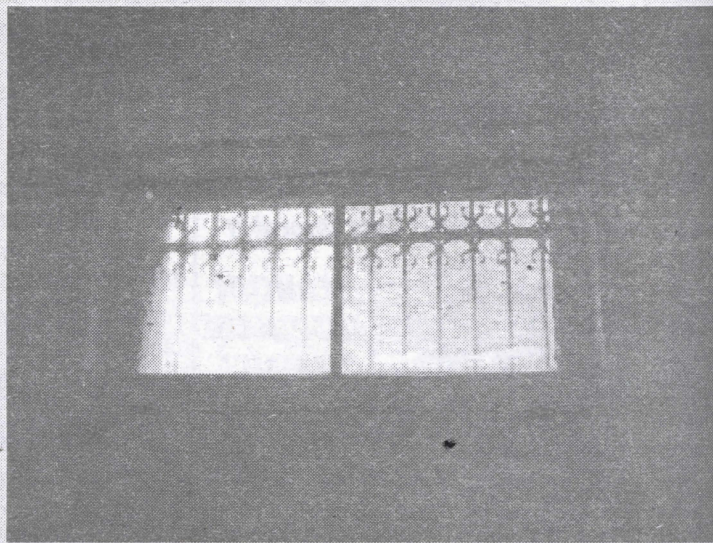
- *Finals Begin 12/13, End 12/21
- *CC Study Break Party, Wed. 12/15 7 p.m. - 10 p.m., Commuter Lounge
- *Food and Clothing Drive in HSC Ends 12/17
- *Majors Fair, Jan. 18 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., HSC Ballroom, sponsored by University College

- *Salvation Army Kettle Drive 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., HSC Lobby, sponsored by Zebra Communications, Wilkes' student-run PR agency all-week.

Editor's Note:

The Beacon will resume publication on Monday, January 24.

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 \$20 cash prize, courtesy of Programming Board.

NO CORRECT RESPONSES were submitted for last issue's Find This Photo. The photo depicted the door of the out of service Wilkes Security Cushman vehicle, which sits behind Pearsall Hall. \$20 for this week's winner