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Budget Proposal for 2004-05 Explained at SG Meeting

BY GABE LeDONNE
Beacon Managing Editor

Four percent hike in student costs proposed

Wilkes' 2004-05 budget proposal was presented to Student Government (SG) on Wednesday. The budget proposes a 4.06% increase in student costs. The increase would translate into a \$389 increase per semester in tuition and fees for full-time undergraduates and a \$102 to \$112 per semester hike for campus residents.

On hand to explain the budget, as well as field questions from SG representatives were Vice President of Finance and Support Operations, Scott Byers; Vice President of Enrollment, Michael Frantz; and Vice President of Student Affairs, Paul Adams.

"Four percent never feels good," Byers said. "But I think if you look at some of the numbers [from other institutions], you'll see that we fared pretty well against our competitors, keeping the price down. It's something that we know rings true with the students; and we're going to keep trying to push that number down as far as we can."

Senior Class President, T. Mick Jenkins, was at the SG meeting on Wednesday, and commented that he was impressed with the Vice Presidents' presentations.

"I thought they were very professional, and very informative. They came across as very straightforward; I didn't feel as though

they were trying to hide anything from us," Jenkins said. "They showed us charts and graphs, and told us their reasoning behind the increase," Jenkins explained.

Jenkins, who is planning on returning next fall to continue his education beyond his current biology major, will be paying the four percent increase; however, he says he doesn't mind.

"I don't mind the increase as long as I see improvements on campus," Jenkins said. "Over the years that I've been here, I've seen improvement in services and facilities--so I think the increase is justified as long as they continue to do so."

Student Revenue Dependency

During the meeting, Byers pointed out that the university's dependency on tuition is significant, with 93% of its total revenue coming from student monies; specifically, Byers reported that university receives 82% of its total revenue from tuition and university fees, and another 11% from food service and housing fees.

"We're not unlike a lot of other private institutions--most are tuition dependent," Byers



The Beacon/T. Mick Jenkins

Vice President of Enrollment, Michael Frantz (left) looks on as Vice President of Finance and Support Operations, Scott Byers explains the tuition hike at Wednesday's SG Meeting.

said; however, he also stated that he hopes to lower the current percentage numbers.

"The hope is that we reduce the reliance on tuition, but it will be a long-planned process to make effective change in that area," Byers said. "Part of the strategic plan for

2010 is to grow the endowment to double its current value of \$30 million to \$60 million--that will help lower that number [student revenue dependency]. There are some active grants out there from federal and state gov-

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The Beacon/Kristin Hake

WINTER WEEKEND 2004

Team "Trojan Man" compete in the Tug-of-War on Saturday, February 21 as part of the Winter Weekend festivities. The Team placed second in the competition, falling to Team G.I. Jim. For a complete photo recap, see the pages 10 and 11.

Biology Profs Study Questions Source of Deadly Chemicals

BY JULIE MELF
Beacon Assistant News Editor

Cancer. A simple two-syllable word that rips families apart and evokes pain and suffering for those afflicted with the often deadly disease. In order to avoid contracting it, many people try to stay away from carcinogenic materials and swear off red meat by becoming a vegetarian or relying on a hearty diet of seafood.

But according to new research, farm raised salmon contains high levels of PCBS (polychlorinated biphenyls), and when consumed, may be carcinogenic. And now, thanks to research conducted by Wilkes University Assistant Professor of Biology William Biggers, lobsters have been discovered to contain chemicals that, if consumed in large quantities could also possibly cause cancer.

Biggers and colleague

Hans Laufer's research findings were recently published in the February issue of the prestigious science journal, *The Biological Bulletin*. Biggers teamed up with Laufer at the University of Connecticut, where he was previously employed. The two received a grant from the Department of Environmental Protection in Connecticut to figure out why the lobsters in the Long Island Sound were dying.

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SG Happenings

Notes from the Student Government Meeting on February 18, 2004.

The Society for the Advancement of Management (SAM) will be attending a case competition March 18th- 21st. They are asking for \$1500 to help cover the costs of registration for the 12 members attending. They will return this week for their second reading; SG will then vote on the request.

After their second presentation, a motion was passed 19-0-8 for the Speech and Debate clubs request for \$1373. They have put in a fund request to Dean Fields for their remaining district and state competitions.

The Vice Presidents of Student Affairs, Enrollment, and Finance attended to SG meeting to discuss a 4% enrollment increase. This percentage is consistent with past years' increases. See page 1 for a detailed account of the proposed increase.

The "Vagina Monologues" is coming to Wilkes, with a goal is to raise \$6000 from the performance. A motion was passed 22-2-1 to donate \$5.00 for every Wilkes student who attends, allowing students to attend for free.

SG meets every Wednesday at 6pm in the Hiscox Meeting Room, 1st Floor of the Henry Student Center. Meetings are open to the public.

Biology Continued from Page 1

"Laufer and I originally thought it was due to methoprene, a mosquito insecticide that was sprayed heavily in areas to get rid of mosquitoes that spread the West Nile Virus. So we bled the lobsters and examined their blood for the presence of methoprene using chemical analysis, mass spectrometry, and gas chromatography. And the analysis showed that we didn't find any methoprene, but in looking closer at what was present in the blood, I found alkyl phenols present, which causes a lot of concern now because they are produced in large amounts," explained Biggers.

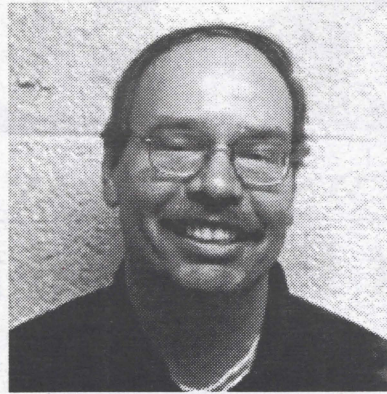
According to Biggers, thousands of alkyl phenols are produced per year by industry and are used in things like laundry detergents,

quito insecticide by Monsanto, a company that specializes in producing genetically altered food.

"I think that people are neglecting the fact that these things have insecticide activity, and therefore they can also, just like methoprene, affect lobsters. But the thing is, I don't think it's Monsanto that's doing it. I've done some research and it looks like these same four chemicals are used in Good Year Tire rubber," said Biggers.

Biggers also felt that there are many possible ways those chemicals got into the Long Island Sound. It may have been due to rain washing tire tread left on the highway causing it to enter into the sound, or from people actually dumping tires into the Sound.

"We recently had a seminar on the antioxidants that are produced by chemical companies for an unbelievable amount of things, everything from tire production to dental seal-



Dr. William Biggers

ants, apparently. The amount of these things that are in the environment, and nobody has really any idea what the short term effects are, let alone the long term effects. It's been a pretty interesting class," said third year biology major David Stillman.

While Laufer and Biggers's research has opened many

doors to explaining the death of lobsters in the Long Island Sound, there are still many doors that have yet to be unlocked. Though the researchers have offered a list of possibilities of how these chemicals got into the Sound, none of the possibilities have been definitely concluded. And while some may think this issue only concerns Long Island, more and more research is indicating that the effects of such chemical pollution on aquatic wildlife has actually become a worldwide problem, and until more research is conducted no definite answers can be offered.

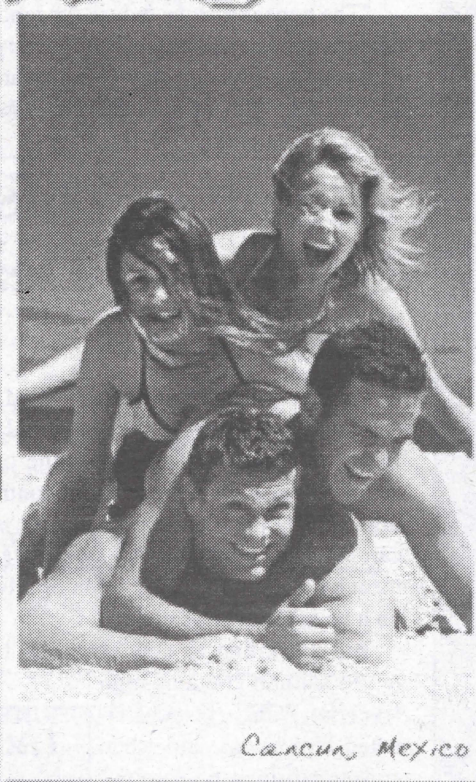
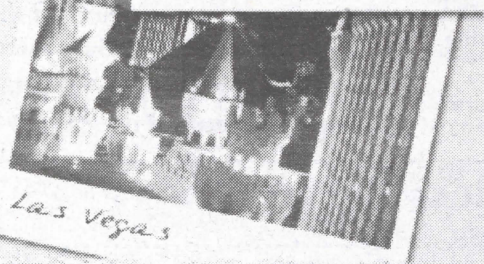
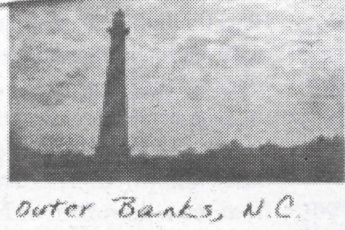
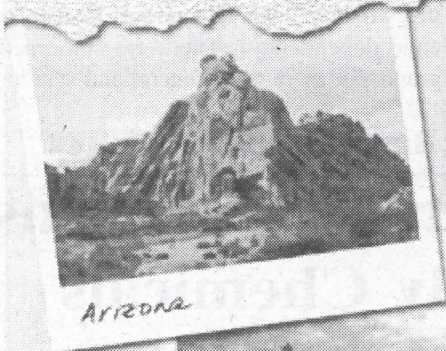
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Dr. William Biggers

Assistant Professor of Biology

denture sealants, lubricants, rubber preparation, tires, etc. The antioxidants are used because they prevent the cracking of rubber. One of the alkyl phenols is used as a mos-

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Student Universe

News Briefs

Courtesy of the Associated Press

School revises policy limiting student bathroom breaks

LAWRENCE, N.J. (AP)--A policy limiting students at a middle school to 15 bathroom breaks a month has gone down the toilet.

Administrators at the Lawrence Middle School revised the rule Wednesday to allow kids to make up to 30 visits a month to the restroom, according to Saturday's editions of the *Times of Trenton*. A \$1 fee for lost passes has also been scrapped.

Meade officials want lawsuit over inmate's gender dismissed

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)--Meade County officials are asking a federal judge to dismiss a lawsuit filed by a jail inmate that said she was wrongfully put into a cell with a man.

Jennifer Titus said in the suit filed in U.S. District Court in Louisville that she spent time in a jail cell with Billie Jo Hawks, whose gender was called into question after Hawks told prison officials he was a man. Hawks spent eight months in the women's section of the Meade County jail on drug convictions.

State officials have declined to say whether Hawks had undergone a sex-change operation or had hormone treatment.

Hundreds of coins found in patient's belly

BOSTON (AP)--French doctors were taken aback when they discovered the reason for a patient's sore, swollen belly: He had swallowed around 350 coins--\$650 worth--along with assorted necklaces and needles.

The patient's rare condition is called pica, a compulsion to eat things not normally consumed as food. Its name comes from the Latin word for magpie, a bird thought to eat just about anything.

Mayor finds long-forgotten lottery ticket was a winner

PEMBERTON, British Columbia (AP)--It took some help from her daughter for the mayor of this small town north of Vancouver to find she had a lottery ticket worth \$100,000 (\$US 75,000).

Elinor Warner bought the Canucks scratch ticket in December and left it partially scratched in a drawer.

The ticket was from a marketing campaign launched by the Vancouver Canucks of the National Hockey League with the British Columbia Lottery Corporation last year.

Avian flu fears drive some to eat rat meat

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)--Fear of catching bird flu from eating chicken has prompted some people in northwest Cambodia to resort to eating rats, a newspaper reported Tuesday. People eat the rat meat with rice or as a snack while drinking alcohol.

Hong Kong wonders how porn footage ended up in dental care VCD

HONG KONG (AP)--Health officials said Monday they have halted distribution of an educational film on dental care while they investigate a report that at least one of the VCDs contained pornography.

The Health Department sent out 50,000 copies of the film that's supposed to show local pop star Miriam Yeung discussing oral hygiene, but one family allegedly got a copy that featured close-up shots of nude women.

Private home turned into a torture chamber

BY LEE KEATH

Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP)--Dhia al-Hariri returned to Iraq after decades in exile to reclaim his father's beloved home, only to find that Saddam Hussein's regime had turned it into a house of horrors.

What was once the backyard is now a dark maze of iron-doored cells. One bedroom has a hook in the ceiling from which interrogators hung prisoners, breaking their arms and zapping them with electricity.

"This was my grandmother's bedroom," al-Hariri, 54, said Saturday, standing in a room barren except for the remains of iron bars embedded in the floor where lines of prisoners were chained.

For years, neighbors on the street of walled homes heard screams at night from the house down the lane and saw handcuffed men being led in and out.

Saddam's security agents seized the house in 1980, after al-Hariri's family fled the country, and for the next 23 years it was used as a secret interrogation center for political prisoners.

After Saddam's fall in April, prisons were opened and former inmates flooded in to revisit the scene of their ordeals. Mass graves have been uncovered and families have begun the task of tracking down loved ones among the hundreds of thousands of who disappeared.

Al-Hariri's house illustrates how the regime's brutality was literally right next door--and how it remains woven into the fabric of the neighborhood.

One officer who worked in the al-Hariri house still lives on the street. "No one can touch him; we don't dare," said Ali Zeini, a neighbor.

The house was the realization of a dream for al-Hariri's father, Kadhem. He built it in 1968, a one-floor, modern-design home in a neighborhood of doctors in Baghdad's upper-class Mansour district. "He brought in architects to do it American-style because that's what he liked," al-Hariri said.

One of the first to be tortured there was al-Hariri's younger brother Safa, held meters (yards) from his old bedroom. He was executed in 1982.

Dhia al-Hariri, visiting from his home in Leeds, England, sounds like a rental agent as he walks through it. "This was all wood paneling on the walls here. Oak. See those windows? All oak frames," he said in what was once the sitting room. "There were chandeliers in every room."

Al-Hariri was 18 when the family moved into the house and he lived there until he went abroad for studies six years later. The outside facade looks much the same, but the interior has been transformed. Windows are bricked over, cinderblock walls block the passageways and cut rooms in half.

It is this other house that Qays Abu Muhammed remembers.

"This is where they did the interrogations," he said, standing in the bedroom next

to the grandmother's.

Abu Muhammed said he was hung by his arms from the ceiling hook, then pulled down until his shoulders dislocated. Electrodes were then put on his earlobes.

The next room down, a tiny space by the stairs up to the roof, was where they held women, he said.

In the sitting room, the officers interrogating him brought in another prisoner, a man in his 60s, threw alcohol on him and set him ablaze, Abu Muhammed said.

In the grandmother's bedroom, Abu Muhammed was handcuffed, crouching, to the iron bar on the floor, with the burned man chained next to him in line.

"Over the next few days they would take him away and bring him back," he said. "Then one day he didn't return."

Abu Muhammed, 39, was arrested in 1984 and held at the house for a month, accused of belonging to a Shiite Muslim opposition group, the Dawa Party. He estimates that several hundred prisoners--Shiites, communists and other activists--passed through the house just during the time he was there.

"Who knows how many were here over the years. Maybe a third died in torture. A third were taken out and executed, and a third got out alive," al-Hariri said.

Saddam's government frequently took over houses abandoned by exiles, handing them out to high-ranking loyalists or putting them to use for offices. Houses like al-Hariri's gave security agents a discreet location to carry out interrogations and force confessions. Some, like Abu Muhammed, were then sentenced to jail terms - or execution.

"We would always hear screaming," said Zeini, the neighbor. "It became very ordinary for us. What could we do?"

Al-Hariri moved to the back of his house. It used to be an open yard. Now, it's walled off into five cells. With a bang, al-Hariri jammed aside the bolt on an iron door and swung it open. This cell was the bedroom of two more of his brothers, twins.

"They had pictures of every football star in the world taped on their walls," he said.

Now the bare concrete walls are carved with graffiti from those held there: names, dates--as far back as December 1980 and as recent as 2002--hatch marks counting the days, prayers, a crude drawing of a girl. "Call these numbers: Fayez and Heifaa," pleads one scrawl to anyone who gets out, with phone numbers beside them.

On another cell wall is the drawing of a heart with wings and a palm tree with birds flying above it.

Al-Hariri, who counts 10 relatives killed by Saddam's regime, has hired lawyers to start the long process of reclaiming the house. In the meantime, a cousin is staying there to keep away looters.

But al-Hariri said he'll never live there again.

"I want a home in Baghdad, but this house is too difficult. I need something where I won't see it every day," he said.

First Woman to Speak at Kirby Lecture Series

Mail order guru Lillian Vernon scheduled to offer her expertise

BY KRISTIN KILE
Beacon Staff Writer

The Kirby Lecture series is breaking more ground than usual this year; the first woman speaker in the series' history will be making her way onto the Wilkes campus March 31, 2004. Lillian Vernon, owner of one of America's leading catalog and online retailers appropriately named Lillian Vernon, will address the business world and how she made it as an entrepreneur.

According to the Greater Talent Network Speakers Database, www.greatertalent.com, Vernon and her family came to the United States from their native Germany "to escape the perils of World War II." While in the U.S., Vernon attended New York University, "but like many women at the time, left after two years to get married. Two years later, in 1951, using \$2,000 of wedding gift money, a 4-month pregnant Lillian Vernon started her mail order business. Her goals were modest at first: earn a few extra dollars to pay household bills and keep occupied while awaiting the birth of her first child."

However, today, Vernon is considered "one of America's most accomplished and well-known leaders in the catalog and retail industries. She is a pioneer, blazing trails for women in a field once dominated by men,"

this according to her biography on Greater Talent Network.

Dr. Jeffrey Alves, Professor of Free Enterprise explained that the lectures are designed to offer insight into the business world from someone who has lived it.

"The Kirby Lectures are intended to be a once a semester presentation by a leading component of the free enterprise system or some aspect of entrepreneurship," said Alves.

"The intent is to give our students an opportunity to hear some pretty well known folks and interact with them at the reception afterwards," said Alves. "So far they've gone reasonable well. I

think Lillian Vernon is an interesting one because...she's our first female speaker, and she literally started her business at her kitchen table in the early 50s. She was really a pioneer in modern catalogue retail. She did it

just by her own sweat."

In the Lecture series' history, there have been many notable speakers present from big corporations to Internet businesses. Previous speakers include Jerry Greenfield from Ben & Jerry's, John Stossel from ABC News, Walter Williams, a leading consumer economist, and Andy McKelvie of Monster.com. These speakers, like all of the series' speakers to-date, are men.

Alves said that even though they have never had a female speaker, that fact was not a primary consideration for choosing Vernon.

"We want to have some balance. In reality today more women start businesses than men. She's not going to talk about the feminine side, because she doesn't believe in that," said Alves.

Instead, attendees will be able to hear firsthand how Vernon started a business from scratch. Alves said that Vernon's speech is "probably going to be a combination of her story, about growing a retail catalogue business and how she did

that, and some of the challenges of being an Entrepreneur over the years. And she'll talk about the business challenges and some of the personal challenges."

Vernon began her business by placing a pricey advertisement in *Seventeen* magazine of a personalized handbag and belt and her business soared from there. In 1956, "the Lillian Vernon catalog was born-16 pages in black and white, mailed to 125,000 customers who had responded to her ads." Her company is now a multimillion-dollar company and Vernon continues to play an essential role in her company.

In addition to serving on the boards of numerous nonprofit organizations, Vernon is also the recipient of many prestigious awards.

"She has spoken at many universities and has received several honors including induction in the Direct Marketing Hall of Fame, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, Big Brother/Big Sisters National Hero Award and Gannett Newspapers Business Leadership Award," said Vernon's biography.

The Alan P. Kirby Center board of managers sponsors the Kirby Lecture series. Vernon is due to speak on March 31, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at a location yet to be determined. The lecture is free to the public and students and faculty are welcome to attend.



www.greatertalentnetworks.com

Lillian Vernon

Budget continued from page 1

ernments." Byers also said that he hopes to build upon a solid annual gifting campaign that the office developed last year.

But Byers was quick to point out that dramatic change is not in the foreseeable future. Byers said that a realistic goal for the university could be "around 80% in tuition dependency, and 85% total student dependency."

"You're still susceptible to the marketplace, but it can give you time to adjust," he added.

The 4% tuition increase accommodates the general cost of inflation for the university, including faculty and staff salaries and benefits, an expense that absorbs 43% of university budget.

Other increased expenses for the institution include financial aid packages, operational expenses, and capital project expenses.

Financial Aid

With 24% of the university's budget going towards financial aid, Mike Frantz, Vice President of Enrollment was on hand to offer insight into how his office disperses those funds.

"It's a combination of university grants and merit scholarships," Frantz said. "Over 90% of a typical freshman class receives some type of Wilkes-based aid, merit scholarship and/or need-based grants." Although, Frantz pointed out that percentage drops when applied to the entire student body. "It's not that we're taking money away from students once they get here...it's primarily because you're then factoring in part-time students who don't receive university-based aid, and students who have employers reimbursing them," Frantz explained.

"Globally, what we want to continue to

demonstrate is that we're maintaining the affordability of the institution and controlling costs. We want to stay competitive, not just locally with other private institutions, but also with two-year and state schools...It doesn't mean that we have to be the cheapest option; but we have to be a reasonably affordable option," said Frantz.

Capital Projects

The proposed capital projects that Byers brought up during the SG meeting attracted perhaps the most interest from SG members. One of those projects included the promised renovations to the Stark Learning Center.

"It's a three-phase project," Byers said of the SLC project. "The first phase that we're taking care of is some of the infrastructure and ventilation issues. That will start over spring break. It's almost a million dollars of work that needs to be done."

"Also this spring we'll start 'programming the buildings,' evaluating the needs of the occupants of that building, and looking at how we want to use the building-whether we want classroom space, or office space. From that we'll begin phase two and three." The major challenge for phase two, Byers explained was, "how do we implement these changes?"

"If we're successful in completing programming this spring, we'll start this summer," Byers said. Once started, the project on SLC should be completed over a 12 to 18 month time frame, Byers said.

Resident Hall Projects

Another major project that the budget allotted for is the renovation of a few residence halls: namely, Sullivan Hall and Fortinsky Hall.

"Fortinsky will be having some life safety

items installed," Byers said. "From our vantage point--by numbers [of residents], and by the height of the building--there is probably more risk there than there is in others." Byers explained that limited exit routes in comparison to other halls, was one of the major factors that made Fortinsky a priority.

Byers pointed out that Evans Hall received similar life safety equipment last summer for the same reasons.

"With Sullivan we're looking at a complete renovation," Byers stated. "I'm not sure if there was any great logic in why Sullivan was picked first, except that it hadn't been looked at, and it hadn't been renovated since the university acquired it 30-some years ago."

Dr. Paul Adams, Vice President of Student Affairs also commented on the end goal in terms of the residence halls for students.

"From a comfort standpoint, we want to create spaces that are constructed around clusters of people," Adams said. "Wilkes is very blessed with some of the old houses that we can accomplish that fairly easily. We want to make sure that we have spaces in the residence halls that allow for small group projects, that people to get to know each other in a more intimate way...rather than just living in double-barreled corridors and sharing a common bathroom."

Adams said that this idea is being considered in the planning of the Sullivan renovation. Sullivan is not one of those residence halls blessed with large common-spaces. "One of the things we're asking the architects this summer is to reconfigure the space to see if there's a way to make it more friendly to what the students are desiring," Adams commented.

Both the Fortinsky and Sullivan projects are scheduled to be completed by next fall.

Byers commented that there are other buildings that do need to have renovations, and added that the ongoing Strategic Master Plan is addressing how to prepare for those halls in the years to come.

Financial Discipline

Byers also stressed his attempt to make the university more "financially disciplined" in maintenance overall by preparing for replacements of furniture and equipment throughout the university.

"The thought is to capture information on the lifespan of things on campus, and put money away for their replacement," Byers explained.

Byers used an example in his presentation to SG, explaining, "If we have 300 chairs and each costs \$100, that means to replace every chair on campus, we would need \$30,000. So, if we talk to the manufacturer, and find out that each chair has a lifespan of five years that would mean that we should put away \$6,000 [per year] just for the chairs."

In order to initiate such a strategy, Byers said that the first step is "really just getting a handle on what we have, what the lifespan is, and what money is necessary that we have to set aside to replace it and keep it up to date...so that we don't have stuff that's 20 years old, only because we were lucky and it lasted that long."

The proposed budget will be presented to the Board of Trustees at their meeting on campus April 15; if approved the new budget will go into effect June 1--the beginning of the 2004-05 fiscal year.

Sordoni Art Gallery: Take advantage of the Resources at Hand

BY RONALD R. BERNIER, Ph.D.
Director, Sordoni Art Gallery

As a museum professional and art historian with a special fondness for the mission of university art galleries, there is one common misperception of my professional home and own sense of academic identity that always irritates me whenever I hear it. That is, the visual arts as the "jewel in the crown," the "gem"--you get the idea--of any institution of higher learning--like an agreeable diversion, a welcome respite from the rigors of intellectual work. We in the arts cannot accept this peripheralization--or worse, trivialization--of what we do; rather, we must insist on our very centrality to, part of the distinctive underpinning of, the academic enterprise of the modern liberal arts university.

An interesting article in a recent edition of the *Chronicle of Higher Education* (02/13/04) addresses this very issue, its authors justifiably worried about what they see as the decline of the humanities in an environment in which higher learning is "increasingly ordered according to the material interests, conditions, and designs of sciences, technology, and professions." "If ever there were a time when society was in need of humanistic modes of inquiry, it is today," they argue, further contending that now, more than ever, "we require the deep historical perspective and specialized knowledge of other cultures, regions, religions, and traditions provided by the humanities." The arts--visual and performing--are a vital part of this project. The humanities, or 'culture,' is the one place where the complications of modernity as a whole are most sensitively registered. Whatever we may take 'culture' to mean, it has something to do (doesn't it?) with civility, community, imaginative creation, spiritual and moral values, the very texture of lived experience--all of which seem to be under siege at the moment. The humanities and the arts are the principle site of intellectual and demographic diversity in the academy. We therefore have much to offer, and we need to be assertive in defining our contribution and getting our message heard.

Last year the Sordoni Art Gallery at Wilkes University proudly celebrated its 30th anniversary and its many achievements over these past three decades. Established in 1973, and named for the late Andrew J. Sordoni, former State senator from Northeastern Pennsylvania, the Gallery has always stood at

the very heart of Wilkes' academic mission, and has served as a rich cultural resource for the entire surrounding community. Its permanent collection of more than 1,200 objects--including European and American art from the 17th century to the present--is, like that of other college or university art museums, eclectic and pleasingly idiosyncratic; it offers rich opportunities for research and study across the curriculum, and we invite students and faculty throughout the university to take advantage of this too-little-known and under-utilized resource. We are, first and foremost, a teaching gallery, an educational resource for our own resident scholars--faculty and students--and for learners of all ages, interests, and backgrounds that make up our community. We are an essential link between campus and community. And through this commitment to education, the Sordoni Art Gallery is proud to have sustained and enhanced its founding vision to acquire, preserve, exhibit and interpret works of art of the highest quality, and to have built a professional reputation as a respected center for the study and appreciation of visual art.

In addition, an ambitious year-round exhibition schedule features the work of artists of regional, national, and international reputation, and we continue to seek different and innovative ways to expand our public dimension and educational outreach by becoming ever more inclusive and accessible, a place that welcomes and serves multiple and diverse audiences. For students, faculty, and members of the community, the Sordoni Art Gallery is a different kind of classroom--a place for active looking, talking, learning, and thinking.

As the authors of the *Chronicle* article conclude: "The university remains one of the only places in our public sphere for informed, sustained, critical analysis. The humanities [and I include the arts here] represent that practice and that form. We must face the challenge and assume the social responsibility of translating our specialized knowledge in ways that might inform the public, contribute to policy discussions, and, in the process, show students, faculty members, university administrators, and state legislators the importance of the humanities." It is a formidable project and a worthy one, and one in which the Sordoni Art Gallery at Wilkes University is proudly engaged.

Historical Context to Current Violence in Haiti

BY Dr. RICHARD GILLESPIE
Adjunct Professor of Theater

In light of the growing violence in Haiti, I thought the Wilkes community might appreciate having a scorecard to help follow events there.

First, a few historical notes for perspective: Two hundred years ago this January the only successful slave revolt in history led to the founding of the first black republic in history. Center to the revolt was an extraordinary man, Toussaint Louverture, who rose from slavery to become the Governor General of the French colony under the French revolutionary government. It was Toussaint's vision to build a modern nation in which all races were equal and men were rewarded for their abilities only. His dream was shattered by the rise of Napoleon who wished to create a slave empire in the West Indies and the western part of North America. Although the freed slaves of Haiti defeated Napoleon's army, Toussaint did not survive to lead the new nation, which was torn apart from its beginnings by the conflict between the blacks, primarily in the north, and the mulattos, primarily in the south--a conflict which still echoes in Haiti.

Because of his defeat in Haiti, Napoleon had to abandon his goal of a slave empire. Cutting his losses, he sold the Louisiana Territories to the United States.

The European nations and the United States did not share Toussaint's dream of equality among all races and found the new black nation a threat to the slave holding colonies and states making it difficult for Haiti to succeed. Examples: France demanded reparations for the financial loss of its slaves as a condition of recognizing the new nation, and U.S. President Thomas Jefferson halted all trade between the two countries even though they had been major trading partners when Haiti was a French colony.

During its two hundred year history Haiti has had trouble governing itself because of its internal divisions and because of the colonial practices of the countries on which it was dependent.

The same internal and external forces are at work in Haiti today.

Although there is great political confusion in Haiti today with factions shifting back and forth, one can identify three major interests: 1) President Aristide and his supporters; 2) those opposed to Aristide but who want a peaceful resolution to the conflict; and 3) those who want Aristide driven

from office by force.

Jean Bertrand Aristide was a black parish priest serving the poor in Port-au-Prince. Politically he was influenced by the liberation theology movement in the Catholic Church. Supported by his political party of the poor, the "Fanmi Lavalas" (literally translated, the Family Flood") in 1990, he was elected president of Haiti. His first actions were to dismantle the bureaucracy built by the Duvalier dictatorships (father and son) between 1957 and 1986. In so doing he threatened the privileges of the rich, primarily mulattos. Seven months into his term, the Duvalierests staged a military coup and drove Aristide from power and from the country. In 1994 the United States militarily occupied Haiti and restored Aristide to the presidency. His term expired in 1995 and he was replaced by one of his supporters who held the office until Aristide could be reelected in 2000. With the support of the United States he dismantled the military, exiled the coup leaders and replaced the army with a weak national police force.

In the three years of his second term, Aristide has alienated many of his supporters and emboldened his enemies. The 2000 election itself is a major issue. Fanmi Lavalas swept most of the national, regional and local elections, giving Aristide a strong base from which to rule. But seven congressional elections were contested. The Constitution requires elections to be decided by a majority vote. In the seven the candidates won by pluralities, but Aristide refused to have run-off elections. As a result, the United States, the International Monetary Fund, and others cut off financial aid to Haiti until the elections were rerun. Aristide stood firm, putting his country in a desperate financial situation because of the loss of aid.

More recently Aristide has been accused of supporting violence to silence his critics. At least three popular journalists were assassinated, and the judges investigating the cases have fled the country, fearful for their lives. Aristide is also accused of hiring young men--nicknamed *chimres*--from the slums of Port-au-Prince to intimidate and attack his critics and demonstrators against his government. He has also been accused of enriching himself from the drug trade in Haiti which in the past few years has become a major transport center between South America and the U.S. But despite his failings, real or imagined, most observers believe that he would still win an election if it were held today.

There is a large group in Haiti who were supporters of Aristide but who are disappointed with his rule. They want him to step down voluntarily. They do not want a violent change of government. (It would be the thirty-third coup d'état in Haiti in two hundred years.) Chief among these is Group 184, a conglomerate of peasants, students, and other intellectuals. Group 184 is a major sponsor of student demonstrations, and such. Group 184 is generally seen as leftist in politics. There are, however, observers who claim there are former supporters of the Duvaliers and sweatshop factory owners in the group.

Those pushing for a violent coup d'état are a mixed lot. The earliest violence against Aristide came for former *chimres*, some because they claimed Aristide was no longer paying them, and others because they felt betrayed by him.

The new armed coup began in Gonavas, a city in northwest Haiti that was Toussaint's headquarters during the war with France and the location of Haiti's declaration of independence. The coup was begun by the brother and other supporters of Amiot Metayer. Metayer, the leader of a band of young men who called themselves the Cannibal Army, proclaimed himself Aristide's strongman in Gonavas. Because of the violent acts of the Cannibal Army against Aristide's critics, the United States and CARICOM (the Caribbean Community) insisted that Aristide arrest Metayer. His followers broke him out of prison by knocking down a wall with a bulldozer, and Metayer returned to Gonavas and his pro-Aristide violence until he was murdered. His followers were convinced he was killed on Aristide's orders, and changed loyalties. They have been joined in the past two weeks by a motley crew of right-wing Army officers and other Duvalierests, including Guy Philippe, a former police chief in Cap-Haitien (Haiti's second largest city), and Louis Jodel Chamblain, a leader of Duvalier's death squad in the 1980s, and a leader of FRAPH (Front for the Advancement and Progress of Haiti)--a group involved in the coup against Aristide in 1991. In the past week these men led a squad of armed men who shot their way into Haiti from the Dominican Republic, killing two Dominican soldiers. The generally recognized leader of the armed coup attempt is Jean "Tatoune" Pierre, the chief leader of the FRAPH coup in 1991.

Haiti, continued on page 7

All Love, Not Just Heterosexual, Should be Recognized and Valued

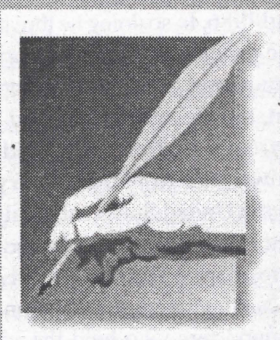
Anyone who has been following the news over the past year, and more specifically over the last few weeks, knows about the heated debate that has arisen over the questions of whether or not same sex couples should be allowed to legally sanction their attachments through some form of marriage or civil union.

Most recently, the mayor of San Francisco has decided to allow same sex marriages and a State Superior Court Judge ruled that the weddings can continue, denying the demands by conservative groups that such unions be prohibited from continuing. Over the past week or two hundreds of same sex couples from all over the nation have flocked to San Francisco courthouses to participate in same sex civil ceremonies with loved ones.

Some would consider the actions of this judge to be brave; others would consider them defiant. This is because President Bush, in his State of the Union address, insinuated that "renegade judges" who issued such opinions and handed down such rulings could face repercussions.

On a recent episode of the conservative Christian news and talk show 700 Club, host Pat Robertson was heard to remark that since these events are taking place, San Francisco is in a state of "chaos" and "anarchy," and that the National Guard should be brought in to get things in San Francisco under control.

But what exactly is the threat that suggests troops should be brought in? There are no riots; there is no looting, no widespread violence. People who love each other and are already sharing their lives together are getting married in civil ceremonies. They just happen to be of the same sex. It really shouldn't be anyone else's business who an individual wants to live with or spend the rest of their lives with.



Beacon Editorial

The ideas and positions expressed in the editorial are those of the Editorial Board which is comprised of Managing Editor, Editorial Board Chair, News Editor, Features Editor, Arts and Entertainment Editor, Sports Editor, and Photo Editor

But apparently some government officials and other conservative groups don't agree.

So much for John Lennon's famous mantra "make love not war." It seems these days in America war is being made on love, or at least those who dare to love someone

who is of the same gender.

People who strongly oppose same sex marriage state that these marriages are violations of "the sanctity of marriage" and a threat to legal, heterosexual marriages and traditional family life. If same sex marriages were eventually allowed in this country, would it somehow discourage people from entering into heterosexual marriages? No, probably not. Would the already high divorce rate amongst heterosexual married couples increase? Probably not, or at least not because of the occurrence of same sex marriages. Many citizens and government officials who oppose same sex marriage do so out of respect for their religious traditions--certainly they should be allowed to hold the opinions that are inspired by the customs of their faith. If the officials of the various churches, temples, and synagogues in this country, and the officials of the major religions decide that it is against the religious principles of their faith to perform gay marriages or allow them within a religious context, then that is valid. But isn't it against the ideals of separation of church and state for the government to deny same sex couples a civil ceremony, since most of the reasons for the strong opposition against it arise from a religious base?

Many same sex couples are already living together--as it is their right. Thankfully, the government doesn't claim to dictate who we can live with in the same way it dictates who we can or cannot marry. These members of same sex couples are productive members of society, and it is unfair to compromise their

rights. For example, a person who is involved in a relationship with a person of the same sex may not be allowed visitation rights if their partner is hospitalized, because they are not a "family member" and they are not considered a "spouse" according to the legal definition. This is regardless of whether or not they live together, and have done so for many years. The healthy partner in this case desires to be a supportive, loving spouse in all respects; however, because they are denied the title, they are also denied specific social recognition of similar rights and responsibilities.

Recently, a gay Congressman described on news radio a situation he faced when he was trying to obtain emergency room care for he and his partner's adopted son. Out of necessity, only one of their names could appear on their child's insurance information. The Congressman's name could not le-

gally be entered into the block designated "spouse." Despite the child's needing immediate emergency care, the admitting nurse wasted valuable time by refusing admittance because the Congressman was not listed as a parent in the paperwork because he and his partner are not--cannot be, under the current state of affairs--married.

The beloved partner of a gay man or woman who may be sick or dying can be denied the opportunity of supporting his or her partner through the illness--perhaps even seeing them one last time before they die. A child is being denied health care while a nurse--who was probably motivated by prejudice--argues over whether or not the man that child knows and loves as a father can be considered his parent.

And the people who oppose same sex marriage claim to do so out of respect for family values.

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Background

* Established in October 1936
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* Printed on Mondays, with the exception of holidays
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Nickle For Your Thoughts

A Cartoon by Jason Nickle



Should Wilkes Alumni Have Free Access to Gym?



BY GINGER ESLICK
Beacon Op-Ed Editor

The Marts Gym is now a state-of-the-art facility that can be accessed by anyone, that is if they are willing to pay the price. Wilkes University alumni, however, cannot use the facility without paying a fee. This situation leads to many questions. What benefits should alumni have? Is there a valid reason for not admitting alumni into the Marts Center free of charge?

Give Back to Deserving Alumni

The alumni of Wilkes University should have the right to use the Marts Gym. For without the tuition money that all of the past and current students have brought to Wilkes University, there would be no University to attend.

Parents and students alike have worked

hard a good portion of their lives in order to save money for the ever-increasing expense of college. To me, it seems only fair that the University would be willing to give something back to these alumni after the illustrious day of graduation.

After all, it is not as if every past member of Wilkes would be flooding the Marts Center in order to get access to a free work out. Many graduates have moved out of this area, and those who remain may not all feel the desire to use the facilities; therefore, an overcrowded gym is not a valid concern.

Alumni who are interested in using the gym have most likely worked out for a good portion of their lives. People who work out tend to be healthier and live longer than those who do not. Translation, these individuals are not likely to drop dead while taking part in the latest work out craze. If this matter does boil down to an insurance issue, simply require the alumni to sign a waiver releasing the University from all responsibilities.

These people are not immature muscle heads whose sole desire is to out-lift the person next to them. They are adults who have given countless dollars to the University, and

now they want something back. They deserve something back from the University they have already given so much to.

Health and Insurance Issues are of Prime Concern

When one graduates from college, it's a given that he or she will constantly be asked to donate money to this fund or that one, and that from time to time, he or she will choose to gather for events such as the traditional Homecoming/Alumni weekend. No matter what the given alumnus gave to the school as a student, now that they're off in the real world I see no reason that they should be entitled to free use of the facilities offered by the staff of the Marts Gym.

Wilkes is not a large school, but with the ever-growing student population, would it be fair if an enrolled student wanted to go over to the Marts Center but was unable to use the facilities because the weight room was full of middle-aged alumni? It's bad enough that there's always some sport that's in training, so on top of the athletes, let's just add to the people crunch here on campus.

Regardless of the over-population, what about safety concerns? My grandfather



BY KERRI PARENELLO
Beacon Layout Artist

dropped dead of a heart attack at forty-eight years old on a train to work more than twenty years ago; what's to say that with our declining health as a nation, we're not going have an alumnus jogging on a treadmill fall over from a massive coronary or throw his back out trying to out-lift a student?

For safety and already high numbers of people utilizing the facilities

in place at the Marts Gym, I think that it's in the best interest of the

University to charge alumni to use the gym. The administration charges students, for many incidentals, so I see no reason why administrators shouldn't ask for a nominal fee in order to cover their backs if something bad were to happen.

Media Focus on Sex and Scandal Unfair to Public



BY J.W. DAVIES
Beacon Columnist

Last week, Senator John Kerry, leading Democratic contender for the party's Presidential nomination, deflected unsubstantiated rumors of an affair.

Once again America found that when it comes to election year reporting, sex and scandal are the gold standard. Although the rumor of Kerry's affair was squashed, the incident shed light on a mud-hungry media just waiting to exploit even the smallest hint of indecent moral conduct. Sadly, the national media brain trust seems to have taken on the motto: Run it! Then check it!

The rumor was initiated by the infamous Matt Drudge on his semi-credible news web site, the Drudge Report. Although Drudge can be credited with breaking the Monica Lewinsky-Bill Clinton story, his credibility as a trusted journalist relies on the judgement, and or the gullibility of the reader.

The fact that this particular story traversed the media landscape on so swift a foot should leave news editors and TV news producers hanging their heads in regret.

Coverage of John Kerry's rise in popularity over the last month and a half may have become monotonous, but forgoing ethical, investigative procedures just to add spice to the headlines is abhorrent. One sure sign that should have sent up red flags in the minds of editors across the country was that none of Kerry's opponents even attempted to use the story against him. Although the most

respected news outlets refrained from running the story under the spotlight, most cable outlets and small-town papers wasted a considerable amount of airtime and ink on the baseless rumor.

While the media deserves the brunt of the blame for their lapse in judgement, there is also another reason for this new practice of scandal charlatanism.

Morality, although it may seem lost to some, is surprisingly still one of the greatest motivating forces in American politics. Concern for the moral behavior of our elected officials has been a top priority in the minds of Americans even before Washington took office and it has only grown stronger under the leadership of John F. Kennedy, Richard M. Nixon and, most notably, Bill Clinton.

The chasm between liberals and conservatives in the United States tends to cut straight through the population. Most pundits agree that the split is somewhere around 50/50, or 45/45. For the conservative half, stories like Clinton and Lewinsky, or Kerry and whoever are just as important as public policy and international trade. Since President Clinton, the Republicans have had the advantage when it came to tapping into the moral pipeline of America. Forget Al Gore, John Kerry and any other Democrat who gets in the ring; the conservative right and most republicans are still campaigning against Bill Clinton. And they are winning.

On the liberal side, the struggle lies within fighting the media. Despite claims that the media is, in fact, liberally biased, Democrats and liberal supporters are starting to nudge the media in the direction of finally focusing on real campaign issues.

Even with credible arguments on both sides, however, the thought of morality no longer being an important issue in political campaigns is highly improbable. It is, after

all, our nature to appeal to the personalities and sometimes even the minutest details in the lives of those in the public eye. Flaws are only natural to the human design and, coincidentally, they are very important to the electoral process.

But the media owes it to the public to focus attention on the issues that truly touch our lives on a daily basis: the economy, health

care, Social Security, environmental issues, crime, foreign relations, and education, to name a few. If our attention on such issues resulted in an educated public that pushed the candidates--Republican and Democrat alike--to provide more than sound-bytes and warm and fuzzy photo ops, perhaps the results would be campaigns of substance and leaders who got things done.

Haiti, continued from page 5

The alignment of interests outside of Haiti are almost as confusing as those in Haiti.

The United States appears to take the high ground, but appearances can be deceiving. Colin Powell has stated that the United States will not send troops to Haiti to aid Aristide. He insists that there must be a peaceful resolution to Haiti's problems, and calls - along with CARICOM - for talks among the various groups.

But Aristide has never been a favorite of the United States. He has been critical of the United States, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Before we supported his return to power, we insisted that he accept economic policies that he had declared were wrong for Haiti. Unsurprisingly, he has been slow in fulfilling his agreements and he continues to criticize the effects of the global economy on poor nations. One example: Haiti, once one of the major suppliers of sugar in the world must now import sugar because it cannot compete with the price the subsidized sugar industry in the United States can charge.

Aristide has never been a favorite of the Republican Party. Jesse Helms opposed his return to power, calling the ex-priest psychotic. Aristide's government has not been able to get copies of FRAPH papers seized by the American military in the 1990s occupa-

tion. The Haitian government is convinced that the papers are not made public to hide the connection between FRAPH and the CIA. Emmanuel Constant, a leader of FRAPH wanted by the Haitian government for crimes against the people, is living openly in New York and claims to have been funded in 1991 by the CIA. The Washington based non-governmental organization, the International Republican Institute, has sent representatives to conferences organized by people now involved in the violent opposition in Haiti. The Democratic Convergence, an early organization in opposition to Aristide, claims to be funded by the Democratic Endowment for Democracy, a Washington group active in supporting reactionary groups in Central America during the Cold War. The Democratic Convergence is made up primarily by wealthy mulattos and sweatshop interests.

Many Haitians believe that the United States will be happy to see Aristide fall and be replaced by a more conservative leader, and that the U.S. is providing support to Aristide's enemies.

Meanwhile, the United States is preparing housing at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for the tens of thousands of Haitian refugees fleeing the violence in Haiti that the Coast Guard anticipates picking up in the near future before they can reach Florida.

Neimeic's Passion Drives National Speech Aspirations

BY JAMIE BABBITT
Beacon Asst. Features Editor

It's not a stretch to say that the speech and debate team at Wilkes University would not currently exist if it weren't for Jessica Neimeic.

Natural-born leadership and a passion for public speaking made the speech and debate club president the success she is today. Through her dedication, Neimeic, junior communication studies major, uplifted the dwindling team three years ago and made herself and the Wilkes team regionally recognized and nationally competitive.

The first time Neimeic realized that she had an interest in the art of rhetoric was in high school. She took a class in which the students got together and debated political issues in a forum-like manner. "That was part of the reason that I realized I did like speaking in front of people. In those forums, I usually ended up being the lead speaker and taking over things. I have a tendency to not let things go. I take them over once I'm put in a group of people," said Neimeic.

Given Neimeic's speaking experience in high school, when she saw the speech and debate team's table at club day, she was immediately drawn to it. "I knew that I had a propensity for public speaking, and that I wasn't shy. When I saw something about the speech and debate team, I signed up. I came to the meeting... was utterly intimidated, but realized this was something I want to be a part of and learn about," said Neimeic.

But watching her today, no one would guess the animated redhead was ever intimidated. Neimeic learned most of the basics of speech and debate her freshmen year from John Tindell, the former Speech and Debate club coach who initiated the effort to reactivate the club in 2001. After Tindell left Wilkes for another school, the team was left without faculty leadership. "When he [Tindell] left, I knew a lot of the basics, a lot of the raw parts of it, but most of [what I learned was] just kind of through osmosis--being there, watching it, realizing that this is what wins, that this is what will entertain your audiences effectively," said Neimeic.

Neimeic's sophomore year was a transitioning year for the team, and for her as well. With Tindell gone, the team was forced to find a new coach. They eventually found a permanent one, Joseph Rasmus, but the period of unsettlement was not easy for Neimeic. With changing coaches and not having a solid team, Neimeic was left with many doubts.

"Last year... I didn't think our team was going to make it. We had a coach change halfway through the year and it brought a lot of disruption and a lot of doubts among the team members. The second semester last year I went to all but one of the tournaments by myself, coach-less, team-less, keeping the team alive," said Neimeic.

Dr. Jane Elmes-Crahall, Neimeic's advisor, supported her through the hardships the team went through. Elmes-Crahall gave her advice

"more in terms of how to organize and asked her to be patient so that we could find somebody who would coach as well in the program... what I said was, 'let's recruit some other members' so it could become a student-run club, she's not by herself, and to trust the program enough to try to find somebody to become coach."

"It was rough that year because they had two different coaches in two semesters. Jess was the leader and so part of it was simply saying, 'Well do you have meetings? Do you want to come into speech classes and recruit freshmen?' [She] rose to the challenge of everything and she was wonderful at it. Seeing how good she was at motivating other students, in my mind I knew there was no doubt that the team was going to continue," added Elmes-Crahall.

The team also had some budget issues that prohibited it from competing in some of the events. Neimeic used her own money to pay for the costs of the debates just so she could go to the event and keep the team alive. "In order to maintain a position where we are going to be a contender compared to all those schools, we have to keep going to tournaments. There have been tournaments I have paid for out of pocket so that I was able to compete and able to have the opportunity to further my knowledge," said Neimeic.

"She ended up being the coach," said Elmes-Crahall. "She ended up organizing what they went to in terms of tournaments. She and other students maintained the website. She did a lot of things usually faculty members do. So it was a matter of saying, 'you're doing a lot of things right.'"

Team members are also grateful for all of Neimeic's hard work. "We've been through three coaches in the past two years and without a strong student body holding it up, it would have just fell apart," said vice president of the club, Paul Jakubowski, sophomore mathematics major.

Neimeic began recruiting members and

She ended up being the coach...She did a lot of things usually faculty members do.

Dr. Jane Elmes-Crahall
Professor of Communication Studies

more than doubled the size of the team. According to Neimeic, each year she goes into many communications classes and talks to the students to persuade them to join. Any opportunity for Neimeic to find new members is taken advantage of. "Every department, every person I meet, if they show any interest in speech, I bring it up... I go all over the place and just draw people from wherever I can," said Neimeic. Currently, the team has twelve active members and continues to grow.

Neimeic spends a large part of her week coaching her teammates and helping them with their pieces for upcoming debates. She holds two or three practices a week and spends extra time with novices who need ex-



The Beacon/Kristin Hake

Jess Neimeic poses with her speech trophies which are on display in Breiseth Hall

tra guidance.

Neimeic not only has an influence on her teammates, but she also shares her skill with high school students. "We host a high school tournament every October and through that I just made a lot of contacts and started judging on the high school level... I [also] started getting contacts there and realizing that there was a need for these high school kids to have somebody that was as excited about it as they were. So, I joined up with one of the coaches there," said Neimeic.

According to Neimeic, all of the area schools come to E.L. Meyers High School to practice and the number of students who show up is overwhelming. Neimeic wanted to give all the high school students the attention they need, which was difficult with only one coach. So she offered to help out and is now the assistant coach.

After everything Neimeic went through with the team, it would be hard for her not to have learned and grown from her experiences. According to her, the speech and debate team has helped her learn how to work with different people, to become a better speaker, to maintain friendships over long distances, and to overcome her nervousness in terms of meeting people. "The extent of what I have learned is pretty endless," said Neimeic.

This year, Neimeic's hard work will pay off at the national level, and promises to bring attention to Wilkes as well. She will represent Wilkes University at Nationals in Long Beach, California from April 4-9. Neimeic said, "It's the first time we've gone to a national tournament in years. I'm the only person on my team who has qualified thus far; however, I'm hoping to take a teammate or two with

me." According to Neimeic, in order to qualify for nationals, she had to take third place or higher in two regular season competitions, and second place or higher in a third competition.

The team Neimeic has put together through the years is solid and motivated. "For the next couple years at least we have a good core," said Neimeic. "It's so much better this year to have a team with me."

For Neimeic, the most rewarding part of coaching her teammates is seeing them succeed. "Seeing how happy they are when they get their names on one of those [trophies]... Knowing that they worked for five or ten hours at least on that piece and have the reward of getting to do it in a final round. I get a lot out of the coaching. I really, really like the getting trophies part, but watching them break is definitely the most rewarding part," said Neimeic.

Neimeic finds coaching so rewarding that becoming a speech coach on the college level has become a career aspiration for her. She even thinks of doing so at Wilkes after she graduates. "I could definitely see myself coming back here and running the team," said Neimeic.

With everything that Neimeic has accomplished in her three years at Wilkes, the possibilities seem unlimited as to what else this driven junior could do. But, Neimeic would not be satisfied with leaving the way things are right now. The reason: she wants to be the best.

Neimeic concluded, "I currently have 87 different trophies. My goal is to beat the Wilkes record of 122, currently held by Al Mueller, who graduated in 1996. By Christmas, it will be broken. Records are meant to be broken."

Noncredit Courses Add Energy to Spring Options

CCL Reaches Out to Non-traditional, Community Students

BY MEAGAN BROWN
Beacon Staff Writer

Interested in reiki, or antiquing, or perhaps pottery? Don't know where to go to learn the necessary skills to be successful with these hobbies? The Center for Continued Learning (CCL) at Wilkes University is now providing the necessities to get started. The CCL is offering eight new non-credit classes this spring.

The classes offered range from SAT prep classes to a course in basic web design.

This is not the first time Wilkes has reached out to the non-traditional or community student. According to Margaret Steele, Director for the Center for Continued Learning, "The umbrella of thought is that this program is responsible for the enrollment and programs that meet the needs of the non-traditional student." Most of what the CCL involves itself in is helping new part-time adult students as well as post-baccalaureate students continue their education.

According to Michael Frantz, Vice President of Enrollment Services and Supervisor

of the CCL, the CCL is really a four-part program. "One part is serving the part-time undergraduate population. Two would be community educational programs that are non-credit. Third would be those that are very connected to the academic institution; these are also non-credit. Fourth is part of the strategic plan to increase full-time student population to 2,200 and to grow the post-baccalaureate population to 1800," stated Frantz.

"They [the CCL] are responsible for making sure that part-time non-traditional students are ready in terms

of paperwork to attend Wilkes University. The part-time students here at Wilkes are usually involved in the same classes as the traditional college-age student," said Frantz. "Most often, the students come from a variety of different backgrounds such as military service or to start a new career."

The CCL also helps in developing new

programs within the different departments at Wilkes. For example, right now, the office is working with the English department to create a new Masters program in Creative Writing. The program will take place completely online, and the CCL is responsible for working with the Information Technology Services to make sure students can be served in the same way they would if they were actually sitting in class. The CCL also will help to promote the program to the community. It is clear that the people who work in

The non-traditional students add extreme value to the classroom.

Michael Frantz
Vice President of Enrollment

the CCL most definitely have their hands full.

The post-baccalaureate students usually attend Wilkes classes for further certification in their field. Wilkes runs a program fairly often that serves accountants, who, as a part of their job requirements, must take 80 hours of instruction every two years. The CCL also runs a program that certifies high school

teachers to teach advanced placement classes. There are other classes offered to the community such as program called, "Strengthen Stepfamilies," in which families attend a class for the first part of the program. The second part is for counselors to teach them how to help people in stepfamilies.

The teachers of these programs can be Wilkes professors, but don't need to be. "[Who teaches the courses] varies. Sometimes it's the faculty, and sometimes it is people who are considered experts in that field," said Steele.

The faculty enjoy teaching the classes as well. According to Frantz, "The non-traditional students add extreme value to the classroom," and professors like to have the variety in the class.

The non-credit classes can be attended by any person at any age but, Steele said, the "bulk of the people we serve here are not college-age students."

The non-credit classes will begin in March and run through April. There is a fee for the class but it is generally low, ranging from no charge to \$235.

Wilkes To Host Computer Programing Competition

BY ANDY CALHOUN
Beacon Staff Writer

A student spending an afternoon in a computer lab, writing and fixing computer science programs is nothing new at Wilkes. However, this spring, something will be a little different. None of the students writing the programs will be Wilkes students. In fact, they aren't even college students. On February 28th, Wilkes will hold its sixth annual computer programming contest for high school students.

on to another problem on their list.

Since the competition began in 1999, it has been used as a tool to help recruit students to the growing Mathematics and Computer Science field. "Since I've been here, at least six contestants have come to Wilkes upon high school graduation," said Bracken.

"The contest is a recruiting tool," said Bracken. Any opportunity that high school students get to interact with a college is a benefit to both the student and the college. "The prospective students have an opportunity to see our facilities, get to know our faculty, and most importantly, get to know some of our students," said Bracken.

John Kern, a freshman computer science major, attended the competition last year. He described the competition as a mix of math and computer programming skills, testing his abilities. "I didn't know how to do half of the stuff," said Kern.

Computer science majors will play a role in the competition. "They will answer problem questions, run test data, and assist students with the program environment," said Bracken. "Some students will be involved by writing programming problems for the contest."

Dr. Bracken believes that Wilkes students' involvement helps make the experience worthwhile for the high school students. The prospective students will get a chance to network with someone who is in college, and get the opportunity to ask questions about the

Mathematics and Computer Science department at Wilkes. The ability work closely with Wilkes faculty and students will broaden the appeal of the University to the prospective students. This year's competition will be one of the largest ever held at Wilkes.

The Math and Computer Science club operates its own website, where pictures and results from the competition are posted. The web address is <http://club.mathcs.wilkes.edu>.

A special event is also planned for the day before the competition and is open to any Wilkes student.

"We are also planning a LAN gaming party for the night prior to the competition," said John Mishanski, freshman computer science major. "The event will be open to any Wilkes student and details will be posted on the website as the event nears."

The prospective students have an opportunity to see our facilities, get to know our faculty, and most importantly, get to know some of our students.

Dr. Barbara Bracken
Assistant Professor of Mathematics
and Computer Science

High school students from Susquehanna, Pike, Wayne, Luzerne, Lackawanna, and Wyoming counties have been invited to Wilkes to test their programming skills. The students will work in teams, attempting to solve several programming problems.

"Each team is given a set of approximately seven programming problems. The students write programs to solve the problems," said Dr. Barbara Bracken, Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science.

Bracken will be judging the answers to the problems. The teams will be timed on how long it will take them to answer each question. If the team doesn't solve the problem correctly, they must fix it before they move

Julie Roberts Performance



The Beacon/Ryan Klemish

Up and coming country artist, Julie Roberts, performs at the Black Rock Brewing Company in Wilkes-Barre Township on Wednesday, February 18, 2004 at a concert sponsored by the local expert in country music geared towards amphibians, Froggy 101.

Winter Weekend 2004

SuperHeros



The Beacon/Ryan Klemish



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Top:

Team Triple X-Men participated in some Karaoke Thursday night to earn points for their team.

Left:

Sumo Wrestling was also available on Thursday night in the Ballroom equipped with inflatable suits.

Bottom Left:

Team Mighty Mouse screams there loudest during the Spirit Contest held on Friday in the Martz Gym.

Bottom Right:

Team Captain Planet holds up their banner in preparation for the Spirit Contest.

Teams

Turtles

Quailman

GI Jim

Da Nutbuster

The Thing

Captain Planet

Punishers

Buzz Lightyear

Justice League

Triple X-Men

Mattress Man

Aquaman

Flash

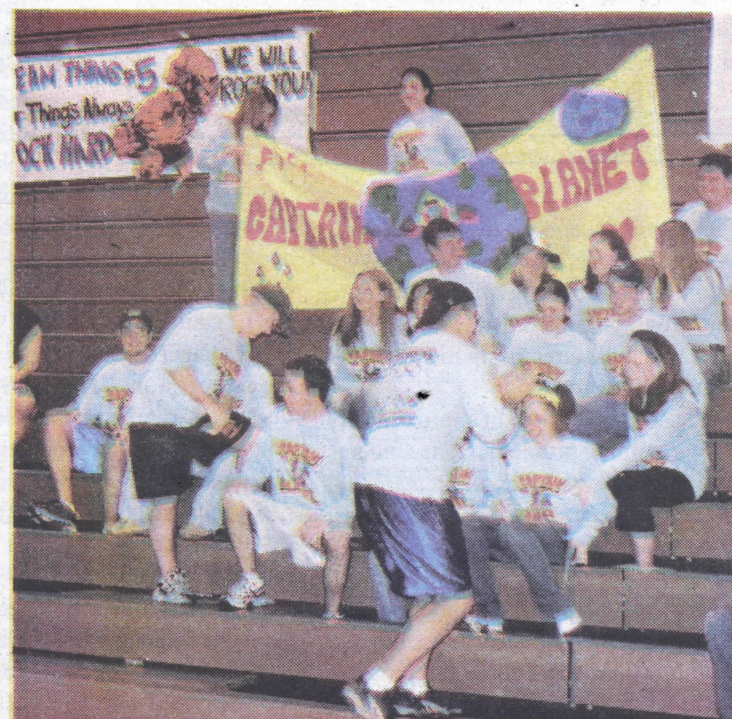
Mighty Mouse

Super Smash Brothers

Trojan Man



The Beacon/Ryan Klemish



The Beacon/Ryan Klemish



The Beacon/Ryan Klemish



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski



The Beacon/Ryan Klemish

Above:

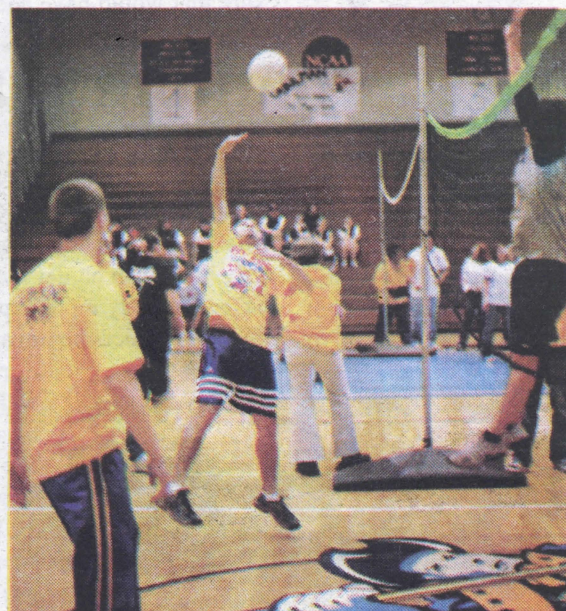
Captain Planet, Mighty Mouse, Quailman, and Trojan Man get the crowd excited for the Mascot Contest held on Thursday Night. Captain Planet won the competition earning his team 75 points.

Right:

Super Smash Brothers spike the ball during the Volleyball competition held Friday.



TheBeacon/Kristin Hake



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Left:

Team Da Nutbusters work together to pass the orange to all of their teammates without using their hands.

Below:

GI Jim pulls with all their might in the Tug of War Competition held Saturday morning in the greenway.

Winners:

1st: GI Jim

2nd: Trojan Man

3rd: Da Nutbusters



TheBeacon/Kristin Hake

Movie Review: *Big Fish*

BY MELISSA JURGENSEN
Beacon A&E Editor

Director Tim Burton's *Big Fish* is a movie about family, stories and the world we live in.

Big Fish stars Billy Crudup as Will Bloom, a son who is frustrated with his ailing father, Edward Bloom (Albert Finney). Will has grown up hearing the wild stories of his father's life. He has become obsessed with hearing the truth about his father's life instead of the "tall tales" his father loves to create. When his mother Sandra (Jessica Lange) tries to reunite them, Will must learn how to separate fact from fiction as he comes to terms with his father's great feats and great failings.

Burton has given us many excellent films over the years, most of them possessing a darker nature, such as *Beetlejuice*, *Batman*, and *Edward Scissorhands*.

Albert Finney and Ewan McGregor perfectly portray themselves as the old and young Edward Bloom. Finney as the worldly

older version and Ewan McGregor is cast as the young Edward, as he looks surprisingly like Finney when he was that age.

Although he makes little progress until the beautiful ending of the film, the audience is given numerous glimpses into Ed's past experiences (or at least the way he perceives them) with flashbacks to a younger Ed Bloom (Ewan McGregor). And while Will is continually frustrated by his father's exaggerations, he comes to realize that perhaps that's all he really needs to know about his father.

Burton's effortless blending of story and real-life make for an interesting and very moving ride. Every time the film comes back to reality its disappointing, but each time you want to believe even more. In some ways you might even want to believe Edward's version more than that of reality. It would have been interesting if Burton teased with the fact that the fantasy world could have been reality. I'm sure that would have added more spice and

suspense to the movie.

I also liked the performance of McGregor who brings innocence and a ray of hope to young Edward. His role seems very tongue-in-cheek at times but McGregor holds it together as we really believe in Edward.

One of the most magical scenes in the whole piece was a quiet moment between Finney and Lange. You can see their devotion and love for one another. It's a radiant scene that illustrates exactly what the movie is saying. Life is all about the love we share with each other.

I did have some problems with how Burton decides to end his classic tale of family. I

was puzzled to why the film ended that way. The film often recollects that sure we can tell the real stories but aren't the tales more fun. Unfortunately, the movie does lack in depth, spending so much time on the fantastic adventures and misadventures of Ed Bloom that there is little development of the main cause for the story.

Although *Big Fish* brilliantly blurs the line between fantasy and reality which this makes for an imaginative tale, this does not imply that "Big Fish" has achieved its goal. Instead after an hour and a half into the movie, it does so in a mediocre fashion.

3.5 out of 5 W's

This Week in History...

The week of February 23 to 29 in retrospect

- 23--The Tootsie Roll was introduced by Leo Hirshfield, (1896)
- 24--The first parade to use floats occurred in New Orleans at Mardi Gras, (1868)
- 25--The state of Oregon became the first state to place a tax on gasoline. The tax was 1 cent per gallon, (1919)
- 26--In New York City, the first pneumatic-powered subway line was opened to the public, (1870)
- 27-- *People* magazine was first issued by Time-Life (later known as Time-Warner), (1977)
- 28--The Republican Party was organized in Ripon, WI, (1854)
- 29--The first electric tabulating machine was invented by Herman Hollerith, (1860)

CD Review: Phantom Planet

Phantom Planet Wins Again

BY MATT ZEBROWSKI
Beacon Staff Writer

A few years ago, it wasn't too difficult to dismiss Phantom Planet as a bunch of pretty boys riding the coattails of Rushmore star, Jason Schwartzman (who plays drums in the group) to underground success.

Their first album, *The Guest*, was sweet, sticky

fun, but had very little real substance. On their self-titled second album, however, the members of Phantom Planet easily dispatch any naysayers who still dare to consider them lightweights.

From the opening drum break of "The Happy Ending," it is evident that something is different this time around. This

album, with its brilliantly fuzzed out bass riffs and great shout-along choruses, not only hits much harder than *The Guest*, but has a distinctly more experimental sound. Phantom Planet's new avant maturity is evi-

denced especially well in the barry sax bleats in "Big Brat," the album's first single.

The album also keeps its momentum going throughout, something *The Guest* failed to do. Every track hits harder than

the one before it, and even the slower numbers, like "Knowitall" and "After Hours," don't lose their bite. This time around, Phantom Planet has more than earned their ripped jeans and vintage t-shirts. This is rock and roll that hits as hard as rock and roll can. This is pop rock as it should be: loose, visceral, raw, and sexy.



The Darte Board

PERFORMING ARTS AT WILKES UNIVERSITY

BY BRIDGET GIUNTA
Beacon Staff Writer

All day dance performance and master class on February 24 and 25. Dancer Vincent Thomas, artist-in-residence from Towson University in Maryland will present.

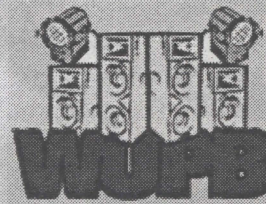
*Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for Performing Arts.

*Free and open to the public

*Sponsored by the music department and Office of Multicultural Affairs

*For more information contact Jim Harrington at 570-408-4428

Wednesday, February 25, 2004--Performance Hour--1 p.m. in Gies Hall. Performance Hour is free of charge and open to all.



WILKES UNIVERSITY
PROGRAMMING BOARD'S

ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 2/16 **Penguin's Hockey Game**, 7:05 p.m.
The Penguins match up against Binghamton.
- 2/26 **Son of Glam** in the Ballroom, 9p.m.

An "80s Hair Band" Rock Tribute Group, playing the best from AC/DC, Bon Jovi, Def Leppard, and many more.



- 2/29 **BINGO** in the Ballroom, 8p.m.

For more information, contact the W.U.P.B. at wupbpub@yahoo.com

Today's Recipe: Psycho Chicken

Ingredients:

1 (3 1/2 lb) whole chicken
1 T. cider vinegar
1 1/2 tsp. dried thyme
1/4 tsp. black pepper
3 garlic cloves, minced
1/2 c. dry white wine

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees
2. Remove and discard giblets and neck. Rinse chicken; pat dry. Trim excess fat. Starting at neck cavity, loosen skin from breast and drumsticks by inserting fingers, gently pushing between skin and meat. With a knife, slash chicken every two inches, making 1/2 inch deep slits.
3. Combine vinegar, thyme, salt, pepper, and garlic; rub under loosened skin and over breast and drumsticks. Lift wing tips up and over back; tuck under chicken. Place breast side up on a broiler pan. Pour wine over chicken.
4. Bake at 325 for 1 hour and 45 minutes or until thermometer registers 180, basting occasionally with drippings. Let stand 10 minutes. Discard skin.

Yields 5 servings



Dorm Room Dining

Every week you will find a new recipe that is simple enough to make in your dorm room yet scrumptious enough to satisfy any tastebud. So get out your pots and pans and start cooking!

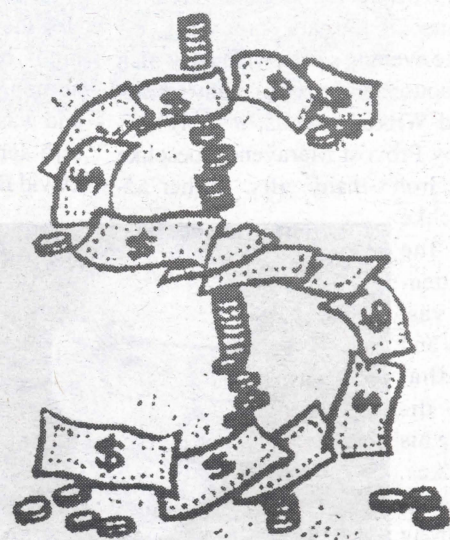
BY LORI GRAUSAM
Beacon Staff Writer

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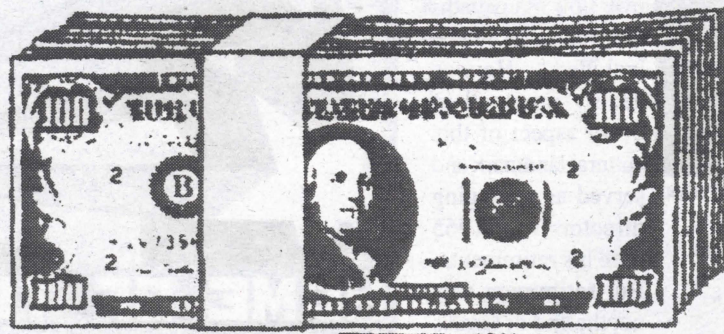
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Al Groh Honored for Lifetime Service to Wilkes

BY MONICA CARDENAS
Beacon Asst A&E Editor

At yet another astounding performance of *Fiddler on the Roof* on Friday night, Mr. Alfred S. Groh, Professor Emeritus of English and Theater Arts, was recognized for his tireless contributions to Wilkes and the Dart Center for Performing Arts.

Groh, who graduated from Wilkes in 1941, has been committed to the University for more than sixty years.

"He's what they call a 'Golden Colonel,'" said long-time friend and Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Barbara King.

Prior to the evening's performance, which was to a full house comprised of many former students and Wilkes friends, a short ceremony led by Provost Maravene Loeschke highlighted Groh's many gifts. In her address, Loeschke

called the audience's attention to the vast list of plays and one acts that Groh had directed during his years at Wilkes. She noted that Groh had a strong desire to acknowledge the masters, but also bring to life the lesser known playwrights who also made important statements about life.

In addition to Groh's teaching and directing, Loeschke added, he has two loves: writing poetry and his wife Jane,

who is the former Wilkes Dean of Students. The two sat holding hands in the front row during the presentation and the play. Throughout her remarks, Loeschke quoted from one of Groh's poems. In addition, Dick Gillespie, Adjunct Professor of Theater delivered Groh's poem, "On the Arts." Finally, Vice President for Enrollment, Mike Frantz, acknowledged Groh's impact on him when Groh delivered a poem on peace during the campus September 11 dedication of the peace pole. Frantz unveiled the University's gift to Groh which was to put his poem on a bronze plaque that will be placed next to the peace pole near the library.

According to Bruce E. Phair, Director of the Dorothy Dickson Dart Center and former student of Groh, "Al was instrumental in getting the whole theater program and Center for the Performing Arts off the ground."

Groh served at Wilkes from 1947 to 1987

as both a Professor of English and as director of many plays and one acts. Since his retirement, he has remained an active through a variety of Wilkes departments and organizations ever since. However, his time at Wilkes was innovative and imperative to the development of the arts at Wilkes.

Before the Dorothy Dickson Dart Center was established, there was no theater department at Wilkes. In order to make up for this missing link to the arts, Groh established Cue and Curtain, a club that allowed students to perform.

According to King, he was director of the first theater at Wilkes, which was located behind Chase Hall. Groh also directed musicals at the Irem Temple on North Franklin Street and was responsible for the concert and lecture series, which brought such names as David Brinkley and Pearl Bailey to Wilkes.

In addition, Groh oversaw the funding and construction of the Dorothy Dickson Dart Center in the early to mid-60's. Not only is he responsible for raising money from the community and assisting with the design of the Center, but according to King, "He tells wonderful stories about his arguments with contractors over how many bathroom stalls should be included." He was deeply involved in every aspect of this cultural landmark and served as managing director from 1965 until his retirement.

But retirement was not the end of Groh's

at Wilkes. He is an avid sports fan and follows the Colonels very closely. In addition, he continues to be a supporter of the theater now.

"He keeps in contact with students, and remembers what parts they played in particular plays, the scenery, and even who painted the scenery," said King of Groh. "He is wise, but quiet. He knows what he believes and lives by what he believes. I don't think you can ask for more than that."

She adds, "He has always been and is truly a teacher. Al is one of the most patient, non-judgmental people that you would ever meet."

"Gentle is the word that always comes to mind," said Dr. J. Michael Lennon, Chairperson of Humanities and Professor Emeritus, English, describing Groh. "He writes very warm poems. He is a great wordsmith."

King agrees. "His poetry is very heartfelt and introspective."

Thoughtfully, she added, "much like Al."



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Honored for his lifetime commitment to the Wilkes community, Al Groh received recognition for his many contributions to the campus at Friday's performance of "Fiddler on the Roof."

Review: Tudor Bookstore Poetry Evening

BY MATT JONES
Beacon Staff Writer

On Friday, February 20, the Tudor Bookshop sponsored a College Poetry night that was an unequivocal success.

It may be difficult to deem poetry readings as successful while retaining an objective view of the event, so I'll suggest that it was triumphant in regards to the spirit

the mature themes and arrangements they presented. It was beyond refreshing to see young talents so willfully present their art for all to hear, despite nervousness or inhibitions about the quality of their work.

Emcee-extrordinaire, Jim Warner, captured the spirit of the moment in his quips spoken between readers, suggesting that those in attendance are the future of artful expression for



of all the attendees. Camaraderie amongst performers was high and the relaxed yet dedicated atmosphere helped the reading avoid becoming a faux-Bohemian muddle, an unfortunate but common perception of these events.

For an observer, it be would difficult to analyze or "review" the individual readers or their works, but it's safe to say that the styles, themes, and deliveries ran the gamut. Poems ranging from the meditative to the playful and the brilliantly suggestive were performed in front of crowd that numbered over thirty for a time. At the beginning of the reading, four Dallas middle-school students read selections of their original poetry to the audience, shocking many with

this time and place. Taken into context, this conveyed a sublime sensation of importance, tied to the readers and their works. This reviewer truly felt as though he was observing a snapshot of future history; that everything transpiring would have incredible importance at a later date.

Anyone with even the slightest amount of interest in poetry should attend a future reading. Postings are usually made around campus of upcoming events or students can ask anyone on the *Manuscript* board, and trust me, it'll be worth it.

Students, faculty, and alumni are encouraged to submit to:

Manuscript0304@yahoo.com.



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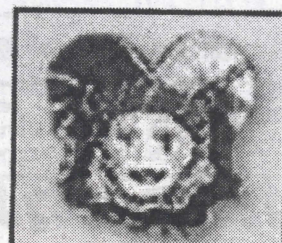
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Lady Colonels Beat Drew in Season Finale

BY ARIEL COHEN
Beacon Staff Writer

The Wilkes women's basketball team offered up a thrilling season finale victory with 2 free throw shots—one from Andrea DeMaranville and one from Danielle Kresock—to lift the team to a 62-60 win over Freedom Conference rival, 13-10 Drew University.

Falling behind early in the first half 4-0, the Lady Colonels quickly got their act together, going on a 15-2 run to give the women the lead for the majority of the game. The run was led by Rena Bolin, who chipped in 6 points, while DeMaranville added 5, and Jenna Ward added 4.

The Lady Colonels were able to hold a 5 point lead by half-time, heading into locker room with a score of 30-25.

Coming back from half-time, the Lady Colonels would jump out to their biggest lead of the game with a 40-31 advantage on a nice shot from Bolin, with 14 minutes left in playing time.

But the women were not safe yet as Drew would tie the game up with 8:57 left to go in the second half at 43 all on a field goal from Weldon.

Although the Rangers would never get the lead they had to start the game, they would be up a challenge keeping the game extremely close in the last 8 minutes.

With 2:31 left in the game, Corinne Stewart made a pair of free throws giving the Wilkes Colonels a 60-55 edge over visiting Drew. The Rangers then answered with four

straight free throws off of Lauren Aliano and Melissa Kraft, making the score an extremely uncomfortable 60-59 game with only 49 seconds left. Cunningham would add one last scare for Wilkes and one last hope for Drew as she went one for two from the free throw line making the score 60 all.

On the next possession for the Lady Colonels DeMaranville was fouled hitting the first of two free throws making the game 61-60. After Ward grabbed the offensive rebound trying for a 2 point basket, Kresock got the ball and picked up a foul with 9 seconds left on the clock. Kresock would also go 1-2 making the score now 62-60.

On the last possession of the game, the Rangers tried to take the ball down the floor, but Jennifer Weldon's shot was off the mark as time expired giving the

Colonels an incredible 62-60 season finale over sixth placed Drew University.

"It was nice to win our last game of the year and give us inspiration for next season," said Bolin. "We played as a team and everybody contributed to the win."

Although struggling throughout most of the season the women ended their season with an overall record of 3-21 and 2-12 in the Freedom Conference.

Danielle Kresock had a game high 18 points leading the way for the Lady Colonels. Rena Bolin added three assists while DeMaranville chipped in 10 points.



TheBeacon/Todd Weibel

Basketball continued from page 20 regulation.

But Wilkes just couldn't seem to put Drew away for good. The Rangers would once again fight back and come to within three points of the Colonels, 73-76, when Boyer hit a three with five seconds left in the game.

Morgan would then ice the game for Wilkes by hitting one of two free throws and a final score of 73-77 in favor of the Colonels.

"We didn't really get down and dirty and play them tough until the second half, and then at the end we just kind of flogged away, I don't know what was it, a 14 point lead or something. We just made some bad passes, tried to enter the ball to the post from half court a couple times, missed a couple lay-ups, and come down the floor with 17 seconds left and try to throw an allyoop. That's not a disciplined team," commented Rickrode.

Rickrode then added, "We were 12-7 at one time, and I said with six games to go, it's going to be tough to get all six. We could, but let's try to get four or five out of six. We got a chance to get 5 out of 6 going into the playoffs, so we'll build momentum from there hopefully."

The Colonels had five players score in double figures with Morgan having a game high 19 points. Yaniello had 10, Plisko 13, Pressley 11, and Ryan Milford 12.

Ian Chester led the Rangers with 17 points, while Bernard Buttone had 16 points along with a game high 10 rebounds. German Williams also had 14 points for Drew.

Overall on the week, the Colo-

nels won two out of three games. Wilkes also defeated Lycoming earlier in the week 71-68. Plisko had the game high of 23 points and Morgan had 10 while Mike Constantine ended the game with 11 points.

The Colonels have their last game of the season at home tonight against Lincoln at 7:00 p.m. before heading into the Freedom playoffs on Wednesday.



TheBeacon/Todd Weibel

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Colonels Baseball Splits With St. Mary's

BY ARIEL COHEN
Beacon Staff Writer

The Wilkes University baseball team opened its 2004 season with a double header at St. Mary's College in Maryland with a split. The Colonels first game was a hard fought 4-3 loss, but the team managed to clinch the nightcap game with 4-1 win behind the outstanding pitching of senior, Mike Spotts.

St. Mary's broke the first game open in the bottom half of the third inning, giving Matt Bailey a two run confidence lead against the Colonels. Brandon Rist opened the game for St. Mary's by first doubling and then scoring on a single by John Spinnenweber. Spinnenweber then scored after stealing both second and third base on a Wilkes error.

The Colonels answered right back in their

half of the fourth inning. The men added one run on a single by Dave Morgan, and an RBI double by pitcher, Mike Spotts.

Even though the Seahawks regained their two run lead in the bottom of that same inning the Colonels were not about to give up. The Colonels added two more runs in the top half of the seventh inning. The two runs came at a good time tying the game 3-3 when Kyle Devlin scored on a single by Dave Evans, and Casey Kulago scored on a single by Tyler Trutt.

But the Seahawks would get their winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning off of Vallandigham.

The second game of the double header gave the Colonels their first win for the sea-

son behind the solid five-hit game by Mike Spotts and Jeff Ridge with the save. Spotts allowed only two hits in the first four innings of the game, and the Colonels went on to win 4-1.

Wilkes got the game started in the first inning scoring twice off hits by Tyler Trutt, Dave Morgan, and Casey Kulago.

The Colonels increased their lead to 3-0 in the second inning. To begin the inning Kenschak walked and then moved up to second on a sacrifice bunt by Jared Ferrell. After Trutt singled to load the bases, Kenschak scored on a sacrifice fly from Josh Turel.

St. Mary's tried to get something started in the bottom half of the second inning. But the closest they would get would be the sole

run scored by Snow on a ground out by Engelau. The Colonels remained fairly quiet until the sixth inning when Wilkes would take a solid 3 run lead back off a solo shot by Ferrell.

Trutt was the only player in the double header to have multiple hits in both games after hitting several singles throughout the matchup.

"I was very impressed by the pitching staff. Hitting needs to improve and that will happen the more that we play," Coach Folek stated after the games.

The Wilkes baseball team heads to Dickinson, this Saturday, February 28 at 12:00.

Wilkes Finishes 5th at MAC Championships

BY WILL MIDGETT
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

The Wilkes wrestling team closed its season this weekend at the MAC Championships held at the University of Scranton. Wilkes had a strong showing as the team took fifth place in the conference with 68 total team points.

Delaware Valley College took first place in the tournament with 150.5 team points, and Lycoming College was the runner-up with 137 points.

Freshman Mike Ferrara earned the high-

est finish for the Colonels at third place in the 149 pound bracket. After a 4-1 loss to Lycoming's Sean Reese in the semi-finals, Ferrara moved into the consolation bracket and won his first match against Scranton's Donnel Young with a fall in 4:20.

In the consolation finals, Ferrara earned his third place finish with a 4-3 decision over Rob Jimenez from Delaware Valley.

Junior Jeremy Mayer took a fourth place finish for the Colonels at 125 pounds. After making his way into the semi-finals, Mayer

lost a 18-5 major decision to nationally-ranked King's grappler Mitch Marks.

"It was a disappointing finish for the whole weekend," said Mayer. "The guy that I beat on Friday ended up beating me for third place on Saturday."

But Mayer added that the season was extremely positive overall. He ended the season with a record of 30-15. "I set my goal to win 20 matches," says Mayer. "And I got way more than that."

In his first consolation bout, Mayer pinned Tyler Faux Dugan of Albright in 2:46. In the consolation finals, Mayer was pinned by Delaware Valley's Mike Weston in 1:22.

Five Wilkes wrestlers earned fifth place finishes on Saturday. At 157, Joe Yenchak pinned Elizabethtown's Vinny Camacho in 57 seconds in the fifth place match.

At 165, Kyle Lenio took a fifth place finish after winning two out of his three matches. In the fifth place bout, Lenio won a 4-3 decision over Scranton's Tim Grover.

Sandrino Plutino placed fifth for the Colonels at 184 pounds. In his opening match on Friday, Plutino pinned Elizabethtown's John Garganta in 52 seconds. After a 16-3 loss to Trevor Needham from Scranton, Plutino bounced back with a 4-2 decision over Tony Valenti from Messiah.

Vince Abbott earned his fifth place finish at 197 with a pin over Scranton's Matt Butler in 2:33. At heavyweight, freshman Keith Altiery won fifth place with a 3-1 overtime victory against Kings' James Bishop.

Joe Yutko placed sixth for the Colonels at 133. In his first round match, Yutko won a 14-6 major decision over Elizabethtown's Tom Elicker. Yutko lost his next two matches to finish sixth.

Wilkes finished the season with a 11-11 dual meet record. "As a team we reached our goal," says Mayer. "Our goal was to reach .500 and we did that. We made .500 as a team."

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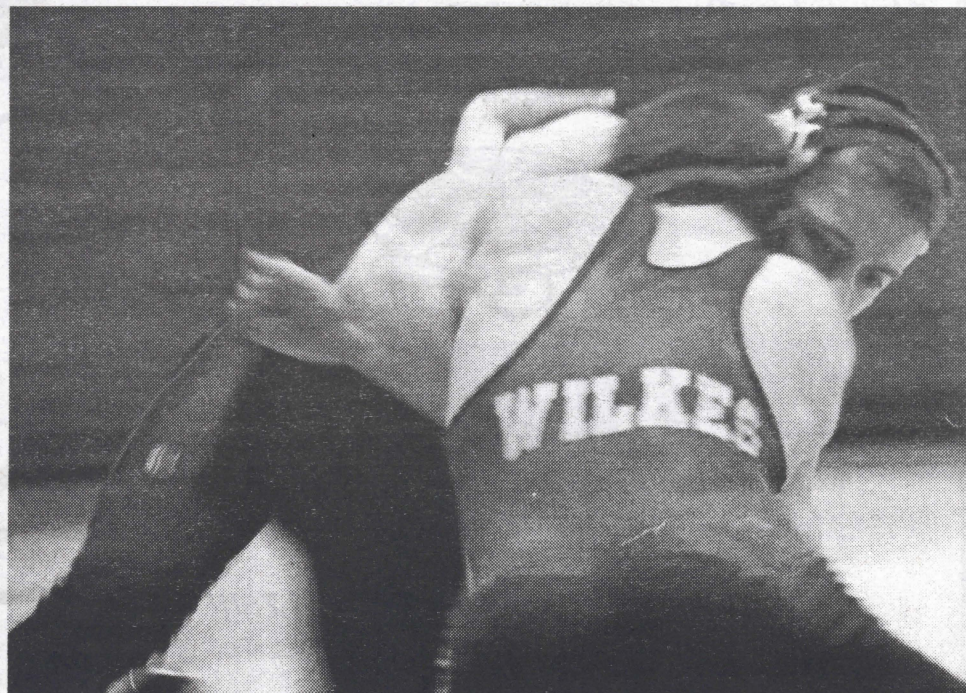
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Beacon Archives

Wilkes placed fifth out of eight at the MAC Wrestling Championships that took place on Friday, February 20, and Saturday, February 21, 2004.

Bolin and DeMaranville Shoot for Lady Colonels' Future

BY KYLA CAMPBELL
Beacon Staff Writer

There is always something positive to focus on, even when your team doesn't have an impressive season. For Wilkes University's women's basketball team, one positive aspect was concluding the season with a win, a 62-60 victory over Drew University on Saturday afternoon.

The Lady Colonels have another positive thing to focus on - the consistent force of the combination of sophomore Rena Bolin and junior Andrea DeMaranville and the fact that they are returning next year.

Bolin and DeMaranville were credited with being the top scorers for 17 of the team's 24 games. They also combined to grab the most rebounds in nine games total.

"Rena and Andrea are the two players on our team, that in crunch time, they are our go-to players," said head coach Jim Reed. "They are our two most explosive athletes that can make something happen at the offensive end."

DeMaranville led the team in points per game, averaging 13 for the season. In the

eleven games that she led Wilkes in scoring, her minimum contribution was 12 points. She also led the team in rebounding for the second half of the season, grabbing 5.6 per game.

Bolin was next in line with points, adding 9.7 per contest. She led the team in steals with 54 and assists with 65, while finishing third on the team with 4.2 boards per game.

DeMaranville scored a season-high 27 points in a loss to Delaware Valley College on February 14. The Wyoming Valley

West graduate was also consistent in free throws for the season, completing 74 percent of her shots. DeMaranville sank 13-of-17 from the charity line in a 70-58 win at FDU-Florham two weeks ago.

Bolin scored a season-high 22 points in the team's first game against FDU, a 72-62 decision. She topped the team's list in field goals made when she hit on ten of her shots in the first game against the Devils. The Scranton Prep graduate had a season-high

ten assists against Lycoming College last week.

Both of these Lady Colonels are known to drive to the basket and take shots when no one else will. Each of them has attempted as many as 18 field goals in a game, including Bolin at Drew University and DeMaranville at Delaware Valley. With aggressive defense, both grabbed a game-high six steals at Marywood University. Bolin repeated her performance in the team's win over FDU.

Despite the team's record, they continued to play each game with great effort. "We all love basketball and want to have fun," said Bolin. "Even though our record wasn't good, we wanted to come out and play hard. We came out hard [on Saturday] and that win was the best."

The two-sport athlete brings a lot to the team. "Rena's outstanding ability with the ball off the bounce really helps our team go," said Reed.

Bolin, only a sophomore, has already picked up a leadership role. "Rena is doing a lot better with being vocal and a team leader,"

added assistant coach Whitney Bull. "Her athleticism and basketball ability is great. Especially with handling the ball... she's so quick and can come up with great plays."

DeMaranville, who will return next year as one of three seniors, balances the offensive attack.

"Andrea can do things going to the basket, and she's a good shooter," said Reed. "There is a variety of ways in which she can score, so she's difficult to defend."

"Andrea has a great shot. She can just turn it on and it goes in," added Bull. "Andrea's very athletic as well. She has some

good basketball smarts and mobility."

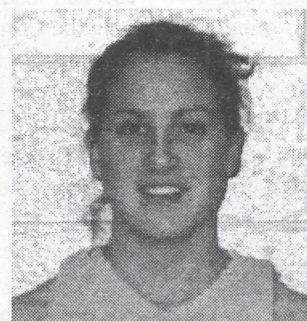
With Bolin and DeMaranville returning for next year's lineup, things are looking good for the young Lady Colonels.

"The program looks like it has a really bright future," concluded Bull. "We have a lot of young players that will definitely be very competitive in the league in the next couple seasons. They just need a little more experience under their belt."



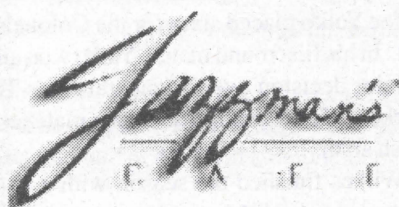
Courtesy, Sports Information

Andrea DeMaranville



Rena Bolin

Rifkin Cafe

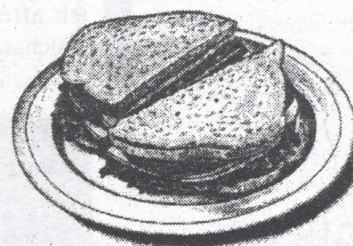


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COLONEL'S CLIPBOARD

CURRENT STANDINGS (2/21/04)

MEN'S BASKETBALL

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| DeSales | 12-2 22-3 |
| King's | 11-3 20-5 |
| Lycoming | 10-4 18-7 |
| Wilkes | 9-5 16-8 |
| FDU-Florham | 5-9 11-14 |
| Drew | 3-11 6-17 |
| Scranton | 3-11 5-20 |
| Delaware Valley | 3-11 4-20 |

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Scranton | 12-2 23-2 |
| DeSales | 11-3 21-4 |
| King's | 9-5 18-7 |
| Delaware Valley | 7-7 12-12 |
| Lycoming | 7-7 15-10 |
| Drew | 6-8 13-10 |
| FDU-Florham | 2-12 5-19 |
| Wilkes | 2-12 3-21 |

WRESTLING (As of 2/14/04)

| NAME | WT | RECORD(C/O) |
|--------------------|-----|-------------|
| Jeremy Mayer | 125 | 27-15 |
| Dustin Bloss | 125 | 4-4 |
| Joe Yutko | 133 | 12-19 |
| Brian Sashko | 133 | 0-2 |
| John Muscarella | 141 | 12-3 |
| Michael Sciulara | 141 | 5-24 |
| Mike Ferrara | 149 | 25-6 |
| Keith Jones | 149 | 1-3 |
| Daniel Giancola | 149 | 2-12 |
| Joe Diliberto | 157 | 18-14 |
| Joe Yenchak | 157 | 6-11 |
| Nick DeAngelis | 165 | 2-5 |
| Alessandro Plutino | 165 | 15-20 |
| Kyle Lenio | 165 | 25-14 |
| Fritz Delya | 174 | 15-23 |
| Sean Davies | 184 | 6-7 |
| Jon Neyerlin | 184 | 15-5 |
| Vince Abbott | 197 | 9-13 |
| Diego Alvarado | 197 | 1-8 |
| Andrew Steinberg | 285 | 1-12 |
| Keith Altieri | 285 | 11-18 |

WEEKLY RECAP

MEN'S BASKETBALL

(2/17) Wilkes 71 Lycoming 68
 (2/19) DeSales 83 Wilkes 70
 (2/21) Wilkes 77 Drew 73

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

(2/17) Lycoming 61 Wilkes 55
 (2/19) DeSales 77 Wilkes 37
 (2/21) Wilkes 62 Drew 60

WRESTLING

(2/20-21) MAC Championships -
 Delaware Valley 1st, Lycoming
 2nd, Wilkes 5th

BASEBALL

(2/21) Wilkes 3 St. Mary's 4,
 Wilkes 4 St. Mary's 1

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, February 23--Men's Basketball vs. Lincoln, Home 7:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, February 25--Men's Basketball vs. DeSales, Away
 Saturday, February 28--Baseball at Dickinson

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Corrine Stewart
Women's Basketball

Corrine Stewart, senior center, shot one hundred percent from the free throw line for the week going 10 for 10 and led the Lady Colonels in rebounding two out of the three games totaling nine boards against Drew and a game high 13 against Lycoming earlier in the week.



the TOP 25 Men's College Basketball

1. Stanford (23-0) beat UCLA 73-60. Next: vs. Oregon State, Thursday.
2. Saint Joseph's (24-0) beat Temple 76-53. Next: at Massachusetts, Wednesday.
3. Duke (21-3) did not play. Next: vs. Maryland, Sunday.
4. Mississippi State (21-2) lost to Alabama 77-73. Next: vs. No. 24 LSU, Wednesday.
5. Pittsburgh (23-2) at West Virginia. Next: at Georgetown, Tuesday.
6. Gonzaga (23-2) beat Tulsa 76-56. Next: vs. San Diego, Thursday.
7. Oklahoma State (20-2) vs. Nebraska. Next: at Missouri, Tuesday.
8. Connecticut (21-5) beat Notre Dame 61-50. Next: at St. John's, Tuesday.
9. Kentucky (19-4) beat Auburn 68-59. Next: vs. Tennessee, Wednesday.
10. Louisville (17-6) lost to No. 17 Cincinnati 66-61, OT. Next: vs. DePaul, Wednesday.
11. Texas (18-4) at Oklahoma. Next: vs. No. 21 Kansas, Monday.
12. Wisconsin (17-5) did not play. Next: at Michigan, Sunday.
13. North Carolina State (16-6) did not play. Next: vs. Washington, Sunday.
14. Arizona (17-6) at Oregon State. Next: vs. Washington, Thursday.
15. Wake Forest (16-6) did not play. Next: at No. 18 Georgia Tech, Sunday.
16. North Carolina (16-7) beat Florida State 78-71. Next: at Virginia, Tuesday.
17. Cincinnati (18-5) beat No. 10 Louisville 66-61, OT. Next: vs. Saint Louis, Wednesday.
18. Georgia Tech (19-6) did not play. Next: vs. No. 15 Wake Forest, Sunday.
19. Providence (18-5) beat Miami 70-57. Next: at Notre Dame, Tuesday.
20. Southern Illinois (21-2) vs. Hawaii. Next: vs. Creighton, Tuesday.
21. Kansas (17-6) beat Iowa State 90-89, OT. Next: at No. 11 Texas, Monday.
22. Texas Tech (19-7) beat Texas A&M 76-60. Next: at Nebraska, Tuesday.
23. Memphis (18-4) vs. Alabama-Birmingham. Next: vs. Southern Mississippi, Tuesday.
24. LSU (17-6) lost to Vanderbilt 74-54. Next: at No. 4 Mississippi State, Wednesday.
25. South Carolina (20-6) lost to Arkansas 82-66. Next: at Florida, Wednesday.

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

5

number of Wilkes wrestlers who placed fifth at the MAC's

34

number of blocks Corrine Stewart has for the season, which is second in the league

45

percentage Mike Morgan shot from three point range for the week

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Colonels Rebound from Loss to DeSales to Beat Drew

Wilkes heads into conference playoffs this week

BY STEVE KEMBLE
Beacon Sports Editor

On Saturday afternoon at the Marts Center, the Colonels (16-8; 9-5 conf.) rebounded from a tough loss Thursday night against DeSales by beating Drew University (6-17; 3-11 conf.) 77-73.

The Colonels sprinted out of the gates and picked up a quick 17-5 lead with just four and a half minutes gone by in the first half. The scoring frenzy started with a dunk by Evan Walters and then Mike Morgan hitting four out of five three pointers and John Yaniello adding a three of his own.

However, after that run things seemed to cool down for Wilkes. Drew would eventually tie the game at 19 on two free throws by Brad Greenman with 11:56 left in the half.

The Rangers would eventually pull out in front with their biggest lead of the day, six points, when Joe Lamson hit a three pointer with 7:51 left until intermission and a score of 31-25.

"I think when we went out and made a couple jump shots early and we thought they (Drew) were just going to roll over and let us do that. They weren't going to do that," said Jerry Rickrode, Wilkes men's basketball head coach.

In the final few minutes of the half the

We didn't really get down and dirty and play them tough until the second half, and then at the end we just kind of flogged away, I don't know what was it, a 14 point lead or something.

Jerry Rickrode
Men's Basketball Head Coach

Colonels pulled themselves together and went up by as much as eight points, 35-43, with 40 seconds left in the half on a made lay-up plus foul shout by Rashawn Pressley.

Peter Boyer of Drew would make the final shot of the half and cut the Colonels lead to 38-43 entering halftime.

At the half Mike Morgan was leading all scorers with 15 points shooting five for nine from three point range. "Mike shot the ball well," commented Rickrode.

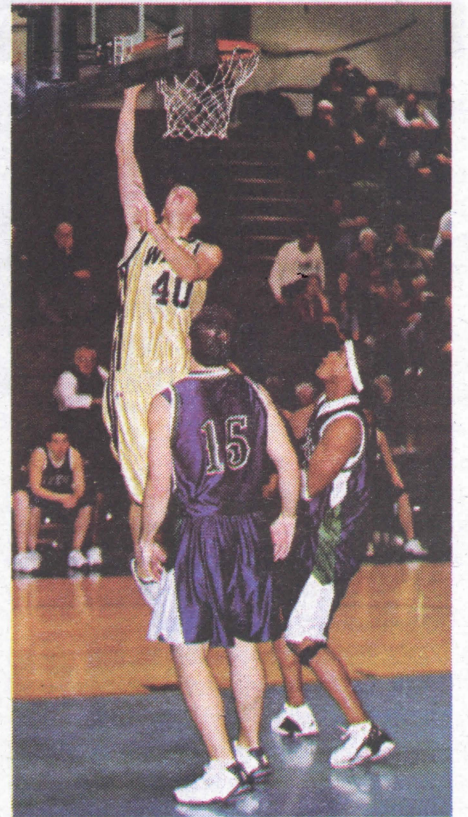
Much like the first half, the second half started out with Wilkes controlling the game early by going up by as much as 14 points, 43-57, with 14:54 left in the game when Yaniello got a steal and then was assisted by Dave Plisko for a fast break lay-up.

However, the Rangers would bring the Colonels scoring run to an end once again by fighting back strong and pulling to within five points, 56-61, when Craig Clemente hit a jump shot with

8:44 remaining.

The Colonels would then build their lead back to 14 points, 59-71, on a steal from Morgan, which he converted into a lay-up on the other end assisted by Plisko with 5:20 left in

Basketball Continued on page 16



TheBeacon/Todd Weibel

W Campus Calendar

TODAY (2/23)

Photography Exhibit @ Sordoni Art Gallery, 12-4:30

Men's Basketball @ Marts Gym vs. Lincoln University, 7 PM

TUESDAY (2/24)

Photography Exhibit @ Sordoni Art Gallery, 12-4:30

Dance Performance and Master Class @ Dorothy Dickson Darte Center, 11-4

Marti Gras Celebration @ Henry Student Center Cafeteria, 3rd Floor, 11-2

Hockey Tickets on Sale for March 3 @ Henry Student Information Desk, 1-3

Commuter Council Meeting @ MSC TV Lounge, 11:30 AM

WEDNESDAY (2/25)

Photography Exhibit @ Sordoni Art Gallery, 12-4:30

Dance Performance and Master Class @ Dorothy Dickson Darte Center, 11-4

Biology Club Movie Night @ MSC TV Lounge

THURSDAY (2/26)

Photography Exhibit @ Sordoni Art Gallery, 12-4:30

Movie and Discussion: "Daring to Resist: Three Women Face The Holocaust" @ Henry Student Center Ball-

room, 2nd Floor, 7 PM

Son of Glam Rock Band @ Henry Student Center Ballroom, 2nd Floor, 9 PM

Hockey Tickets on Sale for March 3 @ Henry Student Center /information Desk, 1-3

FRIDAY (2/27)

Photography Exhibit @ Sordoni Art Gallery, 12-4:30

Movie Night @ Cinemark, 7 PM

SATURDAY (2/28)

Photography Exhibit @ Sordoni Art Gallery, 12-4:30

High School Programming Contest @ Stark Learning Center, 10:30 AM

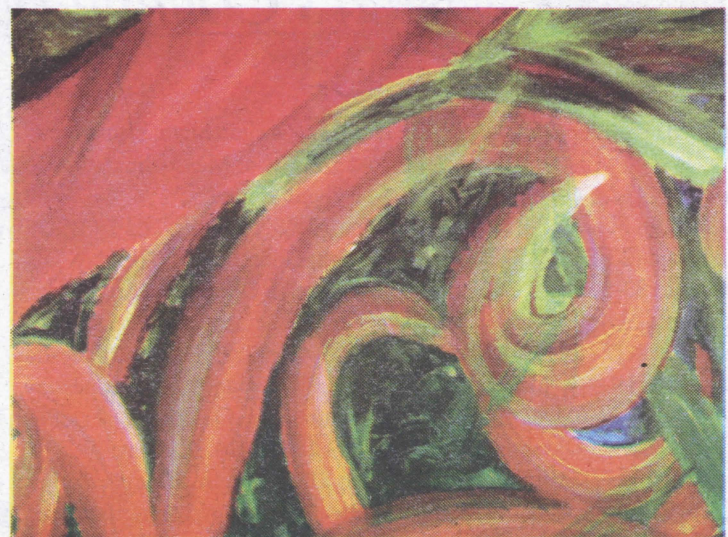
Baseball Double-Header @ Dickinson, 12 PM

SUNDAY (2/29)

Photography Exhibit @ Sordoni Art Gallery, 12-4:30

Congratulations to Katie Gianfagna, who correctly identified last week's "Find This Picture" first. As Gianfagna pointed out, last week's picture depicted a piece of art work on the Stark Learning Center, near the Alumni House. Gianfagna will receive a \$10 cash prize courtesy of the Wilkes University Programming Board.

Find this Picture on Campus and... WIN CASH!



TheBeacon/Kristin Hake

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.

The first person to correctly identify the location of this picture will be recognized in next week's issue, and will receive a \$10 cash prize, courtesy of Programming Board.

The Beacon welcomes notices of events...publicize it's free!
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