

# Wilkes University Wilkes-Barre, PA

THE JOURNALISTS OF THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED TOMORROW

**SEPTEMBER 12. 2005** 

www.wilkesbeacon.com COMMUNITY

### **Evidence of progress**

Wilkes-Barre's revitalization takes shape

BY TABITHA HAPEMAN

Beacon Correspondent

The third floor windows of the Henry Student Center provide students a lovely view of a mammoth crane being used in the building of the new movie mega-plex currently under construction in downtown Wilkes-Barre.

Last April, a plan that had been in development for six years came to fruition when Sordoni Construction Services Inc. began construction on the corner of Main Street and Northampton Street. The Forty Fort based company, has been hard at work for nearly six months erecting the vast theater. The theater construction is part of a larger vision to revitalize the economic and physical aspects of downtown and greater Wilkes-Barre.

Wilkes-Barre city administrators are working with members of Diamond City Partner-

ships (DCP) in order to improve the local economy and the quality of life for residents. DCP provides support to businesses, encourages new businesses to move into the area and assists with redevelopment plans.

In addition to the theater project, the city and DCP leaders have sought funding and developed plans for several other advancements including: cleaning up and redeveloping the waterfront areas and Market Street; building a new public bus terminal; constructing a government office building and removing the canopies from downtown streets. The latter effort ensued shortly after students arrived in Wilkes-Barre for the start of the semester.

According to a spokesperson from the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry, the organization conducted a

See DOWNTOWN, page 4



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Downtown Main Street closes down and becomes a well-lit construction zone when the sun goes down.

# WIN replaces SSN for student identification

## Wilkes implements conversion over summer months

BY DANA ZLOTUCHA

Beacon Correspondent

Over the past few months, Wilkes University officials have been working diligently in order to switch the students' primary identifying source from the social security number (SSN) to the Wilkes Identification Number (WIN).

The initiative was the result of growing concerns about identity theft and electronic access to personal information nationwide.

During the summer Wilkes officials issued each student a WIN; when students arrived back on campus it was their duty to pick up their new identification card and to be prepared to use their WIN instead of a SSN for

WIN will be used everywhere on campus, to have all the mechanics available." now running smoothly. He advises students with the exception of work study and financial aid purposes. The switch was made as a proactive security measure to lower the risk of identity theft.

Susan Hritzak, Registrar, noted that even though "we've never had an incident here at Wilkes where someone's number got stolen...we felt it was time to convert away from social security numbers to a generated number."

Although there is no federal law prohibiting schools from using SSN as an identifier, the Wilkes community has been discussing

conversion for some time. The delay, Hritzak glitches transitioning from the old database As each student's primary identifier, the explained, occurred because "it just took time system to the new database system," it is

> Each WIN is a nine-digit number that begins with 900. The Registrar commented that the numbering was purposeful because SSNs start with every digit except eight and nine, eliminating confusion between the two sets of numbers. All students are urged to memorize their WIN because without that number, university officials will not be able to provide them with any of the information that was previously accessed with the SSN.

> Overall, the transition went smoothly. Chris Bailey, Director of Campus Support Services, said that although there were "a few minor

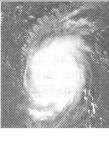
to treat their WIN with the same care they would their SSN. Although the theft of a WIN could not cause any kind of damage like the theft of a SSN, the WIN is in place to protect academic information confidentiality.

No one outside of work study or financial aid officials on campus should ask for a SSN. If they do, students are not required to give

"It defeats the whole purpose of going to a WIN if people [on campus] are still trying to use social security numbers as identifiers," said Bailey.

**Agnes and** 

Katrina, a **Comparison** 



In This Issue...



We Believe...The City makes progress

Fashions for Fall



Index

News1-5
Opinion6-8
Features9-12
Arts & Entertainment13-15
Sports16-20



**Public Safety Moves** 3 **News in Brief SG Notes** 3 Katrina and Agnes Wilkes Generosity

# Convocation serves to unite Wilkes community

**BY VICTORIA WHITE** 

Beacon News Editor

President Joseph E. (Tim) Gilmour addressed faculty, staff and students at the annual convocation held on August 24. At the occasion Wilkes community members and staff were presented with a hearty speech about the future of Wilkes University and what changes are likely to become more visible throughout the year.

Each year the president of the University addresses the faculty and staff before the beginning of fall semester as a way of gearing up for the upcoming year.

Dr. Thomas Hamill, assistant professor of English said, "The late summer gathering of the faculty, staff, and administration that is Convocation helps to crystallize and reframe for me what is so unique about Wilkes: namely its strength as a collective and the commonness of purpose we all share in our commitment to our work, our students, and equally important, the joy we take in both."

This year's event aimed to encourage a feeling of unity among all attendees. Gilmour shared comments from the Middle States periodic review report, including some of Wilkes' strengths and challenges over the past five years, confirming the accreditation that was tenuous in 2000. The five-year report noted that Wilkes has "impressive plans" set for itself in terms of technology and the facility master plan.

Each attendee of convocation walked away with a Wilkes University t-shirt that had imprinted on the back of it the words, "Thank You." President Gilmour explained that because the Middle States periodic report noted: "Wilkes University is a center for excellent education, with a faculty, administration and staff whose priority is the education of leaders for today and tomorrow," that he felt it was appropriate to thank those who have helped Wilkes thus far in the process of building university strength and meeting the lofty plans that have been set for the university.

Addressed at convocation and in the Middle States periodic review report were three strategic initiatives: competitive advantage through exceptional academic programs, developing an exceptional support environment, and building financial and institutional strength.

The first of the strategic initiatives is being addressed through the developing mentoring programs at Wilkes. Wilkes community members have identified mentoring as a key strength for the University and an essential part of the Wilkes experience. Some majors offer a peer mentoring system between upperclassmen and freshmen, and some emerge naturally in co-curricular and extra-curricular experiences.

In an attempt to explain the de-

veloping emphasis on mentoring, Gilmour said, "We have a task force working on this, and we think that in the long haul it will be tremendously beneficial to everybody. It will result in better student learning, on-time graduation and increased retention." He also noted that Wilkes has set its goal high to become the nation's best institution of higher education in the mentoring processes.

Addressing the development of a better support environment President Gilmour said, "We want to significantly improve our support services, increasing efficiency and decreasing costs."

The third initiative of building financial and institutional strength is being dealt with in the form of a major capital campaign that will kick off in approximately the spring semester of 2007.

With so much happening and so much to be proud of in the advances of the university over the past five years, it was almost possible to forget that the event was taking place in the brand new University Center On Main, a physical reminder of the growth and promising future of Wilkes University.

# BEACON

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

#### **Editorial Staff**

Editor-in-Chief: Kristin Kile

Managing Editor: Rebecca Goodman

Email: wilkesbeacon@gmail.com

**News Editor:** Victoria White

Email: beaconnewsline@gmail.com

Op/Ed Editor: Curran Dobson

Email: thebeacon.oped@gmail.com Features Editor: Sarah Herbert

Email: thebeaconfeatures@gmail.com

**A&E Editor:** Donna Talarico

Email: thebeaconae@gmail.com

Sports Editor: Ryan Dippre Email: beaconsports@gmail.com

Photo Editor: Nick Zmijewski Advertising Managers: Jamie Babbitt

Kristyn Ostman

Email: thebeacon.ads@gmail.com

Advisor: Dr. Andrea Breemer Frantz

Esablished in 1936

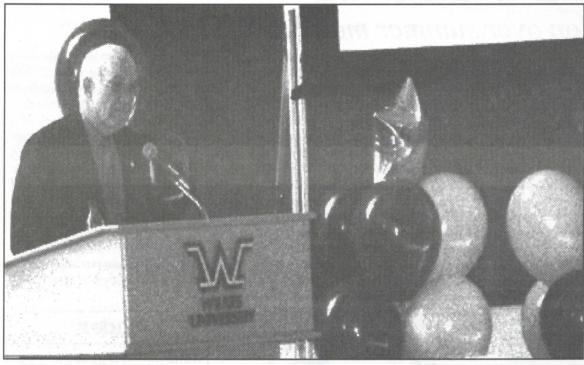
PA Newspaper Association Member

Printed on Mondays during the academic school year.

Box 111, Wilkes University 192 South Franklin Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766 (570) 408-5903

wilkesbeacon@gmail.com

www.wilkesbeacon.com



The Beacon/Victoria White

President Gilmour uses the yearly convocation of university faculty and staff to address key issues. The new UCOM served as the venue for the event, with the Middle States periodic review report being a core element of the presentation.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

# Rehnquist dies, Supreme Court leadership in question

BY VICTORIA WHITE

Beacon News Editor

U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist died from complications of thyroid cancer at his home in Arlington, VA, on September 3.

Rehnquist was known for the powerful dissenting opinions that he provided on the court for approximately his first fifteen years on the bench and the traditional conservative leadership that he provided for the court.

On September 5, a mere two days after his death, President Bush announced the nomination of John Roberts to the position of Chief Justice.

Roberts was scheduled to begin confirmation hearings for the seat that will be vacated by the retiring Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, the day before Rehnquist's death. Critics have noted that although Roberts has tried a remarkable 39 cases in front of the Supreme Court, his short one and a half year stint as a judge makes him relatively untested and mildly unpredictable as a member of the court.

Dr. John Hepp, assistant professor of history said, "It seems that he [Roberts] is going to be confirmed, and Roberts is very much like Rehnquist. They are both pragmatic conservatives and I would see little change be-

tween Roberts and Rehnquist." Hepp also commented on the fact that there have been a number of Supreme Court justices who were appointed conservative and who turned out in the eyes of many conservatives to be liberals and vice versa.

Senate confirmation hearings for Roberts are likely to begin this week.

With the seemingly imminent appointment of Roberts to the position of Chief Justice, it is the position vacated by Justice O'Connor that has people buzzing.

Dr. Kyle Kreider, Assistant Professor of political science stated, "O'Connor's seat is more important, because she was a swing voter on many cases. If [President Bush] replaces O'Connor with a staunch conservative, then you are likely to see a slight change in the ideology of the court."

With the promise of President Bush to nominate someone to follow Justice O'Connor "in a timely manner," the question lingers about who the next appointee will be. Hepp warns that depending on the appointed person to the vacancy, "You could end up with one of these courts that goes down in history as being out of touch with the American people."

# Public Safety offices to move downtown this fall

BY JEANNE STAPLETON

Beacon Correspondent

The newly acquired parking garage, located on South Main Street, will become the new home to the Public Safety Department before the end of the fall semester.

While this move will put the Public Safety Department on the border of the campus, Christopher Bailey, Director of Campus Support Services assures that this will not cut down on the visibility of public safety officers on campus. However, he acknowledged that the Main Street location will enhance public safety officer presence where presence is needed. Bailey said, "There are some elements over there that I feel once there is light and activity...they will go away."

The parking garage will also offer more space for the Public Safety Department to utilize as offices, meeting rooms and training rooms. Since the University has acquired the parking garage facilities, workers have added more lighting and emergency phones throughout the garage. Currently, they are in the process of cleaning and repairing the elevators.

Bailey also noted that in the future the University is planning to secure the garage with full gates at the entrance and exit as well as install a card swipe system to provide extra security for students who park at the garage.

The change of location for the Public Safety Department will not diminish the services that the office provides to students.

Some of existing safety programs include:

Know the Law, Identity Theft and SAFE. Know the Law, which will be presented sometime this month, is a program coordinated by both the Public Safety Department and the Health Services Department. This program primarily covers alcohol abuse, and highlights everything from drunk driving to underage drinking. The Wilkes-Barre City police along with the State Police Liquor Enforcement agency have participated in this program in the past.

The newest program is the SAFE program, a condensed version of the self-defense RAD program. SAFE is an hour and a half, noncontact program that is geared to teach students how to take care of themselves if they are put into a situation in which self-defense is called for. "It tells you to take responsibility for yourself, because sometimes when you are the only one out there you can't look for anybody else. You have to try and protect yourself and there are different ways of doing that. This is what this program can show you," said Jerry Rebo, Manager of Patrol Operations for Public Safety.

Freshmen orientation programs offered by Public Safety covered topics such as date rape, alcohol, and club drugs. "Addressing these issues and educating students would only benefit those who are new to college life. It's a different environment from the comfort and familiarities of home," said junior psychology major Jessica Gold about the importance of making students aware of safety issues at Wilkes.

#### **SG** Notes

#### August 31 meeting

-A motion was made for SG to look into purchasing a low ropes course to be installed into the University Center on Main that would allow clubs to enhance team building and trust among members.

-Freshmen and replacement vote elections will be held 9/20-9/22 online.

-A new policy was enacted for clubs in terms of financial policies. SG now reserves the right to take some form of disciplinary action towards clubs that knowingly overdraw their account.

-Miscommunication led to only 10 members attending SG retreat over the summer.

-Homecoming dance has been moved to Saturday, September 24 at 6 p.m. at the Waterfront to allow Wilkes athletes to attend.

#### September 7 meeting

-SG allocated \$500 to the American Red Cross Hurricane Katrina relief efforts with another \$100 in water to add to the water drive

-SG co-sponsored the peace lights on the greenway with Campus Interfaith in remembrance of 9/11.

-Free Spirit Gay and Straight Alliance presented in an attempt to gain club status.





The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

The future offices for Public Safety, currently sit vacant. Public Safety is scheduled to move by the end of September to the new Main Street location.

- SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

# Katrina and Agnes compare notes

#### Both hurricanes caused major change to affected areas

BY JOSEPH DEANGELIS

Beacon Asst. News Editor

Area residents can identify on a very personal level with the pain and loss incurred by Hurricane Katrina's wake of destruction in the days following the storm's landfall in Louisiana and Mississippi on August 29.

The Wyoming Valley experienced one of the worst floods in United States history on June 22, 1972. The flood, courtesy of Hurricane Agnes, killed 48 people, caused \$2.1 billion worth of damage and left a city in shambles. At the time, the region received the most federal aid ever provided for a natural disaster.

Eventually, Wilkes-Barre and the surrounding area were able to rebuild and come back from what felt like near total devastation.

Similarly, Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast and New Orleans, wiping away whole towns. At this writing, the death toll cannot be estimated, though officials in both Louisiana and Mississippi have acknowledged the loss of life will likely reach the thousands once flood waters have receded. In addition, by Friday, the Senate had approved a total of \$62.3 billion in federal aid, making this the costliest natural disaster in U.S. history.

Since Hurricane Agnes, Wilkes-Barre has been fortunate to have only a few major flood threats with the Susquehanna River: in 1996 when the river reached flood stage due to melting snow, residents had to be evacuated, and again just last year when Hurricane Ivan passed through. Fortunately, an adequately

built levee system protected the city from both floods. However, the possibility of the levees breaking is still a concern for many people in the area.

"Given the right storm, and the right track of the storm, we could have significant flooding," said Bill Toothill, the Director of the GIS Center at Wilkes. "We are not 100 percent safe from flooding in the Wyoming Valley."

"Hurricane Agnes was a combination of many types of bad luck," said Dr. Mike Case, Professor of GeoEnvironmental Sciences. Technically, when Agnes passed over Wilkes-Barre, it was just a tropical storm, far less powerful than a hurricane. However, since it lingered so long and dumped so much rain, approximately 18 inches in two days, the Susquehanna could not handle all the water.

According to Toothill, an Agnes veteran, the reason for the substantial difference in the casualty rate between the two hurricanes is due to the fact that in the Wyoming Valley, safety is just a short drive away thanks to the higher grounds that surround the valley.

"The advantage was that the people were able to evacuate," Toothill said, speaking from his own experience of helping with the massive evacuation effort to get citizens to higher grounds during Agnes.

Unfortunately, in the New Orleans area, there are miles of plains leaving no elevated areas for evacuations, and allowing for the flooded area to reach the approximate landmass size of Great Britain.

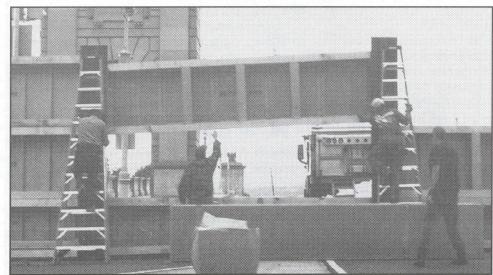
Also, because of their experience with Agnes, citizens of Wilkes-Barre are more sensitive to the possibility of a flood and its consequences. Case recalled the flood of January 1996, when melting snow caused the Susquehanna to rise and a massive evacuation was in order.

"The whole valley got evacuated fast," he said. "We got people where they needed to go and there was no looting or anything like that. Everybody was respectful."

This was not true for many communities touched by Katrina, where violence and chaos spread. "For a small sector of the society there to become...hooligans, I found disappointing," Case said, who believes that everybody should take care of everyone in the face of tragedy. "All it takes are a few people who react badly to the stress to cause total chaos."

Along with the immediate effects of Katrina there are still the unseen effects that will be revealed in time. In addition to the sky-rocketing gas prices, other luxuries will be less available to the community, such as fruit and coffee that are imported from South America. Due to Katrina, ships that normally dock in the New Orleans area will have to find new ports to deliver the goods on the Atlantic and California coasts, subsequently driving up costs and lowering the availability of the goods. Also, building materials will become scarce due to a greater need in the areas affected by Katrina.

"We have to be aware and ready for that," Toothill said. "It's something we didn't think about as a side effect."



The Beacon/Kristin Kile

During Hurricane Ivan, Wilkes-Barre officials erect the flood walls.

# THEATER PROJECT from FRONT PAGE

feasibility study before the construction of the theater began and determined that the movie screens to population ratio was actually too low. However, the Chamber of Business and Commerce has been met with nothing but enthusiasm and support from the residents of the greater WB area since the initial development of the idea and especially since releasing the plans to start construction.

In addition to the residents, the city administration has given absolute support to the project. Stephanie Bombay, the Director of Communications for the Chamber of Business and Industries said, "There has been absolute support under the current administration. We have a very good working relationship."

R/C Theaters Management Corporation, a professional motion picture exhibit consultant, has signed a 20-year lease with the city, demonstrating support and faith in the project as well.

The theater will offer 14 screens and 30,000 square feet of retail space. The complex itself will be two stories tall, with the retailers on the first floor and the theater on the second. All screening auditoriums will have Dolby Digital Surround Sound, rocking chair seats with armrest cup holders and stadium seating. Some of the auditoriums will have digital movie capabilities, instead of the standard 35mm film. There will also be a VIP room for parties and private viewing affixed to one of the auditoriums. Escalators will lead to the theatre lobby, equipped with a fully stocked snack bar.

David Phillips, an R/C representative said, "Most of the films that will play will be standard first run [box-office] films, but R/C will

try to accommodate the community's wants and needs. If one group wants something, we'll try to accommodate them."

The retail space has not yet been leased, and there are many possible ways the space can be divided among stores. Currently, there is no exact number of stores that will reside in the mega-plex, but it is estimated that upwards of 270 jobs will become available once the mega-plex opens its doors. Most of these jobs will be part-time in either the theater proper or the retail stores below, and because the mega-plex is within walking distance of Wilkes University and King's College, students may have new employment opportunities next year.

The goal of the city of Wilkes-Barre and the Chamber of Business and Industries is that the entire community as a whole will profit from this project. Bombay noted, "Permanent and non-permanent residents and students will all reap the benefits of the new theater."

The difficulties of finding transportation and the continually rising prices of gas have the potential to discourage some students from driving all the way to Montage Mountain to see a film. In addition to the inconvenience of travel, cost is a major factor for the average college student. Thus, investors and officials are banking on the close-to-home appeal of the new theater.

As for cost, Phillips ackowledged, "We have not yet looked at the market for [ticket] pricing," adding that there is the possibility of student discounts.

For the next two semesters students will have the encouraging view of the immense crane from the Henry Student Center cafeteria. By next summer, Wilkes-Barre residents should have a new state-of-the-art movie mega-plex to frequent, and the incoming students of the Fall 2006 semester have the opportunity to broaden their nightlife horizons.

## Wilkes cultivates generosity

#### Outreach to Katrina victims abounds

BYVICTORIA WHITE

Beacon News Editor

Stacks of water bottles. Donations to the Red Cross. Open doors, open arms. All have become the symbols of the catastrophe named Katrina.

With the most devasting hurricane in the nation's history fresh in the minds of citizens of the Wyoming Valley, many people are donating time and money to the relief efforts. To many people from the Wyoming Valley, and for those who have come to the Valley to begin new lives, the stark images of the flooded landscapes in Louisiana and Mississippi touch hearts. Members of the Wilkes community have been helping out any way they can.

The community service office held a water drive last week obtaining gallons of water for the victims; Wilkes students stepped up and made the drive a worthwhile event. The semi-truck picked up the water, thanks to the radio station Magic 93, on Friday morning for transport to American Red Cross shelters in the areas hit by Hurricane Katrina.

Student Government made a donation of \$500 to the American Red Cross Hurricane Relief effort on Thursday, September 8, as a gesture to help those who are suffering through the tragedy. Members from both Community Service and SG also participated in the NEPA News Alliance telethon on Thursday, September 8, as another way of donating to the efforts.

Wilkes University, and several other colleges in the region, have opened their doors for students who have been displaced by the storm and its aftermath. "The needs down there are going to be extreme for a long period of time," said Mike Frantz, Vice President of Enrollment Services. "To keep these affected individuals in our hearts and in our prayers and in mind for extra effect, dollars (and) care."

In New Orleans alone, there are six independent colleges and universities including Tulane, Xavier, Loyola and Dillard. Campuses within the Louisiana State University system have also been affected. With classes being unavailable at their original institutions through this semester and possibly into the



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Josh Pauling (left) and Bob Brown (right) move the donated water that Wilkes collected throughout last week to the waiting transport truck. The water will arrive in the Gulf Coast region and be taken to American Red Cross shelters.

next

With many more fundraising events in the works for Katrina relief, Wilkes students and

faculty are cultivating the generosity that the nation is seeking in light of the tragedy of the Gulf Coast region and New Orleans.

TWO MEDIUM TWO LARGE PIZZA DEPOT PIZZA DEPOT Toppings 1.35 Toppings 1.65 DomaxxS Hungry? Short on Cash "Competitors prices Get Twice the terreprint Commence of the Com Pizza..Compare our Price..and **GOURNET PIZZA** LARGE X-LARGE MEDIUM Chicken Wing Pizza Save \$\$\$\$\$\$ 11.99 13.99 16.99 Supreme STROMBOLI SIDES 299 225 Pepperoni & Cheese Breadsticks (8 piece) Italian Stromboli Chicken wind Ham & Cheese Motz Sticks Sausage & Cheese Chicken Tenders 5.25 Creese Storicos MIDDLY DATES Cheese Steak Stromboli 10.99 D. (1) OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK We caller to all hotel mobile and colleges
We caller large of convex to the all colleges
MEST CALLA DAY AHEAD
All process subject to creave
2 for 1 special is till midnight - 7 days a week **WILKES-BARRE** DALLAS 675-7000 270-3014 Sun. Thru Thurs.: 4PM till 2AM Fri. and Sat.: 4PM till 4AM

# Opinion September 12, 2005

# We Believe 6 Sheehan's Protest 7 Cell Phones in Cars 7 Natalee Holloway 8 PA License Plates 8

### We believe...

# The city of Wilkes-Barre is finally making progress

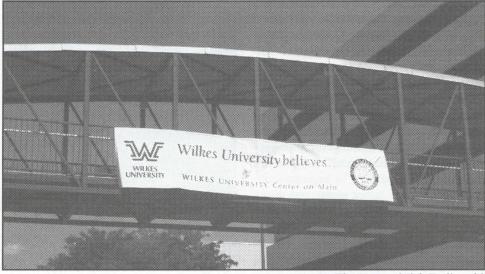
BY THE BEACON EDITORIAL STAFF

Something unbelievable happened in Wilkes-Barre while many of us were gone this summer. It's hard to tell, isn't it? Trust us, though.

Amid what some argued was the same old song and dance, Mayor Tom Leighton rolled out a speech that promised a change for Wilkes-Barre, big things, and a revitalization that *is*, despite naysayers, going to happen.

Many were, and still are, skeptical of Wilkes-Barre's revitalization that has been promised for what seems like ages and has never come to fruition.

But what has surprised some of us who were here over the summer and those who have now returned, is that what we have been hearing for years is actually happening. For so long we have been promised a new Wilkes-Barre and upon our return this fall, we are happy to see that that promise has finally been made good. With the unveiling of the "I Believe" campaign, which is a joint initiative between downtown businesses, city government, the local universities, and residents to celebrate and realize progress in Wilkes-Barre, Leighton is making great inroads on improving morale in the city of Wilkes-Barre and is proving that "where



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

A sign hanging over Main Street showcases one of the additions to Wilkes, University Center on Main, as part of the "I Believe" campaign.

there's a will, there's a way."

With Wilkes University and a variety of other downtown businesses publicly proclaiming "belief" in the city, we are glad to see that changes are happening and progress is being made. The most prominent physical change is that the theater development project that had long been hanging over the downtown has finally begun. If you were to take a drive later today by what was a vacant

lot this time last year, you will now see a skeletal frame of a large, impressive building. The building is now a physical symbol of progress and through this symbol, we are finally starting to believe in the city of Wilkes-Barre

Despite the resistance with which change is sometimes greeted in Wilkes-Barre, this time feels different. True, the most prominent physical change we can see is the aforementioned theater project, but the other state government building going up just around the corner also bodes well that this may not be a fluke. As the saying goes, the ball has started rolling and this time it seems to be rolling in such a way that nothing will stop its movement.

This is not to say that we are going to begin to see Wilkes-Barre's planned new face anytime soon. We will be the first to admit that a healthy skepticism is still very much a part of our character. But Wilkes University has a commitment to working with the city in a greater capacity, which in turns adds the vitality of youth to the campaign. Our own campus extension onto South Main Street is clear evidence of our faith in the Wilkes-Barre revitalization and the changes that we as a campus will bring to the downtown area.

What we do realize, however, and perhaps what grounds us, is the fact that change comes to this city slowly. Many of us will not see the end results of the proposed changes or perhaps even the beginning of these changes in our lifetime at Wilkes. The truly unbelievable thing that happened this summer is that we finally saw the very slow first step of a city that recognized its own potential and decided to rise to the occasion and finally do something about it.

# And where is quour book!? And where is quour book!? In a commuter! How do you expect the to get here every day and afford books... F-riagin A!

#### Beacon Poll

Next week's poll question is:

What will be the biggest challenge in the Hurricane Katrina recovery?

- Locating and identifying victims
- Relocating survivors to new communities
- Addressing environment damage
- Repairing emotional damage among victims and workers
- Prosecuting those who perpetrated crimes
- Repairing social schism between the "haves" and the "have nots"
- Answering questions about response time

Visit www.wilkesbeacon.com to cast your vote. Results will be published in next week's issue of *The Beacon*.

#### What Do YOU Think?

Is there an issue you feel strongly about and want to comment on? Did you read something that you have formed a dissenting opinion about and want to voice?

The Beacon wants your voice to be heard. Your Voices is the opportunity for students to voice their concern. If you want your voice to be heard, please contact *The Beacon* with the following information:

1 Contact information including your email address and a phone number where you can be reached

2 Your name, major, and year

3 Your opinion

thebeacon.oped@gmail.com

The Beacon reserves the right to edit submitted pieces for space and content.

# Sheehan's Protest: Too Little, Too Late

BY CURRAN DOBSON

Beacon Op-Ed Editor

For more than a month now, we have listened and watched as Cindy Sheehan, mother of a fallen soldier in Iraq, has at first requested and then demanded a sit-down with President Bush.

Sheehan, like a growing number of Americans, does not support the continued U.S. war in Iraq and has plans to protest until she is given her opportunity to question Bush about the war.

The problem is, unlike many Americans, Cindy Sheehan already sat down with the President, roughly two months ago. She, along with other parents of soldiers killed in the line of duty, met with Bush. However, at the time, Sheehan was not actively opposing and protesting the war. Apparently, she missed her chance to give Bush a piece of her mind.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

One has to wonder why Sheehan did not actively oppose the war two months ago. What has changed between now and then to make her demands more relevant?

The answer is nothing. Bush has given no indication of when we will pull out, but he also didn't two months ago either. Soldiers are still dying at an alarming rate and guerilla-style warfare is still enacted in the streets every day against the insurgency. The threat of the enemy has not abated and we are no more confident that it ever will in

Iraq. Why then, is Sheehan choosing now to protest so actively? And what exactly does she hope to accomplish if she is able to question Bush?

In terms of the issue at hand, I wholeheartedly agree with

As a college student who is roughly the age of the men and women dying in Iraq every day, I feel strongly that we need to leave, and we need to leave now. Never mind that some may say we haven't finished the job. Never mind that the Iraqis are perhaps not ready for us to leave and are as yet still incapable of establishing their own government. I say we have sacrificed more than enough with our lives, our money, and our time. The war seems futile at this point (if it didn't seem so two years ago).

However, I do not agree with Sheehan's way of going about things. I feel she missed her chance to put the President in an uncomfortable position and ask him some tough questions about the war. That chance was two months ago. Bush will never sit down with Sheehan again and her vigil will never bring about the result she is looking for.

The protest and vigil also do not seem to have garnered any fresh support for the anti-war camp, either. Sure, it's gained lots of media attention, but has it truly inspired any new and fresh bodies to join the ranks of the protest? It doesn't seem so. Granted, Sheehan was visited by Martin Sheen, who played the President on "The West Wing." This hardly seems noteworthy, however, since many celebrities have been against the war since the beginning. Unluckily for Sheehan, Sheen has little influence with the real President and can only offer his own support, as lacking in influence as it is.

To be honest, Sheehan's vigil seems more of a way to grieve for the loss of her son than it does a focused effort to bring about change. While I do admire her persistence and do applaud her conviction in taking on Bush, I find her attempt futile. Bush knows the American people are unhappy. Whether he cares or not is an entirely different story. With his approval rating dive-bombing and support for the war dwindling, Bush doesn't need Sheehan's protest to show him that his citizens are angry.

Unfortunately for us, there is little we can do about the war in Iraq. While I do believe it is important to make our voices heard and exercise our First Amendment rights, Sheehan just didn't make enough noise at the right time on this one. Because of this, she is left with the support of Martin Sheen instead of the support of Bush.

# Cell phones in cars: what's the big deal?

#### Aren't there more important things to worry about?

BYMATT ZEBROWSKI

Beacon Op-Ed Asst. Editor

I am not a cell phone advocate by any means. They're fun and handy, definitely, but I'll be the first to admit that sure, they probably give you cancer from all the satellite beams going straight to your head, and sure, dialing them can be quite distracting while driving.

But none of this really justifies a sentiment that is rapidly making its way into "if I had a nickel for every time..." levels of obnoxiousness: the idea that cellular devices are solely responsible for every car accident ever.

I solemnly swear that every single time there is a major automobile accident in the area, someone, be it my parents or relatives or people who just so happen to be near a TV I am watching will say (usually almost verbatim), "I bet one of them was on a damned cell phone!" And then, almost immediately after, someone else pipes up with, "Those things should NOT be allowed in cars!"

Really, this doesn't make much sense to me. There were accidents before cell phones, I swear. Ask Grandma. Even now, to imply that all accidents are caused by cell phones is just plain absurd. In fact, I've been in a few small fenderbenders myself that were in no way related to cell phones that I offer as proof. Granted, my proof doesn't matter much, as the people who think that cell phones should "NOT be allowed in cars!" have managed to pass through laws in our neighbor states New York and New Jersey that have achieved that aim.

And while the safety and best interests of their constituency is obviously the primary concern of any lawmaker (hey, stop laughing! I'm being serious!), the whole thing always struck me as a little trite. I mean, no one ever looks into the number of accidents that CD players in cars cause, but judging by how distracting fumbling with the stereo can be, I'd bet it's a lot. Should CD players be outlawed?

Or what about when you have something in the back seat that you just GOTTA have, like NOW, and it just can't wait till a red light, so you have to grope around behind you while trying to keep your eyes on the road and steer

straight? Should keeping stuff in your back seat be illegal too?

What about when there's an attractive member of the opposite sex walking down the sidewalk and you gawk at them as you drive past? You know you do it, don't lie. Should gawking be illegal? Maybe it would be easier to make it illegal for attractive people to walk on sidewalks? Sure this may seem a little ridiculous, but if we're going to be trying to eliminate every possible distraction from drivers we may as well go whole

Okay, okay. I admit I'm being funny. In all seriousness, I am fully aware that these laws in New York and New Jersey banning cell phone use in cars have been statistically proven to reduce the number of cell phone related accidents (well, duh!), and there's no way that reducing the number of accidents can be a bad thing because that saves lives.

But I can think of some things that would save a lot more lives. Like affordable (or, better yet, free) healthcare. Or maybe like improving public education so that inner city kids have adequate preparation for the real world, thereby giving them alternatives to gangs. Or, you

know, stem cell research?

Of course, this seems to be the way that politicians work. They champion some issue like cell phones or Janet Jackson's nipple or Terri Schiavo or Natalee Holloway that gets the average Joe all riled up but doesn't really have any sort of effect on the vast majority of people. Then they sit back and watch everyone yell at each other and debate these things that are mere minutiae compared to issues that would take actual work, compromise and thought to work through. Then they write a law to appease whichever side seems to have won the public's support.

And we're falling for it; that's the saddest thing. We're all buying into the banal debates they set up for us, hook, line and sinker. We'll complain about how cell phones should be banned while driving every time there's an accident (whether it involves a cell phone or not), probably because we've all been cut off by someone on one.

But we don't complain whenever someone dies of a disease that could have been cured with the proper care. We don't complain when a kid in the city starts selling



The Beacon/Matt Zebrowski

drugs because he doesn't know what else to do. We're too busy paying attention to things like cell phones in cars because we have been so conditioned to go absolutely ape over these relatively trivial problems, while global ones fester in the background.

So maybe it would be beneficial if cell phones, as well as CD players, stuff in the back seat, and gawking at attractive people, were to be banned from cars. That would give us plenty of quiet time to contemplate trivialities and hopefully remove the biggest distraction of all: the constant "Hey! Hey! Look over there!" of government pointing in the opposite direction of things that really count.

## Holloway disappearance captures nation's attention

#### Criticism of media largely unwarranted

**BY SARAH HERBERT** 

Beacon Features Editor

Before Hurricane Katrina devastated the nation, national media attention was fixated on a story that originally became public on May 31. What type of event warrants a media life span of one hundred plus days, only to be knocked off the radar screen by a hurricane?

The answer is Natalee Holloway. Certainly, there are few people who do not know the story of the missing Alabama teen. Holloway disappeared under suspicious circumstances while on a class trip to Aruba and despite an extensive search and several leads, has not yet been located. However, some people have criticized the way the media has handled this story.

I have found that there are two groups of people. The first group includes the people who just can't get enough of this story, the people who watch the news constantly and check websites for updates on the case. The second are those who turn the channel whenever they hear the name Natalee Holloway, saying her case



Courtesy of nataleeholloway.net **Natalee Holloway** 

has received far too much cover-

Few can begrudge a grieving family its desire for airtime. The Holloway and Twitty families chose to use the media as an aide to solving the case. Others, however, prefer to be left out of the limelight. In many cases, like that of Holloway, grieving and fearful families see the press as a means of taking action. But unless the case is truly sensational or involves a person of prominence, it is rare for the media to focus undue attention on a missing persons case. The initiative often comes from the families.

Yes, kidnappings, rapes, and murders happen everyday. No, not all of them receive media coverage. However, that doesn't mean that they are any less important.

In fact, those other cases are still being investigated and probably even solved. Justice is still being served. Perhaps the families of those others do not wish to have the victim's name dragged through the mud or the circumstances of the crime revealed to the public.

Another criticism leveled at the media has to do with racism. In the case of LaToyia Figueroa, the missing pregnant woman from Philadelphia, the national media were criticized for not covering her case. The accusation was that because Figueroa was not a young, blonde, Caucasian teenager like Holloway, national audiences would not have been as moved by the story.

However, this argument also doesn't hold much water. Figueroa's father decided he wanted the case to be in the public eye. As soon as he expressed such interest, Fox began covering the story. Other sources, like the Associated Press wire, also subsequently picked it up. Interestingly, unlike the Holloway case, it appears that the Figueroa case may have been solved, as police made an arrest in her murder.

Finally, while it is the duty of a journalist to report current happenings, some reporters, or even networks, might feel uncomfortable reporting the very personal details that are revealed in a missing persons investigation.

Just look at what happened to Holloway. There are countless rumors and theories circulating on the Internet blaming the young woman for her own disappearance. Some outlets reported that she was wearing a short skirt the night she disappeared and that she was drinking in a bar. Everyone knows if a young woman has a few drinks (legally, might I add) and wears a skirt she certainly deserves to be torn away from the life she is accustomed to and possibly even sexually assaulted and murdered.

Many of the Internet stories did not originate from legitimate news outlets, but people often have a tough time distinguishing these days from what is a legitimate news source and what is not. In the end, it might appear that journalists are sinking into the victim-blaming syndrome.

What is the point of blaming a victim? Where is everyone's compassion? This is a tragic story that goes far beyond Natalee Holloway.

An American girl went missing without a trace. Aruban law enforcement released little information about suspects and evidence. Clearly, there is something strikingly odd about this case.

Perhaps that is the reason why the case has received so much attention from the media, not because she is a wealthy white girl from Ala-

# Why doesn't PA identify itself on the road?

**BYNICK ZMIJEWSKI** 

Beacon Photo Editor

This summer I spent many miles on the road and I began to notice something. All of the states I visited this year--with the exception of Pennsylvania--had one thing in common: there were license plates on the front of the cars.

This got me thinking, what reason could Pennsylvania possibly have for not requiring plates on the front of cars?

Are Pennsylvanians in love with European-style plates that go on the front of cars? I mean, being an Anglophile, I kind of like this myself. Some of them are true "fake" Eurotags while others use the extra room for cute things like "Dan loves Carlie."

Some people like to use the extra space on the front of the car for advertising, sort of an extra spot to put bumper stickers for people to

Note: the author of this piece is from New Jersey and can therefore view this issue without the prejudice of being from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

read when they are coming towards you rather than behind you. It's a good way to find out whose car it is or to ask a friendly question. For example, one Wilkes truck used to have one that said simply, "What's doin'?" on the front. This is sort of a nice reminder that someone cares since the PA plates no longer tell me that I have friends in the state of Pennsylvania.

Is it that those in prison who make the plates have too much to do? I would like to see prison reform but are license plates the real answer? But wait...Folsom Prison, of Johnny Cash fame, seems to have no trouble making those for California.

Could it be a cost cutting mea-



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

States surrounding Pennsylvania require vehicles to display a license plate in both the front and the back. Pennsylvania is one of several states that do not require two license plates.

sure, a way to balance the government's budget? Even the poorest state in the country, West Virginia, has plates on the front and

Could it be that police in PA are equipped with X-ray vision and can see through a car traveling the other way to view the rear tag? If so, you should really share this sort of technology with the rest of the world.

Could it be that the plates that support DARE or the State Steam Locomotive are so top secret that they cannot be shared with the outside world? Personally, I like a lot of the extra expense plates in the Commonwealth but in Jersey they

give you two of 'em.

Granted, I know not all cars are designed to take two but they all have to be modified for them in states that require both front and back. I know that sometimes it can be nice to be different, but is being so for license plates what PA really wants?

# FEATURES

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2005** 

#### Freshmen aren't alone

New faculty arrive on campus

**BY MEAGAN BROWN** 

Beacon Correspondent

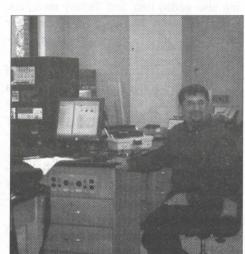
Freshmen aren't the only people wandering campus looking like they need directions this semester. Wilkes University has just added sixteen new faculty members in with the matriculating freshmen.

The new faculty members range from engineering to English and come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences. The sixteen new faculty members belong to eleven different departments. A release posted on Today@Wilkes dated August 29 introduced students and current faculty to the new staff.

The Division of Physics and Engineering, home to four majors and one minor, welcomed back a former student as a faculty member. Hisham Nabaa, who received his Masters degree at Wilkes and also worked as an Adjunct Professor, has now joined the Division as a part-time instructor. According to Dr. David Wells, director of the Division says that the hiring of Nabaa is due to growing student numbers and the retirement of a long time faculty member.

"We're growing in a number of ways, our student numbers have increased. I don't know the exact numbers but we have around 140 undergraduate students and 25 graduate students. Also, Dr. Roger Maxwell recently retired, opening a need in physics," said Wells.

The different departments of the College



The Beacon/Meagan Brown

Former Wilkes student Hisham Nabaa instructs one of his first classes as a parttime instructor on campus.

of Science and Engineering have also welcomed faculty members. The chemistry department has just hired R. Gregory Peters, PhD, who joined the faculty from the University of Memphis.

The biology department has added Dr. Lisa A. Kadlec, who has worked at Rhodes College and Princeton after receiving her PhD at Duke University. The new assistant professor will cover classes in genetics.

Dr. Fanhui Kong has joined the department

See Faculty, Page 10

# From fairs to squares: there's plenty to do in NEPA

BY REBECCA BRIA

Beacon Correspondent

Whether you fancy keeping yourself buzzing with activity, or just sticking with a few relaxing events to take your head out of the books, there are plenty of things to do this

Wilkes students may choose to stay on campus and catch a theater production. Or, for those who prefer to feel the wind in their hair, roller coasters at Hershey Park might be just the ticket. Regardless, the opportunities abound this semester.

Second Annual Downtown Collegetown "Party on the Square" kicks off a long list of options for off-campus entertainment this Thursday, September 15 from 6 - 11 p.m. on Public Square. The party is free and open to all local college students with a valid college ID.

According to Mary Waldorf, Leadership Development Coordinator, live music for the evening will include Eyes Open, Lessen One, and others. Other details of the party can be located in The Beacon's full story "Wilkes-Barre welcomes back area college students" in the Arts & Entertainment section.

Homecoming (September 23-25) offers an entire weekend full of fun festivities. This year's pep rally is set for Friday, September 23 at 5:30 p.m. on the Greenway. The official

homecoming 2005 football game will be held Saturday, September 24 at Ralston Field. The game will start at 1 p.m., and Wilkes will take on the Fairleigh Dickinson University Devils. The homecoming dance will take place on Saturday at The Waterfront in Plains Township at 6 p.m. Tickets will be sold for

**Beyond Wilkes Borders** 

**College Daze** 

**Student Diversity** 

10

11

11

If students are interested in getting off campus, the 151st Annual Bloomsburg Fair will be held September 24 through October 1. The fair is located in Bloomsburg, PA, which is only about a 45-minute drive from Wilkes-Barre. According www.bloomsburgfair.com, the fair will be open daily from 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. In addition, college students will be admitted free with college ID on Tuesday, September 27. Wilkes University is providing free transportation to the fair on Sunday, September 25. Transportation will depart from the Henry Student Center at 2 p.m., and leave the fair at 7 p.m.

Excited about Homecoming? Can't wait to check out the fair? According to Phil Ruthkosky, Director of Student Development, engagement is the purpose behind the student leadership development programming.

"It's your opportunity to get involved and make the most of your four years," said Ruthkosky. He also added, "The more you get involved, the better you'll be able to market yourself to potential employers."

## Beacon reporter Nikki Yozviak was curious about what Wilkes students are thinking. Here is what she found out.

What was the biggest surprise upon your arrival at Wilkes this semester?

Justin Huff, freshman, chemistry major

"I think the biggest surprise is all the freedom I have. That, and a totally different style of teaching."

Katie Butz, junior, pharmacy major (left);

Erin Lalonde, junior, pharmacy major (right)

The parking deck still wasn't done!



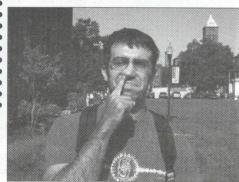


Danielle Duffek, freshman, chemistry major

"People were very friendly and the classes weren't too hard."

Matt Hawk, junior, engineering major

"Hot freshmen."



# Faculty and students use summer to see the world

BYERICALEO

Beacon Correspondent

The really great, life-changing experiences are rare. This is why they're often referred to as once-in-a-lifetime opportunities.

But Wilkes University community members actually located two such opportunities this past summer. The extraordinary excursions took some Wilkes University students and professors across the country and others across the globe. The participants on these trips were able to experience and study firsthand some of the most fascinating phenomena that Mother Nature has to offer.

From June 17 to June 24, Wilkes University math and computer science double major Joe Wilde and recent Wilkes graduate Aaron Hollenback traveled to Yellowstone National Park to study volcanic activity in the Earth's crust. Accompanied by Dr. Sid Halsor, professor of earth and environmental science and Bill Toothill, director of the GIS Lab at Wilkes University, these students were able to study the caldera, or "super volcano," located directly underneath Yellowstone.

For the first few days of the trip the group observed Yellowstone National Park with its hot springs and geysers as well as acres upon acres of beautiful, rugged scenery.

"We do a mix between touring and hiking and field checking our network sights," said Halsor.

Halsor emphasized that Yellowstone is "one of the most potent volcanic centers on the planet.

"The volcano erupts about every 600,000 years, the last eruption being 640,000 years ago," he added. "That's why there is a great deal of interest in Yellowstone, because it wouldn't be surprising to the geologic community if Yellowstone was to enter another period of eruptive activity."

This was Halsor's ninth year of conducting this particular research at the Yellowstone caldera.

During the same week and roughly 7,000 miles away, Dr. Jim Merryman, professor of anthropology at Wilkes University, visited several areas of China along with students, Wilkes alumni, and other members of the community.

"This was my second time visiting China and both times have been phenomenal," stated Merryman.

From June 20 to July 1, Merryman and fellow world travelers, accompanied by a bilingual tour guide, took a sightseeing escapade to cities Beijing, Xi'an, Chong Qing, and Shanghai.

The highlight of the trip was a luxury cruise on the famous Yangtze River, where they were able to view three river gorges, which are over 4,000 ft. deep. Since China has just finished the world's largest dam, these amazing gorges, which have been a landmark in China for many years, will no longer exist.

"It was advantageous to go now," stated Merryman.

Merryman currently has three trips planned for this academic year and cannot express enough the intellectual value and cost-efficiency of these "life-transforming" experiences.

"By taking one of these trips, students can earn three credits for \$500, which is roughly one-third of what a normal class costs."

Merryman will be taking trips to Panama during winter break, Tunisia and Rome during spring break, and Uganda next summer.

For more information on these upcoming trips, Dr. Merryman can be reached by phone at 408-4043 and e-mail at merryman@wilkes.edu.



Courtesy of Bob Smith, collection of USGS

From high in the air, one can obtain a breathtaking view of the northeastern side of the Yellowstone Caldera along with various lakes and mountains in the park.

#### **FACULTY** from PAGE 9

of mathematics and computer science. He received his doctorate in June at the University of New York at Binghamton, and will serve as visiting professor of statistics and teach math courses at Wilkes.

The Nesbitt College of Pharmacy and Nursing also added four new faculty members. Cherie Soprano, M.S. and Susan Besinger Darcy, M.S. are now part of the nursing division.

Scott Bolesta, Pharm D., a 2000 graduate of the Wilkes Pharmacy program and Shelia Kang, Pharm.D, who attended Ohio State University, will round out the pharmacy teaching faculty.

Dr. Nandita Das, PhD in finance and Dr. Justin C. Matus have joined the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership. They will take over classes in accounting and management and finance.

Six new faculty members have been added to the ranks of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences.

Dr. William Chad Stanley, one of two new English professors and the new director of the Writing Center who joins the campus from the University of Connecticut, says that adjusting to the college has been easy. "The other faculty members have been great, personally and professionally. They have been sociable and very helpful," said Stanley. He also commented on the student body noting, "The overall culture and social organization is interesting. Students don't have any problem approaching professors and asking questions."

English also welcomes Dr. Maria Hebert-Leiter as a visiting professor.

Communications Studies has added Dr. Evene Estwick as an Assistant Professor. She completed her dissertation this summer at Temple University.

D.J. Maloney was hired as an assistant professor of acting. Political science welcomes Dr. Andrew Miller as visiting assistant professor. Dr. Geoffrey Moss has now been added as a sociology professor.

This semester will prove to be interesting due to the large class of freshmen on campus as well as all of the new faces at the front of the classroom. However, just as every year the freshmen fold themselves into the culture, so too will the new professors.

#### STUDENT HOUSING SOLUTION

#### CITY SUITES

At the Ramada Inn

#### Your Monthly Rent includes:

Parking Local Phone Utilities Kitchen Cable with HBO
Furnishings
Exercise Room
Wall to Wall Carpeling

at Bu an Thi Di nata int ver Acc nec deri hool This

g the

urage

lellne

tely

ed in k a m tas a rdina

he two

ms. T

sely w

Air Conditioning

#### ENTRICHENCIES

ced from \$490 per month ( 1 or 2 per lease ) including utilif

#### 1 BEDROOM SUITES

iced from \$750 per month (1 or 2 per lease) including utiliti

#### **2 BEDROOM SUITES**

ced from \$950 per month ( 1 to 4 per lease ) including utilit

CALL OUR SALES OFFICE FOR A FREE TOUR! 570-824-7100, EXTENSION 175



# **Diversity Program launches**

BY SARAH HERBERT
Beacon Features Editor

Diversity...historically, not the first word that comes to mind when describing Wilkes. But a few people on campus are trying to change that.

This past weekend Alan Zellner, Director of Diversity and Andita Parker-Lloyd, Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs trained a group of interested students to take part in the new Diversity Ambassador Program.

According to Zellner, the program is "designed to develop leaders on campus from those populations which are typically underrepresented in predominantly white schools." Wilkes fits into that category.

"This program is a good step toward helping the whole campus move toward diversity," said Parker-Lloyd, who also added, "Hopefully this will give the students the courage to question their professors when things like racism, sexism, slavery, or homophobia aren't addressed in the classroom."

Zellner and Parker-Lloyd trained approximately 11 students who expressed an interested in the program. From there, they will pick a minimum of six students to serve either as a diversity ambassador or a diversity coordinator.

The two positions are paid work-study programs. The diversity ambassadors will work closely with Zellner and assist with duties

such as telecounseling and other admissions oriented activities.

The diversity coordinator will work closely with Parker-Lloyd and assist with the organization and execution of diversity programs.

The remaining volunteers will have the opportunity to obtain one of these positions when a current ambassador or coordinator graduates.

The students say the training experience was a great one. According to Suzanne Chirayio, sophomore pharmacy major, "We got to know a lot of other students and who they are as a person, and we are getting to know more and more about them as the workshop progresses."

The workshop itself developed a diverse atmosphere as all types of students were present. Briana Danieo, freshman computer science major said, "It was so different from what I'm used to. I haven't done anything like this before."

Parker-Lloyd said, "The students are bonding so well because they are all so different."

Parker-Lloyd and Zellner hope that this workshop will urge students to become more involved with diversity activities on campus.

"Since we are doing programs for students, we feel that if the students do their own programming they'll have more of an active part in it, and therefore take more of a responsibility to make sure that other kids come and get involved," said Zellner.



15

Bei

Photo

Dinner and a Movie

# Wilkes-Barre welcomes back area college students

BYDONNATALARICO Beacon A&E Editor

Students at Wilkes University and its neighboring schools will be the guests of honor at a 'welcome home' party filled with all the makings of an exciting college night on the town--pizza, live music and a mechanical bull

The Second Annual Downtown Collegetown Party on the Square will be held this Thursday, September 15 from 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. on Public Square.

The evening, free and open to anyone, will begin with two acoustic performances from both Maybe Someday (comprised of Wilkes and King's students) and Scott from Fighting Zero. Then, Eyes Open, The Five Percent, Lessen One and Crush will hit the stage, rounding out a non-stop night of live music.

And the magnetic force that never failsfree pizza--will be available to all college students. Vendors will offer free pizza for a limited time in the evening. For a \$5 entry fee students can enter a pizza-eating contest sponsored by Dominos, with the winner walking away with a year's supply of pies. Other food vendors will be on hand, as well as a mechanical bull, a speed pitch game and a rock-climbing wall. Local businesses will also be on hand to show what services they offer to students. Students with a valid college ID may also pick up free goodies on the way.

Wilkes University graduate Bridget Giunta '05 is in her second year of planning the event. Last year, she was an intern with the Diamond City Partnership and served on the downtown collegetown steering committee. Now the Dallas resident is making improving life for college students a priority in her new position as an administrative coordinator for the city of Wilkes-Barre.

"The city wants to show that there is activity and life downtown, and they are keep-

ing college students in mind," Giunta said, adding that student representatives from all area colleges were on this year's planning committee. "Personally, I feel it is important for students who will make Wilkes-Barre their home for four years to become an integral part of the city."

Jami Shuleski, a senior computer information systems major from Wyoming, is going to try to make it to the party, which she feels is a step forward for the collegetown initiative she's heard so much about during her four years at Wilkes.

"The event is a good way to familiarize both new and returning students to the city. The Party on the Square will demonstrate how the members of this community truly 'believe' in Wilkes-Barre," she said. "It is a good opportunity for students from all five schools to come together."



For the datebook: What: Party on the Square When: Thursday, September 15 Time: 6:00-11:00pm Admission: Free

# Inagural interdisciplinary lecture series kicks off this Friday: Keynoter Dr. Leonard Shlain to present 'Art and Physics'

Dr. Leonard Shlain, internationally acclaimed author of three best-selling books, will kick off the new interdisciplinary lecture series this Friday at 7:00 p.m. in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts.

Dr. Shlain, also a surgeon and educator, wrote Art and Physics: Parallel Visions in Space, Time and Light and Sex, Time and Power: How Women's Sexuality Shaped Evolution, both available at the Wilkes University bookstore. His lecture will celebrate the centennial of Albert Einstein's "Annus mirabilis," the year he presented three papers that changed the way we view the world. Dr. Shlain will also discuss the link between revolutionary art and visionary physics.

This will mark the first of many events created by the interdisciplinary task force, which will bring together the arts and sciences on campus. In next week's issue, *The Beacon* will speak with Dr. Ellen Flint, associate professor of music and others involved in the development of the interdisciplinary series.

The event is free and open to the public. A book signing will follow.



Courteousy of Marketing Communications

Dr. Leonard Shlain

#### KEENANS

# THE RAMADA

WELCOMES WILKES UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

JOIN US FOR LUNCH, DINNER OR HAPPY HOUR IN KEENANS IRISH PUB FEATURING OUR NEW MENU AND SALAD BAR 11300 AM-9100 PM DAILY

ALL WILKES UNIVERSITY STUDENTS THAT
PRESENT THEIR ID WHEN ORDERING WILL RECEIVE
A 15% DISCOUNT
ON FOOD PURCHASES

OFFER IS VALID FROM SEPTEMBER 22 THRU DECEMBER 22, 2005

Happy Hour \$2.00 It oz. Drafts
Appetizer Specials
Entertainment Thursday Feiday 5:00-8:00 PM

#### **Back to School Fashions: 2005 Edition**

BY MEGAN MANCE Beacon Correspondent

While Back-to-School time is marked by both beginnings as well as a few endings, one thing is certain: the season always signifies change. Change in lifestyle, change in routine, and of course change in fashion. Here is some of what the fashion conscious can find at downtown retailer, Boscov's, for this back to school season.

LAUREN PLUSKEY, senior



Drew's outfit is comfortable enough to wear to class or a night out. Boot cut, faded, or worn jeans are becoming more and more popular for guys any time of the year for any occasion. For a casual look, Drew is complimenting the jeans with a zip up sweatshirt and simple t-shirt underneath. For a classier look, just switch the sweatshirt for a classic button down. However, guys should be aware that the lighter the jeans, the darker the shirt and the darker the jeans, the lighter the shirt.

#### Lauren

Lauren's outfit is casual enough to be worn to class yet trendy enough to be worn for a night on the town. From head to toe, Lauren oozes with fashion. Stilettos are always a chic look, rounded or pointed toe. Just be sure they're comfortable. The popular gaucho pants are very much in style this fall, and can be seen on celebrities such as Jessica Simpson and Hilary Duff. Crop jackets in denim or corduroy are a must, and can be accompanied by a bright colored tank top, button down, or t-shirt. Anything goes this fall! Don't be afraid to mix colors or patterns together that may not "match."

DREW AMAROSO, senior

Photos, The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

#### DREW:

Jeans - Flyp Jeans, \$48.00 Sweatshirt -Architect Jean Company, \$39.99 Shoes - Skechers, \$64.99

#### THE FALL LOOK

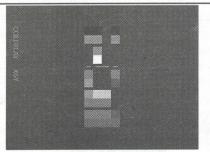
#### LAUREN:

Pants - Joe Benbasset, \$32.00 Jacket - Star Jeans, \$29.99 Tank Top - Next Era, \$14.99 Shoes - Charlies, \$39.99



BY MATT ZEBROWSKI Beacon Asst. Op-Ed Editor

After spending a pretty huge chunk of my summer listening almost exclusively to X&Y, Coldplay's latest album, I am convinced that the simple fact of the matter is that it contains no bum tracks. Not a single one.



Courtesy of Amazon.com

Well, maybe there's one. "Til Kingdom Come," the so-called "bonus track," is pretty boring. But it's a bonus, so it doesn't really count anyway. Every single other song on X&Y is as anthemic as anything you have ever heard in your life, with gorgeous melodies and vocalist Chris Martin doing that halffalsetto thing he does so well in a seemingly endless series of (not exaggerating) nigh epic choruses. Sure, this could be a description of any Coldplay album thus far, but on X&Y, it's just plain better.

The biggest difference between X&Y and the band's other albums is definitely the increased use of synthesizers and electronics. Playing with too many synths is a risky move that often overwhelms and transforms even the best artists to pure suck (see 90's Herbie

Hancock for countless examples of this), but Coldplay manages to pull it off. The density of the keyboards only adds to the sheer hugeness of the sound, enhancing the band's already near-overwhelming grandiosity, somehow without pushing it over the top.

If it seems like I'm gushing about this album, you're right. I am. Because it's positively wonderful, and if you haven't heard it yet, I recommend that you do so immediately. X&Y is so straightforward, passionate, and just plain solid that it is truly an anomaly in mainstream pop music.

Somehow, though, and only God knows why, it seems pretty easy for rock critics to complain about Coldplay. I am pretty sure, however, that they are just jealous of Martin's marriage to total babe Gwyneth Paltrow and/ or the fact that combined they are famous enough to name their daughter after a fruit and get away with it.

Celebrity marriages and eccentricity aside, these guys are just about the hottest thing in the rock world right now, a status that hardly ever sits well with elitist and pontificating music writers (myself included), but hell, at one point so was Nirvana. So was Led Zeppelin. History shows, and even hipster snobs like myself have no choice but to admit, that every once in a while the masses get it right by falling in love with a band that truly deserves it. After finally achieving the majesty that their prior releases hinted at, X&Y convinces that the public's obsession with Coldplay certainly makes this one of those

## A&E Profile——

Highlighting contributors to campus and community culture Dave Russo '93- Stand-up comic

**BY DONNATALARICO** 

Beacon A&E Editor

After graduating from Wilkes University in 1993, this Boston native has been on stage and on screen, touring comedy clubs and appearing in commercials for AT&T and Dunkin Donuts. Last spring, he was one of ten contestants on E!'s The Entertainer who were vying for a \$1 million dollar contract with Wayne Newton. Dave Russo, dubbed 'The Wise Guy,' came in second but still impressed Newton enough to get signed. Russo relocated to Vegas where he plays at several strip casino hotels.

The funny man will bring his talent back to his alma mater next weekend as part of the 2005 Homecoming festivities. Earlier this summer, The Beacon had a chance to chat with Russo.

The Beacon: You have a contract with Wayne Newton and his company Aries2. How is it having a comedy great as a manager and mentor?

Russo: He's been fantastic! It pumps you up to see Wayne laugh at you. This is the guy who was given his break by Jack Benny and Jackie Gleason and now he's giving me mine.

The Beacon: Since you've had your 'television season of fame,' do you find people look at you differently? Like they are trying to figure out where they know you from?

Russo: I ran into a couple from Mississippi when I was buying sneakers, and they said I was the second 'celebrity' they ran into- they also saw Flavor Flav who was on



Courtesy of Dave Russo 10k, Me

the Surreal Life. I was mentioned in the same ome t sentence as Flavor Flav! I guess I'm good andmo enough to get recognized.

The Beacon: What type of humor do you n Ripr prefer in your own shows? And, what makes lung m YOU laugh?

Russo: I am versatile. I can be clean or veals to dirty. Depends on the audience. I like it when ther's d people are real and tell it like it is. I laugh at sa's hel Jim Carrey, Steve Martin and Bill Cosby. omelan Physical comedy makes me laugh. The ev- lantic I eryday things do, too.

The Beacon: How has the reception been ther kill from your Wilkes classmates?

Russo: I get lots of calls from old friends. where The positive reception from my Wilkes family has just been fantastic.

The Beacon: So, how would you describe where you're at now?

Russo: It's just explosive right now. The career is good...(The Entertainer) isn't the last time you'll see me on TV.

On the web: www.daverusso.net

#### QUICK

ON AND AROUND CAMPUS THIS WEEK

Wednesday, 7:30pm-rocker Billy Idol at F.M. Kirby Center. Call 826-1111 for details.

Thursday, 6:00-9:00pm-Arts in the Autumn-presented by The College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. Local artists will create works of art during the event to be awarded at an 8:30 p.m. drawing. The \$30 admission includes a dinner buffet, wine bar, live jazz music and a silent auction. Proceeds will benefit student academic awards. RSVP required.

Thursday, 6:00-11:00pm-Downtown Collegetown Party on the Squaresee story

Friday, 7:00pm- Manuscript reading, Kirby Salon. Accepting donations to benefit Hurricane Katrina victims.

Friday and Saturday-Little Theater of Wilkes-Barre presents Bye, Bye Birdie. Call 823-1875 for ticket information.

Saturday, 7:00 p.m.- A Night of Ghazal-The Wilkes University International Student Association and Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Indo-American Association of NEPA in the Rite Aid Auditorium will present a Night of Ghazal with music from Asif Hasan. Tickets are \$20-\$30. Call 570-654-2628

Join America's #1 Student Tour Operator

CANCUN ACAPULCO JAMAICA BAHAMAS FLORIDA



Sell Trips, Earn Cash & Travel Free



1-800-648-4849 / www.ststravel.com

we buy and sell

DVDs

VIDEO GAMES

LPs and 45s

MUSICAL ENERGI
59 north main ~ wilkes barre ~ 829-2929

we have hundreds of posters!!

YALI eacon The s nown f Howe et out t mditio riller,

ins of ruger r Lisa R

Red Eye hty-five on the bt that dway i ther hit

urphy. N portrayin nin the t u can't e aracter. here ha vies qui ect this (

? For go



# Dinner and a Movie

#### See: Red Eye, PG-13 Food: McDonald's

BYALISON SHERRY

Beacon Correspondent

The summer of 2005 was definitely not known for its box office fame.

However, there were a few good reasons to get out to the movies and not just for the air conditioning. The best was probably the thriller, Red Eye, directed by Wes Craven. Fans of Craven's work in the classic Freddy Kruger movies will not be disappointed.

Lisa Reisert (Rachel McAdams, The Notebook, Mean Girls) is awaiting her return flight home to Miami after attending her grandmother's funeral in Dallas. While waiting out the delayed flight, Lisa meets Jackson Ripner (Cillian Murphy), a handsome young man with seemingly harmless intentions. Just as their flight takes off, Jackson reveals to Lisa a wallet that he swiped off her father's desk. His true intentions are to enlist Lisa's help in killing the deputy secretary of Homeland Security and his family at the Lux Atlantic Hotel, where Lisa happens to be the manager. If Lisa refuses, he will have her father killed. So begins a series of terrifying threats--and at 30,000 feet in the air-- there is nowhere to run.



Courtesy of movies.yahoo.com

Red Eye is a relatively short film, but all eighty-five minutes of it will definitely keep you on the edge of your seat. There is no doubt that Rachel McAdams is making her headway in the Hollywood world with yet another hit to add to the list. There is definitely more to come in the future for this ac-

The same can also be said about Cillian Murphy. Murphy does a very believable job of portraying multiple personalities. You love him in the beginning and by the movie's end, you can't even imagine why you liked his character

There haven't been many recent thriller movies quite like Red Eye and who better to direct this one than the renowned Wes Craven? For good intrigue and great acting, Red Eye is definitely a great night out!

Overall Grade: B+

BYMYLESRUMBEL

Beacon A&E Asst. Editor

It was little more than half a century ago a restaurant opened, that would not only take the country by storm, but the entire world. The restaurant would go on to become not only the leading food service retailer in the world, but the largest distributor of Coca-Cola to consumers, as well as target of many frivolous (and some not too frivolous) lawsuits. What is this restaurant? McDonald's.

Filmmaker Morgan Spurlock went on a McDonald's diet in his documentary Supersize Me, which showed the fast food giant in a not-so-flattering light. However, putting potential weight gain and physical effects aside, how is the food?

Now, for the most part, I (like everyone) try to stay away from fast food restaurants when possible. However, for a poor coilege student it's fairly impossible to dine out without hitting fast food. In addition, I also had an interest in these "premium" chicken sandwiches because I actually frequented McDonald's locations often for their predecessor, the Chicken McGrill.

Being incredibly susceptible to marketing, I was totally tempted to try these chicken sandwiches. However, I was disappointed with the results. These chicken sandwiches come in either crispy or grilled. I personally prefer grilled to deep-fried. Obviously, these sandwiches use a different type of chicken breast than McDonald's previous sandwiches and the sandwich is on a "delicious honey-wheat roll."

However, it was not the new "premium" chicken breasts, withwhich I have the problem. In fact, these breasts are good enough to be eaten with a fork. Cheers for the new chicken breasts.

But jeers for the "delicious honey-wheat roll." It has the texture of rubber. Between the chicken being larger and juicer, and the bun being like rubber, the "premium" chicken sandwiches are incredibly hard to eat. Keeping in mind that "fast food" needs to be fast and easy to eat, this does neither. If consumers wanted to go to McDonalds for a sit down meal (really, who wants that?) these chicken breasts would make a better sell (without the

More props to McDonald's for being cheap and easy, but remember if you are rushing don't go the premium chicken breasts.

Overall Grade: C

# Nothing But Net This week on the web

BYANDEESCARANTINO Beacon Correspondent

"Facebook Me!" Twenty years ago, the phrase was non-existent.

Come to think of it, five years ago, if a friend of yours said "facebook me," you would have had absolutely no idea as to what they were talking about. The term emerged very recently, yet it is already so well-known that it became part of many college students' everyday vocabulary.

So, what does this phrase mean? Well, it all traces back to the internet website that has forever changed the social scene of college students everywhere.

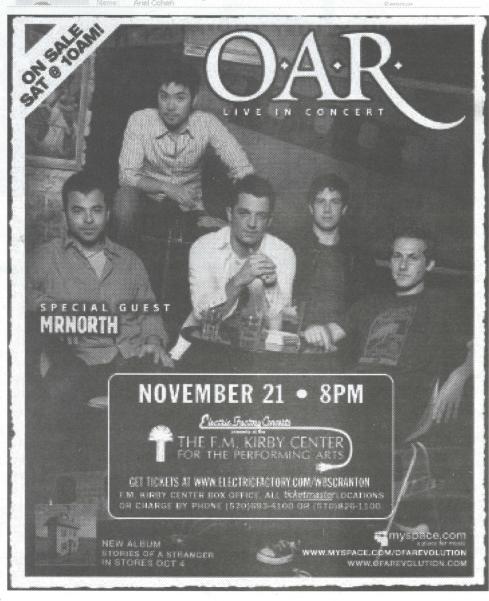
The Facebook (www.thefacebook.com) was created on February 4, 2004 by Mark Zuckerberg. The creators of Facebook refer to it as "an online directory that connects people through social networks at schools."

While Facebook is not the first of its kind, it is unique in the respect that it links students from colleges and universities throughout the nation. Facebook allows you to be someone's "friend," by sending a request to

another person to be added into their network of people they know. This is known as "facebooking." Friends can be found through a variety of connects including residence halls, classes, majors and even mutual interests. Once you "facebook" a friend (and they approve the request), you can view their friends, and hence social networks are formed. Putting an email address on allows people in the same classes to connect.

As of last week, the creators announced that they are opening Facebook for high school students. Facebook was different than other sites because it was restricted to students and alumni of colleges and universities. While it was stated college students and high school students will not be able to interact with one another, it defeats the concept of Facebook. Facebook was designed for students seeking higher education to connect. Eliminating that criterion will make it like MySpace.com, or any other site with a similar theme.

So everyone get out there on the web, check it out, and "Facebook Me!"

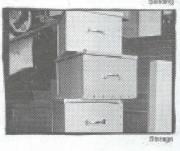


#### Share your space, but live on your own.









Get everything for your dorm room at Walmart.com and still afford tuition.



#### SEPTEMBER 12, 2

## Colonels Sl

**BYJONATHANMILES** 

Beacon Correspondent

That famous stubborn streak re on Wilkes University's Ralston F Saturday.

After losing to William Pa barnburner in its first game of the son, the Colonels came back to bornly insist the team is a force reckoned with this season shutting a perennial contender, Widener Usity 13-0.

Senior running back Jake Rescored two touchdowns and the 'University defense allowed 320 in total offense, including only 66 on the ground. The one-two pur Wilkes to its first ever shut-outhe Pioneers.

This Saturday, at 1 p.m. the V Colonels will play last year's champions, Delaware Valley or road. The Colonels will enter the with a 1-1 record.

Head Coach Frank She acknolwedges that this game mabe one of the season's toughest it Colonels, but it should prove to battle for both teams.

After losing to the Delaware near the end of the season last ye

### Women

BY NEAL SANTOSKI
Beacon Correspondent

After four seasons at the helm owomen's basketball team, Head Reed stepped down late this sum



Courtesy of Sports Ir Coach Reed spent four years at Iniversity, compiling a record o

# Colonels Shut Out Widener; Prepare for Delaware Valley

**BY JONATHAN MILES** 

Beacon Correspondent

That famous stubborn streak reared its head on Wilkes University's Ralston Field this past Saturday.

After losing to William Paterson in a barnburner in its first game of the season, the Colonels came back to stubbornly insist the team is a force to be reckoned with this season shutting out a perennial contender, Widener University 13-0.

Senior running back Jake Remmel scored two touchdowns and the Wilkes University defense allowed 320 yards in total offense, including only 66 yards on the ground. The one-two punch led Wilkes to its first ever shut-out over the Pioneers.

This Saturday, at 1 p.m. the Wilkes Colonels will play last year's MAC champions, Delaware Valley on the road. The Colonels will enter the game with a 1-1 record.

Head Coach Frank Sheptock acknolwedges that this game may well be one of the season's toughest for the Colonels, but it should prove to be a battle for both teams.

After losing to the Delaware Valley near the end of the season last year 120, Wilkes's returning players and coaching staff know what it will take to beat Delaware Valley. They've watched the films, and they'll be watching new ones of their familiar opponent all week.

Delaware Valley comes into Saturday's game 2-0 after beating Moravian 31-22, and destroying FDU-Florham 49-3. When asked what he anticipates for the match up, Junior strong safety Brian Vivaldo said, "Against [Delaware Valley], we have to contain their ball movement, especially from their quarterback and wide receivers. We have to use field

explosive offense. We have to try and limit

position and do well on special teams to have better opportunities to score than last year."

Sheptock agreed with Vivaldo and added with regard to the running game, "We need to be able to run the football. We can't struggle like we have been. And we must control the clock. Turnovers have to be minimized and

we have to play well fundamentally. We have to challenge their defense and limit big plays."

It may seem as though Wilkes has a lot to do against Delaware Valley, but Sheptock has enormous confidence in his young team. "Our strengths are our resiliency, strong tackling, the potential of our special teams, and senior leadership," Sheptock said.

All of those are what great teams have, but how important is this game really? "It is critical because we're playing the defending MAC champion who is going to win a bunch of games this year. Irregardless of our record, a victory over them puts us back in the race. Losing puts you behind the eight-ball."



The Beacon/Todd Wiebel

Bo Tkach returns a kick downfield in the Colonel's season home opener against Widener on Saturday. The Colonels beat Widner 13-0 and face Delaware Valley this Saturday.



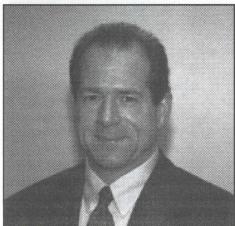
# Women's basketball to see change in leadership

Coach Reed resigns; new coach to be named on Monday

**BY NEAL SANTOSKI** 

Beacon Correspondent

After four seasons at the helm of the Wilkes women's basketball team, Head Coach Jim Reed stepped down late this summer.



Courtesy of Sports Information

Coach Reed spent four years at Wilkes University, compiling a record of 27-71.

However, new leadership is in hand for the upcoming Lady Colonels season. Wilkes University Athletic Director, Addy Malatesta, confirmed an offer has been made and accepted for the position; however, the new head coach's name will not be released until Tuesday at the request of the candidate.

"While we're trying to maintain the confidentiality of the candidate because she's employed at another institution, we're very excited at the prospect of having a coach on board with us. I know that she is very excited to have accepted the position at Wilkes," Malatesta said.

Malatesta also added the new basketball coach will be officially on staff Monday, Sep-

During his stint as head coach, Reed accumulated a record of 27-71. He accepted the head coach position at Susquehanna University mid summer. Susquehanna is a member of the Middle Atlantic Conference and a regular-season opponent of Wilkes.

Reed's best campaign at Wilkes was the 2002-03 season. During that season, the Lady Colonels posted a 12-13 record.

"Coach Reed is going to be missed," said Addy Malatesta, Director of Athletics at Wilkes. "He worked hard. He spent a lot of time with basketball." In addition to his coaching duties, Reed was involved in both fundraisers and community service. Reed was also a site manager for the volleyball and softball teams.

For Reed, a return to Susquehanna will also be a return to the birthplace of his collegiate coaching career. He began as an assistant coach to the women's basketball team in 1989, and continued to coach the Lady Crusaders until 1992. Reed then spent the following two seasons coaching the men's basketball team at Susquehanna. This previous experience may have helped his decision to take the offer. "Having coached at Susquehanna in the past," said Reed, "I still know a lot of people there...and it seemed like the time was right to make the move."

Reed's resignation met with mixed emotions throughout the team. Some players reacted with surprise, while others took the news in stride. When asked if she was surprised by the news, junior Katie Orr replied, "Not really." Orr, a business major, went on to point out that, "He told us last year that he was putting applications into other schools."

Senior Rena Bolin, on the other hand, was extremely surprised."

Some of the players have mixed emotions about a new coach coming into the Lady Colonels' program. Orr believes that, "The program is going to be completely different."

Bolin, on the other hand, takes a different outlook. "Things won't change with a new coach," said the 2nd team All-Conference selection. The new coach will just make us better."

# GAME OF THE WEEK

# You Gotta Believe!

BY NICK PODOLAK Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

#### COMMENTARY

The "Game of the Week" features the Atlanta Braves verses the Philadelphia Phillies in a match-up between division rivals. Not much lies at stake for the Braves, who will most likely win their 14th straight division title. But the series can mean the season for the Phillies, who are quickly falling out of the National League wild card race.

#### **Double Take**

Sarah examines the stats that truly matter

BY SARAH HERBERT Beacon Features Editor

#### COMMENTARY

This week's series between the Philadelphia Phillies and the Atlanta Braves probably won't be all that exciting. Everyone knows the Braves are sure to beat the Phillies.

First of all, a team that lacks the creativity to call themselves by anything other than the name of their home city does not deserve to beat the best team in the leauge (the Braves, of course). And seriously, Philadelphia teams are known for blowing games. Philadelphia just isn't a city for athletics. Even Oakland can do better.

Secondly, the Braves are semi-endorsed by popular R&B artist Usher. Everyone who has seen his videos has surely picked up on his many Braves caps. What's good for Usher is good for me!

Usher aside, I must admit I am somewhat biased. After living right outside of Atlanta for a few years, I developed an obsession with former Braves Pitcher David Justice. Between Usher and Justice, all I have to say is...Go Braves!



#### Major League Baseball: Phillies vs. Braves

Thus far, the Braves lead the season series seven games to five, and Phils need to take three out of the four games to stay alive. Here are the strengths and weaknesses of both clubs.

"The Young Guns": Chase Utley and Ryan Howard have given the Phillies a muchneeded shot in the arm during their playoff push. Utley has quietly become the team's leader. His clutch hitting and all-out hustle is a key reason why the Phils are still in this thing. And Ryan Howard has done wonders in place of the injured Jim Thome. The 6' 4", 260-pound beast leads NL rookies with 16 homeruns and has smacked four bombs in his last seven games.

The "pen": The Phillies arguably have one of the best bullpens in baseball. Given the run support, the trio of Ryan Madson, Ugueth

Urbina, and Billy Wagner can easily turn a nine inning game into a six inning game.

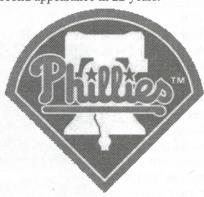
Inconsistency: One thing that may doom the Phillies is their inconsistency. One game they'll score 12 runs, the next four games they'll score two. It is a pattern that fans have grown accustomed to over the past four seasons, and in order to win the wild card, the Phillies must put a string of wins together and play to their true potential. They also have to start winning games in September, when they really count. Winning teams find ways to win, so must the Phillies.

**Prediction**: After watching the gut-wrenching losses to the Astros last week, The Philly faithful are probably chanting E-A-G-L-E-S-EAGLES! But you gotta believe. This team has showed resilience all summer long, staying in the thick of things while the media

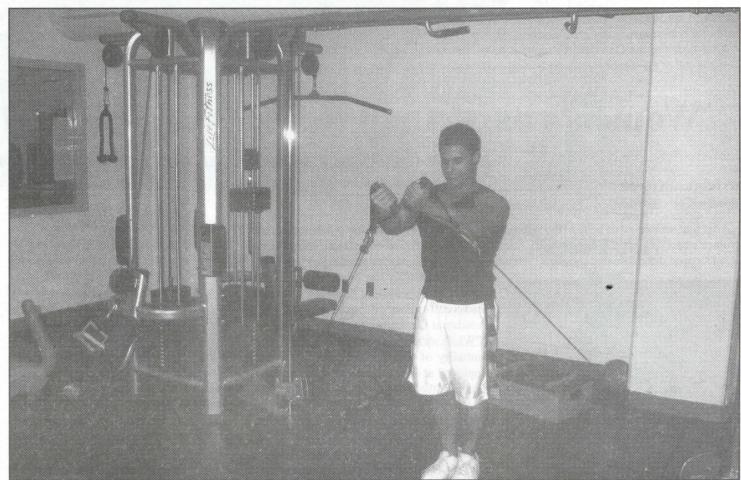
waited for them to collapse.

They will take three out of four from the Braves and get right back in it, but it is going to be an uphill battle to the finish, making 2005 a season to remember.

If they do make the playoffs, it will be their second appearance in 22 years.



# Fitness center continues to improve



The Beacon/Todd Wiebel

The Wilkes University Fitness Center, which began operating in October of 2003, continues to acquire new equipment. The latest addition: a new universal system complete with pullup and cable stations. Other recent additions include four television sets for students using the cardiovascular equipment. John Sclafani demonstrates some of the uses of the new equipment. The Fitness Center is located in the basement of the Marts Cetner on South Franklin St.

#### Athlete of the Week

Men's Soccer: Steve Uhas

**BYRYAN DIPPRE** 

Beacon Sports Editor

Junior forward Steve Uhas makes his debut in the Player of the Week column after an amazing start to the 2005 men's soccer season.

After a 2-0 win over College Misericordia, Uhas led the high-powered Colonels to a 5-0 win over Hunter College on September 5. "We really controlled the game that day," said Uhas, who finished the game with two goals and three assists.

"We passed the ball a lot and created a lot of opportunities to score," he added.

Uhas, who led the team in scoring last season with thirteen goals and two assists, is optimistic about the 2005 edition of the men's soccer team. "We're a really experienced team," he said. "I'm really looking forward to the upcoming season."

Uhas isn't the only one looking forward to seeing what he and his team can produce. Many onlookers at the Hunter College game were amazed at the offensive assault that the Colonels, and in particular, Steve Uhas, produced. "It was a standout performance if I ever saw one," said junior Steve Davies, who had stopped by to watch the game.

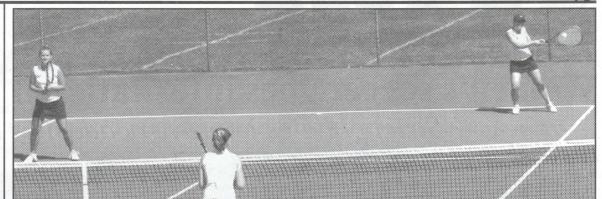
Even other sports practicing nearby took notice. Senior Jeff Thompson, who was practicing on the nearby football field while the game



Courtesy of Sports Information **Junior Steven Uhas** 

was taking place, couldn't help but notice Uhas's performance. "Every time I ran off the field to get a drink," said Thompson, "the crowd was cheering and his name was being announced."

The Colonels have pulled away from their opening three games with a 2-1 record, including two shutouts. Uhas kicked an additional goal in the season opener against Misericordia to up his total to three goals and three assists going into Saturday's game against Shenandoah. If Uhas and the rest of the offense can continue to produce while the defense remains stout, the Colonels should have no trouble improving on last year's 8-7-2 record.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Junior Sara Ryder (right) and Freshman Kate Mullen battle against Drew University on Sunday morning.

#### Weekend Recaps

Running back Jake Remmer barreled his way into the endzone twice--including a 57-yard touchdown reception--as the Colonels opened up the MAC season with a 13-0 shutout of Widener University on Saturday afternoon at the Ralston Field Complex. Wilkes improves to 1-1 overall and 1-0 in the conference, as the Pioneers lost their season-opener.

Women's Soccer

The Lady Colonels added another win to their spotless record of 4-0 on Saturday morning when they defeated Lebanon Valley College 1-0. Sophomore Bethany Head scored the winning goal early in the second half, and a stiff defense held the Flying Dutchwomen at bay to give Wilkes the victory.

Men's Soccer

The Colonels beat the Shenandoah Hornets 1-0 on Saturday afternoon to move their record to 3-1 overall. Junior Steve Uhas scored with seven seconds left on the clock to give Wilkes the

**Field Hockey** 

Wilkes University improved its record to 3-2 overall by defeating Wideper University in overtime on Saturday afternoon. With only 4:28 remaining in overtime, Freshman Devon McKay knocked in a goal to lift Wilkes to a 2-1 victory.

Women's Volleyball

The Lady Colonels dropped a 3-0 decision to Susquehama University on Saturday. The loss dropped the team to 3-3 overall.

The women's tennis team defeated Drew University on Sunday afternoon. The Lady Colonels defeated the 2004 Freedom Conference champs by a score of 3-4.

Tackles by junior John Darrah on Saturday's shutout against Widener.

Goals by sophomore Bethany Head on Saturday morning's victory over Lebanon Valley college.

goals this season.

has been involved in all women's volleyball 11 but one of the Colonels match against the Susquehanna Crusad-

Goals by junior Steve Kills by senior Jillian Wilkes team wins for the Uhas this week. Uhas Focht during Saturday's weekend of September 9-

ers.

# Women's soccer goes international

## Strict policies improve academics and athletics

#### **BYRICHHANNICK**

Beacon Correspondent

Some say the Wilkes University women's soccer team does everything together--practice, study, and shop Europe's finest clothing stores and dine on some of Europe's finest cuisine.

Well, O.K. The latter two aren't the norm, but this summer the team did have the chance to bond over spaeztle and pommes frittes while members toured, trained and played in Belgium, the Netherlands, and Germany.

Coach John Sumoski, in his fourth year as head coach, took the Wilkes women to Europe to give them firsthand insight into how other cultures view and play soccer.

Though the Lady Colonels participated in four games overseas, that was not the primary reason for the trip. The women played four professional teams while in Europe, posting a record of 0-4, but Coach Sumoski said, "I think overall it was a positive experience for them...seeing that level of play."

There were also benefits physi-



The Beacon/Todd Wiebel

Freshman mid-fielder, Amanda Vernon passes the ball upfield in Saturday's game against Lebanon Valley

cally from the European trip because the team was able to train and work together to prepare for the upcoming season.

Kristy Barsby, a junior special education major, got an experience of a lifetime on the European trip. Barsby was introduced to many new cultural insights while in Europe, "We went so many different places...Golden Burk caves, and three different countries...it was mind-blowing," Barsby said.

She felt that the toughest oppo-

nent they played was Belgium. Barsby said, "Their movement off the ball...one touch passing...they were phenomenal." Barsby felt they learned a lot as a team from Belgium like moving without the ball.

Tara Friedman, a senior English and secondary education major, had been saving for the trip since freshman year. She was surprised at how skilled players overseas were at such a young age. "They had a player...she was only 13 and she was amazing."

Friedman added that there are ten girls still on the team from the European trip and since the Wilkes women spent all that time together team unity has really improved.

The trip to Europe was just one aspect of a total team-building effort carefully designed by Sumoski. His holistic strategy is to combine high expectations in all areas--physical, academic, and character. All team members understand that to be part of the team means strength across the board. For example, the Wilkes University women's soccer program is known on campus for its strict team policies. This includes a tough alcohol policy and a challenging academic policy which has resulted in the team having the highest GPA of any Wilkes University collegiate sport.

Sumoski has set the academic bar high for freshmen requiring six hours of study time per week until they get a 3.0 cumulative grade point average. No player is allowed to

miss class past the teacher's class policy. "I think at some point you have to decide what is attainable and what is reasonable and allow them to have some sort of life outside of academics," said Coach Sumoski.

Friedman and her teammates are very proud of their academic achievements and hope to keep the ball rolling.

The Wilkes University women's soccer team has a strict social policy along with academics. Barsby acknowledged, "It's hard not being able to go out." She feels it is especially hard on the freshmen because they want to experience all campus life has to offer. But the benefits seem to outweigh the costs through the season.

Friedman acknowledged the team's drinking policy is firm noting it is a "dry season" which means no alcohol during the sea-

\*Civic Meeting of the NAACP Miller Conference Room -- 7:30 to 9 p.m.

#### **TUESDAY (9/13)**

- Women's Tennis @ Lycoming -- 3:30 p.m.
- \*Women's Volleyball vs. FDU -- 7 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY (9/14)

- \*Women's Tennis vs. PSU Berks -- 3:30 p.m.
- \*Field Hockey vs. Misericordia -- 4 p.m.
- \*Women's Soccer @ Elmira -- 4 p.m.

#### **THURSDAY (9/15)**

- \*Men's Soccer vs. Baptist Bible -- 4 p.m.
- \*Party on the Square -- 6 p.m.

#### FRIDAY (9/16)

- \*Volleyball @ Scranton -- 4 p.m.
- \*Dr. Leonard Shlain Forum @ DDD -- 7 p.m.

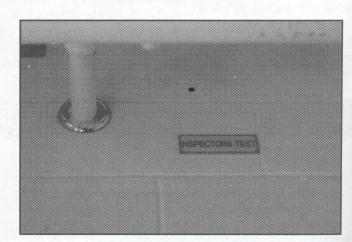
#### SATURDAY (9/17)

- \*University Open House -- 9 a.m.
- \*Volleyball @ Scranton -- 10 a.m.
- \*Women's Tennis vs. Keystone -- 1 p.m.
- \*Women's Soccer @ Moravian -- 1 p.m.
- \*Field Hockey @ Manhattanville -- 1 p.m.
- \*Football @ Delaware Valley -- 1 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY (9/18)**

- \*Religious Pursuit Trip (Must RSVP by Sept. 16 x4731) -- 9 a.m.
- \*Pharmacy White Coat Ceremony -- 11 a.m.
- \*Men's Tennis vs Moravian -- 12 p.m.

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



This photo was taken somewhere on Wilkes University's Campus. When you find it, email us the answer at: wilkesbeacon@gmail.com. Be sure to put "Campus Picture" as the subject heading, as well as your name, phone number, and either campus mailbox or mailing address in the body text. A random winner will be picked from the correct responses and will receive a \$10 cash

Post your event on the Campus Calendar

E-mail it to us at wilkesbeacon@gmail.com, with the subject heading "Calendar Event"