

The BEACON

Wilkes University Wilkes-Barre, PA

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

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In This Issue...

Funkmaster Flex mixer flames out

Disc jockey never scheduled, say representatives

BY CARLTON HOLMES

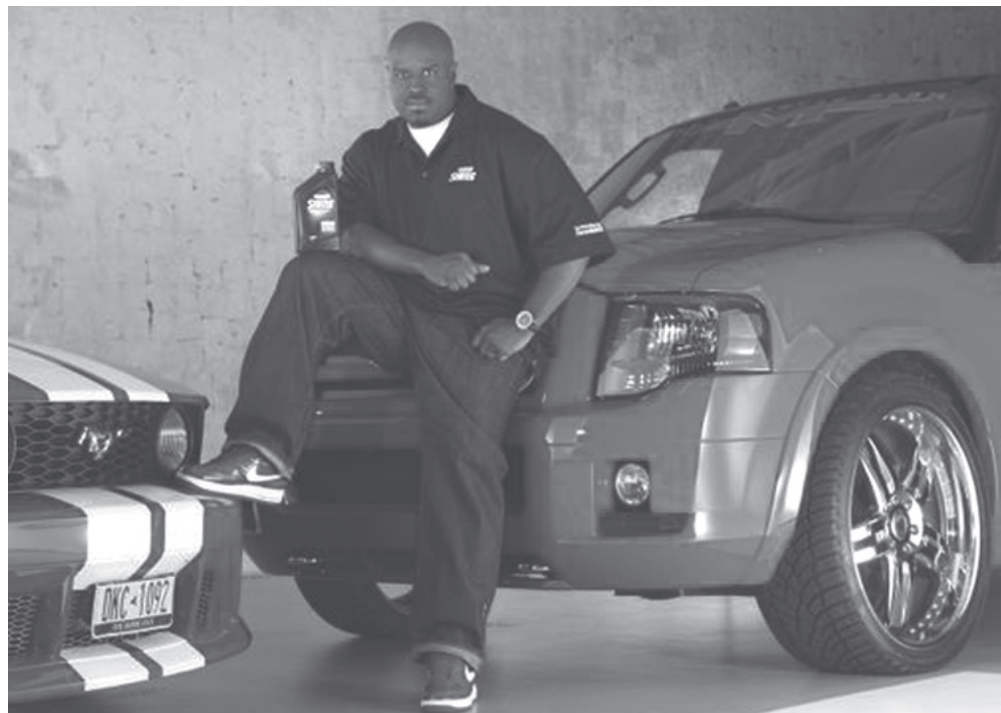
Beacon Sports Editor

Two months of promoting a college mixer headlining the notorious disc jockey, Funkmaster Flex, turned to questions of fraud when the party was cancelled at the last minute this weekend and a Multicultural Student Coalition (MSC) organizer came under scrutiny for allegedly forging the entertainer's name on a contract.

Because the matter is currently under investigation and is a disciplinary issue, the student's name will not be released by Student Affairs.

"The Student Affairs office has had preliminary discussion with the principals involved in the event. Beginning Monday, we'll be investigating the situation in more detail and take appropriate action as is required," said Paul Adams, Vice President of Student Affairs.

According to MSC representatives, Flex, along with his crew, was scheduled to entertain students in the Marts Gym on Saturday, April 26, as a "personal favor" because he is "a close friend" of the brother of



Courtesy www.FunkmasterFlex.com

After two months of preparation and promotion, Wilkes University students were shocked and disappointed when news broke that DJ Funkmaster Flex's agreement to perform at Wilkes was fraudulent.

See FLEX page 3

SPIN Farm takes root on Ross and River Streets

BY NICHOLAS PODOLAK

Beacon Editor-in-Chief

& NICOLE FRAIL

Beacon Asst. News Editor

It looked like a scene from the movie *Tremors*: long cylindrical mounds of dirt mysteriously stopping at the corner of Ross and River Streets on the lot where Brown's deli used to sit. However, 30 foot man-eating graboids have been ruled out as the perpetrators.

The mounds are the result of an organic community vegetable plot under the supervision of Dr. Ellen Flint, Lee Pressman and Andy Rhinehardt, agronomy specialists from the National Center for Appropriate Technology, who have made good use of the land left over from the demolition of the abandoned deli this winter.

"We did the tilling and made the beds on Sunday, and it was pretty amazing to see the community members come out and ask what was going on," said Pressman.

According to Dr. Marleen Troy, chair of the Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences Department, the committee for the SHE Building was influenced by SPIN farms on various green campuses, such as Dickinson's, when they were touring school grounds in search of features for the proposed "green" science building.

"Fenner Farm," as it will be called in honor of Mr. George Fenner, Esq., an avid gardener whose vegetable garden once spread across the greenway to the Stark Learning Center, utilizes a new method of gardening called SPIN (Small Plot Intensive); a relatively new, inexpensive type of farming that makes it possible to earn an income from plots of land under an acre in size, including front and back yards. SPIN sells specialty how-to packets online for anyone who is interested in organizing their own sub-farm.

"We feel it would be a great honor to Mr. Fenner and his great contributions to Wilkes," said Flint, Coordinator of the Undergraduate Experience.

As a handheld earthway seeder carefully sowed the land, traces of arugula started to peek through

the soil, stretching for sunlight. Wilkes faculty including Troy, Shelley Pearce, Director of the Wilkes Music Conservatory and Sharon Bower, Associate Professor of Art were all on hand to help place floating row covers over the plot, which act as miniature greenhouses to help keep in sunlight as well as moisture.

"It's all very kind of low tech," Flint said.

"I like to be outdoors; I like to garden. It's an opportunity to learn, and the rewards in the end are delicious," added Bower.

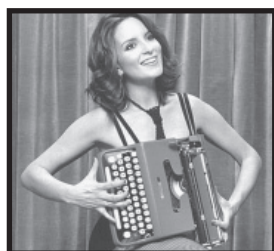
A summer internship to work on the farm has been proposed and is still waiting grant approval from the mentoring task force. The proposed internship would pay \$8.50-10.50 an hour for four to six positions.

"There seems to be a great deal of interest about the project, and I know the commit-

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Female
Comedians



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Shocker Squad Wins
3rd Straight
Championship



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Rossenn Lecture welcomes renowned paleoanthropologist

BY MEGAN KRISANDA
Beacon Staff Writer

The 27th Annual Max Rosenn Lecture Series welcomes Richard Leakey as guest speaker on May 4 at 7:30p.m. in the Dorothy Dickson Dart Center. Leakey is a paleoanthropologist, activist and conservationist with a significant amount of experience in field research and is credited with changing the notions of evolution and the origins of human beings. Leakey will be addressing climate change in his lecture, "Humanity: The Past and Future of Climate Change."

"He understands the climate shift and its impact on humanity and the global perspective," said Dr. James Merryman, Professor of Sociology and Anthropology.

In the 1950s, Leakey and his family discovered 3 million

year old remains of the earliest human ancestors at Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania which defined Africa as the origin of human kind.

"His family, particularly his father and mother, were the primary figures in the second half of the 20th century, who really pin pointed human origins in East Africa. He was very much a part of that upbringing. And then he went on to do a lot of discoveries. With his knowledge of human evolution and geology he has a good position to talk about these major changes," said Merryman.

Both Leakey and Merryman share related interests in the field of anthropology. Merryman has always been highly influenced by Leakey and his family with their work in the field. Merryman conducted research in Kenya for his dissertation. His research in Kenya

was affiliated with the Kenya Museums with Leakey serving as the director of the National Museums of Kenya (NMK).

"I knew these people, I knew their work. I know of them much better than they know of me. It very exciting and it felt like an extreme privilege to be working under his umbrella," said Merryman.

The Rosenn Committee is responsible for Leakey serving as the guest speaker for the lecture series. An invitation-only reception and dinner will be held prior to the lecture and a reception following the lecture is open to the public. The reception following the lecture will be in the upper lobby of the Dart Center including coffee, tea and dessert according to Rebecca Van Jura, director of special events.



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

Richard Leakey, paleoanthropologist, activist and conservationist will be speaking at this year's Rosenn Lecture on May 4 at 7:30.

The BEACON

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

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The Beacon/Jenna Stephens

The second annual Relay For Life at Wilkes University was held on April 26 and 27. According to Andy Julian, Relay for Life's co-chairman, the event raised over \$18,000 for the American Cancer Society to help fund cancer research.



The Beacon / Gino Troiani

(ABOVE) Dr. Marleen Troy looks on as Lee Pressman and Andy Rhinehardt from the National Center of Appropriate Technology build floating row covers over the plot. The row covers will act like miniature greenhouses to help keep the soils moist and the sunlight in. Vegetables and herbs such as squash, arugula, tomatoes, zucchini, chard, basil and coriander will be planted in Fenner Farm and eventually sold to Wilkes students and the surrounding community.

SPIN

from FRONT PAGE

tee is giving it very serious consideration,” said Flint.

Even though the grant is still under consideration, students like Natalie Harvey and Rachel Curtis have been helping faculty members prepare the farm grounds for free.

“I hope that the garden will create a bridge that spans across the various departments of the university. I think it is a great opportunity for everyone to come together and partake in such a great activity,” said Harvey, sophomore pharmaceutical science major.

“Too many people in our society lack an understanding of where food comes from, and the work required to grow and harvest crops. As we move into a time when food prices are rising and crop lands are becoming scarce, it is important to educate people about the importance of sustainable, local farming,” said Curtis, sophomore biochemistry major.

All of the harvest will be washed, bundled and packaged in the Fenner Hall kitchen and sold to students and the community from a stand nearby, as it is done at the local Farmer’s Market on Public Square. Flint is even in talks with Sodexo food services to possibly use the garden’s harvest in the

cafeteria.

“We need to sit down and see what their needs are and see if our production could meet their needs,” she said.

A workshop on SPIN farming will be held on May 19 and 20 that includes lectures from people all around the country, including an educator from Sydney, Australia. Students, faculty, and staff are all encouraged to participate in the event.

“We’re hoping to create and enhance the community spirit that is already here, but perhaps provide another focal point for activity and gathering,” Flint said. “We hope in the future that this will be a model for urban farming in the community, and we do

plan to hold additional workshops for community members.”

“Everybody’s excited. We’ve got a great core group of people and it will hopefully attract more,” said Troy.



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wilkesbeacon.com/podcasts**

FLEX

from FRONT PAGE

Christian Tavaréz who is a first year member of MSC.

Over 689 Facebook invitations were sent, six colleges were asked to join, banners were displayed and flyers were distributed encouraging participation in the Relay-for-Life fundraiser.

But the event was abruptly cancelled when representatives of Funk Master Flex called university officials to ask about promoting the event when Flex would be in Atlanta and the Wilkes event was not on his calendar at all. It is university policy to require all outside speakers and entertainers to sign an official contract for services.

“On behalf of the executive board of MSC, we would like to personally apologize for any disappointments or negative feelings that resulted from the cancellation of the event,”

said Valerie Martinez, student president of MSC. “Formal apologies will be sent to those who helped organize the event, all schools invited, Wilkes University and the surrounding community.”

Dr. Maria Suarez, Special Assistant to the President for Diversity and Community Relations, emphasized that Flex had nothing to do with the cancellation, but would not comment further on the student involved. She also noted that the “mixer” will be rescheduled for next semester.

All further efforts to speak with MSC representatives were denied pending the outcome of the investigation.



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Stewards of the Earth

How clean is the W-B air we breathe?

BY AMY FUSCO

Beacon Staff Writer

The environmental awareness stories, "Stewards of the Earth," on this page were the result of a semester-long advanced news writing project that investigated challenges to the Wilkes-Barre community. Podcasts of some of the interviews will also be posted at www.wilkesbeacon.com.

According to scorecard.org, "Luzerne County has 60-70% chemical air releases, making it one of the dirtiest and worst counties in the U.S." This environmental fact was one of many offered in environmentally-friendly chalk thought bubbles on the sidewalks of Wilkes University campus last week. The thought bubbles were part of a larger effort

production of coal mining rose from 11 million tons of anthracite coal in 1860 to 90 million tons in 1914.

Even though coal production largely ceased in the area in the 1950s, the mercury, carbon dioxide, and other air chemical releases from the mines continue impact the air quality. Sabrina Hannon, a sophomore English major, commented, "We [Luzerne County] were so big on the coal mining and the coal dust puts stuff into the air which isn't chemical, but once you burn it, I guess that can be chemical."

The student perspectives offered in the surveys offered insights into environmental awareness as well as some misconceptions.

"Luzerne County has 60-70% chemical air releases, making it one of the dirtiest and worst counties in the U.S."
- Scorecard.org

t o encourage community conversation about environmental issues. And conversation did happen.

"I think [the chalk thought bubbles] are very informative and they give us very good tips about how small changes or throwing that extra person in your car can really help the environment if it becomes a nationwide trend," said Gabrielle Lamb, the Wilkes Student Development Coordinator.

In addition to the chalk bubbles, a student survey of approximately 120 people offered insight to a variety of perspectives on the air quality in Wilkes-Barre. T.J. Dennis, a survey participant in Dr. Debra Chapman's Biology 105 class, stated that in this small city there are "many cars, many people and not much mass transportation." Other Wilkes students feel differently.

"[Air] pollutants are usually indicated as low; the city is not that big and there are no big factories, as far as I know," commented Felixa Wingen, an English major from the same biology class. Although most of the big factories have disappeared, Wilkes-Barre air quality is still affected by the coal mining era of Luzerne County. According to the website for the Wilkes-Barre police department, the

tions. In addition, student engagement on the environmental issues is key to permanent, positive change.

Dr. Marleen Troy, Department Chair of Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences, said, "Whatever our actions are today, look at how they are impacting the future generations."

Blake Mackesy, the Assistant Director of the Learning Center in University College agreed with Troy and commented, "I think it's very true...it's a very important message that we need to pass on not only amongst the adults but to our children."

"Most people are completely unaware of what's going on around them, like the chemicals in the air that are coming out of their car," said Frank Velez, junior biology major.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "if 190,000 car owners started to get regular tune-ups, they will keep some 90 million pounds of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere."

The Susquehanna River and water quality

BY KACI MUIR

Beacon Correspondent

"What does combined sewage overflow mean to all life in and around the Susquehanna River?" This question, which was posed last week in a chalk thought bubble, and was inspired by Wilkes University Environmental and Earth Science Professor, Dr. Sid Halsor. The answer of course, was left to the Wilkes community to decide.

Philip Ruthkosky, the Associate Dean of Student Development, in discussing the reactions of the chalk thought bubbles said, "Anything that was going to increase awareness and get students engaged and thinking about these issues is a positive thing. I'm sure when they read them, there might be some questions, but I know it is part of the project to help them get those answers."

The answers begin with the Federal Clean Water Act of 1972. The act first proposed better treatment of the Susquehanna River in order to eliminate run-off and contamination, while coinciding with the development of wetlands to reduce flooding and also provide water for areas undergoing drought.

According to Dr. Kenneth Klemow, Wilkes University Biology Professor, "Wetlands reduce the chance for erosion, [...] purify groundwater by trapping sediments and [...] filter harmful chemicals from the water." Chemicals including run-off from acid mine

drainage and combined sewage overflow are key factors to the contamination of the river.

Gus Beil, junior history and philosophy major said, "The Susquehanna is pretty disgusting as I have gone on many walks. The natural tap water is just horrible."

Beil suggested that in order for students to become more aware of their local environment, an initiator would need to propose environmental applications on campus, connecting to Ruthkosky and his view of students' justifications in not being aware.

"It might be that students have so much going on [...] some of them may feel that they have no more time to give," said Ruthkosky.

Currently, the Wilkes clubs and organizations web site lists over 100 clubs in which students can participate-four that focus on environmental causes. But, in addition to being active on campus, students may also hold part-time jobs, have a family, or have a double or triple major that consumes most of their time. At the end of the day, what students seem to want the most is an easy alternative to environmental advances.

As Wilkes continues to move forward in its plans for sustainability, Ruthkosky noted, "We are taking steps in the right direction. The more activities you give [students] the more awareness they have and more opt they are to get involved."



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Architect	Bachelor's Degree	Pass Architect Registration Exam; License – Architects License Board	X	X	Must be an individual of good character. Board may refuse to issue licensure/certification
Engineer	Bachelor's or Master's Degree	Licensed Professional Engineer. 4-8 Years progressive work experience, pass State Boards.	X	X	Must represent good moral character
Insurance Adjuster	Associate or Bachelor's Degree	License – Insurance Commissioner	N/A	X	Board may refuse to issue licensure/certification
Law Enforcement	Bachelor's Degree	N/A	X	X	Fail mandatory background checks, denied employment
Nurse	Degree from approved nursing program	License – State Board of Nursing	X	X	Must represent good moral character. Board may refuse to issue licensure/certification
Pharmacist	Obtain Doctor of Pharmacy. Pass N. American Pharmacist Licensure Exam	License – State Board of Pharmacy	X	X	Must represent good moral & professional character. Board may refuse to issue licensure/certification
Social Worker	Master's Degree	License – State Board of Social Work Examiners	X	X	Must represent good moral character. Board may refuse to issue licensure/certification
Teacher	Bachelor's Degree leading to Master's or Equivalency. Pass competency exams	License – State Department of Education	X	X	Fail mandatory background checks, denied employment

No more excuses: Students had up close view of politics

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL BOARD

This week, students are packing up their belongings and saying goodbye to Wilkes for the summer.

Some are getting their caps and gowns ready to walk across the stage and step into the "real world." But a week ago, the campus was still buzzing and felt like the semester was anything but over.

For the past month students at Wilkes University had a front row seat to the election process of the United States of America. This process is truly unique to the form of democracy carved out by America, and for a month the Wilkes community lived in a political laboratory. Wilkes community members saw the candidates, learned where they stood on issues, and hopefully made a decision reflective of their true desires for national leadership.

But could any of this have happened without good leadership right here at home? We thought it would be appropriate to begin this editorial by acknowledging some Wilkes University officials for their efforts to bring the world to our doorstep. Specifically Jack Chielli and his team in Marketing Communications, members of the

administration, and the personnel in facilities, expended a great deal of energy and time this spring to bring the candidates and their surrogates to Wilkes.

In a short period of time, former first daughter Chelsea Clinton, Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., actor

they support. Dave Sborz said he was voting for Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-NY; Patrick Austin said he was voting for Obama; while Raquel Whebby said that she was undecided.

Smith probed each person and asked why he was voting a certain

perfect place," he said.

Smith seemed to understand that the youth vote will be a force in the 2008 election and the candidates and their advisors should start listening to the demographic to ensure a victory. Too long have young voters been apathetic to the political process, giving their elders the power to govern absolutely.

For many years prior, students and young adults used the excuse that they did not know enough about the voting process to pick a candidate, but that can no longer be used as a pretext. Most college-aged people can simply go to the different candidates web pages and see where they stand on the issues. Or for the incredibly lazy people who do not want to make more than one stop on the Information Super Highway, they can go to a non-partisan youth voting site that gives you a cheat sheet for all of the candidates and issues.

We urge all young voters to get out to the polling places in November, whether you are Republican or Democrat, and cast your ballot, because your vote is your voice.

We also applaud Wilkes University for the opportunity its leadership gave students to participate in the unique and special process that is politics.



The Beacon/Jenna Stephens & Gino Troiani

Both Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton made a campaign stop in Wilkes-Barre during the frenzied bid for PA voters.

Sean Astin and Former President Bill Clinton stumped their way through our buildings at Wilkes, bringing with them national attention.

Most recently Harry Smith, anchor of the *Early Show on CBS*, hosted his show from the Henry Student Center. He spent time asking three Wilkes students some questions about the candidates

way or in Raquel's case, if she was leaning in any certain direction.

Smith said he chose Wilkes when representatives from his show were here with Obama earlier in the month and he had a chance to see a little bit of campus.

"We needed to be here geographically... but I didn't want to be in Scranton. I wanted to be someplace else. So I thought, 'what a

When cruelty becomes 'artistic statement'

BY STEPHANIE GERCHMAN
Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

Dogs are man's best friend, right? Well, apparently Guillermo Vargas disagrees. He is an "artist" whose "art" is comprised of chaining a stray dog to the wall inside of a gallery and starving it to death.

According to the *Daily Targum*, Vargas' exhibit was a "tribute to a Nicaraguan burglar who was killed in Costa Rica by two guard dogs." Others say that the exhibit was supposed to be a comment on human starvation. Aside from the obvious question of why pay tribute to a burglar, this form of "art"

raises serious ethical concerns. Regardless of the meaning behind the public act, calling it art is disgusting. Pet owners who starve their animals are turned in for animal abuse. But somehow for art's sake we suspend our laws?

Worse than Vargas is Adel Abdessemed, another "artist" who killed six animals by beating them with a hammer and videotaped it. He cut the video into clips projected them for viewers in San Francisco to witness.

If you think that killing animals is as far as people will go for the sake of "art," try watching someone die as part of an art exhibit

or someone undergo self-induced abortions. That is exactly what Aliza Shvarts and Gregor Schneider are trying to put on display. Shvarts is a senior art major at Yale who artificially inseminated herself and induced miscarriages by taking drugs which she claims were herbal. According to *Yale Daily News*, Shvarts's purpose is to "spark conversation and debate on the relationship between art and the human body." My question is, what could possibly make miscarriages, something so traumatizing to the people who actually go through them, art?

Then there is Schneider who

wants to put on display, as TimeOnline puts it, "someone whose dying hours will be spent in an art gallery with the public admiring the way the light plays on the flesh of a person gasping for the last breath."

All of these examples of "public art" are disturbing, to say the least. How can anyone find the death of animals, people, and fetuses to be art? It makes me wonder what people can get away with if they call what they are doing art. My question is where do we draw the line between art and crime?

(Continued on page 8)

Beacon Poll Results

The following are results of a poll that *The Beacon* conducted online this past week. The poll was unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on campus. Results are based on 67 responses.

The Beacon asked:

Who do you want to be the vice-presidential candidate for the Democratic party?

- Barack Obama - 39%
- Hillary Clinton - 7%
- Bill Richardson - 6%
- Al Gore - 9%
- John Kerry - 1%
- Nancy Pelosi - 9%
- Oprah - 15%
- John Edwards - 1%
- Joe Biden - 4%
- Other - 7%

Next Week's question:

Who do you want to be the vice-presidential candidate for the Republican party?

- Condoleezza Rice
- Mike Huckabee
- Rudy Giuliani
- Chuck Norris
- Mitt Romney
- Kay Bailey Hutchison
- Sean Hannity
- Newt Gingrich
- Ron Paul
- Other

Visit www.wilkesbeacon.com to cast your vote. Results will be published online at wilkesbeacon.com.

Getting out of the comfort zone: a senior's send-off

BY MARK CONGDON JR.

Beacon Opinion Editor

It's hard to believe that this is the last issue of *The Beacon* for the 2007-2008 school year, and with that my last article of my college career as well. It's shocking how fast time goes by.

I still remember moving into Slocum Hall my freshman year for the learning community I was in four years ago. I vividly recall during the luncheon the university had for incoming freshman, the President of Wilkes, Dr. Tim Gilmour, said to the freshmen, "Enjoy your years here at Wilkes because they will go by very fast, and these years could be some of the best years of your lives."

I was sitting with my parents and I remember thinking, "Yeah, O.K. Four years is a long time away and I couldn't even foresee what lay immediately ahead." I didn't want to think about graduation. I was way too nervous about fitting in, making friends, being away from home for the first time and the hard college classes that my high school teachers warned about. But, as a graduating senior and looking back on what the President said, he was right.

My time at Wilkes went by extremely quickly and my years here have been some of the best of my life. But college can't last forever and this amazing experience must come to a close to make way for bigger and better things.

Now, I'm not going to go on an on about my personal, physical, social and academic growth during the past four years, but I would like to offer some insight that has helped me find success, make lasting friendships, and get the full spectrum of the college experience at Wilkes University.

Be yourself & get involved:

I'm the first in my family to graduate high school and attend college. Needless to say I was very scared coming to Wilkes because no one in my immediate family could offer advice on what to expect and no one could really console my fears. The only advice my parents gave me was to be safe, have fun, and don't forget who you are and where you came from. Though my parents couldn't provide me insight into the expectations of the academics of college, their advice about being myself was always in the back of my mind and has helped from the beginning.

I knew that in order to make friends and get the full college experience I needed to become involved with extracurricular activities. So my freshman year I ran for freshman class representative and won. I also joined other clubs my freshman year like the Multicultural Student Coalition club and co-founded the College Republicans club with two upper classmen. Additionally,

during my sophomore year I became a Diversity Ambassador and co-founded the Free-Spirit: Gay & Straight Alliance. I also become involved with activities in my major, communication studies, like speech and debate team, Zebra Communications, and *The Beacon* the past two years.

The experiences I had during my four years at Wilkes allowed me to meet new people and make lasting relationships. Participating in extracurricular activities also allowed me to develop my leadership skills. Through trial and error, I learned a lot about myself and others.

I encourage all underclassman to take advantage of the opportunities that Wilkes is offering. These opportunities will assist you in not only developing you academically, social, or personally, but they will help you to discover what you want to do with your life after college. I figured out that I want to be a teacher and eventually a guidance counselor. I firmly believe that if I didn't get involved like I did, it would have taken me longer to figure out what I want to do with my life.

Try new things and get out of your comfort zone:

In high school I was very shy, quiet, and introverted. But in college, I'm the exact opposite. I'm outgoing, talkative, and extroverted. How was I able to change? I tried new things and got out of my comfort zone.

At Wilkes I have had experiences that would never have happened had I not taken some risks, or had I been too worried about what others thought of me. I've eaten food that I never would have dreamed of trying, like sushi or cow heart, something I needed to eat when I was competing in Wilkes's Fear Factor. I even went on spontaneous road trips to Philadelphia and the beach. Certain classes also helped me develop like dance and theater.

Regardless of what type of personality you have, I encourage all to think outside of the box and try new things. Try not to care what others think of you because that only holds you back. Be yourself, be real and get out of your zone.

Be respectful of yourself and others:

Another important thing I learned and realized while at Wilkes is to respect yourself and others. I learned that by being true to myself, I was respecting who I was and

where I came from. It's important to realize that not everyone has the same beliefs or ideas as you and even if you disagree with someone, you must respect their views.

Wilkes is gradually becoming more diverse, and I encourage all to try to get a better understanding of a range of cultures. By respecting other's cultures and meeting new people from diverse backgrounds, you could gain many friends; I know I did.

By learning about and experiencing other cultures, I also was able to better appreciate and respect my background and heritage. By interacting with diverse people, you are also better

prepared for the world outside of Wilkes University.

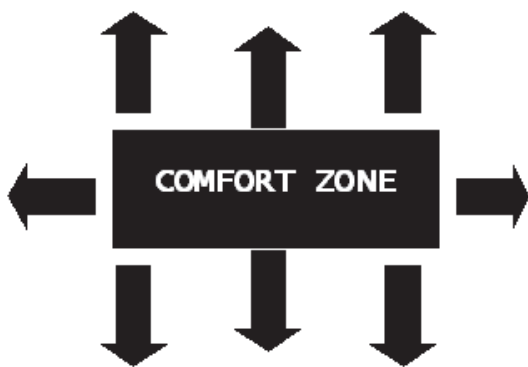
Don't take time or others for granted:

The action or inaction you take during your undergraduate career at Wilkes is the foundation of your future and happiness. Don't take the time you have here for

granted. Take advantage of the opportunities at your fingertips. Moreover, try not to burn any bridges while here. If you mess up, apologize and admit when you're wrong. Take responsibility. If someone does something that makes you angry or backstabs you, be the bigger person and do what's right. Revenge doesn't help anyone.

Though your years at Wilkes may seem like they will last forever, everything does, eventually, come to an end. Stay positive, have faith and remember everything happens for a reason. College can be tough at times with academics and trying to maintain a certain social image or status. But don't give up and lose yourself in the process.

Get involved and take advantage of what Wilkes has to offer. Get out of your zone, and remember to always be respectful of yourself and others. Remember that your days at Wilkes are limited. Don't take them for granted and appreciate every moment you have in your classes, and with your friends. Time goes by quickly and it only goes faster as you grow and develop. What you do in college will be the foundation for your future. What you do or don't do will cause a ripple effect for the rest of your life. So remember to enjoy life, be positive, be yourself and reach your full potential. I know I did.



Here's to you... Stupid question asker!

BY GINO TROIANI

Staff Writer/Photographer



Drawing By: Matt Vital

They said there is no such thing as a dumb question. Well, they were wrong. There's one of you in every class, and because of this we spend countless hours listening to your mindless nonsense. Here's a question. How did you get into college? Keep on keeping on!

The Angry Rant: Movies I hate

BY TIM SEIGFRIED

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

Oh, *Juno*, you rascal. Not only did you make a heap of money and garner a ton of awards and nominations during your theatrical run, but you also managed to be number one on the DVD and rental charts last week, which can only mean two things: Either I bought a ton of copies and destroyed them so as to prevent the masses from falling into your trap of “witty” dialogue, or the populace just wanted to waste \$20. There can be no other alternative. There is no way that people bought this movie because they wanted to watch it. But, then again, people are stupid, so I guess anything is possible.

In honor of *Juno* being released on DVD (for those who don't know my feelings on that gem, allow me to fill you in: I hate it. It's overrated, overwritten, and it's the kind of bandwagon movie that has a shiny cover, but very little else. It was very generously nominated during Oscar season--*Best picture?* Please.), I thought it would be fitting to end the year with a rant on other movies that I hate.

Without further adieu...

Elizabethtown- When *Almost Famous* came out, I was convinced that Cameron Crowe was about to hit his career stride. It was four years since *Jerry Maguire* was released, and Crowe displayed his abil-

ity to write something other than romantic comedies. Despite the abomination that is known as *Vanilla Sky*, I was willing to give him a pass when I learned that he was filming an ensemble film with Orlando Bloom, Kirsten Dunst and Susan Sarandon. I was sadly disappointed. Not only is *Elizabethtown* a schmaltzy, by-the-numbers film (A big-shot returns to his roots and finds love. How original.), but it has the distinction of offering one of the most boring on-screen romances ever committed to celluloid. I know it's hard to grasp the thought of Orlando Bloom being anything less than exuberant, but he manages to pull it off with flying colors in this gem, and ends up drowning the normally charismatic Kirsten Dunst in his wake. Long story short: Don't visit Elizabethtown. It's long, it's boring, and it might just make you question your purpose in life.

Punch Drunk Love- Another big director, another boring love story. Paul Thomas Anderson, best known for *Boogie Nights* and *Magnolia* (both worth the price of admission), crafted a romantic comedy of sorts, casting the normally screwball Adam Sandler in the lead. The result? A well-meaning, nicely crafted failure of a film. Maybe it was Adam Sandler, maybe it was the pace of the story, but this movie just doesn't do anything for me. No thanks, but I don't want to watch Adam Sandler on valium, even if it does mean he is less annoying.

Clerks- I expect to take some heat for this one. I never understood the fascination with Kevin Smith. His movies are a series of vulgar jokes and admittedly witty dialogue, but something about his work seems very pretentious. His first film, *Clerks*, which was filmed on a shoestring budget, is widely regarded as one of the great independent films of its day. Really? I saw this movie and was spectacularly underwhelmed. It has a certain amount of charm to it, but it just isn't that good. I give Kevin Smith all the credit

in the world, but he has yet to have any sort of success outside of his View Askew characters, and the follow up to this film, *Clerks 2*, was an even bigger abomination than the first. The first film was coated in charm, the second was coated in dollar signs.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory: Ah yes, the remake. Hollywood's crutch. On rare occasions, the remake can manage to be successful, but more often than not, they are nothing more than retreads that were better the first time around. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, a remake of the classic starring Gene Wilder as the titular character, is a failure of monumental proportions. Despite the fact that CATCF is called a “re-imagining” of the source material, there is no getting past the fact that Tim Burton (who is now 2 for 2 with crappy remakes, the other being *Planet of the Apes*), took a classic film and ruined it. Gene Wilder defined Willy Wonka. Johnny Depp makes Wonka look like a pedophile.

Meet the Fockers: The sequel to the highly successful (and funny) *Meet the Parents* does little than to recycle all of the same jokes that were funny the first time around. Here's the formula for both movies: Someone gets introduced to someone else, hilarity ensues. Sounds easy, right? *Meet the Parents* did everything right, the jokes were absurd, but not too absurd. *Meet the Fockers* goes far past absurdity to the point where you think you're watching a Will Ferrell movie.

For my money, this movie marked the middle point in the downfall of Stiller's career. He made a name for himself in *There's Something About Mary*, would go on to write and direct *Zoolander* before starring alongside Gene Hackman in *The Royal Tenenbaums*. Then it all went bad. He would go on to star in *Duplex*, *Along Came Polly*, *Starsky and Hutch*, *Envy*, *Dodgeball*, *Meet the Fockers*, *Night at the Museum* and *The Heartbreak Kid*. Out of those movies, only two (*Polly* and *Museum*) are remotely

watchable. He also seems to be afflicted with Tom Cruise syndrome, meaning you can describe several of his characters in one sentence, kind of like you could with most Tom Cruise movies (What's that one where he played the cocky, young guy?) In Stiller's case, he seems to play the uptight, tightly wound guy. Every time. Come on Ben, you're better than this, Paul Walker has shown more range.

Leaving Las Vegas: Don't get me wrong, it's a good movie, but it resulted in Nicolas Cage winning the Oscar for Best Actor, which I maintain spawned *Snake Eyes*, *Windtalkers*, *The Wicker Man*, *Ghost Rider*, and *Next*.

Star Wars: Episodes 1 - 3: While the first three *Star Wars* films (or would it be the last three?) were awesome, George Lucas screwed the pooch this time around. Maybe it was the two decades in between the last *Star Wars* movie he directed, but I get the impression that George got lost somewhere along the way. *The Phantom Menace* and *Attack of the Clones* were plagued by the same problems: Bad dialogue, and a main character who couldn't act. *Revenge of the Sith* was solid, but it was too little too late. The only redeeming quality of these movies was that we got to see Yoda in a lightsaber fight. True greatness.

Tenacious D: The Pick of Destiny- Jack Black is funny. This movie is not.

Pirates of the Caribbean 3- The first Pirates movie was a revelation. It made Johnny Depp into a household name again, and we all got to see who Keira Knightly was. Pirates 2 was good, but unspectacular. Pirates 3 was just a mess. It was too long, and the story got tangled up in itself, and by this point, everyone learned what they knew all along: Orlando Bloom can't carry a movie.

So what have we learned today? We learned that movies with a lot of buzz and big stars can be big flops. But most importantly, we learned that *Juno* still blows.

Have a great summer.

Art

from PAGE 6

All of these examples of “public art” are disturbing, to say the least. How can anyone find the death of animals, people, and fetuses to be art? It makes me wonder what people can get away with if they call what they are doing art. My question is where do we draw the line between art and crime?

People, like Michael Vick, abuse animals, go to jail and pay heavy fines. Abdessemed and Vargas can abuse animals and as long as they have the label “ART” on it and not only get away with it, but probably receive

money for their work. Not only did Vargas get away with it...he was asked to repeat his installation again. Shvarts is abusing her constitutional right to do whatever she wants to do with her body. She is making light out of a serious decision that is made by many women who are involuntarily put in the same position Shvarts put herself in repeatedly.

Schneider wants to make death, which is seen as undignified and wants to “restore its grace.” While Schneider would only use a person in his display on a volunteer basis, it still seems barbaric.

While it would be simple to just dismiss these people and take away their chances of displaying the works of violence that

they call art, it would be nearly impossible due to the sketchy laws that there are for art. The First Amendment covers art, but not every extensively. Basically, the rule is that it must be within the standards of decency, respect, and morals. My question is; how are any of these people abiding by these standards? Killing animals is morally corrupt and illegal. I doubt that anyone would find multiple artificial inseminations and pregnancy terminations would be considered morally right by any person's standards. Is it even possible to watch someone die in good conscience?

It would benefit artist and audiences alike to set stricter laws to govern art work. I understand that part of creating great art work

could be the shock value. But the shock value could be reached without harming people, animals, or oneself. If anything that a person wishes to display would be considered illegal without being videotaped or shown in a gallery, it shouldn't be able to be considered art. Rightfully those acts should be punished, not praised! It is scary to think of what other sick minds could be cooking up as a new work of art. Abortion, animal cruelty and death on display are already taken, what will some deranged “artist” get away with next? The government needs to do something before someone comes up with something to challenge the already present laws...like so many others who have already gotten away with it.



Courtesy of Valhallatorrent.org

Top 10 ways to land your dream job after graduation

BY CHRISTA SGOBBA

Beacon Lifestyles Editor

You've tossed your graduation cap in the air, and have your diploma firmly grasped in your hand. You have finally completed your college education.

Now what?

For many seniors, the path after graduation is a little murky. They have their degree in hand, but a big, resounding question mark regarding where it's going to take them.

Since the majority of college seniors wouldn't dream of sticking themselves with any old job, *The Beacon* has put together a top 10 list of ways to get on track for that perfect job.

1. Don't overload your resumé with unnecessary fillers.

The resumé introduces you to the company for which you are interviewing, so you want to make a good first impression. Keep it

clear and concise, and make sure it contains only pertinent information. Your potential employers probably aren't going to care if you were captain of your bowling team in high school. According to Lisa Mulvey, a career consultant at Career Services, including high school information is irrelevant.

However, another mistake Mulvey sees is resumé that skimp on important details. For this reason, students should skip the Microsoft Resumé Wizard, and instead craft one by hand.

"We see missing information like dates they were employed places, or they forget to include accurate descriptions of responsibilities or accomplishments at internships or jobs," said Mulvey.

2. Keep your resumé professional.

Once you get the hard part of the resumé down, you don't want to screw it up with something as simple as your contact information. You may have fun e-mail addresses that you use with your friends that may reference questionable activities or hobbies of yours, but don't use them on your resume.

"These are true e-mail addresses that I've seen people use on their resumes—'Sexy Dancer' and 'Hot Italian Stud,'" said Mulvey. "Unless you're applying for a job in this type of field, you want to use a plain e-mail address."

Your employers don't want to know how

sexily you may dance, or how studly you may be. Just use your Wilkes e-mail address.

3. When you're going to an interview, look like you are going to an interview.

Even if you're applying for a job that's pretty casual, suits are still required dress for interviews. That means dress pants and a jacket for men, and dress pants or a skirt with pantyhose and close-toed shoes for women. Avoid heavy makeup, excessive jewelry, exposed skin, and make sure you take out any facial piercings, with the exception of earlobes.

Personal hygiene is also very important. Come to an interview freshly showered, but avoid drowning yourself in perfume or cologne. If you're a smoker, don't smoke in the car before the interview.

"A lot of recruiters told us they were offended by the smell of smoke when someone came into the room," said Mulvey. "It can make a negative first impression."

4. Don't be struck silent at the interview...

According to Jenn Radogna, the recruiting manager for Enterprise Rent-a-Car in Easton, one of the best ways to stand out during an interview is to ask knowledgeable questions about the company, and be able to answer questions about yourself.

A new trend in interviewing is to ask behavioral questions, like "How do you react when your group doesn't listen to you?" Answers to these can be difficult to come up with off the top of your head, so Mulvey suggests practicing with potential questions before the interview.

5. ...But don't run your mouth either.

Honesty may be the best policy, but brutal honesty probably isn't going to win you the job. If your interviewer asks you a question about how you see your future with the company, don't tell them you see it as a jumping-off point to the bigger and brighter.

"The biggest mistake I've seen is telling the interviewer that they are interested in their company just to gain experience, but their real goal

is to work somewhere else," said Radogna. "This will always be a deal breaker, since the interviewer is most likely looking for a long-term candidate."

6. Build a network, and don't be afraid to put yourself out there.

Most of the time, the really great jobs out there aren't the ones that run in the classifieds section of your local newspaper. People find out about those unlisted jobs by word of mouth through their network.

You can build your network through your part-time job, internship, or volunteer work. Whatever you're doing, you should be building connections and letting people know that you're looking for a job.

"Join professional organizations in your field, go to conferences, really get out there and talk to people," said Mulvey. "You want to keep in touch with people, and really leave your internship on a high note."

7. Start looking for a job as soon as possible.

It can be tempting to put off the job search in favor of some summer fun, but since the average graduate takes six months to find a job, it's not something you want to put on hold for too long. Especially when your student loan bills come rolling in.

If you're not sure what exactly it is you want to do with your degree, Mulvey suggests looking to the internships you completed to find out what appeals to you about them. Find a part-time job and do some community service to continually expand your arsenal of skills.

"The longer you take to start looking, the harder it's going to be to explain to employers why you waited so long," she said.

8. Understand that the path to your dream job may include a lot of coffee runs.

As qualified as you may be, it's very unlikely that the boss of your favorite Fortune 500 company is going to step aside to let you take over the reigns. You're going to have to work your way up from something.

"You're going to have to pay your dues first, in whatever field

you're going into," said Mulvey. "You may have to start in an entry-level position and wait until that opportunity presents itself."



According to Radogna, at Enterprise, all promotions are filled by employees who already work there. In order to optimize your chances for a promotion, Radogna suggests displaying a positive attitude, showing curiosity regarding the company, and avoiding complaints about coworkers or management, even in prior jobs.

9. Be proactive in your job search.

Mulvey says that many college graduates think that having a degree is enough to ensure them a job. They simply post their resumes on Monster.com, and wait for the job offers to come flooding in.

"You've got to be really aggressive," she said. "Once you graduate, looking for a job should be your full-time job. And that means spending seven hours a day looking for jobs, networking, sending out resumes, following up on leads, or going to job fairs."

Mulvey points out that when you graduate, you're not the only one competing for that job. You're going to be up against all the graduates from the local colleges and universities, as well as people already in the workforce, so you're really going to have to make yourself stand out.

10. Know that you never have to be stuck in a dead-end job.

If that job that you were super psyched for right after college turns out to be a fizzle, you don't have to resign yourself to a life of monotony. Instead, you should look to see if it's the place you can't stand, or the actual job you're doing.

Mulvey suggests looking into other opportunities at companies you like, or researching lateral moves to other companies where you will be doing a similar job.

She also points out that if you're serious about moving up and getting the best job, you may have to expand your horizons to outside the Wyoming Valley.

"Don't stay in a job if you're unhappy," she said. "Life's too short to be unhappy with where you work."

All photos The Beacon/Christa Sgobba

Student of the Week: Madeline Alves

BY MATTHEW GOGAS

Beacon Staff Writer

After taking last year off, Maddy Alves returned to Wilkes University as a sophomore this year with renewed motivation. Although she is an English major, Alves has been involved since early in her high school career with Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE), a national organization that connects businesses with community outreach. Currently Alves is the president of the organization, which has had a significant impact on the community.

On May 11, members of SIFE will be leaving to attend a national competition in Chicago. Because of her leadership with this organization, *The Beacon* has chosen Alves as this week's Student of the Week.

The Beacon: Why did you get involved with SIFE?

Alves: Some organizations, you don't get to see people face to face and work in person with the people you are going to help. I have found that a lot of charitable organizations are like that. With SIFE, we have had 2,400 impacts. That means people we have worked with one-on-one and you get

to look at them and see that we have made a difference in their lives. We have one girl that was very standoff-ish when we started the REACH program and now she has attached herself to us. She talks about going to college, she says it's really hard but she is going to try. To see a young person like that pull a complete 180 is rewarding.

The Beacon: What are some of the projects?

Alves: Well there's the Wilkes University Entrepreneurial Experience, we call it WUEE. It's a competition where we get to work with high school students and teach them how to prepare business presentations. There's one day when they come to campus and they actually present for investors. In the past we've had alumni come in and professors on campus. That sort of thing. Then we have the personal finance series, we do REACH, and we did secret shopper with the Small Business Development Center.

The Beacon: Tell us about the National Competition that SIFE is attending.

Alves: Nationals is an experience. You think because it's a business event it's very serious, but no. There are balloon hats,

men on stilts, and one representative from each team has to dance across a stage with a sign...The following day the actual competition starts. Teams are organized into different leagues and a certain number of people from each league advance to the next round. It's a great feeling though to be up there sharing what you're doing, knowing that you made a difference and that everyone else in the room knows how hard it is because they're doing it too.

The Beacon: What do you plan to do when you graduate?

Alves: The plan as of today is to start the management training program at Barnes and Noble where I work...I could become a department manager or a store manager. So, potentially that could be a wonderful

job opportunity. I have also been looking at Sara Lawrence to get my Master's degree in Creative Writing, or going to London for the hell of it.



Courtesy Madeline Alves

Pictured are members of the SIFE team (l-r) Madeleine Alves, Jared Lyman, Andrea Smallacombe, Ashley Deemie, Tracy Garcia, John Botch, Beth Horn, Katie Gallagher, Casey Kopko, Anastasia Genelow, LaChanda Davis, Walter Peseski. Not pictured are Danielle Namiotka, Marissa Treanor, Kristal Hernandez.



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Real-world stresses worry seniors approaching graduation

BY LAUREN SALEM

Beacon Staff Writer

For many new college graduates, the papers and exams may be finished, but the stress is far from over.

"It's kind of all up in the air right now what I'm going to be definitely doing," said Laura Weidner, a senior majoring in business administration. "I think that's what scares me the most."

Many graduating seniors like Weidner experience anxiety about the uncertainty of their life after college. Although Weidner has made plans to go right to graduate school, she is now uncertain about whether she would go to if she were offered a decent job opportunity after finishing her internship.

"I'm not the kind of person who would sit back and watch it slip away," Weidner said. "If I get wrapped up in a job after graduation and I push grad school off, and it was a goal of mine to have my master's degree, that's when I would probably be frustrated."

Weidner wants to become a financial analyst or planner within the next ten years to build up to her "ultimate dream," which is to become president or vice president of a company. After graduation, she plans to work for an insurance firm to gain experience and learn how to get clients, keep clients, and work with other people in this field.

"Just the work hopefully speaks for itself," Weidner said. "The clients that I have, the insurance that I've sold, the more that I've

done, hopefully, will give me something to go on as far as a higher end job."

Weidner learned from a friend who works in the field that the job she wants is "extremely stressful," and hopes that she will have a different experience. She said that handling people's finances is an "all-on-you type deal" and if she doesn't build up enough clients by a certain deadline she'll be fired. Weidner believes that working in a fast-paced atmosphere will keep her moving forward, despite the stresses involved.

"A lot of things are destined to change as far as when I get there to see what it's all about," Weidner said. "Maybe I'll go and do something totally different and branch away from financing. It's a plan for me right now so I'm going to stick with it."

For some students, the anxiety about finding a desirable steady job and making a sufficient amount of money still continues to be a concern.

"Finding a career is still an issue," said John Cohen, who graduated from Wilkes in 2007. "I know 100 percent what I do and do not want to do for a living. The hard thing is that all the careers available fall in the gray area, except for opening up my own business."

Before graduating, Cohen, who majored in business and minored in entrepreneurship, was concerned with what type of job he could get and how he would earn money and find a suitable career.

"A lot for job opportunities are lose-lose situations, because you are either making a ton of money but [are] working 60 hours

a week, or making no money and not going anywhere career-wise," Cohen said. "I am all about my own business because of my experience, knowledge, education, and mindset."

After graduating, Cohen went on about six interviews and found a job within a week. For the past five years, he has worked for independent contractors and is currently working with a contractor in New Jersey where he does interior and exterior painting. Cohen is also in the beginning stages of opening up a general construction business, but is lacking overhead and capital, business materials, and exposure to customers.

What students worry about before they graduate and what recent graduates are concerned with will become less of a concern in after they establish a steady job. Renea Girardi, a graduate of 1997, majored in business administration when she was at Wilkes University, and has worked her way up the job chain. She has worked for Merrill Lynch for eight years and is a project analyst where she is responsible for working on enhancements for the monthly statements that clients receive.

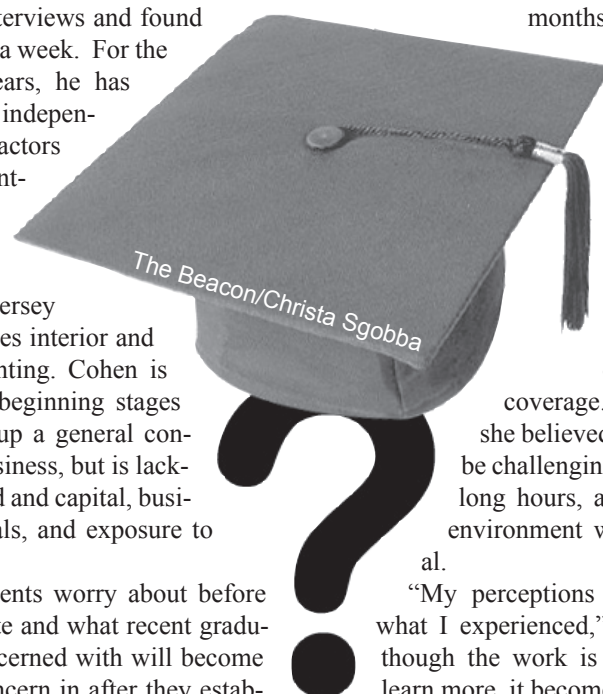
"Working in customer service, I had to deal with clients in difficult situations almost daily," Girardi said. "It prepared me and gave me skills on how to deal with difficult situations."

After Girardi graduated, it took two months to find her first professional job. She was hired as a customer service phone representative for a Health Insurance Company, where she was responsible for answering various questions or issues on client's insurance coverage. Before she started, she believed that the work would be challenging, she'd have to work long hours, and that the business environment would be professional.

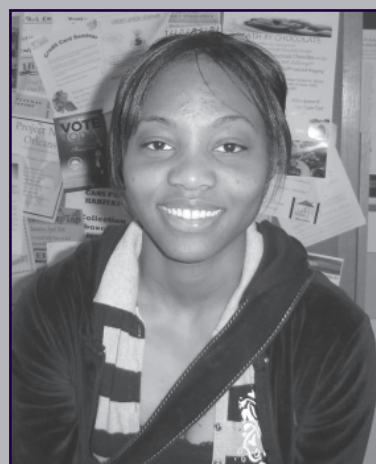
"My perceptions were very close to what I experienced," Girardi said. "Although the work is challenging, as you learn more, it becomes easier."

Girardi worked her way up through Merrill Lynch by showing that she was a team player and was willing to take on additional responsibilities.

"You have to always be prepared to take a different direction," Girardi said. "Pursue something you have interest in, because then you will enjoy going to work every day."

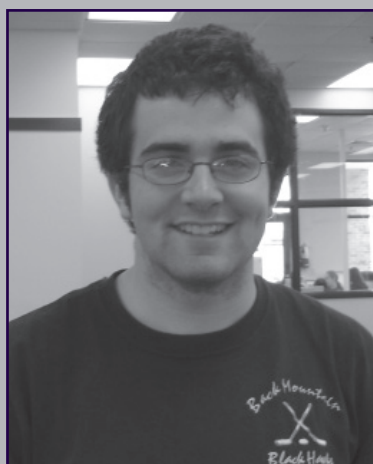


What do you do to prepare for your final exams?



"I just review all my notes. I don't watch television, and I listen to music."

Frantzddyn Pamphile
sophomore, nursing major



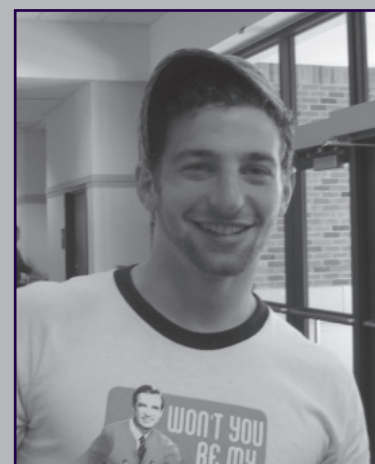
"I sleep and study to be honest with you, nothing special."

Matthew Duffy
freshman, history major



"I'm a yoga instructor, so I do lots of yoga and try to keep up with my notes and a healthy lifestyle... So just taking care of myself all around and trying not to stress out. I guess that's key."

Amanda Derr
senior, biochemistry major



"I usually just study the night before the test and the morning of. I cram. I'm a crammer and a procrastinator."

Adam Penberthy
senior, history major

Going out with a bang

Greatest action scenes of all time

BY MIKE WILLIAMS

Beacon Staff Writer

Well folks, it's that time again. Summer's almost here, and you know what that means: Blockbuster season. Unfortunately, *The Beacon* won't be able to serve your movie needs until it returns in the fall. So, until then, you're on your own.

However, as one final offering, *The Beacon* would like to offer a countdown of some of the best action sequences of all time, sure to whet your appetite for action and get you ready for all the big budget blockbusters we're going to miss this summer. So, without further ado, this reviewer, as well as *The Beacon*, is...going out with a bang.

***They Live* - Back alley brawl**

When out of luck drifter Nada ("Rowdy" Roddy Piper) finds a pair of sunglasses that allow him to see that the world is actually being quietly invaded by bug eyed aliens disguised as humans, he is left with two options, "Kick a** and chew bubble gum." And he's all out of bubble gum. Still, violently exterminating spacemen can be a tiresome and lonely job, so when Piper tries to force a skeptical friend (Keith David) to try on the shades and join his crusade, the two throw down in what is probably the greatest fist fight ever captured on film. Dirty, gritty, mean and, luckily for viewers, over seven minutes long, this one is absolutely unforgettable.

***Heat* - The heist**

In the film that makes every red blooded male think, at least for a little while, "Damn, I really want to rob something," a group of professional thieves looking for one big final score, plan a heist on a busy LA bank. Unfortunately, the LAPD have different plans. After an intense robbery scene, the suit-clad, automatic rifle carrying bank robbers move into the streets only to be met by an army of cops. What ensues is a crash-bang, run and gun shoot out that will have audiences on the edge of their seat

***Desperado* - Getting the band back together**

Vigilante El Mariachi, Antonio Banderas wages war on the drug cartel responsible for his girlfriend's death. However, when

it comes to the final showdown with the entire cartel, our hero realizes that he needs more fire power than his trademark guitar case full of guns can hold. One phone call later, and the band is ready to play, and what beautiful music they make, as El's bandmates show up to even up the odds with their tricked out, rapid firing, rocket launching guitar cases in tow.

***Escape From L.A.* - Gunfight at the Happy Palace**

Kurt Russell. Convicts. Hang-gliders. Machine-guns. Disneyland. 'Nuff said.

***The Way Of The Gun* - The drop off**

When two small-time crooks (Ryan Phillippe and Benicio Del Toro) decide to abduct the surrogate mother of a corrupt millionaire, the kidnappers find themselves in over their heads, as their captive goes into labor during a high stakes shoot out over their ransom in a filthy Mexican brothel.

***Kill Bill* - Crazy 88 fight**

After waking up from a bullet induced four year coma The Bride (Uma Thurman), is looking forward to catching up with her old co-worker, O-Ren Ishii. But before these two can have a go, The Bride must go through Ishii's bodyguards The Crazy 88 (not really 88 of them, it just sounds cool), in a flurry of sword swingin', black and white bloodshed, all culminating in an epic samurai cat fight between The Bride and her rival.

***The Punisher* - The Russian comes a'knockin'**

When The Punisher (Thomas Jane) takes a much deserved evening off from his busy schedule of killing bad guys, all is going well until he gets an unexpected visit from the

7 ft. tall pain machine The Russian (Kevin Nash), which throws his quiet night at home out the window, and our hero through a wall, as the Russian doles out one of film's greatest smackdowns, using everything but the kitchen sink (he prefers to use the bathroom toilet.)

***The Wild Bunch* - The final showdown**

Action fans everywhere can thank director Sam Peckinpah, and this film, for ushering in a new era of action and violence with this 1969 western, in which a gang of aging outlaws take on a crooked Mexican general and his men in a bloody shoot out in which 90,000 rounds were fired, more than were discharged during Mexican Revolution.

***3000 Miles To Graceland* - Murphy's last stand**

What could be better than Kurt Russell and Kevin Costner robbing a casino dressed

as Elvis impersonators? Watching Costner's villain taking on a SWAT team single handedly set to the soundtrack of Elvis's "My Way" and automatic gunfire. Dressed like an Elvis impersonator. Awesome!

***Commando* - Matrix vs. Bennett**

Before Arnold Schwarzenegger ran CA, he entertained us by killing people on film. In what may be his greatest scene ever, the Governator defeats his rival by running him through with a length of pipe, pinning him to a boiler, and as vapor pours from the pipe jutting from his slain enemy's chest, Arnie quips, "let off some steam, Bennett." God bless America.

Spanish club salsa lessons



Beacon/Cara Koster

On April 25 the Spanish club, along with La Nota House of Dance presented a night of entertainment in the ballroom with performances, free Salsa lessons, and refreshments. The event was open to all and well-attended.

You should know...The Silversun Pickups

BY NICK PODOLAK

Beacon Editor in Chief

I overheard the Silversun Pickups' hit "Lazy Eye" playing in the background on VH1 one morning while eating breakfast, and immediately left my cereal to get soggy as I couldn't help but watch the rest of the video. "What a great song!" I thought.

It was quite surprising, then, that not even the most obnoxious of my music aficionado friends have ever heard of them. And despite the fact that its debut album, *Carnavas*, was released in July of 2006, it is still pumping out hits in hopes of being "discovered."

Now if you've heard anything by the Smashing Pumpkins, *Carnavas* should sound familiar. The similarities are uncanny: both the Smashing Pumpkins and Silversun Pickups begin with an "S" and a "P," have a nice blend of male and female vocals, and have a gloomy, synthesizer-distorted sound. Still, the L.A.-based Pickups are perkier than the Pumpkins, and as one reviewer for Rolling Stone put it, "[The Pickups are] what the Pumpkins would have sounded like if they drove their ice cream truck out West."

For me, the CD really takes off on the second track with "Well Thought out Twinkles," an instant hit which could have easily appeared on 1993's *Siamese Dream*. "Checkered Floor" is an unpredictable, fever dream of a song that starts off slow and melodic before taking off into a radio-friendly rock song and finally mellowing out again. "Little Lovers So Polite" puts listeners onto a turbulent ride with its buzzing, bi-plane like synths over pounding guitars. "Folding up the skyline/agreeing on a steep decline/can't control this airplane/being caught is just the same," sings vocalist Brian Aubert as the song ends in a long stretch of mind-massaging synthesizers. Chewing gum is recommended, just in case your ears pop.

But "Lazy Eye" is the breadwinner of the album; the band's 1979, if not better. Unfortunately, Aubert turns what was a great song into an unlistenable hunk of noise as he starts retching towards the song's end for no apparent reason. Way to go, Aubert. Perhaps this is what kept "Lazy Eye" from being a radio staple.

The Pickups' music has been featured in shows such as *The O.C.* and in Pontiac car commercials. And the video for "Little Lovers So Polite," directed by Joaquin Phoenix, was just released in the first quarter of 2008.

Though *Carnavas* is nothing groundbreaking, it is better than anything the Pumpkins have put out since 1995's *Melloncollie* and the *Infinite Sadness*, and that's saying something.

GRADE: B-

To listen to some samples of the Silversun Pickups' music, visit www.wilkesbeacon.com.



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Schedule of Events

Tuesday, April 29

- Jazz concert at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center at 8 p.m.
- Karaoke at the Woodlands at 9 p.m.

Wednesday, April 30

- OurAfter performing at Barnes and Noble College Bookstore
- M-80 performing at the Woodlands at 10 p.m.

Thursday, May 1

- The Backyardigans Live! The Tale of the Mighty Knights at the Kirby Center for the Performing Arts at 4 p.m.
- Go Go Gadget performing at Mohegan Sun
- I Am The Avalanche, Dr. Manhattan, The Early Birds and Static Radio NJ performing at Cafe Metro at 7 p.m.
- Comedy Night at Donahue's at 10 p.m.

Friday, May 2

- Finals Begin
- First Friday at Test Pattern at 6 p.m.
- Lisa Lampanelli at the Kirby Center at 8 p.m.
- Downtown Harvest performing at the Jazz Cafe
- Trylogy performing at the Woodlands at 9 p.m.

Saturday, May 3

- Tigers Jaw, Ends with Disaster, Livingston and the Minor White performing at Cafe Metro at 8 p.m.
- No Regrets and Far From Honored performing at Test Pattern
- Northeastern Pa. Philharmonic at the Kirby Center at 8 p.m.
- Seductive Boogie at the Woodlands at 9 p.m.
- Strawberry Jam performing at the Jazz Cafe
- Trylogy performing at the Woodlands at 10 p.m.

Sunday, May 4

- 27th Annual Max Rosenn Lecture Series: Richard Leakey at the Darte Center at 7:30 p.m.

Kudracross

BY CHRISTOPHER KUDRAK

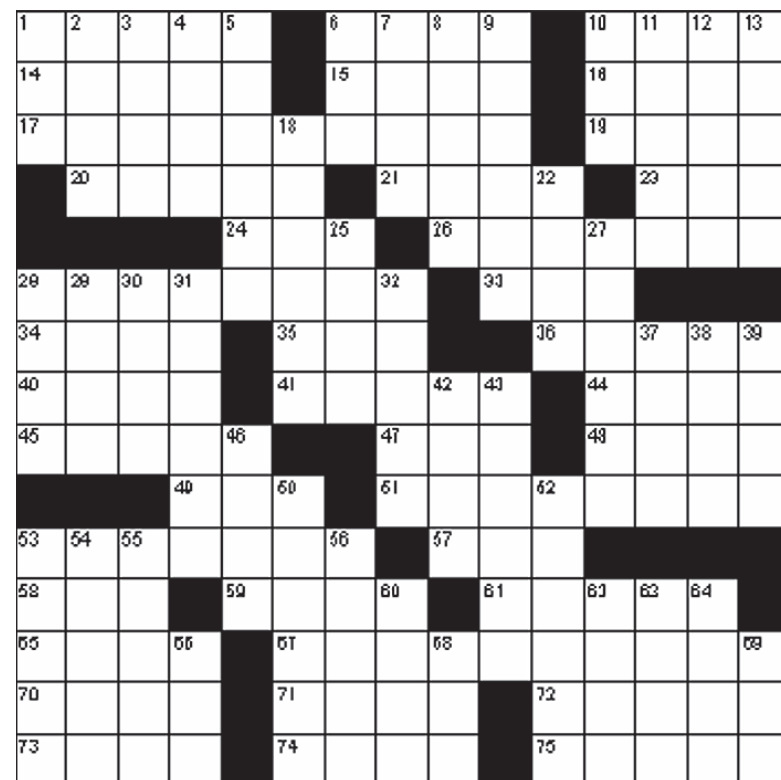
Beacon Staff Writer

ACROSS

- 1 Like a child
- 6 Cooking measurement
- 10 Out yonder
- 14 Sleep disorder
- 15 Expect and desire
- 16 Sad
- 17 Large edible fruit
- 19 Musical closing
- 20 Cabin type
- 21 A pier
- 23 Black gold
- 24 Race segment
- 26 UK part
- 28 No longer successful
- 33 Pasture land
- 34 Audible comeback
- 35 Iron in the rough
- 36 Make into law
- 40 Throat clearing sound
- 41 Entwine
- 44 Cart without sides
- 45 Red ____ BB gun
- 47 Metal food container
- 48 Angel instrument
- 49 Fishing necessity
- 51 Qualified
- 53 Devices that receive stimuli
- 57 Freud topic
- 58 Float like a butterfly boxer
- 59 Adhesive material
- 61 Daughters of Zeus
- 65 Elevate
- 67 Pizza cheese
- 70 Handbag
- 71 Luminous glow
- 72 Fix a computer
- 73 Ocular woe
- 74 Without a date
- 75 Extra

DOWN

- 1 Deviate from stable flight
- 2 October birthstone
- 3 "Do ____ others"
- 4 Require
- 5 Rinse ones throat
- 6 Article in constant use
- 7 Overconfident
- 8 Ghost
- 9 #2, for example
- 10 Alphabet start
- 11 Noah's problem
- 12 Video companion
- 13 Domain
- 18 Open grassland
- 22 Leg joint
- 25 Unpolluted
- 27 Peaceful protestor
- 28 Don
- 29 Flu feeling
- 30 Storehouse
- 31 Baseball highlights
- 32 UN goal
- 37 Middle east ethnic group
- 38 Astronomer ____ Sagan
- 39 Keyboard activity
- 42 "____ of tears"
- 43 Inexplicable occurrence
- 46 Tree anchor
- 50 Shakespeare productions
- 52 Ornamental fruits
- 53 Epsom varieties
- 54 Poet T.S. ____
- 55 Neat
- 56 Water faucet
- 60 "Extraordinary" singers "Better than ____"
- 62 Diffuse gradually
- 63 Napoleon's island of exile
- 64 Inebriated speech mistake
- 66 Golfer's prop
- 68 Zig follower
- 69 Bronze, for example



Answer 4/22



Answers 4/29

I would like to thank everybody who enjoyed my crossword puzzles over the past two years. I truly enjoyed making them and receiving feedback, both positive and negative. I would like to dedicate the Kudracross to my grandfather whose love of crosswords inspired me to enjoy them as well. I would also like to thank all those who helped me to create the crossword by providing input and quality control. Thank you once again and have a good summer.

- Christopher Kudrak



Someecards.com

BY STEPHANIE GERCHMAN

Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

Facebook is possibly the biggest source of procrastination for college students.

The application for Bumper Stickers has probably doubled the amount of time we waste on Facebook...since there are always 'server busy' errors and the user uploaded sticker number in the thousands!

But, I'm not reviewing Facebook! If you are a Bumper Sticker enthusiast, like so many others, you should be familiar with the stickers that are black and one other color

and has a witty, hilarious, sarcastic or thought provoking phrase accompanied by a simple old-fashioned picture. For example: one has a picture of two women climbing a hill and it says "If you ever disappeared while hiking, I'd remain with the search party until it started raining."

Surprisingly these entertaining bumper stickers did not originate on Facebook...nor are they really bumper stickers. They are actually e-cards and they come from Someecards.com, "e-cards for when you care enough to hit send." While it's not often that people, other than our mothers, send e-cards these are fun to browse through. With thousands to read through, it's easy to find just what you are looking for. You can browse by most popular, newest or by

occasion which according to the site range from "important to utterly pointless."

The site is not intended for viewers under the age of 18 according to the makers, with good reason. Some depict explicit sayings, but I have yet to come across vulgar pictures. This site is suggested to be used to send e-cards to "friends, family, co-workers, loved ones, liked ones and anyone else with fingers."

Above anything else, this site is bound to make you laugh. With a seemingly never ending supply of e-cards to read through and send in obnoxious numbers to others, it will keep you nearly endlessly entertained. I give this site an SWF for Sarcasm and Wit at it's Finest.

Baby Mama features female comedians in leading role

BY ALISSA LINDNER

Beacon Asst. A & E Editor

"I just don't like your uterus."

"Kate, I want you to put your baby inside me."

"I want to put my baby inside you."

"Can I just spray a little Pam down in that area before the baby comes out?"

These are just some of the humorous lines from the newly released comedy *Baby Mama*, starring female comedians Tine Fey and Amy Poehler. Both Fey and Poehler are Saturday Night Live alums and have been pioneers in the female comedian scene.

However, one male columnist for *Vanity Fair* magazine believes women do not need to be funny and in many cases are not funny. From his January 2007 article entitled "Why Women Aren't Funny," Christopher Hitchens explains women do not have a need to impress men because women naturally appeal to men.

Hitchens adds, "Men will laugh at almost anything, often precisely because it is-or they are-extremely stupid. Women aren't like that."

While Hitchens may not feel women are funny in social settings, he does give credit to the impressive female comedians out there; however, he explains most good female comedians are "hefty, or dykey or Jewish." Fey and Poehler prove Mr. Hitchens wrong in the hilarious new comedy *Baby Mama*.

Sigourney Weaver, also a leading character in *Baby*

Mama told *Hollywood Today*, "It's so great to have these very pretty, very funny women driving the story."

To set the scene, Fey plays Kate, a successful vice president of an organic health food organization. At 37, Kate, still single, decides she wants a child but quickly learns her chances of becoming pregnant are one in a million.



Photo courtesy lareausisters.blogspot.com

Enter an upscale surrogate mother clinic, run by Weaver's character. Fey is put in touch with Poehler's character, Angie, a working class, mannerless woman who along with her "husband" are in search of some extra cash.

The chemistry between Kate and Angie fills the theater with laughter throughout the entire movie. With twists and turns, which in some ways are a little predictable, *Baby*

Mama is definitely a comedy all ages will enjoy.

Baby Mama is one of the first comedies where two women are standing tall and holding their own. The movie does also feature Steve Martin as Kate's boss; however the Martin's role is so small the comedic aspects could go unnoticed to Angie crazy comebacks to Kate's criticisms and questions.

So then why has it taken female comedians so long to hold a movie on their own? Jim Carrey, Adam Sandler, Steve Martin and many other male comedians have been starring in comedic movies with women playing a very limited role.

Pete Phillips, a 2005 graduate of King's College feels that both Fey and Poehler are making strides for female comedians. He believes in a lot of cases, women act funny in movies versus actual comedic work.

"I think it's a good thing. Both [Fey and Poehler] have repore on Saturday Night Live with 'Weekend Upbeat' and they took it to the big screen. They tell a story, instead of making fun of the dude," Phillips said.

As of Sunday, *Baby Mama* grossed \$18.3 million dollars since opening on the 25th of April. *Harold and Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay*, a comedy starring males was second in the box office race with \$14.5 million. Looks like the female comedians are finally getting the praise they deserve.

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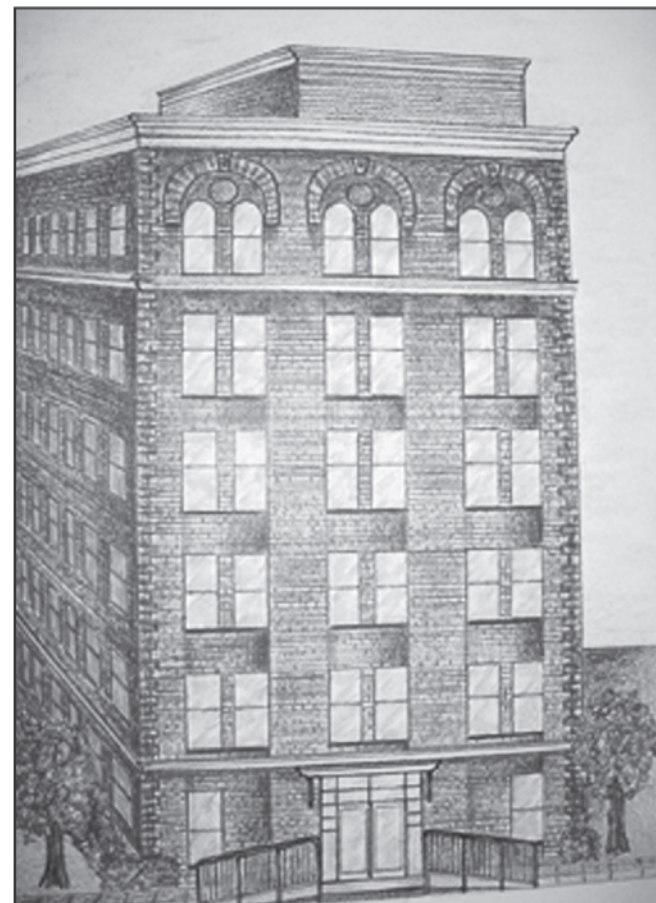
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| Commentary |

GAME OF THE WEEK

MLB: San Francisco Giants v. Philadelphia Phillies

Giants head to Philly for Aaron Rowand's return

BY TIM SEIGFRIED

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

In 2007, the Philadelphia Phillies did something they haven't done since 1993: Go to the postseason. They did so in an unlikely fashion, as they fielded a record 27 pitchers over the course of the season, as numerous injuries plagued both their rotation and offense.

While their pitching staff was patchwork for much of the season, their offense, built with power and speed, suffered numerous setbacks as Ryan Howard, Chase Utley and Shane Victorino all landed on the disabled list.

Despite their absence, the team still stuck together and succeeded, as great leadership and a strong clubhouse allowed them to get through the tougher parts of the season.

One such leader on the team was center-fielder Aaron Rowand, who left via free agency in the offseason, landing with the San Francisco Giants. Rowand was a key part of the team, hitting for a career high in home runs (27) and RBIs (89) and providing the young players with a winning attitude and postseason experience.

Rowand, who was acquired in a trade from the Chicago White Sox, became an instant hero in Philadelphia after he made a spectacular face-first catch while crashing into the outfield wall. That play immediately drew the respect of the Philly fans, who accepted Rowand as one of their own.

This weekend will mark Rowand's first visit to Philadelphia since last season as the Giants head to the City of Brotherly Love for a three game series starting May 2.

The Giants have struggled early on in the season, as their starting pitching has been lackluster, especially Barry Zito, who is 0-5 in his first five starts with an ERA of

5.61. The rest of the starting rotation, including Matt Cain (0-2, 5.27) and Kevin Correia (1-3, 4.21) aren't faring much better, however the youngster Tim Lincecum (4-0, 1.23) is proving to be the real deal in his second season.

The pitching isn't their only problem this season, as their offensive production has been one of the worst in the National League, having scored just 74 runs in 24 games.

The few bright spots in their lineup have come from Rowand (.314, 1 HR, 9 RBI), catcher Bengie Molina (.313, 4, 16) and left fielder Fred Lewis (.312, 1 HR, 13 runs).

The offense is going to need to pick it up if they want to have a chance at the playoffs this season, but first they will need to get by the Philadelphia Phillies, who have one of the best offenses in the National League.

The Phillies, however, are doing something they weren't able to do last year: pitch. In 2007, the Phillies pitching staff finished the season with a 4.73 ERA, which was 13 out of 16 in the NL, and it was the highest of all the playoff teams last season. This season, the starting rotation has been solid, but the real success for the pitching staff has come from their bullpen, which is currently tops in the NL with a 2.65 ERA in 74.2 innings pitched.

The best performers out of the bullpen have been newcomer Chad Durbin (17.1 IP, 1.56), setup man J.C. Romero (11.1 IP, 10 K, 0.00 ERA) and closing pitcher Brad Lidge (6 saves in 6 chances, 0.00 ERA), who appears to have regained his form after starting the season on the disabled list.

The starting rotation has been solid as well, with Cole Hamels (2-3, 2.75) and Brett

Myers (2-1, 4.78) leading a staff that consists of veterans Jamie Moyer (1-1, 4.05), Adam Eaton (0-0, 5.08) and youngster Kyle Kendrick (1-2, 5.59).

While Moyer and Eaton are keeping the Phillies in the games, Kendrick has yet to find the rhythm that made him so effective in 2007.



Despite the fact that the trio isn't blowing away opposing hitters, the Phillies are 9-6 over their 15 starts, due in part to an offense that is leading the NL in home runs, even though Jimmy Rollins is on the disabled list and slugger Ryan Howard is struggling.

The success of the lineup is attributed to Chase Utley (.368, 10, 21) and Pat Burrell (.354, 8, 25), who are elevating the team with their power and clutch hitting, while outfielder Jayson Werth (.313, 5, 11) and catcher Chris Coste (.406, 2, 7) are providing additional support.

While the Giants are in the middle of rebuilding their team, the Phillies are past the rebuilding stage and are fielding a team that is built to win games.

If the Giants want to have a chance during this series, they are going to need to score early and often against the offense of the Phillies.

In the end, however, the pitching for the Phillies, combined with their potent offense is going to be too much for the Giants to handle.

The Pick:

Game 1: Correia vs. Kendrick
Philadelphia Phillies: 7
San Francisco Giants: 4

Game 2: Zito vs. Myers
Philadelphia Phillies: 12
San Francisco Giants: 4

Game 3: Cain vs. Hamels
Philadelphia Phillies: 8
San Francisco Giants: 2

Double Take

Steph examines the stats that truly matter...

BY STEPHANIE GERCHMAN

Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

Peanuts, Cracker Jacks, and doctors with heart stopping good looks. Obviously, I am writing about baseball this week. It's was double header with the Philadelphia Phillies pitted against the San Francisco Giants and the Seattle Mariners battling it out against the New York Yankees, but Tim Seigfried, in his infitue wisdom, changed it at the last minute. Whatever you say, Tim, I'm doing the doubleheader!

The Phillies v. the Giants is a battle of the names. According to my search...and the squiggly red line under it in Microsoft Word, Phillies is not a word! I don't like the fact that they chose to make up their own word to title their team. I also think that the whole alliteration thing they have going on is lame. The Giants are not much better. They have a stolen name. There are the New York Giants in football. Apparently the Giants, the baseball ones, used to be located in New York as well. According to my extensive research...on wikipedia.org, the football Giants came first. So who do I pick to win, name thieves or lame name maker uppers? I guess I have to give it to the Phillies, they may be boring but at least they didn't steal their name.

As for the Seattle Mariners and the New York Yankees, I'm going to choose the winner based on location. The Yankees are based in New York. Obviously. New York is home to the Naked Cowboy, MTV, and New York...that crazy chick from the first and second season of "Flavor of Love." Seattle is the home of Seattle Grace Hospital, you know from "Grey's Anatomy?" Seattle is also the home of Dr. McDreamy and Dr. McSteamy! Hands down Seattle Mariners are going to win. As you know the looks of actors who don't actually live in Seattle and play sexy doctors on TV are generally the deciding factors in baseball games.

So, what did we learn this week? New York needs to find some doctors that will cause heart palpitations and the Giants need to find a non-plagiarized name.



Softball falters in playoff race

Lady Colonels drop deciding 2-game series with King's

BY GERRARD HETMAN

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

Coming into Saturday's regular season finale, Wilkes Coach Frank Matthews knew his team would need a bit of luck to sneak into the Freedom Conference playoff picture. Unfortunately for the Lady Colonels, all of the luck on the day belonged to the team in the other dugout at the Ralston Field Complex.

Behind solid hitting in the first innings of both games, the Lady Monarchs of King's College captured both ends of a doubleheader with Wilkes on Saturday afternoon. King's took the first game by a score of 6-3, while also picking up a 5-3 win in the nightcap. The wins helped the Lady Monarchs secure a Freedom Conference playoff berth, while the Lady Colonels were eliminated from the conference playoff picture with the losses.

"There's not much to say about it- we needed the first game, and King's came out swinging much better than we did" Wilkes head coach Frank Matthews said afterward. "We went cold down the stretch."

The first game of the afternoon would see the teams tied at 2 runs each after 2 innings, with King's scoring twice in the opening inning, while Wilkes responded with two runs of their own in the second. King's was able to pick up two runs in both the third and fourth innings to gain the decisive advantage. Kelsey Shreaves picked up the complete-game win, while Lindsay Behrenshausen took the loss for the Lady Colonels.

In the second game, King's picked up a quick two-run advantage, with the runs coming on a homerun by Lindsey Hoerner in the top of the first. Wilkes responded by grabbing three runs of their own in the bottom half of the inning, including two on a single by Sarah Miller. However, the Lady Monarchs would score three more runs to pull away and complete the sweep on the afternoon.

Saturday's doubleheader also served as senior day for the three senior members of the squad- Miller, Plavchak and Alex Ingram. While the senior trio cannot lead the team any further they will be able to look back with fondness on a four-year stretch that included three straight trips to the conference playoffs from 2005-07, including a Freedom Conference Championship and NCAA playoff berth in 2006.

"It's disappointing to see the year end like this, but it's been a great ride along the way" Ingram said after the games. "All three of us seniors have had a blast with everyone on the team, and I'm sure none of us would trade it for anything."

"It's going to be tough not playing in the league tournament next weekend, but all of our girls played tremendous this season and have nothing to be ashamed of" Matthew added. "We're certainly going to miss our seniors."



The Beacon/Jenna Stephens
Junior Kathy Dalton attempts to run-out a throw to first base.

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Football faces challenging slate in 2008

Colonels add two new opponents and night game to schedule

BY GERARD HETMAN

Asst. Sports Editor

For the second straight year, the Colonels will begin their season with three straight non-conference contests before beginning Middle Atlantic Conference play. In order to secure three non-conference opponents for those games, head coach Frank Sheptock and his staff turned a potential roadblock into a brilliant solution for their scheduling woes.

Last season all three of the Colonels' non-conference opponents came from the New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) - a league that expanded its football membership this off-season, taking away many available non-conference dates for member schools. While Wilkes did manage to keep its scheduled game in week two with NJAC member Montclair State, Sheptock was able to successfully search both near and far to fill out the remaining two spots on the 2008 lineup.

Wilkes will open its season on the road at Muhlenburg College on Saturday, September 6 at 7 p.m. The evening start time will be a first in the history of the Colonels football program, and will also pair up the Colonels with a familiar opponent, as the team has scrimmaged Muhlenburg in pre-season camp for each of the past 11 years. In 2007 the Mules opened the season on an 11-0 run that included an NCAA playoff win and Centennial Conference championship before falling in the second round of the national playoffs. While it's certain to be a huge challenge, Sheptock sees many

positives in the contest for the Colonels program.

"Muhlenburg is an outstanding academic institution that also features an excellent football program, and those are the teams we look for in our scheduling process," Sheptock said of the move. "The game is very close for us in terms of travel, and also gives us a strong presence in the Lehigh Valley, which is a recruiting hotbed for our program."

After traveling to face Montclair State in week two, the Colonels will enjoy a bye week before their home opener against the Captains of Christopher Newport in week three. While the Virginia-based school has only been playing football since 2001, Christopher Newport has qualified for the NCAA playoffs five times in that span, and faced a shared issue with the Colonels when a team featured on both squad's 2007 schedules- NJAC member Rowan University- became unavailable for 2008. Fortunately for both schools, the opportunity presented itself to schedule each other and resolved the problem.

Wilkes will begin MAC play on October 4 by hosting Lebanon Valley at the Ralston Field Complex. After a stretch of games that includes homecoming and the annual Mayor's Cup game against rival King's College, the team will close out the regular season with a trip to defending MAC champion Widener on November 15. While the MAC schedule combined with the nonconference lineup promises to challenge the Colonels to their limit, many players are looking forward to the contests.



The Beacon/Gino Troiani
Wilkes freshman Alan Frost, shown here during practice last season. The Colonels head into this season with two new opponents on the schedule.

ward to the contests.

"All of the players want to keep our program at a high level, and that means we need to play some of the best schools around,"

said defensive lineman Matt Archey, who will be a senior next fall. "We're all looking forward to it."

Whiteout expected at Wachovia for Calder Cup

BY MIKE CIGNOLI

Beacon Correspondent

Residents of Northeast Pennsylvania have been blessed with fantastic weather for the better part of the past few weeks. But the forecast is about to change. At the Wachovia Arena at Casey Plaza in Wilkes-Barre, whiteout conditions are expected.

We're not talking about a blizzard. No, the whiteout is much more than a snowstorm.

Imagine 8,000 people all donned in white, shaking white pom-poms, and chanting "Let's Go Pens!" at the same time.

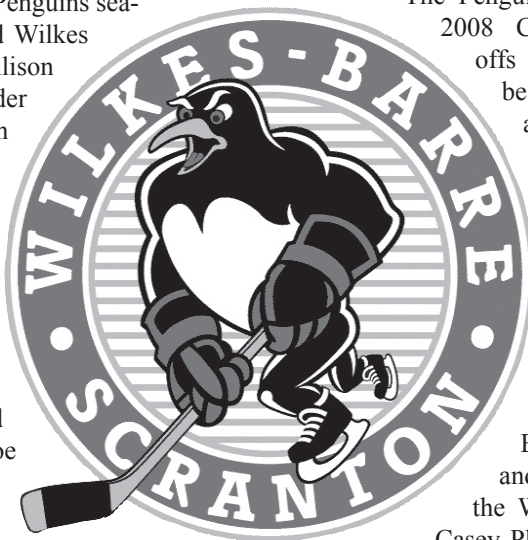
That's a typical Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins playoff game for you.

The Penguins finished third in the American Hockey League in attendance this season, averaging 7,667 fans per home game. An already difficult arena for a road team to play in doesn't get any easier when the "Whiteout Warriors" emerge from hiberna-

tion come playoff time.

"During the playoffs, there's so much more energy," notes Penguins season-ticket holder and Wilkes first-year student Alison Kasper. "It's just louder and more intense than the regular season. Spring is the best time of the year to be a Penguins fan."

When you pair the ice's natural white surface with a capacity crowd clad from head to toe in white, the building is transformed into an Antarctica of sorts - the perfect habitat for a Penguin.



It's home ice advantage on steroids. And the Penguins take full advantage of it.

The Penguins opened up the 2008 Calder Cup Playoffs with a first-round, best-of-seven series against the Hershey Bears. Wilkes-Barre/Scranton played games 1 and 4 in Chocolate City, scoring two goals in each game and splitting decisions with the Bears. Games 2, 3, and 5 were played at the Wachovia Arena at Casey Plaza. The Penguins won all three games, scoring a combined eighteen goals.

Hershey melted under pressure in Game 5 on Friday night. The Penguins scored seven times, including four unanswered tallies in the third period, to close out the series and eliminate the Bears from playoff contention. Tim Brent scored a goal and added three assists, while rookie defenseman Alex Goligoski scored a pair of powerplay goals and added an assist. Luca Caputi, playing in just his second professional game, had a goal and set up fifteen-year veteran Dennis Bonvie's goal in the final minute of the third period.

With their victory on Friday night, the Penguins advanced to the second round of the Calder Cup Playoffs. The Penguins will open up the East Division Finals at home on Thursday night against the winner of the series between the Philadelphia Phantoms and Albany River Rats.

And you can bet that the whiteout will be in full force.

Shocker Squad completes 3-peat in intramural finals

BY CARLTON HOLMES

Beacon Sports Editor

It is likely that the Shocker Squad championship legacy will come to a close. Seven of their eight players will graduate in May and Thursday night, they certainly played as though it was their last game on the floor together.

With numerous lead changes between the closing minutes of the first half until mid-way through the second, the Shockers managed to pull away en route to a 51-41 win over The Dudes.

"The second half we turned up the intensity and started helping each other more on defense," said captain Phil Sampona. "They also had trouble with the full court pressure we applied."

The Dudes went on a couple of scoring runs and had chances to close the deficit during the second half but they could not slow the Shockers down easy task.

Over the past four years, the Shockers have only two losses. They have lost once in the championship round of their inaugural season to Phil Coffee's team and one of the Shockers players, Jake Williams played for the team winning team. Last year, they had a regular season loss to team Adam Dick.

"We're definitely proud to have only two losses in the past four years," said senior Anthony Piscitelli. "Our wins never came from one individual but they came from playing as a team. People know who we are and I think it's safe to say they we are the best intramural team to walk through Wilkes University."

There is a lot of open white space around the Marts Gynasium where the championship banners are displayed. Maybe their jerseys will be retired one day.



The Beacon/Gino Troiani
The lone returner for the Shocker Squad, Matt Renzi (junior), flies over freshman Alan Frost en route to a one-handed power layup.

Wilkes student-athletes to intern with 2008 Olympics

BY ALISON WOODY

Beacon Managing Editor

Every four years, the summer Olympic games hold the world's attention to see who takes home the gold. And while they may not bring home the gold for Wilkes, two student-athletes will serve as interns for this most important international sporting event.

Xiaoqiao Zhang, a sophomore standout MAC tennis player, and Alyssa Koncelik, a junior field hockey attacker, are both communication studies majors. Zhang will be located in China, her home country, working for CCTV (the largest news station in the country) as a reporter for the Olympics. Koncelik will move to Colorado Springs, and intern with the broadcasting department of the official United States Olympic Committee.

Zhang, whose mother will be an Olympic torch bearer and whose friends will also be competing, said, "I'm just so excited about

this because it is really big for my country and I am proud that I can be a part of [the Olympics]."

Last summer, Zhang worked at CCTV's sports channel and got to interview members of the Philadelphia Eagles and the New England Patriots. "This is like a rehire for me... I'm really happy that my internship place was happy with my work," she said.

Koncelik, who first heard about the internship through a professor, went through a rigorous interview process to work at the Olympic training center in Colorado.

"For my internship, I will be working in the broadcasting department. Some of my job duties will entail compiling footage, editing, assisting in writing, shooting, producing, going out on video shoots, and setting up and breaking down field shoots," said Koncelik.

Not only is she packing up and moving to an unknown state by herself, but Koncelik will have to assimilate to a new professional

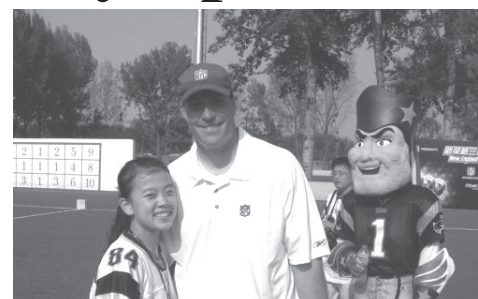
culture and roommate, which can be more of a challenge than the actual internship.

Koncelik said, "This summer, I hope to gain a whole new experience both in enhancing my education on broadcasting along with experiencing life in a whole new way... I get to go to a different state and meet new people along with doing what I love the most."

Both students are proud to be representing Wilkes on a national and international level.

Zhang said, "I was so proud that I could get this job, and at the same time, so proud that I can do something for my country."

"I think this internship is going to be an amazing experience," Koncelik added.



The Beacon/Gino Troiani
Xiaoqiao Zhang poses during her internship with the Patriots.



The Beacon/Gino Troiani
Alyssa Koncelik hustling for the ball a field hockey game.

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

6

Number of wins this season for the Lady Colonels lacrosse team- the highest number since the program began in 2003.

4

Home runs in the baseball team's 14-1 victory over Baptist Bible College on Wednesday.

3

Number of hits and RBIs by senior Sarah Miller in the softball team's doubleheader verses King's College on Saturday.

13

Ranking in the Atlantic South Region for the women's tennis team, who will advance to the NCAA playoffs on May 2.

Colonels popped in final games of series

Sweep by DeSales eliminates team from playoffs

BY NICK PODOLAK
Beacon Editor-in-Chief

The Colonels didn't exactly envision their season coming down to having to take two out of three from DeSales to sneak into the Freedom Conference playoffs. However, they took a step in the right direction with an exciting 7-5 victory over the Bulldogs at Artillery Park on Friday afternoon.

"We really needed to win at home to start the series," said senior Kyle Follweiler following Friday's game. "Now all we gotta do is take one from down there, and we're in." Follweiler finished the day with a pair of hits and two RBI.

But despite the good start, the Colonels punched out early from Butz Field in Center Valley on Saturday, managing only two hits in a 3-2 loss to the 'Dogs before dropping the nightcap, 4-3. The loss eliminated the defending conference champs from playoff contention.

"We just didn't bring our bats. Their pitchers kept us off balance," said senior Brad Woznisky. "We got guys in scoring position; we just couldn't bring them in."

In Friday's game, Tom Buckler pitched seven strong innings for the Colonels, fanning 12 and giving up just four runs in a game where neither team could hold the lead until the Blue and Gold got a big insurance run from Woznisky in the eighth inning.

Mike McAndrew started things off with a walk, stole second, and then advanced to third on a weak ground out by Follweiler to the second baseman. Realizing the importance of the game, his teammates mobbed him for making a productive out as if he'd just hit a home run. Corey Helfrich followed with a deep sac fly to right field, allowing McAndrew to score the go-ahead run with the Colonels now leading 6-5.

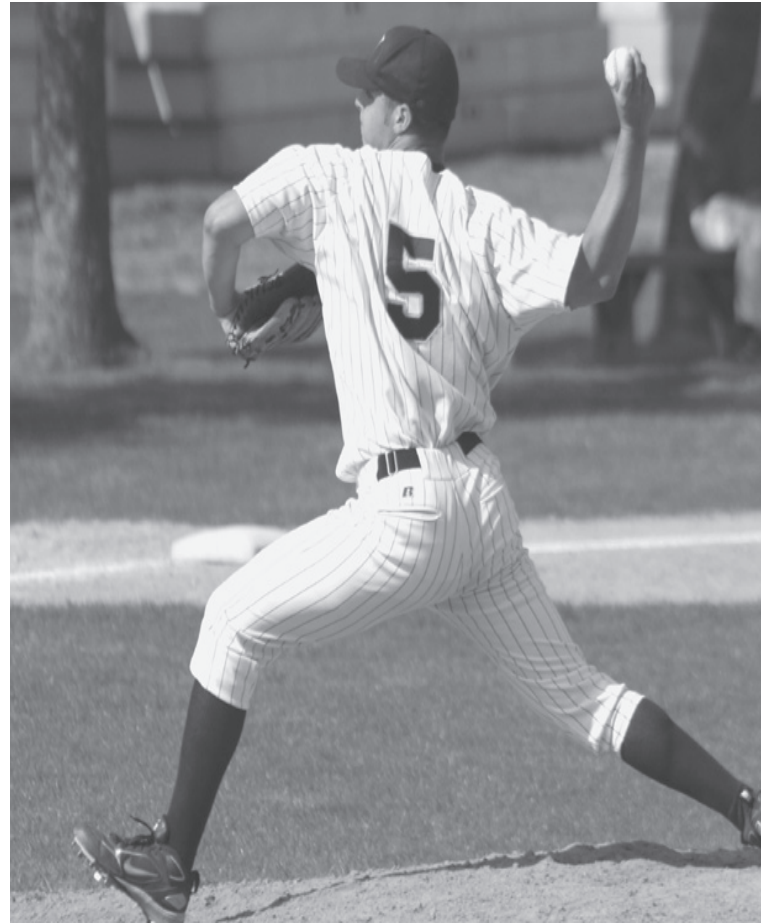
Chris Mayerski's single put runners on the corners as Woznisky lined a frozen rope off of the third baseman's mitt and down the left field line, putting the Colonels up 7-5.

Anthony "Ant Man" Giuffrida picked up the win in relief of Buckler.

The Colonels end their season at 8-10 in conference play.

"Every game, we went out and played as hard as we could,"

Woznisky added. "We just came up a few games short this year."



The Beacon/Allison Roth
Tom Buckler delivers against DeSales Friday afternoon at Artillery Park. The sophomore was effective, throwing seven solid innings with 12 strikeouts.

G1

Player	AB	R	H	RBI
McAndrew	2	3	1	0
Follweiler	5	0	2	2
Helfrich	4	1	1	2
Mayerski	5	1	4	0
Woznisky	4	0	1	1
Dengler	4	1	3	2
Garofoli	5	0	0	0
Sisko	3	0	0	0
Clocker	1	0	0	0
Miller	0	0	0	0
Wetzel	4	1	1	0
Buckler	0	0	0	0
Giuffrida	0	0	0	0

G2

Player	AB	R	H	RBI
McAndrew	3	0	0	0
Follweiler	3	0	0	0
Helfrich	2	0	0	0
Mayerski	1	2	1	1
Woznisky	3	1	0	0
Dengler	3	0	0	0
Garofoli	3	0	0	0
Sisko	3	0	1	1
Wetzel	3	0	0	0

G3

Player	AB	R	H	RBI
McAndrew	3	1	2	0
Follweiler	3	0	2	1
Helfrich	4	0	0	0
Mayerski	2	0	1	1
Dengler	2	0	1	1
Garofoli	3	0	0	0
Miller	3	0	0	0
Wetzel	2	0	1	0
Brennan	1	0	0	0
Padams	2	0	1	0

Men's tennis wins first ever Freedom Conference title

Colonels earn an automatic bid into the NCAA division III tournament

COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Second-seeded Wilkes University claimed their first Freedom Conference men's tennis championship on Sunday afternoon with a 5-3 victory over top seeded FDU-Florham.

Wilkes, which improved to 15-2 overall, earned the conference's automatic berth into the NCAA Division III Championship which will take place May 2-4.

FDU took a 2-1 lead after the doubles matches. At first doubles, the FDU team of Adam Geiger and Jason Thalmann defeated the Wilkes pair of Kyle Ungvarsky

and Chris Cozzillio by an 8-2 score. Alex Bruin and John Zalesky from FDU won at second doubles position over Wes McCollum and Jon Rohrbach 8-2. Wilkes came back at the third doubles position as the tandem of Josh Gardner and Brian Fanelli won over Joe Li and Wes Harnett by the score of 8-0.

The singles matches were all extremely competitive. Wilkes struck first as second singles player Ungvarsky defeated Thalmann by a 6-2, 6-4 score. With the match now tied, the Colonels' Cozzillio would give the team its first lead with a close 7-5, 7-6 decision over Bruin.

The Devils would tie the score at 3 with a win at sixth singles by Harnett, when Fanelli was forced to retire. Wilkes would grab the lead for good when senior captain Gardner won a close three set match over Zalesky 6-4, 2-6, 6-4. Finally, Rohrbach clinched the win with a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 decision over Li at fourth singles.



The Beacon/Gino Troiani
Wilkes freshman Jon Rohrbach takes a shot during match against FDU-Florham. Rohrbach won his singles match 6-3, 4-6, 6-3.