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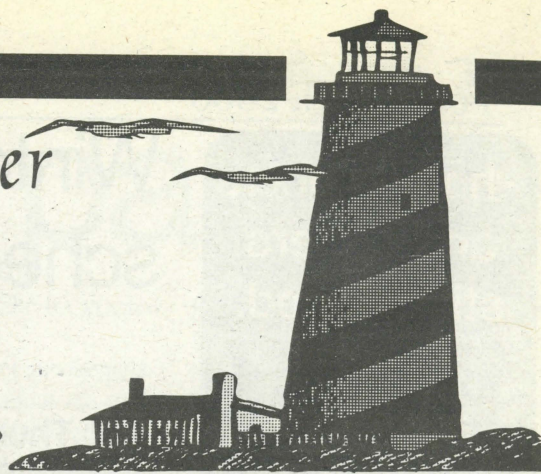
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Wilkes University's Student Newspaper The Beacon

February 3, 2000

www.wilkes.edu

Volume 52 Issue 15



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

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News

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Back-to-school chaos & confusion

By JILL STANKOSKI
Beacon Staff Writer

January 17 meant the end to of long winter's nap for the students of Wilkes University. This date was when students were being awakened by annoying alarm clocks before noon, hustle and bustle of the first day of classes and trying to catch up on all the stories that happened over the break.

It is also a fashion parade to show off all the clothes and miscellaneous holiday gifts. Junior Matt Scarcella said, "I am waiting with anticipation to see how many girls A.G.E. gives the 'meathook' to. Also, waiting to talk to the Candiegirl to get the Red Candie purse and the developing curveball."

Freshman Kristina Mullay said, "I would rather be on winter break hanging out with friends, than going to an 8 o'clock class."

Also some students want to talk to professors about the grade they received last semester, while others may be dealing with being on a waiting list to get into classes they so drastically need. And as always financial aid issues need to be adjusted or corrected.

The start of the semester also means long lines in the bookstore with student's buying and selling back books. While most students are leaving the store pleased because they just spent \$300 or more on books and other supplies, there are also students that leave empty handed because all that is on the bookshelf is an empty space.

Another aspect of starting a new semester is seeing who is in your classes. Hoping that particular students will and will not be in your class. Freshman Michelle Auker said, "It is only the second week of the semester and I am sick of all the gossip talk."

The main topic of conversation has been that of Winter Weekend. This year's theme is "movies" and it will be held on February 11-13. Students are busy thinking of team names, gathering students to be on their team and ultimately thinking up a team spirit chant. Junior Cassie Sutton said, "It is great to be back and I cannot wait till Winter Weekend."

An additive bonus to this semester has been the recent snowfall. Due to the inclement weather, Wilkes University has already had two closings and one compressed schedule. Students enjoyed the snow by playing football in the greenway, sleigh riding, and the students who live in Ross Hall built a huge fort while frolicking around in the snow.

Regardless of the schedule changes and weather conditions this is the last semester for many students at Wilkes. Senior Darlene Fenrock said, "This is the last semester that I will spend here at Wilkes and I will always remember the friends and professors that I met here."

Welcome back all students and may everyone have a great, safe, and memorable semester.

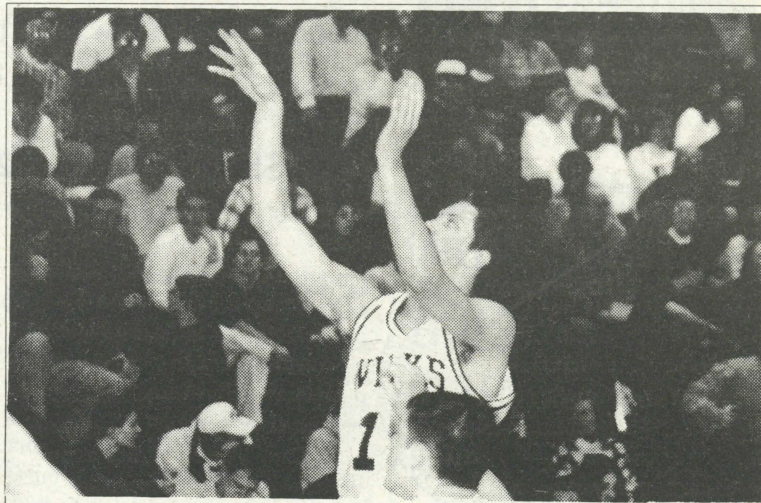


Photo by Adam Polinger

Two conference wins place Colonels in first

*Fabian's offense
keys Wilkes in
local rivalries.*

By MATT REITNOUR
Beacon Staff Writer

If you see senior basketball player Chad Fabian walking around campus and he appears to be on fire, he probably is.

Fabian scored a game high 28 points in the 85-73 win over cross-town rival King's College Tuesday night to up the Colonels record to 14-5 overall, 7-3 in the Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom League. The Colonels are now a half-game ahead of Lycoming as the Warriors traveled to Scranton Wednesday night in

another key MAC Freedom League match-up.

Wilkes led at the half and never looked back, running their second half lead to as many as 12 points with about six minutes to play in regulation. King's made a strong run, cutting the score to 62-60 before the sophomore tandem of Ron McIntyre and Kevin Walsh took over in the paint for Wilkes. McIntyre finished with 14 points and three blocked shots in his return to the Scandlon Gymnasium on the King's campus, while Walsh chipped in with 16 key points. Wilkes finished with an impressive 17 assists, led by Greg Barrouk who had 5, while adding nine tallies.

**See First
page 8**

Wilkes to get cracking on Student Senate

By NICOLE PEUTL
Beacon Staff Writer

This Tuesday, members of different clubs and organizations attended the President's Meeting in Hischock Hall. This meeting, conducted by Matt Sowcik, discussed the formation of a student senate. The student senate will consist of leaders from Wilkes' clubs and meet the first Tuesday of every month at 11:00 AM. During these meetings, each club's representatives will an-

nounce fund raising and upcoming events. The senate will also discuss various budgeting issues.

One of the goals of this new senate is to promote better communication about activities that are going on among the Wilkes' student body. Some of the clubs that were present at Tuesday's meeting were from the Programming Board, Student Government, Inter-residence Hall Council, Sociology Club, AIDS Awareness Committee, Multicultural Service Committee, Business and

Accounting Club, Nursing Club, Field Hockey Club, Roller-Blading Club, History Club, Psychology Club, Chemistry Club, and a representative from the Freshman Class. As news of this new senate progresses, more club officers from all clubs and organizations are encouraged to attend. The installation of rows of mailboxes, in the Hischock Hall allows for fliers and other information to be more easily distributed among the Wilkes community.

Student Government President,

Matt Sowcik hopes that "the new student senate will encourage Wilkes University's leaders more participation in budgeting roles and will balance out the power of student government so that it will be possible to run a more successful student government at the University."

CLUB OFFICERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND MEETINGS EVERY FIRST TUESDAY AND 11:00 IN HISCHOCK HALL.

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Winter Weekend events scheduled for next week

Theme: Movies

Thursday, Feb. 10 – Box A Krayons
SU ballroom – 9:00 - 11:30 PM

Friday, Feb. 11 – Spirit contest and volleyball
Gym – 8:00 PM

Saturday, Feb. 12 – Games / Lunch
Greenway – 11:00 AM

Student Government update

By **NICOLE PEUTL**
Beacon Staff Writer

This week's student government meeting started off with three guest speakers, two of which were the Psychology Club and the Roller Hockey Club, regarding funding for their respective events. The results will be decided at future meetings. New representatives from the senior, junior, sophomore, and freshman classes were welcomed as well as a plea for new participants to help with junior class activities. New business that

was discussed included preparations for a Spring dance hosted by Student Government and its name was voted to be the "Spring Fling."

Other new topics discussed were ideas for the topic for the February Forum and preparations for Winter Weekend. Other business conducted at the meeting was nominations and appointments of the committee member of the month and the club of the month.

Congratulations to Rupal Kalariya and the Multicultural Service Club!

Accounting students offer free tax



Photo by

By **PAULA GENTILMAN**
Communications Assistant

For reasons stemming from confusion to frustration, many put off filing their tax returns until the last minute. A group of Wilkes University accounting students hope to alleviate these concerns by offering area taxpayers free assistance through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

The annual program is designed to assist the public, especially elderly and lower income individuals, prepare their basic federal and state

taxes. They offered from Saturday of the Cl 137 South Barre.

Any of this year's all W-2 are about other all deduct last year's.

For the Wilkes Department 4725.

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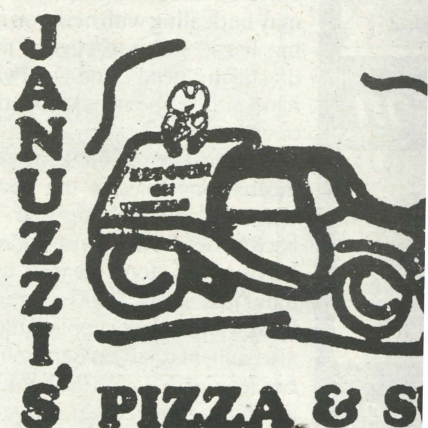
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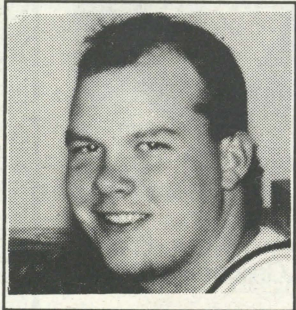
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Large pie, order of wings \$10.99

Sun.-Thur. 11 AM - 11 PM

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

More problems with parking



Corey Yanoshak

6 PM. Granted, my parking spot is at the far-end of COB on the driveway in front of the dumpsters, but still, why does that need to be open at night? There's no garbage people coming to empty the dumpsters at night.

My ticket stated that I was in a firelane and I was parked on a sidewalk. Okay, for one, I parked there the whole semester last year and that wasn't a problem.

Secondly, there are university cars and vans parked there all the time, so why aren't they violating those same rules? I guess I really don't care and I just want something to complain about, but I don't think that's fair. Has the university ever ticketed someone parked in front of the fire hydrant? I guess that's not a fire hazard, huh? Also, I never saw a sign on that side of COB that said "No Parking," so how was I supposed to know not to park there? Common sense, you say? Well think again. When it comes to parking on campus, all's fair. So if you don't make it clear as to where I can and

cannot park, I will take for granted that I can park there.

And when we get into the parking situation, what about the spots lost where Pickering Hall used to be? Where are those students to go? It's not fair that they should have to park in the street when they had spots before. They shouldn't have to get stuck paying meters all semester. I know that's nobody's fault because Pickering had to come down, but these students only add to this mess of a parking situation.

To tell you the truth, that ticket did not teach me a lesson. If my other spot at the SBDC lot is not open and I'm going to my night class, I'm pulling my blue Explorer right up on that sidewalk and leaving it there while I'm in class. And hey, give me another ticket and take my money, but when it comes down to it, you'll start letting it go soon enough. And when you do, I'll be there to take advantage of it.

...

You may have noticed some changes in last week's *Beacon* and

that's because there have been some personnel changes made. We are short some experience, but we think we have found a good combination among our staff.

The one thing we are missing is student feedback. I was told by a staff member that last week's issue flat-out "sucked," said some students. That's fine if you think that, but I wish someone would come to me or at least leave us a message telling us so.

If the students want a change, we will provide it. But we need to know what you want. There are still some kinks to be worked out, but hopefully we will have a paper that you can look forward to each week. After all, what good is a student newspaper if the students aren't involved at all. That's why we need your comments or complaints.


Corey Yanoshak is the managing editor of *The Beacon* and the ideas expressed in his column are not the opinion of the paper. He can be reached at: beacon@wilkes.edu.

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A Word from the President

I appreciated Jill Stankoski's front-page article on Pickering Hall and wanted to add some thoughts. In the Master Plan for the entire campus (which included erecting the Classroom Office Building, establishing the new greenway or Fenner Quadrangle, removing the old book store, renovating the Stark Learning Center to make way for the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy and building the new Student Union), the razing of Pickering was part of the plan. Both as an all-male residence hall and as a dining facility, Pickering served Wilkes well for nearly four decades. When the Board of Trustees approved the Master Plan in 1993, they were persuaded that it was not worth more than the estimated three million dollars it would take to renovate Pickering (including repairing major structural defects and redoing the bathrooms to offer private showers). It was clear that the building had become a significant retention problem, with more than a few freshman men deciding not to stay at Wilkes because of their room assignments in Pickering. (The same consideration had dictated canceling the lease arrangement with the YMCA where more than 90 Wilkes students lived each year during the 1980's.)

In locating the new Student Union where it now is, the Master Plan called for selecting a location for more on-campus parking. The Pickering site seemed ideal, both for surface

parking after Pickering was razed and potentially with a multi-tiered parking facility at a later date. Sometime this spring we hope to have the site prepared for surface parking with more than 230 spaces. The parking system will stay the same. Those students, staff and faculty who want to park on campus, on the Wilkes-Barre side of the river, will pay a monthly parking fee; those who wish to park for free will continue doing so at Ralston Field and use the University Shuttle.

We apologize for the inconvenience caused by the razing of Pickering for our neighbors and for our students who temporarily faced reduced numbers of parking spaces. The benefit, of course, is that we will have many more campus parking spaces than we have had in more than a decade. This will not only help commuters who wish to pay to park, but also the people who attend evening and weekend events in the Marts Center, the Darte Center and the Student Union.

During Homecoming this past autumn, we had a special party in Pickering for alumni who had lived there to say goodbye to a building that will live in memory for thousands of Wilkes students (and their friends). The party in "the pit" was a mellow affair compared to the social events alumni recalled. Pickering will remain an indelible part of Wilkes' history, including myriad recollections of the

words
by
**Christopher
Breiseth**



men of Roosevelt, Butler, Warner, Priapus, Dirksen, Diaz, Colonels, Grissom and Webster Halls.

The next major projects on the drawing board include replacing the housing lost with the demise of Pickering. The residence halls on South River Street are the first installment. Next will be Schiowitz Hall (between Fortinsky and Roth Halls, on South Franklin) which will be renovated this summer. After that, we are looking at the possibility of building some town-house type structures in the block that includes the Student Union. Wilkes University will continue to improve its facilities, academic, residential, technological, athletic and social (including parking). We hope that you all can see through temporary inconveniences to the significantly improved campus that is your university home — and in future years your alma mater — upon which you will always look with pride.

Super Bowl XXXIV: The biggest event makes the greatest game

By Kevin Sickle

The Super Bowl. The true test of football greatness. We've all become accustomed to sitting back on the last Sunday in January and watching the powerhouses of the NFL duel it out for the most prized hardware in American sports, the Vince Lombardi Trophy. The 49ers, the Cowboys, the Broncos, the Packers, the Rams, and the Titans.

The Rams and Titans? You read that right, the Rams and Titans. The topsy-turvy year of the National Football League saw perennial powers either making an early playoff exit, or watching the entire playoffs from the comfort of their own living rooms.

It may not have been where they wanted to be Sunday night, but boy, were they and the rest of us treated to one of the most exciting Super Bowls in history.

After winning the toss and electing to receive, the St. Louis Rams did pretty much what everyone expected them to do, move the football. Between the 20-yard lines, breakthrough sensation Kurt Warner had his way, connecting with five different receivers and even one of his offensive linemen off a batted pass.

Once inside the redzone, Tennessee's defense put up a brick wall. In five first-half trips inside the 20, St. Louis was only able to salvage three field goals, missing another and having yet another fail due to a blown snap. The Titans did this without much help from their defensive leader, rookie Jevon Kearse. Rams right tackle Fred Miller kept "The Freak" at bay, with no sacks and very few impact plays.

Halftime: St. Louis 9 Tennessee 0

After a less than spectacular first half, followed by a mediocre halftime show (with the exception of a performance by Christina Aguilera), I was looking forward to a much more exciting and competitive second half, but it was more of the same. Following an unsuc-

cessful opening drive, Tennessee found themselves backing up again. This time, though, Kurt Warner got it done as he found Torry Holt streaking across the goal line. Holt made a nice catch to make up for a touchdown that he dropped in the first half.

Towards the end of that drive, everyone on the field and at home realized what was most important. While making a tackle, Titans safety Blaine Bishop strained his neck and was carried off on a stretcher. In a show of compassion, despite being opponents in the most important of football games, Rams QB Kurt Warner knelt alongside Bishop to offer a prayer. Both teams also shared concern, but Titans head coach Jeff Fisher used it as a motivating factor, and his team responded.

On their next possession, Tennessee turned to the bread and butter of their offense, Steve McNair and Eddie George. After trying to spread the field to no avail in the first half, the Titans stuck to the run and screen passes to bring them back in the game. Two Eddie George touchdowns in a 7:53 span pulled them to within 3, and Al Del Greco tied the game with 2:12 to go on a 43-yard field goal.

Warner took the ensuing drive's first snap and hit wide receiver Isaac Bruce with a 73-yard touchdown pass to all but seal the victory.

The never-say die Titans wouldn't quit, though. Steve McNair engineered one of his patented drives of short passes and long scrambles to get it down to the St. Louis 10. With 6 seconds left, McNair hit wideout Kevin Dyson on a slant, but he was stopped a yard short by a superb tackle — a Super Bowl-winning tackle at that — at the hands of Mike Jones as time expired. There would be no sequel to the "Music City Miracle."

"It's set up exactly like we worked on it in practice," Dyson later said of the play called

"Sliver Right," which they ran three times in practice from the same spot as on Sunday, against the same defensive scheme that the Rams played it with. "It came down to the linebacker making a great tackle. It was ironic, it came down to something like that."

Final Score: St. Louis 23 Tennessee 16

With all due respect to the newest member of the Hall of Fame, Joe Montana and his Super Bowl XXIII winning 49ers and their deserving opponents, Boomer Esiason (who called Super Bowl XXXIV) and his Cincinnati Bengals, this was the best Super Bowl and most impressive performance by a quarterback in a Super Bowl (Kurt Warner's Super Bowl record 414 yards passing) that I have ever seen.

Both of these teams are young and talented, which is scary for the rest of the NFL. I say it's about time. I personally have had enough of seeing the Cowboys, the Broncos, the Packers, and the 49ers lifting that Lombardi Trophy. It's time for a changing of the guards. The Titans didn't leave the Georgia Dome losers. They have a bright future ahead of them. They'll use this loss as a learning experience, and they WILL be back playing on Super Sunday in the very near future. Head coach Jeff Fisher put it simply, "We didn't fail, we just kinda postponed our success."

Congratulations to Dick Vermeil on becoming the oldest coach to win a Super Bowl, especially after such a long absence from the game. If he decides to come back next year, he'll have a great team to work with. The Rams have many superstars in Marshall Faulk and Isaac Bruce, and the newest superstar, Kurt Warner. They aren't finished yet.

What a game. What a storybook season, not only for the former bag boy turned regular season and Super Bowl MVP Kurt Warner, but for the Rams, the Titans, and the entire NFL. If only every season could be so great and culminate in such an exciting Super Bowl!

The Beacon

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Background Information

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

The Beacon is the student newspaper of Wilkes University. All editorial decisions are made by the student editors. All opinions expressed within The Beacon are those of the author or source quoted.



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Showtime

With Kathleen Awad

Cradle Will Rock: This is a story about what happened in the United States during the great depression concerning the government funded theater companies, when the world threat of Fascism and Communism hit the U.S. in a state of political paranoia. The film is well cast with names as Vanessa Redgrave, who played the wife of a wealthy business tycoon that loved the arts, and Bill Murray who played the very role of a neurotic Ventriloquist and kept me from falling asleep. I would have loved this movie because it is set in the 1930's in NYC, one of my favorite times in history, but unfortunately the producers dragged the story out to be too long. Perhaps they were trying to keep it as realistic as possible, but sometimes reality needs a jolt of thought provoking material. When Vanessa Redgrave cannot even save a picture, something is wrong with the production. Unfortunately on a scale of one to ten I had to give this one a six.

The End of the Affair: I am glad that I went to see this movie because it made me reflect on how everything we do in our lives is a means to an end. It reminds us of how our lives are orchestrated only by a higher power in order to achieve what and who we are supposed to become, down to the smallest minute of details. This film is a lovely story of forbidden love of two kinds and is brilliantly acted out and produced. The special affects are spectacular, making the viewer almost forget that he is safe in the theater and not in England during the bombing raids of World War II. The creators give the audience a chance to contemplate situations and come to their own conclusions instead of the usual brainless spoon-fed movies that Hollywood loves to make. I enjoyed this film and am glad to give it a nine out of ten.

Angela's Ashes: This film is a true story of an Irish boy being raised in the slums of Limerick Ireland in the 1930's whose family fled NYC during the depression only to find themselves starving in Ireland. The film opens with a tragic scene and never gives the viewer a chance to recover. *Angela's Ashes* could win an Academy award for costume and set design; I would swear that you were right in the middle of a Limerick slum in Ireland yourself! It was so incredibly sad that the emotional drain suffered by the viewer is not worth the high quality picture in terms of direction and set design. GLOOM AND DOOM! This film does offer a few humorous bits, but since the characters were in constant dire straights I found myself just staring emotionless at the humor and frankly in shock that they were able to find any humor in their situation. If you go to see *Angela's Ashes*, remember to bring along a huge box of tissues: Since it was like drowning in an ocean of turmoil and being rescued by a shark, I gave this movie an eight out of ten.

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| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| HURRICANE, THE (R) | 12:40p, 3:50p |
| 7:00p, 10:15p, | |
| SNOW FALLING ON CEDARS (PG-13) | 7:25p, 10:20p |
| STUART LITTLE (PG) | 11:55a, 12:25p, 2:15p, 2:45p, 4:35p, 5:05p, 7:30p, 9:55p |
| TALENTED MR. RIPLEY (R) | 1:05p, 4:05p, 7:10p, 10:10p |
| BICENTENNIAL-MAN (PG) | 1:55p, 4:50p, 7:45p, 10:40p |
| THE END OF THE AFFAIR (R) | 11:30a, 4:30p, 7:05p, 9:40p |
| DEUCE BIGALOW: MALE GIGOLO (R) | 1:25p, 3:35p, 5:45p, 7:55p, 10:05p |
| SUPERNOVA (PG-13) | 12:20p, 2:55p, 5:20p, 7:50p, 10:00p |
| ANGELA'S ASHES (R) | 12:00p, 3:55p, 7:15p, 10:25p |
| PLAY IT TO THE BONE (R) | 12:30p, 4:20p, 7:40p, 10:30p |
| EYE OF THE BEHOLDER (R) | 11:50a, 2:35p, 5:00p, 7:30p, 9:55p |
| THE GREEN MILE (R) | 1:00p, 4:40p, 8:30p |
| GIRL INTERRUPTED (R) | 1:20p, 4:25p, 7:25p, 10:35p |
| DOWN TO YOU (PG-13) | 12:45p, 3:00p, 5:25p, 7:40p, 10:10p |
| CIDER HOUSE RULES (R) | 1:10p, 4:15p, 7:15p, 10:20p |
| GALAXY QUEST (PG) | 12:10p, 2:40p, 5:10p, 7:50p, 10:25p |
| MAGNOLIA (R) | 12:05p, 4:00p, 8:00p |
| CRADLE WILL ROCK (R) | 12:50p, 4:10p, 7:20p, 10:00p |
| TOY STORY 2 (G) | 12:15p, 2:50p, 5:15p, 7:45p, 10:15p |
| ANY GIVEN SUNDAY (R) | 12:35p, 7:00p |
| MAN ON THE MOON (R) | 4:20p, 10:40p |

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Madame Brandi Sees

Virgo (August 23 - September 22) This upcoming week will pass you by if you're not careful! Be sure to stop and smell the roses.

Libra (September 23 - October 23) It's time to put those social skills to use. They're about to land you a new business contact.

Scorpio (October 24 - November 21) You will be flooded with warm feelings from a person afar. This is definitely something worth pursuing.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21) Take the advice of your elders. It's their thoughts that might make or break your dilemma.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19) Surprise news is on its way. Don't fret, it will be an uplifting tale.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18) Your courageous venture might not have been the best idea. You should take a few steps back and make sure.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20) Those closest to you deserve some time. Be sure to visit the family and make some time for your friends!

Aries (March 21 - April 19) You will be busy on the computer this week. Although this doesn't make you happy, it will pay off at a later date.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) It's time to take a week off. Relax and enjoy the peace and quiet for once!

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Although this isn't like you, you're going to enter a sentimental mood this week. Don't let it pass without appreciating the finer things in life.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) It looks like you'll be shopping this week, your kitchen is empty. Be sure to look deeper in the cabinets.

Leo (July 23 - August 22) A friend you have heard from in a while might pop into your life. Treat him or her well.

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Clinton: Strongest Union Ever!

By JASON BROCIOSUS
Beacon Staff Writer

Last Thursday evening on the floor of the House Chamber, President Clinton addressed Congress and other attendees for the final State of the Union Address of his administration. It was the longest in the history of the speech, lasting ninety minutes and including 116 breaks for applause. He began the address by emphatically proclaiming, "the state of the Union is the strongest it has ever been!" The President then cited a booming economy, downturns in crime, and the lowest welfare roles in many years as America's most powerful triumphs during recent years.

Clinton continued by enthusiastically outlining short-term goals he wished Congress to pursue, which included passing a "real" Patients' Bill of Rights, "common-sense" gun safety legislation, and campaign finance reform; raising the minimum wage; maintaining a balanced budget; and enacting plans to save Social Security and Medicare.

The President then pursued the

topic of education. Among other plans, he called for increases in spending for HeadStart, hiring 100,000 more teachers, making repairs to our schools in need, and providing tax cuts to middle class families with college students. Healthcare was next on the docket as Clinton called for Medicare reform (including prescriptions for all seniors), expansion of the CHIP program to insure children not covered by their parents health insurance, and expanding tax credits for long term care.

The President's plan for "common-sense" gun legislation included increasing the power of the ATF and mandating a safety course and special photo license for gun owners. Other topics in his broad agenda for the nation included expanding other tax credits such as the earned income and child-care credits, enforcing equal pay for equal work, increasing the nation's police force, investing in our Native-American reservations and inner cities, continuing to globalize trade, raising military salaries and veterans' benefits, and passing a nuclear test-ban treaty.

Clinton wound-down the address by speaking about the importance of research to save the environment and aid human health, and ended by claiming that diversity will be our nation's strongest asset for years to come.

The Republican response that followed concentrated on the topics of education and healthcare. Senator Susan Collins of Maine spoke about education, citing a four-tiered plan including increasing funds for public schools, keeping federal interference out of local school districts, strengthening teaching excellence, and continuing support for higher education. Senator Bill Frist of Tennessee then attacked Clinton's views on healthcare, saying that Americans' choice and security should not be compromised. Frist is Congress's only physician.

The President later got further heat from the GOP, which claimed that the Democrats plan to spend the entire budget surplus rather than give it back to the American people. The Republican Party has commonly stood on a platform of less government.

"Huffing" will blow your house down

By ANDRIA BIAGIOTTI
Beacon Staff Writer

For many teenagers and young adults today, getting high doesn't start with marijuana or alcohol; it starts with an aerosol can or a bottle of household cleaner. Many people know very little about what is called "huffing." Huffing agents are nothing more than the household products used to fuel engines, freshen the air, and paint projects. But these common household products have become deadly killers. When inhaled or huffed, they provide a quick, cheap and accessible way to get high, but their effects can be deadly.

Inhalant abuse is deadly. By

starving the body of oxygen or forcing the heart to beat more rapidly and erratically, inhalants can kill those who sniff, most of whom are adolescents. But the effects are also long term. A 1986 study of 20 chronic abusers of toluene-containing spray paints found that after one month of abstinence from sniffing the paint, 65 percent of the abusers had damage to the nervous system. Such damage can lead to impaired perception, reasoning, and memory, as well as defective muscular coordination and eventually dementia.

There are more 1,400 known substances that are categorized as capable of being abused by inhalation. They include hydrocarbons,

nitrites, anesthetics, alcohol, and halogen compounds. Some typical name-brand substances that have been frequently abused are: airplane glue, Scotchgard, Pam, carbon-tetrachloride, gasoline, paint thinner, Butane, "White-Out" correction fluid, color markers, and other items too many to mention.

Current reports indicate that college age and older adults are the primary abusers of butane and nitrous oxide. Imagine substances experts call deadlier than heroin or cocaine. Imagine that teenagers are inhaling them to get high. These substances aren't figments of the imagination. They're real, they're killers, and they're in your house.

Hats off to our shuttle bus drivers!

By KATHLEEN AWAD
Beacon Staff Writer

It is time that we let our friendly shuttle bus drivers know how much we appreciate their faithful service. The drivers are all very pleasant and usually ready with a snappy joke, which helps to take the edge off of a hectic day or just may make you smile. The shuttle bus service was the first impression that I got of Wilkes University in the fall of 1999. I

remember being a little apprehensive about the first day, but after getting off to the right start with a welcoming atmosphere, I knew that things were going to be fine.

One evening I rode the last shuttle of the day to the lot and realized that my car would not start because I had left my lights on in the morning. The driver noticed my plight and offered to help by retrieving a battery charger jump kit. I was so thankful to him because it was late and I would have been

scared to walk any distance. He was cheerful and made sure that I got on the road before leaving for home.

The shuttle bus drivers think of us during exams and advise us not to get too worked up, and later ask how well we did on them. It is always a pleasure to hop on the shuttle and exchange a few words with friends before daily commitments.

So, congratulations to our Wilkes University shuttle bus drivers for a job well done; thanks for being there anytime we need a lift!

The Main Event With Crazy Bob



"Ain't nothing but a G thing Crazy." Hey man. Nice shot. How are all of my wild and wacky, trendy and tacky, nutty, slaphappy, crazy cats that only the Bob-man digs so much? Oh, well, sorry to hear that. Citizens of Wilkes-Barre, last week our worlds were turned completely upside down. The earth trembled beneath our very feet. Trees toppled over telephone poles. Cars skidded across the road. Riots and looting were commonplace. Civilization as we know it was changed forever with a surprise so shocking that even yours truly was taken aback. *The Beacon* came out on time.

People are always coming up to me and saying, "Bob, do you remember when...?" So this week we're not going to chew the fat about what's on RAW; we're not going to dish out the skinny on what ECW is doing; we're not going to analyze the disaster that is WCW. I want you to lean back in your chair, make yourself a warm cup of cocoa, put some Leonard Cohen on the noisemaker and take a stroll with me down memory lane.

It was Thanksgiving Night of 1990. Fans were speculating as to who would be "The Million Dollar Man," Ted DiBiase's mystery partner for the Survivor Series. It would be the man dubbed as the phenom, the Undertaker. This awesome presence, managed by Brother Love, would eliminate half of the opposing team. Over the next nine years, the Undertaker would go on to deliver such legendary feuds with Yokozuna, Steve Austin, Mankind, Kane, and Jake Roberts. He would have some less than memorable feuds with Giant Gonzalez, Mabel, Kamala, and the Berzerker.

1994 was a lackluster year for the WWF. The dead man was on hiatus, feuding with himself. Hulkamania ran wild in WCW. The federation's image was marred by steroid scandals and evil clowns. Wrestlemania X, held at Madison Square Garden, would accidentally regurgitate two future superstars. One was Shawn Michaels, setting a standard for future ladder matches and elevating the status of the Intercontinental belt, despite losing the match. The other was Owen Hart. Owen was pitted against his brother Bret, in a match designed as a warm-up for Bret's title match later that evening. In the opening contest, Owen upset his brother and numbed a disbelieving audience by pinning Bret's shoulders to the mat. Tragedy would later take the life of Owen Hart last year in a freak accident. Thank you for everything Owen and may you rest in peace. And Owen: I always drink my milk.

This next memory is a little personal, if you don't mind. It was November 21, 1997. I was a senior in high school, all psyched about one of my first ECW shows. The site was the Mid Hudson Civic Center, Poughkeepsie, NY. My favorite ECW wrestler, Sabu, would go one on one with the Sandman in a Singapore Caning Match. After two hours of blood and guts, the crowd was tiring, but I was still wide-eyed with my adrenaline pumping to see Sabu. After ten minutes of back and forth action, it happened. Sabu draped his opponent across a ringside table right in front of us. Then he leaped from the ropes and put the Sandman through a table two feet in front of my face! In my straw hat and Sabu T-shirt, my friends and I were flipping out! I still have some wood chips from that table at home. Thanks for the memories Sabu, and thanks to you crazy cats for reading. Oh yeah, and I hope you enjoyed tonight's Main Event!

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At The Beacon

John

Junior wrestler John... the Athlete of the Month, keyed by an underdog matches left.

Conte, with a 28-1 record with eight pins at 130 lbs, tournament victories at the York Invitational.

"I don't really feel on paper," said Conte, eligibility, on his underdog think about it. I just take.

Conte's most recent been his best yet as he who was previously-r country. After a one t and Hall took it to ove where Conte utilized remain unbeaten.

"I was excited, but

Allison

Allison Pikulski... Athlete of the Month

In a season which suffer through some n stepped up and is second behind fellow sen

"The kid's a f... Donnelly. "She won't ready to go."

Pikulski recorded against Delaware Va and 12 rebounds twice

The senior forward Forge and will prove to Lady Colonel team.

"To lose her and blow," said Donnelly, and bounce back, but v her."

Wom

Lose to nat... King's College University c

By DAVID DIMARTI
Beacon Staff Writer

In four of their last University Lady Colon second half of their M

The Lady Colon of 298 points in the tests, while only scored half. Their record in the Lady Colonels have their schedule. They Freedom League.

Their one league Aggies of Delaware Center. The rematch night at the Jame Doylestown. The Lac

Athletes of the Month

The Beacon Athletes of the Month are selected by Managing Editor/Sports Editor, Corey Yanoshak. Nominations can be made to beacon@wilkes.edu or called in to 408-5903.

John Conte: Wrestling

Junior wrestler John Conte has been named Athlete of the Month for January of the new year, keyed by an undefeated season with just two matches left.

Conte, with a 28-0 record so far this season and eight pins at 133 pounds, has also earned tournament victories at the Kutztown Invitational and York Invitational early in the year.

"I don't really feel anything. It's just a name tag," said Conte, a senior student with junior ability, on his undefeated status. "I try not to think about it. I just take it one match at a time."

Conte's most recent performance may have been his best yet as he defeated Ithaca's Tom Hall, who was previously-ranked number three in the country. After a one to one regulation tie, Conte took it to overtime, and then to a rideout, where Conte utilized a last-second reversal to win unbeaten.

"I was excited, but the referee hesitated and I

didn't think he was going to give it to me," said Conte of the win over Hall.

Alan Zellner's Colonels now stand at 15-8 on the year. Among those losses include a one-point loss to New York State University and a three-point loss to King's College. Zellner has also strengthened the team's schedule in preparation for a grueling post-season.

"We haven't pulled him yet. He's wrestled the best kids," said Zellner of Conte's foes. "It will be a pleasure to add John Conte to a long list of good wrestlers at Wilkes."

Conte has recorded wins against national powers Delaware Valley College, Montclair State University, and Lycoming College.

Conte brings his unbeaten streak to the Marts Center on Saturday when the Colonels host the University of Scranton, then host East Stroudsburg on the 16th.

"I wish I had easy matches left, but I haven't

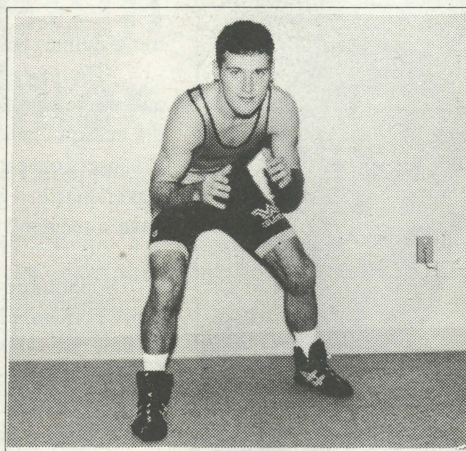


Photo courtesy Sports Information

John Conte has been named the first male Athlete of the Month of the new year.

looked past anybody this year," noted Conte.

Other nominees for the monthly honor include men's basketball standout Chad Fabian, wrestling captain Duane Ritter, and men's basketball point guard John Boylan.

Allison Pikulski: Women's B-Ball

Allison Pikulski has been named the female Athlete of the Month for January of the new year.

In a season which saw the Lady Colonels suffer through some miserable times, Pikulski has stepped up and is second among numerous category behind fellow senior standout Katie Watkins.

"The kid's a fighter," said coach Amy Donnelly. "She works hard and she's always ready to go."

Pikulski recorded season-highs of 22 points and 12 rebounds twice this year.

The senior forward/center hails from Old Saybrook and will prove to be a big loss to a struggling Lady Colonels team.

"To lose her and Katie in the same year is a big blow," said Donnelly. "But we just need to recruit and bounce back, but we're certainly going to miss

Karen Haag's Lady Colonels are now 6-11 overall, 1-9 in the Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom League with seven games remaining, four in the conference.

"She's definitely an asset to the team and I love working with her," complemented Donnelly of Pikulski.

Pikulski has proved strong, scoring eight points in a hard-fought loss at King's College on Tuesday, 75-54. The senior also netted 18 points when the Lady Colonels hosted Delaware Valley College last week, falling 80-70. Against a nationally-ranked University of Scranton team, Pikulski tossed in five. Also in the loss to DV, Pikulski was huge underneath with 10 rebounds.

Pikulski is averaging near 10 points per game to go with a rebounds per game average of just under eight. Both are good for second on the team behind Watkins, a returning all-star selection who



Photo courtesy Sports Information

Allison Pikulski has been named the female Athlete of the Month for January, 2000.

is scoring 17.9 ppg.

Pikulski was chosen over teammates Watkins and Lauren Elwood.

Women unlucky with national powers

Close to nationally-ranked King's College and University of Scranton.

DAVID DIMARTINO
Beacon Staff Writer

In four of their last seven games, the Wilkes University Lady Colonels have led going into the second half of their MAC Freedom League battles.

The Lady Colonels have surrendered a total of 188 points in the second halves of those contests, while only scoring 188 points in the second halves. Their record in those seven games is 0-7. The Lady Colonels have seven games remaining on their schedule. They are currently 6-11, 1-9 in the Freedom League.

Their one league win came against the Lady Colonels of Delaware Valley College in the Marts Center. The rematch took place last Thursday night at the James Work Gymnasium in Kutztown. The Lady Colonels had a strong first

half, lead by senior Katie Watkins who scored 13 of her game high 25 points. Wilkes also got quality play from freshman Rena Gorish, who chipped in nine tallies in the Colonels 42-35 lead.

Then the second half demon reared its ugly head, as the Colonels were outscored 45-28 in the 80-70 loss. DVC's Alisa DiBonaventura had a team high 21 points, followed by 16 points from Jeanne Waznak.

On Saturday the Lady Colonels hosted the nationally ranked Lady Royals of Scranton and just could not keep up with the Royal offensive attack. The Colonels were out-rebounded 66 to 24 in the 91-46 defeat. The Colonels only had one player in double digits to Scranton's five. Watkins had a team high 16, while Scranton's Gillian McGovern had a team high 16 points and 13 rebounds. The Colonels shot 25% from the field for the game.

Now that brings us to Tuesday night in a cross-Aown rival with Kings College in the Scand-n Gymnasium. The Lady Colonels played impressively for the first 20 minutes of the contest. The

Colonels seemed to have a good game plan in place to knockout the Lady Monarchs for the first time since the 1996-97 campaign and went into to half with a 32-27 lead.

If the game could have only ended there, but it didn't and the Lady Colonels dropped the 75-54 decision. King's was sparked by pre-season All-American Joanne Polakoski, who poured in a game high 28 points and a game high 14 boards.

Wilkes was lead by Watkins who had a team high 17, sophomore Lauren Elwood added 13 points.

Wilkes is struggling and needs to get a win to raise team moral. The Lady Colonels have an opportunity to play spoiler and attempt to stir things up in the MAC on their way out. The Colonels are losing five players after this year due to graduation, three of which are starters. The Colonels need to find an identity in the next seven games to send this program in the right direction.

The Lady Colonels are back in action tonight against the College Misericordia Lady Cougars at 7 PM.

Cross-checking the Penguins

By Matt Semcheski
Beacon Staff Writer

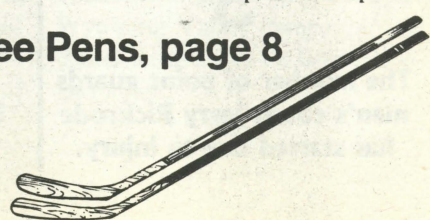
The Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins were underdogs before their season even started. First of all, being an expansion team doesn't bode well in any sport. You have players on a team together who, for the most part, haven't played together before, which is an essential element of hockey. Another weakness is the fact that the Penguins have nine rookies opposed to the league average of four.

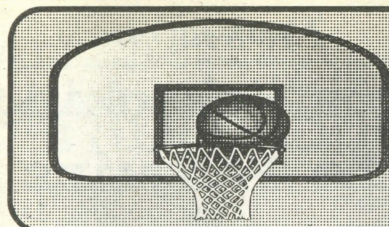
Secondly, their brand new venue, the "North-eastern Pennsylvania Civic Arena and Convention Center," would not be completed until November 13, seven weeks into the Penguins schedule! Being the minor league affiliate of the financially challenged Pittsburgh Penguins doesn't help either. The team also faced adversity within the community, as many of us locals know, the arena was almost never built, which would have meant no hockey team. But the team and their supporters ignored the naysayers, and hockey was brought to Northeast Pennsylvania.

The Pens, led by head coach Glenn Patrick, struggled in their American Hockey League debut falling to their newfound rivals the AHL powerhouse Philadelphia Phantoms by a score of 2-0. The team was discouraged but noticed that the community was embracing them by the fact that several hundred Penguins fans made the trip down the turnpike to the hostile First Union Spectrum to cheer on their new team. The next day the team moved west to take on the Hershey Bears, another intrastate rival. There, the Penguins notched their first goal of the regular season; Martin Sonnenberg scored at 3:38 of the first period. The excitement of the first goal subsided and the Pens were again defeated, by a score of 5-2. Their struggles continued through the next three games losing to Kentucky two nights in a row and then barely losing to the Saint John's Maple Leafs by a score of 3-2. Then, the following night the Penguins again played the Leafs and captured their first point in franchise history skating to a 2-2 tie. The Pens were excited but still longed for that first win. After another tie at St. John's, their road woes continued until October 10. The Penguins got their first ever victory beating the Hamilton Bulldogs 5-3. Martin Sonnenberg, Valentin Morozov, Sven Butenschon, Tom Kostopoulos, and John Slaney all scored for the Pens. The team began to look ahead to their first ever home game at the NPACC.

Opening night at the NPACC turned out to be an exciting time for everyone. Players' emotions ran high as the packed house cheered their team on. The game was a hard fought battle with the Penguins coming out on top 4-2. Mike Pomichter, who is no longer with the team, came through with what proved to be the game winner. After a tie with Albany, the Pens had their undefeated streak snapped by the Rochester Americans. The Penguins continued to improve, going 6-8 in through the month of December. The call-ups of captain Tyler Wright, goalie Jean-Sebastian Aubin, and enforcer Dennis Bonvie, who led the team in assists at the time of his call-up, didn't help either.

See Pens, page 8





The Back Page



Wrestlers look to finish strong for M.A.C.s

By COREY YANOSHA
Beacon Managing Editor

The Wilkes University wrestling squad is in a unique state-of-mind at this point in the season.

With just two matches left in the season, spaced out over a week and a half, Al Zellner is busy getting his team in shape for the Middle Atlantic Conference post-season tournament. To top things off, the Colonels will end the regular season hosting a tough Division I team in East Stroudsburg.

"We have one of the strongest qualifying tournaments in the country and we have a chance at crowning two MAC champs," said Zellner. "But this tournament is decided by the second, third, and fourth-place finishers. We need a strong showing in the wrestlebacks and consolation games to win the team title."

The last time a Wilkes squad captured the MAC championship, there were no individual champions, which is why Zellner is depending on his whole team to wrestle strong.

Wilkes is led by John Conte, who needs two more wins to finish the regular season undefeated and join the likes of John Carr, Joe Wendl, Andre Miller,



Photo courtesy Sports Information
Coach Al Zellner is looking for a strong showing in the playoffs.

and Zellner himself.

"We have a long history of good wrestlers and it will be a pleasure to add John Conte," added Zellner.

The Colonels are now 15-8 with matches against the University of Scranton and East Stroudsburg left. But the most important thing Zellner sees is that "we haven't put out our strongest team."

Captain Duane Ritter will be looking for a second-seed in the tournament as he takes his 21-2 record on the line. Ritter also had a chance to go undefeated, but ran into some nationally-ranked competition in New York, some-

thing Zellner will not run from.

"The guys have done a great job and we're wrestling well at the end of the season," added Zellner. "And it's because of our captains, Ritter and Kevin Baker, that do it with hard work, that we have some good things to look forward to."

Sophomores Scott Henshaw and Steve Tornambe have also proved strong as they are wrestling "the finest they have in two years." Henshaw is 20-12, while Tornambe is 8-6.

Wilkes is riding a six-match win-streak with four coming last week when they traveled to and beat Albright (41-9), Ursinus (31-12), Ithaca (20-18), and Oswego (36-9). Scranton has struggled at times, while East Stroudsburg may prove to be a very important match.

"East Stroudsburg will be a true reality check for us," warned Zellner. "We'll get a feel for where we're at going into the MAC's."

Zellner is also looking to 17-5 Corey Luce to provide some firepower come the post-season. Luce, regarded as one of the top wrestlers in the region, will be battling four other championship-caliber wrestlers and "could have a great tourney and finish fourth."

First, continued from page 1

Defense was key for Wilkes as they held King's scoring machine and Freedom League scoring leader Corey Dickerson to just 18 points, five points below his season average. The Monarchs shot just 38.5 percent from the field as they saw their record drop to 11-8 overall, 6-4 in the Freedom League.

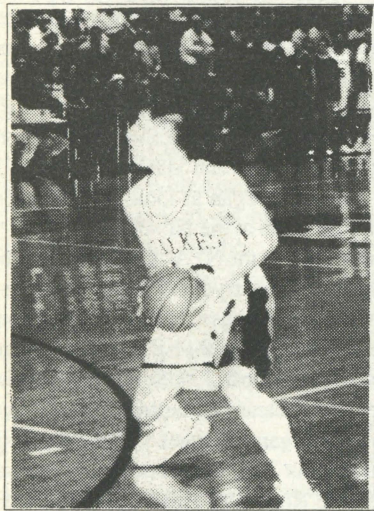


Photo by Adam Polinger
Chad Fabian netted 70 points in the past two games — both wins.

Fabian was on offensively Tuesday but his efforts were no where close to the scoring display he showed Saturday night in the Marts Center as the Colonels knocked off fierce MAC Freedom League rival Scranton by a 86-76 count. Fabian poured in a career-high 42 points, including 8-13 from behind the three point arc, much to the delight of the 1,700 fans in the Henry Gymnasium.

Fabian poured in a career-high 42 points, including eight for 13 from behind the three-point arc.

Wilkes trailed 34-15 after a Scranton bucket, then exploded for a 24-9 run just before the half. The Southern Columbia High grad was good for 15 points in the Colonels run, which pulled them to within four at the half. The visiting Royals would actually put together another run and led 69-67 with 6:07 to play in regulation, but it was their last lead of the contest. Following

a Fabian lay-up, McIntyre hit a jump-shot from inside the paint to give Wilkes a 71-69 lead. McIntyre finished with 16 points, while Walsh had six points. Scranton senior Henry Condron scored a Scranton high 29 points in his final scheduled appearance in the Marts Center. Fabian's 42 points was just four points shy of Phil Sekerchak's 52-year-old school record for most points in a game. Sekerchak was good for 46 points against Hapur College on Dec. 9, 1948.

Wilkes is off until Saturday when they host Moravian in the Marts Center for a 2 PM matinee. Wilkes dropped a 71-65 game last season in Bethlehem to the Greyhounds. Wilkes will be back in action within the MAC Freedom League next Tuesday when the Colonels host rival Lycoming at 8 PM in the Marts Center. Wilkes will be without the services of sophomore point man John Boylan who is out indefinitely with a knee injury. He will have an MRI within the week. Boylan assumed the starting point guard spot after senior Dave Januzzi went down on Dec. 1 against Delaware Valley.

Pens, continued from page 7

Then came the saga of starting goalie, Jean-Sebastian Aubin, affectionately known as "Seabass." Aubin was called-up to Pittsburgh several times throughout the season to replace an injury hampered Tom Barrasso. After learning that he was to be sent back to Wilkes-Barre, Aubin allegedly made disrespectful comments during an interview toward his teammates in Wilkes-Barre and the city itself. Aubin claims that the words were not his but that of a reporter. After that incident, whenever Aubin started in Wilkes-Barre, he was greeted with a shower of boos from the home crowd. Whatever he actually did or did not say seems to be forgotten by most fans, as Aubin has received warm welcomes at recent home games.

During the times that Aubin was in Pittsburgh, backup goalie Dave Weninger started in his place. Weninger showed some good goaltending skills and won a few games in net for the Pens. He quickly became a fan favorite. To back up Weninger, Craig Hillier was brought up from the ECHL. January was an up and down month for the Pens. First off, John Slaney became the first ever Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguin to be selected as an all-star. Slaney played for the Canadian all-stars in the AHL All-Star Game in Rochester. Slaney

even notched a goal for his

The Penguins then went the month. Goalie Ryan Bales recently received on loan from the Wilkes-Barre Panthers and will back up Weninger will remain in Wilkes-Barre as the third goalie. The defensemen Andrew Ference, forwards Mark Murphy and Steve Leach have been made to fill up the by Tyler Wright and Dennis Steeve Leach was sent down to Pittsburgh this week and will take over the role of captain. At this point, the Penguins are chasing the Albany River Rats for the final playoff spot. They are currently points ahead of Wilkes-Barre/Scranton but lost to the River Rats on Tuesday at the recently opened First Union Arena at Casey Stadium in an exciting game that featured officiating that cost the Penguins an extra session.



This week

sports

Thursday, Feb. 3

- Women's B-Ball vs. Moravian, 2 PM.
- Men's B-Ball vs. Lycoming @ Marts Center, 2 PM.
- Wrestling vs. Scranton @ Marts Center, 7 PM.
- Hockey - Penguins vs. Hershey @ FUA, 7:35 PM.

Friday, Feb. 4

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

Saturday, Feb. 5

- Women's B-Ball vs. Moravian, 2 PM.
- Men's B-Ball vs. Lycoming @ Marts Center, 2 PM.
- Wrestling vs. Scranton @ Marts Center, 7 PM.
- Hockey - Penguins vs. Hershey @ FUA, 7:35 PM.

Tuesday, Feb. 8

- Women's B-Ball vs. Lycoming @ Marts Center, 2 PM.
- Men's B-Ball vs. Lycoming @ Marts Center, 8 PM.
- * FUA = First Union Arena

3

The number of point guards men's coach Jerry Rickrode has started due to injury.

17.9

Women's standout Katie Watkins' points per game average.

2

The number of bouts John Conte needs to win to finish undefeated.

70

The number of points men's b-ball player Chad Fabian has scored in two games.

Th

February 10, 2000

Speech

BY DAVID DIMARTINO
Beacon Staff Writer

Finally the speech team has come back to Wilkes University!

The Wilkes speech team has a storied history. The team is almost set to make a comeback, thanks to interest from the student body and faculty to understand its importance in education.

One of the strongest reasons for reinstatement of the speech society is Professor Tindell, adjunct faculty in the communications department. Tindell holds a degree from Texas A&M and was a member of the former debate team.

"Debate is a great tool for the future not only in communications but in theater, relations, marketing and a lot of other areas," said Tindell.

Tindell wrote a proposal currently being reviewed by Michael Lennon, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Bedford, Dean, College of Sciences and Professional Studies, and Dr. Thomas I. Chairperson, Social Sciences and Communications.

At the current time, the team is listed in the University

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