

# The BEACON

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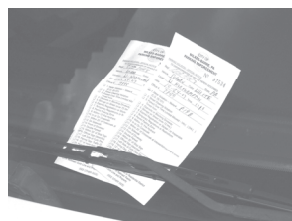
OCTOBER 30, 2007

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## SLC 166 not conducive to learning, faculty say

*Age, initial design cited as causes of technical problems*



Students sit elbow-to-elbow in SLC 166, also known as "the pit."

BY NICOLE FRAIL

Beacon Asst. News Editor

According to a December 2006 2-FIX log, facilities officials received a complaint about cooling issues in Stark Learning Center, Room 166. Bob Swetts, Manager of Capital Assets, said a team addressed the issue, but complaints from Wilkes faculty and students about cooling and a number of other issues have continued.

SLC 166, known as the Novartis Amphitheater to some and "the pit" to others, was last renovated in 1998.

"During the renovations, SLC 166 received new desks, new computer wiring, floor coverings, lighting improvements, painting and the latest smart classroom... The AC units were part of the renovations or added shortly afterward," said Paul Kapriskie, Manager of Capital Projects.

Despite upgrades to the smart technology this past summer, there have not been any major updates since '98. Members of Wilkes faculty who hold classes and meetings in SLC 166 are not satisfied with the current state of the classroom.

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## Portal deemed success, despite limitations

BY CHRISTINE ZAVASKAS

Beacon Asst. Lifestyles Editor

The MyWilkes Portal fully launched on the first day of August this year as a way to provide single login access to online resources for the University community.

Now that it has been in operation for half a semester, the campus has had a chance to form assessments of the Portal's performance so far.

Mike Salem, Chief Information Officer of IT, and Chris Bailey, Director of Campus Support Services, both feel that progress with the portal is going well and at the level they expected it to be at this point. However, Salem said, "[There have been a] couple of bumps here and there. We're fighting a performance bug in the software right now."

One of the hurdles Salem mentioned occurred recently when the email link on the Wilkes University website was redirected to connect through the portal, but within a few days was changed back. "That had an issue with how many people were hitting the access point at the same time..." said Bailey. Once this problem is fixed, students can expect the link to once again

connect to the portal.

The redirecting of the email is part of a gradual transition that will move the University towards exclusive use of the portal. Christine Seitzinger, Associate Director of Marketing Communications, said, "The old way of doing things...is still live and will remain so at least until the end of the semester...For now we've created this transition period to a new system to eliminate any of that hesitancy to change."

However, even a gradual change seems undesirable to some. Richard Read, a senior business administration major, who uses the portal mainly to check his practice schedule said, "I got used to separate logins, and I guess people are creatures of habit...It's just, it's something new and I don't really want to use it." Despite these feelings, he did think the concept will be beneficial in the long run.

Several other students liked the idea of the portal, but were frustrated by technical problems. "I guess it's good, except when it doesn't let you log on to check your mail," said Megan Judge, a freshman elementary education major.

Jeremy Weinstock, a sophomore accounting major, thinks that the portal is a good change

overall, but said, "I've tried to log on to my email and it gives me an error sometimes and usually I have to refresh it three or four times..."

Faculty have also experienced difficulties while using the portal. Michael Elias, math/computer science adjunct professor, posts quizzes, review information, and a link to his website on the Portal. "I would say about half of the time, it's too slow...The part that really gets me is when I get a message saying 'Too many log ons, try again later.'...In my quiz this morning, there were four in the first class that couldn't get in the normal way and had to go in through WebCT on the original Wilkes homepage." However, like the students, Elias is enthusiastic about the convenience the portal has the potential to offer.

In response to comments about many technical problems with the portal, Bailey said, "I don't know if I would agree with 'a lot' [of technical problems]... with any new technology tool you are always going to have certain

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## Class podcasting offers students new options for learning

BY ANDEE SCARANTINO  
Beacon Editor-in-Chief

At some point in the future, teachers may simply be able to provide their students with a special electronic file that instantly downloads what they need to know into students' brains.

But until that day, innovative teachers will simply experiment with the latest technology can offer to enhance their students' experiences with class materials.

Take Dr. James Culhane, Associate Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, for example. Culhane, who was the recipient of the 2007-08 Carpenter Award for excellence in teaching, has been making strides to enhance the classroom learning experience since he started at Wilkes. First, he developed a concept of integration in the classroom with his innovative Pharmacotherapeutics class.

Culhane describes the class as an integration of pharmacology, medicinal chemistry, pathophysiology and therapeutics, which are taken as separate, three credit courses in more traditional programs. With student retention rates over a year period, this class has been integrated at Wilkes to help students better understand the material. However, course integration is not the only thing that helps student retain information in this flagship course. Culhane also utilizes podcasting to better convey information.

A podcast is a digital audio file distributed usually online or to be downloaded onto an MP3 player. The use of podcasting in classes to enhance lecture and/or demonstrate new techniques in a variety of fields is becoming a new means of reaching students on different levels.

"There has been a relatively moderate campus-wide movement to utilize podcasting to help supplement classes that professors offer. Podcasts have been very useful for a number of reasons for me personally. I've used podcasts to help supplement classroom mate-

rial, particularly difficult material, that students tend to have trouble with. Over a period of years you kind of get a sense of... what areas students tend to have trouble with. After I identified those areas I did podcasts on them so that students could, after the lecture, download a podcast onto their MP3 player or sit at their computers and listen to a kind of alternate explanation of



the material multiple times if they needed to," said Culhane.

The other thing Culhane uses podcasting for is to cover information that he doesn't have a lot of time to go over in class. Because an array of new drugs are introduced each year, but class time does not necessarily get longer, Culhane will do a Podcast to get the information out to students.

"Dr. Culhane uses podcasts to help explain confusing topics that students might not fully understand in the time he has in class. They are used to explain complicated topics like the coagulation

cascade. It is nice because you can now study in a situation where you would not be able to study with books," said Todd Weibel, P3 Pharmacy student at Wilkes.

Culhane isn't the only one using innovative methods of teaching in the classroom. Dr. Daniel Longyhore, Assistant Professor of pharmacy practice, uses his very unique website to provide services to students.

Since P4 Pharmacy majors do not have access to WebCT, which is the platform that many professors use to share podcasts with their students, Longyhore uses his website to essentially "fill the gaps." He also holds online office hours, and using a platform called "Meebo," can chat with his students online.

Dr. Thomas Hamill, Instructor of English, also uses podcasting to help his students get a better sense of the material he covers in his classes. Hamill will produce audio files of himself reading text in Middle English, particularly Chaucer and Medieval English Literature, to give his students a better understanding of the texts.

"When my students who are working with Chaucer in the Middle English, as they're reading for the class, they can sit down with their text book and read the texts that are assigned for the class while they listen to me reading it in Middle English. They get a sense for what Middle English sounded like, and they get some reinforcement in their reading for pronunciations I want them to learn, or basic features of Middle English that I want them to pick up and acquire as part of taking the class," said Hamill.

As Wilkes moves into a more technological era, Provost C. Reynold Verret seems quite optimistic. "I think in some cases podcasting may be useful, especially for things where the student may want to be able to review. In some of our online instructional modes, podcasting is a perfect mode," said Verret.

According to Verret, Wilkes is

making efforts to get professors up to speed with current technology.

"There are some workshops that are of help, for example, there was a recent workshop where a representative from Apple's educational division came and gave a workshop to the faculty," said Verret.

"Also, Russel Dively, who is an instructional designer, visits departments to give a clear idea of what the common program objective [is]. He'll meet with an academic department and visit them and act as a resource for them," Verret added.

According to the Provost, pod-

casting may also be useful to University College. "I could envision podcasting being useful, for example, because much of University College involves academic support, or supplemental instruction modes. Having access to the course to review with a mentor or a tutor, to actually understand what we did not understand, may be useful."

But as with any new use of technology, some have struggled with

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# New Starbucks slated to locate across from existing Starbucks Wilkes/King's Barnes and Noble already offers franchise cafe

BY ANDREW SEAMAN

Beacon News Editor

Starbucks Coffee has applied for a zoning permit indicating that it has plans to put a new store in downtown Wilkes-Barre - directly across the street from the Wilkes/King's Barnes & Noble, which already sells Starbucks coffee.

One question that looms over this proposed business plan: can the business survive right across the street from another business that sells the same product?

Diana Hess, project manager for Starbucks in King of Prussia applied for the zoning permit and said that she is new with the company and didn't know a lot about the project.

John Chaump, who manages the Wilkes/King's Barnes & Noble, acknowledged that a new Starbucks across the street from the first in downtown Wilkes-Barre could cause a loss of business to the original. "I think you might have some customers that are going to go over there, that would normally come here, but really, ultimately, I think it is going to help the whole downtown, which is going to help my business."

Dr. Anthony Liuzzo, professor in the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business, explained that the project Starbucks is venturing into is unusual but not shocking. He noted that while it is unusual for the same company selling the exact same product as another, to place a second cafe across from another within the same company, it is also common. "Like-businesses tend to operate very close

to one another... and so under the economic theory of locational decision making, it is a smart move, actually, to open up a restaurant near one of your competitors. So again it is kind of usual and unusual... in this par-



The Beacon / Cara Koster

ticular situation."

Chaump echoed Liuzzo's thoughts, "I would have to imagine that a huge corporation like Starbucks is going to make smart business decisions." He then added, "They're not going to put themselves in a place that is going to ultimately fail quickly, and they are not going to put themselves in a position where they are going to hurt the

business around them because that's a type of business that you want walk-in customers and if you are driving all the people away, how are you going to be successful? So I would like to think that Starbucks knows

what they are doing."

Another point that Chaump stressed is that the Barnes & Noble bookstore business is different than Starbucks. For example, Wilkes/King's Barnes & Noble has a Barnes & Noble Cafe, which serves Starbucks Coffee. "It's the same product, the quality of the drink that you would get here or there should be exactly the same."

Chaump added that he believes his store can offer a wider variety of items. "We have Pepsi and Coke, we have Herrs and Fritos and every kind of chip imaginable... in our store," he said and also pointed out that at Barnes & Noble, students can use their flex dollars on their student ID.

Liuzzo agreed that Barnes & Noble and Starbucks could be going after two different customers. "Maybe Starbucks feels that the Barnes & Noble Starbucks doesn't have enough draw to it to persons outside the college community. And they want to draw in consumers that are not college students, and the Barnes & Noble feels, 'Well the college students are looking to come here because they are buying their coffee mugs and t-shirts, and they are going to want to have their coffee right here.' So that is probably a good way of justifying it."

As for the students, will it be worth traveling across the street to the new Starbucks?

Jackie Butwinski, a psychology major, said, "I would probably rather go to the Barnes & Nobles Starbucks, because I will be there more often anyway."

Erin Sweet, who is studying integrated media and business administration, agreed. "I would probably, most likely, go to Barnes & Noble, just because I could use my flex dollars there and when I go to Barnes & Noble I am not just stuck buying coffee."

A representative from Starbucks and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber did not respond to The Beacon's request for comment on this matter.

## Search continues for SHE building location, design

BY AMY FUSCO

Beacon Correspondent

The quest for the location of a new health sciences building on Wilkes University's campus is underway.

For the past few years, administrators have acknowledged they are in the process of developing a plan for the anticipated Science, Health Sciences, and Engineering building, alternately dubbed the "SHE" building.

According to Michael Wood, Executive Director of Advancement, there has been a "feasibility study underway with the architects to determine how to accommodate the faculty and students of all the sciences." Along with Wood, there are a number of members of the project team, including John Pesta, Director of Capital Projects; Dr. Bernard Graham, Dean of the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy and Nursing; Dr. Ken Klemow, Professor of Biology; Dr. Marleen Troy, Associate Professor of Environmen-

tal Science; Dr. Dale Bruns, Dean of the College of Science and Engineering; Dr. Deborah Zbegner, Associate Professor of Nursing; Dr. Art Kibbe, Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Dr. Reynold Verret, Provost. Furthermore, Becky Mullens, an architect from Sabatini Architects, is aiding in developing building design ideas.

However, right now there is no concrete location for the planned building. One option would be to build it facing South Franklin Street behind the Henry Student Union building. Another option is to renovate a section of the Stark Learning Center building and add new labs to it. Bruns explained that a possibility would be "the combination of a new lab complex in place of Stark, but nothing is on the map as of now."

In selecting a location, student and faculty opinions are key components because it gives the project team an educational perspective. Justin Balint, a sophomore

pharmacy major, commented, "The building should be located near the student union building because it's a nicer location and it expands the campus."

Nick Koch, also a pharmacy major, believes "the location doesn't matter as much as the quality of the building itself."

In order to select the location, the design of the building is taken into consideration. Pesta explained that a few of the project team members "take field trips to other institutions of similar size as Wilkes University." Several colleges they visited were Drexel University, Swarthmore, and Dickinson. Traveling to these different institutions enables the committee to expand on their ideas and form new ones about design specifications.

One design idea involves the concept of sustainability of the environment on Wilkes campus. The project team wants the new SHE building to be "green," which means it

will be energy efficient and less harmful to the environment. One "green" feature could be a solar-paneled roof. Troy, an environmental engineer, and Klemow, a plant ecologist, are key consultants in achieving sustainability within the new building design. An environmental committee consisting of students is also there to aid in the development of a "green" building.

The Capital Campaign, which is currently underway and aiming to raise funds in part for this major project, is in its early stages.

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## PORTAL

from FRONT PAGE

issues with deployment. This is the first semester we've had it so we didn't really know what the use patterns were going to be... Hopefully it's not enough to scare people away."

Late last week, Salem sent a message to campus on *today@wilkes* acknowledging, "The technical difficulties recently experienced by some portal users could be attributed to several different factors but most likely was caused by an increase in the average number of portal users. Because the software was recently released and interfaces with numerous university systems, it would have been hard for engineers to anticipate what these problems would be." He continued that software engineers are continuing to work on the problems with intermittent "error" messages users receive during high traffic times.

Both Salem and Bailey mentioned that the majority of feedback they have received about the portal has been positive. Bailey also noted that two senior students even told him they were upset the portal had not been available earlier in their college careers.

In the future, students can expect work on the portal and the rest of the website to continue. "There will continually be enhancements, small ones, but there will be this continuous maturing of the portal site. Then the biggest thing the students are going to see is starting in the spring when we take a significant look at the website and how that is redeveloped," says Bailey.

## Fire under Main St. knocks out power

BY ANDREW SEAMAN

*Beacon News Editor*

A part of downtown Wilkes-Barre lost power for most of the day on Saturday, October 26, when an underground electrical cable fire started mid-morning under South Main Street in front of University Center on Main and University Towers.

Public Safety officials said, "This was a small electrical fire in a transformer under South Main Street this morning. This fire impacted electric service to the UCOM Garage, University Service Center and Public Safety Office."

Witnesses say they saw flames and smoke coming from beneath the street through a manhole, the cover of which blew off, struck a Wilkes Public Safety vehicle, and left a dent. Main Street between Northampton and South Streets was closed Saturday.

Graduate classes held in the UCOM on Saturday were dismissed early because of the smoke and threat of power loss. Because of the location of the buildings on the power grid, some lost power and some did not. Students living in University Towers did not lose power as of Saturday late afternoon; however, the Public Safety building next door, Bart & Urby's and downtown traffic lights were all out.

Workers continued to try and restore power into Sunday.

More pictures and video online:

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## SLC

## from FRONT PAGE

The cooling system, which is comprised of two air conditioning units mounted on the back wall of the room, is at the heart of many of the faculty's complaints.

"I teach in there the first three weeks of the semester so I can only speak for my experiences... [but] that classroom is unbearably hot," said Dr. James Culhane, Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences. "I know that I am soaked when I am done lecturing after two hours and the students are uncomfortable."

Dr. Dan McCune, Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, agreed. "It's almost always too hot in there, even during the winter months."

Another issue with the cooling system in SLC 166 is the noise level of the units when they are turned on.

While Culhane compares the noises to being on the "business end of a 747," Payal Patel, a P3 Pharmacy student, claims that the vibrations "sound like someone's doing construction work and, of course, it takes months to get used to."

McCune pointed out that if a professor is soft spoken or doesn't realize that the students seated in the back of the room can't hear, students may struggle in class. SLC 166 is typically used for classes of 30 to 70 students so if hearing is difficult, switching seats is often not an option.

In addition to complaints about the cooling system, it is also uncertain if the thermostats work properly. When checked, one device was turned completely off and another was flashing a message of "P-6," that even puzzled Swetts.

"I know one issue we often find in [166] is that people turn the air conditioners off

[with the] switches on the walls," said Swetts. "The reason we don't lock those switches is that some professors don't like the noise from them."

Swetts also added, "Those are two independent units and if people mess with the position on the thermostats, you can actually get into a situation where you will run simultaneous heating and cooling... They can start fighting each other so that's why the lock boxes [on the thermostats] are there."

In addition to issues with cooling and noise levels, Dr. Arthur Kibbe, Chairman and Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, noticed that the outlets for power and internet hookup have never appeared to work.

In addition to the technical issues, the white boards are now gray and "completely destroyed [with a] residual ooze on them," said Culhane. In addition the podium is placed too close to the front wall, the steep set up of the room enables students to easily see down below them which is a concern when giving tests, and the accessibility of the seats is almost nonexistent.

"The seats are incredibly hard to get into if someone is sitting next to the seat you want to [sit in]," said Jeff Niemiec, a sophomore mechanical engineering student. "Also, people stretch their feet out from rows behind you, and I've been kicked in the head a couple of times."

The slope of the classroom and the distance from the students makes Culhane feel as if he is a vendor in a baseball stadium, while Dr. Liuzzo, Professor of Business and Economics, said, "You almost have this feeling that you're in a Roman Forum Coliseum and that people are going to give you thumbs up or thumbs down and the lion's going to come out."

In the past, both McCune and Culhane

have called 2-FIX about the cooling and noise issues. They claim that facilities has always responded, but the work they accomplish never appears to endure.

"I've called facilities throughout the years multiple times, but I don't know what the real problem is. I've come to accept the fact that it's going to be miserable in that classroom, but I deal with it," said Culhane. "It's just not very conducive to learning."

Because faculty members aren't reporting any problems, Chris Bailey, Director of Campus Support Services, said that there's no way of knowing that something needs to be addressed.

"The building itself is difficult because of the age of it. It does continually need maintenance," he explained. "Are we going to put large amounts of money into it to address a comfort issue? Probably not, given that we will be taking the building down at some point in the foreseeable future... [But] we're not going to ignore or neglect the building and we will address facilities issues as they are raised to us. A lot of the times people will make certain complaints about things, but if they don't use the 2-FIX system, then we don't have the opportunity to address them."

Swetts agreed and also added: "When a work order is called in, the more informa-

tion the better. The more detailed and specific information will help [workers] know what needs to be fixed."

Until this past week, the last noise complaint facilities received was earlier this month, but the last cooling call was made nearly a year ago. Having been presented with the complaints by the faculty and students on Monday, October 22, Swetts took immediate action.

"I met with Dr. Kibbe this afternoon [Monday] and set the fan speeds on the air conditioners to low," he said Monday evening. "I also put in a work order for one of our technicians to check the operation of both air conditioners. He will also look into the P-6 code [seen] on the thermostat. As for the outlets on the tables, we are going to have our electricians verify operation of the receptacles and possibly install labels indicating 120 Volt Laptop Receptacle. Currently this room is not wired for Ethernet connectivity at the desks but the lobby of Stark does have wireless access."

While issues with the slope of the room, seating, and stairs will most likely not be addressed in the near future, technical and mechanical problems should always be reported using 2-FIX.

"We can't fix it if we don't know," stressed Swetts.

## PODCASTING

## from page 2

various aspects to podcasting, such as students neglecting to take notes, assuming they can hear the lecture again later to study for exams.

Verret said that while podcasting does present information to students, students have to choose to listen to them. The podcasts do not learn for the students, but rather, the students learn for themselves. Just as students select important information from in-class lectures to write down, they must do the same with the podcasts.

"I think you'll always have people that will take a look at technology and see the negative side of it. I think it's important for professors to take a look at technology, find out what they can use to help facilitate student learning, and use that," said Culhane.

Hamill also agreed that technology can be

helpful in the classroom, if used correctly.

"I'm somewhat skeptical of technology in the classroom to certain level. I think it can be very useful, transformative, illuminating, and often profoundly transformational. My concern with technology as a vice to education in the classroom is when it's used [as] some sort of functional replacement for the classroom. My sense of technology is fundamentally supplemental. I would never ever work to use technology as a replacement for some type of work that we do in the classroom," he said.

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## Should Halloween decor be politically correct?

BY THE BEACON  
EDITORIAL BOARD

Imagine for moment that you're a junior in high school, and there was a rift between the boys and girls on the homecoming committee as to whether or not the class float's theme should be "Ghostbusters" or "Peter Pan."

Outraged by the overwhelming number of votes "Peter Pan" received, one of the class officers suggested that dissenters hang "Mr. Pan" from a noose. Though this idea may seem quite humorous to some, the concept could be offensive to others. Was this class officer guilty of committing a hate crime against a Disney character? As silly as this may sound, it is just another testament as to how politically correct this country has become.

Currently, in the suburbs of Chi-copee, Illinois, a semi-realistic

looking witch dangles from a tree in a man's front yard by a noose in recognition of Halloween. Harmless decoration, right? Wrong.

According to Kelly Lynch (yes, that is her real last name), who happens to be a practicing witch, the display constitutes a hate crime against her religion. And while neighbors laugh at her ridiculous plea, she plans to protest in front of the man's house if it is not taken down immediately.

According to the Anti-Defamation League website, a hate crime is defined as "an attempted act by any person against the person or property of another individual or group which in any way constitutes an expression of hostility toward the victim because of his or her race, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, gender or ethnicity."

The Supreme Court has also ruled that one may put a symbol in their yard because it's their right

of freedom of expression, though there is some gray area when it comes to neighbors who may feel threatened by the symbol.

Wicca is a legitimate practice and form of religion in United States and around the world, but this scenario is a far cry from the Jena Six. The symbol is disturbing, granted. And we can understand how Wiccans would be offended by the caricatures of witches during the holiday. However, it's important for people to remember that the caricatures of witches are in no way representative of the real thing. Practicing Wiccans most likely do not dress up Stevie Nick's style with long, pointed hats and leather trench coats, as the witch hanging in this man's yard portrays. They most likely don't have green, wart-covered skin and curved, parrot noses either.

Political correctness, which takes into account who may be offended

by a particular public statement and to what degree, ultimately seems to limit too much in situations like these. Soon, trick-or-treaters will need to first interview folks in the homes where they will be begging for candy to make sure that their pirate, devil, or ladybug costume won't offend seafaring, Christian entomologists.

In the end, some images may push at the bounds of taste, certainly, but Ms. Lynch needs to *talk* to her neighbor and learn whether his motivation really was mean-spirited.

In Puritan times in Salem, Massachusetts, witches were "burned at the stake" because of religious prosecution. At that time, there was no such thing as freedom of speech. Ms. Lynch should be grateful for the fact that she can profess her faith freely, just as her neighbor can also freely express his celebration of Halloween.

## Traffic tickets = Big business and revenue

BY GINO TROIANI  
Beacon Staff Photographer

I would just like to say that the ludicrous values and percentages that I discovered while writing this piece made me sick to my stomach.

Traffic tickets have become a main source of revenue for both local government and big business. According to the National Motorist Association, between 25 and 50 million tickets were issued last year, and at an average of \$150 a pop, that adds up to around \$3.75 to \$7.5 billion in generated revenue.

For many small towns and cities, traffic violations are a quick and easy way to accumulate money for the annual budget. I honestly cannot recall how many parking tickets I've received since moving from the sticks to the big city of Wilkes-Barre, but in the larger

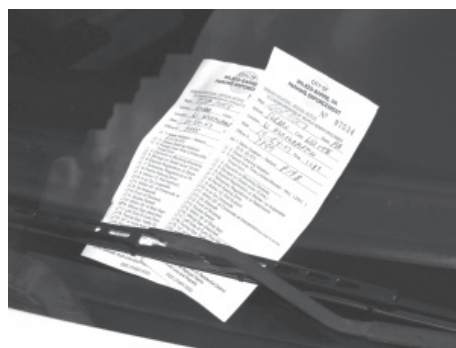
picture, it seems that big businesses have also jumped on the bandwagon as well.

Last year Geico insurance company donated \$20 million to police departments in the form of new laser and radar guns. Certainly they are looking out for the welfare of the people, right? Wrong. It is a simple equation. More tickets equal higher insurance rates, and higher rates equal more money. If an average driver gets two speeding tickets over a three-year period, their premium is expected to rise by 75%.

To make things worse, once the drivers' rates go up, they will

stay up for the next three years. So why wouldn't the insurance companies want to donate radar guns? This multimillion-dollar industry whose initial goal focused on public safety is now one of the most corrupt money making scams in the United States.

For those less fortunate who have already experienced the grief of a speeding ticket, it is a well known fact that if you plead "not guilty" and attend a small hearing at the county courthouse, most of the time the judge will let you off of the hook, depending on your



Gino Troiani/The Beacon

An unlucky student recieved 2 parking tickets!

### 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 45 responses.

#### The Beacon asked:

*If you could be any superhero for Halloween, which one would you be?*

- Wonderwoman-7%
- Superman-18%
- Batman-13%
- Spiderman-9%
- Hulk-2%
- Catwoman-18%
- Wolverine-7%
- Elektra-4%
- Captain America-7%
- Storm-15%

#### Next Week's Question:

*What was your favorite old school Nickelodeon show?*

- Are you Afraid of the Dark?
- Double Dare
- Salute your Shorts
- Hey Dude
- Legends of the Hidden Temple
- Clarissa Explains it All
- The Secret World of Alex Mack
- All That
- The Adventures of Pete and Pete
- Doug

Visit [www.wilkesbeacon.com](http://www.wilkesbeacon.com) to cast your vote. Results will be published in next week's issue of *The Beacon*.

# Classroom is no place for spit cans: it's not allowed

BY NICOLE FRAIL

Beacon Asst. News Editor

Few things are more disgusting than sitting next to someone while they fill their clear, plastic bottle with dark, brown, chunky spit.

The chewing tobacco itself smells, the bottle's contents aren't exactly appealing to the eye, and if the tobacco isn't scented, the chewer's breath smells god-awful. And of course the incessant sound of spurting into the bottle or cup gets irritating.

According to Wilkes student handbook, "Chewing tobacco use is prohibited in all classroom buildings, as well as labs and offices. It is also prohibited in the Marts Center, UCOM, Munson Field House, the Farley Library, the Center for Performing

Arts, the Student Center and University shuttles and vans."

If this is the case, why are some students armed with a bottle/cup and half a can of dip tucked behind their bottom lip or cheek when they settle down at computers in the library or at desks in classrooms?

It's not like the professors don't notice the huge bulge in their students' mouths when they answer their questions. I was in class about two weeks ago when I heard someone behind me spit. I glanced over my shoulder and one of the guys in the back row had a white Styrofoam cup in his hand and a rather large chunk of tobacco in his mouth. I watched the student raise his hand and respond to one of the professor's questions and after his response, he dribbled into his

little cup.

First of all, I'm not ridiculing those who chew. All I'm asking is that you be mindful of the people around you. It's bad enough that some people work up loud, thick, gross mouthfuls of mucus and spit them out while you talk to them, but now the spit is dark brown and sometimes has chunks of the tobacco in it. Either way, it's gross. And some people who may sit next to chewers in classrooms may not want to hear and see the process for fifty minutes or more.

Sure, those people could always move, but why should they when the chewer is the one doing something wrong? Chewing tobacco is not allowed in classrooms. That's the end of it. When professors see it, they should ask them to get rid of it. If someone

on the library staff sees it, they should do the same. And so should workers at Rifkin Cafe; or the women behind the help-desk in the UCOM lobby. No one is going to follow the rules if they aren't enforced.

Oh, and when I say "get rid of it," I don't mean take the entire chunk out of your mouth with your pointer finger and shove it in your spit-bottle or cup. I mean get up, leave the classroom, and throw it away. This behavior has to be stopped dead in its tracks. The argument is already out there: if he can chew during class, then she should be able to smoke. Smoking isn't allowed in most buildings on campus, either, and the majority of smokers don't have a problem following that rule, so why is it so hard to monitor your chewing?

## The Angry Rant: The Theory of Chuck

BY TIM SEIGFRIED

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

In the course of history, all great men leave their mark. Newton had gravity. Einstein had relativity. And I have the Theory of Chuck.

The Theory of Chuck states that any motion picture with the name "Chuck" in the title will inevitably be awful. No ifs, ands, or buts; it's going to be terrible.

For proof, I present to you two of the "comedies" that were released by major motion picture studios: *I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry* and *Good Luck Chuck*.

Not only were they awful, but they weren't even close to being mediocre. But I digress.

*Chuck and Larry* had all the potential in the world to be a good comedy. It starred two comedians with a track record of success: Kevin James, fresh from "The King of Queens," and Adam Sandler, whose comedy resume is a mile long.

Here's the thing: It was terrible.

Despite the pedigree of comedians in the movie, it somehow managed to elicit fewer laughs than *Schindler's List*.

Here's the plot: Chuck and Larry (Sandler and James, respectively) are two New York City firefighters who are best friends and polar opposites. Chuck is a ladies man, and Larry is a widower with two children. It turns out that Larry's life insurance benefactor was his wife, and because he didn't do the appropriate paperwork in a certain amount of time, he is unable to have his children be the new benefactors. So he and Chuck launch a scheme so his kids can be taken care of when he dies, and that scheme is to

get married to each other...or something like that, but you get the point.

In a nutshell: Two straight men pretend they are gay for some reason, in hopes that humor ensues.

It's an awful plot, but it's a comedy, so it shouldn't matter. Not only is the movie not funny, but it is offensively not-funny that it's almost painful to watch at some points.

The first problem lies within the main characters:

Sandler is supposedly a modern-day Cassanova, which is not believable for two reasons:

1. It's Adam Sandler.
2. It's Adam Sandler

Kevin James plays a firefighter. Really? You expect me to believe that you can carry that hose on your back for ten flights of stairs? That's less believable than you being married to Leah Remini on "The King of Queens."

Not only that, but he is a dolt of a father at home who is unable to make spaghetti for his kids, but is somehow able to hatch an elaborate scheme in which he marries his friend to get his benefits.

The supporting cast doesn't fair much better, as Jessica Biel plays a lawyer - You know what, I'm going to stop there, at the part where I said "Jessica Biel plays a lawyer." That should give you an idea of where I'm taking this.

Dan Akroyd (remember when he was funny? You remember, the 80s?) plays their boss, and Ving Rhames is another firefighter who turns out to be gay. I feel bad for Ving, he starts off playing a steely, tough, firefighter who lapses into a caricature of homosexual stereotypes at the end. He hasn't taken it that badly since *Pulp Fiction*.

Rob Schneider even shows up playing the most offensive Asian character since Mickey Rooney's take in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. That of course, brings up the following question: Rob Schneider is still making movies?

Anyhow, some other stuff happens that's supposed to be funny, like Larry's son acting really effeminate by singing show tunes and dancing, or Chuck going on a "girl's day out" with Jessica Biel, even though he secretly likes her, or Ving Rhames dropping the soap in the shower and then singing "I'm Every Woman," or the filmmakers laughing to themselves because they just suckered \$8 out of people.

At the end, there is a big scene in a courtroom where Chuck and Larry tell the truth and that people shouldn't make fun of homosexuals. So you're telling me that you just spent the entire movie doing that very same thing, and now you're telling us not to? Really?

How about everyone else you made fun of? Like Asians, or Italians, or African-Americans, or Irish people, or straight people, or lawyers, or firefighters...you get the point.

In the end, this was nothing more than a poorly executed "comedy" that turned preachy at the end, even though no one got the point because most everybody had walked out of the theatre.

In *Good Luck Chuck*, we are treated to a similarly bad plot, wherein Charlie Connor (Dane Cook) finds out that he is a good luck charm for women who want to meet their true love. In short: get with Charlie, find true love.

This plan goes awry when he meets Cam Wexler (Jessica Alba), and must make a choice about whether or not he wants to

sleep with her, in fear of her meeting her true love.

I had prepared a whole review of this movie and why it is awful, but in the interest of space, I'll leave you instead with a small piece of dialogue from a scene in the beginning of the movie, where Charlie and Cam first met at a wedding.

**Charlie:** Seriously, what do you do?

**Cam:** Seriously, I'm a serial killer. My passion is killing people I meet at weddings. What do you do?

**Charlie:** F.B.I. You're under arrest. Your run is over, Ms. Wexler, if that's your real name.

Yes, it's that bad. That dialogue might have been decent in the hands of two capable actors, but in this case, you're cringing at the screen, vainly hoping that it's just an elaborate hoax and that the real movie will start any second.

The real issue here is that Dane Cook is still somehow popular.

Two years ago, he was a somewhat well-known comic who had semi-funny jokes, but now it appears that he peaked in that time and is currently on the downside of his career after releasing a mediocre-at-best HBO special and starring into two awful movies with girls named Jessica. (*Employee of the Month*, *Good Luck Chuck*)

Furthermore, he has somehow become the spokesperson for Major League Baseball and is doing all of those stupid commercials that you see every three minutes.

To recap: The Theory of Chuck proves to be scientifically accurate, and The Theory of Dane is well on its way.

I'll be expecting for my Nobel Peace Prize nomination any day now.

# Stephen Colbert for President? It's your vote.

For a while there was a rumor going around that Stephen Colbert, of *The Colbert Report*, would run for president.

Colbert danced around the question on *Larry King Live* and *Good Morning America*. On *The Daily Show* on October 16, Colbert said, "Tonight I, Steven Colbert, am officially announcing that I have decided to officially consider whether or not I will announce that I am running for President of the United States."

Fifteen minutes after refusing to announce it on *The Daily Show*, he announced his candidacy on his own show, *The Colbert Report*. He only decided to run in South Carolina, meaning his name will only be on the ballot there and he is running as a "Republican" or Democrat and Republican.

Stephen Colbert running for president is a funny thought, but who will actually vote for him? According to a survey on Comedy Central's Indecision2008.com asking "Would you consider voting Colbert into the Oval Office?" out of 27,362 votes, 81% of the voters said, "Yes! Finally a candidate who understands how ridiculous he is." But, a Comedy Central website is kind of biased

since Colbert's show is on that station.

Facebook is targeted towards college students and there are plenty of political groups to join on the site. Barak Obama supporters created a group called "1,000,000 Strong for Obama," with 2,391 members in his group he doesn't touch the support that Stephen Colbert is receiving from college students. As soon as Colbert's announcement was made he dominated the world of Facebook. His group, "1,000,000 Strong for Stephen T. Colbert" has well over one million members and they all joined within ten days of the group's formation.

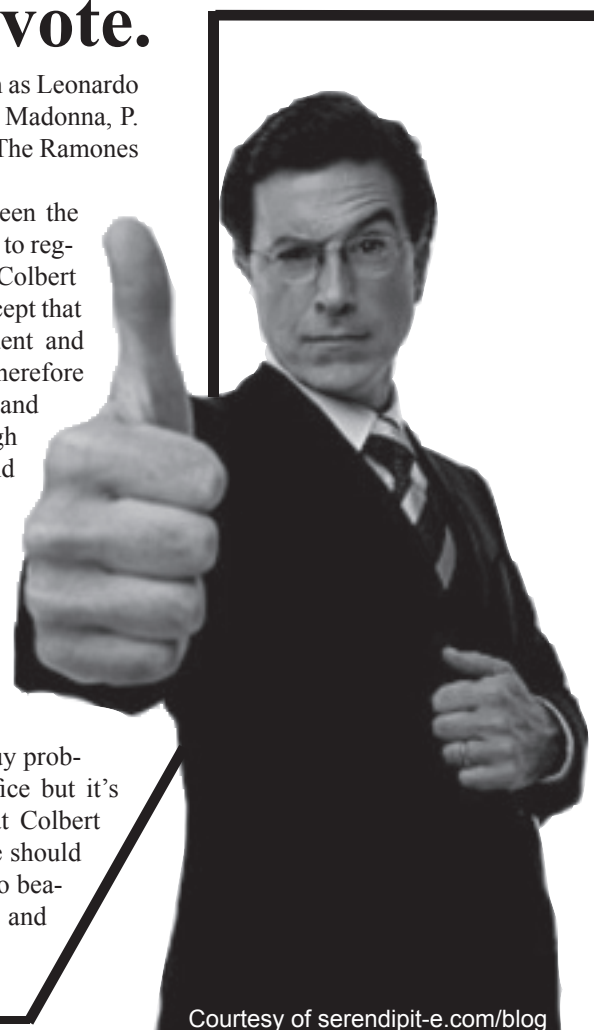
While Stephen Colbert's presidency is absolutely ridiculous there has to be something positive to come out of it. I think that he will be the reason for an increase in registered voters. Already, over 1,350 people have registered to vote due to a rockthetvote.com link on "1,000,000 Strong for Stephen T Colbert."

It's not a bad thing that people are registering to vote because of a familiar face. Years ago, there was a huge movement started to get those of age to vote called Rock the Vote. It is still being used to date Rock the Vote gets so many young people to regis-

ter, through familiar faces such as Leonardo DiCaprio, Samuel L. Jackson, Madonna, P. Diddy, Justin Timberlake and The Ramones to name a few.

There is no difference between the way Rock the Vote gets people to register and the way that Stephen Colbert is getting people to register except that Colbert is running for president and Rock the Vote isn't a person, therefore can't. The process is difficult and if Colbert doesn't get enough support in South Carolina and doesn't choose one party to be associated with his name won't be on the ballot.

It's important to exercise your right to vote, but it's even more important to know what's going on. This isn't the Robin Williams movie *Man of the Year*. The funny guy probably won't get voted into office but it's your choice. If you think that Colbert is an idiot or you think that he should be president I urge you to go to [beavoter.org](http://beavoter.org) or [rockthetvote.org](http://rockthetvote.org) and register to vote.



Courtesy of [serendipit-e.com/blog](http://serendipit-e.com/blog)

## YOUR VOICES

Dear Editor:

Allow me to begin by saying that I respect an appreciate satire aimed at American culture and public policy. It's funny. Stephen Colbert and Jon Stewart are funny. Part of me understands why many people get their news from Comedy Central. It's light, it's fast and it's on the same channel as cartoon children making gay jokes.

In general, I don't think the news should be drawn-out and pointlessly complex to cloud the understanding of the average viewer. It should be, as they say, "just the facts." Though the absolute hero worship aimed at Colbert and Stewart is quickly becoming utterly ridiculous.

After Colbert announced his mock presidential run, an announcement that should have reached no further than the avid Colbert Report fans, I was shocked to read about it on MSN.com.

Okay, I get that it's all a huge joke that he is running for office, but should our entire electoral process be treated like a gag? Especially with an obvious endorsement from Jon Stewart, who eagerly interviewed the former "Daily Show" correspondent the same night he announced his candidacy. Forgive me, Mr. Stewart, I realize that you like to be funny and serious on your own terms, but please pick one and go with it, because otherwise you come off like a total

hypocrite.

On the now infamous episode of "Crossfire," Stewart decided it was appropriate to turn off the funny and reveal his stone serious side, specifically to make Tucker Carlson look like an even bigger jerk than the bow tie already does. He scolded the debate show for not providing real, honest and bipartisan debate for American viewers. In the same breath, he deflected criticism of his own program by continuing to promote himself as a newscaster on Comedy Central. In other words, he feels he has no need for any form of journalistic integrity since his show is meant to be purely for laughs.

However, he has decided to mock the entire presidential process, along with Colbert, instead of doing his part to help clean up the mess of partisan reporting. True, he may not be required to have credible reporting on the "Daily Show," but how about a little personal integrity? Perhaps even the courage of one's own convictions?

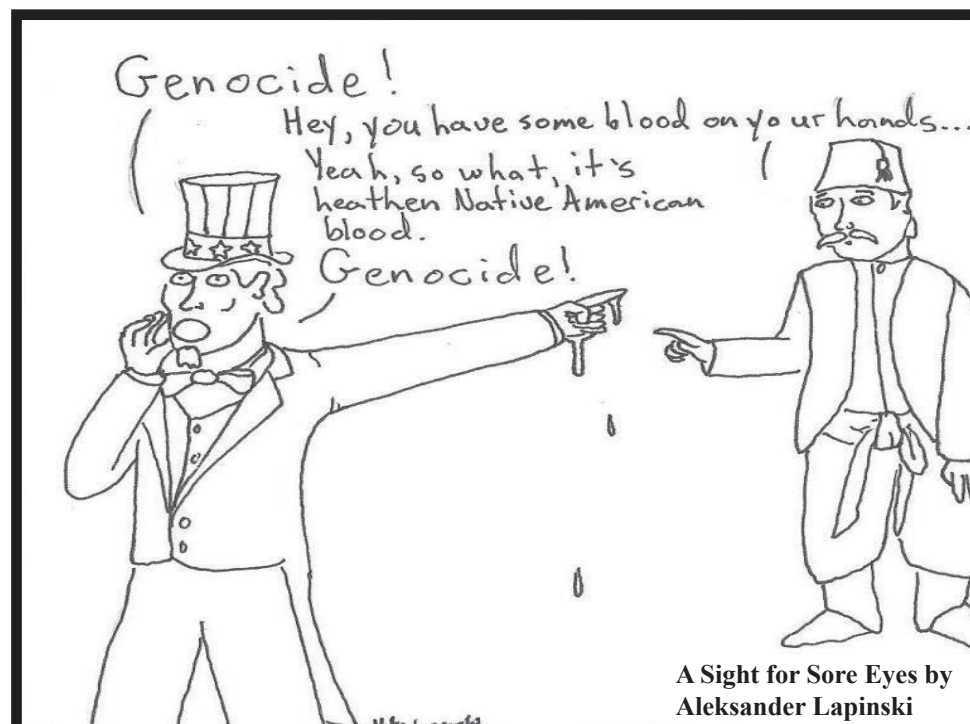
Stewart chooses to deny his show's need for honest reporting, saying that if people are getting their news from Comedy Central, then we do have a problem. The reality is that some people, at least of the younger generation, are getting their news from the "Daily Show," though I have no idea why. If Stewart feels so strongly about how the current news media is hurting America, then he should stop mocking the system

and promote his own partisan thoughts. Then again, it's easier to cast the burden of truth and well-researched reporting on other people while you get to say what you want and go to sleep at night content in thinking that you are not a complete fraud.

Your show reaches people, Mr. Stewart. Wake up and stop pretending it doesn't. Either you are in absolute denial or you are an idiot. You cannot hide behind the thought

that people shouldn't get their news from your show and it's every other news caster's problem. If partisan politics in the media is such an issue today, then quit your show and start doing your part for honest and responsible journalism.

Sincerely,  
Kristyn Ostman  
Wilkes University,  
Class of 07



A Sight for Sore Eyes by  
Aleksander Lapinski

OCTOBER 30, 2007

9

## 'Sexy' adult costumes now more popular than ever

BY LAUREN SALEM  
Beacon Staff Writer

Media in entertainment has sparked a "sexy" trend in adult Halloween costumes, which has become a booming business over that past few years.

Villain themed costumes including sexy pirate costumes, sexy mobster costumes, and sexy police costumes seem to be this season's popular picks according to Forplay, a leading designer of sexy costumes.

"We look at a lot of different movies and films to see what's out there," Houman Salem, CEO of Forplay, said. "*Pirates of the Caribbean* not only increased the sale of our pirate outfits, but overall the villain theme in general."

Stockingstore.com, a popular hosiery and lingerie website, was also one of many retailers to release a new "lingerie look" to its 2007 Halloween collection. In an article released by the Press Release Newswire, "The costumes feature garters, stockings and petticoats and range from traditional costume themes like, cops, pirates, nurses, and gangster girls to Fairytale costumes, like the Queen of Hearts, Mad Hatter, Rag Dolls, and even a Bumblebee."

"Anything that's short or drawing in sex appeal we are having a difficult time keeping that in stock," said Kelly

Flannery, the manager of Party City in Wilkes-Barre Township. "We haven't had to reorder a regular pirate, but we've gotten three or four shipments of the two sexy pirate costumes."

Party City has sold over 42 Jack Sparrow costumes this year as well as six costumes from the movie *300*, which were wiped off the shelves immediately.

"It's mostly movies. Any big blockbuster movie is going to have people wanting to dress up like that," Flannery said.

"A lot of people when they have certain celebrities that they follow or like, they trust to a larger degree what these celebrities like and what they endorse," Salem said. "Cer-

tain celebrities like Paris Hilton or Lindsay Lohan, even though they have been in some trouble, a lot of girls look up to them for what ever reason they might find appropriate."

"I've worked for Party City for eight years and I would say we've probably doubled in adult sales in that time, because of parties and more bars are having parties," Flannery said.

On an average store basis, last year's adult costume sales grew about 42% since 2001,

according to an article posted by the *USA Today*, which means that adults are celebrating Halloween more than ever before.

"It goes back to Halloween being the one night of the year where you can step out of your own skin and be anything that you want to be for one night and it's okay," Salem said. "People have fantasies, dreams, or wishes that maybe in their everyday course of life they can't experience, but one night of the year where it's universally accepted and totally cool for you to go out and be a naughty nurse, a sexy devil, or

whatever the costume may be."

Forplay's store in Hollywood opened in 1986 and was one of the first companies to invest in the sexy costume business. Before Forplay opened, Salem said that girls who wanted to dress sexy were restricted to buying their costume from a small Mom and Pop kind of specialty store, or they mixed and matched outfits from their own closets.

"Sexy isn't really size, height, breast size, and waist size; sexy is really a state of mind," Salem said. "So if you think you're sexy, if you feel sexy, then whether you wear a sexy costume or not for Halloween, just really go out there and enjoy yourself, because that's what it's all about."



The Beacon/Cara Koster

### How are you dressing for Halloween?



Amanda Kaster, freshman undeclared major

"A ladybug- nothing big."

Amanda Close, senior nursing major

"A sailor woman."



Justin Jones, freshman English major & Jessica McMahon, sophomore education major

"Fred and Wilma from The Flintstones."



# Student of the Week: Raquel Wheby

**BY ALISON WOODY**  
*Beacon Lifestyles Editor*

Raquel Wheby, senior communication studies major, is currently spending her fall semester at American University in Washington, D.C. The Washington Semester program gives Wilkes students the chance to spend an entire semester in D.C. studying subjects such as journalism, American politics, and international business.

Wheby has been spending her time studying journalism, as well as doing a full-time internship at America's Promise Alliance which was founded by Colin Powell. Her success so far in Washington D.C. has influenced *The Beacon* in our decision to name Wheby *Student of the Week*.

**The Beacon:** Why did you choose to attend the Washington Semester Program?

**Wheby:** I came out here to improve my writing skills and spend some time with my sister, who lives in Washington, D.C. At Wilkes, my concentration is public relations, and I knew I needed to improve my writing, so I enrolled in the journalism program at American.

**The Beacon:** What are some of your internship duties and responsibilities?

**Wheby:** I work at America's Promise Alliance, which was founded by Colin Powell and is dedicated to the well-being of children and youth. More specifically, I have been working with the 100 Best Communities for Young People campaign. My duties include coordinating a national forum, taking photos and registering new community members. I also organize panel discussions and do a lot of mailing invitations.

**The Beacon:** How has living in Washington, D.C. differed from your experiences at Wilkes thus far?

**Wheby:** I definitely use a lot more public transportation. However, the best thing is that seeing every opportunity is more accessible out here. There are a ton of opportunities to see stuff such as art shows and plays. D.C. has a lot of people coming from everywhere in the United States and they are more conservative. It seems like everybody out here acts like they are running for President. They look flawless and act perfect all the time.

**The Beacon:** Why do you think other students will benefit from the Washington Semester Program?

**Wheby:** You get to meet so many different speakers and you get a lot of different views from various areas of communication. You also meet people who are interested in what you want to do and it is not in a competitive environment. It's a good experience, especially if you are not from a big city.



Courtesy Raquel Wheby



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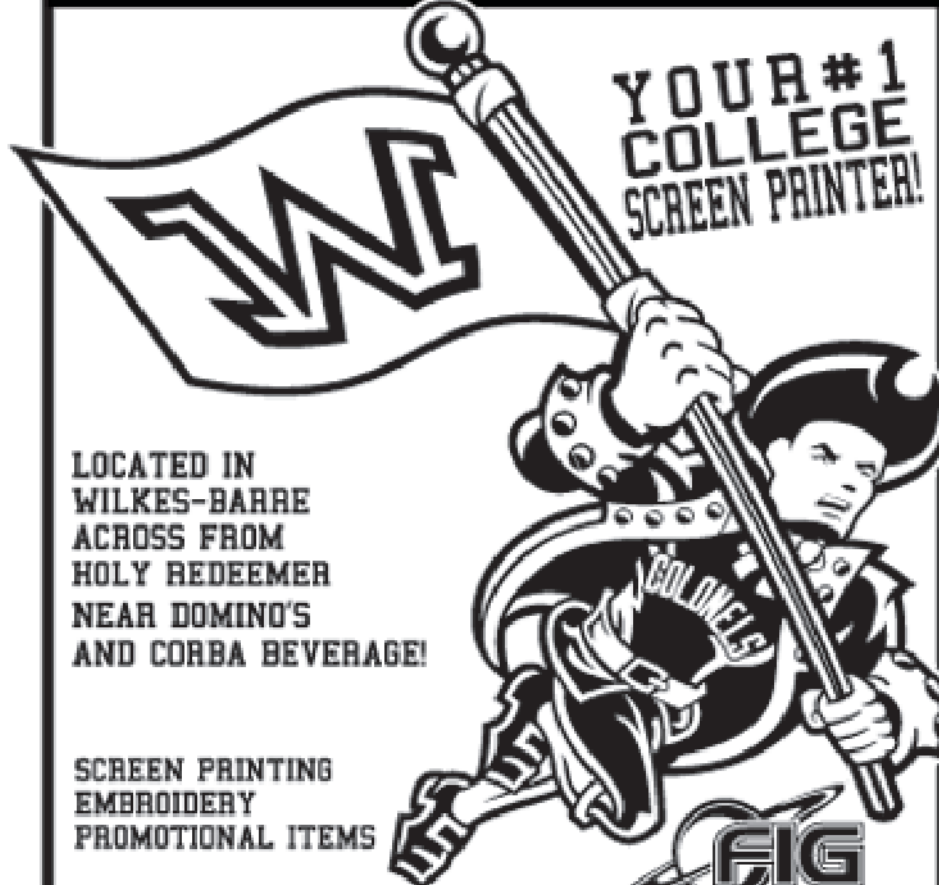
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# Tattoos ink their way into mainstream society

BY CHRISTA SGOBBA  
Beacon Asst.Lifestyles Editor

Lynsey Peters spent four years waiting for the time she could finally get a tattoo in remembrance of her grandfather, who she called Papa Pineapple. Three months after her eighteenth birthday, she got a pineapple tattooed on her right shoulder.

"I have no regrets. I really like them, and I would recommend getting them," said Peters, a sophomore psychology major. "Memorial pieces especially are a very healing thing."

Peters is one of the increasing number of college students joining the ranks of the tattooed. Many are choosing to permanently ink their bodies in remembrance of a loved one, a life-changing event, or a symbol of importance to them.

According to *U.S. News and World Report*, the tattoo business was one of the sixth fastest growing retail ventures of the 1990s, coming in right behind the internet and cellular phone service. The American Academy of Dermatology found in a 2004 survey that 24

percent of Americans between the ages of 18 and 50 have at least one tattoo.

Franco Kossa, the manager of Marc's Tattooing in Wilkes Barre, has seen an increase in the number of college students getting inked up. He estimates that around 30 percent of his clientele is college students.

"When I started out, we were skewed to the male side," Kossa said. "Now, just as many women are getting big tattoos."

workplaces, Kossa says that placement is key for professionals choosing a tattoo. Many choose easily coverable locations, such as the upper arm or back.

"For people in a professional environment, especially if it's their first time, they usually get one they don't want to show to everyone and one they have an option of covering up," Kossa said.

Peters agrees that placing a tattoo in a hidden place is important in the job world. She chose to place her second tattoo, a large tiger symbolizing strength, on her back so it wouldn't affect her future career.

"There's a social stigma," she said. "If you show a tattoo in a job interview, they'll think you'll be rebellious and you won't be a good worker, that you'll start fights."

When Kossa was younger, he said it was common for potential employees to be turned down for a job solely because they had tattoos. While employers aren't as blunt now, Kossa still believes tattoos can affect job placements.

Lisa Mulvey, a career consultant at Career Services, says that while times are changing, tattoos are still unacceptable at job interviews and in the workplace. College students interested in business, accounting, teaching, or nursing should be especially careful to avoid noticeable tattoos and to cover up the ones they have.

"Certain recruiters who are older and don't see them as socially acceptable may view the students as rebels," she said. "It depends on the person interviewing you and the culture of that organization."

Students who have tattoos should cover them up on interviews, preferably with clothing, but, if they are on uncovered skin, they can be toned down with special high-coverage makeup. For students with noticeable tattoos, Mulvey suggests using other aspects of appearance to present a more mainstream image.

"Dress ultra-conservatively, and keep your hair and makeup to a minimum," Mulvey said. "Try to distract attention away from it and present yourself very professionally."

Although she has only had her tattoos for a couple years, Peters has no regrets about choos-



The Beacon/Jenna Stephens

**A tattoo artist at Marc's Tattooing inks up a customer. Tattoos are becoming more and more popular among a variety of age groups.**

People's perceptions of tattoos have also changed over the years. Fifteen years ago, Kossa said people who didn't have tattoos looked down on those who did, and failed to see the art involved in it. Tattooed women in particular garnered a lot of attention.

"People would be saying, 'look at her, she's so young, she's so pretty, what's she going to do when she's married?'" Kossa said. "It's a lot different now."

In recent years, tattoos have moved from beyond the stereotypical tough guys into mainstreamed society. With an increasing number of college students opting for the ink, tattoos are finding their way into a corporate world.

Kossa says that his shop tattoos a large number of professionals each year. He counts a prominent local surgeon as one of the regulars.

"We're tattooing from A to Z, all kinds of people," said Kossa. "It's from the granddaughter to the grandmother these days."

Because of restrictions in many



Courtesy of Lynsey Peters

**Lynsey Peters chose her tiger tattoo as a symbol of strength.**

ing them. Right now, she doesn't plan on getting any other tattoos, but she likes the permanence of her two.

Kossa explains a shift in the line of thinking he has observed over the last five years, one that puts more of a premium on permanence.

"Since 9/11, it seems like people have a lot less of the sitting-on-the-fence attitude," he said. "Live your life today. Have something permanent because there's not much in life that is."

## If You Go Inkin' the Valley

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## Beacon Halloween Movie Special

### The Good, The Bad, and the Gory

BY MIKE WILLIAMS

Beacon Staff Writer

Okay, it's that time of year again. You've got your costume. You've got your candy. You've got your trusty meat cleaver lookin' shiny and new and your chainsaw is all gassed up and ready to roar. You're only missing one key ingredient to kick your Halloween into high gear: a few flicks to add a few scares and a boost to your holiday spirit.

Just as you have a choice about what candies to toss to the kiddies this All Hallow's Eve (or which power tools to use on your latest victim), you have a practically limitless choice of fright flicks. Just take a stroll down the horror section of your local video or electronics store. It all comes down to a matter of taste. So, what are you looking for? A good scare? A good splatter? Or maybe you want to mix a few chuckles in with your chills.

Well look no further, as *The Beacon* again offers a way to satisfy all of your morbid movie needs with a collection of lesser-known films so good it's scary, so bad they're funny or just so gruesome that you'll wish you had extra hands to cover your eyes. So, for your holiday viewing pleasure, may we present....*The Good, The Bad and The Gory?*

1.) **Dawn Of The Dead** (1978 version) - One of the biggest debates amongst horror fanatics, pits those in favor of the original 1978 George A Romero classic and those partial to the updated, 2004 remake. Honestly, you can't lose either way. However, it seems that film fans not well versed in their horror history have overlooked the original. How sad. In the second (and possibly the best) of Romero's Dead quadrilogy, a group of four survivors steal a news helicopter to flea zombie plagued Philadelphia, winding up at the Monroeville mall, where, after dispatching the dead within, the survivors set up camp. However, their new home soon changes from a well stocked safe haven to a death trap, as cabin fever, the living dead and a band of marauding bikers force them into a brutal final showdown.

2.) **Monster Squad** - In what may be the most violent children's movie ever made, a group of monster obsessed pre-teens notice some strange happenings in their quiet suburban neighborhood. After finding the diary of Dr. Van Helsing, they discover that Dracula, The Wolfman (played by a pre-Napoleon Dynamite Jon "Uncle Rico" Gries), Frankenstein, The Mummy and The Gillman are attempting to bring about the end of the world, right in their own backyard. Though the plot may seem a little juvenile, there's nothing childish about the broken necks, crushed skulls and exploding bodies left in the wake of the rampaging creatures. It also answers a few very important questions, like how many ways are there to kill a werewolf? Does garlic really work on vampires? And most importantly, does the Wolfman have "nards?" (spoiler: He does.)

3.) **Night Of The Creeps** - When a terrible alien experiment escapes it's space ship and crashes to earth

in 1959, it unleashes a worm like creature that leaps into it's victims mouth, and turns them into blood thirsty zombies as it multiplies within their brain. Twenty seven years later, a victim of this creature is found cryogenically frozen in the basement of Corman University by a group of fraternity-pledging freshmen, who, as a prank, unfreeze the body and unleash the zombie plague on their community, bringing together a pair of geeky students, a sorority babe and a detective with a dark past to end the madness (with heavy fire power, of course). With great action and effects and just the right amount of horror and humor (not to mention what maybe the nerdiest hero in movie history), this is one of the best B-horror movies to come out of the 80's.

4.) **Blood Feast** - In this 1963 splatter-fest, evil caterer (yes, evil caterer) Fuad Ramses murders and mutilates various dim-witted Miami women in order to resurrect a long-dead Egyptian goddess. This is not a film to watch for quality entertainment, unless you consider a horrible story and worse acting entertaining. When a potential victim asks Ramses "You're not going to sacrifice me are you?" to which he replies, with a machete hiding behind his back, "Of course not. Now lay down and close your eyes." However, if you like gore, and plenty of it, and you can appreciate just how funny acting this bad can be; you'll love this one.

5.) **Fright Night** - When teenager Charlie Brewster notices that the big, creepy house next store has just been bought by a mysterious new caretaker, he can't help but begin to snoop around. What was in that big, long, coffin shaped box? Why do people go in, but never come out? Why does his new neighbor only come out at night? Well, to anyone who's ever seen a horror movie, the answer is obvious. Charlie's new neighbor is a vampire. However, try getting anyone in Charlie's hometown to believe that. So what's a guy to do? In Charlie's case, he gets some hired help in the form of Peter Vincent, a skeptical, washed up actor, posing as a vampire hunter. Will Vincent's knowledge of vampires pay off enough to save Charlie and his friends, or will this be his final performance?

6.) **Dead Alive** - This gore-fest, directed by a pre-*Lord Of The Rings* Peter Jackson, is not one for fans of bloody horror to miss. When the legendary, evil Rat-monkey bites Lionel's mom, she quickly becomes a blood thirsty ghoul, attacking anything and everything that crosses her path. Unfortunately, mama's boy Lionel doesn't have the heart to dispose of her properly. So, after his attempt to hide her away in the basement fails (duh!), an unholy plague of the living dead on his peaceful New Zealand hometown. What follows next is a symphony of splatter including a kung-fu priest, a monster baby and a man who, when faced with an army of the living dead, finds a new, grisly use for a lawn mower.

7.) **Killer Klowns From Outer Space** - What else can we say about this movie that the title doesn't? Evil aliens, that just so happen to look like deranged clowns, come

from outer space, land on earth and begin to kill people in wacky ways. An absolute must for all fans of B-level horror.

8.) **Night of the Living Dead** (1990) - Though most horror fans, or fans of film in general, have seen the classic 1968 original, the remake is often overlooked. With f/x guru Tom Savini filing George Romero's role as director, NOTLD '90 does much more than just pay homage to the classic original, as Savini cranks up the effects, the gore and the scares as he masterfully uses the viewers knowledge of the original to catch them off guard, again and again, as they watch the band of survivors once again hold up in an old farm house, doing all they can to fend off the horde of zombies attempting to get inside and satisfy their hunger for human flesh.

9.) **Silver Bullet** - In the screen adaptation of Stephen King's novella *Cycle of the Werewolf*, a string of brutal murders in a small New England town leads a young wheelchair bound boy to discover that the killer is a werewolf after he narrowly escapes becoming a victim himself. Naturally, no one believes him until it's too late, and it's up to the young boy, his sister and his alcoholic uncle to find the monster and destroy him before it's too late.

10.) **C.H.U.D.** - When a bizarre series of ghastly murders begins to plague New York City and unfortunate homeless people begin to go missing from their local outreach shelters, a rag-tag group including a photo journalist, a cop whose wife has gone missing and an eccentric bum, set out to solve the mystery. What they find is a secret conspiracy, codenamed C.H.U.D. (Cannibalistic Humanoid Underground Dwellers), to dump radioactive waste into the NYC sewer system, exposing the hundreds of homeless living in the tunnels to the deadly chemicals. Those infected go through a horrific mutation, turning them into slimy, bug-eyed, razor clawed creatures with a taste for blood. Can our heroes find a way to stop the bloodthirsty mutants, or will the entire city fall victim to the C.H.U.D.s?



# Restaurant Review: La Tolteca

BY ALISSA LINDNER

*Beacon Asst. A&E Editor*

College students on a tight budget are often in search of a restaurant with affordable prices but satisfying food. For tasty Mexican food, the cheap prices at Taco Bell come to mind for most; however, Wilkes-Barre Township offers an alternative to the fast food option: La Tolteca.

La Tolteca is located on at 200 Mundy Street near the entrance to the Wyoming Valley Mall. Electric palm trees and a colorful building alerts any diner to the fiesta found inside. Once inside, the Mexican theme is obvious, offering colorful decorations and fiesta music playing throughout. A friendly host directed us to our table and almost immediately another brought homemade tortilla chips, a salsa dip and a spicy cream dip to the table.

The homemade tortilla chips offer quick satisfaction to any diner's hunger--they come warmed and salted in baskets. The salsa dip was a delicious, spicy hot alternative to the normal salsa of choice for college students, Tostitos. La Tolteca's salsa is a smooth concoction with just the right balance of peppers and tomatoes. The flavors in the cream dip, although hard to place, offered a spicy and creamy addition to the homemade chips. For an additional option, a cheese dip can be ordered from your server.

The menu offered a variety of traditional Mexican dishes. From enchiladas and fajitas to the traditional nachos and tacos, each can be found on La Tolteca's menu. Almost every Mexican dish comes made with chicken, beef, shrimp or vegetarian style to satisfy everyone walking through the door. After browsing the menu, my guest and I decided on the Quesadilla Rellena and the Quesadilla Veracruzana.

The Quesadilla Rellena is a chicken and cheese quesadilla served with beans or rice. Brought to the table on colorful plates, the presentation almost makes the food look too good to eat. The two large quesadillas are stuffed with chicken, cheese, tomatoes and onions on a platter with lettuce, sour cream, guacamole, and a large tomato slice. The beans are served on another plate, topped with melted cheese.

The Quesadilla Veracruzana is a beef and cheese quesadilla also served with either beans or rice. The presentation of the Quesadilla Veracruzana is similar; however, the rice was served on the same platter as the quesadillas.

The flavor of both the Quesadilla Rellena and the Quesadilla Veracruzana will satisfy anyone looking for a Mexican delight, offering just the right amount of spice. The amount of food served with each dish is enormous so when visiting La Tolteca bring your appetite.

The service at La Tolteca was excellent. Although we visited on a weekday, our food arrived in approximately ten minutes and we never waited when something was needed.

At approximately \$9.00 each, the quesadillas offered a very affordable option to satisfy our hungry. With a couple non-alcoholic drinks, at La Tolteca two people can easily dine for under \$30.00 and leave with extra food for later.

**Grade: A**



## Bonus: Margarita Review

BY WILFREDO MERCADO

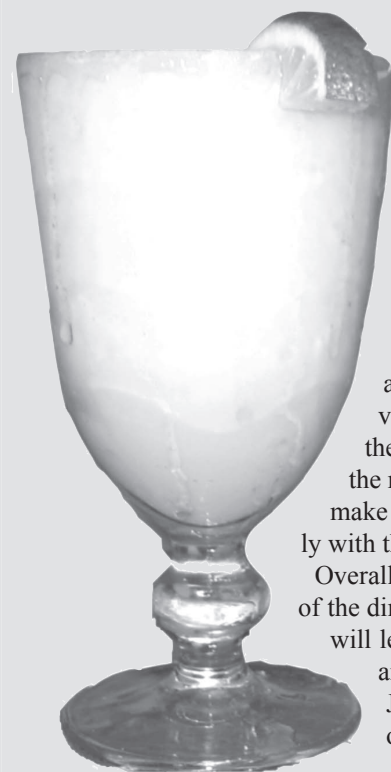
*Beacon Correspondent*

For those 21 and older who wish to explore what the bar at La Tolteca has to offer, there is a wonderful assortment of flavored margaritas.

Margarita lovers can choose from the traditional lime or get a little more inventive with strawberry, pina colada, peach, and raspberry to name a few. Margaritas are served either frozen or on the rocks, with a salted or sugared rim and garnished with a lime wedge to add a special tart twist. Any combination can be a great choice for a special sweet treat along with a savory meal.

The margaritas are served in a hefty glass, offering an ample serving size for the fair price of \$5.50. For a flavored margarita add \$1.25. The attractive presentation of the drink is enough to smile about, until the first sip when the real celebration begins. The blended fruit, tequila and ice make for a delightful chilled refreshment that pairs wonderfully with the spicy and robust flavor of their homemade salsa dip.

Overall, this Mexican beverage delight is one of the highlights of the dining experience at La Tolteca. Its wide variety of flavors will leave you intrigued and wanting to try them all, but they are not to be underestimated with their alcohol content. Just one of these cocktails can be enough to satisfy anyone's craving for a margarita and a good time!



The Beacon/Alissa Lindner

## Schedule of Events

### Tuesday, October 30

- Wilma Carroll, Tarot card reader in Roth Concourse from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Kappa Delta Pi interview workshop for all future teachers in the SUB at 5:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, October 31

- Whooz Playin'? performing at Bart and Urby's
- Boscoe and the Storm performing at the Woodlands at 10 p.m.

### Thursday, November 1

- Book Discussion: *Skinny Bitch*, sponsored by Wyoming Valley Vegetarians at the Tudor Bookshop at 6 p.m.
- Dr. Chud's X-Ward and Lugosi's Morphine performing at Backstage at 6 p.m.

### Saturday, November 3

- Banjo Workshops at Arts YOUiverse at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- Vegetarian cooking discussion from *The Vegetarian Way* at the Tudor Booksop at 1 p.m.
- The Language of Comics opening reception and Matt Madden artist presentation from 4:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. in SLC 166
- Tokyo Rose, National Product, Before Their Eyes, Inferis and TBA performing at Backstage at 7 p.m.
- The Led Zeppelin Experience performed by Hammer Of The Gods at the Kirby Center at 8 p.m.

### Sunday, November 4

- Strength For A Reason, Reign Supreme, Steel Nation and Hard Response performing at Backstage at 6 p.m.

### Monday, November 5

- Vicente Fox, former President of Mexico, "Outstanding Leaders Forum" at the Kirby Center at 8 p.m.

# Common People brings the party to Plains

BY MARISSA PHILLIPS

Beacon A&E Editor

From the time it starts, crowd energy and interaction at Common People party has a gradual but significant buildup.

At 10 p.m., everyone is settling down with their drinks, by 11 p.m., people begin to saunter onto the dance floor, and by 12 p.m. the place becomes one large, unified dance floor.

Common People is a free, 21+ dance party that takes place once a month at BAR, located at 279 S. River Street in Plains, running from about 10 p.m. until 2 a.m. Organized by DJs Robair and NFM (who prefer to be referred to by their professional names), it's a fairly recent addition to the area, where each night they feature multiple DJs and a new out-of-town band. NFM explains that the parties were started up because "if you're trying to go out and don't want to sit in a corner bar and play darts and you're not trying to go to some big, obnoxious club, there's no middle ground, and that's where we come in."

The aim of Common People is to offer people a different experience than what's offered at other local dance clubs or bars,

such as the Woodlands, or the former Mardi Gras. NFM explains that not only does he want to offer people a good time, but also a safe environment. "People shouldn't feel like every dude in the room is eyeing them up or trying to get advantage or them, and guys don't need to fear getting beat up," he explained.

In terms of differences, NFM explains that there's no specific format that's enforced for the parties and they'll do "whatever we're in the mood for that makes people have fun. If we want to place dance or hip hop or dance hall music on, we'll do that. It's really anything that encourages having a good time that isn't cheesy top 40 or bad jersey shore spring break trance music."

First timers to the event should expect to "hear amazing music and they should expect to get wild and get real," said NFM. After his first time attending, Kingston resident Donald Hosey explained, "I'm still not sure whether it's a joke or not, but in the end it doesn't matter...because if it's a joke then it's hilarious, and if it's serious then there is nothing wrong with being serious about having fun."

Even since their first event, the event has

attracted significant turnouts. "The first was incredible. We had people come in from New York and Philly. There were probably 150 at our first party. That was just with Robair and I and a local band," says NFM.

The most recent Common People party, on October 26, was vampire themed and guests came in undead costumes, while vampire bartenders served them as classic horror films set the scene in the background. This was the fourth party and they have them planned up through December. In November, they will be featuring the band Spanish Dancer and getting two New York DJs to the party.

While Common People brings in a number of out-of-town acts, they are trying to promote community involvement as well. They are currently talking to a local photographer and would like to set up a photography show prior to a future event. They would like to work with a number of local artists and set up a place for them to display and sell their work and then segue



The Beacon/Marissa Phillips

DJ Robair kept people dancing until the early morning hours during the most recent Common People. There are multiple DJs at each event so there's always a unique music variety.

into the dance party afterwards. As NFM explains, whether it's on or off the dance floor, it's all about "community building."

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR "COLLEGE BOOKSTORE" THIS WEEK! Barnes & Noble Wilkes-King's College Bookstore



### "Halloween Night"

Wednesday, October 31st

Mary Baker

"Scary story teller and musician"

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Rose Stone

"Tarot card reader"

5:30-7:30



### "Three Imaginary Boys"

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# Kudracross

BY CHRISTOPHER KUDRAK

Beacon Staff Writer

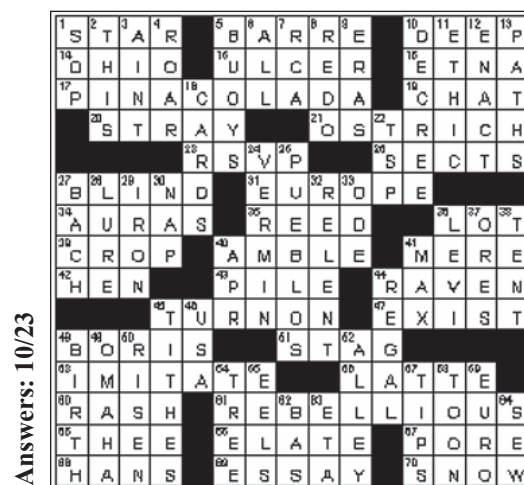
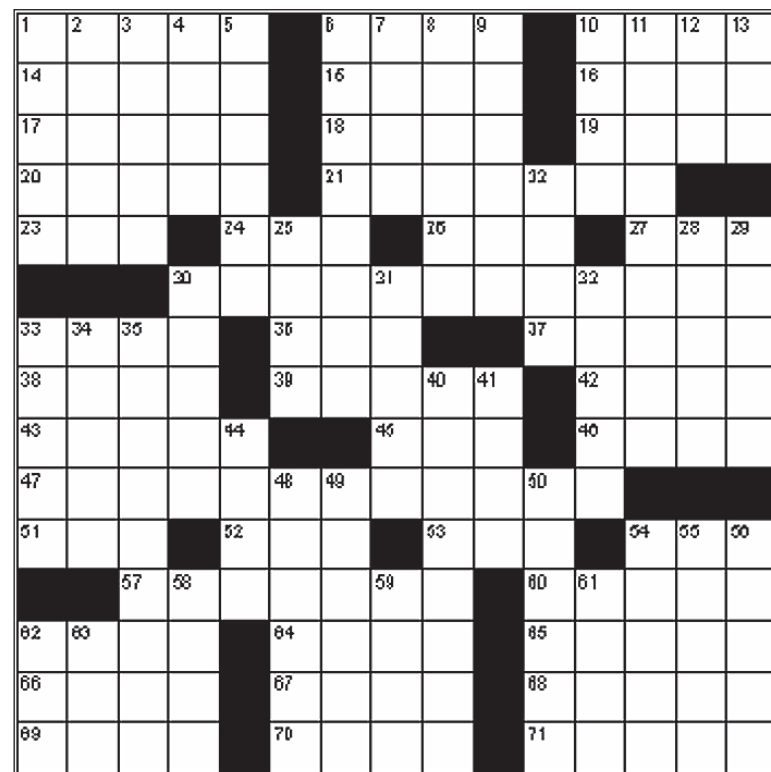
## ACROSS

- 1 Microwaved, slangly  
6 Merit badge holder  
10 Attention-getter  
14 Antipasto garnish  
15 Mention  
16 "You, Me, and Dupree" actor  
\_\_\_\_ Wilson  
17 Tributary  
18 Billy, of rock-and-roll  
19 Uncluttered  
20 Latin-American music  
21 Unnatural structure  
23 No antithesis  
24 Half of VI  
26 Elongated fish  
27 "\_\_\_\_ the season"  
30 First half of the bible  
33 Avoid deliberately  
36 Corn unit  
37 "\_\_\_\_ Ana, CA"  
38 Breathe heavily  
39 Type of arrangement  
42 Shore bird  
43 Criminal's cover  
45 Quarter of four  
46 Walked on  
47 "World of war craft", for ex  
ample  
51 clairvoyance  
52 Bilbo Baggins portrayer  
53 Lanka lead-in

- 54 Corn holder  
57 Beginner  
60 Took the wheel  
62 Grow faint  
64 Type of ski lift  
65 Cuts vegetables  
66 Eating regimen  
67 As well  
68 Make amends  
69 Put two and two together  
70 Paper unit  
71 Fermentation agent

## DOWN

- 1 Clamorous  
2 Bone of the forearm  
3 Executes  
4 Holiday preceders  
5 Military duty  
6 Curved sword  
7 Elton John play  
8 Mick and band  
9 Head protector  
10 Frog's milieu  
11 Sugar  
12 Baltic, for example  
13 Alfred Nobel invention  
22 Sigher's word  
25 Basis of an invention  
28 MC's lead-in  
29 Rise to one's feet  
30 Draft Beer?  
31 Blunder  
32 Dull surface  
33 Final frontier  
34 Angel toppers  
35 Without obstruction  
40 Å  
41 Calendar cycle  
44 Clubs, for example  
48 Tooth film  
49 Permit  
50 Noon  
54 Hot drink made on a cold day  
55 Baker's needs  
56 Attack from all sides  
58 Butterfly catchers  
59 Space-exploration org.  
61 Ceremonial practice  
62 Government health org.  
63 Provide support



Answers: 10/23



# LastNightsParty.com

BY ANDEE SCARANTINO

Beacon Editor-in-Chief

If you think about the concept of "Last Night's Party," it has the potential to be relatively inventive. Parties come in all shapes and sizes and can involve some pretty odd happenings. Birthday parties, wedding celebrations, even end-of-life parties can involve everything from oddly shaped cakes to bridal rages to really great toasts. They can involve drunken relatives, clumsy moments, and really bad fashion choices. Parties are great microcosms of human social behavior.

So when I went to this page, and I only saw a bunch of people in bars, clubs, and various other hotspots, I was little disappointed. Granted, there were the sexy, not so sexy, and a man vomiting on the ground with the caption "Converse Ad (Outtakes)." But all in all, this site had more potential for fun than it actually realizes.

**The site:** LastNightsParty.com.

**The Concept:** People post pictures of themselves, partying. That's pretty much it, really. Some of the photos are a bit abstract, and have some larger, unappar-

ent meaning, such as the photos entitled "I love America." I think there's a meaning there. Maybe the woman in the photos really is exploring America for the first time, or maybe she just realizes that she is 30 pounds underweight and wants to show the world that. Who knows?

I have absolutely nothing to say about this site, except they should come to Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania and witness those who party here.

Could you imagine? A whole section would be dedicated to women who go out in jeans and Aero hoodies! It would be so cool! Saturday night fashion faux pas at their finest. I wonder if the site is looking for a humor section.

Seriously, though, this site is just a collage of pictures of people having a good time in various cities throughout the country? World?

I'm finished.

I give this site a "B" for "Big Boring waste of time."

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# Football captures fifth straight Mayor's Cup

## Defense forces five interceptions in 35-0 rout

BY GERARD HETMAN  
*Beacon Staff Writer*

In what has proven to be a challenging season for the Wilkes football team, the Colonels certainly needed a shutout victory for the books. In a season that has been even more trying for King's College, the need for a good showing against the Colonels was perhaps even greater.

On a chilly, wet Saturday, Wilkes got what it needed, but King's is still seeking that elusive thrill of victory.

Quarterback Al Karaffa threw for 132 yards, tailback Alex Pearson rushed for two touchdowns, and the Colonels defense forced five interceptions in a 35-0 rout of rival King's College on Saturday afternoon at Betzler Fields. The win improves the Colonels to 3-5 overall, and gives Wilkes possession of the Mayor's Cup Trophy for the fifth straight season.

From the opening series of the game, the Wilkes defense set a tone that would propel the Colonels to a dominating performance in the clash for bragging rights among the neighboring schools. With the Colonels



The Beacon/Jenna Stephens  
Wilkes sophomore Corey Gilroy takes a 28-yard interception return for a touchdown in the Mayor's Cup on Saturday, September 28.

holding a 3-0 lead late in the first quarter, cornerback Corey Gilroy would step in front of a Jeff Searfass pass and run it back 28 yards for a touchdown. David Grega would follow up with two picks, with Darius Harrison and Augusto Lombana hauling in one interception each.

"I tried to get good position on the play, and just looked up and saw the ball coming to me," Gilroy said of his interception. "Our defense wanted to get out of the gate on a tear, and we certainly did that today."

The Wilkes defensive effort was so effective that it limited the Monarchs to only 7 total yards of offense for the game. Junior defensive end Tim Yeagly was named the most valuable player for Wilkes after collecting eight tackles and two sacks on the day. Grega added five tackles, while Kyle Follweiler picked up eight stops to go over the 100-tackle mark on the season.

Offensively, Karaffa completed 8 of 14 passes to lead the offense, including a 21-yard touchdown to Rocky D'Aconti. Gennaro Zangradi and Kyle Regner hauled in two and three passes respectively, while Pearson piled up 72 yards rushing on the day.

The Colonels will head to Doylestown this Saturday for a clash with the Aggies of Delaware Valley College. The Colonels will then wrap up their regular season with a home contest against Widener University on November 10.



The Beacon/Jenna Stephens  
Wilkes sophomore defensiveback Corey Gilroy (10) celebrates with junior Ryan Holmes (26) and senior Kyle Follweiler (42) after returning an interception for a touchdown in a 35-0 win over King's College in the Mayor's Cup.

### MAYOR'S CUP STATISTICS

| WILKES |               | KING'S |  |
|--------|---------------|--------|--|
| 133    | PASSING YARDS | -35    |  |
| 140    | RUSHING YARDS | 42     |  |
| 273    | TOTAL YARDS   | 7      |  |
| 12     | FIRST DOWNS   | 5      |  |

### Wilkes University Key Players

|                                               |                                              |                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (RB) Alex Pearson<br>23 carries, 72 yds, 2 TD | (WR) Rocky D'Aconti<br>1 rec, 21 yards, 1 TD | Mayor's Cup MVP<br><br>Junior Linebacker<br>Tim Yeagley<br><br>8 tackles, 2 sacks |
| (QB) Al Karaffa<br>8-14, 132 yards, 1 TD      | (DB) Corey Gilroy<br>1 INT, 1 TD             |                                                                                   |
|                                               |                                              |                                                                                   |

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## | Commentary |

# GAME OF THE WEEK

## *New England Patriots v. Indianapolis Colts*

### Good versus evil in the battle of the AFC

BY TIM SEIGFRIED

*Beacon Asst. Sports Editor*

**\*Note: This article was written prior to the week eight games: Indianapolis at Carolina, Washington at New England.**

What happens when you pit the two remaining undefeated teams in the NFL against one another? These are the same two teams that are ranked number 1 and number 2 in points per game and yards per game. This is coupled with the fact that one of the teams is the squeaky-clean reigning Super-Bowl champions, while the other has been one of the most dominant football teams in this century while simultaneously coming under attack under allegations of cheating.

Why, you have week nine in the NFL, of course!

This weekend, the football equivalent of the movie *Heat* takes place, as the New England Patriots (Robert DeNiro) bring their perfect record into Indianapolis to face Peyton Manning and the Colts (Al Pacino).

I'll give you all a moment to google that movie reference...ok, welcome back.

Last season, Peyton Manning shook off all the critics who said he wasn't a clutch performer when he led the Colts through the gauntlet of the AFC by defeating the Baltimore Ravens, the New England Patriots, and the NFC Champion Chicago Bears en route to their first Super Bowl since 1970, when they were still the Baltimore Colts.

Manning has followed up his Super Bowl MVP season with much success, leading the Colts to victories in all of their games so far, despite the fact that he isn't as dominant as he has been in the past.

Through six games, Manning is ranked 7th in the NFL in touchdowns (11), passing yards (1,578), and completions (138), while only having 3 interceptions with a quarterback rating of 103.5(4th in the NFL).

Despite the fact that his numbers aren't as solid compared to his previous years, Manning has still been able to lead the Colts to the top of the AFC South standings, and well on their way to another playoff berth, which is also due in part to the success of their running game, which has been solid throughout the season.

On the ground, the Colts are leading the NFL in rushing touchdowns with 10, and

are led by Joseph Addai, whose 98.4 yards per game is 3rd in the NFL, while his five touchdowns are ranked 2nd behind San Diego's LaDainian Tomlinson.

On the opposite side of the ball, the Colts have been decent, despite holding opponents to an average of 15.8 points per game. However, the statistics don't always tell the story, as four of their six opponents (New Orleans, Tampa Bay, Jacksonville, and Denver) are ranked in the bottom ten in the NFL in points per game, averaging just 17.5 points per game.

Whatever opinion you have of their defense, it will unquestionably put to the test against the New England Patriots, who are ranked number 1 in the NFL in total points (279), points per game (39.9), and passing yards per game (299.4).

The juggernaut that is the Patriots' offense is the result of the brilliant play of Tom Brady, whose 27 touchdowns, 303.6 yards per game, and rating of 137.9 are tops in the NFL, while also being ahead of the pace to break the single season touchdown record of 49, set by Peyton Manning in 2004.

In other words, Tom Brady is having a good season.

Brady, who is regarded as one of the best quarterbacks of the generation, has led the Patriots to three Super Bowl victories in 2001, 2003 and 2004, while picking up two Super Bowl MVPs, cementing him as one of the greatest clutch quarterbacks in recent memory.

This year, however, Brady is on pace to have one of the most dominant seasons in NFL history. If he continues at this current pace, Brady will end the season with 386 completions in 523 attempts with 4,857 yards, 62 touchdowns and five interceptions, giving him a quarterback rating of 137.81.

Despite the fact that they are just projected statistics and will more than likely not end up as an accurate depiction of Brady's season, it serves as a tool to measure just how good he has been this year.

One of the reasons for his success this season has been the addition of Randy Moss, which gives Brady a legitimate superstar receiver, something that the Patriots haven't had in their recent years, in which they put together a solid receiving core without one dominant receiver.

When the Patriots traded for Moss in the off-season, they added one more tool to their arsenal, and it has paid off big-time, as Moss is having one of the best years of his career, and is leading all wide-receivers in touchdowns (10) and receiving yards (732), despite having ten fewer receptions than Baltimore's Derrick Mason, who leads the NFL with 56.

With Moss getting most of the attention from opposing defenders, it leaves the door open for the role players of the team, such as wide receivers Wes Welker and Donte Stallworth, who have a combined 8 touchdowns on the season.

On the ground, however, the Patriots have had less success, ranking 11th with five rushing touchdowns and 7th with 133.4 yards per game, while leading the NFL in rushing attempts with 224.

Defensively, the Patriots are solid, having allowed only 17.1 points per game in seven games, against opponents who have averaged 26 points per game, including three teams that are in the top 10 in points per game (Dallas, Cleveland, Cincinnati), and two others (Miami, San Diego) that have averaged over 20 points per game, while holding the New York Jets (19.4 PPG) and the Buffalo Bills (14 PPG) to under their average points per game.

Despite that, the Patriots have come under fire after their week one win over the New York Jets, in which they were caught videotaping signals on the sidelines, resulting in several fines and the loss of draft picks in the 2008 draft.

The allegations of cheating haven't stopped the Patriots, who would go on to win their next six games by a combined score of 241-205, which brings us back to week 9, in which the nefarious Patriots are set to take on the likeable Indianapolis Colts.

And with that, the biggest game so far this season is almost at hand, as the unstoppable force takes on the immovable object, except, unlike in *Heat*, don't expect Peyton Manning and Tom Brady to share a cup of coffee before game time.

**The Pick: New England Patriots: 35  
Indianapolis Colts: 24**

## Double Take

*Steph examines the stats that truly matter...*

BY STEPHANIE GERCHMAN

*Beacon A&E Editor*

Picking a winner between the New England Patriots versus the Indianapolis Colts is a no brainer for me.

Because I'm quick on the draw with this one, some might assume that I am a fan of one of those teams or maybe my dad is. Neither is true.

But obviously, the Colts are going to win. The reasoning is simple and it all goes back to my childhood.

One year at Christmas, my mom's friend Lisa came over to exchange gifts. I was pretty excited because Lisa gave some really good gifts. But this year was different. Lisa got me an Indianapolis Colts sweatshirt. As a child I looked at that stupid blue sweatshirt with the silvery grey writing and wondered, "Why would she get me a Colts sweatshirt? I'm 7 years old, I don't like football. I like Power Rangers!" On top of the ugly grey lettering, the sweatshirt was a men's large. At the time, I was a children's size medium.

I think she was trying to get me to watch football or like the Colts or something, but eventually I gave in. I wore the massive sweatshirt that came down past my knees. It did keep me warm and I wore it every winter until it almost fit. That sweatshirt was stained and torn apart on the inside. The stitching around the letters was starting to pull and the ends of the sleeves were all tattered. I found out one winter that my mom had finally thrown it away.

So, making a decision between the Patriots and the Colts was easy. I chose the Colts in loving memory of my ugly, stained, torn and tattered, too large, blue and grey sweatshirt that kept me warm for years.

# Athlete of the Week

## Andy Curry

BY CARLTON HOLMES

Beacon Sports Editor

An examination of the offensive chart that outlines, among other things, who's scoring goals for the men's soccer team, shows that that 12 different players have contributed in the points department.

That's because, this year, emphasis has been placed on team growth rather than focusing on a couple of key players to carry the load for the Colonels.

After starting the season 0-3, all the Colonels had to rely on was each other as pesky doubters believed the Colonels were due for an unsuccessful season this year.

Throughout the team's early struggles, senior Andy Curry remained grounded and a solid leader for the Colonels. So much so that despite all the negative speculation about the team, this season the Colonels are making their 12th trip to the postseason out in the past 17 years.

"I feel like the team chemistry this year is through the roof," said Curry. "Everybody is best friends on and off the field and it's just a great experience to be part of."

"Last year was supposed to be our year and this year has turned out to be one of the most exciting years we've had."

On Halloween of 2006, the Colonels were spooked out of the playoffs by a 4-0 first-round home loss to DeSales University finishing with a 12-6-1 record.

This year the Colonels hold a similar record of 10-6-1 (prior to Sunday's game against Arcadia University) and will start the playoffs tomorrow at home against FDU-Florham. The Colonels beat FDU on October 6, two goals to nothing at home.

Curry has helped the Colonels to their recent four-game winning streak in an effort to build team's intensity going into the playoffs. He leads the team in the goal department with six on the season on 37 attempts while topping the Colonels with 18 points.

Curry is also tied in leading the team in the assists with teammate Greg Miller.

Sophomore Bret Osswald believes Curry epitomizes an effective yet humble leader who focuses on the well being of his teammates.

"He is a strong leader on the field and he's always giving spiritual talks before the game," said Osswald.

"Anytime there's a play, he's there to tell the player good job even if he does something wrong. He's got the brains, the overall athleticism He's a good player."



The Beacon/Gino Troiani



Photo courtesy of Marketing Comm.

Members of the Wilkes University football team celebrate on Saturday after winning the annual Mayor's Cup against King's College. The win marks the fifth straight win over the Monarchs in the Mayor's Cup.

Pictured, from left to right: Jordan Purdy, Dave Grega, Rocky D'Aconti, Augusto Lombana, Kyle Regnar, Erik VanGilst and Chris Applegate

## RECAPS

### Volleyball

The Wilkes University volleyball team concluded its 2007 campaign by posting a 16-30, 30-24, 30-9, 33-31 win over Kean University in a non-conference match on Saturday afternoon. The Lady Colonels cap their season with an overall record of 12-17, while the Cougars saw their overall record slip to 9-19.

### Men's Soccer

Greg Miller scored a goal and had two assists as the Wilkes University men's soccer team earned a berth in the upcoming Freedom Conference playoffs with a 3-0 win at Manhattanville College on Thursday afternoon.

### Women's Soccer

Manhattanville College scored a goal early in the second half and made it stand up as the Valiants notched a 1-0 win over Wilkes University in a key Freedom Conference women's soccer match on Wednesday, October 24.

### Field Hockey

Wilkes University took a major step towards claiming a Freedom Conference playoff berth by scoring a 4-2 win over DeSales University on Thursday afternoon at Artillery Park.

## MAYOR'S CUP NUMBERS

# 7

Total number of offensive yards by King's College. The Colonels posted 59 tackles on Saturday to hold their rivals to the lowest number of offensive yards in Mayor's cup history

# -35

Number of rushing yards totaled by all five running backs for the Monarchs. The team gained 80 yards on the ground but lost 115 yards due to six sacks by the Colonels.

# 5

Number of interceptions by the Colonels. Senior David Grega picked off the Monarchs twice while Darius Harrison, Augusto Lombana and Corey Gilroy each had one apiece.

# 4

Total number of passing completions in 23 attempts by four King's College quarterbacks.



The Beacon/Allison Roth

## No Time to Relax

*Lady Colonels kick their way to eighth consecutive playoff appearance.*

BY CARLTON HOLMES

Beacon Sports Editor

In the beginning of the season, the fate of the Lady Colonels shot at a playoff berth was up in the air like a frisbie and the team had no clue where it was headed.

Players were quitting unexpectedly, the team cohesiveness was at stake and trying to stay above .500 was a true struggle for the team.

After stumbling early on the field with a 3-6 record overall, the Lady Colonels will be playing the first round of the Freedom Conference playoffs today for the eighth consecutive season.

"More or less we played a really tough pre-conference schedule," said senior Bethany Head. "By

playing that schedule and losing those games, we have become closer as a team because we've had to get through those hard times. I think overall, as a team, it's made us stronger."

The Lady Colonels clinched this year's playoff berth on October 8 at home against King's College. The team entered the game against the Lady Monarchs having won five straight and were flawless in the Freedom Conference with a 4-0 record.

Sophomore Julissa Reed struck first for the Lady Colonels in the opening half on a goal from teammate Alison Weidman.

Bethany Head scored the final goal of the game in the second half.

The Lady Colonels held King's to zero goals on three attempts all in the second half.

That win would be the eighth by shutout for the Lady Colonels as they solidified a playoff berth with a win over cross-town rival.

On Sunday, the Lady Colonels suffered a 2-1 double overtime home loss to Arcadia University. The game was initially scheduled for Saturday afternoon but was postponed due to heavy rain.

By losing to Arcadia, the Colonels will be entering the playoffs as the third seed and will be on the road throughout the postseason. Had the Colonels won on Sunday, they would be representing the second seed in the playoffs that

now belongs to Arcadia.

Both the Lady Colonels and Arcadia will square off today in Philadelphia. First seeded Manhattanville University will host Delaware Valley for the first round.

The winner of both contests will be scheduled to play on Saturday, November 3.

If Manhattanville wins, the Lady Colonels will remain on the road throughout the playoffs pending a win today. If Manhattanville loses today, then the Lady Colonels will have home field advantage against Delaware Valley on Saturday.

The Lady Colonels have played both teams. The Lady Colonels posted a 2-1 win over DelVal on October 13 while losing to Man-

hattanville 11 days later. That would be the Lady Colonels first conference loss of the season.

Head coach John Sumoski has led the Lady Colonels to a championship win over Drew in 2005 and has enough returning players to have "dejavu" two seasons later.

"We have nine players that won the conference in 2005 that played in that game," said Sumoski.

"We just need someone to make big plays just like any other sport.

The team that comes out and makes big plays is going to win the game and that's what we're looking for."