

# The BEACON

December 8, 2003 Volume 56 Issue 11

www.wilkesbeacon.com

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

## CS Team Wins Regional Programming Competition

BY JAMIE BABBITT  
*Beacon Correspondant*

Bright minds and teamwork garnered three Wilkes computer science students a first place win in a competition against twenty teams in the mid-Atlantic region last month.

The Association for Computing Machinery MidAtlantic Regional Programming Contest was held in the Stark Learning Center computer lab at Wilkes University. Teams from colleges such as Swarthmore College, Bryn Mawr College, Villanova University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Scranton, and Albright College came to compete.

Wilkes University's team, called Wilkes Blue, included two freshmen, Richard Kern and John Mishanski, and one junior, Kristopher Smith. The team members volunteered to be a part of the contest. Dr. Anthony Kapolka, Associate Professor of Computer Science, coached the Wilkes Blue team.

Matthew Zukoski, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, was the Site Director and was in charge of lining up the judge, finding the systems administrator (served by Cody Raspen), working with the coaches, and awarding the certificate and trophy to the winning team.

According to Zukoski, the competition

was a race to see who could get a set of problems solved first. "It was four hours long and whoever could solve the most in that amount of time was the winner," said Zukoski. The Wilkes Blue team was the fastest, completing four of the problems correctly.

Wilkes Blue did not have to prepare much for the competition. "In general, there are types of questions that usually appear, and I made them aware of those question types," said Kapolka.

Zukoski described the problems as "computer science puzzles." The competitors were to write programs to improve such processes as judging contests reliably, searching papers for words that are used too often, helping Florida determine an election winner, and preparing itineraries for trips.

"It was really good performance. They competed against teams that had...masters, and PhD students," said Zukoski, "It took a lot for them, and they are already looking forward to next year."

The first place win ranked the team tenth out of 161 schools in the region.



Courtesy of Christine Tondrick  
Members of Wilkes Blue pose with the trophy they received after being ranked tenth out of 161 schools in the region.

The team needed to be in the top three to move on to the world competition, but Kapolka believes they can do it next year.

Kapolka concluded, "I think this has given them real motivation to prepare for next year. With some work, I think they could easily place in the top three next year."

## Fire Cause Determined



The Beacon/Kristin Hake

According to Fire Inspector, Captain Kapat, the fire that engulfed 176-178 West River St. on Friday, October 24, 2003 that left several Wilkes students homeless was caused by cigarette ashes that were discarded too close to a first floor bed.

## Commuter Outraged Over Cafeteria Treatment

BY GABE LeDONNE  
*Beacon Managing Editor*

Wilkes University's Sodexo Food Service website boldly claims, "Even if you don't live on-campus, the campus should feel like your home when you are here. Our dining program is designed to help you through your busy day."

Some commuters would disagree with the latter part of this statement.

A commuter who brought a bagged lunch into the Henry Student Center on Thursday, December 4, was "bagged" herself--she was asked to leave the third floor "Henry's Food Court."

Sabrina Naples, a junior Wilkes commuter, wrote in a letter to *The Beacon*, that on December 4, she "went up to the Wilkes cafeteria and brought my lunch as I always do, and have been for the past

many months."

However, as Naples was waiting for her friends to arrive, "a man approached me and asked me if I had swiped my card or paid 5 dollars to get in."

When Naples responded that she hadn't because she brought her lunch, "he told me that I had to leave." When Naples refused, a public safety officer was called in. When that officer arrived, "I still refused," Naples ex-

**Commuter continued to page 4**

### Index:

News.....	1-5
Editorial.....	6-8
Features.....	9-11
Arts & Entertainment.....	12-15
Sports.....	16-20
Calendar.....	20



## SG Happenings

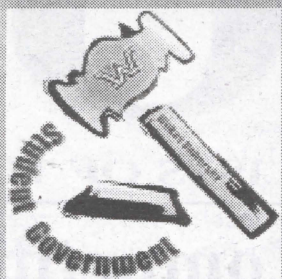
Notes from Student Government December 3, 2003

Student Government held it's last meeting of the semester. They discussed the following issues.

SG heard the second reading of the Cycling Club. They voted accept it as a SG club.

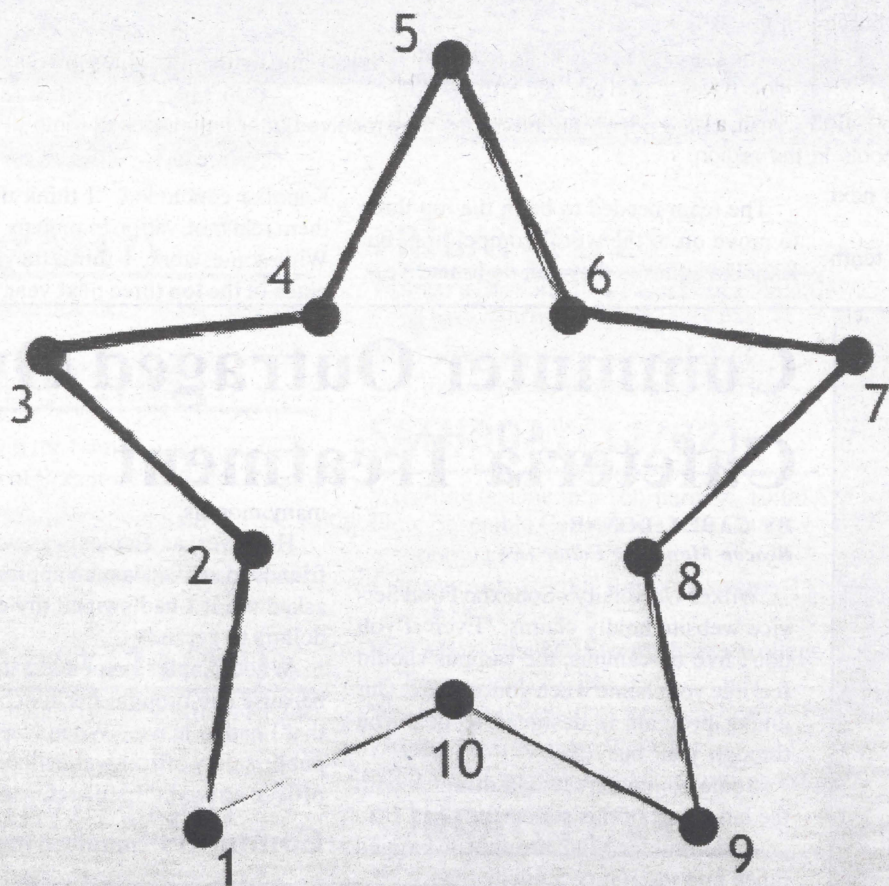
SG heard the proposal from MT software, which provides on-line survey program. The proposal included the development and hosting of a "Survey Solution" for Wilkes University according to the university's specifications. It also listed unlimited concurrent surveys and participants, unlimited customer support, and training of users on the operation of the system. The proposed system costs \$1,500 for the first year of service and \$600 for each additional year.

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



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Dr. Steven Thomas directs Rachel A. Dyer, Meghann Babo, Brian Stabinsky, Dan Van Why, Dara Rees, Netta Clemens, and the remaining members of the Chamber Singers choral group at their fall concert on Sunday, December 7, 2003 at Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church in Wilkes-Barre.



Finding cash for college is child's play.

Register now and search thousands of scholarships worth over \$3 billion

[www.wilkesbeacon.com/scholarships](http://www.wilkesbeacon.com/scholarships)

**SUBSCRIBE  
TO OUR  
EMAIL EDITION**



**NOW MORE USEFUL  
THAN MILK CRATES!**

[www.wilkesbeacon.com](http://www.wilkesbeacon.com)



# News Briefs

Courtesy of the Associated Press

## Sci Fi Channel-backed researcher sues NASA over UFO files

A researcher backed by cable television's Sci Fi Channel plans to sue NASA for records she contends the agency has of a UFO that reportedly crash landed and was recovered by government workers in southwestern Pennsylvania in 1965.

Tuesday's filing will mark the 38th anniversary of the Kecksburg UFO incident, which occurred Dec. 9, 1965, in the unincorporated hamlet about 30 miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

The cable network announced in June that it was backing the effort to research the Kecksburg incident in promoting a documentary, "Out of the Blue," which examined various UFO reports.

The lawsuit contends NASA has thwarted Kean's efforts to retrieve official files on the incident by sending her irrelevant information or nothing in response to Freedom of Information Act requests.

## Americans keep coming to Pearl Harbor, 62 years after tragedy

On Dec. 7, 1941, Japanese forces attacked American and British territories and possessions in the Pacific, including the home base of the U.S. Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor.

Hundreds are expected to gather Sunday at the USS Arizona National Memorial to mark the 62nd anniversary of the surprise attack that launched the United States into World War II.

About 1.4 million people visit each year—some paying homage by tossing flowers into the waters from the memorial above the sunken USS Arizona.

## Pennsylvania priest found guilty of assault, endangerment for pulling gun on church official

A Serbian Orthodox priest accused of pulling a gun on the council president of the church where he had presided for 15 years has been convicted of assault and reckless endangerment.

However, a jury found the Rev. Filip Velisavljevic innocent of charges of terroristic threats and unlawful restraint stemming from a fight that both men testified was over who would control church business.

Velisavljevic, who was relieved of his pastoral duties after the Dec. 9, 2002, argument at the Church of the Holy Resurrection of Christ in Lebanon, showed no emotion as the verdict was read Tuesday. He faces six months to two years in jail on each of the two charges; sentencing was set for Feb. 2.

Velisavljevic also faces a civil lawsuit in which the council alleges he took at least \$5,800 in religious items from the church, and that he defrauded the church of about \$10,000. Some of the items have been returned to the church, but Velisavljevic has denied taking others.

## Moon or Mars? Space visionaries hopeful of bold new space policy

After decades of watching astronauts circle Earth, space visionaries finally have reason for optimism: NASA and other agencies are working with the White House on a bold, new course of exploration.

Whether the destination is the moon or Mars—or whether any plan actually makes liftoff—remains to be seen. For space buffs, just to get a defined mission would be cause for hope.

Neither the White House nor NASA will discuss specifics. Nor will they answer the hopes of pro-space optimists who have been buzzing for weeks over whether President Bush may use the 100th anniversary of the Wright brothers' flight on Dec. 17 as the time for a space announcement.

They will only say the interagency effort began in July. The moon is just three days away while Mars is at least six months away, and the lunar surface therefore could be a safe place to shake out Martian equipment. Observatories also could be built on the moon, and mining camps could be set up to gather helium-3 for conversion into fuel for use back on Earth.

At the same time, NASA should send robots to Mars to gather rocks and dirt, and return the samples to Earth for study, Gibson contends.

Rep. Bart Gordon, D-Tenn., a senior member of the House Science Committee, also favors a human return to the moon and a Dec. 17 pronouncement. He said he made his views known last month to Vice President Dick Cheney, who quietly is heading up a task force on the future of spaceflight. The congressman said Cheney didn't show the administration's hand.

# Mass Graves Evidence of Baath Ritual 1991 Killings

Courtesy of the Associated Press

The killers kept bankers' hours.

They showed up for work at the barley field at 9 a.m., trailed by backhoes and three buses filled with blindfolded men, women and children as young as 1.

Every day, witnesses say, the routine was the same: The backhoes dug a trench. Fifty people were led to the edge of the hole and shot, one by one, in the head. The backhoes covered them with dirt, then dug another hole for the next group.

At 5 p.m., the killers—officials of Saddam Hussein's Baath Party—went home to rest up for another day of slaughter.

In this wind-swept field in the central town of Mahaweel, witnesses say, this went on without a break for 35 days in March and April of 1991, during a crackdown on a Shiite Muslim uprising that followed the first Gulf War.

"I watched this with my own eyes," said Sayed Abbas Muhsen, 35, whose family farm was appropriated by Saddam's government for use as a killing field. "But we couldn't tell anyone. We didn't dare."

The mass grave at Mahaweel, with more than 3,100 sets of remains, is the largest of some 270 such sites across Iraq. They hold upward of 300,000 bodies; some Iraqi political parties estimate there are more than 1 million.

"It's as easy to find mass graves in Iraq as it once was to find oil," said Adnan Jabbar al-Saadi, a lawyer with Iraq's new Human Rights Ministry.

In the days following Saddam's fall on April 9, family members rushed to grave sites, digging for ID cards and clothing that confirmed their worst fears: The bones in the ground belonged to a son, a wife, a grandfather.

The U.S.-led occupation authority desperately tried to halt the digging, telling people that if they waited, forensic teams would unearth the remains and use the evidence to punish those responsible.

Now, an Associated Press investigation has discovered, forensic teams will begin digging in January to preserve the first physical evidence at four grave sites, their desert locations kept secret to prevent relatives from disturbing them first.

In a tiny back room of the deposed Iraqi president's sprawling brick-and-marble Republican Palace in Baghdad, American and British experts are using the latest technology to reach out to the dead.

They work from a growing database of 270 suspected grave sites, matching witness accounts with geological evidence, preparing for field trips by four-wheel-drive vehicle and helicopter to confirm their high-tech data with the most low-tech of methods: a shovel.

"This is not a case of 'X marks the spot,'" said archaeologist Barrie Simpson. "It's not like driving down Route 66 with signposts that say, 'Stop here.'"

Gypsum is one key tool. The Iraqi desert has a hard crust a foot below the surface,

which is broken when a hole is dug. Minerals then mix to form gypsum, a kind of salt whose glistening white crystals are visible decades later from a satellite or from the ground.

Imagery in six spectral bands comes from a commercial satellite in orbit since 1983, which can take images of any spot on Earth every 16 days. The classified computers—which the experts switch off before a reporter enters the room—hold two decades of imagery.

If witnesses report a mass grave was dug in a certain desert location, say, in March 1991, Burch can analyze data from images taken in February 1991 and June 1991, and determine whether a pit was dug in that area during that time period.

"We don't care what it looks like," said geoscientist Bruce Gerrick. "When our pixels come back and say it's gypsum, that's it."

After seven months of work, the team has confirmed 41 mass graves across the length and breadth of Iraq, a country the size of France some near major cities, and others miles from the nearest road.

They have a long way to go.

Excavating a grave site under international standards is painstaking work. To pull 100 sets of remains from the ground, it usually takes six to eight weeks.

Nobody expects scientists to dig up and identify 300,000 sets of remains. So as the scientists analyze the desert, experts are trying to identify which graves could help prosecutors build a case against those responsible for their creation.

"We're trying to make sure that there is at least one grave, and hopefully two or three, for each major period of atrocity," said Sandra Hodgkinson, director of the occupation authority's human rights office. That would mean eight to 24 mass graves selected for full exhumation.

Of the 41 mass grave sites confirmed by the coalition team, only four meet the criteria for full exhumation so far, several members of the scientific team told AP. All are in the remote desert, none closer than 10 miles from the nearest road.

Forensic teams were supposed to have been in place months ago, but several canceled or delayed their trips out of fear for their safety. Hodgkinson said several are ready to begin work in late January.

The locations of the first four graves selected remain classified. Experts fear that if people know where they are, family members or even the killers might try to dig them up.

Meanwhile, Iraqis will unearth graves with an eye toward identification. Entifadh Qanbar, spokesman for the Iraqi National Congress, a major political party, said that will help Iraqis move on from three decades of brutal dictatorship at least as important as seeing justice served.

"Those people who lost family members need to know where their sons and fathers are, and to rebury them with dignity," he said. "That will bring a lot of peace and comfort to the victims' families and start a process of reconciliation."



## Diabetes Epidemic Points to American Lifestyle Shift

### ADA notes young people in category of fastest growth

BY ALICIA VIESELMAYER  
Beacon Correspondant

Last month recognized national diabetes awareness in the country. Media widely reported that the number of Americans afflicted with the disease is growing, particularly among young people.

Imagine spending your day planning out what you can and cannot eat, planning your daily exercise and then basing all that on what a little box tells you your blood sugar level is. Millions of Americans with diabetes do this everyday.

As of the year 2000, the American Diabetic Association (ADA) had concluded that there were 151,000 people younger than the age of 20 who had diabetes, and just last week *Time Magazine* reported in its cover story that those numbers have increased. In fact, according to the most recent studies, one million Americans have been diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes and 17 million have Type 2.

According to the ADA, diabetes is a disease that has no cure. For the person with diabetes, the body does not produce enough or does not properly use insulin. Simply put: if a person has diabetes, his or her body does not properly control the amount of sugar in the blood. Insulin is a hormone that is used to convert sugars, starches and other foods into the energy used to go through everyday life. There are two types of diabetes: Type 1-when the body does not produce insulin, and Type 2-when the body does not

properly use insulin. Both types of diabetes are generally not hard to manage if patients maintain awareness and responsibility. Many health experts would agree that there are two definite ways to maintain diabetes: exercise and nutrition.

Keith Klahold, Wilkes University's Fitness Facilities coordinator and strength coach, said, "To maintain and prevent diabetes there are two things that you can do; First, exercise, and second watch what you eat by staying away from the over-processed and high sugar foods."

According to Klahold, working out will actually help those who have diabetes to use less of the medications that they have to maintain their disease, like insulin. "By exercising regularly one actually will help their body maintain its own insulin level, and you are training your body to metabolize sugars a lot easier so that you will not have to rely on medications as much," said Klahold. Allowing your body to naturally maintain its own insulin levels is suggested by many health professionals because of the damage that diabetes can do to your body.

Diane O'Brien, Coordinator of Health Services, said, "Diabetes, if not taken care of, and the longer you have it, wears and tears pretty much every system in the body."

According to the ADA, diabetes will undoubtedly take its toll on the body if not taken care of properly. Diabetes can effect every system in the body. Heart disease is the leading cause of diabetes-related deaths. Adults

who have diabetes have heart disease death rates about two to four times higher than adults without diabetes. Those who have diabetes are also prone to have high blood pressure, kidney disease, nervous system disease, amputations of the limbs, dental disease, complications of pregnancy, and blindness. In young people, often diabetes can lead to depression, immunity problems and death, particularly, if not diagnosed in time.

O'Brien also warned about the signs of diabetes that people should get themselves tested. The hallmark signs are, excessive urination and never being able to satisfy your thirst or hunger. According to O'Brien it is best to get yourself tested yearly if diabetes runs in your immediate family, but that these warning signs are also helpful hints to get tested.

Stress can also be a factor in people who have diabetes. When under stress the body acts as if it is under attack and makes extra energy available to cells. The ADA states that in people with diabetes the natural body response to stress does not work well, as insulin is not always able to let the extra energy into the cells.

According to O'Brien it is quite common for people to look to food when they are stressed out. "So many people look at food as a comfort item. They have their comfort foods that they turn to when they get overly stressed," said O'Brien. O'Brien also noted that when people eat for stress relief or for comfort, they tend to eat excess amounts of

food and also eat the processed and high carbohydrate foods, such as chips, breads and foods high in sugar, which can lead to obesity.

As American waistlines continue to expand, Type 2 diabetes is becoming overwhelming problem. According to the ADA, nearly 90 percent of all people newly diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes are overweight, and most Americans (90 -95 percent) who are diagnosed with diabetes have Type 2 diabetes, which is nearly 17 million people.

"Diabetes is being diagnosed younger and younger because of the excessive overweight problem in this country," O'Brien said. O'Brien also argued that college is where we develop the eating styles that stay with us our whole lives. "College students eat nothing but a carbohydrate packed diet with noodles, mashed potatoes, chips, and breads. This sends your insulin levels on a rollercoaster," said O'Brien. The foods that are high in carbohydrates trigger the pancreas to excrete high amounts of insulin, which in a couple hours will make you hungry again, hence the rollercoaster.

Klahold also noted that there is an ever-increasing risk for younger people to encounter this disease, so both high school students and college students should stay aware of the risk of diabetes and do what is possible to protect themselves against the disease.

"There is no cure for diabetes, but you can live a healthy life if you take care of it," said Klahold.

### Commuter continued from page 1

plained.

Mark Allen, Dean of Students, responded to the conflict, concurring with the manager of Sodexo that Naples had to leave the premises unless she paid for the "all you care to eat" food court.

"I was crying, I was so embarrassed....By the time he (Dean Allen) left I was too angry to even speak," Naples said.

Naples isn't happy with the university for what happened to her, and said, "I am outraged that Wilkes refuses to consider that...commuters want to sit with their friends just like everyone else. I feel like I am being forced to buy a meal plan." Naples pointed out, asking, "Do people who bring lunches have to suffer because they didn't have the foresight to design the cafeteria better? Why are they trying to segregate the commuters from the dormers?"

Naples isn't the only commuter feeling segregated by the current dining system. According to Commuter Council President, Lindsey Wotanis, several commuters have expressed their frustrations with the ban.

"It's been a topic of discussion several times during this semester at club meetings. When I brought the issue to Student Affairs, they explained to me that the plans were designed to benefit primarily resident students, and so the commuters are sacrificed in the process," said Wotanis.

As Wotanis explained, the general percep-

tion of university administrators is that most commuters do not frequent the dining hall on a regular basis.

Allen pointed out, "Although students have a right to discuss the circumstances surrounding their involvement in policy problems, I do not share that right." He added, "I do not feel comfortable addressing a specific incident involving individual students."

However, Allen did offer to comment on the issue in general, saying, "In years past the dining hall was open to all who cared to eat, study, congregate, etc. When searching for a new food service provider a committee consisting of students and administrators used feedback through formal surveys and informal discussions with students. One of the largest concerns...was the shortcomings of the tray load system and the desire for an all you care to eat plan. As we researched food service alternatives we took this feedback to heart and sought an all you care to eat plan."

However, as Allen explained, with an all you care to eat plan, "It would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to have an open dining hall concept and insure that people not participating in the plan would not come in and eat."

Allen said that in the previous dining hall, Pickering Hall, the situation was the same; it prohibited anyone in the hall without first paying. He added that that the University does offer meal plan alternatives to everyone on campus, and the dining hall has a "door

price."

However, Wotanis pointed out that meal plan cards for commuters were not readily available until near mid-semester-making it illogical for many commuters to purchase.

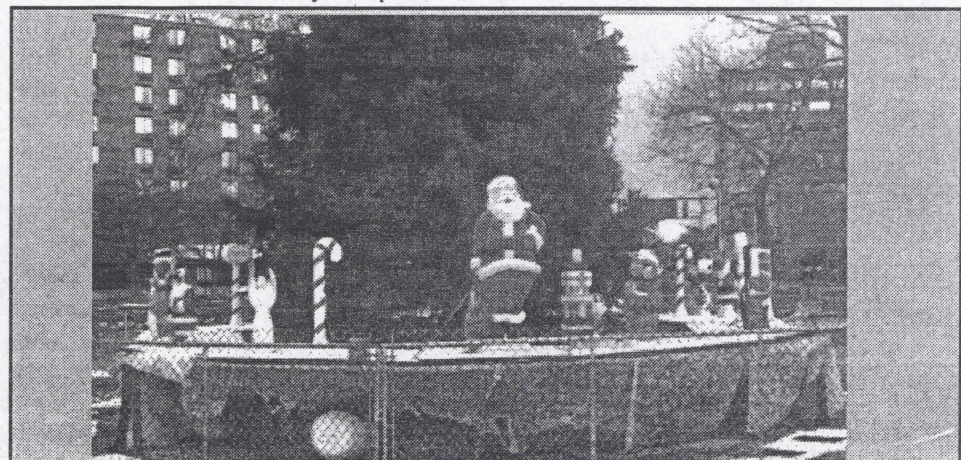
Wotanis added that this issue is part of a larger concern of commuters: the apparent lack of attention to commuter concerns when making key campus decisions. She pointed out another example of this is the Gold Parking program, which frequently displaces commuters from their main parking spaces--those within the Henry Student Center lot.

"It's hard enough to feel like a part of the community when you are not on campus all of the time. The issue is only compounded

by the fact that this meal system does not allow commuters without meal plans to socialize during the lunch hour--one of the few times that we are on campus," Wotanis commented.

While Allen maintains his position on the issue, he does empathize with Naples. "Is it unfortunate that not everyone can congregate together during meal times? Yes. However, it appears to be a compromise that had to be met to provide the type of food service that students were requesting," he said.

*The Beacon* attempted to contact Michael Raub, Manager of Sodexo; however, as of this printing, he was unavailable for comment.



The Beacon/Dena Rickard  
The Christmas Tree display on Public Square has been a tradition of Wilkes-Barre city for many years, that welcomes in the Christmas holiday.



## Farley Library Commemorates John F. Kennedy

BY JOSEPH DeANGELIS  
Beacon Layout Artist

It's hidden at the back of the second floor of the Farley Library, yet this collection of books deals with a topic that hits close to home for many

Americans, particularly those of the Baby Boomer generation.

Staff members at the Eugene S. Farley Library have put together a collection of books in memory of the life and assassination of former President John Fitzgerald Kennedy. The display was created in time for the anniversary of the catastrophic event that took place on November 23 forty years ago.

Heidi Selecky, Co-director/Acquisitions Librarian, faculty members of the History Department and other librarians collaborated on the project. The display is designed to

celebrate Kennedy's presidency and respectfully acknowledge the loss the country endured upon his assassination.

"We just collected together some of the Kennedy books that we have on the history and the biography of John Kennedy, and put them on display here to commemorate and note the events," said Brian Sacolic, Co-director of Farley Library. Books on display range from biographies, books on the murder, the Warren Commission Report, and books that deal with the conspiracy theories surrounding who killed the former President, a topic that is still a mystery to many Americans.

"We...think people might be interested in reading about the day," Sacolic said adding that the best way to find out what happened is to read some of the books and come up

with a conclusion.

Many still believe that the government is hiding valuable information about the assassination from the public. Others also believe that Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assailant, didn't act alone or had no part of it at all. "My personal standpoint is that Lee Harvey Oswald didn't do it alone. I think he had an accomplice," Selecky said. She also said that the public will probably never know the truth because Oswald was murdered by Jack Ruby shortly after his arrest.

Ever since that famous shot, how the American people view the presidency has changed. The Kennedy assassination remains a defining moment for a generation. Sacolic compared it to the September 11 attacks of this generation

"Who knows what he could have accom-

plished if he lived?" Selecky said, recalling when she first heard the news of the assassination at age 14. "He certainly brought a lot of glamour to the White House." For many, Kennedy was not only the youngest but the most influential president of our time.

The Farley Library often sets up displays aimed at recognizing certain events. Past displays include Black and Women's History Month and National Poetry Month. This is the first time the library has set up a display for the Kennedy assassination.

"We try to pay attention to all significant events that happened," Selecky said. "We try to let the students know that we have materials, books and other new materials on a certain event."

## Hepatitis A Outbreak Causes Regional Concern

BY KRISTIN DERLUNAS  
Beacon Correspondant

The smell of fresh cut peppers. The sizzle of fajitas. The fear of contracting a disease. These may not describe a typical night out, but as of late, the concern about hepatitis is growing, and has recently been associated with something as simple as ordering your favorite dish with green onions.

According to a November 15 article in the *New York Times*, over 500 people, spanning states such as Pennsylvania, West Virginia, South Carolina, and Florida recently contracted hepatitis A. There have been several deaths and thousands more were forced to obtain inoculations against the largest outbreak of hepatitis on record. The source of the virus is still unknown, but is linked to a Chi Chi's Mexican chain restaurant in Beaver County, PA, and health officials speculate the culprit may have been the green onions used in several dishes. Because green onions are notoriously hard to clean completely, they run higher risk of harboring infectious bacteria.

What is hepatitis A and how does it compare to hepatitis B and C?

According to Gail Holby, BSN at Wilkes University's Health Services, the hepatitis A strain is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis A virus. It is spread orally by bacteria if stool contains the hepatitis A virus. If this gets into water or food supplies, the virus will be spread.

Holby said, "If someone were to drink water or eat food that was contaminated with the hepatitis A virus, that person can be infected with the virus. But the key to avoiding hepatitis A is good hygiene--a lot of common sense. Good clean personal habits will help."

Washing hands, according to Tom Carmody, who works for the Wilkes-Barre Department of Health for Environmental Health Services, is a key to preventing the spread of germs, bacteria, or viruses. He said, "It doesn't matter if the water is hot or cold, just as long as there is friction that can get rid of the bacteria."

According to Holby, in most cases, hepatitis A isn't treated with medication and goes

away on its own. It is not a life-term disease; the virus will last around two weeks, and will only come back if the person is re-exposed to the virus. Only in severe cases, will liver damage occur. Most common symptoms for hepatitis A include flu-like symptoms such as headache, sore muscles, and fever.

Like hepatitis A, hepatitis B and C are blood related conditions. According to the website, webmd.com, hepatitis B spreads when infected blood is transmitted via other bodily fluids, for example, semen, and saliva. A person with hepatitis B can show no symptoms after six months, but can be a carrier, which means that the person infected can still transmit the disease. Hepatitis B can lead to cirrhosis, or hardening of the liver.

Hepatitis C, according to webmd.com, is the most common blood borne infection in the U.S. This disease will be considered chronic if the liver is still inflamed after six months.

Patty McNulty, Assistant Director of Personal Health Services for the Wilkes-Barre Department of Health says, "People think, 'Oh! It's only Hepatitis C. My liver is shot, so what?' But it is serious. It's growing so that it is at an epidemic proportion. In our area, it is high because there is a high I.V. drug use."

McNulty also added that there is no cure for Hepatitis C, but there is treatment for the symptoms, which is like a chemotherapeutic agent. This treatment is very expensive and the person receiving the treatment must be clean from illegal drugs for a year with documentation that proves so, or the doctor will refuse treatment because the medication can cause further complications.

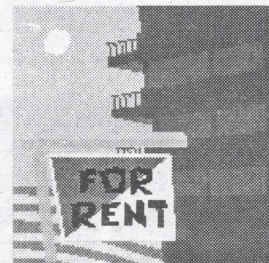
One of the biggest ways that hepatitis C differs from hepatitis A and B is that hepatitis C can show no outward signs. Hepatitis C can lie dormant which means that the exact source of the virus cannot be detected. "If you have hepatitis B, you can be exhausted, have a sore throat, have loss of appetite, or have jaundice, which can turn the skin and eyes yellow. With C, there is no jaundice. People can feel tired, or lose appetite, but will not show any other signs, until they get tested," said McNulty.

Even though there was such a large outbreak of hepatitis A, hepatitis C is not only more deadly, but is more prevalent. According to the statistics from the Wilkes-Barre Department of Health, in 2002, two people contracted hepatitis A, nine obtained acute hepatitis B and three people contracted chronic hepatitis B, which means the person will be a carrier of the disease. Also, in 2002, 124 people contracted past or present hepatitis C, which means the exact moment of infection, is unknown.

So far since September 2003, according to the statistics from the Wilkes-Barre Department of Health, three people contracted hepatitis A, two contracted acute hepatitis B, 11 contracted chronic hepatitis, and 111 contracted past or present hepatitis C.

"Education programs, testing sites, and counseling programs are the things that are needed right now" said McNulty, in order to understand hepatitis.

### STUDENTS WELCOME



### Sherman Hills Apartments

[www.shermanhillsapartments.com](http://www.shermanhillsapartments.com)

*The Best Looking Affordable Apartments In Wilkes-Barre*

*Now accepting applications for 1 & 2 bedroom apartments*

**Centrally Located**  
**Public transportation**  
**Carpeting**  
**Air Conditioning**  
**On Site Social Service Coordinator**

**Laundry Facilities**  
**24-Hour Maintenance Service**  
**Frost Free Refrigerator**  
**Garbage Disposal**  
**Stove**

300 Parkview Circle  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18702  
Monday - Friday 8A.M. to 5P.M.

**CHECK US OUT TODAY !!!**  
**570-823-5124**  
**EHO**





# Find Time and Energy to Celebrate People During the Holiday's

Ah yes, Christmas time...spending time with the family and loved ones, chestnuts roasting on an open fire, and everyone in just a delightful mood.

Yeah, right. This is also the same season that opens up on the Friday after Thanksgiving with shopping fanatics jostling through crowds, willing to pummel anyone who takes the last, newest, and coolest JAKKS WWE figure. It is also the same season that has brought us the domestic disasters of the Furby and Tickle-Me-Elmo.

The media tell us that "Christmas is for giving." Of course. They want your money. You don't have to be a brain surgeon to figure that one out. But every year, in a selfish (yes, selfish) effort, we try to buy that present that the media tell us every child, spouse or parent needs. If we get it for them, then hey, we'll just be totally in the loop and with it, don't you know? But if we don't, well, our efforts to be accepted as the ideal gift giver are ultimately at stake. So what, right? Just this once during this year, you'll show everyone how good a person you are by digging

deep and giving...giving to the multimillion dollar tycoons who have successfully rooked you into this frame of mind.

Commercialism has taken a genuine, sacred, and heartwarming holiday and converted it into one giant tent sale. Open up an email or just a

random website and you are bombarded with pop up ads that try to suck you in. Or turn on your TV and there is Fran Drescher speaking in hip hop terms to sell some Old Navy apparel. Come on, folks. We all know we don't have the money, so why do we put ourselves through the financial strain and emotional stress?

After all, once the Tickle-Me-Elmo and Furby have been thrown in the closet or lost under the bed, or the cubic zirconium necklace is buried in the bottom of the jewelry box, what is there?

Well, what we have left are the memories of that special day in December, that the special person in your life presented you with that little or big something that just made your heart melt or jump for joy. And so what, you spent all that money...but what will last are memories of either when you were little or married or what have you, the smile on the other person's face.

Yeah, it's true. These presents are eventually unappreciated but the story of that cold voyage to the Toys R US or local department store in quest of the mega toy or outfit just stays with the person. We all love to receive these presents from loved ones, but

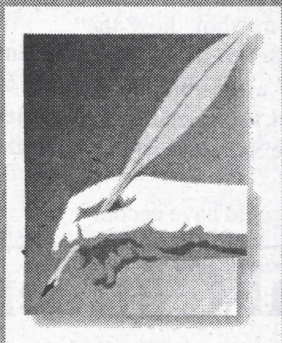
what we most appreciate is the love that they show to get those presents.

Christmas is a reminder to all of us to make the effort to show how fortunate we are to have one another. It's a time for family to get together and sit around the table and discuss and reflect on the joys we all have had and continue to have on that glorious day. And that is how it should be.

We need to be more aware not only on December 25 but we should treasure every day we get to spend with that special person--mom, dad, sis, bro, friend, or whomever else it may be. Christians believe that some 2003 years ago it took the birth of one special child to make us realize how important humanity was, and many years later we still remem-

ber and reflect. The love that is celebrated during this season, no matter what religion or faith, is truly the miracle.

So this holiday season, as we empty out our dorm rooms or apartments and head home--or off with family or friends to spend time together--remember those holiday memories of the past and the ones to be created this year. On these cold days make it warmer by not necessarily buying that extravagant present, but just simply letting that special person know in some outlandish or different way that you are glad to be with them this holiday season. Gifts are great, but greater than that are the people who give them. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Ramadan, and Happy Kwaanza to all this year.



## Beacon Editorial

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

## Your Voices...

Dear Editor:

I am writing to publicly congratulate the Wilkes University Department of Visual and Performing Arts on another fine production this past weekend. The production of *She Loves Me* combined three elements of Wilkes Theatre tradition: committed and quality performers, excellent choreography and direction, and superior musical performance by both singers and orchestra.

It was rewarding to see a large number of students and community members at the production's Saturday evening show. Wilkes Theatre truly provides an opportunity for cast, crew, and audience to appreciate first-rate artistic performance. To the cast and crew: I'll see your next top-quality performance at *Fiddler* in February.

Congratulations and Bravo!

John Dawe,  
Community Member



**Above:** Sonnie Weller, Jan Nunemacher, Alexis Petite, and Jodi Viscomi singing their final exam anxieties away.

**Right:** Katie Morton and Stephanie Victor take comfort in each other as they head into finals week.



The Beacon/Kristin Hake

## STUDY BREAK PARTY

Wilkes students take a breather from studying at the IRHC Study Break Party on Sunday night. The festivities included food, music, and the ever-popular karaoke.

## THE BEACON

### Staff

<b>Managing Editor:</b>	Gabe LeDonne
<b>Asst. Managing Editor:</b>	Raphael Copper
<b>Business Manager:</b>	David J. Grasso
<b>Asst. Business Manager:</b>	Amanda Martucci
<b>News Editor:</b>	Gabrielle Lamb
<b>Features Editor:</b>	Lindsey Wotanis
<b>Arts/Entertainment Editor:</b>	Melissa Jurgensen
<b>Opinion/Editorial Editor:</b>	Ginger Eslick
<b>Sports Editor:</b>	Stephen Kemble
<b>Photo Editor:</b>	Kristin Hake
<b>Layout Artists:</b>	Jennifer Marks
	Kerri Parrinello
	Kevin Fitzsimmons
	Joe DeAngelis
<b>Asst. News Editor:</b>	Julie Melf
<b>Asst. Features Editor:</b>	Elvira Illiano
<b>Asst. A&amp;E Editor:</b>	Monica Cardenas
	Jeff Geller
<b>Asst. Op/Ed Editor:</b>	Sabrina McLaughlin
<b>Asst. Sports Editors:</b>	Will Midgett
<b>Asst. Photo Editor:</b>	T. Mick Jenkins
<b>Web Manager:</b>	Don Shappelle
<b>Faculty Advisor:</b>	Dr. Andrea Frantz

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

E-mail: wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com

## Background

\* Established in 1944  
\* Member of the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association

\* Printed on Mondays, with the exception of holidays  
\* 1,500 papers distributed weekly



# Tips and Tricks to Develop Healthy Eating Habits



BY MICHAEL RAUB  
Food Service Manager

The food service management team at Wilkes University includes four managers, with a combined total of 34 years of experience working within a college or university setting. Throughout these 34 years, we've been asked many questions from both students and parents about Campus Foodservice and about food and nutrition in general. Here is a small selection of the most commonly heard questions.

*What are some ways to prevent the "Freshman Fifteen?"*

Changing from one environment to another can be difficult. Adjusting schedules, meeting new people, sharing a room with strangers, and an increased workload can be extremely stressful. Many people, not just college students, tend to use food as a stress-reliever. When stocking your dorm room and when dining in the campus eateries, consider all of your food and snacking choices wisely. In food as in friends, it is better to surround

yourself by good ones than bad. Choose pretzels over potato chips, fruit over cookies or pastries, and pastas over pizzas.

Food is also used to socialize. Pizza parties, late-night raids on vending machines, and food-oriented campus activities are common ways to make friends and develop that sense of community that Student Activities and Residence Life strive for. Many times, however, students engage in these activities in addition to consuming their regular meals, which will quickly add on the pounds. When planning to attend an activity such as this, schedule your meals wisely, and consume less food than usual beforehand to prevent "overdosing" on fat and calories.

Most campus eateries, like Henry's here at Wilkes, are all-you-care-to-eat. This should not make binge eating an automatic response. Plan your meal wisely. Take the time to look around and view all of the offerings at any given meal period. A cheeseburger and fries on its own is not an unhealthy meal. Teaming up that cheeseburger and fries with two pieces of pizza, six cookies, and three sodas is an even more unhealthy meal! Generally, the vegetarian options at lunch and dinner are quite nutritious, as are the deli counter and the salad bar (stay away from the high fat dressings). Many items at Classics, Pizzarette, and Grill are basic staples of good nutrition. You've heard the old adage, "Everything in moderation..."

Continue (or start!) a good exercise regimen. Many students who kept a tight exer-

cise routine through high school to keep in shape find that they are unable to maintain this high rate of activity, and this change in your body's metabolism can lead to dramatic increases in weight gain in only a few months. Scheduling these activities during a hectic class schedule may seem impossible. Look at your daily routine and I am sure you will be able to find 20-30 minutes to spend at the gym or conducting some type of high-energy level activity.

*How long can I keep food in my refrigerator before I should throw it out?*

A good basic first rule in this situation is "When in doubt throw it out!" If you cannot remember buying it, cooking it, or putting it in there, throw it away. If you do know the age of the food, here are some guidelines to use. Meats and Poultry should only be kept 3-5 days. Eggs can be kept safely for 3-5 weeks. Fish and Shellfish should only be kept for 1-2 days, and ideally, leftovers should be thrown out, not re-cooled. That pizza you had delivered last night? 3-5 days in the fridge. Dairy products are the easiest products to determine when to throw out -- most have expiration or sell-by dates. Throw the food out 3-4 days after the sell-by date.

Not all of these recommendations are 100% safe. They assume you are keeping your refrigerator below 40 degrees. To be sure, keep a small food thermometer in the refrigerator and adjust the thermostat to get the temperature down below 40 degrees.

*How can I cook as they do at the Interna-*

*tional Station?*

It's easy! If you are at home entertaining guests or just for yourself, a la minute (that's French for "in a minute") cooking, as it is called can be both a delicious and fast way to prepare a meal. Here are a few tips. Keep your recipe simple--do not overload the ingredient list just to look good. Most times, the fewer ingredients you have, the more those flavors will show through. Have all of your ingredients cut and ready to go including your sauce, even before you start heating the pan. Professional chefs call this mise en place, or "everything in its place." This will keep you from overcooking your food while looking for or cutting up another ingredient. Start with the "aromatics." The vegetables, garlic, and/or ginger need some time in the heat of the oil to develop their finest flavor. Add your protein (meat, tofu, or legumes) and cook them until they are done. Use a food thermometer to check the temperature.

Serve your food wisely. Serving your Asian-inspired stir-fry over white rice and garnishing with sesame seeds or any other garnish makes sense. Serving it over roasted red potatoes does not. We eat with our eyes first and our mouths second, so make it look good with a simple complimentary garnish. Use an item that will enhance your dish's flavor, such as chopped parsley, citrus zest, or minced chives. Good luck!

Send you food or nutrition related questions to raub @wilkes.edu!

## Point/Counterpoint:

## Cell Phones: Dangerous Equipment or The Technology of Today?



BY MEAGAN BROWN  
Beacon Correspondent

*There is no doubt about it; cell phones are a way of life for people today. But how much good do they really do? When accidents are reported almost daily because of a negligent driver was using a cell phone while trying to navigate traffic, people may reconsider the benefits. On the other hand, cell phones have been known to save lives and they do create a high level of convenience, which is demanded in today's society. These are two valid points, but which one holds more truth? You decide.*

**Meagan Brown**

*Cell Phones Cause More Harm Than Good*

Sure, cell phones are easy to use and oh-so accessible in today's society, but are they really safe? We cell phone users are all guilty of using our phone while walking or driving and ignoring the people or cars around us. But do we really realize how dangerous driving with our cell phones is?

*The New England Journal of Medicine* has recently attributed the quadrupling of the

annual rate of car accidents to cell phones in cars. People who use cell phones while driving become inattentive and reckless drivers. If I had a nickel for every time I was nearly hit by some inattentive cell phone using driver I could buy a BMW, maybe even two BMWs. Actually, two BMWs and an Acura. Unfortunately, however, nothing is happening. Outside of a few counties there are no laws prohibiting the use of cell phones while driving.

Is it really necessary to use a cell phone while driving? I can't think of one single situation that would require using a cell phone for an extended period while driving. In the case of an emergency situation, pulling off to the side of the road to complete your call is the best solution.

The invention of hands free devices have advanced the safety of people using cell phones in cars but it can present other potentially dangerous situations. What if the earpiece falls out? Then you scramble around to look for it and put yourself into a potentially dangerous situation. Using a cell phone while driving is nothing but trouble.

The alarming increase in the number of car accidents due to the use of cell phones can be solved simply by not talking on the phone while driving. Pull over to the side of the road and make your call, or make the calls you need to make before you get in the car and don't answer your phone while driving. I doubt your friend calling to tell you the latest gossip is worth getting into an accident over. They'll

leave a message, and you can call them back later. Placing yourself into a potentially fatal situation to grab the cell phone doesn't really seem worth it does it?

**Kerri Parrinello**

*Cell Phones are a Part of Today's Society*

To say that our society could survive without cell phones right now would be completely misleading. Almost everywhere you look, you're bound to find someone discussing classes or doing business or making weekend plans using that ever-popular gadget, the cell phone.

At times, I look at people talking with the hands-free earpieces and wonder whether they're talking to themselves, or even to me. What would happen if we didn't have cell phones? Parents who have to travel for work would feel awfully guilty for leaving for days at a time without contacting loved ones.

Perhaps more important than the social/emotional connection cell phones offer is the fact that they also serve an important safety purpose. Imagine that you're driving in the middle of nowhere and your car breaks down or you're involved in an accident. What do you do? Well, you'd be the first one to pick up the handy cell phone, to call for help. But if there were no cell phones, you'd be up a creek without a paddle. There are also reports of Good Samaritans who have used their cells to call police as they witness an accident or crime. Such a speed ensures quicker response from authorities. In addition, through new



BY KERRI PARRINELLO  
Beacon Layout Artist

programs, cell phones can be provided to victims of spousal abuse so that in the event that it's needed, the victim can get help when otherwise there would be no other options.

O.K., sure, the "what if" use for the cell phone isn't usually why most people get them. I'll admit that it's amazingly helpful to be able to call home while I'm out shopping to find out what we need, instead of driving all the way home to find out that we need laundry soap, milk, bread, and eggs. But there is always the chance that that little tool could also save a life, too.

I completely understand that cell phones are a modern convenience that sometimes wreaks havoc on civilization, but they're just like any other form of technology. There are advantages and disadvantages to every invention society could ever dream up, but it's how we use these accessories that determine just how important they are.



## Area's Business Development Creates Mixed Emotions



BY SABRINA McLAUGHLIN  
Beacon Asst. Op-Ed Editor

I confess I am a person of liberal political views. I admit this without shame, and with respect for those who do not share the same viewpoint. Possessing a liberal outlook on political and social affairs, I have an inherent suspicion of "big business" and corporations and their motives. I am frequently troubled by some of the adverse economic and environmental effects that major corporations have on our society and culture.

Despite my apprehensions, I must admit that my feelings are mixed on the recent commercial development that has been affecting Wilkes-Barre, especially the area surrounding the Wachovia Arena. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say I am indecisive: I see many pros and cons to the recent influx of

corporate chain business in the area. Perhaps the shopping centers that have been multiplying in that vicinity have been beneficial, but perhaps in some ways in the long run all of this development may do more harm than good.

Community members, chambers of commerce, and local politicians may be understandably eager to bring in large businesses such as these that will draw consumers to the area and create employment opportunities for local people. But bringing in national and multi-national corporate chain stores and restaurants can also have the adverse effect of driving the unique, small stores and restaurants (many of them family-owned and operated) out of business. This is unfortunate, as it is these types of establishments that give a community individual character. For example, in the case of ethnic food, commercialized chain ethnic restaurants may lack a certain authenticity. Plus, the conformity of chain restaurants bothers me. The fact that I can walk into, say, an Applebee's in Maryland and then two days later, another franchise in Ohio and not know what state I was in if I didn't know any better is troubling.

This uniformity takes away from the local character of local communities, states, and

regions. I have heard it said that America has become a schizophrenic society, because our culture preaches individuality and uniqueness but at the same time demands conformity from us. Perhaps becoming a "brand name" society is a symptom of that. We shop for our clothes at a store that is a branch of a mega-corporation, purchasing brand name products - even our food is in a sense, brand name, because we eat in chain restaurants.

As a fellow Wilkes student observed, you frequently see people - many of whom are college students or thirty-somethings - bragging about their social consciousness and "the evils of corporate America" while they are simultaneously swilling Starbucks. Another potentially negative result of the impact of major corporations on local areas is the effect on the environment. Although it may be true that commercial business is not as polluting as industry, increased commercial development leads to increased deforestation, loss of wildlife habitat, erosion, etc.

But despite these misgivings, there are many possible benefits to corporate, commercial development. One of these benefits directly affects students here at Wilkes, as well as other area campuses. Many students work part-time jobs to earn spending money or even

to help pay for school, and the restaurants, stores and hotels that have sprung up around the Wyoming Valley Mall, the Arena, and along Highland Park Boulevard are a major source of employment for college students.

Indeed, where else could a student go to look for a part-time job if not to one of these establishments? I know people who work in these places. I cannot in good conscience say then that the development is a bad thing. Plus, the products offered by these businesses do have appeal. I'm an English major, and a good chunk of my spare change is spent on books: I'd be sad to see the Barnes & Noble go. Old Navy has great sales, and I guiltily confess that I sometimes get cravings for Starbucks' coffee. Thus, I see pros and cons, and so I feel like I can't reach a decisive opinion.

Perhaps, as is so often the case, the best solution is equitable compromise. Go the Barnes & Noble, but the next time you want to buy a book, visit the Tudor Bookshop across the river. If you like to go to Wegman's because of the Asian or organic food sections, that's fine, but think about helping to support a small business by stopping every once in a while at the locally-owned health food store or South Asian grocer.

## A Quantitative/Qualitative Theory of Thankfulness



BY MATTHEW JONES  
Beacon Columnist

When my editor asked me to write about what we as humans have to be thankful for, I realized I could never reduce myself to actually writing about "baby seals and rainbows" or anything else even remotely Hallmark card-like.

I am in no way entitled to declare what you, personally, hold dearest. I suppose I could say that you should be thankful for having a roof over your head, food to eat, and the absence of anyone firing a gun at you, but that would be excluding a substantial portion of this planet's population.

I suppose I could tell you what I'm thankful for right now, but that currently only includes my working heater, a cup of Earl Grey tea and the last fifteen or so seconds of Beethoven's "Sonata quasi una Fantasia" (*sempre legatissimo* to the end), and certainly none of that concerns you.

But wait; now that my computer's play list has moved on, I'm suddenly not thankful for Beethoven anymore. No, Gordon Lightfoot's "The Wreck of the Edmund

Fitzgerald" has replaced him. Suddenly I'm thankful for not being on board a ship that's sinking into Lake Superior. Now that I think about it, I'm thankful for being able to hear music. Well, let's just say I'm thankful for the senses as a whole. They're pretty good, I guess.

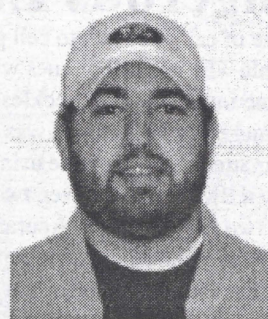
Looking at my ceiling now, I've forgotten ships and lakes and suddenly I'm thankful for illumination. Light bulbs and light fixtures. Someone had to make them, and I guess I'm happy those people have jobs. Wait. No, back to ships and lakes.

So how about you? I'm leaving this open-ended. How often do you stop and suddenly realize that you should be thankful for every atom of every creation on this planet, nay, this existence? Probably not enough. I know I don't. I usually occupy my time with watching the aftermath of three-car pileups on the interstate. Soon after, I will drive right past a husband kissing his wife without so much as a glance. I'll stop and look at a sunset, though; those are bigger.

Sometimes I worry about what kind of job I'm going to have when I grow up. I really should stop and be thankful for having a brain through which to produce this worry.

I'm thankful that I've written this now because in the past ten minutes I've thought about every miniscule, taken for granted, seemingly unimportant, ordinary, everyday, boring thing that I possibly could think of in that stretch of time. And now I know just how thankful I should be for all of it. And maybe by some stroke of luck, you'll be thankful for reading this article.

## Liver Transplant Denial to HIV Patient is Blatant Discrimination



BY J.W. DAVIES  
Beacon Columnist

On Thursday, November 20, an interesting article appeared in *The Times Leader* about a man named William Jean Gough, from Altoona, Pennsylvania, who is unfortunately afflicted with HIV. As Gough's health deteriorated, he found that he was in need of a liver transplant. He was placed on a donor list and, as he could only sit and contemplate his own mortality, his prayers were answered. A liver became available, and he was next in line to receive it. That is...until Medicaid stepped in.

Medicaid refused to cover the transplant, saying, "Medicaid cannot cover transplants for patients, who have other life threatening conditions." In other words, why should we (Medicaid) waste money on a liver transplant for someone who is probably going to die anyway?

Gough has filed a lawsuit against Medicaid for discrimination, and according to his lawyer, "Time is of the essence. There have been similar cases in other states where, by the time a decision to not cover a transplant

has been overturned, the patient is too sick to go through the transplant, or dies."

Perhaps what is even more disturbing is that this article appeared on the back page of the paper, under the obituaries, a space that normally only catches fill articles or advertisements for funeral homes.

As one of the most advanced nations in the world, it is a shame that Americans are still running and hiding from HIV and AIDS. The time has come to take notice. The skeleton is standing fully erect and it is busting down the closet door.

This morning children died because of HIV or AIDS. Tomorrow, mothers and fathers will die because of HIV and AIDS. They did not ask for their illness, their death. They tried, just like you and me, to live a happy, healthy life, but circumstance chose to take that away from them. Just as we choose not to notice them, not to acknowledge their existence.

Maybe we could at least be fair about this. We can use Medicaid's logic and refuse to treat senior citizens because they are already so close to death.

That would surely never happen, but if it did, you can bet that it would make the front page of every paper in the state. The article would probably run about three full pages, but that's OK, we can just bump out those useless articles on the obituary page.

This morning, children are alive with HIV or AIDS. Tomorrow, mothers and fathers will be living with HIV or AIDS. A few months from now, two lawyers will be battling in court over a liver, and your neighbor William Jean Gough will be dead.



## To Stay or Drop Out: One Student's Struggle

BY JAMIE BABITT  
Beacon Correspondent

It's almost the middle of his sophomore year in college and while his peers are taking major-specific classes and are beginning to think about an internship, Ryan Patchell is still struggling with the decision of what to do with his life.

Patchell dislikes every class he takes and stresses out over every exam and assignment he has. His lack of direction makes him think that maybe he is wasting his time and that maybe he doesn't belong in college. This is not just the story of one young man; it is the story of many college undergraduates. Students are constantly asking themselves the question: is college really for me?

Each year, students struggling with the decision to drop out of school come to Barbara King, the Associate Dean of Student Affairs, for all sorts of reasons including such things as health problems, family issues, financial issues, or they just don't want to be in college. Patchell, an undeclared sophomore, falls into the group of the people who just don't want to be in school.

Patchell is a hard working student, but for some reason, his interests changed this semester, and he began to dislike school. "Every time I try to write a paper, I drive myself nuts because I don't like to do it," Patchell said.

College may not be for everyone, and Patchell believes that he is just one of the people that doesn't belong here.

"There are students who truthfully don't belong in school. It doesn't mean they don't belong in school grade-wise, but they are not ready to be in school yet and they need to take a year off and work, and sometimes that makes a miraculous change in people. So sometimes withdrawing is the better thing to do," said King.

Many high school graduates go to college right away because it is a social expectation. "There are probably far more students that attend college now, and I think the pressure is probably there to do that. It is at least implied that the idea is that everybody goes to college," King said.

College is a huge expense, and if someone does not want to be in school and is not getting anything

out of the education they receive, they run the risk of waste thousands of dollars. This is one of the main factors Patchell is considering in his decision of whether or not to stay in school.

"The fact is that I'm wasting money if I'm going to stay here and I don't want to be here, because I'm not going to put in one-hundred percent. I just want to get my life on the right track, and I think that finding something else would be the best thing," Patchell said.

If Patchell decides not to stay in school next semester, he plans to take some time off to work and save up his money, and then join the Navy in the fall. King said, "Some people get in school and think, 'Well, maybe I would have been better off in the military and that's fine.'"

"My vision of my future was not exactly as clear as it was, undeclared major and everything. I really don't know what I want to do with my life, so that is another reason why I am thinking about dropping out," Patchell said.

In ten years, Patchell hopes he will have found his passion. "Maybe I will be a cop. That's what I think the Navy could do for me if I decide to go in. They could point me in the right direction and I could go into law enforcement," Patchell said.

As for the possibility of going back to school later on in life, Patchell says that he is keeping that as an option. "I will possibly go back to school later on when I'm sure what I want to do, maybe a community college while I have a job. I think it's important to get a degree because you can get a better job, more of the job you want, but it's just the stuff you have to go through," Patchell said.

According to King, there are many students at Wilkes University who stay even though they don't want to be in school. "It would make for a very long four years to do that. It's kind of like going to work every day to a job you hate. That would be just awful," King said.

Although education is important, there are some people who just won't benefit from staying in college. King said, "Does a college education in a general sense help everybody? Of course it does. But if you don't want to be here, it's not serving its purpose for anybody."

## Wilkes Student Makes "Big" Impact on 6th Grader's Life

BY JASON NICKLE  
Beacon Correspondent

Many people go through life trying to find purpose or a place in the world.

Some people do that by joining athletics, aiming to excel academically, or by having as many friends as possible. Wilkes senior, Katie Green found her purpose by becoming a big sister in the Big Brother/Big Sister program.

For the last two years Green, Resident Assistant of the second floor of Evans Hall, has helped to change a little girl's life for the better through the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program.

Green found out about the organization on Club Day of her junior year. She thought little of it when she picked up the colorful pamphlet from the table. But after reading the literature she realized that Big Brothers/Big Sisters was for her. She wrote her name and other contact information down and left it at the desk. The following day, a caseworker for the program, Lynn Pons, called Green from her office. From that point on, Green has been a committed member of the program.

Green's "little sister" is in the sixth grade and comes from a family with little financial means. Her name is Ja'niika, and to maintain her privacy, *The Beacon* has chosen not to disclose her last name. For Ja'niika to get into the program, a parent or guardian had to give approval. In Ja'niika's case, she needed the help, so her mother was eager to sign her up.

Big Brother/Big Sister was created to help children develop positive mentoring relationships with older stable adults. All children are welcome to join the program. However, children from low-income families are often given precedence. Many socio-economically deprived children face an array of social and emotional challenges. Statistically, lower-income children often come from single-parent homes, are likelier to drop out of school or face educational hurdles, and face self-confidence problems that can lead to behavior issues.

Pons, a caseworker for Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Wilkes-Barre, said, "Katie's little sister does have some difficult family issues. She does not know her father, and her mother is very sick."

Green said, "She doesn't have

a very good home life. Her mom has cancer and she's on the verge of death. Ja'niika actually takes care of her mom. She also takes care of the house, and the poor girl is only in sixth grade."

the two usually play basketball together. Though school always comes first, basketball is almost never left out.

Green said, "One day she told me her cousin got to go to college

even though she didn't have the money. She was a great athlete. So along with schoolwork, I have been trying to help Ja'niika with her basketball skills. I played in high school. We play every day. She's so tall!" Amazement over the 6th grader's height probably doesn't mean much coming from the 5'1 Wilkes senior, but the fact that Green sees a lot of potential in her "little sis" undoubtedly does.

"It gives me a good feeling to know I'm helping her in her schooling," said Green.

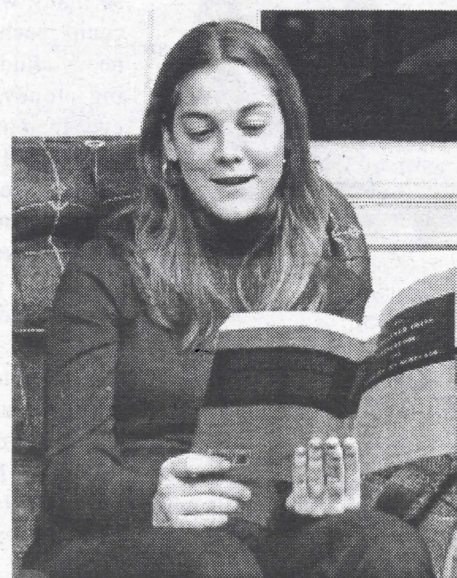
Most of the children involved with the program are simply in need of a positive role model. "My [little] sister tells everyone, 'Yeah, my Big plays soccer for Wilkes. She's the goalie.' She loves that," Green added.

According to Green, there are many children in the community who could use more people like her to help them out. Green said, "Other [Wilkes] kids should definitely get involved, especially guys!" Green said that there are young women putting in time for Big Brothers/Big Sisters. However, there are not enough men to help local boys in the program, and, Green added, "The little boys are so much fun!"

"There are more than 100 children in our area who are waiting for a Big Brother or Big Sister," said Pons.

But how will this organization benefit a college student? Pons said, "By spending just an hour or two a week with a child, our volunteers make a big impact and they report that they often get just as much out of the experience as the Littles do."

This is a huge part of the reason why Green enjoys participating in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program. According to Green, "It's great. It gives me a sense of purpose. I feel like a good person to know I have an impact on a child's life. Hopefully, I'm helping her. Most of all, I want her to know there's someone there for her, because she has gone through so much."



The Beacon/Kristin Hake  
Wilkes senior, Katie Green helps local children by acting as a surrogate sister through the Big Brother/Big Sister program.

Children involved with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program often receive educational and emotional support from their big brother or sister. For example, because Ja'niika's mother is ill, it has been difficult for her to excel at school and concentrate on simple things like homework. Green said, "The hardest thing to deal with was when Ja'niika failed 6th grade last year. She has so much stuff to deal with back home. I mean when she gets home, she's no longer a 6th grader. She's a mom. She actually has to take care of her two cousins and her sick mother, cooking, and cleaning."

So, one of Green's primary concerns is setting a good example for her as the program refers to the participants. Together, Green and Ja'niika share a hope that one day Ja'niika will be accepted to a college.

Pons said, "Big Brothers and Big Sisters who are in college can stress the importance of education to their Littles and can help their Littles to start thinking about the future. This is why we rely on local colleges for valuable volunteers."

To help, Green dedicates some of her volunteer time as a Big Sister to an after school program at Kistler Elementary School on Wednesdays from 3:00- 4:30. During a regular visit, the two spend about a half hour to an hour on schoolwork, depending on the assignment. Afterwards



# Locks of Love Finds Unusual Donor

## Wilkes students grow hair for a good cause

BY KELLY LEACH  
Beacon Correspondent

Community service is a way for students to learn more about themselves, to grow. One Wilkes student is growing, but not in the way most might think.

Kyle Luttman, a sophomore secondary education and biology major is letting his hair grow to support Locks of Love.

According to the organization's website, "Locks of Love is a non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children across the U.S. under age 18 suffering from long-term medical hair loss. The prostheses they provide help to restore children's self-esteem and confidence, enabling them to face the world and their peers."

Over the past year, many people have noticed a change in the length of Luttman's hair. Luttman is sometimes even picked on and called names like "Ashton Kutcher," because the teen idol actor made famous by the popular *That 70s Show* also wears his hair in a long style. Some of Luttman's acquaintances even think that he is growing his hair as a fad to fit in with the "skater" crowd.

However, Luttman is not growing his hair to look like Kutcher or to fit in with some secret skater friends. He is really growing

his hair because he wanted to find a way to help some kids in the midst of his busy college schedule.

During Luttman's freshman year at Wilkes University, he and his friend Brandon

Cunningham, a sophomore pharmacy major, decided on a way to help some children. There were so many ways that they could reach out and help needy children by donating money, clothing, or even their time.

"It's hard [to do community service], being a college student with the busy schedule we have, and by not having a lot of money to just give to a charity,"

said Luttman.

The two decided they wanted to give their service effort a more personal touch. They wanted to help those children diagnosed with cancer, who would lose their hair after treatments. Cunningham said, "I love the kids, and I think I'm going to grow my hair out for them."

Luttman thought this was a good idea and decided to join the crusade to help the kids. They chose to donate their hair to Locks of Love organization.

Gail Minichiello, Coordinator of Commu-

nity Service at Wilkes University, feels that donating hair is a great way to serve the community.

"You are just going to get rid of it anyway, so why not donate it to a good cause?" said Minichiello.

Luttman started growing his hair in December of 2002. When he began, he realized that growing his hair long enough would take some time to accomplish, since it was very short. At one point, he even had to start the process over.

"It was December 18...my friend's birthday so I remember. I had to cut my hair because I realized how chemically damaged it was, I had to start all over," said Luttman.

Over the next couple of months Luttman designed a web page to get the word out to others about what he was doing. Soon, some people decided to donate money and even help out the cause by growing their hair long, too.

"I think about 10 people donated money. Pam and Dan, my friends from back home, are also helping out. It's nice to get a variety of people to do it; it's kind of like a team thing," stated Luttman.

During the process, Luttman has, on occasion, measured his hair to see how long it is. He currently believes that his hair is about six inches long.

Minichiello said, "I haven't really heard of many men doing it. I encourage more men to do it."

Although Luttman is undeterred in his efforts, he is beginning to find his locks not so loving. Luttman is becoming annoyed by the length of his hair and said, "The only reason keeping me from cutting it is because we are doing it for a good cause."

A requirement from Locks of Love is that the hair that is donated must be ten inches long. This doesn't sound too long, but it

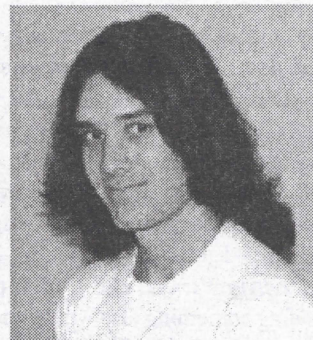
needs to be ten inches long by

being pulled back into a pony tail. Minichiello added, "For some people, it can be a donation that they put a lot of thought into. Maybe they have never imagined themselves with shorter hair, which is a big step. But they believe in it for various reasons. Maybe they have been touched by someone that has cancer or to try to help someone beyond that."

To find out more information or to join the crusades to help the kids, check out Luttman's web page at <http://www.geocities.com/runawaysoul2/forthekids.html>.



Kyle Luttman



Brandon Cunningham

## Holiday Fund-Raising

### Recent Efforts to Help Alternative Spring Break



The Beacon/Kristin Hake



The Beacon/Kristin Hake

Left: Jared Shayka, Larissa Dobransky, and Steph Dickert help to wrap gifts for customers at the Barne's and Noble in Wilkes-Barre on Wednesday, December 3, and Friday, December 5, 2003.

Above: Nikki Redmond decorated and filled holiday stockings on Thursday, December 4, 2003 in the Henry Student Center.

Both efforts helped to raise money for the Alternative Spring Break trips to Miami, Florida and Brazil.



## A Passion for Learning, Teaching Drives Non-traditional Student

BY KRISTIN DERLUNAS  
Beacon Correspondent

Imagine it's your first day of class. You pass a man outside who is wearing a suit and you smile, trying to make your best first impression. You proceed inside, thinking that you just greeted your new professor. The man you just passed then sits next to you and takes out a notebook and a pen. You realize that he is not the professor, but a student just like you.

But having held many professional positions, used many titles, and seen much of the rest of the world, Fred Seabrook, a freshman history major, is perhaps anything but just like the rest of students on campus. In some respects, Seabrook is the epitome of a non-traditional student.

He's a native to Wilkes-Barre, and is one of nine children. He served in the United States Army Infantry as a Sergeant where he witnessed the demolition of the Berlin Wall, served in the first Gulf War, and was in Panama as the canal was being handed over.

Seabrook said, "There's a saying in the Army, you see more by 21 than most people in their lifetime."

But the wide number of experiences and titles continued for Seabrook even after the Army. After serving in the military for his country for more than half a decade, he was a floor administrator, salesman, and a businessman for a major brokerage company.

Most recently, in the fall of 2003, Seabrook added a new title to his name: Wilkes University student.

The 30-something Seabrook entered Wilkes University this fall with the largest group of traditional freshmen students (those who moved automatically from high school senior to college freshmen with no break) in the school's recent history. As a non-traditional student, defined as a student who enters college not immediately after high school, but who takes time to experience other opportunities first, Seabrook has met with his share of challenges. He has recognized some disadvantages, as well as advantages, but like every student, he has motivations, expectations, and goals for the fall semester.

Seabrook said he expected college to be like the Hollywood glitz he saw in the movies when he ex-

plained, "I had an illusion that college would be like the movie *Old School*." This movie portrays a group of men who go back to school with the goal of living a care-free lifestyle in a fraternity. He later added, "That thought is gone now." Since Wilkes doesn't follow the *Animal House* illusion for college living, what motivates him to be here?

"I found that in the job market, most wanted a four-year degree. It's not only that, but I love history and want to be a teacher, so I am here so I can do that. It is less money but much more satisfying", said Seabrook.

With the love of history guiding him, Seabrook hopes to not

"When I first started, after my first two weeks, I almost wanted to quit because everyone was younger and it was hard to fit in. I was an outsider. If it wasn't for talking [to two of my professors], I might have quit, or had the desire to do so. It was harder to fit in with 18-19 year old students because I don't see a lot of things like they do. We all have issues. A younger college student may have real issues—they may not be real to me, but they are real to them. My issues aren't any greater, just a different perspective," said Seabrook.

Seabrook may have felt like an outsider, or be out of the loop with student chatter, but there are advantages to being a non-traditional student. Focus may be the biggest advantage. Many traditional students may be in college because their parents want them to be, or because of some other external forces. For Seabrook, the only person driving him to succeed is himself.

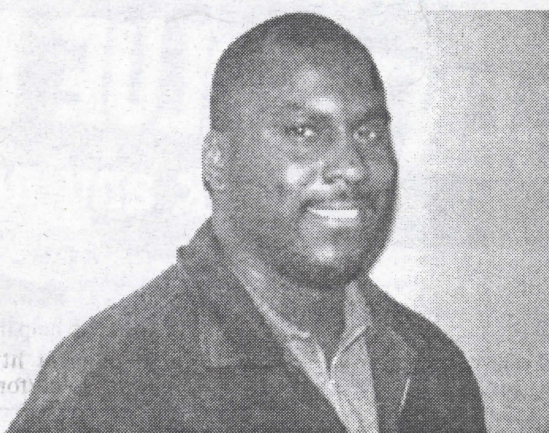
"I am here because I want to be here, and I need to be here from a work perspective. Automatically, I set a higher standard for myself. At the same time, I am just like every other student. I still have homework

to do, but can get distracted with football games, or whatever," said Seabrook.

Focus isn't the only advantage about being a nontraditional student. Dr. Wenger, Assistant Professor of History who teaches Seabrook in class said, "He brings a different perspective that is different from those students who are right out of high school. For example, since he was in the military, he often contributes personal experiences in class."

Wenger also added that because of Seabrook's age, he is more likely to approach a professor with a problem or concern, as compared to a traditional student. "He certainly isn't intimidated because there is a less of an age difference so he is able to approach a teacher," said Wenger.

As December creeps in, finals begin to loom over all students. Seabrook is no different as he said, "In the beginning, I didn't know how to prepare for test taking, but now I am back in the swing again. It's like riding a bicycle." Seabrook will be studying this week for finals like the rest of the students.



Fred Seabrook

only teach, but he says, *to learn*.

He said that from his experience, he saw many adults stop learning after high school, and most of their information came from neighborhood gossip, church, or a sporadic dose of local news. Seabrook realized early on the importance of learning from authoritative sources and hopes to eventually communicate that to others.

Seabrook also added, "I will be more effective as a teacher because of my experiences. I also want to find or form a place where adults can step back and re-evaluate their leadership styles as parents. Home is where children learn habits, good or bad. No matter how great the teacher, children still pattern after their closest adult role models, for the most part, or what they see the most of. With the economy the way it has been for years, most students are from two income families. So parents are now working at their jobs more than seeing their children. Educators can still change their life in a positive way."

One of the biggest challenges for Seabrook starting school at Wilkes was to relate to his fellow classmates.



## Wilkes Students' Holiday Plans

Amanda Felegi  
junior accounting major

**Beacon:** What is your favorite thing about the holidays?

**Felegi:** Being off from school and being able to spend time with my friends.

**Beacon:** What are your plans for winter break?

**Felegi:** I am going to stay at my apartment in Wilkes-Barre with my two roommates and two stowaways, Jake and April. I am also going to work at Cracker Barrel and The Limited and hopefully going skiing in Aspen.



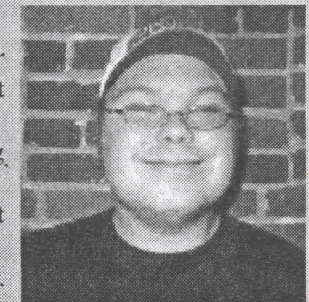
Rich Hannick  
sophomore business administration major

**Beacon:** What is your favorite thing about the holidays?

**Hannick:** Getting presents and spending time with my family.

**Beacon:** What gifts are you hoping to get this year?

**Hannick:** Sixer's tickets and a DVD player.



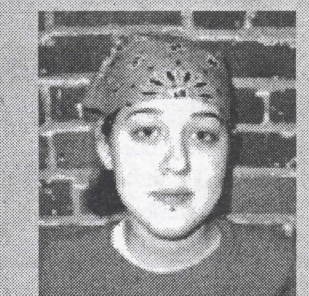
Nicole Koch  
sophomore biology major

**Beacon:** What is your favorite thing about the holidays?

**Koch:** Decorating and being with my family.

**Beacon:** What are your plans for winter break?

**Koch:** Working at Circuit City and taking care of the house.



Jonathan Morgan  
freshman pre-pharmacy major

**Beacon:** What is your favorite thing about the holidays?

**Morgan:** I like the change in the weather, the ending of the school semester, and I really like family dinners.

**Beacon:** What are your plans for winter break?

**Morgan:** I'm not doing anything special. I am going to work, delivering flowers.



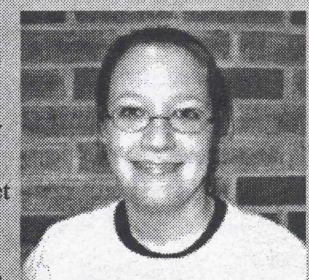
Sarah Bogusko  
senior psychology major

**Beacon:** What are your plans for winter break?

**Bogusko:** Nothing will top going to Hawaii last year, but now that I'm 21, New Year's Eve should be a lot more exciting!

**Beacon:** What gifts are you hoping to get this year?

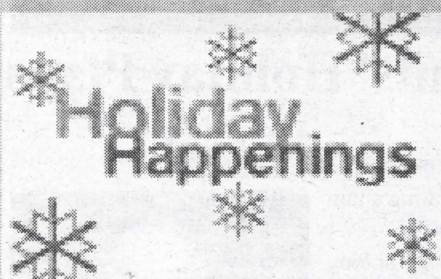
**Bogusko:** I'm getting my class ring and my parents are paying for my grad school applications!





## What's Happening for the Holidays

BY MELISSA JURGENSEN  
Beacon A&E Editor



### Disney On Ice—Toy Story 2 at Wachovia Arena

The easy-going cowboy Woody and high-flying space ranger Buzz Lightyear are back in town as Disney On Ice presents Disney/PIXAR's Toy Story 2. This live, all new comedy action adventure visits Northeast PA. Dates are from January 7 to January 11 for eight performances. Tickets are on sale now.

### Trans-Siberian Orchestra to play two shows at Wachovia Arena

Trans-Siberian Orchestra will bring their unique blend of rock and opera to Wilkes-Barre for two electrifying shows. Both shows are on Saturday, December 13. Tickets are on-sale now at the Wachovia Arena Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets.

Amy Grant and Vince Gill will delight audiences and unite for a holiday tour. *Simply Christmas with Amy Grant and Vince Gill*. The event will also feature comedian Henry Cho. Backing Gill and Grant on the tour will be the renowned Nashville Chamber Orchestra. They will be at the Wachovia Arena on December 15.

F.M. Kirby Center presents **A Garfield Christmas** on Thursday, December 4 at 7:00 p.m. Ticket prices are \$12.00-\$25.00

Moscows Ballet's **Great Russian Nutcracker** will appear at the Kirby Center on Saturday, December 13 at 2:00 p.m.

The Country Gold Christmas Show will appear at the Kirby Center on Tuesday, December 16 at 7:00 p.m.


The Scranton Cultural Center will feature **The Nutcracker Ballet** on Friday, December 12 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, December 13 at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday December 14 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale now.

The Scranton Cultural Center will also feature the **Season's Greetings Magic Show** on Saturday, December 13 at 11:00 a.m. Tickets are on sale now.

## This Week in History...

The week of December 8 to 14 in retrospect:


- 8th—"I Love Lucy" became the first television show to acknowledge a pregnancy, (1952)
- 9th—The Jacksons performed their last show together in Los Angeles, CA, (1984)
- 10th—The Steve Miller Blues Band signed with Capitol Records for an unheard of \$750,000. The group dropped "Blues" from its name, (1967)
- 11th—The first Nobel prizes were awarded, (1901)
- 12th—Bob Barker, long-time host of *The Price is Right* was born, (1923)
- 13th—Dick Van Dyke, comedian, was born, (1925)
- 14th—*Saturday Night Fever* premiered in New York City, (1977)




# STUDENT VALUE MENU

Pick any number

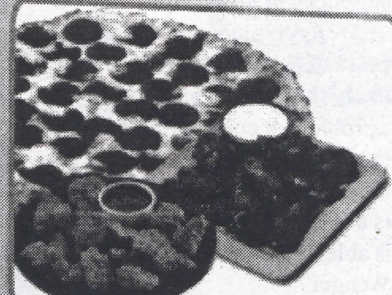
ONLY
\$7.99




**1** One large Cheese or 1-topping pizza.



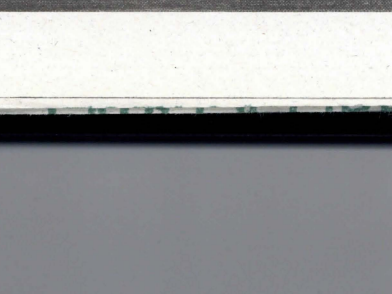
**2** One medium 1-topping pizza & your choice of an 8 piece Bread side item.




**3** One medium Feast pizza.  
(Choose from: Deluxe Feast\*, Hawaiian Feast\*, MeatZZa Feast\*, Vegi Feast\*, Pepperoni Feast\* or Bacon Cheeseburger Feast\*.)



**4** One medium 2-topping pizza & 2 cans of Coke\*.



**5** 10 piece Buffalo Wings or Domino's Pizza Buffalo Chicken Kickers™ & your choice of an 8 piece Bread side item.



**6** A Fresh Express Salad Kit, your choice of an 8 piece Bread side item & 2 cans of Coke\*.

**WILKES UNIVERSITY & KINGS COLLEGE**

**829-2900**

154 S. Pennsylvania Ave.

**UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON & LACKAWANNA COLLEGE**

**347-3030**

1420 Mulberry St.

**MARYWOOD UNIVERSITY**

**347-9200**

1316 N. Main Ave.

\*Offer expires May 31, 2004. Not valid with any other offer. Minimum Order \$11.00. Taxes and service not included. Prices may vary. Customer pays sales tax where applicable. Our drivers carry less than \$20 cash value 1/2004. 131334-3231. Not for resale.



**BY MONICA CARDENAS**  
*Asst. Beacon A&E Editor*

Luckily, last fall Selecky and co-director Brian Sacolic "decided to try books on CD to see if they would be used," said Selecky.

The DVD's videotapes-with the exception of instructional tapes and books on CD can be checked out for free for two weeks at a time.

**Breakage:** Avoid breaking things on that first day lest wreckage be part of your year.



**HOME OF THE**

# **LOWEST**

**★ NEW RELEASE PRICES!**

music ★ magazines ★ posters ★ books ★ gift items  
 ★ candy ★ red bull ★ incense ★ and more!

*Joe Wardone's*

## **Gallery Of Sound**

**NEW LARGER LOCATION**

**Provincial Tower**

**South Main St**

**Monday-Friday 10am - 7pm**

**Saturday 10am - 6pm**

**Sunday Noon - 5pm**

**826-6898**

**11 locations all over NEPA**

**[www.galleryofsound.com](http://www.galleryofsound.com)**



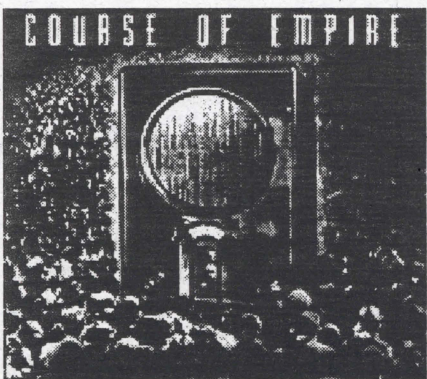
## CD Review: Course of Empire: Telepathic Last Words

BY MATT JONES  
Beacon Staff Writer

Final release from the now defunct Texas-based group Course of Empire, *Telepathic Last Words* is one of those hidden gems that frequently falls between the cracks in the music industry.

Combining the aesthetics of gothic industrial and progressive rock while filtering the two through a pop lens, C.O.E. existed as a band virtually impossible to pigeon-hole. Over the course of ten years and three albums, their brand of politically-minded postmodern rock unfortunately failed to ever make it to radio playlists.

Album opener "New Maps" starts things off with such a powerful wall of sound that it's nearly overwhelming. Vocalist Vaughn Stevenson nearly drowns amidst a sea of rollicking percussion and bottom-heavy fuzz bass, coining such lines as "Wide awake instead of sleeping/You can see your ceiling



breathing/For years you slept instead of dreaming" as if promising to drag everyone out of a state of conscious torpor. From here on, the album runs the gamut of sounds and moods. Everything from psychedelic space rock ("Ride the Static") to pulsating techno/dance/metal ("The Information") is included.

C.O.E.'s secret weapon lies in its dual percussionists. Instead of using their raw power to bludgeon, drummers Chad Lovell and Michael Jerome blended their skins attack, adding texture to the already masterfully crafted tracks.

The certifiable moment of genius comes with the last track, a cover of the Rogers and Hart standard "Blue Moon," in which the doo-wop classic is transformed into a purely goth love letter. Mike Graff's reverb-drenched spacially western guitar floats over and around an inescapable Eastern percussion groove while Stevenson croons "I'm always standing alone/Without a dream in my heart/ Without a love of my own."

*Telepathic Last Words* will be a terrific find for those listeners either jaded by the current state of rock or those just looking for something older and horrendously underrated.

## From the Cutting Room: Elf

BY ALISON SHERRY  
Beacon Staff Writer

The stress may be piling on as the semester winds down, but there's nothing like a good laugh to calm the nerves.

If you love to laugh until your side hurts, you will definitely get a pre-Christmas kick out of *Elf*, the story of a human raised in the North Pole as an elf who ventures out into the human world to find his father.

On Christmas Eve, a tiny baby crawled into Santa's toy bag during his stop at the orphanage. Santa (played by Ed Asner) gives the baby to his most trusted helper, Bob Elf (played by Bob Newhart) who raises the baby as an elf named Buddy (played by Will Ferrell). As Buddy gets older, it becomes clear that he will never totally fit into the elf world considering he is three times the size of all the other elves. Once the naive and hyper-active Buddy is told that he is a human, he decides to set off in search of his human father in none other than the Big Apple.

But soon Buddy finds out that life in New York City isn't all gumdrops and sugar

plums. When he finds his real father, Walter Hobbs (played by James Caan), he discovers that he is a workaholic father with a place on Santa's "naughty" list. To make matters worse, Walter doesn't believe who Buddy says he is. Buddy also discovers a new mom (played by Mary Steenburgen) and ten-year old brother (played by Daniel Tay) who have also forgotten the real meaning of Christmas along with the rest of New York City. With the holiday season quickly approaching, Buddy decides to take it upon himself to show his newfound family and all of New York City the true meaning of the holiday spirit.



In a sketch of hilarious antics that will have you laughing until you cry, *Elf* is a sure crowd pleaser. Even if you were not a fan of Ferrell in *Old School*, he definitely makes up for it in this "new classic" comedy. Some of the acting may be slightly dry from supporting characters, but *Elf* is a unique comical hit that will get you into the Christmas spirit early.

This movie receives 4 flying W's and is rated PG.

## Area Youth Explore Challenges of Breaking into Music Biz

BY ADAM SCUBA  
Beacon Correspondent

It all began in the back woods of White Haven, Pennsylvania. Three individuals determined to make music would pull their efforts and talents together to create something different. They envisioned a rock band that would set the standards and defy the odds. But what makes this band so different? To begin with, they're still in high school.

Element 7's lead singer, Nick Bardoutsos, recalled only a few years ago not even having much of an interest in starting any type of band. While taking private voice lessons and performing with the St. Nicholas Elementary School Choir in Wilkes-Barre, however, he wrote his very first song entitled, "I Walked Through the Doorway." But, like many young people, Bardoutsos's attention was pulled in many directions. At that point, despite some obvious talent, music just wasn't the driving force in his life.

After stepping away from the music scene for nearly a year, Bardoutsos renewed his interest after attending a Stone Temple Pilots concert. He knew at this point that he wanted to start a band. "I just have an overwhelming urge to perform in front of people and for them to enjoy it," said Bardoutsos.

After discussing the idea with friends, George Roskos and Mike Bart, the three decided they would form a band. The only problem: not one of them knew how to play an instrument. This would soon change as they all began taking professional lessons.

Although the three felt generally comfortable with their sound, the band agreed they needed a bassist and found the talent they were looking for in Justin Richards. Together as a complete band, Element 7 had their first public performance, opening for Blind Ambition at Rodano's Pizza in Wilkes-Barre.

While performing is a major part of a band's growth, developing an image is important, too. "We developed our own

image...we did see other bands, but [were challenged] not to copy what they did," said Bardoutsos.

The band's expectations of glitz and glamour were crushed when they performed their second live show and the attendance was less than desirable.

The band, battered but not discouraged, decided it was time for a change. They returned to the studio to begin writing original songs, something Bardoutsos had wanted to do from the start.

Members of Element 7 were then asked to open for popular local band, UUU, at the Fine Arts Fiesta at Market Street Square in downtown Wilkes-Barre. "It was an awesome show. The fiesta showed us how to perform outside, in front of a huge crowd," said Roskos. This renewed the band's confidence and allowed them to push forward and begin their next adventure, putting together their first CD.

Shortly before heading into the recording studio, Richards left the band and needed to be replaced. Bardoutsos's friend, Jon Pall, took up the challenge only two weeks before recording their first track. "Before Jon came, we only had five tracks on the CD. Now we have eight. We wrote two songs in two weeks," said Bardoutsos.

The CD entitled, *Everything At Once* was released in September of 2003. The band's members all agreed that it was an educational experience and something new. "The first CD was a complete learning experience. We definitely take pride in what we did on that album," said Roskos.

Bardoutsos added, "It was a great experience, and we learned a lot."

Bardoutsos notes that the future of Element 7 is anything but sure; however, he believes they will continue to keep writing originals songs and performing at area venues. For now, he said the band would like to break even with the costs incurred on the CD and then by mid-2004, release a second CD.

Bardoutsos concluded, "I don't know what will happen after high school, but hopefully we will be able to stay together as a band."

## Fall Openings

Earn \$150-\$250 wkly in  
Customer Service/Sales  
Flexible Part Time & Full Time  
Hours Around Class and Other  
Activities. Fun Team Environment  
Call Now!! 287-8020



**Before you take off:**

- \*Make of list of everything you need.
- \*Pack lightly. Remember that you need to get it all to the car/bus/plane by yourself. In addition, it all has to come back eventually. Unpacking is never fun, so keep the job as small as possible.
- \*Check road conditions and weather en route to your destination to ensure safe traveling.
- \*Make sure your dorm is hazard-free. Turn off everything, and unplug any appliances.
- \*Empty the refrigerator and get rid of any food that may spoil.
- \*Take out the ALL of the trash.
- \*Don't forget your laundry, and be sure to leave extra room in the fridge for some good, homemade food.

**If you're traveling internationally:**

- \*It's encouraged to learn about the history, culture, politics and customs of the country/countries in which you travel and study, and to respect the country's customs, manners, rules, and laws. For instance, various countries and cultures respect certain manners and dress codes. Americans should also abide by these manners and dress codes as much as possible.
  - \*The Department of State publishes Background Notes on countries worldwide. These are brief, factual pamphlets with information on each country's culture, history, geography, economy, government and current political situation. Background Notes are available for approximately 170 countries. They often include a reading list, travel notes, and maps.
  - \*Get to the airport early -- about two hours for domestic and two-and-a-half to three hours for international flights. Check the airline's web site for recommendations.
- If you're traveling in the U.S.:**
- \*Try to leave from smaller, regional airports. They tend to have shorter lines and cheaper flights.
  - \*Be careful what you pack in your carry-on bag. The new security guidelines from the Transportation Security Administration say you now can pack tweezers and nail files in your carry-on bag.
  - \*Pack a snack. Many flights won't be serving any food this year.
  - \*Confirm all details of your flight with the airline before leaving.
  - \*Keep your ID handy until the plane takes off.
  - \*Don't carry wrapped gifts. They may have to be unwrapped at the security checkpoint.
  - \*Ask to have your film hand-checked. Many x-ray machines now being used are powerful enough to damage film.

## Tips for Hassle Free Holiday Travel

BY MONICA CARDENAS & MELISSA JURGENSEN  
Asst. Beacon A&E Editor & Beacon A&E Editor

*If you're beginning to pack your things for the nice, long trip home, or you're looking forward to a holiday get-away, a little planning can save money, time and a lot of headaches.*

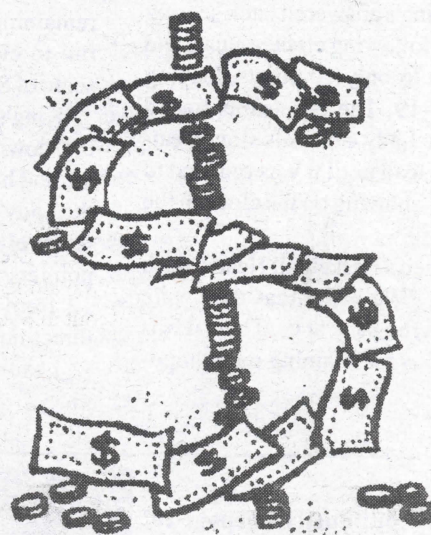
*Traveling to and from dorms and home can be a tricky task, particularly at this time of year. For those traveling by plane, travel experts say to expect long waits in the airport, no food on flights, and few courtesies from the airlines. Therefore, it's important to anticipate all contingencies so that this well-deserved break can be enjoyed thoroughly.*

## Become a *Lifesaver!*

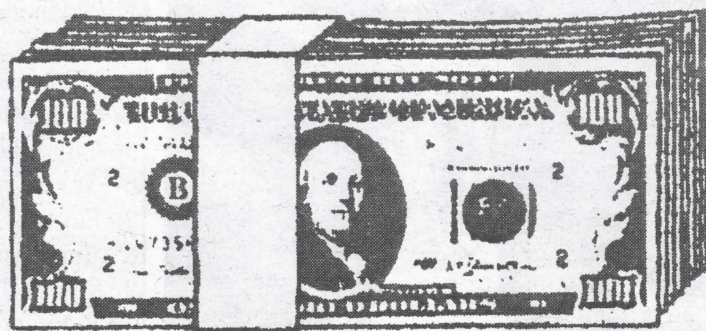
**Donate Plasma  
that is needed for  
millions of people  
each year...**

**IBPI**

Interstate Blood & Plasma, Inc.  
41 S. Main St.  
Wilkes Barre, PA



**It's Safe  
and Convenient  
Donate  
Today!!!!!!**



**Help Save Lives!  
Donate Plasma  
823-4119**



# Lady Monarchs Best Lady Colonels in Home Opener

BY TARA ULITCHNEY  
Beacon Correspondent

The Wilkes Lady Colonels' basketball season officially opened Wednesday, December 3--and it began with a tough challenge at home by cross-town rival, the King's Lady Monarchs.

This year, the Wilkes women have had to regroup and develop new strategy as the team adjusts to the loss of star center Whitney Bull, who last year was ranked third in the nation in rebounding and contributed to a large percentage of the team's offensive numbers. But the Lady Colonels came out aggressively on Wednesday against the Lady Monarchs with an initial 9-0 run. After just five minutes of play, the score was 9-2.

However, King's answered back scoring 23 points in the following eight minutes and holding Wilkes to only 10 points, leaving the score at 25-19. The two teams traded baskets with the Lady Colonels slowly eating away at the lead until it was reduced to 29-27 with 2:51 showing on the clock in the first half.

Wilkes Women's Basketball Head Coach Jim Reed said, "We knew that they were going to make a run back at us. Then, it was just a matter of us maintaining our composure."

Despite the home team's efforts, the Lady Monarchs responded with a 9-0 run, forcing turnovers left and right, including two steals by Lauren Bonann to end the half with a score of 38-27.

Reed said, "We played hard, but King's got a lot of turnovers and a few quick buckets towards the end of the half, and things just snowballed from there."

The Lady Monarchs started off the second half with a two-minute 7-0 run extending the lead to 45-27. King's continued to outscore Wilkes, slowly increasing the lead to 70-41 with 6:37 remaining in the game.

Wilkes fought back and decreased the lead to only 24 points with two minutes remaining, but King's held on with a 7-2 run to close out the game with a final score of 82-53.

King's dominated on the boards pulling down 46 rebounds against Wilkes' 33, and had 11 steals to Wilkes' four. But the Lady Colonels saw some promise offensively. Wilkes buried more three-pointers than the opponent going 6 for 12 from the perimeter (King's had no threes and was 0 for 8).

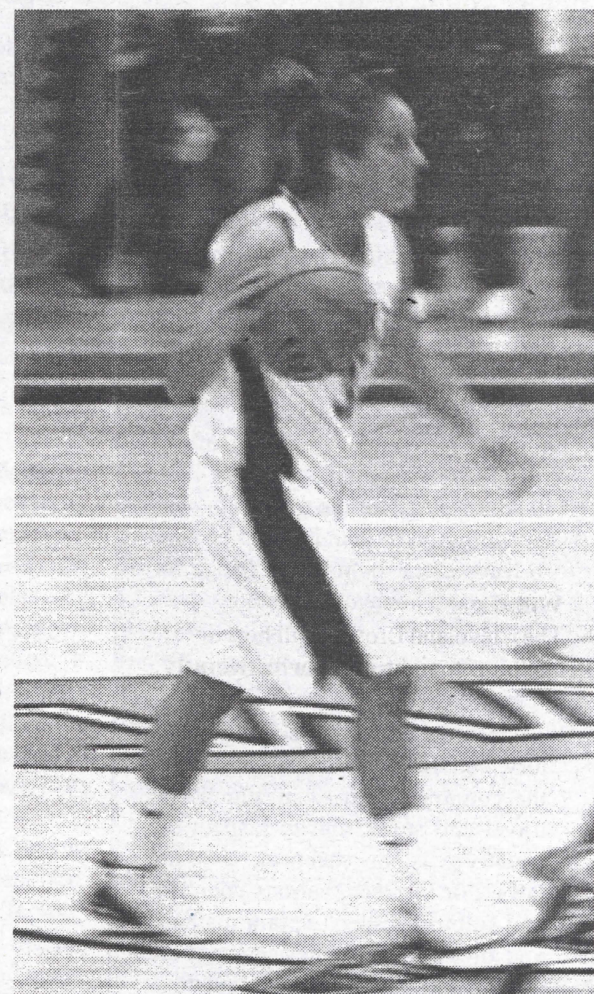
Leading scorers for Wilkes were An-

drea DeMaranville with 14 points who went 5-15 from the field and 3-4 from the line, and Danielle Kresock with 11 points going 3-5 from the perimeter and 2-4 from the line. Leading scorers for King's were Jen Wosniak with 19 points and Beth Jordan with 14 points.

This game leaves Wilkes' record at 0-4 (0-1 in the Freedom League), and King's, who is ranked 20th in the nation, at 4-1 (1-0 in the Freedom League).

Though a disheartening loss and rough start to the season, Reed and players are still optimistic about this year. "I think we'll improve throughout the season--probably more than King's will because we have more room for improvement," he said. He is also confident that the players will become more mentally mature as the season progresses, which will enable them to respond without letting their confidence be broken.

The Lady Colonels' next game will be held on Saturday, December 6, 2003 at DeSales University at 1:00 p.m. with the men's game following at 3:00 p.m.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

## Basketball continued from page 20

turnovers. If you looked at our stats on the year there's been a real good positive assist to turnover ratio at that position, and it looked like we played a little bit scared at that position. But, I thought they played with really good composure the last ten minutes," commented Rickrode.

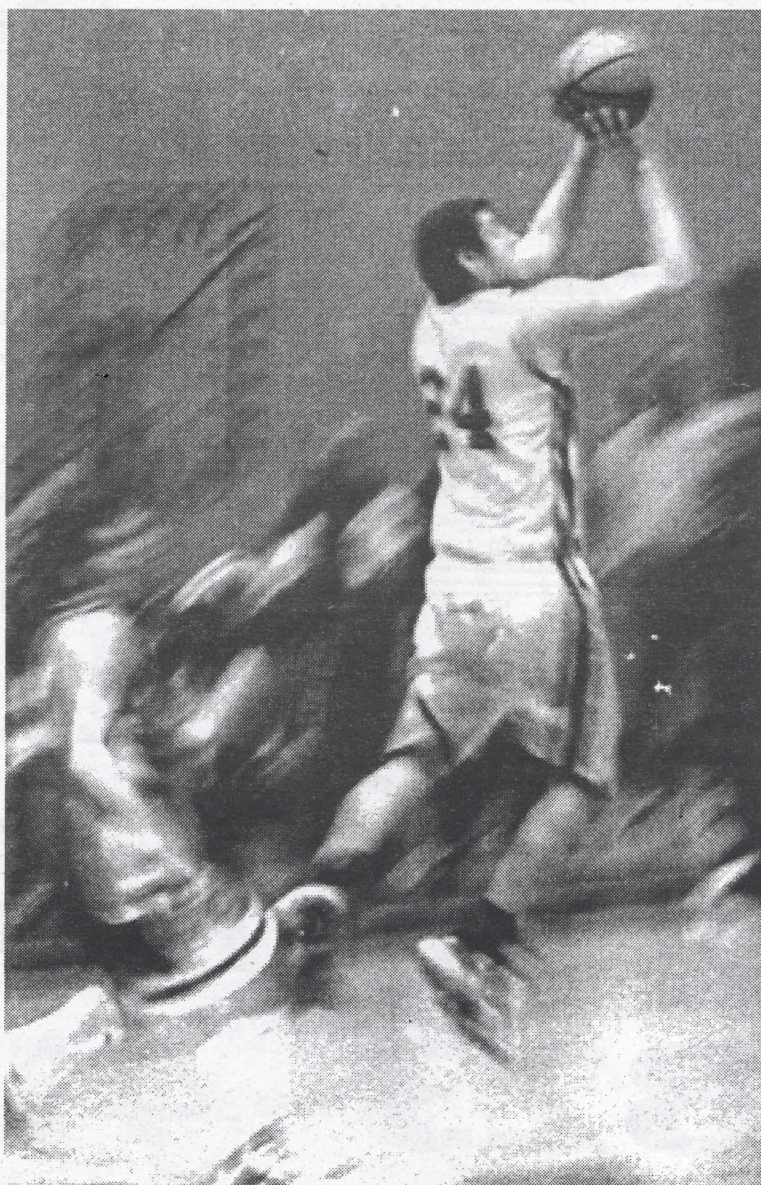
Bonczewski ended with the game high of 27 points and also grabbed a game high 12 rebounds. Dave Plisko, forward, and Mike Morgan, guard/forward, added 13 points each for the Colonels.

"Phil was excellent, he really got after it, and finished everything. He took it strong and didn't fade away on anything. He was very tough, and a hard match up for them," said Rickrode.

Jamar Stokes, guard, was the second leading scorer for King's with 16 total points while Brian Horgan, forward, led the Monarch's with seven total rebounds.

"Horgan was a big part of the game. He handles the ball well from that position. He's pretty composed and rebounds extremely well. You get seven rebounds from your three man, we don't get that," explained Rickrode.

Right: Dave Plisko, senior guard, attempts a jump shot during Wednesday night's game.



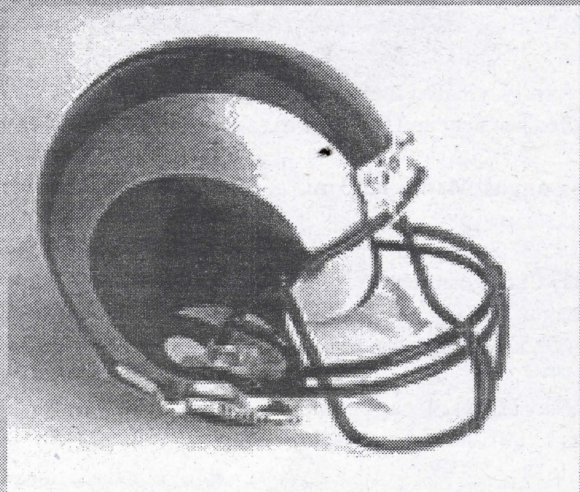
The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

## Final Bowl Championship Standings

Team	AP	ESPN/USAToday	PollAvg.	Total
1 Oklahoma	3	3	3	5.11
2 LSU	2	2	2	5.99
3 USC	1	1	1	6.15
4 Michigan	4	4	4	10.63
5 Ohio State	7	6	6.5	14.28
6 Texas	5	5	5	14.53
7 Florida State	9	8	8.5	17.93
8 Tennessee	6	7	6.5	19.64
9 Miami (Fla.)	10	9	9.5	19.79
10 KA. State	8	10	9	22.73
11 Miami (OH)	14	15	14.5	24.22
12 Georgia	11	11	11	24.59
13 Iowa	13	12	12.5	28.94
14 Purdue	12	13	12.5	32.93
15 Florida	17	17	17	36.80
16 WA. St.	15	14	14.5	39.09
17 Boise State	18	16	17	39.53
18 TCU	19	19	19	40.47
19 Mississippi	16	18	17	44.13
20 Nebraska	22	21	21.5	44.20
21 OK. State	21	22	21.5	45.72
22 Utah	25	25	25	46.53
23 Maryland	23	24	23.5	49.57
24 Bowling Gr.	26	30	28	53.11
25 Minnesota	24	20	22	55.49

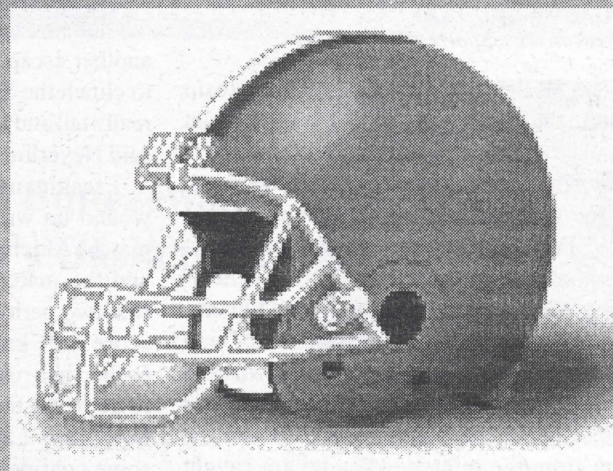


# Monday Night Match-up



## St. Louis Rams vs. Cleveland Browns

BY SEVE KEMBLE & WILL MIDGETT  
Beacon Editor and Asst. Sports Editor



### Will:

The Cleveland Browns will host the St. Louis Rams tonight, and it will be the upset of the week. Well, not as big an upset as Kansas State over Oklahoma, but big nonetheless.

The Browns are 4-8 and the Rams are 9-3, but home field advantage will play a big role tonight. Monday Night Football brings a different atmosphere to the game, one in which the Browns will be able to thrive. The Dog Pound is a formidable place to play, and since the Rams are a dome team they will have trouble in the cold Cleveland air.

Plus, all of the Rams' losses have come on the road this season, as they are 3-3 in

away games. Two of those losses came against the 49ers and the Giants, both bad teams.

Kelly Holcombe has not been playing well recently and I think he is due for a good game. His offensive line will really need to step up their game because they are the main reason for Holcombe's struggles.

If you merely look at the stats, the Rams should beat the heck out of Cleveland. This game won't be about stats; for Cleveland it will be a matter of pride and St. Louis needs to win because it is in the middle of an NFC title race. I think that Cleveland will end up winning this game, 21-14.

### Steve:

Tonight the St. Louis Rams (9-3) travel to Cleveland to take on the Browns (4-8). The Rams are very hot right now winning four games in a row, while the Browns have lost two in a row. Look for both teams to continue with their streaks.

There are three reasons why the Rams will defeat the Browns tonight:

First, Mark Bulger, Rams quarterback, ranks third in the league in passing yards with 2,987 and has a rating of 81.3. He's also a much more consistent quarterback than either of the Browns' quarterbacks.

Second, Torry Holt, Rams wide receiver, is having a career year and ranks first in

yards receiving with 1,387. He has also hauled in 92 receptions and ten touchdowns.

Third, Marshall Faulk, Rams running back, is finally healthy and had his first huge game of the season last week against the Vikings. He posted 108 yards on 17 carries with three touchdowns and also had two receptions for 35 yards.

With those three players and a reliable defense the Rams have no reason to lose. The Rams also have a very healthy team going into the game with no key injuries.

Rams win 31-17.

## Carlo's Sports Restaurant

247 Carey Ave  
Wilkes-Barre PA  
829-9350

Kitchen hours  
Mon - Fri 4-11  
Sat - Sun Noon - 11

"WHEN YOU NEED A BREAK FROM FINALS, STOP BY & UNWIND"

**MON** All U Can Eat Spaghetti  
& Meatballs \$3.95 4-8 pm

**FRI** Live Acoustic Music 9:30 - 12:30  
This Week **LITTLE SISTER DUO**  
w/NO COVER CHARGE

Monday Nite Football  
.25 Wings 8-11 pm  
Free Halftime Buffet

**SAT** Open at Noon for College Football  
\$1.99 Personal Pizza

**TUE** Two For Tuesday 4-8 pm  
2 Dinners for \$9.95

**SUN** Open at Noon for NFL Football  
NFL Sunday Ticket on Directv

Every Week 8 - 11 pm  
**CHUCK PAUL** w/NO COVER  
Acoustic Guitar & Keyboards  
VOTED Areas Best 1 Man Act  
by WEEKENDER 2003

**WED** Every Week 9:30 pm - 12:30  
**STINGRAY** w/NO COVER  
The Areas COOLEST Blues Guitarist

**THU** All u can Eat Ravioli \$4.95  
Meat, Cheese or Mixed

WE ACCEPT: MASTERCARD - VISA - MAC  
DISCOVER - AMEX



Something for Everyone

Great Food, Sports & Live Music

Well Worth the short Walk or Drive  
From Campus

10% Discount with your College ID  
(Not valid on Specials, Beverages or Lobster Tail)



## Wilkes Grapplers Fall to Rival King's, 25-14

BY WILL MIDGETT  
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

The Wilkes University wrestling team hosted the King's College Monarchs last Tuesday, and fell 25-14.

Freshman Mike Ferrara started the match for the Colonels at the 149-pound weight class. Ferrara faced Jim Morgan for King's, who was able to scrape by with a 6-5 decision, giving King's a 3-0 lead. Joe Diliberto was next for Wilkes, and wrestled Dean Dehaut in an exciting battle of takedowns and escapes. Diliberto was down 13-0 in the third period after having just received a stalling point from the referee, when he got caught on his back by Dehaut and was pinned with five seconds left in the match.

Wilkes would lose the next three matches, all of which were very close. Kyle Lenio lost a 3-2 decision at the 165-pound weight class, Fritz Delva lost a 7-5 decision at 174, and Sean Davies lost an 8-6 nail biter at 184.

"There were a couple of flip-flop matches," said first-year Wilkes Head Coach Jon Laudenslager. "They ended up on top but it could have gone either way."

Jon Neyerlin earned the first win for the Colonels at the 197-pound match. Neyerlin, who is ranked second in the MAC with an overall record of 9-1, faced King's Jason Reilly. Reilly proved a formidable opponent for Neyerlin, who eventually won 8-7. By the end of the second period, Neyerlin held a 7-4 lead. In the third period, Reilly scored on an

escape and then on single leg takedown to tie the score at 7-7. Neyerlin was able to get another escape before the end of the period to clinch the 8-7 decision. "He [Reilly] was really tall and I had trouble getting in on him," said Neyerlin. "It was tough match."

Freshman heavyweight Keith Altiery wound up with a win following Neyerlin's match. Altiery was up against James Bishop, and the match went scoreless through the first two periods. In the 3rd period with the score still knotted at 0-0, Altiery caught Bishop in a roll and pinned him with 1:30 left to go in the match. "That was a big win for him," says Laudenslager. "He needs to get some confidence."

King's would then take the next two matches at the 125 and 133. King's Mitch Marks won a 14-1 major decision over Jeremy Mayer, and John Houssock earned an 8-6 decision over Joe Yutko.

Senior John Muscarella wrestled the last match of the night for the Colonels at 141. In a completely dominating performance, Muscarella won a 20-5 technical fall over Jeremy Ackerman. Muscarella now has a record of 9-1, and is ranked first at 141 in the MAC.

Wilkes is now 1-2 in dual meet competition. The Colonels wrestled at the RIT Invitational Tournament on Saturday in Rochester, New York where Jon Neyerlin placed 4th, and the team ended up with a 12th place finish out of 17 teams. The Colonels' next event will be their own Wilkes Open Tournament on December 28-29.

## Running Club Releases Season Results

The Running Club recently released the results from its first season in competition. The club formed last year and was able to compete this fall.

### September 14th—Ben August Memorial, 3 mi.

13th Jared Shayka (19:03) 2nd age group  
17th Josh Hall (19:31) 2nd age group  
22nd Dr. William Terzaghi (20:32)  
23rd Frank Lopresti (20:37) 3rd age group  
46th Silvia Elias (23:55)  
54th Darlene Chaykosky (24:27) 1st age group  
68th Erica Buchholz (27:00) 2nd age group

### October 18th—Fall Foliage Run, 3.67 mi.

5th Jared Shayka (23:07) 1st age group  
7th Frank Lopresti (23:54) 2nd age group  
17th Darlene Chaykosky (25:55) 1st age group

### October 26, 2003—Wyoming Valley Fall Trail Run, 5 1/2 mi.

8th Jared Shayka (40:27) Medal winner  
11th Frank Lopresti (41:56)  
17th Dr. William Terzaghi (43:12)  
35th Silvia Elias (52:42)

NOTE: The Running Club also participated in the 17th Annual Ronald McDonald House 5K Race on September 28; however, the results from that race were not accurately available.

## Texas and Boston Talking A-Rod for Ramirez

BY RONALD BLUM  
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—Shortstop Alex Rodriguez playing alongside pitcher Curt Schilling in Fenway Park next season—it could happen as the Boston Red Sox try to beat the New York Yankees in a heated game of "Can you top this?"

The Red Sox are discussing acquiring the American League Most Valuable Player Alex Rodriguez from the Texas Rangers for outfielder Manny Ramirez in what would be a swap of the only \$20 million-a-year players in baseball history.

"There seems to be a focus that often leads to successful deals," Ramirez's agent, Jeff Moorad, said Friday.

Moorad confirmed that Boston and Texas are talking. But he added: "I've stayed in touch with both clubs over the last few days, and neither seemed optimistic today that a deal was imminent."

Rodriguez told Texas last month before he won his first MVP award that he was open to having the Rangers explore a trade.

The shortstop has reached 47 homers and 118 RBIs in three straight seasons. Ramirez, an outfielder, had at least 33 homers and 104 RBIs in each of his three years

in Boston.

"A-Rod's the best player in the game, and he plays a premium defensive position," said Rodriguez's agent, Scott Boras. "He certainly brings a moniker to a franchise. When a player like that is available, there are teams that are certainly going to do everything they can to pursue him."

Red Sox president Larry Lucchino wouldn't confirm or deny any talks.

"All of these trade rumors come from Texas, not from us, and we aren't going to have any comment on any of them," he said.

Texas spokesman Gregg Elkin said there were no developments to report.

The Dallas Morning News reported Friday that Texas would make the deal if Boston would pay a "considerable" part of the remainder of Ramirez's contract. The paper cited sources with knowledge of the discussions.

After playing a classic AL championship series, won by the Yankees in the 11th inning of Game 7, New York and Boston are stocking up for another battle.

The Red Sox acquired Schilling from Arizona last week, and the Yankees got Javier Vazquez from Montreal on Thursday. New

York is poised to sign outfielder Gary Sheffield to a \$39 million, three-year deal, and the Yankees have added Tom Gordon to their bullpen and are close to a deal with Paul Quantrill.

Rodriguez agreed to a record \$252 million, 10-year contract with Texas in Dec. 11, 2000. Ramirez got a \$160 million, eight-year deal from the Red Sox the very same day.

Their average salaries remain the two highest in baseball, and following three straight last-place finishes, Texas owner Tom Hicks wants to explore gaining relief from Rodriguez's contract.

While Rodriguez must give his permission for a trade, Ramirez does not. But his contract requires an additional \$1 million payment if he is traded.

If the Red Sox acquired Rodriguez, they almost certainly would trade their current All-Star shortstop, Nomar Garciaparra. Both Anaheim and Los Angeles are interested, several agents for other players said Friday on the condition of anonymity.

Meanwhile, about 180 free agents faced a midnight Sunday deadline to re-sign with their former teams unless they were offered salary arbitration.

Catcher Ivan Rodriguez was set to depart the World Series champion Florida Marlins, and pitcher Greg Maddux appeared ready to leave the Atlanta Braves after 11 seasons.

Rodriguez proposed a \$40 million, four-year contract Friday during telephone negotiations with Marlins owner Jeffrey Loria.

"We are not optimistic at this point that we are going to be able to reach resolution on a contract before Sunday night at midnight," general manager Larry Beinfest said. "The financial goals of Pudge and the Marlins are significantly apart at this time."

Ivan Rodriguez made \$10 million last season, and Boras said the 10-time All-Star was willing to stay with the Marlins at the same price if he got a deal as long as the one Florida gave Mike Lowell earlier this week; the third baseman agreed to a \$32 million, four-year contract.

Boras said the raise second baseman Luis Castillo got in his \$16 million, three-year deal also was cited by Rodriguez.



# Colonel Clipboard

## Standings and Records as of 12/05/03

### Men's Basketball

Lycoming	1-0	4-0
King's	1-0	4-1
DeSales	1-0	4-1
Delaware Valley	1-0	1-4
Wilkes	0-1	3-2
FDU-Florham	0-1	3-2
Scranton	0-1	1-4
Drew	0-1	1-4

### Women's Basketball

Delaware Valley	1-0	5-0
Scranton	1-0	4-0
Drew	1-0	4-0
King's	1-0	4-1
Lycoming	0-1	3-2
DeSales	0-1	2-2
FDU-Florham	0-1	2-3
Wilkes	0-1	0-4

### Wrestling

125 lbs.	Jeremy Mayer	8-3
	Dustin Bloss	4-4
133 lbs.	Joe Yutko	3-5
	Brian Sashko	0-2
141 lbs.	John Muscarella	8-1
	Mike Sciulara	3-3
149 lbs.	Mike Ferrara	8-2
	Keith Jones	1-2
157 lbs.	Joe Diliberto	6-3
	Joe Yenchak	5-3
165 lbs.	Kyle Lenio	8-3
	Alessandro Plutino	4-4
	Nick DeAngelis	0-2
174 lbs.	Sean Davies	6-5
	Fritz Delva	4-5

184 lbs.	Jon Neyerlin	8-1
197 lbs.	Diego Alvarado	0-3
285 lbs.	Keith Altieri	2-4
	Andrew Steinberg	0-5

## Athlete of the Week

### Phil Bonczewski Men's Basketball



Phil Bonczewski, senior forward, gave the Monarchs a very tough time during Wednesday night's game at the Marts Center. He had game highs in both rebounding and points. Bonczewski ended the night with 27 points and 12 rebounds.

## Weekly Recap

### Men's Basketball

(11/21) Wilkes 74 Adrian (MI) 71  
(11/22) Wilkes 110 Thomas More (KY) 94  
(11/25) Albright 84 Wilkes 68  
(11/29) Wilkes 74 St. Mary's (MD) 65  
(12/3) King's 78 Wilkes 67

### Women's Basketball

(11/21) Palm Beach Atlantic 71 Wilkes 65  
(11/22) Messiah 82 Wilkes 47

(11/25) Marywood 72 Wilkes 66  
(12/3) King's 82 Wilkes 53

### Wrestling

(11/22) Oneonta State Red Dragon Invitational  
Wilkes 3rd out of 10 teams  
(12/2) King's 25 Wilkes 14  
(12/6) RIT Invitational Tournament  
Wilkes 12th out of 17 teams

## Numbers Of the Week

- 83.3** percentage from three point range Dannie Evans, King's guard, shot during Wednesday night's game
- 4** place that Jon Neyerlin, senior 184 pounds, finished in the Rochester Institute of Technology Invitational on Saturday.
- 22** number of free throws attempted by King's men's basketball in the second half of Wednesday's game
- 19** number of free throws made by King's men's basketball in the second half of Wednesday's game

## Spring Break 2004

Travel With STS Americas #1  
Student Tour Operator

Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas,  
and Florida. Now hiring campus reps.

Call for group discounts.

Information/Reservations

1-800-648-4849 or [www.ststravel.com](http://www.ststravel.com)

## Donna Kowalczyk's Salon at 419 823-8966

419 S. River St., Wilkes Barre

Get the *Coolest* Holiday Trends  
at the *Hottest* Prices!

Check out our great holiday gift ideas

IsoColor gift bag - Originally \$37, on sale for just \$20

Body wrap kits/Stress reduction kits - 10% off

1 Liter IsoShampoo - Originally \$40, now just \$24

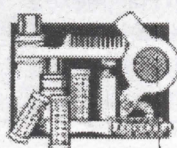
20% Discount for Wilkes Student & Employees

### Hours

Weds. and Fri 9-5

Sat. 8-4

Mon., Tues., Thurs., and  
Evenings by appointment





## Cross-town Rivalry Serves as Season Opener in Marts Center

### *Dominant King's offense and late turnovers doom Colonels*

BY STEVE KEMBLE  
Beacon Sports Editor

The Marts Center once again was rocking as the booming PA begged the seasonal question: "Are You Ready to Rumble?" And the teams were. But when the dust settled, it was the King's College offense that dominated and led to the second Wilkes hoops loss of the evening.

Wilkes (3-2) opened its MAC schedule with a 78-67 defeat to the King's Monarchs (4-1) led by Dannie Evans.

The game was very tight in the first half as Wilkes and King's traded the lead six times throughout the period.

Phil Bonczewski, senior forward, was off the charts in the first half for the Colonels as he was six of nine from the field with two three-pointers giving him a game high 14 of the team's 31 points at the half.

"You're playing King's at home.

you got to be pumped up. You got to be ready to go. It's one of the biggest rivalries around here. I was ready to go when I woke up this morning," said Bonczewski.

But, King's withstood Bonczewski's dominating first half taking a 32-31 lead into half-time.

Early in the second half King's came out on fire as it went on a 7-0 scoring run putting the Monarchs in the lead 49-42. The Monarchs' guard Dannie led the offensive effort and made several free throws and had a three pointer in that span. Evans finished the game with a team high 25 points and was five of six from three point range.

"We matched up the point guard on him most of the time, either [John] Yanniello or [John] Sclafani. A couple times Rashawn [Pressley] guarded him and lost him. The scouting report on him is that he catches, he pump fakes

once, he takes a dribble, and shoots. He did that and made them," said Jerry Rickrode, Wilkes Men's Basketball Head Coach.

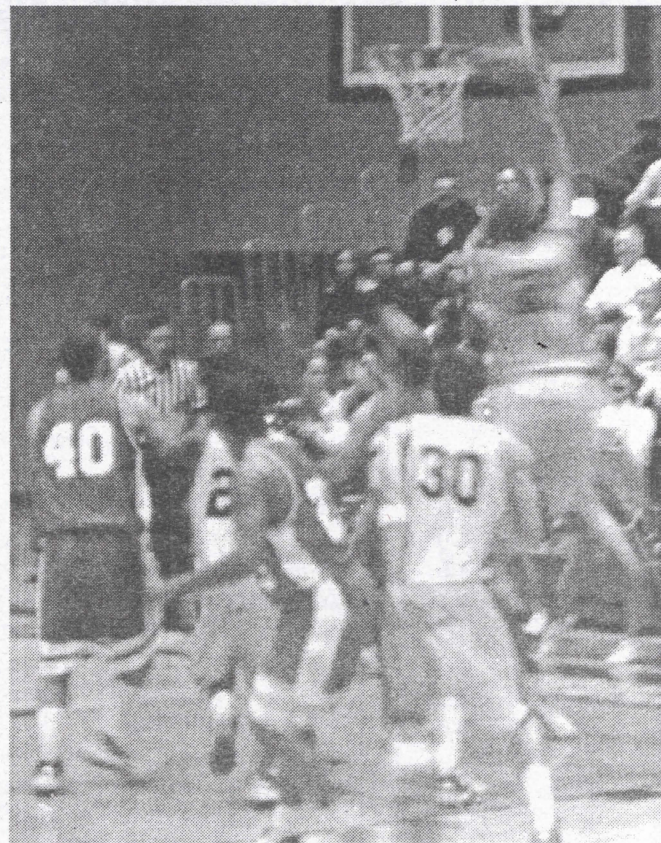
Nearly halfway through the second half Wilkes pulled to within two points on a lay-up by Bonczewski, but King's proved too much to handle.

On their next two possessions, Kings' Evans and London Gabriel hit unanswered three pointers to put the Monarchs up 58-51 with ten minutes left in the game.

The Monarchs' lead grew to as much as 12 points with three minutes left in the game, because of five consecutive free throws made and forced turnovers.

"The defining point in the game was the fact that our two point guards had two assists and eight

**Basketball** continued on  
page 16



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski



# Campus Calendar

## **TODAY(12/8)**

Finals week thru December 16. Good Luck!

REACH Food, Clothing and Home products drive thru December 16

## **TUESDAY(12/9)**

Finals week thru December 16. Good Luck!

## **WEDNESDAY(12/10)**

Finals week thru December 16. Good Luck!

## **THURSDAY(12/11)**

Finals week thru December 16. Good Luck!

## **FRIDAY(12/12)**

Finals week thru December 16. Good Luck!

Men's Basketball @ R.I.T. Tournament, 6/8 p.m.

## **SATURDAY(12/13)**

Finals week thru December 16. Good Luck!

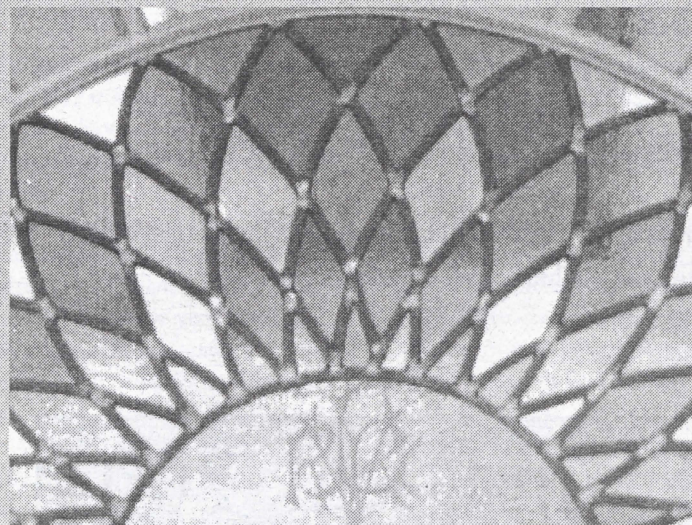
Men's Basketball @ R.I.T. Tournament, 1/3 p.m.

## **SUNDAY(12/14)**

Finals week thru December 16. Good Luck!

**Congratulations to Katie Morton,** who correctly identified last week's "Find This Picture" first. As Morton pointed out, last week's picture depicted the Mechanical Room in the Basement of Brieseth Hall, next to the elevator. Morton will receive a \$10 cash prize courtesy of the Wilkes University Programming Board.

## Find this Picture on Campus and...



## WIN CASH!

The Beacon / T. Mick Jenkins

This photo was taken somewhere on Wilkes University's Campus. When you find it, email us the answer at: wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com. Be sure to put "Campus Picture" as the subject heading, as well as your name, phone number, and either campus mailbox or mailing address in the body text. The first person to correctly identify the location of this picture will be recognized in next week's issue, and will receive a \$10 cash prize, courtesy of Programming Board.

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

Post your event by visiting [www.wilkesbeacon.com](http://www.wilkesbeacon.com) or email [wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com](mailto:wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com)