

The BEACON

Wilkes University Wilkes-Barre, PA

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

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Vice President Marty Williams recovering from stroke *Sandra Carroll named as the interim*

BY ALISON WOODY
Beacon Asst. News Editor

On Easter Sunday, Vice President for Development Marty Williams suffered a massive stroke and was transported to the University of Pennsylvania hospital.

While early reports of his condition were dire, Williams is making what some call a "miraculous recovery," and was released last week to begin rehabilitation at the John Heinz Rehabilitation Center in Wilkes-Barre.

Michael Frantz, Vice President of Marketing and Enrollment, along with other members of the President's Cabinet, were able to visit Williams in Philadelphia and upon his return to Wilkes-Barre.

Frantz said Williams' progress was "nothing short of amazing."

"We have every confidence that his rehabilitation will continue to be positive and that

he'll return to work as soon as he is ready. Marty is a very important part of our team and we look forward to his return. We continue to pray for him and his family with the trust that his health will be fully restored," said Frantz.

Paul Adams, Vice President of Student Affairs, has remained close to the situation since the beginning, but declined to comment on Williams' exact health condition due to privacy.

However, Adams did state, "We are thrilled that he is back in Wilkes-Barre and are excited by how well he is progressing. We can't wait for him to get back to work. Marty is a special colleague and we miss him."

Williams' illness has left yet another hole in the President's cabinet, along with the April 13 departure of Scott Byers, former Vice President for Finance and Support Operations and the year-long

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Courtesy Marketing Comm.

Vice President of Development, Marty Williams, suffered a stroke on Easter Sunday.

Brown elected SG President

BY ANDREW SEAMAN
Beacon Asst. News Editor

With 30.3% of the student vote, junior class president, Matt Brown will be named Student Government (SG) President for the 2007 - 2008 academic year.

Brown faced a vote to determine whether he could remain on SG last week for misrepresentation and other impeachable offenses. However, in the student-wide vote beat out three other candidates: Danielle Namiotka, Anthony Scerbo and Jeffrey Bauman for the top SG post.

Brown said, "I really appreciate the honor that the student body has given me to represent them for the following year. I am a very approachable person, and would love to hear any questions, concerns, or comments that anyone might have. Please do not hesitate to email me, call me, or just stop me when you see me walking. You voted to have me represent you, and I will not let you down."

Brown will be a senior in the Entrepreneurship program of the Jay Sidhu School of Business and has hopes of becoming a commercial real-estate developer.

As SG president Brown said he plans to develop a strong bridge between the organization and the students it represents, "I plan to

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Tuition to increase 4.5%

BY ANDREW SEAMAN
Beacon Asst. News Editor

At the April 18 meeting of Wilkes University's Student Government (SG), Vice Presidents Mike Frantz and Dr. Paul Adams along with Controller Anna Noon announced a 4.5% increase in undergraduate tuition, from \$11,495 per semester to \$12,040 a semester.

In addition to the tuition bump, the budget also indicates a 9.39% increase in fees. The general fee will increase from \$325 to \$340 at a rate of 4.62%; the technology fee will raise from \$100 to \$125 at a rate of 25% and the student union fee will also raise from \$20 to \$25 at a rate of 25%.

Frantz, Vice President for Enrollment Services, presented the bulk of the presentation and assured students that the fee in-

creases will not affect free laundry or parking fees.

Housing fees will also be going up 4.5%. This means that campus apartment rental will raise from \$3,285 to \$3,435, dorm rooms will go from \$2,970 to \$3,105 and singles will increase from \$3,120 to \$3,260.

According to Frantz, compared with other area institutions, the Wilkes tuition and housing hike is notably less. However, Wilkes' bump is above the rate of inflation, which is about 3.5%. Frantz explained the process of finding the rate of increase. "We enter into the budget development with the intent of trying to keep tuition increases as low as possible. But we have to balance that versus what we see as desired needs of the institution. As a starting point we pick a tuition

See TUITION page 5

Faculty approve moving forward with law school plans

BY ALISON WOODY
Beacon Asst. News Editor

On April 11, 80 members of Wilkes faculty voted to approve moving forward with plans for a proposed law school. The vote was 71 in favor, 9 opposed.

Following faculty approval of the concept behind the law school, the next step for the project will be to draft a proposal that will be presented to the Board of Trustees.

While the initial Board of Trustees vote was scheduled for April 13, it has now been pushed back to sometime in June.

President Tim Gilmour explained the change in plans for the Board vote. "The problem was a scheduling issue. The faculty meeting at which the law school was considered was [scheduled for] April 5- just four days before the Board meeting.

"We felt the faculty needed to

deliberate before the Board did and we would have had to send the law school materials to the Board at the end of March. Therefore, we rescheduled the Board discussion for June," he said.

In a previous *Beacon* article, Bernard Graham, interim

Provost, said, "The main niche for the law school will be our mentoring heritage and culture at Wilkes that makes us so unique... There is no law school in northeast Pennsylvania and the need stems from there."

While there seems to be overwhelming support for the concept of a law school at Wilkes, there are still those who have their reservations.

Dr. Jane Elmes-Crahall, professor of communication studies, described why she is opposed to the new law school. "I was one of the 9 [faculty] who voted against sending this process forward with

full faculty endorsement. Simply put, I do not think [there has been a] convincing argument that a law school will not negatively affect existing programs. What's the rush? We need a more realistic budget plan.

"I also know there really is no such thing as a vote of endorsement in decision-making bodies that are elected to represent much larger communities, such as the general faculty at Wilkes on behalf of the academic mission of the University. There are only main motions to approve or disapprove an action," she said.

If the Board of Trustees gives its approval to the law school in June, that would green light the proposal for fundraising and curricular planning.

If successful, the inaugural class of about 70-80 students is expected to enroll in the fall of 2009.



Beacon Archives

The proposed law school has been given the green light from the faculty by a vote of 71-9. The Board of Trustees will vote in June.

The BEACON

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

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The Beacon/Jim Feeney

On Thursday, April 19, the Wilkes University community gathered around the bell tower which rang 33 times to signify the lives lost in the Virginia Tech massacre.

'Wild 'N Out: Wilkes Style' sparks discussion, controversy

University administrators receive questions, feedback on event

BY GERARD HETMAN

Beacon Correspondent

A student-planned and executed fundraising event that occurred last Tuesday, April 17 on the Wilkes campus has sparked debate and drawn sharp criticism from several students and administrators who were in attendance at the show.

The event, known as "Wild 'N Out: Wilkes Style," was planned and run entirely by ten members of a freshmen business class as the culmination of a two-semester course in integrated management. The game show-style contest featured two competing teams, with four students each, squaring off through 12 rounds of games and contests. The organizing group, known as "Ca\$h Money," was set to donate proceeds from ticket sales to a local soup kitchen and had also agreed to perform community service at the facility.

The controversy over the show was sparked by use of profanity and vulgar language by several of the participants during a number of the 12 games that composed the event. Requirements for the games ranged

from trying out pick-up lines on one of the female organizers to team members boasting about their team captains to participants coming up with amusing, outgoing messages to be used by celebrities. While much of the competition was conducted in good taste, several participants made free use of language and phrases that were found objectionable and offensive by several members of the audience. This led to a number of those audience members leaving the event early and subsequently voicing their displeasure with the offensive language at a student government meeting the next night.

Junior biology major Tony Scerbo was one of the students who left the event after the opening salvos of distasteful comments between the teams. "I think the students did a real good job of planning everything out," Scerbo said afterward about his reaction to the show. "But the way it was presented was a little distasteful. It would have turned out to be a really good event, but the vulgarity took a lot away from it. They should have placed some basic limitations on what could be said," he said.

The student organizers of "Wild 'N Out"

were both upset and expressed regret about the aftermath of the show. "We learned a lesson in running a business and the proper steps to take in running an event," said Michael Reyes, freshman business major, who was both an organizer and participant in the show. "There are a lot of untrue stories going around about what we intended the event to be like."

Representative of both the office of student affairs and the Jay S. Sidhu School of business and leadership have begun investigating the conduct of participants and organizers in the show and the possibility of those actions violating university policy. "The students need to be held accountable—they have stepped up and begun to take appropriate steps in taking accountability for bad judgments used," said Dr. Justin Matus, assistant professor of business administration, who was one of the instructors for the group's class. "It was a case of great planning, but poor execution. Overall, the evening was not up to our standards here at Wilkes."

Exactly what actions will be taken in response to the show are yet to be determined.

Some of the funds raised through ticket sales will be refunded, acknowledged Matus.

Mark Allen, Dean of Students, stressed that students must behave and act appropriately during such events. "All students are held to a code of conduct that is present in the student handbook--there were several possible violations of codes at this event that we feel need to be investigated. Our department is still looking into things in terms of who said and did exactly what in this situation."

While the specific outcome of the administration's investigative efforts have yet to be determined, the faculty and members of university leadership hope that the group members and show participants can learn some valuable lessons from their experiences. "What we can take away from this event is that we can learn great things, even in the aftermath of great failures," said Matus of the aftermath. "I hold great hope that some valuable lessons will be taken away from this experience by these students."

SG presidential candidate accused of misrepresentation

Members' vote allows representative to remain on SG

BY ANDREW SEAMAN

Beacon Asst. News Editor

At the April 18 meeting of Wilkes University's Student Government (SG) voted 13-21 to retain a representative, who is also a candidate for 2007-08 SG President, in spite of allegations of unethical behavior and misrepresentation.

Because of the vote, Matt Brown, junior class president and SG presidential candidate, will be allowed to remain on SG and accept his position as president of the organization next year.

SG Parliamentarian, Brian Deihl read Brown's charges to the group, "Ten members of Wilkes Student Government have found Matt Brown's representation of the school to be against Article 11 section 2b and d. B states that the valid charges, being the abuse or misuse of power. D states, that the valid charge is an action unbecoming of a member of Student Government. All 10 members expressing their concerns reference this issue in the their comments and methods by which you used to convince the businesses to obtain a Nintendo Wii."

Brown was accused by several SG members as misrepresenting himself over the phone as a charity, while trying to obtain a

Nintendo Wii for the winner of Wilkes Idol, an event the junior class sponsored throughout this semester.

In his statement, Brown noted, "I called the business and said, 'Hi, do you have any Nintendo Wii's in stock.' They then said, 'No we don't.' And I asked them if they knew the date they would get their next shipment in, because 'I am calling from Wilkes University, I am in a bind and I need to buy one as soon as possible so I can give one away for a charity.'" Brown's claimed his goal was to determine when and if he could go wait in line for the merchandise.

Brown said, "I know that I made an error in judgment, and I am dealing with my harsh consequences. This was an error in judgment on my part, and should not reflect anyone but myself."

He added, "I respect the vote made by the general board to allow me to stay on Student Government for next year. This shows that even throughout all of this, people still feel that I have a lot to offer SG and the university as a whole. I give everyone my word that I will not let you down. No matter if I am elected SG president or not, I will be the best student leader as I possibly can."



The Beacon/Andrew Seaman

Student Government Parliamentarian Brian Deihl (left) and President Jenna Strzelecki (middle) look on as Matt Brown (right), junior class president, answers questions during a recall procedure that would have dismissed Brown from his role in the organization under the charges "actions unbecoming of a member."

PRESIDENT

from FRONT PAGE

get more of the student body to attend our weekly meetings, so that they have a chance to voice their opinion on certain matters.”

Going into his term, Brown also has some fears about his year to come, “My biggest fear would be [not] living up to the expectations of our amazing out-going president, Jenna.”

Brown also noted, “I really appreciate all of your support, and respect your judgment that I would make a great Student Government President. I will not let you down!” He then added, “For those who didn’t vote for me, I hope that over the next year you will be able to see all that I plan to do for the student body to allow you to better enjoy your time here at Wilkes. College is one of the greatest experiences that we will ever encounter. We will take these memories with us forever. I want to make sure that everyone’s memories of Wilkes are the best they can be.”

Brown will be joined on Executive Board next year by: Kate Baas, who won the Vice Presidential post; Sherri Homanko, who was elected in an uncontested race for IRHC President; and a Communter Council President to be voted in during a special election.

PRESIDENTIAL RESULTS

STUDENT GOVERNMENT- MATT BROWN (30.3%)

OFF-CAMPUS COUNCIL- SHERRI HOMANKO (100%)

INTER-RESIDENCE HALL COUNCIL- KATE BAAS (59.6%)

COMMUNTER COUNCIL- SPECIAL ELECTION WILL BE HELD

799 STUDENTS VOTED, ROUGHLY 39.24% OF THE STUDENT BODY



The Beacon/Andrew Seaman

WILLIAMS

from FRONT PAGE

search for a new Provost.

President Tim Gilmour has announced that Sandra Carroll, executive director of alumni relations and annual giving, will serve as interim Vice President for Development in Williams’ absence.

Gilmour also stressed that this situation will not cause an issue with capital planning and any future projects slated for the university.

“We will keep moving on the capital campaign and are hopeful he will be able to return to his role in a few months,” he said.

Frantz suggested that the Cabinet works as a team.

“Just like an athletic team, when a teammate gets hurt, we rally together to help one another out and bring in a very qualified individual to temporarily replace the injured team member. We have very, very capable interim Cabinet members. They have stepped into these roles and done far more than just hold us steady; they are helping us continue forward with very positive progress,” said Frantz.

He added, “The benefit of having a talented and deep pool of employees to draw from in times of need is that we can continue our progress during times of transition.”

BELOW

Matt Brown will be the Student Government President for the 2007-2008 academic year. He was elected this past weekend with 30.3% of the vote- despite almost being recalled from SG earlier in the week because he said that he was representing a charity to obtain information about a Nintendo Wii.



The Beacon/Andrew Seaman

FAR LEFT

The four candidates who were in the running for the Student Government presidential position answer questions at the debate held on Wednesday, April 17. Only 799 students voted in the election, roughly 39.24% of the student body. Pictured from left to right: Jeffrey Bauman, Matt Brown, Anthony Scerbo, and Danielle Namiotka. Brown will be joined on Executive Board next year by: Kate Baas, who won the Vice Presidential post; Sherri Homanko, who was elected in an uncontested race for IRHC President; and a Communter Council President to be voted in during a special election.

Wilkes sophomore criminally charged after break-in

BY NICK PODOLAK
Beacon News Editor

Wilkes sophomore Benjamin Fusco was arrested by the Wilkes-Barre Police Department and charged with burglary, criminal trespass, and theft by unlawful taking after allegedly breaking into a West Ross Street apartment on March 30 in the early hours of the morning. His status at the university remains unknown at this time.

“Certainly we could not confirm a student’s status with respect to any disciplinary process,” said Dean of Student Affairs Mark

Allen. “We do hold students responsible for their behavior on and off campus, particularly those that effect the reputation of the institution. But in terms of specifics to the incident, all disciplinary proceedings are part of educational record and therefore cannot be disclosed.”

According to a Public Safety report, Fusco allegedly broke into the victim’s apartment and is accused of rummaging through drawers and cabinets. When the victim confronted Fusco and asked “what he was doing,” the report notes he allegedly replied, “Nothing.” He is accused of

leaving with a \$10 dollar bill from the victim’s kitchen table. Fusco allegedly dropped a cell phone on his way out.

After calling the last number on Fusco’s phone, the Wilkes-Barre police received confirmation that he resided on South River Street, where he was approached and questioned after drinking at Club Mardi Gras. After the victim positively identified Fusco as the person who broke into her apartment, he was placed under arrest after the \$10.00 bill was allegedly found in his pocket.

“The suspect cooperated and did not show any signs of violence,” said Manager of Public

Safety Gerald Rebo. “It was a quick and easy process,” he said regarding Public Safety’s assistance in the arrest.

Fusco made bail and was released from the Luzerne County Correctional facility that night. He declined further comment on the matter.

“It was one of those instances where the crime was in progress, police responded, and apprehended the individual,” Wilkes-Barre Police Capt. Wayne Cooney said.

TUITION

from FRONT PAGE

hike increase, if you will, plug that in on the revenue side of the equation. Then look to see how it compares to the expense side, and then you go back to each side and say, 'Okay, can we reduce anymore on expenses without compromising the academic needs of the institution?' Or do we think we need to increase the preliminary tuition hike figure to bring it into balance?"

Freshman Sabrina Hannon reacted to the news of the increase. "I just think it is ridiculous that they're having us pay more for tuition; it's already really expensive," she said.

Melissa Leet, undeclared freshman, concurred, "I feel that the university should have more respect for students because it doesn't seem like we get a lot as it is with the tuition we do pay."

Luckily for Hannon and Leet, the university's financial aid and scholarships are also increasing 10.69% from \$20,167,706 to \$22,321,706. This number includes Wilkes University merit scholarships and grants and does not include federal or state aid.

Students must also remember that the university is required to compensate the faculty and staff for their work and this year the faculty and staff salaries will increase 4%. The budget also funded new positions, such as the Dean of Library Services, the Business Process Analyst in the Human Resource Office. The Advancement Office was also given \$250,000 to develop new positions for next year.

This money for expenditures comes from many sources, some come from gifts from Wilkes alumni, Wilkes community members and from the endowment. This year the revenue from gifts and the endowment rose

70.92% from \$1,558,000 to \$2,663,000. However, the bulk of the school's revenue still comes from undergraduate revenue. This year Wilkes can expect to gross a total of \$87,318,856 in revenue for the 2008 fiscal year.

The budget is also an exciting time because it is when the administrators announce what plans are in the works for the next year. In the design phase, the budgets list an allocation of \$50,000 each for the Farley Library and Breiseth Hall. The budget also allocates \$300,000 for the design of the new health sciences (SHE) building, planned to replace the Stark Learning Center. The final figures for the renovation of Chesapeake and Delaware were also announced at \$600,000. As a cosmetic procedure, the university will be removing part of the sidewalk along the University Center On Main and additional landscaping to the tune of \$75,000. The Darte Center's theater will also be renovated at a cost of \$300,000.

The Ralston Field Complex is also slated for some changes. Currently, Wilkes is only allocating the standard \$100,000 to renovate the athletic complex to fix the fields and do the necessary repairs. But Frantz pointed out in his presentation that Ralston "needs some lovin'." He explained that there are preliminary plans to redesign the whole Ralston area, but as he mentioned in his SG presentation this will take a few years.

Frantz noted in his presentation that this is the first time the tuition hike has been under 5% in many years. He also pointed out that most of the fees have not increased in three to five years. Students should also be assured that these increases, according to the budget, seem to be going back to the students through better academic equipment, better living qualities and better information technology services.

First Annual Undergrad Symposium hosted at Wilkes



The Beacon/Jim Feeney

Keith Hubbard reads poetry as assistant professor of english Michelle Anthony looks on at The First Annual Wilkes University Undergraduate Symposium. The full-day event, sponsored by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force, included in formal and poster presentations, creative projects, readings, and live performances in which the student mentoring program played a significant role. The day was designed in order to recognize and honor the wealth of undergraduate research and creative projects in which faculty-to-student mentoring has played a significant role. For a full slide show of images from the day go to www.wilkes-beacon.com.



The Beacon/Andrew Seaman

Michael Frantz, Vice President of Marketing and Enrollment, presents the 2008 fiscal year budget to members of Student Government.

FAST FACTS:

- Undergraduate tuition will increase 4.5%, making it roughly \$12,040
- Total financial aid and scholarship budget will increase by 10.68%
- Total gross revenue for the fiscal 2008 budget is \$87,318,865-- a 10.51% increase
- Total fee costs will increase by \$55
- Price in residential hall living will increase by about 4%

Sexual Abuse Stats: Did You Know...

Female college freshmen are at the highest risk for sexual assault between the first day of school and Thanksgiving break.

-Sponsored by Health Services



Today very few escape the touch of cancer

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL BOARD

LIVESTRONG

This simple phrase has become a national symbol in the fight against cancer. Over 55 million individuals around the globe wear the yellow rubber wristbands in a show of support for so many who have wrestled with the disease.

Those two syllables were the inspiration Lance Armstrong used to battle advanced testicular cancer which spread to his lungs and brain. After surviving cancer, Armstrong went on to win six more Tour de France titles and start the Lance Armstrong Foundation.

Elizabeth Edwards put on a courageous smile, with her husband, two-time Presidential candidate John Edwards close by her side, as she told the world her breast cancer had returned. Not long after, the nation learned White House spokesperson, Tony Snow was battling cancer yet again. And in the not-so-distant past, the world mourned the loss of ABC anchor, Peter Jennings who passed away of lung cancer. These individuals are only several of the millions who have died, survived, or been affected by this deadly disease.

The world sets these public figures on a pedestal, but it seems that it is not until they get a life threatening disease that they too become "one of us". Perhaps it

is because millions can relate to what they're going through.

Katie Couric used the death of her husband to bring awareness to colon cancer. Couric did so by receiving a historic televised colonoscopy while she was on the Today Show. Couric did not stop there. She later had her mammogram televised. The testing of colon cancer rose 20 percent after the show aired. In their archives of internal medicine the University of Michigan called this "The Katie Couric Effect".

Not everyone has the funds available to receive such cancer screenings. Some major insurance companies do not cover routine mammograms until the age of 40. Colonoscopies are allowed every ten years starting at the age of 50, according to most insurance policies. Doctors can recommend screenings earlier if there is a family history or necessity based on diagnosis.

On Friday, April 20, Bush signed the Cancer-Screening Bill. This bill will allow low income-women to receive free or subsidized mammograms, Pap tests, and other screenings to detect the early stages of breast and cervical cancer. With early detection the key, this still does not give hope to those who are not eligible for the screening until a certain age according to their healthcare provider. It could be too late.

Wilkes University may not have

resources available to gain national coverage, nor the power to sign a bill in Congress. But it does have a population of people who will advocate for a cause. April 27 and 28 Ralston Field Complex will become home to the Relay for Life. There, teams will walk all night, raise funds and heighten community awareness about what

is still left to be done in this fight against a disease that has touched, in some way or another, nearly everyone. Next weekend the local community has the opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer. We hope everyone gives a little bit of their time and attention Friday and Saturday to find a cure.

Your Voices

To Wilkes University students, faculty and whomever it may concern,

On behalf of the team Cash Money who recently hosted the event Wild'n Out on Tuesday Night April 17th, 2007 we are deeply sorry for any harm that the content of the show or the contestants may have caused.

When we set out for this project we envisioned a show similar to the one shown on MTV to host a good time to some Wilkes University students. What everyone got was not that. This show was filled with vulgar language and jokes that were inappropriate for a paying audience. We failed as a group to better prepare the show for an audience as well as failing to stop the show before it got to the point that it escalated to. We in no way meant to disrespect or offend anyone that paid to come see this show. As our first step

for forgiveness we are refunding money for anyone that attended the show and was offended by its content.

We take responsibility for our actions solely because it was entirely our fault and hope that you believe us when we try to reach out and ask for forgiveness. Our personal reputations have been sullied and we hope want you to know that our team of individuals will do what it takes to begin the long healing process as a result of our show and our mistakes.

Our deepest apologies,
Anthony Troianiello
Dan Haugh
Adam Witinski
Nicole Zangardi
Jackie Booths
Katellynn Walters
Frank Heffernan
Michael Reyes
Anthony Gabriel
Kaitlyn Ziegler

Beacon

Poll Results

The following are results of a poll that *The Beacon* conducted online this past week. The poll was unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on campus. Results are based on 104 responses.

The Beacon asked:

How do you think the world will end?

- Wrath of God- **23%**
- Nuclear holocaust- **17%**
- Complications from global warming- **12%**
- Cubs win World Series- **11%**
- Other- **9%**
- Asteriod hits earth- **9%**
- Robot take over- **6%**
- Plague- **6%**
- Chemical/biological weapons- **5%**
- Pollution- **2%**

Next Week's Question:

What are your summer plans?

- Travel
- Work
- Visit old friends
- Summer class
- Sleep
- Spend time at the beach
- See summer blockbusters
- Nothing special
- Volunteer
- Other

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

A Sight for Sore Eyes

National Award winning cartoonist, Aleksander Lapinski



Your Voices

Dear Editor:

In case anyone has been living under a rock for the past couple of weeks, historic shock radio host Don Imus was fired for what he said in regards to the Rutgers women's basketball program, when he called them "nappy headed ho's."

Now is what Mr. Imus said wrong? Yes. But should he have been fired for what he said? No.

I was listening to his program the day he said that comment, and, in the context, it was funny. He was talking about how members of the Rutgers basketball team looked like men and many of them had tattoos, and in many instances said they were scarier than the Toronto Raptors. And ever since then there has been outrage from the African-American community saying how Imus should apologize for what he said.

But where are the apologizes from the African-American community to the Duke Lacrosse players? Or better yet, where is Rev. Al Sharpton's apology for the Twanda Brawley case when he accused members of the New York state government of being racists and rapists?

We are trying to live in a society where we claim equal rights, but at its core there is no such thing as equal rights in this society. White people will say something that might be a little bit racist or sexist and we have to come out and apologize for what we said, while African-Americans might say something racist or sexist and they hide behind the 1st Amendment, which is racism when a group is treated differently.

When white people say something are considered bigots, and overall bad people,

but African-Americans when they say things are considered rappers and hip-hop artists and not racists or sexists. Don Imus is a good man and should not have been fired for what he said. MSNBC and CBS radio fired him on April 12 while he was in the middle of his yearly telethon which supports various charities like the Tomorrow's Children's Fund.

MSNBC and CBS radio should be embarrassed for firing him because they did not take the "moral high ground;" they only acted with their wallet, after several top sponsors of the show like American Express, Travelocity and Fed-Ex pulled out of the show. *The Imus in the Morning* program is a program that has brought on several of today's top political leaders and national news reporters. Once Don Imus was suspended, there were several people that announced they would be back on the program, people like former Presidential candidate John Kerry, former Vice Presidential candidate Joe Lieberman and current Presidential hopefuls Rudy Guliani and Senator John McCain. Don Imus historically has been one to offend anyone and everyone. He referred to Senator Hillary Clinton as a lesbian, Rush Limbaugh as a "fat pill popping drug addict." Don Imus likes to offend anyone, because as a shock jock that is his job, just like it is Howard Stern's job to offend and it is Opie and Anthony's job to offend. I would like to see Don Imus get his job back, if not because it gave me something to listen to in the morning, but because I don't want to pay for satellite radio to hear Opie and Anthony.

Rob Tonnesen

Junior history and political science major

Troop escalation will solve Iraq problem

BY ROBERT DONAHUE

Beacon Staff Writer

Face it; both Iraq and the United States are less safe than they were prior to the 2003 invasion. Iraq is a modern day Vietnam, and the U.S. is again conflicted about how to get out of the mess.

To date, almost 3,500 American men and women have sacrificed their lives. There is no correct way to settle this crisis, but there are wrong ways to approach this situation.

Troop withdrawal is not an answer. I do agree that the U.S. should withdraw from Iraq and let the Iraqis fight amongst themselves. Unfortunately, President Bush caused this mess and we are now obligated to do our best to fix it. If the military publicly discloses an American troop pull out date, Al Qaeda and Iran will be sitting and waiting for the last U.S. service person to leave and most likely will invade. Iraq will become more of a haven for terror than it is today.

Troop increases are also not the answer. Military recruits are down. The Iraqi government knows as long as there is an increase of violence, the U.S. will send as much manpower and money as necessary to protect them, leaving American taxpayers with the bill. Americans were promised that the war would cost \$1 billion. Instead, due to a lack of separation of powers and oversight, the previous Republican-controlled Congress gave the President a blank check.

Finally, the Democrats are in control of both the House and the Senate. Democrats are doing what they were elected to do, oversee the President and especially oversee his foreign policy. When the

President's war budget wasn't passed he said, "The Democrats aren't listening to our commanders" or my favorite, "They do not care about America."

The President should take his own advice. When he ordered a full blown invasion of Iraq, he ignored the advice of the commanders who requested more troops to protect the Iraqi borders from terrorists coming in. Also at the beginning of the war, President Bush refused to listen to our generals on the ground when they requested more reinforcements like General Eric Shinseki.

Iraq was never a direct threat to our international interest. The nonpartisan 9/11 Commission (remember Duyba was not only against the commission but was uncooperative with its investigation) stated that bin Laden and Saddam Hussein never worked together. Also defense contractors such as Halliburton (we all know how "honest" they are) would love for this war to continue. The longer there is a conflict in the Persian Gulf the more companies such as Halliburton will be able to exploit money from the taxpayers.

What the U.S. should do is freeze all direct monetary assets to the Iraqi government, keep a small number of troops in the region and make the Iraqis cough up some of the costs for this war. If we do that, the Iraqi government might not completely depend on our assistance. If we leave the country unstable then there is a strong possibility Iran or Al Qaeda might take over. If Iran invades, we cannot militarily intervene without a true alliance, and that would be a huge mistake for this country because we are already spread too thin.

All community members need to pay attention and act

BY GERARD HETMAN

Beacon Staff Writer

When I first heard the early reports about the tragic events at Virginia Tech on the day they occurred, I was left in absolute shock and horror. It was horrifying to think of over 30 members of the Virginia Tech community being murdered in cold blood by a homicidal maniac, in an environment that was a second home to them all.

The victims were not just students and faculty, but sons and daughters, sisters and brothers, fathers and friends to so many other people whose lives will be forever affected by these senseless murders.

As I've followed the story in the national media this week, it's become apparent to me just how deeply disturbed and troubled the murderer, Cho Seung-Hui, was during his years as a student at Virginia Tech. My

perceptions of his mental state became all the more vivid when I saw the news reports about the package of video footage and photos he sent to NBC, containing deeply disturbing images of him brandishing his weapons for the world to see. As the story continued to evolve, questions such as "Why didn't anyone do something about this psychopath?" came to mind.

To me, what appears different about Cho's case when compared with other mass murders in recent years is that, apparently, many people at Virginia Tech recognized that Cho was a troubled young man who needed psychiatric help. According to a *Washington Post* report, one of Cho's English teachers offered to teach him one-on-one because so many of her other students were frightened by his reclusive behavior and disturbing writings in her

class. In the same report, students who knew Cho claimed he never spoke a word in class, even when addressed by other students or faculty.

As our nation begins to heal and recover from this tragedy, many of us will ask, "What can we do to prevent similar events like this?" As has been the case in previous mass killings, many experts have discussed and will continue to evaluate ways to identify warning signs in deeply troubled young people who may be a risk to commit such acts. But if each of us wound up in a class or dorm with someone like Cho Seung-Hui, what would we do to try and steer him or her towards people who can give them the help they need? What kind of lessons will school administrators and law enforcement officials take away from these experiences? Will college officials now look

more closely at the behavioral backgrounds of prospective students?

I'm not an expert in either law enforcement or psychology, so I don't know if there was one specific action that would have prevented this tragedy. However, I believe we can all take away a valuable lesson from this situation. As college students in today's world, we need to reach out to people who are as obviously troubled as Cho Seung-Hui was. If we just ignore people who cut themselves off from their classmates, who knows what paths they will walk down in their world of isolation. Each of us can make a difference if such a person winds up in our lives--we all need to step forward and reach out to help people such as this, for the good of everyone involved in our lives.

Graphic courtesy of media.nbc12.com

If we want peace, we must stop the killing

BY ANDEE SCARANTINO

Beacon Correspondant

It was a tragedy... Friends and loved ones were grieving, crying... My friends were sending me messages, telling me how they thought the world was certainly ending. My reply from England: "Today is a beautiful, happy, sunny day." It was like I lived in another universe.

The next day, the news was swamped with updates. The American papers were filled with pictures of those slain in Virginia. My papers in England were filled with attacks on the absolute and utter idiocy of America for allowing this to happen.

From "More Guns Than People," page 2, *Daily Mail*, 18 April, 2007: "There are 30,000 gun deaths every year in the U.S., yet the majority of Americans still believe passionately in their right to 'bear arms'... Yet within hours of the shootings, the [American] gun lobby was arguing that tragedy proved the need for gun laws to be relaxed, not tightened. Gun lobbyists point to the second amendment to the U.S. constitution which states that 'a well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the People to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. This has resulted in a country where there are more guns than people.'"

The article moved on to state that Virginia "has some of the weakest gun laws. AK-47

assault rifles and Uzi sub-machine guns can be bought perfectly legally over the counter."

I will not receive positive feedback from this article. I have already been verbally attacked on instant messenger, MySpace, and via email by Americans for my views. I'm going to press on, though. I am not an anti-hero, nor someone who is being cynical in a time of crisis. My friends, *I simply do not want to see another life lost.*

How can you, my fellow Americans, stand up and say the answer is to possess a gun to "kill the killer." How can a culture simply be so na'Ve?

In Britain, in the late nineties, there was a school shooting. The people were outraged. Eventually, the massive outcry by the people made Parliament outlaw guns entirely. Now, not even a police officer can carry a gun.

"Ohhhh, but I can't defend myself!" some of you will screech.

You won't have to. Think about the number of law-abiding citizens versus criminals. Clearly, if a gun ban were ever instated, most citizens would hand over their guns. Instating a gun ban would mean at the very glimpse of a rifle, the bearer would be prosecuted-even if they were not a criminal; even if they were unaware.

"America is too big, though!"

All right, yes, America is vast, but if we act now, in ten years the number of guns

will have decreased by more than half. I guarantee in twenty years, guns will be almost impossible to find. Two decades is not a very long time.

Why are we waiting? How many shootings are going to have to take place before America finally realizes that the state with some of the weakest gun laws also had the deadliest shooting in American history to date?

I bet you've already forgotten the Amish school children that were lined up and slain against a blackboard in Lancaster County. Yeah, that's a distant memory. Let's push it off and pretend it never happened. Columbine? Ancient history.

The truth is, my friends, that Americans live in a very new nation. I bet a lot of you feel very safe there. I felt safe when I lived there.

I cannot say I will feel safe anymore upon my return to America. You see, I live in an odd type of utopia. In London, England, people do not fear guns. They do not fear one another. They do not even fear terrorism.

Currently, I live in a very old nation. Terrorism is something that has been going on in Britain for centuries. America is still very na'Ve about it. That explains the general panicked state of the American populace, and also why the populace of one of the most apt to be terrorized cities in Europe is generally calm and complacent. Americans

panic excessively, and panicked people want to bear arms. We need to defend ourselves!

I understand America prides itself on being a land of freedom, but how can anyone say the fear of death and the ratio of guns to people is freedom? Perhaps maybe it's time to realize that we are not free at all, and maybe we need to forfeit some of our "freedoms" to better society as a whole. I would rather lose the right to bear arms, than live my life in constant fear.

My friends, I wish that you could be here. I wish that you could sit in the office with me and hear my colleagues speak with anguish, screaming about how unfortunate those 32 lost lives were, but also, screaming about how stupid a nation is for allowing it to happen.

You don't see the other side, and that's why you probably do not agree with one thing I said. You can't imagine a world without guns. You can't imagine a world that isn't filled with uncertainty and terror. It's all right. We forgive you, and we pity the American government for putting you into such a terrible state of existence.

I can say that it does get better. It's probably just going to take America several centuries to figure it out. Until then, let us pray for the families and loved ones of all who lost their lives, and all of the lives to be lost in the future in one of the most unstable nations in the world.

Abolishing guns won't protect the innocent from evil

BY CARA KOSTER

Beacon Staff Photographer

The events which occurred at Virginia Tech are a tragedy. Now begins a process of healing and rebuilding of an entire community.

The immediate reaction has been for anti-gun activists to call for tighter controls, and even, in more extreme advocates, an overall gun ban. It is naive to think that banning the weapon that helped perpetrate this heinous crime would have prevented it all together. However, making guns illegal is not the cure to the problem of gun violence facing the nation and the world at large.

Once drugs were made illegal in this country the entire drug problem went away, so of course we should do the same thing with guns. If that statement were true, then I would be completely for banning guns, except there is one small problem...there's a huge drug problem in the country. Just because something is illegal doesn't mean that the market for the product goes away. Most guns acquired on the black market or not

through a licensed gun dealer are the ones being used in murders and other crimes. The guns that were used in the Beltway sniper attacks a few years back were not purchased from a licensed gun dealer.

At face value, the claim that making guns illegal is going to make the world a safer place makes sense. However, if a person goes on a shooting rampage or is harming multiple people in some other way how is he/she going to be subdued? It is much less efficient to use other means and more lives will be lost in the end. If one properly trained person is witnessing a crime, he/she can stop it before it becomes a horrifying event to be remembered for years. Furthermore, if more people had guns, criminals would be less likely to perpetrate a crime for fear of the immediate repercussions. You won't put a gun to someone's head to rob them if they can put one right back at yours. Moreover, how can the police and armies be expected to protect us if there are no guns? Will there be a special exception made for those people? It is possible to maneuver a gun away from a police officer or

another official, there should not be exceptions to an overall ban of guns but banning guns in general is totally illogical.

Taking guns away is not going to rid the world of murder. Stabbings, brutal beatings, strangling and poisonings will still exist without guns. If someone has the intention of killing someone they are going to find a way to do it, gun or no gun. In London recently, a man was stabbed repeatedly with a broken whiskey bottle. Because the attacker did not have a gun, he made do with the next readily available tool.

Preventing law-abiding citizens their access to guns for protection and recreational purposes is the primary outcome. Law abiding citizens are not the problem; therefore, by making guns illegal, the only people being hurt are the people who should be protected. Words and laws are not impeding criminals from taking someone else's life, and words and law will not necessarily protect the innocent.

I do not believe there should be more guns or that they should be easier to obtain. I agree there should be extensive

background checks and waiting periods before someone is allowed to own a weapon. There should be a mandatory safety course and child locks that should come with having the responsibility of owning a gun. I do believe that guns, when used for their intended purposes by trained individuals, can protect people and save lives. Making guns illegal would only prevent people from using them for the right reasons, defending themselves from criminals, who would continue using them for crime and violence even if they were made illegal. The problem with murder and other heinous crimes is not the means which they are carried out but the fact that the intent is there to begin with. Guns do not create a violent society; therefore banning them will not alleviate the problem. The only way to prevent further violence is treat the individuals who are thinking these horrible thoughts. Guns are not the problem, people are.

University College shapes lives, offers direction *Part III: Career Services & Undeclared Major Program*

BY NICOLE FRAIL
& JAMIE GWYNN
Beacon Correspondents

Whether it's a student's first or last year at Wilkes, University College offers programs available to aid in some part of the educational process. To date, this series has examined University College services aimed at helping students make decisions and succeed in the classroom. The final installment of the series examines what, for most, is the last leg of the journey in the Wilkes educational experience--planning for post-graduation employment.

Career Services has been an official part of University College for three years, but has successfully worked in conjunction with Student Affairs throughout many years of Wilkes' history.

The office brings together employers, alumni, academic departments and student organizations to provide career education and opportunities for the life-long careers of Wilkes students and graduates. Career Services employees organize employment fairs, post job openings, offer graduate school information, conduct mock interviews and advise students how to write effective cover letters and resumes. Employers also work closely with the office in the areas of co-ops and internships.

Classes are also offered through Career Services. Senior Leanne Rivers enrolled in CAR 198, Life Career Planning, because she knew that there was plenty she didn't know about locating and contacting employers, interviewing, resume writing and proper business etiquette.

According to Rivers, the majority of students think that



The Beacon/Nora Jurasits

In association with the Career Services Offices of the NPEC (Northeast PA Employment Consortium Colleges and Universities), Wilkes and King's Career Service programs invited students to attend an information session on careers with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The speaker explained the physical and mental requirements necessary to become an agent.

they already know everything there is to know about how to get a job and how to successfully interview. "Let me say that about 90% of those people truly do not," she estimated. "I recommend all seniors to enroll in CAR 198 without hesitation. You will be sorry if you don't."

"I know a lot of graduating seniors now freaking out because there is one month until graduation and they are not even close to landing a job," she added.

Similar to other University College programs, staff in Career Services would like to see their numbers of participating students increase. Carol Bosack-Kosek, Director of Career Services, notes that students may not realize how competitive the fields can be for securing a good first professional position or entering into a graduate program; therefore, they hesitate to take the classes offered to them. Students may also think that their resume or interviewing skills are already acceptable and that they don't need to be any better than they are.

According to Bosack-Kosek, sometimes "acceptable" needs to be "exceptional."

"A company did on-campus interviews here at Career Services," she said. "The students whose interviews were rated by the company as 'very good' or 'good' got sent rejection letters."

The only students who were asked on second interviews were those whose resumes were rated as 'excellent.' Enrolling in a CAR 198 class helps more students reach the level

of excellence needed to earn a professional position.

Career Services also includes the Undeclared Majors Program. This program provides advising for students who wish to explore their options before they declare a major. When entering the undeclared program, students participate in a one-credit Career and Life Planning Course (CAR 101).

"Changing majors and exploring options occurs very frequently in college," Bosack said. "You're actually quite 'normal' if you are confused about what to pursue in the future."

Taking time to explore your values, interests and skills is a part of good career decision making and Career Services provides the opportunity to do so.

Students who take advantage and utilize University College's Career Services programs come away with "more realistic ideas and abilities related to how to successfully compete and promote their skills and experiences to achieve their professional goals," Bosack said.

For more information on Career Services, call 570-408-4060 or email careers@wilkes.edu. There are also resources such as guides to writing cover letters and resumes available at www.wilkes.edu/career.

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Wherever I may roam...

Local man makes living from others' cast off cans

BY NICK POLODAK

Beacon News Editor

Nomad, vagabond, call him what you will. Albert Austin is just trying to make a decent living.

Tearing up the streets in his aluminum Huffy/Cart, "The Can Man" scans Wilkes-Barre area dumpsters every morning for aluminum containers which he stashes in three plastic tubs on his outlandish bicycle, cashing them in at Abe Solomon's scrap yard for about 17 dollars a bag.

"By the end of the day, I'll walk outta here with at least twelve pounds worth," he said, prodding through a dozen Yuengling cans scattered along a dark alleyway with his garbage picker.

A former Denny's dishwasher, Austin now lives on Social Security and the cans serve as his main source of income.

"My wife works at Gelpiaz as a dishwasher. Her money pays the bills; my money pays the rent," the Susquehanna County native said.

Adorned with pinwheels, posters, and American flags, Austin completely customized the bike to suit his needs. The bells and whistles include a dashboard equipped with a speedometer, a stereo system, and even a set of rearview mirrors...all tightly held together with enough duct tape to put Red Green to shame.

"I'm a farm boy and a Dutchman," he proudly stated. "A Dutchman can build anything. They don't like to spend money on



The Beacon/Nick Podolak

"The Can Man," Albert Austin, rides around Wilkes-Barre collecting cans. The cans he collects act as a supplement to the Social Security he receives.

nothing," he said, propping open a tin can packed with his homemade menthol lights, which he struck against the bike's cigarette lighter.

Austin also puts safety first, of course, in style with a black state-of-the-art helmet equipped with a pull down visor that protects his entire face from oncoming bugs, pounding rains, and the sun's ultra violet

rays. It also boasts a mouthpiece attached at the side which connects to his Nextel cell phone.

"If the wife calls while I'm riding, all it takes is the push of a button to talk to her on the go," he said.

Cruising through bustling traffic lanes, Austin is considered a hindrance to many motorists, where the legality of whether or

not he should be riding with traffic comes into play. Wilkes shuttle bus driver Stanley Hanczyc has crossed paths with Austin many

times before, occasionally losing his patience when getting stuck behind him on the Market Street Bridge.

"Some days I'd like to run him over," Hanczyc said. "Some days he acts like he's the 'King of the Road.'"

However, according to Chapter 5, Section 3504 of the Pennsylvania Bike Laws, "A bicycle may be operated on either a shoulder or on the roadway (the travel lanes). The locations will be based upon traffic volume, the physical condition of the travel lanes or the shoulder, traffic speed, the bicyclist's intended direction, and other safety factors."

So while Austin is legally within his rights to ride on the road, he still receives some flack from local law enforcement, who he thinks are just out to get him.

"The policemen tell me to get off the road. I tell 'em to mind their own business," he said. "I know my rights."

Sporting a clean driving record so far on his aluminum Huffy, Austin shared some horrifying crash tales from years past.

While riding in Philadelphia on his very first bike, a crooked handle bar Schwinn, he lost control after being chased down by a dog for about a mile, resulting in him flying over the handlebars head first onto the hard, concrete pavement.

"That's how I lost these," he said, pulling out a pair of dentures in a trail of spit.

In another incident on Market Street, he tried to make a red light but mistimed it, placing him in the face of oncoming traffic with no chance of stopping. He heroically dove off his 21-speed Schwinn before it got plowed by a zooming pick-up truck.

"The front wheel got bent pretty good, but I took it home and straightened it up. Good as new," he said proudly.

For now, Austin, 55, lives on Church Street in Edwarsville with his wife, where she, too, commutes to work via bicycle. Together, they will ride off into the sunset.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Sigma Tau Delta, the English honor society with branches on local, regional, national and international levels, inducted 21 Wilkes students on Sunday.

Assistant English professor Chad Stanley served as keynote speaker at the ceremony, which was held in Kirby Hall. Stanley spoke to inductees about the experiences that led to him becoming an English professor, and what role imagination played in the process.

The 21 new members were presented with certificates during the rituals that occur at each ceremony, including reading passages written by various authors.

In addition to the new members, four officers and Dr. Thomas Hamil were present at the proceedings.

Car show revs into Henry Student Center parking lot

BY CANDICE HALLIDAY
Beacon Staff Writer

Riding in style?

It's time to show off those four wheels. American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) is sponsoring its first annual car show Saturday, April 28. A rain date is scheduled for May 5.

The car show will be held in the parking lot at the Henry Student Union from 11:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. There is a minimal entry fee of \$10.00, which will go toward funding for ASME.

No worries if you don't have 32-inch platinum chrome rims because there are no restrictions on type, year or model of the cars entered. Along with showing off their rides, participants will receive a car show t-shirt. Everyone in the competition will also cast their own vote.

The top 10 winners will receive trophies. First place will be awarded "Best of Show." The event is free for all spectators.

Dr. Syed Kalim, associate professor of mechanical engineering and academic advisor of ASME, explained the idea behind the car show. He noted that, "The person

who takes initiative becomes successful. Ideas float around within ASME but nothing ever happens unless students put the plans into action."

Kalim explained that Eric Skogland, ASME member, initiated the event. "There is a leadership of skills involved in planning something like a car show and it is a process where students grow as professionals," Kalim said. He also noted that Skogland's passion for hot rods contributed to the idea of hosting a Car Show.

Freshman David Lewis said he would be interested in attending the car show. "I hope to see some old fashioned Mustang Cobras, with racer style pin-stripes!" said Lewis.

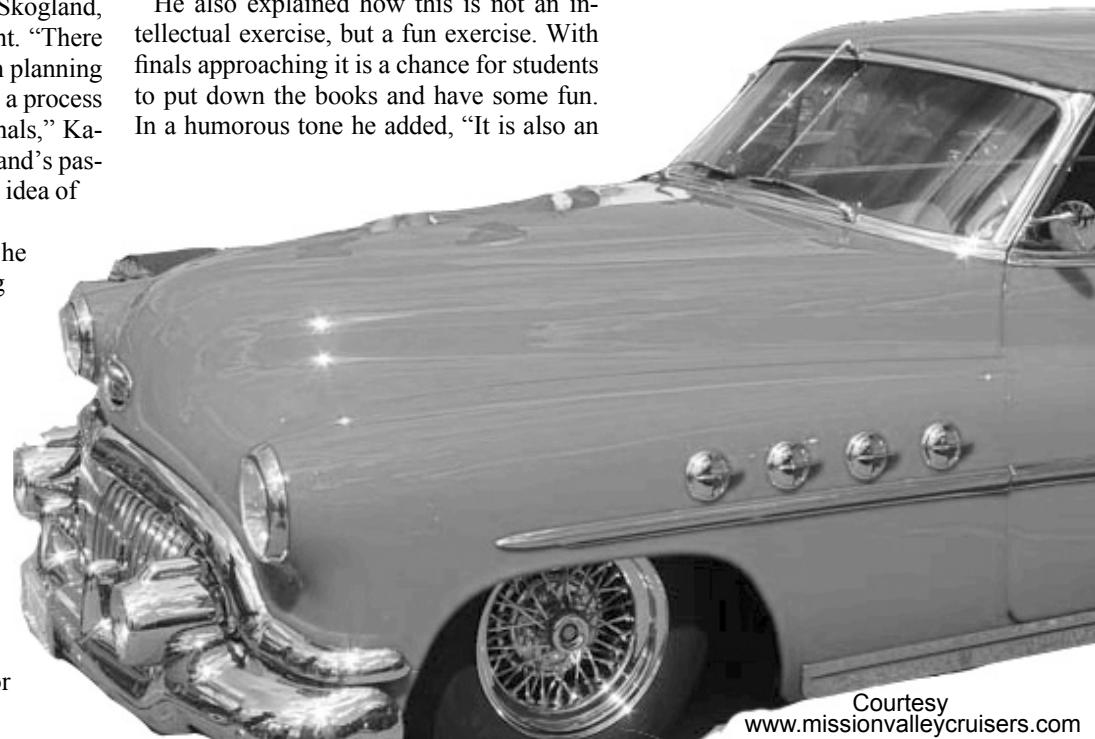
In addition, Kalim explained that help from other organizations on campus made the show possible. Student Government contributed a \$400 donation.

Parking in and around campus can be troublesome, but Kalim emphasized that the car show will not cause further trouble for students seeking parking spots.

"I don't think it's going to be a big problem because it is the weekend and the Society approached the university very well about the issue," said Kalim.

He also explained how this is not an intellectual exercise, but a fun exercise. With finals approaching it is a chance for students to put down the books and have some fun. In a humorous tone he added, "It is also an

opportunity to show that mechanical engineering faculty and students do not only talk about mathematics and science; we also talk about things like cars."



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The 10 best books not to miss this summer

BY NICOLE FRAIL
Beacon Staff Writer

Whether you find yourself trapped indoors during a storm, relaxing in the swing on your front porch, or sprawled out on a towel at the beach or pool this summer, take along a great book for company. Next to December--the peak of the holiday shopping season--late spring is the most popular time for new releases in the book world to help prepare avid readers for the lazy days of summer. From comedy to romance, drama to mystery, and even some humorous self-help, there's truly something out there for everyone.

Check out the most promising among the new releases for this summer:

Rant: An Oral Biography of Buster Casey by Chuck Palahniuk (release date: May 1)

This fictional biography is about Buster "Rant" Casey, who could possibly be the greatest serial killer of all time. The story is told through the eyes of an assortment of people from his family to his worst enemies. Reminiscent of the style of his previous novels like *Haunted* and *Fight Club*, Palahniuk's characters tell the tale of Buster's violent adventures, brilliant death, and the plague of rabies he silently spread while alive.

Dream When You're Feeling Blue by Elizabeth Berg (release date: May 1)

During WWII, three sisters sit in their

Chicago home writing letters to the men they love stationed across seas. They learn how difficult it is to keep their spirits high and their dreams alive while they wait and struggle with the rest of their country. The power of love and strength of family are the heart of this bestselling author's latest.

I Had the Right to Remain Silent... But I Didn't Have the Ability by Ron White (release date: May 1)

Best known for his 'Blue Collar Comedy', cigar smoking and scotch drinking, comedian Ron "Tater Salad" White's second book includes new material and explores the stories behind his most famous characters, revisits some of his old jokes and stories, and includes illustrations of his best jokes by illustrator Matthew Schulz.

Bright Lights, Big Ass: A Self-Indulgent, Surly, Ex-Sorority Girl's Guide to Why it Often Sucks in the City, or Who are These Idiots and Why Do They All Live Next Door to Me? by Jen Lancaster (release date: May 1)

Secrets to living in the big city are finally out in Lancaster's newest book. She's raw, honest, and doesn't care what you or anyone else thinks about her. Her material covers everything from the Bush sisters and Target employees to her thoughts on being politically correct. "Her humor is a bit like junk food-something you can enjoy when no one is looking" - *Publisher's Weekly*.

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Coping with Difficult People by Arlene Matthews Uhl (release date: May 8)

As a psychotherapist, professor of developmental psychology, and author of many self-help books, Uhl's expertise shines through as she offers the most effective, simple ways to deal with co-workers, strangers, family, and friends. She divides her strategies into four categories and provides ways of recognizing behavioral patterns, personality types, and getting yourself out of those awkward conversations we all love so much.

After Dark by Haruki Murakami (release date: May 8)

Translated by Jay Rubin, *After Dark* takes place over seven hours as the sun sets and rises over Tokyo. This novella follows three loosely linked stories that



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

come together in the end to show that at the heart of the book lies humanity's overwhelming and desperate hunger for human contact, for attention. A model, a student, and a musician travel the streets of Tokyo late at night and encounter a handful of night people who are connected and intertwined by their experiences, crimes, and passions. "Murakami's trademark humor, psychological insight, and grasp of spirit and morality are here distilled with an extraordinary, harmonious mastery" - *Knopf Publishing Group*.

Falling Man by Don DeLillo (release date: May 15)

Leaving Cosmopolis dripping with disappointment and no heart, DeLillo is back with *Falling Man*, one of his best works. The book opens with protagonist Keith Neudecker standing in the middle of a New York City street covered in blood and dust as he stares up into the smoky sky where the Twin Towers were missing. Though previously separated from his wife, Neudecker returns to his family, where, oddly enough, his life begins to spiral downwards. Affairs, disappointments, and lack of compassion lead to the much anticipated explanation of how Neudecker escaped the burning towers alive.

Billion Dollar Kiss: The Kiss That Saved Dawson's Creek and Other Adventures in TV Writing by Jeffrey Stepakoff (release date: May 15)

Throughout his experiences as a writer on *Wonder Years* and *Major Dad* and also as a co-executive producer of *Dawson's Creek*, Stepakoff's seen his fair share of success and failure in the television industry. In his memoir, he describes the money, the business, how to get in, how to stay in, and what happens when the cameras stop rolling. He details 16-hour work days and

what a good agent can really do for you. He admits that there is nothing "more intoxicating than making TV shows every week" and that there is nothing more heartbreaking than ending the party with unscripted, reality TV shows.

The Harlequin by Laurell K. Hamilton (release date: June 5)

Out of the handful of vampire novels coming out this summer, Hamilton's *The Harlequin* appears to be the most anticipated. The best selling author's newest publication is the fifteenth book in the *Anita Blake Vampire Hunter Series*. It trails Anita Blake's struggle against creatures so furious and frightening that the oldest of vampires refuse to speak of them. To be contacted by the Harlequin is deadly; therefore, Anita Blake must join forces with vampires, werewolves, shape shifters, and the one man who she has relied on most in the past.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows by J.K. Rowling (release date: July 21)

The Harry Potter blockbuster series will finally come to an end with Rowling's seventh book. The 784-page much-anticipated end will be printed on recycled paper and will follow Harry and friends one last time as they attempt to defeat the evil Lord Voldemort and tie up all loose ends from the previous books. Due to the mystery of this book and the fact that little is ever known about Rowling's work before it is released, the only things truly expected are the potential deaths of a few beloved characters.

Also, be on the lookout for *The Solomon Key*, Dan Brown's sequel to *The Da Vinci Code*. No release date has been set but word on the street is that it should be coming soon.

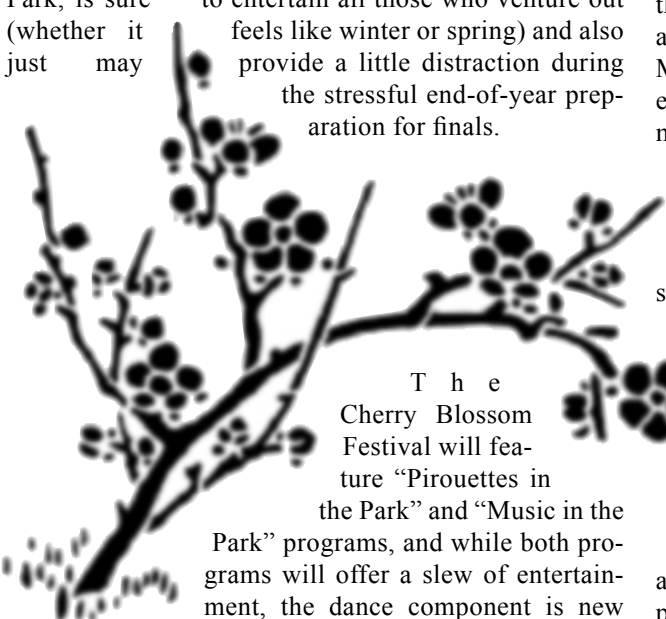


Cherry Blossom Festival to offer dance extravaganza

BY STEPHANIE DEBALKO

Beacon A&E Editor

Jaded students complaining about the lack of entertainment and activities in the area just might be in luck this weekend. The city of Wilkes-Barre's annual Cherry Blossom Festival, set for April 28 and 29 at Kirby Park, is sure to entertain all those who venture out (whether it feels like winter or spring) and also just may provide a little distraction during the stressful end-of-year preparation for finals.



The Cherry Blossom Festival will feature "Pirouettes in the Park" and "Music in the Park" programs, and while both programs will offer a slew of entertainment, the dance component is new

to the festival. Bridget Giunta, administrative coordinator, City of Wilkes-Barre, said that while the event has always had great entertainment in the past, the idea for a dance festival was something that has been in the works for a while, since a few dance studios were featured last year.

The process for finding the various dance studios that are participating involved a distribution to studios across the Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Hazleton and Back Mountain areas. Additionally, a guest artist will be the event's featured ensemble. New York City's YC Movement Theatre will present "a suite of excerpts from its full evening length movement theatre work, 'Moonlight Interior,' which was presented off-Broadway."

Giunta said, "They're really excited to come, which makes us even more excited because they're a professional group, and I think it will be a great opportunity for the audience and the dancers who are participating to see some professional dance."

Dancers from RE-CORED Dance Company of NEPA will also participate, and Lynne Mariani, director, is looking forward to an opportunity to encourage and contribute to arts in the community. And while she stressed that concept, she also added that she is hoping for a fun day to present what the company has to offer to the commu-

nity and she hopes that the audience gets a lot out of the experience.

The dance portion of the festival will feature, in addition to YC Movement Theatre and RE-CORED Dance Company of NEPA, the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Pioneers Dance Team & the Turi Studio of Dance and Fitness, Dance Entertainment Company (DEC) and the NEPA School of the Performing Arts, among many others.

"Pirouettes in the Park" will take place Saturday, April 28 from noon to 6 p.m., and "Music in The Park" will be held Sunday, April 29 from noon to 7 p.m. In addition to these programs, the two-day affair will also include food and craft vendors as well as amusements, all of which have been staples at past Cherry Blossom Festivals.

Students are encouraged to attend the event not only as a way to engage in arts in the community but also just as a way to get out and enjoy a stress-free day as the end of the semester nears.

Giunta said, "I often hear complaints that there's nothing to do in Wilkes-Barre, so this is a fun weekend to get out of the dorms and apartments and enjoy Kirby Park- which is an easy walk from campus. And I think it's a great opportunity to end the semester, get outside, hang out, and enjoy the entertainment."

August | 2007



We have a winner!
(Well, actually three winners.)

The final vote on the MyWilkes logo was option #2.
The overwhelming choice for site layout was option #3.
Junior Morgan Kuhns wins the iPod
(which, of course, she'll fill with songs acquired legally, right?).

Thanks to all those who voted.
Go to mywilkes.wilkes.edu to view the winning designs and to learn more about the MyWilkes portal.

This Week In History

BY MICHAEL GIONFRIDDO

Beacon Correspondent

Brought to you by the History Club
April 23

1564: According to tradition, the great English dramatist and poet William Shakespeare is born in Stratford-on-Avon on April 23, 1564. It is impossible to be certain the exact day on which he was born, but church records show that he was baptized on April 26, and three days was a customary amount of time to wait before baptizing a newborn. Shakespeare's date of death is conclusively known, however: it was April 23, 1616. He was 52 years old and had retired to Stratford three years before.

April 24

1800: President John Adams approves legislation to appropriate \$5,000 to purchase "such books as may be necessary for the use of Congress," thus establishing the Library of Congress. The first books,

ordered from London, arrived in 1801 and were stored in the U.S. Capitol, the library's first home. The first library catalog, dated April 1802, listed 964 volumes and nine maps. Twelve years later, the British army invaded the city of Washington and burned the Capitol, including the then 3,000-volume Library of Congress.

April 25

1859: At Port Said, Egypt, ground is broken for the Suez Canal, an artificial waterway intended to stretch 101 miles across the isthmus of Suez and connect the Mediterranean and the Red seas. Ferdinand de Lesseps, the French diplomat who organized the colossal undertaking, delivered the pickax blow that inaugurated construction.

April 26

1986: The world's worst nuclear power plant accident occurs at the Chernobyl nuclear power station in the Soviet Union. Thirty-two people died and dozens more

suffered radiation burns in the opening days of the crisis, but only after Swedish authorities reported the fallout did Soviet authorities reluctantly admit that an accident had occurred.

April 27

4977 B.C.: In 4977 B.C., the universe is created, according to German mathematician and astronomer Johannes Kepler, considered a founder of modern science. Kepler is best known for his theories explaining the motion of planets.

April 28

1945: On this day in 1945, "Il Duce," Benito Mussolini, and his mistress,

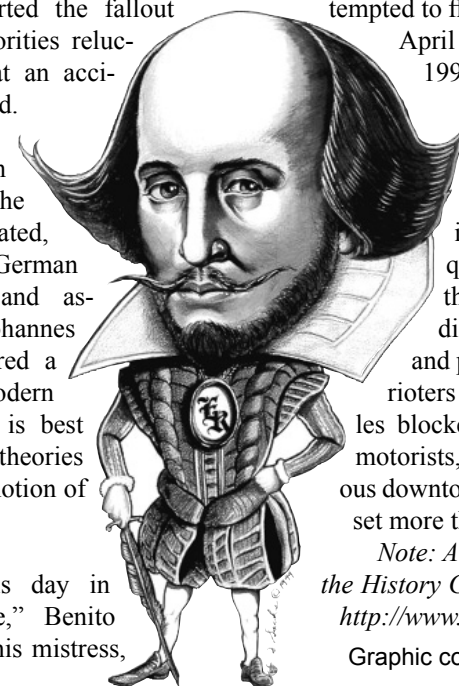
Clara Petacci, are shot by Italian partisans who had captured the couple as they attempted to flee to Switzerland.

April 29

1992: In Los Angeles, California, four Los Angeles police officers that had been caught beating an unarmed African-American motorist in an amateur video are acquitted of any wrongdoing in the arrest. Hours after the verdicts were announced, outrage and protest turned to violence, as rioters in south-central Los Angeles blocked freeway traffic and beat motorists, wrecked and looted numerous downtown stores and buildings, and set more than 100 fires.

Note: All information is provided by the History Channel and can be found at <http://www.history.com/t dih.do>

Graphic courtesy www.nigelbeale.com



Kudracross

BY CHRISTOPHER KUDRAK

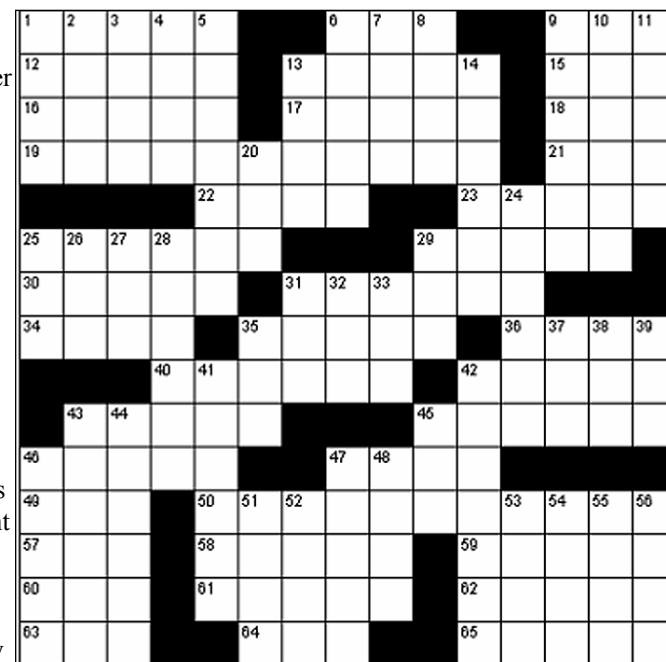
Beacon Correspondent

ACROSS

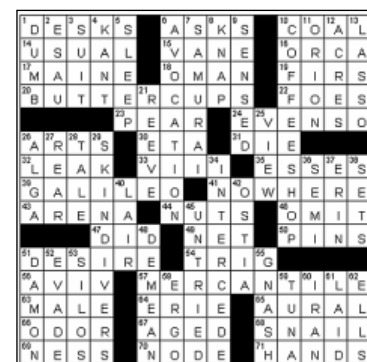
- 1 Busy Chicago airport
- 6 Frog movement
- 9 Dad's partner
- 12 Chill out
- 13 Foundation
- 15 Iron in the rough
- 16 Upright
- 17 Small island
- 18 Cell material, for short

- 19 Telescope building
- 21 Tennis unit
- 22 Freedom from concern
- 23 Skeptical
- 25 Serious or earnest
- 29 Stomach area
- 30 Susceptible
- 31 Wear off or down by scraping
- 34 Touch or be next to
- 35 Hairstyle
- 36 Metal or ore deposit
- 40 Music beat
- 42 Robot component
- 43 Line of waiting people

- 10 Unpleasant in disposition
- 11 Heavily fleshed
- 13 Favoring one over another
- 14 Fashioned
- 20 Retro vehicle
- 24 XI
- 25 Bath or Hot Springs
- 26 Sphere
- 27 Slugger Gehrig
- 28 Appetizer follower
- 29 1987 Michael Jackson song
- 31 Museum contents
- 32 Scrooge comment
- 33 Outer edge
- 35 Farewell
- 37 Falter
- 38 Campus greenery
- 39 Car performance enhancer



Answers 4.2



- 45 Hudson and Ford
- 46 First-rate
- 47 Cleverly stylish
- 49 Gymnastics equipment
- 50 Healing
- 57 Jurassic or Paleozoic
- 58 Second place
- 59 Stellar dragon
- 60 Biblical vessel
- 61 Expunge
- 62 Common Everglades bird
- 63 "Catcher in the _____"
- 64 Macadamia, for example
- 65 Closely packed

DOWN

- 1 Common snack food
- 2 Rosemary, for example
- 3 Bar beverages
- 4 Belmont Stakes
- 5 Utmost in degree
- 6 Hurry
- 7 Capital of Norway
- 8 Atlantic City sight
- 9 Food fragment
- 41 Hurl
- 42 Broke away from
- 43 Excavation pit
- 44 Absorption
- 45 Trendy
- 46 Spread or daub
- 47 Aquafresh alternative
- 48 Aesop character who lost
- 51 Brass instrument
- 52 A son of Isaac
- 53 Coax
- 54 Small mountain lake
- 55 Finishes a cake
- 56 Small shelter for sheep or birds

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Dinner and a Movie

Dinner: The Greenery Restaurant at Boscov's

BY MARISSA PHILLIPS

Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

A department store diner may not sound like the most appealing of dinner options, especially when it's situated in a dark corner of Boscov's basement floor. The Greenery Restaurant at Boscov's on Main Street may not offer an aesthetically appealing atmosphere, but it fares well in the areas that really matter: food, costs, and service.

Located in an area some might be tempted to overlook, between the candy and the toys, you'll find a quiet, dimly lit diner. With a drab color scheme and 80s reminiscent abstract paintings, owners obviously aren't trying to impress customers with design. There's no mood setting music either, but rather a constant humming, and an incoherent and muffled talk radio show coming through the speakers.

But the waitress makes up for the dreary atmosphere, and her sunny and friendly demeanor actually appears to be genuine, which is a bit surprising. This is probably in part due to the fact that the restaurant is filled with many

regulars with whom the waitress appears to be well acquainted. It's this familiarity that also sets the tone of the place. This is a diner that the patrons, most of them anyway, make part of their daily routines.

I ordered a California salad plate, which consisted of a grilled chicken breast on salad greens, assorted fruit, and cottage cheese, which ran my bill to \$5.29. My friend ordered a turkey salad sandwich, along with a turkey, barley and vegetable soup, which cost \$7.09. Definitely not the cheapest eats to get in the area, but still fairly reasonable for a sit-down dinner.

Our food was out to us almost as soon as we had finished ordering. While we weren't quite ecstatic about spending our money on food that day (sometimes you just want to go cheap), the hearty portions definitely proved to be worth the price. While the California salad plate may have sounded like a light and meager meal, it offered a heaping portion of meat, and the variety of fruit was fresh. The turkey salad sandwich also proved to be filling, and thankfully they didn't go too heavy on the mayonnaise, which is often the problem with turkey and chicken salads.

Considering the simple meals we were ordered, the food ended up being surprisingly impressive. There were impressive specials to be found throughout the menu as well. They offer an extensive breakfast menu with offerings such as wraps, stuffed French toast, and "make your own" omelets. There are some breakfast options that actually start in the \$1-\$2 range, and there are a few large breakfast combos for little more than \$3.

The Greenery Restaurant at Boscov's is dreary in terms of atmosphere, and doesn't attempt to mask the fact that it's in the unattractive basement of Boscov's, but other than that, there's really nothing to complain about. When it comes right down to it, the food should be the most important consideration. The dinner prices may not be the most appealing to poor students, but they are no more expensive than a Friendly's or Applebees. So, if you're willing to overlook minor atmospheric defects, next time you're shopping at Boscov's, make sure to stay for dinner.

Grade: B+

...and a movie: *Grindhouse*

BY MIKE WILLIAMS

Beacon Staff Writer

After viewing *Grindhouse*, it's easy to understand how some moviegoers may exit the theater with a very strong feeling of "what the hell did I just watch?"

Chock full of sex and violence, the new film by Quentin Tarantino (*Pulp Fiction*, *Reservoir Dogs*) and Robert Rodriguez (*Desperado*, *From Dusk 'Till Dawn*), has a high probability of leaving viewers speechless, either in shock at the film's overwhelmingly graphic, grizzly content or in awe of its pure, pulpy genius.

When the film's co-creators got together, movie fans rejoiced, as the two legendary directors could have easily delivered a cinematic masterpiece, driven by compelling characters, award winning acting and an intriguing plot, all backed by a top notch script.

However, being far from conventional and never known to be predictable, Rodriguez and Tarantino opted to take another route. Rather than creating just another epic in the vein of the *Kill Bill* series or the *El Mariachi* trilogy, the duo opted to pay homage to the blood 'n guts, sex driven, high octane films of the 1970s. This brand of extreme cinema, branded with the label "Grindhouse", was marked by its low budget and its gruesome depictions of violence and gore, as well as its extremely graphic...uh..."love" scenes, and were commonly shown back to back. And after viewing the film, it's obvious that the creators took quite some time and a great deal of effort in order to capture the feel of this nearly forgotten era of film.

In Rodriguez's contribution to the *Grindhouse* double feature, *Planet Terror*, viewers will be delighted to see several familiar faces, and will then cringe in terror as hordes of the undead tear them limb from limb, one by grisly one. When a mysterious caravan of military vehicles roll into a sleepy Texas town carrying containers filled with the latest

in bio-chemical warfare, all hell breaks loose as one of the containers inevitably opens, spraying a putrid green gas into the air.

As the locals come in contact with the chemical cloud, they begin to experience some interesting side effects, namely an unyielding hunger for human flesh. Consequently, as the residents begin to go ghoulish, the survivors, including a one-legged go-go dancer (Rose McGowan, *Scream*), a trucker with a mysterious past (Freddie Rodriguez, *Poseidon*), a surgery-happy doctor (Josh Brolin, *The*



<http://www.toxicshock.tv>

Goonies), his cheating wife (Marley Shelton, *Sin City*), the town sheriff (Michael Biehn, *Aliens*) and his barbecue chef brother (Jeff Fahey, *The Lawnmower Man*), must band together to make it out of town alive. However, if they want to live to see daylight, they must first find out the deadly secret behind the gas, and to do so, must match wits and weapons with a rogue U.S. military squad, led by Bruce Willis. What is the secret? Who will survive? How many people does a zombie have to eat before it's full? To find the answers, sit back, relax and aim for the head as Robert Rodriguez presents *Planet Terror*.

After intermission, (yes, there's an intermission) it's time to buckle up for the double feature's second half, *Death*

Proof. Tarantino's contribution is a pedal-to-the-metal thrill ride that follows the diabolical Stuntman Mike (Kurt Russell, *Escape From New York*), an aging daredevil with a rather unusual hobby. Some people collect stamps, others take up golf, Stuntman Mike stages elaborate car crashes involving his custom built "death proof" stunt car and unsuspecting victims. Needless to say, the results are always the same: Mike walks away; the others leave in body bags. However, when he targets two groups of beautiful young women, including Rosario Dawson (*Clerks II*), Mary Elizabeth Winstead (*Final Destination III*) and Jordan Ladd (*Waiting*), as his next victims, he may be biting off more than he can chew. Will Stuntman Mike's deadly fixation with twisted metal and broken bodies leave the unlucky ladies as road kill, or has he finally met his match?

If two feature length films, packed with enough violence, gore, car crashes and nudity to make an MPAA censor's head explode, then you're in luck, because *Grindhouse* has one last feature to offer. Aside from *Planet Terror* and *Death Proof*, *Grindhouse* presents the viewer with four fake movie trailers, advertising movies that look good enough to be real. The first trailer, for a film entitled *Machete*, is the only one made by the film's creators. The other three trailers, *Thanksgiving*, *Don't* and *Werewolf Women of the S.S.* were created by fellow directors Edgar Wright (*Shaun Of The Dead*), Eli Roth (*Hostel*) and Rob Zombie (*The Devil's Rejects*). A hilarious stab at the horror genre, the trailers will have the viewer wishing that the films they advertise existed outside of *Grindhouse*. So whether you're looking for a scare or a laugh, this double feature has something for everyone. Well, that is if everyone can stomach the sight of cannibalistic frenzies, exploding heads and gruesome car crashes.

Grade: A

Photo courtesy <http://www.forbiddenplanet.co.uk>

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Spring football program jumpstarts next season's team

BY GERARD HETMAN
Beacon Staff Writer

While the cold chill and bitter winds of winter have been slow to leave the Wyoming Valley, the nasty elements haven't stopped the Wilkes University football program from hitting the fields at the Ralston Complex for their annual round of spring practice sessions.

Football programs at the Division III level are allowed 16 practice sessions during the spring semester. While the NCAA does not permit contact and hitting during spring practice for Division III schools, teams are allowed to use a football to run through non-contact drills and exercises. As a result, spring practices at Wilkes have been a mix of strength and conditioning exercises, combined with drills designed to build and develop football skills and fundamentals. The spring practices are the first time that the previous season's seniors are no longer with the team, and the coaching staff often seeks to use this period to begin to shape the leadership and composure of the team for the season to come.

"We have several objectives in our spring

practices," said Wilkes head coach Frank Sheptock, when asked what he looks for the team to accomplish during spring workouts. "First, we try to best identify the young men who have bought into the work ethic and commitment we have tried to instill in our players, particularly with regards to their strength and conditioning work in the off-season. Also, we are trying to identify a new profile for our team after the graduation of several of our key players. We look at our program during this time and ask ourselves, 'How will this group best go about winning football games?'"

For many of the Colonels, the spring offers a chance to correct and build on what they have experienced and learned from the previous season. Cornerback Corey Gilroy is using the spring practices to continue his progress and preparation for the upcoming campaign. "In your first season, the speed of the game and the playing styles of other teams take a lot of getting used to. It's an excellent opportunity in the spring to help yourself progress a long way by applying

See **PRACTICE** on PAGE 19



The Beacon/Todd Weibel
Wilkes football players are working out during the annual spring practices.



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| Commentary |

GAME OF THE WEEK

Boston Red Sox v. New York Yankees

Baseball's greatest rivalry heats up in the Bronx

BY TIM SEIGFRIED

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

Every sport has its great rivalries.

Basketball had the Lakers and Celtics of the 70s and 80s, football had the Cowboys and the Eagles, and tennis had Sampras and Agassi.

Baseball, of course, has the Red Sox and Yankees.

The storied rivalry has existed for nearly a century, dating back to 1919 when Babe Ruth was sold from the Red Sox to the Yankees.

The rivalry has been mostly dominated by the Bronx Bombers, capped off by a dramatic, extra innings, game ending homerun by Aaron Boone in the 2003 American League Championship Series.

A year later, the two teams would meet for a rematch in the ALCS, with the Yankees taking a dominating three games to nothing lead.

In what would turn out to be the greatest comeback in the history of sports, the Red Sox rallied behind to win four straight en route to their first World Series title in 1986.

Since 2004, there have been some classic Yankees/Red Sox moments, including the Yankees signing former Red Sox center-fielder Johnny Damon, as well as the five game sweep that took place during the "Boston Massacre" last fall.

However, the rivalry hasn't had the same feel to it since that memorable comeback nearly three years ago.



This week, the two teams will look to rekindle the fire as they square off in six games within a ten day span.

This past weekend, the Yankees visited Boston for three games, which did not go well for the Bronx Bombers, as they lost the first of several series to the Red Sox.

This week, however, it's time for the Red Sox to go on the road as they visit Yankee Stadium for the first time this season.

It looks to be a good contest, as both teams have a lot going for them as they enter the weekend.

First, the Yankees an advantage, and his name is Alex Rodriguez.

A-Rod, who has never been fully embraced by the tough Yankee fans due in part to his lack of clutch hitting, is getting a lot of love from the crowds in the early parts of the season, as he has had two game winning homeruns in addition to his league leading power numbers.

Aside from Rodriguez, the Yankees lineup is stacked with talent, including Johnny Damon, team captain Derek Jeter, and perennial slugger Jason Giambi.

With a lineup like that, it's hard to lose, unless you have a depleted pitching staff that consists of having three starters on the disabled list.

As it turns out, the Yankees have just that, with starters Mike Mussina, Carl Pavano and Chien-Ming Wang nursing various injuries.

As such, the Bombers will look to veteran Andy Pettitte to lead a pitching staff of mostly newcomers, which could be a problem against a tough Boston lineup.

While not as deep as the Yankees' starting nine, the Red Sox can tear apart bad pitching, especially with a 3-4-5 of David Ortiz, Manny Ramirez, and J.D. Drew.

Ortiz, who leads the team in homeruns and RBIs, is picking up where he left off last season, while Manny's slow start is of concern, it should be noted that the quirky slugger has averaged 39 home runs and 119 RBIs every season since joining the Red Sox in 2001.

The real strength of the Red Sox is their pitching staff, which consists of 5 solid starters. Led by renowned Yankee killer Curt Schilling and finished off by closing pitcher Jonathan Papelbon, the Yankees will certainly have their work cut out for



them, especially against the likes of Josh Beckett and Daisuke Matsuzaka, both of which have enjoyed success in this young season.

Ultimately, baseball games come down to pitching, a category that the Red Sox have a distinct advantage in.

Despite having Mariano Rivera in their bullpen, the Yankees pitching staff has given up more runs, walks, and has fewer strikeouts than the Red Sox.

As for the series, expect the rotation of the Red Sox to get the better of the Yankee's bats.

The Pick:

Game 1: Red Sox 7, Yankees 2

Game 2: Red Sox 12, Yankees 9

Game 3: Red Sox 4, Yankees 3

Probable Starters (as of 4/23)

4/27

Daisuke Matsuzaka (1-2, 2.70 ERA)

vs

Chase Wright (1-0, 5.40 ERA)

4/28

Tim Wakefield (2-1, 1.35 ERA)

vs

Kei Igawa (1-0, 6.06 ERA)

4/29

Julian Tavaréz (0-1, 6.75 ERA)

vs

Chien-Ming Wang (No official start)

Double Take

Steph examines the stats that truly matter...

BY STEPHANIE DEBALKO

Beacon A&E Editor

Another Yankees/Red Sox game? Wonderful. I must say that I am actually trying to understand and maybe even like baseball. But that hasn't quite happened yet, so I really have no idea who would win this game based on stats and skills. That said, I think my money is on the Yankees, for a few simple reasons.

First, I'm aware that the fans on both sides of the field are pretty hard-core about their teams, and I can respect that. But when I was in Manhattan yesterday, I saw a Red Sox banner sitting in a bucket on someone's fire escape. In honor of you, Mr. Bucket, and your creative hatred, I am putting my faith in the Yankees.

I've never been to Boston, but I can't imagine there's a city greater than New York. Where else can you get a bagel and erotic videos while watching a man who looks remarkably like a robot all on the same street corner? So if the city is that awesome, the team has to be pretty great too, right? And come on, the Yankees have way cuter and sleeker uniforms than the Red Sox, and we all know having confidence in what one is wearing can really give one an edge.

Finally, I do believe that the Yankees players are a little bit more attractive. Maybe it's just the uniforms. There's something about the pinstripes. Do they still wear uniforms with pinstripes, or was that just from the movie 61*? I suppose their outfits may have changed since the time of Roger Maris and Mickey Mantle, but I hope they haven't.

For all these reasons, I think the Yankees are going to dominate. Who can argue with my stellar logic?

PRACTICE from PAGE 17

what you've learned from the previous season," he said.

For a few other players who were not members of the team before this semester, spring practice is the first practice time they will spend with their new teammates after transferring from other institutions over the Christmas break. Running back Sean Madden is looking to make an impact as a Colonel this season after transferring from Iona College. "Practice has been going very

well; the coaching staff has worked well with me in helping me learn the new plays and systems. I've gotten to know everyone on the team and I feel very confident being in the program," he said.

As all the players continue their progress and development in the spring, they also seek to develop a drive in their work that will power them through the summer, leading up to the start of training camp in mid-August. While the weather may be chilly outside, the 2007 version of the Wilkes Football program is rapidly heating up and taking shape.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

A Wilkes University football coach goes over drills during the annual spring practices.

BASEBALL from PAGE 20

that enables them to control their own destiny in trying to make it to the playoffs. If the Colonels manage to pull off a three game sweep against the Royals, they will be much closer to being crowned MAC Freedom conference championship contenders.

The Colonels go on the road to face Scranton on Friday at 3:30 pm, and come back home for a doubleheader against the Royals

Saturday at 1 pm.that enables them to control their own destiny in trying to make it to the playoffs. If the Colonels manage to pull off a three game sweep against the Royals, they will be much closer to being crowned MAC Freedom conference championship contenders.

The Colonels go on the road to face Scranton on Friday at 3:30 pm, and come back home for a doubleheader against the Royals Saturday at 1 pm.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Wilkes senior Alex Ingram connects for a home run in a game against Scranton.

WEEKEND RECAPS

Baseball

Wilkes University had 20 hits and scored more than one run in five of the nine innings on its way to a 23-9 non-conference baseball win over Susquehanna University on Thursday afternoon. The win improved the Colonels to 15-10. The Crusaders saw their record fall to 7-19-1 overall.

Softball

Wilkes University and FDU-Florham split a Freedom Conference softball doubleheader at the Ralston Complex on Saturday afternoon. The Lady Colonels posted a 2-1 win in eight innings in the opener, before the Devils bounced back for a 4-3 win in the nightcap. The split moves Wilkes to 17-9 overall and 7-3 in Freedom Conference play. FDU-Florham sees its records change to 17-13 overall and 9-3 in the conference.

Lacrosse

Lindsey Lustrino scored a school-record nine goals and also dished out an assist to lead Moravian College to a 19-5 Middle Atlantic Conference women's lacrosse win over Wilkes University on Saturday afternoon. The win improves the Greyhounds to 2-10 overall and 1-7 in the conference. Wilkes slips to 0-12 overall and 0-8 in conference play.

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

17

Number of wins for the Lady Colonels softball team after they split the double header against FDU-Florham.

2

Number of goals by Wilkes freshman Ashley Leggio in the women's lacrosse match against Moravian.

946

The number of career strikeouts for softball pitcher Laurie Agresti. She had 15 in the first game against FDU and is only the 5th player in D-3 history to reach this milestone.

7

Number of wins that the men's tennis had this season before losing to Drew University in the playoffs.

Preview of the week: Baseball triple header vs. Scranton

BY CARLTON HOLMES
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

As the 2007 baseball season draws to close, teams around the Freedom Conference are fighting to muster up much needed wins in hopes of dancing into the postseason.

All the long hours of intense practice devoted to winning come into play at this stage in the season. The Colonels are no exception and will look to sweep their three game series against Scranton University en route to the third playoff berth for Wilkes in four seasons.

"Scranton is a good team, and playing them is always a battle. They are a local, cross-town rival, and because of the rivalry, throw the record books out the window. And we have to play good if we want to be in the playoffs," stated head coach Joe Folek.

Following a 23-9 whopping on the Susquehanna Crusaders, the

Colonels will look to carry that momentum into their contests against Scranton. The last time both teams met in a three game series Wilkes posted two victories, including an 11-1 blowout in the Royals own backyard. This season, the Colonels own the fourth and final playoff spot, while the Royals trail behind as the fifth seed. Therefore, expect an intense battle between both ball clubs.

Leading the offensive attack for the Colonel's is junior outfielder Kyle Follweiler with a team-high 4 homeruns and an impressive 24 RBI's. Junior Corey Helfrich has also had an impact for the Colonels offensive game with a stellar .416 batting average and 32 hits on the season. Both players will look to step up to the plate and guide the Colonels to three much needed conference wins against the Royals.

Although the Royals have all the symptoms of a struggling team with an overall record of 9-18,

and 3-5 in the Freedom Conference, the team is in playoff contention and poses a mild threat to the Colonels' playoff hopes. In the Royals' last conference match-up, they spanked second seeded King's College at home 18-6, while combining for 15 hits. If the Colonels' bullpen contains the Royals' hitting ability, they may be able to walk out the series with three more wins under their belt.

"We are going to Scranton with the mentality that we have to take three. Two out of three is not going to cut it when it's this close to the playoffs. I think with our pitching, the way our bats have been hitting, and with our defense, Scranton does not stand a chance against us," said senior catcher Matt LePreto, one of three hungry players looking for a postseason championship before graduating after this season.

The Colonels are currently 6-8 in the Freedom Conference and **See BASEBALL page 19**



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Wilkes senior Justin Popovich connects in a recent baseball game. The Colonels go into the game against Scranton with a 15-10 record.

Campus Calendar

All Week

*Faculty Exhibition, Sordani Art Gallery

Tuesday 4/24

*Men's golf vs. Misericordia - 1:00 PM

*Men's tennis @ Philadelphia Bible - 4:00 PM

*Men's baseball vs. King's - 4:00 PM

*Women's lacrosse @ Elizabeth - 4:00 PM

Wednesday 4/25

*Men's golf vs. Scranton - 1:00 PM

*Women's softball vs. Delaware Valley - 3:00 PM

Thursday 4/26

*2007 Extracurricular/Leadership Award Exhibition
Luchon, HSC Ballroom
- 11:00 AM

*Women's softball @ Lebanon Valley - 3:30 PM

*Women's lacrosse @ St. Thomas Aquinas - 4:00 PM

*WB/Scranton Yankees
Luxury Box, PNC Field
- 7:00 PM

Friday 4/27

*Men's tennis vs. Moravian - 3:00 PM

*Men's baseball @ Scranton - 3:30 PM

*Alumni night at Allenberry Theatre, Allenberry Theatre
- 6:00 PM

*Concert-Chorus/Chamber Singer, St. Stephen's Church
- 7:30 PM

Saturday 4/28

*Men's golf @ Freedom Conference Championships
- 9:00 AM

*Men's tennis @ MAC Individual Championships - 9:00 AM

*ASMS Car Show, HSC parking lot - 11:00 AM

*Men's baseball vs. Scranton - 1:00 AM

*Women's lacrosse vs. Lycoming - 1:00 PM

*Women's softball @ Drew - 1:00 PM

*Dance Concert, DDD - 8:00 PM

Sunday 4/29

*Men's tennis @ MAC Individual Championships - 9:00 AM

Men's golf @ Freedom Conference Championships - 9:00 AM

*Stock Car Racing Experience, HSC - 12:00 PM

*Women's softball vs. Marywood - 1:00 PM

*Men's baseball @ Misericordia - 2:00 PM

*Wyoming Valley Mall/Wal Mart Shopping Shuttle Trip - 2:00 PM

*26 Rosenn Lecture, DDD - 7:00 PM

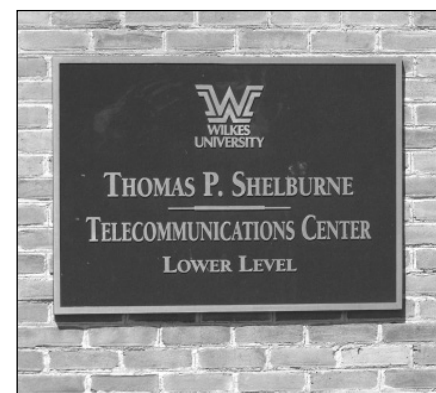
*Civic Band Concert, DDD - 3:00 PM

Monday 4/30

*No events scheduled.

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



Congratulations to Adam Butler who correctly identified last week's picture, which was of a switch panel in Stark.