

The BEACON

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

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Winter mess wreaks havoc on schedules

BY ANDREW SEAMAN

Beacon Asst. News Editor

Last week's first major winter storm dropped anywhere from 12 to 20 inches of snow throughout the region. In the middle of the storm, temperatures rose enough to mix snow with ice, causing treacherous driving conditions.

The end result was that the Wyoming Valley came to a near standstill for over 48 hours between Tuesday evening and Thursday afternoon. For some, that standstill was literal, as tractor trailers jack knifed causing miles of immobile vehicles. Interstate 81 continued to be closed along with Interstates 80 and 78 until 4p.m. on Saturday. State troopers, military officers, and some PennDOT workers became rescue workers, picking up stranded motorists and shuttling them to shelters.

Governor Ed Rendell said he found the response to the snowstorm "unacceptable." Rendell also announced that his office will

conduct an investigation into the state's response along with an independent investigation run by the former director of FEMA, James Lee Witt.

The Pennsylvania House and Senate will also hold hearings to see what exactly led to such terrible road conditions and what many deemed to be slow response. Rendell and others blamed the highway mess on a breakdown of communication. Some, including PennDOT workers blamed the situation on simply not having enough manpower.

Locally, Mayor Thomas Leighton and Wilkes-Barre city offices came under similar fire for slow street cleaning response. As both the *Citizens' Voice* and *Times Leader* newspapers reported, city offices were flooded with complaints about entire neighborhoods being "forgotten" or abandoned in the clean-up effort.

See LET IT SNOW page 5



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Unfortunately due to a breakdown in communication, Franklin Street was being cleared Thursday afternoon without notice to the public. This unfortunate driver came up against a front loader that was moving snow from the street.

Yeninas assumes Advising Coordinator position

Search committee ensues for new Director of Residence Life

BY CURRAN DOBSON

Beacon Editor-in-Chief

When Jim Harrington vacated the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Advising Coordinator position last fall for a new post at Mansfield University, some big shoes needed to be filled.

But university officials recently announced that former Director of Residence Life, Gretchen Yeninas, assumed the role January 15.

Yeninas has been employed at Wilkes University for a number of years. She was involved with Residence Life for eight and a half years, plus an additional three years

prior to that. Yeninas said, "This position is a new challenge for me."

However, the advising post differs greatly from her previous one in residence life. When it comes to settling in and becoming familiar with her new position, Yeninas said, "I'm enjoying so much of it so far... the people I work with, the idea of working with students academically. I can't say I enjoy it more, but it is a welcome change."

Yeninas is also settling in by getting right to work and developing plans for her new position. She attended a week-long institute sponsored by NACADA, the national academic advising association. "The last week in January, I attended an institute

about being an advising administrator and one on assessing advising," Yeninas said. As she explained, institutes are a little different than a conference. Participants are separated into small groups and work together on different projects. "I learned a ton! But I was also happy to know that a lot of things I already knew about student development from residence life are pertinent in this position," Yeninas said.

Yeninas also detailed her plan for her new position on campus. "My plan includes reintroducing myself to the faculty. Many of them know me as the housing person, but I've been attending Darin Fields's chairs meeting so I can start to understand some of

the issues facing faculty on campus." Additionally, Yeninas explained that she and the rest of the advising team plan to attend a luncheon with the new faculty. The advising team includes Tom Thomas, Director of University College, Blake Mackesy, Assistant Director of University College, and MaryBeth Mullen, Advising Coordinator for the College of Science and Engineering. Yeninas said, "[The luncheon] is a good way to get my name out there and let the faculty know I'm here to help with students."

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Yeninas also explained that, while she is filling Harrington's position, she will handle things her way. "So far no one has compared me to him, and how could they? Jim had such a unique style. I couldn't replicate that if I tried," Yeninas said. Yeninas further stated that the students Harrington worked with have been reassigned to new advisors since the position wasn't filled in the fall, so she is starting with a new group of students that never had Harrington as an advisor.

As far as her former position goes, Yeninas explained that Elizabeth Roveda, Assistant Director for Residence Life, is handling much of the day-to-day operations, although Yeninas is technically acting as director. She also explained that Roberta Shaffer, secretary, and Jonathan McClave, head Resident Advisor in Evans Hall, are helping out. "I'm spending Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in the RLO and have daily morning meetings with the RLO staff to keep up with what's happening. The spring semester is a busy one for Residence Life, so I'll still be a part of the RA interviews (that start on Monday) and

Goodbye
RESIDENCE
LIFE

Hello
ADVISING
COORDINATOR

will help out with the room selection process," Yeninas said.

Philip Ruthkosky explained that Mark Allen, Dean of Students, has formed a search committee consisting of six staff members and two resident assistants. "Each candidate who is invited to interview will spend one hour with the search committee, followed by one hour with a group of four to six student leaders and one hour with the Deans and Vice President of Student Affairs [Paul Adams]," Ruthkosky said. Ruthkosky explained his role as "chairing the search committee, who will be responsible for offering feedback and providing a recommendation to Dean Allen." Allen and Adams will make the final hiring decision.

Ruthkosky further explained that candidates for the position should possess two to three years of successful experience within

Residence Life, be a role model and mentor, fit in with the Wilkes atmosphere, and possess a bachelor's degree (required) or a master's degree (preferred). Ruthkosky said, "In addition to the requirements [listed above], the search committee identified a list of competencies required for the position that include, but are not limited to: strong supervisory/leadership skills, effective mediation and counseling skills, proven written and oral communication skills, and experience in training and budget management."

As far as possible candidates go, Ruthkosky said that the committee has chosen four individuals who will be interviewed over the next two to three weeks. "We hope to make a decision by mid to late March," Ruthkosky said.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

The International Students Mentoring Program held a Chinese New Year celebration yesterday in the location of the old bookstore. Authentic Chinese food as well as games were offered at the event.

The BEACON

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

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Alcohol Myth

Busters:

"It's okay for me to drink to keep up with my boyfriend"

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<http://www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov/CollegeStudents/alcoholMyths.asp>

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Time for a wake up call on the environment

Temps could rise over seven degrees over next century

BY NICK PODOLAK

Beacon News Editor

In ten to 15 years, lions, tigers, and elephants may no longer roam the planet, according to Chuck Putnam, coordinator of the Awakening the Dreamer symposium.

"It's time for a wake up call," he said.

The symposium on sustainability hosted by Wilkes University and the College of Science of Engineering will give participants new insight into Earth's current status and how their everyday decisions can shape and impact the direction the world takes in the next decade. The event is set to take place Saturday, February 24th where the old bookstore is located.

"This is a finite world that we're living on and we have to use our resources thoughtfully and frugally," said Margaret Bakker, local architect and leading environmental advocate.

The name "Awakening the Dream," which is derived from an indigenous dream culture tribe in Ecuador called the Atchwar, refers to America's assumption that their wasteful habits will have no effect on other countries.

"We are the dreamers," Putnam said. "We live in a dream that we can throw away and consume as much as we want, that there is no effect on the rest of the world."

After a recurring dream of her own, environmentalist Lynn Twist traveled to Ecuador 15 years ago to meet with the Atchwar tribe leaders. Together, they formed the Pachamama (mother earth) Alliance, which has since saved over 1 million acres of rainforest.

"What they've been dreaming was that they needed to get out of isolation in the rainforest and make contact with someone who had the same dream," Putnam said. "Twist had that dream."

According to an article in the Britain Sunday Times, scientists say rising greenhouse gases will make climate change unstoppable in a decade, allowing ten years for us to reverse the surge of greenhouse gases that have contributed to a very serious global warming issue. However, Professor of Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences Sid Halsor warns this is not necessarily the end of the world.

"I wouldn't go as far as saying that

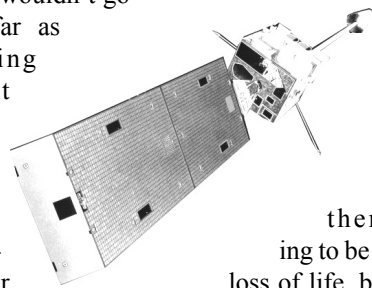
there's ing to be massive loss of life, but it is certainly a very serious change and something that our human race hasn't experienced before," he said.

Halsor explained that reports indicate the temperature will rise two to eight degrees over the next century.

"At two degrees the impact is going to be minimal," he said. "But if it's on the order of seven to eight degrees, it's going to have a significant effect on habitat and ecosystems. Human activity is changing the climate."

Putnam assured, however, that if action is taken now, planet Earth will be a much better place to live in the next ten years. He shared the example of his recent trip to the dentist's office, relaxing back in the leather chair as the nurse gave him a plastic cup full of water.

"It takes 500 years for every plastic lid to biodegrade," Putnam said. "I asked [the nurse] why not use plastic cups made out of corn starch that biodegrade in nine months?"



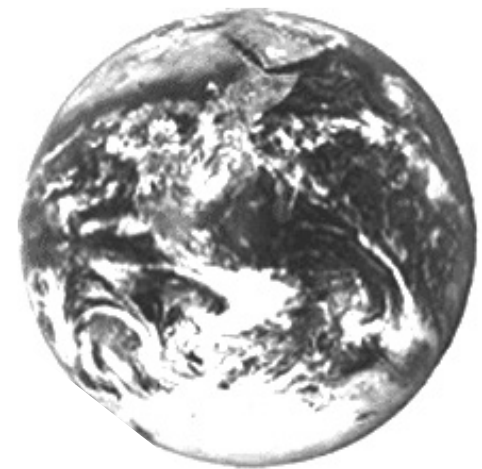
The Beacon/Cara Koster

Chuck Putnam, Coordinator of the Awakening the Dream symposium, speaks at the Pre-Symposium lecture in the Miller Conference Room. According to Putnam, action must be taken in order for future generations to live comfortable on Earth.

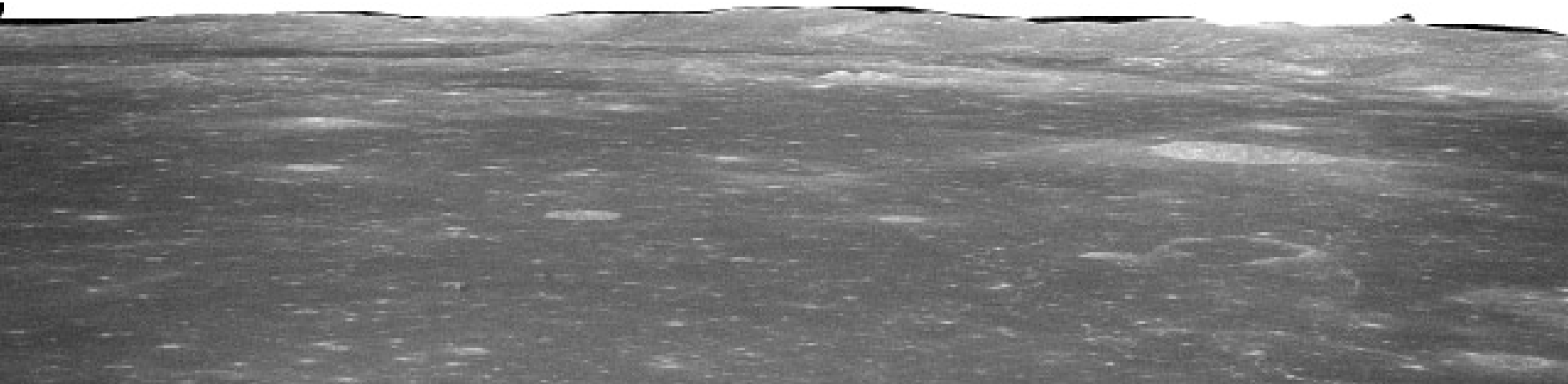
Every little bit helps," he said.

The Symposium will cost \$15 and will provide video clips and various short films from some of the world's most respected thinkers.

"It should be a very interesting symposium and I'm hoping that there are a number of students that attend. There's plenty there to take in," Halsor said.



The issue of sustainability deals with handling current natural resources in such a way that there will be enough left over for future generations. With a temperature rise expected between two and eight degrees due to global warming over the next century, could scientists possibly be looking at life on the moon if action is not taken now?



Snowed in...2007 Style



This shot of Kirby Hall taken from the third floor of the Henry Student Center shows a snow-covered scene. Classes were cancelled on both Wednesday and Thursday at Wilkes.



The greenway is covered with snow and devoid of people. University officials worked overtime to clear sidewalks and walkways.



The Susquehanna River was a log jam of ice and snow after Wednesday's storm, which dumped over two feet of snow on the Wyoming Valley.



The Alumni House makes for a picturesque scene on campus in the aftermath of the Valentine's Day storm 2007.

SNOW from FRONT PAGE

At Wilkes, after two full days of shut-down, students, faculty and staff returned to offices and classes Friday on a compressed schedule. Early on, some students voiced displeasure that they had to venture out during the storm for night classes and the Wilkes-King's basketball game that went on as scheduled Tuesday night, while other surrounding universities canceled events for the night.

However, freshman basketball player Emilee Strubeck didn't seem to mind the fact that she had to come out in the storm on Tuesday night because of her basketball game against King's. "... We were really pumped to play them and anticipated the game all week," she said. "There were a lot of fans out for the guy's game, but I think a lot of them walked, even from King's," Emilee said about fan attendance.

As the days passed, commuter students especially battled the road conditions and noted they were still treacherous in areas. Even during the day on Friday, the section of River Street along campus was diminished by two lanes because all snow had been pushed to the center, creating an island.

The cars that ventured onto River Street early in the storm created their own lanes through the snow and in the process created the snow island in the middle of the street that became, at times, two feet tall. This buildup of snow can also be blamed for the traffic jams that plagued the campus after Thursday.

Like the city and state, Wilkes University officials faced similar challenges with respect to safe and prompt snow removal, in part because parked cars hampered the process. Because the parking lots had cars in them, plowing was nearly impossible in some areas. Wilkes University Public Safety officials released a statement Friday night to all the students who were parked in University owned parking lots, urging them to move their vehicles. "The Facilities Services department will be plowing the parking lots throughout the weekend, beginning at daybreak on Saturday morning. Vehicles that are not moved this evening may be plowed in." The statement also encouraged student to have "patience and cooperation" during the cleanup of the parking lots.

As many discovered, pedestrians and motorists were actually able to return to routines more quickly than snow could actually be removed, which meant that as feet trampled snow to hard-packed blocks of snow and ice, its removal became a more arduous process. Facilities workers at Wilkes were seen all over campus Friday trying to shovel off problem areas even as students and community members trudged through hard-to-navigate areas. Community members who wish to comment on the road conditions and the state's response, please e-mail stormresponse@pasen.gov. Please remember to include your name, address and telephone number with your response.



Juniors Jordan Purdy and Ryan Haas shovel out a car parked on the side of River Street Friday afternoon. Many cars were plowed in along River Street throughout the storm.



The Beacon/Curran Dobson

This car was one of many snowed in during the storm. Getting out required lots of shoveling, plowing, and spinning tires.



The Beacon/Nick Podolak

The roof above the Children's section of the Hoyt Library collapsed Wednesday under the weight of the heavy snow. The mansion of the library will remain open.

Celebrity craze fueled by societal vicious cycle

Obsessing over rich and famous keeps them in lime light

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL BOARD

We all have guilty little pleasures, like reading trashy romance novels or playing Madden football on XBOX 360 for hours.

These pursuits represent a way to get away from it all, to become mesmerized by something distracting and relaxing. In a way, they're an escape from reality.

A guilty little pleasure that has been taken to new heights and degrees of obsessive behavior is the celebrity fanfare craze that fuels such magazines as *People* and *US Weekly*. As the paparazzi swarms, readers gobble up the photos and TV shows like *Entertainment Tonight* prosper. For some reason, the goings-on in Hollywood attract more of an interest than does the President's State of the Union address, especially with those under the age of 25. And, this celebrity fan base is populated by men and women alike, something few hobbies can boast.

What is it about these men and women of Hollywood that becomes so fascinating? When Jen and Brad split up, people were so devastated they began wearing either "Team Jolie" or "Team Aniston" t-shirts. Fans track the spending habits of celebs like Oprah and George Clooney with VH1's *Fabulous Life of...*. And, as recently as Sunday, February 18, two celebrity headlines were among MSNBC.com's most viewed articles: Britney Spears' head shaving episode and Lindsay Lohan's release from rehab. These appeared amongst reports of bombings in Baghdad and an expose on depression in men. Seems like we have some wacky priorities.

Sure, celebrities are rich and famous and usually good-looking. In a way, following their lives allows us to imagine what it might

be like if we were rich and famous and had enough money for private planes and sixteen-bedroom homes and yachts. Following their love lives allows us to imagine what it would be like if we could date Beyonce or Jay-Z ourselves. The simple fact that we know that Katie Holmes and Tom Cruise are

together while we would struggle to remember the name of Dick Cheney's wife is testament to what we as a society deem important and worth remembering.

However, parallel to the ultra-fanatic trend towards celebrities runs a current of discontent. Paparazzi are just as eager to snap a photo of a celebrity's "intimate" wedding ceremony as they are to catch Paris Hilton in a club drunk and belligerent. Messy breakups and rumors of infidelity dominate headlines just as often-if not more-than celebrity hookups. It's as if, at the same time that we live their lives vicariously and envy the lifestyle, we just can't help but to want them to fall as well.

Perhaps this stems partially from our voyeuristic culture that is perpetuated by Myspace.com and online blogs and photo albums. In today's society, we put so much of ourselves out into the public eye and much of it is closely scrutinized. We enjoy being the object of voyeurism as much as we enjoy being the voyeur. And, as the viewer of someone's intimate and private moments, of course we are going to want to see something juicy.

In a way, celebrities never really leave the big screen. When their movie roles are over, they continue to entertain us all with their antics in real life that show up on the small screen.

It may seem that we are suggest-

ing the celebrity craze is a negative thing, and, in a way, we are. Tracking the lives of overpaid actresses and actors hardly seems as noble a thing to do as becoming literate in the political jargon of this country or becoming aware of global interests and concerns. Being well versed in who wore

what to the Academy Awards does make for some enjoyable light conversation during the lunch hour; however, it shouldn't replace conversations about important and pressing issues.

It becomes easy to blame the celebrities for this fanfare. They are the ones living the lives that are so outrageous that they simply scream for airtime and headlines. They are the ones making millions when we decide to go to the movies or buy a CD.

But we're a contrary bunch. We may place celebrities on the pedestal to begin with, but then

we come to resent the pedestal. Sounds a little like a dysfunctional relationship.

When Britney Spears burst onto the scene years ago, we bought her records and went to her concerts and made her into the multi-millionaire she is today. Now that she has squandered her reputa-

tion and fame and become a bald-headed media circus, we resent the fame and attention she's paid.

We fuel the vicious cycle of celebrity buzz and allow it to remain in place.

We say that discussing celebrities' lives is meaningless and an empty pursuit, although as a society we are the ones who supported them enough to give them the money to live the lives we then meaninglessly discuss. This article itself is testament to the fact that celebrity culture is alive and well in this country. If we must examine outlandish behavior, perhaps instead of looking at celebrities, we should look at our own crazed-fan antics.

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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 96 responses.

The Beacon asked:

Which untimely death was the most shocking and had the most impact on the nation?

- Elvis Presley -25%
- Other -20%
- Lee Harvey Oswald -17%
- John Ritter -14%
- Anna Nicole Smith -10%
- Marilyn Monroe -6%
- Mama Cass Elliot -3%
- Ryan White -2%
- Florence Griffith Joyner -2%
- Karen Carpenter -1%

Next Week's Question:

What's your favorite urban legend?

- Babysitter receives calls from within the house
- Gang members drive without headlights & kill people who flash theirs
- Boy dies from eating pop rocks and soda
- HIV infected needles found in unsuspected places
- Axe murderer climbs into backseat of woman's car at a gas station
- Other

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

The Angry Rant: Oscar Edition

BY TIM SEIGFRIED

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

Well, it's that time of year again. Time for the Oscars, the four-hour long spectacle that pretty much sums up Hollywood's opinion about itself: "Hey America, we are all better than you, and here's why!"

Ah, to be a movie star...so glamorous...and yet so vapid and clueless about anything and everything around them.

Now, this week's edition of The Angry Rant just wouldn't be complete unless I made my picks for who and what I feel should win the Oscars. Mind you, these picks are what should win, but not necessarily will win.

Best Picture: *The Departed*, hands down. In the words of many a great Bostonite: "That movie was wicked pissah!" Seriously, any movie that can turn Leonardo DiCaprio into a bonafide tough guy while simultaneously delivering some of the best New England accents you'll ever hear deserves to win some kind of an award.

Best Director: Martin Scorsese. This is his sixth nomination in the category, and this should be his first win. Hollywood should be ashamed of itself for not rewarding someone who is arguably one of the greatest directors of his generation...plus, have you seen his eyebrows? They directed two movies last year! That's got to be good for something.

Best Actor: Ryan Gosling for *Half Nelson*. Arguably the most real performance out of any actor that's been nominated, Gosling should easily walk away with the statue. It's a feat to even get nominated, but more importantly, did anyone see him when he

was in the movie *Stay*? It's amazing that he's even working again.

Best Actress: Penelope Cruz for *Volver*. Not because I believe she was the best actress, I just want her to explain the trainwreck that was *Bandidas*. Come on, I paid \$6 to rent that piece of garbage.

Best Supporting Actor: Jackie Earle Haley for *Little Children*. The journeyman actor is finally receiving his payday due in part to his fearless performance. However, most Hollywood insiders will tell you that his winning the Oscar is really because of his performance in the original *Bad News Bears*.

Best Supporting Actress: Jennifer Hudson for *Dreamgirls*. Yes, her performance is very Oscar worthy, and the former "American Idol" star is deserving of the award. But more importantly, doesn't everyone just want to see her stick it to Beyonce?

Best Screenplay (Original): *Little Miss Sunshine*. Because of that movie, I think we all wish that we had grandfathers that used excessive profanity and that were addicted to blow.

Best Screenplay (Adapted): *Borat: Cultural Learnings of America For Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan*. I really have no vested interest in who wins this one, I just want to see if the presenter will actually say the entire title.

Anyhow, the Oscars, along with any other award show, are always full of shocking and surprising moments, and here are the top ten moments you need to be looking for this year.

1. If Scorsese doesn't finally win his Oscar, then expect to see something very drastic...not from him, of course, but his eyebrows. (Yes, two jokes about Mr. Scorsese's eyebrows. This is classy stuff.)

2. The look of Beyonce's face when "Dreamgirls" co-star Jennifer Hudson walks away with the Best Supporting Actress Oscar. For those of you who didn't know, Beyonce said, "I wish I could have gained 20 pounds to play [that character]" when referring to Hudson. Translation: "That fatty can win all the Oscars she wants...because I'm still Beyonce."

3. Lindsay Lohan's live Oscar presentation from rehab, where she has been for the past month tirelessly working on getting healthy...oh wait.

4. After it wins Best Picture, someone will actually attempt to explain the movie "Babel." Not because of the story, but because of the bizarre plot twist that has Brad Pitt suddenly adopting all of the extras.

5. The number of times it takes the presenters to correctly pronounce "Djimon Hounsou."

6. Larry the Cable Guy's acceptance speech for when "Cars" wins for Best Animated Feature Film...seriously, how great would that be?

You're right, not that great. Moving on.

7. The number of people that are absolutely shocked when they see that the guy from "Bad Boys" and "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" is actually nominated for his second Oscar.

8. Expect to see a fantastic rendition of



Courtesy of silverchips.mbhs.edu

"Good Vibrations" when The Funky Bunch unexpectedly joins Mark Wahlberg on stage after he wins Best Supporting Actor.

9. The cat fight that will inevitably occur between 10-year old nominee Abigail Breslin and yet-to-be-nominated Dakota Fanning.

10. Watch as the presenters giggle when they introduce the animated short film: "No time for Nuts."

Happy Oscaring.

Courtesy of www.ntlworld.com

A Sight for Sore Eyes

Aleksander Lapinski



If time doesn't exist, is it something you can waste?

BY ANDREW SEAMAN
Beacon Asst. News Editor

Everyone needs a friend, not just any friend, but the sort of friend with whom you could spend all summer riding bikes and going to the park. Spending time with that sort of friend allows time to stretch out endlessly.

For me, that person was a kid who lived up the hill from me. He was always my best friend as far back as I can remember. During the summer I would call his house and we would meet at the park down the road where we would spend our days.

Our practice continued right into seventh and eighth grade, when we started to drift apart as many people do. This separation wasn't due to a fight or anything like that. It was simply the situation of many friends, as we began to associate with different crowds. Still, even though we talked much less frequently, he was still what I consider to be a best friend.

I also want to point out that he was one of the smartest people I have ever known. This kid had an I.Q. that would have made

Einstein jealous (okay I am going a bit far, but you get the point). In fact, when I need a laugh now and then, I will think of the hell he is putting his professors through, probably challenging every single thing they

measure the distance between two events." For me, this was a revolutionary comment. Time does not exist? Well then, I can pretty much do anything if I don't have to worry about wasting or not having enough

statement, I don't worry about this, because I didn't waste anything. I enjoyed what I was doing, which was sleeping and walking in the snow. I took notice of several things I normally wouldn't, like the train across the river which I can now hear clearer than ever without the trees, or how the falling snow looks against the lights and banners on the greenway. It was from these observations that I have noticed my week seemed much longer than it normally does, mostly because I didn't worry about what I needed done by when.

"Time does not exist; time is something we use to measure the distance between two events."

say and getting into huge arguments in the classroom. But the thing is, he probably wins. I often joked with him about what he could do if he used his powers for good and not evil.

One day in philosophy class he began to chat with me while we were discussing the concept of time. He said something that I still think about occasionally, which is proven by this peregrination. He told me, "Time does not exist; time is something we use to

time. That is why when I think of something like a project and it interests me, I have no problem tackling it because I know in the end, it will get done.

That is why I find it scary that I cannot count how many people told me they wasted all of their free time given to them by the snowstorm last week. I must admit though, even I told several people that I wasted all of my time.

However when I go back to my friend's

So I would like to challenge you to not worry about time. Remember to get your assignments done, but in your free time don't worry about being productive. Do what you need to do and then have fun. It will make your day last longer and your life more enjoyable. After all, it is silly to worry about something that does not exist. And if you think this was a terrible op-ed, if time does not exist, what have you lost?

Inner child can direct response to snow day stress

BY MARK CONGDON JR.
Beacon Staff Writer

Remember those snow days when you were in elementary school? The day off from school offered a chance for snowball fights, sledding and building forts.

While the kids had fun, parents always seemed to see the snow as a hassle and didn't enjoy shoveling. They just saw the negativity that the snow brought, rather than the enthusiasm and happiness that snow can bring.

After two snow days this past week, it seemed like old cranky parents, who were pessimistic about the white fluffy stuff, were taking over Wilkes's campus. I didn't see many students enthused about playing in the snow like we were when we were younger. Instead I witnessed students bickering and complaining about the sidewalks, the roads and not being able to go to Club Mardi Gras for the junior class social. It is understandable to be upset about the sidewalks and the roads; after all, they were a terrible mess.

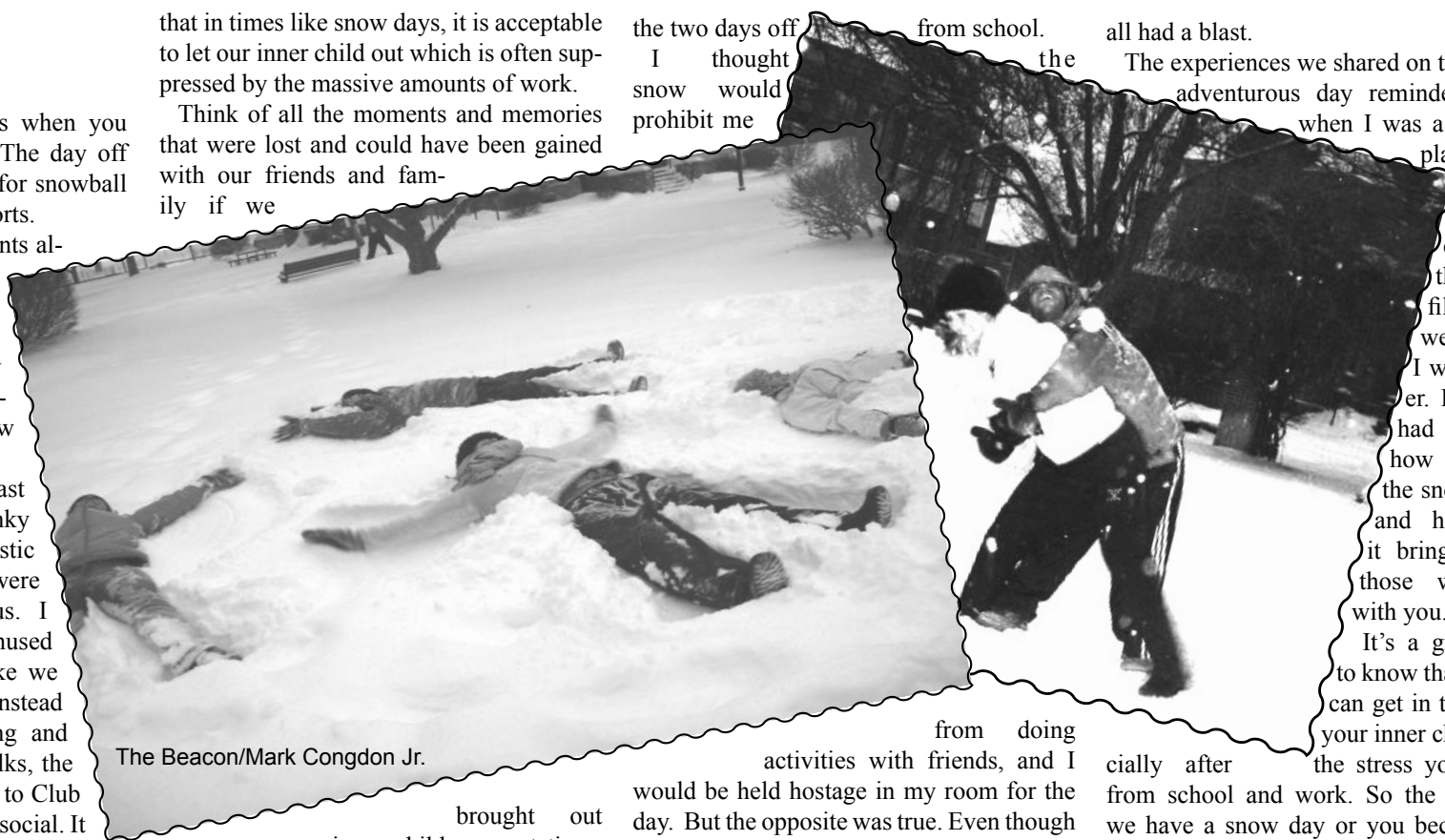
that in times like snow days, it is acceptable to let our inner child out which is often suppressed by the massive amounts of work.

Think of all the moments and memories that were lost and could have been gained with our friends and family if we

the two days off I thought snow would prohibit me from school.

all had a blast. The experiences we shared on that snowy adventurous day reminded me of when I was a little boy playing with my sisters and cousins in the snow-filled days we had when I was younger. It seems I had forgotten how much fun the snow can be and how close it brings you to those who play with you.

It's a great relief to know that you still can get in touch with your inner child, especially after the stress you acquire from school and work. So the next time we have a snow day or you become very stressed, I encourage you all to be more optimistic and to release your inner child.



The Beacon/Mark Congdon Jr.

brought out our inner child more at times when it's appropriate. Because I didn't suppress the child that's in me, I have many new memories with friends that we created over

from doing activities with friends, and I would be held hostage in my room for the day. But the opposite was true. Even though the snow can be a pain, it can also be great fun. Three of my friends and I played ninjas on the greenway this past Wednesday. It may sound childish, but let me tell you, we

T-shirt modification encourages individual fashion flair

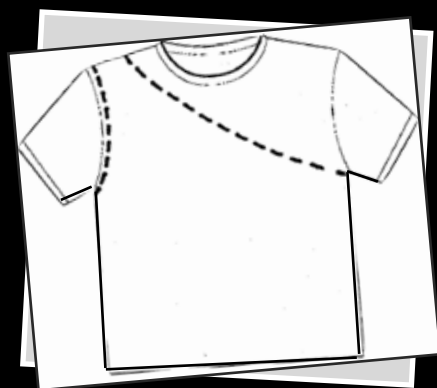
BY MARISSA PHILLIPS

Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

T-shirts really offer endless possibilities: they can be converted into a tank top, a skirt, can be tapered or shaped, among many other things.

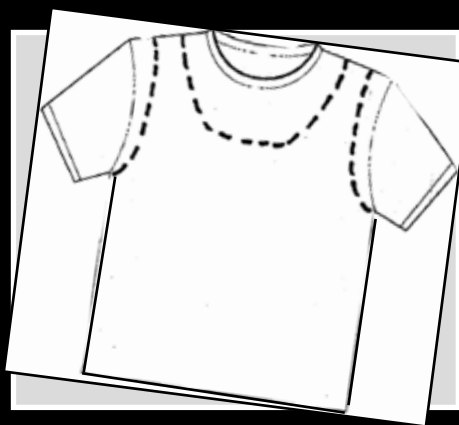
On the other hand, t-shirt devotees can also grab a can of spray paint, or get some fabric paint and decorate it with pictures or slogans that consumers wouldn't normally find sold in a store.

So, here's a beginners guide to t-shirt design and alteration. The easiest way to alter a t-shirt is simply by cutting it. There are countless ways to go about this, but here are some pretty basic cuts to start.



For a one-strap tank top, cut off one sleeve, and then up diagonally from the armpit on the other side.

4 Basic Cuts

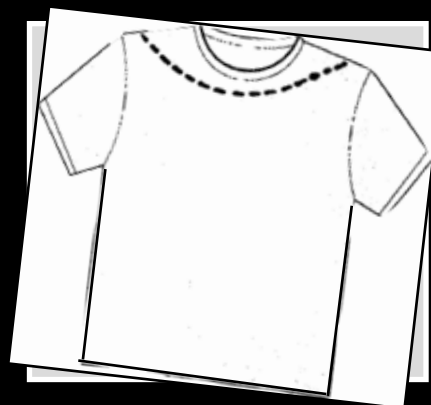


For a regular tank top, cut at least an inch away from the sleeves, and two or more inches down from the neckline.

For a muscle shirt, cut off each sleeve.



For an 80s, off the shoulder shirt, make a curved cut that comes down about an inch under the neckline.



Halter Top

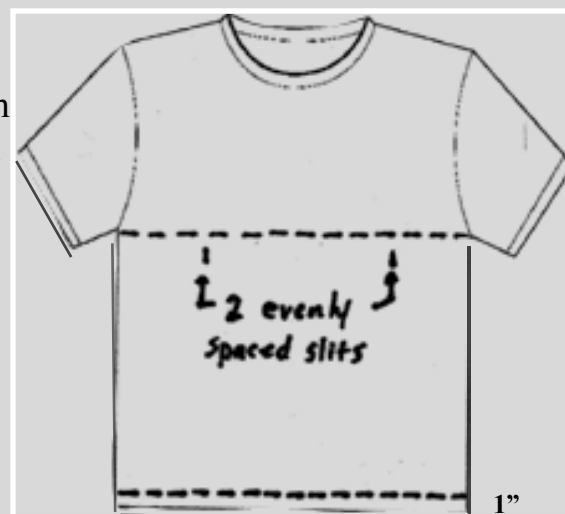
Another design that takes a little more time and effort than a snip or two with the scissors, is a halter top.

1. Measure about 1" up from the bottom of the shirt, and cut directly across. Make one cut so this piece becomes a long strip, and then save it to use for the strap.

2. Cut two evenly spaced holes in the front of the tube-top.

3. Cut across the T-shirt directly under the armpits, from one side to the other, creating a tube-top.

4. Thread the strap through the hole, tie it around the neck. Voila! A halter top.



See
T-SHIRTS
page 10

Creating Stencils

To create a stencil either draw a picture onto the paper, or if you're not particularly artistic, find a picture online. If you choose to print out a picture, simply tape it onto the

<http://www.freewebs.com/stencilry>

- 99 Ways to Cut, Sew, Trim, and Tie Your T-Shirt into Something Special by Faith Blakeney, Justina Blakeney, Anka Livakovic and Ellen Schultz



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Winter worship night promotes Christian faith with live music

BY MEGAN KRISANDA
Beacon Asst. Features Editor

The Christian Fellowship Club will host a night dedicated to worship and live music this Tuesday, February 20 from 6-9 p.m.. The event is called "Winter Worship Night" and will be held in the Henry Student Center Grand Ballroom on the second level.

The night will consist of three musical acts all celebrating Christianity. Angela Hermes, Interfaith Coordinator and club member, is enthusiastic about the musical evening.

"The music is Christian, so we hope this will be uplifting and energizing for Christians who attend, and hopefully educational and fun for those who want to know more about Christianity. Music is very powerful and can describe so much of our lives, emotions, beliefs. I am really excited to see these bands performing together on our campus," said Hermes.

Scheduled bands include: Revelation 21 from Abbott United Methodist Church in Parsons, Scott Robbins of Chief Brody Band and Evernight.

Members of the Christian Fellowship Club proposed the idea to local churches of inviting local bands to Wilkes. According to Andy Curry, co-president of the Christian Fellowship Club, there was a lot of interest in creating the event.

"It's a night where we want to provide a comfortable

atmosphere of people coming together to worship Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. We've invited local churches, colleges, high schools and members of the public. We're going to play some good music, and it's going to be a come and go as you please," said Michael Lewis, co-organizer of Winter Worship Night.

Hermes emphasized that the night serves as a social time, where students, faculty, staff and the community can gather for a positive, encouraging and entertaining musical experience.

The Christian Fellowship Club meets weekly and involves scripture reading, songs and conversation relating to Christian beliefs.

"Generally we have a song or two, then a couple chapters from scripture are discussed, then we close with petitions and prayer. The weekly volunteers read over the scriptures ahead of time, then talk about what stood out to them and they also pose questions for the group to reflect on collectively," said Hermes.

Andy Curry described the club as a way to strengthen faith while keeping priorities straight and not getting caught up in the classroom.

Curry hopes the night helps define an important aspect of the Christian Fellowship club which is to serve as a median in supporting local churches and accepting their support as well.

"The goal of the event is to praise God. Secondly, help

get the club a little more known throughout the community. We want to establish a relationship between the club and local churches," said Curry.

The club has also planned cookie sales, movie nights, game nights and members sponsor a child in Africa in need of basic assistance.



**Christian Fellowship Club
Winter Worship Night
Tuesday Feb. 20, 6pm
Wilkes University Ballroom**

Wilkes University will be holding a Christian praise night for the community and the public at the Student Union Building 2nd floor Ballroom for those who would like to attend. Three Christian bands will be playing: Revelation 21 from Abbott United Methodist Church in Parsons, solo performance by Scott Robbins from Chief Brody Band, and the main band will be Evernight. Wilkes students will also be performing. There will be food and refreshments and donations are accepted. All are welcome to attend!

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Andy Curry
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Courtesy Christian Fellowship Club

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Trendspotter: Getting ready for the thaw

BY STEPHANIE DEBALKO

Beacon A&E Editor

With about two feet of snow on the ground and two glorious snow days under the belt, it may not feel like spring is exactly fast-approaching. But according to mass merchandise stores (and Punxsutawney Phil, for that matter), spring is right around the corner. Besides, it's never too early to start shopping, right? In the stores and on the spring runways bold, bright colors and graphic shapes are some of the prevailing movements in fashion.

While some styles on the racks are slightly reminiscent of the 80's (unfortunately), others seem to be inspired by the mod look (also seen in black and white this season, having carried over somewhat from winter trends). After buttoning up in winter's conservative colors-oatmeal, black, heather-gray and thick, chunky fabrics, it's time to don some lighthearted, punchy colors, fabrics, textures and patterns.

One collection to hit up when searching out some new spring garb is the GO International line at Target. Every few months, this series allows budget-conscious shoppers to indulge in designs from some of the world's top designers, and this month Proenza Schouler's wallet-friendly collection hit the racks. The funky, eclectic mix of summery patterns and bright hues takes a cue from Lazaro Hernandez and Jack McCollough's runway collections to allow shoppers to participate in the latest trends. Of course, snatching up some pieces from this line isn't the only way to get on the bandwagon, but Proenza Schouler seems to

be leading the pack when it comes to this trend.

After obtaining some fabulous spring threads, deciding how to wear them can be a challenge. Some pieces, such as dresses, can stand alone with a few accessories like a chunky necklace or rings, but it can be difficult to figure out how to combine such bright patterns in individual pieces.

Jewelry in bright colors is the minimalist way to wear the trend. Bangles in bright colors or black and white lend a mod look to any outfit, as long as the rest of the outfit is more subdued. Bold, colorful pendants can modernize your favorite outfit. Watches in bright patterns will also be a splurge-worthy accessory to pick up this spring.

Sporting outerwear in bold colors is another way to show your individuality without going overboard. Bright colored jackets in solid colors or bold patterns are a simple way to add to an outfit without the added stress of deciding what to wear, and can be easily shed if you leave the house and then realize that this trend is not for you.

As is the case with pretty much any trend in fashion, matchy-matchy is out of the question. Unless one can really, really pull it off. Otherwise, play it safe with one of two options. Feeling bold? Take a hint from Proenza Schouler's collection and mix it up. Pair intense colors with unique patterns for a style that is uniquely "you." Just be careful with accessories, because too much of a good thing is, well, never a good thing.

The slightly more conservative option is to add unexpected neutrals to a punchy top or bottom (one or the other). For example,

why not pair navy blue with yellow? Unconventional combinations can lend a more refined and polished edge to these youthful, almost whimsical colors.

If all else fails, the best way to wear this trend is the way celebrities have been for quite some time: add one really bright, really fantastic accessory. Dress up a plain dress with red heels. The platform trend in shoes is still going strong in spring and shoes that pair bright solids with wooden and acrylic heels are the best way to add some extra height and style to your look.

Add a bright green bag to a spring staple-the trenchcoat. Canvas bags have shown up in spring collections and are an easy and more budget-conscious counterpart to the leather bags that have been in style. A canvas tote in a bold color can go with practically any outfit and is also a sophisticated way to play up the preppy trend that is happening this spring as well.

If the bold color trend is just a little too



The Beacon/Marissa Phillips

over the top, then at least check out the new mod pieces hitting the shelves in black and white graphic designs. These pieces allow the wearer to still look fabulously in style, if a little less daring.

Schedule of Events

Monday, February 19

- Karaoke with Scott Stevens at Slainte.
- Sweetwater performing at the Woodlands at 10 p.m.

Tuesday, February 20

- Karate High School and Everyone Meets Sharp performing at Backstage at 6 p.m.
- Robb Brown and Friends performing at Slainte.
- Rod Stewart performing at the Wachovia Arena at 8 p.m.
- Sweetwater performing at the Woodlands at 10 p.m.

Wednesday, February 21

- M-80 performing at the Woodlands at 10 p.m.

Friday, February 23

- Diseases of the Brain lecture at 7 p.m. in Breiseth 106.
- New Riders of the Purple Sage performing at the River Street Jazz Cafe.
- Batboy: The Musical in the Darte Center at 8 p.m.
- Livingston, A Golden Era, Melded and Spread Thin performing at Café Metropolis at 8 p.m.

Saturday, February 24

- Awakening the Dreamer Symposium from 9:30 am-5:30 p.m. in the old bookstore.
- Stout, Scheduled Beating, Dead and Buried and Taken by Force performing at Backstage at 6 p.m.
- ArenaCross at the Wachovia Arena at 7 p.m. (shuttle service at 6:30 at the SUB)
- Batboy: The Musical in the Darte Center at 8 p.m.
- The Menzingers, The Holy Mess, The Track Record and You, Me and Everyone We Know at Café Metropolis at 8 p.m.
- Go Go Gadget performing at the Woodlands at 10 p.m.

Sunday, February 25

- Batboy: The Musical at 2 p.m. in the Darte Center.
- Madball, Death by Dishonor, Since the Flood and Reign Supreme performing at Backstage at 6 p.m.

Book Review: Rob Sheffield's *Love is a Mix Tape*

Life and Loss, One Song at a Time

BY NICOLE FRAIL

Beacon Staff Writer

What is love?

The question is simple. The answer? Not so much. There are perhaps a million different responses to this question, but *Rolling Stone* journalist Rob Sheffield seems to have found the right one. According to Sheffield, love is a mix tape. Many mix tapes, to be exact.

Sheffield's book guides you through his life, from childhood to the present time, with a variety of different songs on a number of mix tapes, all made for certain occasions. He writes of The Party tape, the I Want You tape, and the You Broke My Heart and Made Me Cry and Here Are Twenty or Thirty Songs About It tape. Tape 635 takes you through a Christian summer camp when he was an awkward teenager full of witty remarks, and Love Makes Me Do Foolish Things helped him cope with his very first break-up in college.

On October 10, 1989, Sheffield made one of the most important mix tapes of his life. The tape included the song that brought he and Renee together. Renee was a spunky free spirit who an introverted Sheffield described as his hero. The mix tape he sent home with Renee a few nights later led to many more and eventually, the two were married and happily in love.

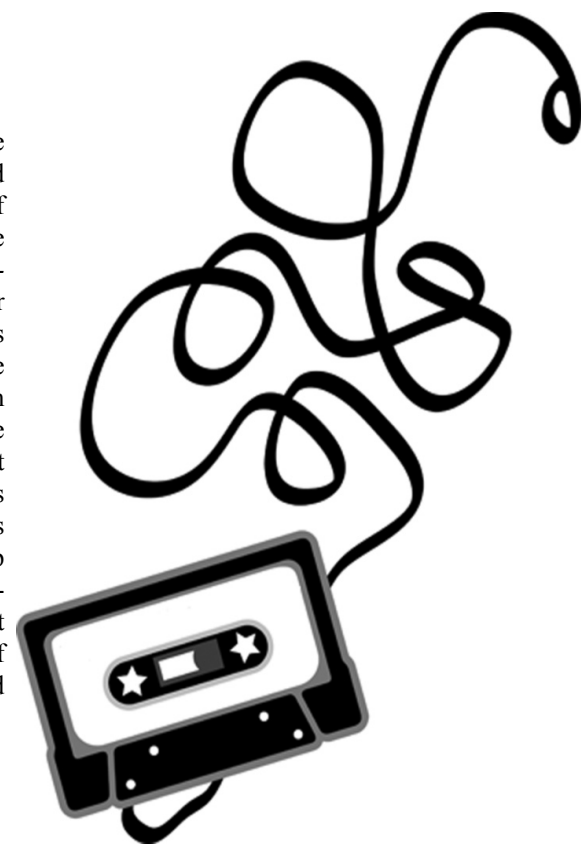
But as soon as happily ever after began, it came to an end.

After Renee's sudden death, Sheffield uses his mix tapes for a different reason: to survive. Crazy Feeling, Paramount Hotel and MMMrob were Sheffield's attempts at sleeping through the night and trying to drive anywhere in Charlottesville without being reminded of Renee. "When I fell asleep," he writes, "I had dreams in which Renee was trying to find her way home, but she got lost because I moved a chair or something." He uses his mix tapes to cope with losing Renee and

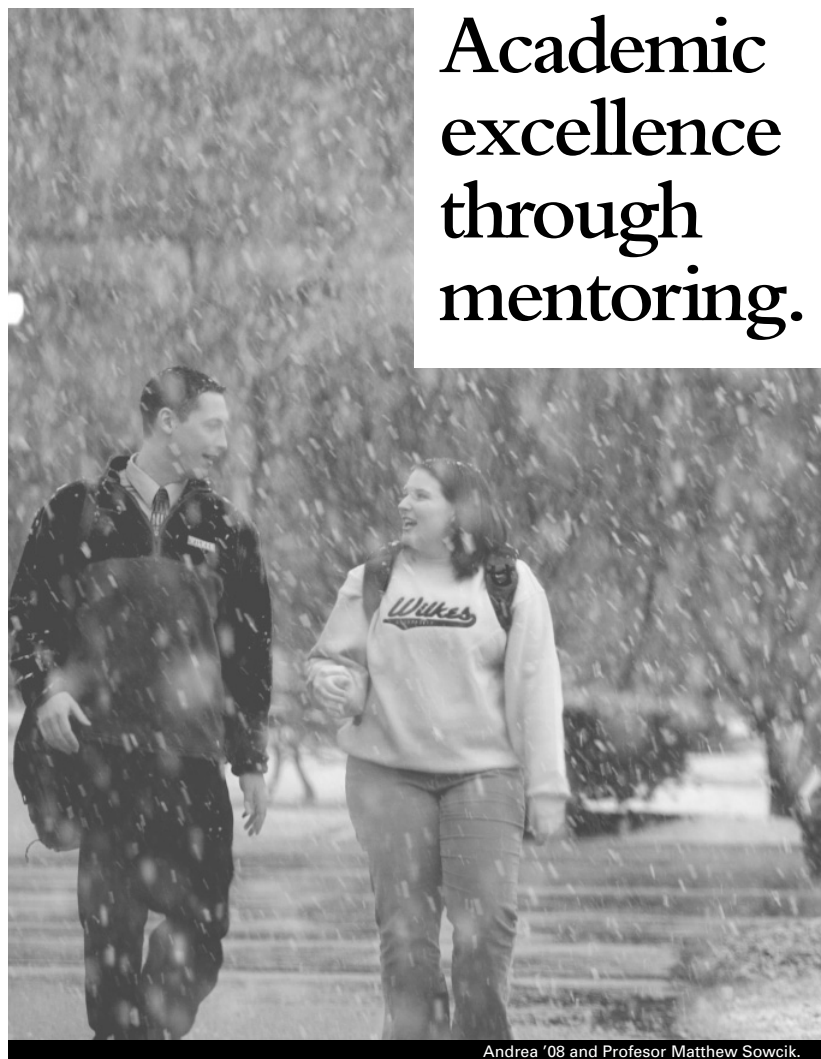
to try to start his life over.

If you aren't familiar with the music or the movies that Sheffield references, you may find yourself confused at some points. If you've never seen *A Stolen Life* or *Horror of Dracula* and you've never heard Peter Godwin's "Images of Heaven," you may feel a little out of the loop with the sarcasm or jokes Sheffield makes. In the end, it's the songs and movies that you do recognize (like RHCP's "Under the Bridge" or Tag Team's "Whoomp! There It Is") that help tell his whole story. Rob Sheffield's *Love is a Mix Tape* is a must read for anyone who is a fan of '90s alternative and pop music and a good story about love and loss.

Grade: A



Courtesy of <http://www.sensilla.com>



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When I started here at Wilkes I wasn't sure what I needed to do to ensure a bright and wonderful future. The one person who has helped me time and time again has been Professor Matthew Sowcik. He's told me numerous times that he is here to be my 'agent' — that he will market my skills in the job market when I am ready for that.”



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Andrea '08 and Profesor Matthew Sowcik.

Crossword Puzzle

BY CHRISTOPHER KUDRAK
Beacon Correspondent

- ACROSS
- 1

Moisten while cooking
- 6

Appear to be
- 10

Pond film
- 14

Apportion
- 15

Mathematical measurement
- 16

Cone-bearing plant
- 17

Pharmacist
- 19

Melody
- 20

You blow it off when mad
- 21

Separate by a sieve
- 23

Kind of artist?
- 24

Annoy
- 26

Gracefully refined
- 28

Coffee stimulant
- 33

Currency of Japan
- 34

Executive office
- 35

Lenient
- 36

Ethical
- 40

Prom transportation, for short
- 41

Type of wetland
- 44

Meal list
- 45

Turn away eyes
- 47

Beetle, for example
- 48

Consumes
- 49

Louvre display
- 51

Convey
- 53

Investigate
- 57

Hurricane center
- 58

Kind of soup
- 59

Ceramic square
- 61

Showy or elaborate display
- 65

Travelers' stopovers
- 67

Calls attention to
- 70

Concluding a musical passage
- 71

Thousands of dollars, slangly

- 72

Type of acid
- 73

Catch clothing on something sharp
- 74

Makes mistakes
- 75

Prepared

- DOWN
- 1

Sheep call
- 2

European mountains
- 3

Casino machine
- 4

Carry around
- 5

Type of fuel
- 6

Pouch in a plant or animal
- 7

Periods
- 8

Hair-raising
- 9

Type of winged insect
- 10

Hot bath
- 11

Approximately on a date
- 12

Confederacy foe
- 13

Deliberate
- 18

Electronic letters
- 22

To abound or swarm
- 25

Chew on persistently
- 27

Garden inhabitants
- 28

Beverage type
- 29

Tel ____, Israel
- 30

Hall of ____
- 31

Pertaining to flowers
- 32

Right on
- 37

Chastise
- 38

Opposed to
- 39

One of the seven deadly sins
- 42

Farm animal
- 43

Church activity
- 46

Horse movement
- 50

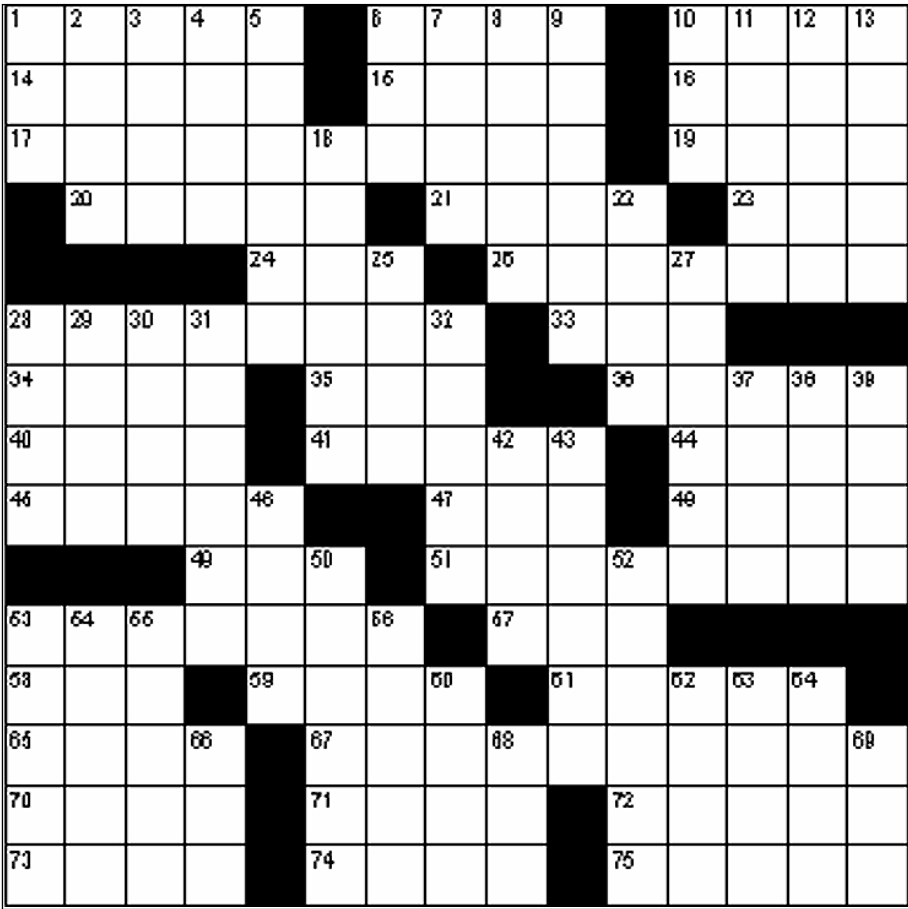
Sorting victims
- 52

Liquid produced by flowers
- 53

Iliad and Odyssey
- 54

Gaseous element
- 55

Bear from china



- 56

Chief
- 60

Always
- 62

Tequila fruit
- 63

Continent East of Europe
- 64

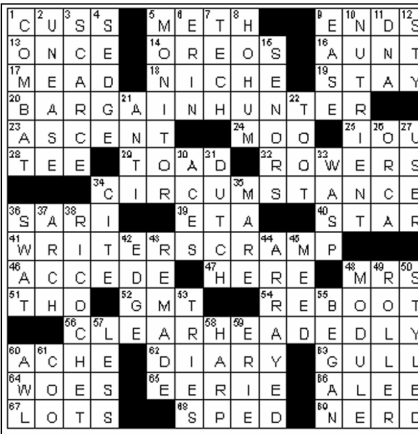
Care for
- 66

Dip
- 68

Curvy line
- 69

Sauce type

Answers 2.12.07



This Week in History

BY MICHAEL GIONFRIDDO
Beacon Correspondent

This week in history brought to you by the History Club.

February 19

1847: The first rescuers reach surviving members of the Donner Party, a group of California-bound emigrants stranded by snow in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

February 20

1962: From Cape Canaveral, Florida, John Hershel Glenn Jr. is successfully launched into space aboard the Friendship 7 spacecraft on the first orbital flight by an American astronaut.

February 21

1965: In New York City, Malcolm X, an African American nationalist and religious leader, is assassinated by rival Black Muslims while addressing his Organization of Afro-American Unity at the Audubon Ballroom in Washington Heights.

February 22

1980: In one of the most dramatic upsets in Olympic history, the underdog U.S. hockey team, made up of college players, defeats the four-time defending gold-medal winning

Soviet team at the XIII Olympic Winter Games in Lake Placid, New York. The Soviet squad, previously regarded as the finest in the world, fell to the youthful American team 4-3 before a frenzied crowd of 10,000 spectators. Two days later, the Americans defeated Finland 4-2 to clinch the hockey gold.

February 23

1954: A group of children from Arsenal Elementary School in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, receive the first injections of the new polio vaccine developed by Dr. Jonas Salk.

February 24

1836: In San Antonio, Texas, Colonel William Travis issues a call for help on behalf of the Texan troops defending the Alamo, an old Spanish mission and fortress under attack by the Mexican army.

February 25

1870: Hiram Rhoades Revels, a Republican from Natchez, Mississippi, is sworn into the U.S. Senate, becoming the first African American ever to sit in Congress.

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

LOCAL BAND SPOTLIGHT: CAPTAIN RANDOM

BY MARISSA PHILLIPS

Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

Captain Random is a 6-piece “skunk” band out of Pocono Pines. The band’s sound is fast-paced and upbeat, paired with gritty vocals, just a bit reminiscent of the Misfits. After a high-energy performance at Café Metropolis, *The Beacon* was able to catch up with drummer Billy Orender (a.k.a. Billy the Squid) and ask him a few questions.

Captain Random consists of Bobby Be-Bop (Robert Propst) on lead vocals, Billy the Squid (Billy Orender) on drums and back-up vocals, Easy V (Vincent Orender) on bass and back-up vocals, Drewsifer (Andrew Clegg) on guitar, Seany Boyo in charge of hype, back-up vocals, and random horn, and Malibu who’s in charge of “greestyle madness.”

The Beacon: Okay, first off, fill us in with your band’s background information. How long have you been a band, and have there been any major sound or lineup changes since the beginning?

Billy-The-Squid: I think we have been a band for like a year and a half. When we started, it was I, Billy The Squid, on the drums, my brother, Vincent Orender a.k.a. Easy V, on bass and back-up vocals, and Andrew Clegg a.k.a. Drewcifer on guitar and lead vocals. Drew asked me and my bro if we wanted to start a ska influenced punk band. We quickly jumped on that because me and Vince were out of luck when it came to starting bands.

Anyway, Drew was already in a great punk band known as Indecent Exposure, I was all ready to go to Jersey and be in a power violence band with my cousin Mike and Vince was going to Colorado. We did this just because we wanted to have some fun during that summer. We ended up playin’ a show a few weeks after we started and got a really good response, then went and recorded our first demo, called the “Shitty EP.” It was called that because Drew sang and most of the songs sucked. During this time we started hangin’ with our good friend and future lead singer Robert Propst a.k.a. Bobby Be-Bop. He had the car, so he drove us to record the “Shitty EP.” He also sang back-ups on our cover of “In Hell” by the great Choking Victim. After we recorded that, we realized we needed another singer and better songs.

I was in Jersey at the time jammin’ with my power violence, experimental, chemistry-core band, EVILskull and I get a phone call from Vince saying, ‘Hey, why don’t we have Bobby sing?’

I said, ‘Do you think he could? I know he can sing The Misfits quite well.’

Vince was like, ‘I think so, and he even has lyrics.’

So I was like, ‘Aight bet, we’ll jam when I get back, ONE!’

And Vince was like, ‘Aight, one.’

After the jam session with Bobby we knew we found something special and that is the core line-up of today. We tried a second guitarist for awhile. His name was Anthony but that didn’t work out. He added a little somethin’ to the band but he felt he needed to quit for personal reasons that I don’t feel I have the right to get into.

The Beacon: What have you released up to now?

Billy-the-Squid: We recorded our “Spooky Skunk EP” November of 2005 with Bobby on lead vocals, Drew on guitar, Vince on bass and backing vocals, and Bill on drums and backing vocals. I feel that came out quite well for the fact that we did it in one night. We sold a few of them, got some more exposure, got to play Café Metropolis, which was a goal of ours, got to play with some awesome local and internationally known bands. We also recorded a split EP recently with our friends, Precedent. Check them out. They are quite good. We haven’t really done anything to release it yet, but it will come out soon. That is really it, anything else you would like to know you could come out to our shows and ask us!

The Beacon: So, you’ve called yourself a “skunk” band, which I think is a pretty good term to use, since you’re not straight ska, but at the same time, you’re not simply punk. So, can you take credit for that term, or did you get it from somewhere else?

Billy-the-Squid: We took that from Skunk Records, the label that the great Sublime created. We just figured it to be a good term to use for our music and all of third wave ska. It is ska influenced punk, I think it’s a better term than ska-punk. Just being lazy, really. Tryin’ to look cool.

The Beacon: For someone who has never seen you perform, describe what your live shows are like.

Billy-the-Squid: I guess we are fun. I know we have a blast playin’ no matter what. You would have to ask the people who actually give us the time of day.

The Beacon: I’ve noticed that just as metal bands seem to have offensive, grotesque names (Cattle Decapitation, Blood Sundae), on the other side of the spectrum, ska bands often seem to have much more fun, quirkier names (The Hippos, The Aquabats!). So who came up with the name Captain Random, and is there a meaning behind it, or did it just sound pleasing to the ears?

Billy-the-Squid: I noticed that, too. By the way, Cattle Decapitation, The Hippos and The Aquabats! are phenomenal bands. I’ve never heard of Blood Sundae, but with a name like that I feel I need to listen. I know with Cattle Decapitation, their name deals with what they preach and that is being vegan and the cruelty shown by man towards beast. I guess in that genre it’s lyrical content. With The Hippos and The Aquabats! I couldn’t tell ya’. Well, The Aquabats! are super heroes and most of their lyrical content deals with adventures of The Aquabats!

The name Captain Random was thought up by Vince, the bassist, my little bro.

I didn’t argue because the fact remains, a band name is just a band name. The music is what counts. We all really hate that name now, but I feel we are stuck with it.

The Beacon: By the way, I see you have a band member, Malibu, who’s in charge of ‘greestyle madness.’ I have no idea what that is... What is that? You also have Sean who’s in charge of ‘hype,’ among other things. Explain that one as well.

Billy-the-Squid: Malibu is our good friend who happens to be a master of words, especially off the top of his head. It was supposed to be ‘Freestyle Madness,’ but someone in the band misspelled and thought it was funny just as “Greestyle Madness”.

Seany Boyo has been with us from day one. He is our best friend and also sang backing vocals on the “Spooky Skunk EP.” Every time we play a show we bring him, he gets the crowd going, and he is an official part of this band whether he likes it or not. If you see the Boyo in the pit, join in or get out of the way!

The Beacon: Who writes the majority of your lyrics, or is it more of a group effort? And where do you get the majority of the material for your lyrics?

Billy-the-Squid: Bobby writes the lyrics. Most of the content had to do with horror stylings like The Misfits were famous for. Nowadays it’s what he’s experiencing that day or what kind of people bother him. The band doesn’t help really with the lyrics, we feel he has that pretty much covered.

The Beacon: Do you have any upcoming show dates you’d like to throw out there so people can come out and see you?

Billy-the-Squid: I’m pretty sure we are playin’ in Syracuse, NY, with Bombtown (Megalith Records) and The Sneaky Sealions (ex-members of SGR). That should be a lot of fun.

www.syracuseska.com

www.kingstonbeat.com

Those two links are the people responsible for hooking us up with that great show. Very cool guys.

I also think we are playin’ with The River City Rebels when they come back around here but I’m not too sure. They are one of my personal favorites. That should be a good one if it goes down. Other than that, anybody want us to play a party of some sort?

The Beacon: Lastly, sum up everything your band has to offer in three words.

Billy-the-Squid: That’s a silly question but, here goes. . .

EAT A D***! or maybe, WE ARE COOL! or even, SKA KIDS SUCK! but I think the best one would be, THERE’S NO HORNS!

To check out Captain Random’s tour dates and upcoming shows, go to www.myspace.com/captainrandomyo.



Courtesy of www.myspace.com/captainrandomyo.

Cumberland

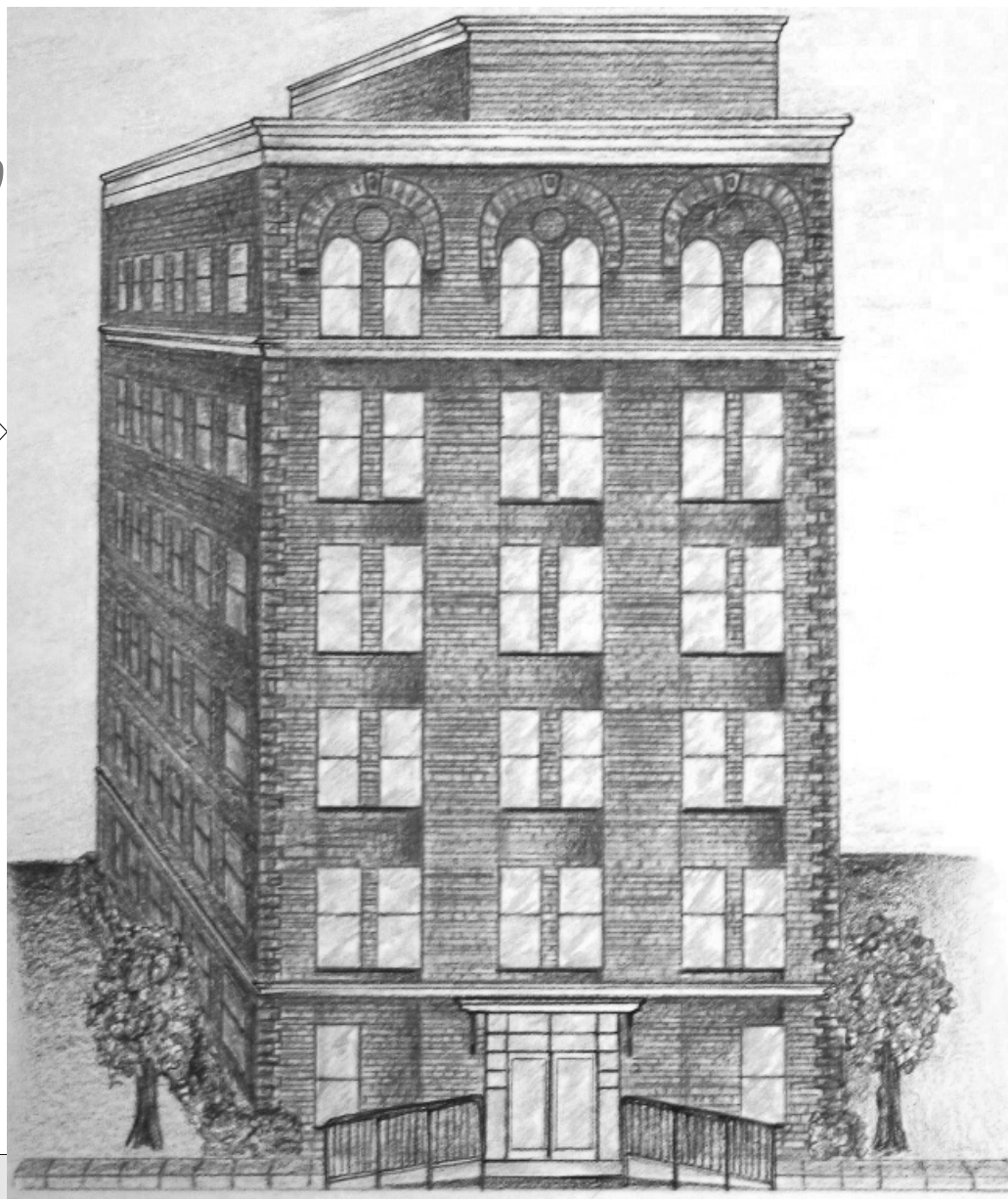
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NEPA ski industry looks for alternatives in shortened ski season

BY ARIEL COHEN
Beacon Sports Editor

Where is the snow?
That is the question that people, especially ski fanatics have asked themselves for most of the winter. No need to fear now. Look around. After a 36-hour pounding and nearly everything in the Valley closed for two days, some might now say to be careful what you wish for.

compete with each other in ideal skiing conditions and extend their seasons while conditions continually point to shorter winters. With all of this money that the Pennsyl-

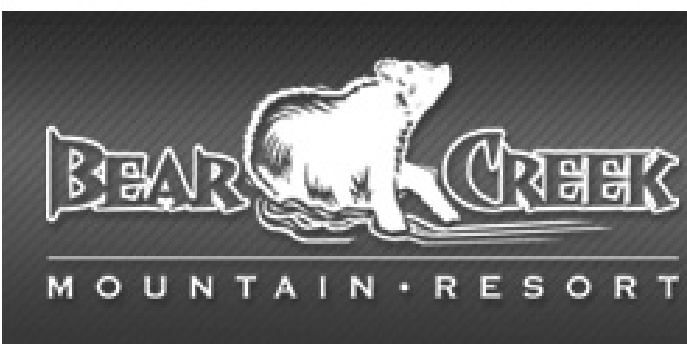


vania ski industry has spent to build reputation, slopes operators would love to see some return on their investments.

With the recent cold spell and a little help from Old Man Winter, the slopes on average, according to skicentral.com, are open anywhere between 75 to 100 percent with most lifts and terrain parks open for operation.

Recently though, the concerns about the length of the skiing season have arisen not only here in Pennsylvania but in other parts of the country. The increase in temperatures and extreme cold caused by global warming and changes in the climate have caused ski resorts to try to figure out alternative ways to attract business and make their goals for profits. Many ski slopes have taken the initiative to create year round resorts that include concert venues, water parks and other indoor/outdoor forms of entertainment for all ages.

The question that now arises is how can Wilkes students either learn how to ski or get discounted ski passes? Student development offers skiing trips as part of its weekend entertainment series at Sno Mountain.



With or without last week's snow, the local ski industry has struggled for the majority of the season to drum up business. It was either too warm, like it was in December, with temperatures into the 60s at times, or too cold with temperatures in the teens or single digits. The snow making conditions simply haven't cooperated enough for any consistency.

According to howstuffworks.com if the temperature is around 30 degrees you need



a fairly low relative humidity for good snow making conditions. If the temperature is below 20 degrees then you will need a relative humidity of 100 percent. The most ideal temperatures though are between 15-20 degrees.

Over the past year, many ski resorts ranging from the all new Sno Mountain to Montage Mountain have spent millions of dollars upgrading their slopes and snow making machines to try and



Northeastern Pennsylvania Ski Report*

Shawnee Mountain

Snow Base Depth: 38-64"
Trails Open: 22 out of 23
Lifts Open: 8 out of 10
Percent Open: 95%
Snowboarding: Terrain park open
Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am - 10 pm; Sat/Sun 8 am- 10 pm

Sno Mountain

Snow Base depth: 36-60"
Trails Open: 21 out of 21
Lifts Open: 6 out of 6
Percent Open: 100%
Snowboarding: Terrain park open
Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am -10 pm; Sat/Sun 8:30 am - 10 pm

Jack Frost/Big Boulder

Snow Base Depth: 30-60"/40-110"
Trails Open: 21 out of 28/15 out of 16
Lifts Open: 5 out of 9/4 out of 8
Percent Open: 75%/94%
Snowboarding: Terrain Park Open/Terrain Park Open
Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am - 4 pm; Sat/Sun 8 am - 4 pm / Hours Vary

Elk Mountain

Snow Base Depth: 36-72"
Trails Open: 27 out of 27
Lifts Open: 6 out of 7
Percent Open: 100%
Snowboarding: Terrain Park Open
Hours: Hours Vary

Camelback

Snow Base Depth: 36-76"
Trails Open: 33 out of 33
Lifts Open: 13 out of 13
Percent Open: 100%
Snowboarding: Halfpipe Open
Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am - 10 pm; Sat/Sun 8 am - 10 pm

Bear Creek

Snow Base Depth: 43-68"
Trails Open: 21 out of 22
Lifts Open: 6 out of 7
Percent Open: 100%
Snowboarding: Halfpipe Open
Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am -10 pm; Sat/Sun 8:30 am - 10 pm

Alpine Mountain

Snow Base Depth: 32-58"
Trails Open: 21 out of 21
Lifts Open: 5 out of 5
Percent Open: 100%
Snowboarding: Terrain Park Open
Hours: Mon/Tues 9:30 am - 6 pm; Wed-Fri 9:30 am - 9:30 pm;
Sat/Sun 8:30am - 9:30 pm

Blue Mountain

Snow Base Depth: 30-70"
Trails Open: 30 out of 30
Lifts Open: 10 out of 10
Percent Open: 100%
Snowboarding: Halfpipe Open
Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 10 pm; Sat/Sun 7:30 am - 10 pm

*All data current as of Sunday, February 18, 2007.

| Commentary |

GAME OF THE WEEK

NHL: Pittsburgh Penguins v. Florida Panthers

Penguins look to continue to bring the heat

BY TIM SEIGFRIED

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

It finally happened.

After months of unseasonably warm weather, followed by an all too familiar cold spell, Mother Nature finally gave in to fate and blanketed the better part of the Northeast with inches, and in some places, feet of snow.

With the NFL season winding down just a few weeks ago, and while

baseball is still a month and a half from being underway, the nation can turn its attention to the one major sport that is really meant for this kind of weather.

And with that, it seems that hockey season has finally arrived...in a manner of speaking.

As the weather is cooling down in the Northeast, the hockey action is heating up around the continent, less than a week shy of the always crucial trading deadline, and just over a month remaining until the second season starts to determine the owner of Lord Stanley's Cup.

This season, it seems as if the young guns of Pittsburgh could very well be the driving force behind the next champions of the National Hockey League.

In fact, the majority of the Penguins' starting five can't even rent a car without having a parent or guardian with them.

Nevertheless, Crosby, Malkin and company will continue their playing tirade in the Eastern Conference on Thursday, when they visit Florida to do battle with the Panthers.

The Penguins are currently riding high on a bit of a winning streak, having won four in a row, with a record of 14-5 so far in 2007.

They are second in the Atlantic Division

behind New Jersey, but they have been by far the best team as of late, going 9-0-1 in their last ten games.

That streak is due largely in part to the play of Sidney Crosby, the former number one overall draft pick and current face of the Penguins franchise. Crosby leads the NHL in points (88) and assists (63).

Crosby can't do it alone, however, and is supported by Russian import and rookie phenom Evgeni Malkin, whose sensational freshman season continues, as he leads in scoring (28).

The center/wing duo of Crosby and Malkin will look to continue their impressive run as they take on the Panthers, who are currently ranked 13th in the Eastern Conference.

Maybe it was the unusual weather that caused it, but the Panthers have been off to an inauspicious start so far in 2007, having gone 7-11 in the new year and 5-4-1 in their last 10.

Perhaps it is not for lack of effort, as Florida has a formidable center in Olli Jokinen, who leads the team in points (58), goals



(24) and assists (34).

If only Jokinen could guard the net also, then maybe the Panthers wouldn't be in such dire straights.

Ed Balfour, the veteran goaltender who has spent most of his career in Chicago and Dallas, is having a less than great first sea-

son in Florida, as his 2.75 goals-against-average is one of the worst in the league, but not nearly as bad as his .901 save percentage, which ranks among the worst in the NHL.

That's not to say that the blame for Florida's performance this season lies with

Balfour, as teams don't necessarily live and die by their performance.

Pittsburgh's goalkeeper, Marc-Andre Fleury, has a worse GAA (2.83)

and only a slightly better save percentage (.906).

In terms of the truer team sports, hockey certainly is one of the most pure variations. Unlike baseball, where it's one pitcher versus one batter at a time, or football, where it's one quarterback or running back against a defensive line, hockey is fluid and moving at all times and relies on the skills and smarts of all the players on the ice at any given moment.

Perhaps that is what the Panthers have been lacking so far; the absence of a true synergistic effect on the ice, something that the Penguins clearly have a surplus of.

Of course, all that can be changed in any given moment on the ice, and winning streaks can only go so far.

On Thursday, however, look for the Penguins to continue their dominant streak when they invade Florida and to come out with the win.

The Pick:
Pittsburgh 3
Florida 1

Double Take

Steph examines the stats that truly matter...

BY STEPHANIE DEBALKO

Beacon A&E Editor

Hockey, eh? When I found out the Game of the Week would be hockey, I was slightly concerned that writing this all-important column would be a touch difficult. But the more I thought about it, the more I realized that I really know nothing about hockey. I don't understand how it's played, or what any of the rules are, and I don't stick for a specific team. I just really like it when they fight.

So, my initial thought was to choose the winner based on which animal would win in a real fight (the only really logical way to choose a winning team). But come on, penguins versus panthers? It doesn't take a rocket scientist or a sports junkie to figure that one out, and I just can't allow myself to let a Pennsylvania team lose so quickly.

I am, therefore, extremely proud of the thought process that led to my choice for the winner of this game. So hockey players are often from Canada, correct? Logically speaking, then, the team closer to Canada will obviously be better at it. I am choosing to ignore the fact that both teams probably have players from Canada, by the way.

Thus, the Pittsburgh Penguins should and will win. And anyway, using the animal logic makes no sense, because why would a panther be fighting a penguin anyway? They don't even eat the same kinds of food. A panther eating fish? I don't think so.



Athlete of the Week

Katie Cappelloni

BY GERARD HETMAN
Beacon Staff Writer

As she concludes her third year of action for the Wilkes University Women's basketball team, junior communications major Katie Cappelloni is this week's Athlete of the Week.

Throughout the 2006-07 season, Cappelloni has been a key contributor both on and off the court in her third year with the Lady Colonels. Heading into Saturday's season finale, she ranked third on the squad in both total points scored (201) and in points per game (8.4). After starting 22 of the team's 24 games, she also ranks third on the team in minutes per game, with 24.4, while adding 23 assists and eight blocks to her season

totals. Earlier in the season, Cappelloni was named the MAC Freedom Conference player of the week after scoring a career-high 21 points in a win at Penn State Harrisburg in December.

Coming to Wilkes after a standout playing career at Bishop Hannan High School, Cappelloni has been a regular in the Wilkes lineup for each of her first three seasons. The Scranton native has teamed with fellow juniors Randi Corbo, Lacey Andresen and Karyn Perestam to give the Lady Colonels a solid foundation to build on for what looks to be a very bright future. With all 12 players on this season's roster eligible to return next year, Coach Rachel Emmerthal has

looked to Cappelloni and her classmates to provide solid leadership as the squad's younger members continue to grow and gain experience at the collegiate level.

"Katie has done a great job for us in all areas--she works very hard and always brings an excellent attitude with her," Emmerthal recently said of Cappelloni. "All of our juniors have been very dedicated to our

off-season workout plans and Katie has been instrumental in organizing those activities for our players. Our junior class has grown and improved tremendously in the last two years and we're looking for that group to provide the leadership we need to continue to move our program in the right direction."

With asked about the team's progress this season and its potential for the

future, Cappelloni cited the maturity she and her classmates have gained in their first three seasons as a key ingredient in the team's building process. "A lot of improvement comes along with maturing. Our team has worked on a lot of new stuff this season, and we're looking to use that experience and chemistry to compete at a much higher level in all of our games next season. We all work very well together and we believe we can achieve some outstanding things in the future if we stay focused."

After a solid junior season that promises to be an excellent preview of big things to come for the Lady Colonels, Katie Cappelloni is this week's Athlete of the Week.

Cappelloni Stats

PPG: 8.7

RPG: 4.5

High Game: 21

FG: .317

Blocks: 9

Assists: 24



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Junior, Katie Cappelloni drills hard towards the paint in a game against Scranton. Cappelloni is averaging 8.7 points per game and has led the team in scoring in 7 different games this season.

WEEKEND RECAPS

Men's Basketball

The Wilkes University men's basketball team ended its season on Saturday afternoon by disposing of Freedom Conference foe Drew University, 62-50, in the Marts Center.

The Colonels conclude their campaign with a 12-11 record overall and a 4-10 mark in conference play. It also marks the 15th consecutive season under head coach Jerry Rickrode that Wilkes has finished above the .500 mark. Drew saw their season come to a close with an overall record of 9-15 and a conference log of 4-10.

Gould led the Wilkes attack with 16 points and three assists. Kresge added 15 tallies, while Kline finished with 13 points and seven rebounds. Dan Adams had eight rebounds for the Colonels, who held a 33-28 advantage on the glass over the Rangers.

Women's Basketball

Senior guard Melissa Kraft scored 36 points to help Drew University post an 84-70 Freedom Conference women's basketball win over Wilkes University on Saturday afternoon. The Rangers conclude the regular season with an overall record of 13-12 and a conference mark of 8-6, while Wilkes sees their season come to an end with a 6-19 overall record and a 2-12 mark in conference play.

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

16

Number of points scored by Matt Gould to lead the way for Wilkes in their season finale win over Drew University.

10

Total wins for the wrestling team as it prepares for the post season.

15

Consecutive number of seasons that the men's basketball team has a winning record under head coach Jerry Rickrode.

16

Total points scored by Katie Cappelloni in the Lady Colonels final game of the season against Drew University.

Colonels shock the conference with two huge victories

BY CARLTON HOLMES
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

The Wilkes University Colonels men's basketball team finished their 2006-07 season on a high note with two impressive MAC Freedom Conference victories over both King's College and Drew University.

Wilkes vs. King's

It might've been a snowy day for the city of Wilkes-Barre, but the Colonels were on fire. The Colonels put on a show at home this past Tuesday, upsetting the number-one seeded King's College Monarchs 66-58. Freshman Tom Kresge lit up the Monarchs for 26 points, shooting 9-12 from the floor, while senior captain Dan Adams chipped in with 9 points and 9 rebounds. Ryan Nenstiel led the Monarchs with only 11 points.

King's led 30-25 at halftime, but the Colonels came out firing on all cylinders by outscoring the Monarchs 41-28 in the second half. The Monarchs had

no answer for the Colonels 1-3-1 zone and managed to turn the ball over 16 times. "Our defense really stepped up and made them shoot a lot of bad shots. By closing out and contesting their three pointers, they did not have any open looks," said junior guard Jeremy Kable. The Colonels' brilliant defensive scheme, along with an efficient offensive attack, sent Monarch fans home with sad faces.

Wilkes vs. Drew

The Colonels capped off their season this past Saturday with a 62-50 home win over Drew University. Their victory over the Rangers improves the Colonels final record to 12-11 and 4-10 in the conference, leaving them in sixth place.

The Colonels proved to be the better team most of the contest by outscoring the Rangers in both the first and second halves. The Colonels shot efficiently from the floor, hitting 41.3% of their shots and 40% from three point land.

The Colonels received double digit scoring contributions from point guard Matt Gould, leading his team with 16 points, Kresge, who put up a solid 15 points, and sophomore Steve Kline, who cashed in 13 points and 7 rebounds. The Colonels shut down the Rangers offense, holding both their top scorers David Cramer and Ryan Eisner to only ten points each.

Despite the fact that the Colonels endured much adversity this season, they managed to pull out two huge victories that will set the tone for an improved Colonel team next season.

Assistant coach Mike Farrelly said, "I am happy to send the seniors off on a good note for working hard all four years and getting a win over our rival and a win at home on senior day. We didn't have the greatest success this season, but to end with two big victories will be a springboard for next year."



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Sophomore Steve Kline pops in a bucket over King's defense as the Colonels win in a thrilling matchup against the Monarchs 66-58.

Campus Calendar

All Week

*Sudan: The Cost of Silence, Sordoni Art Gallery
*Winter Week, Campus wide

Monday 2/19

*No events scheduled

Tuesday 2/20

* "Alzheimer's Narrative", Breis 106 - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday 2/21

*No events scheduled

Thursday 2/22

*No events scheduled

Friday 2/23

*Alumni Spaghetti Dinner, HSC Ballroom - 6:00 p.m.

* "Diseases of the Brain, Breis 106 - 7:00 p.m.

*Batboy, DDD - 8:00 p.m.

* Karaoke, HSC Ballroom - 8:00 p.m.

Saturday 2/24

*Awakening The Dreamer Symposium,

HSC Old Bookstore - 9:30 a.m.

*ArenaCross, Wachovia Arena - 7:00 p.m.

*Batboy, DDD - 8:00 p.m.

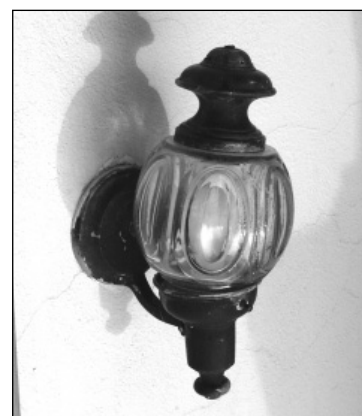
*Basketball, Volleyball, & Dodgeball, UCOM - All day

Sunday 2/25

*Winter Weekend Greenway games, Fenner Quadrangle - 12:00 p.m.

*Batboy, DDD - 2:00 p.m.

Find this Picture on Campus and... WIN CASH



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 Kristen Davidson who correctly identified last week's photo which was of a picture by the registers in the new Barnes and Noble.