

The BEACON

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

JANUARY 29, 2007

www.wilkesbeacon.com

Volume 59 Issue 12

Two candidates for Provost decline to continue in search *Search committee to return to pool of finalists for interviews*

BY ALISON WOODY
Beacon Asst. News Editor

"We are sorry to announce that two of the three finalists for the Provost position have informed us this week that they will not be continuing in our search."

In a statement released to the Wilkes community on January 23, Paul Adams, Vice President of Student Affairs and the Chair of the Provost Search Committee, explained the loss of two final candidates to the Provost search on the same day that another had the chance to make a first impression.

The search, which began last year after former Provost Dr. Maravene Loeschke announced she had accepted the presidency at Mansfield University, was nearing its final stages. After an applicant pool of 46 potential candidates, a committee consisting of administration, faculty, and students, had narrowed the list to eight that they interviewed off campus. From that pool, three final candidates were extended invitations for full campus interviews.

Dr. Carol Zajac of the Northeast Center of Empire State College of the State University of New York, and Dr. York Bradshaw of the University of South Carolina Upstate were chosen as two final candidates in the Provost search. However, according to Adams, Zajac decided to accept a similar position at another institution and Bradshaw "has decided to withdraw from all of his searches so he can remain in his current position to pursue an extraordinary opportunity that recently presented itself."

Even with the loss of two finalists, Adams remained optimistic. "The search committee believes it has a rich pool of candidates. When we traveled to Philadelphia in December to conduct our neutral-site interviews we met eight outstanding educators. While two candidates we invited to campus have now declined our invitation because of other opportunities, we are delighted with the candidates that remain in our pool," he said.

See PROVOST page 5



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Dr. Timothy O'Rourke, who is a current Dean at Salisbury University in Maryland, spends time answering questions in an open forum held January 23. The two other finalists scheduled for interviews this month withdrew from the process.

Centrally located Student Services office up and running *Students recognize time-saving benefits and some resistance to change*

BY JEANNE STAPLETON
Beacon Correspondent

Time is of the utmost importance in today's society. With the institution of the newly opened One-Stop-Shop, the university has introduced a new and innovative way to combine the administrative offices here on Wilkes campus. The concept is based on the idea that students can have all of their needs met with a visit to just one building, saving students a lot of time.

Although the informal name, One-Stop Shop, may make students think that there is a mini market somewhere on campus, it has caught on as an identifier for the services offered all under one roof. "Actually, we are trying to get away from the 'One-Stop Shop' [name] and would like to be referred to as Wilkes Student Services. To me, Student Services is the one place where a student can get help with any registrar, financial aid, or student accounts related question or problem instead of having to go from office

to office," said Margaret Zellner, Operations Manager for Student Services.

The idea of the locating all primary student services operations under one umbrella was first introduced last fall when Zellner and Pam Fendrock, both Operation Managers for Student Services were tasked with implementing a plan to centralize the daily services most needed among students. Then referred to as the One-Stop Shop, the central location was housed in the UCOM building on Main Street and has been open

for business since the first week of spring semester.

"I was very pleased with the way we handled our first big test, opening week of spring semester. We have worked very hard from December 4 to make sure we would be able to accommodate the traffic and make sure the students were serviced to the best of our ability," said Zellner.

See SERVICES page 4

In This Issue...

Panama, here we come!
★
Page 9



Darfur

Page
12



PAGE 18

Index

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

Street corner evangelists target Wilkes community

Open Air Outreach calls on students to repent in public forum

BY NICK PODOLAK

Beacon News Editor

Stop sinning! Repent and believe in Jesus!

Those were Jesse Morrell's and Jeffrey Olver's messages last week as they exercised their freedom of speech rights across the street from the Henry Student Center building. Members of a sect of the Protestant-based Open Air Outreach (OOA) program, Olver worked a digital camera as Morrell preached, often screaming to a crowd of about 40 Wilkes students who braved the cold weather to hear what the duo had to say on pre-marital sex, homosexuality and the use of alcohol.

"You have to laugh at it," said junior Stephanie McMahon. "You

have to take it as a joke just because of how blinded they are."

According to the website www.openairoutreach.com, OOA's mission is "to work through biblical methods of evangelism to bring the message of eternal life to a dying world." Traveling full-time, the duo goes from campus to campus nationwide calling on students to repent of their sins and restore their faith in Christ. The duo has proclaimed the "good word" in ten states, three countries and 25 campuses in the past semester alone, including George Mason University, the University of Toronto and the University of Arkansas. They have also been featured on a local ABC affiliate in Texas and made appearances on various radio shows.

While some students made a mockery out of the group's efforts, others were downright offended. English professor Phyllis Weliver was making her way across the cross-walk when Morrell shouted to a student, "Only Jesus Christ can save the drunken Wilkes student," before screaming, "Only Jesus Christ can save the promiscuous sorority girl."

"I felt that it was wrong that he characterized our university in these terms and that he was offensive to students," she said. "Stating a creed or a personal belief in a respectful way is one thing, I believe, but it's another thing to infringe on others' liberties through insulting comments and harassment. Moreover, the preacher's assumptions were in both cases completely erroneous: the student was not drunk and I am a faculty member."

Public Safety officials and a representative of the Wilkes-Barre police department requested that the duo leave; however, they also acknowledged that as long as the evangelists stayed off school property they were within their First Amendment rights. The OOA representatives obeyed.

Upon leaving for Virginia State University, Olver said, "It's our prayer that Wilkes University students would hear the message of the gospel and that they would be tolerant enough to hear the word of God and really examine their hearts and their world views to see if it really logically works and that they repent from their sins and trust in Jesus for salvation."

"Especially all of the lesbians on campus," Morrell added.

Open Air Outreach's campus visit is featured at www.openairoutreach.com. Olver's video footage will also be placed on YouTube this week, tag line Open Air Outreach campus preaching.



The Beacon/ Nick Zmijewski

Jesse Morrell from Open Air Outreach preaches to students at Wilkes University, in attempts "... to bring the message of eternal life to a dying world."

"Only Jesus Christ can save the drunken Wilkes student."
Jesse Morrell
Open Air Outreach

The BEACON

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

Editorial Staff

Editor-in-Chief: Curran Dobson

Email: wilkesbeacon@gmail.com

News Editor: Nick Podolak

Email: beaconnewsline@gmail.com

Op/Ed Editor: Kristyn Ostman

Email: thebeacon.oped@gmail.com

Features Editor: Nora Jurasits

Email: thebeaconfeatures@gmail.com

A&E Editor: Stephanie Debalko

Email: thebeaconae@gmail.com

Sports Editor: Ariel Cohen

Email: beaconsports@gmail.com

Photo Editor: Nick Zmijewski

Advertising Managers: Stephanie Yachim

Dana Zlotucha

Email: thebeacon.ads@gmail.com

Advisor: Dr. Andrea Breemer Frantz

- Established in 1936
- PA Newspaper Association Member
- Printed on Mondays during the academic school year.

130 S. River St.
First Floor, Conyngham Hall, Wilkes University
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766
(570) 408-5903

Riverfront plans advance as trees along dike are destroyed

Plans for new varieties of trees meet with mixed reactions

BY NICK PODOLAK

Beacon News Editor

The land along the once green dike on River Street directly across from Wilkes and King's campuses used to boast vibrant colonies of maple, oak and Japanese cherry trees. But because of advances in the riverfront development initiative, that space has recently been transformed into a desolate wasteland of broken roots and yellow Komatsu excavators.

Nearly 100 trees were flagged and evaluated by Luzerne County urban forester Vincent Cotrone to make way for the new Riverfront project. According to his evaluation of 154 trees roughly 50 years of age, 74 suffered from internal decay and cavities, 16 were in hazardous condition and nine were written off as completely dead. According to Cotrone, if left alone, the trees posed a serious threat to passersby through the park as well as vehicles on River Street.

"Vinnie is a very confident and competent forester," said Wilkes University biology professor Dr. Michael Steele. "He has indicated that many of the trees were diseased, and if he says they are, then I believe him."

But cutting down the trees has drawn some concern for various reasons.

One worry is the effect on wildlife, particularly squirrels that make their homes in nest cavities and hollow trunks of the decaying maples. Steele, whose research in Kirby

Park on the grey squirrel was featured on Animal Planet's *Most Extreme*, addressed the issue.

"The impact on the animals was minimal," he said. "They cut [the trees] at the beginning of the breeding season, so their young were not affected. Any females that were pregnant would most likely move on and find another nest," he said.

Though not overly concerned with the loss of squirrel habitat, Steele questioned the proposed mix of native species with several non-natives, which is apparent on the new planting list.

"Some of the trees they listed absolutely should not be planted. Most of the species they listed were native species, and that's the only thing they should be planting. It's absolutely misguided to plant non-native species with all the problems we have with invasives. It's a bad reflection on the community," he said.

One of the trees on the list that Steele questions is the ginkgo, a tree from pre-historic times whose seeds produce a fetid odor when they rot. Community members are perhaps most familiar with the ginkgo's presence if they've walked by Evans Hall or Riverside Drive in the spring.

However, Wilkes botanist Dr. Kenneth Klemow indicated that only the female species of ginkgos produce such an odor, and when he reviewed the species list, concluded that only males will be planted along the River



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

This Komatsu excavator unearths dead and decaying roots left over from the 100 plus trees that were removed along South River Street to make way for the new Riverfront Development project.

Common. Overall, he found nothing that he believed to be overly invasive.

"Ginko [trees] have been around for many, many decades. And even though they are not a native species, they're fairly well established around here," he said.

Klemow noted that the species diversity in this planting will be a lot higher than what was previously available, which will be all the better for his botany classes.

"The number of specimens that I had access to is a lot less than what I had 15 years ago. What I'm seeing here is a species that will really add to my ability to teach botany and in fact I can foresee now being able to easily have a session in which we walk around and look at these trees and have a really meaningful session in walking distance," he said with a smile.

New technology portal aims to centralize computer uses

BY SARAH DOMAN

Beacon Correspondent

A typical day for a Wilkes student requires a technologically savvy attitude.

To check an e-mail account one must log in. To check on transcripts one must log in again. To search the library database for an article, one must log in yet again. However, with the institution of a new Wilkes University portal system, a universal login and personalized home page will allow students easy access to all of those services and potentially more.

The concept of a portal system in higher education has been in discussion for almost ten years, and for Wilkes University the last two years. In order to successfully institute the portal Wilkes has members of specific teams working on different areas of the portal which includes a content team, policy team, administration team, and the greater project committee as well as a group of students. The design in mind for the Wilkes University portal is similar to the Colorado

State Univeristy portal and looks like a typical web page.

Names for the portal were proposed by Student Government (SG) in the fall 2006 semester and include, "Wilkes Your Way," "World Wide Wilkes," and the most popular "My Wilkes;" however, no definite name has been determined. With the portal in place, all of Wilkes University's services for faculty and students will be accessible with one single login.

Christopher Bailey, director of campus support services, said, "The portal will act as the main entrance for all university services." Each page of the portal will be unique to that specific user whether he or she is a faculty member or a student.

Dr. Donald Mencer, associate professor of chemistry and faculty member of the portal team said, "The portal will be customized as a student or faculty page with channels built in for each person. It will recognize you when you log in and your information will appear." These channels can include

clubs a student belongs to as well as announcements for specific majors and minors students can create, while other channels exist for student services. "Some channels will be locked, like student services," added Mencer.

Bailey added, "As new channels come on we can make them available to everyone. Students can also have unique personalized announcements."

One of the main purposes of the new portal is to increase efficiency in communication across campus. "The portal is designed for our own community to communicate," said Bailey. "It is a major shift in technology most major institutions have to separate internal and external communication."

See **PORTAL** page 5

Since 1887
Bartikowsky
Jewelers

WILKES UNIVERSITY
STUDENTS ♦ FACULTY ♦ STAFF

Receive a 15% discount

...on a new purchase at

Bartikowsky Jewelers

when you present your:

MOVIES 14 Ticket Stub

AND This Ad

* Not Valid On Sale Merchandise, Special Orders, or Combined With Other Discounts *

SERVICES

from FRONT PAGE

Naturally, the challenges of centralizing all major student services have been significant. Employees have simultaneously worked to learn new duties while also serving students and faculty at the beginning of the semester. Some students openly acknowledge the advantages to being able to add or drop a class, pay a bill and check on financial aid while also picking up a bagel and coffee for breakfast all within the same 20 feet. But there are some who also miss the intimacy of the old and familiar offices.

Raquel Wheby, junior communication studies and psychology double major, noted, "I think that the one-stop-shop has much potential. However, many times I noticed that there aren't

enough workers there to help the students, and it seems like there is much more of a hierarchy because sometimes the ladies at the front desk either don't know everything because it is still new, or they need to speak with someone in a higher position to help you."

Dana Lehman, junior, communication studies major, says, "The One-Stop Shop has an office feel, where you check-in with the secretaries and wait to be dealt with or talked to by department individuals." She added, "At first, I had a negative attitude about the One-Stop Shop because I like the personal relationships and one-on-one attention in the different departments, [but] I have to admit the convenience of dealing with multiple issues at once is a plus." While efficiency is a plus for most, some question whether a personal touch could be lost in the new design. "As a student here at Wilkes for the past four years I have witnessed various changes in both personnel and in-

frastructure. I assume Wilkes is making these changes with best intentions, but truth be told I am not convinced all these changes are making things easier. As I see it--and I am no expert--one stop shop is more like a one stop flop. In the hopes of making things more efficient I think Wilkes, or certain members who represent the best interests of Wilkes, have chosen economics over the personal touch a small university should have," says Aaron Pascoe, senior psychology and philosophy double major.

"Overall, I think that there is a mix of support and dislike among the student body, but also I noticed that some, including myself at times, have a little hard time adjusting to this and other changes at the university, even if all the changes have good intentions. Sometimes it seems like too much is changing too fast and we [the student body] don't always have enough time to soak it all in and re-group our thoughts," added Wheby.

But the reality of the day-to-day operations have generally been smooth and without major

incident. "Students that we interact with seemed to be very happy with the new set-up, and like the idea that they only had to go to one place to get answers to their questions or get problems resolved. We've tried to get the Student Services name out there. One-Stop was the 'working' title when this project first started, but Student Services better reflects the concept we're trying to create. Hopefully students will read this article and realize where we are and that we are trying to make their lives easier not only by handling their needs in one area, but also by instructing them to help themselves by using the self-service area of the website. We welcome feedback from students, faculty or staff so we can address any concerns, or entertain any suggestions for improvement," concluded Zellner.

When students are away, thieves will play

ANDREW SEAMAN
Beacon Asst. News Editor

Luckily, at Wilkes University students do not have to worry about crimes like the ones the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia has to put up with over winter break, which included "one murder and four major

robberies" according to *The Daily Pennsylvanian*. However, Wilkes community members did have to put up with two cases of breaking and entering on two separate occasions over winter break.

Major breaks in school schedules often signal opportunity for would-be criminals.

The first break-in occurred on Tuesday, December 26, 2006, at the Max Roth Center.

According to reports provided by Public Safety, an employee came to work on December 28 to check for a fax and when the employee went to her office the door was "opened and damaged" and the employee's laptop was missing. After making a close inspection of the building there appeared to be six office doors forced open with a fire extinguisher, and two missing laptops. The point of entry appeared to be a rear basement door that was forced open.

A second break-in occurred at the Miner-Moat House, which houses the human resources offices, on January 1, 2007. In that incident a person tore off a screen and broke a window. After a search that day, it did not appear that anything was missing.

Reports indicated, however, that there may be a connection to a robbery that occurred at approximately the same time at Creative Printing. Chief of Police Gerlad Dessoye of Wilkes-Barre said that, "This occurrence is still being explored."

In addition, *The Beacon* has learned of several break-ins in off-campus housing and some in cars around campus over the break; however, these reports could not be confirmed by official reports.

According to Dessoye, the Wilkes property is patrolled by Wilkes security and the Wilkes-Barre police department patrols the streets. He added that the police patrol on campus during break as much as they do when school is in session. A call to King's College security indicated there were no break-ins reported there over the winter break.

For students who are concerned for their property, Dessoye suggested some tips for how to keep belongings safe, "In the case of vehicles, you should not keep anything valuable visible from the outside. Students should also be care-

ful who they allow inside their apartments as strangers, or 'friends of a friend,' could potentially scan your belongings for valuables."



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

President Gilmour speaks inside Einstein Bros. Bagels located in the UCOM building. Free coffee, bagels, and merchandise were given out at the bagel cafe's Grand opening Wednesday morning.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Laptops were stolen from the Max Roth Center on December 26, 2006. The robbers entered through the rear basement door that they forced open.

PROVOST from FRONT PAGE

The first of those candidates, Dr. Timothy O'Rourke, spent the early part of last week visiting Wilkes and getting to know the campus. In addition to attending small group meetings with various groups of faculty, students, and administrators, O'Rourke, who is the current Dean of the Fulton School of Liberal Arts at Salisbury University in Maryland, had the opportunity to lead a question and answer open forum that was attended by over 50 people.

O'Rourke opened the forum with a humorous baseball story that played on the terms "amphibeous" and "ambidextrous" noting, "I've had an amphibeous academic career. I've held a series of positions that typically involve on-campus work as a faculty member and a considerable amount of outreach work... I'm comfortable with the combination of the campus community roles that the Provost assumes. I anticipate that I would be comfortable with the amphibeous role of Provost because the Provost

represents the administration to the faculty and, in turn, represents the faculty to the administration... I'm ready to be amphibeous."

When asked if he would come in and want to immediately change the university, O'Rourke said, "I think I want to come out against change for the sake of change. Does the campus need to change? I would say yes. Is there some urgency about that? I would say yes. If you want to get better students you have to find a way to enlarge the application base and to anticipate that you are facing an ever-more competitive climate from other institutions."

"...I think if I have a strength it is stepping into unique situations, making an assessment of possibilities where the organization needs to go and then moving ahead. Clearly I have alot to learn and I would do that," continued O'Rourke.

After tackling such issues as diversity, library rennovations, and adult learning, O'Rourke elaborated on a possible outlook for faculty course loads that is based upon a plan that was recently

proposed and voted against at his home institution, but is still being researched.

"Courses are elevated from three credits to four credits with the understanding that the fourth credit would be accomplished not by extra time in the classroom, but usually by an intensified curriculum so

would gain three hours of time to be spent in innovation and more relevant time towards research.

"A great appeal of coming to Wilkes is that Wilkes can chart its own future... I prefer independence. My style is to be a democratic person and to involve people in the operations, to tell people

A great appeal of coming to Wilkes is that Wilkes can chart its own future... I prefer independence.

Dr. Timothy O'Rourke
Wilkes University Provost Candidate

that students would read more difficult material. They might have to do a more difficult, demanding research assignment, more online work, or a community engagement project," said O'Rourke.

O'Rourke explained, "I see this being primarily an intensification of the academic curriculum to elevate the expectations of students and, ultimately, to elevate the preparation of our students for their careers or graduate schools. However, it does have the benefit of streamlining the faculty workloads."

He described that the typical faculty member would be teaching three courses rather than four and

what I know and to get their best advice," said O'Rourke.

While a number of faculty in attendance declined to comment how they personally felt about O'Rourke's ideas and his capabilities as a Provost, Dr. Jane Elmes-Crahall, professor of communication studies and an expert in rhetoric, gave her opinion on his speech and how he presented himself to the Wilkes community.

"I thought he conveyed his personal experience as a teacher, researcher, and especially as a Dean well. I really didn't get a sense for what he thought about Wilkes or our specific concerns. I don't expect a candidate from another in-

stitution to know all about Wilkes, but I do expect them to take the time to learn what is unique about this university," said Elmes-Crahall.

Adams said that the search committee is going back to its pool of candidates and that the committee is working on new interview schedules. He said the search committee will continue to follow its established practice of announcing a candidate's visit five to seven days beforehand and make their curriculum vitae available to the campus electronically.

Adams acknowledged how the loss of two of the top three candidates will effect the search. "Instead of having a decision by the middle of February, I think we may be delayed by about 10 days. We believe our schedule is still ahead of the other Provost searches being held around the country," he said.

"Candidates who apply for positions such as this are typically in multiple searches and it is not unexpected or unusual that we would have finalists leave our search when they are presented with other opportunities that better fit their situations," said Adams.

However, Adams reassured, "The Search Committee and our consultant remain enthusiastic about our process and the caliber of our candidates."

PORTAL from PAGE 3

and external communication." Students will also be able to create groups such as those available on sites like Facebook.com. With the new portal students will also be able to upload photos, files and message each other.

Christine Seitzinger, associate director of marketing communications said, "For example, if students participated in a biology conference and took pictures they would traditionally upload them to sites like myspace.com or the facebook.com. Now they can upload them on here [portal]." With the efficiency of the new portal many wonder what will happen to the existing Wilkes website. Seitzinger said, "The portal will bring the website back to a marketing tool for prospective students. The information on the website won't go away; it [the portal] will just make it all in one place with one log in. It will make it much easier."

The success of the portal will be measured in how users use the

portal. "The will be an aggressive outreach to students and to train the faculty to use the portal the right way," said Seitzinger. "We're open in communicating about the portal's progress and will have progress reports available. Some groups will get to use the pilot portal by mid February as the teams continue to work on the portal throughout the spring and summer with a full deployment for the Fall 2007 semester."

Dr. Sid Halsor, professor of environmental engineering and earth science said, "I'm looking forward to testing the pilot portal later this spring semester. I think it will be a very useful tool that will enable all of us, students, staff and faculty, to retrieve information more efficiently."

For students who wish to see an example of a portal log onto Colorado State University's at <http://rampoint.colostate.edu>.

Sundance Vacations Inc

- Sports/ Event Marketing!
- Flexible Schedule
- Weekends & nights a must
- GREAT PAY! \$100 to \$200/day
- Transportation a plus
- Public interaction
- marketing at various events
- in your area

CALL NOW!

1-800-233-1613

we buy and sell

DVDs

CDs

VIDEO GAMES

LPs and 45s

PS2
XBOX
NINTENDO

MUSICAL ENERGY

59 north main ~ wilkes barre ~ 829-2929

we have hundreds of posters !!

It takes a village to save the planet

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL BOARD

It takes a village to raise a child.
But what about the care and consideration of our planet?

There is little doubt that the speed with which the planet is warming is the result of greenhouse gas build-up in the atmosphere and *not* a result of the “natural” warming trend that has occurred throughout history. This warming is causing the polar ice caps to melt, ice shelves and glaciers are thinning and natural habitat for wildlife like polar bears is diminishing. Victims of the world’s recent natural disasters like tsunamis and hurricanes can attest that while such dramatic weather has always been part of the earth’s history, the strength and speed with which such weather patterns evolve today is changing.

And while 154 nations in the world signed onto the Kyoto Protocol, the earth’s most comprehensive plan for dramatically reducing fossil fuel emissions, the United States arrogantly turned a deaf ear, noting that to require such reductions so quickly would

harm business interests.

Yes, it takes a village. And every village has its idiot.

Technically, since we all own an equal share, we can abuse or cherish the planet as much as we want. Yet no matter how many people steer clear of excessive emissions buying hybrid cars or promoting wholesome and organic lifestyles, there are those of us out there who say, “Life is short and I love my SUV!” Community commitment is difficult for anything, even the important issues.

Generating commitment from an entire community is difficult for many reasons. One of the key reasons is because there is little agreement as to the extent of commitment required of all of us in order to positively impact the situation. We have differing views about just exactly how environmentally responsible we need to be and how to balance that sense of responsibility against our desires for some of the comforts that come along with carelessness.

What sort of world do we have to look forward to? Will our new world be habitable? Will we need to develop new (perhaps unclear) technology in order to survive,

thus perpetuating a cycle? Granted this is all hypothetical and may be farther off than most people consider. Generally, people barely plan a week in advance, so how can we be expected to prepare the earth for 10, 15 or 20 years from now?

It seems that an honest plan for an overhaul of our environmental policy is far off. While President Bush acknowledged “global climate change” in his State of the Union address, this tacit nod to the dire warnings scientists have issued during all of his six years in office is too little too late.

In addition, Americans cannot be the only nation to commit to a progressive plan. Electing environmentally friendly world leaders and strengthening global standards to which all countries *must* conform are steps in the right direction.

But perhaps the best first step we can make is to get rid of the “What can I do? I’m just one person” argument. One definitive impact we can certainly all have is to act on our ability to vote for leaders who are strongly committed to these issues and demand they follow up.

We also noticed that over the break new recycling bins appeared around campus. We applaud this effort. Recycling is a small effort, but an important one.

Environmental issues have become a hot political issue with many promises and little commitment. In the end, a big part of the problem is an



The Beacon/Todd Weibel



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

overall trend of our daily lives becoming increasingly neglectful of our planet’s problems. The documentary, *An Inconvenient Truth*, brought the changes in the earth’s climate and well-being to the forefront. The movie touched on the impact global warming has on disease, weather, plants and animals.

It is our community responsibility to sit up and pay attention to environmental issues right now. Watch the documentary. Use the recycling bins on campus. Pay attention and hold those who aspire to public office in 2008 and beyond accountable for concrete plans on the environment.

And remember that you’re part of the village. We all are. And we don’t want to be known as the village idiot.

Beacon Poll Question

What game show would you like to see come to campus?

- Jeopardy
- The Price is Right
- Deal or No Deal
- \$25,000 Pyramid
- 1 vs. 100
- Double Dare
- Singled Out
- Family Feud
- Identity
- Other

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

Reflections on the State of the Union

BY ADRIENNE RICHARDS

Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

"Madame Speaker."

Those two words were spoken for the first time in history on Tuesday, January 23, 2007, as President Bush began his State of the Union speech.

Of course, it should also be noted that those two words were spoken by a president with the lowest approval rating since President Nixon.

As a woman, it was inspiring, and I'll admit somewhat reassuring, to see a female sit in a position that is held in such high regard, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

But in spite of evidence of such important progress in our country, it was also clear that this remains a government divided. It seems as though American politics has morphed into an unrecognizable machine in the past few decades. We have lost the foundation, the Constitutional basis, upon which our democracy was established and have become exclusively focused on partisan divisions and political affiliations. Until the speech, media outlets, both print and broadcast, were more concerned with

an individual's political affiliation than they were with the United States as a whole.

I found it ironic that as President Bush was escorted into the House chamber, with his entourage close behind, both parties seemed to briefly forget their differences. Instead, they greeted the president with h a n d s h a k e s and smiles of recognition, putting aside the topic on everyone's mind: Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In one of his better rhetorical strategies the President opted to leave the matter of Iraq for the last twenty-two minutes of his speech. He first began with the economy, promising to balance the federal budget without raising taxes. The Democrats



Courtesy of www.emergentchaos.com

responded with a standing ovation.

Next on the agenda were the issues of education, a brand new healthcare initiative, comprehensive immigration reform, energy and the goal to reduce gasoline usage by 20% in the next 10 years. With a smart tactical

maneuver, Bush reeled the Democrats in on domestic issues that mattered most to them, as evidenced by their first 100-hour promise to the American people. Bush began this way as a means of softening them in order to segue into the issue of Iraq--the primary dividing issue between Congress and the White House.

His introduction to the Iraq issue started off as nothing new. He tied it into the attacks of September 11, 2001, reassured that 20,000 plus troops were vital to the mission of securing Baghdad and capturing terrorists. As well, he encouraged Democrats to give his new plan "a chance to work." He argued that pulling out now would be "breaking a promise" we made to the Iraqi people and the troops that are already abroad. Another interesting proposal was the increase of 92,000 troops within the next five years. Do I hear *draft*?

I challenge my colleagues and peers to become mindful and familiar with the politics that shape their lives. With 2008 presidential candidates stepping up to plate, I hope more individuals will become aware of the issues these presidential hopefuls are swinging their direction.

Are you kidding me?

United States plans to sell spare F-14 parts at public auction

BY ANDREW SEAMAN

Beacon Asst. News Editor

I have two magazines that I read religiously, *Reader's Digest* and *Gentlemen's Quarterly*, because they both have fascinating articles.

One article I read in *Reader's Digest* not long ago was about two families, the Eickhoffs and the Ozunas, who lived in the same community. The Ozunas hated the Eickhoffs and tried relentlessly to drive the latter from their home.

In one instance the Ozunas even tried to poison the Eickhoffs by mailing a bottle of soda and a box of doughnuts, both laden with anti-freeze. The package was disguised as a congratulatory offering, since Mrs. Eickhoff had recently been elected mayor. Luckily, the Eickhoffs inspected the food and saw the seal had been broken on the soda and did not drink or eat any of the food in the package.

Where am I going with this? Well, consider this: what if the Eickhoffs gave the Ozunas the anti-freeze to put in the food intended to kill them? That would be pretty stupid, right? In reality, the Eickhoffs did not do that, but the United States is in a strikingly

similar situation with one of its neighbors in the world community. However, unlike the Eickhoffs, who appeared to have some common sense, United States government officials seem perfectly willing to supply their enemy with the "anti-freeze" intended to kill Americans.

The enemy "neighbor" is the country of Iran, and the "anti-freeze" in this case are parts for the F-14 "Tomcat" fighter jet. In the 1970s, Iran was not an enemy of the U.S. Indeed, while American relations with all Middle East countries are complex, the Iranians were largely considered, if not allies, at least "friendly," in the 1970s. Like all friends at the time, the United States let Iran buy some of its F-14 fighter jets as the U.S. upgraded.

A lot has transpired in three decades, and the tolerance that existed between the two countries then has disintegrated by 2007 into distrust and outward hostility. There has even been much speculation on both sides that the U.S. might eventually launch attacks on Iran (all in the name of preventing the spread of terrorism, of course).

The irony of the situation is that were hostilities to escalate between the two countries, the United States would be

fighting Iran's F-14s, the very same ones we sold to them. Luckily, our Air Force has advanced and we have bigger and better fighter jets that could take down the F-14s.

In fact the F-14s are so aged, Iran is the only country that uses them. Like anything with age, Iran's F-14s need repairs every so often. However, since Iran is the only country that uses F-14s, spare parts are hard to come by.

Iran is in luck though, because the United States has just found a surplus of spare F-14 parts and will be holding a public auction to get rid of the surplus. Of course Iranian military officials can't just show up and buy the parts, but intermediaries for them can.

You are probably saying to yourself that the U.S. must have safeguards for this, and you are right. It's called Customs, and they do a great job.

I will point out one example of how Customs responded to such a scenario. A person who has been known to do deals with Iran purchased a surplus of supplies, coincidentally F-14 parts, and when this shipment was about to leave the United States, Customs officials moved in and returned the parts to the Pentagon. Pentagon officials said "thank you" and "good work"

to the Customs officials and sold the parts to another person. Interestingly enough, the new buyer was again someone who deals with Iran, and according to Fox News the evidence tags from Customs were still attached to the items when they were sold.

The bottom line is that the United States has a surplus of parts that will probably land in the hands of Iran, who it is said the U.S. may attack. The U.S. is supplying its enemies with the weapons that have the potential to kill American soldiers in the future. This is no joke; it is really happening.

I would suggest that instead of selling the spare parts at a public auction, the government should reuse the parts for other purposes, such as melting down the metal for new equipment for the armed forces, our armed forces. My words, however, will have little impact on anyone in the government. Folks in Washington are pretty busy these days, and I'm doubting whether they have the inclination to read *The Beacon*. That is why I urge everyone to write a letter to your Congressman or Senator about this situation and tell them that you do not want these parts falling into the hands of Iran.

Angry Rant: '07 Celeb Predictions

BY TIM SEIGFRIED

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

It's a new year, and with any new year come new adventures and experiences. The same can be said for our favorite stars of the large and small screen.

But why should we, the fans, have to wait until the stories actually happen before we can start to discuss them?

And so, without further adieu, here are your 2007 Celebrity Predictions:

Rosie O'Donnell: Fresh from the controversial "ching chang" comments she made live on the air, O'Donnell will offend the residents of Ireland when she is spotted wearing the color green. Months later she will offend the entire human race when it comes out that she is not an orca.

Justin Timberlake: His hit song "Sexy Back" which contains the lyrics "I'm bringin' sexy back," causes much controversy and becomes the subject of a grand jury investigation when it becomes apparent that sexy never left.

Lindsay Lohan: Her acting career will take off when she takes on the role of a teenager who enters Alcoholics Anonymous after several drunken nights when she is seen stumbling out of nightclubs. Oh wait, that wasn't a movie.

Christopher Walken: He will enter the record books when the public learns he is

the most imitated actor of all time. Walken doesn't mind, though, because he's cool like that.

Kelly Ripa: Her feud with Rosie O'Donnell (the Clay Aiken incident) will reach fever pitch when Rosie calls Kelly a "doody head" live on the air. Two weeks later, Ripa will retaliate by calling Rosie "poopy pants" and telling the teacher.

Barry Bonds: His repeated refusal to admit to performance enhancing drug use will come under even more scrutiny when his arms literally explode. He will attribute this to the time his heart tripled in size when he was trying to save Christmas for the people of Whoville.

Suri Cruise: The most publicized newborn baby of the last decade will become the source of controversy when it is revealed that the young Suri Cruise is actually the kid who played Webster in a wig.

Dora the Explorer: The animated child star will find herself in the middle of "Dora-Gate," after it is learned that she has been working as a coke mule for the Columbians.

Britney Spears: She will explain that her behavior over the last two years, including the partying, rampant drinking, child endangerment, her 55-hour marriage, her two year marriage, and her reality show, was all just research she was doing for a movie...in which she plays herself.

A Sight for Sore Eyes

Aleksander Lapinski



YOUR VOICES

How to determine if an advisor is outstanding

Student-nominated award recognizes advisors who go above and beyond

Dear Editor:

At the risk of sounding like an elderly gentleman sitting on a Main Street stoop, pipe clenched between yellowed teeth, I'm still going to say it--students at Wilkes have it better than I did, especially when it comes to their academic advisors.

When I was an undergraduate, from 1987-1990 (*gasp*), I saw my advisor one time, for ten minutes. The professors at University of Central Oklahoma did not advise. Instead, in a loud, crowded room with cubicles, this young woman in her 20s and I kept having to repeat what we were saying. I think someone was vacuuming, too.

Anyway, she was a very nice person who had just completed her bachelor's in Psychology. She said that being an advisor was basically all I could do with that degree unless I went on to graduate school. (My undergraduate degree's in psychology.) I felt disheartened. I also felt odd talking to

this person who had no idea who I was, who had hundreds of students to see that day, and who covered five different majors. It felt like a cattle chute. I was one of 22,000 other undergraduates in a giant machine that honestly did not care about me, further evidenced by the three-hour wait at the financial aid office. Really. People would arrive in the early hours of the morning like for a rock concert or a Wii at Best Buy. The equivalent of front-row tickets was getting the single counselor who treated us like human beings. The rest just went through our paperwork and did not speak.

Obviously, this is not the case at Wilkes. Your advisor actually cares whether you stay in school or not, whichever is better for you at this time in your life. I've called and woken up an advisee on a Sunday at 11:30 a.m. (I forgot that's prime sleeping time for those under 30-I'd been up for five hours.) Wilkes faculty members are always advisors, and we are trained on campus to care about you. We are supposed to ask you

questions beyond "What do you need to take next semester?" We're supposed to be a lynchpin of your Wilkes experience.

That's required of us as faculty here. What's optional, and the reason I'm writing this article (Forget that thesis at the beginning crap about essay writing), is advisors who go beyond this.

I'm thinking of Jim Harrington knocking on dorm room doors so students arrive at class on time. No one else can be Jim Harrington, of course, but there are many advisors at Wilkes that have shown outstanding interest and caring in their student interactions. Do you know any? How's yours? Take a minute and go to the Student Center mail room or fill out that Outstanding Advisor form at your lunch table. Drop it in that (literally) sparkling red box at the mail room counter. It will be five minutes of your time, but it will be a significant part of that advisor's year. Believe me.

I have a colleague who does not forget student names. Literally. We'll be in the

cafeteria together, and he says hello to people, and I'll ask, "Who was that?" And he'll say, "Oh, a student I had two years ago in 101." That's how I'd like to be. Remembering your names is important, and it's a talent we all need.

Name recall is not a requirement for an outstanding advisor, but remembering your name indicates an interest in you as an individual instead of a number. You're more than a hard-to-hear young person in a loud room with industrial carpet. You're important to this world and your major, and, if you learned that from your advisor, let him or her know it by nominating them for an outstanding advisor award. The deadline's March 1. It's a great way to make a difference.

Mischelle Anthony
Assistant Professor of English

Spring Break Destination: Panama

Wilkes students and faculty given opportunity to travel abroad

BY NORA JURASITS
Beacon Features Editor

Spending spring break ziplining through the rainforest past exotic animals normally reserved for science books, checking out the night life in Panama City and lounging on white sandy beaches in Contadora --all for college credit? Seems unlikely, but Dr. Jim Merryman is making it a reality.

Merryman, professor of sociology and anthropology, is offering thirty students the chance to tour Panama from March 3 to March 10 over spring break this semester. The trip costs \$1,950, and includes hotel stay for the trip, airfare to Panama and the majority of meals. The fee also covers all activities, including a white water rafting excursion and tours through the rainforest.

The spring break trip may be taken as a leisurely vacation, or for an additional \$500, it can also count as an elective for any area of study. The STE300, Study Trip Experience, course requires students to keep a daily journal, then write a paper on a specific topic that relates to Panama and something they encountered there, or would like to learn more about once they return to the United States. "It's a wonderful vacation; plus you get three credits," Merryman said.

The trip begins in Panama City, with a two-night stay at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel. Students will go on the Panama Ca-

nal Land Tour and visit the Panama Canal Museum. During this day of touring, a lunch and snacks will be provided. Travelers will also see an indigenous community in the national park Chagres and get a chance to do some sightseeing around the city.

During the evenings, students have free time to dance, listen to some Latin music or find a new favorite meal. Panama City's fast paced night scene features many clubs, bars and cultural restaurants to discover. "The normal precautions of visiting a city should be taken, but it's a very safe place," Merryman said.

The next stop on the trip is the Gamboa Rainforest Resort, which looks more like a tree house than a hotel. The outer appearance of the hotel may suggest an interior of hammocks and minimal technology, but to the contrary, all of the modern accommodations can be found at the resort.

During this leg of the trip, there will be tours of the rainforest and a rafting trip which will allow visitors to check out some lush jungles and exotic animals in their natural habitat.

The last stop on the trip is Contadora Island, where travelers will be treated to a traditional spring break experience. There will be opportunities to tan on white beaches, or participate in more physical activities such as horseback riding, golfing, snor-



Courtesy www.duchannes.com

keling and riding on jet skis. Some of the activities, such as golfing, may cost extra, but all meals and drinks are included in the initial cost of the trip.

Merryman has offered students and faculty members the chance to travel to many foreign countries, including Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Tunisia. "I want to take people to places they wouldn't ordinarily go," he said. "Many people are curious about it but don't know how to do it."

Senior political science and history major, Catherine Dzubyaty went on a trip with Merryman last year to Tunisia and southern Italy. She said the trip allowed her to experience different cultures firsthand.

"I think everyone should travel out of the country when they are still young," Dzubyaty said. "Traveling gives you a real sense of perspective on life. You also get to witness and try things that you can't do in the U.S."

So far, no faculty members are signed up for the trip to Panama, but professor of environmental engineering and earth science, Dr. Brian Redmond, traveled with Merryman to Africa and China, and said that students can gain a lot from such travel experiences.

"The experience of a different culture and country can be exhilarating, educational, and a break from studies here in the Wilkes-Barre winter," he said. "There would also be some important group interaction between the trip participants."

Merryman said that he does research on any area to which he plans to travel, and considers himself a "seasoned tour leader," who can show travelers parts of the country and culture they may not have experienced on their own. Although he does not speak Spanish, he noted that the culture of Panama is such that speaking English will not be a hindrance.

Dr. Patricia Heaman, who teaches English, traveled with Merryman to Africa, and enjoyed his vast knowledge of the areas they visited. "We had always wanted to see Africa and were delighted to have a guide who had Dr. Merryman's years of experience living in Kenya. He was able to identify trees, flowers, and other elements of the landscape for us, as well as speak with non-English speaking Africans we met."

Merryman started with thirty spots, and about half have been filled, so he encourages students and faculty members who are interested in the trip to contact him as soon as possible so arrangements can be made. A \$250 deposit must be made by February 7 to reserve a seat. Merryman can be reached at 570-408-4043, or via e-mail at james.merryman@wilkes.edu. His office is located on the third floor of Breiseth Hall in the sociology and anthropology department.



Courtesy south-america.com.au

Wilkes alumnus launches *Westsider* magazine

Q & A with John Plucenik

BY MEGAN KRISANDA
Beacon Asst. Features Editor

A recent alumnus of Wilkes is pursuing his dream just across the river.

John Plucenik, 42, of Kingston graduated from the Master's program in creative writing at Wilkes two years ago. Since that time, he's been busy putting his creativity to work for the community. Plucenik is currently the publisher and creator of the area's newest magazine, *The Westsider*.

Plucenik grew up in Scranton but has lived in Kingston most of his adult life. He is married with five children, but somehow still found the time to create the impressive glossy magazine that features content relevant to those who live, work and play on the west side of the Susquehanna river.

Recently *The Beacon* had the opportunity to speak with Plucenik about what it's like to own the area's only "magazine of creativity, culture and change."

The Beacon: While you were studying creative writing at Wilkes, was it always a goal of yours to start a magazine?

Plucenik: I always felt it was a dream to have my own magazine even back when I started with journalism. I was writing for the *Times Leader* back in the 80's and had dreams to start my own newspaper so I could assign my own stories and be my own publisher. And really, the Wilkes program made it happen. Everyone was working on finishing their final projects on publishing a book, but I wanted to do a magazine.

The Beacon: In what ways did the program at Wilkes help you create your own publication?

Plucenik: They encouraged me with my writing. I've always written off and on. I've always had the desire to do more human interest stories and op-ed features, and they provided me with the expertise to do so. My mentor, John Bowers, really guided me through my writing and helped to develop my writing skills.

I also met Chris Busa, who is the publisher of *Provincetown Art* magazine. Chris sat me down and showed me his business plan and media kit because a magazine is more than just writing. Besides John and Chris, Bonnie Culver was always there. Being local, I could call her up and ask advice. She was very accessible. All the advisors would come together every semester who are all experienced in the publishing field and were available for one-on-one in class and even after class. You have all these experts at your disposal and they really encourage you to write every day and become disciplined in your craft.

The Beacon: What are your goals for *The Westsider*?

Plucenik: I'm really happy with the size because of my time. We went from 56 pages to 64 in our second issue. We could be increasing every issue, but I just don't have



The Westsider is published quarterly, and their offices are located in Kingston. Current copies can be obtained on campus at 245 River Street in the Wilkes Creative Writing M.A. building.

the time to devote to that. We've come to the point where we're sustainable financially and we made a commitment to keep 61% editorial and 39% advertising.

The magazine is distributed primarily through the 90 businesses, schools and organizations that support the magazine through "investment" space. We use the word investment, rather than advertising, because it is a non-profit co-op that offers many small independent businesses an affordable alternative to traditional expensive advertising. By promoting the businesses and our local culture, they are actually investing in our areas as well as helping grow their businesses. We are editorially driven, not profit driven.

The Beacon: Describe the meaning behind the title *The Westsider*?

Plucenik: I was looking for something that identified our geographic region with the minimum amount of words. I wanted it to be something that people would know, just kind of keep it simple.

The Beacon: Are there freelancing opportunities available in *The Westsider*?

Plucenik: Oh my God, yeah. *The Westsider* is a platform for that opportunity for young writing talent. But it's

not just limited for college students. One of my favorite writers is a housewife. She had an interest in writing but didn't have the confidence. She writes our small town features. She's wonderful and I love her style. So, there's a lot of hidden talent out there and it's neat to provide that opportunity to have them use it.

The Beacon: Are you interested in creating other publications?

Plucenik: Well, our last issue became sort of an arts issue by accident. I realized we had eight great stories on mostly local artists. So I bounced the idea of starting a local arts magazine kind of like *Provincetown Arts*. I really think culturally this area is going through a little revival, so I want this art magazine to be a byproduct of that. Another one of my goals is to start a publication written entirely by high school and college students. They're usually limited to writing about things like the school dance, but I want to hear about what it's like to be a high school student and the pressures.

The Beacon: What is your advice for aspiring journalists from this area?

Plucenik: Chase your dreams and don't hold back. You have to have a certain degree of risk-taking. You have to be willing to fail and know problems are opportunities in disguise. And sometimes you have to break the rules and stick to your guard of what you want to do. And if it's your passion, then nothing is hard, it's enjoyable.

The Westsider is available online at www.Westsider.org.

● YOU NAME IT TIES ●

Express Yourself With Your Own
Personalized T-shirt
Designed How **YOU** Want It!

Choose From
4 Different Styles
On The Front

Add Any
Personalization
On the Back

February 5th - February 16th
Monday thru Friday from
11am-1pm
Lobby of the Henry Student Center
\$11.99!!

*Orders will take 2 weeks until pick-up
*Money is due in full at time of ordering

New apartments expected to improve downtown and local colleges

BY MARK CONGDON

Beacon Staff Writer

Prime real estate for Wilkes students isn't necessarily townhouses with hot tubs and two-car garages. Wilkes students are primarily interested in location, location, location. How close is a prospective apartment to downtown?

In the months ahead, new and renovated apartments will be opening up in and around downtown Wilkes-Barre, according to JJ Murphy, Wilkes-Barre City Administrator. "There are about 60 apartments on 17 West River Street that should be opened in March or April specifically for Wilkes students for next year," he said. Murphy also mentioned that the apartments near the movie theater should be open by the fall, and the condominiums in the Hotel Sterling should be open in about two years. He added that there are rentals around the Wilkes-Barre area like the one on Franklin Street that are currently undergoing renovation.

Not only will these apartments make the city more attractive, but it would be an

added benefit to the local college students, believes Associate Dean of Students Barbara King. "Anything that can add to the number of people in town is worth the investment. Obviously, if more people choose to live in the city, they will require more convenient services and entertainment. Students definitely benefit from those as well," she said.

Joseph Boylan, research analyst for the Joint Urban Studies Center, feels that downtown apartments would be good for the young professionals and the college students, faculty and staff. "With rising enrollment levels, both Wilkes and King's can benefit from additional housing opportunities made available for not only their students, but staff and faculty as well."

"Both Wilkes and King's are currently adopting Employer Assisted Housing Programs. These programs offer assistance to their employees, who are [trying to purchase] a home in the Wilkes-Barre area. Young professionals as well would benefit from the apartments. Companies such as PepperJam, who employ many young professionals right here in downtown, show that there are indeed several young profes-

sionals working here," Boylan said.

Since many of the apartments in question are either in the process of being built or renovated, the rental prices haven't yet fully been determined. However, Bryce Russo, senior nursing major at Wilkes, believes that new apartments may well prove cost prohibitive for students. "Since the apartments are new, they could be more expensive, which could be a problem for some students. But if the [owners] allow multiple students to live together, more students would probably be willing to move downtown," Russo said.

King noted that college students may not be the main target audience for the apartments near the theater and at the Sterling, but that the apartments on West Ross most likely would be.

"I doubt that the main target will be college students. The developers are probably thinking more about long-term owners and tenants. Also, we have no idea what the rental or purchase costs will be, but I would expect that it will be higher than most college students will be willing to pay," King said when referring to the apartments near

Movies 14 and the Hotel Sterling.

Although this may seem like the case for some of the apartments, many seem to agree that the new and renovated apartments will help improve the downtown and ultimately have a positive impact on both Wilkes University and King's College.

"I believe that these apartments will be great for the downtown, and help make it more presentable and will be able to appeal to current and perspective faculty, staff and students at Wilkes and King's," Russo said.

Additionally, Boylan emphasized that the "apartments located downtown would only enhance the image of revitalization. The difference in pedestrian traffic since the opening of Movies 14 has been substantial - the idea of developing downtown loft apartments would only heighten the pedestrian and sidewalk traffic, giving the downtown of Wilkes-Barre a more vibrant look. The increased traffic would also act as a businesses attraction mechanism for potential clients.

AS A COLLEGE GRAD, YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR

\$400

ANY NEW TOYOTA OF YOUR CHOICE*

2007
FJ
CRUISER



2007
RAV4



2007
CAMRY
HYBRID



2007
YARIS



WWW.WINAYARISONLINE.COM[†]

TOYOTA | *moving forward* ▶

TOYOTA

buyatoyota.com

*NOT ALL CUSTOMERS WILL QUALIFY. CUSTOMERS RECEIVE \$400 FROM TOYOTA TOWARDS LEASING OR FINANCING THE PURCHASE OF NEW UNTITLED TOYOTA MODELS THROUGH PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALERS AND TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES. SEE DEALER OR VISIT WWW.TOYOTAFINANCIAL.COM/FINANCE FOR DETAILS. COLLEGE GRADUATE PROGRAM IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR TERMINATION AT ANY TIME. †NO PURCHASE IS NECESSARY. MAKING A PURCHASE DOES NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW. TO ENTER YOU MUST BE A LEGAL U.S. RESIDENT AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD AND YOU MUST HAVE A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE. VISIT YOUR PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALER OR WWW.WINAYARISONLINE.COM FOR COMPLETE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND SWEEPSTAKES RULES.

Sordoni exhibition sheds light on crisis in Sudan

BY STEPHANIE DEBALKO

Beacon A&E Editor

It is Tuesday morning. Starbucks, Wal-Mart and every other multimillion dollar corporation in the country is open for business.

The typical American gets into his or her unnecessarily large vehicle, worries about whether or not the trip home at the end of the day will interfere with their addictive viewing of *American Idol* and silently curses the moron in the overpriced luxury car in front of them driving 15 miles per hour. There are bills to pay, schedules to keep, phone calls to make.

Meanwhile, thousands of miles away, men, women and children are burying loved ones, worrying about whether they'll find enough food or clean water to survive to the end of that week and battling terminal, ravaging diseases. Their greatest concern does not involve television or traffic, but mere survival. It may be hard to picture these dramatically different realities co-existing on the same planet, but they do.

Sometimes it is easier to turn a blind eye to the unthinkable violence occurring in Darfur, Sudan but many individuals, including activists and well-known celebrities, are rightfully making it more difficult to do so. One such individual is Ryan Spencer Reed, a photojournalist whose deeply moving exhibition, "Sudan: The Cost of Silence," is on display at the Sordoni Art Gallery until March 18.

Reed's work is a collection of 36 black and white photographs depicting Sudanese refugees in peril in Darfur as a result of genocide.

In order to understand the photographs, it is helpful to understand what is occurring in Darfur and why. According to Amnesty International (AI), a worldwide campaign for human rights, the fighting in Sudan began in February 2003 when armed opposition groups in Darfur surfaced "in response to perceived economic marginalization and the government's failure to protect villagers from attacks." In response, the Sudanese government "chose to suppress the armed opposition with force." In addition to the Sudanese armed forces, the people of Darfur are being attacked by the Janjawid militias,

"bands of Arab fighters backed by the Sudanese government." These militias are responsible for torture, rape, mass killings and arbitrary arrests. Millions of people have been killed and displaced since February 2003 as a result of this conflict. This region of Africa has been suffering the effects of civil war for over 20 years.

The events that are occurring in Darfur have been described as "ethnic cleans-

Reed and were immediately impressed, not only by his work but by Reed himself.

"We were both floored by how stunning the photographs were visually, but also by [Reed], and just how articulate and committed he is to this project being such a young man," Bernier said.

Upon his graduation from Calvin College, Reed decided to sell everything he had to visit East Africa to do what he

"Our main goal in bringing this exhibition to campus is to raise awareness, because this issue is covered very little, if at all [in the media]," Kramer said.

While it does appear that this major issue is not headlining the American news, the aim of Reed's exhibit is to at least further the conversation locally, and help individuals to understand what is happening and what needs to be done through visually startling photographs.

"Now, with everyone's attention on Iraq, it is very easy for something that doesn't directly involve us to get lost in the media, so it's probably even that much more important to [show this exhibition]," Bernier said.

The collection also coincides with an exhibition that will be on display in the Farley Library until February 17, "Children of Darfur: Picturing Genocide," that features drawings made by children living in Darfur. According to Kramer, a doctor working with "Doctors without Borders" had the children of Sudanese refugees create photos while their parents were being interviewed for medical care, and was so moved by them that they were turned into a traveling exhibition so the rest of the world could see them as well.

All of the photographs in the collection are particularly striking and show a world that many Americans could not possibly fathom. One in particular displays children playing amidst a ravaged and desolate area. Regardless of which photographs stand out to the individual, one thing is for sure: the cost of silence is unmistakable.

In conjunction with this exhibition, the following programs and events are scheduled:

- "All About Darfur"- A film by Sudanese filmmaker Taghreed Elsanhoury (co-sponsored by King's College), immediately followed by guest speaker, Jean-Marie Kamatali, professor of Law at University of Notre Dame, February 7, 7 p.m., R/C Wilkes-Barre Movies 14.

- Guest speaker, John Heffernan, Director, Genocide Prevention Initiative, U.S. Holocaust Museum, February 15, 7 p.m., Henry Student Center, 2nd floor Ballroom.

- Gallery talk, Ryan Spencer Reed, March 13, 7 p.m.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

One photograph from "Sudan: The Cost of Silence" depicts refugee women at the Kounoungo Camp in eastern Chad rushing to finish chores as a storm approaches. According to the photo's caption, "Kounoungo has become home to more than 11,000 displaced Sudanese." The vastness of this refugee camp further displays the depth and severity of the situation in Darfur.

ing," where certain ethnic groups have been deliberately targeted and murder, starvation and sexual violence against women and girls have been used as weapons of war, according to AI.

The United States and the international community have been criticized for not taking action against what have been described as crimes against humanity, and that's part of the reason why Dr. Ronald Bernier, Sordoni Art Gallery Director, and Brittany Kramer, gallery coordinator, chose to bring this exhibition to Wilkes University. After they were contacted by Beth Admiral, director of Public Policy and Social Research at King's College about Reed's work, Bernier and Kramer met with

could to help. His college career began with the aim to study medicine, but Reed decided that this was another way he could help others. In addition to the traveling exhibition, he is also currently producing a book with photographs and written pieces documenting what he has seen in East Africa.

Both Bernier and Kramer agreed that this exhibition is a vital component in the battle to not only raise awareness about the genocide in Darfur but also to convince people that the rest of the world needs to do something about it. Kramer mentioned that the gallery is encouraging individuals and groups from not only the campus but also in the community to see the exhibition.

Book Review: Gillian Flynn's *Sharp Objects*

BY NICOLE FRAIL
Beacon Staff Writer

is ripping the small town to shreds. Two little girls have been murdered, their teeth removed and their fingernails perfectly painted.

Camille is forced to confront the problems and ghosts of her own past as she struggles to send information and articles back to her editor in Chicago for publication in the growing newspaper she works for.

One of these ghosts is her mother, Adora, who obsesses over not only the well being of her youngest daughter, Amma, but over the loss of another daughter, Marian. Adora's relationships with her children are disturbing, but it gets even stranger when

Camille discovers her mother's relationships with the dead girls, Ann and Natalie.

Reaching out for help and "on record" information for her articles, Camille befriends Richard Willis, a private detective hired from out of state to help the local chief of police with the case. Together, they eliminate the chance that the killer is from out of town.

A clue offered by a little boy who saw someone grab one of the victims, throws the investigation off and causes the town to immediately point fingers at each other. Is it John Keene, Natalie's brother? Or could it be Meredith Wheeler, John's attention starved girlfriend? Or maybe even Bob

Nash, Ann's father? Accusations continue to fly as Camille, Richard and the police struggle to find the killer.

Flynn's writing style is raw and straight forward. Readers will think and feel what Flynn wants them to, leaving little room for imagination. However, the flip flop between the suspects will continuously keep readers guessing. The end is guaranteed to shock and leave readers wanting more from this writer.

Grade: B+

Schedule of Events

Monday, January 29

"Jackie, Vi and Lena" at the Kirby Center at 7 p.m. A powerful celebration of the impact of Martin Luther King, Jr. on three people. Free tickets available at UCOM. Karaoke with Scott Stevens at Slainte.

Tuesday, January 30

Robb Brown and Friends performing at Slainte.

Wednesday, January 31

The Five Percent performing at the Woodlands at 10 p.m.

Friday, February 2

Blacklisted and Pulling Teeth performing at Backstage at 6 p.m.

Poogie Bell Band performing at the Jazz Cafe

Movie Night: *The Decline of Civilization*, at Café Metropolis at 9 p.m.

Saturday, February 3

The Godinez Bros. performing at the River Street Jazz Cafe.

The Goo Goo Dolls performing at the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts at 8 p.m.

I Am You, You Are Me performing at Café Metropolis at 8 p.m.

Sunday, February 4

Sweetheart Yoga at Arts YOUniverse at 6 p.m.



Academic excellence through mentoring.

“During my first year at Wilkes, Dr. Alves opened my eyes to many aspects of the business world. Through his personal stories and class lectures I learned a bundle of information pertinent to my major — Business Administration. I would have never pushed myself as hard and as far as I have if it were not for Dr. Alves' encouraging words along the way.”



Be a mentor.

Call Student Development at x.4111.

Every Wilkes student should have a mentor or be a mentor.
If you want to play a part in the unique Wilkes experience,
call Student Development at x.4111.

www.wilkes.edu | 1-800-WILKES-U

Danielle '08 and Dr. Jeff Alves.

Dagwood's Deli & Subs

BY MARISSA PHILLIPS
Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

I'm going to be honest here and say that I'm just not a deli and sub shop kind of girl. I'm not exactly sure what it is, but with the exception of Subway, anytime a restaurant's name makes mention of subs, I'm turned off (could be due to a horrible past experience with a tuna sub, I'm not sure). That said, when my two dinner companions, Pete and Alisha, decided on Dagwood's Deli and Subs, I forced myself to bite my tongue, tried to ignore my prejudices and give the restaurant a fair chance.

Dagwood's is a fairly small establishment right over the bridge in Kingston, and as a warning, you need to be a bit careful with the parking. There are a few parallel parking spaces for those among the driving elite, but for those who require traditional parking spaces, you need to keep your eyes open so as to not miss the entrance on Market Street.

Once we entered the restaurant, there was no time to be wasted, as there's one small menu posted in the middle of the restaurant. Any long hesitation would result in a backup of customers. It's possible that there were more menus, but if so, they could have made it a little more apparent. So Pete ordered a turkey club sandwich, Alisha got a cheese steak wrap with fries, while I chose an egg salad sandwich with fries.

While the food arrived rather promptly, it's necessary to note that the restaurant had two crane machines, one featuring the "play until you win" rule. Those are hard to come by, so as we waited for our food we shelled out fifty cents and passed the time keeping ourselves entertained with plastic dinosaurs and finger puppets. That right there added a bit of character to the night.

Once the food arrived, we realized how mammoth the portions were. Pete's turkey club was cut into quarters, and no lie, each quarter could sufficiently feed one person. The amount of turkey piled on made it impossible to eat the sandwich by simply taking bites, unless you have the ability to unhook your jaw. Although it may have been a nuisance to eat, he did continuously make "mmm" noises, which clearly signified it was delicious.

...And a movie: *The Hitcher*

BY MIKE WILLIAMS
Beacon Staff Writer

Over the past few years, it's become apparent that Hollywood is slowly but surely running out of ideas.

The result, of course, is a string of re-

makes of older films, updated with modern graphics and fresh young casts. Unfortunately, some films should never be remade.

The Hitcher, however, is not your average remake. The original, released in 1986 starring B-Movie all-star Rutger Hauer, is virtually unknown to anyone but die hard horror fans, which makes the decision to remake it quite surprising, as most recent remakes (*King Kong*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*) are of films that were rather successful the first time around. Though the remake follows the original script closely, this version offers a noteworthy change in the reversal of roles between the main characters. And the updated *The Hitcher* still packs enough of a punch to thrill even those who know what to expect.

The story follows two young love birds, Jim (Zachary Knighton) and Grace (Sopia Bush), as they set out from college for spring break in Jim's cherry 1970 Oldsmobile 442. In the midst of a torrential downpour, Jim offers a ride to a seemingly trustworthy hitchhiker,



Dinner and a Movie

Alisha's cheese steak wrap was a more reasonable size, but after she finished it, she wished she had only eaten half. She did really enjoy it, though, and was impressed to see that, regardless of all it was stuffed with, the wrap stayed intact until the end of her meal.

The egg salad sandwich I ordered was good for about five bites, until it suddenly occurred to me that I was eating egg salad. So, while I eventually came to regret my order, rather than blaming the restaurant, I'll blame myself, because really, who orders egg salad? The good thing is that the order was saved by the delicious and crisp steak fries that I ordered along with my meal.

All in all, Dagwood's has plenty to offer. The deli has a fairly extensive menu, and the prices are very reasonable. The gigantic turkey club and the cheese steak wrap were each \$4.75, while the egg salad sandwich was \$3.25. We did have to pay \$2 extra for fries, but the sandwiches came with chips and a pickle, so they weren't really even necessary.

Everyone agreed that the atmosphere was casual, fun and family friendly. And while it is a fairly small restaurant, they took enough care to feature a separate, non-smoking room for better accommodations. They have some noticeably quirky décor, such as a large, cigarette butt ashtray, an almost life-sized statue on which they post the menu, and of course the two crane machines. So, if you're on a tight budget, let it be known that this place has quality date potential.

If you're looking for a simple and inexpensive dinner, and if you're a hearty eater, or a fan of the doggy bag, Dagwood's is a good choice, and a short distance from the school. And while I was let down by my egg salad sandwich, everyone else was pleased with their order. So, if you're a fan of casual dining, and have better judgment than I, Dagwood's Deli and Subs is sure to please.

Grade: B

John Ryder, played by Sean Bean (*Lord of The Rings*, *Goldeneye*), much to the chagrin of the suspicious Grace. Unfortunately for the happy couple, their romantic get away is cut extremely short as this simple act of kindness spirals into a nightmarish chase across the dusty back roads of New Mexico, as Ryder soon proves Grace's suspicions to be true.

After the two successfully escape the first of Ryder's attacks, they are drawn into his sadistic game of cat and mouse, as he frames them for his horrific crimes. With the New Mexico state police hot on their trail, Jim and Grace must follow Ryder's bloody trail in order to clear their names and put an end to his grisly rampage. Can they save themselves from Ryder's sinister scheme or will they become just two more victims to terror that hides behind the friendly smile of The Hitcher?

Packed with car chases, gun fights and buckets of blood, *The Hitcher* is a film not to be missed by action and horror fans alike. However, due to its high body count and scenes of graphic violence, it is not a film for those who can't stomach the sight of blood (or guts and brain matter, for that matter).

On the other hand, those who get a thrill from a little blood and gore will be delight-

ed over and over again as the film relentlessly delivers scenes of skull shattering head-shots and graphic knifings. One gut wrenching scene in particular will capture the hearts of gore hounds everywhere as the blood thirsty, yet crafty Ryder subjects one unlucky motorist to a little modernized medieval torture, fashioning a rack out of heavy chains and big rig trucks.

Though *The Hitcher* isn't up for any acting or directing awards this Oscar season, it serves its purpose as a top-notch popcorn flick, providing a fun and exciting way to spend an hour and thirty minutes, with plenty to be enjoyed by both fans of the action and horror genres. For an added scare, those looking for another take on this bloody tale of highway horror may want to take a trip to the local video store and pick up a copy of the original *The Hitcher*.

Viewers who are into fast cars, big scares and explosive scenes of bloody mayhem will find this film a worthwhile way to spend a weekend evening. But if that sort of stuff isn't your cup of tea, then you're probably better off telling *The Hitcher* to take a hike.

Grade: B

Alcohol Myth Busters:

"I can drink and still be in control"

Drinking impairs your judgment, which increases the likelihood that you will do something you'll later regret such as having unprotected sex, being involved in a date rape, damaging property, or being victimized by others.

-Sponsored by Health Services



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

Crossword Puzzle

BY CHRISTOPHER KUDRAK
Beacon Correspondent

- ACROSS
- 1

Uttered by mouth
- 5

Kibbles ‘n _____
- 9

Often becomes broken
- 14

Bubbly beverage
- 15

Object of worship
- 16

Sleep disorder
- 17

Country north of Thailand
- 18

Steak Sauce
- 19

Elector
- 20

Annie was one
- 22

Save for later
- 24

Rear part of a ship
- 25

“_____ the Terrible” of Russia
- 26

Two couples eating dinner
- 32

Time period
- 35

Roman god of war
- 36

Thought
- 37

City in western New York
- 39

Keep from sight
- 42

Reveal secret matters
- 43

Female horse
- 44

Hot tub
- 45

Identification digits
- 50

Like some signs
- 51

Optimal
- 54

Where boats are built and repaired
- 58

Powerful businessperson
- 60

First five books of the Hebrew Scriptures
- 61

Supernatural force
- 63

Therefore
- 64

Friend
- 65

Second stage of psychosexual development
- 66

Cease
- 67

Stitch again
- 68

Ambulatory appendages
- 69

Logical

- DOWN
- 1

Capital of Norway
- 2

Lion sounds
- 3

Take into one’s family
- 4

Struck with a whip
- 5

Twice a year
- 6

Bachelor’s last words
- 7

Organs at the back of the throat
- 8

Arm covering
- 9

Cuba Capital
- 10

Literary genre
- 11

Opposed
- 12

Mouthpiece of a wind instrument
- 13

Weight of a vehicle without cargo
- 21

Agreeable odor
- 23

Small amount
- 27

Male friend, Slangly
- 28

Convulsive twitch
- 29

March 15th
- 30

Spring Tide
- 31

Festive occasion
- 32

Recedes
- 33

Regulation governing conduct
- 34

From a distance
- 38

Mulder’s employer
- 39

Web device
- 40

Where electrons may be found
- 43

Ordinary and dull
- 41

Impoverished
- 46

In a careless way
- 47

Tract of open ground
- 48

Common type
- 49

Break for school kids
- 52

Main artery
- 53

Enter a computer
- 54

Heavenly body
- 55

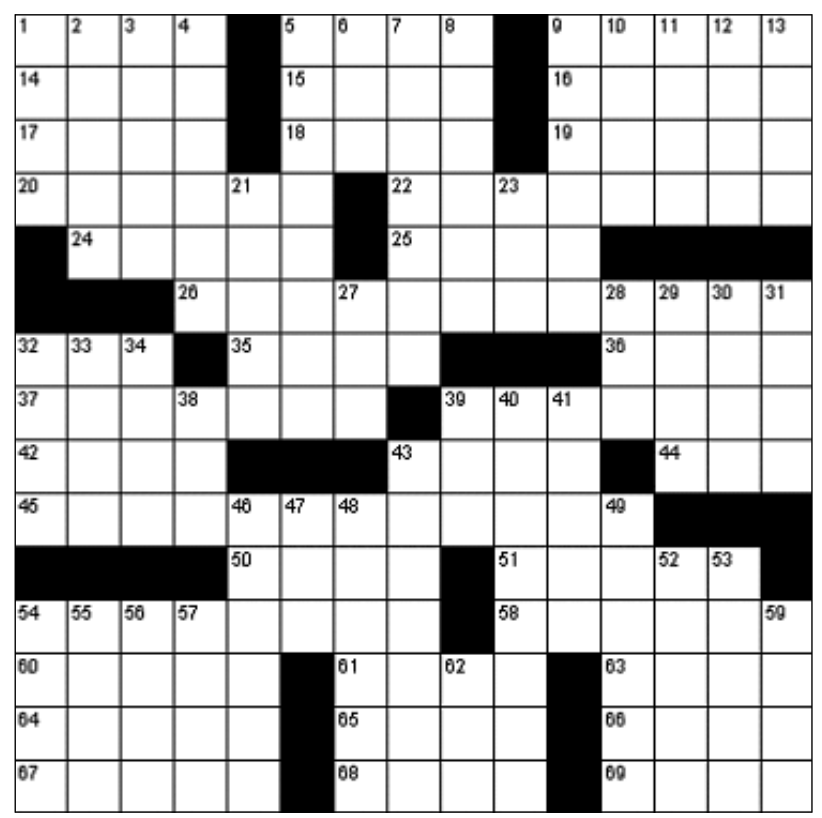
Residence of a person or family
- 56

Colored portion of the eye
- 57

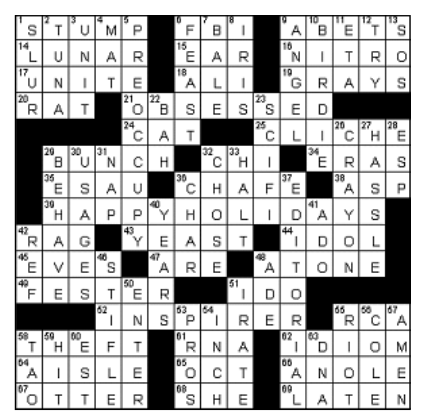
Boy servant
- 59

Slangy rejection
- 62

Annoy by persistent complaints



Answers 11.27



This Week in History

BY MICHAEL GIONFRIDDO
Beacon Correspondent
Brought to you by the History Club

- January 29
- 1936: The U.S. Baseball Hall of Fame elects its first members in Cooperstown, New York: Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Honus Wagner, Christy Matthewson and Walter Johnson.
- January 30
- 1948: Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, the political and spiritual leader of the Indian independence movement, is assassinated in New Delhi by a Hindu fanatic.
- January 31
- 1968: As part of the Tet Offensive, a squad of Viet Cong guerillas attacks the U.S. Embassy in Saigon. The soldiers seized the embassy and held it for six hours until an assault force of U.S. paratroopers landed by helicopter on the building’s roof and routed the Viet Cong.

- February 1
- 1884: The first portion, or fascicle, of the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), considered the most comprehensive and accurate dictionary of the English language, is published. Today, the OED is the definitive authority on the meaning, pronunciation and history of over half a million words, past and present
- February 2
- 1887: Groundhog Day, featuring a rodent meteorologist, is celebrated for the first time at Gobbler’s Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. According to tradition, if a groundhog comes out of its hole on this day and sees its shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter weather; no shadow means an early spring. Happy Groundhog Day!
- February 3
- 1959: Rising American rock stars Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and J.P. “The Big Bopper” Richardson are killed when their chartered Beechcraft Bonanza plane crashes in Iowa a few minutes after takeoff from Mason City on a flight headed for Moorehead,

Minnesota. Investigators blamed the crash on bad weather and pilot error. Holly and his band, the Crickets, had just scored a No. 1 hit with “That’ll Be the Day.”

February 4

1974: Patty Hearst, the 19-year-old daughter of news paper publisher Randolph Hearst, is kidnapped from her apartment in Berkeley, California, by two black men and a white woman, all three of whom are armed. Her fiancée, Stephen Weed, was beaten and tied up along with a neighbor who tried to help. Witnesses reported seeing a struggling Hearst being carried away blindfolded, and she was put in the trunk of a car. Neighbors who came out into the street were forced to take cover after the kidnappers fired their guns to cover their escape.

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

BASKETBALL from PAGE 20*Women's basketball*

In many instances in life, attempting to retaliate after taking a loss may not be the best option. But in sports, avenging a loss is the sweetest and yet, the only option. After suffering a twenty point loss in the first game nearly two months ago against Delaware Valley, the Lady Colonels will look to bounce back and grab a much needed win at home versus the Aggies this Saturday.

"We work very hard as a team and have progressed so much since the beginning of the season. As long as we keep that up, and use the heart and desire we have, we'll be ready when we see them on Saturday," said junior captain Katie Cappelloni.

Despite working with a young team, coach Rachel Emmerthal has demonstrated much improvement from the previous season totaling six wins thus far, which is the same amount of wins the Lady Colonels finished with last year. Emmerthal stated, "We're a young team, and we're starting to play well together, and I think we are beginning to come together more."

Junior guard Randi Corbo leads the Lady Colonels scoring attack, averaging nearly twelve points per contest, while both cap-

tains Lacey Andresen and Katie Cappelloni chip in with 9.2 points per game.

During the Lady Colonels first outing against Delaware Valley, the Aggies put on a shooting clinic, hitting 42% of their shots from downtown and 48% overall from the floor, while the Lady Colonels only shot 32% in the contest. The Lady Colonels showed much effort on defense by forcing 17 turnovers, but just could not contain their hot shooting. If the Lady Colonels are able to shut down the Aggies primary shooters and control the rebounding category, they will improve their home record, which currently stands at 4-4.

"Rebounding is essential in winning the game. We will be able to utilize our bigs which makes it easier to attack and have options to be successful," said Emmerthal. Speaking of rebounding, Kelly Patchell who leads the team with a solid 6.9 rebounds per game, believes that good defense shall get the Lady Colonels the "W." "The Del Val game was one of our earlier games, and I think our biggest problem was defense. We have been working on our defense all year and communication is a big part of that," said Patchell.

The Lady Colonels are at home Saturday February 3rd at 1:00 p.m.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel
Wilkes junior guard Randi Corbo drives to the hoop against FDU-Florham on January 24. Wilkes won the game 79-72.

The CUMBERLAND

Brand new
luxury construction in an
historic landmark building

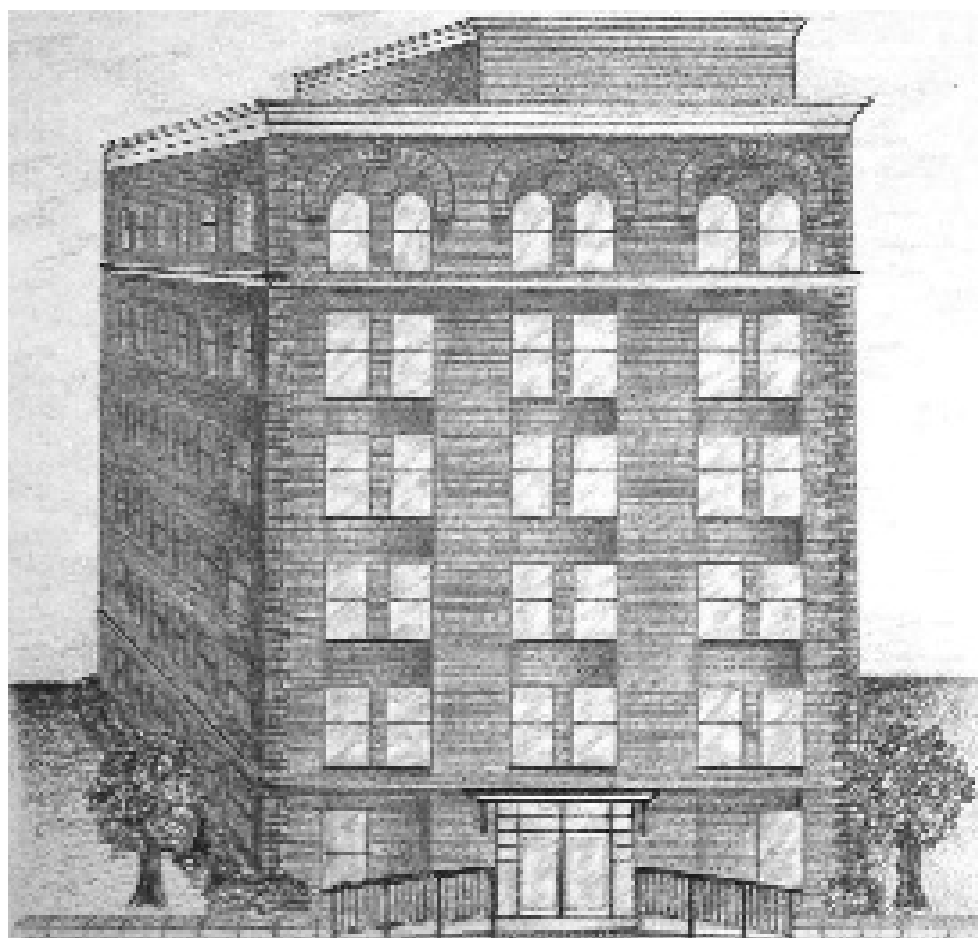
- 48 Efficiency Apartments
- 12 Efficiency Suites
- Secure Entry
- Elevator
- Coin Laundry
- Wi-Fi Internet
- Free Water, Sewer, Trash Removal

Cumberland Efficiency Cumberland Efficiency Suite
\$475./month \$675./month

17 West Ross Street, Wilkes Barre
570-687-2220

www.cumberlandliving.com

"Wilkes University welcomes the Cumberland student housing project to our neighborhood." - Paul S. Adams



"A comfortable and attractive alternative for our off campus students."

- Paul S. Adams, PhD V.P. Student Affairs

Editor's Picks: Top 10 sports headlines to look for in '07

BY SPORTS EDITORIAL STAFF

David Beckham

Beckham recently signed a contract with the Los Angeles Galaxy soccer team for over 200 million dollars over 5 years. Will the hype that he has been getting so far this year be worthwhile for the Galaxy?

Rutgers Football

As we look back on the success that the Scarlet Knights had in 2006, a team that historically has not been anything special, we wonder if they can repeat their performance in the upcoming season.

Curse of William Penn

For so many years, Philadelphia athletic teams have come so close to advancing to a championship game or actually getting there, but then something terrible happens and the famous line that comes to mind is, "There is always next year."

For those of you that do not know, a statue of William Penn is sitting high atop Philadelphia City Hall. For the longest time, Penn was the highest object on the Philadelphia skyline, but that soon changed. Once

the first building taller than William Penn was erected in Philadelphia, no team has successfully advanced to a championship game and won. Will 2007 be the year that the curse is broken?

Daisuke Matsuzaka

The question on the minds of all Bostonians this offseason is whether or not "Dice-K," the 100 million Japanese import, can actually live up to the hype.

Reggie Bush

The Heisman Trophy winner and New Orleans Saints running back might find himself embroiled in further controversy after recorded conversations regarding his alleged acceptance of funds when he was still at USC.

Kevin Durant

This freshman forward has been putting up major numbers for the Texas Longhorns during his first season. Durant averages 24.4 points a game and is a beast on the glass, collecting 11 rebounds per game. We don't know about you, but he's beginning to look

like Carmelo Anthony in his championship season at Syracuse University to us. Look out for Mr. Durant in March.

Terrell Owens

From being accused of attempting to commit suicide to dancing around playing rap music at his birthday bash, Terrell Owens may be returning to the Cowboys, but without Bill Parcells. Let's see if the next head coach can handle T.O.

Jeff Garcia

The former Pro-Bowl quarterback had quite an audition for a starting job in 2007 when he stepped in to take the place of injured Donovan McNabb. His great play allowed the Eagles to finish the season with a 6-1 record en route to winning the NFC East. Garcia, not likely to return to Philadelphia, will be a hot commodity in the offseason for any team looking for a starting quarterback.

AI & Carmello Anthony

Can anybody say Harlem Globetrotters? Well, that's what the boys in powder blue

are looking like nowadays. Ever since Allen Iverson said peace to the 76ers and Carmelo Anthony returned from suspension after punching on the Knicks, the Denver Nuggets have made basketball look so much easier. Shaking defenders out of their shoes, throwing alley-oops from the concession stands, it's just not fair to the rest of the NBA to have both all-stars playing on the same team. Let's see what '07 has in store for the Nuggets.

Dallas Mavericks

Although the Mavericks eight game winning streak was recently snapped by the Chicago Bulls, they still are unstoppable. Now they only have just the second best record in the entire NBA. With a veteran lineup that lost four out of six games in the finals last season against the Miami Heat, and a 7 foot monster known as Dirk Nowitzki, the Mavericks may be the lone soldier coming out of the Western Conference for a second consecutive season. Nowitzki is playing like a MVP candidate, and the Mavericks are something to be reckoned with in '07.



Good friends.
Good times.
Good Pizza.



**MIDNIGHT
MADNESS**

A large cheese pizza
+ an 8pc Breadsticks,
CinnaStix or Cheesybread

\$9.99 +TAX

VALID 12AM-CLOSE
Expires 5/31/07



**FREE
BROWNIES**

Buy a large pizza at regular price and get a 10pc order of our new warm brownies

FREE

Expires 10/8/06



Wilkes-Barre

570-829-2900

154 S. Pennsylvania Ave

Sun-Thur 11am-2am

Fri & Sat 11am-4am



| Commentary |

GAME OF THE WEEK

Super Bowl XLI: Indianapolis Colts vs Chicago Bears

Can Manning define his legacy in Miami?

BY TIM SEIGFRIED

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

It all comes down to this.

After 19 weeks of grueling, in-your-face, intense games, the NFL's top two teams face off.

The season gets decided in 60 minutes.

This week, the top two teams in the NFL are facing off in Super Bowl XLI to determine who gets the Lombardi Trophy and who gets to try again next year.

This season, it's the Indianapolis Colts and the Chicago Bears who are vying for football immortality. And with each Big Game, there are several storylines surrounding each team.

Will Peyton Manning finally be able to define his legacy and win "the big one?"

Can Brian Urlacher prove the age old rule that "the best offense is a good defense?"

Can Adam Vinatieri, arguably the greatest postseason kicker of all-time, repeat his Super Bowl magic that resulted in three rings?

Which coach will become the first African-American to ever win the Super Bowl? Will it be Chicago's Lovie Smith or Indianapolis' Tony Dungy?

And so it goes.

More importantly it all comes down to whatever team can perform on the field on gameday.

Offense*Indianapolis:*

The Colts had one of the most prolific offenses in 2006, and the credit for that goes to Peyton Manning, who led the AFC in passing yards (4397), touchdowns (31), and passer rating (101.0).

Of course, Manning couldn't have done it without an impressive cast of supporting players, including the perennial go-to guy Marvin Harrison, who was second in the league in receiving yards and touchdowns.

Besides Harrison, Manning also had reliable hands in wide receiver Reggie Wayne and tight end Dallas Clark, who has been especially key so far this postseason, leading the team with 103 receiving yards.

Most surprising of all is the running back tandem of Joseph Addai and Domi-

nic Rhodes, who were left to fill the void of Edgerrin James after he departed for Arizona in free agency in the off season.

Chicago:

The Bears, on the other hand, don't have nearly the offensive firepower. Despite leading the NFC in points per game, they are ninth in total offense, as well as not even being in the top five in the passing and rushing yards.

Still, Chicago does have some very dynamic players who can change the flow of the game.

They are led by Rex Grossman, a quarterback who is still wet behind the ears, as evidenced by his inconsistent performance throughout the season. His 3,193 yards and 23 touchdowns are adequate, but not spectacular.

His favorite targets this season have been veteran wide receiver Mushin Muhammed and Bernard Berrian, along with tight end Desmond Clark.

On the ground, the Bears will rely on the workhorse Thomas Jones, whose 4.1 yards per carry and 6 touchdowns led the team in the regular season.

ADVANTAGE: COLTS*Defense**Indianapolis:*

The Colts are notorious for having the most maligned defense when it comes to stopping the run, something which teams have exploited mercilessly in the regular season. They've allowed a staggering 173 yards per game this season, which is the worst in the NFL.

In the air, the Colts have fared much better statistically, only allowing 159.2 yards per game, a stat which is clouded given the fact that teams have been less likely to pass against a team that they can run up and down the field against.

Despite the weak defense in the regular season, the Colts have found new life in the playoffs, and as a result have managed to

stifle the running game of all the opponents they've faced so far.

Chicago:

The Bears have excelled on the defensive side of the ball, allowing less than 100 yards per game on the ground in the regular season, and less than 200 yards per game in the air.

The real strength in the Bears defense is their ability to cause their opponents to turn the ball over. They led the NFL in turnovers (44), causing 24 interceptions and 20 fumbles.

ADVANTAGE: BEARS*Special Teams**Indianapolis:*

Two words: Adam Vinatieri.

Chicago:

Devin Hester has been the dynamo of returns for the Bears this season, scoring three times on kickoff returns and twice on punt returns, totaling 1,353 yards.

ADVANTAGE: BEARS

Ultimately, the game is going to get decided by whoever can cause the other team to make more mistakes.

If the defense of the Bears is as solid as it's been for the regular season, then expect to see them get the win.

However, the Colts offense cannot be ruled out. Peyton Manning proved in the win against the New England Patriots that he can pick apart a defense better than anyone in the game today. There is a reason the Colts are consistently one of the better offenses each year, and Manning's performance in the second half of last week's game proved to everyone that he has the chops to win the big one.

The Pick:
Indianapolis 30
Chicago 17

Double Take

Steph examines the stats that truly matter...

BY STEPHANIE DEBALKO

Beacon A&E Editor

Ah, the Super Bowl. When I began writing this column, I thought the Colts would be playing the Patriots. As you can see, I am looking quite forward to this monumental event.

Ordinarily, I would base my pick for winner on one of the following: team colors, ratio of attractive players, which animal I think would beat the other in real life. Unfortunately, none of those apply here because the Colts and the Bears have varying shades of the same color, are lacking the likes of Tony Romo and Paul Posluszny (the only football players whose names I know and who I think are even a little good-looking, and yes, I am aware that Posluszny plays for a college team and that there is a difference) and colts fighting bears is just ridiculous. I am forced to find a new way of determining the winner, but don't worry, I'm not going to look at stats or skills or any of those insignificant factors.

I checked out both the rosters of the Colts and the Bears, and a lot of the Colts players have way cooler names than those of the Bears. First of all, one player's last name is Saturday! I think that's fun. Other first names include Dwight, Dallas and Rocky. I love it! I think the entire starting line-up (or whatever it is called) should consist of these players. But I'm saving the best for last. One of the players is named... wait for it... Dexter! Based on that fact alone, I believe the Colts have this one. Hopefully Dexter will pull through for us in the end and prove me right, but if not, I'm really not going to be affected at all, as long as the commercials are funny.



Athlete of the Week:

Justin Barowski

BY ALISSA LINDNER
Beacon Staff Writer

Wilkes sophomore wrestler Justin Barowski is the athlete of the week after going undefeated in three matches last week, including one match against Division One Liberty University.

Barowski, currently ranked third at 165 pounds in the most recent Metropolitan Conference Individual Rankings, has six wins and three losses on the season.

The Colonel wrestling team took on three opponents last week including eighth ranked Delaware Valley College, Messiah College and Liberty University. Barowski started the week with a 7-3 win by decision over Ryan Pope of Delaware Valley. In the dual meet tournament, Barowski would jump a weight class to 174 pounds and pin Joseph Son of Liberty University in the second period. Barowski's final match of the week proved to be his closest, beating Derek Ricker of Messiah by a point.

With the Metropolitan Championship fast approaching on February 18th, Barowski has intensified his training in hopes of winning a bid to the Division Three National

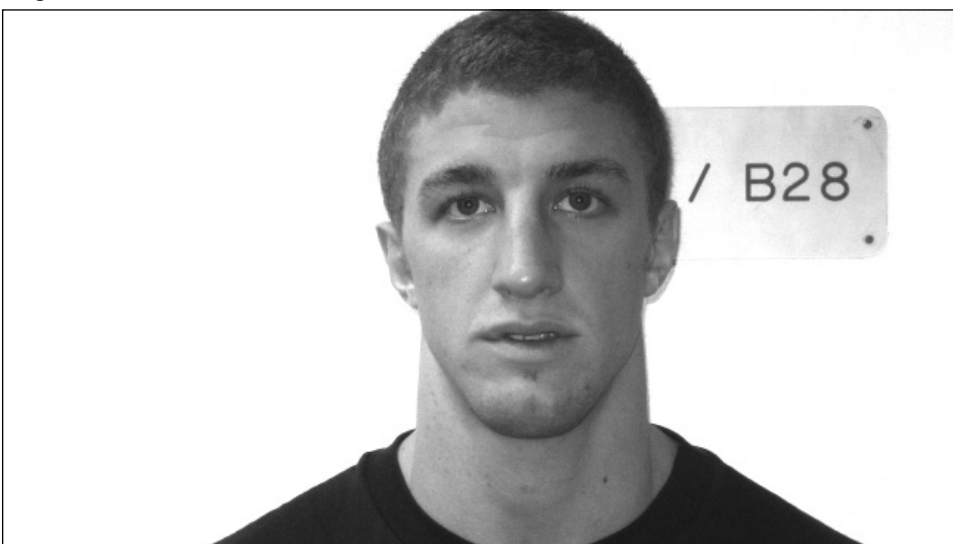
Championship. Barowski explained, "I am focusing more on working hard. I think my skill level right now is the highest it has been all season."

Coach Jon Laudenslager feels Barowski is a leader to all his teammates. Laudenslager commented, "He [Barowski] challenges his teammates every day in the room." He added, "He [Barowski] understands that working hard is part of achieving in this sport."

Laudenslager believes Barowski's strong performance on the mat is highly due to the individual training he does outside of practice. Laudenslager explained, "He has a real sense of what needs to be done to win at this level."

Laudenslager has high hopes for Barowski for the remainder of the season. He feels Barowski has a great chance at being an All American if he continues to work hard. Laudenslager explained, "He [Barowski] has the toughest weight class in the conference, but I think he can beat any one of those kids if he continues to train hard and peaks at the right time."

For his strong performance on the mat, sophomore wrestler Justin Barowski is the Athlete of the Week.



The Beacon/Alissa Lindner

Wilkes Justin Barowski is 17-4 overall this season.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

A Wilkes University student takes on the rock climbing wall at the University Center on Main. The rock wall is one of the many features that the UCOM has to offer.

WEEKEND RECAPS

Wrestling

The 13th-ranked Wilkes University wrestling team split a pair of decisions in a tri-match hosted by the University of Scranton on Saturday night. The Colonels suffered a hard-fought 25-21 loss to Centenary College in their opening match of the evening. Wilkes bounced back to earn a 47-3 victory over the host Royals in the nightcap.

Men's Basketball

The Colonels suffered a 75-51 loss at DeSales University on Saturday. The Colonels trailed by only six at the half, but could not control the Bulldogs in the second half, being outscored 42-24. This loss puts the Colonels in last place with a 1-7 conference record and 9-8 overall. DeSales improves their mark to 14-4 and 6-2 in the conference.

Women's Basketball

Randi Corbo scored 15 points and handed out 4 assists as the DeSales Bulldogs still managed to spank the Lady Colonels in their 70-41 point win over Wilkes University on Saturday. Despite the Lady Colonels excellent performance on Wednesday in which they beat FDU-Florham 79-72, they could not stop a 16-0 run by the Bulldogs in the second half. The Lady Colonels record stands at 6-13 overall and 2-6 in the conference.

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

18

Total number of points scored by both Matt Gould and Tom Kresge in the Colonels loss to FDU this past Wednesday.

125

The weight class that can't hold sophomore Felipe Queiroz as he cruises through with an outstanding 13-3 record.

15

Number of points scored by Randi Corbo as the Lady Colonels loss to the DeSales Bulldogs 70-41 on Saturday.

1185

Total number of points cashed in by the Colonels men's basketball team.

Preview of the Week: Basketball Double Header vs. Delaware Valley

BY CARLTON HOLMES
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

Men's Basketball

Sometimes entering a contest overconfident may easily come back around to haunt you. That was a hard lesson to be learned for the Colonels, as they lost on the road against a mediocre Delaware Valley team by eleven points. The bright side is that conference match-ups are played twice. Ladies and gentleman, it's that time again as the Colonels face the Aggies this Saturday at home.

"I don't think we brought it all against Del Val. I think we went down there and looked at them as not a very good team. So we came out, and slacked off, and it bit us in the rear end," said junior guard Jeremy Kable.

After King's College snapped the Colonels six game winning streak on January 10th, the Colo-

nels have lost six straight games, leaving them with a 9-8 record overall. Although the Colonels conference record stands at 1-7, they still have a chance to improve upon their young team against the Aggies.

The first time these two teams met, the Colonels had no answer for Isaiah Pickney who scorched the Colonels for 27 points and played the entire forty minutes. Kable led the Colonels with 19 points. The Colonels shot just 29 percent from three point land, while the Aggies tossed in 66 percent of their three pointers. The Colonels also committed 22 turnovers, but out-rebounded the Aggies 43-35. With a more valiant defensive effort, and a hard nose offensive attack, the Colonels may be able to beat up on the Aggies this time around.

"We have to get the ball inside on them, and make them pay in there," stated head coach Jerry

Rickrode, who is in his 15th season. "We also have to help more on defense, because they have an outstanding guard who is a senior. So we have to contain him more." A hard body offensive scheme along with a shut down defensive approach will give the Colonels the edge that will lead them to victory in their second meeting with the Aggies.

Freshman forward Tom Kresge leads the Colonels scoring attack with 14 points per contest, while both Steve Kline and Jeremy Kable average 10 points per game. Starting point guard Matt Gould leads the team with 64 assists on the season and will try to guide his team to victory in their ninth conference game.

The Colonels come into the contest with a chip on their shoulders and will look to dust the Aggies on their way to a second conference win on February 3 at 3p.m.

See **BASKETBALL** page 16



The Beacon/Todd Weibel
Wilkes junior guard Matt Gould takes a shot against FDU-Florham on January 24.

Campus Calendar

All Week:

*Sudan: The Cost of Silence exhibit, Sordoni Art Gallery.

Monday 1/29

*Provost search forum, Breis 107 - 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday 1/30

*Provost search forum, Breis 107 - 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday 1/31

*Women's basketball @ Lycoming - 6:00 p.m.

*Wrestling vs. The College of New Jersey - 7:00 p.m.

*Men's basketball @ Lycoming - 8:00 p.m.

Thursday 2/1

*No events scheduled.

Friday 2/2

*No events

scheduled.

Saturday 2/3

*Women's basketball vs. Delaware Valley - 1:00 p.m.

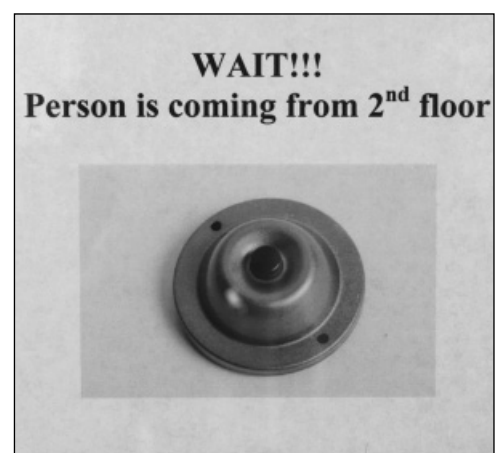
*Wrestling @ Ithica - 2:00 p.m.

*Men's basketball vs. Delaware Valley - 3:00 p.m.

Sunday 2/4

*No events scheduled.

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.

There was no winner last week.