

The BEACON

Wilkes University Wilkes-Barre, PA

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

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Bailey to leave Wilkes post for Diversified Vice Presidency

BY NICK PODOLAK
Beacon Editor-in-Chief

The irony of the songs playing on the Einstein Brother's Bagels sound system-- "If You're Gone," by Matchbox 20 followed by Sarah McLachlan's "I Will Remember You" was not lost on the occasion.

Last week, Chris Bailey, Director of Campus Support Operations, sat down with *The Beacon* for perhaps his last interview. Bailey recently accepted a position as the Vice President of Quality Assurance and Training at Diversified Information Technologies Incorporated. His last day as a Colonel is slated for February 7.

"I didn't buy into the whole 'Wilkes family' [thing] when I got here," Bailey said. "But I recognize now, having the opportunity to work with such an incredibly diverse set of people here with unique personalities, talents, and good humor...yeah...that's going to be one of the hardest things...leaving the people," he admitted.

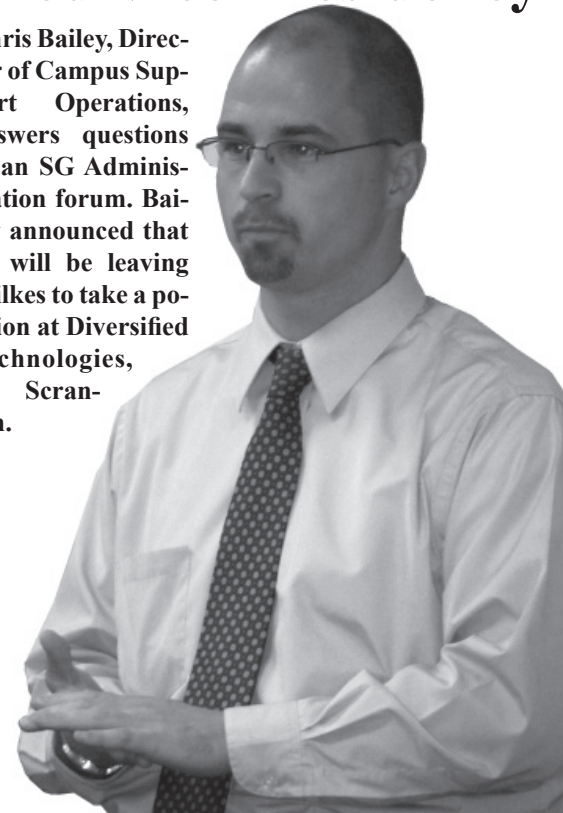
Bailey will be the third Wilkes administrator in approximately two years to join Diversified, an information processing company

that boasts 18 national and four international locations. Bailey will join over 600 employees at Diversified's Scranton headquarters, which was founded in 1982 by former Wilkes University Board of Trustees member Cliff Melberger. Bailey will join former Wilkes colleagues Josephine Panganiban [formerly Vice President for Human Resources] and Scott Byers [former Vice President for Finance Operations and General Counsel]. Byers assumed Diversified's presidency late last year.

"Chris has a wide range of skills... from general management skills to his ability to analyze or process situations and challenges," said Byers. "He's a very strong manager who thinks critically and has the ability to act and solve problems."

Despite repeated efforts by phone and e-mail to contact VP for Finance and Support Operations, Petra Carver, she could not be reached for comment; thus, the status of Bailey's replacement remains unknown as well as whether he or she will come from

Chris Bailey, Director of Campus Support Operations, answers questions at an SG Administration forum. Bailey announced that he will be leaving Wilkes to take a position at Diversified Technologies, in Scranton.



Andrew Seaman/The Beacon

See BAILEY page 4

Focus the Nation program to advance environment discussion Wilkes one of 1,000 schools to participate in national event

BY NICOLE FRAIL
Beacon Asst. News Editor

This week, Wilkes University will join over 1,000 colleges and universities across the country in Focus the Nation, a major environmental summit designed to educate participants about global warming.

"Focus the Nation is a nationwide teach-in in which schools from across the country will take a day out to examine the issue of global warming and specifically to teach students about what global warming is and to raise consciousness among people," explained Dr. Kenneth Klemow, professor of biology and environmental sciences. The activities associated with the program will take place January 30-31.

"They're asking individual schools to tap into this national event, to televise it locally and to organize activities around [the event]," explained Klemow.

In order to plan and orchestrate the two-day event, Wilkes faculty and students worked together to form a Focus the Nation Committee

chaired by Dr. Mike Case, professor of environmental engineering and earth sciences. Dr. Jeffrey Stratford, assistant professor of biology, Dr. Ellen Flint, professor of performing arts and Klemow were also committee members.

Neil Kresge, senior environmental science major, also worked alongside the committee to brainstorm, present, and develop the committee proposal to Wilkes faculty.

"The reason for concern for Wilkes-Barre residents and Wilkes University is that global climate change is likely going to be one of the largest, if not the largest, issues facing this and the next generations. It simply will not be [limited] to one geographic range or one culture of people. We must all be involved to make a difference," Kresge said. A true believer in the cause, Kresge already recycles, uses energy efficient light bulbs and has started a compost at home.

To launch the event, Winona LaDuke, an Anishinaabekwe (Ojibwe) member of the Mississippi Band Anishinaabeg in Minnesota

will visit the Wilkes campus January 28 and 29 to openly discuss environmental and human rights with students, faculty and staff. LaDuke is the program director of the Honor the Earth Fund and in October 2007, she was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame.

On Wednesday, January 30, Wilkes will offer a live web cast produced by the National Wildfire Federation and aired by the Earth Day Network at 8:00pm in both the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts and Stark Learning Center, Room 101.

The teleconference, titled "The 2% Solution," will offer information about global climate change and solutions to the problem. The web cast will be immediately followed by a question and answer session with a local panel of experts. The event is open to the public and admission is free.

During club hours (11 a.m.-1 p.m.) on Thursday, January 31, organizations related

See FOCUS page 5

Student hit by car crossing River Street

BY MEGAN KRISANDA
Beacon Correspondent

"Jump." This was Joseph Stoffey's immediate reaction when coming face to face with an oncoming vehicle on South River Street on January 14 at 11:52 a.m.

Witnesses saw Stoffey attempt to cross South River Street from behind a parked van. A passing Lincoln towncar hit Stoffey and he flew onto the windshield and landed on the street. Stoffey, an 18-year-old psychology major, remained conscious and suffered injuries to his left leg and arm, and a contusion above his right eye, according to the Public Safety report. Despite the fact that there was a crosswalk and a light at the corner, Stoffey's effort to cross South River Street was down the street away from the light.

"I saw someone crossing in front of me in between some parked cars and I kind of figured it was clear. It was my mistake. I ran out between two parked cars and I glanced to my left and saw a car coming at me, just before it hit me I jumped," said Stoffey.

His decision to jump may have saved his life. "Did you

ever, in your imagination, go over terrible situations in your head and imagine what you would do? If I ever thought about getting hit by a car, I figured I would jump," said Stoffey.

Stoffey acknowledged he doesn't have a clear memory of what happened after being hit by the vehicle. "I was kind of tumbling around for a bit, I couldn't see much. Eventually, I was on the pavement and I got up because I didn't break anything. People were telling me to lay down on the sidewalk until the ambulance came and that sounded like a good idea," said Stoffey.

Public Safety officers responded immediately to the accident and were on scene before Stoffey was transported by ambulance to Geisinger North, according to Chris Bailey, Director of Campus Support Services.

"You've got to be especially careful, knowing how fast traffic moves along South River Street, particularly in that area. You have to be vigilant any time you cross a road, even if there's a crosswalk. Unfortunately in this place, there isn't a crosswalk," said Bailey.

It's not unusual to see a fleet of students crossing South River Street from the Dorothy Dickson

Darte (DDD) Center between classes. Proposing the idea for a crosswalk was brought to the city's attention a few years ago by members of Temple Israel, the Jewish synagogue located next door to the DDD. However, the state will not allow it because it is too close to an intersection, according to Jerry Rebo, Manager of Public Safety.

"I think any street you go down that is as busy as River Street, you got to take precaution. Don't anticipate a vehicle is going to stop. Because a lot of time that vehicle driver is looking forward, looking for other vehicles, and not really seeing you come between cars or behind a car," said Rebo.

Rebo added that this was not the first incident in which a student was hit in the same area. Last year, a young man tried to outrun an oncoming vehicle while crossing but was hit.

"You've just got to make sure those cars stop before you cross. I don't want to see anyone get hurt, and you're not going to beat a car," added Rebo.

Stoffey described his current condition as pretty much recovered, suffering some broken blood vessels in his eye and a few bruises on his hand and knee.



The Beacon/Andrew Seaman

On Monday, January 14, Wilkes University student Joseph Stoffey was struck by a vehicle on South River Street after stepping out from between two parked cars into oncoming traffic.

The BEACON

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

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SG Notes January 23, 2007

Treasurer's Report

All College: \$25,000

General: \$10,000

Special Projects: \$3,500

Spirit: \$2,000

Leadership: \$5,000

Conferences: \$12,500

Start-Up: \$12,500

Club Reports

The following clubs presented updates on their events.

Programming Board
Islamic Interest Society
Dance Team
Delta Epsilon Chi

New Business

New Members - The following students were introduced as members of SG: Anthony Do-

runda for the class of 2011, Chris Papayannakos for the class of 2009, Jonathon Lazarchick for the class of 2008.

SAE Mini Baja Fund Request - Members of SAE came to ask SG for funds to complete their mini baja car that they use to compete in several national competitions. This is a two-week process.

Chemistry Club - A representative from the chemistry club came to SG asking for funds to travel to a convention. This is a two-week process.

Vagina Monologues Donation Request - SG approved a donation of \$750 for Wilkes students to attend the performance. The donation covers \$5 per student.

Movie Tickets - SG purchased

1,000 movie tickets to allow for 150 more tickets to be distributed per week.

Class Events - Discussion and updates were presented to SG by each class to improve their service and image to the student body in response to an electronic survey that went to SG's constituents.

*Due to the length of the meeting and a motion for adjournment, SG voted in favor of adjourning early.



SG survey results offer array of responses for how to improve

BY ANDREW SEAMAN

Beacon News Editor

In an effort to better serve Wilkes students, Student Government (SG) members posed a question to constituents over winter break through an electronic survey and has spent the majority of the past two SG meetings discussing the results and finding ways to improve its relationship with students.

Students were asked this essay style question, "Do you have any suggestions on how Student Government can improve your college experience for next semester?"

The majority of the approximately 210 responses were "No," but some did take the time to answer the question and offer suggestions for improvement.

One answer read, "Yes they should have a fashion show, talent show, dance offs, and more fun things like club night, not playing games like dancing a mini club. Also things should not be on the weekday. They should give things on Friday and Saturday more often. The things they throw were pretty fun."

The majority of the answers that went into detail did offer suggestions, like the one above, for activities, such as: dorm games, free copies of the *New York Times*, more bands, giveaways, discounted ski lift tickets, and several suggested purchasing more movie tickets.

However, not all of the suggestions were material things or social events. Some respondents suggested and requested more access to their SG representatives and officers, more knowledge on what's going on, and some asked if SG would market itself to the entire spectrum of students. Some also wrote they do not like the attitudes of some

SG members.

After the results of the survey were determined, the majority of the first SG meeting of the semester was spent discussing how to

talk to people and see what can be improved upon. In an effort to get information out to the students, another idea was to put a coupon in the SG newsletter in an attempt to



The Beacon/James Rosato

SG members have spent the majority of their last two meetings discussing the results of the electronic survey they sent to the student body. All members were also assigned suggestions in the survey to see how plausible and effective they would be.

make the students happy. Many of the solutions proposed by SG members were taken directly from the survey responses. SG members were then divided into classes and asked to investigate the ideas to see if they were a plausible and suitable solution.

Some of the solutions SG members discussed included: SG Cares Day, where members of SG would wear their shirts and

make the newsletter more popular. Other ideas to get information out included letters to the student body about how SG were allocating money, and an all class social. Other events that SG members discussed included a game night, a New York City day trip, a rock band competition and a charity bowling game.

A topic that several student respondents

raised -movie tickets- was handled at the second SG meeting of the semester. Jason Narcoonis, President of the Programming Board discussed the need for more tickets.

"Last semester... we had no real set times on the movie tickets... and they were gone within the first hour," said Narcoonis.

Narcoonis also mentioned that SG currently sells 150 movie tickets a week, 75 during two time slots. The change in distribution was meant to ease the problem with the tickets; however there are still long lines for the tickets at the new designated times. Narcoonis elaborated and said, "just for example, [Wednesday] those 75 tickets were gone in 15-minutes."

Programming Board purchases the tickets for \$6.50 each, for 150 tickets a week. Therefore Programming Board spends about \$14,000 a semester on movie tickets. Programming Board does make a certain percent of that back though; assuming they sell all of the tickets, \$6,300 comes back to the budget.

Narcoonis proposed that SG purchase additional tickets to meet the rising demands. After several minutes of deliberation SG decided to purchase 1,000 additional tickets, which means an additional 150 tickets available for sale a week, for \$6,500. SG members then deliberated on what type of system would be the most efficient and fairest for the student body. However, due to the length of the meeting the members decided to give the first wave of tickets to the Programming Board for it to distribute.

Matt Brown, SG President, also urged other SG members to continue to work on their investigations into the events and suggestions from the survey for more discussion next week.

News Analysis: Beacon Election Update

Making sense of the election, candidates and issues

BY ANDREW SEAMAN

Beacon News Editor

Like puppies in a pet shop window, the frontrunners for the 2008 presidential election are all jumping up and down, barking "Pick me, pick me!" Each is looking for his or her party to ensure that the White House becomes "home" in November.

On January 26, Illinois Senator Barack Obama got a big boost from South Carolina, where he decisively won the Democratic primary with 51% of the vote, beating New York Senator Hillary Clinton and former Senator John Edwards. The win puts Obama in the Democratic driver's seat, for now. However, on January 29 the tides can turn again when Floridians go to the polls.

In both major parties, pundits have acknowledged there is no clear, predictable

winner at this stage of the journey. Even analysts who previously predicted that Super Tuesday (February 5, when 24 states hold their primaries or caucuses) would determine the nation's choice in both parties, are hedging bets and now saying the nation's choices may well be up in the air until the summer conventions.

The next primary, which will be held in Florida on Tuesday, is crucial for all, but one candidate is depending on it more than the rest, former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

Giuliani's political gamble was to put all of his resources into Florida-the nation's biggest early contest- and as a result, he has had very little attention or success in the contests to date. If Giuliani does not decisively win Florida this week, he can practically

kiss his viability goodbye.

Tuesday's battleground actually takes place in the most populous state to this point in the primary season. With a population of 18 million, one-sixth of whom are over the age of 65, a demographic that has not yet taken the spotlight in the races will become pivotal.

Alongside the candidates, the economy will also be in the spotlight in this primary. Right now, Washington is furiously trying to work on a bipartisan stimulus bill that will give the economy a boost. This bill could put an extra \$600-\$1,200 in Americans' pockets come June.

The purpose of the primary/caucus process is to determine which candidate a party and its constituents want to endorse. So for the next several months, or at least until there



is one clear nominee, everyone is subject to hearing about the number of delegates each candidate has. These delegates translate into who will win their party's nomination. The more delegates a candidate has, the better chance they have to get the nomination. Then the real fun begins.

The Beacon has made a commitment this semester to carefully follow the contests and offer analysis where necessary to encourage more student engagement with the process.

Diversity advancements celebrated at awards dinner

Members of the Wilkes community honored for leadership efforts

BY SAMANTHA BARTOLOMEI
Beacon Correspondent

On January 18, Wilkes held its first multicultural award ceremony and dinner in the Henry Student Center Grand Ballroom to honor those who have gone above and beyond to advance the cause of diversity on campus.

Dr. Tim Gilmour, Wilkes University President, offered opening remarks and highlighted the exciting changes he expects will result from the Center for Global Education and Diversity proposed by the Diversity Task Force last semester and approved by the Board of Trustees in December.

The Diversity Task Force was tasked last year with researching and analyzing current campus climate, Wilkes University's needs, and national best practices in the area of diversity. The result was a comprehensive proposal for a new Center for Global Education and Diversity that addresses both domestic diversity issues alongside global education challenges. The Center was "unanimously approved" by the board of trustees and aims to serve as a tangible cornerstone for expanding the multicultural perspective at Wilkes University.

Following the dinner, members of the Diversity Task Force and Diversity Ambassadors were recognized and awarded with colorful stoles representing their ongoing dedication.

In addition, four individuals were honored for leadership in the area of diversity. An independent awards committee comprised of faculty and staff was formed to evaluate nominations.

Mark Congdon Jr., a senior communication studies major, Diversity Ambassador, co-founder of the Straight/Gay Alliance and

Young Republicans club at Wilkes was acknowledged as the outstanding student leader for diversity.

on the Diversity Task Force and recognized with the Board Member Leadership Award in Diversity. Dr. Andrea Frantz, Associate

in academia. Among many other things, Francisco is President of the National Organization of Black Chemists & Engineers, and Verret jokingly included the fact that Francisco was dubbed one of the nation's "sexiest scientists" by *People Magazine*.

In his address, Francisco told of his love for history as a learning tool, but also revealed his frustration with it. He found it disheartening that "very few [biographies] about scientists of color" existed. Francisco provided a biographical sketch of pioneering African American scientist, Percy Julian, a man of "personal fascination" to Francisco. Francisco commented that amidst racial prejudice and lynching in late 1920s America, "this man earned a Ph.D. in that environment."

"Small but significant steps in opening the doors for others [are crucial]," Francisco said. There are some "challenges that are really not new. But knowing our history... sets the stage" for the new generation to know they can achieve as much as their historical counterparts, Francisco added.

The evening was also marked with several performances by "Angeles en la Tierra," a musical trio of Cuban nationals currently attending Marywood University. The group of women performed a mix of their own compositions and traditional Latin American songs. The mandolin, classical guitar, and clarinet players hail from Havana, Cuba, and came to Marywood about two years ago.



The Beacon/Andrew Seaman
Diversity Ambassadors were awarded colorful stoles by Dr. Paul Adams and Dr. Reynold Verret. In recognition of their ongoing dedication to diversity issues.

The Agent of Change staff award was presented to Amy Mbye, engineering department administrative assistant. She was honored for helping international students more easily transition to Wilkes. She is advisor to the Indian & Muslim Student Association, and helped organize events such as the Diwali and Ramadan celebrations.

Board of Trustees member, Marjorie Marquart, was honored for her leadership

Professor of Communication Studies, was also recognized for her leadership of the Diversity Task Force as chair.

Dr. Joseph Francisco, an award winning, distinguished African American Professor of Chemistry and Atmospheric Sciences at Purdue University, served as keynote speaker for the event. In his introduction of Francisco, Dr. Reynold Verret, Wilkes University Provost, noted Francisco's many achievements

BAILEY from FRONT PAGE

within the University.

Bailey's role at Diversified, according to Byers, will require him to supervise a new unit that manages the quality aspect of Diversified's operations and associated training and auditing of its production facilities.

"At some point, I want to be in higher education," Bailey said. "I think higher education is a genuine good. My eventual career goal in higher education would be at a vice president or higher level. But I recognize that there are certain areas of my expertise that are lacking, and I don't know if I would have the opportunity to do the types of things (at Wilkes) that I'm going to have the opportunity to do at Diversified."

The former Fire Protection Specialist for the University of Pittsburgh, Bailey said he was hired by Wilkes in 2002 as the Director of Public Safety to whip a program into shape that

"wanted to do the right thing," but lacked proper support from the administration.

"We had security here, but they actually weren't productive in what they did," Manager of Public Safety Gerald Rebo said. "I think the system was, 'be seen, not heard,'" he explained.

Under Bailey's leadership, Public Safety officers were newly clad in sharp new uniforms, required to engage in basic training, and encouraged to assume a high profile image on campus.

"Perception is everything. You go out. The officer looks good, the equipment looks good [and] you get the training for the officers. I think we're one of the top Public Safety departments in the area, and Chris is a large part of it," Rebo said.

Bailey is also credited for establishing a 26-line, 24-hour university service center,

and for turning around the school's parking program.

During his tenure, Bailey was promoted to the Director of Campus Support and Services, and became responsible for the bookstore, campus grounds, campus safety, custodial, environmental health and safety, facilities, the insurance program, Sodexo, shuttle services, and parking. His latest accomplishments include the text message notification system in the wake of the Virginia Tech shootings in April, 2007 and the placement of heart defibrillators in nine locations on campus.

Bailey attributed most of his success to his most capable staff.

"I was basically handed a loaded deck. These individuals [Jerry Rebo, Matt Yench, Mike Malkemes, and Justin Krainack] were some of the most capable and hard work-

ing people I've ever met. I believe you would be hard-pressed to find people of equal caliber anywhere else, and I don't say that lightly. I really do believe that each in their own way, bring such strong talents and a Protestant work ethic. Not finishing a job is not acceptable to them," Bailey said.

Though Bailey will be gone, he has left his mark on the Wilkes University community.

"What he did was build an organization that has the capability to go on and do very well [even] without his leadership," said Wilkes University President Tim Gilmour. "While we're losing him, we've really built a fantastic organization."

FOCUS from FRONT PAGE

to carbon neutral and alternative energy activities invited to the Green Fair will set up booths for interested students on the first floor of the Student Union Building. According to Klemow, one organization with a station will be the Earth Conservancy, a non-profit organization based in the Wyoming Valley that works with the local community and is dedicated to reclaiming land formally owned by coal companies.

While students are encouraged to attend both Wednesday and Thursday's events for both useful information and extra credit, approximately 25 Wilkes professors are also bringing Focus the Nation into their classrooms this week.

"Wilkes believes in this event to raise awareness about global climate change and becoming a solution to the problem. It also hopes to raise the awareness of faculty and students outside science and engineering majors on issues such as global climate change and environmental sustainability," said Kresge.

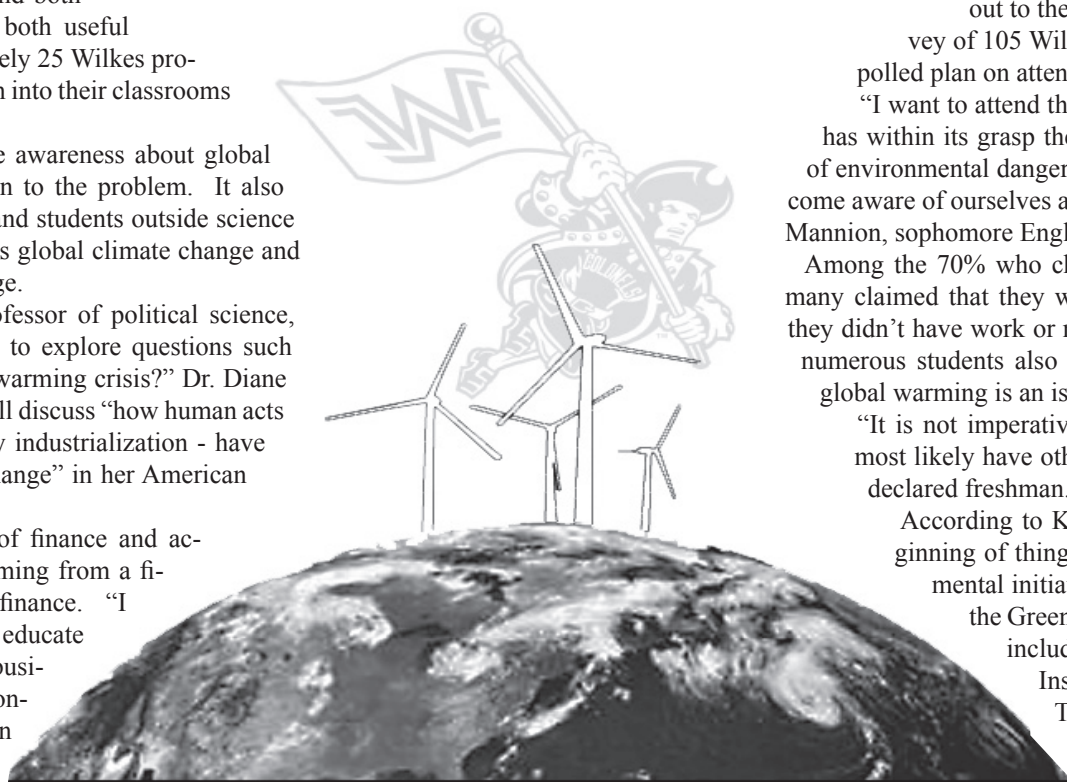
While Dr. Kyle Kreider, assistant professor of political science, plans to use his Law and Society class to explore questions such as "How law can respond to the global warming crisis?" Dr. Diane Wenger, assistant professor of history, will discuss "how human acts in the past and present - most obviously industrialization - have affected the environment and climate change" in her American History course.

Dr. Nandita Das, assistant professor of finance and accounting, will be looking at global warming from a financial standpoint, specifically carbon finance. "I think this is a very good opportunity to educate the students on the 'new' cost of doing business in a world that should be rightly concerned about the effect of our actions on the environment."

FOCUS

THE NATION

Global Warming Solutions for America



Dr. Jennifer Edmonds, assistant professor in business administration, will also be dedicating the entire week to the issue.

"We do know that there is a lot of skepticism associated with the whole issue of global warming and whether humans are at all causing this," said Klemow. "We certainly welcome anybody and everybody. If you don't buy into this at all, that's fine. Come and let's discuss it."

Despite possible skepticism on campus, Klemow is expecting 800-1,000 students to come out to the Focus the Nation events. In a recent survey of 105 Wilkes students, approximately 30% of those polled plan on attending the web cast Wednesday night.

"I want to attend this event because I feel that my generation has within its grasp the ability to abolish the leading proponent of environmental danger: ignorance. Truly, this is a change to become aware of ourselves and how we affect our world," said Lauren Mannion, sophomore English major.

Among the 70% who checked that they won't be in attendance, many claimed that they would have been involved in the event if they didn't have work or night class. While many showed interest, numerous students also stated that they do not currently believe global warming is an issue.

"It is not imperative to go to [Focus the Nation] and I will most likely have other things to do," said Chris Hopkins, undeclared freshman.

According to Klemow, Focus the Nation is only the beginning of things to come, "one cornerstone" in environmental initiatives that Wilkes has planned to adhere to the Green campaign on campus. Future events may include a formal dedication of the on campus Institute for the Environment and hosting of The Ecological Society of America Mid-Atlantic Chapter in April.

ALCOHOL'S EFFECT ON DRIVING

BAC Level	Typical Effects	Effects on Driving
0.02	Judgment impacted Muscles relaxed Mood altered	Brain's ability to control eye muscles declines Ability to perform 2 tasks at the same time declines
0.05	Behavior/emotions exaggerated Judgment impaired Small loss of muscle control	Ability to steer vehicle declines Coordination reduces Ability to track moving objects & act in emergency situations declines
0.08	Muscle coordination diminished Judgment, self-control, reasoning and memory impaired	Ability to control speed reduces Recognition of traffic signals and signs slows Ability to perceive traffic hazards diminishes
0.1	Reaction time delayed Speech slurred Thinking slowed	Ability to maintain lane position and braking reduces
0.15	Vomiting may occur Major loss of balance	Ability to process information from sight and hearing slows Substantial impairment and loss of vehicle control

- Provided By Health Services -

(The BACCHUS Network. (2006). Just the Facts: Impaired Driving. [Brochure].)

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR "COLLEGE BOOKSTORE" THIS WEEK!

Barnes & Noble Wilkes-King's College Bookstore



"Live Acoustic Music"
Wednesday night in our café!
January 30th at 6:30-8:00pm
"Our After"

"Three Imaginary Boys"
Friday, November 2nd
7:30-10:30pm
Live Acoustic Music



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2008 presidential election is a vote for history

It's time for youth to unite and make voices heard

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL BOARD

Imagine running for president. What issues would you address? What political party would you run under? What would you aim to change? How would you want to make a difference and impact American history? What would be your legacy?

Well, the candidates running for president in 2008 in both the Republican and Democratic parties have definitely changed the course of history as we know it. The Republican party is breaking ground by forwarding the nation's first Mormon candidate for President, Governor Mitt Romney, as well as a Baptist preacher, Governor Mike Huckabee.

On the Democratic side, we have the nation's first viable woman Presidential candidate, New York Senator Hilary Clinton, and

the first viable African American presidential hopeful, Illinois Senator Barack Obama running for the presidency. Moreover, there have also been records broken for primary and caucus voter turnouts, campaign fundraising and spending.

According to the *Washington Post*, Republican candidate, Congressman Ron Paul holds the record for the most money raised, \$6 million, on a single day in a primary season. Even more astonishing is that this presidential campaign will be the first \$1 billion election and may set a precedent for future presidential candidates, reports USA Today.com. Which of these candidates will win their party's nomination and the general election in November? Only time will tell. Regardless, the race for the White House in 2008 has made a huge impact on our history.

With history happening before

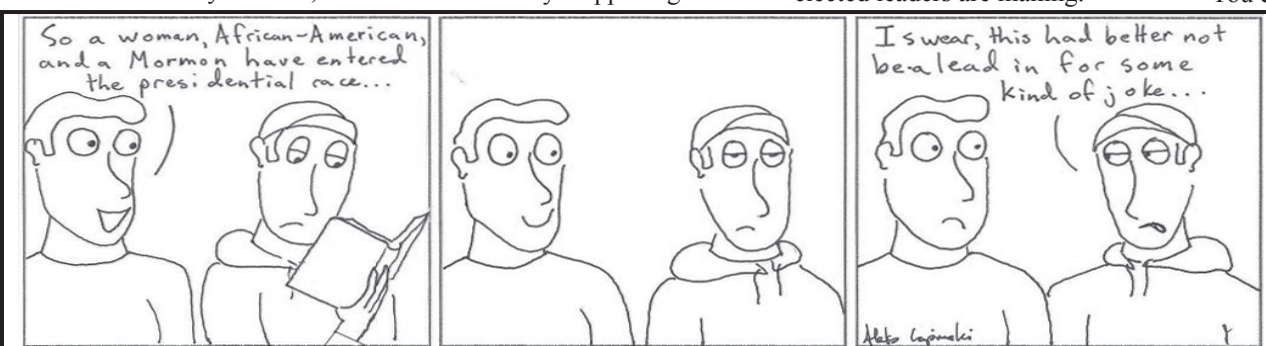
our eyes and candidates attempting to appeal to the Y Generation by launching online campaigns, creating Facebook and MySpace accounts, and having debates on YouTube, it's hard to come up with an excuse for remaining uneducated. All of us need to get involved with this election.

The Beacon staff urges all eligible Wilkes students to pay attention and educate themselves and others about this election, its candidates, and its historical impact. We would love to see the Wilkes University campus be the first in the nation to be able to claim that 100% of eligible voters on campus actually did so. Such a claim to fame would not only put Wilkes in the record books, but it would send a significant message to Washington that we are watching and we'll pull the ripcord if we don't approve of the decisions elected leaders are making.

The issues that Presidential and Congressional candidates are addressing greatly impact youth. For example, we are paying into Social Security, and we may never see its support later in our lives. Issues that should concern us include: **education** (how many of us will owe thousands upon graduation?); **taxes** (how are our taxes actually being spent and does it reflect our priorities?); **health care** (all of us face the challenge of affording health insurance after college, but beyond that, we may also find ourselves supporting parents as their health declines); or the **Iraqi war** (how many of us have friends or siblings who will eventually be veterans and may not see benefits?) If college is meant to be a time when we explore what it is to be adults, it's necessary that we do our best to listen and pay attention in this election.

You can make an impact and be-

come part of history by getting involved. This is your chance to make a difference. So...if you were running for president, how would you want to make history? By educating yourself and becoming involved now, you can have your say. Make this one for the record books.



A Sight for Sore Eyes by: Aleksander Lapinski

I want my primetime TV back

BY STEPHANIE GERCHMAN
Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

What, another rerun? Where are my shows? I want my *Grey's Anatomy* and *Desperate Housewives*.

As just about everyone knows, the writers' strike has put a damper on prime time television for the past 12 weeks. This left scripted television fans with only reality show upon ridiculous reality show.

The Writers Guild of America initiated its strike on November 5 against the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers. The AMPTP is an organization cover-

ing CBS, NBC, Fox, Sony, Walt Disney and Warner Brothers to name a few notable corporations. Writers are striking over negotiations for a new basic contract. The main issues include DVD residuals, union jurisdiction over animation and reality program writers and compensation for media placed on the internet. Basically they are just fighting over money. In short, the writers want more.

If all the writers want is more money, I say give it to them. So far, the strike has cost over 1 billion dollars which covers the lost

wages of cast members, crew, janitorial workers, caterers, and prop and costume rental companies. If the Alliance of Motion Picture and television Producers officials had come to an agreement with writers in November when the strike actually began they could have avoided paying all of these people for doing nothing.

Television shows are nothing without a script, and the Writers' Guild understands that. The residuals writers are asking for would cover them in times of unemployment receiving money for

their previous work. The AMPTP argues that the money received for such media is needed for the rising costs of producing a movie.

All that I know is that the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers better give the Writers Guild of America what they are asking for. If they can afford to throw away \$1 billion dollars for which they receive nothing in return, they can afford to give the writers a small percentage of DVD sales and part of the income received from internet media.

Beacon

Poll Question

This weeks question:

What was your favorite book series as a kid?

- Harry Potter
- Goosebumps
- Hardy Boys
- Babysitters Club
- Bernstein Bears
- Calvin and Hobbes
- Captain Underpants
- Animorphs
- Boxcar Kids
- Other

What do you think?



The Beacon wants your voice to be heard. If you want your voice to be heard, please contact The Beacon with the following information:

- 1 Contact information including your email address and a phone number where you can be reached
- 2 Your name, major, and year
- 3 Your opinion

thebeacon.oped@gmail.com

The Beacon reserves the right to edit submitted pieces for space and content.

Boycott 2008 Summer Olympics in China; free Tibet

BY GINO TROIANI

Staff Writer/Photographer

In 1949 the peaceful nation of Tibet, which is located northeast of Nepal and India, was invaded by the Chinese military and exploited for its rich natural resources. After ten years of war and conflict, the Dalai Lama along with Tibetan governmental leaders were forced to leave the country and flee to Dharamsala, which is a city in northern India where they have resided in exile ever since.

For over fifty years the Tibetan people have lived under oppression. They are imprisoned, beaten, tortured, raped, and even killed for voicing opinions against the Chinese government or expressing any form of nationalism for Tibet. A Buddhist monk reportedly spent 49 years in a Chinese jail for leading a simple Tibetan rights protest. It is reported that over 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a direct result of China's

occupation.

My reason for writing this piece is to raise awareness about

the genocide and oppression that is being inflicted on the Tibetan people by the Chinese government.

This year, the 2008 summer Olympics are scheduled to be held in Beijing, China, beginning August 8.

Traditionally the Olympics have represented friendship, humanity, teamwork, freedom, achievement, and most importantly nationalism. It is a tradition passed on from

the ancient Greeks that has found its way into our modern day society. If

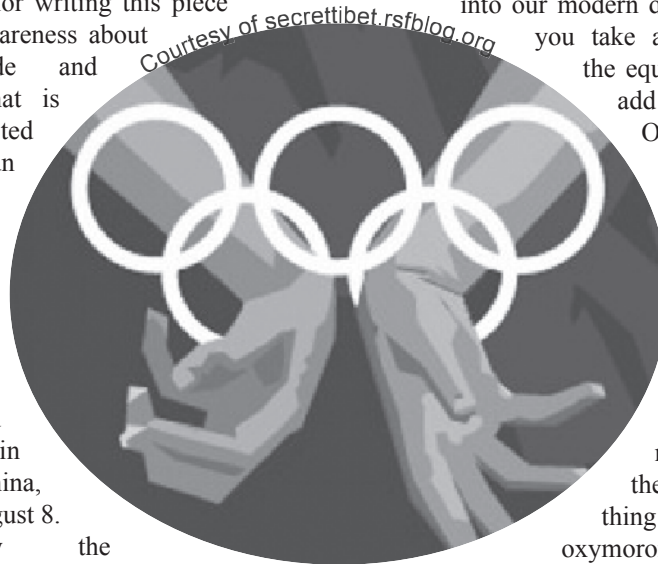
you take a close look, the equation doesn't add up. If the Olympic games represent the basic values expressed above, then why are they being in a country that does not? To me, the whole thing is one big oxymoron.

All around the world activists have been uniting to fight for Tibetan rights and protest the Beijing Olympics. According to Giovanni Vacallo,

President of Committee 100 for Tibet, "China is advertising the fact that they want to bring the Olympic torch to a piece of Tibetan territory, the top of Mt. Everest... By doing that, we believe that China is using the Olympics to help legitimize this illegal occupation."

If you want to become active in the protest against the 2008 Olympics, and support Tibetan rights, make sure to check out "Freetibet.org." There you will find information about upcoming campaigns, news on Tibet, and learn how to make a donation for the Tibetan people.

And remember, as the famous political theorist and philosopher, Edmund Burke once wisely said, "Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little."



"I Have a Dream" that Wilkes will have MLK day off

BY JOSHUA WALKER

Beacon Correspondent

On federal holidays all public buildings are closed, including public universities. However, private schools can remain open just like private businesses. On Monday January 21, schools around the country celebrated the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Many schools held ceremonies commemorating his lifetime achievements. Here at Wilkes, a number of students, including me, along with faculty and staff attended a program held in the Grand Ballroom of the Henry Student Center. A vivid speech was given by guest speaker Dr. Russell Davis, Interim President at Gloucester County College. The program then concluded with the reading of Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech by the Multicultural Student Coalition. It was a stimulating program and it produced a decent turn out.

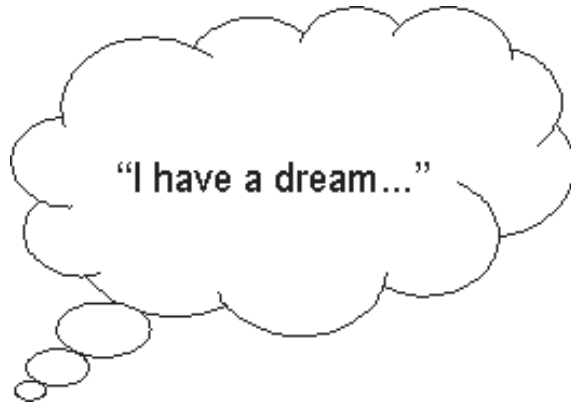
Nevertheless, not every student, or faculty for that matter, had a chance to make it. The program was held at 4 p.m. and some students had class. Last year the program was held in the morning and all morning classes ran on a compressed schedule making it possible for every student to attend the ceremony if they wished. King's College had a similar compressed schedule where morning classes were finished before ceremonies that were scheduled in the late morning began.

Upon researching, I discovered that for Rutgers and Temple, the first day of classes for the spring semester began on Tuesday January 22, giving students January 21 off. I even checked USC's online schedules to see if the west coast differs at all, and they declared a university holiday as they do for

even give a compressed schedule for Martin Luther King's birthday, something isn't right. I understand that Wilkes is a private university, but does that mean we can't celebrate and have a compressed schedule or off for

a holiday when other universities both public and private do? In order for diversity awareness and appreciation to grow and have sustainability at Wilkes, I propose that next year, and years after, Wilkes at least have a compressed schedule on Martin Luther King day if not have that day off.

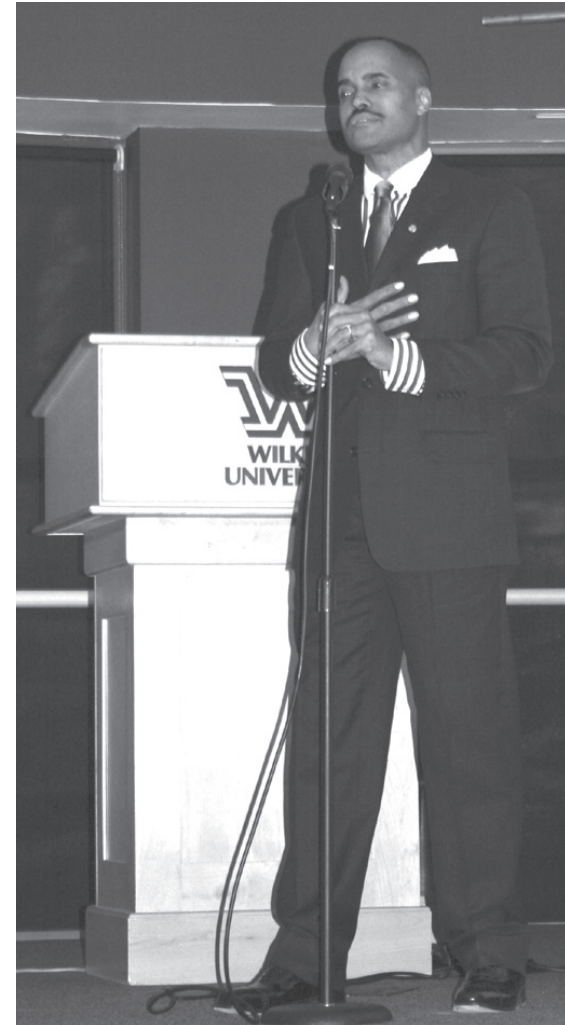
By having a compressed schedule more students and faculty most likely would be able to go to the program Wilkes offers in the morning since there are no classes. To change the status quo, I encourage all students, faculty and staff to express this concern to our Student Government leaders and to the Deans and administration of this campus. Let's follow Dr. King's dream and spread his message on his and all days!



all federal holidays. Since Wilkes is a small private school, it is nowhere near as diverse as the previously mentioned institutions. But should that matter?

Does how diverse the surrounding area is have an effect on what holidays are recognizable? My argument is not just about celebrating Martin Luther King Day; it is about being able to celebrate any holiday we wish, and respecting federal holidays.

Wilkes prides itself on creating diversity awareness and growth. However, when this institution of higher learning gives us a full day off for Labor Day but doesn't



Dr. Russell Davis, Interim President at Gloucester County College, spoke to the Wilkes community on MLK day about the importance of accepting others and seeing each other as equals.

Your Voices

Dear Editor:

Presidential candidate, Hillary Clinton, fought to choke back tears on a recent campaign stop in New Hampshire. Tears filled her eyes as she said, "I have so many opportunities from this country; I just don't want to see us fall backwards." I never imagined there could be such a backlash from what I saw as genuine tears of a woman in desperation. Now the nation, in their campaigning fever, is questioning Clinton's tearful plea. Are they just crocodile tears, Hillary?

Here we are faced with a dilemma. Is a woman just too emotional to be our nation's next future President? Clinton tells Fox News, "Maybe I have liberated us to actually let women be human beings in public life." She continues, "You know, we are. Let's be that." I ask her critics, where would faking it get her? She has revealed her soft side. Yes, she is a woman. Yes, she is a presidential candidate. And yes, she cries.

What we don't see in the repetitive newscasts is what Candidate Clinton goes on to say in her address to New Hampshire. She expressed that, "Some of us put ourselves out there and do this against some pretty

difficult odds and we do it, each one of us, because we care about our country." Clinton adds that, "When we look at the array of problems we have and the potential for it getting, really spinning out of control, this is one of the most important elections America's ever faced." She is aware that our country is in need of some major "re-vamping" and very much understands voters are in a difficult position to choose who is best, especially in 2008, to get us out of this mess our country is in.

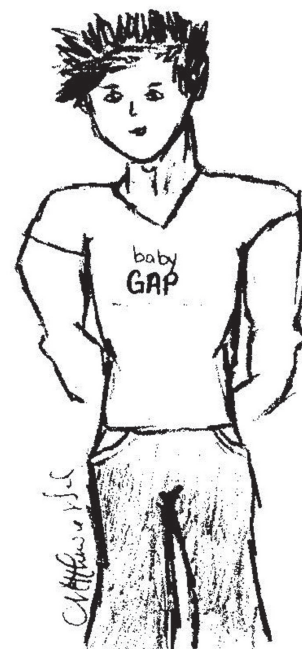
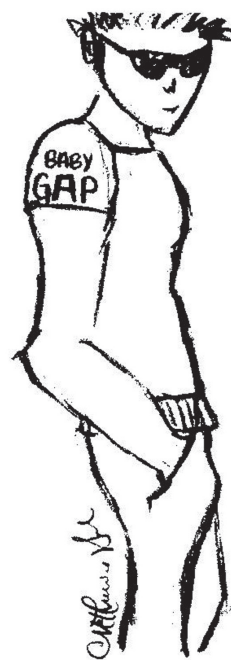
Clinton concluded, "I just believe so strongly in who we are as a nation, so I'm going to do everything I can to make my case, and then the voters get to decide." That's what we need; a candidate who believes in our nation.

You have my vote, Hillary. Not just because you're a woman, and I am too. Not just because you're willing to admit our nation needs help and even shed tears in your willingness to be the one to change it, but because I believe you're the one who will make the change. I encourage all to consider voting for Hillary Clinton in the upcoming election.

Ashley Filipek
Sophomore, English education major

Here's to you... Mr. Shirt too small guy

BY GINO TROIANI
Staff Writer/Photographer



Drawing by: Matt Vital

Here's to you, Mr. Shirt-too-small-guy. You spend all of your free time on the bench press machine "getting your swell on," making the rest of us look like sissies. You walk around with your chin up, collar popped and chest out. Your motive? To buy that Baby Gap t-shirt that's three sizes too small so that everyone can see your monstrous pecs. Keep on, keeping on!

Equality isn't in the equation when donating blood

BY MARK CONGDON JR.
Beacon Opinion Editor

"Donate Blood-Save a Life!" This is the message the American Red Cross constantly bombards us with as a persuasive tool to try to get people to donate blood.

Over break while I was visiting my family in upstate New York, the local VA was sponsoring a blood drive. So my cousins and I decided to do our civic duty and go donate. I haven't donated blood in about four years and figured it was time.

Everything was going all peachy until I came upon a question during the screening process. The question read something like "Are you a man who has had sexual contact with a man, even once, since 1977?" Since I am a gay man, I answered yes. After I was finished answering all the questions, I met with a Red Cross volunteer.

Upon looking over my answers, she told me that because I have had sex with a man, I wasn't eligible to donate. I was in disbelief when she told me why. She said that it's illegal for men who've had sex with other men to donate because of the HIV/AIDS virus.

I was mortified. First of all, I do not have

HIV/AIDS. Secondly, my blood type is O+, and since about 40% of the population has this type of blood and there's always a need for type O donors because their blood may be transfused to a person of any blood type in an emergency, I could have really helped, if not actually saved someone's life.

Not only was I prevented from donating blood, but I also felt humiliated when I had to get up and take a seat in the waiting area. My cousins then asked why I couldn't donate, and it felt as if I had done something wrong and was being punished for no particular reason. This incident was one of the most degrading experiences I've ever had. After my cousins had finished donating

and we had left, I decided to do more research on this ludicrous law.

I discovered that the FDA created a policy in 1983 that men who have had sexual contact with men can't donate blood. The policy was created due to the increased risk of contracting AIDS during transfusions. The *Seattle Post Intelligencer* recently reported that in May of 2007 the FDA re-evaluated and affirmed its policy, despite improvements in testing and an increased susceptibility of heterosexuals to HIV.

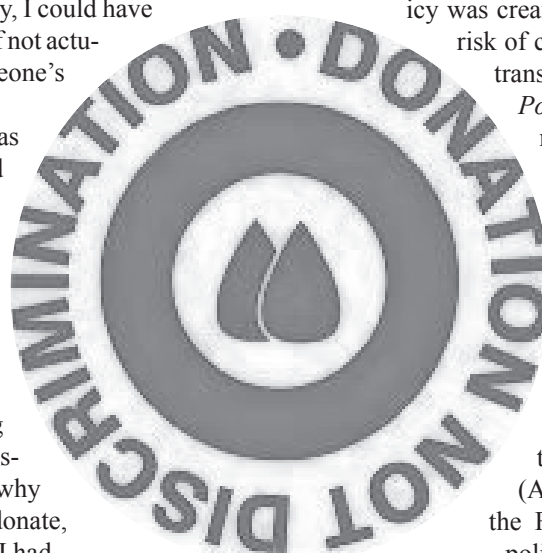
According to the American Association of Blood Bank's (AABB) website, when the FDA was reviewing its policy in May, the AABB, the American Red Cross and America's Blood Centers all testified that the

ban "is medically and scientifically unwarranted" and that "it does not appear rational to broadly differentiate sexual transmis-

sion via male-to-male sexual activity from that via heterosexual activity on scientific grounds."

FDA officials stated that that the restriction is to protect the national blood supply from HIV. However, the AABB disputes that claim and argue, "Current duplicate testing using NAT and serologic methods allow detection of HIV- infected donors between 10 and 21 days after exposure. Beyond this window period, there is no valid scientific reason to differentiate between individuals infected a few months or many years previously."

If the medical community disagrees with the FDA's policy and believes it should be overturned, since they are the "experts" in this field, it should be overturned. Imagine how many people could be saved if this policy were overruled. The implications of this policy for our community, family and friends are huge. Contact your federal legislators to let them know you believe this law is unjust. After all, if we're healthy don't we all deserve the right to give life by donating?



Courtesy of calscme.blogspot.com

Fitness resolutions fizzle as New Year progresses

BY CHRISTA SGOBBA

Beacon Lifestyles Editor

Long after the last present is unwrapped and the last vat of eggnog guzzled, the holidays have a way of sticking with you throughout the year.

Like on your stomach, arms, and thighs. According to a 2000 study published in the New England Journal of Medicine, Americans only pack on a little more than one pound during the holiday season. However, the gain is not reversed during the following months, so the one pound increase could add up over the years.

To stave off the weight, many Americans pledge exercise, strength training, and a healthy diet for their New Year's resolutions. They flock to the gym the first few weeks of the year, only to dwindle greatly in number as February and March roll around.

"January is really crazy here," said Linda Reilly, the wellness director at the Wilkes-Barre YMCA, where Wilkes University students receive free membership. "Everyone comes back in January because they all have these New Year's resolutions. It's really crowded, and people have a hard time getting machines."

David Wrobel, the manager of Uno Fitness in Scranton, counts January as the biggest month for the health club. Normally, Uno Fitness signs up around 100 new members each month. In January, that number grows to 200 to 250.

"People make New Year's resolutions that they want to eat better and lose weight, and then they end up lasting six weeks," said Wrobel.

A poll conducted

in December 2007 by Marist College and WNBC showed that weight loss was the number one New Year's resolution for women, and the third most popular for men. But 40 percent of those surveyed who made resolutions did not stick with any part of them.

One of the main reasons people have difficulty sticking with an exercise routine is they tend to make unrealistic goals, and become discouraged when they don't achieve them. Reilly says people come to her thinking they can take off 30 pounds in two months.

"I think it's important for trainers to help them come up with a realistic goal, something they will succeed in," said Reilly. "And then if they do better than that, that's an even better benefit."

Tom Nallon, a certified personal trainer at the YMCA, sees clients who expect to transition directly from their pre-gym body to their ideal form with no middle ground.

"They want to achieve too much too quickly, and it takes awhile to get into the shape where you are able to lose weight," he said. "The first thing they have to do is to get to a fitness level, and then they can work on achieving more of their goals."

While people may hope for the pounds to melt off quickly, the healthy goal is to aim for one or two pounds of weight loss each week. This should be achieved through an exercise program in conjunction with a more nutritional diet.

Using fad diets or skipping meals to achieve a more drastic weight loss not only can cause health problems, but also the likelihood of regaining the pounds. Instead, people should try to eat three to five small, balanced meals each day.

"The biggest mistake I think people make is that they don't eat breakfast. They don't get their metabolism burning in the morning," said Reilly. "It's a lifestyle change. You just can't come in here and work out, but you have to change your nutritional habits, too."

Another reason people drop out of a fitness regimen is they may feel self-conscious mixing with die-hard fitness buffs who have the bodies to prove it.

Fitness novices may be worried that misusing the machines or doing exercises incorrectly can garner unwanted scrutiny from the regulars. To become more confident, they can ask staff members to demonstrate how to do cer-



The Beacon/Gino Troiani

According to a poll conducted by Marist College and WNBC, weight loss was the top New Year's resolution for women and the third most popular for men. But only 60 percent of Americans kept even a part of their resolution.

tain exercises, or they can sign up for personal training sessions so they can get one-on-one help.

David Wrobel, the manager of Uno Fitness, believes that knowing how to work out correctly separates those who stick with the program from those who drop out.

"They have to get educated on how to get results," he said. "A lot of them are too afraid to ask for help. Then they get discouraged and stop showing up."

People can also stop showing up because of sheer burnout. Hoping for quick results and eager to prove their dedication, fitness novices can overwork themselves, leading to physical effects like shin splints, torn ligaments, and fatigue.

In order to stick with a fitness program, the new members should develop a set schedule to follow every week. An ideal program depends on each person, but healthy individuals should shoot for two to three days of strength training, two days of cardiovascular exercise, and two days of rest.

"Some people come in and they're working too hard. They're defeating the purpose of working out," said Reilly. "They're overdoing it, and they're not going to see the results they want because the body needs to rest."

After noticing results for a few weeks, fitness novices may feel discouraged when

they reach a plateau with little or no muscle gain, strength increase, or weight loss.

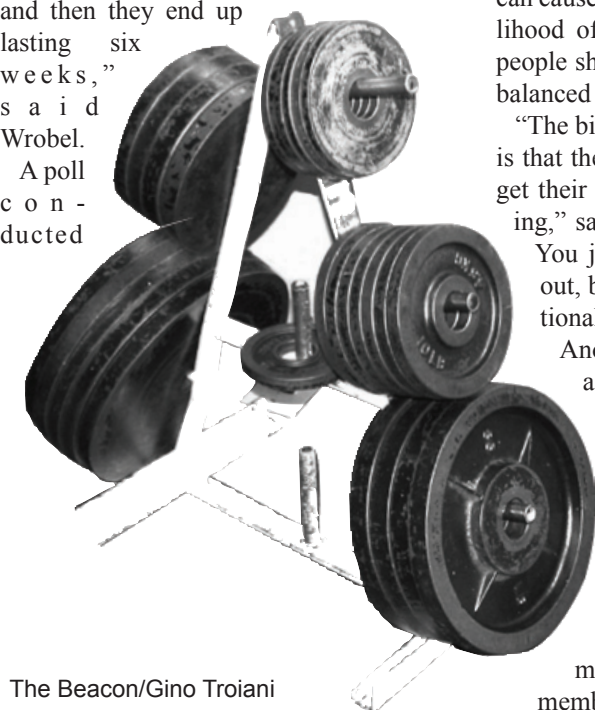
In Nallon's personal training sessions, he often sees his clients struggle with reaching plateaus, which occurs when the body adapts too well to the exercise program.

"They need to add something in or take something out," he said. "Add intensity or weight, because once your body has adapted to it, you need change."

Reilly recommends beginners join a few of the classes that are geared towards those just starting out. Classes in water aerobics, Pilates, and yoga are good choices because they are challenging and fun, but gentle enough for beginners.

The best way to stick with an exercise routine is to make sure that it is enjoyable. People who find running on a treadmill boring may only last a few weeks if that is their only source of cardio, but if they switch that with racquetball or basketball, they may be more likely to continue.

"You have to find something you enjoy. If you don't enjoy it, you're not going to do it," said Nallon. "Exercise should be fun, and it shouldn't be a stressful thing. You should enjoy doing it."



The Beacon/Gino Troiani



Student of the Week: Ben Beidel

BY LAUREN SALEM

Beacon Staff Writer

Ben Beidel, freshman class president, learned about leadership in what some might call an unusual place: a barn. Beidel grew up on a dairy farm where he fed and milked 120 cows, threw hay bales, and unloaded about 2,000 hay bales every day. As anyone who has ever spent time on a working farm can tell you, the work ethic requires time management and a tireless attention to meeting all needs.

A pre-pharmacy major, Beidel has applied that ethic to Wilkes. He has helped Student Government (SG) plan events like last semester's Casino Night and the homecoming dance, while simultaneously holding down a part-time job at CVS. Because of the leadership he has shown as class president and throughout his other activities, *The Beacon* has chosen him as our Student of the Week.

The Beacon: How did working on the farm help develop your work ethic?

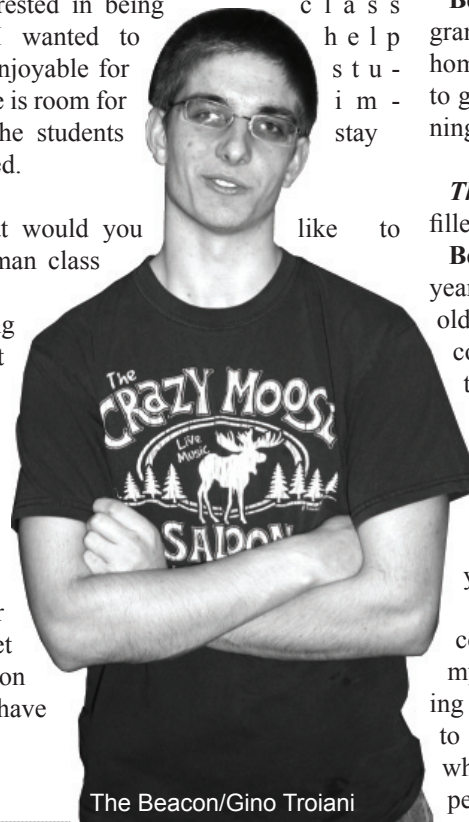
Beidel: I believe that I can easily apply anything that I learned on the farm, be it dealing with crops or animals, to issues that I run into now and can use my experience to deal with it. One of the things I've learned on the farm was that when you have the opportunity to get something done, get it done, because with field work you never know if it's going to rain the next day.

The Beacon: Why were you interested in being freshman class president?

Beidel: I was interested in being president because I wanted to make Wilkes more enjoyable for students. I feel that there is room for improvement to help the students occupied and excited.

The Beacon: What would you like to accomplish as freshman class president?

Beidel: I'm hoping to get a feel for what students want from SG and I'm hoping to work with my board to put together some fun socials for all classes to enjoy. We want to try and get activities together for the students to get people to stay here on the weekends and have something fun to do.



The Beacon/Gino Troiani

The Beacon: How did you become inspired to run for freshman class president?

Beidel: I was inspired to run for class president by my grandmother. Like most other freshman, I struggled with homesickness in my first few weeks here and she urged me to go out and meet people and told me to think about running since I had filled leadership positions in the past.

The Beacon: What other leadership positions have you filled in the past?

Beidel: I swam for the high school relay team for four years and every year I was a district qualifier. As I got older, I knew that everyone that was younger than me was counting on me to make a difference and to prove to them that I believed in them and they believed in me. I was president of a bunch of clubs like FFA (Future Farmers of America), Chemistry Club, and Mountain Biking Club.

The Beacon: What do you see yourself doing after you graduate from Wilkes?

Beidel: I'd like to climb the ranks at CVS and fix a couple problems that I've seen. I'm planning on getting my MBA as well. At the same time coming from a farming background, I would like to have a small ranch one day to show cows or beef cattle. I want to try to give back what I learned as a child and teenager and show it to other people who maybe don't have that.

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... JUST ASK THE STUDENTS WHO LIVE THERE

Wilkes and King's collaborate to help community

Campuses that Care Week kicks off February 11

BY CHRISTINE ZAVASKAS
Beacon Asst. Lifestyles Editor

Typically, the only interaction that takes place between students from Wilkes University and students from King's College involves sitting across from each other at athletic events or standing in line next to each other while wondering how textbooks could possibly cost so much.

This is not exactly conducive to bonding between rivals. However, for one week this semester students from the two city schools will have the opportunity to work together in a cooperative way to benefit Wilkes-Barre.

This unique annual event is called Campuses that Care Week and will kick off on February 11. Megan Boone, Community Service Coordinator at Wilkes University, describes the project as "a way for the community to know that both the schools care about the community that we live in, that we work in, and that we go to school in."

During Campuses that Care Week, students will have the opportunity to go on transportation-provided

trips to volunteer at local nonprofit organizations such as the SPCA and St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen. Students from both schools will work together at each location.

"When I describe it, often I talk about the goals of it, which are to raise awareness about the different agencies at which students can volunteer, to show our support for those agencies...and also to foster a spirit of cooperation and camaraderie between the two campuses," said Dr. Bill Bolan, Community Outreach Coordinator at King's College.

In past years, Campuses that Care Week has been successful in meeting its goal of creating cooperation between the two schools. Megan Boone witnessed bonding between students who might have not otherwise met. "I can recall last year when we were making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for VISION [a homeless shelter for men] and it was so messy. We had these huge jars of peanut butter and plastic knives and it was just hilarious. The students definitely bonded over some of the antics that happened..."

The week's events also connect students with the surrounding community. Nicole Leader, a senior double major in sociology and political science, has participated in this event several times and noted, "There are people in Wilkes-Barre that we sometimes ignore as students, the homeless and the elderly for example...We don't really get to sit down and talk to them. That's what you get to do when you participate in Campuses that Care Week... If you sit there and listen to their stories, you get just as much out of learning about their experiences as they do from your being there listening."

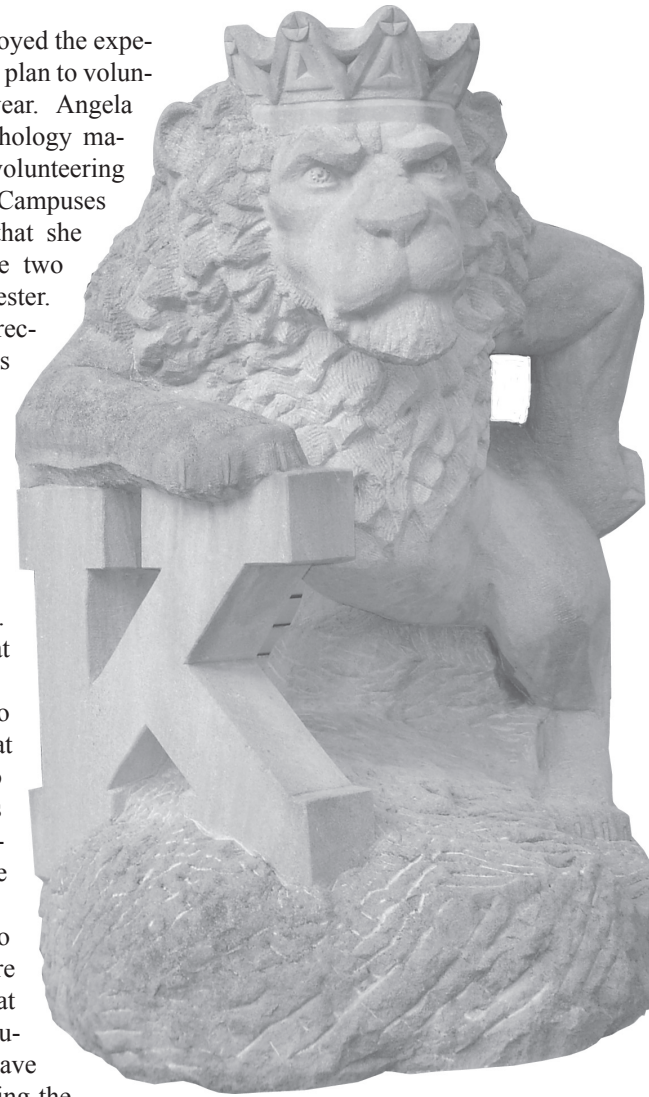
Caitlin Kelley, a sophomore pharmacy major, was able to spend time with veterans when she volunteered during last year's Campuses that Care Week to play bingo with residents of the Wilkes-Barre VA Medical Center. "All of the older gentlemen were saying we were good luck charms. They would have us come over and stand by their card to bring luck to them. It made me feel kind of important, like we were helping them win," she recalled.

Kelley and Leader both enjoyed the experiences they had last year and plan to volunteer at the event again this year. Angela Nicolosi, a sophomore psychology major, liked the time she spent volunteering at the SPCA during the last Campuses that Care Week so much, that she continued to volunteer there two times a month all of last semester.

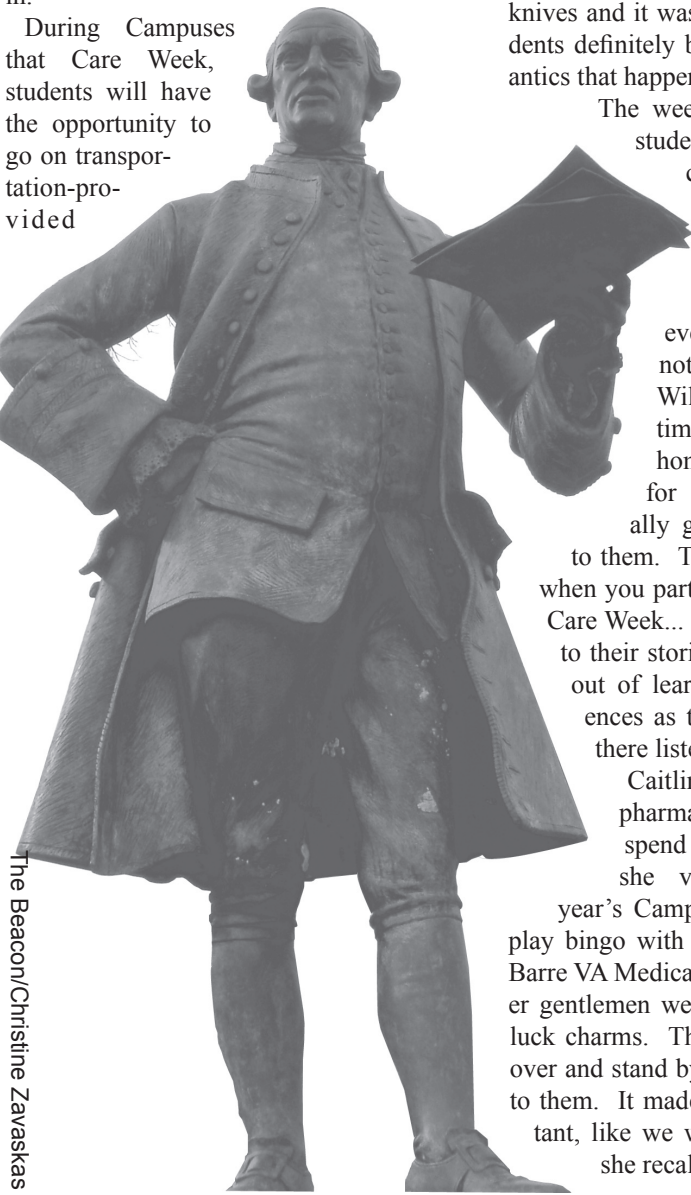
All three students said they recommend participating in this event to their classmates. "I think that a lot of times we kind of get too wrapped up in school and don't really take time to help other people. I feel really grateful for what I have and being able to get an education like this. I think we should share that with others," said Kelley.

Anyone who would like to participate in Campuses that Care Week will be able to sign up for specific projects and hours the week of February 4 on the first floor of the Henry Student Center.

In addition to the trips to outside organizations, there will be a blood drive held at Wilkes University on February 11. Students will also have a chance to relax while helping the community by enjoying a movie night at Movies 14 which is free with the donation of a canned good.



The Beacon/Christine Zavaskas



The Beacon/Christine Zavaskas



Courtesy Megan Boone

Angela Nicolosi volunteered at the SPCA during last year's Campuses that Care Week. "There was this cat that I absolutely loved...it was the most loving cat, and all I wanted was it to get adopted. That was my favorite experience," said Nicolosi.

Aptekar's *Some for Me, Some for You* speaks to audiences

BY ALISSA LINDNER

Beacon Assistant A&E Editor

The works of internationally acclaimed artist Ken Aptekar kick off the 2008 season for the Sordoni Art Gallery. The exhibit, entitled *Some for Me, Some for You: Paintings by Ken Aptekar*, features 15 works created by Aptekar between 1992 and 2006.

Of Aptekar's works, Sordoni director, Ronald Bernier, explained, "He selects a particular painting [from art history] and he repaints them. He repaints fragments of them."

Bernier added Aptekar never repaints a whole painting and often changes elements of the original such as color, orientation or scale. His replicas also feature text which is etched in a piece of glass and then bolted to the painting.

"I always try to use a text that will spin the image in an unexpected way, in order to get other people to imagine what they might say or think when looking at the painting. In other words, my text responses are both subjective and provocative," Aptekar said.

For example, in the piece, "People All Over are Starving," Bernier explained that Aptekar repainted a classic painting by Pieter Claesz which expressed opulence and plenty and added text which may bring to mind of an individual who would not ordinarily view high art.

Bernier noted that the text in Aptekar's pieces can range from blatant or obscure in meaning to funny and witty or possibly serious.

Despite being nationally and internationally known, with previous exhibits everywhere from the Palmer Museum at Penn State University to an exhibit in Sao Paulo, Brazil, Aptekar chose Wilkes University because of the intelligence and expertise of the Sordoni staff.

Aptekar added, "I was impressed by the quality of the exhibitions that preceded mine."

Raised in a family of creative minds, Aptekar's father was a musician and his mother was an art teacher. He regularly attended concerts and explored museums as a child.



Ken Aptekar's exhibit, "Some for Me, Some for You" opened on January 14. In the exhibit, Aptekar pairs classic images with meaningful text in order to create a new meaning for the audience.

He explained, "There was a sensitivity to how one's life experiences can be transformed into art, even though to become an 'artist' was a rather crazy thing to go and do."

Both Bernier and Brittany Kramer-DeBalko, the Sordoni Coordinator, agreed Aptekar's work is created to make specific meaning for the audience.

The pieces displayed in the Sordoni exhibit are easily viewed by someone who might not be as well versed in art or art history, according to DeBalko.

One of Aptekar's favorite artists to use is Francois Boucher.

The title piece, 'Some for Me, Some for You,' is partially inspired by a piece by Boucher. Several of Aptekar's pieces feature multiple images and fragments of different paintings in art history.

Some for Me, Some for You: Paintings by Ken Aptekar will be in the Sordoni Art Gallery until Sunday March 2, 2008. The gallery, located in the Stark Learning Center, is open daily from noon to 4:30 p.m. with free admission. Bernier and DeBalko encouraged anyone interested in viewing Aptekar's work but unable to visit during open hours to call 408-4325

Schedule of Events

Tuesday, January 29

- Winona LaDuke Q&A at 11:00 a.m. in the SUB
- Alternative Spring Break Spaghetti Dinner at 4 p.m. in the SUB
- Winona LaDuke community presentation at 5:30 p.m. in the SUB
- TLC Author Event - Kate Morgenroth, They Did It With Love at the Tudor Bookstore
- DJ Godfather at 9 p.m. at the Woodlands

Wednesday, January 30

- Mike Glabicki performing at 10 p.m. at the River Street Jazz Cafe
- M-80 performing at the Woodlands at 9 p.m.

Thursday, January 31

- Meet President Tim Gilmour coffee hour at 8 a.m. in the Weckesser Hall Board Room
- DJ Kev the Rev and Redbull Ron at 9 p.m. at the Woodlands
- Comedy night at Donahue's at 10 p.m.

Friday, February 1

- Regional Entrepreneurship Institute Meeting at 1 p.m. in the SUB
- Writing January, The Life to Come, The Loyal and Far From Honored performing at 8 p.m. at Cafe Metropolis
- 40 Lb. Head performing at Brews Brothers
- The Five Percent performing at 10 p.m. at the Woodlands

Saturday, February 2

- New York cultural theater trip at 8 a.m.
- Lacrymosa, Bob Alumni and Marcelle Reinecke performing at Test Pattern at 8 p.m.
- YGGR, Passion, Anthracite, The Early Birds performing at 8 p.m. at Cafe Metropolis
- Dimensions performing at 10 p.m. at the Woodlands

Monday, February 4

- Campuses That Care Week begins

Music Review: Poogie Bell Band delights at Jazz Cafe

BY NICK PODOLAK
Beacon Editor-in-chief

On average, I'll usually spend around \$35 during a night out on the town in Wilkes-Barre, wasting my cash on greasy appetizers, mixed drinks, and monster ballads on the jukebox.

But after seeing a flyer in the newspaper offering a 14-16 oz. lobster tail dinner for \$24.95 and \$1 bottle Lions' Heads at the River Street Jazz Cafe, I realized that this was an offer I could not pass up.

However, I didn't go to the Jazz Cafe last Friday night for the lobster tail dinner. Nor did I go for the \$1 bottle Lions' Heads. I was there to take in an evening of "A Funk Jazz Show" with The Poogie Bell Band.

Poogie (rhymes with fugee) is a world class jazz, R&B, and hip-hop drummer who has worked with the likes of David Bowie, Chaka Khan, Marcus Miller, Roberta Flack, and Erykah Badu, just to name a few. The New York native was exposed to music since he was born, due largely in part to his father being a jazz musician and music teacher. Poogie's early appearance on *The Mike Douglas Show* with Pearl Bailey at the tender age of five sealed the deal.

Needless to say, as an aspiring drummer myself, I could not wait to see what Poogie could do behind the kit...and I

was not disappointed.

Joining his fellow band members, sax player Jacob Yoffee, keyboardist Howie Alexander, guitarist Chris Parker, and Kevin Barefoot playing the low notes, Poogie emerged stage right through a curtain and sat behind a modest drum set, cast in a purple hue from the lighting on stage. He's a big man, resembling an aged ?uestlove from The Roots, and after a quick holdup from a fan who hopped on stage to engage in a conversation with the drummer at the most inopportune time, (you gotta love Wilkes-Barre natives), Poogie addressed the crowd with his high, playful voice.

"Hello, Wilkes-Barre! Thank you for coming out on this cold winter's night."

Then, with a few clicks of the sticks, Poogie and his crew opened up their first show of the New Year with a nice little funk number as the heads in the crowd bobbed in unison with the big man. When Poogie plays, he seems so happy, closing his eyes and nodding his head back and forth to the groove. Perhaps my friend put it best when he described the band's sound as "the score to a seventies cop flick and an adult film." Perfect!

Poogie kept things interesting, switching between full-bodied rim shots on the snare to calming rim clicks, and often wowed the crowd with short, but powerful, mid-song solos, from furious drum rolls across the kit to John Bonham-esque

triplets with a thundering bass drum. The band especially shone in a tune called Redd Foxx, dedicated to the late comedian, as Parker let loose on the guitar in a slick solo while Alexander transformed the sound of the keyboard into a deep church organ chirp...very cool. Other highlights included a cover of Herbie Hancock's "Actual Jam," and Poogie's very own song about his hometown New York Knicks, titled "Knickerbocker Bling."

The only hitch during the evening occurred when Poogie lost one of his sticks during the first song, but he kept time with his hi-hat and quickly retrieved a new one from his bag to finishing the song in style.

Poogie will return.

Grade: B+

Michael Glabicki from Rusted Root to play at the Jazz Cafe tomorrow

Michael Glabicki, the lead singer and guitarist from the Pittsburgh jam band Rusted Root, will perform live at the River Street Jazz Cafe this Wednesday night with Mike Mizwinski, guitarist from Morning Pride and Tripping On Nothing. Cover is \$5 at the door. Show starts at 10:00.

Courtesy <http://www.artdrum.com>

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Tudor Bookstore to close

BY MARISSA PHILLIPS
Beacon A&E Editor

Although change is often a good thing in new, developing areas, it can come with a price. As "progress" ensues, smaller, locally owned stores often are forced to step aside to make way for larger chain stores.

In March, Kingston will say goodbye to the last independent and locally owned bookstore in the area, The Tudor Bookshop and Cafe.

The recent addition of Barnes and Noble to the area has made it difficult for the Tudor to stay in business. Stacy DeAngelo, assistant manager of the store explained, "It's hard for an independent to keep going when you have to compete with the internet and big chain stores."

Although the store will close in March, there is not a specific date set at the moment. DeAngelo also explained, "As soon as a good portion of inventory is gone we're going to start closing up. It depends on how long it takes things to sell out." In order to get their inventory sold, the bookstore is currently running a sale on everything in the store through January 31.

Some residents are clearly upset to see the end of a long-standing independent bookstore. One former Wilkes student, Eric Shatrowskas said, "It's pretty unfortunate because it was a really good bookstore."

Student and Effort resident, Justin Hall, explained the value that he sees in independent book stores as well as chain stores. "They're valuable in different senses. Independent bookstores are good for finding old, out of prints and lesser known works from good authors. Chain bookstores are good, because if there's a book that just came out that you want, you can access it with ease. They have two different functions in my mind."

Tudor was founded in 1976 by Barbara Shaffer and over the years has offered a variety of services to the public. According to its website, nearly 1,000 authors have come to the valley because of the Tudor bookstore. Also, the Tudor has hosted monthly book club meetings, held art and literature contests, and published a book of poetry, *Got Verse*. In addition, the cafe has become a popular "regular" spot for coffee and sandwiches for many.

Despite the fact that the closing is fast approaching, the Tudor will still hold its January and February events, including author visits with Kate Morgenroth and Anne Easter Smith, as well as a gallery exhibit with "The Amish Prints of Don Fatzinger."

Restaurant Review: Thai Thai

BY NICOLE FRAIL

Beacon Asst. News Editor

I really didn't know what to expect from one of downtown Wilkes-Barre's newest additions, Thai Thai. I heard good things from my co-workers, but since I have little experience with Thai food, I wasn't entirely sure what the menu or atmosphere of the little restaurant would be like.

Dressed in simple jeans and a hoodie, I felt underdressed in Thai Thai and secretly hoped that my guest and I would be seated in a corner. I quickly realized, however, that Thai Thai consists of one, large room. No sections, no barriers, just you and everyone else. If you like to have private conversations in booths with high walls, this may not be the place for you. On the other hand, if you enjoy hearing about how there isn't enough chicken in your neighbor's salad multiple times, you're in luck.

I ate at Thai Thai on a Monday night just before the dinner crowd arrived. My guest and I were seated beside the window in front of the restaurant. After taking our drink order and delivering it less than two minutes later, the first thing I noticed was the constant, cold draft coming through the windows. There was a space heater off to the side of our table, so I knew that the restaurant was trying to address the problem. At the same time I acknowledged the attempt, I still had a hard time convincing myself that the old space heater was aesthetically pleasing.

Thai Thai's menu is exhaustive and almost overwhelming. They offer 102 dinner choices (13 vegetarian), plus sides, desserts, and a lunch menu. They gave us ample time to look over the entire menu and I finally decided on Pad Thai while my guest chose Panang Curry.

Between placing our orders and receiving them, I listened to the traditional Thai music playing overhead and the occasional sounds of pots and pans banging and clanking in the kitchen. I was distracted when one of the waitresses became engaged in conversation with the women at the table beside us. They spoke of Thailand and its restaurants and hotels and at one point, the waitress even did a little dance. She was pleasant and funny and came back to check on our area of the room frequently.

While I have very little experience with Thai food and am not even sure how Pad Thai is supposed to taste, I was indifferent toward it. The noodles were a little too soft for me, the chicken and shrimp were limited to three pieces each, but the portion was huge. My guest's curry was spicy, warm, and full of chicken and we both thoroughly enjoyed the coconut rice we ordered on the side.

For two entrees, two drinks, and a side, the bill came to roughly \$36.00 with tip. While the price of the entrees ran between \$10.95-\$12.95, I wasn't really phased considering I sometimes pay close to four or five dollars for six inches of hoagie and about two dollars for a hotdog on campus. We're college students on a budget and it's hard to go somewhere



Photo Courtesy of <http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Workshop/7676/food.JPG>

nice where things are cheap. If it's date night and you're willing to spend the money, Thai Thai's dim lighting, soft music, and close seating might be fitting.

All in all, I probably wouldn't go back. If someone really wanted to go, I'd accompany them and try a different dish. The service was Thai Thai's best feature and the atmosphere was enjoyable, but I just don't think Thai food is my thing.

Grade: B-

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Kudracross

BY CHRISTOPHER KUDRAK
Beacon Staff Writer

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Fannypackantics.com

BY STEPHANIE GERCHMAN
Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

We rarely see them in NEPA, but when we travel to Philly, New York City, Washington D.C. or any other major city in the world, they are all over the place. No, not taxis or subway systems...I’m talking about tourists.

While most have played the role at one time or another, it is hilarious to spot blatantly obvious tourists and laugh at their stupidity. Fannypackantics.com is the first ever tourist humor blog and it has made an art out of spotting tourists and poking fun at their silly habits.

Clearly, the website tends to focus on “fanny packs,” those fashionably questionable, ultimate-in-pragmatic

tourist tools that allow a hands-free approach to shopping. Fanny packs are pouches that are strapped on around the waist and can serve as purse, wallet, or backpack.

Fannypackantics.com offers pictures of men, women and children wearing fanny packs in the front, to the side and in the back. The site hails such fashion disasters as the number one way to spot a tourist. Possibly my favorite part of the site is the “Fanny Pack of the Week.” A guy wearing his fanny pack backwards was described as “trying to avoid looking like a lame tourist” and compared to someone wearing a backwards baseball hat which “can look really douchy, too.”

But wait! There’s more. Not only does this website poke fun at fanny packs, but it also finds other funny ways of

identifying tourists from cameras worn around the neck, to absurd fur coats and hats to suits worn with sneakers. There are also pictures of tourists that ask the viewer to comment on whether or not you would mug the tourist. The site even pokes fun at those who mispronounce the names of streets, cities and landmarks.

While this site is written by jaded city dwellers who be-moan having to deal with tourists crossing their path every “80.3 seconds,” it’s entertaining to see what these city people see daily. It’s even funny to see the site poke fun at a few things that maybe we have even done ourselves. I give this site an L for laugh-out-loud at out-of-towners. Go to this site, take a few notes and deal with fewer disdainful townies.

After semester hiatus, intramural games back on

Students teams will compete in variety of sporting contests

BY CARLTON HOLMES
Beacon Sports Editor

In August of 2005, sophomores Steve Nesgoda and Tom Modugno formed the X-Colonels, an intramural team originally comprised of 12 former varsity football players that saw minimal field time in a Colonels uniform. The players quit the team after their freshmen season and picked up a new hobby, intramural flag football.

After winning two consecutive intramural championships, it was clear the X-Colonels were unstoppable. The team posted two perfect regular season records because the other flag-pulling junkies just couldn't measure up. But in August of 2007, two years after the team's inaugural season, a monkey-wrench was thrown into the X-Colonels plans to go for the trifecta.

According to players, numerous calls to sign-up for their senior season faltered because there was no intramural director available to answer the phone. A month passed and the team began to grow restless until one day, their call was answered only to learn flag-football would be cancelled for the fall semester.

"I was upset. We wanted a three-peat," said Modugno. "We were looking forward to this season especially after winning (championships) the past two seasons."

The tale of the X-Colonels represents other disappointed intramural teams who had their respective sports cancelled during the fall semester. Normally, the full-time assistant men's basketball coach serves as director of all intramural sports, but when the Colonels hired a new assistant for the 2007-08 season, Neal Biscaldi, the intramural schedule suffered during the transition period.

Lucky for all participants, those days are finally over and intramurals are back.

"I personally would like to thank you (the students) very much for your patience with the intramural schedule this year," Biscaldi stated. "I understand that it will be limited this spring but we will come back stronger than ever in 2008-09."

Six intramural sports will be available during the spring semester including: billiards, dodgeball, basketball, flag football, softball and beach volleyball. Biscaldi explained that he will consider student and faculty suggestions for other sports not yet

listed such as, wiffleball, ultimate frisbee, tennis, ping pong, etc.

Intramurals are open to all members of Wilkes University with the exception of students who play on a varsity team. Players who have completed four years of eligibility are allowed to participate in intramurals.

"I'm happy that intramurals are back," said Nesgoda, relieved co-captain of the X-Colonels. "A couple of my buddies who completed their four years on the football team will be joining us this season. That makes it easier for us to three-peat."

2008 Schedule

Billiards League, Feb. 4
Sign up by Feb. 1

Dodgeball, Feb. 13
Sign Up by Feb. 11

Basketball, March 12
Sign Up by Feb. 29

Flag Football, March 17
Sign Up by March 10

Softball, April 2
Sign Up by March 31

Beach Volleyball, Apr. 18-19
Sign Up by Apr. 11

2006-07 Intramural Champions

Flag Football: X-Colonels
Basketball: The Shocker Squad
Billiards: Bill Young
Volleyball: Team Bunjay
Men's Indoor Soccer: Team Nick
Co-ed Basketball: Tony Scarnato
Co-ed Soccer: Team Crew

Wrestling

from PAGE 20

It's kind of a grind where the guys have to make weight two days in a row, but you have to do that in the national tournament and we plan on taking guys, so it's good experience.

Jon Laudenslager

"He [Laudenslager] says to make sure I wrestle my match, not to just go out and try for the pin. Wrestle my style and it will eventually come," Feldman explained.

The Colonel wrestlers were also in action Friday, January 25, at No. 4 Delaware Valley. The Aggies won the first five bouts of the night and eventually took the win 35-6. Pizarro and freshman Ryan Wilson notched wins by decision for the Colonels.

With two matches in two days, the Colonel wrestlers were forced to make weight back to back.

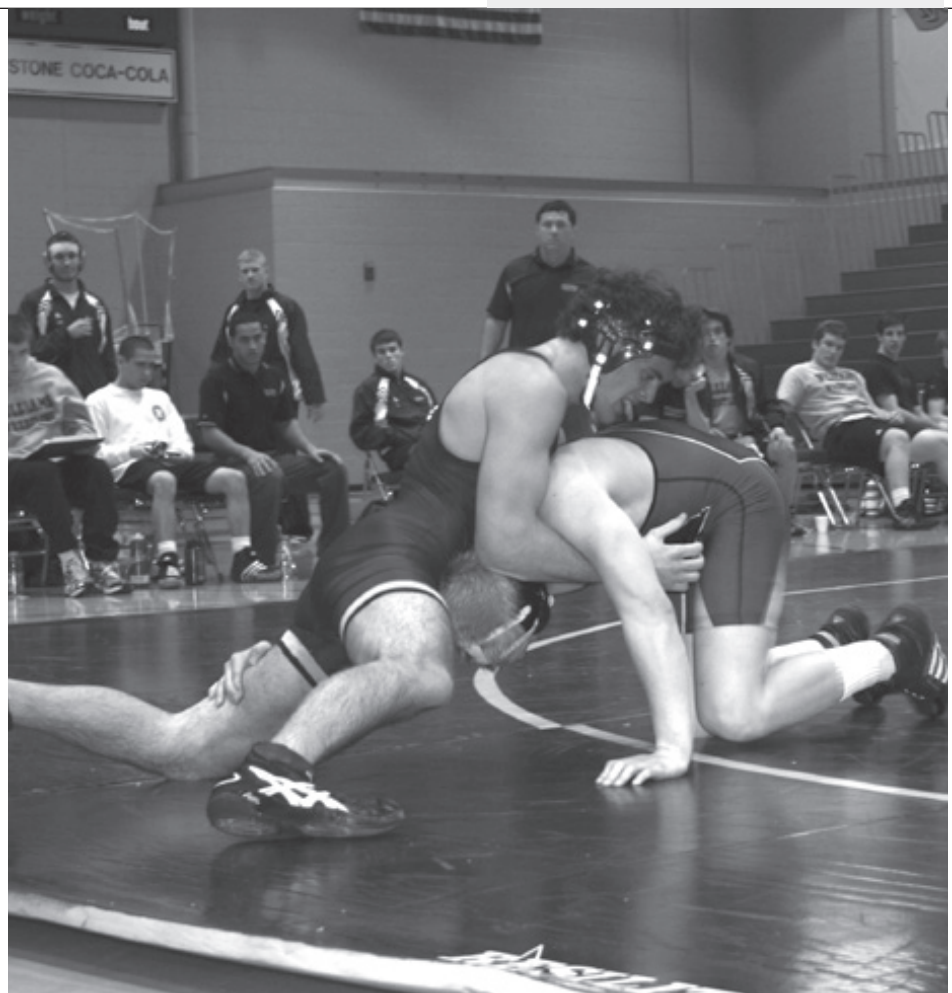
Laudenslager said, "It's not easy. It's kind of a grind where the guys have to make weight two days in a row, but you have to do that in the national tournament and we plan on taking guys, so it's good experience."

With the Metropolitan Championship just under a month away, Laudenslager believes the team does have some areas to improve on as it enters the postseason.

"They have to continue to work hard in the next month. We have to get in better shape," Laudenslager explained. He added the team specifically needs to work on their conditioning and toughness.

From the wrestler's perspective, Feldman explained of the next month, "Keep working the way we are, working hard. You have to peak at the right time, hopefully it starts now."

The Colonel wrestlers will be busy in action again this week. Wilkes visits the College of New Jersey at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday January 29. The Colonels will also wrestle a quad-match at Franklin & Marshall College Saturday February 2 at 12:00 noon.



The Beacon/Gino Troiani

Sophomore Joshua Lamb performs a headlock maneuver on Ephs freshman James McCarthy during the Colonels match against Williams College on Saturday.

Women's basketball still seeking conference win

BY GERARD HETMAN
Beacon

With the first half of MAC Freedom conference play nearly complete, the Wilkes Lady Colonels basketball team remains in search of their first league win after dropping a 77-64 decision Saturday afternoon in James Work Gymnasium at Delaware Valley College.

The loss drops Wilkes to a 1-16 overall record, and the team remains winless in conference play after five contests. The Lady Colonels were also playing without the services of senior Lacey Andresen, who suffered an injury in the team's loss to Manhattanville last week and was not in the lineup for Saturday's game.

"We picked up our defense after the opening few minutes, but we didn't keep it up," Wilkes senior Katie Cappelloni said of the loss. "Delaware Valley has some really excellent shooters, and no matter how good the defensive effort is, we needed to score more to keep up with them."

While Delaware Valley jumped out to a 8-point lead just a few minutes into the

first half, Wilkes rallied back to bring the score to 18-17 with eight minutes remaining in the period. However, the Aggies ripped off a scoring spurt in the last few minutes of the period and outscored Wilkes by a margin of 14-3. The run also allowed Delaware Valley to take a 40-23 lead heading into halftime.

Despite a 14-5 scoring run by Wilkes midway through the second half, the Lady Colonels were never able to threaten the Aggie lead. Cappelloni continued her recent strong play by racking up 18 points and pulling down eight rebounds. Freshmen guard Sam Lynam contributed 13 points, while fellow freshman Brittany Ely tossed in 11 points.

The Lady Colonels will close out the first half of league play by hosting the Devils of FDU-Florham on Wednesday evening at 6 p.m. in the Marts Center, before traveling to DeSales University on Saturday afternoon to begin the second half of MAC-Freedom competition. With both of the conference co-leaders coming up next on the Lady Colonels' schedule, the week will prove critical to their chances of climbing back into con-

tention for a conference playoff berth.

"We're excited about the upcoming games. Everyone has the chance to start

a winning streak," Cappelloni said of the week ahead. "There's a lot of basketball left to be played."



The Beacon/Jenna Stephens

Members of the Wilkes University basketball team take part in the action against Manhattanville College on January 22. The Lady Colonels lost the game, 69-64.

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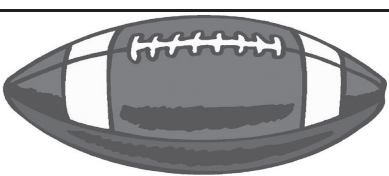
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GAME OF THE WEEK

The New England Patriots play for perfection

BY TIM SEIGFRIED

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

Four months ago, the New England Patriots were the talk of the football nation. But the talk wasn't about Tom Brady or Randy Moss. It wasn't about the record books or their chances at another title.

It was about their integrity.

In the wake of "Spygate," the Patriots' ethics were called into question for questionable (see also: illegal) tactics after they were caught videotaping the New York Jets' defensive coordinators on the sidelines during week one of the season.

The outrage from fans and fellow players alike was deafening, and the NFL acted swiftly, including fines for the team and coach Bill Belichick that totaled \$750,000, as well as the loss of a first round draft pick if the Patriots were to make the playoffs.

In response, the Patriots didn't fight the ruling. Instead, they embarked on a season long act of vengeance against every naysayer that argued that their previous championships were ill-gotten.

Over the course of the next 16 weeks, the Patriots would go 15-0, by outscoring their opponents 551-260, in what would be one of the most dominant regular season performances ever by an NFL team.

How dominant were the Patriots? Their 589 total points set an all-time record, surpassing the previous record of 556 (1998 Minnesota Vikings), including 12 games in which the team scored over 30 points, with eight of those games occurring consecutively to begin the season; a streak where they averaged 41 points per game.

So how did they manage to put together the greatest offense of all-time?

Two words: *Randy Moss*.

While most of the credit is being heaped upon quarterback and 2007 MVP Tom Brady, the real credit belongs to Moss, whose arrival prior to the season had many critics wondering if they would be seeing the Moss of old (111 receptions, 1,632 yards, 17 touchdowns in 2003), or the Moss of late (42 receptions, 553 yards, 3 touchdowns in 2006.)

Those questions were answered early on in the season, after Moss had 31 receptions for 505 yards and seven touchdowns after the first four games of the season, en route to a record breaking campaign in which he set an NFL record with 23 touchdown receptions, edging out Jerry Rice's previous record of 22. (Caveat: Rice set his record in

only 13 games during the strike-shortened season of 1987.)

Not only did his arrival to the team give them a true game-changing receiver for the first time in Tom Brady's tenure, it also allowed fellow wide-receiver Wes Welker to take advantage of the coverage on Moss, who was frequently the target of more than one defensive player. That setup often resulted in big plays from Welker, who set a team record with 112 receptions for 1,175 yards and eight touchdowns.

One can debate whether or not Moss was more valuable than Brady, but is it a coincidence that Moss' arrival happened the same year that Brady would set personal records for rating, completions, yards and touchdowns?

However, an enormous amount of credit has to be given to Brady, who anchored the offense throughout the season, while having one of the greatest seasons ever for a quarterback: a rating of 117.2, 398 completions (at a 68.9% completion rate) for 4,806 yards, while passing for a record setting 50 touchdowns, with only eight interceptions.

While Brady & Co. were setting offensive records, the Patriots' defense was doing its job by holding opponents to fewer than 20 points and 290 yards per game, while leading the AFC with 47 sacks.

The New England defensive line is anchored by a bevy of veterans, including Junior Seau (73 tackles), Tedy Bruschi (92 tackles), and Mike Vrabel (77 tackles, 12.5 sacks), with the rest of the field covered by the likes of Rodney Harrison (70 tackles, 1 interception) and Asante Samuel (46 tackles, 6 interceptions).

The Patriots defense quietly became one of the best in the AFC; however, the bigger story was the success of their offense, which propelled them to win after win throughout the season, despite some close calls against the Philadelphia Eagles and Baltimore Ravens.

The Patriots swiftly put an end to the Jacksonville Jaguars and the San Diego

Chargers in their first two games of the playoffs, as many predicted, and they once again find themselves in familiar territory, the Super Bowl. But they find themselves also on unfamiliar hallowed ground as well: the chance at a perfect season, from start to finish.

The Patriots are only 60 minutes away from achieving football immortality, to join the ranks of the 1972 Miami Dolphins as one of the only teams to ever win every game during the season, and walk away holding the Lombardi Trophy.

Now, all the New England Patriots have to do is beat the resurgent New York Giants, a team they bested twice during the regular season, including a week 17 battle that nearly saw the perfect season come to an

end in a nail-biting, 38-35 contest.

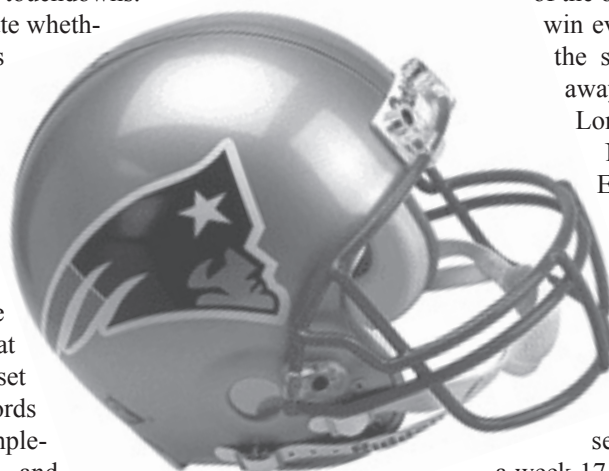
Leading the charge for New York, the NFL's biggest postseason surprise, is a rejuvenated and suddenly unflappable Eli Manning, who could finally be turning into the player that everyone thought he would be.

Manning, who snubbed the San Diego Chargers after he was chosen as the number one overall pick in the 2004 draft, has yet to live up to the expectations set forth by his father Archie and his brother Peyton.

After a four touchdown performance in a loss against the Cowboys during week one, followed by a tough loss against the Packers in week two, Manning and the Giants would go on to win their next six games, and finished their season with a 7-1 record on the road.

During week 17, the Giants were handed the unenviable task of having to derail New England's chances at a perfect season, who entered the game with a 15-0 record, needing just one more victory to make history.

New York shot out to an early lead, but succumbed to the Patriots in the end, despite Manning's four touchdown performance and gutsy plays. Many analysts thought that head coach Tom Coughlin should have



New England Patriots

Record (Road): 16-0 (8-0)

Points Per Game: 36.8

Yards Per Game: 411.2

Passing Yards Per Game: 295.7

Rushing Yards Per Game: 115.6

Team Leaders

Passing: Tom Brady - 398-578, 4,806 yards, 50 TD, 117.2 rating

Receiving: Randy Moss - 98 receptions, 1,493 yards, 23 TD

Rushing: Laurence Maroney - 185 attempts, 835 yards, 6 TD

Interceptions:

Asante Samuel - 6

Tackles:

Tedy Bruschi - 92

Sacks:

Mike Vrabel - 12.5

Playoff Leaders

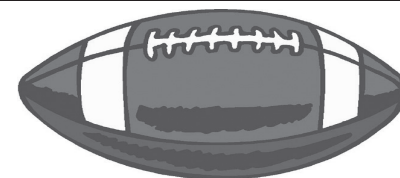
Passing: Tom Brady - 48-61, 471 yards, 5 TD, 105.7 rating

Receiving: Kevin Faulk - 13 receptions, 118 yards

Wes Welker - 16 receptions, 110 yards, 2 TD

Rushing: Laurence Maroney - 47 attempts, 244 yards, 2 TD

SUPERBOWL XLII



that head coach Tom Coughlin should have pulled the starters after half-time, but his decision to let them play the full game may have led to their momentum heading into the playoffs.

Behind solid outings from Manning, the Giants defeated the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the first round of the playoffs, followed by a stunning upset of the Dallas Cowboys on the road in which Manning showed flashes of brilliance and poise, something he hasn't shown with much consistency in his short career.

The most noteworthy performance of the Giants' season came in the NFC Championship game against the Green Bay Packers, in which New York overcame sub-zero wind chill temperatures to defeat the heavily favored Packers with a game-winning field goal in overtime.

And so the Giants are, once again, called upon to face the New England Patriots. This time, they are not only looking to ruin New England's perfect season, but more importantly, to give New York its first Super Bowl victory since the 1990 season.

The Giants are led by Eli Manning, whose less-than-spectacular regular season numbers are moot after having thrown for 599 yards and four touchdowns with a rating of 99.1 so far in the playoffs, coupled with his

newfound resilience and leadership.

Manning's main targets will be wide receivers Plaxico Burress and Amani Toomer, both of whom came up big in the championship game against Green Bay, adding to what has been an already solid season for both of the receivers.

On the ground, the Giants will be attacking with the two-headed monster of Brandon Jacobs and Ahmad Bradshaw, who have rushed for a combined 318 yards for four touchdowns in the playoffs.

On the other side of the ball, the Giants will be sending out one of the best pass-rushing lines in the NFL this season; a line that includes Osi Umenyiora (13 sacks) and Micheal Strahan (9 sacks), who helped lead the Giants defense to a league leading 53 sacks during the regular season.

They say the best offense is a good defense, but there isn't an overwhelming favorite in this contest as far as the defenses are concerned.

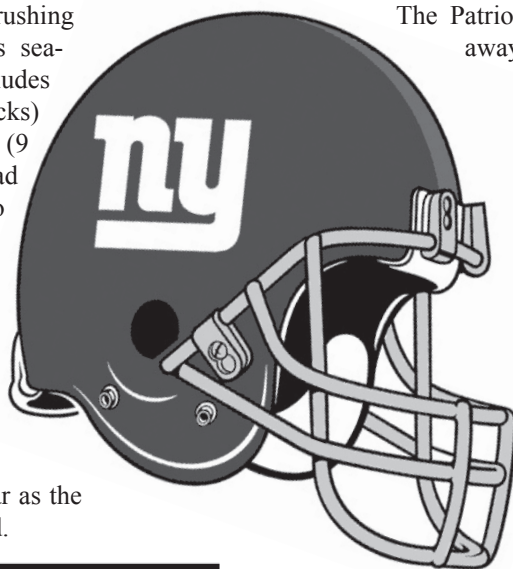
Both teams have done great jobs during the postseason in controlling their opposing teams' offenses, but at the end of the day, it comes down to which team is going to put the points on the board.

The Giants are going to come out with momentum and motivation behind Eli Manning, as they are once again the underdogs in the last game of the season, going up against the greatest offensive juggernaut ever assembled in the history of the NFL. David and Goliath? Not quite, but New Yorkers love to be underestimated and prove everyone wrong.

The Patriots are one victory away from the perfect season, a season in

which they have been labeled as villains for their actions during week one. This week, it's all about vindication for New England, as they face off against the NFC's best team and Cinderella-story in the New York Giants.

In the end, the New York Giants feel-good story will end abruptly at the hands of the New England Patriots, whose season is going to roll to a historic finish with a win in Super Bowl 42.



New York Giants

Record (Road): 10-6 (7-1)

Points Per Game: 23.3

Yards Per Game: 331.3

Passing Yards Per Game: 197.1

Rushing Yards Per Game: 134.2

Team Leaders

Passing: Eli Manning - 297-529, 3336 yards, 23 TD, 73.9 rating

Receiving: Plaxico Burress - 70 receptions, 1,025 yards, 12 TD

Rushing: Brandon Jacobs - 202 attempts, 1,009 yards, 4 TD

Interceptions:

Gibril Wilson, Sam Madison - 4

Tackles:

Antonio Pierce - 103

Sacks:

Osi Umenyiora - 13

Playoff Leaders

Passing: Eli Manning - 53-85, 599 yards, 4 TD, 99.1 rating

Receiving: Amani Toomer - 15 receptions, 196 yards, 3 TD

Plaxico Burress - 16 receptions, 194 yards

Rushing: Ahmed Bradshaw - 39 attempts, 163 yards, 1 TD

Brandon Jacobs - 48 attempts, 155 yards, 3 TD

Double Take

Steph examines the stats that truly matter...

BY STEPHANIE GERCHMAN
Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

From what I understand, it is surprising that the New York Giants are in the Super Bowl. My cousin also tells me the New England Patriots haven't lost a game in a while. A normal person without a doubt would therefore wager that the Patriots are going to win this year's biggest football contest.

I am nowhere near normal. I am going to root for the Giants.

Let's play make believe. Imagine both of these teams are what their team names describe. The Giants are actually humongous versions of human beings. They have massive hands and feet and over-sized bodies. The Patriots are soldiers with guns and formal uniforms and silly hats. The football field is only so big; thus, the Giants would be able to take four steps and be across the field. The Patriots would have to run and dodge the massive feet. They could try to shoot the Giants with their guns but it would probably be like throwing Tic-Tacs at them.

Take, for instance, the movie "Cloverfield." You have one humongous monster versus soliders with guns and tanks. I don't want to spoil the movie or anything, but the monster took a bigger beating than Apollo Creed in "Rocky IV," and he barely had a scratch on him.

Now, if they were playing the Colts they would definitely win...but then they would have to take up the results with PETA. The disadvantage for the Giants would be their inability to find the tiny little football. I don't really know the rules of football, but I think that the Patriots would have to forfeit due to the number of inevitable casualties. This would allow the Giants to win by default.

While my vision for this game may be slightly absurd, I still am a sucker for the underdog. My vote is for the Giants.

THE PICK:



40

24



Men's Basketball keeps pace in conference chase

Colonels look to continue MAC winning streak

BY GERARD HETMAN

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

As the first half of league play in the MAC Freedom Conference winds down this week, the Wilkes University Colonels continue to stake their claim as a force to be reckoned with in the conference standings.

After drubbing Freedom Conference newcomer Manhattanville earlier in the week, the Colonels withstood a heated last-minute rally to hang on for a 71-67 win at Delaware Valley College Saturday afternoon. The win moves the Colonels' overall record to 9-7, while improving their conference mark to 4-1. Saturday's win also snapped a 3-game losing streak for the Colonels in James Work Gymnasium on the Delaware Valley campus.

"It's a huge conference win and a huge road win for us," senior point guard Matt Gould said in the Wilkes lockerroom following the victory. "We faced tremendous adversity down the stretch out there, and coming away with a win took a complete team effort today. We need to continue that dedication to be successful."

The Colonels would lead by a double-digit margin at several points in the game before the Aggies began their run by embarking on a 13-0 spurt with three minutes left in the game. Raheem Wiggins powered the run for Delaware Valley by scoring seven of his 27 points during that stretch. Though the Aggies cut the Wilkes lead to a single point several times in the final minute, Chris DeRojas went 4-for-4 from the free throw line in the closing seconds to seal the win for Wilkes.

DeRojas continued his standout freshman campaign with his third straight 26-point scoring effort to lead Wilkes. Anthony Gabriel, Steve Kline and Gould each finished with ten points in the win, with Gabriel posted a double-double by pulling in ten rebounds.

The Colonels will welcome the Devils of FDU-Florham to the Marts Center on Wednesday to conclude the first half of conference play. While the freshmen-heavy and inexperienced Devils have only posted two wins on the season, they are sure to bring a determined style of play to Wilkes this week.

"We know every game is a battle in this league, and we can't overlook anyone," Gould said when asked about this week's contest. "We need to come out on all cylinders from here on out."

Wrestlers defeat Williams College in final bout of the day

BY ALISSA LINDNER

Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

The 27th-ranked Colonels wrestling team sweated out an 18-15 come-from-behind-win against Williams College on Saturday, January 26 in the Marts Gym.

The Colonels won the match in the final bout of the day with a pin by sophomore Andrew Feldman in the 285 lb. weight class. The win brings the Colonels overall record to 15-5-1.

The Williams College Ephs started out strong, winning the first three matches of the day. Junior Ethan Cohen won an 8-3 decision over Colonels junior Shaun

Farnham in the 125 lb. weight class. Ephs freshman Corey Paulish defeated Wilkes junior Josh Pauling 7-2 at 133 lbs. and Wilkes freshman Brandon Prentice lost a 6-0 decision to sophomore Dylan Rittenburg at 141 lbs..

Junior Erik Smith gave the Colonels its' first win of the day in the 149 lb. weight class. Smith scored two takedowns and added an escape for a 5-3 win by decision over Williams senior Nic Miragliuolo. Smith's win brought the overall team score 9-3 in favor of the Ephs.

Wilkes senior Adam Penberthy lost a close 4-2 decision against Carl Breitenstein in the 157 lb.

weight class; however, the Colonels would go on to win four of the last five bouts.

Sophomore Frank Heffernan improved his individual record to 24-8 with a strong 6-1 decision over Ephs' senior Doug Washington at 165 lbs. Heffernan's win brought the overall team scores 12-6 in favor of Williams.

Ephs' freshman James McCarthy gave Williams its final win of the day. McCarthy defeated Wilkes' sophomore Josh Lamb 6-0 in the 174 lb. weight class. Freshman Shawn Bradley brought the

Colonels to within six, defeating Ephs' sophomore Nathan Shippee in the 184 lb. weight class. Bradley scored four takedowns and added a point for riding time to win a 9-4 decision over Shippee.

Wilkes sophomore Zach Pizarro continued to perform well for the Colonels. Pizarro notched his 21st win of the season with an 11-5 win by decision over Ephs' junior Kyle Ayer. The win in the 197 lb. weight class brought the overall team scored to 15-12 in favor of Williams.

Feldman brought the most excit-

ing match of the day in the 285 lb. weight class. Feldman scored four takedowns before pinning Ephs' freshman Tim Kiely with 1:30 left in the third period. The win gave the Colonels their first lead of the day and an 18-15 overall win over the Williams College Ephs.

Going into the 285 lb. bout, Feldman knew he was in a must-win situation; however, Coach Jon Laudenslager encouraged him to wrestle his style.

Cont'd on Page 16



The Beacon/Gino Troiani

Sophomore Anthony Gabriel dunks one in during the closing minutes of the Colonels home game against Manhattanville last Tuesday.