



The Beacon/Jacqueline Lukas

Opinion Pages 6-8

Former Judges

Trial of former Luzerne County judges should remain in Pennsylvania and not be relocated to Delaware.

PAGE 6

Life Pages 9-12

Class in Prison

New classes being offered in the Fall '10 semester offer students unique opportunities, like taking class in prison.

PAGE 9

Arts & Entertainment Pages 13-15

POWzine Da'Zine

On March 25, three integrative media majors will host a release party for their collaborative art magazine.

PAGE 13

Sports Pages 16-20

Spotlight on Zach Pizarro

Senior All-American Zach Pizarro recently ended his wrestling career at Wilkes by placing fifth at the national championships.

PAGE 20



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Penny drive competition kicks off ahead of lecture

BY ANDREW SEAMAN

Online Editor

Wilkes University has teamed up with Pennies for Peace, a program of the Central Asia Institute, to collect pennies, which will be used to buy school supplies for children in parts of Central Asia.

The penny drive is a buildup to Wilkes University's Max Rosenn Lecture in Law and Humanities on Sunday, April 25. Greg Mortenson, co-author of *Three Cups of Tea* and co-founder of the Central Asia Institute, will deliver the lecture, "Promoting Peace Through Education."

"I actually knew about [the program] before he was coming," said Michelle Dubbs, a junior middle school math and special education major. "I like the whole premise, because education is a global thing. I really like what he is doing."

Pennies for Peace, which was also found-

ed by Mortenson, has raised over \$3 million for school supplies in Pakistan and Afghanistan since the program was created 15 years ago. According to PenniesforPeace.org, the organization's website, one penny can buy a pencil, 15 pennies can buy a notebook, \$20 can buy a child school supplies for a year and \$50,000 can build a new school and support it for five years.

Wilkes' penny drive kicked off with a "popcorn for pennies" theme on Thursday, March 18 in the Henry Student Center's first floor lounge. Students stopped by to drop off their pennies, and left with a bag of popcorn.

The penny drive has also turned into a competition between residence halls. The hall that raises the most money will win an ice cream party from Sodexo.

However, even with the spirited competition, Christiane Leitinger, director of Pennies for Peace, said the overall goal of the program is education.

"It's completely about education. In fact, if you were talk to Greg, what he would say is the raising money part of the organization is important because they need to teach youth in this culture that they are very blessed, and they have a responsibility to be of service to the rest of the world," said Leitinger.

According to Dubbs, the Education Club understands this goal.

"Every member of the Ed Club, just about, has a field placement this semester. We've opened it up to them to take into their observing classrooms, because on the website there is actually a curriculum that revolves around Pennies for Peace. So, when that fits into their lessons they can take it into the classrooms," said Dubbs, who is also the Education Club's treasurer.

"I think it is a great idea to teach students about the value of education, because I



Photo Courtesy of Marketing Communications

SEE PENNY, Page 4

Integrative Media and Visual Arts programs officially join forces

BY NICOLE FRAIL

Editor-in-Chief

This coming fall, students interested in pursuing courses in the programs of Integrative Media (IM) or Visual Arts will find both the programs under a brand new department of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (CAHSS).

According to Eric Ruggiero, assistant professor of IM, six to eight months ago, he entered conversation with Dr. Thomas Baldino, interim dean of the CAHSS, that regarded the continued growth of the IM program.

Approximately six years ago, former provost Dr. Maravene Loeschke initiated the IM program. The next year, Ruggiero was hired as director of the program and later

started the tenure-track as a faculty member.

Roughly 40 students are enrolled in the IM program today. Students in the program have the choice to minor in a number of areas that complement their major. These include art, communication studies, computer science, business administration, entrepreneurship, and English. Ruggiero and Baldino estimate that 70 percent of IM students choose to minor in art.

Sharon Bowar, associate professor of art, noted that the art program has also seen "steady" growth over the past eight to ten years.

"... On average, during the fall, spring and summer semesters, we serve up to 500 students annually. These are core courses, art minors, and electives ...," she said.

Due to the majority of IM students who pair their major discipline with art classes, Ruggiero, Baldino, and Bowar, in collaboration with the provost, discussed the possibility of removing the art program from the Visual and Performing Arts (VAP) department and placing it in a department alongside IM. Joseph Dawson, chair of the VAP, was supportive of the idea, as well.

"Of the VAP, the Visual Arts are probably the least perfect fit," said Baldino. "The Performing Arts fit together and they interact much more than the Visual Arts because, really, paintings don't dance."

"Our [IM] routes are in art, design and technology, but our branches go out to lots of things," said Ruggiero. "For me, coming from an art school background, it made lots of sense that the relationship with the

art program should be one that we should continue to build and foster."

According to Dr. C. Reynold Verret, provost, Wilkes University's Cabinet members approved the formal proposal to move the two programs to their own department on February 24.

The VAP department will undergo a change in name around the same time a final decision is made about the name of the new department that includes IM and Art. Ruggiero will fill the role of chair of the new department.

Since the initiation of the IM program, Ruggiero was employed as the only full-time faculty member of the program. Bowar is also the only full-time faculty member of the Visual Arts. While there are numer-

SEE IM, Page 3

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Beacon Briefs

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS

Online Editor

FALL & SUMMER REGISTRATION – Registration for the fall and summer classes began on Monday, March 22. Students can access the fall and summer schedules schedule via the Wilkes portal or they are available at the UCOM, Marts Center Lobby, HSC Lobby, Stark Learning Center Lobby or the library. Pre-registration with advisers began last week.

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT/INTERNSHIP FAIR – There will be a professional employment and internship fair held today, March 23 at the Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza, formerly the Wachovia Arena, in Wilkes-Barre. The fair is from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. and potential employers request resumes and professional dress attire. A list of employers is available at www.collegcentral.com/npecemploymentfair.

HOMEMADE PEANUT BUTTER EGG

IM

Continued from PAGE 2

ous IM and art adjuncts who teach courses at Wilkes for both programs, the provost hopes to bring in at least one more full-time faculty member for the new department.

A new classroom for the department is also under minimal renovation in the basement of Breiseth Hall. According to Baldino, when the Writing Center moved from Breiseth to the Library Commons, he asked Ruggiero if he was interested in embracing the space for the growing program.

Baldino also noted that in the future, new courses, minors, majors or even new degrees may be added for students of the new

SALE – Slocum Hall will be selling milk chocolate and dark chocolate peanut butter eggs today, March 23 in the Henry Student Center from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the International Hospital for Children.

NEPDEC PROGRAM – The Northeastern Pennsylvania Diversity Education Consortium will hold a webinar titled, “Toward Understanding Islam and Muslims” from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 24. The online presentation will be led by Mamoun Bader, PhD. from the Penn State Hazelton campus. Bader’s presentation will give an overview of the Islamic faith and values. The webinar will include a brief discussion on Muslims in America and particularly, in Northeastern Pennsylvania. To sign up, contact Dr. Tristana Harvey at tristana.harvey@wilkes.edu.

BEACON LEADERSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE -- Applications for Beacon Leadership positions are now

available. Students may pick up applications in the Communication Studies Department on the second floor of Capin Hall. Applications will be accepted until Friday, April 2 and should be returned to Lindsey Wotanis, 305 Capin Hall. Students of all majors and interests are encouraged to apply.

STD TESTING – Caring Communities in cooperation with the City of Wilkes-Barre’s Health Department will be offering free and confidential STD testing on campus on Thursday, March 25 from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. The tests will be offered at the Health and Wellness Center on the first floor of Passan Hall. No appointments are necessary. For more information contact Health Services.

APARTMENTS & SINGLE ROOM APPLICATIONS – Apartment and single room applications are available at the Office of Residence Life on the third floor of Passan Hall. Applications must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on April 1.

department to pursue.

Baldino added that Vernon Harper, associate provost, has taken on the task of investigating the possibility of bringing a major in art back to Wilkes. According to Bowar, the last time Wilkes offered a major in the Visual Arts was in 1998. The last students to pursue a degree in art graduated in 2002.

Bowar recognizes the importance of bringing the art major back to the University.

“Students will always be hungry for knowledge and experience in the fine arts,” she said. “The Visual Arts offer an eternally enriching area of study that forms the heart and soul of any self-respecting college or university.”

She added, “It’s wonderful to become a member of a new and exciting department. I’m pleased to see administration beginning

to recognize the enduring value of the visual arts. Our students in the Visual Arts and IM are producing fantastic creative works, and deserve the best of support within the right environment that includes an exciting mix of new technologies tempered by the guiding principles of tradition.”

Students are also accepting and excited about the new department, which will have received an official name by the fall semester. Some are surprised the idea and approach

Last week's winners a \$25 gift card to Sonic: Paul Griffing & Amanda LoFaro

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****Drop forms off at The Beacon office in Conyngham Hall or at the desk in the Student Union by Friday, March 26, by noon.****

One form per person. The winner will be announced in next week's issue.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

MYSTERY WORDS: _____



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

This fall, the Integrative Media or Visual Arts programs will combine to form a new department under the CAHSS. There will also be an IM classroom added in the former Writing Center's space of Breiseth Hall.

TENTH ANNUAL TOM BIGLER JOURNALISM CONFERENCE – The conference will be held on Friday, April 16 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The theme of this year’s conference is “Sports Journalism and Promotion” and will host the keynote speaker, Kevin Blackistone from AOL/FanHouse and ESPN’s “Around the Horn.” The conference is for high school students interested in telecommunications, journalism, public relations and other media areas. For more information on the conference, contact Lindsey Wotanis at lindsey.wotanis@wilkes.edu or 408-4165.

SG SPONSORED CLUBS BUDGETARY REQUEST – Student Government sponsored clubs are to request funds for the 2010-2011 school year. The budgetary request forms are due on April 9 to Benjamin Beidel, executive board treasurer, at benjamin.beidel@wilkes.edu. The amount that clubs request is not guaranteed for next year. Forms are available on the SG website.

al to officially pair the IM and art programs is just now occurring.

“The Visual Arts and IM pairing is just more intuitive than the pairing of Visual Arts and Performing Arts given the similarities between the two,” said junior Kenneth Stucker, English and philosophy double major.

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PENNY

Continued from PAGE 2

think students in America take for granted the opportunities that they have," said Aubrey Madera, vice president of the Education Club and a junior elementary education major specializing in early childhood with a minor in psychology and reading.

The penny drive will end April 21, and the money will be presented to Mortenson when he delivers his lecture at the F.M. Kirby Center.

According to Vicki Mayk, associate director of marketing communications at Wilkes, the University had to switch venues from the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts to the F.M. Kirby Center because so many people have requested tickets to the lecture.

"There seems to be enough interest out there for people to come and hear him speak. Instead of turning people away, we decided to move it to a bigger venue," said Mayk. She added, "There is money budgeted from the University to present all the lectures we present. They are covering the cost of the

Kirby Center within the budget that exists for all lectures at the University."

Mortenson has received national acclaim for his approach to a stable Central Asia. The New York Times' Nicholas Kristof said in a 2008 opinion article, "[Mortenson] a lone Montanan staying at the cheapest guest houses has done more to advance U.S. interests in the region than the entire military and foreign policy apparatus of the Bush administration."

"What we've learned is that people seem to relate to this speaker on a very emotional level, and the book [Three Cups of Tea] has something to do with that. The book is not only about what he did, but he is the central character in the book. I think people see him as a sort of folk hero," said Mayk.

The lecture is free and open to the public; however, tickets are required.

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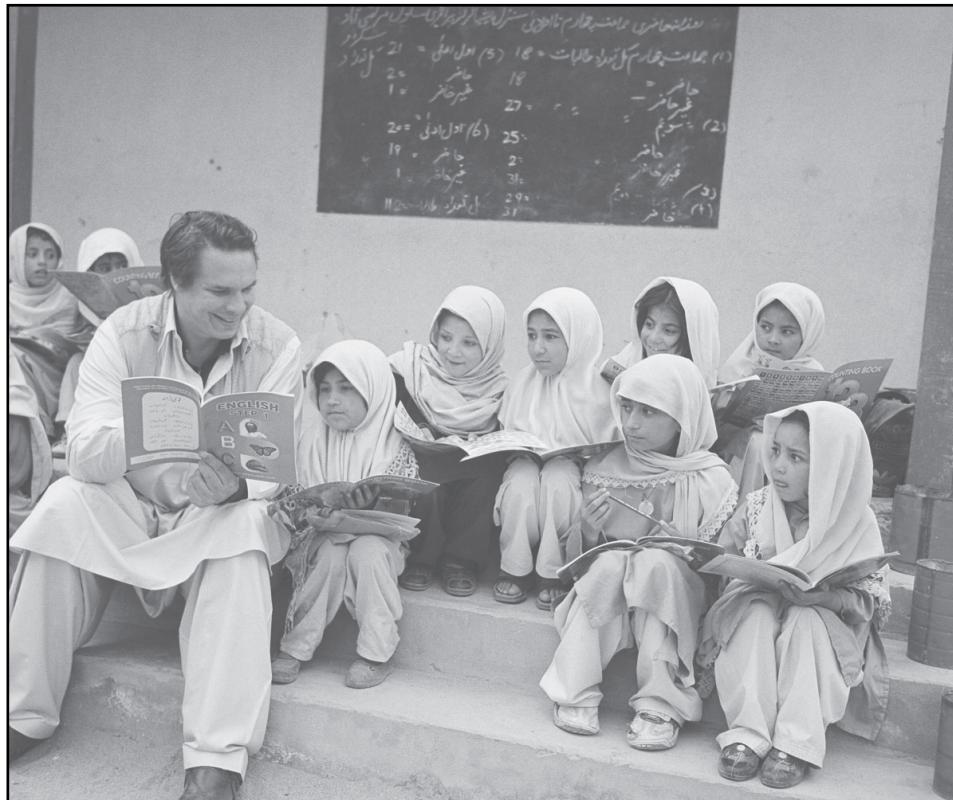


Photo Courtesy of David Oliver Relin

Greg Mortenson, the author of *Three Cups of Tea* and co-founder of the Central Asia Institute, interacts with children at the Gultori Refugee School in Pakistan. Mortenson is also the co-founder of Pennies for Peace, which is an organization that raises money for schoolchildren in Pakistan and Afghanistan.



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Student petition asks for longer weekend library hours

BY RACHEL LEGGIERI

Staff Writer

A petition questioning the Farley Library's current operating hours was recently posted on the bulletin board inside the main entrance. This petition was posted by two students, junior biology major Brittany Maloney and sophomore biology major Aaron Wolman, in hopes of getting the library to answer their request to extend its hours.

Currently, the Farley Library is open Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. until 12 a.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. until 12 a.m.

Dean John Stachacz, library services, explained that the petition was much appreciated.

"When we first saw it up there, a few people were saying 'oh, you can't possibly want to keep that up,'" said Stachacz. "Of course I [want to keep it up]. We operate on knowing what students want and we are rewarded with that kind of feedback." The idea of the petition came about during

a study session Maloney and Wolman had one night in the library.

"We overheard a fellow student saying 'I'm going to be here all night... well at least until they flicker the lights at 11:30,'" said Maloney. "The conversation went from there, and that's when we decided to make the petition."

The issue of extended hours is one that is very familiar to Stachacz. He explained that there have been recent extensions to the hours—one of them being this year's recent addition of Saturday hours.

"Believe it or not, we are very aware of the amount of students in and out of the library," he said. "We know when the busy times are and when the slow times are, and we do adjust our schedules to match it."

The petitioners feel the hours during the week are reasonable, but are fighting for an extension on the weekends.

"It's frustrating when you would like to continue your work after your Friday class so that you could enjoy your weekend," said Maloney. "When the library closes at 5 p.m., it almost seems as if it's an incentive to shut your brain off until Sunday night."

Christine Gavlick, a junior business ad-

ministration major, explained that she can relate to these frustrations.

"There's some applications needed for homework that not everyone has on their computers at home," she said. "With a student's busy schedule—work and classes—it would be nice to have more flexible access to what the library has to offer."

Currently, the petition has 19 signatures.

"When you look at the petition, the amount of signatures is symbolic to what students are saying," said Stachacz. "However, we don't want to turn a deaf ear to the students that do need us. We are trying our best to find reasonable accommodations."

The library has been considering the issue of hours for a while now. One of the possible solutions discussed is the addition of a swipe-in machine at the library's door. Through this machine, anyone with a swipe card would have access to the library and its accommodations after closing hours.

"If we are supplied the resources and security that we need for the swipe card, that easily could be the answer to the problem," said Stachacz. "As long as we can guarantee the safety of the students and make sure they're actually there doing what needs

to be done, then we may be able to figure something out."

Stachacz made a point to mention that any student that has a comment on improvement may post it on the library's website. "The petition caught our eye and was approached in an intelligent way...I applaud them for their efforts," he said. "However, we do also try to accommodate any request on our website's comment board."

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Beacon Corrections

In Issues 14 and 15, *The Beacon* incorrectly reported that Student Government was holding Casino Night at the Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza. It is being held in the Marts Gym.

The Beacon regrets these errors.

Nicole Frail, Editor-in-Chief
Lindsey Wotanis, Adviser

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Trial of former Luzerne County judges should stay here

BY THE BEACON
Editorial Board

According to local news, former Luzerne County judges Mark Ciavarella and Michael Conahan seek to have their upcoming corruption trial moved to a federal court in Delaware. The decision was based on the results of a phone poll and other evidence that shows that the majority of people that live in Pennsylvania believe that the two former judges are guilty.

The *Times Leader* reported that a telephone poll conducted by a national trial consulting firm, DecisionQuest, showed that of the 409 people that were interviewed, 68.8 percent believed the two men were "definitely or probably guilty."

Another reason that they wish to have the trial moved is because of the amount of press this corruption scandal has received since it was first made public. DecisionQuest analyzed the media coverage that this scandal has been given and from January to November 2009, local newspapers and television stations combined produced 2,200 stories about the subject.

Though these two judges feel that having the trial in Pennsylvania will create a bias for their prosecution, the trial should stay

here. It is unnecessary to move the trial to a federal court in Delaware for a number of reasons, with the potential bias being one of the leading factors.

First off, Ciavarella and Conahan wish to have the trial moved specifically to a federal court in Delaware because the same DecisionQuest poll that found that the majority of Pennsylvania residents believe them to be guilty also found that 28.3 percent of the Delaware residents interviewed were familiar with the case and only 14.7 percent believe them to be guilty. It may be arguable to say that moving this trial to Delaware would give Ciavarella and Conahan the advantage because potential jurors are less familiar with the case and therefore less likely to find them guilty. However, instances like this are why the court system has a jury selection process.

The way a jury is selected is simple. Jurors are selected from a broad-based pool and asked a series of questions by both the prosecution and the defense. Both must agree on the potential juror before that person can serve on the jury. If these former judges are worried about bias, it is in this process that any potential bias is eliminated. The Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments guarantee Ciavarella and Conahan the right

to a fair and speedy trial by an impartial jury and due process under the law, meaning that the government must respect the legal rights of an individual under the law. No matter where the trial is held, these laws still apply making it unnecessary to move the trial anywhere.

In relation to the bias these former judges believe they have against them, Pennsylvania residents are basing their opinions on what has been reported. If they believe these former judges to be guilty, it is on the facts surrounding this corruption that they based their opinions. While newspapers and television stations have reported a great deal of stories on the Luzerne County corruption, it is a news journalist's duty to fairly and accurately report on a subject. If they did not do this, they would not be employed in the journalism profession.

The most important reason why this trial should stay in Pennsylvania is because the crimes for which these two men are being charged happened right here. If these men are found guilty, we should be the ones to say it, not a federal court in Delaware. We are the ones that were taken advantage of and we are the ones who had to deal with the negative publicity this case has given to Luzerne County.

BEACON POLL

The Beacon poll is unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on the Wilkes campus. The poll was based on 63 responses.

Last week's question:

Do you feel that Student Development is doing a good job at Wilkes University?

- Yes 84%
- No 16%

This week, The Beacon asks:

Do you think that the corruption trial of former judges Mark Ciavarella and Michael Conahan should be moved to a federal court in Delaware?

- Yes
- No

Cast your vote online at:
www.wilkesbeacon.com

Firing via e-mail an unprofessional approach to running a business

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS
Life Editor

Just to say "hello," to catch up with friends, to schedule a meeting- those are all functions that e-mails serve. Firing someone from a job is not a function an e-mail should serve; however, it seems to be slowly becoming a trend.

When someone is being let go from a position, or having any important, personal conversation of any type, it should not occur over the medium of electronic mail.

As pre-professionals, we are taught proper etiquette in workplace settings. Whether it be in a research facility, a restaurant or an internship, we are put into professional settings to hone our skills of the protocol of the real world we are about to embark into.

It is sometimes the unfortunate lesson of individuals, both pre-professionals and professionals alike, to learn how the real world functions, not necessarily, however, how it should function.

An example of this type of professional mishap is major communication over the medium of e-mail. I felt the effects of this poor form of communication when I was let go from a position via e-mail. Not only did the medium (make getting fired) feel more like a slap in the face, but even the language was too casual to be my electronic pink slip. That being said, I was let go, which is never a positive situation.

Businesses and organizations, both big and small, are turning to e-mail to communicate more quickly and in different forums with their employees. The Washington Post reported that electronic juggernaut RadioShack sent the following message to some four hundred employees via e-mail: "Unfortunately your position is one that has been eliminated."

Being pink-slipped, down-sized, or restructured, whichever way you'd like to phrase it, is never easy to take. Having any of these come through your inbox can be an even more difficult venture.

According to Jessica Levco, a Ragan.com staff writer, "the term 'unemployment office' hasn't changed-nor has the sting of losing your job, your work family, your benefits, and maybe a bit of your pride." Levco writes to reach out to readers of her column to share their personal stories of being let go via e-mail and other less-than-professional ways.

Her readers share stories like being let go via e-mail, receiving phone calls, and even going to get their paycheck from the distribution office and finding that there is not one there for them.

Horror stories like these of clashing professional views happen on a daily basis due to the failing economy. However, in this increasingly technologically-savvy world, are we, as a culture, reaching a time when communication like this is acceptable over e-mail?

Columnist Sheppard Sternthal cites in his article "Email Communication in the Workplace" that it is important to "remember that

business email is not the same as personal email." Sternthal also suggests that if you do receive an unprofessional workplace e-mail "at your work address, either delete them [or] ignore them." Hmm, perhaps that is what I should have done.

Firing employees has now become as casual a process as sending a memo or inviting a co-worker to lunch. What seems even sadder in this unfortunate situation is that talking, really talking, to our co-workers-to their faces-seems it has completely eliminated itself from work place etiquette.

While situations like the one at RadioShack or even my own personal situation could have been handled in more professional and upstanding ways, e-mail communication is a wave of the future, and workers should become savvy to that particular fact. But be careful, because you may not want to check your e-mail as frequently.

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Thinking (and acting) sustainably

Safer and healthier living starts with the individual

BY WESLEY KINTER

AmeriCorps* VISTA

Remember that Audi commercial during the Super Bowl that comically reinforced the connection between environmentalists and the “Green Police”? It was mildly controversial, but some thought it was a fair and funny jab at a movement that was maybe a little too pompous for its own good.

As someone who does care about the environment, energy independence, and energy efficiency, I couldn’t agree more. But who’s really getting parodied in the ad isn’t the farcical bureaucratic agency over-punishing petty offenses but the “normal” people surrounded by bad choices willing to live with such an oppressive group.

Why would they do that to themselves? Wouldn’t it seem like a better idea to make some small changes to their habits and perceptions about things like pollution, trash, and energy than force some privacy-bashing initiative to make those decisions instead?

Unfortunately, if we’re not willing to let someone else make those calls, it becomes our responsibility to change the way we look at how we live and the services we use everyday. Is the convenience of bottled water worth paying hundreds to thousands of times more than for tap water? Is it worth it for pretending to be safer or healthier rather than forcing yourself to fight for cleaner or better tasting water from local public systems?

Are any of these thoughts going through your head as you make these purchases? This is the kind of mystification within our over-consuming culture that we should be fighting so much harder to stop: deceitful marketing, hidden costs and unsustainable systems. Environmentalists don’t want to tell you what to do or think. They think it might not be a terrible idea to reduce our pollution and waste and think you might agree. But you don’t disagree; you just don’t care enough.

And you should. It doesn’t matter what it takes to motivate yourself, but if you need some help, here’s a handy list of relevant

issues: improving air and water quality, preserving national and state parks, promoting healthy eating, curbing resource consumption, improving health, reducing solid wastes, achieving energy independence, improving energy efficiency, preserving endangered plant and animal species, reducing toxicity in homes and schools and preventing climate change.

You don’t have to agree with or support every item on that list, but that’s exactly the point. Environmentalism isn’t just about climate change, it’s about providing solutions to our unsustainable systems so that we can use less, waste less, and live better.

Climate change is the threat of our failure to cooperate and achieve that world. Recycling, changing your light bulbs, and buying a Prius won’t be enough to make a difference. We need a fundamental shift in the way people think about the things they buy, use and throw away.

It’s easier than it sounds, but only if we follow through. Start thinking sustainably about the items you buy. Where do they come from? What are the hidden costs? Think about useless packaging and ludicrous portion sizes, and stop pretending that it was always this way.

Think about how energy efficiency and a smarter, thriftier consumer culture can save everyone money across the board. Think about the additives, chemicals and toxins you ingest in every processed meal. Think about how you can be your own “green police” and solve these problems. If you don’t know, ask for help or insight.

Then start acting. Volunteer at cleanups, change your diet and make smarter purchases. Plant and maintain community gardens, buy locally and reuse everything you can. Ride your bike to class or work, write to your congressman, and, yes, recycle.

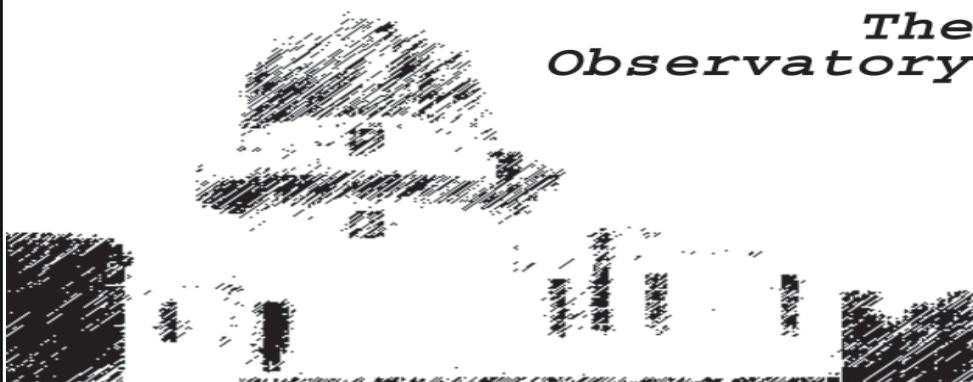
There are a million ways we can live responsibly, but we have to promise to collectively participate if we want to achieve that better world.

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“Environmentalism isn’t just about climate change, it’s about providing solutions to our unsustainable systems so that we can use less, waste less, and live better.”

The
Observatory



Why do double standards exist when it comes to restrooms?

BY MATTHEW GOGAS

Opinion Editor

Before anyone dismisses my entire argument, please hear me out. I would like to talk about prejudice that all men experience on a day to day basis. For those of you that may not be informed about the monumental differences between the restrooms, I will enlighten you.

While some restrooms are unisex, most are gender specific. When these public restrooms are gender specific, they are obviously not designed the same way. Even if you are a male and you have never seen the inside of a women’s restroom, you know that a men’s restroom has urinals and a women’s does not. In contrast, there are more stalls to accommodate the women in their restroom.

Also, women have feminine products available to them in their restroom, while men have no need for these things in theirs. However, when you get past these differences between the two, other glaring differences present themselves.

Women’s restrooms are often bigger and brighter than men’s, provide more privacy, and sometimes have a pre-restroom area before the stalls and sinks that have nice flowers and/or couches for women to sit and relax on before they “do their business.” Males do not have these luxuries.



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

The modest elements and level of comfort that a men’s restroom exhibits pales in comparison to a women’s restroom, which often includes a couch, chairs, more space, more stalls, and more privacy.

Excessive surveillance promotes fear, not safety

BY ANTHONY TRUPPO
Assistant Opinion Editor

Security cameras have become ubiquitously threatening to law-abiding citizens across the United States. Although a small percentage of these cameras succeed in reducing crime, there are several small towns throughout the United States where security cameras increase the rate of fear rather than lowering rates of crime.

In 2009, over one hundred cameras were planted throughout the streets of Lancaster, PA, an Amish town of nearly 55,000 citizens. According to StopTheCameras.com, Lancaster, PA is the “most surveilled city per-capita in the U.S.” Lancaster contains more security cameras than many major cities, including Philadelphia, San Francisco and Boston.

The security cameras are placed on power poles, mainly in public places; however, some of the cameras are also placed in residential areas. If I had a camera staring at my home from across the street, I would certainly feel a bit safer from criminals, yet I would likely be in a constant state of fear that I am being watched. Living in an

apartment building with security cameras in every hallway, I have become accustomed to their presence and realize that their purpose is to prevent criminals from entering; however, security cameras that stare into a person’s window signify that the authorities are taking the whole surveillance thing a bit too far.

The biggest reason people fear security cameras in Lancaster is that the cameras are not even monitored by the police. The cameras are monitored by employees and volunteers of the Lancaster Community Safety Coalition (LCSC), a nonprofit group that is not regulated by the state or federal government. Basically, any-

one looking for a job can waltz right into the LCSC headquarters and apply to watch people going up and down their driveways.

Since all citizens are given the ability to work for the LCSC, the coalition is bound to employ less-than-honest workers. According to Lancaster Newspapers Inc., a journalist working for the company discovered that an LCSC trainee had previously been ar-

rested for harassment and impersonating a public safety officer. I certainly would not feel safe if the coalition appointed to surveil my entire town had once hired a convicted criminal.



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Security cameras placed in public places, like the one pictured above, often provoke fear in law-abiding citizens. Surveillance cameras continue to appear in more and more locations across the country.

Most of the time, security cameras observe people in their everyday lives. When the occasional crime does occur, cameras can be effective in the apprehension of a criminal; however, the multitude of cameras scattered throughout Lancaster have not significantly reduced the city’s violent crime rates. Although the cameras did help police capture a murderer and solve a few other violent crimes, a vast majority of the crimes captured by the town’s cameras are very minor offenses, such as prostitution and public drunkenness.

Since the cameras were installed, many peaceful protests have taken place in Lancaster, yet none have had an effect in stopping the city-wide surveillance.

Although security cameras provide a slight reduction in violent crime rates, they seem to be more focused on creating fear. If the Orwellian surveillance of Lancaster, PA spreads throughout the country, dollar bills in the future may be printed with the new motto of the United States, “In Surveillance We Trust.”

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Is FLAC file format likely to surpass MP3 as the standard?

BY BRYAN CALABRO
Correspondent

There is nothing like waking up on a bright Saturday morning, or any morning for that matter, and taking your iPod out to accompany you on your jog. While you are trudging down the street, avoiding the pot holes and the old lady walking her dog, your mind is enriched with the booming sound of a stripped down audio version of a CD.

According to Easeaudioconverter.com, “an MP3 file that is created using the setting of 128 kbit/s will result in a file that is about 1/11th the size of the CD file created from the original audio source.”

The stripped down audio version, almost 1/11th of the original sound source is called an MPEG-1 Audio Layer 3 file, commonly abbreviated as MP3. As an audio enthusiast (Audiophile), I can tell you that because the audio format of an MP3 is a compression of the original source, it obviously lacks the original quality.

MP3 files were created to do just that; be lacking. The original sound source gets compressed into a smaller package; this smaller package is commonly referred to as

the beloved MP3 file. It is compressed because the uncompressed version of a song’s file size is roughly 30 megabytes, while the common MP3 file size is usually three mega bytes. So, if your four gigabyte media player holds 1000 songs, you can only hold about 150 songs with the larger uncommon lossless file formats.

There are many lossless format files, but the one that is most prominent and most likely to become the standard is the Free Lossless Audio Codec file, commonly referred to as the FLAC file. As technology keeps advancing and computer hard drive space grows larger, FLAC is likely to prevail and push all files to this “lossless” format.

What’s so good about this FLAC format? From a chart on Flac.sourceforge.net you can see how FLAC files surpass MP3 format files. They use nearly 50-60% of the sound source compared to the mere nine percent (1/11th) of the common 128kb/s MP3 file. Think about it. Near perfect sound quality passing digitally through your cochlear nerve to the depths of your brain. Can you imagine having a concert-like audio quality in your living room? Yes, now I can actually make myself go deaf! I am just kidding, of

course. Everything in moderation.

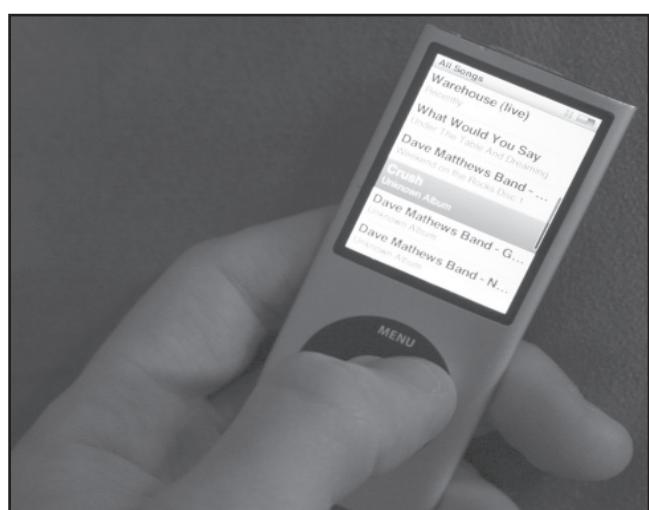
Audiophiles like me are always complaining about the quality of music, finding all the little distortions and static. Common audio enthusiasts consistently say “vinyl’s are the best way to listen to music,” but now audio enthusiasts can replace that vinyl with the fat raw format of lossless digital sound.

FLAC files may not ever surpass MP3 as the most popular type of music file, but audio enthusiasts alike will be compelled to learn more about these new lossless audio formats, especially the FLAC file.

The only problem is that FLAC files are not a mainstream commodity yet because almost none of the major portable media players support the format. If more people continue to use FLAC instead of MP3, companies like Apple and Microsoft will start making digital media players that support this type of file. With hard drive space not

being a major issue anymore, the only thing holding this back is music listeners. So, if you want to listen to better quality music, download FLAC files instead of MP3. You will not regret it.

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The Beacon/Tom Reilly

A student is browsing MP3s, which present the listener with a watered-down version of a CD's audio quality. FLAC files have near perfect quality, yet they are of a larger size and not supported by most portable players.

MARCH 23, 2010

College days

Dr. Rodney Ridley remembers his LASER summer at Lincoln University.



PAGE 10

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Next fall, students can trade classrooms for cell blocks

Fall 2010 course schedule provides host of new, interesting classes

BY RUTH WHISPELL

Life Assistant Editor

The catalog for the fall 2010 semester provides an array of classes that are new, interesting or redesigned and being taught in a different manner than they have been in previous years. Students who are interested in criminology or wish to pursue a career in teaching can take a hands-on approach to learning.

Two courses that will be taking the applied way of learning in the fall semester are SOC 222: Criminology as an Inside-Out course, which will be taught from a prison, and ED 190: Effective Teaching with Field Experience, which will allow students to learn through mentoring with a local school teacher.

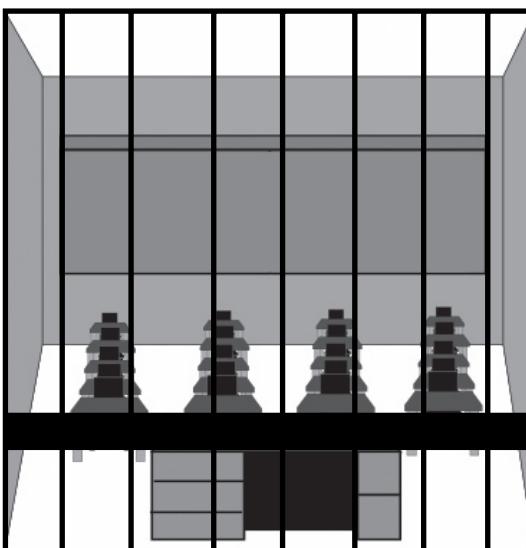
SOC 222 is recommended for criminology majors or upperclassmen with an interest in crime and corrections. The class has will be taught by Dr. Ebonie Cunningham Stringer, assistant professor of sociology and criminology.

The class [SOC 222] will be taught at the State Correctional Institution [SCI] in Dallas, Pennsylvania. Stringer explained that all of the class meetings will be in the prison

except for the first and last class meetings, which will be held on campus.

"We will focus on past and present theoretical explanations of crime and policy and research implications. The course will also require a group project on which Wilkes Students and residents, inside the prison, will collaborate," said Stringer who has taught the course before but never in a prison as an inside-out course.

While taking part in the class, Stringer asks that the students refer to the inmates as residents. "The term 'prisoner' carries a stigma based on assumptions about people who are incarcerated. These assumptions often have no basis in reality and may not always reflect the person to which it is attached," said Stringer.



The SOC 222 class will work with a diverse group of residents who have committed different crimes. However, residents who are sex offenders and those who have recently had disciplinary problems will not be allowed to take part in the program.

Stringer explained that the residents taking part in the program will be selected through an application process in order to find those best suited for interaction with the students.

While criminology majors can acquire hands-on learning while working with residents in SCI Dallas, students wishing to pursue a degree in teaching can learn more about the teaching field while mentoring with a teacher in a local school through the course ED 190: Effective teaching with field experience.

rience.

ED 190 is offered every fall and spring semester. This fall 2010 semester the course will offer three sections that each enroll 20 students. One of the sections will be taught by Mrs. Anne Thomas, coordinator of education and the other two sections will be taught by Dr. Marcia R. Balester, assistant professor of education.

Students who take ED 190 will be taught concepts and skills that are effective for teaching.

In addition to their classes on campus, students taking ED 190 are required to complete a 40 hour field experience in a local school. "Students are assigned to schools based on their certification path and subject area. Students need to obtain three clearances, two state and one federal, to be able to complete field experiences," said Thomas.

For more information about Stringer's SOC 222 class email, Dr. Ebonie Cunningham Stringer at ebonie.cunningham@wilkes.edu. For more information about Thomas's ED 190 class email, Mrs. Anne Thomas at anne.thomas@wilkes.edu.

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Students of the week: Jason Woloski & Cortny Sasserson

BY MARJORIE WHISPELL

Correspondent

Every spring break, while other students are catching up on their studies and sleep, those students who are members of Alternative Spring Break [ASB] travel across the globe volunteering their services to states, countries and people in need of assistance. This year one of the places where some of the ASB students volunteered was the Dominican Republic.

Jason Woloski, a senior biochemistry and pre-med major, and Cortny Sasserson, a sophomore business administration major, were two students who had the chance to experience ASB in the Dominican Republic.

Sasserson and Woloski spent Spring break helping children at the Jaibon orphanage in the Dominican Republic. While there they performed various service projects, including field clearing and



Photo courtesy of Jason Woloski

Woloski took a break to pose for a photo with some fourth grade girls in the Dominican Republic.

landscaping work. They also spent time at the local public schools teaching students English as a second language, in a creative ways like using songs.

The trip was the first ASB trip for both Woloski and Sasserson, who both held high expectations for their experiences.

"This trip gave me a clearer view of how important it is for volunteers to reach out to

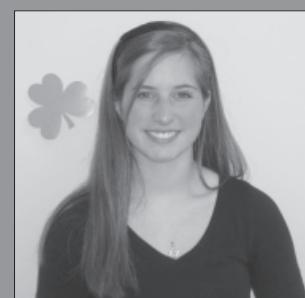


Photo courtesy of Melanie Thomas

It was Sasserson's first time participating in ASB, and her expectations for the trip were far exceeded.

developing countries and those in need all over the world," said Woloski.

Sasserson explained that the culture of the Dominican Republic was a very personal one.

The Beacon: Where do you see yourself in ten years?

Woloski: Following medical school and residency, I hope to return to Northeastern

PA, establish my own practice as a family physician, settle down, and start a family.

Sasserson: I see myself doing what I love; I don't know what that is but if I am going to spend 10 years working for something it should be something I love.

The Beacon: Describe yourself in three words.

Woloski: Altruistic, charismatic, and compassionate.

Sasserson: Passionate, creative, stubborn.

The Beacon: Finish the sentence, "My friends would be surprised to know..."

Woloski: that I plan on running for political office some day.

Sasserson: That I am naturally shy.

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College Days

Dr. Rodney Ridley LASERs through his undergraduate years

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS

Life Editor

Dr. Rodney Ridley, director of engineering, remembers the LASER summer.

Between 1984 and 1987, Ridley attended Lincoln University as a physics major. At Lincoln, Ridley gained many academic opportunities, developed a dedicated work ethic and even some serious study habits. The thing Ridley takes away from his undergraduate years, however, stemmed from the LASER summer.

"It was the Lincoln Aero Space Engineering Recruitment program. It was a program that was funded by NASA to increase the number of minority students in science, in engineering specifically," said Ridley.

Beginning college earlier than most, Ridley packed his bags to move to Lincoln's campus to begin his first year of college, but he did not move in August like many freshman. Ridley, and his peers in the LASER program, had to leave high school in May of their senior years.

"You had to leave high school early. The program actually started the beginning of May of your senior year. I left school early to go on campus. They compressed your first year into your first summer," said Ridley.

Cramming an entire year's worth of work into a few short months, Ridley began what he described as academic "boot camp."

"The courses were four hours in the morning and four hours in the afternoon, plus mandatory study sessions at night. It was a very intense summer," said Ridley.

A group of approximately twenty students, according to Ridley, enrolled in the highly competitive program out of the prestigious University. In fact, fellow alumni of Lincoln include Thurgood Marshall and Langston Hughes, as well as African royalty.

"People who went through the program with me went on to go to MIT, Harvard law school, and there was even a girl who went to work for NASA and then got an appoint-

out socially. Over one of the summers he stayed at Lincoln to assist on a research project, Ridley met his future wife.

"I never had time to do much besides study. I equate it to having no money. If you have no money, you know you can't afford [to do anything]. I knew I always would have to study, so I hardly went out," said Ridley.

He did get out, however, during the begin-



Photo courtesy of Marketing Communications

Dr. Ridley attended Lincoln University for his undergraduate years. Lincoln, according to Ridley, has been hailed as the most historically black college in America.

ment to work for President Obama," said Ridley.

Ridley was prepared for his rigorous take on college since he had spent almost every summer of his high school career traveling to different schools and enrolling in different programs.

"One summer it was Villanova, one summer it was Drexel," said Ridley.

His difficult course load kept him plenty busy throughout his time at Lincoln. However, Ridley did find some time to branch

ning of his first semesters after the LASER summer. Ridley refers to this relaxation from his studies as decompressing. He decompressed with parties and "weekend kind of stuff." He even found time to pre-pledge a fraternity.

"My friends were pledging, and I did all the pre-stuff, but when it came time to pledge I chose not to. I didn't think it suited me. Fraternities have that group-mentality," said Ridley.

The way the LASER program was set up,

according to Ridley, was that students did three years at Lincoln and then went to an accredited engineering school to finish the other two years of the program. This type of structure left the students with two bachelor's degrees, one in physics and one in engineering.

"The way the program was originally set-up was you spend three years at Lincoln doing most of your background information. Three years at Lincoln, then you would transfer to a school that was affiliated with the program to finish your last two years in engineering," said Ridley.

Ridley, and two other classmates, traveled to Penn State University at University Park to finish out their program. Ridley even stayed at PSU for a total of nine years to finish both his master's and doctorate degrees.

Through all of his rigorous work, Ridley realized that learning in a smaller academic environment like Lincoln, which he relates to Wilkes, requires students not to be afraid to ask questions.

"In a group of ten students, I'll know if you're sleeping or don't know something. You can't hide in an auditorium of 4,000 students," said Ridley.

He also walked away with a confidence of finishing the rigorous program.

"Out of the approximately 20 students, four of us finished at Lincoln," said Ridley. And Dr. Rodney Ridley has the LASER summer to thank for that.

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In his own words, Dr. Ridley plays Cageball and has the scars to prove it:

“ Cageball doesn't exist anymore, but what they had was an outdoor basketball court. Because it was next to the road, it was fenced in by a cage. Really high cage, high walls. And we had some of the most intense basketball games, because everybody wanted to take out their frustrations. Almost like wrestling, these steel cage matches. I still have the scar to this day. My best friend did this to me. The scars and the intense rivalries that went on there. You actually played basketball, but it was just surviving. I just remember after class everybody running to the cage. ”

Sweet treats help to usher in spring season

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS

Life Editor

Two weeks ago, mounds of snow covered cars, sidewalks, and roads. Now it is 60 degrees and sunny. Spring has finally sprung, and along with it many people, who want to get out and enjoy the season, are looking forward to getting outside and enjoying what the season has to offer. In the midst of mid-terms and projects, students and community members alike can now look forward to that yearly venture of finding a great ice cream cone or Italian water ice.

The Valley has several options in the area of springtime refreshment. While one can look forward to the seasonal openings of big name ice cream and Italian water ice establishments there are also a few lesser known but equally as delicious treats to find.

Going to an ice cream store or stand seems almost as spring-like as flowers or baseball. The area has several options for ice cream lovers. Cold Stone Creamery, located on Mundy Street in Wilkes-Barre, takes one's favorite flavors of hard ice cream and creates sweet creations by kneading the ice cream on frozen stone. There are plenty of other ice cream locations, though, to choose from. Sprinkles, located on Wyoming Avenue in Edwardsville, offers up general flavors of these frozen treats.

A lesser-known ice cream place students can trek to is Curly Creme Soft Ice Cream. Down South River Street, just beyond the Route 309 overpass, Curly Crème gets rave reviews from its online audience.

"They make a wicked good ice cream, and it's not that expensive," said Matthew Duffy, junior history and secondary Education major.

If an ice cream eater is more inclined to

have hard ice cream instead of soft, they can travel to Moosic, near Old Forge, for Jitty Joe's Ice Cream. Specializing in hard ice cream, Jitty Joe's offers up new flavors for the season.

"[They have a] very wide variety of choices. They have almost any flavor of hard ice cream you can imagine and large serving sizes," said Marissa Harrison, P1 pharmacy major.

Avid ice cream eaters can go straight to the source by riding up Route 309 towards Dallas to Hillside Farms. This farm, dairy, and ice cream shop offers up fresh ice cream. They even make homemade ice cream sandwiches.

If Italian water ice is the treat one is looking for, there are options in and around town. Rita's Italian Water Ice, located on Market Street in Kingston, creates several different flavor options. Students can look forward to the new Peep-flavored water ice, which debuted on Saturday.

Competing with Rita's this season is Josie's Italian Water Ice. Located on Wyoming Avenue in Edwardsville, Josie's plays soft, classical music to customers who line the streets for the treats. Just be prepared before venturing to Josie's, because they only accept cash.

While there are many different places the Wilkes community can begin to trudge to now that the sun is shining and the weather is warmer, the above places are certainly points to start at.

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The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Patrons wait outside Rita's Italian Ice on Market Street. Serving up fresh Italian ice and custard, Rita's is a seasonal favorite of locals. Rita's annual "Free Rita's Day" was held Saturday, March 20th.

Wilkes alumni take on roles as Wilkes staff

BY ADRIENNE SHELLENBERGER

Staff Writer

May is just around the corner and students from the class of 2010 are applying for grad schools and jobs, but job opportunities may be closer than they know.

Yohanna De Los Santos was a communication studies major with concentrations in journalism and broadcasting. Right after she graduated in 2009, she hopped on a plane to Florida and interned at Walt Disney World Resorts for seven months.

"I gained lots of valuable experience as part of the Disney College Program," De Los Santos said. Once she came back to Pennsylvania she applied for jobs and is now a part-time admissions counselor at Wilkes.

"I would have never imagined there was going to be an open position at Wilkes," she said. "Best of all I absolutely enjoy it." As a student, she had done work study in the admissions office, so she knew it would be a great fit. "I loved my time as a student and I feel my years as a communications major prepared me for the outer world," she said.

Jason Wagner, course web programmer for the College of Graduate & Professional Studies, was a double major in computer science and math when he began working part-time at Wilkes. He originally thought he didn't have time to work between 15 and 20 hours a week.

After he graduated last May, he was offered the full-time position. "I thought do I really want to stay here after I've been here for four years," he said. However, Wagner

took the job, which he now enjoys.

Wagner plans to attend grad school eventually. He explained that taking the position was a good opportunity to help him decide whether he wanted to work or go to grad school.

Felix Wingen, now assistant director of international students, majored in English, with an art minor and ESL certification. After graduating, she wanted to apply for jobs but couldn't, because she hadn't received her green card yet. She took a position as an intern in the Center for Global Education and Diversity.

The employee who previously had Wingen's position gave her tips on how to reach that type of position. "I never thought I would actually get her job," said Wingen. That employee decided to take a different

job and Wingen got the exact type of job that she wanted. "I know how hard it is right now to get a good job, or even any job, so I feel all the more thankful for having a job that I love," she said.

What should current job-seeking students do? Wagner advises that current Wilkes student to take any opportunity they can.

"Use your contacts because they might not have a job for you, but might know of someone who does," said De Los Santos.

"Don't post offensive stuff on Facebook; many potential employers check," advised Wingen. She also said to do internships, job shadowing and "most importantly, stay optimistic and be confident."

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Wilkes University's Health & Wellness Corner

The Health & Wellness Corner is a weekly feature in The Beacon. Students who ask questions will remain anonymous. All questions will be answered by Health Services staff.

Q: How do I help my friend who has an eating disorder?

A: First, remember to respectfully speak to the person in private and avoid any accusations or critical comments. Explain why you are concerned and the behaviors that worry you. Be specific about the times that you felt concerned about the behaviors indicating that you believe professional help is needed.

If the person will not admit to a problem, calmly restate your concerns and your availability for support. It is important to avoid discussion when a person is very tired or under stress. Instead, choose a time when your friend appears to be relaxed and rested.

Use kind "I" language when speaking, avoid placing shame or guilt on the person, and avoid simple solutions or giving ultimatums. Emphasize how much you care about them, offer a supportive ear and reassurance that you will continue to be there for them.

The most important thing you can do for

a person suffering with an eating disorder is to encourage treatment. Urge your loved one to see a doctor/seek counseling as soon as possible.

A doctor can assess your friend's symptoms and screen for medical problems that might be involved. A psychologist or mental health counselor can assess for any co-existing mental health issues. A nutritionist can offer ongoing support in terms of issues directly related to food goals/nourishment of the body, and health consequences of an eating disorder.

Hospitalization may be necessary if your loved one is dangerously malnourished, suicidal, suffering from medical complications, or getting worse despite treatment. With compassionate and comprehensive treatment, those suffering with an eating disorder have hope for recovery to live a healthy and purposeful life.

Do you have a question for the Health & Wellness Corner? Email your question to, wellness.services@wilkes.edu, and you may see your question in next weeks Wellness Corner. Your privacy will be protected.

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New magazine to be released with a "POW"

BY KIRSTIN COOK
Assistant A&E Editor

Integrative media students at Wilkes are hoping to rouse up students with the release party of their new magazine, POWzine. The party is scheduled for Thursday, March 25 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first floor of the Henry Student Center, and will celebrate the first printed issue of their innovative magazine.

Jahmitza Perez, integrative media senior who developed the idea for the magazine, is hoping the release generates interest among students and the community.

POWzine is a collection of artwork created by integrative media students. It also incorporates the abilities of students from other majors, and even students from other area schools. Adviser Nicole DePolo said, "It showcases works by the integrative media students, and also some of their collaborators in the field."

One of the objectives of the party is to find students who are interested in becoming involved with the magazine. The editors recommend potential contributors to come to the release party and stay for a meeting at the end of the event. They are searching for students interested in several aspects, such as writing and blogging.

"I guess the ultimate goal is to get Wilkes University to recognize us and to get them

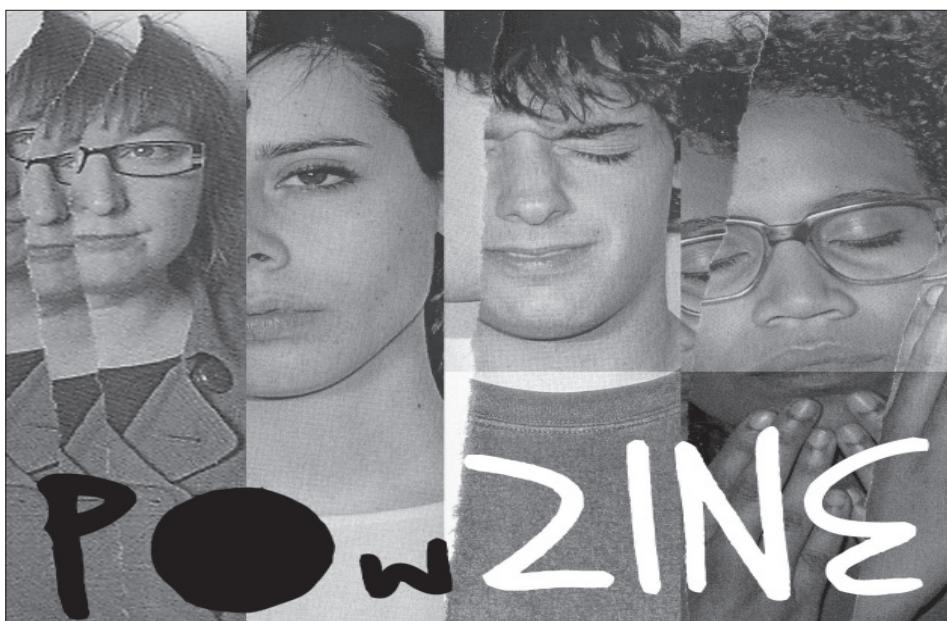


Photo Courtesy of Jahmitza Perez

Editors from left to right: adviser Depolo, Mandy Petrosky, Ryan Bracey, and Jahmitza Perez are excited for the release since students will finally have access to the work. "We're excited because we're finally going to get it to the hands of students," said Perez.

to support and back us up, get the student body to be just really pumped up and excited and to get involved, and most importantly to get the integrative media face recognition, and hopefully to get people to join the major," Perez said.

As DePolo puts it, there are plenty of "awesome antics" planned for the release party. The activities include live entertain-

ment such as a DJ and singers, a coloring station and finger painting. There will also be snacks available, including cupcakes, sparkling apple cider and Jello.

The artwork contained in the magazine ranges from all types of unique art forms. "What's interesting about it is it shows the diversity...the diversity of creed and efforts, and products that the integrative media de-

part turns out. You've got mixed media, examples of film and video, photography and painting, writing, interviewing, journalism—everything that integrative media really stands for is represented," said DePolo.

The meeting will also play an important role in determining the future of the magazine. Perez said that interest from the University will allow the magazine to continue to be developed by future editors, possibly through an intergrative media club. The other option would be for the graduating students to continue "POWzine" themselves as a freelance development.

The members are also hoping for donations at the release party to help their cause. They say money will pay for copies to make the magazine free, as well as show the University how serious and interested the student body is.

POWzine originated though an idea that Perez created for a class project. Perez said, "It started out with... 'Well, what would I want to read?'" The idea was so successful that it evolved into an independent study.

For more information on the magazine, check out their website www.POWzine.webs.com or their Facebook site, titled Powzine Da'Zine, for a sample of their issue.

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Movie Review: *Green Zone* reveals government secrets

BY GILLYAN GOWARTY
Assistant A&E Editor

Editor's Note: This review may contain spoilers

The previews for *Green Zone* may lead potential viewers to believe that it was going to be just another military movie. Attending the movie showed that previews can be misleading.

In the film, Chief Warrant Officer Roy Miller was played by Matt Damon. The mission was to find the weapons of mass destruction which were supposedly hidden in Iraq. After raiding and searching many Iraqi cities, Miller and the other soldiers were unable to find any weapons of mass destruction. Miller became frustrated and started questioning authorities about wheth-

er or not such weapons were even known to be in existence. Miller was quickly silenced and this was when he realized that he was onto something.

Miller was not alone. There was also Laurie Dayne, a journalist from the Wall Street Journal, who was lurking around; trying to find what was really going on. She had already written many articles on the subject, but was given false information. She needed to talk to General Al-Rawi, but he was codenamed as "Magellen" and could not be found. Miller, however, was not afraid to take on the challenge of finding him.

He teamed up with an Iraqi citizen who went by the name of Freddy. With his help, Miller was able to obtain a notebook from Seyyed Hamza. This notebook was crucial because it contained the addresses to Al-Rawi's safe houses.

With the help of Freddy, Miller was able to find Al-Rawi and hear straight from him that there were no weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. Rawi said the U.S. government knew this right from the beginning, but decided to invade anyway. Miller realizes that the entire reason for going to war was based on a lie. Right toward the end of this conversation, Al-Rawi was shot dead by Freddy.

There were not many sympathetic characters, that is, characters that audience members can relate to or form a bond with. The only bond that partially exists in the movie is the one between Miller and Freddy, but this bond is not strong enough to last throughout the whole movie. They both had agendas, and they were willing to turn on each other.

Overall, this movie is very impressive. It was about two hours long—too long for

any movie—but it was completely engaging throughout the entire movie. Of course there was the shooting and world saving that was expected, but it was well done. There is just the right combination of action and suspense to keep the audience members interested and wanting more.

Also, it is about a topic that everyone who is alive today was affected by. The Iraq war is still going on and weapons of mass destruction were never found, as shown in the movie. It makes you think about the U.S. government and what kind of secrets they are hiding from the general public.

Rating: 4/5

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3EB to perform at Armory

BY BRIE FRIEDMAN

A&E Editor

Third Eye Blind, a band that has been a popular staple in the music industry for 17 years, will be performing this Friday, March 26, at the Kingston Armory. The doors open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m.

Earlier in the year, the student body of Wilkes University anticipated the e-mail from the Wilkes Programming Board and student development surveying what band we, as a whole, would like to see perform here. The programming board aims to have two big performances a year- usually a comedian in the fall, and a well-known band for the spring.

As the ballot unfolded with choices of bands between Flo Rida, *Brand New*, and other various artists, *Third Eye Blind* was finally chosen to perform this spring semester. For the last three years, they have been on the ballot and have proven to be very popular.

"I thought it was neat when I heard they were chosen," said Ariel Miller, a junior

elementary education major minoring in theatre.

"In the power that I am as President, I saw to it that they were put on the ballot," said Erin Sweet, senior integrative media major and president of the Programming Board.

The band formed back in 1993 and their newest album debuted in August 2009, *Ursa Major*. Three members consist of the band: Brad Hargreaves on the drums, Tony Friedmanelli on vocals and guitar, and Stephan Jenkins also on vocals and guitar.

"I don't think it's always about the newest, most popular bands," said Miller. "They are cool and old school."

About 300 student tickets have been sold so far and about 40-45 alumni tickets as well. Tickets can be purchased on the first floor in the Henry Student Center. For the general public, tickets can be purchased at the door and online on the Wilkes Programming Board event page for the performance. Student tickets are being sold for \$15, alumni for \$20, and general public for \$25.

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Battle of the Slices



The Beacon/Allison Roth

This past Wednesday in the Henry Student Center Ballroom, local pizzerias and students participated in Wilkes' "Pizza Wars" to vote on whose pizza tasted the best. The four pizzeria participants were Januzzi's, Mr Pizza, Tommy's and Antonio's. The majority of students who showed up to sink their teeth into the four different pizzas voted Januzzi's as the best pizza. Januzzi's is located on Northampton Street in Wilkes-Barre.



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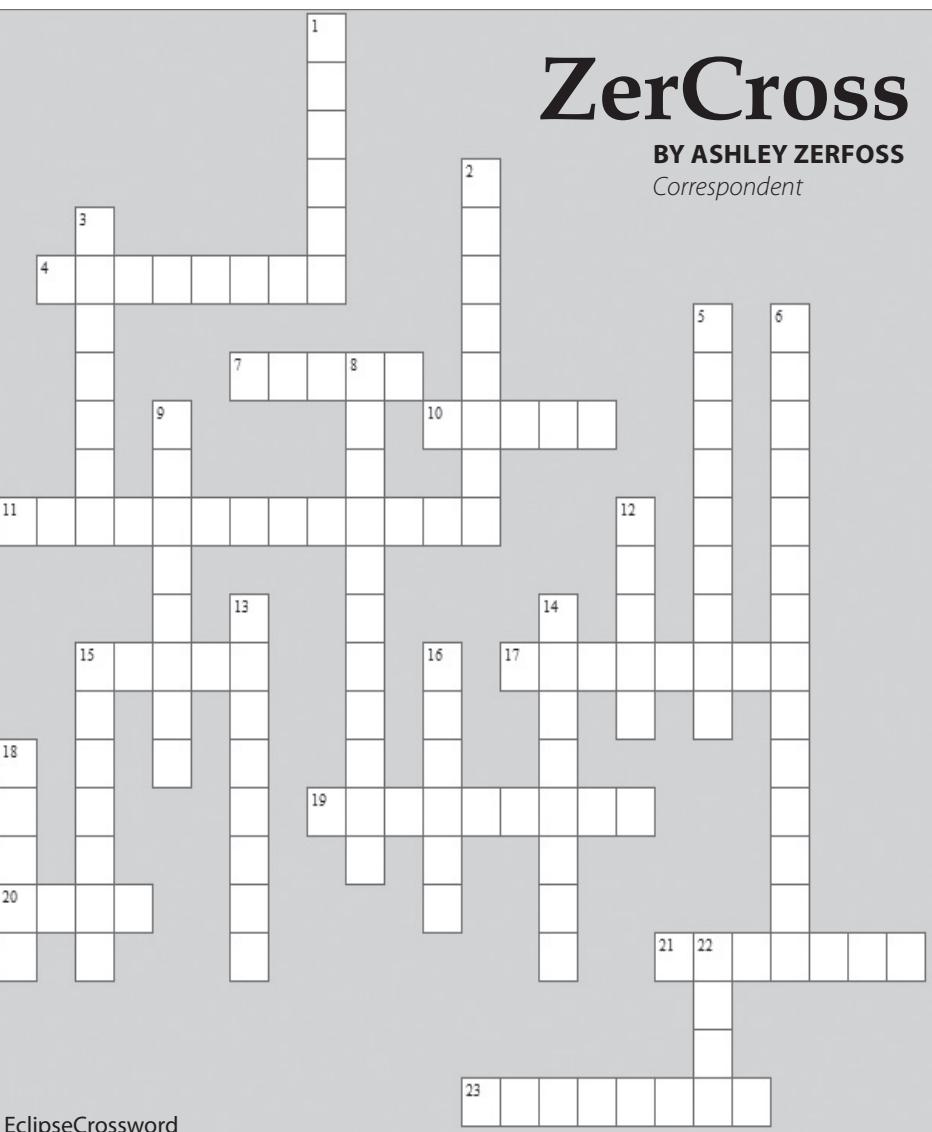
10

16

17

ZerCross

BY ASHLEY ZERFOSS
Correspondent



EclipseCrossword

THE DEEVOQUIP!

BY DAVID LEWIS
Staff Writer

Use the clues provided in order to decipher the meaning of the puzzle. The clue represents a letter that can be used to guess what other letters within each word are. Through the process of elimination and knowledge of vocabulary, solving the puzzle depends upon how well you can deduce the possibility of one letter equaling another. Once you assign a letter to equal another, the letter cannot be changed for the remaining letters in the puzzle. Good Luck!

JH GSF DKLK AZ MSLFKXX AMK KCKNALZFJN
BZCAX ZH KKCX, AMKF J AMJV JA DZPCQ TK
XSYK AZ XSO JAX KYYKNA ZF AMK DZLCQ'X KNZ
KZGO DZPCQ TK... XMZNVJFI!

This week's clue: K= E & J=I & Y= T

Last week's answer: Since there is no guarantee that a happy meal will make you happy, you might as well get the regular-value meal; at least it will be valuable!

"Springtime Flowers"



Across

4. These golden beauties are both used for ornamentation, medicinal purposes such as treating skin disorders and killing indoor and outdoor pests.
7. This infamous flower is easily recognized by its boldly colored flowers and its seed pods, used to make drugs such as morphine.
10. This sweet-smelling lavender flower grows in bunches on a towering bush that can reach up to 20 feet high.
11. These light pink flowers blossom from the branches of a fruity tree.
15. These oval or heart-shaped blooms are cold-hardy, blooming in late fall, early winter and early spring.
17. This cup-like flower is commonly found on trees in Houston, Texas and Mississippi.
19. This vibrantly bright bell-shaped flower is a staple for ornamenting old-fashioned and modern gardens.
20. The Greek meaning of this flower's name is "rainbow," which would explain the vast amount of colors this flower can be.
21. These highly scented little flowers are funnel shaped and come in a wide variety of colors, such as pink, white, purple and multicolored.
23. These dazzling flowers are known for growing in shaded areas, as well as for their seed pods that release impatient little seeds at the slightest touch.

Down

1. Commonly known as Lady's Fingers, these flowers are prized for their uncommon structure.
2. These South African native flowers are known for both their wide variety of colors and their multitude of scents, like rose, orange, apple and peppermint.
3. These flowers are known for their calming scent, flavorful use in tea and their naming of a Middle Eastern Disney princess.
5. These orange flowers with black spots resemble an exotic striped feline.
6. This exotic, tropical flower resembles an aviary creature.
8. These fuzzy silver delights are used as a painkiller and anti-fever medication by Native Americans.
9. This creamy white flower grows in a southern shrub and creates one of the most easily recognized fragrances anywhere.
12. This Indiana state flower is known for its significantly flashy pink bloom and full foliage.
13. These little flowers grow in cone-like bunches and are highly known for their bold fragrance and intensely colored flowers.
14. This golden flower has a trumpet-like center surrounded by petals.
15. These pink and purple trumpet-shaped flowers are popular in hanging baskets in the spring.
16. These little pink flowers grow on shrubs in cool, shady spots for two weeks every spring.
18. This pink, white, red, or yellow flower is commonly pictured in fields beside Holland's windmills.
22. This popular Valentine flower comes in an array of romantic colors.



For last week's answers and for this week's "What's Happening Around Wilkes" calendar, please check out:
www.wilkesbeacon.com



THIS IS MADNESS!

These are our predictions for the rest of the tournament.

PAGES 18-19

MARCH 23, 2010

CONTACT US: wilkesbeacon.sports@gmail.com

SCOREBOARD

BASBEBALL

3/5 @ PSU-Abington DH 1-6 L, 6-4 W
 3/6 @ Plattsburgh 2-3 L
 3/7 @ PSU-Berks DH 8-4 W, 6-7 L
 3/14 vs. Marywood 16-8 W
 3/19 @ DeSales 3-8 L
 3/20 vs. DeSales DH

SOFTBALL

3/6 @ Christopher Newport 1-10 L
 3/6 @ Peace (DH) 10-13 L, 7-5 W
 3/6 @ Christopher Newport 2-10 L
 3/7 @ Baruch 6-8 L
 3/7 @ Peace 1-7 L
 3/20 @ DeSales

LACROSSE

3/20 @ Manhattanville 5-20 L

MEN'S TENNIS

3/20 vs. Neumann 9-0 W
 3/21 vs. Elizabethtown 9-0 W

WOMEN'S TENNIS

3/21 vs. Elizabethtown 5-4 W

WEEK AHEAD

BASBEBALL

3/24 @ Scranton 3:30 p.m.
 3/26 vs. FDU-Florham 3:30 p.m.
 3/27 @ FDU-Florham (DH) 1 p.m.
 3/29 vs. Keuka 3:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL

3/24 vs. Scranton (DH) 4 p.m.
 3/27 vs. FDU-Florham (DH) 1 p.m.
 3/28 vs. William Paterson (DH) 1 p.m.

LACROSSE

3/22 vs. FDU-Florham 4 p.m.
 3/24 vs. Alvernia 4 p.m.

MEN'S TENNIS

3/23 @ Bloomsburg 3:30 p.m.
 3/28 @ NYU 12 p.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

3/23 @ Bloomsburg 3:30 p.m.
 3/28 @ NYU 12 p.m.



FACE OFF



Can anyone beat UConn's women's team?

I Volunteer to tame the Huskies

Sports Editor

ANTHONY DORUNDA



A wise man once told me that no one is invincible - that everyone has a kink in their armor, it's just a matter of finding it. I've learned that besides Mark Wahlberg portraying Vince Papale in Invincible, this statement is amazingly true.

So UConn has won 73 consecutive games - all by double digits. Including 23 ranked opponents on the way. I get it.

But, no team has ever completed back-to-back undefeated seasons. The chances of a second consecutive unblemished record are out of the question.

I know what you're thinking, how can I possibly write an article that dethrones them? How can I make a seemingly invincible team appear susceptible? How can I even attempt to manipulate you with 500 words that you think to be pure BS? Here's how: it's happened before.

That's right, it was in 1997 A.D at the regional final in Iowa City. The undefeated,

and heavily favored Connecticut Huskies took on a scrappy and spirited team that head coach Geno Auriemma has come to utterly dislike - the Tennessee Volunteers. Pat Summitt, the Mecca of women's college coaches, arrived with a team that had lost 10 games on the season and finished fifth in the SEC.

But with Final Four implications on the line, it was the massive underdog Volunteers (no pun intended) upsetting the favored Huskies.

The bitter rivalry ended in 2007 after the recruitment of all-world superstar Maya Moore. So they have not seen each other this year, or the past few years as a matter of fact. Actually, they have not squared off at all during UConn's remarkable run. Which means neither Auriemma nor Summit know very much about either team outside of the press clippings.

Summit ignited that 1997 squad to an improbable upset over the heavily favored Huskies, en route to three straight national championships. Could this be the game that propels Tennessee back to national prominence? A stage they have not graced since

UConn take your best shot, but the Huskies aren't losing

Assistant Sports Editor

DANIEL KAUTZ



I was at UConn's main campus in Storrs, Connecticut last year after their women's basketball team had won the national championship. The mood was far from celebratory, however, as most students fretted about the men's team's recent loss to Michigan State. The women's team was almost an afterthought, not because they're not revered, but because their success is so predictable it's practically numbing. They have won five championships this decade and are thus expected to win, plain and simple.

Well, UConn students and followers won't have to worry about hanging another championship banner in Gampel Pavilion at the end of this season. It's as sure a thing as the sun rising. While you were going through

the daily routine of life the last couple of years, the UConn Huskies were busy winning 73 straight basketball games. They toppled 23 ranked squads who mistakenly thought they had any business being on the same court as them. Perhaps the most impressive aspect of the streak is that they won all of the games by double figures - with an average margin of victory of 32.8 points per game. That means never taking a single night off; never rolling over when taking your opponent's best shot.

One of the reasons for their stunning success is the leadership of head coach Geno Auriemma. He has won six national championships at UConn and is one of the few coaches to be actively coaching while in the Basketball Hall of Fame. Should his Huskies win another 16 consecutive games they will top John Wooden's 88-game winning streak at UCLA, a record long thought to be untouchable. He does an excellent job

the departure of Candace Parker?

Possibly. Tina Charles, UConn's all-time leader in both points and rebounds, is gone next year. But the Huskies still return Moore, who is the National Player of the Year two years running, and almost certainly will be raking in the nation's top recruiting class. Imagine this team if Elena Della Donne stayed on. Now that's scary.

Say the Huskies do get by the Volunteers, there still is one other possibility: Stanford.

If the Cardinal can get by Texas A&M, who are one of the scariest teams in the country, then they will get their shot at revenge against Connecticut.

The Cardinal are the last team to defeat the Huskies (in the National semi-final two years ago), and even held a slim lead at halftime of their meeting this season before bowing out in the end, losing by 12.

With Jayne Appel neutralizing Charles down low, the Cardinal have a legit chance of taking out the Huskies, and bringing home their first National Championship since 1992.

Who says there's no drama in the women's tournament?

UConn take your best shot, but the Huskies aren't losing

at keeping his team grounded and focused on each and every game, something evident in the fact that they have never lost a "trap" game on their march towards another perfect season.

Another reason is their personnel. They have a veteran group led by Maya Moore and Tina Charles, who holds the school records for points scored and rebounds. They have the experience of beating other ranked schools that would try and upset them in this year's tournament, namely Stanford and Tennessee. Any team facing them can be assured that they won't catch the Huskies sleeping.

Seeing as how top-seeded Kansas was recently laid to rest by Northern Iowa, I guess anything is possible. To bet against the girls from UConn would be folly, however. To put things in perspective, it would be bigger news if the Huskies lost this year's tournament than if they won it.



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ORANGE

FIRST ROUND
 March 18-19

SECOND ROUND
 March 20-21

SWEET SIXTEEN
 March 25-26

ELITE EIGHT
 March 27-28

FINAL FOUR
 April 3

1. Kansas	1. Kansas
16. Lehigh	9. Northern Iowa
8. UNLV	9. Northern Iowa
9. Northern Iowa	
5. Michigan State	5. Michigan State
12. New Mexico State	5. Michigan State
4. Maryland	4. Maryland
13. Houston	
6. Tennessee	6. Tennessee
11. San Diego State	6. Tennessee
3. Georgetown	6. Tennessee
14. Ohio	14. Ohio
7. Oklahoma State	
10. Georgia Tech	10. Georgia Tech
2. Ohio State	2. Ohio State
15. UC Santa Barbara	10. Georgia Tech
1. Syracuse	1. Syracuse
16. Vermont	1. Syracuse
8. Gonzaga	1. Syracuse
9. Florida State	8. Gonzaga
5. Butler	
12. Texas El Paso	5. Butler
4. Vanderbilt	
13. Murray State	13. Murray State
6. Xavier	6. Xavier
11. Minnesota	3. Pittsburgh
3. Pittsburgh	3. Pittsburgh
14. Oakland	3. Pittsburgh
7. Brigham Young	
10. Florida	7. Brigham Young
2. Kansas State	2. Kansas State
15. North Texas	2. Kansas State

MIDWEST
 St. Louis

WEST
 Salt Lake City

THE NATIONAL
 April 5

**THE BEACON
PREDICTS**

*All picks made from the round of 16 on. Some games were unfinished as of press time

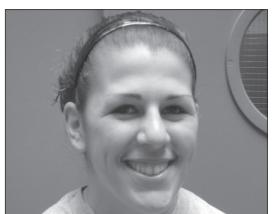
STREET BEAT

What team will cut down the nets and make it through the tournament unscathed on April 5th?


**Chris
Jordan**

 Junior
Communications
Major

"I have Kansas State going all the way. I want to go with the Big 12 because it's a strong conference and Kansas State is a strong team. I love their coach. he's a passionate coach and they have a lot of talent."


**Megan
Clementson**

 Sophomore
Elementary Education
Major

"I think Kansas is going to go all the way. I did like Maryland, but everyone told me that there's no way they'll win and that Kansas will kill them, so I changed my decision."


**Wes
McDonald**

 Junior
Environmental Engineering
Major

"I'm picking Ohio State to win. Evan Turner is pretty good and I've been following him a lot. I think they can go all the way this year"

CRUSH

CHAMPIONSHIP

Time TBA



SYRACUSE



Nora Skochinsky

Junior
Biology Major

"I think Villanova is going to win because I'm from right outside Philadelphia and I root for Philly sports all the time."



Jerry Rickrode

Men's Head Basketball
Coach

"Not to jump on the bandwagon, but the University of Kentucky. They're so long and athletic and good at every position and huge inside. And the two guards out front are outstanding; they'll be a tough out for teams."



Julian Amor

Freshman
Criminology Major

"I'm taking Kentucky because they're nasty. They're the number two seed overall and John Wall is the best player out there right now."



Brittney Hodnik

Senior
Criminology Major

"Definitely Syracuse. They have the Big East Player of the year Wesley Johnson, and they have a good combination of experience and skill. Plus that's where I'm going to law school, and Jim Boeheim is a legend!"

Colonels drubbed by DeSales in doubleheader

BY DANIEL KAUTZ

Assistant Sports Editor

The baseball team lost a tough doubleheader against DeSales University on March 20 by the scores of 16-3 and 13-7.

They took a quick 1-0 lead in game one after Randy Dengler, who reached base after being hit by a pitch, was driven in by Angus Neary.

The teams then exchanged blows in the fourth inning. Mike Newland hit a two-run homerun for the Bulldogs, giving them a 2-1 lead that would last until the bottom of the frame. Wilkes freshman Scott Skammer responded by driving in Al Clocker and Carmen Lopresto with a double to left field, giving the Colonels a 3-2 lead. It would be the last runs the Colonels would score in the game.

The fifth inning saw DeSales break out, scoring ten runs on nine hits and an error. The Bulldogs hit four homeruns, one an in-



The Beacon/Melissa Polchinski

The Colonels took DeSales' best shot on March 20, losing a tough doubleheader to them by the scores of 16-3 and 13-7. The Colonels' couldn't slow down the offensive attack from the Bulldogs, as they gave up 31 hits combined. They take on Marywood tomorrow at 3:30 p.m. in Scranton.

side-the-park job, and never looked back. They would go on to score two additional runs in both the sixth and seventh innings, crushing the Colonels by the score of 16-3.

Game two started off in scary fashion

for the Colonels, as the first three DeSales batters reached base. Sophomore starting pitcher Sean Flecknoe was able to settle down afterwards and keep any of them from crossing the plate, as he struck out two and

induced a weak grounder for the final out.

The Colonels took a 3-0 lead in the bottom of the inning on RBI hits by Joel Watson and Neary, as well as a sacrifice by Tom Buckler that drove in Dengler from third base.

It would prove to be too little, however. DeSales took advantage of a two-run homer and a triple to take a 6-3 lead by the end of the fourth inning, and dumped three more runs on the Colonels after they closed the gap to two on a sacrifice fly by John Florance.

The Colonels made it interesting in the bottom of the sixth inning when Buckler drove in a run, promptly followed by a Rich Cosgrove solo homerun. Their efforts cut the DeSales lead to 9-7, but the Bulldogs yet again pulled away on a bases-loaded single in the top of the next inning.

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Athlete Spotlight: Zach Pizzaro, All-American

BY JUSTIN JONES

Staff Writer

It's one thing to be ranked one of the best in the conference, but to be ranked in the top five of the nation in any sport is a feat not many people achieve in their lifetime. Senior wrestler Zach Pizzaro didn't just stumble upon this type of recognition. He earned it.

While the Colonels wrestling squad fell short of reclaiming the Metro Conference title, Pizzaro showed his brilliant individual skills on the mat. Pizzaro showed off his dazzling array of takedowns and moves en route to earning 5th place at the national tournament and garnered All-American status.

"Feels great to finish 5th, a great way to end my wrestling career," said a proud Pizzaro.

The senior wrapped up his stellar season at Wilkes with 31 wins and only three losses. He put a decisive cap on his reign as a Colonel with three straight wins in the 197 lb. weight class against Centenary's Anthony Bachmann, Kings' Peter Dwyer, and Elizabethtown's William Meaney at the

NCAA Championships.

These wins cemented Pizzaro's status as an All-American, which is still a feeling with which Pizzaro is getting acclimated.

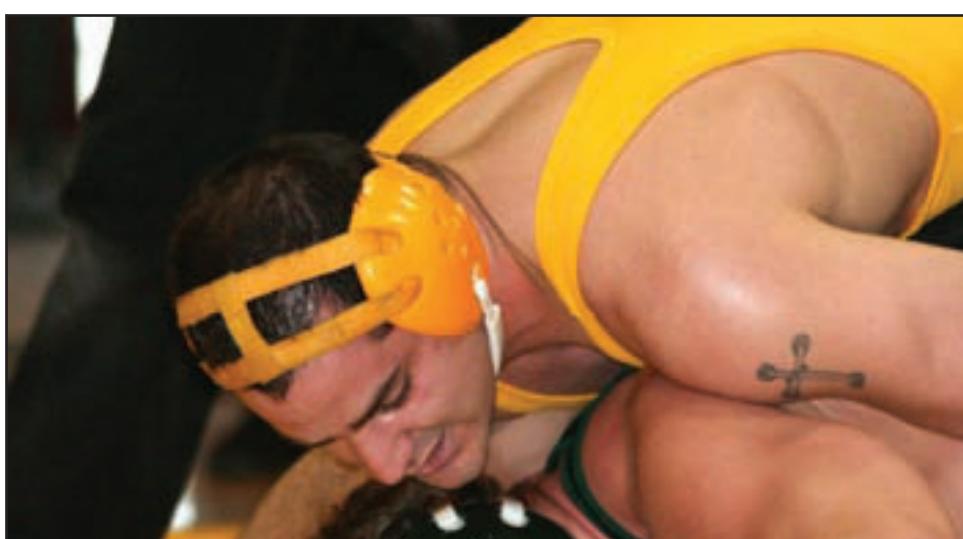
"At the end of the tournament it was a little surreal. But I figured if you're going to end your career, why not out here on the biggest stage in Division III wrestling."

It helped that Pizzaro was blessed with the presence of his parents at the most important moment in his stint as a college wrestler.

"Wrestling in front of my parents is definitely motivation for me. All the things they have sacrificed during my life so I can enjoy the things I love, makes me feel lucky to have them as parents. My father has been to almost all of my matches throughout my career and I can only count on one hand how many he's missed. So to have that support and love really inspires me to work hard and make them proud," said Pizzaro.

Pizzaro not only credits his parents as motivational tools for his success, but also his teammates.

"We knew we were a very good team this year, and you could definitely tell through our work ethic that we were going to work



The Beacon/Melissa Polchinski

Pizzaro finished his senior year 31-3 and was named an all-american after finishing 5th at the Nationals.

Although it was his last hurrah on the mat, it surely won't be the last time you see Pizzaro around the sport.

"I do not plan on ever wrestling in a competition again, but wrestling will most likely be a part of my life somehow."

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