

Lacrosse Page 20



Feres Doctrine Page 8



IN NURSING PAGE 9

APRIL 7, 2009

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

Volume 61

Issue 19

Campus mourns slain nursing student

Police arrest alleged killer, claim domestic violence led to shooting

ANDREW SEAMAN

Beacon Editor-in-Chief

On Sunday, March 29, several local news organizations reported the murder of a thirty-one year old woman in her Wilkes-Barre home. But it wouldn't be until the next morning that Wilkes community members learned that the victim was one of their own - Kewaii Rogers Buckner - a junior nursing student and mother of three. Police claim that Rogers-Buckner was the victim of domestic violence.

Police arrested Rogers Buckner's husband, Donnell Buckner, for the murder.

According to reports, Buckner used a back door to sneak into Roger Buckner's home and after a short argument shot Rogers Buckner in the head in front of their three young children, leaving her to die on their living room couch.

Buckner fled the scene and remained at large until 6 p.m. the next day. Police arrested him after a woman noticed his vehicle near an abandoned building in south



Police are trained in conflict management to appropriately respond to situations that are called in. Domestic violence is cited as the reason for last weeks murder of a Wilkes student. Police are more reactionary than preventers as explained by Chief of Police Gerard Dessoye.

See SHOOTING page 4

violence raises quest

BY AMY FUSCO Beacon News Editor & JACQUELINE LUKAS

Beacon Asst. News Editor

Last week, junior nursing student, Kewaii Rogers-Buckner was shot to death in her Wilkes-Barre home in front of her three children. Rogers-Buckner had taken out a protection from abuse order (PFA) against her husband, Donnell Buckner, just days before she was shot last Sunday, March 29. Police have arrested and charged him with

College, one involving a student being assualted and stabbed, another reporting an alleged gunshot in his direction, have underscored personal safety issues for local students.

For the past two weeks, the local newspapers have reported local homicides, assaults and stabbings, and community members are nervous about what they perceive to be a disturbing uptick in violence.

But is there a way to diffuse the violence before it occurs? With proper training,

In addition, two recent incidents at King's law enforcements and resource centers are taught several steps that can be taken in order to ensure the safety of people in situations that could lead to violence, including one-time disputes and ongoing domestic

> Gerard Dessoye, Wilkes-Barre Police Chief, explained that the recent cases of homicide were not linked to each other.

"One was a tragic case of, what is becoming so common place, domestic violence,"

See VIOLENCE page 3

Students laud new website as improvement

JACQUELINE LUKAS Beacon Asst. News Editor

Last week, the newly revised Wilkes University website launched, and did so generally to campus applause.

"The [previous version of the] website was up for about three and a half years, maybe four years... It was getting a little stale. We felt it was necessary to refresh the look," said Jack Chielli, executive director of Marketing Communications.

Before the launch, Craig Thomas, associate director of web services, was able to show the website to different groups and received some good feedback.

"It [the website re-design] has been a long time coming. A lot of people want to see the website change. It's been a lot of work," said Thomas.

Thomas's crew included Chielli; the marketing communications team; the web redesign committee; SunGard officials; Chris Barrows, electronic communications coordinator and Tom Larrabee, a work-study student. The crew was very excited for the launch because changes reflect a new focus and purpose for the website.

"The main goal for any website having to do with universities would be communications, communicating to the outside world. We brought on the portal a little over a year ago, so that is going to be used as our in-

See WEBSITE page 2



ON THE WEB

www.wilkesbeacon.com beaconarchives.wilkes.edu INDEX

News.....1-5 Opinion.....6-8 Lifestyles.....9-11 A&E.....12-15

Sports......16-20

Established 1936 PA Newspaper **Association Member**





ONE+ONE MBA: INDIA PROGRAM PAGE 4

NEWS APRIL 7, 2009

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WEBSITE from FRONT PAGE

-ternal communications tool. Our Wilkes.edu is going to be used for external to communicate to the parents, media and potential students. We also want to use it as a recruitment vehicle," said Thomas.

New features added to the new website include more video, links to Facebook, MySpace, Twitter and YouTube, new calendars and improvements to the locator. Each individual college now has its own page which is one of the main tabs on the new site.

The site also has tabs at the top which stay on every page in order to increase navigability, which was a big issue for Thomas and his team.

"The navigation wasn't intuitive, meaning things weren't where they are supposed to be," said Thomas.

Thomas used the example of being in a car and turning on the blinker. A person lifts up their left hand to turn on the blinker because it's there. But if the car is designed so the blinker is on the dashboard, that doesn't mean the blinker isn't working. It just means that you're not used to it. The new site was designed to be more navigable and the search engine is powered by Google, as well.

Some current students agreed that the website was more navigable.

The new website was easier to navigate because of the top of the screen. It was also easier to read because of the simple black and white. There was better organization whereas with the old website you can get lost easily," said Marissa Farrell, a junior Spanish major.

Farrell agreed that the site is more appealing for prospective students. When she was checking out the Wilkes website before making her decision to attend Wilkes, it was easy to "get lost and not know where to go."

Another student also said that the new design was different and confusing at first.

"It is nicer looking, but I didn't know where everything was and it took a little getting used to... but [it's] an improvement overall," said Al Clocker, a sophomore accounting major.

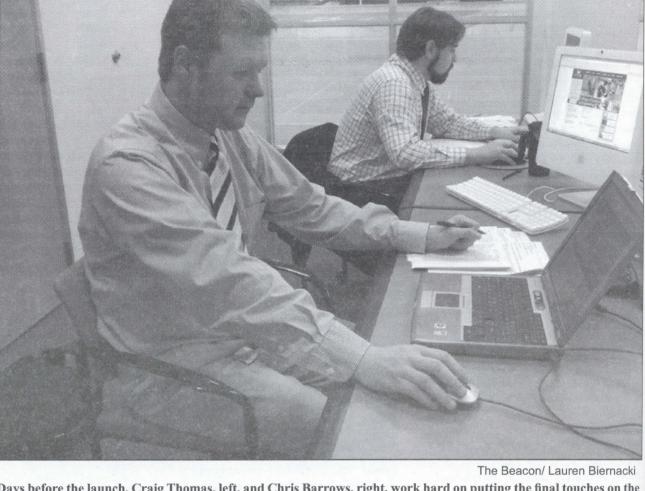
A focus group was held on VIP day on March 21 to see what incoming students thought about the new website.

"Because of the hectic schedule of that

day we didn't really get as much input as we wanted, but we still got some input. The feedback was pretty good... It was actually really good," said Thomas.

The photos that were on the old website were brought over to the new site, but Thomas acknowledged that those photos are out of date. There will be a photo shoot in April to refresh the Wilkes visuals.

"Don't forget that although a lot



students the new Days before the launch, Craig Thomas, left, and Chris Barrows, right, work hard on putting the final touches on the website. The website redesign was about a year in the making and cost about \$13,000. The website redesign committee brainstormed in the preliminary meetings and many of those ideas were brought into the new website.

of people might be sick of seeing those pictures, the prospective students never saw them before," said Thomas.

The idea of a new website started a little over a year ago. A web re-design committee of about 15 people from faculty, staff and other stakeholders was formed. Issues like the new social networking, colors, legibility, visual appeal, website navigation and individual school pages were ideas that were

brought up in the preliminary meetings.

Quest 4 was chosen as the company to do the basic template design. SunGard brought the templates to life and then the marketing communications team put the final touches on the website.

The cost of the website re-design was about \$13,000.

"Websites can be extremely expensive... Websites can cost about \$100,000 plus, depending on the

job," said Chielli.

At the bottom of the website, there is a link for Website Feedback. The team is encouraging students, faculty and staff to comment with their honest feedback.

"The biggest thing we are trying to do is please the majority, without losing focus that it is a marketing tool to bring in students," said Thomas.

BEACON

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Melanie Thomas Correspondent

VIOLENCE from FRONT PAGE

Dessoye stated. "The other one was a result of a previous confrontation between the two individuals," he added.

Police involvement generally 'reactionary'

Dessoye explained that every police officer has a basic amount of training in conflict resolution. It is not just one block of training, but it comes up in various aspects of the general police training.

"Every one of those [training] sections will have a thread of some version of conflict management specific to that particular genre they're studying," said Dessoye. The training segments could involve situations involving minorities, people with disabilities, domestic violence and more.

"Unfortunately, we don't do a lot of true prevention. We are more reactionary in domestic violence," Dessoye said. "It's this nature that we don't really know about domestic violence until we are called to it by complaint," he added. He explained that law enforcements have some agencies, probably still in existence today, that have officers trained specifically to deal with cases such as domestic violence.

Service centers focus on personalizing safety planning

The Domestic Violence Service Center has a number of services such as its 24-hour hotline which victims can call for safety planning, directions to an emergency shelter, individual counseling, support group counseling, advocacy and assistance with PFAs, education training and professional training.

The center also has a relationship with the police officers.

"Part of the law is if they [police officers] are called to a home where there's a domestic violence incident, they have to provide the victim with our information," said Paula Triano, executive director of the domestic violence service center.

The center receives referral forms from the police after an incident is taken care of with information about if the victim wants to be contacted, a phone number and time to call.

"When they call the hotline, the biggest thing that we always ask them is, 'Are you safe?'" said Triano.

The most important thing for people to do if they face a domestic violence situation is to personalize safety planning, which is part of the options counseling that the center has available to its clients. No two victims or circumstances will be the same. Triano says that things that work for some will not work for others.

"One of the big things that everybody

always says is, 'Why didn't you just leave?' or 'Why didn't she get out?' or 'Didn't she know better? It's not about that. It's not about the victim... You can't control what another person does," said Tri-

Often the abuser tries to isolate a victim family from and friends said Triano. She also added that abusers don't want their victims to have jobs or financial resources, which would give them a way to get out of the situation.

Most domestic violence homicides happen when a woman has left or is attempting to leave because the abuser is

feeling a loss of control and power, said Triano. The abuser becomes more dangerous and the victim becomes more at risk to be put in a situation.

Service centers, like the one for domestic violence and the Victims Resource Center are confidential and offer 24-hour help via telephone call.

If there is a probable cause for arrest, police officers will do so. If there is no cause, they would advise the victim to file a PFA. On the informal side, law enforcement would advise that one of the parties leave for the evening or the night in order to separate and calm down.

"In 90% of the [domestic violence] cases, by the next day, everybody's back to normal," commented Dessoye.

Distance, awareness of surroundings key Dessoye advises that if civilians are having situations that could potentially lead to violence, they should have the intention to get distance between themselves and the possible adversary.

"Distance is always your friend in that type of situation," said Dessoye, "One of the key things is to be aware of your surroundings and the way people interact with you." He also explained that it is important to be

National Domestic Violence Statistics

- One in four women (25%) has experienced domestic violence in her lifetime.
- Between 600,000 and 6 million women are victims of domestic violence each year, and between 100,000 and 6 million men, depending on the type of survey used to obtain the data.
- Nearly three out of four (74%) of Americans personally know someone who is or has been a victim of domestic violence.
- On average, more than three women and one man are murdered by their intimate partners in this country every day.
- The health-related costs of intimate partner violence exceed \$5.8 billion each year. Of that amount, nearly \$4.1 billion are for direct medical and mental health care services, and nearly \$1.8 billion are for the indirect costs of lost productivity or wages.

Courtesy of Domestic Violence Resource Center

aware of any patterns or the propensity for violence in the relationships had with other people, such as a significant other, relatives, etc. Civilians should not worry about managing it as much as avoiding it.

Gerald Rebo, manager of public safety, explained that public safety officers, like police officers, go through training.

"We send them to a two day school down at LCCC and it is taught by the former Chief of Wilkes-Barre, Will Barrett, and it has how to diffuse situations, such as domestics," said Rebo.

Rebo advises students to contact public safety, RAs, or student affairs if they are in situations that could lead to violence. They will direct students to counselors, outreach programs, and the Victims Resource Center, and such for more guidance.

"You have to watch your surroundings and where you go," Rebo stated. He suggests students to go out with a group and never walk alone. If a ride is needed, there is always safe ride, where a taxi will pick students up.

Students on campus know about the homicides that have been happening, but they also know that these were mostly all homicides with previous relationships attached to them

"I'm more worried about my car than myself," said Cassandra Scarantino, a senior business major.

Brittany Maloney, sophomore biology major, has lived near the Wilkes-Barre area her whole life and feels like the crimes lately have been blown out of proportion.

"It just so happened that a couple things happened all in one week or recently," said Maloney.

Another student had opinions not only on the crime but also the economy's effect on the crime rates.

"I just feel that the crime rate in Wilkes-Barre is definitely increasing, comparing it to before because I've lived here my whole life. The economy also has a lot to do with it because people are out of jobs and they are trying to find quick money," said Jessica Shaw, a commuting sophomore nursing student.

"Something students have to take into consideration and have to do for themselves is safety," Rebo commented. "You have to protect yourself and don't think it will never happen to you," he added.

One+One MBA: India lends new reach to Wilkes education

"I would hope that some of

our students will take advan-

tage of the fact that there are

MBA courses being offered

several thousand miles away

and that they can go over there

for a semester," Liuzzo said.

Beacon News Editor

The reach of a Wilkes education just got a little longer.

Recently, the Wilkes MBA program expanded with a new One+One MBA India program. Students from Punjabi University in India can now earn a Wilkes University degree by taking classes at their university for a year and then coming to Wilkes-Barre to study for one year. The program decreases costs for Indian students, while allowing American students to interact with these international students in the classroom. According to administrators, the program broadens the diversity at Wilkes and contributes to an important educational tool on

The One+One MBA: India program is a partnership between Wilkes and the Punjabi School of Management Studies, which is located in Patiala, India. In fall 2008, 34 firstyear Indian Wilkes students began studying on Punjabi University's campus. After one year, they will move to the Wilkes campus for their year of residency in United States.

Dr. Anthony Liuzzo, the MBA director and professor in the Sidhu School of Business, says he first heard the idea of this program from Jay Sidhu, who comes from the region of Punjabi University. Sidhu received his MBA

degree at Wilkes and is currently chair of program was created. the University's Board of Trustees.

Before the One+One MBA: India program began, there were courses taught during spring break for MBA students.

"In 2007, we brought several Indian students from Punjabi University who are get-

ting their MBA," said Liuzzo. The department tested a class, which was one of Liuzzo's courses. There were about ten Indian students and eight Wilkes students. They were in the same class

for ten days, had lunch together, worked in groups together and were very interactive. Overall, Liuzzo felt the spring break program was a big success.

"We sort of broke the ice with Punjabi University. We got to know them, know their faculty and their students," Liuzzo commented. "We started to understand what their students liked and what they needed," he added. After developing the spring course, the One+OneMBA: India

"My role is to make sure that every student that graduates with a Wilkes MBA is graduating from a high quality program," stated Liuzzo, "And that their learning skills and the content of the courses are necessary to flourish in a business and organizational en-

vironment."

"I would hope that some of our students will take advantage of the fact that there are MBA courses being offered several thousand miles away and that they can go over there for a semester," Liuzzo said.

In addition to studying abroad, the MBA students have learning opportunities

about diversity and globalization by having Indian students in their class.

"I hope the faculty will share joint research initiatives with other faculty members of Punjabi," said Liuzzo. Furthermore, he hopes that faculty members from both schools get to know each other professionally and develop skills from each other. From this, Wilkes faculty will learn about diversity issues.

Dr. Jennifer Edmonds, assistant professor in the Sidhu School Business & Leadership,

coordinates the offerings of her course equivalents at Punjabi University. In other words, she exchanges syllabi and ideas with faculty at the university in

"This program, in addition to allowing Wilkes University to continue to build its international presence, gives Wilkes faculty the opportunity to interact with and potentially travel to Punjabi University," said Edmonds. "I had never been overseas before, and without this particular opportunity, it may not have happened for some time," she added. She has enjoyed travelling to India twice and has gained faculty colleagues and

Currently, only Punjabi University students have a 'choice' in their participation. They enroll as Wilkes University students studying in Patiala for three semesters and then have the opportunity to come to live and study at Wilkes University for two semesters.

"I hope we learn how to do this perfectly, so that we'll be able to do it with other institutions in other countries," Liuzzo stated. They have already begun interacting with institutions in China and Columbia.

SHOOTING from FRONT PAGE

Wilkes-Barre.

On Monday, nursing students could be seen watching local newscasts and checking local newspapers for updates regarding their friend's murder.

Sitting around a computer in Brieseth Hall, three nursing majors, Florena Wolfe, Lori Skurkis, and Erin Bufford, read information regarding the protection from abuse order Rogers Buckner filed just days before the murder.

"Two of the girls were supposed to pick her up [for clinical], and they called her at 9:20 p.m. and I guess they talked to her, but after that, they called back she didn't answer. And [the murder] happened at 10:20 p.m.," said Bufford, a junior.

Susan Darby, an assistant professor in the nursing department, worked closely with Rogers-Buckner.

"She was very determined to become a nurse. She worked as a respiratory therapist full-time. Plus she had three children. They are all very young and she was going to school full-time. She was extremely determined and she desperately wanted to become a nurse," said Darby.

She added, "She had confided in me that she had lived in domestic violence, and I asked her if she was safe. She told me she was safe. One

time she did leave her husband...but she went back. Again, I asked her if she was safe, and she did tell me she was safe."

As of press time, funeral arrangements were not known, but there was word of a candlelight vigil that will be held on Wilkes University's Fenner Quadrangle (Greenway) on April 21 at 8 p.m. The vigil will follow a rally on Public Square for crime prevention.

For more information on the candlelight vigil and the rally on Public Square for crime prevention stay tuned to WilkesBeacon.com



Kewaii Rogers-Buckner lived here with her family on 134 Lehigh St. in Wilkes Barre. She was murdered by her husband on March 29 due to domestic violence.



The Beacon/ Jacqueline Lukas

Children at Hoops and Scoops, a Zebra Communications event, get their faces painted and enjoy the day on Sunday. Zebra put on a basketball tournament and an Easter egg hunt to raise money for the Wyoming Valley Children's Association.

SG Notes March 18, 2009

BY MELANIE THOMAS

Beacon Correspondent

Treasurer's Report

All College: \$3,759.50

Conference: \$7,482.09

General: \$3,879.24 Leadership: \$8,652.59

Special Projects:

\$2,454.06 Spirit: \$4,000.00

Spirit: \$4,000.00 *Start-up:* \$2,100.00

New Business

Equestrian Club Fund Request (Week 2 of 2) the fund request was passed for \$2,500.00.

IEEE Constitutional Changes (Week 2 of 2) IEEE's constitutional changes was passed.

ASME Fund Request (Week 1 of 2) ASME requested funds in the amount of \$1,500.00 to assist with the cost of their annual car show.

Member of the Month, March: June Lor, for her hard work and dedication

Student Government also began to nominate Wilkes faculty and staff for the upcoming award.

Old Business Updates

Old Business Updates
Craig Thomas (Website Review)

Wilkes University Speech Team Fund Request

Relay for Life Donation Request Casino Night Budget Presidential Nominations

Events

Texas Hold'Em Tournament April 2nd Presidential Meet & Greet April 2nd

Presidential Elections April 2nd 1p.m. – 7th 5p.m.
Casino Night April 3rd

OCC Block party April 18th rain date April 19th

Spring Fling April 24th
Relay for Life April 25th-26th

*At 8:15 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn the SG meeting. The motion was

SG Meetings are open to all students. They are held every Wednesday in the Miller Conference Room on the second floor of HSC.

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Help lead in fight against the spread of STDs

Opinion

BY THE BEACON Editorial Board

A burning sensation when urinating, or a white, yellow, or green of 246 cases of discharge, anal itching, soreness, bleeding, or painful bowel move- reported in Luments are all common symptoms of some of the sexually transmit- just six years that ted diseases floating around Luzerne County.

The Feres Doctrine

This week, The Beacon would like to stress the importance of pro-active STD prevention. No one in this county can afford to deny that STDs are a problem here, and local colleges can play a vital role in minimizing STDs by encouraging education and frank discussion, as well as by making condoms widely available.

A study conducted by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) estimated that at the end of 2007, around 1.1 million people were living with HIV/aids in the United States.

The CDC also estimates that more than 700,000 persons in the U.S. get new gonorrheal infections each year, and in 2006, 1,030,911 chlamydia infections were reported from 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Nationwide, at least 45 million people ages 12 and older, or one out of five adolescents and adults, have had genital HSV infection, according to the CDC.

Often, many cases go unreported and unattended and can lead to serious, painful and life threatening complications.

Since 2000, gonorrhea and chlamydia rates have been on a constant rise in Luzerne County, and if individuals do not educate themselves with the important information pertaining to STD symptoms, rates and prevention methods, these rates will continue to climb.

compiled from statistics recorded prevalent diseases recorded were

by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

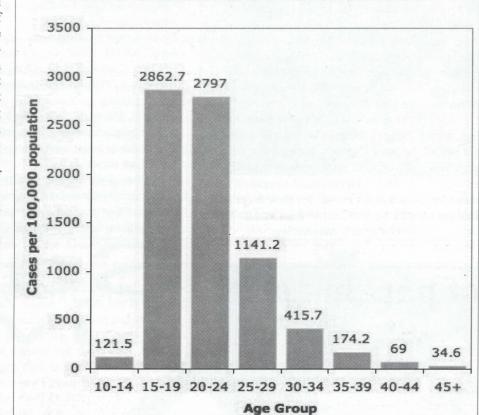
In 1999 a total chlamydia were zerne County. In number almost doubled, reaching 448 in 2005. In addition, ten years ago, there were 35 reported cases of gonorrhea, however in 2005, that number grew to We suspect 96. that those numbers are actually significantly higher now for several

According the CDC's web page, chlamydia is known as a "silent" disease because about three quarters of infected women and

about half of infected men have no symptoms. If symptoms do occur, they usually appear within 1 to 3 weeks after exposure. Symptoms in women may include abnormal vaginal discharge or a burning sensation when urinating. Signs or symptoms in men might have a discharge from their penis or a burning sensation when urinating. In men, burning and itching around the opening of the penis is more common.

A CDC study released in March, 2008, estimated that one in four (26 percent) young women between the ages of 14 and 19 in the United States or 3.2 million teenage girls is infected with at least one of the most common sexually The following information was transmitted diseases. The two most

Chlamydia Rates Among Females, 2006 (Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)



human papillomavirus (HPV) and chlamydia.

The statistics paint a gloomy correlation of what is to become of Luzerne County if people do not step up and make a positive change. And we believe that local college students can lead the charge.

We ask all individuals to please partake in STD screening on a regular basis. Always wear a protective layer. Condoms are regarded as the best form of protection against STDs available to sexually active people. Women should require male partners to wear one, and men shouldn't wait to be asked. This is as much about self-protection as it is about protecting a partner. And don't be afraid to ask partners if there is something you should know about their sexual history. If we all start doing it, there will be nothing to be embarrassed about.

Planned Parenthood is federally funded, making many services free to the public. This, along with its guarantee of anonymity to its patients, is particularly useful to college students. Urine pregnancy testing, pregnancy options counseling, STD screening without symptoms, HIV testing, emergency contraceptives, safer sex education and counseling, and birth control education and counseling are all services offered by Planned Parenthood.

For more information on STD statistics and getting tested, you can visit the Pennsylvania Department of Health web page, or contact Planned Parenthood of

Talking Points



STD rates have been on a constant rise since 2000.



Local colleges can take the lead In advocating and practicing safe sex.



Do not hesitate to ask a partner if there is anything that you should know about their sexual history.

The angry rant: the unedited version

BY TIM SEIGFRIED
Wilkes Alumnus

In last week's rant, "Beauty Pageants," some of you may have noticed in the third paragraph the following sentence: "The moral conundrum begged the question should children be subjected to this lifestyle?"

Seems fine, right? Great, let's move on.

What I actually wrote and submitted to the editors was this: "As the nation became more engrossed in JonBenet's story, an outrage cropped up from middle America, a moral conundrum that was "should children be subjected to this lifestyle?""

As you can see, it was basically the same thing. There was a moral issue at hand, and the country was collectively questioning itself. That was the premise of my argument

Right now, you might be thinking: Why is this D-bag bringing this up? Is it really that big a deal that they changed a few words in his stupid rant? Is he that full of himself that he thinks his words are beyond reproach? Is it possible that this guy is a bigger tool than I thought?

To answer the last three questions: Yes,

yes and double-yes.

But the issue at hand isn't that my words were changed. I've got no problem with an editor fixing stuff up if there is a grammatical or spelling error – that's completely okay with this guy. My problem lies within the usage of the phrase "...begged the question." You see, I have an issue with that because it wasn't used properly. In fact, it was used about as incorrectly as possible.

Begging the question refers to a logical fallacy that deals with circular reasoning, or when the answer to a question refers back to the question in order to prove itself. For example, saying that "God exists because it says it in the Bible, and the Bible was written by God" would be begging the question. You would never follow up it begs the question or it begged the question with an actual question, such as in the example from last week's rant. In that regards, the phrase "begged the question" can be considered to be ironic. Or not, because the word ironic is ironically rarely ever used to describe an ironic situation.

It's like when someone says For all intensive purposes. What? Intensive purposes? That doesn't even make sense, but yet, I hear it all the effing time. It's for all intents

and purposes. You see how much more sense that makes?

Or when someone plays a complement to someone, while they remark how their shoes compliment their shirt. Wrong, wrong, wrongwrongWRONG.

The point is, these sort of verbal miscues are as common as other misconceptions, like people saying that Rick Blaine said "Play it again, Sam" in Casablanca, or that the priest in The Little Mermaid didn't have a boner. (He totally did!)

Which brings us to the meat and gravy covered potatoes of this week's rant: The English language!

Look, a lot of you folks who are reading this right now are probably in college and will thusly be looking for employment when you leave this institute of higher education. As such, some of these employers will require some basic knowledge of the English language, so it's best that you know what you're saying and writing so you don't look like a complete a-hole.

Our language is not that difficult. Sure, spelling can be problematic at times, but that's why they invented the auto-spell checker. Of course, I maintain that it only hurts our ability to spell. (Which is why I

disabled my spell checker. If you don't know you're spelling a word wrong, then you can't learn how to spell it correctly.)

The most commonly abused words are of the "their" and "there" and "they're" type. Words that sound the same, sort of look the same, but mean different things altogether. And as someone who appreciates words, it pains me to read this: "We were all their, and then Suzy came in and took there shoes!"

It's an innocent mistake, but our society is regressing in terms of literacy and intelligence, so this is only a trend that will get worse before it miraculously gets better.

Irregardless, that doesn't mean that we still shouldn't strive to make an effort to come across as educated people, with a never ending thirst for knowledge and betterment of ourselves.

So before you start begging questions or complementing your girlfriend, step back for a moment and think about what you're saying. It can be the difference between sounding like some sort of poorly educated ignoramus and someone who actually knows what they are talking about.

The perils of parking on S. Franklin: tips and tricks

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS
Beacon Asst. News Editor

Last week as I ventured to my car after a long day working on The Beacon. Even from a distance I could see the shattered window.

When I got closer I discovered that a bag I had left on my front seat filled with my personal items was missing.

In the bag were items totaling around \$400.00.

Many students on campus are commuters so there are a few stories and tips that I would like to offer to avoid the anger and shock that goes with losing valuable items the way I did.

So here are some stories...

A couple attending a football game parked their car and went to the game. When they came back, they discovered their car had been vandalized and the thieves had taken their GPS, some money and the garage door opener. When the couple returned to their house, they realized that everything that was worth anything had been taken and their house had been ransacked. The thieves used the GPS system to navigate to their house and since they knew how long

the football game was going to be, they even had time to get a truck to empty the contents of the house.

Tip #1: 'Home' in your GPS should be one city block away from your actual home. Or you could choose a public place like a library or nearby business that is close to your home. Putting in your actual address is clearly dangerous if the GPS falls into the wrong hands. Let's get real. We all know how to get back to our houses.

Also, a woman had her purse stolen with her cell phone, all of her money, credit and bank cards in it. The thieves used her phone to text the contact "Hubby" to ask about a PIN number for the bank. After her husband replied to the text message, the wife called from a pay phone to tell him about her stolen purse and phone. Then they realized what happened. They rushed down to the bank, but all of their money had already been withdrawn.

Tip #2: Do not identify personal relationships in your cell phone contacts list. Also, when you're talking personal and sensitive issues, you should confirm the message by calling back. Even meeting times with friends and family via text messages can be dangerous. If a friend or family member asks you to meet them via text, you should



Always remember to lock your doors and set your alarm when leaving your car.

call to make sure that the text message was sent by them. You just can't be too careful these days.

I'm sure everyone on campus has heard about the local homicides, stabbings and fights within the past week. Five people died, the most recent last week on March 29 when a Wilkes nursing student was shot as a result of domestic violence. While each case was unique and not necessarily

something that the general public needs to fear, being cautious and paying attention to personal safety issues on the street is simply a smart move in Wilkes-Barre and across the country right now.

Feres Doctrine denies equal treatment

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA Asst. Opinion Editor

Carmelo Rodriguez died in January 2008. The name might not ring a bell immediately, if at all, but what happened to this 29-year-old former U.S. Marine is a story that must be heard.

Rodriguez was not killed by a bullet or a bomb, nor from any injury endured during the time he spent serving our country. Instead, Rodriguez lost his life due to melanoma, one of the most severe types of skin cancer. Many people suffer from melanoma. The difference in Rodriguez's case was that it went undiagnosed.

The marine's death has inspired some to take a closer look at the rights, or lack thereof, that military servicemen have under a document known as the Feres Doctrine, and the proposed bill that is being presented to combat it.

Upon entering the United States Marines in 1997, Rodriguez's doctor noted an odd-looking mole during this physical. The doctor jotted it down as "melanoma on the right buttocks." But instead of informing Rodriguez of the finding, he kept it in the documents—documents that Rodriguez never saw. These documents passed through the hands of several doctors when he was deployed to Iraq.

Just over a year ago, CBS na-

tional correspondent Byron Pitts ran a story for 60 minutes about Rodriguez and his family. Rodriguez, who was once a very handsome and physically fit young man, had become emaciated, down to less than 80 pounds, and was bedridden by stage four melanoma. A mere eight minutes after Pitts's initial meeting with the former marine, Rodriguez died, with his seven-year old son clenching his hand. He died of the disease that he was never told about until it was too late. Melanoma is one of the most severe, but entirely treatable, forms of skin cancer.

When I saw this gut-wrenching interview, chills shot down my spine and the hairs on my arms shot up like bolts of lightning. How can this possibly happen, especially to a person who put his life on the line every single day for our "great country?"

Ok, so his doctors messed up. Sue them. In anyone else's case, this is what would happen. There is a reason we have such legal recourse in America. When professionals don't do their jobs and cost victims their jobs or even their lives, as was the case for Rodriguez, there is a way to hold those professionals responsible for their actions: lawsuits. At the very least, Rodriguez's seven-year old son should have a

chance at college with the money from a successful lawsuit, especially since his father can't save that money for him now.

But therein lies the problem. According to the Feres Doctrine, a 1950 Supreme Court ruling, service members are excluded from collecting damages for personal injuries in the performance of their duties. The policy limits the use of the Federal Tort Claims Act, which essentially allows a citizen to sue the United States in Federal Court for compensation from those responsible for their injuries. Therefore, according to the Feres Doctrine, the government is not liable under the Federal Tort Claims Act for injuries sustained while on active duty.

Are you freaking kidding me?

How is it plausible for the brave men and women who protect our country to not have the same rights as a normal U.S. citizen? It just does not make any sense. These people lay their lives on the line each and every day; at the very least they should have the exact same rights as every one of us.

I understand the basis of the doctrine. If all lawsuits were allowed, the government would likely be sued left and right for service members' injuries during wartime duties. But for medical malpractice? For doctors intentionally not telling someone they have a dead-

ly illness for God knows what reason? That is absolutely ridiculous.

As a country, we strive for better care of our servicemen and veterans. And this is what we give them? The inability to collect damages that were caused by someone else?

How exactly are we caring for our courageous men and women who risk their lives by disallowing them to sue the government for medical malpractice or negligence?

I speak to everyone who has a heart and common sense when I say that something needs to be done about the Feres Doctrine, because it is morally wrong. There is a difference between the law, what is justice, and what is plain old right. And this doctrine, on many levels, is just not right.

The movement is already in motion, thanks to New York representative Maurice Hinchey. On March 24, Hinchey introduced a proposed bill know as H.R. 1478, the "Carmelo Rodriguez Military Medical Accountability Act of 2009." According to the Library of Congress, the act is set out to "amend chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, to allow members of the Armed Forces to sue the United States for damages for certain injuries caused by improper medical care, and for other purposes."

So far the bill has only been held in subcommittee meetings.

If the government really does want what is best for the military, then why not start by giving servicemen and women better medical care and the same rights that civilians have when it comes to legal protection? I'm not here to say that service members should have more, only the same. They should be able to do anything that you and I can do.

The story of Carmelo Rodriguez is only one of many mishaps in the protection of our service men and women, but let his story be the inspiration for better care for our service members.

And it's up to us, we have a responsibility to do something about this because if we don't, it is just us much our fault as it is the government's.

Beacon Poll Results

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

The Beacon asked:

Do you feel that SG should donate money back to Wilkes?

- Yes 40%
- No 60%
- Undecided 0%

Next Week's question:

Is enough being done to minmize STD rates in W-B?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

Visit www.wilkesbeacon. com to cast your vote. Results will be published online at wilkesbeacon.com

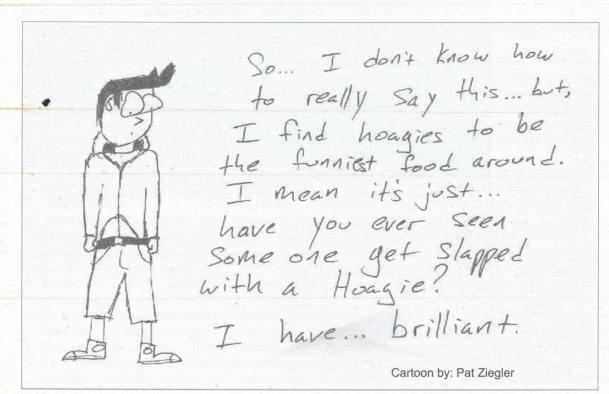
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BY CHRISTA SGOBBA Beacon Lifestyles Editor

By the year 2042, Americans now classified as the minority are projected to become the majority, as the population growth of Hispanics, African Americans, and other ethnic backgrounds is likely to outpace that of white Americans.

To better serve this change in population, many fields are trying to adapt their practices to meet the needs of the people. The nursing field in particular is beginning to make cultural learning and diversity awareness an integral part of job training.

"It's about helping the students learn to care for the different cultures. If they have different family values, things like that, that would impact the care the nurse needs to provide," said Lori Drozdis, the director of the nursing department at Wilkes. "So by learning these different things, we're making a better nurse for the future."

Recognizing the importance of training nurses in this regard, the nursing department decided to make cultural awareness and diversity training the focal point of its Educational and Professional Development Fair. The fair, which will be held at the Marts Center on April 16, will emphasize the importance of providing quality care to culturally diverse communities.

Sophomore through senior nursing students will present posters they created that deal with aspects of diversity. Topics include cultural beliefs and practices related to aging, beliefs about organ donation, and genetic counseling for at-risk cultures.

Senior nursing major Veronica Marzonie and her clinical group chose the topic "Chinese Folk Medicine." Their poster will look into acupuncture, meditation, and herbal

"The poster will include information about how each practice is done, what it's used for, and how it can properly be used in conjunction with modern North American nursing care," she said.

Dr. Gloria Kersey-Matusiak, a registered nurse and professor of nursing at Holy Family University in Philadelphia, will serve as the keynote speaker. She will speak on how to provide competent nursing care in our multicultural society.

Kersey-Matusiak uses a model pioneered by Dr. Josepha Campinha-Bacote, which assists nurses in caring for individuals with diverse backgrounds, not only in regards to race or ethnicity.

She uses the example of a nurse treating an incarcerated patient. The nurse may know the reason why the patient is incarcerated, and the clash of values may result in difficulties providing the best care.

"Nurses have to care for patients from all walks of life," Kersey-Matusiak said. "Sometimes it makes it hard, because a lot of times nurses may think, 'Well, I don't like what he did, so I'm not comfortable taking care of him.""

> Kersey-Matusiak stresses that nurses cannot allow their own values and beliefs to dictate how they treat a patient.

"This model helps you tap into your own biases, and your own prejudices, at any level, so you could move on from there and develop strategies to work through that," she said.

If nurses are not aware of culture differences, there are many problems that can result in giving certain groups of



The Beacon/Melanie Thomas

Nursing students Veronica Marzonie and Robert Griffith practice hands-on techniques in their classes. In addition to technical experience, nursing students also learn about diverse practices so they can become culturally competent.

people the care they need. Differences arise regarding beliefs in immunizations, birth practices, and access to health care.

For example, Kersey-Matusiak points to the case of migrant workers, many of whom do farm work in Pennsylvania. Not only do many have a language barrier, but they also represent different health risks.

"If the nurse is not aware of the fact that they have different health issues because of their exposure to pesticides, then the patient will be the one to suffer if the nurse is not culturally competent," she said.

However, Kersey-Matusiak acknowledg es the language barrier is the most common block preventing smooth health care. She argues that nurses must understand their responsibility to seek out a translator to make sure their patients understand what is hap-

"Sometimes when people are sick, especially very sick, even when they have skills to communicate in a foreign language like English, they may not be able to use it because they aren't in the state of mind to allow them to access those skills," she said.

One of the best ways to becoming a culturally competent nurse is learning a second language.

Kersey-Matusiak encourages young nurses to learn the language of the people they will be treating. For example, she has been learning Spanish all her life, since it is spoken by many people in her area.

"The nurse should try to at least learn some words and phrases, and become aware of resources that provide support," she said.

At Wilkes, learning a foreign language is encouraged, but it is not a formal component of the nursing courses. However, Drozdis emphasizes that diversity training is incorporated into the classes to train culturally sensitive nurses.

According to Marzonie, some aspect of cultural awareness was taught in classes among every level.

"Classes often discuss cultural scenarios that occur in health care situations," she said. "We learn about how individuals in different cultures tend to communicate, and how they approach health care. We also learn about different religious practices and how spirituality impacts nursing care."

Despite the cultural headway seen in the new generation of nurse training, Kersey-Matusiak says she still meets with some resistance by more established nurses. However, she believes that they must understand in just ten years, the world already will be a very different place.

"As we move forward, we all need to be culturally competent, no matter who we are," she said.



Nursing student Amber Kaminski practices taking the blood pressure of fellow student Veronica Marzonie.

Student indifference impedes "Going Green" movement

BY LINDSAY BEHRENSHAUSEN

Beacom Correspondent

Like many campuses across the nation, Wilkes has sought to embrace a variety of "going green" initiatives to help preserve natural resources and decrease the community's carbon footprint. Though faculty and staff are actively making strides to help the campus become more eco-friendly, is the student population equally as concerned about these pressing issues?

Last week, the Sovereign Center offered students an opportunity to become informed on current environmental issues and the future of the environment. Joanne Thomas, coordinator for the Sovereign Center, confirmed that the Environmental Stability Lecture was cancelled due to lack of interest.

Dr. Marleen Troy, associate professor of environmental engineering, believes it is crucial for young adults to begin taking an interest in this matter.

"College students are the future. They will be challenged to deal with the impacts (water issues, air quality issues, climate issues, energy issues, waste disposal issues) that are the result of our current actions," said Troy.

In spite of this, apathy toward the topic appears common among the student body.

"I might contemplate going to a lecture about the environment, but I would definitely not actually go," said Steven Thomas, a senior mechanical engineering major. "It definitely is not one of my top priorities, or even rank in the top ten."

Sophomore accounting major, Brandon

Pauling, expressed similar feelings.

"No, I would not attend the lecture," Pauling said. "It's not one of my main concerns and there are more important things to do. Besides, I already think Wilkes is doing a good job with making the campus more green by cutting back on certain things."

However, not all students feel that Wilkes is effectively participating in the "Going Green" movement. Sophomore education major Allison Slatinsky expressed her concerns with certain methods the campus is taking in an effort to protect the environment.

"Although I think 'Going Green' is good, I think the University is going about it in the wrong way. They are taking away things that we actually use such as the takeout cups in the cafeteria and limiting the amount of printing we can do on school computers," Slatinsky said.

While Slatinsky also expressed she would not be interested in listening to a lecture regarding the environment, she did have the suggestion for the University to place more recycling containers around campus to aid the efforts of the movement.

Troy feels Wilkes has made a good start in the wake of the "Going Green" movement, but student involvement is essential to making these changes a success.

"Wilkes has made progress in increasing environmental awareness on campus and by 'walking the walk' of actually implementing changes that will be beneficial to reduce Wilkes' environmental footprint," Troy commented. "Becoming educated about the choices [students] make regarding the purchases they make, the energy they use, and



The Beacon/Lauren Biernacki

Wilkes students eating at the Henry Student Center cafeteria use the new napkin-efficient napkin. The dispensers release one napkin at at time to cut down on waste.

the disposal of the wastes that they generate is very important. It is a good start. Habits and opinions will not change overnight."

Students can find that the movement of "Going Green" stretches beyond the confines of the Wilkes campus, and extends into the future. Although this international movement may be in its beginning stages, the results of the movement will have a lasting impact and affect students for many years to come.

Sarah Elliot, senior business administration major, said she would be interested in hearing a lecture about environmental stability.

"I'm interested in buying a house and I want to know the most energy efficient ways to go about that. I want to know about

efficient appliances and ways to insulate the house without hurting the environment," said Elliot.

If the attitude of protecting the environment is contagious, there is good news for the future of "Going Green."

"I am optimistic that [the Green Movement] will continue as the benefits of these efforts become apparent," said Troy. "The choices that we make regarding how we go about our daily activities may seem trivial, but cumulatively they can have long term environmental impacts."

Student of the Week Melanie Ward

BY RUTH WHISPELL Beacon Staff Writer

Freshman accounting major Melanie Ward can be seen traveling around the Wilkes campus on her motorized wheelchair. Her mother can often be seen attentatively at her side.

At birth, Ward was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy (MD), a group of genetic diseases that causes progressive weakness of the muscles. Ward started at Wilkes as a pharmacy major, but because of her health issues, she switched to accounting. In some classes, Ward is assisted by note takers, and also hones her writing skills at the Writing Center.

During her transition to college, Ward has been met with some challenges. However, she says Wilkes has been accommodating to any special needs, and if a certain class wasn't physically accessible to her, they moved it. Additionally, her mother is with her daily, taking on the role of primary caregiver in case of medical issues during her class hours.

Despite any challenges MD may cause, Ward doesn't look at it as a burden. She points to her experiences at PA Vent camp, a camp for ventilator-dependent children that provides an independent living experience, which she has attended since the age

"I wouldn't trade this for anything," said Ward. "I go to PA Vent camp every year and I've had some great experiences that I would have missed out on."

Next year, Ward hopes to become more involved at Wilkes. She already is a member of the sociology and strategic gaming clubs, and hopes to join a business club next semester.

Because of her perseverance and dedication to her studies, *The Beacon* has chosen Ward as its Student of the Week.

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

Ward: I see myself a couple places as a social worker, or a CPA – a specific type of accountant; or I could be in such rough shape that I can't work.

The Beacon: Describe yourself in three words.

Ward: Funny, procrastinator, and hard working.

The Beacon: Finish the following sen-

tence: My friends would be surprised to know that...

Ward: I have considered quitting college or school, although I don't plan on it



Photo courtesy of Melanie Ward

Academic, athletic recruiting welcomes potential students

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS Beacon Asst. Lifestyles Editor

Schools and athletic programs go about different ways in recruiting students, but the intended goal is the same: make potential students into permanent students.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association details each way coaches from a Division I, Division II, or Division III school can recruit a potential athlete for their program. According to NCAA.org, there are periods of contact, dead, evaluation, and quiet. The process takes communication, forethought, and persistence.

Academic recruiting shares the same qualities. When an admissions office either contacts a student or is contacted by a student to set-up a meeting, the potential student is given an academic advisor. From visits with an academic "coach," the prospective student is given a tour of the campus by a student ambassador, the pivotal peer link between current and potential student.

According to Amy Patton, associate director for admissions, "Wilkes ambassadors (who are current Wilkes students) play a pivotal role in helping prospective students feel that Wilkes University might be their new 'home'."

Patton laid out the sequence of events followed by all student ambassadors at Wilkes. First, a Wilkes ambassador gives a tour of the campus to the prospective student and his or her family.

"The conversation which occurs between prospective student and current Wilkes student can shed light on whether Wilkes may be a good fit for the prospective student," said Patton. "Ambassadors answer questions about student life, clubs on campus, sports, intramurals, residence halls, what to do in Wilkes-Barre on the weekends."

The second step is trying to make the connection between current student and possible future student.

"Since a Wilkes ambassador can clearly remember what it's like to be doing a college search, the ambassador can provide much guidance and encouragement to students who are trying to navigate the college search process themselves," stated Patton.

Michele Zalno, assistant director of admissions, believes that "one way our students



The Beacon/Lauren Biernacki

Nicole Croyden, student ambassador, gives a tour to prospective Wilkes students. Ambassadors give tours of campus, as well as talks about life as a college student.

make potential students feel comfortable is when the tour is done the ambassadors have business cards to hand out. This allows the potential students to contact their tour guide with any questions, they might have."

Ambassadors and potential students are all given identifications for HelloWilkes, an interactive blog.

"Students blog about a variety of topics," Patton said. "Again, by chatting online, Wilkes ambassadors not only answer questions but also help accepted students feel "Colonel" long before they step foot on campus in fall semester."

If a possible connection is made between potential student and the school, student ambassadors are called upon to keep potential students overnight to give prospects a real feel for the campus and campus life.

Ambassadors are encouraged to engage potential students in the active surroundings of college. But just what are the "active surroundings" of Wilkes? College life can be more about just going to class and studying. So, what are ambassadors encouraged to do with their prospects?

According to Patton, students are asked to have their potential students shadow them for an entire day, eat with them, and include them in activities like going to the movies or bowling.

While academic recruiting is a chance for potential students to try to acclimate into college life, another important type of recruiting is athletic recruiting. Athletic recruiting focuses on making potential student athletes feel as if they are part of not just the Wilkes University team, but a Wilkes athletic team, as well.

Each sport makes its own decisions regarding when to hold recruiting visits, but many sports share similar guidelines.

Coaches for both women's soccer and football try to match recruits with current students who share commonalities.

"We try to put them with someone they have something in common with, like major or hometown," said Frank Sheptock, head football coach.

Athletic recruits, just like academic recruits, are exposed to a typical day for Wilkes students so they can get a better glimpse into the world of Wilkes.

"We just try to expose them to what a typical day may be, going to class, hanging out with the team, eating meals in the cafeteria, etc.," said John Sumoski, head women's soccer coach.

If initial recruiting visits are successful, potential Wilkes athletes can request an overnight visit to really gain a fresh perspective of Wilkes and campus life. The protocol of when to hold visits and what do differs from team to team.

"We do our overnight visits during the week. I don't want my players bringing recruits to parties. I think it puts a lot of people at risk and it's not the first association we want a potential player to make with Wilkes," said Sumoski.

Some coaches also encourage their athletes to take overnight recruits to campus events, if applicable.

"We understand about social engagement and fitting in, but we would hope that the partying and all that is not a deciding factor. We encourage the young men to take recruits to a neat event on campus, like another athletic event," said Sheptock.

Whether a prospective student is brought onto campus for academic or athletic reasons, they are brought for one reason: to become a part of the Wilkes team.

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12

Osterhout Library celebrates National Poetry Month

BY ALYSSA BENNER
Beacon A&E Editor

The Osterhout public library, located on South Franklin Street, is hosting a series of events to celebrate National Poetry Month as well as National Public Library Week which begins on April 12 and goes through April 19.

Launched in 1996, National Poetry Month offers an opportunity for "... publishers, booksellers, literary organizations, libraries, schools and poets around the country [to] band together to celebrate poetry and its vital place in American culture," according to Poetry.org.

Wilkes students in Dr. Mischele Anthony's English 203 class (creative writing) were required to attend three poetry readings and read their own work at two during the semester. The timing of National Poetry Month coincided very well with the class.

Justin Jones, sophomore English major, is enrolled in the class and couldn't let the opportunity to read at the Osterhout on Tuesday evenings during the month of April pass him by. Jones said, "I'm a card-carrying member of the Osterhout library and

I love the atmosphere in that place, so I wanted to read my poetry there."

Elaine Stefanko, coordinator of information services at the Osterhout, is excited for the many events taking place during the busy month of April. "With the economy like it is, use of library goes up and I

think that we are not always good at getting the word out...however, many of the workshops we're having are really fun and interesting."

Some of the activities taking place are: Board Games for Grownups; Download This! an Audio book training session; a discussion with Mark G. Dziak on his book Battle of Wyoming: For Liberty and Life; a session to learn the history, theories, and equipment of New York Pennsylvania Paranormal Society; a philosophy discussion forum called Socrates Café; and an ESL program for Spanish speakers.

Mandy Styles, a clerk in the circula-

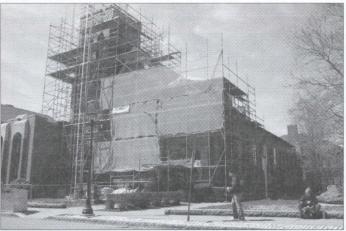
tion department at the Ostherhout, said, "It's different because when you go out to Barnes and Noble nobody mixes, everyone sits alone, whereas here everybody that comes to these meetings all know each other by name and the people that work here by name, too; it's a nice sense of community."

Often times students are shown the Wilkes campus and tend to stay in that vicinity, but the Osterhout Library does give memberships to anyone interested and also may have some books that the Farley Library does not carry.

"I've only been a member of Osterhout for about two months now, but I look for-

> ward to participating in any and all activities they provide that will further my experience in the vast world of literacy," Jones said.

> Licia Witt, Junior Biology major, said, "I have been at Wilkes for three years and really had no idea about an off campus library. Now that I'm aware of the many programs going on i will definitely have to check them out."



The Beacon/Gino Troiani

National Poetry Month and National Library week, which begins April 12, celebrations are taking place at the Osterhout which is also going through outside renovations.

Akron/Family "Set 'Em Wild, Set 'Em Free" CD Review

BY MATTHEW GOGAS

Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

Music, like most other things in life, is a relative concept. Everything and anything sounds good to someone. What may be considered good music to one may not to another. A person might find the sound of tongue clicking to be good music, while another may enjoy the music of banging on a trash can in rhythm.

Music education happens when a listener is introduced to a sound that alters his or her definition of 'good music.'

With that in mind, a band comes along but once every so often that breaks down and merges the genres of music successfully. For seven years, a generally unknown band from New York has consistently redefined its sound while maintaining a signature style and still making music that "sounds good."

The music of Akron/Family can be described as folk, psychedelic, progressive, and experimental all at the same time. Akron/Family's knack for incorporating unconventional instruments into their music is what has made the group generally

undefinable into just one musical genre. From wind chimes to glockenspiel to harmonized a capella vocals, Akron/Family is the lauch pad for three talented musicians who alternate roles within the group frequently as they all play multiple instruments.

In their career, Akron/Family has produced four studio albums, a split album, and a tour CD while touring extensively during that period. Akron/Family's latest album, "Set 'Em Wild, Set 'Em Free," set to release on May 5, 2009, is yet again another successful transition for the band into

a new sound. This is the first Akron/Family album that has put its foundation into the electric guitar. It is fair to say that this is the closest the group will ever come to conventional, mainstream music because their sound is forever changing, but who knows?

To date, each Akron/Family album has boasted a theme and "Set 'Em Wild, Set 'Em Free" is no different. However, they

See AKRON page 14

Taylor's lens captures artist's life in Sordoni exhibit

BY YOHANNA DE LOS SANTOS M. Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

Photographer, Nicholas Taylor exposes aspects of the life of friend and artist Jean-Michel Basquiat in the new Sordoni Art Gallery exhibition, Jean-Michele Basquiat: An Intimate Portrait. The show's opening reception took place at the Sordoni, Saturday, April 4.

The Sordoni Art Gallery borrowed Taylor's work from the Castellani Art Museum at Niagara University. "The exhibition is organized and traveled by the Castellani Art Museum at Niagara University," said Brittany Kramer, Assistant Director of the Sordoni Art Gallery. The exhibition was scheduled to be at the Sordoni Art Gallery with at least two years of anticipation.

"This exhibition is all photographs. The photographs are by Nicholas Taylor of the artist Jean-Michel Basquiat, they are all black and white. They were all taken in I believe' 79 when Basquiat was only 19-years old," said Brittany Kramer.

Michael J. Beam, curator of exhibitions at the Castellani Art Museum, noted that Taylor's work captures"... a nineteen year old Jean-Michel Basquiat, unspoiled by the art star celebrity that was to reveal itself in just a few short years."

Scranton resident and local artist, James Penedos, stopped to examine each photograph, trying to find the real meaning behind them, and hoping to understand the person in each picture. "For me, it is not so much who he is [Basquiat], but what the photographer did portraying whomever individual it is," said Penedos.

Though Taylor was an artist, he was not a professional photographer, but all pictures were taken, according to Kramer, "...in a single role film and on the same weekend. The photographer had text panels which relate stories [with the pictures] throughout his life." Although not a self-defined photographer, Taylor was able to create consistency through the pictures and highlight those characteristics that would best illsutrate Basquiat 's emotions and individuality.

Jean-Michel Basquiat was born in Brooklyn and was a graffiti artist who later took his work to canvas. Basquiat's work has been described as 'raw and full of electrifying and vivid colors.' His art sought to express his Haitian and Puerto Rican heritage. One of the characteristics that set him apart from other artists, was his lack of fear when it came to making mistakes.

"Basquiat struggled for fame, fortune, and, most importantly, inclusion into the very closed society that was the self-serving art world of the early 1980's," said Beam.

Junior English major, Megan Wenzel said, "I definitely think that it reflects the friendship of the two artists and it gives a little background of Jean-Michel, it also reflects the

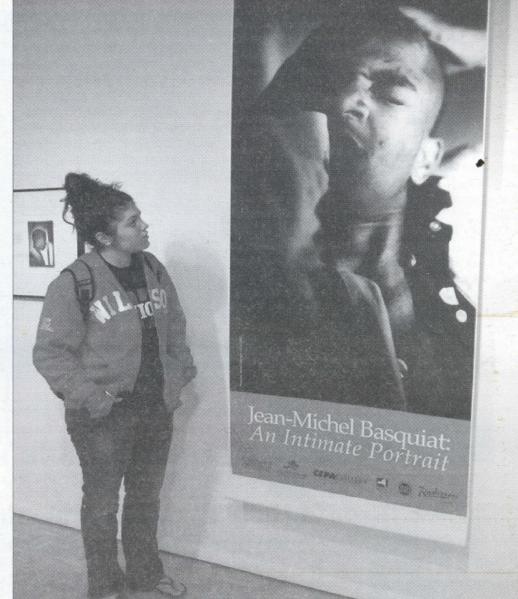
era that they both live in New York City during the 1980's. Very interesting."

"I think that it is important

for Wilkes students to come and view any of the art exhibits, it gives them a chance to get a little bit of culture and a little bit of insight of other people's perspective. Especially because it's shot...pretty much when a lot of us were born," added Wenzel.

"I'm just hoping that this exhibition brings in a lot of people in general because of Basquiat...He is a little more current. [His work] sells for ridiculously huge amounts of money today still, so I'm hoping just that name brings people in together," said Kramer.

The Sordoni Art Gallery is open daily from 12 to 4:30 p.m. The show is free and open to the public.



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Above: Samantha Simcox, Freshman elementary education major spent part of her day Wednesday analyzing and getting a better glimpse into the life of Jean-Michel Basquiat through the lens of his friend Nicholas Taylor.

Left: Santino Ardo, Sophomore Business Administration major, shows a friend one of his favorite pictures of the exhibit which runs until May 16.

AKRON

from PAGE 12

took a different approach to this album with that as well.

Previous albums have had themes such as life, spirituality, love, space, and time. Instead of looking inward this time, band members branched out and made an album encompassing all of those themes as well as the economic mood of the country.

The first track, "Everyone is Guilty," sets the tone of the album perfectly. Loud and rhythmic, with lyrics like, "when you cannot sleep/ you cannot breathe/and cannot even see," it immediately harnesses listeners' attention for the rest of the album.

"River" follows "Everyone is Guilty" and continues the same heavy and loud feel as the first track, but without the angry tone in the lyrics. This song is more about love interest than anything else. These first two tracks do an excellent job of building momentum for the rest of the album because this is a problem that Akron/Family has struggled

with doing since their first album.

The last two tracks on the album do an excellent job of ending on a high note as well. "Sun Will Shine" is a fast

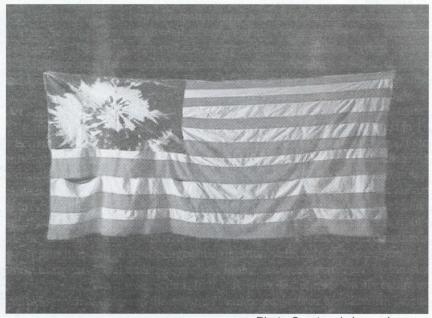


Photo Courtesy/mbvmusic.com

The Akron/Family's new album, entitled "Set Em' Wild, Set Em' Free" touches on America's tumultuous economic status as well as offering hope for the future.

paced spiritual ride filled with hope for the future. The song eventually fades into trumpets and violins playing the New Year's anthem to set up the final track on the album. "Last Year," brief, yet moving, ends the album with the lyrics "Last year was such a hard year for a long time. This year's going to be ours."

I won't offer the pros of an album without acknowledging some cons, so the few downsides on "Set 'Em Wild, Set 'Em Free" are that Akron/Family tends to take an exceedingly long time to make a point with a song, which is something that they have always done with their music. Tracks like "MBF" and "Gravelly Mountains of the Moon" seem to drone on endlessly into distorted guitar riffs. Even if you are a die hard Akron/Family fan, it gets tiresome.

All in all, the album has some great music with important things to say. "Set 'Em Wild, Set 'Em Free" has a bit of everything. Guitar jams, moving lyrics, and flawless harmony all contribute to it's success. This album definitely ranks as one of Akron/Family's best efforts. It is worthy of anyone's collection.

Grade B+

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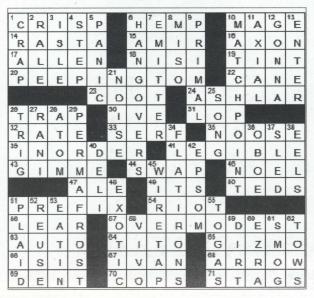
Cost: \$7.00

The Dead Where: Wachovia Arena When: Apr. 22, 7:30 p.m. Cost: \$69.00-\$95.00

Bill Cosby Where:FM Kirby Center When: Apr. 25, 9:00 p.m. Cost: \$36.50-\$51.00

March 31 Crossword

Answers



Crossword

BY DEVIN J. KING

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A	cr	OS	S

- First word in friendly let
 - ter
- To box or wrangle A split in the lip or chin
- Capital of Norway
- Lowest pitched brass in
- strument 16 Conversation starter
- 17 Previously owned car
- 18 "So it be"
- 19 Indian black tea
- 20 Outer portion of cere
- 23 To illegally take away 24 Jedi Master and trainer
- 25 Ray Charles and Milt
- Jackson
- SI unit of electrical 32
- impedance
- 35 Worn on Cowboy's heel
- Small peephole 36
- 37
- To make flow consistent
- 39 Chronic anxiety
- 41 Supernatural power in na
- 42 Untie the lashing of Slang for cigarettes 45
 - Neither

- Egotistical
- A set period of time 52
- Morphine or Codeine 53
- 57 Idiom; trustworthy arrange
- ment
- What castor oil induces 62
- 63 Lifted and carried away
- 64 Manure
- 65 Derivative of ammonia
- 66 Popular "stuffed" cookie
- 67 Actually existing
- 68 When procrastinators do work
- 69 Sebaceous cyst A plant "egg" 70
- Down
- Sweet or pleasant
- 2 County in England
- Attention after coffee
- Cowboy arenas
- To set into motion
- Mountain lion Murdered by Cain
- Reptomammal of Dathomir
- Donation to help ill or poor
- 10 For fear that 11 In addition to person im
- 12 Plant of genus Linum

- Everyone's friend on Myspace 13
- **Frat Brothers** 21 Double-reed woodwind 22
- To pull a heavy bag upstairs 26
- 27 Small leaf at base of plant
- 28 To fold back and sow
- Enthusiastic vigor 29
- "Biggest little city in the
- world" 31
- Celebrity or the Sun 32 Comic strip penguin
- 33 To make more acute
- 34 To ponder excessively about
- 38 UK's air force
- To cease to live 40
- Ornamental staff 43
- 44 In this place
- Famous Harvey's Lake pizza 46
- 47 September Abbr.
- 50 Constricted hallway
- Tubes with cathode and anode 51
- To entertain 55 Stressed out; irritable
- Sharpened 56
- Prolonged unconsciousness 57
- To leave out of a paper 58
- Evergreen tree 59
- Birthday suit 60 61
- How to get through a door Actor in "Batman Forever" 62

SPORTS

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16

Softball splits with conference foe Misericordia

Lady Colonels will stay focused throughout the season

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA

Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

It may have been a gloomy, overcast day on Saturday, but the bats were fully alive at the Ralston Complex for a Freedom Conference doubleheader between Wilkes and Misericordia.

It took awhile in the first game, but the bats finally came alive when the Lady Colonels needed them most in game one. With the Lady Colonels down 3-0 in the fifth inning, Senior Kathy Dalton rocked a double down the left field line to drive in two runs to cut Misericordia's lead to 3-2. In that same inning, junior Gina Stefanelli put Wilkes on top for good with a three run bomb to wrestle the momentum Wilkes's way

with a 5-4 score.

"Our pitcher held strong in the first game, holding them to only four runs," said junior shortstop Gina Stefanelli, who went 2-3 at the plate with three RBI in game one. "Our bats came alive toward the end of the game to pull us over the top."

Misericordia would not willingly go back to Dallas without a win, however, mounting a slight comeback in the final inning, picking up two hits and a run. But sophomore Lindsay Behrenshausen would hold off the feisty Cougars to pick up her fourth win of the season.

In game two, Misericordia stole most of the thunder with their bats, beating the lady Colonels in decisive fashion, 9-3.

The Cougars blasted out fifteen hits in the

game, and exploded for six runs in the third inning, proving too big of a margin for Wilkes to come back.

MeLisa Bracone, who went two for two in the game with two RBI, did her best to get the Lady Colonels back into it with a two run homerun in the fourth inning, driving in Stefanelli, who had gotten on base after being plunked by a pitch to lead off the inning. Wilkes made things a little more interesting in the bottom of the seventh also. The Lady Colonels banged four hits and loaded the bases, but were only able to convert a single run, leaving the bases full of runners.

"We had one bad defensive inning where mental errors caused unearned runs," said senior Sarah Miller. "If we could eliminate our mental errors on the field, teams would have a tough time beating our lineup."

Wilkes is now 8-12 overall and 2-4 in the Freedom Conference, but the women remain focused on improving in the offensive category as the season progresses.

"Our focus for the rest of the season will be eliminating mistakes on the field and scoring runs when we have runners at second and third," said Miller. "Misericordia is a good team, splitting with them will make us work that much harder in the games to come."

The women were back at it on Sunday in another Freedom Conference Doubleheader at FDU-Florham, but no scores or results were available before press time.



The Lady Colonels faced Misericordia on Saturday, winning the first game. Sophomore Lindsay Behrenshausen held the Cougars to four runs for the win.

Wilkes unable to sweep doubleheader vs. Scranton

BY CRAIG MERRIMAN Sports Information Director

Kristy Ordile and MeLisa Bracone each tallied four hits in the first game to lead the Wilkes to a 9-1 win in the first game over Scranton. The Royals would score a run in the bottom of the 10th inning in the second game to win 7-6 as the two teams split a double header.

In the first game, Ordile and Bracone accounted for eight of the team's 13 hits, while Sarah Miller picked up her first home run of the season to snap the Lady Colonels three-game losing skid. Ordile had three singles and a triple, while Bracone scored and drove in a run.

The Lady Colonels jumped out to a 7-0 lead in the first four innings before Scranton got on the board with its lone run in the bottom of the fifth. Wilkes would tack on two more runs in the top of the ninth to all but put away the Royals.

Wilkes got on the board first in the top of the second inning on two hits, including Miller's two-run blast to center field, scoring Cori Salter, who reached on a walk. The two runs would be all starter Lindsay Behrenshausen would need, as she picked up her third win of the season after throwing five innings, giving up one run off four hits.

The Lady Colonels busted out for four runs in the next frame thanks to three-straight hits by Gina Stefanelli, Bracone and Keelia Mailander. Mailander's hit would drive in Stefanelli before Bracone would cross home plate on a Scranton error. Saltzer's single to left plated Mailander to give the Lady Colonels a 6-0 advantage.

The top of the fourth saw Ordile triple down the left field line and would later score on a Bracone single to left.

Scranton would pick up three of their five hits in the bottom of the fifth, scoring it's only run, but left the bases loaded as Behrenshausen pitched a groundout to end the threat

Ordile picked up her fourth hit of the game, an RBI single to center to score Saltzer, after Kerry Finnerty scored from third on an error.

In the second game, Wilkes jumped out to a 5-0 lead after five innings, but the Royals

came back to tie the game in their final two at-bats. Both teams would score a run in the eighth before Scranton would win the game on a walk-off single.

Alyssa Ciesla grounded out to second, but was enough to score Stefanelli, who led off the inning with a single. In the fifth inning, Sarah Elliot and Amanda Holston hit back-to-back one-out singles before Kathy Dalton doubled down the right line to score Elliot. Stefanelli would follow suit with a double to right center scoring both Holston and Dalton. She would go 3-for-5 in the game with two runs batted in and two runs scored.

Scranton erupted for six hits in the sixth inning, two of which were for extra bases, including a leadoff home run. A two-out rally in the seventh that saw the Royals capitalize on a Wilkes error as well as back-to-back hits. Three of their 13 hits would come in the seventh inning.

The Lady Colonels would break the tie when Erin Plank, who reached on an error, would come around to score on a base hit by Ordile. Scranton committed two errors in the inning, but Wilkes was unable to cap-

italize as it left the bases loaded.

Wilkes would have a defensive let down in the bottom of the eighth with two errors that resulted in a game-tying run. The pitching combination of Maureen Pelot and Kaitlyn Kormanik combined to give up just four earned runs in the loss.

In the bottom of the 10th inning, the Royals would get a base hit, scoring the runner from second base. Once the game went into extra innings, the international tie-break rule was in effect where a runne is placed on second base to start the inning.



Athlete Spotlight: Kathy Dalton

BY ALISSA LINDNER

Beacon Sports Editor

Despite a season of strong wins and tough losses, the 8-11 Lady Colonel softball team has used the consistency of senior second baseman Kathy Dalton.

Dalton, a Communication Studies major and English minor, is the "embodiment of a team leader" according to head coach Frank Matthews.

Dalton has been playing softball for nearly seventeen years, starting at five

years old with recreational ball. During her career at St. Rose High School in Neptune, New Jersey, although the team never won the conference or went far in the state championship, Dalton was still a standout. In her junior year, she went 19-21 in the middle of the season with a .739 batting average, leading the Shore Conference. Dalton played with her best friends, which made her success even more fun.

"My best friends on the team started making bets on when my streak would end. It was unbelievable," Dalton said.

In addition to playing softball at Wilkes,
Dalton is also the Student Government
senior class treasurer, an e-mentor and
orientation leader for incoming first

year students, and the student representative on the Student Services Committee.

This season with the Lady Colonels, Dalton has played and started in all 18 games. She currently has a .246 batting average with 11 runs and five RBI. Aside from being a key player for the team, Dalton is a team leader according to Matthews.

"Kathy is someone who leads by example. She plays very hard and practices very hard. When she sees something she does not like, she will approach that person and let them know that this is not the way to do things on our team, keeping it confidential, and not yelling or lecturing the player involved," Matthews said. "In addition she is an organizer, setting up team gatherings to help the team get to know each other better off the field."

Since she was five, Dalton's father has been the most influential person in her softball career.

"Every time I step onto the field at the start of a game, I look over at where he is standing and smile to myself. If it wasn't for my dad, I wouldn't be where I am today. I am eternally grateful to him for the countless hours he has spent watching me play softball and the money he has invested into my career. He is my #1 fan," Dalton said.

With graduation fast approaching, Dalton has already finalized her plans for the future.

"This coming fall, I am attending Millersville University to pursue my Masters in sports management. My career goal is to ultimately become an Athletic Director at a college or university," Dalton explained.



RINKSIDE REPORT

Hanson Bros. steal the show at Penguins' alumni game 4

BY MICHAEL CIGNOLI

Beacon Staff Writer

Signed by the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins to skate in the team's first annual Alumni Game, it didn't take long for Steve Carlson, Jeff Carlson, and Dave Hanson to make an impact.

The trio, real-life hockey players who portrayed the famous Hanson brothers in the 1977 film "Slap Shot", punched out the referee on the opening face-off, knocked down the opposing goaltender, and shot the puck into an empty net.

That goal didn't count, but their unconventional penalty shot did.

With the Penguins' alumni team trailing the Hershey Bears alumni squad in the second half of Saturday afternoon's game at the Wachovia Arena at Casey Plaza, the Hanson brothers skated in on Hershey goaltender Frederic Cassivi.

While Steve controlled the puck, Dave and Jeff picked up the net and carried it away from the unsuspecting Cassivi, allowing Steve to score an easy goal.

"It's something we're experts at," Dave

Cold

Italian

Tuna & Cheese

Ham & Cheese

Club Sub

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Roast Beef & Cheese

Hanson said in character. "We practice a lot back in Bare Butt, Minnesota, where we live. Mom has us out in the barn all the time with the cows and the pigs and chickens. It was nice to bring it here and introduce it to Wilkes-Barre."

Under normal American Hockey League rules, the goal would have been disallowed, but the Alumni Game wasn't an ordinary game. It was a chance for fans to see the former Penguins don the black and gold for one more game; and for the players to see their old teammates once again.

"It's a lot of fun, it's really for the fans. For us to come back and see all the guys again is awesome, but it's for the fans to see us come back and enjoy it," said defenseman John Slaney, who scored 42 goals and 110 points in his 89 games as a Penguin. "That's the whole thing about it, you've got to have a good time and good laughs and that's what we're doing."

"My face is sore, I've been laughing the whole time," said Penguins' alumnus Steve Parsons. "I couldn't have had a better time." Other participants for the Penguins were defensemen J.P. Tessier, Chris Kelleher, Stephen Dixon, Steve Webb, Jim Leger, Casey Harris, Dennis Bonvie, Greg Crozier and goaltender David Weninger.

Bonvie and Parsons were traded between Wilkes-Barre/Scranton and Hershey during the game, since they skated for both teams during their playing career.

"We're all in this together, and I think it played into the fans and it played into what we're all trying to do," Parsons said of his trade to Hershey and subsequent return to the Penguins. "You just want to excite everybody, they needed a couple bodies and it just worked. I'm not going to put up a fuss, I'm just happy to be here."

Parsons is no stranger to exciting the fans, as he once engaged in a bare-chested brawl with Syracuse's Brad Wingfield during a March 2002 game dubbed as the St. Patrick's Day Massacre.

But the gritty defenseman admitted that he himself was excited to play on the same line as the Hanson Brothers.

"That was so cool," Parsons exclaimed.



Steve Carlson scored for the Penguins' alumni team on Saturday afternoon.

"I've never met them before. That's the first time I got to meet them... to play with them and be in the room with them, and just be part of it, that's super."

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Baseball team loses to Manhattanville, 9-7

Snaps eleven-game winning streak

BY DANIEL KAUTZ
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

The baseball team's eleven-game winning streak was ended by Manhattanville on Wednesday, April 1, as the Colonels lost by the score of 9-7. Wilkes out-hit Manhattanville 15-12, but was unable to overcome the Valiants' five-run fifth inning to extend their winning ways. The loss dropped Wilkes' record to 14-5 overall, with a 2-1 mark in Freedom Conference play.

The first three innings of the game saw both teams scoreless, without much in the way of action. Manhattanville was finally able to break through in the bottom of the fourth, plating two runners to take the lead. The Valiants doubled and tripled in the inning but were only able to score after a wild pitch and an error. The Colonels responded

in the top of the fifth with three runs of their own on five hits and a Manhattanville error. John Florance, Eric Wetzel, and Shane Keister all scored in the inning for Wilkes, with Matt Ruch providing a big two-RBI single to keep the game close. They had a chance to extend their lead but an inningending double play stranded two runners on base

Manhattanville wasted no time in answering in the bottom of the inning. Jason Monforte led things off with a walk before being sacrificed to second by Joe Gallace. Chris Nardozzi was then inserted to pinchhit and ended up producing for the Valiants, singling off Wilkes' Tom Buckler to tie the game at three apiece. They would explode in the next inning, stringing together five hits and taking advantage of another Wilkes error to score five runs.

The two teams went scoreless in the seventh inning before Wilkes attempted a comeback in the eighth. Geoff Miller doubled to start the inning and later came around to score on a wild pitch, making the score 8-4. Wetzel's sacrifice fly to center field plated Jeremy Watson closed the gap to 8-5, and Keister would eventually score on a throwing error by Manhattanville's Gallace after initially reaching base via a walk.

If the Colonels' three run inning fazed Manhattanville at all, they did a good job of hiding it. The Valiants scored their ninth and final run in the bottom of the eighth after tallying three hits. Wilkes's Randy Dengler scored in the top of the ninth inning after Al Clocker reached on a fielder's choice, but the Valiants were able to close out the game and pick up the 9-7 victory.

Tom Buckler lost his first game of the

season for the Colonels, allowing eight runs (seven earned) in five and two thirds innings of work. He struck out four while only giving up two walks. Matt Ruch went 2-5 with two RBI to continue his impressive freshman season for Wilkes. John Kain (W: 1-1) pitched well for the Valiants, striking out seven over seven innings while allowing just three earned runs. Monforte and Nick Parente each had two RBI for Manhattanville in the win.

Since their game against the Valiants, Wilkes has defeated Baptist Bible to improve their record to 15-5. Their game against DeSales was played on Sunday after publishing time.



Mark Siebel delivering a pitch for the Wilkes University Colonels. The Colonels lost to Manhattanville 9-7 last Wednesday, snapping their eleven-game winning streak.

WILLIEUS COLONBILS

Softball

Women's Lacrosse

Baseball

W 5-4, L 9-3 vs. Misericordia

W 22-11 vs. Alvernia

W 7-1 vs. Baptist Bible

Lacrosse picks up first conference win of the season

Sports Information Director

The Wilkes University women's lacrosse team picked up its first MAC win of the year by defeating cross-town rival King's College 19-8 on Wednesday afternoon, snapping the Lady Colonels two game losing streak.

With the win, Wilkes now improves to 5-3 on the season and 1-2 in the conference, while the Lady Monarchs see their record drop to 0-6 on the year and 0-4 in

The opening half was one filled with runs

with the Lady Colonels taking an early 3-0 lead thanks to two goals by Melissa Polchinski and one tally by Brittney Hodnik. King's would quickly answer by getting back-toback goals by Candice Russ and Alicia Cox to cut the margin to 3-2 with 22:12 remaining, before Wilkes would score five straight to make the count 8-2 with just under 16 minutes left in the opening stanza.

King's answered the Wilkes run with four straight goals of its own to cut the lead to just two at 8-6 with 3:38 to go in the opening stanza, before the Lady Colonels gave themselves a cushion with three more scores

before the break to take an 11-6 advantage at the intermission.

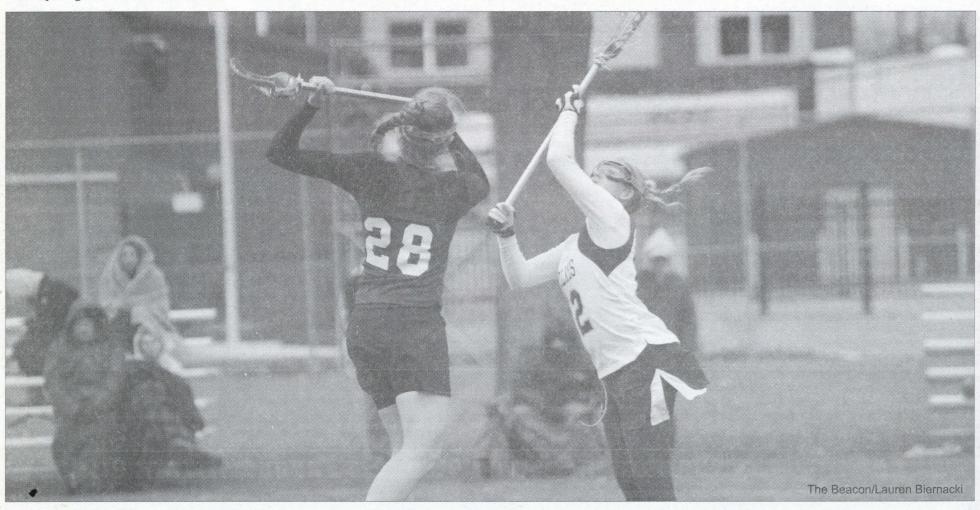
The second half saw Wilkes step up its defense, surrendering just two goals over the final 30 minutes. The Lady Colonels also kept their strong offense barrage going, finding the net nine more times, headlined by three goals apiece from Polchinski and Hodnik to post the final 19-8 margin.

Polchinski led all scorers, posting seven more goals and one assist on the afternoon. Hodnik was right behind her with six scores and one helper, Kat Edwards added three goals, while Analicia Jost, Jordan Brown,

and Amanda Tilley found the back of the net once each for the Lady Colonels. Allie Zukuft started and made five saves in goal, while Cassie Cronin played the second half and made three stops.

Cox and Russ scored two goals each to pace the Lady Monarchs, while Sierra Coleman, Kari Leach, Christina Glenn, and Taylor Tyne had one score apiece. Chrissy Keenan made 15 saves between the pipes for King's.

Wilkes will return to action on Saturday when the team travels to Glenside to take on Arcadia at 1 p.m.



Junior Amanda Tilley tries to interrupt a shot during the Lady Colonels 19-8 victory last Wednesday.

What to see and do this week...

Hear a lecture by Kristopher B. Jones, the President/CEO of Pepperjam at 7:30-9:30 at the Darte Center.

Live music with Paul Martin at the Barnes & Noble bookstore from 6:30-8:30 PM.

Check out the River Street Jazz Cafe's "Where It's @" Hip Hop and R&B show at 8 P.M.

Check out artist Nicholas Taylor's "Intimate Portrait" gallery at the Sordoni Art Gallery.

Check out the Woody Brown Project at the River Street Jazz Cafe at 9 PM.