



# THE BEACON

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1933

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Wilkes College  
Student Newspaper  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

## Special Issue:

# WE'RE BACK!



Amy Elias  
Editor-in-Chief

upon me. I usually ignore the dictates of good taste anyway, so part of the problem is already solved. But the rules of journalism scowl at me from afar, and refuse to be ignored: I must grab your attention by its eyeballs and weave tempting little phrases on this paper so that you will yearn to read more, will anxiously await my next teasing little word. I sit at my desk, pen gripped firmly in my hand, sweat beads beginning to form on my forehead -- tiny little witnesses attesting to my terror. My mind has gone out to lunch. Beginnings really stink.

I could begin by saying, "Hi! My name is Amy Elias, and I'm editor-in-chief of *The Beacon*, and I want to grab your eyeballs for a moment." But that wouldn't intrigue you. You'd probably just become scared and then run away.

I could start off with the old background-to-make-you-feel-like-we're-friends ploy: "Hi! My name is Amy Elias, I'm a senior English major, and my hobbies are reading Venezuelan Gothic romances and watching goldfish reproduce." But let's face it: we're not friends, and if

you like people who have those kinds of hobbies, we never will be.

I'm obviously getting nowhere here. My point is this: beginnings are tough for everybody. Another fall semester is starting at Wilkes, and you, like everyone else on campus, soon will be facing my dilemma. As you enter the sacrosanct yet much-written-on halls of Wilkes, I'm sure you're feeling as all of us did when we first came here. You probably don't know where to begin.

Of course, when the semester starts, you (like everyone else) will be deluged with insidious homework assignments, prodigious bookstore bills, and the innumerable intellectual irritations that are part of "higher education." This is a beginning you can't escape, because it sort of creeps up on you and then hits you from behind. One moment you're shivering in anticipation of college, and the next moment you're shuddering with the realization about college. But cheer up. There will be many extra-curricular activities available to you, and I urge you to seek them out, to investigate

them, to boldly go where no man has gone before (oops, wrong schtick). Investigate everything, and choose an activity that will help make your "beginning" a fine one.

**H**int: *The Beacon* is one such activity: *The Beacon* is the Wilkes College newspaper, and it is written, compiled, layed out, and distributed by Wilkes students. The eleven members of our editorial staff are competent, interesting men and women who have different academic interests, but who have a common interest in writing. We are very proud of our staff (two are on the wagon now, one must report to the clinic only on weekends, and one has recently completed a paper dealing with "the problems posed by freewheeling nude dogs in centralized urban regions"). These editors supervise a staff of reporters for each of their respective departments in addition to writing articles and organizing the paper. We have a lot of fun together, and at the same time we learn valuable communications and journalistic skills (Ha. Doesn't show, does it?).

**W**e want you. (I'll bet that scared you.) We have evil, deep dark motives for publishing this special *Beacon* issue. We want to lure you away from all those other activities on campus (gasp) and we want to train you to write effectively (oh no) and show you how you can have confidence in interviews (stop, stop) and show you how a newspaper is put together (pant, pant) and teach you how to prepare copy, work office machinery, do headlines, learn copy-editing, (AGGHHHHHH!!!) ... O.K., I'll stop.

Just a little bit more. Our meetings are held in the *Beacon* office, second floor Parrish Hall, on Fridays at 3:00 p.m. Come up and see us sometime! We're a fun group, let me tell ya, and we need reporters this semester. So drop by on Friday, September 3, for our first meeting (or any Friday thereafter), introduce yourself, and find out how you can become a part of a great beginning.

By the way, please leave your Gothic novels and your goldfish at home.

### Tips on Time Management

—It is usual to plan for at least two hours of study time for each hour of class time. For example, if you are taking 15 semester hours of courses, you should plan on spending at least 30 hours per week studying.

—You are more likely to get good grades if you distribute your study time. Spend some time nearly every day studying each subject.

—Plan to do the things you like least first.

—Plan for some time in every day for relaxation.

—Plan for breaks in study time. People retain less information after hours of uninterrupted study than after study interrupted with rest breaks.

### IF THERE IS AN EMERGENCY...

HOSPITAL  
Wilkes-Barre General Hospital  
829-8111  
N. River Street, Wilkes-Barre  
Mercy Hospital  
826-3100  
25 Church Street, Wilkes-Barre  
FIRE 826-8181  
AMBULANCE 826-8181  
POLICE 826-8111

## Advisor



Dr. Donald Leslie

## Managing Editor.....

*Beacon* editors are not generally to be found in pensive or philosophic moods. But on this occasion my colleagues and I will reflect on our tenuous careers in the newspaper business in an attempt to demonstrate the tranquility of mind and serenity of spirit which you might also attain as a member of our staff.

We are not asking everyone to join *The Beacon*; that would be worse than being understaffed, and there would be little to write about if we were all reporters. We are asking that you read and consider it and, if possible, find some use beyond this for our eight to twelve weekly pages. If you are motivated to try something challenging and unfamiliar, we are forever in search of fresh talent. If you are inexperienced in these matters, but feel you possess a latent ability to uncover scandal, we will diligently train you to express yourself and others.

My fellow *Beacon* editors and I were told in the first directive from our chief, Amy, to introduce ourselves in a personal and witty fashion — a formidable task for many of us, particularly in print (with the exception of our news editor. Witness her writing).

I am a junior Political Science major from a small town across the

river. I pined *The Beacon* as a freshman and am now the managing editor. Because of the strong individuality of our members and their total disregard for authority, I believe managing *The Beacon* will be somewhat like trying to balance the federal budget: a nice idea, but a nearly impossible task.

Why should anyone join *The Beacon*, particularly a freshman? Initially, I thought *The Beacon* would be a place where I could vent my acrimony, find a cause (lost or otherwise), and get a taste of how a real, big-time newspaper works. I found it was all of these, to some degree, and much more.

For three semesters I covered the Commuter Council. Every Monday night I would attend the meetings, take meticulous notes, ask probing questions, and then dash to my typewriter so the story would be ready for the printer Tuesday morning. That Friday, the internal political workings of the Council would be exposed for all to read in *The Beacon*. This work gave me the germ of a new skill: writing competently with a very short deadline.

Of course, many would dispute my level of competency, and I certainly have not forgotten the fine art of procrastination, but I cite this

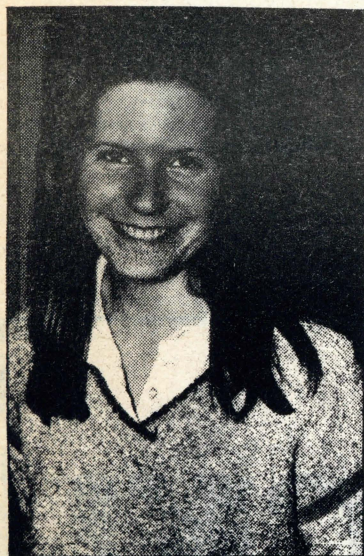


John Finn, Managing Editor

merely as one example of the typical, day-to-day activities of a Beaconer. The benefits will certainly include skills crassly termed "marketable," but if your concerns are not wholly Phillistine, we also provide such old-fashioned things as camaraderie, dedication to a common purpose, and the opportunity to engage in sparkling, intelligent conversation several times each week.



## Assistant News/Feature...



Andrea Hincken, Asst. News/Feature Editor

will my duties on *The Beacon*. My responsibilities include taking assignments from the editors, having copy in on time, and participating in the weekly layout. One routine duty of mine from the news department will be covering the Commuter Council meetings. This entails attending the weekly meeting and then writing an article about the group's upcoming events and future plans. This assignment keeps me informed on what's available to commuters, and also gives me an opportunity to meet and talk with other commuters. This assignment also demands that I be able to write well in a hurry because the meetings fall on Mondays and the articles are due the next day!

Other news/feature assignments are given at the weekly Friday meetings and are due at the following weekly meeting. The feature editor will give me assignments in much the same way as the news editor, but the feature story is a little different. While the news editor may assign me to find out what the administration plans to do with a recently vacated dorm, the feature editor may tell me to find some historical significance in a building on campus. For the news story I'd talk to deans and administrators; the information for the feature story could be found in the library or the historical society. Also, at the Friday meetings the weekly *Beacon* is critiqued. Spelling mistakes, headline errors, and general layout disorders are looked for and discussed by the staff. The meetings are also used to discuss reporter's problems with assignments or style. Friday is copy deadline. Articles must be completed and typed in standard form. Late copy is positively a no no. The other staff gathering occurs on Wednesday evenings. This is layout. Layout is when the copy handed in is typeset and laid on its designated page. My experience with layout is limited as I have only participated in about four of them. Usually the editor gives me one page to layout. This means laying out and giving headlines to about four

Greetings new students, and welcome to Wilkes College! My name is Andrea Hincken, and I am a senior communications major from Forty Fort, Pa. My position on *The Beacon* is assistant news/feature editor.

My responsibilities for *The Beacon* are dual; the position demands that stories be written for both news and features. Covering these two aspects of life at Wilkes College makes my position on *The Beacon* especially interesting, because the writing assignments are varied in depth and research. Feature stories usually require book or reference research, whereas straight news stories demand interviews with faculty and students, and so the writing entailed is diversified. While straight news coverage involves writing the most important facts in a story first, and then moving down in succession to the least important facts, features may take a more colorful approach or add a personal approach to a story. Feature stories allow a writer to be as creative as he/she wants.

Once classes resume in the fall, so

## For Visiting Parents...

### LODGING:

Barre Motel, 497 Kidder Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA; 823-8881.  
Best Western Genetti Motor Inn, 77 East Market Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA; 823-6152.  
Dundee Motel, 2262 Sans Souci Parkway, Wilkes-Barre, PA; 735-1402.  
Imperial Motor Inn, Member Best Value Inns, 400 Kidder Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA; 823-2171.  
Luxury Budget Inn, 760 Kidder Street, Route 315, Wilkes-Barre, PA; 826-0111.  
Sheraton-Crossgates, 20 Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, PA; 824-7100.  
Woodlands Inn, 1073 Highway 315, Wilkes-Barre, PA; 824-9831.

### DINING:

Aldino's Manor, East End Boulevard, Wilkes-Barre, PA; 825-8581.  
Country Kitchen, Boscov's, The Boston Store, 15 South Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA; 823-4141.  
Gus' Rib, located in Genetti Best Western Motor Inn, 77 East Market Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA; 823-6152.

Peking Chef Restaurant, 15 Public Square, PA; 825-0977; Route 315, Wilkes-Barre, PA 824-1136.  
Sheraton-Crossgates, home of the Gazebo Restaurant and Wanda's on the Park, 20 Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, PA; 824-7100.  
Woodlands Inn, 1073 Highway 315, Wilkes-Barre, PA; 824-9831.

**WHY DON'T STUDENTS VOIE** in campus elections? According to a Long Beach City College student government survey, non-voting students aren't impressed by candidates or don't know enough about them. The students complained that elections are dominated by fraternity or sorority members, or by candidates that aren't representative of the student body.

articles. This aspect of my job is educational and fun. It is educational as the machines in the office give me on the job experience so that when I enter the "real world" I will not be totally unfamiliar with the equipment used by newspapers. Machines such as a typesetter, headliner, and a waxer are in the office for layout and staff is required to learn how to use each of them. Layout is fun because it is an opportunity for members of *The Beacon* to get together on a school night and do something other than study. Everyone gets a chance to relax and enjoy themselves while doing something constructive for the school.

*The Beacon* is an opportunity to get involved. It is an opportunity to branch out around the campus not only through articles written but also on ventures around campus while hunting down stories. Being an active member of *The Beacon* will improve your personal confidence as well as writing skills. My own experience of about 1½ years as a reporter has been beneficial to me in many ways. One aspect of my personality that has improved is in my ability to meet people, students as well as faculty. When I first started accepting assignments from the editor, my biggest problem was conducting interviews. When I would have to go talk to a dean or an administrator, my stomach would knot and I would create all sorts of worries like, "Am I bothering him," or "Am I taking up too much of his time," but now my interviews come much easier. Writing skills are sharpened because stories are due each week. This means that good writing must be done in a short period of time.

Also students who write for *The Beacon* have the writing experience of the editors to fall back on if they have problems with grammar or style. Students do not have to be perfect writers to write for *The Beacon*, they need only to want to write. *The Beacon* is an organization of students working with students. Everyone is welcome!

## SG...

Greetings!

I would like to take this opportunity to formally welcome all of our new students to Wilkes. Welcome! I hope your stay at Wilkes is enjoyable, productive, and filled with oodles of wonderful memories. I look forward to seeing all of you at the many Student Government activities during the year. We have tons of fun things planned, so come out and join us; don't be afraid to get involved. The Student Government office is located on the second floor of the Student Center, so come visit us. We look forward to seeing your smiling faces out and about.

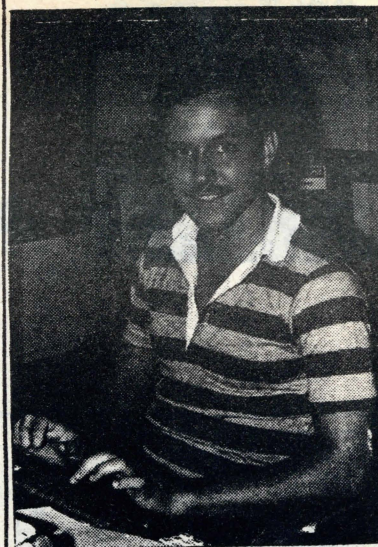
Happy Beginnings,  
Elaine Kerchusky  
Student Government  
President

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- Group study and review sessions in selected courses
- Supplemental Instructional Programs, offered in conjunction with academic departments, in selected courses
- Individualized Developmental Mathematics Program
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Services can be obtained by contacting the Academic Support Center, First Floor of Kirby Hall, Extensions 334-335



Doug Fahringer, Typesetter

## DRABBLE ®

by Kevin Fagan



The Beacon  
USPS 832-080

Parrish Hall  
16 S. River St.  
Wilkes-Barre, PA

Wilkes College  
Student Newspaper  
Permit No. 355

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Editor-in-chief     | Amy Elias         |
| Managing Editor     | John Finn         |
| News Editor         | Rebecca Whitman   |
| Sports Editor       | Ellen Van Riper   |
| Feature Editor      | Donna Nirka       |
| Copy Editor         | Marian Koviack    |
| Photo Editor        | Steve Thomas      |
| Asst. News/Feature  | Andrea Hincken    |
| Business Manager    | Sharon Mayernick  |
| Advertising Manager | Cheryl Harger     |
| Advisor             | Dr. Donald Leslie |
| Typesetter          | Doug Fahringer    |

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## Feature...

### HELP WANTED

Local college publication is seeking inquisitive, adventuresome, fun-loving individuals interested in exploring feature assignments. No experience necessary! For more info contact *The Beacon*, Parrish Hall, ext. 379. Ask for Donna.

Well, now that I've piqued your curiosity, let me introduce myself. My name is Donna Nitka, and in case you haven't already guessed, I'm the *Beacon's* Feature Editor. I'm a junior biology major whose future plans include medical school. I hail from the thriving metropolis of Kelayres, PA (don't be disappointed if you have trouble locating it on a map), and I'm a graduate of Marian High School. But enough of this. Let's talk features!

You're probably asking yourself, "What exactly is the function of the feature section of a newspaper, and what type of events does it cover?" A feature section covers the various interesting and unusual events, groups, individuals, or communities that are not normally covered in the news section. Included in this type of coverage are such things as personality profiles, college and community historical pieces, and reports on various college research projects, as well as coverage of the many shows, lectures and concerts that are produced throughout the year. The feature section is also

responsible for keeping the College community informed of Student Government, Inter-Residence Hall Council and Commuter Council activities, as well as other social and cultural activities. I would also like to include in the section a variety of short features that take a humorous or unique look at the different aspects of everyday life.

So you see, the feature section covers a wide variety of subjects. And speaking of variety, did you know that a feature story can be written a bit differently than a news story? Feature stories are often written in a "lighter" tone than news stories. This often gives the writer a bit more creative freedom. All this makes for articles that are easier and more enjoyable to read.

Now that you know what feature is, let me explain our meeting times. Our weekly staff meetings are held on Fridays at 3 p.m. in *The Beacon* office; the office is located on the second floor of Parrish Hall. All staff members must attend these meetings. During these meetings we critique the current issue of *The Beacon* (point out both its good and bad points), discuss the content of future issues, and we distribute assignments. Generally, reporters have one week to complete an article. Stories assigned to a reporter during one weekly meeting are due at the next meeting. Our first meeting will be held on September 3.

For those of you who thrive on challenges, let me introduce our



Wednesday afternoon layout sessions. During this time, we "set up" *The Beacon* by placing the articles, pictures, etc. on their respective pages in a way that will be most appealing to the reader. The way we lay out the page is the way it is printed. (The challenge is in getting everything to "fit"). Yet, despite all the obstacles layout presents, we always manage to get to the printer's on time!

This undoubtedly sounds like a great deal of work. Actually, it's about an equal mixture of work and fun. So don't jump to the conclus-

ion that we spend all off our time discussing "business." We don't. Like other organizations on campus, *Beacon* people know how to get the maximum amount of fun out of their work.

I'll bet that you didn't know that there are "rewards" for all the effort that goes into being a *Beacon* reporter. First and foremost is the opportunity for advancement. The experience you gain as a reporter is invaluable should you decide to apply for an editorial position. Being a *Beacon* reporter gives you the opportunity to become acquainted with many interesting people. This can be especially important to students, like yourselves, who are entering an entirely new stage of life: college. There is also a great deal of pride and satisfaction that accompanies a reporter's job. This is especially evident when you see your work in print, preceded by your by-line.

By now you should be asking yourself, "How do I become a reporter?" All you have to do is contact any *Beacon* staff member or, better yet, just come to one of our Friday meetings. No previous writing experience is necessary! The *Beacon* staff will train anyone who is interested in becoming a reporter. All you need is the willingness to learn.

So, if you're inquisitive, adventuresome, fun-loving individual, why don't you try something new? Become a *Beacon* feature reporter! See you September 3.



**Steve Thomas,  
Photo Editor**

### The Beacon 1982-83 Publication Schedule — tentative:

#### Fall semester, 1982:

August 27

September 10  
September 17  
September 24

October 1  
October 8  
October 15  
October 29

November 5  
November 12  
November 19

December 10

#### Spring semester, 1983:

January 28

February 4  
February 11  
February 18  
February 25

March 4  
March 25

April 15  
April 22  
April 29

your  
marketplace the  
**WANT ADS**



## News...

Drugs, Sex and Rock-n-Roll.

HA! I knew that would get your attention! Now I have to hope that it doesn't get the college administration's attention. Since I've got your attention, I'll do exactly what the outline the Editor-in-chief sent me says to do: introduce myself.

Hi, my name is Becky Whitman, and I am the News Editor for *The Beacon*. I'm a junior Communications/English major, about 5'11", with striking good looks. If given the wish, I naturally would choose universal peace and an end to world hunger (unless, of course, Mick Jagger were available). When they force me to leave campus for breaks, I make my home in Clarks Summit, Pa.

Back to the important stuff: *The Beacon* News Department. I'd like to be able to promise a new Buick or a free trip to the Chicago stockyards to everyone who comes in and joins

the news staff, but I cannot. All I can offer you is a chance to improve your writing skills, lose your fear of college administrators, learn the "inside story" on how a "major publication" like *The Beacon* really works, and work with a wonderful, articulate and fascinating News Editor.

Many of you are probably saying, "Wait, Becks, I'm not sure I know exactly what news is." Well kids, news is what's happening around us, on campus (hence the "Drugs, Sex, and Rock-n-Roll") and off. News is what you need to know and/or are interested in. For example, killing your roommate or fully paying your tuition bill in cash would be considered news (note: if anyone is planning on doing either of these things, please call me first and give me time to get to you with our photographer).

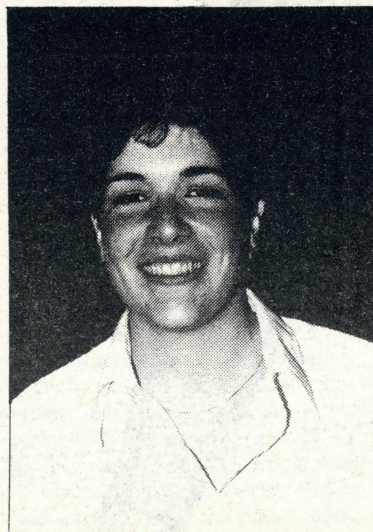
Since we do not usually get too many homicides at Wilkes, *The Beacon* generally covers student organization meetings, campus events and activities, exciting or inventive things students are doing, and any new developments in school policies or departments. Perhaps, if there are any budding Woodwards and/or Bernsteins out there (hint: this means you!!), *The Beacon* could do some investigative reporting this year.

If any of the above mentioned activities interest you even slightly, or if you have any great ideas of your own, please come to our Friday afternoon meetings, or stop me on the street and beg me to allow you to be one of my reporters. You know, in the past I've heard the student body at Wilkes rip this newspaper apart with alarming ferocity. The

only way *The Beacon* can improve is through the involvement of more students. The more reporters we have, the more news we can cover, and the more interesting and varied *The Beacon* can be.

You do not have to be the next Ernest Hemingway, or Barbara Walters, to write for *The Beacon* (the paper let me write didn't they?). If you want to give reporting "the old college try," I'll be glad to help you as much as possible; that's what editors are for. The News Editor last year was a kind, patient, understanding guy. I, however, am none of these things: I will hurt you if you do not turn your stories in on time (yeah, right).

Now, you're all probably wondering if putting up with the aggravation of me calling you in the middle



Rebecca Whitman, News Editor

of the night to make sure your article is doing okay is worth it. The answer is a resounding "YES!!" The future Cronkites of this world have to start somewhere. Even if you're not a Communications or English major, the writing experience is always useful.

If nothing else, newspaper articles with your byline are great to send to your parents to prove that you are in fact doing something productive at school. Your parents will love to clip out your articles and send them to relatives; if they're like my mom, they'll hang your articles on the refrigerator where your second grade spelling tests used to hang.

Finally (I bet you're glad to see that word), joining *The Beacon* staff is a great way to meet a lot of fun people and to get to know the administration and faculty better. You do not have to be a member of the intelligensia to get along at *The Beacon*. (Look at the picture accompanying this article. Is that the face of someone who sits around arguing about the Japanese influence on 15th-century German philosophers?) We're just another bunch of fun-loving, devil-may-care kids who like to go to parties and dances and have a good time.

Well, now for the big conclusion, the smash finish that will bring hoards of people into the office pleading with me to give them assignments: "We don't ask for experience, we give it. You won't read it in a book; you'll live it. Pick a story, pick a challenge, set yourself apart. . . (Does this sound vaguely familiar?). . . BEACON--OFFICE--PARRISH--HALL!! It's a great way: it's a great way to start!"



Marian Koviack, Copy Editor

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83-166346



## Sports...



There is really nothing quite like the experience of athletic participation. Especially on the intercollegiate level, the excitement and the intensity of emotion generated are absolutely unparalleled. The popular phrase "the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat" is an apt description, for each sporting event is in and of itself a human drama depicting the entirety of emotions and experiences. The camaraderie of a team and the courage, determination, desire, anger, frustration, and ultimate joy experienced by the individual athletes are readily visible to even the most casual of observers. Sports are the arena of life, and we at *The Beacon* Sports Department strive to capture in print a part of this experience for our readers.

I am a senior English major, and this fall marks my third campaign with *The Beacon*. During my sophomore year I covered the



Ellen Van Riper, Sports Editor

women's basketball and softball teams, and last year I held the position of co-sports editor. This year I am the sole sports editor, and I am anxiously awaiting the excitement and the challenges to come.

In addition to my academic and journalistic activities, I am also an athlete, specifically a volleyball player. In the past I have also been a member of the women's basketball and softball teams. Frankly, I love sports, and I feel that my personal athletic experience provides me a beneficial perspective for my writing. I can relate to other athletes because I am one of them, but yet I can also be detached and objective. I believe that this positively affects my articles for *The Beacon*. Finally, I approach both sports journalism and athletics with total dedication.

Unfortunately, every rose bush has its thorns. This duality of writer/athlete poses a few sticky problems. There are three especially sharp and annoying thorns. The first is an inherent conflict of interests between Ellen the athlete and Ellen the editor. Ellen the athlete on occasion deserves publicity, but Ellen the editor cannot give her any. I cannot, as they say, blow my own horn. Secondly, there is the matter of objectivity concerning the volleyball team. It would be easy to only write favorable articles. However, I have become able to remain objectively detached, even though this is often painful. Lastly, since I am a woman athlete, it would also be easy for me to become biased towards the woman's teams. I consciously try to give all athletes, both men and women, equal press and objectivity in order to avoid this difficulty. All of these problems, for the most part, fortunately can be alleviated by the presence of other sports reporters.

Wilkes College offers a variety of athletic teams and encourages participation by all students. In the fall there is football, soccer and cross country for men, and field hockey, volleyball, and tennis for women. Wrestling, men's and women's basketball, and co-ed swimming comprise the winter teams, and in the spring there is baseball, golf, and tennis for men and softball for women. In addition, there is an extensive intramural program that is open to all students. There are numerous opportunities for both experienced and inexperienced athletes, and subsequently numerous opportunities also for both experienced and inexperienced writers.

*The Beacon* Sports Department covers all of these activities. In addition, we do features on coaches and

athletes, columns, and other related stories. Our concern is everything that affects sports at Wilkes College. This encompasses a lot and it is a monumental task to cover it all. It is too much for one person, so lots of help is needed. We always welcome new sports reporters, whether they be beginners or veterans. All the coaches of the athletic department encourage beginners to join their teams, and we at *The Beacon* Sports Department do the same. Both the coaches and I are more than willing to teach the fundamentals to a beginner. All that a student needs is an interest in a particular sport or in sports in general, plus a desire to learn. Even experienced writers can learn something.

Since *The Beacon* is a weekly publication, the amount of time and work required to be a writer is not excessive. One typed story per week during the season of the particular sport is all that is required. The length will usually be between two and five pages depending upon the number of events covered. The story is to be written in pyramid style, or in other words, the most important facts first and the least last. This method and other style details and miscellaneous facts will be covered in a Sports Department Style Sheet which will be made available to all interested parties.

Some of the items which should be included in each week's story are the team record, player statistics, scorers, and quotes from coaches and/or players. These can be obtained by either event attendance through the team coach. All of our coaches are friendly, easily accessible, and eagerly willing to help. They all realize that we are all part of the same team. All reporters are encouraged to attend the games played by their assigned team. Attendance is not required. Classes and studying do admittedly take precedence. However, when it is possible, a reporter should attend events in order to get a more vivid account of the action. Besides, the games are fun to watch, and are always exciting.

Extracurricular activities are an important part of the college experience, so participation in a publication such as *The Beacon* can be both beneficial and enriching. Academically such an activity can improve student's writing and communication abilities. Proper use of the English language is a must when writing a term paper or even when filling out a job application. Joining *The Beacon* is a terrific way to meet people, too. Reporters get acquainted with athletes, coaches, other reporters and staff members, as well as with other students in general. Another advantage one has as a *Beacon* reporter is that such an activity also looks impressive on a resume, and perhaps could even lead to a journalistically oriented career opportunity. Perhaps most important of all is the fact that *The Beacon* is a way in which to give oneself and others. The athletes on all of our teams deserve all of the credit in the world, and it is up to *The Beacon* Sports Department to give it to them. We give due credit where it is deserved.

As a final note, sports writing is a way by which to bring a piece of the athletic experience to those who may not be fortunate enough to be able to participate. The advantages we offer are overwhelming; join us!