

The BEACON

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

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Obama holds town hall meeting at WU Tuesday

Democratic nominees put Wilkes-Barre in national spotlight

BY ANDREW SEAMAN

Beacon News Editor

Wilkes University will host Illinois Senator Barack Obama on Tuesday, April 1 at a "Road to Change" town hall meeting. The meeting will take place in the Arnaud C. Marts Center at 11:45 a.m. and doors will open at 9:45 a.m.

New York Senator Hillary Clinton, Obama's opponent for the Democratic nomination, will also be in town at King's College William S. Scandlon Physical Education Center. Her speech will begin at 2:30 p.m. and doors will open at 12:30 p.m.

Both stops are part of tours through Pennsylvania by the candidates.

"Wilkes-Barre will be the focus of the nation on Tuesday," said Wilkes University president Tim Gilmour. "Wilkes University is proud to host Senator Obama at this pivotal point in the Pennsylvania primary race. This is a wonderful educational opportunity because our students get to see the political process first-hand."

Students who want tickets to the event can get free tickets on the first floor of the Henry Student Center between 10 a.m. and noon Monday, March 31. Those

See OBAMA page 2

Computer science department proposes curriculum revisions

Gaming, Media Design track encourages interdisciplinary cooperation

BY NICOLE FRAIL

Beacon Asst. News Editor

At a time when technological advancements are almost constant, colleges across the nation are challenged as they attempt to maintain up-to-date computer science programs.

On Thursday, April 3, a proposal by the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science will be presented to faculty members concerning the revision of Wilkes' Computer Information Systems (CIS) and computer science curriculum.

"We want to make the computer science and CIS [tracks] more student-friendly, more enticing to students. One way we're going to do that in the computer science program is we are going to offer two tracks: a standard, traditional computer science track and a Gaming and Media Design track," explained Dr. V. Ming Lew, chair of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. If approved, this will be the first major revision of the department's curricu-

lum in approximately five years.

According to Dr. Matt Zukoski, associate professor of computer science, the idea of developing a Gaming and Media Design track came with the realization that there is currently a significant demand for gaming programmers and media designers in what has become a \$10 billion industry.

"We're adding two new gaming courses, so there will be an Introductory and an Advanced Gaming course. With these two courses, we won't have a student who will be ready to write a complete game, but it will better prepare them to get a job in the gaming industry as a designer or a programmer," said Zukoski. "We'll have students developing some games on a small scale and, initially, they'll probably just be for the PCs... but ultimately, we'd like to show them how to develop games for Wii, X-Box and Playstation."

While schools across the country such as Southern New Hampshire University and New Jersey's Science and Technology University

have recently developed concentrations and majors with goals similar to Wilkes, Lew said that cooperation with Wilkes' Integrative Media (IM) department will make the new track unique.

"The integrated media comes in when you start talking about animation; you have to have some notion about perspective, shape and shadowing. There's an artistic side to it, but then it has to translate over to the programming side. You know what something is supposed to look like, but how do you get the program to do it?" said Lew. "IM and computer science naturally blend."

3D Game Development (CS 368) will be one of the courses offered to IM and computer science majors interested in working together in the new concentration.

Interdisciplinary cooperation is also currently in place between the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership and the CIS program. Students who are involved in these programs learn how to use computers to conduct business.

See GAMING page 4

Stachacz second candidate chosen for Dean of Library Services position

BY MEGAN KRISANDA
Beacon Staff Writer

The Farley Library will soon welcome fresh leadership and the prospects of modern renovations.

Beginning July 1, John Stachacz will serve as the new Dean of Library Services. As the Wilkes campus grows and library services across the nation evolve, many have argued that the Farley library has lagged dramatically behind the more technologically advanced buildings that surround it. However, Stachacz's expertise in renovation and his experience understanding the needs of a modern library are two of the main reasons why he was chosen as the new Dean of Library Services.

"He has deep experience. He has been working in libraries for decades. More specifically, he was at Dickinson College when they went through a massive renovation of their library. He was actually head of the library at that time. He has a lot of experience in facility renovation, in terms of the library," said Darin Fields, Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

As Dean of Library Services, Stachacz will be responsible for directing the library functions of the university and overseeing the

planning and modernization of the library. Stachacz will also participate in the academic leadership and collaborate with the provost and deans for the advancement of academic programs.

Currently, Stachacz serves as the Director of Library Services at the University of Indiana at Kokomo. Stachacz also presides over the Indiana Cooperative Library Services Authority (INCOLSA). During his time at Kokomo, Stachacz was responsible for a revitalization of their library including increasing the activity of the library and recentering it within the institution.

"He presented a lot of evidence of his excellent work he had done there. His experience is relevant to what our library needs. When he came to campus, he had a very clear sense as to what some of the needs and solutions were. He had a positive rapport with the library staff and with everyone he met with so that made him a very attractive candidate," said Fields.

The search for a candidate to fill the position began last year. Dr. Fred Sullivan, professor of mathematics and computer science, served as chair to the committee during the initial search. However, the first search failed due to a chosen candidate changing his mind on the position. In August

2007, a second search committee was formed with Fields serving as chair of the committee.

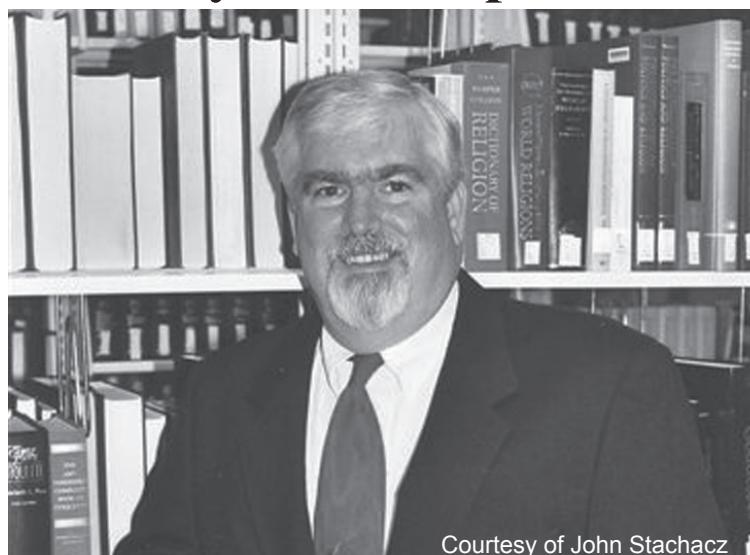
The second search committee worked closely with a search firm in order to gain resources and develop prospects for the position. Along with the search firm, the committee released an advertisement for the position.

"We had about three or four prospects over the fall semester. We brought two of them to campus and Dr. Stachacz was the finalist and he was the one we recommended," said Fields.

Stachacz holds a masters degree in Library Science from the University of Kentucky. He also earned a bachelors and masters degree in geography at the University of New Mexico and University of Kentucky.

Stachacz is a member of the American Library Association, Association of College and Research Libraries, and serves on the board of the Academic Libraries of Indiana and Kokomo Literacy Coalition.

"John Stachacz's experience will allow us to rethink our library in light of the evolving role of academic libraries," said Provost Reynold C. Verret.



Courtesy of John Stachacz

John Stachacz's responsibilities as Dean of Library Services will begin July 1.

The BEACON

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

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

SG Notes, March 26, 2008

New Business

Elections Announced- Election winners were posted outside the SG office.

ASME Fun Request- The American Society of Mechanical Engineers were granted a fund request to hold their annual car show that has proven successful in the past.

Wilkes Association of Musicians Club Recognition- SG decided not to offer the WAMC club status. Some members felt the club did not have a clear enough focus and decided that the idea needed to develop more.

Tom Bigler Journalism Conference Donation- SG donated \$640 to the Communication Studies Department to buy t-shirts for their upcoming Tom Bigler Journalism Conference.

Society for Advancement of Management Fund Request- SG heard from SAM members regarding their national competition in Arlington, VA. This is a two-week process and action will be decided next week.

Spring Fling Budget - The budget for Spring Fling was presented to SG.

First Week of Presidential Nominations - SG Members Jeffery Baumann and Carl Santana were nominated and accepted the nomination for SG President.



130 S. River St.

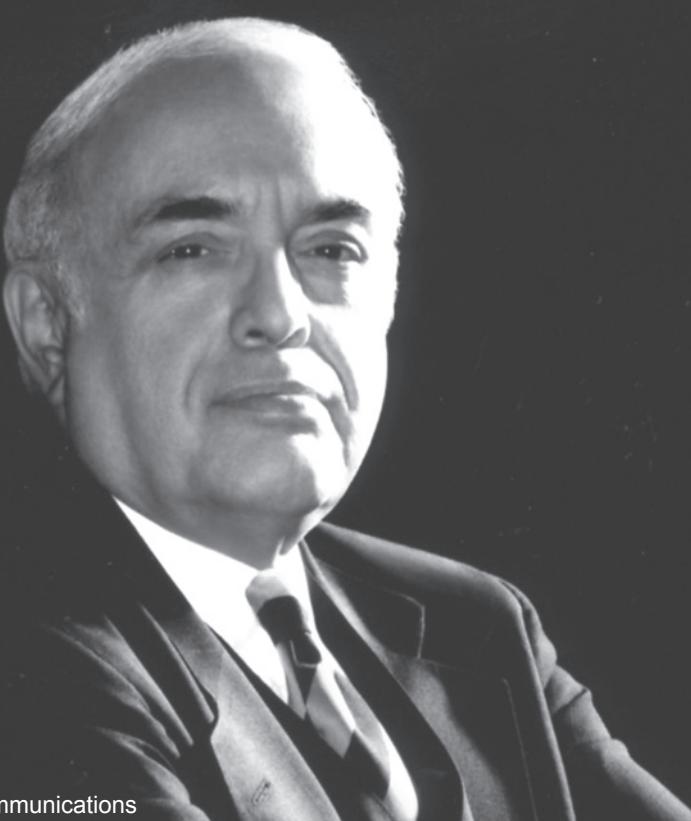
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Robert Novak to present Allan P. Kirby Lecture

Lecture focuses on 2008 presidential race and hot button issues



Courtesy Marketing Communications

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR BARNES & NOBLE @ WILKES-KING'S "COLLEGE BOOKSTORE" THIS WEEK!

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BARNES & NOBLE
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BY ANDREW SEAMAN

Beacon News Editor

Robert Novak, veteran journalist, and keynote speaker for the Allan P. Kirby Lecture Series, recently sat down with *The Beacon* to offer some insights into his take on the 2008 race for the Presidency and preview his appearance at Wilkes. The lecture is slated for 7:30 p.m. in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts on Tuesday, April 1.

His lecture will offer an analysis of the 2008 presidential election, and discuss the implications of the ongoing Democratic race between New York Senator Hillary Clinton and Illinois Senator Barack Obama.

The 77-year old Novak began his career in journalism after his service in the Korean War. He started with the Associated Press (AP) and in 1957, the AP transferred him to Washington, D.C. where he began covering Congress.

In 1963, Novak began writing the political column "Inside Report," and quickly established himself as a formidable conservative political commentator. He was a founding commentator for CNN and hosted *The Novak Zone*, served as the co-host of *Crossfire*, was co-executive producer of the public affairs program, *The Capital Gang*. In 2003, Novak made headlines by identifying Valerie Plame by name as a CIA operative, based on information he had received by "senior administration officials" touching off an extensive investigation and widespread discussion about First Amendment privilege.

The visits to Wilkes-Barre by both Senator Clinton and Senator Obama earlier in the day, serve as the perfect backdrop for Novak's lecture at Wilkes.

Novak acknowledged that the Democratic race is interesting, "Because this is clearly a great year for the Democrats. All the indicators point to a Democratic victory and maybe a massive Democratic victory and certainly substantial gains in the Senate and some gains in the House."

He added, "All the polls indicate that if you give [the people] the choice between a Democratic president and a Republican president, the Democrats win overwhelmingly. But when you put names into the brackets, instead of just Democrat or Republican, McCain is running competitively with both Senator Clinton and Senator Obama."

This shift in the polls, Novak said, shows that, "there are some problems with both Clinton [and] Obama, which are created by the contest between them that has run lon-

ger than anybody anticipated... The great hope of the Republicans [is] that they will continue this increasingly bitter contest as long as possible to Senator McCain's benefit."

However, Novak believes that even if the Democrats continue to fight among themselves, McCain still has a battle to fight.

"I don't think anything will hand a Republican the White House this year, because the Republican party is in bad shape and the economy is looking worse all the time. So it won't hand it to him. I think it will give him a chance to win the election, which he wouldn't have otherwise," he said.

According to Novak, the Democrats have the added struggle of a Catch-22.

"A lot of people say that the racial gap is so bad that if Senator Clinton is nominated, and it appears that she has stolen the nomination from Obama, that there will be a real stay-at-home vote by the African American population," Novak stated.

He added, "The other side of the coin is, is there going to be a backlash against Senator Obama? Right now, with the problems [caused by] the statements made by his former minister and indeed some of the statements by his wife, I think there is a problem of some racial backlash against him. So there are a lot of complicated factors involved there."

But after over a decade of solid Republican control in Washington, Novak noted that the party is currently under great pressure for what it has not managed to accomplish in that time. "The Republicans have really squandered their mandate. Twelve years in control of Congress, eight years in control of the presidency, most of the last generation, and really [they] have not done a very good job on a lot of issues," said Novak.

But while the issue may be a very different one for Democrats, the question of the vice presidential nominee is largely a non-issue for McCain, the Republican party's apparent nominee. Novak said that he is not very concerned with the Republicans' vice presidential choice.

"I don't think vice presidential candidates mean much, even in this election. I've been at it for fifty years and the only one that [has] won an election was Lyndon Johnson in 1960, under very special circumstances. None of them ever lost an election for anybody. So I think it's a story everyone likes to talk about. People are interested in it, but it doesn't make much difference," he said.

As for possible vice presidential nominees, Novak said, "I've thrown out all

See NOVAK page 5

GAMING from FRONT PAGE

"Whenever you have the ability to take different groups of students and put them together, especially juniors and seniors, they really learn from each other... You get to see how different parts of the process work when you're in a group like that as opposed to just doing programming or IM. You end up being more able to get out and work in the real world because you're not in a small box, but you're interacting with other people with different skills," said Dr. Anthony Kapolka, associate professor of computer science.

Alongside faculty, students are also eagerly awaiting the proposal's approval, confident that the addition of the Gaming and Media Design track will attract positive attention.

"A lot of the students who are really interested in computers are the people who use computers and play games. The next step after playing games is to make them. The gaming industry is huge now and it's only going to get bigger," said Simon Elmira, junior mathematics and electrical engineering major.

While having an interest in playing video games will aid students taking courses within the new track, Zukoski hinted that an interest in mathematics may also prove to be helpful. "[Developing games] is not an easy thing. You're dealing with physics, gravity and collisions. There's a lot of calculus involved to do those things, a lot of math and physics. Students sometimes talk about how they like to

play games, but creating them is another story."

In addition to the formation of the new track, the classic computer science track will also undergo changes if faculty members vote in favor of the proposal. In order to add the new gaming courses, Machine Language (CS 230) will be dropped and courses currently part of the "first two years experience" will be consolidated and reorganized.

"In the first two years, the first four computer courses have been changed around... In our mind, that's as important, if not more important, than the gaming track," added Kapolka.

"Nationally, we've seen a dip in computer science enrollments and with our school's size, we happen to see those trends becoming much more prominent... We're trying to address the trends that we've seen here over the past couple of years," said Lew.

Kyle Hatcher, junior computer science major, is confident that the new track has the potential to attract more students with interests in learning more about the games they play and the computers they use on a daily basis. "I was kind of surprised when I got here and realized that they didn't have [those courses] as part of the curriculum because gaming is really a big thing with computer science and programmers."

According to Zukoski and Lew, topics courses related to gaming and media design offered in the past filled quickly and parents of prospective students who tour



The Beacon / Jenna Stephens

Frank Kopyta, sophomore computer science and IM double major, works on an assignment in a Computer Data Structures class. Students like Kopyta with interests in both game programming and media design will benefit from the creation of a new track and restructuring of the program's core curriculum.

the campus and attend open houses are already inquiring about the new track.

"This can't hurt us; it can only help," said Zukoski.

The department is not seeking any additional programs, software, faculty or computers at this time, but will continue to update the tools used and courses offered in hopes

of keeping the programs "organic," said Lew.

The proposal for the revision of the curriculum has previously been approved by the Curriculum Committee and now faces a formal faculty vote. If approved, the current curriculum will be adjusted for the fall semester.

General Board Election Results



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The Beacon / Jenna Stephens

Jack Welsch, Vice President of Product Development at InterMetro, spoke to students, faculty and staff about the subject of product development from a business perspective on Tuesday, March 25. Welsch also discussed what he believes motivates customers to buy the products that his company develops.

InterMetro Industries Corporation is based in Wilkes-Barre and is a large division of the Tools and Storage group of Emerson Electric. Emerson Electric attributes its success to its core competency in developing superior, award-winning products and getting them to market, fast.

Welsch has been granted more than 25 U.S. patents, and he has spoken at also served as adjunct faculty at Lehigh University.



NOVAK from PAGE 3

sorts of names... Rob Portman of Ohio... I've even thrown out Condoleezza Rice's name... so if I throw out all of these vice presidential names, one of them is going to be right and I am going to look good."

But Novak did talk about what he thinks McCain should look for in a vice presidential nominee.

"I think what McCain is looking for is somebody who looks a lot younger than he does, because he is old... They need somebody that is twenty-years or so younger. Secondly, it's got to be a conservative, and that's not hard either... and I think they are looking for somebody who is probably adapted in the field of economics... but they would like somebody that wouldn't make a fool out of themselves in the debate," he stated.

As far as campaign issues go, Novak thought the debate on immigration is far too overrated and candidates squander their

time talking about it.

"After [Mitt Romney] got surprised by Huckabee in Iowa, he was convinced that immigration was the key to beating McCain... It didn't help Romney much... So I think it is an overblown issue. It is also an issue that the Democrats can't make much hay on, because they are bitterly divided on it. They are trying very hard to keep their very important Hispanic base. Both parties are split on the issue and I don't think it is a very good campaign issue."

Novak also added some advice to journalism students who attend his lecture.

He said the most crucial thing for a young journalist to do is, "... read the newspapers. I suppose if you get all your news off the computer... that's ok. I think holding the paper in your hand and going through it is more important. But you really have to keep informed. I just find a lot of journalism students think they're going to get their information by osmosis or something."

The Allan P. Kirby Lecture is free and open to the public.



The Beacon / Cara Koster

The Indian Cultural Association hosted an "Indian Treat Sale" on Thursday, March 27, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Henry Student Center. Attendees enjoyed delicious Indian snacks and Chai tea.



The Beacon / Andrew Seaman

Former President Bill Clinton spoke at Coughlin High School in Wilkes-Barre on Wednesday, March 19 in support of his wife's, New York Senator Hillary Clinton's, candidacy for the White House. Clinton was due to arrive at 3:45 p.m., but due to other stops in the area, was delayed over an hour. The rally was held in the school's gymnasium, where supporters flooded the bleachers. Wilkes-Barre Mayor Tom Leighton and U.S. Congressman Paul Kanjorski also spoke at the rally.

OBAMA from PAGE 1

unable to get tickets there can go to Obama headquarters in Midtown Village on Main Street.

For Obama's stop at Wilkes, all ticketed guests must pass through security and metal detectors. Guests are asked to limit personal belongings, and should know that no signs or banners are allowed. But cameras and cell phones are permitted.

There will also be some interruptions to Wilkes operations in conjunction with Obama's stop.

According to Christine Tondrick, "The Barnum and Marts Center lots will be closed from 10 p.m. Monday through 4 p.m. Tuesday. Anyone affected by the lot restrictions may park in the South Main Street garage. The university asks for your patience and understanding as parking accessibility on Tuesday is expected to be limited."

Tondrick also says that "Barnum Place will be closed by Wilkes-Barre Police at 8 a.m. Additional street closings may be necessary and will be announced as soon as possible."

The Marts Center and fitness center will also be closed as of 9:30 p.m. on Monday, March 31 through 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1. The Recreation and Athletic Center in UCOM and the YMCA fitness facilities are available to students and staff free of charge.

For continuing coverage of Obama's and Clinton's visit to Wilkes-Barre on Tuesday please stay tuned to www.wilkesbeacon.com. and cell phones are permitted.

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For continuing coverage of Obama's and Clinton's visit to Wilkes-Barre on Tuesday please stay tuned to www.wilkesbeacon.com.

Remember when: looking back on 75 years of education

BY THE BEACON

EDITORIAL BOARD

The 1963 doo-wop smash by The Earls, "Remember Then," is probably a familiar tune to the Wilkes professors who were consulted for this article. Though, they probably never gave thought to the day when they would actually have to go back and do it.

In light of Wilkes University's 75th anniversary over the next academic year, *The Beacon*, in consultation with Dr. Harold Cox, Professor Emeritus of History and University Archivist; Dr. James Rodechko, Professor Emeritus of History; Dr. Bradford Kinney, Professor of Communication Studies, and Dr. Brian Redmond, professor of Environmental Engineering and Earth Science, compiled a list of the top 10 events and people who have influenced Wilkes University most during its 75 years. This week, *The Beacon* offers Part I of "Remember when..." which examines the first five most memorable people and moments in Wilkes University's history. Next week, we will offer the final five and ask readers to submit their own most memorable moments in history. The following have been pulled from historical atlases, newspaper archives, and favorite old professors who are still hanging around to share their stories from the days of old.

The Beacon's Top Ten most significant moments in Wilkes University's history:

1. THE DAVIS REPORT

Before Wilkes was the Blue and Gold, it was the Blue and Orange. Yes, that's correct. Feeling the effects of The Great Depression with an oversized faculty and a drop in student enrollment, Bucknell University, located in Lewisburg Pennsylvania, was in search of a site to establish a satellite school for its survival. Frank G.

Davis, Chairman of the Bucknell Education Department at the time, was involved in a state-wide study to find the best possible location to set up shop. He chose Wilkes-Barre.

Davis proposed the idea to Bucknell president Homer Rainey in March 1933, and in September of that year Bucknell University Junior College (BUJC) opened its

the least. The entire school was located in an abandoned business school, which was a three story brick building located at what is now the Park and Lock South at 29-31 Northampton Street, directly across from the Y.M.C.A. The lone building contained a 500-seat auditorium and administrative offices on the first floor, a small library and classrooms on the second, and laboratories on the third

floor.

The school's director quickly departed after it fell into a \$20,000 hole, leaving the new president in Lewisburg, Arnaud Marts, to search for someone to direct the Wilkes-Barre campus. He found his man in Eugene Shedd Farley, a towering graduate of Pennsylvania State University, who was a football letterman and All-American in lacrosse. Within five

years of serving as the institution's director, Farley secured (in order) some of the downtown's

LEFT: Wilkes University's humble beginnings took place in an abandoned Wilkes-Barre business school, located on what is now the Park and Lock directly across the street from the Y.M.C.A. on Northampton Street. A decade later, the facility was used by King's College.

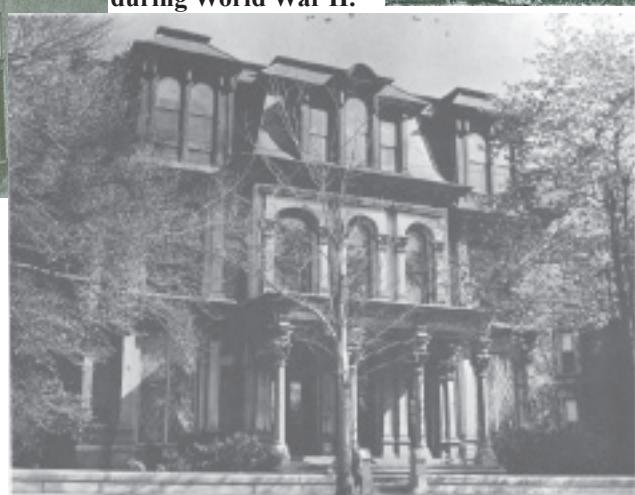
RIGHT: Wilkes-Barre was the perfect place to host an Army Airforce pre-flight school, which boosted male attendance during World War II.



BUJC had seen peak numbers in 1939 and 1940, but the following year the bottom dropped out on the male attendance figures as the United States entered World War II after the attacks on Pearl Harbor.

"The place was ready to close for all practical purposes," Cox said. "Farley wasn't about to let that happen."

The president marched down to Washington D.C. to lobby for financial help, and he got his answer two weeks later. Government entities showed interest in establishing an aviation school in the Wilkes-Barre area, which would guarantee over 250 students at a time at BUJC. Farley welcomed the idea with open arms, and thus an Army Air Force pre-flight training program was established. The 6th Training Detachment (or Flyboys as they liked to be called) were housed in the Hotel Sterling and made good use of the Forty



Conyngham Hall was the first building deeded to the Wilkes back in 1937 by Bertha Conyngham. Sadly, it burned to the ground in 1968.

LOOK HOW WE'VE EVOLVED...

The Bison Stampede

1934-1935

The Bucknell Beacon

1936-1947

— WILKES COLLEGE —
Beacon —
1947-present

continued from page 6

Fort airport, which could be reached by street car in those days. Enrollment jumped from 51 men and 86 women in 1944 to 643 men and 154 women in '46...amazing.

4. THE DEAN ARRIVES! (1946)

In 1946, George F. Ralston stepped onto campus and quickly became the face of the university. He was--and still is--regarded as The Father of Wilkes Athletics for establishing the first sports program here in 1946. With his district southern drawl and a vice-like grip of a handshake, he served as the coach for the football, baseball, and basketball teams. In fact, in his first year coaching football, he led his team of hardened sons of coal miners to an undefeated season, in which two of his players, John Florkiewicz and Gerrard Wasco, would go on to play for the Pittsburgh Steelers. He became the Dean of Student Life in 1960, but would still be seen at every home game, performing his legendary "G-O W-I-L-K-E-S!" cheer. Ralston passed away last April, but his legacy will endure forever.

"He's the greatest man I've ever met," said Cox, holding back tears. "He's the only man I've ever cried for."

What do you think?



The Beacon wants your voice to be heard. Your Voices is the opportunity for students to voice their concerns. If you want your voice to be heard, please contact *The Beacon* with the following information:

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

thebeacon.oped@gmail.com

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

5. THE WILKES CHARTER (June 26, 1947)

Ah, what's in a name? In 1947, thanks to much growth and some continued stability, the school had outgrown its junior college status and was instituted as a private, four-year, non-denominational, liberal arts college. But of course, at that point, the school needed a new name, and it got one...that lasted for only 30 days. After becoming a four year college, the school briefly went by the name Wyoming Valley College. This didn't go over too well with the folks at Wyoming Seminary, a college preparatory high school across the river in Kingston. Leaders at Wyoming Seminary argued that the similarity between the names could cause confusion, and instead of getting involved in a heated argument, Trustees renamed the school Wilkes College.

NEXT WEEK...memorable moments from the 1950s and forward in Wilkes University history.

(RIGHT) These are rules students had to follow back in the 1936-1937 academic school year as seen in the first issue of the *Bucknell Beacon*.

FRESHMAN RULES—1936-1937

Permanent Rules:

- (1.) There shall be NO loitering on the first floor.
- (2.) Freshmen shall keep the lounges in order at all times.
- (3.) Freshmen must speak courteously to sophomores and faculty members.
- (4.) Freshmen will rise when approached by a faculty member or visitors.
- (5.) Freshmen will attend at least two home games in three sports.
- (6.) Freshmen will observe all rules of the house committee.

Temporary Rules:

- (1.) Men will wear dinks until Christmas recess.
- (2) First week:
 - a. Men and women will carry sulphur matches for sophomores.
 - b. Women will wear no make-up.
 - c. Men and women will wear large cards bearing their names, nick-names, and alma mater.
 - d. Men will wear plain blue or orange straight ties.
- (3) Second week:
 - a. Women will wear blue or orange hair ribbons three (3) inches wide and no make-up.
 - b. Men will wear plain blue or orange straight ties.
- (4) Third week:
 - a. The Alma Mater will be known thoroughly.
 - b. Freshmen will rise when directly approached by sophomores in the lounges.

NOTE: These rules are to be enforced only within one block of the college building.

Your Voices

which everyone is accepted, differences are appreciated and celebrated, and all members are encouraged to succeed. No Place for Hate enables individuals to challenge racism, anti-Semitism, homophobia and all forms of bigotry in their communities and schools. It seeks to provide a model for responding to and preventing acts of hatred and for developing projects that enhance understanding of diverse groups. No Place for Hate strives to create more harmonious communities and classrooms by reducing bias and increasing an appreciation of the richness that diversity can bring.

The Beacon staff recommends that schools "implement programs that deter bullying and promote a safe and accepting environment". You cite Denver area public schools' recent implementation of the No Place for Hate program. In fact, the No Place for Hate program has been used in schools across Pennsylvania and Delaware since 2001. With Governor Ed Rendell's official endorsement of the program in the fall of 2006, more than 130 schools have registered to become No Place for Hate, with

additional schools enrolling on a regular basis. It has been introduced in Montour, Monroe, and Lehigh counties, as well as 23 other counties across Pennsylvania and two in Delaware.

We join with *The Beacon* Editorial Board in encouraging students, faculty and concerned community members to confront the challenges of bigotry and diversity head-on by engaging various groups, including law enforcement, religious institutions, parents, teachers, school administrators, and civic groups; exploring programs such as A CAMPUS OF DIFFERENCE (TM); and challenging them to encourage K-12 schools to join No Place for Hate.

Sincerely,
Lisa Stewart
Project Director, No Place for Hate,
Anti-Defamation League,
Eastern Pennsylvania/Delaware Region

Forgotten your table manners?

Cafeteria etiquette goes a long way during busy days

BY GERARD HETMAN
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

For nearly every Wilkes student, eating in the third floor cafeteria of the Henry Student Center is a key part of life on campus. While the number of visits to the cafeteria may vary among commuters, residents and off-campus students, one thing that is common among nearly every visitor is the desire for quick and efficient service among all diners.

In my years at Wilkes, the vast majority of students have been well-behaved, polite, and courteous during my many visits to the cafe. However, a number of visitors seemingly always feel the need to cause delays and hassles for those of us who simply aim to enjoy our meal, catch up with friends, and pick up with the rest of our busy schedules.

First, let's look at one of the most important pieces of working machinery on campus- the HSC elevator. While the elevator is a major asset for nearly everyone on campus in reaching the upper two stories of the student center, it also provides a vital link to the upper floors for those students and staff who face a daily battle with disabilities and mobility issues. Also many students, staff, faculty, and visitors use the elevator in taking essential materials to events and activities on the second floor.

According to Campus Support Services, the HSC elevator required service on 14 separate occasions from March of 2007 to March of 2008. Out of those calls, five were attributed to overloading or jumping in the elevator car, while one was attributed to vandalism. With the frequent use the

elevator sees, it's more than natural for it to break down on occasion, but don't you think a good deal of its problems may be caused or exacerbated by the punishment many students dish out to it? Having the elevator out of operation takes away the easy route up for all of us, but much more importantly it leaves those who physically can't make it up the stairs in a difficult situation. I did not speak with any physically challenged members of the Wilkes community before writing this, but just imagine the dilemma they face when the elevator is out of service due to childish nonsense.



Trash on the floor of the elevator in the SUB

We can all get a kick out of grabbing the door and keeping it from closing to accommodate a friend, but is it really necessary to have a full load of students jumping up and down on the ride up, or for passengers to pull down part of the ceiling to put cookies and other foods on top of the grating? Not only does the interior damage cause headaches for maintenance personnel, but it also puts passengers in danger of having the loosened ceiling fall down on subsequent loads of riders- something that I've experienced more than once in four years.

Added to this are the carvings, writings, and inscriptions put into the panels containing the buttons and displays next to the door- is it really necessary to carry over such childish habits from high school years?

In terms of etiquette in the cafeteria itself, nearly all students clean up after themselves when they leave, but a small number leave their tables a mess and sometimes don't even take their glasses or trays to the proper area. It's no secret that one of the most popular events at the cafeteria is wing night, and when large groups of diners leave their areas a mess, it prevents other groups coming in from using those areas. I often visit the late-night operation with six or seven of my friends, and we frequently have a hard time finding a table big enough for all of us. I must admit that the cafeteria staff closes some areas that hold larger tables- something they should seriously consider changing- but it doesn't help when they need to do plenty of unnecessary cleaning up after irresponsible customers.

All of us can- and do- get caught up in having fun with our friends in the cafeteria, and in the process of going up and coming down from eating there. Make no mistake about it- the student center is there for our benefit, and the caf should be a place where we can kick back a bit and relax in the course of busy days. But in order for that to happen, and in order for the caf to operate at maximum efficiency, all of us who spend any amount of time there need to make sure we take care of the facilities we use there every day. It doesn't take much- just some basic manners that you probably learned- and perhaps forgot- long ago.

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. Results are based on 85 responses.

The Beacon asked:

Who would you pay \$5,500 to spend an hour with?

- Ashley Alexandra Dupre (aka Kristen)-11%
- Brad Pitt-0%
- Jesus Christ-59%
- Christopher Walken-4%
- Ghandi-4%
- Helen Keller-2%
- George Clooney-2%
- Marilyn Monroe-1%
- Angelina Jolie-11%
- Other-7%

Next Week's Question:

Who do you think will win the NCAA basketball championship?

- UNC
- UCLA
- Memphis
- Davidson
- Kansas

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

Local synagogue target of hate mongers



On Saturday, residents and members of a downtown Jewish synagogue discovered that religious intolerance and hate are still a problem in the community. Anti-Semitic graffiti defaced the front facade and side of the Ohav Zedek synagogue on South Franklin Street, an act of vandalism that investigators are calling a hate crime.

Swastikas were spray painted in gold on the front doors and signs of the building. There was also a silver six-pointed star painted on a front door and the word "Jude," or Jew in German, on another. The word "abshaum," German for scum, was also painted on another door.

This senseless act of hatred and vio-

lence forces the community to recognize that racism and intolerance still exist in the world and even in our own neighborhood.

It should also spur the Wilkes community, as good neighbors, to reaffirm our vigilance and watch for those who would target Ohav Zedek, or nearby neighbor Temple Israel, with hate. Anti-Semitic acts can never be tolerated. Wilkes University and the surrounding communities need to come together as leaders in education and hate crime prevention efforts.



The Beacon/Jenna Stephens

SBDC gives interns a taste of the real business world

BY WILFREDO MERCADO

Beacon Correspondent

Those who have dreamed of starting their own business, need look no further than next door for a nudge in the right direction. The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) offers the chance for students to get great hands on experience for a successful career without the need to go very far.

Located right above the Barnes & Noble book store on Public Square, the SBDC allows for students to gain real life small business education, according to Ed Kowalczyk, the assistant director of the SBDC.

"The Wilkes University Small Business Development Center is a non-profit agency which provides confidential business consulting services to clients in a five county territory including Luzerne, Columbia, Sullivan, Schuylkill, and Carbon counties," said Kowalczyk.

Graduate assistants and interns work with clients who have ideas or concepts about starting their own small business.

"Our goal is to finish their business plan and then send them out to different sources for financing," said Josh Savitski, a graduate assistant for the SBDC. Through this process, the client gets the aid necessary to start their business, and the student gains skills and experience.

Savitski feels the program is a great place

to establish a career in business.

"Right now, I am comfortable editing business plans, researching industries, and creating graphics for business plans," he said. "Last June, I was not comfortable doing so. In just 8 months, I feel very confident in every plan that I edit."

Other services offered through the SBDC include marketing, advertising, market analysis, computer applications, extensive research capabilities, environmental compliance assistance, energy efficiency evaluations and assistance, government contracting assistance, in-depth training seminars, and feasibility analysis.

"These services are offered to both entrepreneurs who are interested in starting their own business and existing business owners who are interested in growing their small business," added Kowalczyk.

Graduates from Wilkes who interned with the SBDC have successfully started their own business. Last year's Graduate Assistant, Rick Simon, has his own web-based business, gopoko.com. Similarly, this year's graduate assistant, Savitski is looking to start his own business. He feels that he owes it all to the SBDC for giving him the working knowledge of what it takes to get a business off the ground.

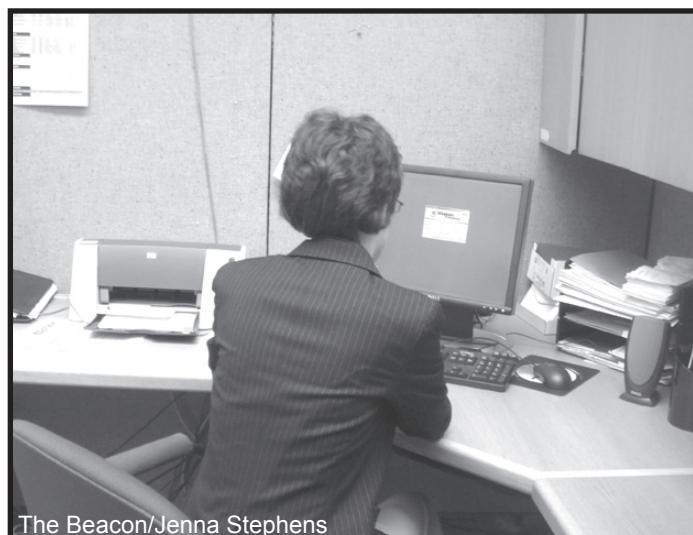
Sharon Castano, who is in charge of internships and freshmen student development, refers students to the SBDC who are

interested in accounting, want to network or those who want to be entrepreneurs. She also recommends the program to those students who do not have transportation because of its convenient location within walking distance to campus on Public Square.

Though it is not the sole reason to be a part of the program, Savitski admits that a wonderful perk from being a graduate assistant in this program is the tuition remission for his graduate program.

"Graduate Assistants are required to work 17 hours per week at the Small business Development Center and in return, are paid a small stipend and are able to earn their Masters in Business Administration degree from Wilkes University for almost no cost to them, paying only technology fees out of pocket," said Kowalczyk.

He also warned that the graduate assistantship positions are highly competitive. Interested students must have a 3.0 GPA



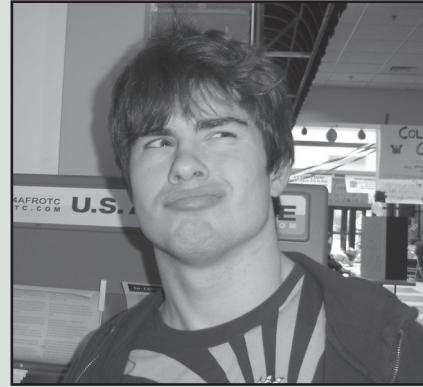
The Beacon/Jenna Stephens

Senior Danielle Mathieson interns at the Small Business Development Center, an organization that lends a hand to new companies in our area.

average, great interpersonal skills and must be comfortable working in a team environment.

"The SBDC gives students a chance to enhance the information learned in the classroom. It's one thing to learn about a business plan and another to actually work with one. It sounds redundant, I know, but it's the truth. Joining the SBDC was a wonderful choice," said Savitski.

What is the best April Fool's joke you've been part of?



"I'd probably say toilet papering a teacher's room in high school."

**Santino Ardo
freshman, undeclared major**

"Freshman year, my one friend used to always sleep until 11 a.m. and I'd wake him up for lunch. On April 1st he had this big paper due at 1 p.m., so I changed every clock in his room to 5 p.m...I had him going until he got online and went to the world clock."

**Anthony Giuffrida
senior, pre-medicine major**

"A really good family friend called me and told me his mom was pregnant, and she is forty-some years old and her youngest daughter is only two years younger than me...I called her and told her congratulations and she had no idea what I was talking about."

**Jenn Prusjowski
junior, P1 pharmacy major**

"I saran-wrapped someone's car."

**Anthony Dimarco
junior, communication studies major**

Philosophy of Sport explores current athletic controversies

BY LAUREN SALEM
Beacon Staff Writer

What is the true price of winning in athletic competitions? Should performance-enhancing drugs like steroids be legalized in formal athletic contests? These are just two of many questions students explore and debate in the class, Philosophy of Sport.

Visiting professor Dr. Mark Holowchak developed the Philosophy of Sport class year ago, but is teaching it in a new format for the first time this spring semester. Previously, he has taught the class at other institutions over the last 21 years.

"My view of teaching is this: good teaching is like good cooking," Holowchak said. "A chef, to create something special, has to take some chances sometimes. So, too with teaching."

The class meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00-2:15 p.m. in the Darte Center where students play a weekly team game in the form of a philosophical debate. By the tenth week in the semester, each team will have competed in four games and have collected a number of wins and losses. The team with the most wins will receive the "Colonel's Cup," which is a bye to the final debate, while the remaining teams will engage in playoff games to determine who will compete against the winning team.

"I feel that this is a very important course not just for athletics but more classes like this should be taught about other topics," said Anthony Fortunato, a senior majoring in

entrepreneurship. "I believe Dr. Holowchak is very good at making people feel like they can say whatever they want because it's their opinion."

Holowchak has been a competitive athlete for over 20 years and has competed in power-lifting competitions and coached strength clubs or power-lifting teams at the University of Pittsburgh, Eastern Michigan University, and Kutztown University.

"I was the strongest man (drug-free) in Michigan in 1992," Holowchak said. "Competitive sport has taught me that discipline, effort, and perseverance ultimately always pay off. My academic successes are the direct result of my athletic successes."

Holowchak has published more than 30 papers and several books about ethics, phy, and social and political philosophy.

"I've taken some philosophy classes before but I wanted to learn about something else," said Nicholas Lutz, a senior political science major. "Sports seemed like a very interesting topic because there are hot moral issues in sports right now."

The class explores issues and topics that are currently affecting the world of sports. These include the definition



The Beacon/Gino Troiani

of sport, violence in sports, rank comparison of male athletes versus female athletes, whether or not sport affects or merely reflects social mores and values, and whether or not sport is a species of art.

"I became more aware of the pressure society puts on professional athletes," said Ashley Yob, a sophomore psychology major. "It gave me a different outlook on sports as a whole and what goes on in professional sports that you may not realize."

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Student of the Week: Brad DeFrain

BY MATTHEW GOGAS
Beacon Staff Writer

Although Brad DeFrain just transferred to Wilkes University this semester, he has already made his mark on the campus. A friendly and charismatic junior, DeFrain has become involved in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program at Wilkes, where he works as a conversation partner for international students.

Before coming to Wilkes, he attended Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Originally a German major there, he left to

come to Wilkes University because it is located much closer to home. Upon transferring to Wilkes, he changed his major to sociology because he enjoys working with people, different languages, and different cultures. As a volunteer with the ESL program, DeFrain helps to improve international students' speak and become more comfortable with the English language.

DeFrain has also made it a personal goal to help international students assimilate better to the campus. Aside from the international students he has befriended, Brad has also made many friends on campus in just his short time here. Because of his dedication to helping the international student population at Wilkes, *The Beacon* has chosen DeFrain as our Student of the Week.

The Beacon: How does Wilkes differ from Calvin College?

DeFrain: Well, there are a lot more electives for majors that are a lot more interesting than Calvin College. Also, the campus is a lot smaller. There are smaller class sizes.

The Beacon: Why did you choose sociology as a major?

DeFrain: I became a sociology major because I thought that it would give me the opportunity to work with people.

The Beacon: How would your friends describe you?

DeFrain: Old fashioned. I don't use technology as much as everyone else. I'm not

a huge fan of the internet or cars or iPods. I think technology strips us of our souls as human beings to make a long story short.

The Beacon: Tell us about the ESL program.

DeFrain: It stands for English as a Second Language. Here it's located in Hollenback Hall on [South] Franklin Street. We bring in a lot of students from all over the world. We bring in a lot of Chinese students and Saudi Arabian students to come here and study English for two and a half years on a program that's more or less the English

I guess the coolest thing you learn is that we're more or less the same in a cosmic sense.

Brad DeFrain

Junior sociology major

language 101. The goal is to put them on a conversational level to get through college.

The Beacon: What do you do there?

DeFrain: I do conversation partners, which means I get hooked up with one person for an hour a week to just sit down and talk with them about anything that comes into our minds. We are just supposed to give them practice speaking English with a native speaker.

The Beacon: What do you feel you are learning from this experience?

DeFrain: I've learned lots. Sometimes they will teach you funny little things like how to order food. I have learned about religion--the religions they practice. I guess the coolest thing you learn is that we're more or less the same in a cosmic sense.

The Beacon: How did you decide to work for the ESL program?

DeFrain: Well, my first major was German. I had the chance to go abroad a couple of times. I really enjoy working with culture and people and the whole nine yards as far as that goes.

The Beacon: Explain your experiences studying abroad.

DeFrain: My shoes have been to seven different countries. When I studied abroad it was a month long program where eighteen American students and I went and lived in six different cities in Germany with four different host families. I had a blast.

The Beacon: What are your plans when you graduate?

DeFrain: I haven't quite figured that out yet. I am looking into graduate schools. I am looking into the University of Chicago for their Master's in sociology. I really want to get into a good career working with people for the rest of my life.



The Beacon/Marissa Phillips

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Local talent spotlight: Dawud Anderson, a cut above

BY MARISSA PHILLIPS

Beacon A&E Editor

Not many people can boast about a resume as extensive as Dawud Anderson's. Anderson is a singer, actor, and a comedian. Yet what takes the lead role in his life is his career as a salon owner and stylist.

Anderson grew up around the music business, so music has

It's a task to chronicle all of Anderson's entertainment endeavors, "Because I do a lot of other stuff, I just can't tell you everything," he explained, but another aspect of his entertainment career is his acting. He began acting when in Maryland, but once he came to Pennsylvania he performed in his first musical, *The Full Monty*. Now he's on his way to costar in an upcoming movie. He's slated to be a serial killer by day, singer at night, in a movie that will be shot in Scranton.

Despite all of his roles as an entertainer, Anderson devotes the majority of his time to his other passion--working with hair. He owns his own hair salon, where he is head stylist, and even has his own hair care product line, Seba.

Just as Anderson grew up surrounded by music, he was influenced to get into hair care while he was growing up as well.

With a beautician and a barber in his family, eventually Anderson found his way into the stylist ranks as well. Anderson admitted that it was also "a good way to meet women." He was trained at Empire Beauty School and gained experience around the country in Philadelphia, Atlanta, and Washington D.C., among other places.

Eventually, Anderson decided to open his own salon, Who's Nex. He also opened a salon in Philadelphia, but eventually decided to come to this area "because of the atmosphere and the quietness, and for peace and security" and opened a salon in Plains.

Anderson finds a way to meld his creativity, and his various creative side projects with his salon. He refers to himself as "The Hair Doctor" and offers downloads of his music single online on his salon website, whosnex.com. Also, Anderson's comedy usually includes numerous stories about his experiences with customers at his hair salon.

Just as Anderson's music, comedy, and acting careers are progressing, so is his salon career. In the next few weeks, Anderson will open a new salon in Wilkes-Barre, on South Main Street. His current salon has been open for nine months, but he felt that he needed an addition to better cater to college students who can't reach his salon in Plains.

Anderson explained that he's sincerely interested in serving every different type of customer needing hair care, regardless of nationality, type of hair, or financial situation. He wants to offer equal opportunities and reach out to every demographic. He plans to offer discounts to students who show up with student IDs, and work to serve women with problems such as thinning hair and alopecia. He's working to establish his services in the area, and be seen as a hair care professional who puts an emphasis on healthy hair.

Some people aspire for a chance to pursue a life of entertainment. Some aim to serve more one-to-



Anderson with his staff at Who's Nex: Lauren Cephas, Victoria Jones, and Chrisna Deliscart.

been a part of his life from the beginning. Recently, he's been taking his influences from musicians such as Prince, Bootsy Collins, and Chubby Checker and has been working towards recording a full-length funk album. His music is high energy, which is heard on his first released single, "Don't Stop." He provides the lead vocals and is looking for a rapper to collaborate to finish the album.

Incidentally, music was also the medium that helped Anderson transition into comedy. Three years ago Anderson attended what he thought was a talent show at Wise Crackers, only to discover he was onstage during an open-mic comedy night. Despite the misunderstanding, Anderson stepped up and as he explained, "I just started telling jokes with my musical instruments and the next time I brought my piano I played that and eventually I tried it without that and the rest is history." Anderson now makes weekly appearances during comedy night at the downtown bar, Donahues, and occasionally makes appearances with his act in Philadelphia.



Despite actively pursuing multiple other creative endeavors, such as music, acting, and comedy, Anderson devotes the majority of his time to hair styling and hair care.

one through beauty and style consultation. Somehow Anderson manages to pursue all of the above in style. As a funk singer, actor, comedian, and salon owner, Dawud Anderson makes appearances all around Wilkes-Barre, striving to keep the community entertained and their hair healthy.

Movie Review: *Doomsday*

BY MIKE WILLIAMS
Beacon Staff Writer

There comes a time when everyone acknowledges, "Hey, I'd like to watch a movie." It's a fairly common occurrence for anyone with enough cash for a theater ticket or a DVD player.

But what happens if, instead of watching one movie, you want to watch...oh...say, twelve movies? Unfortunately, few of us have the time, money or home entertainment equipment to accomplish this feat. Enter *Doomsday*...

For the past eight years, writer/director Neil Marshall has been breathing a breath of fresh air into the lungs of Hollywood's somewhat stagnant horror genre by pumping out such terrifying gems as 2002's *Dog Soldiers* and 2005's *The Descent*. With his latest release, *Doomsday*, Marshall delivers once again, with a slick, stylish tip of the hat to more cult favorites than you can shake a severed head at.

Combining elements of cult classics such as *Escape From New York*, *The Mad Max* trilogy, *The Warriors* and *28 Days Later*, while mixing in vibes of such blockbusters as *Gladiator*, *Braveheart*, *Aliens*, and *Lord of the Rings*. The end result is an action packed, gore splattered, darkly funny homage to the past 30-odd years of action/horror cinema.

The story begins as the horrifying, flesh-eating Reaper virus infects England, forcing the English government to quarantine the disease in Scotland by resurrecting the legendary Hadrian's Wall, which runs across the island nation coast to coast. As the rest of the country attempts to recover from the ordeal, those forsaken on the other side of the wall are left to die. Fast forward 30 years. As the world has turned its back on England for its treatment of

the virus's victims, the nation is plunged into a crippling depression, forcing thousands upon thousands of the unemployed into cramped, disease infested ghettos, which is the perfect breeding ground for a resurgence of the Reaper virus.

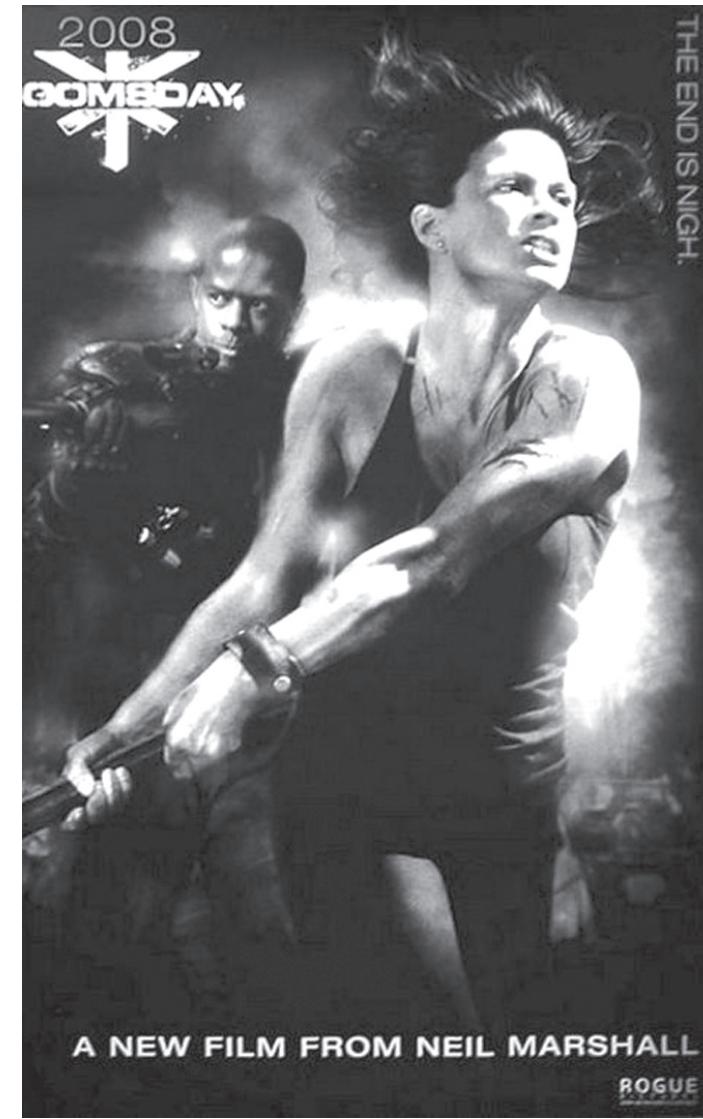
Luckily for the U.K., there is one hope for salvation: a secret satellite has detected human movement in the quarantined city of Glasgow, suggesting that there may be some sort of cure lost somewhere in the hot zone, and that's where the fun starts.

With only two days until the virus once again sweeps across England, a crack team of special agents including stoic heroine Rhona Mitra (*The Number 23*), hard as nails marine sergeant Adrian Lester (*The Day After Tomorrow*) and scientists Sean Pertwee and Darren Morfitt (*Dog Soldiers*). Once inside the hot zone, the team finds that the survivors of the virus have divided themselves into two warring factions. The first, a medieval society, reigned by former government scientist Kane (Malcom MacDowell, *Gangster No. 1*). The other, a blood thirsty army of cannibalistic Scottish gutter-punks, led with a flare by the charismatically psychotic Sol (Craig Conway, *The Descent*). To give anything else about the plot away would be a disservice to fans.

Staying consistent with his first two servings of splatter cinema, Marshall and company offer up gore galore. In its hour and forty five minute run time, *Doomsday* offers up some of the most stunning and shocking visuals to hit the screen in years including car chases, grisly sword fights, body barbecues and Sol's big entrance, which, if it had to be compared to anything, would probably resemble what would happen if Monty Python decided to

attend Spring Break in hell. Intriguing, huh? Unfortunately, aside from the anatomically correct gore and loads of action, those hoping for more than blood splatters and explosions may be a little disappointed by the film's lack of meaningful dialogue and somewhat underdeveloped characters, which is common for Marshall's films. On the other hand, those fans who realize that a film like *Doomsday* is driven by the excitement and intensity of its scenes, the explosive action will more than make up for its short comings in other departments.

When all is said and done, there are only two ways that audiences will receive *Doomsday*. Either they will love it, cheering on the carnage crazed characters as they rampage



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through scene after bloody scene, or they will turn away in disgust halfway through for the exact same reasons. There is no middle ground on this one. Those looking for an award winning piece of cinema, head to Blockbuster. Most of this year's Oscar winners are ready to rent. However, if you are the type who can appreciate a little (a lot) of blood, some bad language, and enough action to make an hour and forty five minutes feel like a thirty second roller coaster ride, *Doomsday* is the flick for you.

Grade: B

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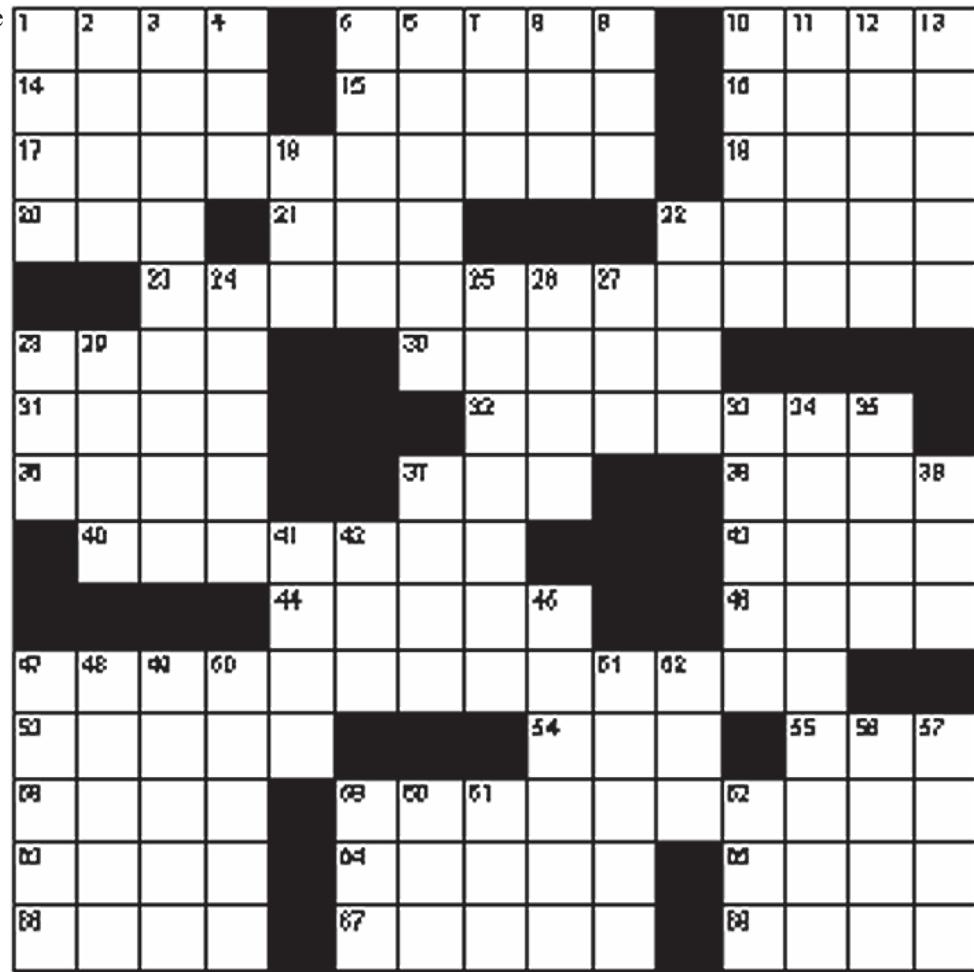
Kudracross

BY CHRISTOPHER KUDRAK

Beacon Staff Writer

ACROSS

- 1 Casino wagers
- 5 Increased
- 10 Away from shore
- 14 Hundred ____ Woods
- 15 Forested area
- 16 Call manually
- 17 Type of question
- 19 Do ____ others...
- 20 Fur scarf
- 21 Ump counterpart
- 22 Without detail
- 23 Winter Olympic event
- 28 Give cold shoulder
- 30 Overturn
- 31 Strip the skin off
- 32 Not outside
- 36 Nautical direction
- 37 Conclude
- 38 Ones equal
- 40 EPCOT local
- 43 Son of Isaac
- 44 No longer obedient
- 46 Religious ritual
- 47 Lopsided
- 53 Pass along a message
- 54 Mrs. Lennon
- 55 Promise to pay
- 58 Increased in size
- 59 Broadway performers, for example
- 63 Equal
- 64 UFO passenger
- 65 Start of a children's story
- 66 Wimbledon units
- 67 Black hole, for example
- 68 Heavenly body
- 1 Fish hook
- 2 Sound rebound
- 3 Financial officer
- 4 Erector ____
- 5 Concur
- 6 Large snow accumulations
- 7 Medical professional, for short
- 8 ____ Braun
- 9 Neighbor of PA
- 10 Mature
- 11 Biblical mountain
- 12 Dinning option
- 13 "____ came a spider..."
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41 Military group

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45 Wears away
47 Compels
48 Sensation sensor
49 Slushy snow
50 Fatigued responses
51 Ridiculous
52 Swindle
56 Free Willy animal
57 Computer worker
59 Small amount
60 Alcoholic beverage
61 Tailor item
62 Sin, _____, Tan

Schedule of Events

Tuesday, April 1

- "Sweetheart Like You"; Roller Derby Portraits art exhibit at the Sordoni Art Gallery
- Film: *Savages* at the Kirby Center at 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- Barack Obama "Road to Change" bus tour rally; Wilkes University Marts Gym; 9:45a.m. doors open, 11:45a.m. speech
- Hillary Clinton, "Solutions for the Pennsylvania Economy" town hall meeting, Scandlon Gym, King's College; 2:30 p.m.
- The Allan P. Kirby Center Lecture Series in Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship featuring Robert Novak in the Darte Center at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 2

- Brown Bag Theatre: If Men Played Cards as Women Do performed at King's College at 12 p.m.

Thursday, April 3

- Pi Sigma Alpha hosting a lecture on illegal immigration from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., see Dr. Tom Baldino for more information
- Employment Fair at the Wachovia Arena at 1 p.m.
- Evening of Kander & Ebb theater capstone at 4 p.m.
- Comedy Night at Donahues at 10 p.m.

Friday, April 4

- First Friday at Test Pattern at 6 p.m.
- Original members of Asia performing at the Kirby Cener at 8 p.m.
- Fight Amputation, YGGR, Let Down and The Early Birds performing at Cafe Metropolis at 8 p.m.

Saturday, April 5

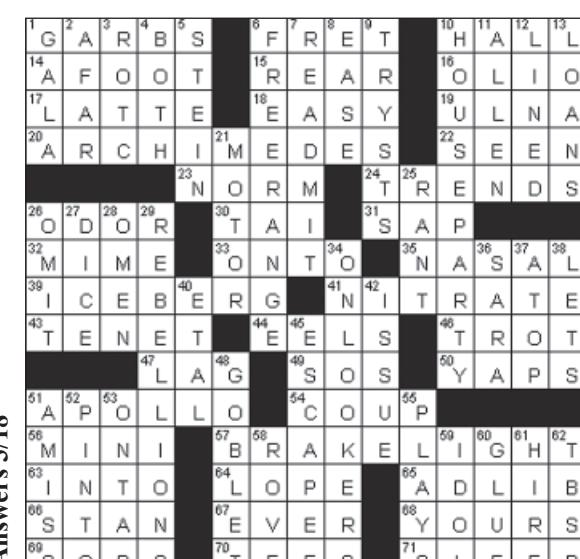
- Springline Driver, Losing Caufield and Far From Honored performing at Test Pattern at 8 p.m.
- Below Me, Shock Value, Under The Wave and Chemical Dependents performing at Cafe Metropolis at 8 p.m.
- Bellydance Hafla event at Arts YOUNiverse at 5 p.m.
- Spring Fling dinner dance at Waterfront Banquet & Convention Center at 6 p.m.
- Poetry Night at Donahues at 9 p.m.

Sunday, April 6

- Battle of the Rhymes at the River Street Jazz Cafe

Monday, April 7

- Captain We're Sinking, The Dinosores and Under the Wave performing at Test Pattern at 8 p.m.



Answers 3/18

Humanitarian Weekend to raise awareness on world issues

BY ALISSA LINDNER
Beacon Assistant A&E Editor

What do Wilkes community members know about the crisis in the African nation of Darfur? What sorts of challenges to refugees, displaced by war, environmental disaster, and famine face? Whom do the Keep a Child Alive and Heifer International organizations benefit?

Wilkes in the World is sponsoring Humanitarian Weekend 2008 to try and help students, faculty and staff answer these and scores of other questions related to people in need across the globe. Humanitarian Weekend, April 11-13, will also benefit four non-profit charitable organizations.

The Wilkes in the World club aims to inform the campus about humanitarian issues around the world, according to Alyssa Ciesla, a junior sociology major and member of Wilkes in the World. This year the club has decided to focus its efforts on issues in Africa.

Ciesla explained the money raised during Humanitarian Weekend will be split between four organizations: Save Darfur, American Care for Sudan, Keep a Child Alive, and Heifer International. Various activities will be held throughout the weekend that aim to educate and involve Wilkes community members.

The kickoff event for Humanitarian Weekend will be a Create-a-thon held in the first floor student lounge in the Henry Student Center beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 11. At the Create-a-thon guests are invited to create

various crafts and paintings, which will be sold at a later event during the weekend. The event will run until 5:00 p.m. and tables explaining the four non-profit organizations will be set up, Ciesla said.

On Saturday, April 12 a film festival will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Kirby Salon. According to Ciesla, the film festival will feature various documentaries about the humanitarian issues in Africa.

Immediately following the film festival, an open forum will be held where students and faculty can discuss and debate on various humanitarian issues, not only in Africa but around the world, Ciesla explained.

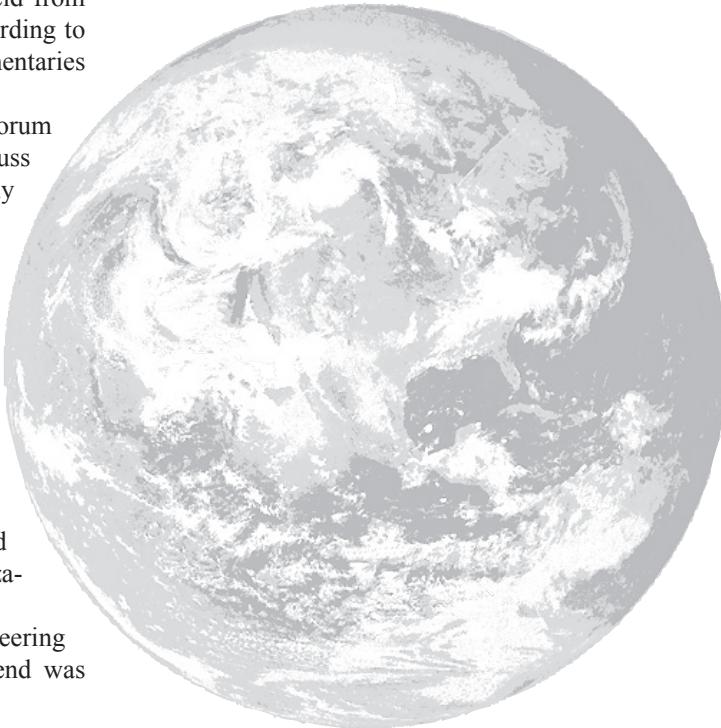
The final day of Humanitarian Weekend 2008, Sunday April 13 will begin with a poetry reading at the Barnes and Noble bookstore on South Main Street. The creations made on Friday at the Create-a-thon will also be sold. A memorial service will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Peace Pole in remembrance of those have suffered as a result of humanitarian crises.

All events for Humanitarian Weekend 2008 are free to attend; however, donations are accepted throughout the weekend to benefit the four organizations.

Wilkes University junior, Pete George, an engineering major, thought the idea for Humanitarian Weekend was good and would probably attend one of the events.

"We don't really have an idea of about the problems peo-

ple in other, less fortunate parts of the world have. I think it's important to understand the problems that others are having and try to help," George explained.



CUMBERLAND Apartments

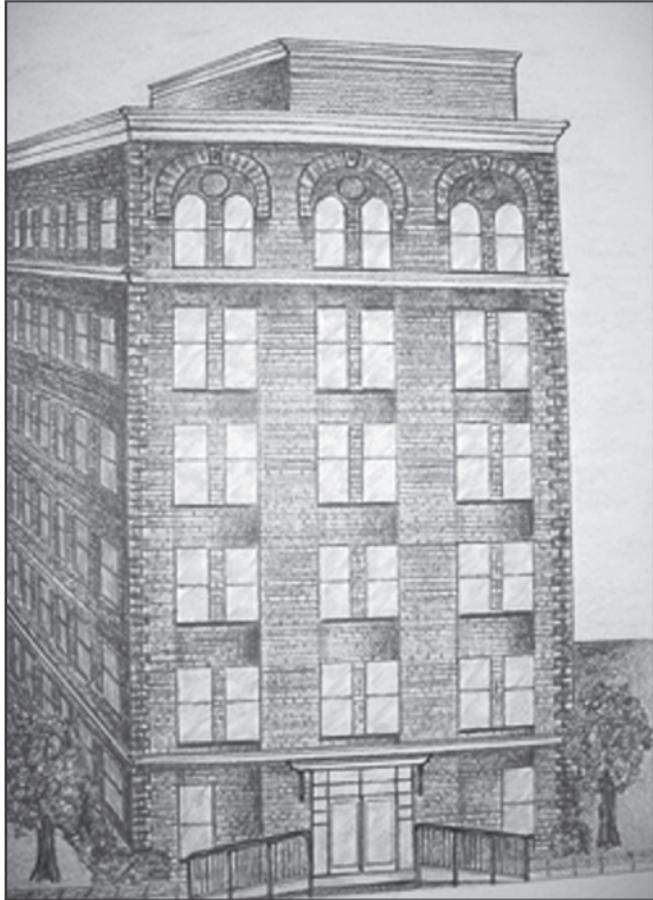
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Wilkes posts a 7-2 win over Arcadia in baseball before falling 5-4 in game two

Colonels run their record to 8-6 overall and 3-3 in conference play

COURTESY JOHN SEITZINGER

Wilkes University split a Freedom Conference baseball doubleheader at Arcadia University on Saturday afternoon, winning the opener 7-2, but dropped a 5-4 verdict in the nightcap.

The split moves the Colonels to 8-6 overall and 3-3 in conference play as they prepare to host Keuka College in a non-conference doubleheader on Sunday at 1 p.m. at Artillery Park. Arcadia, who also fell 9-6 to the Colonels in game one of their three-game series on Friday, is now 5-13-1 overall and 3-3 in the conference.

Corey Helfrich was outstanding in picking up the win in the opener for Wilkes. He tossed a complete game and allowed only four hits. Helfrich, who improved to 2-1 on the hill, struck out 10 and gave up only a pair of seventh inning runs. Mike Ramsden (2-1) was tagged for six hits and four runs in six innings of work to take the loss for the Knights.

Mike McAndrew had three hits and drove in two runs to key Wilkes at the plate. Dwight Smith added two hits and two runs batted in for the Colonels, who scored three runs in the second inning to take the lead for good.

A double by Arcadia's Andy Bella was the only extra base hit of the game. John Curreri, Tim Smith and Austin Ley added a single apiece for the Knights.

In game two, Ley's one-out single in the bottom of the seventh inning scored Anthony Champi as Arcadia rallied for two runs in their last at-bat to notch the one-run victory.

Steve Chobert (1-1) was the winner on the mound for the Knights, scattering five hits over seven innings. Brad Woznisky (0-2) allowed only eight hits but suffered the loss for the Colonels.

Ley had a single and double and drove in a pair of runs for Arcadia. Bella also finished with a single and double and drove in one run. A triple by Ken Spangenberg and a double by Kevin Kolodgie were the other extra base hits for the Knights.

Eric Wetzel, who doubled, and Billy Sisko had two hits each for Wilkes in the nightcap. The only other Colonels hit was a single by Helfrich.

Wilkes splits softball twinbill with Arcadia

Lady Colonels win opener 2-1 before dropping 1-0 decision in nightcap

COURTESY JOHN SEITZINGER
Sports Information Director

Wilkes University and Arcadia University opened their Freedom Conference softball slates on Saturday afternoon by splitting a pair of games at the Ralston Complex.

The Lady Colonels claimed a 2-1 win in the opener, while the Knights bounced back for a 1-0 victory in the nightcap. The split moves Wilkes to 9-5 overall, while Arcadia saw their record change to 6-6.

In game one, Lindsay Behrenshausen fired a complete game four-hitter to up her pitching record to 5-2 for Wilkes. She struck out five and surrendered only a sixth-inning unearned run. Kiersten Hughes took the loss for Arcadia to slip to 3-3. She gave up only three hits and one earned run.

The Lady Colonels got all of the offense they would need in the first inning when Gina Stefanelli drew a two-out walk and Melisa Bracone followed with her fifth homerun of the season to give her squad a 2-0 lead.

Arcadia would trim the lead to 2-1 in the sixth inning. Brittni Holland reached on a one out error and Jaime Bee singled to put runners on first and second. After Virginia Buechel flew out, Kristen Burns singled to score Holland. However, Behrenshausen was able to strike out Diana Rufo to end the threat.

Bracone had two of the three hits in the game for Wilkes. Stefanelli had the other hit for the Lady Colonels. Amanda Celentano had a double and Bee, Burns and Rufo had a single each for Arcadia.

In game two, Arcadia's Jessica DeFluri (1-1) tossed a shutout and allowed only four hits to lead her team to the win. Maureen Pelot, who gave up six hits and struck out eight in six and two-thirds innings, suffered the loss for Wilkes to fall to 1-2.

The Knights scored the game's only run in the third inning. Kim Servello singled and advanced to second on a one-out walk to Danielle Discher. A wild pitch allowed both runners to move up a base, before Holland's



The Beacon/Gino Troiani

Junior Andrew Garofoli catches one deep in left field during the Colonels home game against Arcadia.

Arcadia would trim the lead to 2-1 in the sixth inning. Brittni Holland reached on a one out error and Jaime Bee singled to put runners on first and second. After Virginia Buechel flew out, Kristen Burns singled to score Holland. However, Behrenshausen was able to strike out Diana Rufo to end the threat.

Servello had two hits, while Holland, Buechel, Burns and Celentano had one hit each for Arcadia. Stefanelli, Kristy Ordile, Erin Plank and Sarah Elliott had the hits for Wilkes.

Junior Colleen Labor gets in defensive position at first base during the Lady Colonels doubleheader against Scranton last Tuesday. Lady Colonels won both contests 3-2, 13-11. Junior Kathy Dalton is playing outfield.



The Beacon/Gino Troiani

Widener Nets 19-14 MAC Lacrosse Win Over Wilkes

The Lady Colonels see their overall record move to 3-3

COURTESY OF JOHN SEITZINGER
Sports Information Director

Wilkes University began their 2008 Middle Atlantic Conference slate on Saturday afternoon by dropping a 19-14 verdict at Widener University. The Pride improved to 2-5 overall with the victory, while the Lady Colonels saw their overall record even at 3-3.

Widener held a 40-27 advantage in shots and a 23-17 edge in ground balls, while Wilkes was able to secure a 20-15 edge in draw controls. Jill Cummings had eight saves in net for the Pride to garner the win in goal. Stacy Fimmano was credited with 17 saves in goal for the Lady Colonels.

Jackie Elliott had six goals and one assist and Tara Krasley finished with five goals and one helper to key the Widener attack. Grace Cavanaugh added three goals, Amanda Wilson had two tallies and Rebecca Corrado, Kerri Schulz and Brittany Dippolito had one goal apiece for the Pride.

Ashley Leggio was the leading scorer for Wilkes with six goals and one assist. Brittany Hodnik chipped in with three goals and two assists. Mellissa Polchinski added three goals and Justine Leggio contributing two goals and one helper.

Freedom Conference Standings

1. Lycoming College 2-0
2. Widener University 1-0
3. King's College 1-0
4. FDU University 1-0
5. Messiah College 0-0
6. Wilkes University 0-1
7. Elizabethtown College 0-1
8. Manhattanville College 0-1
9. Arcadia University 0-2



Ashley Leggio is the second leading scorer with 41 points. The Beacon/Alison Roth

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- Bread Sticks

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| Chicken Caesar | |

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Commentary

GAME OF THE WEEK

NASCAR: Samsung 500

BY MARK CONGDON, JR.

Beacon Opinion Editor

In a year in which racing has seen many changes with drivers and sponsorships, one thing remains constant: NASCAR fans can't seem to get enough of the sport.

In fact, NASCAR.com recently reported that as of the Food City 500 race on March 23, the ratings for NASCAR races have increased from last year for all of the races except the rain-delay at California Speedway on February 25.

The seventh race for the NASCAR Sprint Cup season, the Samsung 500, on Sunday, April 6, at Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth, Texas, is expected to be another win for NASCAR ratings because it's almost impossible to predict who will win the race.

Last Season: Jeff Burton passed Matt Kenseth with one lap remaining in last year's race. Mark Martin finished third and Jeff Gordon finished fourth. Gordon initially led the race for the first 153 laps, but then Dale Earnhardt Jr. took the lead at lap 154. The race consisted of many spins and crashes which caused many drivers to fall behind including Tony Stewart, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Kyle Busch and Jimmie Johnson.

In the past 12 races, Jeff Burton is the only NASCAR driver to win at this track twice--in 1997 and in 2007. All of the other winners have been different drivers who have posted only one win in that span. This has been one of the longest streaks for any NASCAR track.

The Track: The track consists of 334 laps which equals 501 miles. When describing

the difficulty of the track, Steve McCormick, NASCAR reporter and author of, "Ya Know? Stock Car Racing," said that the, "Texas Motor Speedway is a 1.5 mile quad-oval...In order to be fast, a driver needs a car that is handling well so they can carry that speed through the turns."

Top Fifteen Official Driver Standings as of Food City 500:

In order to predict who may be the top performers for the Samsung 500, it is important to look at the driver standings in points. The following official standings were taken from NASCAR.com.

1. Kyle Busch with 782 points
2. Greg Biffle with 752 points
3. Kevin Harvick with 749 points
4. Jeff Burton with 745 points
5. Dale Earnhardt Jr. with 686 points
6. Kasey Kahne with 674 points
7. Tony Stewart with 656 points
8. Ryan Newman with 635 points
9. Clint Bowyer with 606 points
10. Kurt Busch with 605 points
11. Matt Kenseth with 604 points
12. Martin Truex Jr. with 595 points
13. Jimmie Johnson with 581 points
14. Jeff Gordon with 574 points
15. Denny Hamlin with 568 points

Predictions: The only way to wage any sort of prediction is to juxtapose this year's points and the entire NASCAR season to date against last year's outcome of the race. As a result, Kevin Harvick, Kyle Busch, Jeff Gordon, Dale Earnhardt Jr., and Jeff Burton will all be strong contenders for the

2008 Samsung 500.

Harvick is likely to make the top 5 because this is one of the tracks he shows particular skill with. Although he has struggled this year for a win, he is due, which can make a guy pretty aggressive on the track. Harvick knows the ins and outs of the Texas Motor speedway, and knows the fastest lanes to use and which ones will help him to a victory. He currently is also third in points and for the first five races, has been in the top five 40% of the time and top ten 80% of the time.

Busch currently leads in points and of the first five races, has won one. He also has finished in the top five in three of the first five races. These stats are convincing and his driving record should hold up at this track.

Though Samsung is one of the few tracks Gordon hasn't won, he has proven himself here as a leader in the past. In last year's race, for instance, he led the first 153 laps and ended up placing fourth. In the first five races of this year, Gordon is thirteenth in points and has placed in the top five twice.

Earnhardt Jr. has been a leader throughout this season. He has won two of the first five races and has the fifth highest number of points. Earnhardt Jr. has also placed in the top five 60% of the time during the first five races of the 2008 season. Moreover, despite his wreck last year, he performed well and took the lead over Gordon at lap 154.

Burton is also worth a mention as a top contender. He won last year and clearly has a read on the track as its only two-time winner. As of the Food City 500 race, Burton leads fourth in points and has won one race so far this year. He also has placed in the top five two times since Food City 500.

Though stats may make it easier to determine who will win the race, history has shown that it has been unpredictable at times to determine the actual outcome for the Samsung 500 at Texas Motor Speedway.

The Samsung 500 will go down on April 6 at 1:30 PM, on FOX. It will also be broadcast via Sirius Satellite Radio on the Performance Racing Network beginning at 1 p.m..

Note: At press time, Goody's Cool Orange 500 at the Martinsville Speedway had yet to take place, and the analysis for the predictions is based on the first five races of the 2008 season.

Double Take

Steph examines the stats that truly matter...

Nascar. If there is one "sport" that I don't know a single thing about it is Nascar.

When I was told the contest of the week was the Samsung 500, I had to look it up. I know a little bit about basketball, baseball, and soccer but nothing about auto racing. Anything I know, I learned from the movie *Talladega Knights* and I'm sure that Ricky Bobby isn't a real racecar driver, though that would be more fun than just watching cars drive in circles for hours.

I decided to resort to what any woman who is unaware of the nuances of the sport would do. I went on the website and looked for the hottest race car drivers. I decided to give you the guys who would be in the top five, in no particular order, if this race depended on physical appeal.

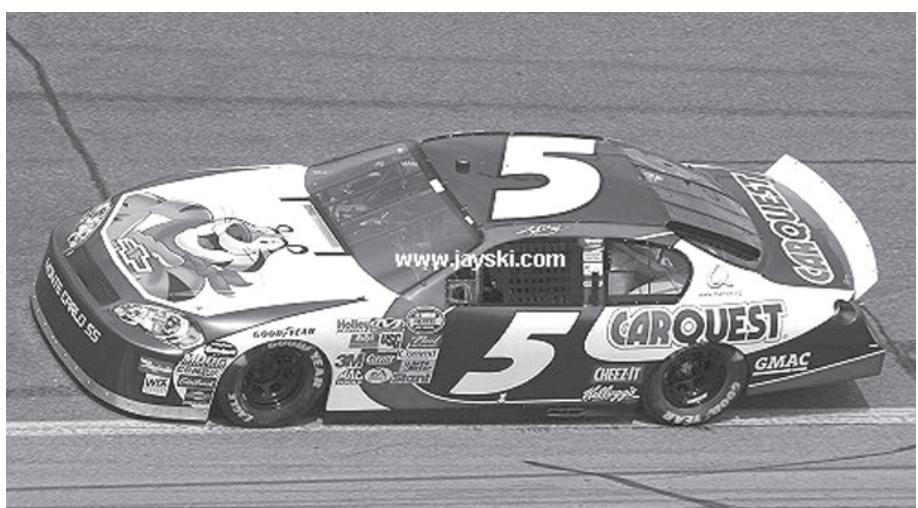
First we have, Patrick Carpenter. Carpenter is sporting a red, one piece jump suit featuring the Budweiser logo. He looks like a young Patrick Dempsey and even shares the same first name.

Next is Martin Truex, Jr. He has nice eyes and looks a little bit rowdy and he has some sexy scruffy facial hair. With the number 1 on his car, who can deny this guy is a winner?

Aric Almirola is my next pick, mainly because he looks like a guy I work with and shares the same first name, if only it were spelled with an E and had a K tacked onto the end. My last two picks aren't even all that attractive, but they stood out to me.

Denny Hamlin jumped off the website page out of a sea of men because the box around his name is PURPLE as opposed to the black surrounded every other racecar driver. Any man secure enough to rock a purple box on a page full of black boxes is okay by me. Finally, there is Kyle Busch. He is *not* hot by any means, but he exudes attitude. He looks like he couldn't care less who wins so I'd say he's going to be up there.

Now that I've narrowed down the list of who should win this race thingy, I guess I have to come up with a winner. Based on the judge's votes, Patrick Carpenter is the winner. *Insert Miss America Pageant Music Here.*



The hot-headed young gun Kyle Busch zooms in a NASCAR Sprint Cup race.

Veteran Sports Information Director to leave Wilkes

Seitzinger has accepted new position with PA state gaming board

BY GERARD HETMAN
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

Starting in mid-April, coaches, players, and staff associated with athletics at Wilkes University will need to adjust to operations without a familiar face at their games and matches.

After more than a decade of working in the athletic department at Wilkes, Sports Information Director John Seitzinger recently announced that he is stepping down from his position to accept a new job as a Gaming Enforcement Agent with the Pennsylvania State Gaming Control Board.

A native of Scranton, Seitzinger came to Wilkes in December of 1997, after spending seven years as sports information director at Marywood University in Scranton, while also having served as the head men's tennis coach at the University of Scranton for seven seasons. Sietzinger's new position will see him establish liaisons and working relationships with all levels of both law enforcement and casino management to ensure compliance with state regulations at casinos in the State of Pennsylvania.

"I am excited about starting this new chapter in my life. My new position is go-

ing to be both challenging and interesting" Seitzinger said recently. "I am really looking forward to getting started."

When asked about the benefits of his new position, Seitzinger noted the opportunity to work for the State of Pennsylvania as a major plus, along with a change in schedule that will allow him more time off from his job. "There are many benefits to the job, including the fact that it is a position with the State of Pennsylvania." Seitzinger added. "The other benefit is the fact that the job is four days on and three days off consecutive each week. Being an SID we are used to working seven days a week. Now I will have three days off each week, which is a real benefit."

Seitzinger's departure will require a major adjustment for other staff members in the Wilkes athletic department, many of whom have come to rely on his years of expertise in the sports information field when dealing with members of the media.

"John has served as Wilkes' liaison for sports information for every NCAA event, conference post season tournament and countless home athletic events." Wilkes University athletic Director Addy Malatesta

said recently when asked about Seitzinger's time at Wilkes. "He also established a positive working relationship with the media whether it was promoting a feature story on a Wilkes team, a student athlete or a coach, filing a story or finding an extra seat in the press box on game day."

While Malatesta did not comment on a timetable or process to find a successor to Seitzinger, she was quick to praise his efforts in working with all personnel he has dealt with during his career at Wilkes.

"We are grateful to John for his devotion to Wilkes athletics and wish him the best life has to offer as he pursues a new career path." Malatesta added. "Most of all, I believe that John will be remembered for his efforts on behalf of the student athletes at Wilkes University, most of whom he knows by name."

While Seitzinger is eager to begin work in his new job, he will certainly miss the people he has met and worked with during his time here at Wilkes. "This was definitely a difficult decision. I really enjoy the Sports Information profession and I know that there will be days when I certainly miss it." What I will really miss is the day-to-

day interaction with the people at Wilkes." Seitzinger added about his change in jobs. "As I said to one of our alums the other day, I feel that Wilkes will always be a part of me and for that I am truly grateful. I know that I will not be a stranger at Wilkes, especially at sporting events. The only difference is that I will be there as a fan instead of a worker."



FDU-Florham pulls out 5-4 tennis win over Wilkes

Colonels fall to 6-2 overall and 1-1 in conference play

COURTESY OF JOHN SEITZINGER
Sports Information Director

FDU-Florham claimed a tough 5-4 win over Wilkes University in a Freedom Conference men's tennis match on Saturday afternoon. The win improved the Devils to 4-4 overall and 2-0 in the conference, while the Colonels slipped to 6-2 overall and 1-1 in conference play.

FDU-Florham took a 2-1 lead heading into singles play by winning two of the three doubles matches. Jason Thalmann and Adam Geiger scored an 8-6 win over Kyle Ungvarsky and Chris Cozzillio at number-one, and Alex Bruin and John Zalesky topped Wes McCollum and Jon Rohrbach, 8-5, at number-two to give the Devils two team points. Wilkes got their lone doubles victory at the third position when Josh Gardner and Brian Fanelli scored an 8-2 victory over Sid Dunn and John Gaw.

McCollum tied the match at 2-2 with a relatively easy 6-0, 6-1 win over Geiger at first singles. Ungvarsky then copped a 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 victory over Thalmann at number-two to give Wilkes a 3-2 lead.

FDU-Florham answered back with wins at the third and fourth positions. Bruin was

a 6-2, 5-7, 7-6 (7-3) winner over Cozzillio at number-three and Joe Li topped Rohrbach, 7-6 (7-4), 6-4 to give the Devils a 4-3 edge.

After Wilkes tied the match at 4-4 thanks to Gardner's 6-4, 6-4 win over Zalesky at number-five, Wes Harnett defeated Tom Miller, 6-1, 6-2 at number-six to give FDU-Florham the win.

Freedom Conference Standings

1. Manhattanville 2-0
2. FDU-Florham 2-0
3. Wilkes 1-1
4. Arcadia 1-1
5. Delaware Valley 0-0
6. King's 0-2
7. DeSales 0-2

The Colonels are at home against DeSales tomorrow at 3:30 pm.



The Beacon/Gino Troiani
Freshman Chris Cozzillio is 9-2 on the season. On March 25th, he won in three sets against King's College junior Blake Bonsor.



The Beacon/Gino Troiani

Shocker Squad shoots to three-peat intramurals title

BY CARLTON HOLMES

Beacon Sports Editor

For students who play basketball as hobby and are looking to compete in an organized season rather than occasional pick-up games, intramural season is like hoop heaven.

Fourteen teams are split up into two conferences. There's an East and West conference (not literally but an efficient way to section-off the playoff race) comprised of seven teams each. NCAA rules are applied including two 20-minute halves.

Varsity basketball players serve as referees and are constantly screamed at by the players because they are caught between making the correct calls and letting the students play.

A lot of sweat and tears are shed on the gymnasium floors of the UCOM.

This year, The Shocker Squad has emerged as the team to watch, as it has managed to cruise its way to back-to-back titles. Its captain, Phil Sampona, senior business major, is a self-proclaimed competition freak. In fact, if he were on the verge of losing an intense game of Madden he would probably launch the controller to the point where his roommates/intramural teammates would ask "Dude, what are you doing?"

But his dedication to winning has certainly rubbed off on his teammates. The Shockers have started the first week of intramurals with a 2-0 record and now they're looking to complete a three-peat.

Dressed in street clothes thanks to a knee injury prior to the Shocker Squad's game against The Dream Team on March 27, Sampona knew his team needed a

well-designed game plan against such a high caliber team. So, he scribbled plays on a notebook and met with each player before tip-off to inform them of their roles.

"The first game, (on March 26th against *The Dudes*, Shockers won by 10) our offense was very stagnate," said Sampona. "Our team wasn't moving and we struggled against a team that wasn't that good. I didn't write up plays. They were quick hitters that worked every time we did it. It was a fluid offense and it was easy for them to learn. It was simple. It took me less than a minute to show them."

Though Sampona's planning and strategizing sounds like March Madness coaching at its most intense, this is, indeed, Wilkes University intramural we're talking about. Sampona might as well have a suit on, be surrounded by

assistant coaches, and have Dick Vitale in the UCOM shouting, "Look at those Shockers, Baby!" Intramural basketball is that serious.

The Shockers did, in fact, hold the Dream Team, a team comprised of five former basketball players, to only 27 points while they scored 35. Senior business major, Jake Williams, led the Shockers with roughly 14 points. Seniors Anthony Piscitelli, Rocky A'conti, Brad Woznisky, Anthony Fortunato, Paul Trovato and junior Matt Renzi all played well and chipped in on the offensive end.

"I enjoy playing with my teammates," said Sampona. "The biggest thing is that everyone knows their role on the team."

"We may not have the best players but we play as a team," said D'Aconti.

Last season the Shockers lost just one out of eight games using the same personnel minus one player who left the group to start his own team this year. During the 2006 season, the Shockers won all regular season contests including the playoffs with minor adjustments to the roster.

Although intramural competition is not as respected as a varsity sports, to the students who play, it's hoop heaven. It's about beating your opponent so that you get a chance to walk through the cafeteria with a winning swagger.

"Another reason why we're so competitive: you don't just win an intramural champion T-shirt, but you win the respect," said D'Aconti.

The Shockers will be in action tonight at 10:00 p.m. against Braj.