

# The BEACON

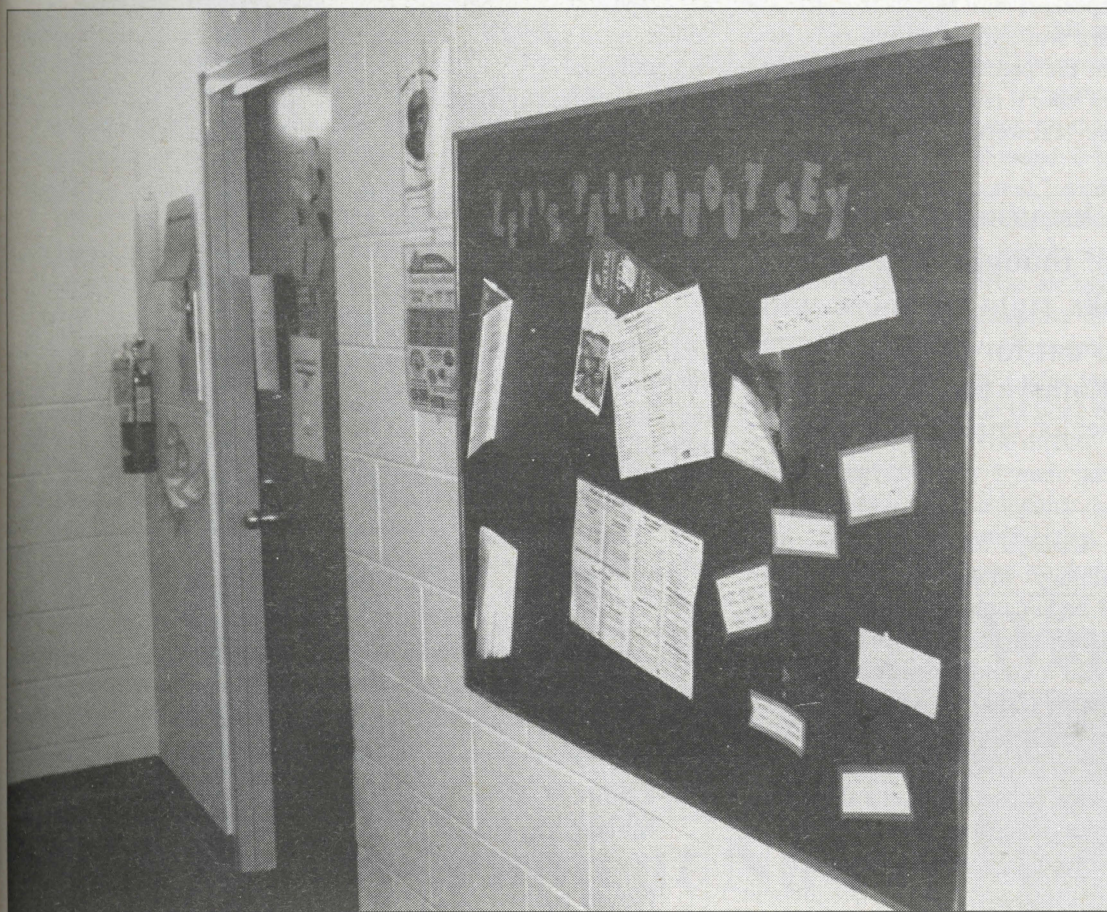
THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

FEBRUARY 20, 2006

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Wilkes University Wilkes-Barre, PA



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Complaints of unruliness have been reportedly made regarding the living conditions on the second floor of Evans Hall. Students have recently complained about excessive noise, public drunkenness, and vandalism on the second floor of Evans.

## Residents complain of Evans Hall disturbances

BY NICK PODOLAK  
Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

Welcome to the second floor of Evans Hall, where eggs are splattered in the hallways, unruly students rip telephones and fire extinguishers from the walls, and donuts are used as "Do Not Disturb" signs on doorknobs.

Throughout the academic year, residents in the dorm have complained of excessive noise and acts of vandalism on the second floor.

Director of Residence Life, Grethchen Yeninas, confirmed the acts of vandalism had occurred but could offer no further comment. Despite repeated attempts to reach Lindsey Klish, the Resident Assistant for 2nd Floor Evans, she was unavailable for comment.

"There have been some challenges on the second floor of Evans," said Director of Campus Support Services Chris Bailey.

"Obviously, we are concerned whenever we have damage to our facilities."

No one has confessed to the vandalism, but freshman Jonathan Botch, who lives on the second floor, wrote a letter to the editor to *The Beacon* last week stating that he knows who the perpetrator(s) are but doesn't feel compelled to come forward. *The Beacon* received a second letter acknowledging the same problems on the second floor of Evans, but that the writer asked to retract before publication last week.

"Without students coming forward and without providing the information, it's very difficult for us to ever do anything to address these issues unless we happen to catch them in the act, and the

See EVANS page 4

## College students turn to plasma donation to help pay bills

*Pervading general philosophy: no harm, no foul*

BY STEPHANIE DEBALKO  
Beacon Asst. News Editor

For years, the phrases "college student" and "plasma donor" have been practically synonymous.

It is no secret that people attending college seem to be perpetually broke, and while many try to find

solutions to "empty pocketbook syndrome" by securing jobs in the service industry at restaurants and stores, others choose to exchange their own plasma for quick cash.

Dave Barnousky, quality assurance coordinator at Interstate Blood and Plasma in Wilkes-Barre, said that while the age range

of participants is an expansive 18 to 60 years old, the organization often "sees about 10 to 12 college students a day."

A dozen college students per day may sound like a lot, but considering how many universities are in the area and how many students from each school probably donate,

the numbers reflect the national norm.

Matt Crouse, P1 pharmacy major, is one student who frequently gives plasma, sometimes making up to \$200 a month.

"I wanted extra money," Crouse said about his reason for going to Interstate Blood and Plasma in the

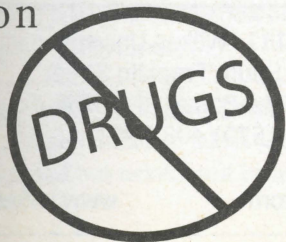
first place. This simple reason is likely echoed by other students who have done the same, but many probably do not realize how much of a service to the community it really is.

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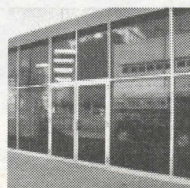
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## Graduation ceremony approaches with no speaker yet identified

BY VICTORIA WHITE  
Beacon News Editor

In the past three years, Wilkes University has welcomed Staples C.E.O. Ronald L. Sargent, comedian William H. Cosby and environmentalist and lawyer Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. to address the graduating class in May. Each also received an honorary doctorate from the university.

Annually, the Wilkes Honorary Degree Committee asks for nominations from faculty members for individuals they feel are qualified to receive an Honorary Degree and who would also serve as fine graduation ceremony speakers.

To date the 2006 graduation speaker has not yet been determined. The decision is a late one for the university, in part because the committee's first choice had to withdraw.

Dr. Paul Adams, vice president of student affairs confirmed, "We have been working on this graduation speaker for two years and the person we had lined up had to back out. So, we are in the process of identifying someone else."

The criteria listed on the nomination sheet are broad, to allow for a variety of candidates. According to the committee's outline, it seeks: "Individuals who have attained achievements of extraordinary and lasting distinction. In all cases they should have a demon-

particularly short. But Adams said, "Typically most schools aren't going to announce [the graduation speaker] until March or April. We are working feverishly right now in the process and I would hope to have it resolved within the next several weeks."

With senior capstone obscuring the light at the end of my tunnel, the thought of a lack of a graduation speaker ranks right up there with which cereal I'm going to eat for dinner.

Kathryn Skaluba  
senior, criminology major

strated record of accomplishment consonant with the ideas of the University. When possible, the University seeks to identify native Pennsylvanians for the recognition they have brought, or contributions they have made, to the Commonwealth."

For senior students who will be graduating May 20, the fact that the committee has yet to name a speaker may make the time seem

Kathryn Skaluba, senior criminology major said, "Honestly, I hadn't noticed that no one was chosen to be the speaker at this year's commencement. The fast paced flow of senior year has swept me up like, I imagine, most other seniors. My life is being lived one deadline at a time, from one exam to another. With senior capstone obscuring the light at the end of my tunnel, the thought

of a lack of a graduation speaker ranks right up there with which cereal I'm going to eat for dinner. Speaker or no speaker, I'm still going to graduate... and that's enough for me."

The candidate chosen to receive an honorary degree and to give one of the final speeches to the class of 2006 at Wilkes will be able to choose the topic he or she will present to the graduates.

Adams said, "In most situations, [the speaker] will often times ask you if there is a particular theme you would be interested in having them address. I think they all recognize that you are hoping that they are bringing a special

message that is meaningful to the graduating class. You hope that they are going to speak from their own personal experience."

With the excitement of the day, many graduates' minds are wandering to life after Wilkes, and it may seem hard to sit through the ceremony no matter who the speaker is or what their topic of choice may be.

Skaluba said, "The most important quality in a speaker for me is their sense of humor. Whether it be sarcastic, snarky, witty or sardonic, the individual has to be able to keep my attention with a quip or two. Without this element, their message falls upon deaf ears."

## Winter Weekend



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

At the Winter Weekend spirit competition, teams compete and are judged based on creativity and originality of t-shirts, banners and cheers. The team pictured above is Salute Your Shorts.

## The BEACON

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

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## News in Brief

### Area ranks first in nation for asthma trouble spots in 2006

BY DANA ZLOTUCHA  
Beacon Staff Writer

"There is no safe place from asthma, and some places make living with [it] more difficult," warns the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America's (AAFA) website.

But according to a recent study, NEPA is among the worst places in the nation for asthma sufferers to live.

The AAFA lists the Scranton area at the top of its "Asthma Capitals." This list "is an annual research project ...to call attention to the most challenging places to live with asthma" the site says.

According to Diane O'Brien, director of health services, "Asthma is an inflammatory lung condition where the air passages... get tight and it is hard to get oxygen in and out." It is often marked by "wheezing, [when] air gets trapped because the bronchials constrict. Asthma is reactive in nature...different allergens cause asthma, like dust, cigarette smoke, fumes or anything in the air that can be considered an irritant," she added.

Asthma is also aggravated seasonally when large quantities of allergens are airborne.

The American Lung Association estimates that 26.3 million Americans have been diagnosed with asthma. One could also have asthma for short periods. For example, a child may develop asthma and "it could go away, or you could have it for your whole lifetime. Sometimes kids react in a different response and then outgrow it," O'Brien explained.

Asthmatic attacks can be lethal. "Any time you have constriction and irritation you get less oxygen in your lungs, which means less oxygen to your brain, to your heart and to your organs...especially for small children who have smaller airways," related O'Brien.

With advances in treatment, asthma has become a less formidable obstacle in life. "Asthma is treated with inhaled steroids that calm down inflammation in the air passages." Inhalers are effective, currently making asthma a "much more manageable condition," said O'Brien.

### Online registering simplified through click of the button

BY JESSI TEEVAN  
Beacon Correspondent

Technological changes across campus are aimed at improving speed and ease for a variety of processes. And to the relief of many this semester, even registering online will be easier.

"I registered online last year, but this year went to the registrar's office because I found it [registering online] too complicated," said Dierdre Lynch, a sophomore musical theatre major.

People with a history of the same problems as Lynch are in luck. According to Registrar Susan Hritzak, "Now, when you register online, and you go to the University's page to look up a class, all you have to do is click the CRN number. That will take you directly to the secure login page."

Lynch said, "I would definitely consider using that, but first they'd have to let me get online first...since my new username and password aren't recognized by them."

It is important for students to remember, however, that clicking the CRN number will not automatically register students for the class, and students are still unable to register before their assigned date and time. Students must still designate add/drop commands.

And for those who aren't so technologically savvy and are still having issues, don't worry. The registrar's office will gladly continue to register students. "Registering online isn't better or worse than coming to Passan. It's just a matter of convenience," Hritzak said. "Like, if you're at home or in your dorm at 6 o'clock you can just sign on and do it yourself. But some students like private attention, and that's okay, too."

Hritzak also acknowledged that there will always be one advantage a visit to Passan Hall has over those who register online. "Some people come down for the free lollipops and cookies we've always got sitting out."

### Winter Weekend - Sunday Events



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

On Sunday, Winter Weekend came to a conclusion with the teams participating in events on the Greenway. The overall winners of Winter Weekend are:

First place: Team 4 - Salute Yout Shorts  
Second Place: Team 3 - Blue Baracudas  
Third Place: Team 11 - Rugrats

### Student Government Notes

#### February 15 meeting

-WISE UP representatives appeared for their first reading in an attempt to achieve club status.

-Brigadier General James Stewart Chapter of Arnold Air Society appeared and asked for a donation of \$1,000 in order to allow the group to attend a national conference in Orlando, Florida. Jenn Ramil made a motion, and John Elder seconded to approve the full \$1,000. The motion passed 32-2-5.

-Casino Night will be held March 24.

-The student gift at Spring Fling will be bourbon glasses.

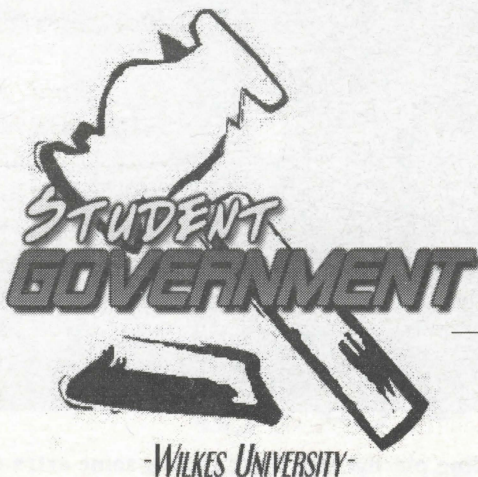
-March 22 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. the Student Government presidential election/debate will be held in the ballroom.

-March 23 tickets for Dashboard Confessional tickets will go on sale. Tickets will be \$15 per ticket and two tickets will be allowed per ID.

-A senior social will be held March 2 at Murray's.

-April 24 from 7 to 10 p.m. the freshmen class will hold a social. A place for the social will be announced soon.

-March 28 at noon will be the first ever club presidents' meeting in the Miller's Conference Room.





## EVANS from FRONT PAGE

chances of that happening are pretty slim," Bailey noted. "We rely on the students and the community at large to provide the information."

The Office of Public Safety has a post in Evans Hall, and conducts routine floor checks from 10:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m., even if an officer is not posted to that particular site. But Bailey stressed, "I hope students realize that we're limited. At any time we may have three or four officers on, but that's for the whole campus."

Wilkes does offer a care line (extension

C-A-R-E) which is an anonymous tip line where students can provide information about safety violations without leaving their name or number.

Jerry Rebo, Manager of Public Safety said, "It's just like out in the public where the police officers or detectives get tips from citizens, and that's the way most crimes throughout the United States are solved."

Vandalism is traditionally one of the standard crimes on every college campus along with alcohol citations, and the two frequently go hand in hand.

"Students tie one on and they think it's funny to pull a parking sign out, damage a wall, or shoot off a fire extinguisher, which

if they weren't under the influence they probably wouldn't do. But they get those beer muscles in them and they think it's funny to tear up the campus," Bailey said.

As Botch mentioned in his letter, it is school policy that if no one comes forward, then all residents of the floor in question--regardless of guilt or innocence--must pay a share of the damages. Botch said he will refuse to pay the fine.

"I don't think he has an option," Bailey said. "Generally it is put on your account, and if you don't pay it, you don't graduate."

Rebo wanted to stress, however, that it's only a small percentage who are ruining

things for everybody else. "We're maybe talking one student out of 100. Most students are here for an education. They're here to have a good time but they stay in control and they don't have to break things. We just have a very small percentage of student body that don't take ownership of this campus, who think it's someone else's problem when they put their hand through a wall."

Fortunately, sophomore Katelyn Kozma sees improvement. "During the first semester there were eggs and stuff all over the place, but the past two weekends it's been fine," she said.

## PLASMA from FRONT PAGE

According to Barnousky, the plasma given to Interstate Blood and Plasma is sold to the pharmaceutical industry, which is why contributors earn such a seemingly large sum of money.

"It's [often] used for fractionation of proteins that are of therapeutic value... plasma is sold to the companies that manufacture those products (human blood products), so in a sense the plasma collectors are the middle man between the person who is selling their plasma and the company that is buying it," explained Dr. Kenneth Pidcock, associate professor of biology.

Many individuals, even those who are actively selling it, may be curious about what plasma actually is. According to Pidcock, plasma is, in the simplest terms, the liquid part of blood.

"Blood is everything," Pidcock said. "Plasma is blood minus the cells, and serum is plasma minus the clotting factors, and one of the things they isolate from plasma is the clotting factors."

The actual process of extracting plasma is slightly more complicated than that of giving blood. Crouse, who has been selling his plasma for more than a year, explained the process. Before anything else, the potential donor has to complete a physical and answer a number of routine questions. Once the individual is approved and is prepared to give plasma, a member of the staff performs a series of tests, taking, among other things, blood pressure and temperature. Finally, the contributor's identity is verified using their social security number, and then the actual extraction process begins.

After the needle is inserted in the arm, the cycle of extraction and replacement begins, where the blood is taken, centrifuged and separated into two containers. The plasma is held, and the rest of the blood goes back into the arm until the quantity of plasma needed is reached. To conclude the procedure, normal saline is injected in the patient.

"I don't [find it to be] painful. It just kind of feels odd... you can tell it's happening, but it doesn't hurt," Crouse said.

When he is giving plasma on a regular basis, Crouse goes twice a week, which is what he says is required by the organization to which he sells it.

"You have to go twice a week in order to get the \$50. You get \$20 the first time and \$30 your second time, but they break it up by weights," Crouse said.

Students considering selling plasma may be concerned about any risks involved, but

according to Pidcock, there are virtually no real risks.

"To the best of my knowledge, there are no short term or long term risks worth speaking of. Any time you run an intravenous line, there's a theoretical risk of infection but, practically, it's close to nonexistent," Pidcock said.

Pidcock also added, "I hope that people, when they no longer need the money, will realize that their ease with intravenous lines, which not everybody has, is something that could be of a great service... there is a constant need for platelet donors, for example."

Crouse, who says he will probably not continue to sell plasma when he is out of school, also donates blood over the summer when he is not giving plasma (because one cannot do both at the same time). This is something he intends to continue doing in the future.

Selling plasma is an almost effortless way to make plenty of extra cash while at the same time helping the community. So for a prospective donor, there seems to be very few drawbacks, unless that individual has trypanophobia, which is, of course, a fear of needles.



The Beacon/Stephanie DeBalko

A number of students have turned to donating plasma as a way to make some extra money in a relatively short time with little pain involved, and no real work to be done.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## Advances in biological research challenge researchers and politicians

BY JOSEPH DEANGELIS  
Beacon Staff Writer

While pundits expected the Iraq war and the economy to headline the last Presidential race, one of the most interesting "sleepers" issues to emerge as a political hot potato was stem cell research, and more specifically where those stem cells come from.

Because of the moral questions surrounding stem cell research, namely that some come from aborted fetuses, ultra conservatives have come down squarely opposing scientific investigation using stem cells. Others, even some within the Republican party, have disagreed, noting that the advances such research offers could help to find cures for Alzheimer's disease sufferers and Parkinson's disease patients.

Recently, a South Korean scientist who claimed to have cloned the first human embryo and produced the first embryonic tailored stem cells was determined to be a fake--forcing the advancement of such scientific endeavors again into the spotlight,

this time in a negative way.

"It's undoubtedly done a lot of damage to the field," Dr. William Terzaghi, associate professor of biology, said about the incident. "But that shouldn't reflect on the field itself."

Stem cell research has raised a lot of red flags, mainly because they come from aborted and dead fetuses. However, scientists believe that such research can help cure many tissue degenerating diseases.

"It's also going to be a very valuable tool for coming up with new treatments for many kinds of diseases," Terzaghi said. "If you can replace the degenerating tissue with healthy tissue, then you can obviously fix the problem."

"However they can advance this treatment regime then, by all means I would do it," said Dr. Bill Biggers, assistant professor of biology.

However, the process by which some scientists have obtained stem cells has led to bans on the research. President George W. Bush even requested for stem cell research to come to a halt in his State of the Union Address on January 31.

But Terzaghi, Biggers and other biologists hope that stem cells can be found elsewhere.

"There are indications that we may be able to get certain kinds of stem cells if not from adults, then perhaps from umbilical cords and tissues from that kind without having to kill an embryo," Terzaghi said.

One of the most promising places to find stem cells may be in the beginning stages of the development process. They can be found in a blastocyst, a ball of cells that have not yet become a living fetus.

Biggers is working with stem cells in his study of planarians, a kind of flatworm that lives on land. He is looking into how the planarian uses stem cells to regenerate. Biggers hopes that maybe one day humans will be able to regenerate limbs by observing how stem cells in planarians regenerate.

With the recent birth of "Snuppy" the supposedly fully cloned Afghan dog, the issue of cloning has also made headlines and been another hot topic for scientists and non-scientists alike. Proponents have acknowledged that cloning a dog is extremely difficult be-

cause of the complex DNA involved. Therefore, if a dog can be successfully cloned, the possibilities for human cloning seem very close. Although cloning might sound like something out of a science-fiction novel, it is more natural than it seems.

"[Cloning] is something that has been happening naturally for years," said Terzaghi, referring to nature's clone the twin.

However, Terzaghi believes that cloning humans is not in the best interests for science but more of a tool for identity or a means to bring a person back to life.

"I don't think it's in the best interest of the clone," he said. "Virtually every identical twin I've ever known has also gone through great pains to prove that they're different from the other."

Biggers had a few choice words when it comes to cloning humans. "That's a little bit too weird," he said. "That's where I draw the line."

"The child will be similar," Terzaghi said about a cloned child. "But there are so many things that go into a child's personality that are environmental rather than genetic."

# Billy's Pizza and Subs

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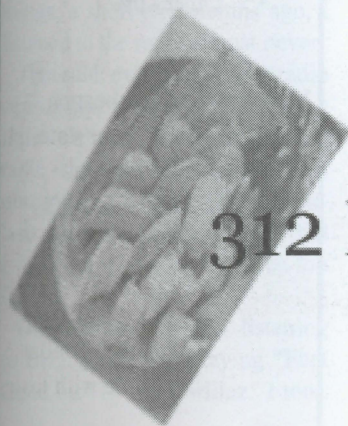
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## Celebrity-turned-politician phenomenon

*Swann's candidacy due to political ability or football talent?*

BY THE BEACON  
EDITORIAL BOARD

What do former New Jersey Senator Bill Bradley, New York Representative Jack Kemp, current California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, former California Congressman Sonny Bono, and former President Ronald Reagan have in common?

Well, it's not their political ideologies, though a couple of them come fairly close to one another.

Each of them turned the fame they earned in professional sports careers or in Hollywood into enough political clout to win the hearts and minds of voters.

But given the ads for the newest *Terminator* installment and Sonny Bono's lack of vocal talent we have to wonder *why* the phenomenon of public trust in sports stars and Hollywood icons translates so

naturally to votes.

This is of particular interest to Pennsylvanians with former Pittsburgh Steelers stand-out Lynn Swann's successful bid to win the hearts and minds of the state's GOP faithful.

Well, for one thing, career politicians never cease to find new insults to sling at one another and the practice has managed to turn off would-be voters. As the race for governor in the state of Pennsylvania heats up, it has become obvious that this year will be no different.

Republicans have made a clear statement regarding the candidate they want--Swann. An early Republican favorite, former Pennsylvania Lt. Governor Bill Scranton, stepped out of the race after acknowledging that once Swann declared his candidacy, the former Steelers star had very quickly

raised huge sums of money and enormous support across the GOP. Scranton didn't bow out gracefully, though, when he noted that Swann "is the rich, white guy in this campaign," as reported by a February 7, 2006 YahooNews.com article. Bitter?

All name-calling aside, Swann's celebrity is an issue. Perhaps Scranton's sentiment, that Swann will win the race because of his star quality rather than what he stands for is reflective of the second reason for voter attraction to such candidates. Voters make decisions too frequently on name recognition only. Most traditional candidates have to work for that name/face recognition for awhile, spending thousands, and sometimes millions, just for the television time. Swann and others before him already have the luxury of logged television hours and fa-

miliarity with the media.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's reign in California is possibly about to enter his second term, and Jesse Ventura spent two terms in Minnesota as governor after his stint in the WWF as "The Body." Their election to their respective posts seems to echo the fact that a well-known face and name can get you into office.

Third, media celebs are not Washington "insiders," which scores more points than ever these days among voters. "Outsider" actually translates to less wheeling and dealing, less of a chance of a relationship with Jack Abramhoff.

Voters must take the risk that the celebrity politician won't be as well informed or prepared for the political position, but that's what advisors and political cabinets are for, right? In all seriousness, Ventura was elected to a second term, and Schwarzenegger has brought California back from near-bankruptcy two years ago. They must be doing something right.

While these celebrities lack the political experience, they have also not been exposed to or a part of the political mud-slinging that goes on behind closed doors in Washington (or...fill in the blank with any state legislature here). Perhaps this is a good thing. The very fact that these celebrities come to the table without any experience in previous rounds of insults perhaps makes them less inclined to do so now.

Americans have a long history of love affairs with the glamour and glitz associated with celebrity. Pennsylvanians are about to weigh in on whether they will follow the patterns established by Californians, New Yorkers and others. It's possible Swann is the future of the national GOP and that he has a brain for this leadership business. But it'll take careful scrutiny among Pennsylvania voters to make that call, and we're doubtful they'll take off their sunglasses long enough to do so.

## 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 22 responses.

#### The Beacon asked:

What is your favorite Olympic winter sport?

- Ice skating - 36%
- I don't watch the Olympics - 18%
- Snowboarding - 9%
- Curling - 9%
- Bobsledding - 9%
- Luge - 9%
- Hockey - 5%
- Ski jumping - 5%
- Speed skating - 0%
- Other - 0%

#### Next Week's Poll

##### Question:

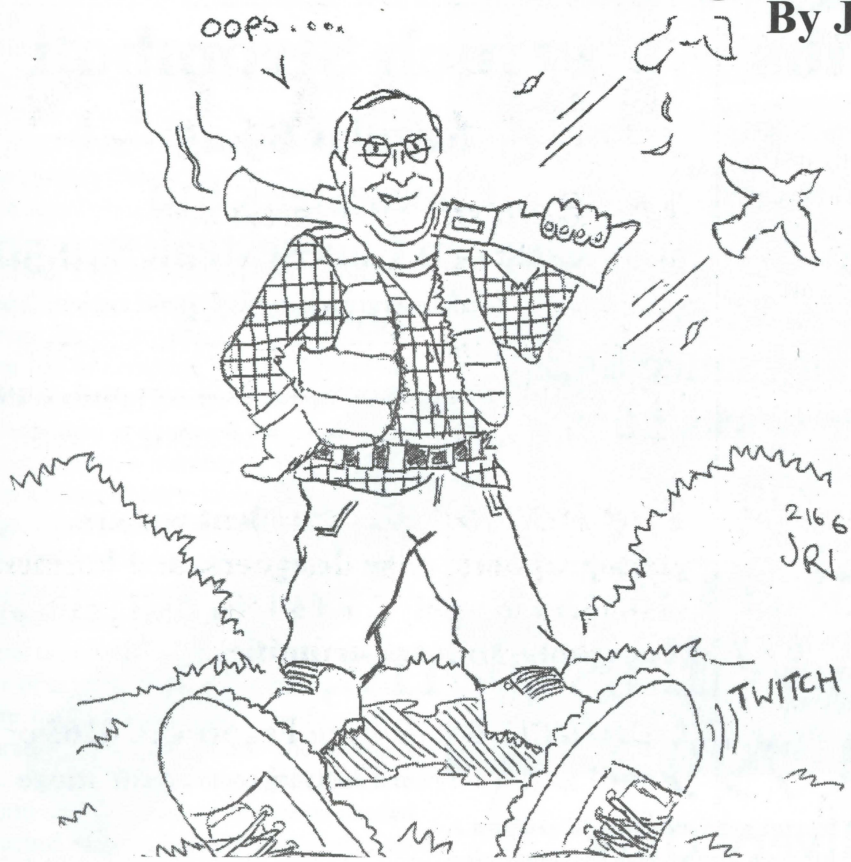
Who should the 2006 Wilkes University graduation speaker be?

- Larry Flynt
- Kurt Vonnegut
- Andrea Mitchell
- Hilary Clinton
- Oprah Winfrey
- Donald Trump
- Bono
- Bill O'Reilly
- Magic Johnson
- Other - 0%

Visit [www.wilkesbeacon.com](http://www.wilkesbeacon.com) to cast your vote. Results will be published in next week's issue of *The Beacon*.

## Nickle for Your Thoughts

By Jason Nickle





## YOUR VOICES

## A war by any other name

I take great exception to Benjamin Iezzoni's portrayal, in his opinion piece "Politically Incorrect with Ben Iezzoni" 02.06.06, of the war in Iraq as some schoolyard spat. You are belittling the sacrifice of our servicemen and women by likening the war in Iraq/Terrorism/Afghanistan to a "noisy little ruckus in the Middle East."

Mr. Iezzoni should be reminded that the United States only joined the war against our enemies after we were attacked without provocation on September 11, 2001. The 2,967 sons and daughters who died that day were not the first casualties of the War on Terrorism, nor will they be the last.

Our enemies, the Goth Kids, as you call them, have been striking at us and our way of life for years. Back as far as the 1970s when Islamic Iranian extremists captured the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and held 56 American hostages for 444 days. The Marine barracks bombing in Beirut, Lebanon that killed 241 American servicemen while they slept in the early morning hours of October 23, 1983. In 1985, the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro was hijacked in the Mediterranean Sea by Islamic (Goth) terrorists. The hijacking of the ship led to the killing of disabled passenger Leon Klinghoffer, an American Jew. Klinghoffer was shot in his wheelchair and thrown overboard. On August 7, 1998 U.S. Embassy bombings in the East African capital cities of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and Nairobi, Kenya killed more than 220 people and wounded over 4,000 in simultaneous car bomb explosions. Those attacks were linked to the al Qaeda terrorist network headed by Osama bin Laden. Those Goth kids struck us again in 2000 when they bombed the USS Cole and killed 17 sailors and once again on September 11, 2001.

Any one of the previous attacks upon our fellow countrymen and women rose to the level of requiring a swift and decisive military response. But, for whatever reason the United States did not take a "boots on the ground" approach until this war was visited upon us on our own soil.

Make no mistake about it; our enemies have been at war with us for more than a quarter century. Their idea of victory is our destruction. You will not see Osama bin Laden sitting across a long table at Versailles (unless invited by the French for dinner) from President Bush and Prime Minister Tony Blair accepting surrender terms from the U.S. and the Brits. Our enemies want us dead.

Is it a war? Just ask the dead, they know best.

Jason Griggs '90  
Limerick, PA

## What's the big \*beep\*-ing problem?

BY MYLES RUMBEL  
Beacon Asst. AE Editor

*Due to the subject matter of this op-ed-- radio censorship --The Beacon suspends its editorial policy to avoid the use of profanity to illustrate the writer's point. This is a singular instance and does not reflect a permanent change in the newspaper's editorial stance.*

Thanks to an internship this semester in Allentown, I've been driving a lot lately. And since we all know how problematic it is to drive while talking on a cell phone (rolls eyes) and my car is ill equipped with sound equipment, I've been listening to commercial radio, a lot. By a lot, I mean over six hours a week. While that may not be a lot in the grand scheme of things, a short two months ago, I listened to the radio almost never.

That said, everytime I hear radio censorship, it surprises me just a little. Or a lot. I understand that radio stations cannot broadcast obscenities for fear of FCC backlash worse than Nipple-gate, but I think some censorship goes too far.

One morning, I was listening to BHT which was playing "Feel Good Inc" by the Gorillaz. I took

particular note of this because of disputes I've heard over whether a station will play the term "ass crack" used in this song, or block it. Well, sure enough, it aired without anything over it, under it, or replacing it.

Later that day, I was listening to KRZ. The d.j. was playing "My Humps" by the Black Eyed Peas. This time, the station carefully edited out the word "ass" numerous times in the song.

I suppose it is the prerogative of the station to edit songs to ensure federal regulation compliance, but why is the FCC (and presumably the nation's listeners) so concerned about the word "ass"? One station uses "ass crack" but the other won't use "ass."

According to Webster's Dictionary, an ass is "a quadruped of the horse family, a donkey." Well, I totally see why that would be offensive. Even if we look at the slang meaning that refers to a human's posterior, the gluteus maximus, who cares? It's a body part.

This isn't the only example of censorship. Listen to the radio, you'll find a ton. But the question is why? Why are we so hell bent on making radio kid-friendly? While I'm fairly certain people would be offended by Eamon's "F\*ck It" if

broadcast in its entirety, why are we tripping over ourselves to stop a fairly common word such as "ass," from being broadcast?

Let's look at another example, the word "bitch." There was the song, "Bitch" by Meredith Brooks, which ran uncensored. However, in Pink's "Just Like a Pill," radio stations tried to bleep the word and made it sound more like "shit" than "bitch," in a cruel bit of irony.

Arguably, "bitch" is worse than "ass." However, maybe that is the problem - there is not a ranking system for profanity. Nothing is black or white, and we can't give numeric meanings to this stuff.

However, even with that in mind, I think this highlights a bigger problem in the record industry. From record companies to MTV, everyone is targeting the youth. And I don't mean the youth as 20-somethings. I'm talking about pre-teen youths. Therefore, we are trying to make things less sexual, more kid friendly, etc. Let's just look at *Kid's Bop*. It is typical music, made for children, sung by children, and sounds like more of a lullaby than contemporary music.

The majority of America is, in fact, over the age of 12. With

that in mind, most (if not all) have heard the words "ass," "bitch," and a wide variety of other terms regarded by our government as "profane." Despite this, many radio execs (and the FCC) still choose to maintain a Puritan exterior, which I find not only silly, but unrealistic.

Perhaps we can leave the kids behind and allow radio to entertain the majority--adults. Or at least teenagers. The Europeans get it and always have--if you don't make a big deal out of it, language, nudity and the like just become a small part of the larger message.

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# People too ready to sling mud at FY 2007 budget proposal

BY TABITHA HAPEMAN  
Beacon Columnist

It seems people are up in arms again. Another one of President Bush's proposals for reform is drawing fire from the left, and surprisingly, the right.

The President's budget proposal for the 2007 fiscal year (FY) has caused a stir on Capitol Hill and throughout the country. Aspects of the proposed budget causing the most outrage are cuts to military Medicare, called Tricare, substantially reduced funding for 141 federally funded social programs, and the supposed cuts to Medicaid for the elderly.

The 2007 FY budget outlines a plan to raise the premiums and co-payments of retirees within the armed forces. Fortunately, the plan is not to raise them astronomically, but to the levels they were in 1995. A decade ago the beneficiaries of military personnel paid 27-percent co-pay; today they pay only 12-percent. Tricare has not been eliminated, and military retirees will not have to start giving up their medications in order to keep the heat on in their homes. This is not a catastrophic change; in fact, the only way in which retirees over the age of 65 and active military personnel will be affected is "...in the sense that their pharmacy co-payments

will go up," according to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Peter Pace.

People going into the armed forces at this time are entering the services of our country because they believe in a cause, not because they get good benefits. A decent dental plan is not reason enough to risk life and limb in combat.

During a recent speech he gave in New Hampshire, President Bush spent quite a bit of time discussing his new budget proposal. He outlined initiatives that most of the media has overlooked entirely. Concerning taxes, he stated that, "First, we're going to keep the taxes low to make sure the economy grows. My philosophy is this: when Americans are allowed to keep more of their own money to spend and save and invest, that helps the economy grow, and when the economy grows, people can find work." Proof of the President's theory is that the American economy is in its fifth year of uninterrupted growth and grew by 3.5-percent last year, and over 4.7 million new jobs have been created in the last two and half years. Obviously the tax cuts have done some good.

The main issue most people have been harping on is Medicare. The noise that is being made about the President's attack on Medicare is rather absurd; he never stated what exactly

he plans to do. There isn't anything to fight about yet because the only thing the President has done is call for a bipartisan committee to form and re-evaluate the Baby Boomer retirement problem. Of course he stated he's going to do what he can to keep the problem under control, such as proposing a slight decrease in spending, but he has done nothing as inflammatory as destroy Medicare.

At the current time the spending for Medicare is increasing by 7.8-percent every year. The proposed temporary plan to stop this hemorrhage of funds is to increase the spending by 7.5-percent every year. Representative John Shadegg (R - Ariz.) stated that this means that "the program will still spend more than \$2 trillion in these years." A detrimental cut to Medicare this is not. A solution has yet to be reached concerning this crisis, and one would hope that the left and right could at least wait until a real proposal has been made to start tearing at each others' throats.

A very pertinent issue to college students is the increase in student loan funds. According to the President, "by reducing the cost of lending, we saved the taxpayers \$22 billion, of which \$10 billion will be used to increase student loans." The idea that federal loans available to students will decrease is an ugly myth. Another education related issue was

the redistribution of funds from vocational education to a high school reform initiative that focuses on math and reading skills.

Of course this proposal will never make it through Congress, it's rather absurd to think it would, but perhaps it will shock the members of Congress into some kind of action to promote reading and math in high schools. Maybe after this is revised in Congress the resulting bill will do some good.

There are, of course, many opinions concerning President Bush's budget plan for the 2007 fiscal year, and many of the proposals are rightly being met with criticism. However, wouldn't it be better if both sides waited just a little longer, to see what the actual budget will look like after Congress gets a stab at it? Or, even better, could we approach the 2007 FY budget with respectful criticism?

It seems people on both sides were holding the mud, arms cocked and ready to throw before the outline for the budget was released. Hopefully the American people will have faith in Congress, if not the President, and wait for a more detailed and revised budget proposal before they take to the streets with picket signs and torches. The government was elected by the American people, and our representatives will surely take that into account as they design the new federal budget.

## The bore on drugs: Anti-drug commercials cornier than this headline

BY MATT ZEBROWSKI  
Beacon Asst. Op/Ed Editor

I am going to tell you two things about myself.

The first is that I have never ever (not even once) done any sort of illegal drug. I'm not just saying that in case my mom happens to read this article, or in case I happen to make the unlikely (and unfortunate) decision to run for public office someday. I'm being serious.

The second thing that I am going to admit to, which is far more embarrassing, is that I happen to strangely enjoy watching MTV U. They show maybe three good videos, and the off chance of catching one of them is enough to keep me on the edge of my seat with my fingers crossed.

The connection between these two seemingly unrelated facts is that MTV U has been showing a disproportionate number of anti-drug commercials lately that, were my stance on sobriety not already so well-developed, would almost make me want to do drugs just out of spite. In case you haven't seen them, they involve kids in the midst of some ridiculous scenario, like being chased by a rottweiler, with a voiceover that goes something like (and I kid you not): "Yesterday my friends asked me to smoke marijuana. I did. Today they asked me to get chased by a rottweiler. I did. I'm do-



ing some stupid things lately." Wow. These commercials are just plain dumb.

See, from what I understand, people smoke marijuana because they like the way that it feels. I'm not really sure in what way the same logic applies to why they get chased by rottweilers. Although I've never smoked marijuana, my friends have talked me into doing some pretty stupid things over the years, but there sure ain't no way anyone's ever going to convince me to piss off a big dog.

And don't even get me started on those "\_\_\_\_\_ is my anti-drug" commercials that are all over the place. I am truly convinced that one of the reasons that I never did drugs is that I was always kept busy with other things, like reading or music or even video

games. By the time I got to the age where I would be at risk of experimenting with drugs, I was already too involved in other stuff to bother. In effect, I had several "anti-drugs" myself.

Coincidentally, the same things that left me with little time to even think about drug use also left me with very little time or desire to watch TV. Which is exactly why I think it's an absolutely wonderful idea to spend more money making commercials about things like music, reading, and video games being effective "anti-drugs," instead of donating that money to programs that promote things that aren't television.

I mean, think about it. Isn't it a nice thing to have commercials like this when schools are constantly struggling to make ends meet and often find it necessary to cut music and art programs just to stay out of the red? Students at these schools are at an age where they are more likely than anyone else to need an "anti-drug," but providing them with some of the best ones possible is becoming an unfortunate financial impossibility. Good thing we have commercials, though, to make them realize what they're missing out on so they can become even

more disaffected with their life situation and, therefore, more likely to turn to drugs.

Honestly, it's actually kind of ridiculous for the people at MTV (or anywhere else) to think that they can come up with some sort of ad campaign to tell people not to do something, especially when that something is drugs. In addition to the psychological fact that negative reinforcement doesn't work anywhere near as well as positive reinforcement (when was the last time you saw a Pepsi commercial that specifically said "don't drink Coke?"), I have never seen an anti-drug commercial that wasn't laughably square. And that's from the perspective of someone like me who's never even done drugs; I can only imagine how ludicrous these things seem to people who actually have.

I'm not saying that we should just turn our backs and let the chips fall where they may. I think that even people who use drugs recreationally and responsibly have to admit that there is a risk in that sort of behavior, so educating kids about drugs is totally worthwhile. The thing is, you can't do very much education in a 30-second television slot. If kids aren't going to do drugs, it's going to be because they have other, better things to do, not because of some lame ad they saw while waiting for the new video from Young Jeezy or whatever the hell they're listening to these days. So why waste time and money?



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## Father-daughter team takes Wilkes by storm

BY MEAGAN BROWN &  
SARAH HERBERT  
Beacon Correspondent &  
Beacon Features Editor

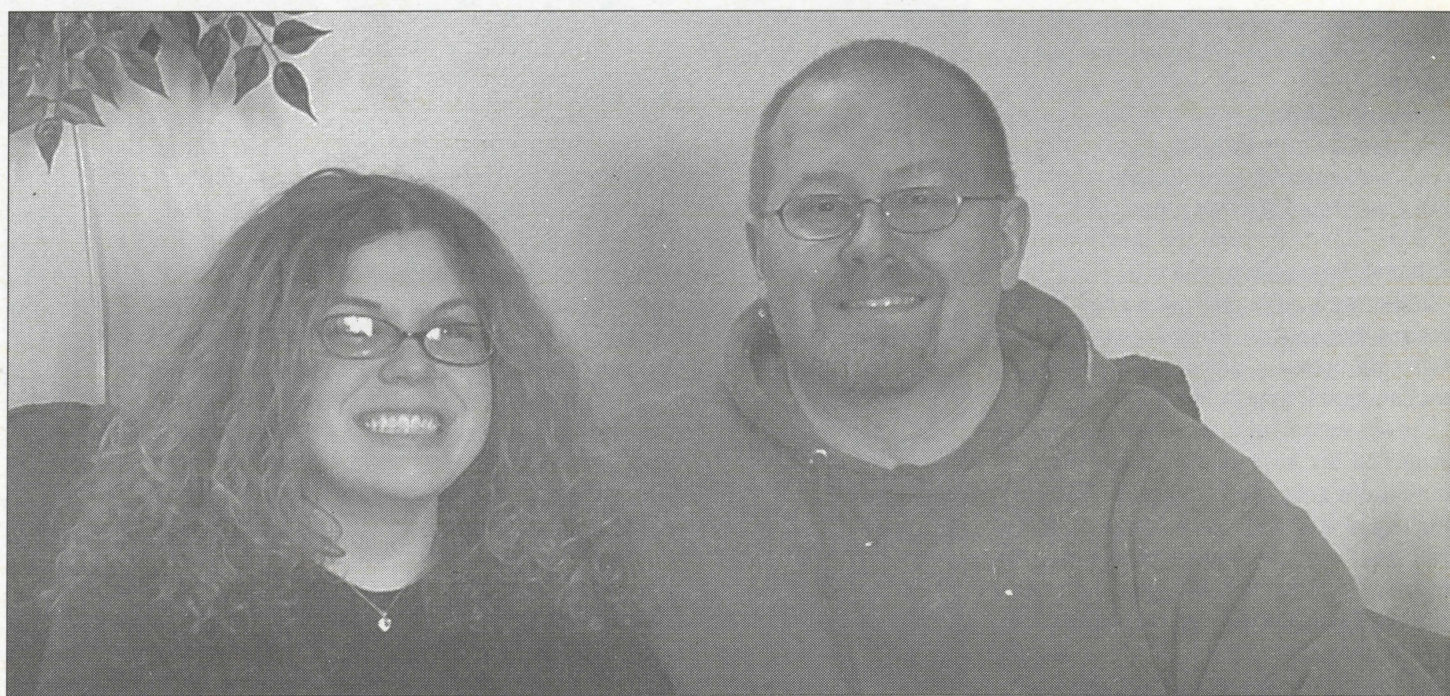
With all of the hard work and obligations that come with being a full-time student, some would find it difficult to balance part-time work and a variety of active and demanding hobbies such as music.

Now picture doing all of this and more with a parent working on the same campus. The potential for pressure just doubled.

But Lauren Carey, sophomore English major and art minor, is one of the exceptions. In addition to her full course load, Carey also fits a job and her passion for music into her already packed schedule.

In addition to school, Carey holds a job at AC Moore where she works three nights a week, plus Saturday mornings. In addition, on Saturdays and several other nights, Carey takes music lessons.

Carey, whose father is an adjunct professor of electrical engineering at Wilkes, plays clarinet, saxophone, guitar and organ. On Thursday nights, she takes lessons for the clarinet, saxophone and guitar. Wednesday nights for her means organ lessons. "I don't think I can quit doing music. I just didn't want to lose it," said Carey, who refuses to lose any of what she has learned. "You can forget. It's not like riding a bike. I think I



Courtesy Lauren Carey

**The Carey family clings to strong ties with Wilkes University. Lauren Carey, sophomore English major, is involved in a variety of activities including *The Vagina Monologues* and *The Manuscript*. Her father David Carey is an adjunct professor in the electrical engineering department. Carey's parents met at Wilkes and her younger brother will be attending the university next year.**

am always going to be playing in some kind of arena," she said.

Carey puts her musical knowledge to work when she plays for her church on Saturday and Sunday services. "My teacher for the organ goes to my church, so I get to practice on the organ I play on," said Carey.

To add more to her schedule, Carey is

involved in a few Wilkes activities. She is currently producer of the Wilkes University production of *The Vagina Monologues*, which will take place this Friday and Saturday evenings. "I saw posters for last year's production, so I decided to do it. I had the book and loved it so I knew what I was getting into," she said. Carey was named last

year's Most Valuable Player to the production, which moved her from a member of the cast to producer of the show.

Carey is also a copy editor for the Wilkes literary magazine, *The Manuscript*, a position she fell into last year. "I joined last year

See CAREY page 11

## Women's issues take center stage in *Vagina Monologues*

BY ALISON WOODY  
Beacon Asst. Features Editor

Women's issues will take center stage this weekend at Wilkes University. *The Vagina Monologues*, a series of dramatic readings, focus on violence, change, and social attitudes towards women. *The Vagina Monologues* will be performed at Wilkes this weekend.

Dr. Mischelle Anthony, assistant professor of English, is the current advisor to the program and has had a long history with the monologues. "In Oklahoma, my last home, I was involved with Domestic Violence Service Center, and I attended Oklahoma State University's sold-out presentation of *The Vagina Monologues* for the first time. I was overwhelmed. I laughed, I cried, I was inspired to be more vocal about women's rights, especially in their families, and I

contemplated being more involved with future Monologues events."

Anthony carried that spirit with her to Wilkes. "In the Spring of 2004, Wilkes needed someone to sponsor *The Vagina Monologues* here. I jumped at the chance, and I won't let the Monologues go."

The play was first created and performed as a one-woman show by Eve Ensler in New York and consists of a series of fifteen stories about women, their bodies and their sexuality. Dr. Anthony explained, "It was so successful that Ensler decided to give the script to anyone who wanted to have their own community or college event as long as they do it to raise money for domestic violence services. Every year, there are thousands of performances worldwide during February and we each give ten percent of our proceeds to the National VDay

Organization."

Victoria White, senior communications major and coordinator of the event, has been involved with the program for three years. She claimed that the monologues could be quite intense and specific about females. "The topics of the Monologues range from the issue of hair, smell, a girl getting her first period, orgasms, sex workers... just about anything you can think of related to the vagina is addressed in some form in one or more of the monologues."

According to the website vday.org, V-Day is a non-profit corporation that distributes funds to grassroots, national and international organizations and programs that work to stop violence against women and girls. In 2004, over 2000 V-Day benefit events were presented by volunteer activists in the U.S. and around the world, educating millions of

people about the reality of violence against women and girls.

White strongly believes in the significance of the *Vagina Monologues*. "I think it is important for people of both sexes to attend because there will be tables at our event that are set up by local community organizations that deal with the issue of violence against women and children. The issue of violence against women and children is of global importance, and hopefully through presenting *The Vagina Monologues* more people will realize and help to stop the epidemic."

There are about fifteen Wilkes female students and faculty performing in the event this year. Show times are Friday & Saturday, February 24 & 25, at 7:30 p.m., in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. Wilkes students get free admission. General admission is \$10.



Courtesy of vday.org



# Multicultural resource center to open in February

BY SARAH DOMAN  
Beacon Staff Writer

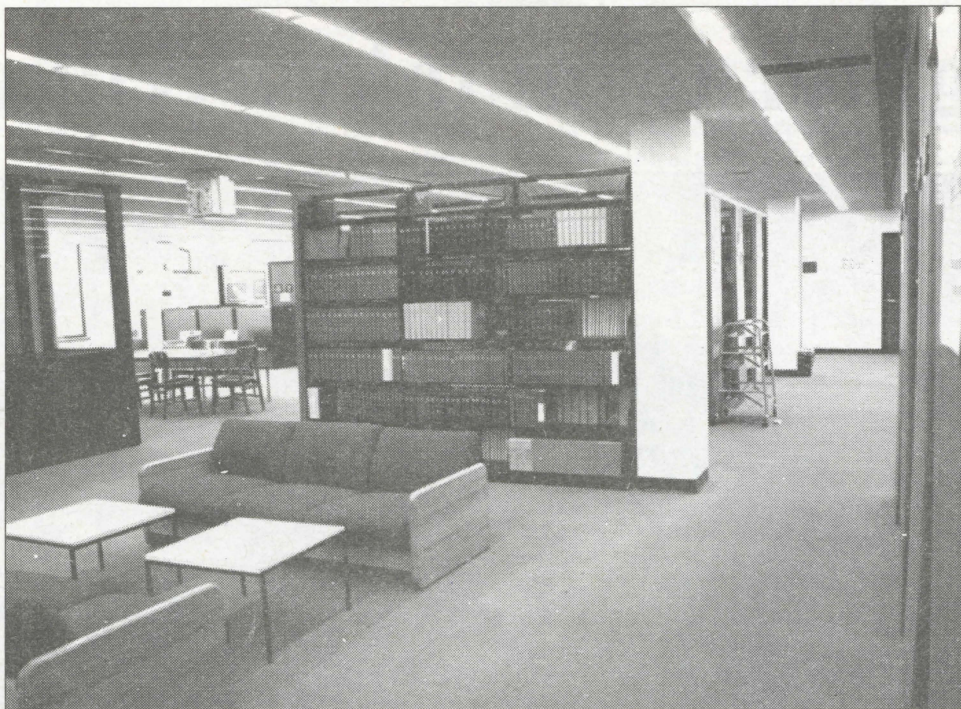
Change is generally seen as important to community growth. And in order to grow in healthy directions, Wilkes University has sought to enhance its own community's diversity.

In his seventeenth year at Wilkes University, Alan Zellner, director of diversity, is focused on improving the cultural climate at Wilkes to ensure positive growth. One way of doing this is through the newly formed multicultural resource center.

Zellner said, "We realized a need for increased diversity to improve campus climate and create a place for everyone to learn about different cultures."

The new multicultural resource center is located in the basement of the Farley Library and is scheduled to open on February 23, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. Zellner hopes that the space will encourage more people into the library. The room will be open to students on a regular basis and can also be used for club meetings.

According to Zellner, the multicultural



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

The Multicultural Resource Center, which is slated to open on Thursday, February 23, will be located on the lower level of the library. The space will house the university's collection of multicultural books and other pieces of art.

resource center will be designed with a "Barnes and Noble" type of atmosphere, serving as a home for many of the library's multicultural books as well as various artifacts and art.

Theresa Kintz, adjunct professor of sociology and director of the women's studies program, will be setting up a Native American exhibit in the multicultural resource center soon. Kintz said, "The multicultural resource center will enrich all students' experiences and help them to appreciate various customs and cultures."

The newly redesigned space will also be available for professors to utilize in class. "The center is there for faculty and staff to use and take ownership of," said Zellner. "We have a commitment from the academic side and will work with each department so that people can use it."

Officials acknowledge they are also currently looking for more resources to put on display in the area. Any professors who wish to contribute to a display or offer artifacts on loan are encouraged to contact Zellner.

## Wilkes hosts Black History Month Celebration



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Sharon Brittingham, Director of Multicultural Affairs at Keystone College, spoke about her childhood in Rochester. Brittingham grew up as a multiracial child and experienced the race riots first hand. Her speech was part of the Black History Month Celebration that was held last Thursday evening in the Henry Student Center Ballroom.

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# Sidhu school launches alumni mentoring program

## *Sophomore students link with professionals for support, insights*

BY ERICA LEO  
Beacon Staff Writer

Receiving a helping hand through the trials and tribulations of college hysteria is always a good thing, especially when the helping hand comes from a professional in the student's field of choice.

Second-semester sophomore business majors are finding out for themselves how having their own mentor in the field can be beneficial during their time at Wilkes and also as they begin to contemplate jobs and internships.

The sophomore business students will serve as the pilot group for the Wilkes University mentoring program, which pairs each student with a professional mentor of his or her choice.

Although the mentors participating in the program are mostly Wilkes alumni, there are also some local business professionals involved as well. According to Matt Sowcik, Personal Professional Development Coordinator for the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business, about 90 percent of the mentors graduated from Wilkes, 5 percent are current MBA students, and the other 5 percent are community members who were recommended by students participating in the program.

Sowcik helps guide students through their mentor experience.

"We decided to focus on careers and networking in the students' sophomore year and it was a good opportunity to get the alumni involved with the business school," he said.

The program entails a week by week itin-



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

**Matt Sowcik, Personal Professional Development Coordinator for the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business, and graduate assistant Bridget McHale consult with John Crotti. Sowcik and McHale help business students network by pairing them up with a mentor who graduated from Wilkes, an MBA student, or a recommended community member in the field. The program requires that students have some sort of interaction with their mentors at least once a week.**

enary for the students to follow including a list of topics and questions that the students should use in conversing with their mentors. Some of the topics include leadership, career ambitions, professional development

and emotional intelligence. Each student must contact their mentor once a week via phone, e-mail or face-to-face communication.

"We're hoping to expand the

students' network outside the school to alumni and community members. Hopefully from that network, another one grows so they are introduced from their mentors to other people in their field. This could lead to more opportunities to grow and learn or possibly gain internship and career experience," said Sowcik.

Beth Horn, sophomore business major, is currently a part of the new mentoring program and, although only in the early stages, feels that she will gain a lot from the experience.

"I really enjoy writing back and forth with my mentor. He has even helped me with my resume, which was a great help since I have been looking into summer internships. He has really opened my mind up to new opportunities and gave me more confidence," said Horn.

Brian Summers, Chief Operations Officer for Construction Financial Management Agency (CFMA) and Wilkes alumnus, is mentoring Horn and described the experience, so far, as "professional and thorough."

Summers noted that the itinerary and prompts that each student is given before interaction with mentors is very well prepared.

"I could see the eventual value of the process and the exchange of information that will take place. This preparation has already led towards a smooth transition during my first few contacts with my mentee," said Summers.

### CAREY from PAGE 9

and became a copy editor, which entailed editing the final copy. This year, I am a full time copy editor, and I also submitted some stuff, like poetry, and had a painting accepted," Carey said.

She became involved in *The Manuscript* thanks to Dr. Mike Lennon, the former chair of the English department. "At orientation, he gave me a copy of it. Then last year, at club day, I joined," she said.

Even though being the daughter of a faculty member can be tough sometimes, Carey enjoys having her father around. "He talks about me in class a lot. He told the class what I was taking and how much I do. He really is proud of me," said Carey.

In fact, Carey's father is excited about working on the same campus his daughter attends. "I enjoy hearing about all of the

things she does and the joy she seems to get from her classes, classmates and teachers. I have been looking forward to this time for many years," said Mr. Carey.

The pride goes both ways. "I found out that he was highly recommended on rate-myprofessor.com," she mused, "then he received [a] part-time faculty award at the faculty awards dinner," she said. However, Carey insists that it doesn't make much of a difference having dad on campus. "He has a full-time job at Lockheed Martin, so I don't see him all of the time, but I can pop into his office before class, or even come into his classes for a visit," she said.

Carey's father is currently working on his doctorate degree at Clarkson University. He hopes to graduate in 2008, the same year as his daughter, and present her diploma to her on graduation day.

Wilkes University is not only a special

place to Carey and her father, but the entire Carey family. In fact, Carey's parents met in the library at Wilkes and her younger brother plans to attend the university next year.

Carey's busy schedule sometimes causes problems. "The classes I am taking this semester might screw up my music lessons," she admitted. However, Carey's willingness to take on so much shows that she will not allow a small thing like scheduling conflicts to get in the way of the things she wants.

Her life philosophy is largely influenced by her father. Mr. Carey advises his daughter to "live for the now and enjoy this moment."

### Just the **FACTS** COLLEGE DRINKING CONSEQUENCES

One night of heavy drinking can impair your ability to think abstractly for up to 30 days, limiting your ability to relate textbook reading to what your professor says, or to think through a football play.



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## People are talking...

...about a new downtown hotspot

BY REBECCA GOODMAN

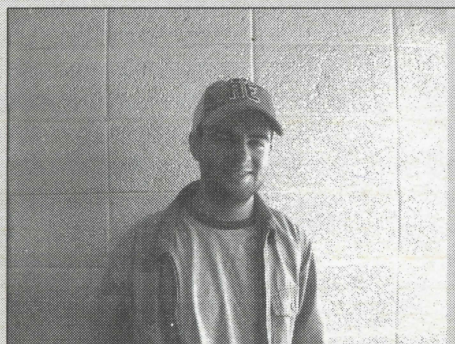
Beacon Managing Editor

When word got around that a new nightclub was proposed for downtown, some campus conversation began. Beacon managing editor Rebecca Goodman chimed in and asked:

**"If a new 80s/90s themed danceclub were to open downtown, would you go?"**



I would go to this thing if it was a combination of hair band rock and Prince. Cheesy 80s music, basically.  
-Donny Murray, junior psychology major



Yeah, It's cool that they're bringing something new around here. I'd like to support the revitalization of downtown Wilkes-Barre.  
-Karl Kemmerer, sophomore accounting major



No, because I wouldn't want to drive all the way down here to go to it.  
- John Bartell, P3

## Downtown nightclub slated for June

### Proposal says 40 new jobs to be created

BY DONNA TALARICO

Beacon A&E Editor

Picture this. After watching a summer box office hit at the new downtown theater, moviegoers can stick around Wilkes-Barre a little longer. They can head up the block to a new nightclub, also slated to open this spring.

Steven Toomey, who owns Flashbacks in downtown Scranton, told Wilkes-Barre city council at this month's meeting that he plans to lease two storefronts located at 12 South Main Street from Humford Equities to house an 80s and 90s themed nightclub. Toomey said in a February 11 *Citizen's Voice* article that similar to Flashbacks, this club will hold up to 300 people and would potentially create about 40 jobs. So, the club would not just be a place to go, but also a place to work, possibly for Wilkes students.

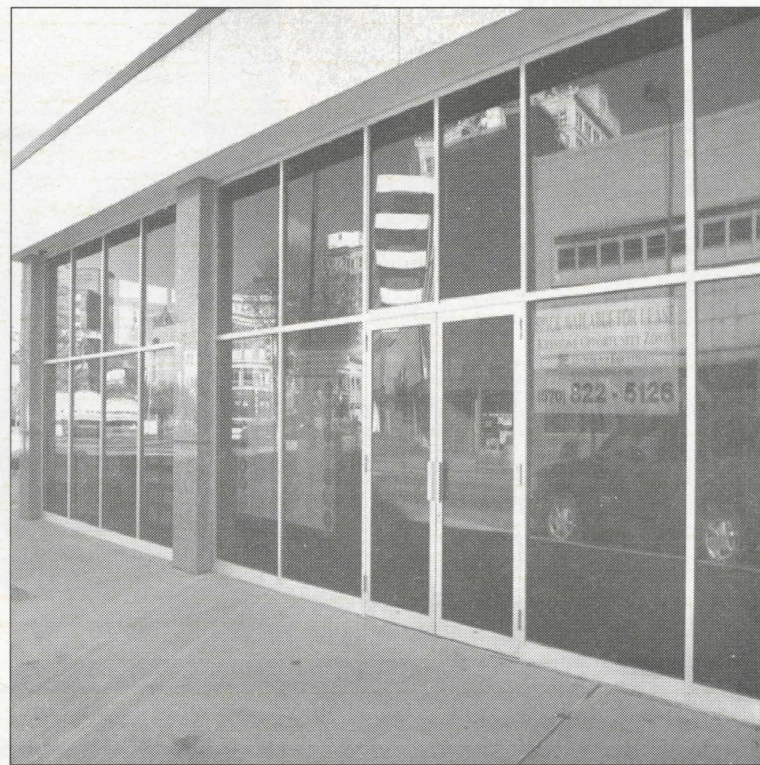
Greg Barrouk, assistant to Wilkes-Barre Mayor Tom Leighton and city director of downtown community revitalization, says this is evidence that life will exist after 5:00 p.m. downtown.

"What you are seeing now in Wilkes-Barre is a perfect example of creating an 18-hour downtown. This is the second (proposed) night club on South Main Street alone that has come before council and explained...plans," he said.

Barrouk also added that nightclubs downtown would make Wilkes-Barre the college-friendly city it has strived to be for so long.

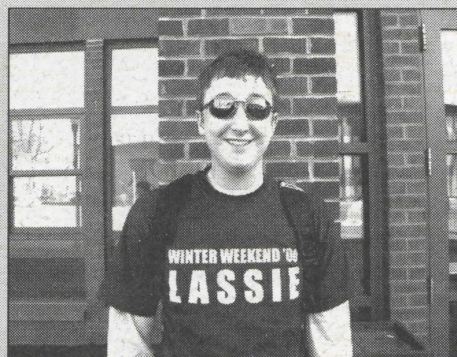
"We are excited for this business to come into the downtown. What it is showing is progress; people are seeing it and they want to be a part of it. Mayor Leighton has expressed many times how we need to make Wilkes-Barre a college town and how he is committed to our colleges and this is just another example of progress," said Barrouk.

The club concept is still going through the groundwork. Toomey must receive approval to transfer a liquor license from an unnamed Dallas restaurant to the new Wilkes-Barre location. City council will hold a special public hearing on this request this Tuesday, February 21 at 5:30p.m. in council chambers. Council will then vote on the issue at its February 23 meeting. Two messages were left for Steven Toomey at the number listed for Flashbacks, but the *Beacon* did not receive a return call. Stay tuned for a follow up story on the club's progress.

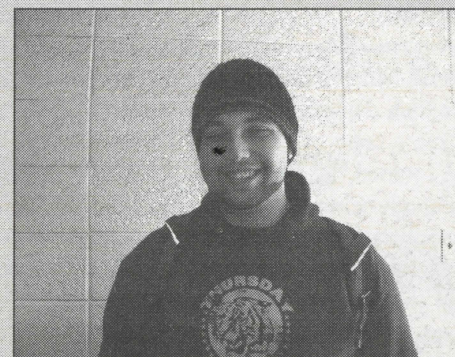


The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

**By June, this property at 12 South Main Street (across from Boscov's) will be transformed into a 80s and 90s themed nightclub.**



Yeah, I would definitely go because it would be something new and different to do on Friday or Saturday night.  
-Eddie Skorupa, junior accounting major

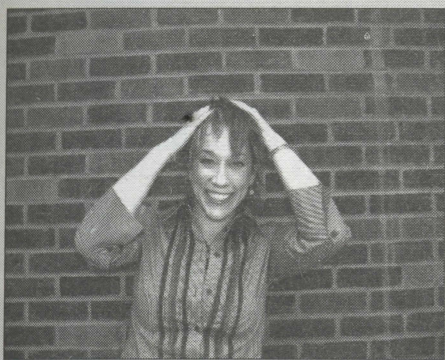


Yeah, I would go because 80s and 90s music rocks.  
-Justin Richards, sophomore political science major



## Music revue *Closer Than Ever* runs through Sunday

BY DONNA TALARICO  
Beacon A&E Editor



I would love to dance to the Spice Girls and not be made fun of doing it.

- Nikki Hahn, junior pharmacy major (P1)



Yeah, the 80s are fun. There's fun music.

-Holly Gould, junior elementary ed



Yeah, I'd go. I like the music from the 80s and the 90s.

-Suzanne Cochi, freshman pharmacy



Courtesy Marketing Comm

The cast: Bottom row, Deirdre Lynch, Greta Kleckner, Rachel Dyer. Middle: Kaitlin Taber-Miller. Top: Dan Van Why, Kevin Holbert, Brandon Wood, Taylor Whidden

The Wilkes University spring musical *Closer Than Ever* opened Friday and is running through next Sunday at the Dorothy Dickson Dart Center for the Performing Arts.

*Closer Than Ever* has somewhat of a different directional approach than most musical theater productions at Wilkes: the show has four directors.

"The show lends itself easily to four directors," explained Joe Dawson, one of the show's directors.

"Each director staged four numbers and a choreographer staged the large numbers. The format worked well and it was to the students' benefit to work with a variety of artistic talent."

The show itself is also a different approach for a Wilkes production, added Dawson.

"The Wilkes theatre program has never attempted a musical revue of this type -- set in a cafe where the audience sits on the stage and being served non alcoholic drinks makes for a casual fun atmosphere," he said.

*Closer Than Ever* is a musical revue, which means there is no real plot or storyline behind the show. However, all of

the numbers are related thematically. In this case, Dawson says issues include identity, failed relationships, unfulfilled aspirations and death. A press release for the show from Teresa Fallon states, "This brilliant revue of twenty-four funny, wise and witty 'songs of experience' celebrates a contemporary sensibility with wicked satirical jabs at Muzak, mid-life crises, second marriages, role reversals, working couples and unrequited love."

When asked about any cast standouts, Dawson replied that with the revue format, all actors get equal billing.

"This show features individual student talents. It is an ensemble cast, which means that all roles are essentially the same size. Each of the eight-member cast has at least two solos and there are several group numbers," he said.

*Closer Than Ever* is written by Richard Maltby, Jr. and David Shire; directed by Dawson, Fallon, Joe Rasmus and Corinna Sowers-Adler; choreographed by Joe Melchiona and musically directed by Michele Millington.

The show runs Friday and Saturday, February 24 & 25 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 26 at 2:00 p.m.

### The next step:

A hearing will be held February 21 at City Hall at 7p.m. to approve the proposed club's liquor license transfer.



# College Daze

BY JASON NICKLE  
Beacon Cartoonist



BY MATT ZEBROWSKI  
Beacon Asst. Op-Ed Editor

Remember those ten years or so when punk rock was allegedly something other than a boring and somewhat pathetic parody of itself?

I don't, because it was about half a decade before I was born, but things I've read on the subject lead me to think that it's probably not a far stretch to draw a comparison between the golden age of that now-exploited genre to *Arular*, the debut full-length album from British/Sri-Lankan artist Maya Arulpragasam, who goes by the pseudonym M.I.A.

I'll be completely honest. I am bored to tears by punk rock. Even if it wasn't dead five minutes after it started (which is a claim that I'm still not too sure about), it certainly is now. There is no creation, no individuality and no passion that doesn't seem completely contrived left in the genre. And although it is in no way a punk album, *Arular* contains just about everything that the soggy pulp that calls itself punk these days does not.

For starters, *Arular* is packed to the gills with genuine aggression. The album has a very tribal feel to it, with spastic programmed beats and noises out the wazoo, and production that is incredibly well done but somehow nothing even remotely close to being too slick. Despite the expert mixing, I haven't heard an album that manages to sound this primal and raw in years. *Arular* is also quite the genre-bender, as the bongos and bugle calls in "Bucky Done Gun" or steel drums in "Bingo" illustrate. Unlike modern punks, whose shallow musical gene pool makes it sound as if they listen to very little outside of their own genre, M.I.A. expertly employs the *Sandinista!*-era Clash technique; she is obviously influenced by all sorts of music from all over the world, and it can't help but show through.

All this wild and crazy music provides the perfect backdrop for M.I.A.'s politically and sexually loaded (and I mean LOADED) lyrics. Frankly, the lyrical content on this album is possibly the ballsiest

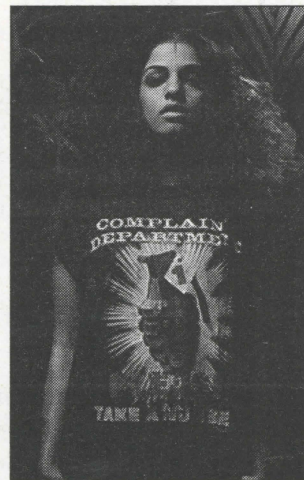
thing that I've heard in my entire life. The album deals with everything from the P.L.O. to all sorts of armed revolution to, well, sex. And lots of it. Agree or disagree with M.I.A.'s admittedly extremist stances, you can't argue that she is completely reframing the status quo.

And, possibly most importantly, unlike the narcissistic brats that call themselves modern day punk-rockers, M.I.A. is educated and talented. Her original artwork, which can be found on her website at [www.miauk.com](http://www.miauk.com) (extra points for possibly the sickest Flash on the internet), is nothing short of amazing. She is politically aware, opinionated, industrious and, in a word, relevant.

*Arular* is probably not the sort of thing your parents would enjoy, but then again, why should they? It has been far too long since something

has pushed the limits of pop music this hard and this well, and if it were safe and sterile, it wouldn't be doing its job. *Arular* wholly defies genre-classification, and it does nothing if not pump new life into the spirit of rebellion that has so long been absent from pop culture. If I were a purveyor of homogenized corporate art, I would be absolutely positively scared to death of this album.

Grade: A+



Courtesy npr.com  
Maya Arulpragasam

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## Dinner and a Movie

### Movie: *When a Stranger Calls*

BY ALISON SHERRY  
Beacon Staff Writer

Whatever you do, *don't* answer the phone.

Ah yes, the urban legend we've always heard about and probably seen played out in Hollywood more than once.

In fact, the new release by director Simon West, *When A Stranger Calls* is actually a lot like a Lifetime movie called *When A Stranger Calls Back* starring Carol Kane in 1993. So yes, this has been done before. But that doesn't mean

it won't instill the urge to jump every five seconds...even if nothing is happening on the screen. *When A Stranger Calls* definitely gives new meaning to being home *alone*.

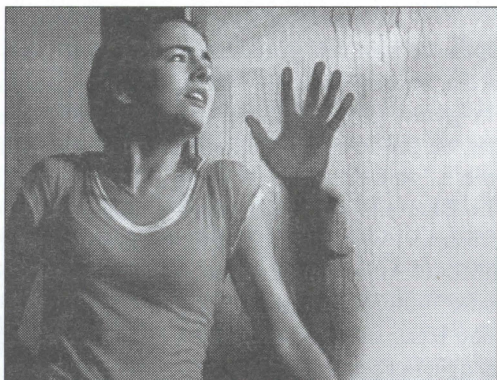
Grounded for a high cell phone bill, high school student Jill Johnson (Camilla Belle) accepts a babysitting job at the house of an extremely rich doctor and his wife with two children. Jill is impressed with the house for awhile, but then she starts receiving mysterious phone calls asking about the children. At first she believes they are just prank calls, but then they don't stop and eventually turn threatening. Frantic with worry, she calls the police only to find that the calls are coming from inside the house.

Critics have argued this movie is incredibly predictable, and they're right. But the scare factor is still impressive. I'm a firm believer that background music can make or break a thriller and in this case, the music definitely makes it. The score for *When A Stranger Calls* communicates enormous intensity even when Jill is just walking down the hall. Audiences are always expecting something to happen just because the music leads them to believe that something crazy is going on even when it's not.

As predictable as people might say it is, it will definitely keep you glued to the screen, and there's no doubt that it will make you jump even if you can see what's coming. And there are assuredly three things you will NOT want to do after seeing this movie:

- 1) *Stay home alone*
- 2) *Answer the phone*
- 3) *Buy the soundtrack*

Grade: B



Courtesy Yahoo! Movies  
Camille Belle in *When a Stranger Calls*

## Dinner: Boston's- The Gourmet Pizza

BY MYLES RUMBEL  
Beacon A&E Asst. Editor

As they were building Boston's, there was always an air of mystery. It didn't really look like any of the other restaurants in the area. In addition, it was called Boston's The Gourmet Pizza. Gourmet pizza? Count me in.

Last week, my friend and I decided it was time to crack the mystery and try out the "gourmet" pizza place for the first time. First, let's talk about trying to get there. In order to get to Boston's, which looks shiny and new sitting along the on/off ramps of I-81, drivers have to go to the light by Walmart and Uno Chicago Grill (ironically enough, the latter specializes in pizza). It is not a huge problem when coming from the Wilkes campus, and also not a huge problem if you are aware of the light and traffic patterns. However, for those not as familiar with the area, it could lead some to inadvertently end up on the interstate.

Second, let's talk about the atmosphere. There is a chance the smoking/bar area has a different feel, but the non-smoking area was not aesthetically welcoming. It looked

like a grown up Red Robin. Strange patterns on the wall and carpet were subdued in color, but still distracting. Overall, it seemed as though the restaurant was trying too hard to be "hip."

Finally, the food. We had pretzel encrusted mozzarella sticks- interesting concept and interesting food. By the time we finished the plate, we weren't really sure what to think of them, and I don't think we ever fully figured it out. For our meals, I had the BBQ chicken pizza while my friend had the Italian chop salad. My friend loved hers, and I was also impressed with my pizza. After all, it is gourmet pizza. It's hard to find BBQ chicken pizza the way it is, and this was particularly good. The crust was soft, yet firm, there was a ton of chicken on it, and it all tasted great. There were also massive portion sizes, so no dessert for us.

To sum up, the location is terrible. Atmosphere is even worse. But the food is good. I'd venture there again.

Grade: C+

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# Spring Fever just around the corner

## Colonels to spend spring break in Cocoa Beach

BY NICK PODOLAK

Asst. Sports Editor

The "ping" of aluminum will soon ring loud across the USA as college baseball season approaches.

The Colonels will head for Cocoa Beach, Florida over spring break to practice, play doubleheaders and soak in the 70' to 80 degree temperatures. "It's our home away from home," said head baseball coach Joe Folek. "We're regulars down there."

Perhaps sometime during their 10-hour plus days of baseball, the Colonels will squeeze in a Washington Nationals game, since they train only fifteen minutes away in Viera. "We're right in the heart of it," Folek said. "It just doesn't get much better than this."

The Colonels will undergo a transitional season due to a number of graduates and a couple of key injuries. Tyler Trutt and Derek Sheruda were expected to return for another year but could not due to ineligibility with the NCAA, and top pitching recruits Cory Helfrich and Tom Buckler underwent Tommy John surgery and are out for the

season. "We anticipated that they were going to be able to play, but that didn't work out in our favor. Now everybody has to pick up the slack and we need to move on," said Folek.

The Colonels have nothing to frown about, however. Headlining a list of returnees is sophomore Chris Mayerski. Mayerski hit .301 last season with 15 doubles, four triples, seven dingers, 44 RBI and 40 runs scored, earning him first team all Freedom Conference honors. The versatile "Mersk" showed up to camp a little slimmer and will see time at third base, outfield and even behind the plate. "[Chris] is the definition of a multi-position utility player," Folek said.

Senior Kevin Konschak will lead the pitching staff after a 6-4 record with a 4.47 ERA last season. Jeff Ridge, Jared Ferrell, Paul Migliorino and Mike Toomey should also figure into the mix. "We've had a few injuries that hurt, but our starting rotation is still very strong, and we have a few other guys to back us up if we need it," Konschak said.

Some of the backup may come from senior closer Mike Quinn, who after anchoring the

bullpen the past few years most likely will join the starting rotation. "Being a senior, we're gonna give 'Quinnie' every opportunity we can to be on the field as much as possible," said Folek.

The Blue and Gold also have a number of freshmen who will see time, especially Nanticoke Area product Dan Nearhouse. "House" will pitch and get a lot of work at second base, short stop and the hot corner. "Danny's not just going to be a pitcher...he hits too good," Folek said.

Other key players include Matt LoPresto (C), Kyle Stover (infield), John Milius (P) and Kyle Follweiler (OF).

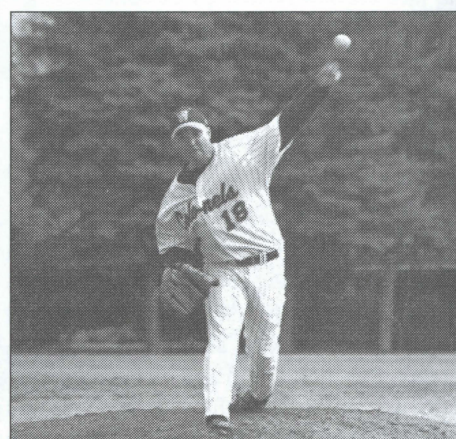
The team, which will seek its fifth consecutive Freedom Conference playoff berth, will also seek some wins in the playoffs, unlike last season's dismal performance.

"Mark my words, we're not going down like we did last year. We'll be the team to beat whether the pre-season polls say so or not," Konschak said.

The team practiced outside last week due to unseasonably high temperatures and will have two games at home before heading for Cocoa Beach. They will be in action Satur-

day, March 4 in a double header against Cazenovia before playing a twin bill Sunday against Neuman. Both games are home and start at 12:00.

"It'd be great if we could play those four games before we went to Florida. And it's not out of the question unless we get a blizzard or something," Folek laughed.



Beacon Archives

Senior pitcher Kevin Konschak will lead the Colonel's rotation this year after going 6-4 with a 4.47 ERA last season.

## COMMENTARY

# WVW coaching dilemma: keep a proven winner around

BY RYAN DIPPRE

Beacon Sports Editor

There are schools all over the state that are desperately lacking a qualified head coach with proven ability on the sidelines, and Wyoming Valley West is lucky enough to have two vying for the same job. Some people don't know how lucky they are.

The arguments are raging back and forth all over the valley as WVW board members wrestle with how to handle the inevitable fall-out when a decision is finally made about whom to hire as head football coach for the 2006-07 season.

King Curry has an untouchable 362-74-3 record after 35 seasons at Berwick High School, and can lay claim to six state championships. Ed Michaels, who recently finished his eighth season at the helm of the Spartan program, has a 56-30 record. A decision is expected this week.

Although both coaches have the ability to build onto the already-successful Valley

West football program, the board would be sadly lacking in foresight if it chose Curry over Michaels.

Curry has some impressive numbers, and has strong pull with college recruiters across the nation, but anyone examining this situation has to consider the long-term stability of the program. Curry may be a great coach--indeed, he's one of the best this state has ever seen-but he cannot coach forever. He may still have the knack for coaching after thirty-five years, but how much longer will he want to continue? Michaels, on the other hand, has only been a head coach for eight seasons. He probably has over two decades of coaching left in him, and that could represent two decades of stability for the Spartan program.

Curry could have been given a head coaching job at probably two dozen schools throughout the area, but he applied to Valley West. He isn't looking to create another football dynasty so much as he is diving for the 400-win mark. The Spartans have an established tradition of excellence in foot-

ball, and it would be much easier for him to step into that program and crank out his four hundredth win than it would be to build a struggling program from the ground up.

I'm not knocking Curry's decision at all. If any coach in Pennsylvania has earned the right to take his pick of the football programs in the state, he has. The board members need to realize his intentions, however, and act accordingly.

Michaels, on the other hand, is trying to build his team into the type of powerhouse football programs that Berwick has represented for so long. Michaels also has already established a rapport with the community and the team, which is an important aspect of program stability.

When board members finally meet to decide on who will guide the Spartan program, they must force themselves to remain unimpressed by Curry's various stats and look to the future of the program. Curry has coached over four hundred games, and it is unlikely that he'll be on the sidelines for another four hundred. Michaels,

on the other hand, hasn't even reached his hundred-game milestone. Judging by the Spartans' record over the past eight years, Valley West has the right man for the job. To lose a coach that talented in a meager attempt to snag another talented coach with a bigger reputation would be shortsighted and pointless. The Spartan program is doing just fine. Give Michaels the chance to build upon what he has already created. He's earned it.





## COMMENTARY

## Sometimes silver is good enough...and sometimes it isn't

BY RYAN DIPPRE  
Beacon Sports Editor

Leon Lett has nothing on Lindsey Jacobellis.

With an enormous lead on her nearest competitor in the newest sport of the Winter Olympics, Jacobellis decided to try a "back-side method grab" while heading toward the finish line of the women's boardercross competition. Several thuds and a cloud of snow later, Jacobellis was sliding to the finish line behind Switzerland's Tanja Frieden to claim her silver medal.

"I messed up," said Jacobellis afterward. "Oh, well. It happens."

Yeah, it does happen. Sometimes after working hard for four years, you're finally about to snag a gold medal--the one thing

you've been working toward--and you showboat a little too much and blow your chance. No big deal; there's always 2010.

I may not be a Cowboys fan, but I'll say this of Leon Lett: his showboating in Super Bowl XXVII didn't cost his team the most important game of their season. "Lucky Lindsey," as her parents like to call her, managed to show old Leon how it's done.

Due to the stylistic nature of snowboarding, there has been some debate about the appropriateness of her move. Snowboarders often pull off token moves throughout their runs, and Jacobellis had pulled this particular move off several times throughout the games.

Some have seen it in the same light as the excessive celebrations that are occurring in every other sport, while others, particularly other snowboarders, consider it a byproduct of the sport itself.

"If she got caught up in the moment, she got caught up in the moment," said U.S. snowboarding coach Peter Foley. "It's not the end of the world for me."

Good point. All of the medals this year have big holes in the middle of them anyway, so it's probably better to wait another four years before unleashing that hidden professionalism.

Any athlete who ever cared about winning ought to be embarrassed about the flagrant apathy that Jacobellis and some of her supporters are showing. She was representing her country in one of the most legendary sporting events in human history, and she didn't have the maturity to not show off after she had the race won.

Foley tried to defend her showboating by claiming, "She's 20 years old." Nice try, but anyone mature enough to muster adequate work ethic to qualify for the Olympics is

clearly mature enough to carry the blame for losing a gold medal.

Professional athletes, and Olympic athletes especially, are professionals, and should carry themselves as such. The nature of athletic competition calls for some amount of showing off, and this is unavoidable. In fact, a little showing off by the right person at the right time can help a struggling team gain some momentum in a close game.

This showboating, however, cannot detract from individual or team efforts. Jacobellis cost herself and her team a gold medal, and she appears unmoved by the thought. Perhaps after enough media coverage, she'll finally remember the job of a professional athlete: to win, or at least to work as hard as possible toward achieving victory. Then maybe she'll act the part of a champion during the 2010 games. If she gets there.



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# GAME OF THE WEEK

NBA: Philadelphia 76ers versus Cleveland Cavaliers

## A.I.s ready to battle King James

BY ARIEL COHEN  
Beacon Staff Writer

Wednesday is the start to the second half of the professional basketball season, and it brings a battle between two second placed teams, the Philadelphia 76ers and the Cleveland Cavaliers.

The 76ers, who are two games under .500 heading into this game, actually started the All Star break a little early when they suffered their worst defeat of the season to the Chicago Bulls 117-84 dropping their record to 25-27 and placing them 3.5 games behind first place New Jersey.

The Cavaliers come on to this game also in second place but with a slightly more competitive record at 31-21, yet they are 11.5 games behind the first placed Detroit Pistons in the Central Division. Before the break, the Cavs handed the Boston Celtics a 113-109 loss.

The 76ers and the Cavaliers have played each other four times since the start of the season each team taking away two wins during the season series. This fifth game will be a big game as each team tries to make their case for having a better seed in the post season. That is, in fact, what the second half of the season is all about.

The last time that the two teams met was earlier this month on February 4 when Philadelphia beat Cleveland 100-95. This was Iverson's first game back after sitting out with an injury for the four games prior to that. Iverson is going to be the big player in the game for the Sixers. Iverson, who is leading the NBA in average number of points scored per game with more than 33, is going to try and top his 34 points that he had in the last game against the Cavaliers.

Iverson played in his seventh All Star game this past weekend. In prior years he averaged nearly 18.5 points per game and brought down three rebounds as well so the skill level that he is contributing to Philadelphia is obviously still there and will play a major factor in leading his team to a 3rd win over Cleveland this year.

The other major player for Philadelphia is All Star Andre Iguodala. A.I. II who is his third season with the Sixers is avergaing in double figures and is ranked 14th in the

league in three different categories including field goal percentage, steals per turnover, and steals.

For the Cavaliers, LeBron James who has been the talk around the NBA for the past few seasons leads the Cavaliers offensively. He is averaging 31.2 points per game, grabbing an average 7 rebounds, and chipping in just around 6.5 assists per contest. The unfortunate loss of second leading scorer and shooting guard Larry Hughes may have an adverse effect on Cleveland's chances. The latest report out of the Cavaliers' press office said that Hughes is not expected to return to the lineup until the postseason.

Even without Hughes, James was able to get the team to persevere with his outstanding leadership. The Cavs who have raked up a 9-2 record in the Central Division did so without Hughes showing that maybe they will be just as competitive if not more competitive and motivated to win against the Sixers.

Even with the increased expected participation from the rest of the Cleveland team, the chances are slim of actually pulling off a win missing their number two man on the road with die-hard Philly fans in their faces. The 76ers' offensive combination of Allen Iverson, Chris Webber, and Andre Iguodala will be the key to Philadelphia's success.

**Prediction:** Philadelphia 110 Cleveland 105



## Double Take

*Sarah examines the facts that truly matter...*

BY SARAH HERBERT  
Beacon Features Editor

It's my favorite time of the week again. There is nothing more relaxing than sitting down to critique a bunch of professional athletes.

In my opinion, they should all be perfect and not need critiquing considering the amount of money they make per game, but that's beside the point.

This week's game features the Philadelphia 76ers and the Cleveland Cavaliers (that's NBA for those of you who don't know).

I have a habit of not picking Philly teams, and I did that last week so I definitely have to go with the Cavaliers this time. Besides, they've got LeBron James.

Some of you out there may argue that LeBron is nothing compared to Iverson, but have you seen Iverson lately? He's got some really ugly tattoos going on. Yuck.

Now James is the guy to root for. The fact that he went to the NBA straight out of high school speaks for itself. The man has some natural talent.

I was kind of disappointed that he didn't participate in Saturday's Slam Dunk Contest, but the event is still worth mentioning.

The 76ers own Andre Iguodala made it to the final round and faced Nate Robinson of the New York Knicks. Iguodala stands at six feet six inches, towering over Robinson who is a mere five feet nine inches.

Somehow, the little guy pulled it off. Robinson is the only other player under 6 feet to win the Slam Dunk contest, the other being Spud Webb in 1987.

If the six foot giant can't outdunk Robinson, then the Sixers really need some help. I think the Cavaliers have this one in the bag. Go Cleveland.

### Quick Info:

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## Athlete of the Week

### Wrestling: Rex Harris

BY RYAN DIPPRE  
Beacon Sports Editor

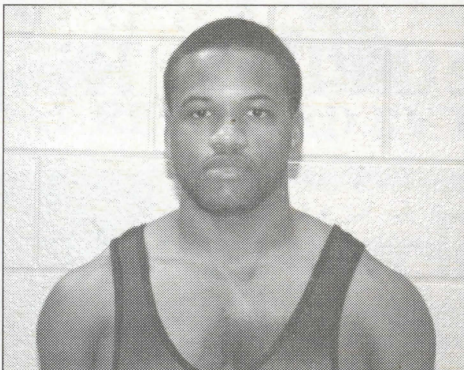
After helping lead his team to an impressive 13-5 record by notching thirty wins throughout the course of the 2005-2006 season, Rex Harris can see the light at the end of the tunnel. For him, that light is a national championship.

Harris, the 2003 MAC Champion in the 174 lb. class, earned first seed at Saturday's MAC Championships in Elizabethtown at 184. After dropping Zack Wilkinson of King's College in the second period during the semi-final rounds, Harris lost a close 7-4 decision to Delaware Valley's Mike Berlanda. The narrow loss, however, was not from a lack of effort. "I always shoot for the best," said Harris in an interview on Friday afternoon. Harris came into the championship match aiming for "nothing less than a national title."

Wrestling, much like tennis, has a team setup that is quite different from other organized sports. Individual wrestlers have the chance to win a conference or even a national crown on their own, regardless of the overall win-loss record of their team. At the same time, however, team championships are given at the conference and national levels.

This rare setup can be detrimental to a team effort. A wrestler working only for himself could drastically affect the team, whatever successes he may accomplish on his own. A wrestler who only has to avoid being pinned in order for his team to win, for example, might cost his team a victory by being disqualified while going for the pin on his opponent.

A situation such as this could happen to any team, but Harris has led by example making certain that the Colonels—who were ranked nationally for most of the season—do not suffer this pitfall. "We've had our ups and downs all year," he said, "but as a whole...we've performed better than I've seen in a long time. This is the best team



Courtesy of Sports Information

**Harris was seeded first in the MAC Championship tournament on Saturday after finishing the regular season 30-5.**

I've been on since I've been at this school, and it's showing. We're only getting better, and the MAC title is in our grasp."

Head coach Jon Laudenslager, now in his third season at the helm of the team, can see his effect on the other wrestlers. "[Harris has] gotten other people to follow in his footsteps. They expect to win when they take the mat just like he does," said Laudenslager.

The Colonels marched into Elizabethtown hoping that their efforts would earn them a MAC title and several individual bids to the NCAA Tournament at The College of New Jersey on March 2 and 3. The Colonels were able to snag a third-place finish with 111 points, and wrestlers Felipe Queiroz and Brandon Kelly earned NCAA tournament bids.

The loss to Berlanda in the championship finals brought Harris' long career to a close. Though he did not quite reach the NCAA championship that he had been hoping for, the Ossining, NY native has left a massive imprint on the Colonel program. Harris' leadership combined with his skills on the mat helped Wilkes run through its most successful wrestling season in recent history. In a sport where the individual can so easily forget the needs of the team, Harris' actions in and out of the ring have served as an example to his coaches, teammates, and opponents.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

**Rena Bolin moves in for a shot against King's College during Tuesday's game. Bolin would go on to score 18 points in the game, but the Lady Colonels fell to King's 78-60. Wilkes finished the season with a 6-19 record after falling to Drew on Saturday.**

## WEEKEND RECAPS

### Men's Basketball

Mike Constantine led Wilkes with 19 points as the Colonels defeated Drew University 70-55 on the road Saturday afternoon. The Colonels finished the regular season with a 12-9 record and will enter the Freedom Conference championship tournament as the number three seed. Wilkes will take on King's in the Scanlon Gymnasium on Wednesday night at 7 p.m.

### Women's Basketball

The Lady Colonels ended their season with a 6-19 record on Saturday after dropping an 80-62 decision to Drew University. Randi Corbo and Lacey Andresen led the team with 16 points each, while senior Rena Bolin finished her career with 10 points and 13 rebounds.

### Wrestling

The Wilkes wrestling team saw five of its grapplers advance to the final round of the MAC Championships at Elizabethtown College on Saturday. Felipe Queiroz advanced to the NCAA tournament with a win in the final round at the 125-lb. class, while Brandon Kelly earned a wild-card invitation to the tournament at the 197-lb. class. The Colonels scored 111 points in the championship, finishing third.

## NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

# 3

Players scoring in double figures in the men's basketball team 70-55 victory over Drew Saturday afternoon.

# 19

Points scored by Mike Constantine during Saturday's men's basketball game against Drew.

# 16

Points scored by both Randi Corbo and Lacey Andresen in Saturday's women's basketball game against Drew.

# 5

Wrestlers who made it to the final round of the MAC Championships at Elizabethtown College on Saturday.



## Game Preview: Men's basketball vs. King's on 2/22

BY ARIEL COHEN

Beacon Assistant Sports Editor

At the beginning of the men's basketball season, the sky seemed to be the limit-- expectations soared as Wilkes was ranked 10th nationally in preseason polls. All of that hype may have been a little bit too much to live up to, especially in the second half of this season.

But even with all of the trouble the team faced in the latter part of the season, the Colonels managed to pull it together squeaking out a win over Drew University on Saturday to clinch a trip to the playoffs.

Senior guard Mike Constantine led the scoring for the Colonels with 19 and Chris Shovlin followed close behind with 18, paving the way for the team's most convincing win in weeks with a final score of 70-55.

Senior Mike Constantine said,

"[Recently] we have been playing as good as we have all season."

The men started off the 2005-2006 season with 6-1 overall record and a 7-0 Freedom Conference record before struggling at the start to the second half of the season. In the last seven games of the season including Saturday's game at Drew, the Colonels went 5-2, dropping out of first place, and then needing some kind of a win to have any chance of making it to the post season.

As the Colonels prepare for their first post season game this coming Wednesday they are going to have to rediscover that positive team chemistry that defined the start of this season.

Both Constantine and Head Coach Jerry Rickrode agree with one another that "the postseason is like an entirely new season."

Even though the Colonels and the Monarchs played each other just one week ago during the regular season, the Colonels will not

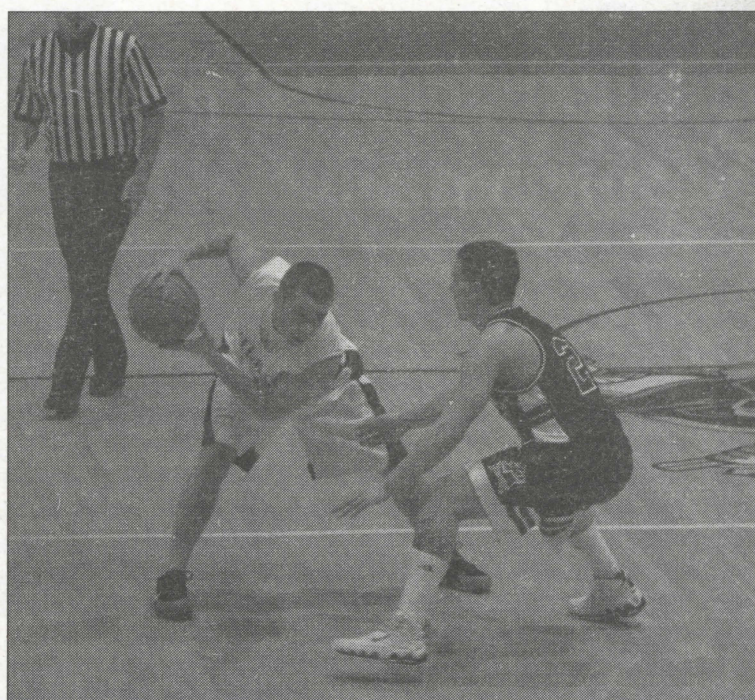
be thinking about that 68-66 loss. The goal is to reach the NCAA playoffs with an up-tempo offense.

Wilkes faces cross-town rival King's College Wednesday night at 7 p.m. on the Monarchs' home court. King's and Wilkes are seeded 2 and 3 respectively for the playoffs.

"We have the best fan base in the conference and I hope to see a lot of them turn out on Wednesday," noted Rickrode.

The winner of this face-off will then move on to play either Scranton or Lycoming in the Freedom Conference finals.

The game can be heard on Wilkes University Radio 90.7 WCLH starting at 6:50 p.m.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Senior Drew Amoroso plays a game of keep-away against a FDU-Flo-rham defender. The Colonels who have struggled in the second half of the season managed to pull off a 70--55 win over Drew to clinch the third seed in the playoffs. The game will take place against King's College this Wednesday at 7 PM.

## Campus Calendar

### All Week

\*Johnnie Winona Ross: Abstract Paintings, Sordoni Art Gallery

### Monday (2/20)

\*No events listed for today

### Tuesday (2/21)

\*No events listed for today

### Wednesday (2/22)

\*College Night Out, Wise Crackers Comedy Club - 9 p.m. Tickets

available at the HSC information desk 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

### Thursday (2/23)

\*No events listed for today

### Friday (2/24)

\*Closer Than Ever, Theatre Arts Production, DDD - 8 p.m.

### Saturday (2/25)

\* Trip to African American Museum, Philadelphia - 8:54 a.m. Please contact culture@wilkes.

edu or 408-4731 to reserve your spot.

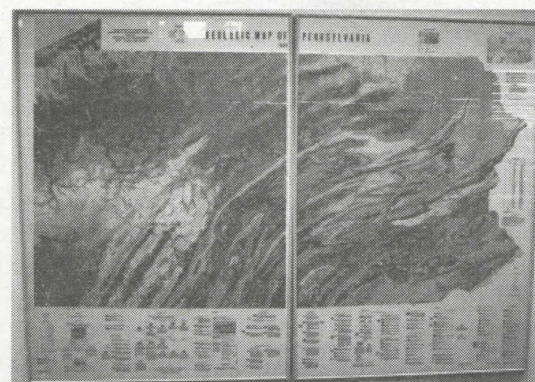
\*Closer Than Ever, Theatre Arts Production, DDD - 8 p.m.

### Sunday (2/26)

\*Closer Than Ever, Theatre Arts Production, DDD - 2 p.m.

\*To have your events included, send an email to wilkesbeacon@gmail.com and include the event, date, time and location\*

## Find this Picture on Campus and... WIN CASH



This photo was taken somewhere on Wilkes University's campus. **When you find it, email us the answer at:** wilkesbeacon@gmail.com. Be sure to put "Campus Picture" as the subject heading, as well as your name, phone number, and either campus mailbox or mailing address in the body text. A random winner will be picked from the correct responses and will receive a \$10 cash prize courtesy of the Programming Board.

*No one correctly identified last weeks campus picture which was a picture of the security camera at Breisth Hall. Since the picture was not correctly identified, this weeks picture is worth \$20.*