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Pepsi v. Coke



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Investigation yields departure of Wilkes Financial Aid Specialist

BY ANDEE SCARANTINO

Beacon Editor-in-Chief

ANDREW SEAMAN

Beacon News Editor

On August 27, *The Beacon* questioned Wilkes University officials about allegations regarding the previous employment of Leo J. Danylak, Wilkes University Financial Aid Specialist, who came to work at the university in November 2006. The allegations were unrelated to his performance in his role at at Wilkes.

Two days later, *The Beacon* learned that Danylak would not be returning to the employ of Wilkes University.

Danylak, who was previously employed by Marywood University for nearly 30 years, the last last six years of which as the Vice President for Business Affairs and Treasurer, denied the allegations prior to his departure.

"I heard these allegations, and I was very much surprised by them... I can certainly tell you, they are not true," said Danylak.

Because of confidentiality issues at both universities, sources could not and would not confirm the allegations on the record.

When asked if he was previously aware of any allegations regarding Danylak, Mike Frantz, Vice President for Enrollment and Marketing Communications at Wilkes University stated, "Absolutely not." He added that it is the administration's obligation to investigate any allegations that concern the well being of Wilkes University students.

"Everybody's entitled to a full and fair investigation," said Frantz. "If the allegations turn out to be unfounded, obviously there would be no impact. If the investigation turns up any issues of impropriety, for instance in the application process, that could lead to any number of disciplinary actions, up to and including termination of employment."

Danylak's departure from Wilkes was "a result of [administration] listening very carefully to... questions and conducting our own internal investigation," said Frantz. When *The Beacon* contacted Danylak for



The Beacon/Cara Koster

Wilkes officials are currently searching for a Financial Aid Specialist after Leo Danylak left the position August 29. The Financial Aid Office is located in the University Center on Main.

comment, after learning of his departure from Wilkes, he said he was "very surprised the student newspaper would be interested in this... That's an issue between the employee and the employer."

"People come to jobs and people leave jobs. It's part of life," said Danylak. "I left Marywood twice in my career. I left in 1999. I took a leave, and I left in August for personal reasons.... And I left Marywood. I was not terminated by Marywood, and HR cannot confirm or deny that."

When *The Beacon* attempted to contact several offices at Marywood University, including Human resources, Security, the President's office, and members of the Board of Trustees, all calls were deferred to the Public Relations office.

Representatives in the PR office at Marywood University stated that Danylak resigned from the institution on "good terms."

As Financial Aid Specialist for Wilkes University, Danylak helped to manage over \$20 million in financial aid funds.

Maggie Lund, Vice President for Human Re-

sources and Organizational Development, told *The Beacon* that the application process is the best defense an institution has to protect itself. Administration cannot share information regarding any employee with any other person or organization.

When asked how an administration could possibly investigate allegations regarding a previous employer of a prospective employee, and obtain information regarding their record, Lund answered, "I don't know that you would."

"We do a background check," said Lund. "And the background check is done as a condition of employment and the candidate has to sign a complete release form saying 'I am allowing you to do this.'"

The background check goes back seven years, is a two county search and includes the county of residence of the prospective employee. However, a prospective employer can only learn what a previous employer is willing and legally bound to share.

See DEPARTURE page 3

Search planned for educator to lead law school development

BY ANDREW SEAMAN
Beacon News Editor

Wilkes University plans to create a search committee to hire a legal educator, moving the university one step closer toward the establishment of a law school, said Dr. Reynold Verret, Wilkes University's Provost.

"We are now in the process of recruiting the leader to actually put together a plan and the program for this new law school," said Verret.

A search committee made up of a chair, members of the Board of Trustees, alumni and members of the local Bar Association, will endeavor to find the person who may lead the University to the creation of a law school. Verret added that an academic search firm would aid in the search for the legal educator.

The educator will be vital in the creation of the law school right through the accreditation process which is handled by the American Bar Association (ABA). "Essentially the accreditation goes through the American Bar Association. Standards looked at include the number of faculty, the ratio of faculty to student, the library facilities, the LSAT scores of the class, whether the students are competitive, whether the studies say that there is a market where these students will be employable," said Verret. He also added that the key element in accreditation is the school's curriculum.

The point at which the law school's first class takes their seats determines when the school will receive accreditation. The ABA's rules and regulations dictate that, "A law school is granted full approval if it establishes that it is in full compliance with the Standards and it has been provision-

ally approved for not fewer than two years."

The ABA also requires a law school to be headed by a full-time dean that in most cases is a tenured member of the faculty.

Verret said that the first students could attend class in 2009, but he added that it might take another year pushing the start date to 2010.

According to the American Bar Association, Wilkes University's law school will be in competition with 196 other accredited institutions. Verret does not believe that the Wilkes community should worry though. "I think the admissions will be competitive not unlike our admissions to the pharmacy programs," Verret said that it is still undecided whether current Wilkes students will receive preferential treatment during the admissions process, but he said that some students in the law school could certainly be Wilkes alumni.

Verret estimates the first class would be comprised of no more than 80 students.

As for the law school's location, Verret dispelled rumors that the law school would be housed in the Max Roth Center. He acknowledged, "We have not made a commitment as to where the law school will be."

Wilkes University President, Dr. Tim Gilmour said that the law school would benefit the Wilkes community in many ways. "First it will add a significant professional education program to Wilkes' array of programs and help us reach our enrollment growth goals in graduate and continuing studies. Second, it will enhance Wilkes prestige and over time develop an alumni base that will serve as a powerful advocate for Wilkes. And finally, it will continue our tradition of offering higher educa-

tion programs North-eastern Pennsylvania needs to develop as a region."



(RIGHT) The Max Roth Center, located on the corner opposite the Farley Library, is under renovation but is not committed as the location of the new law school.

The Beacon/ Jenna Stephens



The Beacon/ Andrew Seaman

(BELOW) Students were able to sign up for various clubs and organizations at Wilkes University's annual Club Day held on September 6, 2007.

The BEACON

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

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New location of computers signals shift in IT services

BY NICOLE FRAIL

Beacon Asst. News Editor

Over the summer the Information Technology Services (IT) donated 33 of the 40 old computers from Breiseth 006 to Wilkes University's Upward Bound program.

Administrators of Upward Bound decided to utilize the donation by giving the computers directly to their students. Peggy Espada, Director of Upward Bound, said that the majority of the computers were going to be taken by UB students who recently graduated from both high school and the program and were headed off to college. Following their reconfiguration, students who had never before experienced having a computer in the comfort of their own homes, would indeed depart campus with the goal of setting them up in their dorms or bedrooms.

The donation is just one more example of the sea change in technology that Wilkes has experienced in the past 18 months or so.

Within the past year, 1150 new Apple computers have replaced the old, clunky Dells across campus. Approximately 220 of them are strictly for student use.

"We switched over to these new Apple systems that have an Intel chip in them and they can run both Windows and Macintosh LS," said Mike Salem, Chief Information Officer of IT. Having both systems on one computer allows the user to choose which platform they're more comfortable with.

Along with new student computers, all of the offices and also some classrooms were enhanced.

"We upgraded a couple locations to one touch control systems so that it's easier for faculty to set up their computers and save time," Salem said. The new systems include computers, projectors, Smart Boards and also a couple of podiums.

"I'm sure there will be times when professors will become frustrated with the equipment because they may not know exactly how to use it... But IT has made a reasonable effort to try to bring people up to speed on them," Chris Bailey, Director of Campus Support Services said.

IT is offering training to students, faculty, and staff if there is confusion regarding any of the new equipment. Along with a directions on the new Wilkes portal, IT will also provide additional training for anyone who may require more assistance.

While the computers on campus are new, their locations have also gone through some changes. Since Breiseth 006 is no longer being used as a 24-hour a computer lab, the new machines have been spread out across campus. Even though all of the computers have been replaced in the library and classrooms like Breiseth 105 and 108 and also in department labs, these rooms are not considered to be open access.

The only remaining 24-hour open access labs on campus at the moment are Stark's lobby and Breiseth 210. While Breiseth's new miniature lab is comfortable and complete, Stark's is still missing a few necessities; chairs that are high enough to reach the desk, for example.

"The stools got ordered late in the summer and there was unfortunately a back order on that product. They'll hopefully be in [soon]," Bailey explained.

The lack of furniture in Stark isn't the only concern about the new computer labs.

"The basement Breiseth lab was convenient - people could meet for group work, and there were still numerous open computers for everyone else. Now, a group might conquer one of the new smaller labs and others will have to relocate. And when it's colder, this could be really inconvenient... One bigger lab might still be the better option," said Samantha Bartolomei, sophomore English major.

In addition to the issue of lab location and the use of overturned tables and chairs for seating, there is also one more thing that may pose a problem in the future. According to Salem, despite the high number of new computers, the university is ten computers short of the total number on campus last year.

Bailey remains optimistic about the loss. "The fact that we're missing computers probably won't have a major impact due to the fact that most students are coming to

campus with their own machines... There are certain times of the year when students may have an issue with finding an open public machine, but I think that was the case years before and I think a lot of campuses have that same challenge."

"We'll just have to wait and see," Salem added.

It'll be another three years until the computers on campus now will be replaced, but there's still more in store for the advancement of Wilkes' technology. The MyWilkes Web Portal is up and running and will now act as the new project for the IT department as they work to get everyone used to not only the new



The Beacon/Jenna Stephens
Students sit on tables in the Stark Lobby while they use the new computers and await proper seating, which is back ordered.

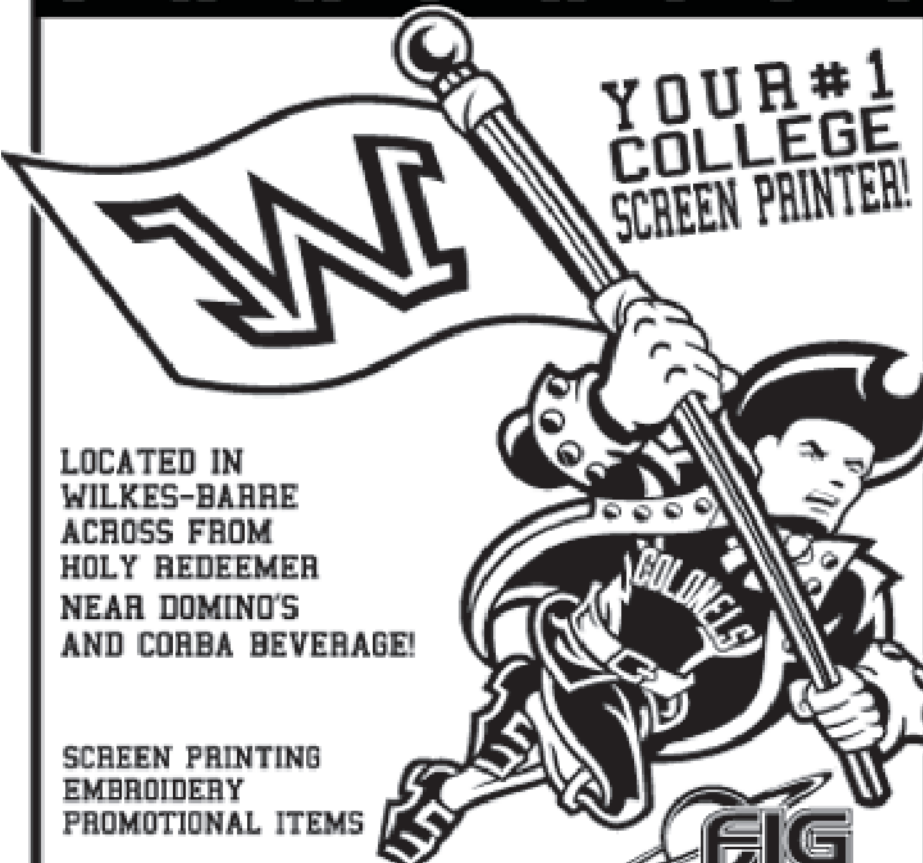
computers they're seated at, but also the main website they're using the computers to access.

DEPARTURE from FRONT PAGE

Lund also said that while Pennsylvania is an "at-will" state, and an employer or employee may terminate employment at any time with or without cause, any departure from the university must run through Human Resources. Lund added that Wilkes University takes departures very seriously, especially termination. When a person is terminated, if it is without cause, despite Pennsylvania's "at-will" status, the person can seek legal action against the university. A good example of this would be a person in a "protected age group," meaning a person over forty years of age.

According to Wilkes University officials, the investigation regarding the allegations against Danylak is closed. "As far as I am concerned, and Wilkes University is concerned, it's over," said Frantz.

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Wilkes receives approval for MFA in creative writing

BY NICOLE FRAIL

Beacon Asst. News Editor

In 2005, Wilkes University began a graduate program for a Masters of Arts in creative writing. Two classes have graduated since and from those classes came published short stories, articles, and even books from Jim Warner, Marlon James, Donora Hillard.

According to Dr. Bonnie Culver, Director of Graduate Programs in Creative Writing, due to the proven success of the MA program, the State of Pennsylvania granted full approval this summer for the new Masters in Fine Arts (MFA) in creative writing at Wilkes University.

"The MFA is considered a terminal degree equivalent to a PhD in writing programs or in arts programs," Culver explained. It's considered to be the final degree in areas in fine arts such as dancing, sculpting, writing, or theatre. The new program will prepare graduate students to either pursue a career in teaching or work in publishing.

Before applying for admission into the MFA program, students need to complete thirty credit hours for the MA.

"In the first thirty hours, they study the life, business, and craft of writing. We include editors and agents in all of our on-campus activities. We actually make the students talk to them as they would approach them in a business way," said Culver.

While still in the MA program, students also need to pick a concentration area which is similar to a picking a major for a Bachelor's degree. Concentrations offered include poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, play writing, and screenwriting.

"We're one of the few in the country that do that," Culver noted.

If accepted into the MFA, the students attend one more year worth eighteen credits. All together, the MA and MFA can be completed in two and a half years with five residencies and five online semesters. The first semester of the MFA is a literature semester and the second consists of either a publishing internship with publishers, agents, and editors or an arts

and education internship which includes adjuncting at a college level, working in a high school, or working in a library.

Though many schools offer a Masters of Arts in English with a concentration in Creative Writing, there are very few that offer the MA in Creative Writing nationally. Because of the new program, Wilkes already stood out to aspiring writers from 22 different states and the MFA brings in many more qualities that make the program unique.

"The neat thing about the program is that you don't

have to have your undergraduate degree in English or Creative Writing. The admission to the program is based on the writing samples you provide," Nicole DePolo said. DePolo, who has already had a short story published and is currently working on a novel through the program, graduated with her Masters of Arts in Creative Writing on Sunday and expects to attain her MFA in June of 2008.

A writing related undergraduate degree is not necessary because both the MA and the MFA are "not English degrees," Culver stressed. "It's [about] learning how to be a professional writer."

The department's faculty also add some individuality to the program. The program places a high level of importance on one-

on-one relationships between students and faculty mentors.

"All of them are working writers, not academics," Culver explained. "It brings about a very different way to look at literature. They have to turn in what they're working on each year."

A total of eleven books are scheduled to come out between both faculty and students this coming year.

Finally, the capstone for the MA that leads into the MFA makes the program stand out among the rest. "Our capstones are thesis projects. They actually have to go through the experience of what it would be like in their area. For example, if they are playwriting, they get a play read in New York... They go to New York and hear it read after

meeting with the director and in the audience are producers and at least one agent there to hear it and respond to them."

Screenwriters also go through a similar process. For those in the fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry areas, the capstone is not unlike a book signing. A twenty minute reading of their work is followed by a question and answer period.

Jim Warner, the Assistant Director of the Creative Writing Programs and author of an upcoming collection of poetry entitled *Too Bad It's Poetry*, graduated with his MA in 2006 and plans to start his MFA work in January of 2008.

"For me, the most important part is the sense of community that's established. Bringing the [low residency] program to campus twice a year gives the program some soul... You spend six months interfacing with email and discussion boards and any kind of writing that you do is a lonely process. It's just you and your work at the end of the day... To have the ability to come here and talk to people about writing who understand that and all the distractions that go with it - you don't get that from day to day."

He added, "Coming to a program like this is emotional."

There are currently 92 active students in both the MA and the MFA.



Courtesy Creative Writing Office

The second class of the Masters of Fine Arts program graduated on Sunday, September 9. First row: Aleksander Djordjevic, Lauren Kwaitkowski, Sarah Traver, Stephen Wignot, Gary Frisch, Colin Gabler, Nancy Slowikowski, Laurie Moyer. Second row: Nicole DePolo, Erin Delaney, Cindy Taren, Albert Difilippantonio, Judy Shandler. Wignot and DePolo will return to Wilkes for their MFA (missing: David Blum)

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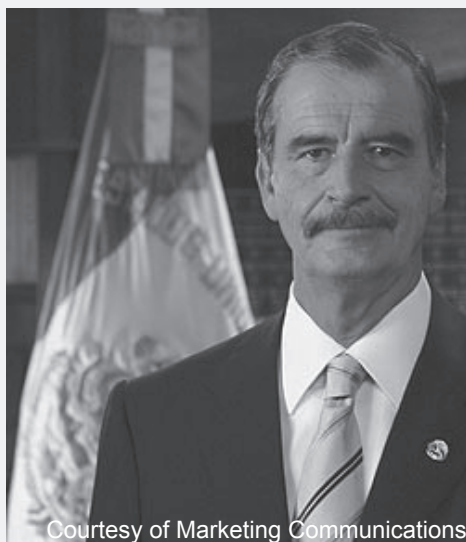
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BEACON NEWS BRIEFS

Local

(Kirby Park) Police are investigating an alleged sexual assault that happened on Tuesday August 28, 2007, in the afternoon at Kirby Park near the tennis courts. The victim was a King's College student who was jogging in the park at approximately 4:30 p.m. Following the report, Wilkes University officials posted fliers around campus urging students to be cautious and walk in groups. In addition, Wilkes activated its emergency notification system sending cell phone text messages to those who had signed up for the service. The assault is one of several in the Wilkes-Barre in the past two months and police continue to search for the man fitting the victim's description in this case.

(Wilkes University) Fifty-four people recieved citations for underage drinking on Friday, September 7, 2006. The busts were managed by the Wilkes-Barre Police Department's Underage Drinking Deterrence Patrol. The patrol spotted several people walking around with open beverage countainers at two addresses on Ross and Main Street. A group of 16 students recieved citations at 11:04pm at 248 North Main Street, while another 38 people were cited at 11:16pm at 110 West Ross Street.



Courtesy of Marketing Communications
Former Mexican President Vincente Fox

(Wilkes University) Wilkes University announced that former Mexican president, Vincente Fox, will be the guest speaker at the Outstanding Leaders Forum. Fox, who will speak about "Bringing the New Economy to Latin America" will be at the F.M. Kirby Center on November 5, 2007. Tickets for the event are \$25 and can be purchased at the F.M. Kirby Center Box Office or through Ticketmaster.

(Wilkes University) Bells will ring out over Wilkes University on September 11, 2007 to commemorate the victims of the nation's worst terrorist attacks that occurred on the same date in 2001. The bells will chime for one minute, at each of the times of the four plane crashes

that occurred in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington D.C. There will also be a service to commemorate September 11, 2001 at the bell tower, near Kirby Hall. The program is at 12:15.

National

(Washington, DC.) On September 8, 2007, First Lady Laura Bush went through a successful surgery to relieve pinched nerves, which caused pain in her neck. The surgery lasted about two and a half hours and she was allowed to return home that afternoon. She was said to be resting comfortably.

(Durham, NC) The former Prosecutor for Durham County, Mike Nifong, completed a 24-hour jail sentence for lying about evidence during the Duke lacrosse rape case. Nifong earned national headlines when he brought rape charges against Duke lacrosse players, only for the court to find no crime was committed. Nifong, was also disbarred for his actions during the trial.

(Neah Bay, WA) A California gray whale was shot with a .50-caliber machine gun in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The whale was seen heading back to sea and the coast guard has created a 1,000-yard safety zone around the injured animal. The Coast Guard says, the whale was shot by members of Makah Tribe,

who have been asking exemption from the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act, allowing them to kill five whales a year.

International

(Modena, Italy) On Saturday September 8, 2007, Luciano Pavaratti, the famous Italian tenor was laid to rest in his hometown in Modena, Italy. Attending the service were heads of state, music icons and thousands of loyal fans. Pavaratti was 71, and died after a battle with pancreatic cancer.

(Tel Aviv, Israel) Syria accused Israel of invading its airspace on Thursday September 6, 2007. Syria's military said they fired on the aircraft, and added that they reserve the right to retaliate.

(Geneva, Switzerland) The United States has agreed to take North Korea off its list of "terrorist" countries as long as North Korea agrees to completely give up their nuclear weapons program. The United States will also remove sanctions against North Korea.



SG Notes September 5, 2007

Treasurer's Report

All College: \$23,700
General: \$7,648.75
Special Projects: \$3,500
Spirit: \$2,000
Leadership: \$5,000
Conferences: \$12,500
Start-Up: \$1,500
SG Pepsi Products: \$500

Club Reports

Programing Board - first event went well, and many more events planned for future

New Business

SG Committee Binders - members to update after committee meeting
Publicity - SG concerned students don't know much about Student Government
Pepsi Activities - SG took hand votes on possible Pepsi giveaways for the year and those

results will be taken into consideration when determining giveaways.

Club Day - Club Day will be September 6, 2007 and SG will have a table

Fall Elections - Fall elections will be held on September 19, 2007

Homecoming - The theme for this years homecoming will be Harvest Ball

Party on the Square - Wilkes is trying to organize the area colleges to march into Public Square with their college to show school spirit



Events

Club Day - September 6, 2007, 11am - 1pm

SG Interest Day - September 11, 2007, 11:30am - 12:15pm

9/11 Memorial Service - September 11, 2007, 12:15pm - 1pm

PPD Scavenger Hunt - September 11, 2007, 11am - 1pm

Fall Elections - September 19 - 21, 2007

Council of Clubs - September 20, 2007, 11am - 2pm

Party on the Square - September 20, 2007, 5pm - 9pm

Homecoming - October 4 - 7, 2007

'Family values' no longer strong argument for Republicans

The risk of discovered hypocrisy not worth it in the end

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL BOARD

The concept of "family values" has been an important element of the political landscape in the United States over the past few decades.

But is it possible that the 1950s understanding of "family values" just doesn't quite fit Americans in the 21st century?

With the recent scandal of Senator Larry Craig from Idaho, who was charged with soliciting men for sex in a bathroom, the issue of family values has been brought into the forefront again.

Craig, a Republican, campaigned and voted on issues that represented and supported more "traditional" family values, in keeping with his party. In a June 21, 2001 *Time* magazine column, Lance Morrow wrote: "The Republican meaning of family values tends to point toward a cultural ideal (two-parent heterosexual households, hard work, no pornography, a minimal tolerance of the aberrant). Says David Blankenhorn, president of the Institute for American Values: 'Republicans really do want to argue about the culture. They want to argue about morality, what's right and wrong, standards of private behavior. They really do want to argue about sexuality, procreation and marriage.'"

However, the recent charges that the married Idaho Senator attempted to solicit sex in a bathroom suggest that his behavior may not reflect his campaign rhetoric. In other words, if the allegations are true, Craig didn't always practice what he preached.

Media attention to the incident led to public backlash, which ultimately forced his resignation, though at this writing, he is waffling on that resignation saying he may have been too hasty.

But is this as important as we make it out to be, or as important as other issues such as the environment, the war in Iraq, social security, education, the economy,

taxes and so on? Will knowing and prying into our political leaders' private lives help get issues like these voted on and passed? Most likely not.

By focusing on and expecting our leaders to be perfect or near perfect family-oriented people, we place unrealistic expectations on them.

Experience tells most educated people that there is no such thing as the perfect family. Every family has hardships, dysfunctions and struggles. Why then is "family values" even an issue for those campaigning for office?

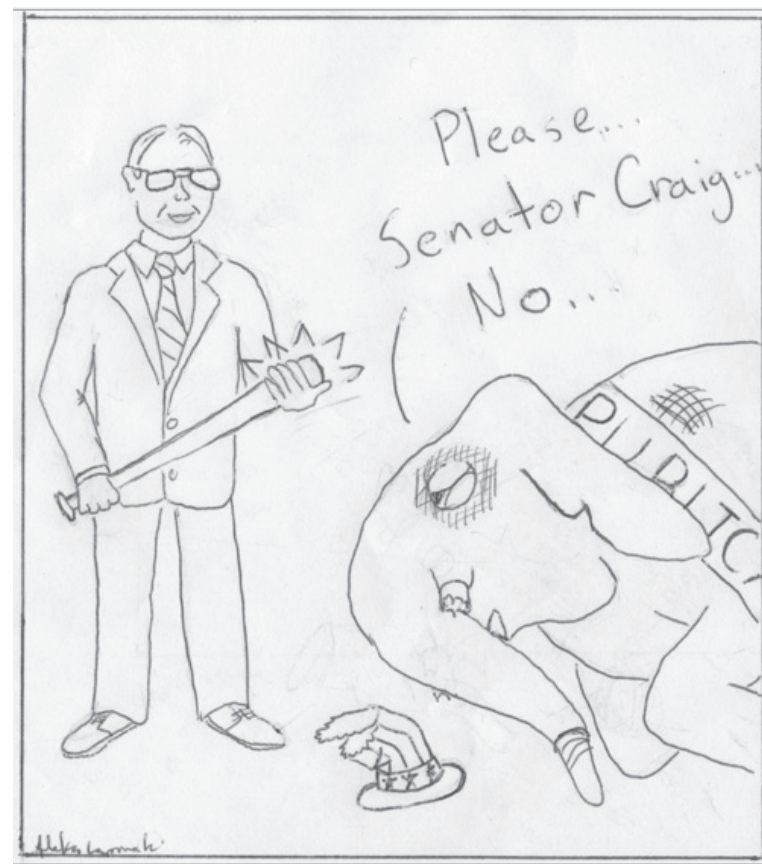
The former mayor of NYC, and current Republican candidate for President, Rudy Giuliani, is twice divorced. He has taken some heat from those within his own political party arguing that he isn't as family oriented or morally responsible as those who haven't been divorced. Will his being divorced make him any less of a president if elected? At the least, it may offer him better insight to the majority

of Americans who have endured that same pain.

Americans need to reevaluate what issues they rely upon to elect our political leaders. We need to have more practical expectations for them. We also need to look at and better prioritize what issues are important to improving our country's communities.

It is not for the American people to judge the morality or immorality of Craig's alleged behavior. If he is to be judged, perhaps the more relevant criticism is the fact that he, like so many of his colleagues, relied too heavily on the party-line advocacy of family values that can no longer serve as a reasonable guide for electing leaders. It is reasonable to hold our leaders accountable for taking stances on issues that they don't actually understand or live.

Americans should elect leaders on issues that focus on improving the country. Let's re-prioritize.



A Sight for Sore Eyes by: Aleksander Lapinski

YOUR VOICES

Dear Editor,

The extent of the hypocrisy permeating the Wilkes University campus this semester is nauseating. In previous years, the beginning of the semester speech concerning alcohol was, seemingly, mostly for show. This semester, the rules have changed, and that speech now means something serious. Many students are wishing they had a warning that the rules would actually be enforced this time around.

Drinking underage has been part and parcel of the college experience here at Wilkes since most of the upperclassman enrolled. In previous semesters, student to-do lists included such items as study, drink booze, eat, sleep, and maybe not in that order. This semester, however, the people that many students have seen drunk and been drunk with, are the students who

are now writing people up for being in possession of alcohol.

Most traditional students on campus grew up with MTV, cable television, and a president that smoked pot, but 'did not inhale.' The idea of drugs, alcohol and sex are not new and are not taboo for a great majority of college students. This generation grew up with people such as Keith Richards and Whitney Houston spouting anti-drug sentiments! The hypocrisy continues now as college students, previously drunk and newly on the bandwagon of sobriety and power abuse, are telling their peers not to drink, and punishing them when they do.

The so-called 'underaged' people were never consulted when the drinking age law was written and put into effect. Somehow, it was deemed logical to allow persons of 18 years of age to go to

war, get married, have babies, go to college, get full-time jobs, buy homes, rent apartments, and generally have all of the responsibilities of living as an adult human being, but not to be able to have a beer after a rough week.

Putting the ridiculousness of this law aside, and focusing only on Wilkes University and its representatives, it has to be said that it is an abomination to human decency how some of the underage drinking situations have been handled. Power hungry people who will actually brag about how many people they will write up in a given weekend are allowed to enter a private dwelling and take down names in order to punish everyone present, regardless of whether or not all the people present have consumed alcohol.

Last year, a warning to quiet down and a good amount of re-

spect for your RA could accomplish the same thing as a trip to Resident Life and hefty fine. This year, RAs look for trouble; they don't wait for it to be reported. And the places where most students actually end up in trouble are the places that the RAs will not venture.

So, from now on, students will have to go off campus to wind down and have a beer and hope and pray it isn't spiked with something that will later leave them without memories or underwear. Drinking with a few friends in the confines of a dorm room or apartment is now more difficult, and in some ways more dangerous, than drinking in off campus, uncontrolled environments. And that is a true shame.

Sincerely,
Tabitha Hapeman
junior, nursing major

It's getting HOT in here: cafeteria becomes overcrowded

Is Wilkes outgrowing its public spaces?

BY MARK CONGDON JR.

Beacon Opinion Editor

Imagine standing in the sandwich line at the cafeteria for 20 minutes. The line is all the way backed up to the registers. You are ravenously hungry and you have class in 40 minutes.

Now, once you have your food, imagine not being able to find a place to sit, and when you eventually do, you only have 15 minutes to eat your food before class starts. Well, if the first two weeks of school are any indication, this is very much the situation at

our Wilkes cafeteria.

For those who have eaten lunch in the cafeteria around noon, there is no denying how packed full of students it is. In fact, it almost seems like the numbers of bodies exceed its capacity. According to Zena Miller, Catering Director, the cafeteria can hold between 575-600 people.

With the number of freshmen climbing each year (632 this year!) and a potential law school, it will not be long before the cafeteria will not be able to sustain the students, faculty and staff. Considering only the boom in freshmen, and that most

live on campus and are required to obtain a meal plan, there isn't even enough room for all the freshmen, let alone the upperclassmen, graduate students and faculty and staff as it is.

Currently, the lines are very long, the tables are very crowded and compact and it's hard to find a place to sit at the hub hours. There isn't much room to move around when finding a seat and the conveyor belt where diners put their trays is almost always overflowing.

My friends and I have eaten at the cafeteria every weekday since school has started, and it seems like the busiest time is on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays around noon. We have waited for almost 20 minutes in line to get a deli sandwich, and we only have an hour to eat lunch. I am sure that there are many more students, faculty and staff who have experienced the same problem as I have.

I am not saying the cafeteria staff is doing anything wrong. The cafeteria staff keeps up with the food supply, but they have no



The Beacon/Mark Congdon Jr.
Trays pack the conveyor belt at peak hours in the Henry Student Center cafeteria.

control over the seating arrangements or the number of tables that are available. They can't help that there are many more students eating in the café, but the administration of Wilkes is eventually going to have to address this issue soon, especially if the student body population is continuously growing, and if a law school is instituted.

Officials on campus need to discuss this matter and consider alternate policies or space. In spite of the addition to the cafeteria, it makes sense to begin planning now for other spaces and/or a liberal carry-out policy. It's definitely something that needs to be discussed and worth considering.



The Beacon/Mark Congdon Jr.
Students stand shoulder to shoulder during the noon hour.

Pepsi v. Coke: Wilkes makes the switch

BY STEPHANIE GERCHMAN

Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

As most on campus may have noticed, this year Wilkes University underwent a major change. This change is evident in the cafeteria, the first floor of the Student Center, the UCOM, dorm buildings, and in Stark Learning Center, to name just a few heavy traffic areas.

Over the summer, Wilkes made the switch from the old empty Coke machines across campus to bright, new (and yes, *filled*) Pepsi dispensers. The switch is indicative and one more chapter in the seemingly endless American dispute over which soda is better.

Pepsi cola and Coca-cola are undeniably similar. They are both dark in color, fizzy and both come in diet or regular. Personally, I like Coke better, but that's all based on preference. But, one could say

that cola is cola no matter what the label.

Though at first glance one could be led to believe that the switch offers many new beverage choices, they are just versions of the same drinks we had last year with different names. This year we have Wild Cherry Pepsi, Sierra Mist, and Twister Orange Soda. Last year, when Wilkes was still with Coke, we had Cherry Coke, Sprite, and Minute Maid Orange Soda.

The only new options as a result of the switch to Pepsi products are Mountain Dew, Dr. Pepper and Diet Dr. Pepper. This is exciting to me because as a diet soda drinker it is nice to have a calorie free option other than

a straight diet cola.

The addition of Mountain Dew is another reason is why Pepsi products are better than Coke products. For college students caffeine makes procrastinating possible. Without it many papers would go either unfinished or actually be completed early...what a novel idea. Mountain Dew is a great new alternative on campus to plain old coffee or the mediocre amount caffeine in our old beverage selection.

Pepsi is also a better choice because the company has historically had far better commercials. While no one could resist the whole "I'd like to buy the world a Coke" song, Pepsi commercials have not only had songs about Pepsi but celebrities singing songs about Pepsi or dancing



around to songs about it. Pepsi commercials have starred such celebrities as Pink, Jimmy Fallon, Parker Posey, Shakira, The Spice Girls, Britney Spears and that cute little Pepsi girl. Okay, I used the term celebrities very loosely. Nonetheless, the Pepsi commercials have upstaged Coke's commercials starring Elton John, Paula Abdul, and The White Stripes.

Pepsi also has more modern can designs. With a contest to design the new Pepsi can, the company put the creativity into the hands of the people who drink Pepsi. The outcome is a more aesthetically appealing can to people our age. The Coke can still looks like a traditional Coke can. There hasn't been much updating to the label at all. The new Pepsi can looks like a page out of a notebook that has been doodled all over with pen. Personally, even though I am a fan of the taste of Coca-cola, I'd be more likely to pick up a Pepsi because of the cool looking can.

The addition of a high caffeine beverage, another diet soda option, better commercials and more aesthetic packaging make Pepsi products a better choice than Coke.

Date rape a serious concern in first few weeks of semester

BY ANDEE SCARANTINO

Beacon Editor-in-chief

I said, "Watch my drink, while I go to the bathroom."

I am always very cautious about such things. A friend of mine was slipped some type of date rape drug, and I went with her to the hospital as she reacted to it. I've had friends who have been victims of acquaintance rapes. I'm not stupid.

So, I was careful to make sure someone was babysitting my drink when I left the table. But, the friend who was supposedly watching the drink was distracted, so at some point something happened. Three hours later, I was waking up dizzy, nauseous, and completely disoriented in my friend's car outside of the Mohegan Sun casino!

Well, I suppose I got my summer dose of gamma-Hydroxybutyric acid (GHB), a common date-rape drug that makes a person feel lethargic, lose consciousness, and suffer amnesia.

In the worst case scenarios, victims of GHB wake up in unfamiliar settings, having been raped by their attacker.

Thankfully, I was not one of those. However, I began this piece that way because I think it's essential for everyone to understand that yes, it can happen to you.

Date rape and acquaintance rape are quite common on college campuses. According to an article "Acquaintance Rape on College and University Campuses" by Felicia

F. Romeo in *College Student Journal*, "A survey from the United States Bureau of Justice reported that in three-quarters of all rapes and sexual assaults against women, the perpetrator is known to the victim."

A college survey conducted by the National Victim Center reported that one in four college women have been raped or suffered attempted rape (Bureau of Justice). In another college survey, half of the college men reported that they engaged in some form of sexual aggression on a date (Bureau of Justice). These reports indicate that young people are at considerable risk of becoming a victim of an acquaintance rapist. An acquaintance rape occurs when the rapist is known to the victim.

So, why college campuses?

Well, for starters, college students often leave their families and the lives they've known previously for 17 to 18 years. Often they're seeking social inclusion, and without the confines of the "parents' approval," students, often because they think it is the "right" thing to do, will engage in sexual intercourse with someone with whom they do not feel comfortable.

Alcohol also has a lot to do with it.

Parties are breeding grounds for sexual predators, as young people regularly consume too much alcohol and lose inhibition and even awareness of actions. Sometimes, when an acquaintance says, "Oh, come on, come on," someone under the influence of alcohol will willingly go along with the sex, as they are too intoxicated to firmly resist the rapist.

But what many do not realize is that when an individual is drunk he or she is no longer able to offer legal consent. I had a friend call me once, wondering *if* she was raped. She gave the rapist her consent to sexual intercourse, but she was so heavily under the influence, that she attested she would not have done so were she sober.

Another place to find these offenders is the bar, also often a hyper-sexual environment. Because bars tend to be loud, and their spaces are limited, people often need to become very close in proximity to have a conversation. Also, if someone is trying to touch you, it's quite difficult to just get up and run away.

I work at a bar, so often I get the opportunity to watch people who are heavily under the influence, while I remain sober. Their mannerisms completely change, and often they are more affectionate, even with people that seem to just be platonic friends.

I have been the person that the "drunk guy" will come up to and eye lasciviously or try to touch. Often it's hard as a sober individual to shake off the "drunk guy" with five or six "no's," so for someone heavily under the influence of alcohol, it would be extremely difficult.

Acquaintance and date rape are very serious things, especially within the first eight weeks of the semester, when the stress and pressure of the semester is still manageable.

Protect yourself by using the buddy system. Always have a friend with you, preferably two. Ideally, one should stay sober

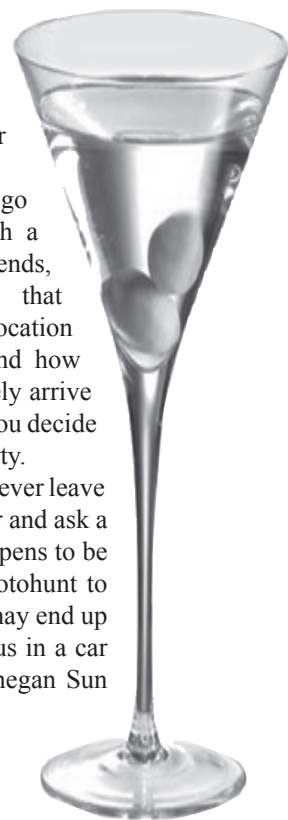
throughout the night, either to be a designated driver, or simply to have unaltered perceptions about the characteristics of others.

Watch your drinks. Don't leave them. Don't let anyone near them. If your drink magically changes color, it isn't a sign from God. Chuck the thing.

Try to drink from bottles as opposed to glasses, as they are harder to tamper with.

Also, if you go to a party with a group of friends, make certain that you know the location of everyone and how they are to safely arrive home, before you decide to leave the party.

And please, never leave a drink on a bar and ask a friend who happens to be addicted to Photohunt to watch it. You may end up barely conscious in a car outside of Mohegan Sun as well.



GHB and Rohypnol, the drugs of choice most common among date-rapists, may lead to loss of consciousness, and in some cases, amnesia.

Bags pose a threat to Movies 14?

BY MARISSA PHILLIPS

Beacon A&E Editor

As I recently discovered, it's sometimes all about fashion over function.

During my last trip to the movie theater, my backpack was confiscated, and surprisingly, the situation left me pretty upset. There are just some instances enforced rules really have no solid explanation, and you just have to wonder whether anyone actually stops and thinks about why the policy is in place.

Maybe my complaint seems a bit juvenile, but just hear me out for a moment and see if you can understand where I'm coming from.

As I was handing in my ticket for the movie, the theater's manager pulled me aside and told me that the backpack I was wearing wasn't allowed in the theater. Of

course, I had nowhere to put it. I had walked to the theater from campus, and unfortunately for me I didn't happen to have a personal lockbox right outside, so I wasn't quite sure what he expected.

"Well, how about if you just search it?" I suggested.

Of course, the answer was no. And of course, he offered no explanation. The thing that bothers me isn't that they have a no bag policy, because they don't. I go there with a huge pocketbook weekly, and no one searches it, and no one cares. I'm bothered by the fact

that they don't mention this specifically anti-backpack policy anywhere. I'm also confused by the notion that only one specific style of bag is a threat.



I can understand the logic of a no bag policy. Obviously, I could conceal a weapon, or some sort of illegal candy stash. But the thing is, I can stash just as many, if not more, illegal items in a women's handbag as in any backpack. Pocketbooks come in all shapes and sizes, and the only difference between them

and a backpack is the fact that pocketbooks are not carried on the back,

and they are probably a heck of a lot more stylish. So, sue me for being a sucker for function. And what about messenger bags? Surely that must blow the manager's mind, as he tries to gauge the level of threat that they deliver.

So the bottom line is, while I realize this isn't a truly significant issue, the logic behind this "no backpack" rule really has no basis. And if I'm going to have a manager approach me and make me appear like a shady character to onlookers, I'd like to know he at least has a sound argument.

It needs to be all or nothing; no bags or all bags. Stop picking on the girl with a binder and a sweater in her bag which she willingly offers up to be searched, and start singling out the mother with her five children smuggling the five canisters of Pringles in her pleather Gucci ripoff.

'Connecting the Dots' to bring successful alumni back to Wilkes

BY ALISON WOODY
Beacon Lifestyles Editor



"On paper a degree is a degree, but a reputable education is what truly matters. That's the value of being a Wilkes graduate."

- Gabrielle Lamb, '04
Economic Development,
Wilkes-Barre Chamber

"A degree from Wilkes University tells me that I received an excellent education. My degree has proved beneficial in both graduate school and my career."

- Richard Albrecht '95
Correctional Treatment Specialist,
Franklin County Jail



"I could never say enough about the communications department at Wilkes... it allowed me to be fully prepared for a real public relations job."

- Bridget O'Connor, '07
Public Relations and Marketing
Coordinator, The Lion Brewery

On September 13, the Wilkes University Alumni Association, along with Career Services, will host "Connecting the Dots: From Student to Professional the Wilkes Way".

Lauren Pluskey, manager of alumni relations and annual giving, explained, "The idea originally came from Career Services. They wanted to have an event where students could talk to someone in the field that they are majoring in... [the alumni office] came up with a way to connect students with successful people in their field and with past students who are now successful alumni."

The event will begin at 6 p.m., where students will receive a t-shirt and a folder of information on each alumni in attendance.

"After each alumni introduces themselves, the students will have the opportunity to speak with them on a one on one level. Each alum will be seated at a separate table where the students can sit with them and chat about their Wilkes experience and how they transitioned into the working world," said Pluskey.

There will be alumni from a wide variety of fields. Some include a TV news reporter, public relations executive, small business owner, case-worker, nurse and more.

Carol Bosak, director of Career Services, said, "We chose people from a wide range of careers... They are really friendly, bright, and fun people. Many are fairly recent grads, so the students will find them easy to relate to."

"This event is great for all students. First year students clarifying their career goals can see what they can do with a specific major, older students can get advice on the activities, classes and intern opportunities alumni found really helpful and seniors can even talk about what the hiring picture looks like for their profession or organization," said Bosak.

"Along with the knowledge gained from my four years of higher education, the Wilkes name brings a lot of credibility."

- Andy Mehalshick, '83
TV News Anchor,
WBRE

"Earning a degree from Wilkes University was a springboard to pursuing graduate studies in history... the history department had a small, dedicated faculty from which I received a good deal of personal attention."

- Brian Kaschak, '98
History Instructor,
Wyoming Seminary

"My four years at Wilkes thoroughly prepared me for my current career in communications. This support didn't stop after graduation, either - many of my closest professional connections have resulted from my background there."

- Bridget Giunta, '05
Administrative Coordinator,
The City of Wilkes-Barre

"My degree has given me the education to conquer obstacles in both my personal and professional growth."

- Cara Cacioppo, '07
Regional Account Manager,
The Lion Brewery



"My degree from Wilkes University means that I am prepared for the challenges ahead."

- Kristen Hake, '04
Community Relations Coordinator,
Northeast Regional Cancer Institute

Students weigh environment, hours and wages among job options

BY CHRISTINE ZAVASKAS

Beacon Asst. Lifestyles Editor

With the price of college tuition constantly rising, more and more students are looking for employment in order to help pay the bills. In fact, as of 2006, 79% of undergraduate students were employed and working an average of 25 hours per week, according to the journal *Review of Educational Research*.

However, when it comes to finding work, not all jobs are created equal. While there is no universal "best job," certain kinds of work may be more suited to your specific lifestyle. With that thought in mind, this article rates four common jobs held by college students.

The first job is from the world of retail and is the position of cashier. "It's not bad. It's really enjoyable when customers treat you well," said Matt Watkins, a freshman earth and environmental sciences major, about his cashier job at Dick's Sporting Goods.

Representatives from Target, Sears, and JC Penney confirmed that the responsibilities of cashiers include ringing up customer sales, providing customer assistance, and helping to organize/clean the sales floor. The length of shifts at these three stores ranged from 4-8 hours, and the average salary paid to this position in Pennsylvania in 2006 was \$7.92 per hour according to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics website.

The restaurant industry is another common choice for students who need some extra money. Specifically, managers were asked about the position of servers at Januzzi's Pizza & Subs, Olive Garden, and Smokey Bones Barbeque & Grill. "Providing a great guest experience," is the main responsibility of a server according to Bob Flannery, the General Manager of Smokey Bones Barbeque & Grill. More specifically, the tasks assigned to this job can include waiting on tables, cleaning duties, and filling condiments. The average shift length varies from about 4-6 hours among these three restaurants.

Wilfredo Mercado, a senior communications studies major, works as a waiter at Logan's Roadhouse. When asked how he liked his job, Mercado answered, "I don't exactly like my job, but out of the three I've had it's my favorite." Mercado's other jobs were at Blockbuster and Target. The Bureau of Labor Statistics website lists the average salary for a server in 2006 as \$7.34 per hour in Pennsylvania. It is important to note, however, that some server positions offer a below minimum wage salary with the guarantee of gratuity, which could push the overall wage higher.

Another employment opportunity that students can take advantage of is the work-study program. "It is a really nice job; everyone there is very friendly," says James Welch, a senior history major, who does work-study at the library.

According to Pam Hoffman, Director of Student Services, the duties for this job vary widely depending

on which department students work for, but those in the position of student aid typically perform office-type work. Scheduling and length of shifts also vary from department to department, and salary ranges from \$7.50-\$10.00 per hour depending on a department's budget.

Some students choose to earn money by working in factories, especially over the summer. Ken Getz, the Personnel Manager of Offset Paperback Manufacturers in Dallas, explained that Offset only hires full-time employees at its factory in Dallas so college students work there mainly in the summer. Students do a variety of work ranging from packing cartons of books, taking things off the press, and even some cleaning and maintenance. Shifts are 7 1/2 hours long, and schedules are set from week to week.

Heather Chulick, a junior communications studies major, works at Offset during school breaks and says about her job, "Generally the job stinks because it's a lot of hard labor." However this job does have other benefits including a salary that starts at \$9.65 per hour, paid vacation, and health insurance.

Although many college students find employment in one of these four areas, plenty of other options exist. Lisa Mulvey, Career Development Coordinator at Wilkes advises that students looking for employment log on to the career services website at www.collegecentral.com/wilkesu.



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Student of the Week: Laura Zuckero

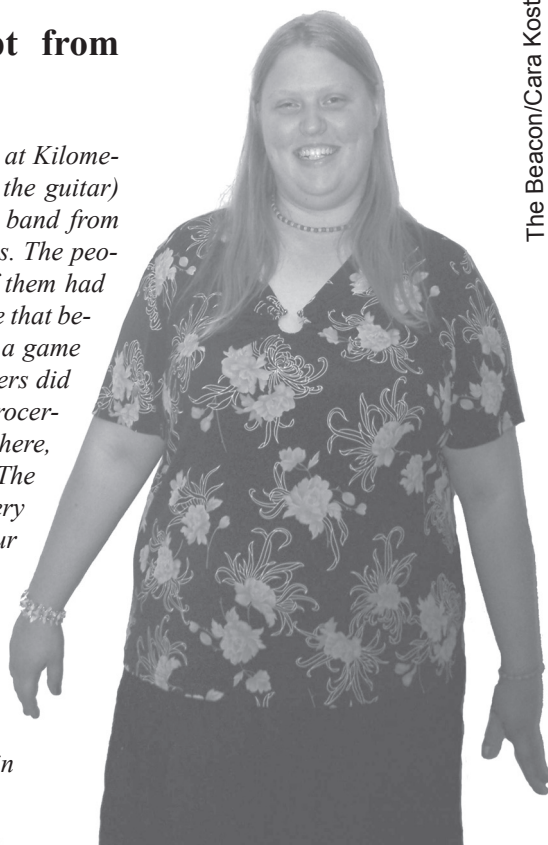
BY ALISON WOODY

Beacon Lifestyles Editor

In her words: Excerpt from Zuckero's journal

Thursday, August 16 5:25 p.m.

"Today we had a Children's Day at Kilometer 16... Me and Scott (who plays the guitar) sang two Spanish hymns, and the band from my church played a couple of songs. The people there really enjoyed it, most of them had never seen or heard instruments like that before... There were many songs and a game with the kids. Myself and a few others did a short puppet show. Clothes and groceries were given out to the people there, who were extremely grateful. The children were really great and very responsive, though a bit shy of our group... The ride there and back was a lot of fun. It is a journey of about an hour on a highway (one of the few paved roads). I was in the back of a pickup truck along with six other people and a lot of stuff. There were 10 or 11 people in the truck altogether..."



The Beacon/Cara Koster

Laura Zuckero, senior history and Spanish double major, recently spent three and a half weeks of August in Concepcion, Paraguay, with a group from the Grace Reformed Episcopal Church in Scranton, Pennsylvania, teaching children and youth ministry.

At Wilkes, Zuckero serves as the President of Communter Council and also is heavily involved in community service, previously helping with organizations such as the Red Cross and PennSERVE. *The Beacon* sat down with Zuckero to discuss her experience and has named her the *Student of the Week*.

The Beacon: Explain a daily routine in Paraguay for you.

Zuckero: We got up in the morning around 7. And then we had a devotional time at 8, where we sang songs and prayed. We then split up into groups where some were doing painting, building or children and youth ministry... which is where I did most of my work with the kids.

The Beacon: What was the culture and environment of Paraguay like?

Zuckero: The one really big difference is that in America everything had to be done last week. In Paraguay, it'll get done when it gets done. Every day stores closed from 12 until 2 because they had their lunch break the siesta... There is a lot of poverty there and the economy is very poor. Most of the people live around the capital city... There is also a lot of corruption in the government and things haven't been getting done. Most have clothing, shoes and food, but live in really small houses. There is one set of traffic lights and a few paved streets. There was garbage everywhere and ditches that had open sewage in them and animals just running around.

The Beacon: What do you feel you learned from your experience in Paraguay?

Zuckero: One of the things that struck me the most was just seeing all the poverty and the need. It made me kind of really look at my own life. The people were also really friendly and welcoming and within a couple days I had a whole new family.

The Beacon: Why do you think other students should go abroad and outside of what they know?

Zuckero: You test yourself and it helps you to find out something you'd like to do on a regular basis. I know for me that I want to join the Peace Corps and eventually do missionary work. Also, there's a lot of need out there and it is really rewarding to go and help. Whether you see your accomplishments or not, it's just good to know you're doing something for the sake of helping.

If you would like to nominate someone for *Student of the Week*, please e-mail beacon.lifestyles@gmail.com.

All bottled up: the hidden effects of energy drinks

BY CHRISTA SGOBBA

Beacon Asst. Lifestyles Editor

Wouldn't it be great if you could buy energy in a bottle?

Over the last few years, numerous big-name companies have begun to market just that. Coca-Cola and Pepsi, among other brands, rolled out energy drinks packed with caffeine and other legal stimulants to a young-adult audience. But how safe is that over-the-counter jolt?

"I wouldn't recommend daily use of it," said Diane O'Brien, the Director of Health Services at Wilkes University and a licensed nurse practitioner. "It's almost like an adrenaline rush. You become more awake and jittery, more restless."

Sophomore Adam Burke, a secondary education major, started drinking energy drinks when he started college a year ago. Now, he drinks one every day before class.

"It makes you feel a little more alert," Burke said. "If I drink one on my way to school, I won't fall asleep."

Popular energy drinks Monster and Full Throttle contain 160 milligrams of caffeine per 16 ounce bottle. That's double the amount of caffeine found in a cup of brewed coffee.

The high dose of caffeine can cause effects other than just a quick energy boost. According to O'Brien, that amount of caffeine can elevate blood pressure and increase heart rate, and may even cause palpitations in some individuals. Those most vulnerable to the adverse effects are students with hypertension or cardiac problems.

Even healthy students run the risk of severe health problems when they mix energy drinks with alcohol. Over the last few years, energy drinks mixed with vodka or other types of alcohol have soared in popularity because they make the drinkers feel more energetic.

"It's not safe to mix alcohol with drinks like that," said O'Brien. "The alcohol content of what you drank is the same. But with energy drinks, you get the sense that you're more awake and less drunk."

The false feeling of sobriety can be harmful because it can encourage students to keep drinking, since the caffeine masks how drunk they really are. It can also affect the way they behave, making them overconfident or aggressive.

"You think you can get behind the wheel of a car, or make logical decisions," O'Brien explained. "But your decision-making ability is already impaired."

Energy drinks are a booming business, and are marketed to appeal to everyone from the frazzled, overworked student to the talented athlete looking for an edge. According to Consumerreports.org, Americans spent \$744 million on energy drinks last year, up 34% from the previous year.

In order to appeal to athletes, energy drinks often tout their natural ingredients, including ginseng and amino acids, as well as their added vitamins. But O'Brien cautions athletes from depending on them for refueling. She says their high sugar content leaves athletes in an unhealthy peak-and-crash cycle.

Many students experience the mid-afternoon crash, and reach for an energy drink to stave off the drowsiness. Instead, proper planning throughout the day can help students feel awake and alert.

O'Brien suggests a regular sleep schedule with seven to nine hours of shut-eye each night. She believes regular exercise and a balanced diet, emphasizing small meals throughout the day with lots of protein, can help as well.

"Kids will skip breakfast and have a candy bar at lunch, and their blood sugar fluctuates," she said. "Their energy goes up and down in peaks and valleys."

For Burke, the lack of time in the morning is one reason why energy drinks are so attractive: they provide a quick wake-me-up. However, Burke plans on cutting energy drinks and soda from his diet and replacing them with more healthful choices.

"Eating breakfast gives me more energy than an energy drink does," he said.

While a balanced diet and adequate sleep provide the best sources of energy, O'Brien believes that an occasional energy drink won't hurt if the student is in good health and is not dependent on the beverage.

"Use them infrequently and in a minimal amount," she recommended. "Moderation is key."



The Beacon/Cara Koster

Listen Up

A sampling of Wilkes student talent

BY MARISSA PHILLIPS
Beacon A&E Editor

Wilkes-Barre residents and those living in the surrounding areas have the opportunity to boast about a fairly lively and diverse music scene.

Depending on the venue of choice, residents can spend nights downing a couple of beers while listening to a Guns N' Roses cover band, tapping their toes to some dancey pop, or spin kicking and floor punching to their hearts content.

The fact is, a good number of bands originate from, or at least pass through this area, so it's nearly impossible to keep up with them all. Because of this, Wilkes students may not realize that they sit next to the vocalist of a thrash punk band in English class, or that two fellow students currently have their hopes set high in terms of having their band picked up by a record label in the near future.

Here's an introduction to just some of the musical projects certain Wilkes students are involved in, in case you've managed to stay out of the loop this long...

The Dinosores

Whether you'd call them thrash punk, screamo, or as vocalist Patrick Austin puts it, "aggressively charged energetic punk," one thing's for sure: the Dinosores have a rather distinctive and memorable stage presence.

"We're all kind of dorky guys who have some sort of anger inside of us. Everyone has some sort of anger in them, but we just let ours out at shows. It ends up being a kind of intense experience," said Austin, who is an English graduate student.

The band is comprised of Austin on bass and vocals, Lee Ellis on guitar and vocals, Joshua Wysocki on keyboard, and Corey Ciresi on drums. The band was formed after Austin left his previous band, Manaconda, and ran into Ellis (who split from Monarch) at a Sheetz, and simply asked if he would be interested in starting a new musical project. Then they picked up the two other members and the Dinosores were formed.

When they were originally trying to come up with band names, one of the possibilities was Molly Ringworm, except that the person who had thought of it wouldn't allow them to take it. They then decided to go with a play on words, and finally crafted their name. A dinosaur plus a sore on the body...get it?

The band has played a number of shows in the area, and on October 19 they'll host a record release show at Café Metropolis. Before that, the Dinosores have a September 30 show at Metro, as well as a show on October 12 at the Tucson Café in Warwick, New York. You can also give them a listen by going to their site at www.myspace.com/dinosoresmusic.



Torment Ridden

Carl Grunwald, fifth year biology major describes his band as experimental and technical metal. He said, "There's a lot of metal to it, not just chunk, chunk, chunk, but there is some good chunk, chunk, you know, because you need that." While that may not mean much to everyone, it's a good summation for any fans of the genre.

Torment Ridden was formed in 2003 after Grunwald graduated from high school and it includes Eric Reiter on bass, Ethan Reiter on rhythm guitar, Mike McClintok on lead guitar, and Phil McClintok on drums. Some of the members met through high school, while the rest came together through church. This turns out to be rather fitting considering that their music is Christ-centered.

"All the songs we've made so far are worship songs," says Grunwald who writes all of their lyrics. Not every member has the exact same beliefs, but each one was at least brought up in a Christian household. And unlike numerous other bands who mask their Christian undertones to retain neutrality, Grunwald keeps the lyrics straightforward and says that "It's not very convoluted in any way."

The band recently finished recording a demo, which you can get directly through them at www.myspace.com/tormentridden. While they have only played one show at this point, they are currently looking to get some performances under their belt. Grunwald sends out a request saying, "We're currently looking for shows to play, so if people can help us out, that would be pretty nice."

The SilenTreatment

On the first of January, 2007, The SilenTreatment dropped a “T” (thus making them the SilenTreatment), a drummer, a bass player, and picked up a keyboardist, and transitioned from a technical modern rock band to a new and improved “sex rock” band.

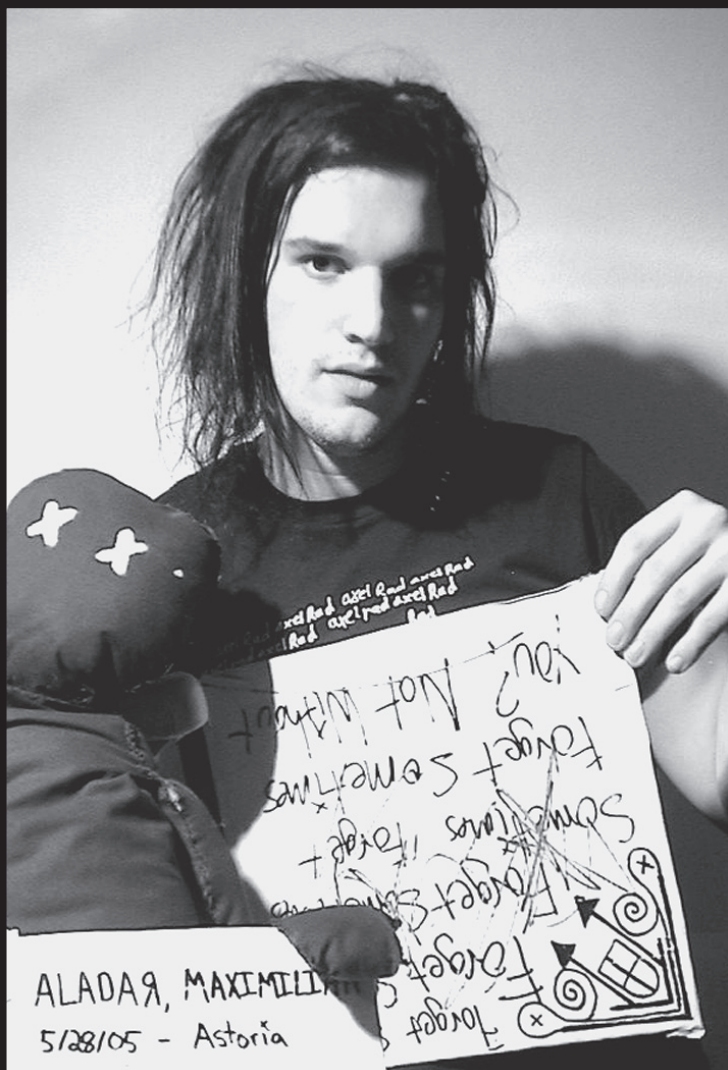
Senior English major Sam Chiarelli was involved with the band since the original lineup and plays lead guitar and contributed back vocals. Senior elementary education major Mike Sharkey recently joined to contribute his keyboarding skills and backing vocals as well. Other members include Anthony Giamusso on vocals, rhythm guitar, Joe Consagra on drums and Donald Montini on bass.

With the new lineup and sound The SilenTreatment is striving to get audiences dancing to their “dancey, groovey, Maroon 5” type sound, as Sharkey described it. Chiarelli noted that there was a definite need for a change and explained that they “were just sick of playing what everyone else was playing. There was just not enough variation to it. We were like, ‘let’s have fun, and let’s make people have fun.’”

Chiarelli and Sharkey take their music seriously and want to make it their lives. They’re currently working on a CD to send out to record labels but those curious about their sound can check out their Myspace at www.myspace.com/thesilentreatment.

The only show lined up at the moment is on April 23, at Concert for a Cause, but they are looking to get more dates set up. They’d like to eventually have themed shows, with one example being a prom theme, where everyone would come decked out in formalwear.

Sharkey ended the interview by stating that “It’s like we’re giving this area the silent treatment because no one knows who we are, but I just have this feeling we’re just going to come out of nowhere and be somewhere, and people are going to be like ‘wow, where did they come from’ and that to me is almost like the silent treatment; coming out of nowhere, being silent, and all of a sudden being at the top.”



Astorian Stigmata

Dennis Condusta, a junior communication studies major, has broken numerous bones and pulled ligaments in both of his legs due to two BMX-related incidents, but in a way, the injuries turned out to be beneficial. While recovering from the first injury he picked up the drums, and during the second injury, he picked up a guitar and started writing songs. Now he’s the vocalist and rhythm guitar player in the band Astorian Stigmata. His other band members include Maximilian Aladar on finger-picked guitar, Mini Maximilian Aladar on drums, Alexia Navataria on pitch-shifting, and Antalayna Salamandarian on bass guitar, all of whom happen to be dolls. And if you ask him what’s with the dolls he’ll tell you that “they replied to my classified ad.”

Condusta came up with the band name by putting together his two favorite words. “I’m really big into letters in certain orders and pronunciations of certain syllables. I like Arabic and Spanish pronunciations.”

In terms of sound, Condusta says he’s influenced by Middle Eastern sounds and “straight American rock and roll.” He also explains that “I just happen to sing with a country style, though I don’t consider that an influence. So it sounds like a country boy hanging out in the Middle East.”

There are currently three Astorian Stigmata CDs out, *Antalayna*, *Antraliana*, and his most recent *Black Dye On White Sheep*. All of his CDs are available through his website at www.astorianstigmata.net or myspace.com/astorianstigmata. Being the only human member in his band, he doesn’t perform live, but you can check out some of his songs on his Myspace.

West Side Story to feature 2007 alumni, Adam Orseck Wilkes and Little Theater partner to offer free student tickets

BY ALISSA LINDNER

Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

Students planning a first date, or even just wanting to get off campus for something a little different this weekend may want to look north on Main Street for their entertainment.

Wilkes University is offering free admission to performances of *West Side Story* at Little Theater on North Main Street in Wilkes-Barre.

The classic musical opened on September 8 and future performances will be held on September 14 and 15 at 8:00 p.m. and September 16 at 3:00 p.m.

The tragedy is full of exciting dancing, acrobatics, music according to Director David Baloga, and also features 2007 Wilkes alumnus, Adam Orseck.

West Side Story was first opened in 1961. Baloga explained, "The show is unique in that it is a modern re-telling of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. It is the timeless story of love versus hate."

West Side Story features a conflict between two rival gangs, one of Puerto Rican

immigrants and one of white Americans, similar to the conflict within our local community. Baloga said, "We have the same tension between different races and ethnicity in the show as we do in our local community."

The live performance of *West Side Story* at Little Theater allows the passion and excitement of the show to come through. Orseck explained, "With real people on stage, you seem to get more of a connection."

The show is also male-oriented because of the street gangs, acrobatics and the fighting according to Baloga.

Orseck believes all performances at Little Theater and any community theater are different from other forms of entertainment. "It's entertainment at a very pure level. It is local people doing what they love and there is a lot of passion on stage because these people aren't getting paid. We are here because we love to do it."

According to Phil Ruthkosky, Director of Student Development at Wilkes, university officials decided to offer Wilkes students free admission to shows at Little Theater

to allow students to "develop an appreciation for the fine arts." He added, "There are a lot of cultural opportunities in this area."

Following *West Side Story*, the next performances at Little Theater will be *The Diary of Anne Frank* on November 10, 11, 16 and 18. Wilkes students must show their ID at the door, but are encouraged to make reservations first. The university is willing to set up a shuttle service to Little Theater if the need arises.

Wilkes is also offering discounted tickets to the Kirby Center. Upcoming performances include *George Orwell's 1984* on



Photo courtesy Cathy Alaimo

Orseck and fellow castmates rehearse for upcoming performance of *West Side Story*. The show will be running until September 16.

October 13, "An Evening with Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood" on October 26, and *Julius Caesar* on November 15. Visit the information desk at the Henry Student Center for more information.

Schedule of Events

Tuesday, September 11

- Scrabble night at the Barnes & Noble College Bookstore at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 12

- *Away from Her* showing at the Kirby Theater at 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

- I Am the Avalanche, Four Year Strong, You Me and Everyone We Know, Daggermouth and The Holy Mess performing at Café Metropolis at 7 p.m.

Thursday, September 13

- "Connecting the Dots" Career Services program in the Henry Student Center Ball room--All Day

- James Ellsworth book signing at Barnes & Noble College Bookstore at 11:30 a.m.

Friday, September 14

- *West Side Story* performance at the Little Theater

- \$3.00 Fun Show Weekend w/ Lost in Greenpoint, Wetwork Agenda, Under the Wave and TBA at Backstage at 6 p.m.

- The Mother Daughter Team, Capillary Action, Stay Six and Bourse performing at Café Metropolis at 8 p.m.

- Dub is a Weapon performing at the River St. Jazz Cafe

Saturday, September 15

- *West Side Story* performance at the Little Theater

- \$3 Fun Show Weekend w/ TPOR, General Zaroff, The Perks, Wings of Eros and TBA at Backstage at 6 p.m.

- Bigger Thomas, The Big Greem, Spider Nick and the Maddogs and The Backflip Journeymen performing at Café Metropolis at 8 p.m.

- Mike Mizwinski Band performing at the River St. Jazz Café

Sunday, September 16

- *West Side Story* performance at the Little Theater

Monday, September 17

- "Dancing in the Mirror (a Latina play)" performance at King's College at 6 p.m.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR "COLLEGE BOOKSTORE" THIS WEEK! Barnes & Noble Wilkes-King's College Bookstore

- "Scrabble night" every Tuesday night from 7:00-8:30pm
- "Live Acoustic Music" every Wednesday night in our café!
This week "Dustin Switzer" 6:30-8:30pm
- "Wyoming Valley Vegetarian Book Discussion"
Discussion on "The China Study"
Thursday, September 13th from 6:00-8:00pm
- **Author Signing:** James Ellsworth
local author on Plymouth and Larksville specific books
Thursday, September 13th at 11:30am
- **Author Signing:** Kat Momenzadeh
local student at Elizabethtown College,
and author of her 2nd book, "Midnight Rose"
- **Story Time** every Saturday morning from 11:00-12:00

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BARNES & NOBLE
COLLEGE BOOKSTORES

Q&A with Lauren Weisberger, author of *The Devil Wears Prada*

BY ALISON WOODY
Beacon Lifestyles Editor

Lauren Weisberger, author of the now infamous novel *The Devil Wears Prada* returned to her hometown on September 6 to speak at the Scranton Cultural Center as part of the Lackawanna County Library System speaker series.

Weisberger was born in Scranton and lived in the area until she was 11, when she eventually moved to Allentown. She attended Cornell University and, after graduation, took a job at *Vogue* as an assistant to Anna Wintour, the hard-headed, stern editor-in-chief of the magazine.

In 2003, Weisberger authored *The Devil Wears Prada*, her first book, after an editor at *Departures* magazine sent her to a creative writing class. It was there that her professor encouraged her to submit her work as a novel and it was sold within two weeks.

The Devils Wears Prada spent six months on *The New York Times* Bestseller list and was released as a feature film in 2006 starring Anne Hathaway and Meryl Streep.

Weisberger chose an informal interview session rather than a standard speech for her visit. Below is a portion of the Q&A that occurred at the event.

Q: Can you tell us what you remember about growing up here?

A: It's great to be back, but this has been my first trip back in a long time... I was a young child here and I have a lot of great memories. It's the nicest place in the world to be from.

Q: How much of *The Devil Wears Prada* was true and how much was exaggerated?

A: I would say it's skewed more towards the truth. I'm not supposed to admit that all the time... I definitely saw a lot [at *Vogue*] that inspired that novel. It was intense in a lot of ways. It was a really neat place for a first job, but a shocking place, also. There was a lot of craziness that went on there. I wrote a lot about it, but it was probably even more intense than that. To see all the girls walking around and they are six feet tall and 110 pounds, wearing fur bousties to work and six inch heels... It felt like the longest 11 months of my life.

Q: We all know how Andy Sachs got the job, but how did you get the job?

A: I may have gotten it in the exact same way. It was very similar. I had just graduated college... I sent out my resume to all the publishing houses in New York and the very first call I got was from Conde Nast... It unfolded in a very similar fashion where they asked if I read *Vogue* or knew the name of the editor-in-chief and we sort of went through that until I interviewed there. At the end of this very long day, I remember getting a phone call late that night saying we're pleased to offer you the job as Anna [Wintour]'s assistant. I said, 'Definitely, I'm on board.' And they told me to be there at 7 on Monday. I was like, 'That isn't going to work for me...' and they were like, 'See you at 7,' and hung up. That was my very first inkling of what was to come.

Q: We certainly know that in the novel you had the boss from hell. How much of that was what you experienced?

A: Anna was a great editor, but she was really, really tough. She demands the best and I think she produces the best as a result... Anna is similar in a lot of ways to the

character in the book.

Q: What did your job actually entail?

A: Absolutely anything that she asked me to do at any hour of the day. There was a lot of the usual assistant things that aren't so interesting such as the faxing, filing and Starbucks fetching six times a day. But, there was also model lineups... everyday always felt different. It was really glamorous and exciting. The girls that worked there looked like the girls in the magazine. There's something about working at *Vogue* that was such a once in a lifetime, bizarre, weird, but really kind of cool experience.

Q: What did it do for your fashion sense?

A: Not much. It made me more aware of how bad it was... The main difference between myself and the character in the book is that she made this complete transformation and redid herself, looked phenomenal, like she lost a 100 pounds and grew six inches, but that didn't happen to me. There was the occasional swag floating around the magazine and I could pick up a lot of that... One of my favorite parts of the movie is when Anne Hathaway is on the phone and she says, 'Can you spell Gabana?' That was very similar to me. I still can't pronounce names of a lot of the designers and that was not well tolerated... Overall though, it has certainly heightened my awareness of fashion, but not remedied it.

Q: How did you feel about the process and transformation of your book into a feature film?

A: Considering I didn't have to do it, I thought it was fantastic... I think [Fox] went through six screenwriters. They tried five men, all of whom failed. Finally, it brilliantly occurred to someone to hire a female to do it and that was the one that worked... [The first time I read the script] I literally laughed out loud and wished I would have thought of some of it first. I watched the movie so many times when it first came out and now it has been on HBO and I find myself constantly stopping and rewinding it. The part where Meryl Streep says, 'I thought I would hire the smart, fat girl' really got it dead on. I loved the movie.

Q: Since so much of what you have written is based on personal knowledge, do you spend a lot of time doing research?

A: The truthful answer is no. I spend a lot of time talking about doing research, but I really don't do a lot of research. I read a ton of magazines and a lot of books... I'm not really a big people person. There are definitely times I'll be out at night or at lunch with someone and you overhear something and it's too good not to use somewhere. For the most part, though, it's kind of what I think about.

Q: Tell us about your third book. Where are you in the process and what can we expect?

A: I am deadline late, but we have a tentative publication date set for October of next year. I am just submitting it now and we are about to start the edits. I don't have a title yet... It's the first book that I haven't written in the first person. It's equally about three characters and I switch every chapter. All are right around 30, still living in New York, but they make a pact... that everything is going to be different in one

year's time. One wants to be less monogamous, one wants to find a husband, and the third, who appears to have everything perfectly in line, is really having the worst time of all. Her life is a complete disaster. I haven't written the ending yet. It's the same feel as the other two books, but a little bit different.

Q: Has success changed you?

A: I don't think so. I grew up in a small town and I think it was what I value most about my upbringing. To not have grown up in New York and the crazy value that are associated with it was really nice. There's a more hectic schedule, neater chances for travel... things like that. I feel really lucky.

Q: What is your advice for young journalists getting ready to enter the workforce, especially in New York City?

A: Find a friend with a couch first of all. There is no better place in the world to start your career than New York. It is filled with young people from all over. I would say just get out there. It's not revolutionary, but I find that a lot of people don't take the time to actually write, not type, personal notes. I have had so many people comment on that the only thing that gets read is hand-written note, rather than just another computer-generated resume that gets tossed to the side. Anything that you can come up with that is a little bit clever, little bit different. The reason I think I got the call at Conde Nast, because I had no experience, was that my resume was layed out as a magazine. I'm sure it offended some people, but some others liked it. Anything you can do to distinguish yourself and not go by the book will get you noticed.



Lauren Weisberger signs books for her fans following her speech last Thursday.

Courtesy Lackawanna County Library System

FOOTBALL *from PAGE 20*

Everyone on the offense got set in their positions.

Karaffa tucked his hands under the center's bottom to snap the ball on the first play of the series.

Fumble.

Rowan's Robert Niszcza would pick up the loose change and their offense would cash in a touchdown 22 yards later on only five plays in 01:23.

The Colonels took the field with 00:59 remaining but only made it to their own 45 yard line before turning the ball over on downs to Rowan with 00:06 on the clock. Rowan's quarterback Mike Orihel would take a knee.

Game Over. The score, 21-14 Rowan.

After that heart-breaking loss following an undefeated season, Coach Sheptock enjoyed every bit of last season despite such a sudden ending.

"I had a group of players that really bought into our philosophy", said Sheptock.

"Our senior class last year was a special group. It was a bond there. I felt so proud to be the leader of that football team and to be able to interact with those players."

After going undefeated just a season ago, the Colonels have found themselves strug-

gling to get a win in their first two games against William Paterson and Montclair State. Both teams share the NJAC conference with Rowan.

During the Colonels first home outing against William Paterson, the team came close but no cigar. The Colonels seemed to be in control prior to a controversial call on special teams in the second quarter that favored William Paterson. The referee kept a close eye on senior wide receiver Gil Flores and stated that he touched the ball after calling a fair catch. The ball rolled into the end zone. William Paterson's Brian Stone fell on the ball for a touchdown during the closing minutes of the second half making the score 16-14 Colonels.

William Paterson would score later in the game on a 27 yard field goal attempt by Ricky Krautman with 01:29 remaining in the third quarter to put them up 17-16.

The Colonels could never respond after that.

On Saturday, the Colonels were at home once again but fell short 14-7 to Montclair State.

The Colonels were held scoreless until the fourth quarter after approximately an hour wait due to a lightning delay. The Colonels would return to the field at the Rowan's 5

yard line and tied the game at seven on a 2yard run by Al Karaffa with 05:53 remaining.

Three plays later, Montclair State drove 38 yards and ended the Colonels hope of winning with a touchdown putting them up 14-7. The Colonels held the ball for 04:17 before quarterback Al Karaffa threw an interception down field on Montclair's 3 yard line.

During the first two games the Colonels have scored a total of 23 points. At this point last season, they combined for 54 points. The first game was a blowout against William Paterson 31-3.

Next stop for the Colonels is Rowan University. The Colonels take on Rowan at home this Saturday at 1 pm for their third shot at revenge against the team coach Sheptock believes is supposed to be "the beast of the east."

Let's just hope this time there aren't any fumbles.

"All you do is try to keep your head out of last year", said Karaffa.

"You can't think about the fumble. You just got to come out and think it's a new season. We have a new team and we're ready to play."



The Beacon/James Rosato

Wilkes senior quarterback Al Karaffa takes snaps during practice. Their next game is at home on September 15 against Rowan.

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Hahn brings Wilkes records, experience to volleyball team as coach

BY CARLTON HOLMES

Beacon Sports Editor

One of the greatest players in Wilkes University's volleyball history returns to the floor this season for the Lady Colonels.

Nicole Hahn, a huge athlete stuffed into a 5'4 frame, has proved to be an integral part of the Lady Colonels overall team performance in recent years leaving nothing small about her game except, well, her height.

For the 2006 season, Hahn accounted for 770 of the team's 852 assists. That's 90.3% of the team's assists at the setter position. Their opponents totaled 1,015 as-

With 3,671 career assists under her belt, Hahn holds the Lady Colonels all-time record in that department. But it doesn't stop there.

She also holds Wilkes University's all-time record for digs with 1,232. Plus, in 2004 and 2005, Hahn was named to the All-Freedom Conference team.

Hahn was also named to *ESPN The Maga-*



zine College Division Academic All-American Second Team conducted by the College Sports Information Directors of America last season. She is a three-time member of the Middle Atlantic Conference's Academic Honor Roll because of her flawless 4.0 grade point average.

After starting all 30 games just a year ago, Hahn will be suiting up to help lift her team to victory at the Scranton Tournament this weekend.

Except this time Hahn's not serving as the team's setter but rather as the assistant coach.

"It's different", said Hahn. "It's hard to know that you can't go out there. You can't help them and can't do it [play] for them."

After playing on thin ice last season with a seven women roster in a sport that requires six players on the floor, head coach Alicia Orlowski's squad features ten bodies for her second go-round as the team's head coach.

Orlowski, who played Division-I volleyball at Coastal Carolina, believes this time

around should be better than the Lady Colonels 6-24 record of last season.

"We have a lot of potential this year," said Orlowski. "We definitely have potential to go into the playoffs for the Freedom Con-

"It's hard to know that you can't go out there. You can't help them and can't do it [play] for them."-Nicole Hahn

ference. That's our goal."

Last September, the short staffed Lady Colonels spent two days at the Scranton Tournament and lost all four of their contests against Montclair State (NJ) 3-2, St. Lawrence (NY) 3-2, York (PA) 3-0 and Mt. Aloysius (PA) 3-0.

This year, the Lady Colonels return five players including seniors Katherine Simons and Kristen Linhart with the addition of five freshmen to help chip in this weekend.

The Lady Colonels tip off the tournament

against John Hopkins (MD) on Friday at 4 p.m. Later that evening they will face Rowan University (NJ).

Depending on how the Lady Colonels perform in the first two games will determine who their opponents will be the following day. Conference rivals King's College and Scranton University will also be in action.

The Lady Colonels were fortunate to have a player of Hahn's caliber for the past four years and now the torch has been passed to sophomore setter LeeAnn Searfoss.

Searfoss has already dished out 174 assists during the initial six games for the Lady Colonels in which they posted a 2-4 record.

"To follow Nikki (Hahn), it's a big challenge because she was such a great player," said Searfoss.

"Then you got me. I'm the rookie. But, she's still here as the assistant coach. We go in early and we work together. I'm filling her void by keeping her running and cheating off her a little bit."

Hahn won't be handing out any assists this weekend, but rather handing out answers to the Lady Colonels on how to snatch some much needed victories this weekend.

Tennis standout aims for sophomore year ace

BY ALISSA LINDNER

Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

Last season, tennis standout Xiaoqiao Zhang dominated the Freedom Conference in her freshman campaign. This season, Zhang returns with hopes of dominating once again.

As a freshman, Zhang came to Wilkes University with hopes of being one of the top three singles players on the team. She quickly emerged as the number one singles player and the number one doubles player with partner Alison McDonald.

Throughout the 2006-07 season, Zhang dominated the court leading to a 19-2 first year record. She was also the MASCAC Player of the Year, the Freedom Conference Player of the Year and the number one Singles Champion in the Freedom Conference Tournament. However, Zhang's tennis career began long before last year.

Zhang was born and raised in China where she began playing tennis at 10-years old. She came by her skills naturally, though, as both of her parents are pro ping-pong players and Zhang learned that game before she picked up a tennis racket.

For her senior year of high school, Zhang participated in an exchange program which sent her to Warren Hills Regional High School in New Jersey where she played tennis and was named 1st Team All Conference and All State Singles Team. Having only been in the United States for a year,

Zhang chose a small Division-III university in Wilkes over a larger Division-I school.

One may question if the Freedom Conference is too easy for a player at Zhang's level. She disagrees. "They all have good players, and good teams," Zhang said. "Last year I had hard matches, but I think I did good."

After a successful freshman season, there is a certain amount of pressure for Zhang to compete at an even higher level than last season. Head women's tennis coach Chris Leicht explained, "She definitely has high expectations. I think a lot of people do for her. I don't think it will affect her negatively. She is a very hard worker." He also added Zhang is very competitive and gives 100% on the court, which makes her a dependable player.

Although Zhang succeeds as an individual, she also puts a significant emphasis on the whole team's success. She believes a single person can only succeed if the entire team works together and does well.

Leicht agreed, "She knows how important it is for the team to do well and she contributes in as many ways as she can to help her teammates out." He added Zhang is always cheering on teammates, always willing to work extra with teammates and enjoys the team aspect of tennis.

Zhang knows the importance of practice, explaining practice makes perfect, and al-

though you are not necessarily perfect, there is always the ability to get better. She also offered, "I think tennis depends on that day. Some days you have really bad days. It's awful and you can't really hit. But some days you put the ball wherever you want."

For now, Zhang is concentrating on working hard and doing her best. After suffering an injury over the summer, Zhang is back in action currently competing on the number one doubles team with McDonald and in the number one or two singles match.

The Lady Colonels tennis team will be in action this week at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 13, at Bloomsburg University.



The Beacon/Gino Troioni

Xiaoqiao Zhang shut down Misericordia University's Mangabang and Marywood University's Aubrey Kleish in two sets, 6-0, in Zhang's return from last season's conference championship appearance.

| Commentary |

GAME OF THE WEEK

New York Yankees v. Boston Red Sox

American League Rivals Square off at Fenway

BY TIM SEIGFRIED

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

It's nearly the end of the baseball season again, so that must mean it's time for a pivotal series between the Red Sox and the Yankees.

Last August, the two teams played in a five game series at Fenway Park in Boston, a series which essentially ended the season for the Red Sox as the Yankees won all five games by a combined score of 49-26.

The Yankees would go on to win the American League East division, while the Red Sox finished in third place; their lowest placing in nearly a decade.

This season, however, things are much different: The Red Sox have a commanding lead in their division, while the Yankees are still far from being a lock to make the playoffs, despite their current lead in the American League Wild Card standings.

Things could be much different next weekend, as the teams square off with a three game series at Fenway Park on Friday, September 13.

So far this season, the Yankees are 8-7 against the Red Sox, including a three game sweep at Yankee Stadium last month.

If New York is going to make a run at the AL East or stay in the lead in the Wild Card, the team will need to have similar success in its last series of the season with Boston.

The Yanks should have no problem on the offensive side of the ball. Their offense has been the most productive in the majors this season, due in part to the terrific season that

Alex Rodriguez is having.

A-Rod, who was much maligned last year by the fans for his inability to hit in the clutch in the playoffs, has exploded this season in a big way.

In April, he had record-tying 14 home runs, including game-winners. On August 4, he became the youngest player in major league history to hit 500 homeruns, when he connected in the Bronx against the Kansas City Royals.

That isn't the only big story for the Bronx Bombers this season, as they have had their own share of problems with the rest of their team this season.

After losing Jason Giambi for most of the first half, the Yankees have had to deal with the ineffectiveness of pitcher Mike Mussina, the recent struggles of Roger Clemens, while simultaneously having to groom two rookie pitchers, Phil Hughes and Ian Kennedy, to be the starters of the future.

Despite the shortcomings in their starting rotation, the Yankees have seen the emergence of Joba Chamberlain, a hard throwing relief pitcher who has yet to allow a run in 11 games, while striking out 18.

On the other side, the Red Sox have had their own fair share of struggles this season, including an early visit to the disabled list by pitcher Curt Schilling, a struggling and injured Manny Ramirez and poor performance by shortstop Julio Lugo and right fielder J.D. Drew, both expensive off-season acquisitions.

Even in the midst of those problems, the Red Sox have managed to put together a good season, while maintaining their lead in the AL East since early April.

Credit has to be given to some of the lesser known Sox, including third baseman Mike Lowell, rookie second baseman Dustin Pedroia and veteran pitcher Tim Lincecum, all three of whom are having great seasons.

Lowell has turned into an offensive force for the team by leading the Red Sox with his .326 batting average and 101 RBIs while providing great defense at third base.

Pedroia, in his first full season, has turned himself into a Rookie of the Year candidate with his .324 batting average, 45 RBIs and 75 runs.

Not to be overlooked, however, is Tim Lincecum, the 41-year old knuckle-ball



pitcher who has been with the Sox since 1995. Wakefield is among the league leaders in wins with 16, while providing a veteran presence to an increasingly younger Red Sox rotation, including Josh Beckett, a strong candidate for the AL Cy Young.

The strength of the Red Sox lies in its pitching, as they've assembled one of the best bullpens in the American League, leading in ERA(3.05) and saves(41).

With a bullpen that includes set-up man Hideki Okajima, recently acquired Eric Gagne veteran reliever Mike Timlin, and closing pitcher Jonathan Papelbon, the Red Sox have proved to be one of the hardest bullpens to beat.

Ultimately, it all comes down to starting pitching. Despite the Yankees recent struggles with their rotation, Andy Pettitte and Chien-Ming Wang have proven to be clutch performers, especially late in the season.

The Red Sox have clutch performers of their own, both with experience against New York: In the 2003 World Series, Josh Beckett mastered the Yankees when he was with the Florida Marlins. One year later, Curt Schilling would experience similar success in Yankee Stadium during the 2004 ALCS.

While this series won't make or break the playoff hopes of either of these teams, it will certainly provide the fans with yet another memorable Yankees and Red Sox series.

The pick:

Game 1: Yankees 5, Red Sox 3

Game 2: Red Sox 7, Yankees 2

Game 3: Red Sox 3, Yankees 1

Double Take

Steph examines the stats that truly matter...

BY STEPHANIE GERCHMAN

Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

I've been told that the New York Yankees and the Boston Red Sox are rival baseball teams. But I find it hard to believe that the Red Sox could be considered to be on the same level as the Yankees.

The Yankees clearly have the stronger team name. Why would anyone possibly name a team after an article of clothing in a particular hue?

Let's take a look back at history. During the American Civil War, Yankees supported the Union Soldiers. As anyone who has taken a history class should know, the Union Soldiers came out victorious. On the other hand, all that red sox are historically famous for is turning a load of white laundry pink.

If a ridiculous team name isn't enough to prove that the Red Sox will lose, how about an outfielder with a deliciously odd name? Try this name on for size, Coco Crisp. I kid you not.

His name is Coco Crisp.

Sorry, I had to say that twice to drive that point home. Honestly, who is cruel enough to name their son Coco, knowing that his last name would be Crisp? Maybe his parents were workers at the Post cereal company.

I'm suprised that the Red Sox didn't sign Cap'n Crunch or Count Chocula.

The Yankees have no team players named after cereal. They have manly names like Roger and Doug. Coco is hardly intimidating.

With a pathetic team name and a team player named after something children eat for breakfast, the Yankees should have this one in the bag.



Athlete of the Week:

Corey Tucker

BY CARLTON HOLMES

Beacon Sports Editor

During the 03:27 mark of the fourth quarter, the Colonels were down 17-16 to William Paterson (NJ).

The Colonels defense ran on the field knowing they needed a huge defensive series to give their desperate offense the ball back for one more shot at winning the first game of the season.

The defense lined up and senior All-American middle linebacker Kyle Follweiler looked over at first time junior starter Corey Tucker and said, "You want to be in this spot (OLB), you got to make a play."

He certainly did.

"The first play was a sweep. I seen the hole open up, shot the hole and made a tackle in the backfield," said Tucker.

That tackle forced William Paterson into second down and fourteen yards. They never made it to see another first down during that series thanks to Corey Tucker and the Colonels defense.

Although the Colonels lost 17-16, Tucker put on an outstanding defensive show flexing every time he sent a William Paterson player to the ground with one of his 7 tackles, 2.5 of which went for losses of 7 yards.

At 5'7, 193 pounds, Tucker has bounced around positions on the Colonels roster throughout his career. He has suited up as a CB, RB and SS before finding a home at the OLB position. Although he finds taking on 300 pound lineman difficult, his speed and versatility allows him to read plays and react quicker to the ball.

Plus, his parents were always in his ear giving him words of encouragement.

"I always been a small dude my whole life," said Tucker. "A small person playing big positions. Mom and Dad always told me 'don't let nobody tell you what you can and cannot do. If you want to do something make it happen yourself.'"

Tucker looks to continue making it hap-

pen at the OLB position and senior DE Jason Acquaye believes he will.

"It's a great time playing out there with Corey," said Acquaye. "This year, with him finally getting the opportunity to start, he



The Beacon/Cara Koster

took that opportunity and ran with it. I see big things happening with Corey Tucker."



The Beacon/Gino Troioni

Wilkes junior Alison McDonald gets ready to return a serve against Marywood University's Samantha Miller on September 6. McDonald would go on to win in two sets; 6-0, 6-0.

WEEKEND RECAPS

Football

The Wilkes University football team saw their season record go to 0-2 after a 14-7 loss to Montclair State on Saturday. Ryan McCoach rushed for 102 yards and scored both of The Red Hawks' touchdowns to win their season debut. Wilkes senior Al Karaffa passed for 145 yards with 2 interceptions, while being sacked 4 times.

Women's Soccer

Wilkes sophomore Julissa Reed scored her first collegiate goal after 5:36 seconds into the first overtime on Saturday to lead The Lady Colonels to a non-conference win over Lebanon Valley College to bring their record to 2-2. Wilkes senior goalie Liz Pauly had two saves on the day to earn her second shutout win of the season.

Men's Soccer

The Wilkes University men's soccer team scored their first win of the season on Saturday afternoon with a 3-2 win over Misericordia University. The win moved the Colonels record to 1-3, while dropping the Cougars to 2-2. The Colonels trailed 2-1 in the second stanza before scoring consecutive goals to gain the win. Bret Osswald tied the match at 2-2 with an unassisted goal. Wilkes senior Jimmy Thomas would provide Wilkes with the game-winning tally when he struck net off an assist from Greg Miller.

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

145

Number of passing yards by Wilkes senior Al Karaffa in the 14-7 loss to Montclair State on Saturday.

3

Number of goals scored by the men's soccer team in the 3-2 win over Misericordia University on September 5.

2

Number of goals by Wilkes senior Lauren Risser in the 3-0 win over Goucher on September 8.

113

Total number of defensive digs by the Wilkes volleyball team in their 3-2 loss against Misericordia University on September 6.



The Beacon/James Rosato

Colonel's Schedule

9/15 vs. Rowan

9/29 @ Lebanon Valley

10/6 vs. FDU-Florham

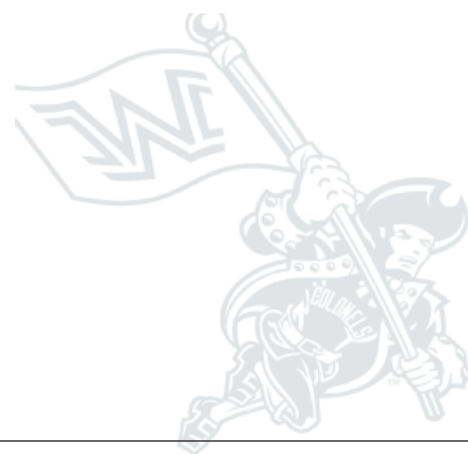
10/13 @ Lycoming

10/20 vs. Albright

10/27 @ King's

11/3 @ Del. Val.

11/10 vs. Widener



One More Shot at Revenge

Al Karaffa and the Colonels look to make up for last year's mishap

BY CARLTON HOLMES

Beacon Sports Editor

November 25, 2006 is a day the Colonels may never forget.

It was a beautiful fall day at Ralston Field and the Colonels were fired up after beating Washington & Lee at home the weekend before 42-0. That game would mark the Colonels first postseason victory in the history of the program.

The undefeated (11-0) Colonels were now ready to expand and add another game to the history books against Rowan University (NJ), the team that embarrassed them a year before in the first round at

Glassboro, NJ 42-3. But this time it was the second round and the Colonels had one thing on their mind. Revenge.

Both sides of the field were packed with fans rooting for their respective teams. Rowan's entourage proudly wearing their brown and yellow apparel, while Wilkes fans were sporting navy and gold. Both crowds screaming inspirational chants hoping they will get a chance to cheer next weekend for the third round of the D3 national tournament.

After scoring six touchdowns the year before to the Colonels none, both teams were dead even

at one touchdown a piece entering the fourth quarter.

The quarter would begin with a 33 yard punt by Rowan's Charles Bupp from their on 7 yard line to the Colonels senior wide receiver Jim Jordan. Jordan returned the punt for 1 yard to Rowan's 39 yard line putting junior quarterback Al Karaffa and his offense in position to take the lead and leave the rest to the Colonels stingy defense that allowed only 7.5 points a game prior to.

The Colonels did just that. They scored.

Karaffa completed two passes for 34 yards putting the Colonels

at the 5 yard line. Senior running back Tom Andreopolous would pick up the garbage on a 5 yard run that put the Colonels up 14-7 with 13:52 left in the game.

Now it was up to the Colonels defense to hold up and send their team into the next round and three games away from a shot at the national championship.

The Colonels shut down Rowan for two series before giving up a touchdown with exactly 03:00 remaining. Eager to take the lead, Rowan went for a two point conversion that resulted in an incomplete pass leaving the score 14-13 Colonels.

Revenge was now officially in the air and the ecstatic Colonel fans were breathing in every ounce.

At this point, all the Colonels needed to do is run the ball to take time of the clock and begin dancing into the next round.

Not so fast.

Rowan's Matias Spahn kicked the ball 50 yards to Jordan for a 7 yard gain putting the Colonels on their own 22 yard line. Karaffa and the rest of the Colonels anxious offense would take the field with 2:47 remaining on the clock.

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