

Tri-State Rail System Page 8



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Il Y A Longtemps Que Je T'aime Page 13

APRIL 28, 2009

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

Volume 61

VRC rally, memorial for Rogers-Buckner held HIV panel to

AMY FUSCO

Beacon News Editor

"2-4-6-8, no more date rape!"

On Tuesday, April 21, at 6 p.m., this chant could be heard down the streets of Wilkes-Barre during a Victims Rights Rally held by the local Victims Resource Center (VRC). Wilkes University students, other area colleges and local community members participated in a walk from campus to the VRC. In addition to the rally, a memorial was held for the recently deceased Kewaii Rogers-Buckner, a sophomore nursing student at Wilkes University who was murdered in her home, an alleged victim of domestic violence.

Valerie Martinez, senior communication studies major, led the chant while many people marched behind her. The Victims Rights Rally for crime prevention occurs every April in honor of the National Victims Rights Rally. This year was its 25-year celebration.

As the crowd marched down River Street, up Market Street and eventually to South Franklin Street, cars honked to show sup-



The Beacon/Amy Fusco

Approximately 100 people marched through the streets of Wilkes-Barre during the annual Victims Rights Rally held by the local Victims Resource Center (VRC).

port for the rally. By the time participants arrived at the VRC, there were approximately 100 people gathered. Students from Miscercordia University and Luzerne County

Community College were there, along with the King's College football team.

See MEMORIAL page 4

ience tests students' faith

Whether secular or faith-based, university life impacts religious practice

BY NICOLE FRAIL Beacon Managing Editor

& ANDREW SEAMAN Beacon Editor-in-Chief

As a practicing Muslim, Silvia Silvi is expected to pray five specific times each day and fast during certain times of the year. However, since beginning college at Wilkes University in 2006, Silvi has admitted to skipping prayers due to classes and other

school-related obligations. As a result, she feels as though her faith has weakened.

"We have specific prayer times, and most of that happens while I'm in classes. So, I can't pray as much as I used to," said Silvi, a P1 pharmacy student.

Since Wilkes University is the only private, secular four year institution in the area, a wide variety of faiths are practiced on campus.

According to statistics provided by Brian

Bogert, assistant director of Institutional Research, a percentage of Wilkes students stop identifying with a religion altogether between the time they begin classes at Wilkes and graduation. Surveys are distributed at freshman orientation and then again before graduation to gather this information.

In 2004, 8.4% of incoming freshman selected "None" when asked what their

See FAITH page 3

"bust myths" with stories

BY JACOUELINE LUKAS Beacon Asst. News Editor

& AMY FUSCO

Beacon News Editor

This Thursday, April 30, Wilkes University will host a panel discussion to promote HIV awareness at 6 p.m. in the Miller Conference room. The panel titled, "Awareness. Action. Education: Living with HIV," will feature six panelists. Three are members of the HIV community and the remaining three panelists work within the HIV community.

In addition to the panel, there will be a free HIV screening in the Hiscox room which will be conducted by the Wyoming Valley AIDS Council.

"Last semester, I worked on my capstone, which was on HIV disclosure because I have friends within the HIV population," said Valerie Martinez, a senior communication studies major, who coordinated the

HIV medical professionals on the panel include Megan Margavage, coordinator for case management of Wyoming Valley AIDS Council; Michelle Crackett, nurse for the Department of Health of Pennsylvania; and Sheree Nelson, representative from a pharmaceutical company, Abbott Laboratories.

In addition, the panel will include three HIV positive community members. Andy, founder of Luzerne County We Care, and Bryan and Maria, also HIV positive community members. The last names of the HIV positive panelists are not given to maintain

See HIV PANEL page 2



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NEWS **APRIL 28, 2009**

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HIV PANEL from FRONT PAGE

some level of privacy. All panelists will have about 10 to 15 minutes to speak and then there will be an open question and answer

Margavage, said she plans to talk about what the Wyoming Valley AIDS Council can provide, how people can get the free testing offered by the center, and answer any questions that students have.

Crackett will educate about STDs, HIV and pregnancy. These are topics that should concern students because, according to the Department of Health, many people opt to be tested only for HIV and not other STDs, which is problematic particularly for any youth-populated community.

the different medications for HIV positive people. She will also offer an "HIV 101" quiz, said Margavage.

The HIV positive community members, Andy, Bryan and Maria, will offer their stories as to how they contracted the disease. Andy is the founder of We Care which is a support organization for the HIV community. Bryan and Maria are open HIV community members and have done panels prior to this

The Wyoming Valley AIDS Council assists clients by using a method called case management. After someone tests positive for HIV, the center helps them get on the right track with medicine and visits to the doctor. The council also helps clients with their finances because the medicine can be Nelson will offer insights into very expensive. If clients are eli-

gible for prescription drug plans, like the Special Pharmaceutical Benefits Program, the council can help clients work with plans like SPBP and also get funding from the government.

"One of the drugs that I did some research on... it cost somebody almost \$30,000 a year, just for the drug alone. It cost about \$1,500 a month for each prescription for a 30-day supply of the medicine," said Margavage.

Margavage wants to point out to college students that HIV and AIDS doesn't target people. It is random and it can happen to anyone. People need to get educated on the subject of HIV, AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases.

"The most important thing is that you just have to get tested. Or just be aware that you could be at risk," said Margavage.

One student, Carolyn Holecek, a sophomore nursing major is going to the HIV panel because she thinks students should know more about HIV and AIDS. Holecek was educated about HIV and AIDS in a sexual education class in high school, but would like to see more sexual education throughout high school and college. She also likes the idea of a panel discussion.

"I thought it was an interesting way to present the information. Obviously, anyone can do their own research but having a panel discussion, you are able to have question and answer sessions. Also, you are able to relate a face to a story... It makes the story more tangible than just reading statistics and viewing the person as a number," said Holecek.

The Wyoming Valley AIDS Council works with about 100 clients at any given time. Margavage also supervises another case manager at the AIDS Council, Matt Semanision.

Martinez wants more students to have knowledge about HIV and AIDS.

"I'll be really please if people become more informed," said Martinez.

Throughout her work, Margavage has seen a big stigma on AIDS in this area. "I still hear people saying, 'It's a gay man's disease.' This is going back twenty years ago already. Now it's coming back out that I'm hearing these phrases," said Margavage.

Martinez hopes that the panel discussion will be a "mythbuster" and she hopes it will decrease the stigma that comes with the issue.

Rove's national experience highlights talk

BY JACOUELINE LUKAS Beacon Asst. News Editor

On Wednesday April 15, Karl Rove, a chief strategist for the George W. Bush administration spoke in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center.

Rove helped Bush get elected governor and president, twice.

He is still sought after as a political consultant, obviously for Republicans," said Dr. Thomas Baldino, professor of politcal science.

Some students were impressed with Rove's stop at Wilkes University. Rove said he likes to get the word out by speaking to college Republicans.

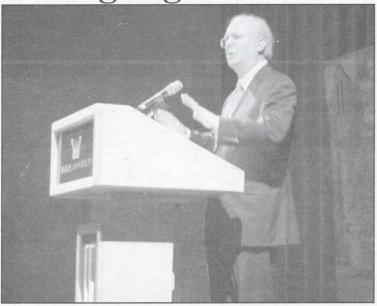
"I didn't think somebody as important or prestigious as Karl

Rove would speak at Wilkes University," said Lauren Benhamou, a political science major.

When Amanda Parfitt, another political science major, heard that Rove was coming to Wilkes, she was surprised by the news.

Adam Szumski, a political science major, said that he was happy to be able to see Rove in person but was upset that he went into the anatomy of campaigns which, to Szumski, is essentially marketing techniques. Szumski noted he would have been more pleased with a discussion about his role in the White House but was pleased overall.

In his address to students, one of Rove's main points was about



The Beacon/ Jacqueline Lukas

Rove touched on many topics during his speech including what makes a good election and how important voting is.

Correction

In April 7 issue of The Beacon, Kewaii Rogers-Buckner was identified as a junior. She was a sophomore.

Also in the April 7 issue, Lori Drozdis was named as the director of the nursing department. Lori Drozdis is the director of experiential learning in the nursing department. Mary Ann Merrigan is the chair of the nursing department. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

> - ANDREW SEAMAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

See ROVE page 5

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Editorial Staff 2008-09

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Nicole Frail **Managing Editor**

FAITH

from FRONT PAGE

current religious preference was. Before graduation in 2008, the same students were surveyed again and this time 14.3% selected "None" as their answer. These numbers show an increase in approximately 6% of students who no longer felt that they identified with a particular faith.

In addition, the number of students who had initially answered that they preferred Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist, Baptist, Episcopal, and Presbyterian faiths also decreased.

In 2007, The Washington Times reported that 59% of students who graduate from college with a bachelor's degree or higher admit to attending religious services less often than they did before beginning school.

"I think while breaking people up into groups can create cliques—where the Muslim students stay over here, and the Catholic students stay over here, and the Christian students stay over here —I think Wilkes, who for many years didn't permit faith-based groups, did it for that very reason. They wanted them coming together to have those conversations to understand and support each other. But I think by having the various groups, they can learn and grow, and become more educated in their own faith-based tradition as well," said Theresa Monaco, Interfaith Coordinator at Wilkes University.

According to Robert Shearn, associate campus minister at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, students often disaffiliate themselves with organized religions when they begin college; however, of those that leave faith behind while at school, many return to

a different religion and are deeply committed to it.

Shearn says that this may be due to the influence that parents have over their children's religious practices in their earlier years. Once in college or away from home, students tend to find a faith or religion that they feel is better for them. Because it is something they chose, they may be more passionate about their beliefs and practices.

Both Silvi and freshman Kim Feliciano say their families influenced the faiths they identify with.

"My mom and I are very close. So she can just kind of see how unhappy it makes me that I find it so much harder to make it to mass [since starting school] and to really keep up with faith the way I used to. So, my mother can see how hard it is for me. She was a huge encouragement for me to change to a school where that would be easier for me," said Feliciano

According to Monaco, there are many reasons why a student's faith may be questioned, weakened, or altogether forgotten during their college years. The most prominent being the stress of school work and decrease in free time to dedicate to practicing their religion.

"I would say that my faith has kind of weakened a little, because of all the conflicts. I've been trying to get it back on track," said Silvi.

Erin Wimer, a junior English secondary education major says her relationship with God grew stronger after coming to college.

She said, "Coming to college made my relationship with God much stronger. I've been in so many situations where He is the only person I have to rely on. On campus we have a Christian Fellowship Club where

I met a lot of other Christians with whom I can talk to about any struggles I am encountering. The club has also been a place where I experienced spiritual growth through worship, fellowship, and scripture."

Students may also find that their beliefs don't match others on campus and fitting in with a group of friends is difficult. Many times, students may feel as though they may have to sacrifice their religious beliefs to have a social life.

"While most of the campus would probably profess themselves to be Christian in some denomina-



The Beacon/ Teresa Monaco

The Feast on Faith is held by the Interfaith Office. A representative council of students from different religions talk about some stipulations that they may have previously had about other religions. It is open dialogue between faiths.

tion, whether that be Catholic or Protestant, the majority of them don't take it very seriously. So when someone does come along, who takes their faith seriously, there is kind of a, 'I'm a Christian – you can do that stuff' the dismissing of the sense that they want to take it more seriously," said Monaco.

In some cases, the availability of school support may not be evident or strong enough for students to feel comfortable expressing their faith on campus.

"I feel that Theresa does a great job as campus [interfaith coordinator] but I don't think the university as a whole really supports us. I say that because there are many things that we want to do, but sometimes the question is, 'how much can we get away with before the school pulls the plug?' Not in a bad way, but the school wants to not have to deal with it, and that's what makes me feel that [faith] is not an important issue," said Feliciano, who is leaving Wilkes at the end of this semester to attend an institute with a chapel and larger, more active Newman Club on campus. Newman Club is a national Catholic campus ministry gro

As a college affiliated with the Catholic religion, King's College also finds difficulty accommodating students of other religions. Approximately 75% of King's students are Catholic; therefore, many attend the masses and devotional practices that are held on campus.

Not all students find it harder to practice their religion at Wilkes.

"The nice thing about being in Wilkes is that I can easily practice my religion at any one of the many nearby synagogues. Campus Interfaith has been a great asset because I am able to meet with others to talk about religion," says Rachel Rubinstein, a sophomore entrepreneurship major who identifies with Judaism.

Shearn and others attempt to reach out to students of other religions—and even those of agnostic beliefs—through programs such

as Prospective on Scripture, which is similar to Wilkes's Feast on Faith, and service projects.

While King's is a Catholic institution and Wilkes is secular, both institutions agree that in order to show all students that they support their religions or faiths, they have to provide a neutral prayer room.

"I really think that it is incumbent upon the campuses to make provisions for this to happen... To offer a space where students can go and pray five times a day if their faith requires. We don't have such a space here on King's campus. We do have a chapel, but it's a decidedly Christian chapel. I think it would be good for us to put something in place that's kind of a neutral place where students from other faith traditions can go and pray or worship in ways that are appropriate for them," said Shearn.

"The idea of having a sacred space on campus is something that universities across the country have put in place. Usually, it is set up to be a universal space. So it is something that any faith tradition can use," said Monaco.

According to Dr. Maria Suarez, director of the Center for Global Education and Diversity at Wilkes, one room in Chase Hall has been designated prayer room for Muslim students, but she has found that most students have continued using a room located in the basement of the Farley Library, which had been used as a prayer space in the past.

"We have not been contacted about any specific issues, and because the Interfaith Coordinator is housed in Student Affairs, we offer our collaboration – we talk – but there hasn't been anything very specific where they've requested our collaboration. So I don't know of any specific issues students are having," said Suarez.

Suarez added that she would like to hear from students if they feel the Center can help them.

Wilkes University Religous Demographic

Your current religious preference	CIRP	CSS Change
Baptist	4.4%	3.6% -0.8%
Buddhist	0.4%	0.8% 0.4%
Eastern Orthodox	2.0%	2.0% 0.0%
Episcopal	2.0%	1.2% -0.8%
Hindu	0.4%	0.4% 0.0%
Islamic	0.0%	0.0% 0.0%
Jewish	1.6%	2.4% 0.8%
LDS (Mormon)	0.0%	0.0% 0.0%
Lutheran	6.8%	4.4% -2.4%
Methodist	9.6%	8.4% -1.2%
Presbyterian	2.0%	0.8% -1.2%
Quaker	0.4%	0.4% 0.0%
Roman Catholic	49.0%	43.8% -5.2%
Seventh Day Adventist	0.0%	0.0% 0.0%
United Church of Christ	2.0%	2.4% 0.4%
Other Christian	9.2%	12.0% 2.8%
Other Religion	2.0%	3.2% 1.2%
None	8.4%	14.3% 5.9%

Courtesy of the Higher Education Research Insititue

264 Freshman took the CIRP, Cooperative Institutional Research Program, in 2004 and then the same students took the CSS, College Senior Survey, in 2008.

MEMORIAL from FRONT PAGE

During the event, several speakers presented at the podium, including survivors of violence. Some of the survivors were victims of sexual abuse, arson, gun violence, and rape.

Within the crowd of people, several students carried a sign in Roger-Buckner's honor.

After the walk, the memorial for Kewaii Rogers-Buckner began at 7:30 p.m. Several professors, co-workers, friends and students spoke about the much missed student who was the mother of three. People who walked in the march were required to buy a t-shirt, which contributed to the VRC and a portion of it will be given to Rogers-Buckner's children.

Veronica Marzonie, senior nursing student and a student coordinator of the event explained, "The memorial was a chance for those who knew her to say farewell and to hopefully gain some semblance of closure."

Rogers-Buckner worked full-time as a respiratory therapist at Mount Pocono Medical Center while she attended school full-time and raised her children. She arrived in Wilkes-Barre following her displacement during Hurricane Katrina. Although she was very busy, many people spoke about her smile and her positive attitude.

"I think that for those of us in nursing, the best thing we can do to honor Kewaii is to finish our degrees, something she wanted so much, and to live and work each day being the best nurses that we possibly can," said Mar-

zonie. "If we provide compassionate care and advocate for those in need, like we are at this event, we will honor her memory and hopefully she will see and it will bring her peace," she added.

"We can't change the past but we can affect the future, this walk and memorial is one way," Marzonie added. According to attendees, the event provided strength and unity, as well as an opportunity to do something about a situation nobody had control over.

Erin Bufford, sophomore nursing student, was in charge of a portion of the memorial.

"I think it went well really well," Bufford stated, "Considering the rain situation held up for us, it was a good turnout." She explained that they are going to continue selling the tshirts to raise money to send to Roger-Buckner's children.

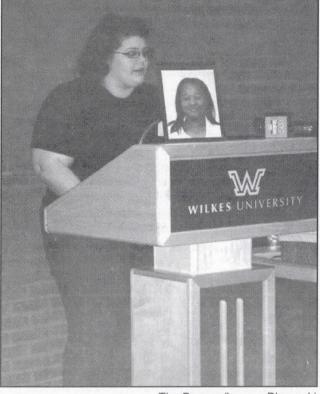
which she noted takes about two months to

"We had a lot of student participation," said Boone. "We really couldn't have done it without the help from our student coordinators," she added. They also received tremendous support from people at the VRC. Furthermore, Boone felt the event was a nice way to showcase where the VRC is located and it was nice to have the survivors speak who have received helped from VRC.

"I think not only does crime affect everyone, but people don't have to be victims. They can be survivors," Boone commented, "There are resources and counselors available, not only on campus but at the Victims Resource Center that are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week." Next year, she hopes that even more people join them in the rally.

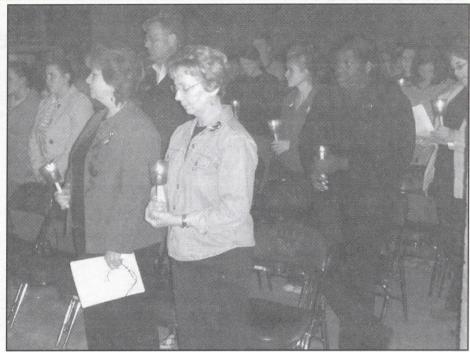
Pat Rushton, VRC outreach & education manager, was present at both events. This semester, he instructed a men's group course on Wilkes campus. It is a five course program that teaches men about sexual violence. Rushton worked with Dr. Mischelle Anthony, assistant professor of English and Boone to coordinate the program for eight or nine Wilkes male students.

"The five-week program educates men about what we can do as men to try to stop sexual violence on this campus and influence [positive] behaviors," Rushton said. "It is to empower men to start impacting change, change in attitudes and of course,



The Beacon/Lauren Biernacki

Megan Boone, community Several speakers, including students, friends and professervice coordinator, also helped sors, honored Rogers-Buckner at the memorial. T-shirts coordinate the rally event, are being sold to raise money for her three children.



The Beacon/Lauren Biernacki

Wilkes community members attended the memorial in honor of Kewaii Rogers-Buckner, who was victim to alleged domestic violence.

behaviors," he added.

Students participated in role plays, scenarios and watched educational videos. The program ran from February to March this

year. They are hoping to continue the program next spring semester. In the fall, Rushton will be instructing King's College students.

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ROVE

from PAGE 2

elections. He offered nine ideas for what comprises successful to run a successful campaign...are applicable to any party: Democrat, Republican, Socialist, Communist, Liberterian... you name it. You can use those points," said Baldino.

"What he said that day about elections was pretty spot-on. Everything he said you can pretty much see from what plays out during an election. He's a very intelligent man and I think that's obvious by the fact that he got George Bush to win twice in a row," said Benhamou.

Rove also noted how important voting is. He talked about how certain tactics during campaigns can make or break an election.

"He made a very important point that Obama used a lot of things [tactics.] He was just a man that everyone loved, pretty much. He was really suave in the way he spoke and he was really in-tune with certain constituencies like teenagers and younger voters. John McCain just didn't do enough to reach out to those voters," said Parfitt.

Rove pointed out that the three things that differentiated the parties and ultimately led

to the election of President Obama were a natural desire for a Democratic candidate, Obama's plan for change and money.

In Baldino's eyes, the lecture was straightforward and easily digestible. Rove did not "dumb it down" for college students. Baldino also thought that during the formal part of Rove's presentation, he was only mildly partisan. During his question and answer period, he became increasingly partial towards the Republican party.

Rove was a professional Republican operator. Now Rove helps acts as a fundraiser for the Republican party and also does commentary for FOX news.

Szumski added that it is easy for people to despise or hate the Karl Rove they see on FOX news for the 30 seconds that they see him.

Parfitt and Benhamou agreed that it is important for students to go to understand the sides of each party.

"If a college student doesn't understand the contemporary American politics and wants to know, 'What do Republicans stand for?' 'What do Democrats stand for?' they need to go to events like this. Because what you heard from Rove during the question period is what Republicans believe," said Baldino.

SG Notes April 22, 2009

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS Beacon Asst. News Editor

Treasurer's Report

All College: \$170.14 Conference: \$4,982.09

Leadership: \$4,497.29 Start-Up: \$2,100.00

Start-Up: \$2,100.00 Spirit: \$4,000.00 General: \$3,788.76

Special Projects: \$954.06

Club Reports

Programming Board MSC

New Business

-Sociology/Criminology Constitutional Revisions (Week 1 of 2) Approved

-Senior Class Donation Request (Week 1 of 1) \$2,500 allocated for Senior Week

-Terzaghi Lab Donation Request (Week 1 of 1) Pushed to next meeting

-IRHC Constitutional Revisions (Week 2

of 2) Revisions approved
-SIFE Fund Request (Week 2 of 2) \$1,500

to cover a conference in Philadelphia
-SIFE Constitutional Revisions (Week 2 of 2) Revisions approved

-SG Constitutional Revisions (Week 2 of 2) Revisions approved

2) Revisions approved -Free Roard Nomination

-Exec. Board Nominations (Week 1 of 2) SG Budget (Week 1 of 2) questions proposed for next week

-Acceptance: President, Nick Koch

Old Business

office manager

ASME Fund Request
Spring Fling Budget
Advancement Committee

Proposals
Faculty & Staff Awards:
Dr. Matthew Zukoski (math
and computer science--posthumous award), Margie Sromovsky, Student Development

Events

Spring Fling, Dinner at Tiffany's April 24 --- Relay for Life, April 25-26 Study Break Party, April 30

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

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

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Lawmakers push for Tri-**State Rail Authority** Page 8

OpinionApril 28, 2009

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The Beacon wishes Dr. Andrea Breemer Frantz good luck

BY THE BEACON Editorial Board

Our editorial boards are always about a significant issue in the world or on campus, and this week is no different. For almost a decade, The Beacon has been lead by Dr.

Andrea Breemer Frantz, who is known to students and faculty alike as Andrea. She has

been the one constant element of this paper. Andrea will be leaving Wilkes to follow her family west, and take a position at another university in Pittsburgh. She leaves behind an amazing legacy and incredibly huge

shoes to fill. Every year, The Beacon is reborn with new students, but Andrea has always been there to give us her guidance and point us in the right direction. We would be remiss if we failed to acknowledge the major contributions she has made to The Beacon over the past decade.

Andrea came to Wilkes University in the late 1990s with her family from Iowa. She often jokes that she left a beautiful scenic Midwestern town, where the pelicans would fly against the sunset, to South Franklin Street in Wilkes-Barre, where her daughter found a syringe in their front yard.

Since that time, the area has improved and she has become an institution throughout the Wyoming Valley. She first worked alongside Mr. Tom Bigler, a local media legend. She began teaching courses at Wilkes with Bigler when his sight began to deteriorate. Eventually, she took over his courses when he re-

Andrea was then told that she would be taking over The Beacon as advisor a year later.

Since that time, Andrea has taken The Beacon from a newspaper struggling to survive to a nationally recognized, award winning newspaper.

During her time at Wilkes, Andrea has also served as a tireless advocate for the First Amendment on campus. She took her mass communication law class's final project and turned it into one of the most successful First Amendment Weeks in the country.

However, Andrea is probably best known for her report with her students. She has always been known as a person that can find the best in everyone, and is always willing to help.



Courtesy Marketing Communications

Dr. Andrea Breemer Frantz has served as the advisor of The Beacon for almost a decade. She will be leaving after this semester to become a professor at a university in Pittsburgh.

munication studies department newsletter, Antion herself in The Beacon, but her contribudrea talked about how much she will miss her students at Wilkes University.

"They are far and away the most wonderful students I have ever worked with. I have loved my students at Wilkes. They are often this great mix of raw talent and naiveté, and they come in like that. You get to watch them morph over four years into these fabulous people who are going to go off and do important things, and it is a privilege to be a small part of that over the four years. That's the hardest thing to leave. I don't know if it is magic that happens here, but I think it's unusual to be able to develop the types of relationships that we do here at Wilkes. I don't know if that happens anywhere else. In fact, I am pretty sure that it doesn't. That's hard to leave," she said.

In an interview with *The Medium*, the com- Andrea has always made it a point to not men-

tions to Wilkes and The Beacon are hard to

The entire staff of The Beacon would like to thank Andrea, and wish her and her family the best of luck in their future endeavors. You will always have a place here at Wilkes, Andrea.

Best of Luck!

Talking Points



The Beacon staff wishes Dr. Andrea **Breemer Frantz** the best of luck!



Andrea does not know that we are writing this editorial.



She will be angry about it... it was worth it.

The angry rant: The final rant

BY TIM SEIGFRIED Wilkes Alumnus

After spending the better part of the last three years of my life at Wilkes, I've come to the conclusion that college is nothing more than a gigantic cluster-eff that is designed to take your money and waste your time. Granted, it does give you the tools you need to be successful down the road, and I don't want to take anything away from the fine professors at Wilkes (that's not sarcasm, by the way), but the college experience could be made to be so much

And really, what is college except a micro-chasm of life? People waste your time and your money while giving you the run around in some sort of bureaucratic nightmare. A stack of paperwork that never gets filed, bills that never stop, and a promotion that never comes. We all just end up reaching out for the carrot that we are never going to catch...

And that's why it is up to us - up to us– to make something of ourselves. No one is going to reach down and give you your life, despite what "The Hills" would have you believe.

Let's face it, our generation isn't known for its get up and go-ism. We aren't known for our drive or ingenuity. We aren't the greatest generation. We're the laziest generation. We were raised on high-speed internet and 200 channels of HD entertainment. We don't know of DOS based

computers or black and white televisions. All we know is that we want everything yesterday, and bigger and louder than ever. We are laughed at. We are mocked. Youtube and MySpace have turned us into jokes.

Rant about something. Anything. Write your local congressman about why you're pissed off. Throw your own tea party. Run for a cause. Run for office. Do something that will make you stick out above the white noise. Nobody will find Waldo when Waldo looks like everyone else. STAND OUT. There are a lot of problems with this city, this county, this state, this country, and this world, and in a decade or so, we are going to be the ones that are in charge. That's a scary thought, considering that most of the guys I know in high school barely have enough brain cells left to load their bong.

How will our generation be remembered? As a bunch of lazy kids who were handed everything? Or are we going to be recognized as being better than the generations that came before?

That's for you to decide.

Alright, everyone. This is it. Over two years, 40-some articles, and too many edited words, this is the final installation of "The Angry Rant." The time has come for yours truly to hang 'em up and begin my life as a young professional.(HA!)

I've had a blast writing these week in and week out, and I hope you had a blast (or at least, some mild amusement) in reading my complaints about anything and everything. To think, this whole thing started when I

was watching "The View," which might just you can find me on the internets, where be the most productive thing that has ever come of that show.

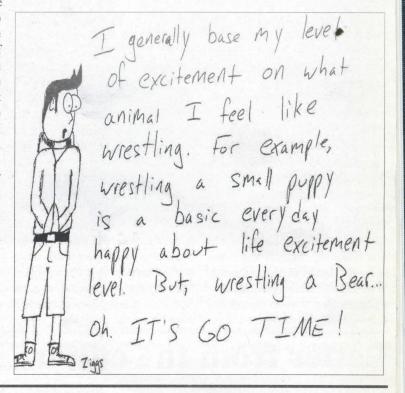
There are a ton of people I need to thank, starting first and foremost with Dr. Andrea Frantz, who offered me a position on The Beacon. Although I have no doubt that she did it out of pity in an act of charity, she is the reason that I got to see the word "douchebag" printed in a college newspaper. To all the editors, staff members, contributors, I thank you as well. But most importantly, I

thank the people (all eight of you) who took five minutes out of their day to read this silly little column. Without you, as cliché as this sounds, I wouldn't have a reason to do this. I thank you for your comments, your criticisms, and your threats. I did this to make you laugh, make you think, and to make you angry.

And for those that are still interested in following me on exploits,

I'll be complaining to a world wide audience. Check out www.TheAngryRant. com for more rants, musings, criticisms, witticisms, and other such nonsense. And I'll also be contributing over at www.The-Fightins.com, so be sure to check that out as well.

Once more, this has been a ton of fun for me, and I can only hope that it was fun for you. Thank you, thank you, and thank you again.



Parking tickets put damper on end of the semester

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA

Beacon Asst. Op/Ed Editor

Now that the semester is literally on its last footing, all the headaches that go along with the 15 grueling weeks of playing the life of a scholar are officially almost gone.

Oh, wait a minute, not all the headaches. There's one other headache to get through before we can go home: paying all those parking tickets amassed throughout the semester.

I've been smooth sailing through the semester, ducking and evading the parking police with the efficiency and cunning of a fox. That was, of course, until last week. It was like hell week; I was hit with not only one parking ticket, but two, on the same day! One from the city of Wilkes-Barre, and one from the school.

Understandably all the blame falls on me for being ignorant to the rules, which is fine. I deserved those tickets. But you know what

really ruffles my feathers? The fact that a fines from a parking ticket. ticket from the city of Wilkes-Barre is only \$10 if paid within three days of the writeup. If it's from Wilkes University? \$25.

Where exactly did the school get the idea for the parking tickets to cost \$25? You know what that is? That's almost ten large sized Gelati's from Rita's that I cannot indulge in because I'm \$25 in the hole.

Seriously though, we're already giving this school \$37,000 plus of our hard earned parents' money. Why do we have to give them more? I understand charging those who don't have parking passes (like me), and are lazy (also like me), but that's not the issue. The issue is why does it have to be so much? Honestly, if someone (like myself) is working at minimum wage and can only work a few hours a week on top of school, that \$25 is like half a paycheck!

We're paying Wilkes University über amounts of dough to attend and get a decent education; cut us some slack in the hefty

ing to account for the students and faculty for parking? on campus. We have the lot over in Ralston and we have the SUB parking lot. Those are the two big daddies on campus, as well as the parking garage, the little tiny parking lots behind Towers and the UCOM, and around the Marts. But there are over 2,000 students that attend this fine institution, most of whom have cars. Now total all those up. Can the lots I just named total 2,000 spaces? Heck no. Not even close actually. Not to mention that many of the faculty get here earlier than students and often stay later, taking up crucial parking spots all

Yes, there are places on the street that students can park. Well you know what that means? I'll tell you what that means, it means that we have to dish out our quarters and dimes every single day to the parking meters, just another expenditure that makes

college even more expensive. Can't there be Here's the issue: there's not enough park- a place in that \$37,000 tuition somewhere

Now let's get this straight. I sincerely can say that I love Wilkes University; I really can. I love the small school atmosphere the close knit family-like feeling I get when I walk around campus. I know every need of every person cannot be met; it's impossible. But is it too much to ask to lower the fine just a little bit? Isn't \$25 a bit of overkill? If the city of Wilkes-Barre only charges \$10, why can't we?

I like what my high school did: pay five dollars to park in the parking lot for the whole year. But one little kicker, we got that money back at the end of the year! Then it worked out for everybody! Everyone who had a car got to park, and it wasn't leaving our wallets with dust inside.

Cut us some slack, please? Lower the prices, follow the city's lead and charge \$10

U.S. reps push for tri-state rail system

BY GINO TROIANI
Beacon Opinion Editor

Late last February, four U.S. Congressmen drafted a letter addressed to Governor Rendell in hopes of gaining support for a commuter railway system that would connect the tri-state area.

In the letter, Reps. Paul Kanjorski and Chris Carney, and Sens. Arlen Specter and Bob Casey pleaded their case, urging Rendell to form a Tri - State Authority between Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York to oversee the management of the proposed project to provide rail services between Northeastern Pennsylvania and New York City.

They said the, "...proposed rail will serve as a tremendous economic development initiative by allowing consumers in New York and New Jersey to visit attractions in Northeastern Pennsylvania," adding that the 100-mile system across New Jersey would also make the Poconos and Pennsylvania casinos more accessible, something I feel is a great idea.

New Jersey Transit says it has invested \$40 million in the Lacka-

wanna Cut-off Project, in an effort to re-establish a 28-mile stretch that runs between Port Morris, N.J., and the Delaware Water Gap which once served as a route for commuter trains, but was dismantled when the property was sold years ago. Otherwise, rail lines between Scranton and New York are mostly in place.

The 60-mile stretch from Scranton to the Pennsylvania border already holds one line that hosts freight trains, but it will have to be upgraded with more ties to accommodate higher speeds — 40 mph for freight and 60 mph for passenger trains.

The Congressional delegation expressed their concern that the current sponsor of the project, NJ transit, has made minor progress and has not sufficiently promoted the interests of Pennsylvania.

According to a spokesperson for Kanjorski, the reason that minimal progress has been made is because the NJ Transit runs the show, and they have little interest in Pennsylvania. A prime reason why the reps want to create a tri-state authority to ensure every member has an equal say.

Despite need for a new method to govern the project, Governor Rendell has expressed mixed

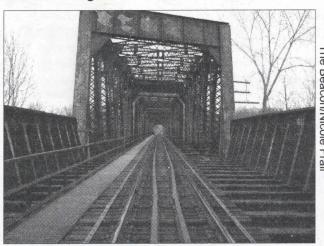
emotions.

Rendell
spokesperson
Chuck
Ardo said,

"The governor is luke warm towards the formation of a commission, he believes that very little gets done through that process," adding that he Rendell believes there would be more conversation than accomplishment.

Despite the governor's initial reaction, Ardo said that Rendell would be working with the Commonwealth and New Jersey to obtain money from the infrastructure fund to finance the project.

I admire Rendell's efforts, how-



The last time a passenger train traveled from Scranton to New York City was in the 1970's.

ever, I am worried that even if the project is poperly funded, the way in which business is being conducted might interfere with production. We need a tri-state authority.

Currently, the fate of the railway is still uncertain. If lawmakers are able to secure funding, residents could see a commuter system emerge in the next few years, which would open up a world of travel, convenience, and possibly give NEPA's local economy the spark that it has been missing.

Beacon Poll Results

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

The Beacon asked:

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

- Yes 14%
- No 57%
- Undecided 29%

Next Week's question:

Should Wilkes lower the cost of parking tickets?

- Yes
- · No
- Undecided

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

Speak Up! It's Your Right!

The Beacon wants your opinion. Contact us at WilkesBeacon.OpEd @Gmail.com

with your Name, Major, Year, and Opinion!

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



Letter from the editor: Message to the readers

ANDREW SEAMAN Editor-In-Chief

Dear Reader,

So many people have written letters to the editor this year, but there has not been a letter to the readers. This is it. I sit at my desk looking to ards my final issue of *The Beacon* as Editor-in-chief, and

must say that I will miss it.

The Beacon is an interesting machine at Wilkes University. The paper has been part of this university's landscape since 1936. The publication has grown by leaps and bounds since those first years when it was a literary newsletter. It has been an honor and thrill to be a part of this paper's incredible history.

Flipping through our archives, *The Beacon* has always been part of this community – covering local, national, and international news. From the time the Smothers Brothers played at Wilkes University

sity, to the time Lady Bird Johnson dedicated the Stark Learning Center, through the 2008 presidential election – *The Beacon* has been there.

Just the other day I was at a dinner for my high school's National Honor Society when a man pulled me aside. He said that he was happy to hear *The Beacon* was going strong, because he was the sports editor nearly 20 years ago, which is just one example of *The Beacon*'s far reaching network and impact.

Understandably, not all of our readers like *The Beacon* because they believe their club or organization may not be getting the coverage it deserves. Some may think the paper has a political bias, and others just don't like the paper. We are not stupid – we hear the criticism from students, faculty, staff, and administration.

news. From the time the Smothers

Brothers played at Wilkes Univerthis: like anything on this cam-

pus, *The Beacon* is a learning tool. Our goal is to help strengthened our staff's abilities – just like any other organization on campus. We would rather the critics tell us what is wrong with our work so we can better ourselves.

Another point that should be made is that things are not always sunny at Wilkes, and not everyone has a smile on their face. A newspaper's job is not to seek the sunny and happy, but to report everything of value to the community -- yes, even the bad stuff. People forget that there are problems on campus and the only way that things are improved is if someone sheds light on the issue. And many times things that are perceived as news are merely gossip or cannot be reported accurately.

It is always our goal to provide our readers with the best information that we can. For me and the other students on *The Beacon* staff, our office is our laboratory. Sometimes the mixtures we make are award winning, and sometimes it just makes a mess. But one of the great things about Wilkes University is the fact that its journalism students are given the most important tool necessary to practice our craft – The First Amendment.

Dr. Tim Gilmour, President of Wilkes University, has continued a great tradition at Wilkes, which is to not interfere with our journalism learning process. He does not censor our paper, or put it through prior review. Because of this I must give him the biggest thank you. He truly understands what the educational process is all about.

My hope is that the Wilkes community continues to be an active voice in the paper, and that the community is not afraid to share its opinion. It is only through conversation that we will grow.

Best,

Andrew Seaman, Editor-inchief.



Job hunt PAGE 11

Lifestyles APRIL 28, 2009

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SOC 198 students spearhead clean up for Earth Day

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS
Beacon Asst. Lifestyles Editor

It is the "green generation." Well, at least according to organizers of Earth Day 2009.

April 22 inspired both discussion and action on environmental issues among the newest generation to "Go Green" and take an active interest in bettering the Earth. Members of the Wilkes community took it upon themselves to be a part of this new generation.

One unique Wilkes class sought to actively connect students with real issues--many of them environmental--facing the local community. Through the Sociology 198 course, and general interest in environmental issues, students got involved in the very first Earth Day clean up for three local parks and a two mile stretch of land surrounding campus.

After a school trip to Philadelphia to clean up a park in North Philadelphia, Danielle Kern, Americorps Vista and Service Learning Advisor was approached by students on the trip who asked, "Why don't we do something like this in Wilkes-Barre?"

"Great question. It inspired me to get things moving and see if we could host a park clean up for our city," said Kern.

After Kern was offered the opportunity to teach a course with Dean of Students Mark Allen, the pair took on the Sociology 198

course and added their own community service spin.

"I teach SOC 198 (Service and Leadership) which is a service learning course exploring the role of leadership in addressing social issues," said Allen.

For the course, students were required to be involved in either the Alternative Spring Break (ASB) planning and trip or the Earth Day campus and community clean up.

"The rest of the class collaborated on a project to help clean parks and neighborhoods in Wilkes-Barre. Doing this as part of the Earth Day clean up made sense," said Allen.

Last week's Earth Day clean up incorporated several aspects of the nationwide Earth Day activities. "The cleanup [focused on] Charles Street Park, Francis Slocum Park and two blocks around campus," said Kern.

Students in the SOC 198 course, as well as community members, coordinated a clean up that integrated the already processed Earth Day clean up planned by the city.

"[We] were able to make contact with the city, and we spoke with the assistant to the Mayor who informed us about an Earth Day clean up in April, so we decided to have the park cleanup on that day. We are very excited to host a project like this and also partner with the city," stated Kern.

The students who did not attend the ASB trip formed a board to organize the event.



Photo courtesy of Interfaith Office

Students in SOC 198 gathered together to help clean up local parks in Wilkes Barras part of Earth Day. To continue their service learning, the students also created a children's book about environmental issues which they will read to young students

There are seven students on the board from Service and Leadership, and all seven had a very important hand in planning the event.

While the focus of the SOC 198 course aimed to connect Wilkes students with local community issues, there was an academic requirement that integrated the community even more.

According to Allen's syllabus, students were also required to create a children's

book related to the issue.

"They are required to read their book elementary school students in the Wilke Barre School District. The academic excise is to demonstrate the use of narrati as powerful tool to promote learning. Af the books are read, most are donated to t schools' libraries for children to enjoy," e plained Allen.

Student of the Week

Eric Wetzel

BY RUTH WHISPELL Beacon Staff Writer

When everybody else is running away from a fire, junior Eric Wetzel is one of the few people brave enough to run toward it.

For the past three years, Wetzel has been a volunteer firefighter at the Kingston Columbian Station and Union County Station 4 in New Berlin, Pa.

In his experience fighting fires, he ranks seeing the gratitude of the victims as the most rewarding part. He also points out that there are a few misconceptions that go along with the job.

"In my community, we are always kind of the outcasts because the community thinks that all we do is eat, sleep, and breathe fire, but when the pager goes off they're the first ones thankful that we're around to help and assist them," he said.

However, he also admits that the job does bring some tough realities to light.

"The only sad thing that I've seen so far was a 10-year-old boy die right before my eyes, and I wasn't able to do anything about

it," he said.

Wetzel says it is sometimes difficult to balance firefighting with the rest of his obligations. This semester, he hasn't spent as much time at the fire house as he would like.

When he's not at the firehouse, Wetzel spends his time playing baseball for the Wilkes team, where he is a centerfielder. In the summer, Wetzel also coaches a baseball team.

Because of his dedication to preserving the safety of our communities, *The Beacon* has chosen Wetzel as its Student of the Week.

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

Wetzel: Managing a com-

pany and watching my kids grow up.

The Beacon: Describe yourself in throwords.

Wetzel: Reliable, ath letic, competitor

The Beacon: Fin ish the sentence: "M friends would be su prised to know that..."

Eric: If it wouldn be for Wilkes base ball I would be in th armed forces.

> Photo courtesy Eric Wetzel

3BBS offers student volunteers outlet for sharing

MELANIE THOMAS
acon Correspondent
LEEANN SEARFOSS
sistant Lifestyles Editor

The Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) gram has been a part of the Wilkes comnity service program for over four years. In its past success and student involvent the BBBS program has been an ideal erience for students seeking to do comnity service.

ccording to Wilkes Community Service ordinator Megan Boone, "[The organion] has great volunteer interest among lents."

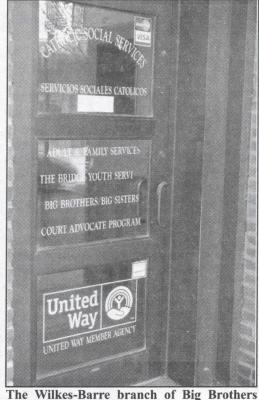
lany students from Wilkes have volunred through the BBBS program. For exple, Jessica McHanon has been involved community service since her freshman

IcHanon, a junior English education marefers to her time with BBBS as "really and [she] learned a lot." McHanon voleered for BBBS in fall 2008.

McHanon, like many students connected with BBBS, was partnered with community service through her freshman orientation.

"I got involved through community service and orientation. My orientation session was with BBBS. I actually was the leader of the group," said McHanon.

Boone explained, "This program gives students the opportunity to connect with children while away at school. It is also good for students to gain teaching experience for their field of interest."



The Wilkes-Barre branch of Big Brothers Big Sisters is located at 33 East Northampton Street, and looks for student volunteers.

The Wilkes-**BBBS** Barre program pairs a "Big" (shorthand for a volunteer of either sex) with a little brother or sister of the same sex. The Big then sets aside a time when the two will meet every week. The big brother or sister has an array of activities to choose from to spend with their Little, with the consent of the Little's parent or guardian. The Big will meet with their little at a local com-

munity school district. Parameters for what the two can do are not strict. Usually some of the activities they do with their little are going to local parks, fishing, bowling, baseball games, but can also spend time with their Little just doing homework and hanging out.

For many students it's the connection with the Little that makes this community service program so important to the college student. In return the Big offers a positive role model and someone other than a Little's parents for them to talk to.

Boone said, "Many times a little just needs someone to set limits because their parent is hardly around due to employment issues or other complications. These kids don't have strict parental supervision. Many of them come from single parent families that have to work long hours or may even be disadvantaged in other ways."

McHanon advises any student interested in BBBS to work "to find that person they mesh well with. If you can find that, it is a really, really great experience."

Photo The Beacon/Lauren Biernacki

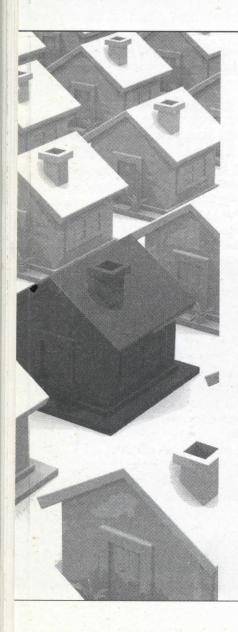
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May graduates gear up for an uncertain job world

BY RUTH WHISPELL Beacon Staff Writer

It comes as no surprise that seniors graduating this spring are going to have trouble finding a job in their chosen career field.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), an organization that tracks hiring data, reported that firms expect to hire 22 percent fewer graduates from this year's college classes than they did from last year's. Other agencies are reporting equally dismal hiring estimates.

Carol Bosack, the director of Career Services at Wilkes, believes there are a few things students can do to make themselves more attractive on the job market.

"Students will need to make sure that they have an excellent resume, cover letter and interviewing skills in order to compete," she said. "It is critical to network with professionals in your field, and to have expefience, especially as a volunteer or intern which employers can discuss with you on interviews."

Candidates may have to think about relocating or taking a position which is not exactly what they envisioned, because it offers an opportunity to build a reputation with an employer. Although it may be dif-

ficult to deal with rejection, applying to a large number of organizations, even though you may not hear back from many of them will increase your chances of obtaining an

Students should do a mock interview with a career education professional or expert in their field before they go on real interviews. Interviews are often behaviorally based, and Bosack reports that recruiters warn that the interviewers may ask students very thought provoking questions for which they have not prepared.

"Some jobs are more available than others. Indeed, some sectors are actually expanding, increasing employment. Expanding sectors include federal government service, some tech industries, and health care. The areas with the fewest jobs include finance, construction, agriculture, and retail sales," says Robert Jordan, an economics professor at Wilkes.

Steve Felter, a 22-year-old history major who plans to move south toward Florida or South Carolina after graduation, is working on locating jobs in his field.

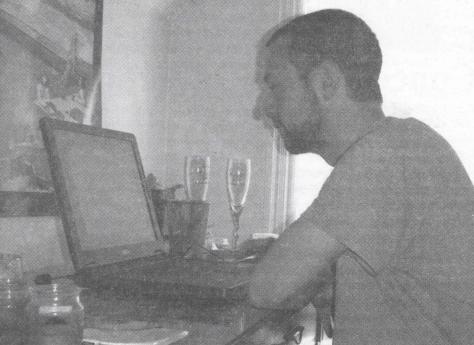
"I'm starting to send out my file and resume now," he said. "I like the beach scene and I am a big fan of surfing. Also I do not like cold weather or especially snow. I am not certified to teach in the public sector

and so I am seeking jobs in the south due to the vast amount of private schools where certification is not mandatory."

Bosack says, "We sent letters in March to all junior and senior students, year inviting them to visit with us and to enroll in our CAR 198 Life Career Planning course, which deals with professional development and the professional employment/graduate education endeavor. There are two sections offered for the fall 2009 semester.

ates for years. "Research should always be your first

> interviews," he said. "Knowing as much as pos-



The Beacon/Lauren Biernacki

Senior history major C.J. Noll works on crafting his resume for the upcoming job hunt following graduation in May. Students who have resume questions can contact Career Services for tips and a resume review.

We have offered seminars on job searches in the recession, which I wish more students had attended.'

Cassandra Scarantino, a 22-year-old business administration major with a concentration in marketing plans to spend the summer taking MBA classes. She doesn't have a job lined up yet.

"I still have two years before graduating with my MBA, and by then the economy should be better, plus I'll have enough educational background not to worry as much as I would without my MBA or even my bachelor's degree," she said. "On the other hand, if the economy is still bad after two year of schooling, I'll just go for my PhD."

According to Jordan, not having a job lined up is not unusual in this economy.

"First, given the tight labor market, firms are being more selective: grades and experience, including internships, matter more than in the past. This trend will continue well into the recovery. Underclassmen and juniors should start preparing for this now," said Jordan.

Even with the struggle in today's economy, Jordan stresses that students should follow the traditional advice offered to gradu-

step. Students should gather information about employers who have granted them

Senior sociology and psychology major

Tanya Feiertag searches for a professional

outfit for a career in law.



sible about the company's past performance and future plans can allow a student to differentiate himself from others with similar qualifications."

However, Jordan points out that students should take advantage of the services provided at Wilkes to help them adjust to the real world.

"Take advantage of the services provided by the Career Services office, especially mock interviews and resume reviews," he said. "Understand that they might not get the exact job that they want. Further, they may not be able to find a position in the major/field. It may be best to take something for now to gain experience and continue searching for the 'perfect' job later down the road."

Students can meet with Career Services to discuss tips about the job process, and can start mock interview practice by using its web-based service, Interview Stream, at www.wilkesuniversity.interviewstream. com. They can also send in their resumes to its resume/job posting site, www.collegecentral.com/wilkesu.

Bosak noted that Career Services officials will be staffing "Resume Express" tables in the Student Center on April 28-29, where they will give out resume guides and offer quick critiques.



Recital a hit!



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Concert for a Cause inspires generosity through music

BY MATTHEW GOGAS

Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

It is sometimes surprising how one person can inspire many others to give tirelessly. Karen Greenberg Revit had this gift. Sadly, it was her death in 1998 that inspired her last gift to the community-the chance to help those who suffer from leukemia and countless others in need.

What began as a benefit concert in her name in 1999, "Concert for Karen" has since become one of the largest charity events in NEPA benefiting a variety of charity organizations throughout the years such as the Child Development Council of NEPA and Luzerne County Head Start.

On April 22, 2009, "Concert for a Cause 7: A Concert for Karen" celebrated it's tenth anniversary by again recognizing Revit as one of the many people who have suffered and lost the fight with leukemia. The Woodlands Inn and Resort in Plains Township set four stages as thirty seven

musicals acts and a massive crowd came out to show support for the United Way Leukemia Fund.

"This is a big deal for us... going back to our roots and having this year's concert in Karen's name. This year is our tenth Anniversary. It has been exactly ten years today since we had the concert for Karen. It's a kind of a reflective night, but it's also exciting because we're going to raise money for the United Way Leukemia Fund," said Weekender music columnist and Newspapers In Education Manager at *The Times Leader*, Alan Stout.

Stout and Revit were once friends and colleagues at the magazine Sound Check. Stout helped start "Concert for Karen" and has played a major part in the organization of every "Concert for a Cause" since.

In addition, *The Weekender* has been one of the major sponsors of the event. "It's great to see so many people here, especially at times like this when we're are always trying to make more money than last year,"

said *Weekender* staff writer Nikki Mascali. "If we could match what we made last year, this year's concert would be a great success."

Since "Concert for Karen" on April 22, 1999, the event has raised nearly \$165,000 for charity organizations. Last year's concert raised approximately \$16,000. Proceeds from admission, t-shirts, a rock auction, and an upcoming CD from the event will all be donated to charity.

Because of the success of "Concert for a Cause," Wilkes-Barre Mayor Tom Leighton officially proclaimed Wednesday, April 22 "Concert for a Cause Day" to acknowledge its many supporters.

"I must say that the communication between the Woodlands and these bands is rocking the valley. It's a great cause and for Karen, too, because she died at such a young age," said Sandy Casterline. Casterline and Revit went to school together when they were younger.

Casterline remembers Karen fondly. "She

was a smart girl. It's an honor to be here for her," she said.

Among the bands that played, many of the musicians have played every concert since it's inception. Wilkes University alumnus and lead guitarist of the band, The Underground Saints, Pat Flynn, has played at every concert.

"I always play for the cause and Alan always picks great causes. He's the Bob Geldof [organizer of Live Aid] of NEPA. I also come for the comradeship of the musicians. You don't get to see this many musicians all at once, especially because you play all year round," said Flynn.

Along with The Underground Saints, many other local musicians played the charity concert such as 40lb. Head, The Swims, Bret Alexander formerly of The Badlees, and Revit's niece, Nicole Erin Carey.



Scranton natives, "The Sw!ms" play "Concert for a Cause 7: A Concert for Karen" on April 22, 2009 at the Woodlands Inn and Resort in Plains Township. "The Sw!ms" were one of 37 musical acts including "40lb. Head," "The Silent Treatment," and "Lemongelli" that performed at the event to benefit the United Way Leukemia Fund.

Movie Review: Il y a longtemps que j'taime

BY ALYSSA BENNER
Beacon A&E Editor

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I need first to begin by declaring my love for French films. There's a certain je ne sais quoi about them.

French director Phillipe Claudel's Il y a longtemps que je t'aime or I've Loved You So Long is no exception. Slow moving yet intriguing storylines, stunning camera angles, and passionate characters are all intricately combined. I saw the film at the F.M. Kirby Center on a "date night" with a friend and the classic beauty of the Kirby and respectful audience only heightened my viewing experience.

Kristen Scott Thomas plays Juliette, a woman who spent fifteen years in prison for killing her 6-year old son but only now is getting out and living with her sister Lea, played by Elsa Zylberstein. Lea is a woman full of life living with her two daughters and husband but must now in-

corporate her long-lost and exiled sister into the life she has created for herself. In addition to Juliette and Lea, who are the main characters, there is a strong supporting cast including Lea's husband Luc, played by Serge Hazanivicius, his live-in father whom they call Papy played by Jean-Claude Arnaud, and then there's Michel, the love-interest and companion to Juliette played by Laurent Grevill.

The subtle progression of the film allows the audience to watch the characters unfold before their eyes. For example, Juliette begins the film weathered and beaten by her years in prison but as time and life move on she becomes more upbeat and the bags under her eyes even begin to disappear. The film is distinct from other films because the whole plot rests on the question of why she killed her six year old son? Juliette is portrayed as a cold and calculating woman in the first half of the film. She even faces the threatof losing her job if she doesn't

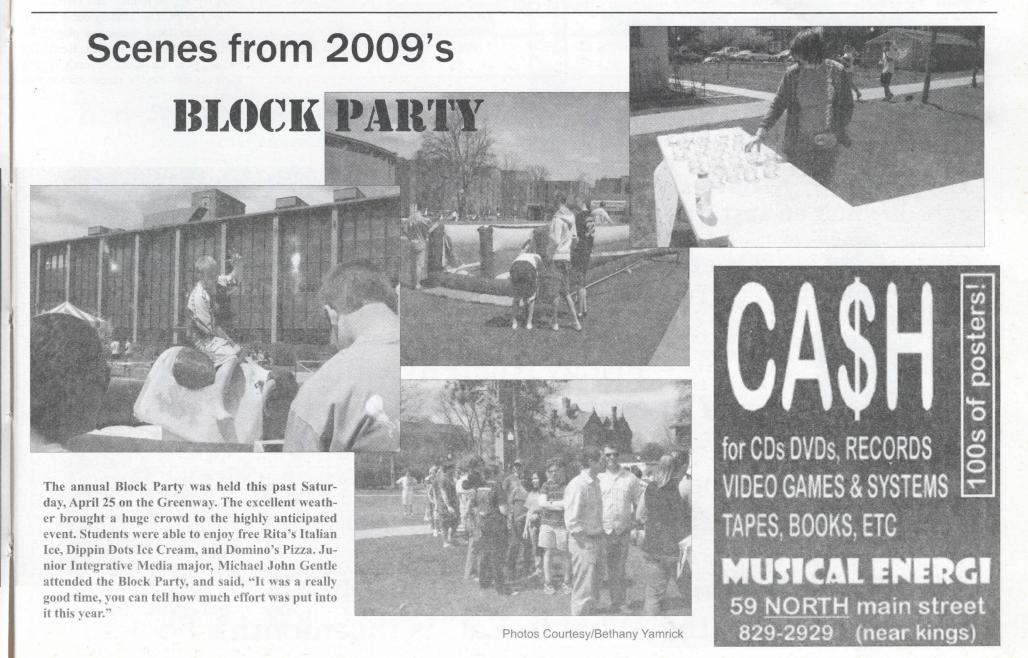
warm up to her co-workers; however, such warmth, particularly on demand, is simply not in her nature. The changes she undergoes throughout the story are so subtle; however, up until the end of the film, it is not noticeable that she has come to terms with herself and her crime.

Because you never know why Juliette is so quiet and reclusive, I immediately jumped to the conclusion that she had some type of post-traumatic stress disorder that made her commit the crime. Realistically, this is what made the film so good. Another excellent point of the film was that the story took the audience through a series of scenarios to build a foundation for why she killed her son, which was revealed in the last 20 minutes of the film. I don't want to be a spoiler, but one question that still lingers in my mind is why didn't she defend herself in court? Nonetheless, the film was less plot driven than it wasn driven by the characters.

Kristen Scott Thomas is a native English speaker but it is said that her roles in French films are much more poignant. I think her French is excellent and I also feel that because it is not her first language it allows for her face to do more of the acting rather than thinking about body movements or hand gestures. This was definitely an Oscar-worthy performance by Thomas. Elsa Zylberstein is also close to perfection as Juliette's caring sister. As the movie unfolds you find that Juliette and Lea's parents brainwashed themselves and Lea to believe that Juliette never existed which only thickens the plot.

All in all, *Il y a longtemps que je t'aime* is a film for those who love the art of film making. I cannot rave enough about the acting and Phillipe Claudel's directing skills shine through the camera work and intense emotion behind every scene.

Grade: A+



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SPRING DANCE RECITAL



Kristin M. Degnan choreographed the number entitled "Bella's Lullabye." The cast included Dan Pascoe, Kelly Ferrell, Caroline Jones, and Susan Corletta. In addition to teaching at Wilkes, Degnan is also the artictic director of Degnan Ballet Center and Ballet Northeast.



The final number entiled "Primal Future" was choreographed by Lynne Mariani. Mariani played the role of Bomballerina in the European Company of *CATS*. The music for "Primal Future" was written by Clint Mansel and consisted of 34 student dancers.



This number titled "Us" was choreographed by senior theater major Dan Pascoe. The music is by Regina Spektor and the dancers are Louis Gerstle and Mary Siejak.

Photos Courtesy/Alyssa Benner

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- Health & Fitness Book Club meets the first Monday of each month, "What to Eat" is this month's book.

Poogie Bell Band Where: River Street Jazz Cafe When: May 1, 9:00 p.m. **Cost:** \$7.00

Movin' Out Where: F.M. Kirby Center When: May 6, 7:30 p.m. Cost: \$25-\$52.50

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Film: Slumdog Millionaire Where: F.M. Kirby Center When: May 13, 1:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Cost: \$3.5-\$7.00

April 7 Crossword Answers

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Crossword

BY DEVIN J. KING

Beacon Staff

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1	Being clothed
5	Use of Zippo lighter
10	To cast a ballot
14	High fidelity
15	German pistol
16	Length times width

17 Used to paddle a boat Finally legal to buy alco hol

19 Internet-derived nerd lan guage

20 One-third or two-fifths 23 Hawaiian wreath

24 A little bit; small amount 25 Deliberately false story

To not show up in class 28 A very close man friend 30

33 More than one abacus 34 Energy for car 35 To cover up

Company outing game 36 Open to both sexes 39

40 7th letter of Greek alpha

41 To make thicker 42 Hours Abbr.

43 Beloved Male companions of Dio 44

nysus In favor of; not against

46 Creative expression 47 Found in Sci-fi movies 55 Food served in Thai Thai 56 To make proud 57 Christmas 58 Limb used for flight 59 To be stingy or frugal Ctrl+Z in Microsoft Word Prophetic significance

62 This present day 63 An annoying person

Down

45

To mince; cut up 2 One who doesn't tell the truth Popular 70's hairstyle 3 4 Lacking a home Consisting of flowers 5 Act of sailing closer to the 6 wind Japanese gelatin SI unit for 1,000,000

9 Capable of an upright posi tion

Legit or just 10

11 Popular chocolate cookie Slang for adolescent

What to do in a buffet 13 21 Spooky or ghostly

22 To strike lightly 25 Father and son activity

Detest utterly 27 Latin for nostrils

Not found in diet soda 29 Necessity of drinking party 30

New England's QB 31 Competitive car driver

32 What a door does 34 Goat cheese

35 Punishment of acting up in H.S. 37 The most leery

38 Member of Snow White's crew 43 Informal for "Doctor"

44 Function of seatbelt 45 To make believe

47 Wedged piece of material 48 Cat's sunny nap area

49 Highest male voice

To strike to the ground Italian volcano 51

52 Edible ice cream holder 53 25th president and Mr. Nugent

54 Job opening or position 55

Number of weeks left in school



SPORTS

APRIL 28, 2009

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Fall Senior Athlete Spotlight: Alyssa Koncelik

BY ALISSA LINDNER

Beacon Sports Editor

Four years ago the Lady Colonels field hockey team welcomed Alyssa Koncelik from East Islip, NY. Despite missing three games on the season due to injury, Koncelik was the team's leading scorer; however her achievements off the field also make her a standout on campus.

Koncelik contributed for 14 goals and four assists this season with the Lady Colonels. She was also named Freedom Conference Player of the Week on September 26, 2008. Six of Koncelik's goals last season were game winners for a team that went 18-4 on the season.

Aside from her success on the field, Koncelik is a double major in communication studies and integrative media. She has also been the director of Wilkes World, the weekly news magazine show produced by Wilkes students in the Shelburne Telecommunications Center, and this year was the co-president of Studio 20, which creates still and motion graphics for clients in the integrative media lab.

"I had to learn time management very quickly. Being active on campus kept me structured. Almost everyday I had a set schedule," Koncelik said of how she was able to maintain a balance between athletics, academics and extra-curricular activities.

In her freshman year, Koncelik also

played on the Lady Colonel's lacrosse team and this spring has taken on the role as assistant coach of Dallas High School's women's club lacrosse team.

In addition, Koncelik has completed three

internships while at Wilkes. In the fall of her junior year she interned with **WBRE** before joining the Wilkes-Barre Scranton Penguins for the spring. Finally, Koncelik scored her last internship with the United Olympic States Committee and moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado last summer to help produce athlete spotlights, among other projects.

"My time in Colorado was very valuable. I was able to make videos and graphics which were seen across the nation as the 2008 Summer Olympics approached," Koncelik said.

Upon graduation, Koncelik will be returning the Long Island in hopes of securing a job in motion graphics.



Photo Courtesy of Alyssa Koncelik eos and graphics

Standout Senior Fall Athletes

Football

- Josh George

Women's Soccer

- Jessica Berkey

Volleyball

- Kathy Harrington

Cross Country

- Tom Larrabee

Winter Senior Athlete Spotlight: Josh Pauling

BY ALISSA LINDNER

Beacon Sports Editor

Going against his mother's wishes, senior Colonel wrestler Josh Pauling took the mat for the first time in 7th grade. Eventually, the Wilkes wrestling team and its fans were grateful he ignored his mother's advice so many years before.

Pauling wrestled throughout high school at Hughesville Junior Senior High School and in his senior year there, became a member of the 100 wins club, and qualified for the Pennsylvania state tournament.

The Colonels welcomed Pauling to the team in the 2005-2006 season and he has been a constant contributor for the past four years. Wrestling at primarily 133 pounds, Pauling boasted a 30-8 record in his final season on the mat. He also won the Metropolitan Conference Championship, which earned him a bid into the Division III na-

tional tournament.

Head coach Jon Laudenslager said Pauling's conference final match was one of the most memorable.

"The conference finals will probably be the match I remember most. It was the third time he beat the defending champion on the year and everything was at stake with an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament," Laudenslager said.

Along with wrestling, Pauling has also participated in various community service activities. On May 16, Pauling will walk across the stage and receive his Bachelors of Science degree in nursing, which was his primary reason for coming to Wilkes.

"The nursing program is very demanding and requires a lot of time to become successful. I told my mother and my coach that academics come first. I came to school to receive an education. I placed greater em-

phasis on my academics but it doesn't mean I didn't care for wrestling. Both required time, sweat, blood, and ef-I have fort. had to miss practices for clinical and class but I always madethem up... in my spare time either by

See WINTER on page 17

The Beacon/Steve Felter

Spring Senior Athlete Spotlight: Kyle Ungvarsky

BY ALISSA LINDNER

Beacon Sports Editor

Four years ago, the Colonel men's tennis team welcomed Kyle Ungvarsky from Horseheads Senior High School. In addition to his success on the court, Ungvarsky has been an active member of the Wilkes campus since he arrived in 2005.

Ungvarsky began playing tennis in sixth grade and was the #1 singles in high school. He also competed in the state tournament for four straight years, three with his doubles partner and in his senior season as a singles

One of his most memorable moments on the court happened his freshman year.

"At college my career highlights have been freshman year winning the Elizabethtown Tournament (Flight A, which consisted of the first & second singles player of each team in the tournament). This was special because that same day my brother, sister, and father were all running the Marine Corps Marathon in D.C., and since the finals of the tournament conflicted with watching them run the marathon I knew I had to win the tournament, and I fortunately did," Ungvarsky said.

Head coach Chris Leicht has been impressed with Ungvarsky from day one.

"Kyle has been a leader since he arrived on campus. He leads by example, and always listens to all of the other players," Leicht said. "Kyle has become the 'face' of Wilkes men's tennis. I will miss his personality, and enthusiastic attitude!"

Aside from the hectic schedule that comes with playing a sport in college, Ungvarsky has also been active on campus. For the past three years he has been a Resident Assistant as well as an e-mentor and orientation leader for incoming first year students. He has also been a tutor for physics, calculus and chemistry, and this year took on the role as a teaching assistant for freshmen chemistry labs.

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Photo Courtesy of Kyle Ungvarsky

From WINTER

myself or with teammates," Pauling said. Laudenslager believes Pauling reflects one quality which made him so successful both on and off the mat at Wilkes. "I think the word 'commitment' would be best to describe Josh. Both on the mat and in the classroom Josh has always done the right things to prepare to be successful," Laudenslager said.

Pauling plans to pass his nursing boards and become a nurse following graduation. He chose nursing for a few reasons.

"I wanted to help people, I enjoyed the sciences in high school, and the problem solving is appealing,' Pauling said.

The Colonel wrestling team will surely

miss Pauling next season. Laudenslager explained, "I think the thing the team will miss most is he is a person with a lot of character. He is a stand up guy who you know you can trust and count on to always give you his best and a helping hand if you ever need it."

Standout Senior Winter Athletes

Men's Basketball
- John DeFeo

Women's Basketball
- Chelsey Gosse

As if athletics and extracurricular activities do not consume enough time, Ungvarsky is a biochemistry major here at Wilkes. "I chose it because I want to become a doctor, and I didn't want to be a typical biology major," Ungvarsky said.

Upon graduation on May 16, Ungvarsky plans to work for a pharmaceutical company for a year before applying to medical schools.

Sacrifices do come from being so active; however, Ungvarsky was used to being busy because he has always been active.

"In high school I did a lot of extracurricular activities, so doing the same thing in college wasn't that big of an adjustment. I guess having good time management and not getting car sick are keys, because a lot of studying is done on vans & buses due to a lot of away matches," Ungvarsky said.

Leicht agrees in time management has been key for Ungvarsky.

"Kyle is a very hard-worker, and a dedicated member of the tennis team. He is excellent at managing his time, which allows him to be involved in so many activities," Leicht said.

Standout Senior Spring Athletes

Baseball

- Geoff Miller

Softball

- Kathy Dalton

Golf

- Jamie Montville

Women's Tennis
- Alison McDonald

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RINKSIDE REPORT

Penguins march on to East Division Finals

BY MICHAEL CIGNOLI

Beacon Staff Writer

With 51.4 seconds remaining in the third period of Friday night's game, Jeff Taffe saw a loose puck come gliding toward him at the right face-off circle.

And when the Bridgeport Sound Tigers turned the puck over deep in their own zone with less than a minute to play in regulation, Taffe knew what he had to do.

He skated towards the puck and unloaded a slap shot that flew past Bridgeport goaltender Peter Mannino, giving the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins a 4-2 victory and eliminating the Sound Tigers from the Calder Cup Playoffs.

"I really had no idea it went in for a few seconds, but it was huge" Taffe said. "It's a great feeling. We lose this game, you never know what might happen."

The Penguins received power play goals from Chris Minard and Dustin Jeffrey, as well as an even strength marker from Jean-Michel Daoust, but led by just a single goal after two periods of play. And after collapsing in the third period to the Sound Tigers

the last time the two teams met at the Wachovia Arena at Casey Plaza, the Penguins were determined to not make the same mistakes

"Even though they carried the play at the end of the game, today we were composed, under control, and did our job," said Penguins coach Todd Reirden. "We were in the lead, we worked hard to get to the lead, and I thought that was our best game – by far – in the third period with a lead."

With the victory, the Penguins advanced to the East Division Finals. They will take on the top-seeded archrival Hershey Bears, who swept the Philadelphia Phantoms in their playoff matchup, in a best-of-seven series that begins on Saturday in Chocolatetown.

"It'll be a real, real challenge for us," said Reirden. "They've got an outstanding team, a ton of depth. We'll definitely have our hands full there with a team that's definitely the most talented in the league."

Although the Penguins enjoyed success against the Bears during the regular season, winning seven of the ten meetings between

the two clubs, the team doesn't necessarily expect that to translate into the playoffs.

"It's a whole other season. Obviously, we can take confidence from that and we can draw on some of their tendencies that we've picked up through the year, but it's a seven game series now," Jeffrey said. "With exhibition and regular season, I think we've probably played them probably 15 times. I think that kind of goes by the wayside and it's a race to four now."

With the not so easy task of upsetting 60-goal scorer and American Hockey League MVP Alexandre Giroux's Hershey squad ahead of his team, Reirden said that the week-long layoff before the second round begins will provide the Penguins with some much needed rest and relaxation.

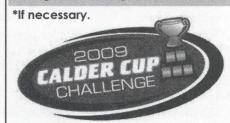
"It was definitely a grinder series, from the looks of it a little bit more difficult than the one Hershey went through," the coach said. "This will give us some time to recharge our batteries and get healthy, some guys were banged up and playing through it. This gives a chance to go into Saturday as healthy as we can be."



2009 East Division Finals

Sat. 5/2 WBS @ Hershey 7:00 PM WBS @ Hershey 5:00 PM Wed. 5/6 Hershey @ WBS 7:05 PM Hershey @ WBS 7:05 PM *Sat. 5/9 Hershey @ WBS 7:05 PM *Sun. 5/10 WBS @ Hershey 5:00 PM *Tues. 5/12 WBS @ Hershey 7:00 PM

The Penguins play their home games at the Wachovia Arena at Casey Plaza. Hershey's home games will take place at Giant Center.



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Lacrosse drops final two; reaches new heights

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA

Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

A season that saw the Wilkes University women's lacrosse team reach unprecedented heights has come to an end. The Lady Colonels fell to conference foes Lycoming and Widener last week, barely missing out on the playoffs and ending a record-breaking season. But the season was not without some milestones.

The Lady Colonels slim playoff chances were hanging in the balance when they met Lycoming at Ralston Field last Wednesday for crucial MAC conference tilt.

The opening few minutes looked as though the MAC battle was going to be just that, a full fledged whoever-has-the-ball-last-wins battle. That was until the other team in blue and yellow caught fire and never looked back.

With the score tied 1-1, Lycoming ripped off an 8-1 run over the rest of the first half until the Colonels scored two goals before the halftime whistle blew to cut the lead to 9-4.

The second half looked much like the first half with Lycoming scoring early and often. Any hopes of a comeback were dashed almost instantly by the Warriors, who went on a playoff-crushing 10-2 run to open the second half to take a commanding 19-6 lead. A lead they would never relinquish, edging the Lady Colonels by a final of 22-8.

"I'm not really sure what happened because they [Lycoming] really weren't a bet-

ter team than us," said Sophomore Brittney Hodnik. "I think there were a lot of us who just had bad games at a really unfortunate time, and the offense wasn't producing and the defense started to break down. It was just unfortunate that those two things happened simultaneously."

The first milestone was reached, however, when Hodnik, who led the Wilkes team with four goals and an assist, reached the 100 point plateau, becoming only the second women's lacrosse player in the university's history to achieve such a feat.

Melissa Polchinski added two goals and two assists for the Lady Colonels on the day, while sophomore Kat Edwards chipped in with two goals of her own.

On Saturday, the Lady Colonels laced it up for one final go hosting Widener on Pink Day, showing the team's support for breast cancer awareness.

But the Pride stole momentum from the get-go, netting the first goal of the game only 53 seconds in. Wilkes would get on the board quickly thereafter as Kat Edwards netted her first goal of the game. But that would be the closest the Lady Colonels would get as the Pride rallied off six consecutive goals to take a commanding 7-1 lead, and entered halftime with an 11-4 edge.

The second half would see the Pride add insurance goals in a hurry, cementing the victory with six of the first seven goals to start the second half to stretch their lead to an insurmountable 17-5 advantage. The

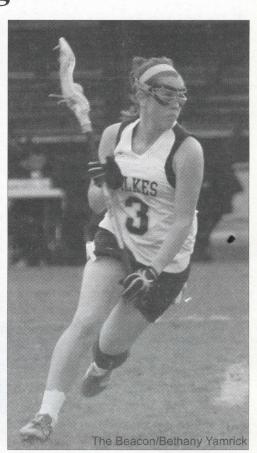
Lady Colonels would chip in two more goals, but fell to the MAC rival 19-7.

But it would be the second straight game a Wilkes lacrosse player would go over the century mark in points, with Melissa Polchinski registering her 100th point of the season on a goal halfway through the first half. She became just the third Wilkes womens lacrosse player to garner such a feat only a game after teammate Brittney Hodnik accomplished the same.

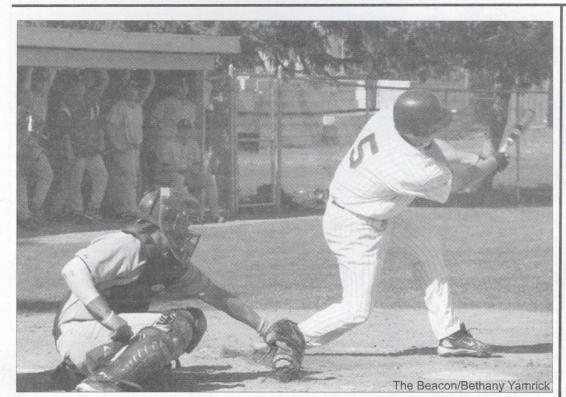
Polchinski led the way for the Colonels with four goals on the day while Hodnik chipped in with one goal and three assists.

Wilkes ended its season with a 9-8 overall record with a 4-7 record in conference play, both of which are new highs for the relatively new team. And on a team that has no seniors and is chock full of freshman and sophomores, these new records may take up space in the record books for one short season.

"I was thinking about how crazy it is to potentially have every girl returning next season," said That's unheard of! I think that as a team we learned that you have to work hard through the entire season, so hopefully we'll build on this season and do even better next year."



Number 3 Kat Edwards runs with the ball during the game against Lycoming on Wednesday April 22.



Senior pitcher Tom Buckler became the winningest Wilkes pitcher on April 24 against Alvernia. Buckler broke a 31 year old record when he pitched the winning game for his ninth win of the season. Bucker is seen here batting during the game on Friday April 24 against Alvernia.

The Lady Colonels tennis team hosted the Freedom Conference Finals on Sunday April 26. Senior Kristin Wilt is seen here in competition on Sunday during a doubles match. Check gowilkesu.com for complete results.



Baseball loses two games to Delaware Valley

BY DANIEL KAUTZ

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

The Wilkes University baseball team's playoff destiny became a bit murkier following their two losses to Delaware Valley on Saturday, April 25.

A win would have secured a No. 1 seed in the upcoming Freedom conference playoffs in Boyertown, Pa, but the losses dropped the Colonels into a tie with rivals Manhattanville and FDU-Florham. Each of the three teams has five conference losses, but Manhattanville and FDU-Florham have games remaining on their schedule.

Despite Saturday's results, Wilkes's record is still a sterling 26-9, with an 11-5 mark in conference play.

"We've lost three in a row now but there's no reason we can't come together as a team

and regain the focus we've played with much of the season," said senior Andrew Garofoli. "If we can just do that there's nobody in the conference we can't beat."

"In a way I feel it's good to get a loss before playoffs so that we realize we're not unbeatable," said junior Tom Buckler. "It brought us back to reality, in a way."

The first game of the doubleheader saw the Colonels take a 1-0 lead in the second inning off a Shane Keister RBI single to left field. Joel Watson, who had led off with a walk, came around to score and put Wilkes on the board. Delaware Valley responded in the bottom of the third with two runs of their own behind the power of three hits, two of them being back-to-back triples from junior Mike Isgro and senior Kevin Weingart. Wilkes's Geoff Miller and Al Clocker led

off the top of the fourth with singles, with Miller advancing to third base on Clocker's hit. John Florance would reach on a fielder's choice immediately after, plating Miller and tying the game at two apiece. The Aggies would limit the damage to a single run, however.

Delaware Valley would go on to take a 5-2 lead over the next two innings. Weingart would walk in the fifth inning and later score on an RBI, and the Aggies tripled again in the sixth to drive in an unearned run before scoring again on a sacrifice fly. The two teams held each other scoreless in the seventh inning before Wilkes scored two more runs in the eighth inning. Mike McAndrew led off the inning with a walk before being brought in by Andrew Garofoli's triple. Garofoli would score soon after

following Watson's groundout to Delaware Valley's shortstop.

The Colonels' comeback attempt was thwarted in the bottom of the eighth, when they allowed Delaware Valley two runs on an Isgro double. Wilkes ended up losing 7-4, although their pitching allowed only three unearned runs in the contest. Freshman starter Ryan Fetterman was not dominating but did a good job of keeping the Colonels in the game, allowing three earned runs over seven innings.

The second game was not as close. Delaware Valley led 12-4 after three innings, with four coming on a grand slam by Dan Hrubos in the third. He would finish the game with three hits, four runs, and four RBI. The Aggies would win 18-6, completing the sweep of the doubleheader. Garofoli provided Wilkes its one real bright spot, hitting a two-run shot in the third inning that served as his eighth of the season, tied for the team lead with Randy Dengler.

"I felt as if we didn't really come to play [against Delaware Valley]," said Garofoli. "We had already secured a playoff spot before the games, and Delaware Valley came to play since we were the end of their schedule."

The Colonels' last regular season game is scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, at home against Scranton at 4 p.m. Wilkes will try and close out what has thus far been a fantastic season, one that was not entirely expected following the departure of a strong senior class last year. Special mention goes to starting pitcher Buckler, who broke a 31-year-old school record for wins in a season after winning his ninth against Alvernia.

"It feels good have to set a record at Wilkes," said Buckler. "I had no idea I was close to breaking it, but I'm glad to have broken a record at a collegiate level. "I'm happier having helped the team win nine games though [. . .] Hopefully we can go and get a bunch more this weekend before nationals."



Senior second baseman Geoff Miller (9) and the Colonels have lost three games in a row leading up to the playoffs.

What to see and do this week...

28

Attend "Sweet Revenge" at 12 P.M. on the Greenway and pie your professors in the face!

29

Last Day of CLASSES!!!

30

Come to Rodano's to benefit the Nursing Student Organiation. Must be 21 or older to attend. Happy Hour is from 10-12 P.M.

1

First day of Finals

2

Enjoy the sunny Spring weather and bring your books to the greenway and study in the sun.

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