

...ing students
26th.

and...



Campus.
hotmail.com.
s well as your
g address in the
t reposnses and
rd.

ast weeks photo
arning Center.

The BEACON

Wilkes University Wilkes-Barre, PA

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW
FEBRUARY 28, 2005 www.wilkesbeacon.com Volume 57 Issue 16

SG President takes Responsibility for Missing Newspapers

BY JULIE MELF

Beacon Asst. News Editor

Last week *The Beacon* reported that several hundred copies of the February 14 issue of the campus newspaper were discovered missing from distribution points across campus by Tuesday, February 15.

In an e-mail sent to *The Beacon* Monday, February 21, on its staff hotmail account, T. Mick Jenkins, who refers to himself as "former Student Government President and former Resident Assistant" responded to the report, acknowledging that he had "confessed to removing *The Beacons* from campus" to Student Affairs when approached on the matter.

See **Newspapers** Page 4



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
Julia Buss, acting President of SG stated at Wednesday's meeting that SG as a group had no involvement with the missing newspapers.

Crew Team attempts to overcome bad luck streak

BY RYAN DIPPRE

Beacon Staff Writer

When Pasteur said, "luck favors the prepared mind," he surely didn't have arson or grand theft factored into the equation.

Such have been the trials and tribulations of the Wilkes University Crew Team. While sitting behind a table in the Henry Student Center trying to sell Crew Team t-shirts, sophomore Kyle Hayos counted off the various problems plaguing the team.

"Our boathouse in Nesbitt Park burned down in October. In December, someone stole our riggings. We're also missing our trailer, which disappeared about four years ago," he said.

The team is currently trying to raise enough money to buy more

rigging, which is easier said than done. "We need to raise about \$7,000," said Crew President Todd Ankiewicz. "Right now we're selling the t-shirts, and we're also trying to come up with new fundraiser ideas."

Though the team is still well short of that \$7,000 goal, Ankiewicz is optimistic. "I hope to be in the water by April," he said.

Indeed, the team will not have much trouble at all once they are in the water; it's getting in the water that is becoming difficult.

"We have five boats, but we can't get them into the water," said Hayos.

The team also has another boat

See **CREW** page 4

Bad weather plagues Engineering Expo

BY JOSEPH DEANGELIS

Beacon Layout Artist

Wilkes University's Engineering Expo for high school students scheduled for last Friday was cancelled due to inclement weather.

One hundred sixty-three students from local high schools were slated to be on campus for the Expo. However, the few inches of snow that fell Thursday night into Friday caused both a compressed schedule here on campus, and enough concern for Expo organizers to reschedule the event. Annual attendees are high school students interested in the world of engineering.

The Expo is part of National Engineering Week, an annual event from February 20-26 that promotes careers in all different fields of engineering. During the

Expo, students tour the Wilkes engineering labs. However, the harsh Pennsylvania weather has proven the difficulty that some schools face in scheduling events for off-campus attendees in late winter.

Dr. Jamal A. Ghorieshi, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering who organized the event, decided to postpone the Expo until either late March or early April. However, no specific date has yet been named.

Ghorieshi cited one of his main reasons for canceling the event was safety for the students. The roads, he thought, could have been too dangerous to drive.

Furthermore, Ghorieshi pointed out that many of the par-

See **EXPO** page 2

National Trio Day Celebration

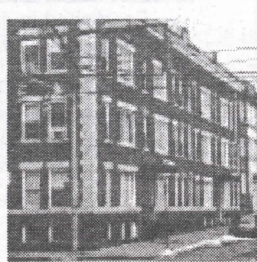
Trio Day is a national celebration of programs that help disadvantaged youths succeed and obtain the opportunity to attend college. National Trio Day was held at Wilkes in Stark Learning Center 101 on Saturday, February 26 from 1 - 4:30 p.m. At the event, supporters of the Upward Bound program were able to sign a petition as well as send letters in support of the program to local congressmen. Dr. Paul Adams, Vice President of Student Affairs took part in the program.

For more on Trio Day see page 2.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Good Bye to
Hunter S.
Thompson
Page 7



Page 11
On Campus
VS.
Off Campus

Presenting
John E.
Smelcer
Page 12



Index

News.....	1-5
Editorial.....	6-8
Features.....	9-11
Arts & Entertainment...	12-15
Sports.....	16-20

NEWS

FEBRUARY 28 2005

Trio Day	2
Medicaid Cut	3
Hiring Process	4
Game Room Opening	4

UB alumni unite for National Trio Day

BY KRISTIN KILE &
MYLES RUMBLE
*Beacon News Editor &
Beacon Correspondent*

Trio programs are those programs aimed to help disadvantaged youths obtain the drive and opportunity to reach college. However, since President Bush's proposed budget, financial assistance that keeps these programs going may no longer be available. On campus, this would affect the

Upward Bound program.

Even with the undetermined future of Upward Bound, the National Trio Day celebration continued at Wilkes University as planned on February 26.

"National Trio Day is an opportunity to celebrate the success of the Trio programs such as Upward Bound," said Tom Thomas, Executive Director of University College. "Trio Day is especially important this year because the

Bush administration has proposed to make this the last year."

Wilkes University's Upward Bound program is not going down without a fight. At this year's Trio Day, "We're bringing people together to help them organize their efforts to turn around the budget proposal," Thomas said.

However, Margaret Espada, Director of Upward Bound and the organizer of Trio Day at Wilkes University, said, "One of the

things we have to be careful with, since it [Upward Bound] is a federally funded program, we can't officially lobby on federal dollars."

But Upward Bound's alumni association is not bound by the same constraints. Therefore, the association has been leading the pursuit to save the program. After an alumni association meeting during the National Trio Day activities, a panel presented ideas on how to move Upward Bound forward.

"We'll all be working together but under their [the alumni association's] realm, so to say," Espalda said.

The theme for this year's Trio

Day is "United We Stand." Petitions to stop the budget cut of Upward Bound were available for supporters to sign. There were also letters to send to local congress people and senators to show support for the program.

As part of National Trio Day and the theme "United We Stand," Alumni were present to tell their story and how they benefited from Upward Bound. Erica Owens graduated from the Upward Bound program in 2000 and then from Wilkes in 2004 with a degree in math, education, and elementary education. She said she would have probably never made it to Wilkes and earned her degree if it were not for the Upward Bound program.

"I don't think I would have

even made it to Wilkes without the program, let alone graduate," Owens said.

Owens also said that the program benefits not only people in the program but people in the community as well. The theme "United We Stand" fit well with the program because Owens along with the other alumni wanted to show that they are coming together and believe in the program.

"...We come together and show that we're willing to come back and we believe in the program so much that we can't image students going through school without the program...We stick together and we promote...how it's going to benefit the community," Owens said.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Tom Thomas, Executive Director of University College, took part in National Trio Day at Wilkes. The event was themed "United We Stand," and alumni of the Upward Bound program presented their experiences with the program.

EXPO from FRONT PAGE

ticipating secondary schools are some distance from campus, and with most buses not able to depart until after 10 a.m. because of weather delays, most of the day's schedule would have been disrupted because of late arrivals.

"They should really put it in April," said Ghorieshi, pointing out that snow is typically not a problem for the northeast then.

The Expo is designed to draw students to investigate engineering interests. Interest among prospective U.S. students in the fields of engineering has waned in recent years. According to an

article in the February 2005 issue of *Discover* magazine, in 2004 the United States ranked seventeenth among nations surveyed where 18 to 24 year-old students can get engineering degrees--this compared to a third place ranking 30 years ago in 1975.

Ghorieshi says that the numbers of engineering students are starting to climb, though. "Now the numbers are increasing and the market is getting better and better," he said.

However, the Expo's cancellation was not a total loss for Joseph Nattress, a 1996 Wilkes alum and scheduled keynote speaker

for the event. Nattress, an environmental engineer and project manager at CH2M Hill, a worldwide engineering firm, made the trip from Philadelphia despite the cancellation of the Expo to talk with Wilkes students about career opportunities in engineering.

"I got to talk with a lot of students here, and that's something that I really enjoyed," he said.

Nattress also mentioned that he would return to speak when the Expo is rescheduled. "I wish I had [when I was a student] an opportunity for someone in the engineering field to talk to me about opportunities in engineering."

Beacon Corrections

In the February 21, 2005 issue, an article "Raucus [sic] Winter Weekend causes damage," featured a photograph of a newly repaired couch. The caption to that photograph wrongly stated that the couch was broken during Winter Weekend; the couch pictured was, in fact, broken prior to Winter Weekend. Another couch was broken during Winter Weekend, and it is that couch to which the article refers and the photo caption was intended.

Gabe LeDonne
Editor-in-Chief

Andrea Frantz
Faculty Advisor

The BEACON

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

Editorial Staff

Editor-in-Chief: Gabe LeDonne
Managing Editor: Lindsey Wotanis
News Editor: Kristin Kile
Op/Ed Editor: Rebecca Goodman
Features Editor: Jamie Babbitt
A&E Editor: Nora Jurasits
Sports Editor: Ariel Cohen
Photo Editor: Nick Zmijewski
Advertising Managers: Erin Rovinsky
Stephanie Rodano
Advisor: Dr. Andrea Breemer Frantz

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

Box 111, Wilkes University
192 South Franklin Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766
(570) 408-5903

wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com

www.wilkesbeacon.com

NEWS IN BRIEF

Courtesy: Associated Press

Wichita police say BTK serial killer arrested

WICHITA, KS--Police said Saturday they have arrested a suspect they believe is the notorious BTK serial killer who terrorized Wichita throughout the 1970s and then resurfaced about a year ago after 25 years of silence.

"The bottom line: BTK is arrested," Wichita Police Chief Norman Williams said at a news conference in Wichita with some of the victims' family members.

BTK investigator Lt. Ken Landwehr identified the suspect as Dennis Rader, a 59-year-old city worker in nearby Park City, who was arrested Friday at his suburban home.

The BTK killer _ a self-coined nickname that stands for "Bind, Torture, Kill" _ has been linked to eight killings committed between 1974 and 1986.

Road kill candy angers animal rights activists

TRENTON, NJ--Animal rights activists are disgusted by a new candy from Kraft Foods Inc. that's shaped like critters run over by cars -- complete with tire treads.

The fruity-flavored Trolli Road Kill Gummi Candy -- in shapes of partly flattened snakes, chickens and squirrels -- fosters cruelty toward animals, according to the New Jersey Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

"It sends the wrong message to children, that it's OK to harm animals. And that's the wrong message, especially from a so-called wholesome corporation like Kraft," said society spokesman Matthew Stanton.

The society is considering petition drives, boycotts and letter-writing campaigns to get the candy pulled from the market, Stanton said.

Thompson shot self while talking with wife

ASPEN, CO--The widow of journalist Hunter S. Thompson said her husband killed himself while the two were talking on the phone.

"I was on the phone with him, he set the receiver down and he did it. I heard the clicking of the gun," Anita Thompson told the *Aspen Daily News* in Friday's editions.

She said her husband had asked her to come home from a health club so they could work on his weekly ESPN column -- but instead of saying goodbye, he set the telephone down and shot himself.

Thompson said she heard a loud, muffled noise, but didn't know what had happened. "I was waiting for him to get back on the phone," she said.

Suicide barrier for Golden Gate?

SAN FRANCISCO, CA--Golden Gate Bridge officials Thursday moved closer to building a barrier to prevent people from jumping off the famous suspension bridge, where about 1,300 people have killed themselves since the landmark opened in 1937.

Officials voted to develop a plan and explore funding for the suicide barrier after hearing emotional testimony from friends and family of people who jumped off the iconic bridge connecting San Francisco and Marin County.

The decision by a committee of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District still must be approved by the district's board of directors when it meets March 11.

All the nearly 20 people who testified Thursday urged committee members to erect the barrier.

Man arrested for selling bogus Microsoft software

PITTSBURGH, PA--A man was sentenced to five years in federal prison and ordered to pay almost \$71,000 for selling bogus Microsoft software online.

Frederick Banks, 37, of Pittsburgh was convicted in October of mail fraud, copyright infringement and other charges for selling bogus and pirated software on the Internet. He was sentenced Friday.

Federal prosecutors said Banks used fake identities and at least three fake company names to sell counterfeit Microsoft software. Prosecutors said Banks also tried to sell almost \$300,000 of worthless software to an Ohio company and wrote a counterfeit check worth \$58,661 to a Colorado company for software he then resold on online auctioneer eBay. He was also convicted of witness tampering.

Cuts in Medicaid affect the most vulnerable

BY KRISTIN KILE

Beacon News Editor

Federal, state, and local governments are making budget cuts across the board. Such cuts leave many programs with scant finances, or force them to shut down completely. Medicaid is just one of the programs affected, but it has a huge impact on health care in the state.

The Medicaid program was started in 1965 to help the poor receive medical assistance. Pennsylvania is proposing to cut some of the benefits of this program.

Some of the proposed cuts include increased co-payments for prescription drugs; limits on numbers of prescriptions (from the current six allowed per month to a proposed three); hospital visits and ambulance rides (a proposed limit of one per year of each); and a cap of \$5,000 for medical equipment--there is currently no cap. Dr. Sharon Telban, Associate Professor of Nursing said the reason for the cuts is because there is not enough money to go around.

"It (Medicaid) was designed to cover all kinds of things for poor people. The problem is [that] over time, because of the increased use of the fund, the money won't go around. So they have to look for a way to make it stretch further without taxing people for more money," Telban said.

Telban said that prescription drug benefit cuts are not as problematic as other proposals. In Pennsylvania there are different programs to help decrease drug costs such as the PACE program, which is paid for by proceeds from lottery ticket sales. People can also receive samples from physicians and discounts from the drug companies themselves.

Most Pennsylvanians who use Medicaid are considered low income, and Medicaid is available for all ages--children to elderly. Telban said Medicaid recipients should have more education on alternatives for health care as well as preventative measures. She also said if there was a balance in home health benefits, limiting the number of hospital visits would not be

as big an issue.

"You're working with a group of people who tend to have a lot of chronic health problems, because built into the system there's not a lot of good prevention, there's not a lot of good teaching, there's not a lot of things that would keep you out," Telban said.

According to an article in the February 11 issue of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, the Office of Medical Assistance Programs, "estimates that these cuts will affect only 20 percent of the people using each benefit--that is, 80 percent of people using the general assistance program don't need more than three prescription a month, and 80 percent of the people use less than \$5,000 a year in medical equipment."

Telban said while 20% may not seem like a large percentage of people, it actually is. Twenty percent means that 1 in 5 people who use Medicaid will be affected by these cuts. She said once you put it into those terms you see how much it will affect people.

According to Telban, one of the major problems with Medicaid is that it has low reimbursement. Organizations cannot refuse Medicaid recipients and in turn, if they do not receive privately paid or other insurance patients to balance it out, it is very difficult for them to survive.

"The other problem that came about is the reimbursement by Medicaid is so low that places that depend on Medicaid patients are not getting enough income to keep the doors open. That's a real problem. So they have to look at some way to limit its use so it pays adequately," Telban said.

With an unpredictable economy and continued job losses, more people qualify for Medicaid. Because of this, the program has to cover more people and stretch the money further.

"The Medicaid as a system needs to be looked at. I have no problem with them looking at a system, but they need to look at the system and not make cuts without looking at the impact of those cuts," Telban said.

Student Government Notes

A representative from the equestrian club presented their first reading to SG requesting recognition as a club. SG will vote on the matter this week after the second reading.

SG voted 35-0-0 to give a donation to the running club's "Relay for Heat." They will match the amount of money the club raises up to \$600.

The Psychology club presented their fund request of \$1,274.46

to attend the Eastern Psychological Association Conference in Boston, Massachusetts. The conference is March 10-13. Ten students will be attending with two students presenting research. The club will make another appearance at this weeks meeting where a decision will be made.

SG voted 23-0-1 to allocate \$150 for spirit decorations.

A Texas Hold'em Tournament will be held March 14, 15, 17, and the final table will be at Casino Night on March 19.



Hiring faculty no easy job

BY KEVIN FITZSIMMONS

Beacon Staff Writer

Faculty retirements, the creation of new positions, and the addition of new programs here at Wilkes University have several departments looking to expand. Searching for the right hire, however, is no easy task.

"It is a very, very complex process," said Dr. Maravene Loeschke, Wilkes University Provost.

The process of hiring academic faculty usually lasts about six months and has nine stages.

In the first stage departments fill out appropriate forms explaining why a position needs to be filled. In the second stage a search committee is assembled.

According to a faculty search manual produced by the Human Services Office, the search committee should be comprised of at least three faculty members, with at least one committee member representing a "diverse constituent group." Often students may be asked to join search committees as well.

The third stage is the position announcement. When seeking a temporary candidate, ads may appear in local papers, but when the university is looking for a long term commitment, they seek a

wider audience.

"That is what you do-advertise nationally," Loeschke said.

According to Josephine Panganiban, Vice President of Human Resources, Wilkes typically advertises via the Wilkes website, in hard copy and online versions of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and *Black Issues in Higher Education*.

Utilizing the fourth stage, conference recruiting, is optional but can be an advantage.

"Some academic departments do their recruiting at professional conferences," Panganiban said.

Once applications begin coming in the screening stage begins. "All applicants selected to move to the next stage of the selection process must at least meet the minimum requirements of the position as stated in the position description and the position announcement," the faculty search manual states.

Applicants who make it past the screening process are selected for a telephone interview. According to the faculty search manual, the percent picked for a phone interview is dependent upon the total number of candidates and their qualifications.

Surviving the phone interview

leads applicants to the seventh phase, the on-site interview. The on-site meeting is more than just a job interview.

"When they come to campus they may teach for a day as part of an evaluation process," Loeschke said.

In the eighth stage, the committee makes its selection and notifies their Dean. After a Dean reviews the information, the information is presented to the Provost. If the Provost approves, Human Resources is notified and the applicant is offered the job.

The ninth and final stage is the closing of the search. Search documents are then turned over to the human resource department.

"For the most part, the role of Human Resources is to provide hiring managers with the tools and training to make the best hiring decisions," Panganiban said.

There are about a dozen faculty positions and a half dozen staff positions currently listed on the Wilkes website. This will keep several departments involved with this process, as they look to fill positions for the summer and fall 2005 semesters.

"I feel the process [overall] is more consistent and in compliance," Panganiban said.

CREW from FRONT PAGE

that cost around \$4,000, which was donated. However, the boat is not exactly in a good strategic location.

"It's in Dayton, Ohio, and without the trailer we can't pick it up," Hayos said.

Although the team is running into some financial and material problems, interest in the club is slowly beginning to rise. "We have about 30 or 40 members," said Ankiewicz. "And we had a few new sign-ups today."

The team also has some serious goals that it would like to accomplish. "We want to get the riverfront cleaned up. Especially in Nesbitt Park, around the boat-house and places like that. In fact, we plan on organizing a cleanup once the weather breaks," Ankiewicz said.

Despite the recent setbacks, the Crew Team has made great strides since regrouping in spring 2004. Its rapid growth and competition with such Division-I schools as Bucknell, Temple University, and the University of Delaware are building depth and experience for the team.

"I just think it's a shame for a school like Wilkes, which sits right along the Susquehanna River, not to have a crew team," Ankiewicz said.



Courtesy of the Crew Team

Members of the Crew Team sell t-shirts on the first floor of the Henry Student Center to raise money to replace stolen equipment and get their boats back in the water.

NEWSPAPERS from FRONT PAGE

The Beacon confirms that Jenkins was the individual seen in the surveillance tape discovered two weeks ago by a staff member.

Gretchen Yeninas, Director of Residence Life has also confirmed that there is currently no resident assistant in Delaware Hall and a search is underway to find a replacement. Jenkins had been listed as an RA there this academic year.

Jenkins also stated in the e-mail that while he committed a "horrible thing that blocked the education of Wilkes students," he said he did so because "I was and still am upset about the fact that...[*The Beacon*] made a mockery of everything I've done and worked for."

However, at last week's SG meeting, members were still uninformed about what was happening with the investigation, pending the outcome of disciplinary action.

At the meeting, SG Vice President Julia Buss, who has served as acting president for the past two weeks, said the incident does not involve the SG organization as a whole.

"Student Government was not involved as an organization in any way in the things that happened last week," Buss said shortly after the meeting began. She added, "While one of our members might be implicated in being involved with [the removal of *The Beacons*], the organization itself had nothing to do with it."

Freshman Class Vice President James Juice was the only SG member at Wednesday's meeting

who questioned whether the organization's members would ever find out any information concerning the incident or its implications on SG.

"Next week there will be an explanation and we will be able to elaborate more on what will be occurring for the future of Student Government," Buss responded.

"The Student Affairs cabinet did hold a disciplinary hearing related to the disappearance of the newspapers and at this stage an appeal has not been heard. But that's not to say that if somebody...chose to that they couldn't do so in the future," said Dr. Paul Adams, Vice President of Student Affairs said.

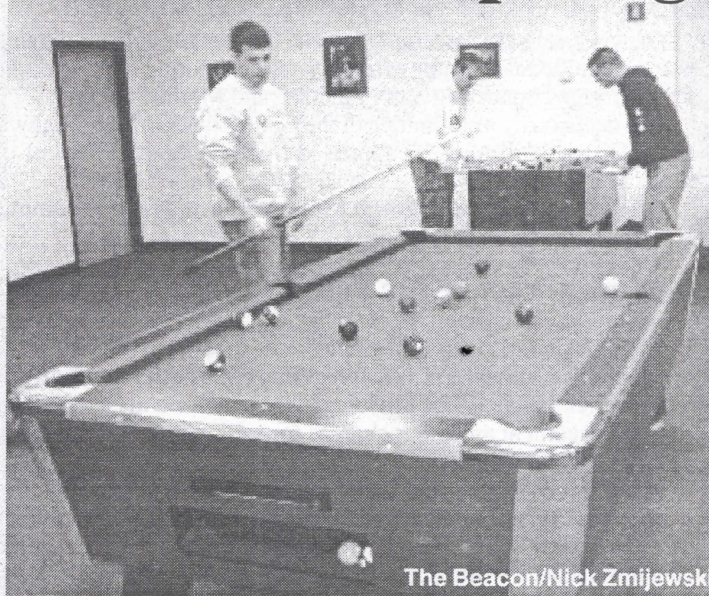
If such an appeal is made, the University Judicial Council will hear the case. The council is made up of two Student Affairs staff members, two faculty members, and four students members, as well as a student council clerk.

The five student members of the council were nominated by the SG President at the beginning of the academic year, as outlined by the constitution of the Judicial Council.

However, Adams feels there is not a conflict of interest.

"We have young people who are in leadership positions who serve in all of our disciplinary bodies whether it's at the Student Affairs Cabinet level or the Judicial Council level, and I don't think any of these students have ever given us any reason to question their objectivity or fairness," Adams said.

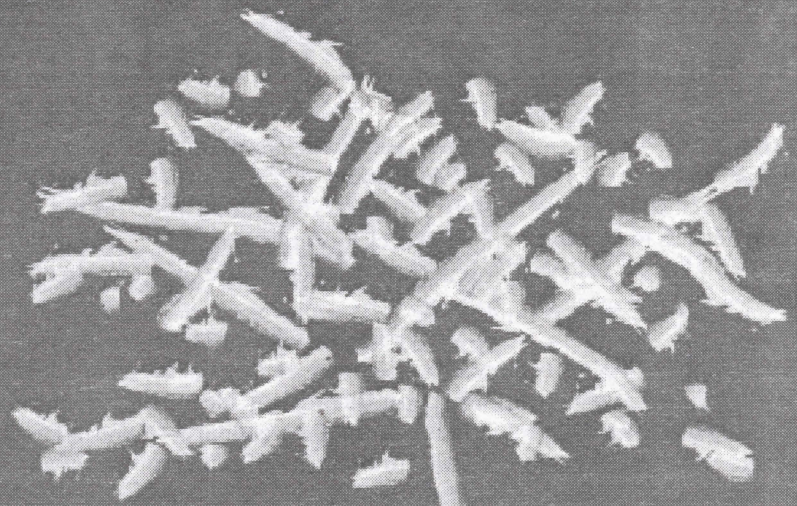
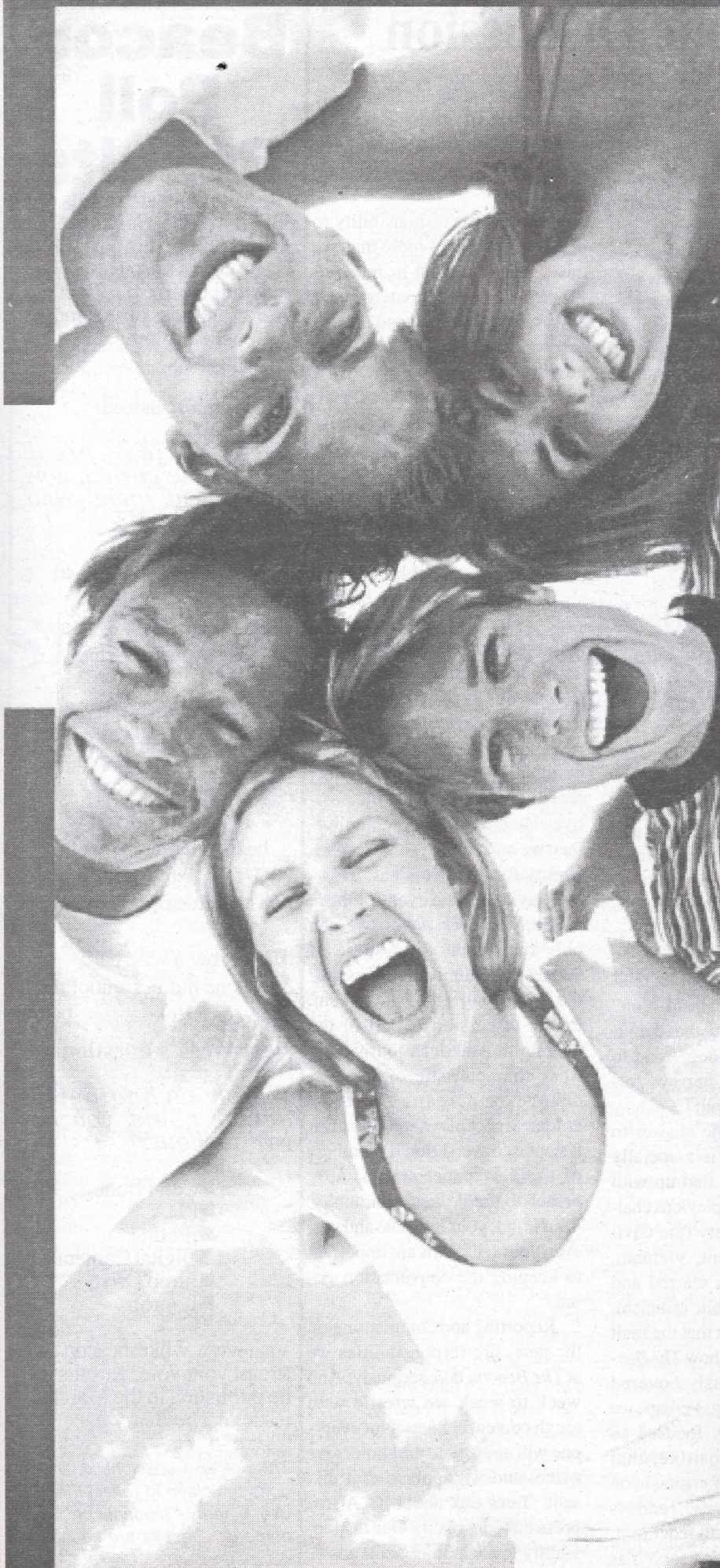
Game Room Opening



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

The former SG meeting room on the first floor of the Henry Student Center has undergone construction and converted into a game room. The grand opening of the new game room was on Friday, February 25. The room includes two pool tables, foosball table, air hockey table, big screen TV, and X-Box with games.

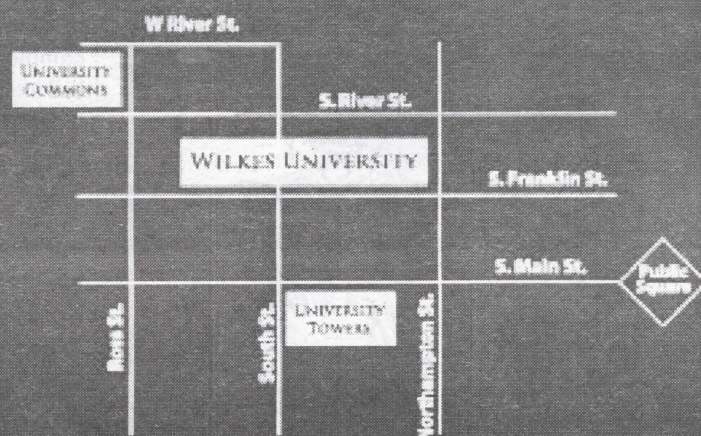
UNIQUE OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING



UNIVERSITY TOWERS ON MAIN UNIVERSITY COMMONS RIVERSIDE

Convenient, affordable and secure, we provide a special student living experience in the heart of Wilkes-Barre — more than just a place to rent, a place to live.

- Walking distance to Wilkes-University, Kirby Center, restaurants & shopping
- Security & fire safety systems
- 24-hour emergency assistance
- Off-street parking
- 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments



For leasing information, please call 570.829.4339

Opinion

FEBRUARY 28, 2005

6

Electronic Roll	7
Farewell to an Idol	7
Period Privileges	8
USAS experience	8
Your Voices	8

Newspapers are a Venue for Public Discussion

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL BOARD

Every now and then news stories occur that lead us to examine who we are and what we believe in; such stories test our sense of self.

Over the past two weeks, we at *The Beacon* have been forced to evaluate not only how we see ourselves, but how the rest of the university community views the newspaper, its role and its effectiveness.

If anyone is unhappy enough with the content of the student newspaper to make it disappear, it makes some sense for us to examine community members' expectations of the publication and how we are perhaps not meeting those expectations. Such reflection also asks us to recall the history of American newspapers and the tenets upon which American journalism was founded.

When America's founding fathers penned its Constitution, they wisely empowered the press through the First Amendment by noting that "Congress shall make no law...abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press..." With those fourteen words, American journalists were challenged to serve as the watchdog of the gov-

ernment, because, as we all know, "absolute power corrupts absolutely." The press became an important check for our fledgling representative democracy seeking balance.

Most journalists, as indicated in a recent American Society of Newspaper Editors poll, identify three roles for the profession: disseminators of information; "watchdogs" of powerful institutions (especially government); and interpreters of events. College newspapers, not unlike *The Washington Post*, *USA Today* or the *New York Times* assume each of these roles as well. Whether the community served is a Bronx neighborhood, a Chicago suburb, or an insular college campus, it is, nevertheless, still a community served.

And this leads us to the role of *The Beacon* on the Wilkes University campus. The primary criticism *The Beacon* has received is that it doesn't serve Wilkes University well if it reports primarily

"negative" news or happenings that don't always reflect positively on the campus. The question people pose to us is: if a person doesn't like how a quote sounds, isn't it just better for everyone involved to "fix it up" so that we can all be pleased with how we present ourselves? Or if the angle on a story could be construed positively or negatively, isn't it better for Wilkes if we err to the side of positive?

faithfully as we should have in the "watchdog" role. What else could explain the clear discomfort our work causes when we step into that arena?

It is also our responsibility to self-define perhaps more than we have. As is evident in much of the criticism of our content, readers often don't understand the different purposes of the newspaper's sections. On the news pages, journalists are challenged to report happenings fairly, accurately, and without bias. Features aim to inform and often entertain or engage the public. On the editorial pages, journalists encourage public discussion by challenging beliefs, exploring tough issues, and occasionally criticizing or poking fun at those aspects of our community that deserve our scrutiny.

Finally, if we have ignored good stories--stories that reflect real human interest and the positive elements of our community--then we must accept some responsibility for that oversight. However, as is the case even for those at the *New York Times*, we can only know about those stories if Wilkes community members take the initiative to tell us about them. Public discussion is part of the bargain in American journalism. That characteristic of free exchange is perhaps the most unique aspect of what we do. But it's not a conversation if members of the newspaper staff simply preach to the Wilkes community. Your input, your insights, and yes, even your criticisms are important to keeping the conversation going.

Reporting and commenting on the news are responsibilities we at *The Beacon* take seriously. And week to week we wrestle with tough content choices. Not everyone will appreciate the choices we make, and we applaud that dissent. Let's talk about it. A free press encourages it. Our responsibility to each other demands it.

Congress shall make no law...abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press...

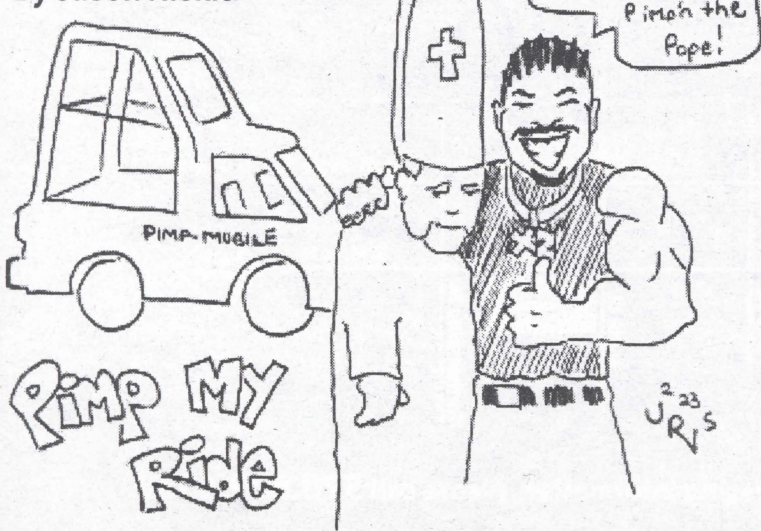
Now, while we could answer quickly that the role of the newspaper is to reflect the realities of a given community, both ugly and beautiful, such response seems a little trite.

Perhaps a better response to such challenges is to ask a question: why would readers expect a newspaper to act like public relations tool of the institution? Where did we take that detour from the "watchdog" road to the straight and narrow, follow-the-leader path?

We suspect the answer to those questions is a socially complex one all tied up with bad memories of previous challenges to authority (the Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam, etc.) that left us scarred and wary of overt public criticism. But we also think that the fault may well lie with how *The Beacon* has previously covered Wilkes University. Perhaps we have historically focused so much on the positive, that when we do offer criticism on our Op-Ed pages, readers don't know how to react to it. Perhaps we haven't served as

Nickle for Your Thoughts

By Jason Nickle



Beacon Poll Results

The following are results of a poll that *The Beacon* conducted online this past week. The poll was unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on campus. Results are based on 30 responses.

The Beacon asked:

With spring break around the corner, how would you spend your ideal week off?

- 10% Catch up on missed sleep
- 17% Work to earn money
- 0% Get ahead on school work
- 33% Take an exotic vacation to the beach
- 7% Spend time with family and friends
- 3% Read a novel you've been meaning to get to
- 20% Take a few day trips
- 3% Volunteer for community service
- 3% Throw a wild party
- 3% Zone out in front of the t.v. or Xbox

Next Week's question is:

Which technological device could you not live without?

- Cell Phone
- PDA
- iPod
- Digital Camera
- Jump Drive
- Laptop

Visit www.wilkesbeacon.com to cast your vote. Results will be published in the March 21 issue of *The Beacon*.

The poll was unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall feel of students on campus. Results are based on 43 responses.

What's in a Roll Book?

Electronic roll makes its way into the classroom

BY CURRAN DOBSON

Beacon Staff Writer

"Smith, Jessica?"
"Here!"
"Thompson, John?"
"Here."

This is the way students in America are typically accustomed to hearing the teacher call roll in the classroom. However, at Brittan Elementary School in Sutter, California, roll call is absent at the beginning of class. Instead, students wear radio identification badges that track their location throughout the school and automatically send a message to the teacher's online "roll book."

These ID badges are required at the elementary school and include students' names, pictures, and grades. Aside from electronically taking roll for the teachers, they serve to help teachers identify and correctly name kids they don't know very well. The school board also hopes these badges will cut down on the amount of

vandalism occurring throughout the school.

Now, as far as I am concerned, technology is great. The things it allows us all to do more efficiently far outnumber some of its drawbacks, such as possible loss of security or privacy. But taking roll? Is that really something teachers need technology to help with? Aren't the convenient alphabetized lists of students' names and the pen kept in the desk drawer sufficient enough to allow a teacher to mark down who is there and who isn't?

Teachers should become familiar enough with their students over the course of the year to simply know and mark down who has come to school that morning and who has not. Plus, taking roll is not a time-consuming activity. In all of the classrooms I have ever entered, roll call slices off a mere minute of the teacher's time in front of the class. This new ID system is a waste of money and an intrusion into the rights of the students, all to give teachers one more

roll-call free minute in front of their class.

Teachers not only get off the hook when it comes to taking roll, but the radio ID badges allow teachers a safety net when it comes to remembering kids' names. Never mind that you can't remember the little boy's name who sits in the first row and hasn't missed a day of class. It's right on his ID card! Usually, for most teachers, the method by which they remember 30 or 40 names each year is by calling roll and putting names to faces. However, the superintendent of Brittan Elementary is clearly not concerned with getting teachers to remember names. As he himself says, "Nobody on this campus knows every student." Instead of urging teachers to learn students' names, he introduces a program that requires 1984-like surveillance and sensors that know when a student has left or entered a classroom.

What is to become of education if teachers and superintendents feel the way to solve an issue is to apply technology to it?

Yes, in certain instances, technology can resolve issues. We can all agree that computers are time-savers when it comes to activities such as computing and keeping track of students' grades or as a means of limited communication between teachers and parents or students. However, would we all agree that applying a technological program solves the problem of teachers not knowing their students' names?

I refuse to believe that teachers who have graduated from colleges and universities, have attended seminars and workshops, and who may have children of their own at home cannot find a way to remember their students' names without tagging them and using their ID cards as reference. Now that roll call has been relegated to a faceless computer program and students are forced to wear a nametag, the teachers at Brittan Elementary are free to worry about something else besides remembering their students' names. After all, what's in a name?

Saying Farewell to an Idol

with all the Irreverence he Deserves

BY MATT ZEBROWSKI

Beacon Op-Ed Asst. Editor

After a few years of poor health, pioneering journalist Hunter S. Thompson committed suicide last week. I was originally going to write something a bit like a memorial for Thompson, explaining how his work was probably more instrumental than anything else in getting me interested in journalism, and explaining how his "gonzo journalism" worked.

But, I realized that writing a eulogy to someone who I didn't even know personally in a college paper that only a few hundred people at best would read would be somewhat futile. Especially a eulogy about someone like Hunter S. Thompson, who never gave the impression publicly of being at all sentimental. Beyond that, I realized that "gonzo journalism" could be summed up in about a sentence. In fact, here that sentence is: "By placing myself, the journalist, in the middle of the story, like I have been doing in this article so far, I am practicing gonzo journalism." So, now that I've gone and blown my proverbial load in my first two paragraphs, I realize as I lay in my proverbial bed smoking a proverbial cigarette that I need to write something with a point so that *you*, dear reader, are satisfied as well.

So, I considered the aftermath of Thompson's death. I thought about the morning it happened, when I signed online to find that his suicide was the main headline on AOL news. In fact, it was also the main headline on just about every other sterile, corporate online news source that

calls itself "objective." Maybe a little ironic, given that Thompson's practice of gonzo journalism sought partially to expose the idea of objectivity in news as the utter folly that it is.

Even as I relaxed in this proverbial bed of mine, people who had never even known that the guy from that crazy drug movie about Vegas was real (if they even knew about the movie in the first place) were buying up all the cheap used copies of *Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail* on Amazon.com, probably as a direct result of these news stories. The very news organizations that Thompson's theories would have been anathema to are, somehow, furthering his estate.

Not that this is a bad thing. Quite the contrary. I think that the average person would do well to consider the way a journalist's perspective plays into a story. All I'm saying is that it's interesting how death can do funny things with the public eye. Kurt Cobain, John Lennon, and that guy from Blind Melon all furthered their own legend by dying violently. Or, at least, secured their places in rock history for longer than they may have otherwise been secured if they'd died old and washed up.

The thing is, as shocked as I was at first, I really wouldn't have expected Thompson to die old and washed up anyway. The caricature of himself that his work paints makes it as difficult to imagine him as anything other than virile and full of life, booze, drugs, and rebellion as it is to imagine your

parents as young lovers.

And so what if lots of people, the majority of whom probably won't "get it," are now reading his books just because they saw his name for the first time in a headline about his death? Some of them probably will get it, and some probably wouldn't have found out about his work if he died a shriveled old man, just a footnote in the papers.

So, rather than get sentimental about it, I'm going to say that he died when it was right for him to die. His work never gave the impression of him as being one to leave things like that up to fate. Like the old cliché says, it's better to burn out than fade away. I'm sure Thompson knew that, and I'm convinced that he wouldn't have wanted it any other way.



Courtesy of www.amazon.com

Australian unions argue for menses leave

Women should avoid workplace privileges. Period.

BY WICHITA LENGAND
SARAH WILLIAMS
Beacon Correspondants

This is the question: Should workers- I shall add that they are female- of the Australian Mfg. Workers Union receive 12 days paid menstrual leave each year? This bargaining tool is being offered for the new three year contract at Toyota's vehicle production plant in Melbourne, Australia. Four hundred eighty of their workers are women.

Another question to consider: How many female workers are still

in menses? How many have hit the menses-free road? How does one check for this? Surely not in the managers' office. It will entail a doctor's visit along with the extras, which will come out of the business' paycheck. Meanwhile, women with regular menses have been dealing with their monthly issue since early teen years. It can be handled without any problem, a few back pains and ab cramps. Has anyone heard of such a thing as birth control?

It is known to prevent abdominal pains and heavy menstruation

and even decreases one's risk of ovarian cancer. If this menses proposal is passed, women may have a hard time expecting equal rights in the work place: "Here Sally, I'll carry that. I wouldn't want to burden you while you're on your menses." Who wants to hire a person who will be taking twelve extra days of paid leave for a biologically natural event that happens every month to almost every woman between teens and 50?

I am not trying to exclude those who have actual medical prob-

lems with their menses. These women should go to their doctors and if needed get medical excuses or insurance to cover their days off of work. An additional problem to this proposal is the timing of menses. With maternity leave, management can work around the woman's leave. With menses, there is not always a specific timing so there cannot be planning around it. Also, women who work in close contact with one another often get on the same cycle as each other. If this happens with many women

in the same workplace that is a lot of workers taking the same day off.

"I am Menses, hear me roar." Women should embrace their biologically-given gift to have a menstrual cycle. They should not use this excuse as a way to get paid leave off of work. They fought for the right to work beside men in the workforce. By God, they should keep it. No more excuses ladies! Go to the nearest convenience store, buy your supplies and man your stations!

USAS urges challenge of status quo

BY ALEX WOOD
Beacon Correspondant

On February 11, I learned what it truly meant to never judge a book by its cover. Two weeks ago I landed in Austin, Texas to attend a conference for United Students Against Sweatshops (USAS).

The USAS is a national organization of students and community members on more than 200 college campuses. Its mission supports the struggles of working people and challenges corporate power.

I didn't know what to expect, I was the only student from Wilkes University going, and I was, to say the least, terrified. When I arrived at the warehouse where I was supposed to meet everyone (because I had arrived early), I was overwhelmed. After a minute of looking around I heard voices and it was then that I met Camillo, Jess, Tamra, and Ali.

Jess, who's a little older than I am, told me we were expecting 200 people but seats were only set up for 70 people. I looked around and saw piles of chairs. I said that I had an idea of how to set the chairs up so that we would be able to fit 200 people into this small sized room for this occasion. The idea ended up working well, and as we were setting up I realized that although we were all different people from different parts of the nation, we were all united for one common cause.

We started early the next morning and the warehouse that had been empty less than a day before filled with young people talk-

ing about challenging ideas and beliefs. The first day was exhausting; there was so much we did and so much to take in. But it was on this the first day that I attended my first protest. We protested Taco Bell, because the tomato farmers that supply Taco Bell wanted a one cent increase and the company refused the increase.

The protest was amazing; there were cameras everywhere. We marched through the administration building at the University of Texas. Words can't describe how invigorating it was. After the protest we listened to speakers talk about how some companies and colleges do not allow unions and how some bosses threaten and coerce workers so that they do not join a union. Some stories enraged me and I didn't and couldn't understand why someone wouldn't allow people to fight for their rights. Later that night I learned how to organize a campus so that we can effectively fight for what we want.

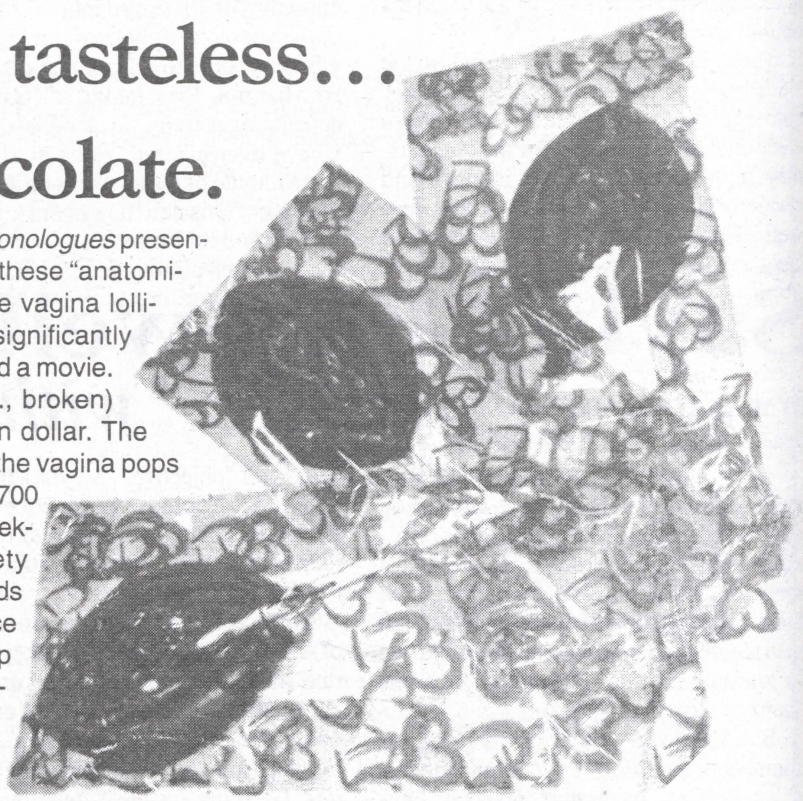
The second day was just as packed as the first. I learned more about the Coca-Cola Company and fair wages than I ever thought possible. At night we heard actual workers from college campuses and Coca-Cola factories speak about the violation of rights, violence, and even murder.

At the end of the night I looked around the still packed room knowing that the next morning I would be on a plane back to Wilkes-Barre. It still amazed me how so many different people come together for one cause--to advance the rights of the under-represented.

It's not tasteless...

It's chocolate.

As part of the *Vagina Monologues* presentation, organizers sold these "anatomically correct" chocolate vagina lollipops, for only \$1.50—significantly cheaper than dinner and a movie. More experienced (i.e., broken) pops sold for a bargain dollar. The money raised through the vagina pops were part of the over \$1,700 total collected by the week-end-long event. Ninety percent of those proceeds go to Victims Resource Center, which offers help to local victims of domestic violence.



YOUR VOICES...

After reading the first few paragraphs of Mr. Zebrowski's article, I decided to close my usually compelling copy of *The Beacon*. I don't think that I have ever heard such "elitist drivel" as in the article "A call to arms and socially responsible snobbery." No, maybe I wouldn't say "elitist," more like obnoxious.

The claims made in the article are indicative of someone who does not know very much about Wal-Mart, but sounds more like someone who has sucked up a little too much *South Park* lately. I (as one of "you shoppers") have inside experience at Wal-Mart (my sister and I both worked there) and I can attest that Wal-Mart does

offer its employees some great things.

First, Wal-Mart brings in jobs. Small "mom and pop" shops are great, but when they can only employ 10 people in comparison to 1000 people at Wal-Mart, there are hundreds of people left without jobs.

Wal-Mart also offers great benefits to its employees. Employees are offered health insurance, long term and short-term disability and paid vacation.

As far as wages go, most small local businesses cannot offer any more money than Wal-Mart does. Employees are given wages above the minimum wage and are even paid a dollar extra on Sun-

days. Raises are given as soon as 90 days after beginning employment and, as I said before, anyone can advance within the company.

So before you go railing against Wal-Mart and criticize how it treats its employees, try talking to or perhaps becoming an employee. The "view from the top" may be lonely, particularly if your view is from a self-created, self-imposed, and altogether imaginary pedestal.

Meagan Brown, junior
English/comm.studies major

This letter has been shortened because of space constraints. For the full version, log onto www.wilkesbeacon.com.

FEATURES

FEBRUARY 28, 2005

Conference presentations help professors build academic clout

BY ERICA LEO
Beacon Staff Writer

Every year, professors from each discipline at Wilkes University give presentations at conferences all over the world. At these conferences, professors discuss research they have done or papers they have written pertaining to their particular field of study.

According to Dr. Dale Bruns, Dean of the School of Science and Engineering, these presentations can be very important to professors for a number of reasons.

"Professors are more up-to-date on current developments and important methods and approaches in their specialty fields when they attend conferences," emphasized Bruns.

Bruns also noted that presenting is professionally important due to the "dynamic and always changing new developments" in the science and engineering fields.

Also, presentations are important to professors' annual faculty evaluations because they can indicate how active they are in their respective fields. A professor who is in demand regionally or nationally reflects well on the institution and such scholarship serves ultimately as a deciding factor in whether or not they should be tenured or promoted.

Although professors can glean tremendous professional benefits from the experience, presenting can also be personally and socially gratifying as well as beneficial to the students they teach.

"On a personal basis, going to a conference can be a good change of pace from the campus and classroom, and may allow some relaxation after the conference in a part of the country that the professor has never visited before," stated Bruns.

"At a minimum, this keeps the profes-

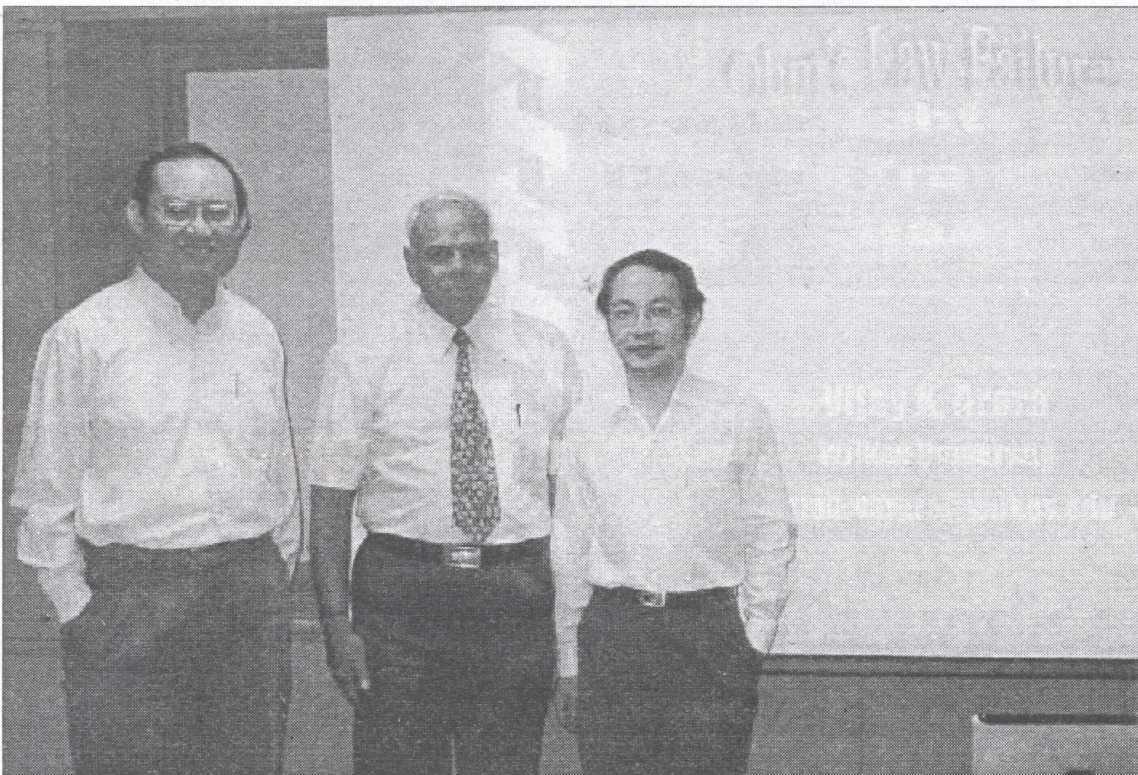
sor enthusiastic about his or her field... and he or she can bring that enthusiasm and knowledge to the classroom and laboratory as a more effective teacher," he added.

One professor who has been particularly active with conference presentations is Dr. Vijay Arora, professor of electrical engineering and engineering management.

Arora regularly presents his academic findings in conferences around the globe.

Arora prepares them for jobs of the future, and allows for more creativity to open new doors."

Over Christmas break in 2004, Arora gave several presentations including one in New Delhi, India at the Asia-Pacific Conference on Microwave Devices entitled "The Impact of Ohm's Law Failure on Charge Transport in Multi-Valley Band Structure."



Dr. Vijay Arora (center) presented a paper on "The Impact of Ohm's Law Failure on Charge Transport in Multi-Valley Band Structure" in New Delhi, India last Christmas break.

Photo courtesy of Dr. Vijay Arora

Arora is a veteran of this practice, serving as a distinguished lecturer and Wilkes University Branch Counselor for the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). Through IEEE, Arora has and will continue to present presentations pertaining to his studies in the engineering field.

Arora has received several honors outside of Wilkes University for his presentations, but stresses that his own personal satisfaction from the experience is far more rewarding.

"It's not tangible, but intangible benefits that give you professional satisfaction," stated Arora.

Arora also feels that his audience benefits from the experience.

"It keeps them up to date in the field, pre-

A look at recent grads	10
Tune-in game show	10
Living off campus vs. on	11
Women's history month	11

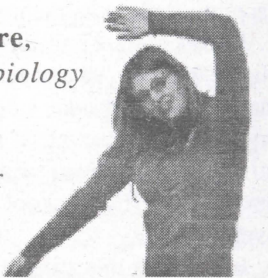
Tell Us...

Junior communication studies major, Alicia Vieselmeyer, scoured the campus, asking random students...

If you could go anywhere for spring break, where would it be?

Ashley Moore, sophomore, biology major

"Bora-Bora. Anything near Hawaii has to be cool!"



Nick Manning, freshman, mechanical engineering major

"Probably Amsterdam, because you can do things there that you can't do here."



Bill Pierro, sophomore, computer science major

"I would go to Japan because that's where Nintendo, Sony, and three story arcades are."



April Kostick, junior, biology major

"Italy with my friend Ashley."



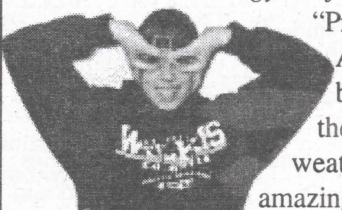
Chris Beers, junior, electrical engineering major

"Cancun. I have always wanted to go there."



Megan Feusner, freshman, biology major

"Probably Australia because the weather is amazing."



A look at recent grads: Nicole Metzgar and Jeff Reichl

BY DONNATALARICO

Beacon Staff Writer

While the recent branding study points to mentoring as the dominant characteristic of Wilkes University, this is not news to those who have been part of the community over the years.

This is embodied by two Wilkes alumni who have carried on that practice in their careers-- serving as mentors to students.

Wilkes alumni and former roommates Nicole Metzgar '99 and Jeff Reichl '00 remain friends and share a career in secondary school counseling at Pocono Mountain High School East and East Stroudsburg High School North, respectively.

Both assist in testing, college application process, parent-teacher concerns, individual counseling, discipline matters and more. And both take their mentoring role very seriously.

"There are many roles that I have, but the one I hold highest is advocacy. I love advocating for my students and always look out for their best interest," Reichl said. "I will help them, as long as they don't (lie) to me."

Another strategy Reichl uses is making sure students know that he is accessible. "I make myself visible. I eat lunch in the cafeteria, walk the halls and help the teachers when needed," he said.

Both have also found that being a part of their school's athletics aids in the coun-

seling process.

"I like being around sports. It helps me get to know the kids better, and it's fun," said Metzgar. "I like to see them succeed in and out of the classroom and hope that I can help make a difference."

Reichl agrees. "I'm really involved with the kids at our school. As a coach, I build trust with the students and it helps when I see them for other reasons," he said.

The road to school counseling was not the original path either alum set out on. Metzgar, whose father is in his 35th year of school counseling at Pleasant Valley School District, wanted to major in psychology, but did not want to follow her dad's footsteps.

"I wanted to get into forensics, and still do at some point. But, when I graduated and went for my master's, I wasn't sure what area I wanted to get into. After working within the special education department at Pocono Mountain, I realized I wanted to work with kids," she said, ultimately realizing what drew her father to the career.

Reichl's story is a little different, initially

being drawn to Wilkes' pharmacy program.

"When I started at Wilkes, I didn't feel like I fit in with the pharmacy department, the people or the curriculum. After taking Psychology 101, I took an interest in the

support (TSS) or teacher's aid work," she offered.

In addition to interning and working in the field, both found Wilkes prepared them well for the field and life.

"The education and psychology background helped me. There is not a day that goes by that I don't use something I learned while an undergrad," said Metzgar. "I also know that the friends I made at Wilkes made the experience great, too." Friends like Reichl.

Reichl was extremely involved as an undergrad. He was Student Government treasurer his senior year, a class officer every year since he was a sophomore, his senior class gift chair, a member of off-campus council, the psychology club, political science club and participated in lots of community service.

"I really enjoyed the extra-curricular at Wilkes and being involved inside and outside the classroom. I traveled more at Wilkes- for conferences and out-of-town games- than I ever have in my life," he said. "As a person I grew. Eighteen to 21 are important years, so I really matured at Wilkes."

The mentoring does not stop here for either. Metzgar is actually going for her second master's and principal's certification at the J. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership at Wilkes and is planning to get her counseling license and also plans to get that master's in forensic science.

"I want to profile serial killers," she admitted.

Reichl, who remains active at Wilkes as a member of the alumni board, is also continuing his education to become a licensed counselor where he can mentor outside the school setting.

Both credit their Wilkes mentors, who provided motivation and direction before it became the Wilkes brand.

"Dr. (Carl) Charnetski was amazing. I chose Wilkes because of him," said Metzgar. "I also had Dr. (James) Merryman for anthropology, and he was great, too."

Reichl feels the same way about the Wilkes faculty.

"The psychology department is great. I really liked forensic psychology with Dr. (Deborah) Tindell, who was also my advisor. I also enjoyed Personality with Dr. Charnetski," he said.

And, is mentoring at Wilkes in the future for either?

"I'd love to come back and be an adjunct to teach an interviewing/counseling skills course," said Reichl.



Photo courtesy of Nicole Metzgar and Jeff Reichl
After graduation from Wilkes, Jeff Reichl, '00 and Nicole Metzgar, '99, the two began careers in high school counseling.

field," he said. Further coursework reinforced his decision.

Both headed to graduate school after Wilkes, Reichl earning his MS in School Counseling from the University of Scranton in 2003, and the same year, Metzgar earning her M.Ed. from Kutztown University.

Both earned positions the school year following their graduate degrees. But, both racked up many hours with kids prior to their employment and recommend the same to any Wilkes student looking to get into counseling.

"No matter what, do an internship, preferably in your junior year," said Reichl. "It will help you realize what or what you don't want to do. If you like what you do, you know to keep taking classes in that area. If you want to change focus, you still have a year, and [you avoid getting] into a 'now what?' [situation]."

Metzgar, who did not know counseling was what she wanted to do, did not have an internship that involved kids, but gained valuable experience in the psychology field. She interned at the Wilkes-Barre Adult Probation Center and the SCI Retreat in Dallas, working in the sex-offenders block. She did work as a teacher's aid after graduation and through her graduate studies.

"Most school districts are looking for three or more years experience with kids, so it is important to do therapeutic staff

Tune-In Game Show to challenge Wilkes students

BY JAMIE BABBITT

Beacon Features Editor

What do you get when you mix comedy, music, movies, a game show, and college students? You get Wilkes University's very own "Tune-In Game Show."

This event will take place on March 16 from 8-10 p.m. in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. Jason Narcoonis, freshman business major and Diversity Chair of Programming Board booked the game show after seeing it at the National Association for Campus Activities conference last semester. He said it seemed like a fun event that he thought students would enjoy.

The game show is entirely interactive. The questions are similar to those of "Name That Tune."

"Various sound clips from TV, movies, music, comedy, or jingles are played and

the contestants, along with the audience, which interacts throughout the game, identify them," Narcoonis said.

According to Stephanie Dickert, senior sociology and criminology major and President of Programming Board, winners receive cash prizes as well as CDs and DVDs. Programming Board guarantees \$250-\$500 worth of prizes.

"There are twenty categories with five questions in each. Cash prizes are hidden behind categories on the board. Players win cash and points throughout the game and can't lose them once they win them," explained Narcoonis. The game lasts about an hour and names of audience members who signed up previously are called out throughout the game to participate.

"It will be a lot of fun. All are welcome," said Dickert.

BY ADRIAN
Beacon Co

On or of
of the year
lights.

With th
proaching,
housing op
dents will
provided l
others will

There a
consider v
moving o
Factors su
electric bi
name a fe

What r
that their
potential
Rachael I
Aid, expl
is on an i
the stude

Howe
arships w
the decis
advised
know ho
moving
appointm
their info

Wher
pus hou
that it is
financia
how abo

Whe
homeow
sonal pe
visions,
case wh

W

BY MI
Beaco

Woi
change
20th ce
right to
19th A
tory m
advanc
contin
Thi
Ameri
of the
to our
An
multic

r's aid work," she
ing and working in
ces prepared them

and psychology
me. There is not
that I don't use
ned while an
Metzgar. "I also
s I made at Wilkes
nce great, too."

mely involved as
vas Student Gov-
is senior year, a
year since he was
senior class gift
off-campus coun-
club, political sci-
cipated in lots of

the extra-curricu-
eing involved in-
classroom. I trav-
- for conferences
mes- than I ever
said. "As a per-
1 to 21 are impor-
ally matured at

not stop here for
lly going for her
cipal's certifica-
l of Business and
id is planning to
se and also plans
ensic science.
d killers," she ad-

ctive at Wilkes as
oard, is also con-
ecome a licensed
entor outside the

es mentors, who
direction before
id.
i was amazing. I
e of him," said
(ames) Merryman
was great, too."
e way about the

artment is great. I
chology with Dr.
vas also my advi-
sonality with Dr.

Wilkes in the fu-

rk and be an ad-
wing/counseling
l.

On campus vs. off campus living

Which is the cheaper option?

BY ADRIENNE RICHARDS
Beacon Correspondent

On or off is the big question at this time of the year, and we're not referring to the lights.

With the end of another semester approaching, students may be looking at their housing options for next year. Some students will remain on campus in housing provided by Wilkes University, while others will opt for off campus housing.

There are many factors one needs to consider when deciding whether or not moving off campus is the best option. Factors such as roommates, cable bill, electric bill, water, sewage, rent, just to name a few.

What many students fail to realize is that their need based financial aid could potentially be affected by the move. Rachael Lohman, Director of Financial Aid, explains, "Need based financial aid is on an individual basis and is based on the student's housing status."

However, students who have scholarships will not see them influenced by the decision to move off campus. It is advised that if a student would like to know how much they would lose when moving off campus, that they make an appointment with financial aid to look at their information.

When beginning to look at off campus housing, many students will find that it is not black and white. Once the financial aid issue has been addressed, how about renter's insurance?

When a student lives on campus, homeowners insurance will cover most personal possessions such as computers, televisions, and stereos. But this is not the case when students live off campus. It is

not required that all tenants have renter's insurance, but that is a risk that a renter has to be willing to take. This issue has become particularly important to Wilkes off campus residents over the past few years as students have lost possessions in apart-

dents planning to move off campus need to plan on saving quarters. Nicholas Fisher, sophomore pre-pharmacy major, found a way around the laundromat. "The apartments above and below me have laundry included in their rent, so we use theirs," he

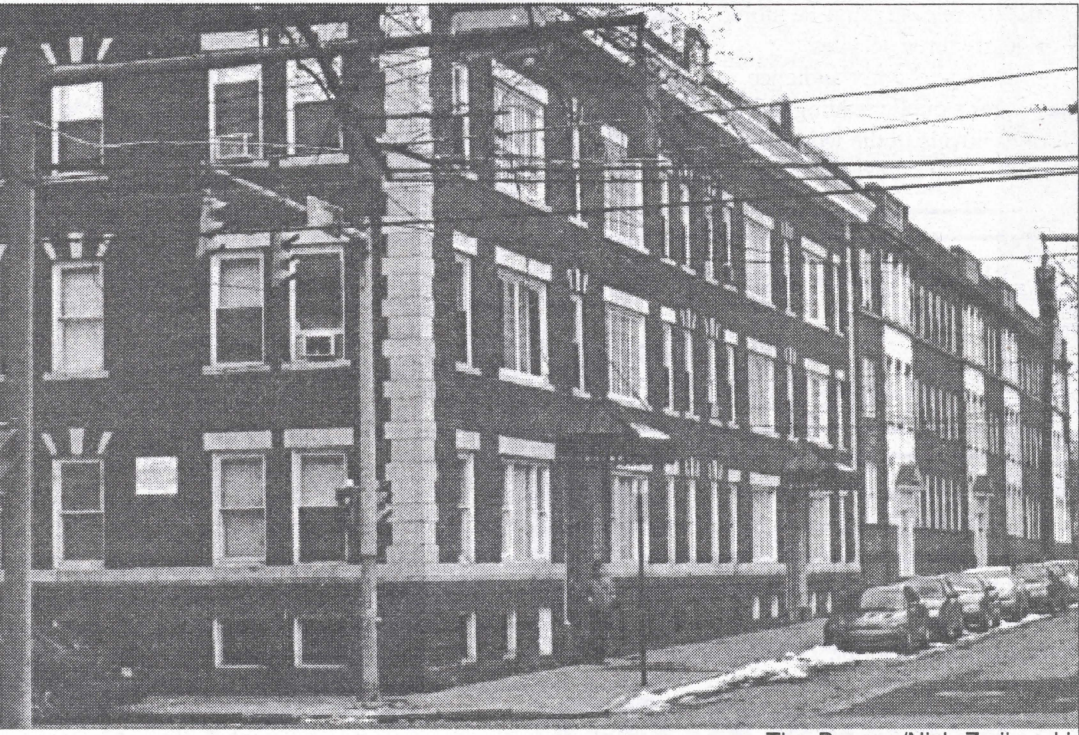
have occasionally been surprised by electricity or gas bills that they originally believed were included in the rent rate. A key to understanding responsibilities is to read rental agreements or leases carefully.

Off campus residents often do not have board plans at Wilkes; therefore, another challenge is to factor in food bills to monthly budgets. Although the cafeteria with the meal plan may seem more expensive on the surface, buying groceries and cooking requires planning.

Fisher lives off campus with three roommates and shares his monthly payments. "Seven hundred dollars in rent, \$150 per month in electric which goes up in the winter and down in the summer, and \$80 in Internet and cable," Fisher tallied. Clearly, such monthly expenditures will vary according to each off campus resident, based on number of roommates, quality of living space, and utilities bills. An average of \$700-\$1,000 monthly for all expenses is not unusual for an individual.

So what is the price for living on campus? This past academic year housing was \$5,284 per semester plus another \$3,540 for the top meal plan totalling of \$8,824 per semester.

Bottom line, it all depends solely on the individual. Gretchen Yeninas, Director of Residence Life said, "It's hard to say whether one is cheaper than the other. Living off campus is cheaper for some; consider looking into all factors which includes financial aid."



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
Each spring, students begin to consider their housing options for the coming year. University Commons Riverside, shown above and located on the corner of River Street and Ross Street, is one of the many apartment options available for Wilkes students.

ment fires. Because of the age of many of the buildings in the Wilkes-Barre neighborhoods close to campus, renters' insurance has been encouraged among off campus residents.

What about laundry? One luxury of living on campus is that laundry is free. Stu-

said.
Cheaper rent payments can be an appealing characteristic of off campus living but can be misleading. If the rent is inexpensive, students need to make sure the rent bill includes water, sewage, electric and all other necessities. Off campus residents

Wilkes Celebrates Women's Achievements

BY MEAGAN BROWN
Beacon Correspondent

Women's roles in America have changed dramatically since the turn of the 20th century and when they earned the right to vote in 1920 with the ratification of 19th Amendment. National Women's History month during March celebrates such advancements and challenges women to continue the struggle.

This year, the theme "Women Change America" brings with it recognition for all of the contributions that women have made to our society.

Andita Parker-Lloyd, coordinator of multicultural affairs, said, "When we think

of women, sometimes we forget that they have helped this nation." National Women's History month aims to change that.

According to www.nwph.org, the website for National Women's History month, this year's theme "honors and recognizes the role of American women in transforming culture, history and politics as leaders, writers, scientists, educators, politicians, artists, historians, and informed citizens."

This year, Parker-Lloyd hopes to raise awareness about the roles and influence of women in our lives, both individually and as a nation. She sees National Women's History Month as a time to "call your mom

or your grandma and those women who may not get in the book of famous women some day, but are still powerful women."

Parker-Lloyd realizes that there can be some negative views of Women's History month, particularly from the other gender. She said, "Men's history is always around and has always been taught. Women weren't allowed to learn and weren't given the opportunities that men were given."

She also said that "[women] are still playing catch-up" and that is why it is important to celebrate women this month.

Suzanne Chirayil, freshman pre-pharmacy major, works as a secretary to the Multicultural Student Coalition (MSC) and is involved with Women's History month.

She said that she wants to see the "name calling" stopped. "If I have two boyfriends in a month, I'm called all sorts of names, but if a guy has three women in a month he is congratulated," Chirayil said. She looks forward to the "whole celebration of women."

On March 15, the celebration will begin at Wilkes with a display table in the Henry Student Center, which will feature women's organizations with information.

That evening at seven there will be "poetry read that was written by or about women and there will be food. Students will make food and it will be your mom's or your grandma's recipe," said Parker-Lloyd.

Award-winning novelist recounts process

Smelcer gives reading, answers questions

BY JACLYN FRANCESE
Beacon Correspondent

"If I can't write, then I don't want to live," said John E. Smelcer, who visited Wilkes University on February 23 to read from his latest work and engage would-be writers in discussion.

Such a powerful statement might seem extreme, even for the most passionate artists, but for Smelcer, his craft has led him in and out of activity, and he has learned that he far prefers active engagement to the alternative. Smelcer has been writing for as long as he can remember. His mother still even has his first writing from when he was in first grade in the 1960s.

"I wrote it and illustrated it all by myself, and she saved it," said Smelcer.

He did, however, stop writing for about 25 years, even though he majored in English in college. After the hiatus, it was as though Smelcer's time off actually allowed him to bottle and store all of ideas. Once he made his way

back to the written word, he has become prolific in his seeming urgency to release what he stored for nearly three decades.

Smelcer told his audience at last week's public reading that he has 27 novels in the works three of which are currently being

judges who chose Smelcer's novel as the winner. First prize was \$6,000.

Lennon urges those who love a great narrative to look for it on the shelves later this year. "It is a great book and you should read it."

an exciting life. That does not hold true for Smelcer, though. He believes that writers should "write what [they] know." The novel will be published by Henry Holt Publishing Company later this year, and Disney, Corp. has also inquired about movie rights.

Smelcer is now working on a new novel called *All Good Indians*. The story is based on the Native American boarding schools. This, too, has fragments of truth throughout it. This is just one of the new books that he is working on to hit one hundred, which seems to be his magic number. "I am aiming for 100 books before I die," said Smelcer.

John E. Smelcer, winner of the 2004 James Jones First Novel Fellowship contest, visited Wilkes last Wednesday. He answered questions and gave a reading from his winning novel *The Trap*.

If I can't write, then I don't want to live.

John E. Smelcer

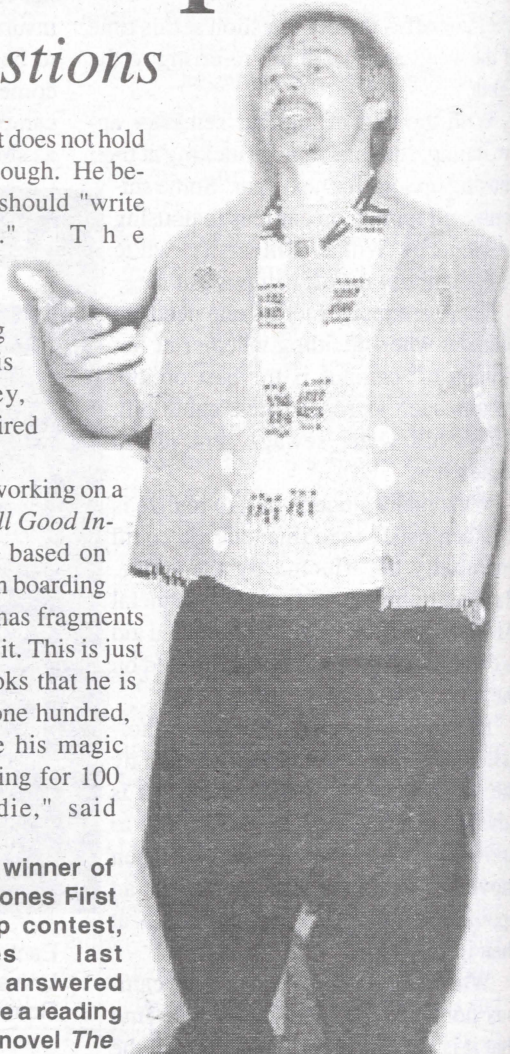
James Jones First Novel Fellowship Winner

wrapped up. One of his books recently won the James Jones First Novel Fellowship, a contest sponsored by Wilkes University and the James Jones Literacy Society. His recent manuscript, *The Trap*, beat out about 500 other novels that were entered in the contest.

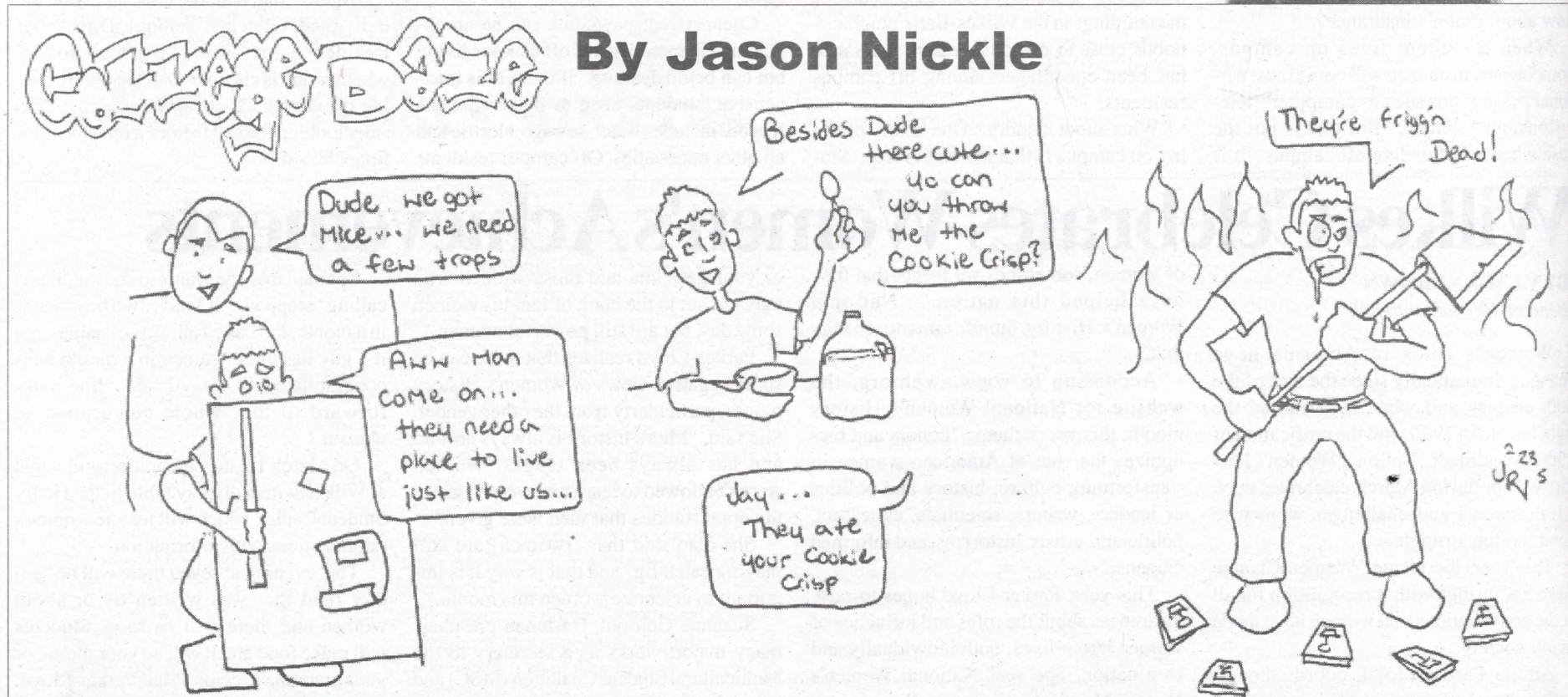
"You can only enter an unpublished novel in the contest," said Dr. J. Michael Lennon, Professor of English at Wilkes University. Lennon was also one of the four

It took Smelcer few years to write *The Trap*, a story about love, courage, danger and redemption in the far north. It is a classic story written with the simplicity of Hemingway and Steinbeck, two of his role models. The novel explores aspects of his own life.

Many of the great novelists might say that people do not want to read about your life, but would rather read about a fictional life,



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski



By Jason Nickle

Out to the Movies: *Hitch*

BY ALISON SHERRY
Beacon Staff Writer

Who'd have ever thought of Will Smith and Kevin James in the same hit comedy? Director Andy Tennant apparently did when he decided to make *Hitch*. Smith and James play quite the unexpected and refreshing dynamic duo.

Kevin James co-stars as shy, bumbling accountant Albert Brennaman. Poor Albert comes off as pretty useless around women. He can hardly make out a simple hello without stuttering over the words. Albert decides to call upon the services of Hitch (Will Smith), New York's "date doctor" who helps aloof and hopeless men hook up with the women of their dreams. Hitch has his work cut out for him because the woman of Albert's dreams is the rich and glamorous celebrity, Allegra Cole (Amber Valletta) who doesn't even know Albert exists.

While helping Albert, Hitch unexpectedly finds a little romance of his own. He begins to fall for gossip columnist, Sara Melas (Eva Mendes). Sara's only love in

her life is her job; she despises dating. Hitch soon finds that he is not as lucky in romance as his clients are. Messing up date after hilarious date, Hitch soon finds himself falling accidentally in love. And Sara, as devoted as ever to her job, seeks to expose the popular "date doctor" once and for all.

The great thing about Will Smith is that he is just naturally funny. Smiles and jokes aren't forced, but just come off with a natural ease. The same can be said with Kevin James. Even the scenes that seem planned or set-up work because the acting and chemistry between Smith, James, and even Mendes comes off as incredibly charismatic. With these actors, anything works.

Smith is smooth and James plays his awkward character with such skill that both are believable and appealing. Easy, natural characters are the keys to success in *Hitch*

and that alone can make any romantic comedy unique and absolutely hilarious. Tennant relies on the old-fashioned characteristics of comedy such as great body

language, facial expression, and just plain good timing and that makes *Hitch* all the more appealing. Let's hope it won't be too much longer before we see Smith and James together again pulling off yet another "hitch."

This movie is rated PG-13 and receives 5 kernels.



Photo courtesy yahoo.movies.com

Dave Coulier



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Dave Coulier a.k.a. Uncle Joey from the popular 1990s sitcom *Full House*, entertained a "full house" in the Marts Center on Friday, February 25 at 9 p.m.

FINALLY...THE PERFECT STUDENT HOUSING SOLUTION CITY SUITES

At the Ramada Inn

NOW LEASING FOR THE FALL OF 2005 ...

LIMITED AVAILABILITY... LENGTH OF
STAY REQUIREMENTS APPLY

EFFICIENCIES

Priced from \$490 per month (1 or 2 per lease) including utilities

1 BEDROOM SUITES

Priced from \$800 per month (1 or 2 per lease) including utilities

2 BEDROOM SUITES

Priced from \$1,310 per month (1 to 4 per lease) including utilities

CALL 570-824-7100, Ext. 175

SIGN UP NOW AND GET FREE HIGH SPEED INTERNET

AMENITY & SERVICE PACKAGES AVAILABLE

Located between Wilkes University and King's College on Public Square in downtown Wilkes-Barre, PA
Call now and schedule your personal guided tour.
Offer expires 4/30/05

Secure location
Sprinklered

Restricted Access
Staffed 24 hours

CD Review: *From Companionship to Competition*

BY KRISTIN LUCZAK
Beacon Correspondent

It's been awhile since I've heard a record that I could play to someone and tell them, "Hey, this is what punk rock is supposed to sound like."

For me, Kill Your Idols' *From Companionship to Competition*, which is out on Side One Dummy Records, is that record. We have had fake, wanna-be punk bands thrown in our faces for the past few years--mostly pop punk or emo with a "punk" twist. Come on, already, give it up. And yes, I'm talking to bands like Simple Plan and Yellowcard, but the list certainly goes on. Kill Your Idols appears to be the real deal.

This CD has everything you need to represent an authentic punk album. The 15 songs on the album are played at break-neck speed. The vocals are angry and spit out with the references to their heavy hardcore roots that we all love. And the instrumental work is more in your face than recent over-produced efforts by punk wanna-bes. The music on this record is a perfect mix of brutality and melody; it combines the hardcore

sounds from the likes of Minor Threat and Black Flag, to whom the musicians dedicate a song, with the more melodic edge of bands like Bad Religion to create a devastating effect.

Every track is a killer but my particular favorites are the title track, which sounds a bit like Metallica's "Seek And Destroy" in places, and the anthemic "I'll Call You Back", which in a perfect world would be a worldwide number one hit. The record is perfect because it's more 80's style punk rock-oriented hardcore.

Kill Your Idols is the kind of band that reminds you that there's more to punk rock than writing nice little pop songs about girls, looking pretty on stage, and spending lots of money on overpriced skate gear. This band is totally kicking the competition while doing it.

Kill Your Idols will be making a stop right here in Wilkes-Barre at Café Metro in the upcoming months, so keep a look out for that. Until then, I would suggest to those of you interested in a good album that contains all the elements of good punk/hardcore to go to the local record store and pick up *From Companionship to Competition*!

Off-season may bring some hope to Yankees, Phillies Pitching

ARIEL COHEN
Beacon Sports Editor

It's cold outside, there is snow on the ground, football season is over, and hockey just recently dug itself into the ice canceling the remainder of its season. With all this in mind, who isn't looking forward to a little bit of spring?

Baseball fans all over the country are beginning to crawl out of their caves and bring out that spring training spirit which will get into full 'swing' towards the end of the week with the start of exhibition baseball for the 2005 season.

Granted, not everyone can love the same team, and sticking by your team through good times and bad is the key to what it means to being a devoted fan.

Locally, people are looking for some sort of energy from the team with a distant ring of freedom, the Philadelphia Phillies. Seemingly, the other local "home team" in the area appears to be the New York Yankees, and fans are anxious for another crack at the championship after a longer than expected winter rest.

Usually thought of as teams from completely different schools, the two teams actually became a little closer during the season as the Yankees traded Kenny Lofton to the Phillies. Still, the two teams are worlds apart.

For the Yankees, the off season was spent focusing on how to refocus the pitching rotation, as that was their major con-

cern at the end of the 2004 season when they lost to their biggest rival, the Boston

Red Sox in game 7 of the American League Championship Series. Martinez was released by the Yankees in 2001 for Jason Giambi, who is facing not only injury from a physical standpoint but also an emotional standpoint with the ongoing investigation into his alleged steroid use.

Another new face to the team of blue and white is new Yankee second baseman, Tony Womack, who will be slated to lead-off. Womack comes to the Yankees bench with a 2004 batting average

of .307 which included 5 homeruns and 38 RBIs. The rest of the line up consists of Derek Jeter in the number 2 spot followed by A-Rod, Sheffield, Matsui, Williams, Posada, and the designated hitter, Jason Giambi.

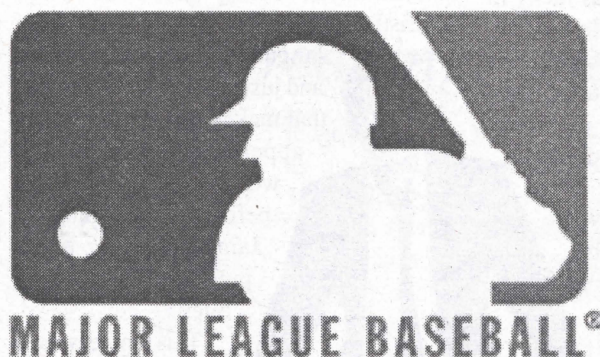
The big question for the Yankees during this season is can they come up with an impressive fourth consecutive 100 win season and fifth World Series Championship under coach Joe Torre or will this simply be a year for the Yanks to get used to new players? We will soon find out as their spring exhibition schedule gets under way at the end of this week.

For Phillies fans, could this be the year? With the new addition of pitcher Jon Lieber who comes into this new season with a

2004 record of 14-8 and a 4.33 ERA. At the age of 32, Lieber seems happy to be in the City of Brotherly Love and the Phillies are thrilled to have someone on their pitching staff as well developed as he is. The rest of the pitching line-up for Philadelphia for the 2005 season consists of Randy Wolf in the number two spot of the rotation followed by Vicente Padilla, Cory Lidle, and Brett Myers. In the bullpen, the Phillies have 2004, 21 game saver Billy Wager, right hander Tim Worrell, and left hander Rheal Cormier. One major disappointment for the Phillies was the off-season loss of pitcher Kevin Millwood, who served up a no hitter in the 2003 season with the Phillies.

For the Phillies offense there has been one major new addition to the line-up, Kenny Lofton. Lofton comes to the Phillies with eyes towards the post-season after playing in 9 out of the past 10, including heading to the World Series. Some returning familiar faces to the Phillies line-up include short stop, Jimmy Rollins, who will be batting in the number 1 spot and Mike Lieberthal, who will be batting in the number 8 spot.

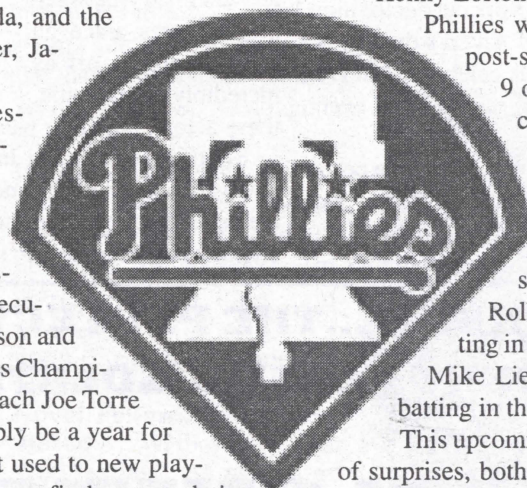
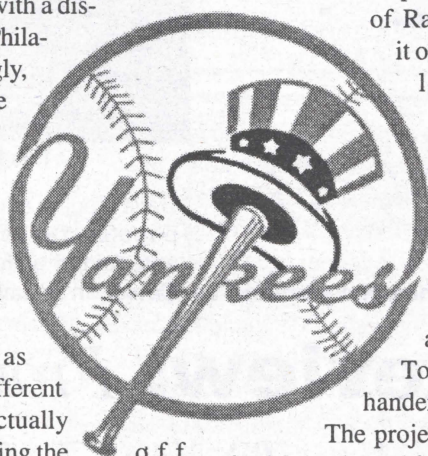
This upcoming season will be full of surprises, both good and bad. What we have here are two teams from two completely different schools. What can we expect from both will only be known to us in a few short days as the 2005 Exhibition Season kicks off for both teams this Thursday, March 3.



Red Sox in game 7 of the American League Championship Series.

With the off-season addition of the 'Big Unit' Randy Johnson, the new look to the Yankees pitching rotation consists of Randy Johnson starting it off for the Bombers followed by Mike Mussina, Carl Pavano, Jaret Wright, and Kevin Brown. Backing them up from the bullpen, which is still rather shallow, is closer Mariano Rivera along with right hander, Tom Gordon and left hander, Mike Stanton.

The projected batting order has also been released for the 2005 season with two additions to the line-up, one of whom may be a familiar face to Yankees fan everywhere. Yes, you guessed it, Tino Martinez is once again in pinstripes batting in the DH spot while playing 1st base



SOFTBALL from back page

spring break. During the week of spring break the team will play two days each day over a three day period with is much more rigorous that the traditional schedule of the regular season.

During spring training the team works everyone. "It is to get experience," senior Kim Graver said.

During last season the Lady Colonels compiled a .242 batting average and with a .321 slugging percentage. Julie Henry had four homeruns last season for the team.

The Lady Colonels leave March 5 for spring training in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Wilkes hosts its first home game Tuesday March 29 at 2:30 against Moravian in a double header. The game can be heard on Wilkes University's radio station 90.7 WCLH.

2005 SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

Mar 16 @Marywood 3 PM
Mar 19 @ DeSales 1PM
Mar 23 @ William Paterson 3 PM
Mar 29 vs Moravian 2:30 PM
Apr 2 vs Lycoming 1PM
Apr 3 vs Keystone 1PM
Apr 6 vs Misericordia 3 PM
Apr 9 vs FDU-Florham 12 PM
Apr 10 vs Susquehanna 1PM
Apr 12 @ Scranton 3 PM
Apr 17 vs Delaware Valley 1 PM
Apr 21 @ Lebanon Valley 3:30 PM
Apr 24 vs Elizabethtown 1PM
Apr 26 @ Drew 3 PM
Apr 30 @ King's 1 PM

-Salon at 419-

419 South River Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

570-823-8966

Full Service Salon & Spa

By appointment only to give you
the attention you deserve!
Same day appointments available



20% off for Wilkes students & employees

NEAL SANTO
Beacon Staff W

Dodgeball
notes in the m
derdog Story,
you can dodg
enough logic.

Wilkes stud
ted notices in
them to join In

After the h
Underdog Sto
popping up al
tion and ever
the Game S

work. But c
leagues have
been around
ably as long
rubber ba
knocked m
over in gym

When
men's basket
Mike Witco
over the pos
tramural d
Wilkes s
changes ha
cluding the

ERA. At the
to be in the
Phillies are
eir pitching
. The rest of
phia for the
Wolf in the
n followed
e, and Brett
illies have
Vager, right
nder Rheel
ment for the
s of pitcher
p a no hitter
illies.
re has been
he line-up,
omes to the
towards the
r playing in
past 10, in-
ading to the
ries. Some
ng familiar
the Phillies
include
p, Jimmy
will be bat-
er 1 spot and
who will be
8 spot.
i will be full
1 bad. What
m two com-
t can we ex-
own to us in
ibition Sea-
is Thursday,



COLONEL'S CLIPBOARD

SPORTS BRIEFS

WEEKLY RECAP

MEN'S BASKETBALL

School	Conf			League		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
King's	11	3	.786	22	5	.826
DeSales	11	3	.786	20	7	.739
Scranton	10	4	.714	19	6	.773
Lycoming	8	6	.571	17	8	.696
Wilkes	8	6	.571	15	10	.636
FDU-Florham	4	10	.286	10	15	.391
Delaware Valley	4	10	.286	9	16	.391
Drew	0	14	.000	2	23	.087

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

School	Conf			League		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Scranton	14	0	1.000	26	1	.955
King's	12	2	.857	22	4	.913
DeSales	10	4	.714	20	7	.739
Drew	6	8	.429	14	11	.522
FDU-Florham	6	8	.429	14	12	.591
Delaware Valley	4	10	.286	12	12	.524
Lycoming	3	11	.214	7	17	.286
Wilkes	1	13	.071	4	21	.182

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Freedom Conference Semi-Finals
2/23 DeSales 67 Wilkes 63

COMING UP IN WILKES ATHLETICS

SOFTBALL

3/7 Wilkes vs Villa Julie @ Myrtle Beach, SC @ 9:30 AM
3/7 Wilkes vs Arcadia @ Myrtle Beach, SC @ 11:30 AM
3/8 Wilkes vs Wesley @ Myrtle Beach, SC @ 9:30 AM
3/8 Wilkes vs Regis @ Myrtle Beach, SC @ 11:30 AM
3/9 Wilkes vs Gordon @ Myrtle Beach, SC @ 9:30 AM
3/9 Wilkes vs Crown @ Myrtle Beach, SC @ 11:30 AM
3/11 Wilkes @ Sea Gull Classic @ Salisbury, MD @ 10:00 AM
3/12 Wilkes @ Sea Gull Classic @ Salisbury, MD @ 10:00 AM

BASEBALL

3/13 Wilkes vs Keuka @ 12:00 PM

MEN'S TENNIS

3/8 Wilkes vs Penn State-Behrend @ Hilton Head, SC @ 6:00 PM
3/10 Wilkes vs Slippery Rock @ Hilton Head, SC @ 12:00 PM
3/11 Wilkes vs Eastern @ Hilton Head, SC @ 11:00 AM

Dodgeball: The Comeback Kid of Team Sports

NEAL SANTOSKI
Beacon Staff Writer

Dodgeball legend Patches O'Houlihan notes in the movie *Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story*, "If you can dodge a wrench you can dodge a ball." Seems simple enough logic.

Wilkes students may have recently spotted notices in the cafeteria encouraging them to join Intramural Dodgeball.

After the hit movie *Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story*, dodgeball leagues started popping up all over the nation and even made it to the Game Show Network. But dodgeball leagues have actually been around for probably as long as the big rubber ball that knocked most of us over in gym class.

When assistant men's basketball coach, Mike Witcoskie took over the position of intramural director at Wilkes some big changes happened including the creation of

some new intramural leagues here at Wilkes. Being part of the larger team of Wilkes athletics, Witcoskie was aided by coach John Sumoski to come up with new ideas. "He [Sumoski] asked me to come up with something different, and so I came up with dodgeball," Witcoskie said.

Currently there are seven teams in the league. As a result of the uneven number of teams, there will be a bye week for the teams competing in the league. The way the league is set up is there are three games

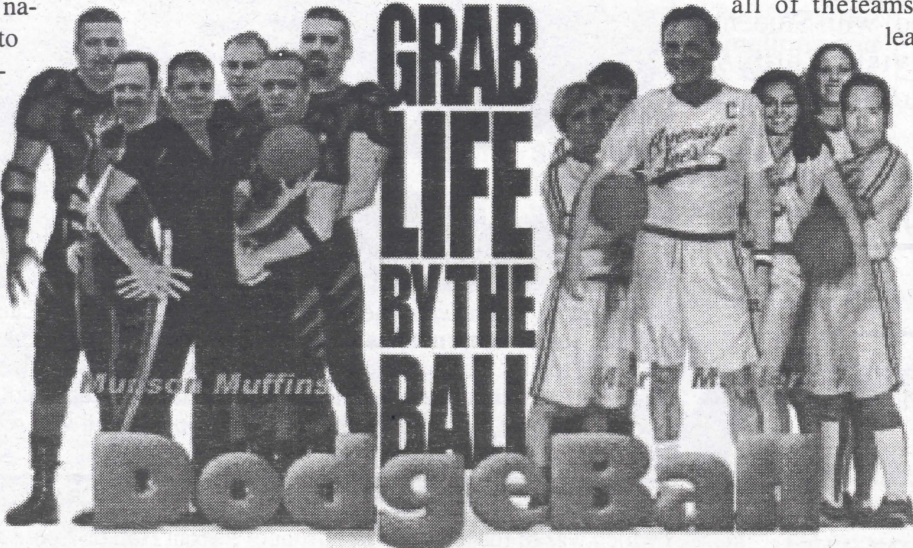
every Monday night from 8:00-9:30 and Thursday night from 7-8:30 played in the Henry Gymnasium at the Arnaud C. Marts Center.

"We told students the rules and let them be the officials of the game and so far there have been no complaints from any students," Witcoskie said.

With spring break just around the corner the intramural dodgeball championships have just finished up. The tournament consisted of a round-robin schedule involving all of the teams that remained in the league.

Everyone gets a fresh start in this game. It is new and people are trying to get used to the idea of playing.

When asked if this was different than the dodgeball movie Witcoskie gestured with the little black ball the teams use at Wilkes. "The ball weighs nothing and can't hurt anybody," he said.



NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

19

Points scored by Chris Shovlin in the Colonel's trip to the Freedom Conference Semi-Finals last Wednesday.

15

Total number of wins that the men's basketball team had during the 2004-2005 season.

12.5

The average number of points that junior guard Rena Bolin had in each game during the 2004-2005 season. She also scored in double figures 14 out of the 21 games that she played in.

4

Number of wins that first play intramural dodgeball team, Team John Sumoski has through Sunday, February 27th.

Men's basketball season ends on a pair of freethrows

COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

Top-seed DeSales University closed the game with a 14-6 run to knock off fourth-seeded Wilkes University, 67-63, in a Freedom Conference men's basketball semi-final game on Wednesday night. The win improves the Bulldogs to 20-6 overall while the Colonels see their season come to a close with a 15-10 mark.

Evan Walters scored inside for Wilkes with 4:46 to play to give his team a 57-53

lead. DeSales would respond with a pair of Michael Venafrá field goals to tie the game at 57-57 with 2:45 to play. David Spadt would convert a steal into a layup with 2:33 left to put DeSales on top for good, 59-57, with 2:33 remaining.

The Colonels cut the lead to two points several times, including 63-61 on a Matt Gould jumper in the lane with 1:06 showing on the clock. On the Bulldogs next possession Venafrá missed a shot. However, Spadt

grabbed the offensive rebound and hit Drew Christman at the free throw line. Christman's 15-footer with 23 ticks left upped the DeSales lead to 65-61. Rashawn Pressley would draw Wilkes to within 65-63 with a driving basket with eight seconds left. But, Venafrá hit two free throws with just four seconds remaining to ice the decision.

Wilkes raced out to a 12-2 lead in the opening 3:07 of the game. Both teams had their opportunities over the course of the next four minutes, but neither was able to take advantage. DeSales finally broke through when Venafrá canned a three-pointer with 42 seconds left in the half to cut the Colonels lead to 32-27. Then, following a Wilkes turnover, Spadt scored on a layup with only three seconds left in the stanza to make it 32-29, at intermission.

Walters scored on the first possession of the second half for Wilkes to give the Colonels a 34-29 lead. The Bulldogs then rattled off five straight points on a three-pointer by Venafrá and a pair of Phil Stricker free throws to tie the game at 34-34 with 18:29 left. From that point on the game would go back and forth, with neither team

able to take a sizeable advantage.

Wilkes was led by Shovlin's game-high 19 points. He also finished with six assists and five rebounds. Pressley came off the bench to contribute 11 points, while Walters added 10 tallies. Cardamone also enjoyed a solid night for Wilkes with nine points and 10 rebounds.



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

Chris Shovlin shoots a jumper during a game here at home. In last Wednesday's Freedom Conference Semi-Final game, Shovlin chipped in 19 points.

Softball Team Aims for 2005 MAC Championship

NEAL SANTOSKI
Beacon Staff Writer

After going to the Mid-Atlantic Conference playoffs last year and losing their first two games, the Lady Colonels softball team is looking to go back for a different outcome with almost all of last year's players returning.

"The girls are looking to get out there and play," stated head coach Frank Matthews.

The team is looking forward to a good season with all returning starters this season. The infield will consist of seniors Alexis Petite and Kim Graver; sophomores Julie Henry and Katie Orr; and freshman Kristy Bogdany. The outfield will consist

of seniors Maria Ciechoski and Jodi Viscomi; junior Nadine Taylor; and freshman Alex Ingram.

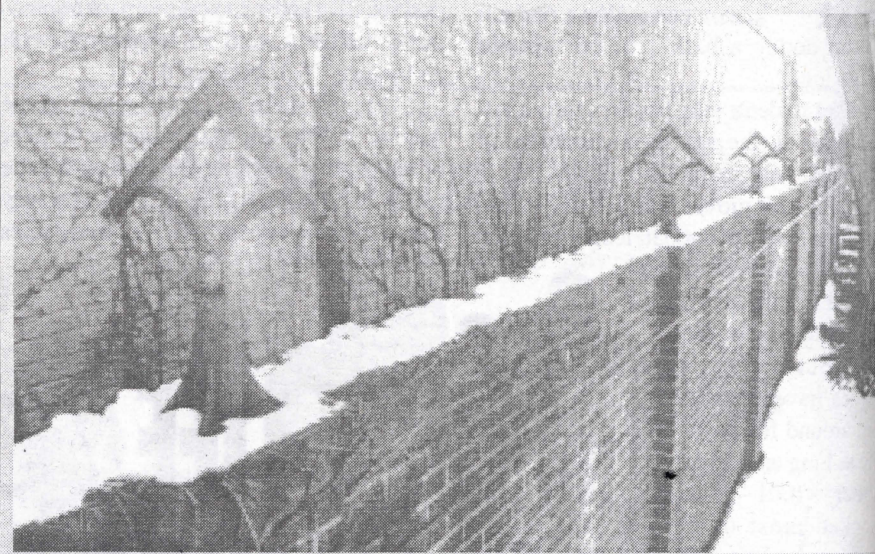
Senior Alexis Petite remarked, "The infield [players] are veterans who can play against anyone."

Returning pitcher Laurie Agresti, who led the MAC in strikeouts last season, returns to anchor the staff. She had an ERA of 1.26 in 21 appearances in 133.1 innings pitched. Agresti was the Freedom Conference Pitcher of the Year as a freshman, while also earning first team East Region All-American honors.

The Lady Colonels are looking forward to their first game of the season during

See Softball page 14

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



This photo was taken somewhere on Wilkes University's Campus.

When you find it, email us the answer at: wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com.

Be sure to put "Campus Picture" as the subject heading, as well as your name, phone number, and either campus mailbox or mailing address in the body text. A random winner will be picked from the correct responses and will receive a \$10 cash prize, courtesy of Programming Board.

Congratulations to Laura Zuckero, who correctly identified last week's secret shot, which was of the engraving on front of Passan Hall on South Franklin Street.

W Campus Calendar

MONDAY (2/28)

*No events listed

TUESDAY (3/1)

*Dance -- NUArts, new and unusual music and dance presentation. 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY (3/2)

*Student Government meeting 5:30 p.m. Marts Center

THURSDAY (3/3)

*Movie Matinee 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Commuter Lounge; sponsored by Commuter Council

FRIDAY (3/4)

*Plan your weekend! with Student Development, visit <http://www.wilkes.edu/studentdev/weekend.asp>

*Spring Recess Begins at 5 p.m.

SATURDAY (3/5)

*No events listed

SUNDAY (3/6)

*No events listed

**Classes resume Monday, March 14 at 8 a.m.

Editor's Note: Because of spring recess, *The Beacon* will not publish again until Monday, March 21.