

# The Beacon



February 12, 1996 • WILLIAM PATERSON COLLEGE

## Union sets strike date

American Federation of Teachers to strike at William Paterson College Feb. 29

Compiled from  
Beacon Staff Reports

With negotiations leading nowhere, the American Federation of Teachers voted early last weekend to strike at all eight New Jersey colleges and Montclair State University next Thursday, Feb. 29.

The union which represents teachers and professional staff, which includes admissions officers, counselors, librarians and advisers, has been working without a contract since June 30.

According to Linda Dye, president of the WPC chapter of the AFT, a vote was held at a meeting of the New Jersey State Colleges Local Friday night, declaring the strike.

"We tried everything we could," Dye said. "We revised our demands, but the State refuses to bargain in

good faith. We have to do something."

Dye explained that union members at WPC began to be notified of the decision to strike early Saturday morning with most having been notified by Sunday night.

"Strike assignments will be going out this week," she said.

Negotiations seem to have become deadlocked over a number of issues which include health care payments and the issue of differential pay.

Under the plan being offered by the state, union members would pay a larger share of their health care costs. Also under the state's plan, control of merit raises would rest solely with the college presidents.

"The net effect [of the state's plan]," she explained "is that we will be working for less buying power than we do now."

According to Dye the issues actually do not come

down to economics, but an ideological fight: "who will control who."

Dye feels that the state's plan could have damaging consequences on college faculty and campus life.

"Some faculty may be rewarded and some may be punished," she said. "People will have to live in fear that anything they say will be held against them."

"Freedom of speech is not an issue here," said WPC President Arnold Speert.

"I am dissatisfied that they have decided to strike," said Speert.

While he hopes that "we will come to some agreement prior to the date, we will do what we can to keep the campus functioning."

In the past WPC has talked of a strike plan that would allow them to keep classes and most campus operations running.

SEE FACULTY PAGE 3



### WPC Alumni Phonathon 1996

The Alumni Association of William Paterson College is looking for volunteers to help raise money for grants and scholarships during their annual Phonathon.

The Phonathon will last for four weeks and prizes will be given to the top finishers in raising dollars and new donors.

The Phonathon will take place Feb. 12 through March 7 in College Hall. Monday through Thursday, there will be a buffet dinner served and then an orientation. On Sunday, there will be orientation and light refreshments.

If you would like to volunteer, call Alumni Relations at 595-2175.

### Scholarships for women 25+

The American Association of University Women is offering scholarships to college bound women over 25 years old. The individuals must be a resident of either Bloomingdal, Butler, Clifton, Franklin Lakes, Kinnelon, Oak Ridge, Paterson, Pompton Lakes, Pompton Plains, Towaco, or Wayne. Applicants must also be accepted or enrolled in an accredited college or university working towards a bachelor's degree.

Application deadline is March 31, 1996. For information contact Marlys Huss at 838-7051.



Last Wednesday students shopped at the Delta Ujamma Market in the WPC Student Center Ballroom where African/African American vendors offered everything from clothing to literature. This event was sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority in honor of African Heritage Month.

Sylvana Meneses/The Beacon

## WPC strives to retain students

College continues to examine reasons for students leaving WPC

By Clementina Pope

BEACON STAFF WRITER

Any college's ultimate goal is that all students re-enroll each semester and eventually graduate. To put it in more academic terms, any college is concerned with the retention of its students.

"Compared to our sister state colleges in New Jersey, we are not where we would like to be," stated Dona Fountoukidis, director of Planning, Research & Evaluation, at the Jan. 23 Faculty Senate meeting.

In a recent survey taken by Fountoukidis of 200 first time, full-time freshmen who left William Paterson College, 45% reported they are currently students at another institution, with most having transferred to Rutgers or Montclair State Universities.

"We are losing a significant percent of our good students," said Fountoukidis, whose survey revealed that 31% of students who leave after their first year have grade point averages ranging from 3.0 to 4.0.

"It is uncertain as to why students leave WPC," said Fountoukidis. "Sometimes students leave due to factors outside the institution," she said, adding that these can include the economy or a parent losing their job.

"Some students are not as committed as other students," stated Henry Krell, dean of students. "We need to convince students that college is important and other things need to be deferred.

Krell feels that the college needs to examine why students leave. If students are dissatisfied with the academic programs, the college "needs to be up to date on the offer-

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Monday

**Equestrian Team**--General meeting for all members of the team; enrolling new members. 4:00, SC 326. Contact Nichole Rose, 595-2507.

**Career Services--Workshop:** Planning for Graduate School. 12:30-2:00 p.m., Morrison 146. Contact Sharon Rosengart, ext. 3020.

Inc. 11:00-12:30 p.m., SC 324-5. Contact Meryle Kaplan, ext. 2946, SC 214.

tures will be taken. New members are always welcome.

**Women's Center--Carmetta** Parkes of the Passaic County Women's Center will be on campus to provide individual and group counseling for survivors of sexual assault/violence. This service is free and available to male & female survivors. Call ext. 2946 for an appointment.

## Tuesday

**Catholic Campus Ministry**--Give yourself a spiritual break! Join us for eucharistic service in celebration of God's goodness to brighten our day. All are welcome. 12:30 p.m., SC 215. Contact Joanne or Gail, ext. 6184.

**Wednesday**  
**Women's Center**--In honor of Valentine's Day and healthy relationships, the Women's Center and Planned Parenthood present Condom Corner. Sale of Valentine Condoms, Dental Dams and other safer sex items. 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m., SC Lobby. Great Safe Sex Talk by Debbie Hamlin-Aggrey, Director of Education, Planned Parenthood,

**Career Services--Workshop:** Interview Techniques. 2:00-3:30, Morrison 1456. Contact Sharon, ext. 3020.

**Essence Literary Club**--General meeting to discuss upcoming Literary Magazine. 12:30, PAL Lounge. Contact Karen, 427-8208.

**Career Services--Workshop:** Introduction to Resume Expert (Advance sign-up required). 2:00-3:30, Morrison 148. Contact ext. 3020.

## Sunday

**Catholic Campus Ministry**--Come celebrate mass with us and experience great times of faith, fellowship & fun! Transportation is available and all are welcome. 7:30 p.m., CCMCenter. Contact ext. 6184.

**Study Abroad**--Application deadline for the fall semester is Feb. 15. For further info, contact Prof. G. Satra, Matelson 317.

**Thursday**  
**Feminist Collective**--Meeting at 12:30 in Sci. 341. Yearbook pic-

# CAMPUS NEWS

## Cold weather takes toll on WPC campus

By Melissa Viola  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Old Man Winter and Jack Frost seemed to be in cahoots from the first day of February until the beginning of last week, bombarding the North Jersey area with freezing cold winds and single digit temperatures.

The William Paterson College community is slowly recovering from the record-breaking cold and snow and the effects it's had on campus life.

Junior Beverly Griffon summed it up best. "I want to go to Jamaica," she said.

The biggest complaints among students on campus are the ice-covered walkways, the long walks across campus in the bone-chilling wind, the inadequate heating of the trailers, and the lack of parking spaces available because of the snow.

Towers resident Todd Bestreski admitted to "blowing off getting to classes on time" because of the ice situation on campus.

"I'm not going to risk life and limb to get to a history class," said Bestreski. "Having both legs is more important to me than knowing what happened in 1786."

Sophomore Mike Gavin added that walking in the cold was unbearable. "Making the long trips across campus from Hobart to the Science Building is the worst," said Gavin.

Students are not the only people on campus being affected by the brisk temperatures. The WPC Maintenance Department had its own share of problems.

John Urinyi, director of maintenance, said that the heating in the Science building and the Rec Center is currently the



Temperatures dropped severely this past week causing melting snow to freeze across campus. The frozen icicles in some cases reached from roof tops to walkways. Sylvana Meneses/The Beacon

department's major concern. He said that rooms 200A and 200B in the Science Building were "about 64 degrees right where professors stand to lecture" due to problems with the hot water coils. As for the Rec Center, Urinyi said a consultant would be in to check the heating system.

Urinyi acknowledged that ice on campus has resulted in several accidents in the parking lots. One of the reasons it is so bad is because "salt doesn't work when it gets below 20 degrees," he said.

Roof leaks, potholes, and snow removal are the

other situations the maintenance department is dealing with.

"Right now all we can do is temporarily patch the potholes," said Urinyi. "We're patching, but it doesn't last that long." In the spring and summer Urinyi expects extensive road repair.

The cold weather has put a halt on construction of the new academic building, finishing work on the library's front entrance, and roof reconstruction of White and Matelson Halls.

Urinyi is hoping for the best come mid-March. However, "pipes don't break when they are frozen," he said, "they break when they thaw."

The cold weather has also affected the campus on a more personal level.

"It's interfering with my social life," said Eugene Buckley of the Communication Department. "I rush home after classes."

Faculty member Joyce Williams admitted, "I can't get into fashion because of the weather. All I think about is keeping warm."

"With the winter we're having, I'm looking forward to summer no matter what kind of heat wave we have," said Williams.

## Faculty encouraged to plan ahead

FROM STRIKE PAGE 1

However, according to Dye, the Communication Workers of America have agreed to honor the AFT picket line and will not cross.

The CWA represents 34,000

workers statewide, 2,300 of which work at state colleges.

Dye explained that flyers will be circulating around campus this week explaining the issues to students and asking for their support.

"We have asked faculty to be as compassionate with students as possible," Dye said. "We have asked them to think ahead, where possible."

The strike is slated to begin before most teachers would give midterm examinations and only a little more than a week from Spring Break.

The WPC faculty has struck twice in the past. Once in 1974, for eight days, and then again in 1979, for a day and a half.

## Use for land unclear

FROM LAND PAGE 5

Vice President of Administration and Finance, Peter Spiridon, said that adding more land to the college would benefit WPC in the future, although he hadn't yet thought about how it will definitely be used.

Brenda Rubenfeld contributed to this article.

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# CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



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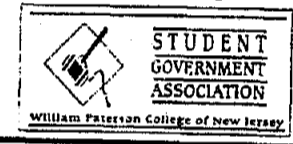
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# THE INSIDER

February 12, 1996

## Jazz 'Dean' to lecture at Ben Shahn

By Joe Giglio  
STAFF WRITER

From Jan. 28 until March 1, "The Jazz Photographs of Milt Hinton," a selection of 50 original black and white prints from the jazz artist's extensive collection, are now on display in the Ben Shahn galleries. Concurrently, Hinton will give a lecture on Tuesday, Feb. 20 at 12:30 p.m. The exhibit, "Art: New Jersey," acknowledges contemporary works by 16 artists, featuring Hinton.

Hinton, regarded as the "dean" of jazz bass players, is also well known for his photos, which outline jazz life - on the road, in recording studios, at parties, and at home. His photographic career began when he got hold of a broken Kodak in the late 1930's and began taking photos of his family and friends. Over the next six decades those photos of friends and family turned into over 40,000 exposures recollecting some of jazz's most intimate and historical moments. Those captured on film include Louis Armstrong, Thelonious Monk, Lester Young, Cab Calloway, Count Bassie, Sy Oliver, Benny Goodman, Dizzy Gillespie, Chuck Terry, Pee Wee Russell, Billie Holiday, and just about every jazz musician of some significance.

Hinton's collection took 12 years to organize with the help of his lifelong friend David Berger, a sociologist at Temple University. Their duties included cataloguing, filing, printing, and indexing, with the goal of making the photos more accessible to the public. Hinton's one-person show hit the road in Philadelphia in June of 1981 and was enthusiastically received. Critics recognized his work as unique because it portrays and documents significant musical eras. The exhibit went worldwide, appearing in Scotland, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, and France.



In December 1985, the "On The Road" exhibit was a success, with appearances at the Parsons School Of Design in New York City and, in April 1990, at the Aetna Foundation in Hartford, Connecticut. Other group shows featuring the legendary Hinton included "A Century Of Black Photographers: 1840-1960," a travelling exhibit organized by the Rhode Island School of Design. Similar exhibits include the Detroit Historical Museum, the Denver Art Museum, and the Rochester Institute of Technology.

His 1988 book, Bass Line: The Stories and Photographs of Milt Hinton, written with David Berger, contained nearly 180 photographs,

along with an extensive recollection of Hinton's life in music, and was selected "Book of the Year" by Jazz Times.

When Hinton was 80 years old in 1990, WRTI-FM in Philadelphia produced a series of 28 short programs that he chronicled throughout his life. These were broadcast by over 150 public radio stations worldwide and received a Gabriel Award for Best National Short Feature in 1991.

OverTime: The Jazz Photographs of Milt Hinton, his second book, was co-written by Berger and Holly Maxson in the fall of 1991 and featured 220 previously unpublished photos taken from the Milt J. Hinton Photographic Collection.

His photographs have been published in Popular Photography, Downbeat, The Christian Science Monitor, The New York Times, Life Magazine and have also appeared in documentary films including The

SEE HINTON PAGE 12

## WHAT'S INSIDE

Stabbing ← **KROCK** → Westward

BLACK GRAPE

HOROSCOPES

# HINTON FROM COVER

Long Night Of Lady Day, featuring Billie Holiday; The Brute and the Beautiful, featuring Ben Webster; and Listen Up, featuring Quincy Jones. Hinton embarked on his illustrious career in the late 1920's and early 1930's, working as a freelance musician in Chicago, performing with legendary jazz musicians such as Zutty Singleton, Art Tatum, Eddie South, Jabbo Smith and others. In 1936, he joined Cab Calloway's band, replacing Al Morgan and remained Cab's sidekick for 15 years. He once said, "Cab is my musical father. When he hired me I got a chance to make it in the big leagues."

During that time he was featured on certain recordings accompanying various legends, including Chu Berry, Benny Carter, Lionel Hampton and Ethel Waters - many of which have become classics. After he left Calloway in the 1950's,

the "dean" began working as a studio freelancer in New York, playing on thousands of jazz and pop records, film soundtracks and dozens of radio and television programs over a span of two decades. As a result, he has accompanied virtually every jazz and popular artist from Duke Ellington to Paul McCartney. Hinton has made concert and festival appearances around the world and has toured extensively with Louis Armstrong, Pearl Bailey and Bing Crosby.

Today, the 87-year-old artist seldom performs. A guest clinician at dozens of colleges and on-going jazz workshops, Hinton has also served as the Bass Chairman for the National Association of Jazz Educators, a Panel Member for the National Endowment for the Arts and the Board of the International Society of Bassists.

Other honors include membership in the Duke Ellington Fellowship at Yale

Tickets for the Milt Hinton Jazz Room Concert are still available.

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and the Newport Festival Hall Of Fame, honorary doctorates from WPC, Skidmore College, Hamilton College and DePaul University and the "Eubie" award from the New York Chapter of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

# MUSIC REVIEW

## PICK HIT

**Black Grape**  
*It's Great When You're Straight... Yeah*  
(Radioactive)

their individual strengths making it the fiercest track of the bunch. The voices of Ryder, Kermit, and Jed are like three word bombs. When they're strategically placed within a song, the result is controlled mayhem. Ryder integrates his humorous, trippy vocals while Kermit and Jed flash their bastardized street-rasta muscle.

*It's Great When You're Straight... Yeah* was recorded in a mere seven weeks. With any luck, Black Grape's lineup will last long enough for them to produce a second. By then, I'm sure they will have mastered the Black Grape three-punch combination.

By Jody Solis

**Stabbing Westward**  
*Wither Blister Burn + Peel*  
(Columbia)

Stabbing Westward are back again with their follow-up to 1994's *Ungod*. Containing more songs about being alone ("Why"), child molestation ("Sleep"), and despair ("Crushing Me"), with *Wither Blister Burn + Peel*, the group doesn't break any new ground and may resemble anything from *Nine Inch Nails* to *Front 242* and *Killing Joke*. Basically, it's music for today's modern alternative hard rock listener.

On "Sleep," singer Christopher Hall quietly whispers, "Staring at her father's

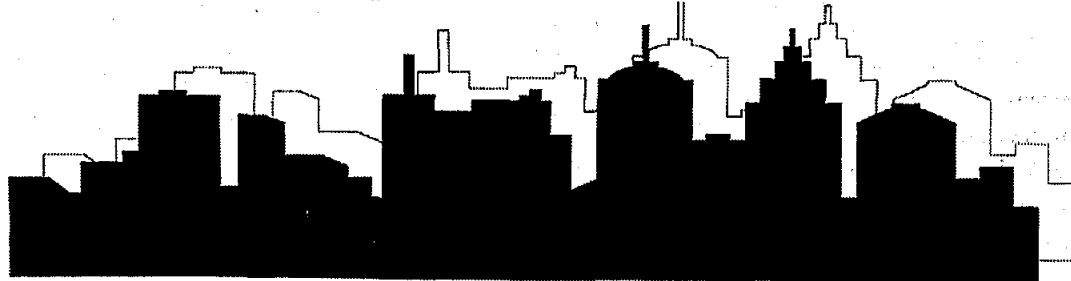
head/Wishing one of them were dead/So this hell could finally end" in an almost sympathetic type of way. You care - for about a second.

Backing Hall's vocals is Walter Flakus' guitar sound, which is similar to those of *Alice In Chains* and *Filter*, and the rhythm section of Jim Sellers on bass and

new member Andy Kubiszewski on drums. I admit that my foot remained tapping through most of the disc, despite Hall's unoriginal rants. There are plenty of computer programmed beats and noises which help Stabbing Westward create an eerie, yet hard-hitting, sound.

Commercial rock stations are sure to

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# The Beacon Sports

February 12, 1996 · William Paterson College

## The ultimate 'role' player

Gerard Wilson hopes to lead Pioneers into playoffs

By Jeremy Singer  
INTERIM SPORTS EDITOR

The William Paterson College men's basketball team has recently had to get used to winning.

After finishing 9-15 in 1994-95 and starting this season 6-11, WPC has reeled off five consecutive wins to pull its win-loss percentage to .500 for the first time since Nov. 25, when the Pioneers were 2-2. For the first time in five years, WPC is fighting for a playoff spot.

The post-season is unknown territory to Gerard Wilson. But Wilson, a junior guard who has become WPC's on-court leader, seems poised to lead his team

into the season's stretch drive, and, if the Pioneers qualify for the fourth and final playoff spot of the New Jersey Athletic Conference or are selected to play in the NCAA Division III tournament, the post-season.

"Collectively, everyone wants to win," said Wilson, who is second on the Pioneers with 13 points per game and leads the team in three-point field goals (85) and blocked shots (33). "Everyone was tired of losing and we have too much talent to lose. When we were 6-11, we thought it would be like last year, but we got past all those negative thoughts."

"Last year" is now just a distant memory. SEE WILSON PAGE S2



Gerard Wilson has assumed the leadership role for the William Paterson College men's basketball team. Above, he fights for a rebound in the Pioneers' 75-46 win over Ramapo College Saturday.

Photos by Gena Zak/The Beacon

## Women's basketball wins despite sloppy play

By Bill Berthold  
BEACON STAFF WRITER

The week that the William Paterson College women's basketball team has been waiting for has finally arrived. This week the Lady Pioneers play games with huge playoff significance against arch-rival Montclair State University Wednesday at Montclair and against Trenton State College at home Saturday, WPC's regular season finale.

Before WPC could even think about those two opponents, however, it had to get by one last obstacle: Ramapo College. And the Lady Pioneers just did get by Ramapo, defeating the Lady Roadrunners 55-48 in one of WPC's most sluggish outings of the season Saturday at the Rec Center.

While Ramapo never led in the game, the overmatched Lady Roadrunners were allowed to stay within striking distance of the Lady Pioneers the whole game. WPC was never able to deliver the anticipated knockout blow.

WPC (15-7, 13-3 New Jersey Athletic Conference) turned the ball over 24 times and shot only 33.9 percent from the field. The

Lady Pioneers overcame their sloppy play with strong efforts from guards Carolyn Rom, who had a game high 16 points, and Kathy Sinram, who poured in 14 points. The Lady Pioneers also helped themselves by shooting seven-for-22 from behind the three-point line.

With 8:50 remaining in the game and the Lady Pioneers clinging to a four point lead, WPC freshman Stephanie Arrigo hit a shot to give her team a 43-37 lead. Arrigo then nailed a three-pointer 20 seconds later, extending the WPC lead to nine. After a Bridget Brennan hoop, Rom nailed one of her four three-point baskets to give the Lady Pioneers their biggest lead of the game, 51-39, with seven minutes left.

The Lady Pioneers' motto this season has been "one game at a time," but against Ramapo, WPC may have been caught sneaking a peek at this week's games.

"We have been trying to take it one game at a time, but there is so much pressure for next week and everyone is trying to stay together. When you play a team like this it's really hard to keep it together and not get caught up in their fists and

throwing elbows," said Rom, referring to the physical play of the Lady Roadrunners. "I think as long as we got this win, we'll be alright the rest of the season."

Were the Lady Pioneers looking ahead at Montclair instead of concentrating on the task at hand, which was to beat Ramapo?

"Probably," said Arrigo, who eight points. "We weren't focused enough. We should have killed this team."

Arrigo and Brennan combined for just three points in the first half.

"We took it seriously, but not seriously enough," said co-captain Brennan, who fought hard for every one of her ten points and 12 rebounds. "I just didn't have a good game, but it's a good thing everyone else stepped up."

WPC coach Erin Shaughnessy disagreed that her club was looking past Ramapo and ahead to Wednesday.

"The one thing I've been instilling is 'game by game,'" said Shaughnessy, whose team was coming off a 61-50 win against Kean College last Monday and a 67-34 victory over Rutgers University-Newark on Wednesday. "The last three



Bridget Brennan looks to drive the lane in action against Ramapo last Saturday.

Gena Zak/The Beacon

or four games, we have been playing like this. If we don't get by these games we can't get to Wednesday, so I don't think we are looking by them at all."

Throughout the first half and part of the second of Saturday's game, WPC seemed bothered by the 3-2 zone defense Ramapo was playing.

"I keep saying that if anybody

plays us in a zone we should be able to crush them because of our outside shooters," Shaughnessy said. "But Stephanie Arrigo has been off the last two or three games, and that is all in her mind. That is what we are going to practice the next two days just in case we see it (zone defense)."

SEE LADY PAGE S4



DuJuan Jones goes up for a layup against Ramapo at the WPC Rec Center last Saturday. Gena Zak/The Beacon

## Are Pioneers playoff bound?

After beating Ramapo, WPC needs two wins this week

By Jeremy Singer  
INTERIM SPORTS EDITOR

It seems as the men's basketball season progresses, William Paterson College keeps getting better.

A month ago, the Pioneers were 6-11, 2-9 in the conference. Now, after embarrassing Ramapo College 75-46 at the Rec Center Saturday, WPC is 11-11, 7-9 New Jersey Athletic Conference. More importantly, the Pioneers' chances of qualifying for the fourth and final playoff spot in the NJAC, which seemed out of the realm of pos-

sibility not too long ago, are now very realistic.

If WPC wins its final two regular season games this week at Montclair State University Wednesday and at home against Trenton State College Saturday and Rutgers University-Newark, currently fourth place in the NJAC, loses two of its final three regular season games, the Pioneers will clinch a tie for fourth place.

Rutgers-Newark is scheduled to play Richard Stockton College and Jersey City State College, two of the conference's three best teams, this week, and

WPC players are confident Newark will lose those games. After winning five straight games, WPC players are also confident that the Pioneers cannot be stopped.

"We know our roles, and we're playing unselfishly," said WPC guard Tim McDonald, who finished with 13 points and eight assists against Ramapo.

Referring to the Pioneers' losses earlier in the season to their upcoming opponents and to the win against Ramapo as well as recent wins against Rutgers University-Newark, Kean SEE MEN'S PAGE S3

## Wilson: WPC winning because players know roles

FROM ULTIMATE PAGE S1

Wilson, 1993 graduate of Bishop AHR High School in Edison, seems to understand what his role is on the team. On defense, his job is to swarm opposing players in order to create turnovers and forced shots. On offense, Wilson is the Pioneers' greatest outside shooting threat. Wilson has hit 48 percent of his shots this season, including an incredible 45 percent from three-point territory.

Wilson was named WPC team captain by his coach and teammates before the season began, a title which sums up what is possibly Wilson's most important role on the Pioneers: leadership. "He's the hardest worker in practice and he prides himself on being a hard worker," Rebibmas said. "We have a lot of respect for him as a person and as a player. He's lived up to

his role as captain." On a team with no seniors, Wilson, along with WPC mainstays Jones and Greene, is the veteran. As the Pioneers' most established player and one of the team's most personable players, Wilson has served as a bit of a guidepost to WPC newcomers including Justin Frederick, a sophomore guard who leads WPC with 16 points per game. "He's our leader. He just comes and plays," Frederick said. "He never has his head down, and he always picks us up when we're slumping. He's a great shooter, too." Heads-up play, Wilson said, is one of the big differences between the current WPC squad and the one which struggled under former coach Jerry Dallesio last season. When the Pioneers lost five games in a

row after the Thanksgiving break and three in a row last month, they weren't playing heads-up ball. The WPC players and coaches held a few meetings during losing spells this season, and Wilson said those meetings helped the players understand what they were doing wrong as a team. "The last meeting was after the Stockton game," said Wilson, referring to a 60-47 loss at Stockton State College Jan. 24. "We said that we were making too many mistakes. We would make a run, and then we would crack. Since we had that meeting, we haven't cracked." Since losing to Stockton, WPC has beaten five straight teams, all but one of which entered its game against WPC with a better win-loss record

than the Pioneers. Included in that streak are wins against Rutgers University-Newark and Jersey City State College, both playoff-bound teams with records well above .500. And so Wilson, like his teammates, has come to the conclusion that the Pioneers are capable of winning a conference championship; if WPC doesn't win it this year, it certainly has the personnel to win next year. It's a wary confidence that comes from playing on a bad team for two years, as Wilson has done, but winning a championship is a goal that Wilson and his teammates see as being very attainable. In order to qualify for the NJAC playoffs, the Pioneers, currently 7-9 in the NJAC, must finish fourth place in the conference. WPC is currently tied for fifth place, two-and-a-half games behind fourth place Rutgers-Newark. "This year, if you look into our eyes, you can see we want to win, and I know we can win," said Wilson, a history major who aspires to be a teacher. "I never think about not making it (the playoffs). We're just thinking about winning our next two games in order to make the playoffs." If WPC wins its final two regular season games, against sub-.500 clubs Montclair State University and Trenton State College, and Rutgers-Newark falters in its final week of the season, Wilson and the rest of the Pioneers will be playoff bound.

### WPC NEXT TWO WEEKS

(Feb. 12 thru Feb. 28)

#### Men's Basketball

- Montclair - Wednesday, Feb. 14 @ 8 p.m.
- TRENTON - Saturday, Feb. 17 @ 4 p.m.\*
- NJAC Playoffs (tentative) - Thursday, Feb. 22 (site and time TBA)\*
- NJAC Championship (tentative) - Saturday, Feb. 24 (site and time TBA)\*

#### Women's Basketball

- Montclair - Wednesday, Feb. 14 @ 6 p.m.
- TRENTON - Saturday, Feb. 17 @ 2 p.m.\*
- NJAC Playoffs (tentative) - Wednesday, Feb. 21 (site and time TBA)\*
- NJAC Championship (tentative) - Saturday, Feb. 23 (site and time TBA)\*

#### Men's Swimming

- Met Championships - Feb. 15-17 at Trenton

#### Indoor Track and Field

- Collegiate Track Conference Indoor Championships - Feb. 17-18 @ Southern Connecticut
- Seton Hall Open - Feb. 24

CAPS=home game \* =WPC-TV

### NJAC Standings

(As of Sunday, Feb. 4)

#### Men's Basketball

	NJAC	OVERALL
Richard Stockton	12-2 .857	17-3 .850
Rowan	12-2 .857	17-3 .850
Jersey City State	9-4 .692	12-7 .632
Rutgers-Newark	8-5 .615	12-5 .706
Kean	6-7 .462	8-10 .444
Trenton State	6-8 .429	9-9 .500
Ramapo	6-8 .429	10-10 .500
Montclair State	5-9 .357	8-12 .400
William Paterson	4-9 .308	8-11 .421
Rutgers-Camden	0-14 .000	0-19 .000

#### Women's Basketball

	NJAC	OVERALL
Rowan	14-0 1.000	20-0 1.000
Trenton State	11-3 .786	14-5 .737
Montclair State	11-3 .786	13-6 .684
William Paterson	10-3 .769	12-7 .632
Rutgers-Camden	8-6 .571	11-7 .611
Richard Stockton	6-8 .429	10-9 .526
Kean	4-9 .308	5-14 .263
Rutgers-Newark	2-11 .153	4-14 .222
Ramapo	2-12 .142	5-15 .250
Jersey City State	0-13 .000	1-18 .053

## Men's basketball eyeing conference playoffs

Pioneers move within 2 1/2 games of final seed with win over Ramapo College

FROM PIONEERS PAGE S2  
College and Jersey City State, all teams which had beaten WPC earlier in the year, McDonald said, "We owe Stockton and Rowan paybacks. Lately we've been paying everybody back."

After beating Ramapo, however, WPC coach Jose Rebibmas maintained the "never satisfied" stance he has had all season.

"Over the hump -- doesn't that mean over .500?" Rebibmas asked rhetorically.

But even Rebibmas acknowledged that, if the Pioneers are not "over the hump" just yet, they are playing much better than they were early in the year.

"Before, we were just playing good defense. Now we're putting the ball in the basket," he said. "We still have a lot of room to improve. I don't think any of us think we have really accomplished anything."

WPC came out scorching against Ramapo, taking an 18-5 lead midway through the first half. The Pioneers hit 57.7 percent of their shots before half-

time while holding the Roadrunners to 30.4 percent as they took a 32-22 lead into the locker room.

The Pioneers didn't give in much in the second half. After Ramapo cut the WPC lead to eight points early on, the Pioneers steadily pulled away from their opponent and led by as much as 31 near the end of the game.

"Everybody is playing together," said WPC guard Justin Frederick, who led his team with nine rebounds while recording four steals and scoring 14 points. "We're going to make the playoffs. We're not looking back."

WPC received another stand-out effort from Gerard Wilson, who continued a current hot streak by scoring 19 points.

"I don't know how we lost to them before," said Wilson, referring to WPC's 61-48 loss to the Roadrunners Dec. 9, 1995.

"Coming out now, we know we can't lose to these teams. We all have a little more pride than we had at the beginning of the season."

WPC's Mike Thomas, who hit all five of his shots for 10 points in addition to four rebounds, and Norman Greene, who scored eight points on four-of-six shooting and recorded five steals, five rebounds and four assists, were both instrumental in the win.

The Pioneers beat Ramapo thoroughly on both ends of the floor, converting 53.2 percent of their shots while forcing 24 turnovers, including 16 WPC steals, and holding Ramapo to 32 percent shooting.

WPC also outrebounded the Roadrunners 41-35.

"We have a killer instinct," Wilson said.

The Pioneers defeated Rutgers-Newark 63-58 at the Rec Center Wednesday behind 26 points from Wilson. WPC also beat Kean 73-64 Monday at Kean. Greene led the Pioneers with 22 points.

## Pleasant stars at Drew track meet

Three William Paterson College athletes set school records, one qualified for the NCAA Division III National Championship and one qualified for the ECAC/IC4A Championships as the WPC indoor track and field team recorded 10 first place finishes at the Drew Invitational Sunday, Feb. 4.

The Pioneers' Ramon Pleasant won the men's 55 hurdles in :08.08 and the high jump with 6'7", both new school records. Ami Racich won the women's high jump with 4'10", also a new WPC record.

David Dupiche qualified to represent WPC at the upcoming NCAA's with a :06.40 in the 55 dash, good for first place. Pleasant's score in the high jump qualified him for the ECAC/IC4A's.

Other first place finishers for the Pioneers on the men's side included Sadat Safford in the 800 (2:09), Dupiche in the 200 (:23.46) and the WPC relay team in the 1600 (3:41.40).

WPC first place finishers for the women's team were La Nita Pemberton in the 55 hurdles (:09.23), Sue Lin Currie in the 55 dash (:07.7) and the 200 (:28.8), Laticia Currie in the 400 (1:07.18) and Marie Remiggo in the shot put (32'3").

Other top men finishers for the Pioneers were Aaron Cooper, second place in the 55 hurdles (:08.09), Steve Truitt (:06.59) and Jeff Riddick, second and third respectively in the 55 dash, Shawn Grimaldi, second in the 800 (2:09.6), Keith Bailey, third in the 200 (:24.85), Mark Snyder, third in the 3000 (10:13.4), Nicholas Semeniuk, second in the shot put (37'6.5"), Reuben Pleasant, second in the high jump (6'4") and another WPC relay team which finished second in the 1600 (3:42.11).

Two WPC athletes finished second in women's events: Laticia Currie in the 200 (:29.86) and Tanya Pittman in the shot put (23'4.5").

**The Greek Senate held a vote on January 18 in support of the non-smoking policy in the commuter cafeteria.**



**The vote was passed and Greeks will help implement this new policy.**

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# Lady Pioneers looking towards Montclair and Trenton

FROM SLOPPY PAGE S1

The combination of the unusually poor shooting of Arrigo, who shot three-for-18, and the absence of outside shooting specialist Sharon Rocks, who missed Saturday's game with the flu, could all be part of the reason WPC struggled with the Ramapo zone.

"We didn't move the ball fast enough," Arrigo said. "If we had quicker passes and looked inside more, then we probably would have gotten more baskets."

With Ramapo, Kean, Rutgers-Newark, Rutgers University-Camden, Richard Stockton College and Jersey City State College all out of the way, the Lady Pioneers can now focus on the conference's top teams, such as Montclair State and Trenton State College.

WPC has already clinched an NJAC playoff birth and now is jockeying for position. The top four teams in the conference make the playoffs, and WPC can finish with anything from a No. 2 seed, where they would host a first round playoff game,

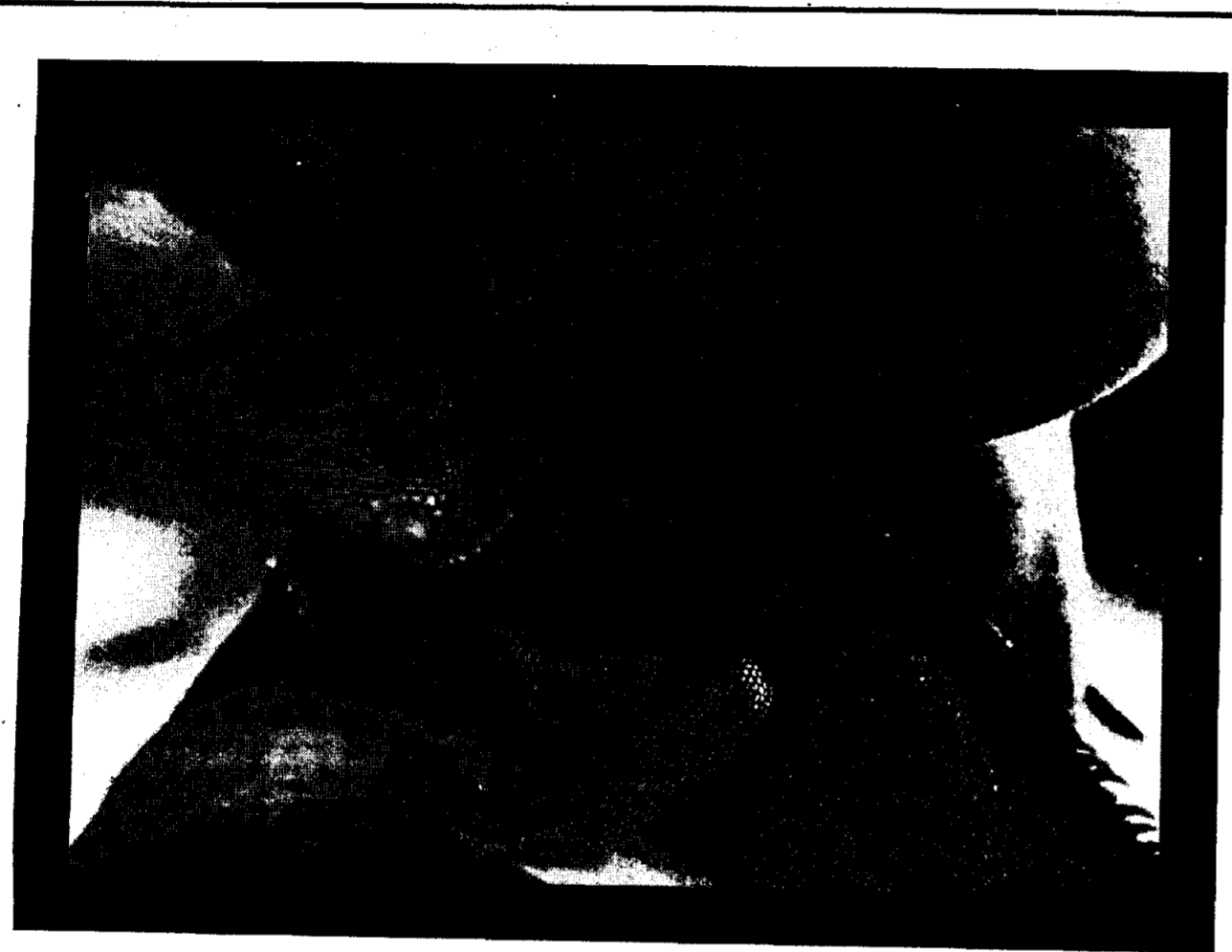
to the No. 4 seed, where they would have to travel to NJAC powerhouse Rowan, which is undefeated.

The goal for the Lady Pioneers is simple: to win their two remaining games in order to get the No. 2 seed in the conference tournament.

"I just told the kids, 'guys, why would you want to put Montclair in a situation that would put them back?'" Shaughnessy said. "Right now they're (Montclair) done, and if we just beat them again then

they're done again. If we win the next two, are chances of playing in the NCAA's are good, too. Monday (today) really starts the next part of the season. It is very important to get Monday and Tuesday under way."

According to Shaughnessy, a good practice today and Tuesday is imperative for a victory against Montclair. "If we practice bad," Shaughnessy said, "then I can set a guarantee that we are going to lose."



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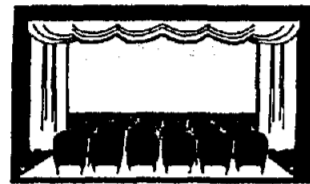
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# See what's Coming Up with S.A.P.B.

**Feb. 13th:** Celebration of African Heritage Month  
Movie "Panther" with a discussion afterwards.  
6:30 p.m. Ballroom  
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**Feb. 17th:** NJ Nets vs. NY Knicks - at Meadowlands  
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Leave Arena at 10:30 p.m.  
Students \$15 Others \$20  
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**Feb. 20th:** Celebration of African Heritage Month  
Movie "Higher Learning" with a discussion afterwards.  
7:30 p.m. Ballroom  
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**Feb. 21st:** Live Amateur Night at the Apollo!! In the heart of NYC.  
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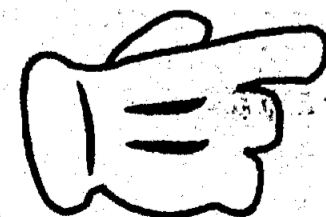
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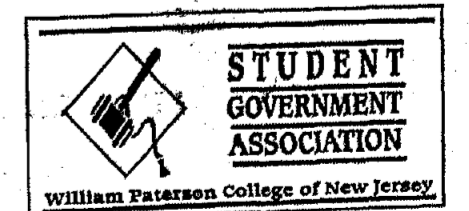
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# Classic rock dumped for new format

By Jody Solis  
BEACON STAFF WRITER

Since the Stone Age, classic rock (dubbed "dinosaur rock" to us hipsters) has been the format for two of New York's oldest competing stations on the FM dial: WXRK and WNEW. The rivalry between the two stations hasn't wavered since their formidable signals first hit the airwaves.

For many years, dinosaur rock ruled and, while smaller fringe stations such as WDRE and X107 were trying more daring programming, K-Rock and WNEW enjoyed high ratings. But the tide began to turn when

the two stations experienced a sharp decline in ratings and many of their once-faithful listeners were turning elsewhere. It became evident that dinosaur rock was facing the threat of extinction.

In an effort to gain new listeners, K-Rock took drastic measures. Following top-rated morning program, "The Howard Stern Show" on Jan. 5, K-Rock surprised unsuspecting listeners by kicking off the station's new format - modern rock. On Jan. 26, K-Rock Program Director Andre Gardner explained the reason for the change, saying, "We had seen a pretty steady decline of

listenership for our classic rock music over the last eighteen months to two years. Interest in classic rock was nearly on the wane, and we're seeing that all across the nation - not just New York."

Gardner believes that K-Rock's new format strongly differs from other local stations. He said, "There are certainly several other stations in New York that play the same, or similar, types of music. Taking Z100 first, they still play a lot of rap, play a lot of Coolio, they play Mariah Carey, they play a lot of Top 40 stuff that we would never touch. On the harder side of Q104, they

play a lot of Ozzy, AC/DC, and bands that, again, we would never touch. We just stick to playing mainstream, popular rock music today."

Veteran K-Rock DJ, Vin Scelsa, host of the specialty show, "Idiot's Delight," which featured a unique mix of roots music and alternative rock, resigned from the station to go to WNEW. According to newspaper reports, Scelsa has said that although he had been playing this kind of music on his specialty show, he believes that K-Rock's new format is mindlessly forcefeeding its listeners, which will eventually drive many of

them away.

Gardner's response to Scelsa's accusations was, "I can respect what he has to say. I don't agree with it, but we wanted to have Vin stick around because we thought that his show would add some depth to the station. But he chose otherwise, and decided to go across the street to WNEW. And so, we wish him well."

WNEW took a different approach when entering the new year's ratings war. WNEW Program Director, Ted Edwards, believes that their strengths lie in their diversity. "Basically, we have the full breast of rock - old rock, new rock, acoustic, electric - ours is a very diverse format," Edwards said. "By K-Rock changing their format, those listeners need a place to go. Hopefully, they'll come here."

WNEW is one of a growing number of stations to adopt Triple-A-Radio format or Adult Album Alternative by playing the likes of Victoria Williams, Wilco, and Joan Osborne. "We mold those kinds of things together - the historic and the current," stated Edwards.

In K-Rock's case, dinosaur rock has gone into oblivion while it has survived on WNEW by adapting to the musical landscape of today.

## MUSIC CON'T

add a track or two from *Wither Blister Burn + Peel* into their rotation. However, I don't see the CD making any sales records. Stabbing Westward sit in the sorry stage of mediocrity in an age where musical styles change all too fast and most bands will not turn into the next Nine Inch Nails, although some have squeaked by.

By Ed Erlenmeyer



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Horoscopes by

Miss Anna

**ARIES**  
(March 21-April 20)

You will see financial dealings improving this week. And it may be best to stick to time-tested realities. Steer clear of all who cannot be trusted, or seem to be working towards a goal purely for themselves. You enjoy change, variety and adventure.

**TAURUS**  
(April 21 - May 21)

Think before you speak and to make sure you have all your facts straight. If you are involved in a love affair, it can be especially intense right now; and may be an excellent time for a proposal. If uncommitted, it's time to discuss the future with a potential mate.

**GEMINI**  
(May 22 - June 21)

This week may not be the best time to settle old grievances or new arguments, or try to make much of an impression with anyone. It may be best to adopt a low profile. Avoid hassling with a

co-worker, for it's a no-win situation. There is high potential for monetary gains.

**CANCER**  
(June 22 - July 23)

Now begins a fortunate period for your family and home interests. It's time to make a list of changes you've been contemplating, perhaps a sale of real estate. Feelings are intense in the romance department, so sidestep a showdown that could be memorable.

**LEO**  
(July 24 - August 23)

Don't bottle up your feelings; express your anger in a positive way. Remember to speak clearly to avoid any misunderstanding. During this year, relatives are bound to play a bigger role in your life, and pleasantly so. Avoid arguing with family members.

**VIRGO**  
(August 24 - September 23)

Expectations are high and you

are apt to run into obstacles wherever you turn. It may be best to lie low, and not make waves, waiting for a more opportune time. Money trends are promising, but not immediate. People you deal with tend to be overemotional.

**LIBRA**  
(September 24 - October 23)

Happiness and financial success are surely on their way to you. Someone may be trying to involve you in a financial deal which just does not feel right for you - hold your ground. There is delightful rapport with a mate, lover or close friend.

**SCORPIO**  
(October 24 - November 22)

A new romance may be waiting in the wings for you. It might not be a new person, but somebody you already know, and hadn't realized the possibilities before. You will make great progress in self-knowledge and spiritual growth in the coming year.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
(November 23 - December 21)

It's an excellent time for beginning a domestic project or closing a real estate deal. Most of the week will find you in an upbeat

mood, possibly planning a get together with friends. Don't let minor money problems dampen your spirit - things will work out.

**CAPRICORN**  
(December 22 - January 20)

There seems to be questions from all sides regarding your career and business interests. But after this week, these problems will clear up for many months. Meanwhile, it may be best to postpone important decisions. There may be tension on the homefront.

**AQUARIUS**  
(January 21 - February 19)

Your physical energy is at a low point this week. In the next few weeks, you are bound to make major decisions regarding your personal life, so think about your moves and plan accordingly. It looks like time to cultivate a whole new circle of friends.

**PISCES**  
(February 20 - March 20)

This week will basically be another struggle for survival, primarily on the job, but also in other people's conflicts. It will be tense for awhile, and it would be best for you to tread very lightly on others' sensitivities. Keep business facts to yourself for now.

WPC focuses on keeping freshmen

FROM WPC PAGE 1  
ing of our courses."

President of the WPC Chapter of the American Federation of Teachers, Linda Dye, agrees with Krell with regards to the college's academic program, "We need to leave allowances for individual differences, so our academic program is challenging for everybody at whatever level they are operating."

"Through the years we have made some big improvements," Fountoukidis stated. However, she added, "In recent years we went down, but we seem to be recovering."

In support of Fountoukidis's statement Dye said, "Our retention record is at least as good as the national average, but we are not satisfied with it, and our wish is to make it even better."

Dye believes that the ideal would be to have all students graduate.

Fountoukidis agrees with Dye. "Some state colleges do better, some do worse. We are in the middle in terms of overall retention, but we are not where we would like to be," she said.

Fountoukidis feels that the

administration has done many things to make students feel at home, alluding to the Comprehensive Freshman Year (program) and the recent Comprehensive Analysis.

Susan McNamara, former interim provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, stated, "We look at where our strengths are in terms of the curriculum."

She added that the Comprehensive Analysis helped the college look at how "distinct, unique, and excellent" it is compared to the other institutions.

"We need to involve ourselves more in the interaction with the freshmen," Krell stated in reference to the Comprehensive Freshman Year (program). "From high school to college is a big adjustment. There are both social and academic changes. More attention should be given to them."

Ann Wright, director of Freshman Life, gave several reasons as to why some students leave the college. "There are students who wish to go to a college out of state, however,

they either do not have the money to do so, or they were not accepted by the school they applied to. Other students come here just so they get adjusted to college life, but their intentions are to graduate from another institution."

Wright believes that it is important for students, especially freshmen, to have someone they can turn to. "We have a wonderful faculty, and students need to connect with an advisor," she stated.

"The Freshman Seminar and the clusters are an incredible experience, since students connect with one another and with their professors, therefore, they feel they are part of this institution," added Wright.

Krell stated, "Retention is not just a department duty. It is a college concern, not just a department concern. The entire college needs to work on keeping students here."

Wright feels that it is important for the college to advertise itself. "We are in the beginning of marketing an image of the college," she stated.

Krell agrees with Wright and

feels that if the matter is given more consideration to "as a college," it will help the retention of students.

Nancy Norville, WPC dean of Enrollment Management was unavailable for comment on these issues.

College in battle over land purchase

By Christa Glod  
BEACON STAFF WRITER

there was no contract between Tanis and the college.

William Paterson College is taking the Borough of North Haledon and a local land owner to court over the purchase of \$275,000 of land.

In late September 1995, WPC's Board of Trustees agreed to purchase 54.3 acres of undeveloped land located in both Wayne and North Haledon from William Tanis, Sr. of Rockaway. James V. Segreto, Tanis's attorney stated that Tanis, however, decided to sell the land to the borough of North Haledon after complaining to WPC officials that his contract with the college did not mention a \$1.2 million tax break that was to be included in the deal. Tanis also wanted to withdraw from the agreement because he said that the college was planning to build on the property. Segreto, also the lawyer for the borough of North Haledon, said

The college filed a lawsuit against on Dec. 20 in state Superior Court in Paterson suing both North Haledon and Segreto for "wrongfully and maliciously" interfering with negotiations. College officials say that Tanis held talks with the borough in October and November after he had already agreed to sell the land to the college.

Segreto is issuing a \$2 million countersuit against the college in which he alleges that college officials knew he recused himself between Tanis and the college.

The cases are currently under litigation, but Superior Court Judge Amos C. Saunders has already refused to block negotiations between Tanis and North Haledon.

The land is located north of Lot 6.

SEE USE PAGE 3

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Understanding through education

Members of the William Paterson College community might have been surprised to look at the front page of The Beacon this week and read that the American Federation of Teachers is going on strike as of Feb. 29.

As they read on, they might have also been surprised to learn that members of the AFT which include teachers and professional staff at WPC have been working without a contract since June 30. So then it was definitely a surprise to learn that negotiations have come to a virtual stalemate.

The strike although scheduled, is by no means definite. As WPC President Arnold Speert hopes "a decision may be reached," and the strike averted. In any case it is important for members of the WPC community to learn about the issues that both sides are debating, to become familiar with the cases each side is presenting and be ready to make an

educated analysis. The very issues that lead to a strike may effect everyone just as the strike will. So, it is important that we understand them.

No one ever wants a strike, neither management nor workers. On one side people don't get paid and on the other side work is negatively effected. Nevertheless strikes are a part of life.

Students at WPC should take this week to learn the issues and make a decision on where they stand. They should talk to teachers about what they see as the issues. Students should also seek out and listen to the side of the administration and the state. The Student Government Association will undoubtedly be taking a position, but students should be educated and prepared to take a stand based on their own knowledge.

We may not want a strike, but at least let us understand why we may have it.

audiences to abstain from sex or at the very least, practice safe sex.

With his unretirement, Magic is bringing an even greater understanding of the virus' complications, how one can still enjoy life and be publicly adored.

But he is also filling part of a fantasy. All of us wish from the depths of our heart that a cure for AIDS would be discovered. The new, bulked-up Magic fullfills this dream of ours of the disease being beaten. One day that will hopefully be true, but right now there is no cure. Tens of thousands of Americans die from AIDS yearly. Many of us know firsthand of the agony AIDS victims and their families and friends are forced through.

We all wish Magic luck and hope he lives to 120, but perhaps his sunny smile brings too much optimism to the AIDS equation. He, seemingly has conquered the unconquerable. Whether or not his comeback is selfishly motivated, the Laker has succeeded in bringing the AIDS Awareness campaign to an entirely new plateau and deserves the accolades being heaped upon him.

For all his marvels on the basketball court, Johnson has done more off of it. Singlehandedly, he has destigmatized AIDS, triumphed over it and proved that one should set goals for themselves, accomplish them and then set some more.

Magic is seizing opportunities. So must we.

The Beacon welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include writer's name, address and telephone number. We regret that we cannot acknowledge unpublished letters. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (201) 595-3315 or send Letters to Letters to the Editor, The Beacon, 300 Pompton Road, SC 310, Wayne, NJ 07470

Standing up for the community

Editor, The Beacon: describing this to you is because upon hearing of my illness, my friends of the WPC Community immediately responded with support, concern, and extreme generosity, that I would've never imagined would be for me. In addition, my peers/students went out of their way to be as thoughtful as possible to attend to my necessary financial needs and for this I am forever indebted to them (because as a working class student, I understand how hard it is to contribute to a collection).

Two weeks ago, I was admitted to Mountainside Hospital in Montclair for emergency gall bladder surgery. This, after enduring sixty hours of excruciating pain and my gall bladder being so infected that it was three times its normal size, and the fear that any other treatment would endanger my well being and persuaded me to undergo my first surgery ever. The reason I am

It is at this time that I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of you who were there when I needed you, you know who you are, Thank You so much!

So in response to your question: "If Ricky Hummel needed our help today, could you say he would be so fortunate?" I'm glad and fortunate to respond "Yes!" I believe that the community would also be there again for him, as they have admirably demonstrated to me.

Sincerely,  
Fanny C. Fuentes

Student suggests solution to ice

Editor, The Beacon: condition, making travel hazardous for the entire campus community.

I understand it is difficult to clear the campus of ice and snow while cars are parked and classes are in session. However, our recent severe storm occurred while no students were on campus since Spring session had not yet begun. Therefore, there is no reason that I can see, why the roads and walkways are in such deplorable

ing salt which would also prevent further ice from forming.

Being confined to a wheelchair, travel has not only been hazardous but nearly impossible for me. I had one bad fall which fortunately, gave me nothing worse than a bad headache, but it could have been disastrous. The condition of the walkways could be improved so easily and relatively cheaply, by scatter-

Sincerely,  
Marc Molde  
Student

A great big Greek thanks

Editor, The Beacon: We would like to thank you for The Beacon's Editorial on the Greek community in the Feb. 5, 1996 issue. Not only is it nice to see some recognition for the Greeks but it also gave some insight to those on campus who are not too familiar with sororities and fraternities. Each organization prides its self when working to raise money for a specific organization or philanthropy. We put a lot of effort into

this campus, all 574 of us. The number seems small because it is, compared to the 9,000 students enrolled here at WPC. Compared to other schools the Greek life percentages are outstanding. We would just like to reiterate that Greek life can be a very positive experience and any negative reputation should be questioned. Sorority Rush has just ended and hopefully a few dozen young women will enhance their life here at school. While at other campuses a few dozen students would have added to each to organization, here we will keep our numbers as they are and continue to grow. One Greek Senate motto is "No matter what the letter, We're all Greek together." We feel this is important because working together as a community is what makes the Greeks successful.

Sincerely,  
Alpha Sigma Alpha  
P.S. Where are the comics?

**NO**

**INTELLIGENT LIFE FOUND**

OP-ED

Analysis: States rethinking restrictive rules on jurors

By Laurie Asseo  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

The judge's warning to jurors is a standard part of courtroom dramas, both real and fictional: Do not discuss the case with anyone while evidence is being presented.

But not in Arizona. Jurors in civil cases there are being told just the opposite: Go ahead and talk about the evidence among yourselves. It's one of many changes enacted in an effort to improve Arizona's jury-trial system.

Arizona jurors are allowed to submit questions. Judges give legal instructions in plain English. If jurors become deadlocked, the judge can allow lawyers to offer additional arguments or even present more evidence.

"I put a lot of importance in getting as much information to the jury as possible," said Judge B. Michael Dann, of the

Maricopa County Superior Court, who helped work out the changes. "Judges and lawyers should take the lead to improve the jury trial for everyone's benefit."

The American justice system may not be broken - despite complaints of people unhappy with O.J. Simpson's murder acquittal - but Dann and others think at least some room exists for improvement.

"The task of a juror is awesome, but somehow they manage to get through it," trial lawyer Fred R. Joseph of Greenbelt, Md., said at a recent panel discussion sponsored by the Annenberg Washington Program and the Courtroom Television Network. "The Simpson case is an aberration."

Picking an impartial jury is difficult. Many courts use questionnaires to learn jurors' views on a variety of topics, but Valerie P. Hans, director of the University of Delaware's legal

studies program, said some of the questions are useless. "The best predictors (of impartiality) are very specific questions about the case, not general attitudes," she said.

Several legal experts were skeptical of proposals to reduce the use of peremptory challenges, in which lawyers can eliminate prospective jurors without having to explain why.

"The peremptory challenge offers protection to African-American defendants," said Paul D. Butler, associate law professor at George Washington University. "Racism is still very real in this country."

And only rarely should jurors be sequestered, panelists said.

Kelli L. Sager, a Los Angeles lawyer who represents news media, questioned "the idea that you have to keep the jurors ignorant of everything that is going on. Jurors in communities in historical times knew everything about a case."

Courts in states besides Arizona have tried innovations. Some states, including California, Delaware and New Hampshire, have named committees to study possible changes in their jury systems.

Arizona's changes, approved by the state Supreme Court, are the most comprehensive. The idea is to make jurors more knowledgeable and active, instead of nodding off in their chairs.

In civil cases, Arizona jurors are allowed to talk about the evidence among themselves during the trial, before deliberations begin.

Some lawyers fear this may lead jurors to make premature judgments before they hear all the evidence. Discussion of evidence by jurors in criminal cases is not allowed before deliberations because of constitutional concerns about depriving a defendant of an impartial jury.

But Judge Dann in Arizona said jurors in civil cases seem to recognize the difference between discussing the evidence they've seen at a particular stage of the trial and ultimately rendering a verdict on the entire case.

In both civil and criminal cases, jurors can submit questions about the case in writing to the judge and get an answer, if the question is allowed under rules of evidence.

The Arizona changes "strike me as so obviously good common sense," federal Circuit Judge S. Jay Plager said. "Am I the only one who wonders why it has taken two millennia for us to come around to these ideas?"

"A legal education: I think that is part of the problem," Dann quipped.

Laurie Asseo covers the Supreme Court and legal issues for The Associated Press.

Analysis: Northern Ireland deadlock puts IRA truce in crisis

By Shawn Pogatchnik  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

A bombing in London and the apparent end of the Irish Republican Army's cease-fire has thrown into confusion a 17-month struggle for peace in Northern Ireland.

Friday's blast followed fitful progress toward coaxing pro-British Protestants and backers of the IRA to the bargaining table, despite the suspicions and bitter history that had derailed previous peace-making.

Among all Northern Ireland factions, none appeared more shocked than the IRA-allied Sinn Fein party. Hours before the blast, Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams reassured a Belfast radio audience that the cease-fire was solid.

After the bombing, Adams issued a statement saying he regretted "that an unprecedented opportunity for peace has foundered," but urged supporters to "keep their nerve."

The attack, suspected of being the work of the IRA, will almost certainly strengthen the resistance of Protestant leaders to speak face-to-face with their enemies.

But determination not to fritter away Northern Ireland's first fragile peace will prompt the British and Irish governments to stick to their shared goal of seeking

multiparty negotiations. Though Belfast police again patrolled

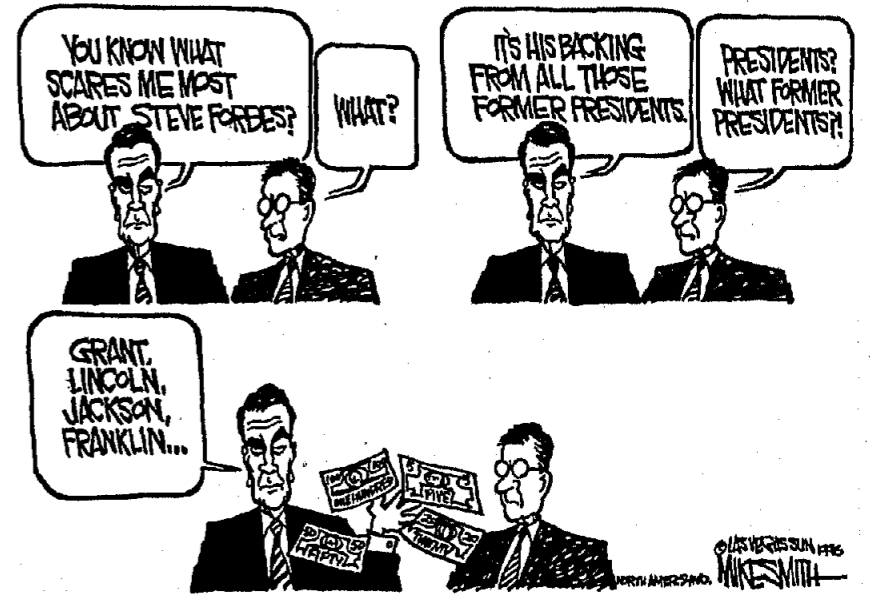
the streets in armored cars and bulletproof vests, there were no reports of violence in the British-ruled province - an indication that the bomb may have been a one-shot deal or the work of rebels within IRA ranks.

But the attack appeared to reflect growing disillusionment within IRA-Sinn Fein circles that non-violent means could end British rule of Northern Ireland, a goal that 24 years of IRA violence had failed to achieve.

It could represent hard-liners' determination to force Britain to push Protestants toward the negotiating table - something that the British have resolutely refused to do.

When Adams welcomed the IRA cease-fire declaration on Aug. 31, 1994, the streets of Catholic west Belfast filled with jubilant IRA supporters anticipating speedy progress toward multiparty negotiations.

Sinn Fein's confidence rested on its belief that its newfound supporters - Northern Ireland's moderate Catholics, leaders of the Irish Republic and President Clinton - would pressure Britain more effectively than violence had.



Sinn Fein leaders got nowhere in talks with Britain, which insisted that the IRA show in some way that its cease-fire was permanent. Sinn Fein dismissed Britain's calls for the disposal of some IRA weaponry, saying that would be surrender.

Without that step, the leaders of the province's two pro-British parties refused to meet Adams, putting peacemaking efforts into an awkward balancing act between the irreconcilable camps.

In November, the approach of Clinton's visit to Britain and Ireland prompted a scramble to restore momentum to the peace process. The governments called for a U.S.-led panel to recommend a way out of the disarmament debate.

The panel, led by former Sen. George Mitchell of Maine, recommended last month that Britain ditch its guns-up-front

demand. Instead, Prime Minister John Major embraced the Protestants' other favorite hurdle for Catholic nationalists: elections to select peace negotiators within Northern Ireland.

Sinn Fein's indignation was shared by Catholic moderates and the Irish government.

"I can't help but think of the bright sunny days ... when the crowds came out and cheered Bill Clinton and the peace," said Mary O'Rourke, deputy leader of Fianna Fail, Ireland's largest party. "In November it seemed that the path was secure. It isn't now."

Shawn Pogatchnik has covered Northern Ireland for The Associated Press since 1991.

The Beacon welcomes and encourages your submissions, whether essay, poem, or drawings. Submissions must include writer's name, address and telephone number. We regret that we cannot acknowledge unpublished letters. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (201) 595-3315 or send submissions to Op-Ed Page, The Beacon, 300 Pompton Road, SC 310, Wayne, NJ 07470

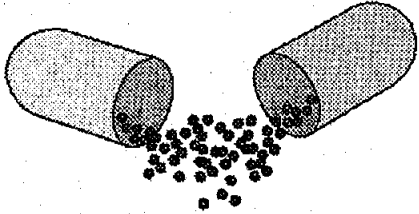
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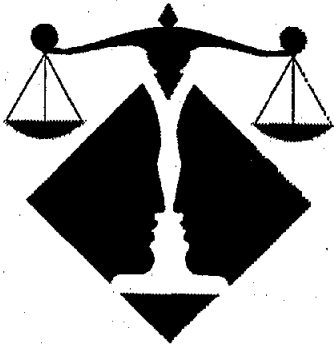
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