Serving the community of William Paterson University

The Beacon

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FEBRUARY 8, 1999

WPU orientation leaders make good first impressions

By Felicia Pettiford
News Contributor

Picture the scene...you're a freshman who knows no one and nothing about William Paterson University. You're nervous, anxious and unsure of what college life has to offer. When you arrive on campus for the first time, who do you see? Your orientation leader of course!

For many entering freshmen, orientation leaders are the first people they meet and these leaders can make a lasting impression. In a time filled with financial aid woes, hectic academic scheduling and adjustment to college life, a friendly smile and useful information about the university can make all the difference.

Debbie Spina, Assistant Director of Campus Activities, explains that the purpose of orientation leadership is to help transition new students to campus, get them comfortable with the environment, and to make them aware of the resources available to students on campus.

"Basically, students respond to students," maintains Spina, "so peer contact is preferred because students can relate to each other on a more personal level."

see **ORIENTATION** page 6

Brothers for Awareness playing their part in the WPU community service

By Aaron Cooper
Staff Writer

Many people view community service as a way of taking what they learned and helping to better the community by giving that knowledge back.

On the William Paterson University campus there are many different groups that do community service which are making a difference in the surrounding communities. One such group is Brothers For Awareness (BFA).

Every Friday, BFA members volunteer their time to Paterson School No. 6, in a program called B.F.A.'s School 6 Out Reach Program.

It is a mentoring program which gives many people the chance to give back to the community. It was started so the students at William Paterson could provide a positive influence in the lives of children that may be lacking such an influence.

Jamal Hall, former president of BFA and current president of the Senior Class stated that, "this program got started because we felt as though there was a need for this type of program, cause when we were in Elementary and Middle schools, we might have wished we had the type of support from

see **BFA** page 6

What's Inside?

Adaptive Technology Room is an aid for disabled students

By Lori Michael
News Contributor

The Adaptive Technology Room is the newest edition to the Sarah Byrd Askew Library.

Funded by the office of the Provost, and designed by Janet Barone-Desenzo, coordinator of disability services, this state of the art room will be used by visually impaired, blind, learning disabled, and dyslexic students who attend William Paterson University.

The room contains two key instruments The first is a machine called the Omni 1000. It uses a braille keyboard including a help button which tells the student what specific function a key will execute at the simple touch of a finger.

It enables students to scan a chapter in a book and then listen to the computer read the words back in either a man's or a woman's voice.

"The Omni 1000 makes reading easier for people who are visually impaired or blind," explained DeSenzo.

The second machine is called the Omni 3000 and is geared toward helping students who have learing disabilities or dyslexia.

Photo by Sylvana Meneses/The Beacon

Lee Henriquez, pictured above, displays one of the computers in the new Adaptive Technology Room in the Sarah Byrd Askew Library.

Through the use of icons and a voice that can break down the words into syllables the machine also helps students to read.

Both machines can transfer documents into Word Perfect or other programs and are constantly updated to better serve the students.

The key for the Adaptive Technology room is kept at the reference desk in the library.

Student Technology Assistants will soon be trained to assist any students in this room.

"This room makes college more accessible for those who would not otherwise consider it," said DeSenzo.

For more information about the Adaptive Technology Room, pleace call the Office of Student Development at 720-2118.

Campus Police reach out to WPU community

By Megan Conroy
News Contributor

William Paterson University's Department of Public Safety is trying to break down barriers between students and officers by establishing a new police substation, a bike patrol and opportunities for students to interact with officers in recreational settings.

The programs are designed to establish common ground between the WPU community and the public safety department.

"It's a philosophy, campus wide, about police officers meeting the community," said Officer Lynette Shaw, who has been with the department for six years. "Instead of arresting people, we try problem-solving approaches to policing. We try to attack problems from the grass roots."

Some students, however, aren't aware that any changes have been made.

"No, I didn't know that they (the police) were trying different procedures," said Joni Steiginga, a junior who commutes.

"No, I had no clue(about the new community policing)," said Yudit Tamayo, a senior who also commutes.

"Last spring I saw cops on bikes, but I didn't realize it was a part of something new," said Natalie Petraglia, a senior and resident of White Hall. "I thought it was just part of the police department."

One place the police have increased their visibility is at the new substation in the Towers dormitories. An officer is there on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and twice a week during common hour.

Students can stop by for information pertaining to their personal needs or for information that might be helpful with classes, such as criminal justice majors who may be writing papers.

The officers are there to distribute information on issues that students may have regarding their safety either on campus or in a personal sense. It is in a convenient location so students and officers can become familiar with one another.

Another way the department is trying to reach out to the University community is
by initiating a bike patrol to monitor the campus. When the weather allows, six officers ride including

see **POLICE** page 12

Pre-Law Workshops

William Paterson University
Spring, 1999 Schedule

For more information
Please contact Dr. Michael Principe
Director of the WPU Pre-Law Program
Political Science Department
Science Hall 244 (x3619)

Date	Time	Title	Room
Tues. Feb. 2	12:30-1:45	***Minorities and Law School*** (Speaker: Dean Marcia Brown, Rutgers School of Law)	Science 369
Thur. Feb. 25	12:30-1:45	***Women and Law School***	Science 349
Thur. Mar. 4	12:30-1:45	***Financing Law School*** (Speaker: Sharon Williams, Seton Hall Law School)	Science 369
Thur. Mar. 18	12:30-1:45	***Careers in Law***	Science 369
Tues. Apr. 6	12:30-1:45	***Is Law School For You?***	Science 369
Tues. Apr. 13	7-9pm	***Intro to Law School*** (Evening Students)	Science 369
Tues/Thur Beg. Jan.19	**8-9:15am**	**LSAT Prep Course (Taught by a representative of the Shoemaker-Kusko Co.)**	**Science 369**

ALL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME

Campus Calendar

Monday, Feb. 8

Catholic Campus Ministry Club -- You can make a difference! Join us for weekly visits to Preakness Nursing Home. Meet at CCMCenter 6:30 p.m. For more information contact Joanne at 595-6184, or x.3524.

Tuesday, Feb. 9

Women's Center -- Women's Discussion Group co-led by Professor Joan Griscom, Women's Studies Dept., and Meryle Kaplan, coordinator of the Women's Center. We have created a space where women can get together in an atmosphere of mutual respect to explore personal and political issues. Group meets every Tuesday 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the Women's Center, Student Center Room 214. For more information call Meryle Kaplan at x2946.

Catholic Campus Ministry Club -- Join us for weekday Mass as we gather to celebrate the joy & goodness of God's presence in our lives. Meet in Student Center Room 215 at 12:30 p.m. Call Joanne at 595-6184 or x3524.

Thursday, Feb. 11

Women's Center -- Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan New Jersey, in honor or National Condom Week, will bring Condom Corner to WPUNJ Campus from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. in Student Center Lobby. For more information, contact Meryle Kaplan at x2946.

Essence: The WPUNJ English Club -- We are accepting submissions for the 1999 Essence Literary Magazine! Drop your poetry, prose, and artwork/photography off in the SGA office, 3rd floor Student Center! Get published! Call Jeff at x5064 for more information.

Women's Center -- In honor of African Heritage Month, the Women's Center and the Office of Employment Equity and Diversity present a discussion with: Mary Stanton, highly acclaimed author of "From Selma to Sorrow," along with others Dorian Douglas, Aaron Sanders, and others who participated in the march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. Members of the community are invited to tell their stories and join in the discussion. Held in the Student Center Ballroom from 12 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Meryl Kaplan at x2946.

Sociology Professional Development Workshops -- Selecting and Applying to Graduate and Professional Schools (Professors: Flint, DeLucchi, Stein, Baumgartner) in Science Room 341, 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

the Beacon
A NEWSPAPER THAT'S CLEARLY FOR YOU

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Member

Beacon News

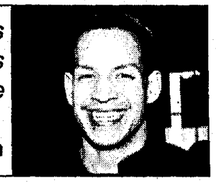
The Beacon **Buzz**

The Beacon Buzz asked students this week ...

What do you think about technology on campus?

"I haven't used too much. The computers are good."
Scott Grasso, Freshman, Athletic Training

"It has evolved from when I started as a freshman. Every so often the printers in the library don't work. We should be able to print as much as we want."
Gerry Rogas, Junior, Community Health



"There is not enough library its always crowded. I think there should be more computers."
Lisa Marie Bradley, Sophomore, Special Education

"What technology? We spend all this money on so called computers. There is nothing around. We don't have enough access to.
Angela Seixeiro, Sophomore, Nursing and Amanda Arthur, Freshman, Communication

"There definitely can be improvements but it's fine. It could be better."
Daniel Mayer, Freshman, History

"Yeah it's good especially when we have to do research for papers. Go right on the internet."
Nafessa Clinton, Junior, Community Health

Have suggestions for the Beacon Buzz?
E-mail us at beacon1@frontier.wilpaterson.edu

Photos by Sylvana Meneses/Students interviewed by Jen Fletcher

Music Department thrives at William Paterson University

By Kathy Quigley
News Contributor

As you walk into Shea Auditorium at William Paterson University, the sounds of piano melodies, drumbeats, and saxophone rhythms fill the air. But while music of all types lives and breathes in this building, the music department is predominately known for its jazz program.

The program, run by Rufus Reid and David Demsey, is competitive and takes only a fraction of the students who send audition tapes.

"There is a misconception that in the arts you are either starving or rich. It is a sliding scale. You have to make your own chances."
--Dr. David Demsey

"We only take 25 out of 200 students that might audition," said Demsey. "To be successful in the field of music you have to be broad, you just can't be a good player."

But to those the program accepts they try to impart a broader understanding of what it is to be a musician.

"There is a misconception that in the arts you are either starving or rich," said Demsey, "It is a sliding scale. You have to make your own chances."

Students aren't expected to audition live for several reasons, including finances. "Most people would not want to risk a $700 plane ticket for a 1 out of 7 chance," said Demsey as he pointed to the stack of tapes on the shelf. "And we want to hear people at their best and in live auditions players tend to get like a deer in headlights."

Students in the program find it challenging.

"They kill you with work," said senior trumpet player Dan Sears, who has a 20-credit semester with only two academic classes. "We meet in small group combo's two days a week with a well known teacher," said Sears.

But the work seems to pay off.

"The program is internationally known, it's like the Julliard of jazz, there are people here from Iceland, Europe and South America," he said.

"When I first came here I didn't know anyone, then I started studying with Vincent Hill, an awesome piano/jazz history teacher," said Sears.

William Paterson University competes with The New School, The Manhattan School of Music and Rutgers for its music student, said Demsey.

"Many people come to this area to look at these schools," he added.

But one of the things that attracts students to WPU is the staff.

"The faculty is wonderful," replied Demsey, when asked what did he like about teaching at William Paterson. He spoke with admiration of his colleague Reid's commitment to teaching.

"We are partners," said Demsey. "It is like a marriage, we make all the decisions together. I remember one time, and I'm sure that it happens all the time, that Rufus had a 10 p.m. concert in Seattle one day and a 10 a.m. class the next day," said Demsey, "and he made it on time, even with a five hour flight and loosing three hours."

According to Demsey, part of the reason the department attracts students is because of its ability to bring well known artists to campus.

"World famous players teach here, not because of the pay, but out of the goodness of their hearts," said Demsey.

Students agree that the faculty's professional experience is a boost to the department.

"Rufus Reid has played with who's who in jazz," said Pete Toth, a former music major.

"The best teachers are the people who don't draw a line between classical and jazz, music and life," said Demsey, "You play what you are, you have to be a warm person in order to play a warm sound or you have to know love to play a love song."

Opinions & Review

Mailbag

Student praises WPSC

To the editor:

Thanks so much for the article on WPSC. I transferred to WPU in the summer and when I came for orientation last Spring semester, I heard the station and I was disappointed to find that WPSC played the same music (if you care to call it that) most radio stations already played.

I listen to more obscure artists and I was hoping for a college station that played those artists. Well, I was more than a little surprised when I tuned in to the station early in the Fall semester. Not only were they not playing the hideous music that so many stations play, but they were actually playing my dearly beloved favorite artist, Liz Phair, who I had never heard on the radio before.

I've heard so many other artists on WPSC that I had rarely if ever heard on the radio before along with a few I wasn't familiar with, but am growing to like. I bought a Jude CD after hearing "Brad and Suzy" a few months ago on WPSC.

Now, some of the bigger stations are starting to play his music and I can say that I heard him on WPSC first. I really do have to commend everyone at the station. They play such a wide variety of music that you can't hear anywhere else. I abandoned my radio in favor of my Liz Phair, Heather Nova, and Tori Amos tapes, but now, I've gone back to listening to the radio because WPSC has given me decent music to listen to. I commute to school and work and I've got quite a drive, so my music is very important to me.

The article mentioned that some students were upset because they didn't recognize many of the artists. Well, that really is a shame because there are so many wonderful artists away from the mainstream. All you've got to do is listen and you'll become familiar with them very quickly.

Thanks again for the article and thanks again to everyone at WPSC for the great job they do.

Dorothy-Ann "Hyphen" Parent

Is WPU really High-Tech?

To the editor:

If William Paterson is trying to appear so High Tech. with the new web site, e-mail server & computer access rooms(which we need more of), why don't they have a way for students to buy computer systems through the University at a discount?

These systems could be configured to operate with the school network, along with all the software that a student needs to be successful and complete the required research.

Phone jacks could also be installed in the study halls, so people with lap tops could access the network with there own computers, which would free up the computer labs. Curious.

John Volpe

Letters to the editor should be no more than 150 words, and should be submitted in person or via e-mail to the Beacon office, Student Center Room 310, or to

beacon1@frontier.wilpaterson.edu

All letters should be signed, and should include a phone number. No anonymous letters will be published.

Student Government Association Executive Board is a let-down

Times, they are a-changing! Just one year ago, the 1998 Student Government Association was accomplishing some great things for the students at William Paterson University. To see these great things just look around.

The 1998 Executive board which comprised of Bobi Lee Messer, Curtis Fields, Melba Mullins, Matthew Tully, Paul Bonney and the past class presidents went beyond the call of duty.

Making state of the art emergency blue light phones a reality all over the campus, as well as sufficient lighting in all the right places and shuttle bus shelters at most bus stops, they really got their hands dirty for us.

I'm afraid those are too big a pair of shoes for the 1999 Executive Board to fill. I doubt I am the only one to feel as though this year has been a let down.

In fact the only tremendous thing that the bulk of the students have experienced this year is the amnesty for past due parking fines that the University has granted us. However, we should keep in mind that the 1998 SGA executive board with the help of legislators was striving for this last year.

To my knowlege, this was not carried over as an intiative of the 1999 board. If it were, I assume it would have been in an SGA newletter. (Something else we haven't seen much of this year.)

I will admit that the '98 SGA board was also delinquent in keeping the student body informed. The newsletters were few and far between but at least there were two (even if one was pulled off the stands)!

The Student Government is supposed to represent the student body or at least put our student fees to a great and beneficial use. This especially goes for those holding the position of President, Executive Vice President, Treasurer and Vice President. Those are the offices that we fill by our votes. They are also the members of the SGA that receive tution reimbursment. This is paid for by OUR student fees... you

see **SGA** page 5

Not Valentine's ... it's Partytines!

It's about this time of year when you just might see some cute little naked guy running around with a bow and arrow. If you are thinking of the weird guy that likes to roam the halls of your dorm naked at night, that's not quite who I was

Just Bitter

by Robyn J. Caputo

thinking about. I'm referring to none other than Cupid.

Valentine's Day is almost here and words of love seem to fill the air. Everyone is looking for their own little cupid to spend this day with. Well, almost everyone. What about all the people around here who don't like this stupid holiday? What about all of the people who just want it to be Feb. 15, so all of this stupid mess is done? What about all of the poor suckers who don't give a rat's a** about this stupid holiday and are just trying to get away from it and then are hit in the face with hearts and cupids all over? That's what I'm talking about!

Now don't get me wrong. I am not bitter about this holiday. I think it is great when you have someone special to share it with. You can plan a romantic dinner, maybe catch a show and then spend the rest of the night exchanging cute little valentine cards. But not everyone has someone to share it with. Therefore I propose another holiday to also take place on Feb. 14 of every year.

This holiday will be known as Partytines Day. Basically all of the single people in the world party on this day. All over the world there will be the biggest parties ever. And, no couples will be invited (or allowed to come). Then there will be tons of cute little naked guys walking around! WOAH! Well, umm, anyway ... I'm sure it will be much better than a bunch of single people walking around with sour pusses on their

see **VALENTINE'S** page 5

Opinions & Review

Let's Talk Life

By LaShonda Lipscomb

Howdy doody, people! Don't ask, I just felt like being corny for a moment. But anyway, I hope last week proved to be well, yet exciting for you.

This week I decided to discuss the world of drugs. And no, it's not about "just saying no." I'm sure you've seen enough after-school specials on that subject to last you a lifetime. This is about other types of drugs. The stuff that some person spent from 8 to 10 years in medical school to prescribe to you.

First off, I understand that medical technology has come very far in the last century or so. That's great! Doctors are able to cure more diseases and viruses that our grandparents never even knew possible. But it has come to a point where it's getting out of hand.

Doctors are so quick to pull out the little pad. They hardly ask you any questions about your pain before they tell you "take these for 10 days and we'll see." Well what does "we'll see" mean? Does it mean we'll see if you die in two weeks? Or we'll see if you have any odd side effects? Or we'll see if this helps at all and if not we'll see if something else works?

It's gotten so bad that prescription drugs are being advertised on television. What the hell is that about? They're prescribing us stuff without us having to the doctor tell us about it. We can go in and pretty much prescribe it to ourselves. And to make it worse, most doctors don't even relay to us all the possible side effects. They just whip out that powerful pen and write the prescription.

I don't know about you guys, but it's a little petrifying that there is a pill for everything. I swear if you went to the doctor and told him you had something as simple as dry skin, he would prescribe you something. And whatever that may be, within two weeks of taking it you notice these small little rashes everywhere.

When you return, the doctor tells you you're allergic to those particular pills and gives you something else. Thus, the cycle continues.

Now if you have a legitimate affliction and you need pills to cure you, go for it. It's probably the best thing for you. But please make sure your doctor understands all the things that led to it and how long you've had it.

Then see to it that he or she explains everything about the drugs being prescribed to you, and if you have more questions don't be afraid to ask. After all, it is your body. You should care about what's going to happen to it in the future as well as trying to cure whatever ails it.

Your exercise for life, not just the week, is to know what's going into your body. Just because someone is a doctor doesn't guard them from making mistakes. Your general health as well as your life is what's on the line here. So until next week think and seek positivity. Have a good one.

New holiday proposed in place of Valentine's Day

from **BITTER** page 4

faces.

It will be great. Everyone will have something to do and no one will be sad or lonely. You can either be smooching with your valentine or partying with two or three thousand of your closest friends. It will become the new international day of love and friendship! Ahh ... doesn't that sound so cheesy?

But nonetheless it is a plan, and it sure beats sitting at home watching every sappy love story that you could possibly rent from the video store while downing pints of Ben and Jerry's Chocolate Chip cookie dough ice cream!

So as Feb. 14 draws near, don't be depressed if you are single, because now you have your own holiday, Partytine's Day! So if you have that one special someone to spend it with, that's great. But if not, party with your friends, and your neighbor's friends, and your dog's friends, and Aunt Edna's friends, and cousin Lucy's friends, and bring in some professional sports teams like the New York Rangers, or the Knicks, and call in Dick Clark, (he has nothing better to do), and your long lost pen pal in Beijing, and ... (I think you get the picture!).

SO, in the immortal words of two of my idols ... "Party time, excellent, rh, rh, rh, rh, rh!!! Party on, Wayne!"

"Party on, Garth!"

SGA 1999 Executive Board is a let-down

from **LET-DOWN** page 4

members of the SGA that receive tution reimbursment. This is paid for by OUR student fees... you know, that $50 that appears on our bill. If any student ever wondered where it went, now they know.

This means that those four people are working for us.

To the members of the 1999 Executive Board, please start making yourselves more visible to the student body. Some suggestions on how you could do this are by finding out what bothers the students who are in classes with you, sitting across from you in the library or the guy you hear complaining in the bookstore all the time. You could set up a table during common hour where students can approach you with concerns, produce a monthly or at least bi-monthy newsletter that tells us what you've done for US lately, or set up some sort of interactive activity this spring. Perhaps a game of powder puff football against regular students.

Hey, these are just some suggestions that could help you find out what concerns the students really have. Don't wait for the next Student Speak-Out or ever-so-popular Town Meeting, because the university community is far larger than the capacity of the Student Center Ballroom.

Don't do it for yourself either. Election time is just around the corner, but more importantly, we're right here in front of you!!!

GEORGE by MARK SZORADY

What's in the e-mail system this week?

You've got mail! Whether you like it or not, forwards always wind up in our e-mailboxes. This week we at **THE BEACON** received this email which piqued our interests:

1) Tazmanian Devil
2) Tweety
3) Marvin the Martian
4) Scooby Doo
5) Daffy Duck
6) Peppe Le Pew
7) Sylvester
8) Speedy Gonzales
9) Bugs Bunny

Which is your favorite cartoon character? By picking a favorite character....you can tell now what kind of person you are!!!...HMMMMM, do we really what to know? Don't change your mind! Keep one character in your head and see below to find out what kind of person you are! (Please be advised that these answers are NOT definite and are merely a form of entertainment.)

Tazmanian Devil = You are wacky and crazy!!! You are the center of attention at parties. You love food and are always causing chaos. When you are on a date, you're the one who makes the 1st move. Love comes and goes for you. Can you say PLAYER ?!?

Tweety = Aaaw you're soo CUTE!! Everyone loves you cause you're so adorable physically and mentally. Face it, people are jealous of you. Love is always there for you. You're the typical "long-relationship" kinda person. You LOVE cuddling but P.D.A.'s are not your style. If something goes wrong in relationships (family, etc....) you always go to your friends for advice. Tweety-lovers are great listeners.

Marvin the Martian = You are DEFINITELY in control of your life. People say you're a "control freak." You're the kind of person that is ALWAYS paranoid with unimportant issues, but that's ok cause there is always someone there to relieve that paranoia. Love is very valuable to you. Relationships have been hardship for you but just remember that you're in control.

Scooby Doo = Lets face it, people around you find you quite annoying sometimes. Whether it's the whining or nagging, it's driving your friends crazy. If you have problems in life, just keep them on the "D-L." To get on the positive side of things, you are very helpful and you love to solve mysteries and problems. Love is a condition far away from your mind. The best advice for Scooby Doo lovers is to deal with your problems on your OWN.

Daffy Duck = You are annoying in this cute way. People love being around you because of your utter goofiness. Making people laugh is your specialty. Daffy lovers think there is a soulmate out there for everyone. Love is something you haven't found deeply yet but the "soulmate" will be there, CLOSER than you think.

Peppe Le Pew = You are the sweetest and most lovable person there is. Guys/girls love being around your "charmed" personality. When there is something you want, you will TRY to get it. No question about it, Peppe-lovers don't take NO for an answer. It's hard to please you but it's very easy for you to please others with your endearing inner self. Love is here for you and always will be. Not only talking about b/fs-g/fs, but family or friends. If someone lets you down, there is always someone else that loves you and is there. I'd have to say that Peppe-lovers are the luckiest.

Sylvester = You are very Fun-Loving and easy to please. People always are talking behind your back because of their utter jealousy. Laughing is what you do best. Crying comes once in a life time for you. You are very unique in a good way. People want to be like you and find you to be a "cool" person. Love is easy for you to find. Your motto would probably be "smile".

Speedy Gonzales = You are ambitious and always heading for your goal. You are a very "fast" thinker and intelligent. It's often genetic in Speedy-lovers. Love comes once in a lifetime, unfortunately, but you always have your family supporting you. For you, FAMILY always comes first.

Bugs Bunny = You are definitely the greatest friend a person can ever have. You're wise and always thinking of ideas. Bugs-lovers have nothing to worry about in life because you always have solutions for everything. Love is ALWAYS there for you. Fooling around is your specialty. The word relationship is not.

Beacon News

Orientation leaders needed

om **ORIENTATION** page 1

Although there are no special ualifications required, there is a hree step application process nvolved in becoming an orienta- ion leader. Once the initial appli- ations are reviewed, there is a general group meeting where nformation about the position is liscussed. At a later date, individuals are interviewed on a one-on-one basis.

The base salary for the job is $250 for both summer sessions and the fall session including Freshmen Move-In Day and Freshmen Welcome Day, which includes various campus tours and activities, ending in a social event.

About 60 leaders are selected each year, and though there is some competition, Spina encourages everyone to come and apply. Even if an applicant is not selected the first time, they are put on a waiting list to possibly be selected the second time around. On a campus with such a diverse population, the student orientation leaders should reflect that diversity, stresses Spina. "We are looking for commuters as well as residents of all sexes, races, ethnicities and ages."

It is this spirit of diversity that attracted former orientation leader Paul MacCracken, a junior, to participate in the program for two years in a row.

"I liked the fact that I was able to relate to freshmen, and able to meet them where they were at because I went through it," explained MacCracken. "I would recommend this program to students who want to help people and make a difference in helping new students build good relationships with people on campus."

MacCracken also realized that by being an orientation leader, he was able to ease new students' anxiety by making them excited about William Paterson and by making them aware of all the resources available to them.

If any students are interested in becoming an orientation leader, they can obtain information and applications from the Campus Activities office in the Student Center, room 312. They can also contact Debbie Spina at extension 3258. The deadline for applications is February 12.

BFA working with the community

from **BFA** page 1

someone that was younger than those that were around us."

A teacher's job is not only to teach but to help children get on the right track, although according to Hall that's not always enough.

"The older people there are good because they can tell you to do the right thing, and they tell you to take this route or another, but you find it different when someone younger or someone that you can relate to is telling you to do something," said Hall. "I figured the best thing to do was go into the community and give back."

Students at School 6, such as Ebony Jones, are grateful for the outreach program.

"I feel that you do a good job and you can relate to us, (better than some teachers), cause the teachers are old and you are young and you just stepped out of the stage that we are in so you can tell us what we really need to do and I think you need to come here more often," stated Jones.

At School 6, the students from WPU play a number of different roles. One is that of brother and friend, another is that of mentor.

The mentors teach the students at School 6 a lot more than the tradition school subjects.

"When you come through you teach us a lot of stuff about life, how society is and we appreciate that., said Bernard Smith, a student at School 6. "It's like you are our big brothers."

Regarding the mentors that are coming down, Usais Cowans, a School 6 student said, "we are gaining confidence, improving, calming down, and controlling ourselves."

Cowans also explained that more female mentors are needed.

She said, "We need more females to come in and share their experiences to let us know if we are going down the right path, cause some students are going down the wrong path."

Richard Turner, member of BFA and a student representative to the WPU Board of Trustees is proud of what the program is accomplishing because of the importance of mentoring.

"We believe that it is important to encourage the children that education is the key and we encourage them that higher education is the key to succeed in all endeavors," said Turner.

The School 6 Out Reach Program, "started a year ago around this time, and has since led to the branching off of BFA into a localized school based program," said Hall.

"We started a little junior BFA. organization with the eighth grade boys, and they call themselves the Ruff Ryders," said Hall.

Hall also explained that the way this, junior BFA, is going to help them with their situation is by, "giving them the opportunity to work together as a team, and help them to organize, and do many different things that they wouldn't normally be able to do in the school system."

According to some first time participants, and some regular participants, the program is a way to benefit both the children at school six and the participants of the program.

Joanne Charles said that, "it's a good program, it not only helps us but it also helps the kids at the school to give them a better perspective on life, and to let them know that people do care about them and they are not forgotten."

The BFA School 6 Out Reach Program is open to everyone on campus. A bus leaves from the campus every Friday after volunteers meet at the Student Center Information Desk at 1 p.m.

Hall and the rest of BFA encourage everyone to try to volunteer their time.

The INSIDER

Music, Movies, Reviews, Interviews, and much more!

Insider Gig Guide

2/8 Pamela Means @ Bitter End - NY
2/9 George Duke @ The Blue Note - NY
2/9 Duncan Sheik @ Joe's Pub
2/10 Placido Domingo - Aida (conducting) @ The Met - NY
2/12 Peabo Bryson @ Bronx Hall - NY
2/19 TOSCA @Shea - WPU
2/19-2/27 Baby With the Bathwater @ Hunziker Blackbox Theatre - WPU

Scene This One? Payback

"Not many men know what their lives are worth ..."

By Christopher A. Paseka & Michael K. Wnoroski
Staff Writers

Welcome to another installment of *Scene This One.* As usual we'de like to thank our friends over at **Loews Theatre**, located in Wayne, for sponsoring our article. This week's target...*Payback.*

Produced by: Paramount Pictures
Directed by: Brian Helgeland
Written by: Terry Hayes, Brian Helgeland and Donald E. Westlake
Adapted from: "The Hunter" by Richard Stark
Starring: Mel Gibson, Maria Bello, James Coburn, William Devane, Lucy Alexis Lui and Gregg Henry

Professional robber Porter (Mel Gibson) finds himself caught up in a web of greed, revenge, and deceit in Parmount Pictures', *Payback.* After surviving two gun shot wounds to the back, this guy is out to set things straight. He wants his half of $140,000.00. No more, no less. Getting the money won't be easy, but not getting it will be hard on all those who stand in Porter's way.

M- I enjoyed Mel Gibson's gruff-voiced character in this film. Porter is the kind of character Gibson was born to play. Part Mad Max, part Riggs, Porter is one tough bad-ass. Gibson did a great job bringing him to life on screen. He had some nice one-liners and a few great action sequences.

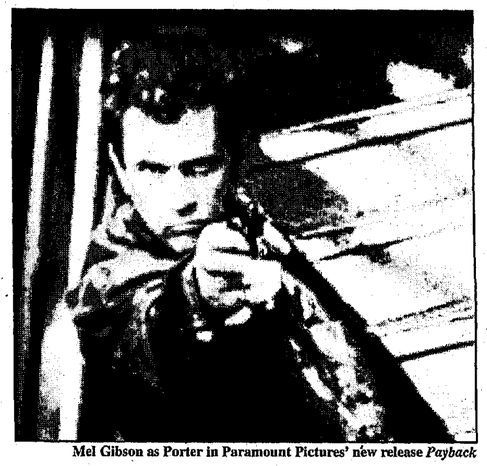
C- I agree Gibson did a great job. He plays a ruthless hitman very well. The smoke filled air surrounding his "bad-ass" attitude created some good scenes. Unfortunately, the other characters in those scenes fell short. Other than Gibson, the only other actors that didn't suck were, Coburn and Bello. Even the sex crazed, masochistic dominatrix had little acting talents. Now that's a role any actor can really sink his/her teeth into!

M- We should use the phrase, "sex crazed, masochistic dominatrix" more often in this article. Anyway, that girl didn't seem like she would mind sinking her teeth into anything...flesh, namely. You know Chris, I don't think I'd go as far as to say the actors in the movie sucked. It seemed more a matter of poor writing than poor acting. I actually liked some of the crooked villians in the movie.

C- The writing was pretty poor. So poor that I had to nod off a few times in the middle of the film. The story, as simple as it was, seemed like it took days to get to the resolution.

M- I wouldn't say I fell asleep either, Chris. I was kept awake by all the explosions, shootings, and beatings. Porter really gets hammered! (literally) The funny thing is, I actually felt good for the guy

see **SCENE** page 9



Mel Gibson as Porter in Paramount Pictures' new release *Payback*

By Jennifer Fletcher
Staff Writer

Gothic girls, boys, "vampires" and myself partied hard this past Thursday night at "The Fang Club" at Mothers- the steamy, gothic club where the couches are comfy, the crowd wears mostly black and the environment is just pure "evil" fun.

Having never been to a "gothic" club I was prepared for anything as my friend and I arrived at 12:30 a.m. We were instantly greeted at the door by the host of the party Father Sebastian, wearing tight black and white striped pants, a buttoned down black shirt, and pointed toe black boots. Hmmm ... do you sense a theme here?

Much to my dismay I was instantly told that I didn't have the right dress code. Apparently the "right dress" is goth ...whatever that means. Obviously my kik girl jeans, black shirt with the cartoon figure and blue and white Adidas sneakers weren't' part of the dress code! Go figure! Well I was let in anyway and "warned" to dress Goth next time.

Well my sprits weren't dismayed. I was determined that this week would be a fresh start, a beginning, and a night of pure clean fun and dancing. I was right!

Making our way in I settled into a soft, dark corner and observed the strangely unfamiliar scene, which was bathed in an eerie white glow, packed with people of all shapes and sizes wearing black, wearing vinyl and 14-holed Doc Marten boots.

Although it wasn't the "party scene" I'm used to, I found the lounge-like atmosphere oddly comforting.

I knew I had made the right choice when DJ Jack Dean started pumping out smooth, industrial beats and the crowd started to stir. It was outstanding.

Before I knew it people of young and old were literally coming out of the wood work, swaying, ballet dancing, tap dancing and doing the merengue. You name it...it was being done. I couldn't keep my eyes off the dancers as I watched men, wearing ruffled white shirts, with dark pin-striped- buttoned jackets lifting

see **GUIDE** page8

Ladies' Night: Charity Concert

Honors Women in Music 1960-1999

By Brian LoPinto
Staff Writer

Since the dawn of time women have been faced with adversity. From Eve in the Garden of Eden to last week's tribute concert at The Theatre at Madison Square Garden, women have strived to be recognized as equal to their male counterparts.

The benifit concert for Zero Population Growth, a non-profit organization that promotes awareness of population-related issues in order to slow population's growth, honored female performers from 1960-1999.

A full house at the Garden was treated to a cavalcade of the industry's finest female vocalists. The show featured the folk stylings of Odetta, who is celebrating her 50th year as a vocalist. Her sets included songs of her new compilation, *"To Ella."*

Grammy Award winning singer and songwriter Helen Reddy contributed with her 1972 hit *"I Am Woman."*

One of the legends to pave the way for women in music was Janis Ian. The crowd hung on every note and word during her performance of "At Seventeen." Ian strummed her guitar as she donned a bandana, a t-shirt which read "Godlike," and platform sneakers.

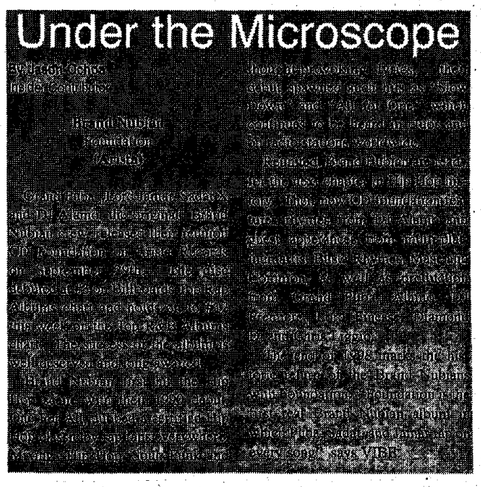
Judy Collins sang about a topic that is dear to her heart; her home state of Colorado which oddly enough is entitled *"Colorado."*

Not only did the concert feature the ladies of yesteryear and the stars of today, it showcased an up and coming performer who is sure to be on the charts. Mandy Barnett is an impressive vocalist who was discovered during her stint off Broadway. Barnett made her debut at age 13 at the Grand Old Opry in Nashville. She was recently signed to a record deal with Sire Records, a division of Warner Brothers Music. Her debut albulm, *"I've Got a Right to*

see **LADIES** page 8

Under the Microscope

By Erica Cohen
Intern Contributor



The Insider

Ladies' Night: *Women in Music*

from **LADIES** page 7

Cry," will be released later this year.

Paula Cole, who wore what appeared to be a lamb skin type outfit, was well received by the sold out crowd. Especially when she chimed in with *"I Don't Want To Wait."* Cole's stage presence was dynamic; she danced around the stage as if she were communicating with the gods.

She eventually settled down to play the piano. When she was done, Cole received a standing ovation. Before she stepped off stage, she made one lucky fan's day. A college-aged man gave Cole an arrangement of flowers in exchange for a hug and a few pictures. Needless to say the young lad blushed.

Phoebe Snow, who is known as *"the singer's singer,"* sang various rhythm-and-blues songs, one of them being *"Poetry Man."*

The show stopper was none other then Jewel. The moment the Alaska native set foot on stage, the crowd erupted. The lighting in the theatre glistened off her soft skin as she began to perform *"Foolish Games."* Jewel captivated her audience with *"You Were Meant For Me."*

Jewel paused in between songs, a bit out of breath, and said "It's tough to be up here when people are constantly take pictures." With a smile she added, "you end up looking like this." Jewel then mimicked her version of a still picture causing the crowd to laugh. Jewel also treated the crowd to a bit of yodeling which gave me a craving for a York Peppermint Patty.

The best thing about the concert is that each performer did this out of the goodness of their heart for a cause they all believe in, even though the cause was perhaps controversial. YOU HAVE BEEN INFORMED.

Poetry Corner

Oh, When I was in Love with You

Oh, when I was in love with you,
Then I was clean and brave,
And miles around the wonder grew
How well did I behave.

And now the fancy passes by,
And nothing will remain,
And miles around they'll say that I
Am quite myself again.

-A.E. Housman

The Guide

on the scene with a party Queen

from **GUIDE** page 7

and twirling woman, wearing long, flowing, laced black dresses that touched the floor.

I felt like I had been transformed to a different era, a different time, definitely not the West Village in the year 1999.

Within an hour the music started to get more heated, more upbeat as I was called into the "mystic" circle by a group of dancing "gothic" kids. I felt light as a feather as my feet and body started to do their own thing. It was very, very exhilarating!

By the end of the night I felt mentally attached to every one there, even though I wasn't in black. It was an experience that I will not forget.

I would definitely recommend a night of hardcore "gothic" clubbing for everyone. The dark and steamy atmosphere mixed with mellowed out; loving dancers was just too much.

Well until next time, be safe, be real and give your friends an extra big hug just for the fun of it.

The Insider

Scene This One? Payback

from**SCENE** page 7

when *he* did the beating.

The only other thing worth mentioning was the ambiguity of the time and setting of this film. It was very interesting how time and place were never directly mentioned. Yet, rotary phones and old-school cars, among other things, are prevalent throughout the film. It was cool!

C- To tell you the truth Mike, I didn't notice the rotary phones or the period cars. I must have dozed off during those parts. What I did notice though, was the non-traditional ending. Most action flicks end with the tragic hero saving his love interest from the villian. This film had a slightly different ending and I enjoyed it. I would go into more detail but I don't want to ruin one of the only good things about the film.

M- Overall, I'd say this film has little more to offer than a recycled performance from Mel Gibson, some decent action, and interesting cinematography. The plot had a few nice twists to the development, however, there were also a great deal of loose ends that did not get tied. If you're into sadism you'll probably enjoy most of this movie. There is a lot of violence that, quite frankly, can leave you feeling a little sore. As a Hollywood blockbuster, this movie suceeds, but I left the theatre with the desire for something more. I think *Payback* will leave many theatre-goers feeling short changed!

C- Overall, I was disappointed with this film. After being pleasantly surprised with our last two teen-flicks, I wanted this film to carry out that positive pattern. It did not. Mel Gibson was the only thing keeping this film above water. If you enjoy his work and need to see it, go for it. If not, just rent it!

On a scale of 5 bullets:
Chris rates this film 2 bullets

Mike rates this film 2 bullets

Are you happy with the BEACON?
Let us know!
beacon1@frontier.wilpaterson.edu

Sneak Preview

Office Space **- 20th Century Fox**
Release Date: Feb. 19th
Starring: Jennifer Aniston, Ron Livingston, Gary Cole, and Stephen Root

The Deep End of the Ocean **- Columbia Pictures/Mandalay Entertainment**
Release Date: Feb. 26th
Starring: Michelle Pfeiffer, Treat Williams, Jonathon Jackson, John Kapelos, Ryan Merriman, Whoopi Goldberg

Cruel Intentions **- Columbia Pictures**
Release Date: March 5th
Starring: Sarah Michelle Gellar, Ryan Phillippe, Reese Witherspoon, Selma Blair

Ravenous **- 20th Century Fox**
Release Date: March 19th
Starring: Guy Pearce, Robert Carlyle, Jeremy Davies, David Arquette, Jeffrey Jones

...et cetera

CCM joins Gospel Choir to open African Heritage Month

The Catholic Campus Ministry joined with the William Paterson University Gospel Choir held Mass on Sunday honoring African Heritage Month at the Ministry Center.

The event was coordinated by Father Lou Scurti, director of the Frank J. Rodimer Ministry Center and Michael Butler, coordinator of the Gospel Choir, and adjunct professor of Gospel Music. Butler also teaches in the African, African-American and Carribbean Studies department and is an alumnus of the university as well.

"Each year we celebrate African Heritage with members of the William Paterson community and Gospel Choir in order to emphasize our unity as a community of faith and education," said Scurti.

Butler expressed excitement about the opportunity to begin a tradition at the future Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace Chapel.

Dr. Philip Thiuri, a Deacon Candidate of the Diocese of Paterson and faculty member at William Paterson and Bernadette Thiuri wore their native nigerian clothes and participated in the Mass. Philip Thiuri spoke at the Mass on the topic of "The Church in Africa."

Club advocates needed in SGA

The Office of Campus Activities, in cooperation with Admissions is offering the opportunity for members of student organizations to become club advocates.

Advocates will represent groups of clubs at the university's two Open Houses, which will be held on Sunday, March 21 and Sunday, April 11.

Each club can nominate a club advocate by filling out the applications that were recently put in club mailboxes or picking one up from the Campus Activities Office on the third floor of the Student Center.

This student would represent a category of clubs to the newly accepted students who will be participating in the day. He or she will staff a table with materials, talk about club involvement and answer questions.

Being involved will allow the Club Advocate to share wisdom, recruit members for Student Government Association (SGA) clubs, enhance his or her communication skills, and give back to the university.

The qualifications needed are enthusiasm about being involved, knowledge of several WPUNJ clubs, and interest in sharing this knowledge and enthusiasm with students.

The deadline for applications is Feb. 23. The applications can be dropped off to Ginny Way in Room 316 of the Student Center.

Selected students will be notified. A brief mandatory training session will be held for all selected individuals on Thursday, March 18, 12:30 p.m. to 1p.m.

Essence Magazine submissions now being accepted

Essence, William Paterson University's student run English Club is encouraging students to submit their best poetry, prose, plays, artwork, and photographs. GET PUBLISHED!

The club publishes an annual literary magazine called Essence, which is traditionally distributed at their last coffee house at the end of the spring semester and during Springfest.

Submissions can be put in the Essence mailbox located in the SGA office in room 332 of the Student Center or e-mailed to jwick@frontier.wilpaterson.edu.

For more information please contact Jeff Wickersty, 1999 Essence president, at 720-5064.

Pioneer Yearbook adds one more senior portrait sitting date

Due to an overwhelming amount of requests, the Pioneer Yearbook staff has coordinated another senior portrait sitting to be held from Feb. 22 to Feb. 24 in Room 333 of the Student Center.

Seniors with at least 100 credits earned are eligible to have their portrait taken and featured in the 1999 yearbook. In addition, portrait packages may be purchased through DAVOR Photography. Only seniors that return their proofs by the deadline indicated by DAVOR Photography and mark the desired photograph to be used for the yearbook will appear in the book.

To set up an appointment, seniors must call 1-800-OUR-YEAR at least one week in advance of the above dates! A $10 sitting fee is required and pays for your 1999 Pioneer Yearbook, entitled "A Touch of Class!"

The reason for the generously low cost is because the yearbook is annually sponsored by the Student Government Association.

Students that wish to re-sit may also call DAVOR to set up an appointment, and are required to pay DAVOR a second $10 sitting fee.

Anyone can purchase a yearbook. For more information please call 720-2498.

ATTENTION ALL DEPARTMENTS AND CLUBS!

First ... we gave you Campus Calendar!
Now ... we're giving you "Et Cetera" a section to print your press releases!
YES, it's TRUE!
Get down to basics with 75 words or less and let us know what your club or department is doing and what your purpose is here on campus!
William Paterson University needs to know!
Send us your press releases about events and they will be printed along with others on our special "Et Cetera" page.
Drop off your releases to Student Center 310 or e-mail them to beacon1@frontier.wilpaterson.edu

Horoscopes by Natasha

Aries (March 20 to April 19)

You'll be making some new acquaintances this week. A party may materialize out of the blue. One tie is either undependable or somewhat temperamental. Still, the accent is on fun.

Taurus (April 20 to may 20)

This is a time of important new insights for you, yet you may feel somewhat ambivalent about some immediate tasks which require your close attention.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20)

You just don't want to be tied down now. Still, you must find a way to do your own thing without upsetting the lives and schedules of those around you.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22)

There's a chance you'll come up with new chances to increase income, but at the same time, there's a likelihood of extra expenses. Some shop for electronic gadgetry.

Leo (July 23 to August 22)

This is a time of scintillating thought and new plans. However, it's not the best time for getting these ideas across to others. A better course is to bide your time.

Libra (September 23 to October 22)

An impromptu entertainment or a chance encounter thrills you this week. However, remember your other commitments. Don't let people down or keep them waiting.

Scorpio (October 23 to November '21)

It seems if obstacles crop up that interfere with the completion of one project, your best bet is to tackle something else. It's still a time of accomplishment.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21)

Keep a flexible schedule now. A close tie is liable to do the unexpected or is in a freedom-loving mood. Know how to keep yourself constructively occupied.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19)

It seems the accent should be on saving now rather than spending. However, despite your good intentions, there may be sone unexpected expenditures which crop up.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18)

Those who travel may meet with the unexpected. Give yourself enough time to get where you're going. Listen to your own heart and don't solicit so much outside opinion.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20)

Unexpected developments in business may necessitate a change in other plans for now. Try, though, to give as much attention possible to the needs of family.

MAGIC MAZE

THINGS THAT RETURN

A	I	F	C	A	X	V	S	B	Q	O	L	R	J	H
E	C	A	X	S	V	S	E	O	H	C	E	T	R	P
N	L	J	H	F	T	S	D	O	O	F	D	A	B	D
B	Y	X	B	R	V	I	T	M	L	T	R	P	O	M
P	K	I	A	G	E	B	B	E	D	B	Z	X	S	W
U	I	D	D	T	C	O	C	R	K	R	Q	S	E	O
N	A	G	P	H	L	T	J	A	O	C	I	N	I	G
R	F	D	E	C	I	T	A	N	Y	X	O	U	L	W
V	T	C	N	O	S	L	A	G	I	D	O	R	P	S
R	K	P	N	O	N	E	N	L	K	J	I	E	E	G
S	F	S	Y	E	C	S	L	A	T	N	E	R	R	B

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions-forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Bad food, Bad penny, Boomerang, Bottles, Checks, Lies, Orbits, Pigeons, Prodigal son, Radar, Reflections, Rentals, Replies, Reruns, Rockets

Police working with community

from POLICE page 1

Anthony Fasolas, David Feliberty, Peter Miele, Joseph Mourao, David Tartza and Shaw.

But according to Shaw, almost every officer has been trained for the bike patrol. The training takes a week to complete at Bergen County Police Academy.

"It is a strenuous course for bike patrollers; an intensive training on how to maneuver through the woods and on sidewalks, and how to approach a perpetrator in a safe way," said Shaw.

Shaw said she and the other officers on the bike patrol "wanted to go into the community aspect of it (policing). They felt the need for more communication with the community."

The department received support for the new effort from inside the WPU community as well as outside. Dining Services, Hospitality Services, Institutional Advancement, the Rec Center, Tony Cavotto, Classic Towing and AAA Automobile Club all made donations for equipment and a bike. The university donated uniforms.

Finally, every year the department hosts a softball game involving the faculty, staff and students. Past games have attracted an average of 200 spectators. Shaw explained that the game is another way of bringing the community together, so instead of just seeing and judging officers because of their uniform, you see them as human beings.

The department also issues an annual newsletter, "Safety News," which students should be able to pick up around the campus. Anyone interested in picking up a copy can find one in the department's headquarters.

As far as the future of community policing is concerned, the department is "working on some things to be announced. The big difference will be in the spring with the bike patrol in full swing," said Shaw. Perhaps by then, the entire campus of WPU will be able to say that they know what community policing is.

In the meantime, students can call 720-2301 for emergencies or 720-2300 for non-emergencies.

Simms and Toal are college bound

from SIMMS page 14

rich with gridiron tradition- most recently the home of Heisman Trophy winner and NCAA all-time leading rusher Ricky Williams who will graduate to the NFL this April.

"Being half way across the nation doesn't bother me, because these days football is almost like a full-time job in college. You're not going to be home too much anyways. My parents can fly out and see me."

Confident, yes. But Simms, a Parade magazine All-American this season, has the talent worthy of confidence. More than anything, Simms is modest. A two-sport star at Ramapo (second-leading scorer on the basketball team), he also has a great three-point shot.

If Simms is to develop enough at Texas to have a chance at the NFL, he'll have to hurdle many obstacles. One immediately in front of him is another fine college quarterback, Major Applewhite, who will only be playing his second season next fall. And that's a fact that father Phil is well aware of.

"There may be more obstacles at Texas, but there's going to be obstacles wherever you go," said the former NFL great. "In college football, especially the big time programs, there are a lot of talented athletes, and a lot of people just like my son, who think they're pretty good going in, so you just have to compete and wait your turn, and I think he's willing to do that. He's not afraid of competing against other people, and there's going to be plenty of competition down there."

Photo by Ira Thor/The Beacon

Former Superbowl MVP Phil Simms signs his son's Letter of Intent to attend the University of Texas and play for the Longhorns as Chris and Head Coach Mike Miello look on.

The competition will bring both Simms and Toal back to New Jersey next September. Simms returns for a homecoming with the Rutgers Scarlet Knights in their home opener in Piscataway Sept. 11. Toal and Boston College trek to Rutgers Sept. 25.

Pioneer Sports

Questions arise about Simpson being selected the 49th greatest athlete by ESPN's 'Sports Century'

By Michael Testa
Sports Columnist

ESPN is airing a "Sports Century" series honoring the 50 greatest athletes of all time. This list contains such excellent athletes as Joe DiMaggio, Michael Jordan, Joe Montana, and Wayne Gretzky. On Friday night, the series honored its 49th greatest athlete of all-time, O.J. Simpson. This list was compiled by a panel of experts recruited for the sole purpose of making this list.

As most of you know, in 1989 he was charged with beating Nicole Brown, his second wife. He hit and kicked her as he yelled, "I'll kill you," police said. He was sentenced on two years probation, ordered to undergo psychiatric counseling and perform community service after pleading no contest.

On June 12, 1994, Nicole and Ronald Goldman were brutally murdered in Los Angeles. Five days later, Simpson was charged with both murders. He pleaded not guilty.

On Oct. 4, 1995, he was acquitted after a nine-month trial. However, in a civil wrongful-death trial, Simpson was found liable for the deaths of Brown and Goldman. In February 1997 the jury ordered Simpson to pay $33.5 million in compensatory and punitive damages.

Many people believe that O.J. Simpson should not be honored as one of the Greatest Athletes because of off-the-field incidences and how they project Simpson would be detrimental to the message sports tries to send. Others believe that Simpson's off-field activities should not take away from his excellence on the football field. When talking about his motivation to continue playing football, O.J. had this to say:

"One of the big motivating things for me was Joe Louis, not only his hero side, but the fact that he was broke virtually at the end of his career and I vowed that wouldn't happen to me," Simpson said. "So I tried to put myself in a position that I wouldn't finish my life broke and be this negative story."

Little did he know the negative story he would turn out to be. O.J. Simpson became part of one of the biggest media circuses in history during the "Trial Of The Century."

This trial took close to nine months to complete, using every possible tactic to plead his innocence, including his race. Simpson was found innocent, but was later found liable in a civil trial.

So O.J. Simpson did both things he was trying to avoid: becoming a negative story, and ending up broke.

The other side to the argument is Simpson's football statistics, unparalleled by any running back except for Walter Payton. With Buffalo he became the first National Football League player to crack the 2,000-yard barrier and he remains the only player to achieve this milestone in 14 games.

He set records (since broken) by running for 273 yards in one game and scoring 23 touchdowns in a season. He led the NFL in rushing four times in a five-year span and finished his 11-year career with 11,236 yards, then No. 2 all-time and now No. 11.

After becoming the first player to rush for 2,000 yards in a season, Simpson remembers, "I was in the locker room all by myself right before the game ended. I started walking around thinking how I couldn't wish to do anything more or be anyone else. I was part of the history of the game. If I did nothing else in my life, I'd made my mark."

Most sports purists believe that the second best running back in NFL history should definitely be honored as such, since the experts are honoring the best athletes of all time, as opposed to the best people. I agree with this statement. O.J. Simpson has performed on the field as no other running back has performed before.

He should be honored as one of the best athletes for these performances. No athletes are perfect off the field, but the athletes who are perfect on the field should be honored for what they do.

If athletes who are not perfect off the field can't be honored, then we couldn't honor athletes such as Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio, Mickey Mantle, Lawrence Taylor, and Pete Rose.

Most sports enthusiasts would agree with me that these players, along with others, deserve to be rewarded for their contributions to their games.

So let O.J. Simpson reap the benefits of his on-the-field performances, without the asterisk of his defamed and derogatory character. He is one of the best athletes of all-time, and should be honored for his skill and ability forever in the football world. (Credit ESPN.com for statistical and biographical information)

Pioneer Sports

Women drop one against the top

By Ira Thor
Sports Writer

Close, but this isn't horseshoes. There were a few hand grenades launched from the free throw line. The Lady Pioneers came within six points of upsetting the conference's best opponent, before succumbing to The College of New Jersey 57-51 at the Recreation Center on Saturday, Feb. 6. The message spawned in this defeat: the Dana Feltz and Meg Renna-less Lady Pioneers may be a dangerous team once the New Jersey Athletic Conference playoffs begin Feb. 24.

William Paterson proved in the first half they had enough talent to stick close to the undefeated Lady Lions (20-0, 14-0 NJAC). So close that the Lions returned to their den at the half to discuss a one-point, 24-23 advantage. This was the same William Paterson opponent that they blew out 67-45 in their first meeting in Ewing on Dec. 5.

Come the second session, the Lions roared alive from the field and the foul line. TCNJ shot an impressive 9 of 18 (50 percent) in the second half, while the Pioneers sank only 9 of 23 (39.1). The real damage emerged at the charity stripe, as TCNJ nailed 14 of 17 (82.4 percent) in the half, and 15 of 18 for the game. The Pioneers connected on just 56.5 percent of their 23 free throws. The difference was six points.

Junior forward Wendy Kane carried the Lady Pioneer load, collecting another double-double, 16 points and 10 boards, while freshman phenom Melissa Donovan added 13 points.

Senior point guard Stephanie Arrigo was unusually quiet, scoring just six points, while dishing out 8 assists.

Defensively, William Paterson has to be proud of their effort, holding go-to girl Jen Hutchinson to only two points in 25 minutes. Hutchinson coughed the ball up eight times to allow William Paterson to stay close.

Jill Fischman and Laura Buckley were the difference for CNJ, scoring 14 and 11 points, respectively. Fischman was seven of 12 from the field, while Buckley banged home three of four three-point attempts.

William Paterson is down to the nitty-gritty of the schedule, with Montclair State coming up Wednesday. At 14-6, and 10-4 in the NJAC, a victory over MSU in Upper Montclair is just what the doctor ordered, especially if you consider that the Lady Redhawks embarrassed the Pioneers on their home floor Dec. 9, 65-63, in the Pioneers only other home default.

Photo by Sylvana Meneses/The Beacon

Lady Pioneer Melissa Donovan (No. 4) dribbles around Kristy Smith (No. 45) of The College of New Jersey. William Paterson University was defeated 57-51 on Saturday, Feb. 6.

Ramapo standouts Simms and Toal signed and college bound

By Ira Thor
Sports Writer

Two of New Jersey's best high school athletes began their college football careers Wednesday just as their high school playing days will be remembered- side by side. Although headed to opposite sides of the nation, Ramapo High School senior standouts Chris Simms and Greg Toal seemed like a team as they signed their scholarship forms in front of a group of media, family, and school officials in the Ramapo library on National Letter of Intent Day, signifying the end of the recruitment process. All of this took place while their peers were emerged in first period of the school day.

Chris Simms, the 6-5 southpaw quarterback who helped lead the Green Raiders to the 1997 North I, Group III state championship, is heading to Austin, Texas to play for the Longhorns of the University of Texas, despite originally making an oral commitment to play for the National Champion University of Tennessee Volunteers.

Toal, who set a state record this season with 37 rushing touchdowns, is headed to the Boston College Eagles and the Big East Conference.

"I'm very happy. It's good to get it over with," said Simms, the oldest son of former New York Giant quarterback and Super Bowl XXI MVP PhilSimms.

Photo by Ira Thor/The Beacon

Chris Simms, left, and Greg Toal look over the paperwork on National Letter of Intent Day as Head Coach Mike Miello looks on.

"It's nice to just sit back and enjoy high school again, and not have to worry about all this stuff."

It was clear they are only high school students -- despite all the media attention- as they softly asked a common question you'll hear out of the mouths of high school students when they fill out paperwork. "What is today's date?" February 3, 1999 at 8:20 a.m. Simms, who announced on the Mike Quick show on MSG last December that he would play for Coach Phil Fulmer at the University of Tennessee, had a change of heart in the last few weeks. Chris is a kid with all heart, and even more talent.

"It was just a heart feeling," said the 18 year old, 6-foot-5 blonde, with his hand placed over his heart. "I just felt in my heart that Texas was the best place for me academically and football wise. It just felt like they're a team on the rise, and I just wanted to be a part of that. I just liked the school and the area an awful lot to not be going there."

And he'll be attending a school

see SIMMS page 12

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WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY PIONEERS SPORTS

This week's schedule

Tuesday, 2/9
Men's Swimming vs. Queens, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, 2/10
Women's & Men's Basketball @ Montclair State University, 6 p.m.
Saturday, 2/13
Women's & Men's Basketball vs. Richard Stockton, 2 p.m. & 4 p.m.
Indoor Track @ CTC Indoor Championship (and Sunday, 2/14)
Ice Hockey vs. Columbia, 9:45 p.m. Mackey Arena

Pioneers avenge earlier season loss to the Lions

By Paul Bonney
Sports Editor

William Paterson freshman forward Mufeed Thomas' "tip-in" of a missed shot in the last seconds of the game was the key basket as the Pioneers defeated The College of New Jersey, 61-58, on Saturday, Feb. 6, in the Recreation Center.

The Pioneers had lost the Dec. 5 match-up earlier this season by a score of 65-59.

"When it (the basketball) came off the rim, I boxed out with the left (arm); Then I jumped up and tipped it in with the right hand," said Thomas.

In fact, the Pioneers dominated the game off the boards. The Lions were out-rebounded 37 to 18, and 18 to 9 off the offensive glass.

"Coach tells us all game, 'attack the rim,'" Thomas continued. "When the last shot went up, the only thing I was thinking about was crashing the rim."

Thomas finished with a double-double, 10 points and 15 rebounds. Seven of his rebounds were offensive, but there was none more important than the last.

William Paterson's problem came in the second half as they turned the ball over 15 times, with a total of 23 turnovers for the game.

"Our biggest problem all season long has been the turnovers, there is no doubt about it," said Head Coach Jose Rebimbas. "Until we figure out a way not to turn the basketball over, we are not going to beat good teams."

> *"Just to turn the season over dramatically, I think it speaks for itself - It shows the pride and dignity that the team has."*
>
> **--Horace Jenkins, Sophomore**

Sophomore point-guard Horace Jenkins, who had 9 turnovers, feels the problem is concentration. "Second half we got a little lazy with each other," said Jenkins, who had 14 points, 6 rebounds and 6 assists in the game. "The intensity wasn't there, and it was a lack of concentration."

"The reason we had the turnovers is because we are careless," said Rebimbas. "We are throwing the ball to guys that can't catch the basketball, and we are making bad decisions."

Jenkins agrees, "there is a difference between turnovers and a lazy turnover, or an un-forced turnover, or a turnover because another player isn't ready for a pass."

Rich Wilson had a game-high 21 points for the Lions, and sophomore guard Kelvin Fleming led the Pioneers with 16.

The victory improves William Paterson's record to 13-7 and 9-4 in the New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC).

"Obviously, you're happy for the win, but you are also looking at Montclair," said Rebimbas. "These turnovers will hurt us against a team like Montclair, who has an outstanding post player in Anthony Peebles."

William Paterson will play Montclair State University this Wednesday, Feb. 10, in Montclair. The players' focus seems to be Montclair, as well.

"By all means, we'll take the win," said Jenkins. " Right now we are going to try to focus on Montclair State and try to continue our season."

Thomas agrees that the team "has to look towards Montclair on Wednesday; we're mainly focusing on Montclair."

The Pioneers have won six straight, and 9of 10, after starting the season 3-5 and 1-4 in the NJAC. WPUNJ closed out January with a 7-1 record.

"What we have brought to the table the last month has been incredible," said Jenkins. "Just to turn the season over dramatically, I think it speaks for itself - It shows the pride and dignity that the team has; that we can dig down in the big game."

William Paterson's success has come from taking it "game-by-game," according to Mufeed Thomas. "It's not about games to come, but the game to come."

Closing in on second place, Coach Rebimbas is only looking ahead one game at a time, and not thinking about the big "up-and-coming" games against NJAC No. 1 Rowan University, and No. 2 Richard Stockton.

"Right now I am worried about the Montclair Red Hawks and I'm worried about William Paterson Pioneer basketball," said Rebimbas. "Other than that I don't know what else lies ahead for us."

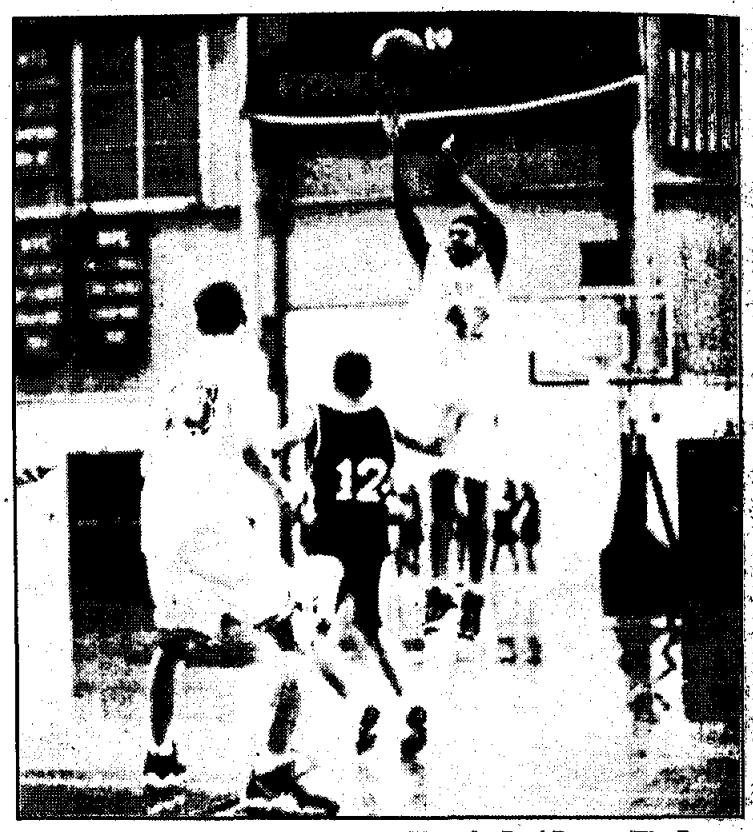

Photo by Paul Bonney/The Beacon

Kelvin Fleming (No. 42) shoots over Lion Mike Iasparro (No. 12) as Chris Lauer (No. 43) watches during the game on Saturday, Feb. 6, which the Pioneers won 61-58.

Men's and Women's Swim Teams clinch dual meet titles

Photo by Sylvana Meneses/The Beacon

The Men's Swimming Team improves their record to 10 and 2 after their wins this week over Maritime and Manhattanville.

By Michael A. Testa
Sports Contributor

The William Paterson University Pioneer swimmers, led by head coach Ed Gurka, have shown excellent ability throughout the season. Their hard work and determination has resulted in winning records for both the men's and women's teams.

The men participated in two dual meets last week. They defeated Maritime 116-99, which clinched the dual meet title for the season. They also topped Manhattanville by an overwhelming 87-26 margin. Their overall record is 10-2, and they are an undefeated 4-0 in the conference.

The team is made up of mostly underclassmen, which should make for an excellent future for the squad. Freshman Dame Pletvarec was the lone triple winner, winning the 1000 free in 11:06.78, the 100 fly in 56.93, and the 500 free in 5:43.23. Double winners were freshman Billy Kessel, who won the 50 free in 23.19 and the 100 breast in 1:07.9, and sophomore Chris Bell, who took the 200 individual medley in 2:23.63 and the 100 back in 1:04.22.

Also, sophomore Brian Boardman won the 100 free in 52.00, and Robert Colussi won the 200 free in 2:07.12. Kessel was named "Top Swimmer of the Meet."

The men's team will wrap up the dual meet season against Division II standout Queens on Tuesday, Feb. 9, at 6:30 in Wightman Gym. After that, they will participate in the championships on Feb. 18-20 at TCNJ.

The women also participated in two dual meets last week, and won them both by close margins. They won their first meet witha score of 108-89 against Misercordia.

They also defeated Manhattanville by a close 92-83 decision, improving their record to 9-4. There were three double winners in the Manhattanville meet for the women, and all of them were freshmen, symbolizing the youth of the program and its promise for excellent swimming in the future.

Alyssa Bansky won the 1000 free in 12:29.4 and the 500 free in 6:08.34, Brianne Smith took the 200 individual medley in 2:29.3 and the 100 breast in 1:18.3, and Rebecca Schirrman won the 200 free in 2:09.7 and the 100 free in 1:01.0.

Single event winners were freshman Catherine Crowder, who won the 50 free in 27.0, and freshman Jill Vargo, who took the 100 back in 1:08.7.

The women's dual meet season is over, and they will also compete in the championships at TCNJ on the weekend of Feb. 18-20.