

The Beacon

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Former Prime Minister of Britain speaks at William Paterson

By Sheri A. Freeman
News Editor

Lisa Fernandez, William Paterson University alum, said of Distinguished Lecturer Lady Margaret Thatcher, "I think she had a very interesting way of answering questions. She had the most PC (politically correct) answers I've ever heard."

Thatcher, Britain's first female prime minister, lectured to a packed Shea Center for Performing Arts on Friday, Dec. 10.

Over 1,000 people listened attentively to Thatcher speak about what happened during her 11 year term in addition to the "Challenges Facing the 21st Century."

She boasted about her many successes, such as getting rid of price controls on income, dividends, certificates for development and foreign exchange, privatizing most companies owned by the state including, gas, electricity, communications, education, health care, and the rail system, as well as her involvement with former United States President, Ronald Reagan in ending the cold war.

She spoke about her difficulties with the IRA. She painted the picture by talking about the number of soldiers the IRA killed and stated that the IRA would wait until the Red Cross came to help the soldiers and then would bomb that



photo by Sylvana Meneses/The Beacon

Margaret Thatcher, former Prime Minister of Britain, was the second Distinguished Lecturer in the 1999-2000 Distinguished Lecturer Series. She spoke about the ups and downs of her term and the "Challenges facing the 21st Century" last Friday and later answered questions from students, like the pictured Philosophy major, in Hobart Manor.

location, killing the volunteers as well.

"When in a free society, you have terrorism, only the innocent suffer," said Thatcher.

She justified many changes that she made to the British norm by stating, "Habit can in fact diminish your expectations of what you can do and diminish your morality as a

nation as well."

She spoke briefly about when the Argentinians invaded the Falkland Islands, property of Britain. She explained the swiftness

that she had to act in defense.

Questions concerning morality were raised during the question and answer period.

One audience member asked about Thatcher's opinion of the current leadership that the US is under.

"I am not wholly in agreement with President Clinton," Thatcher replied.

While speaking about morality, she delved into American education and the Bible.

"You're not teaching Biblical values in your schools, are you," she asked. "We have scripture in our schools. It gives children the basis which will stay with them for life. If you give no moral training in school and home and you don't see much of it on television, where are you going to get it?"

Thatcher spoke very highly of Reagan, calling him "Ronny".

"He stood by the side of the Berlin wall and told them to tear it down and in 1989, they did," said Thatcher. "It was he who knew the strategic defense mechanism. We are eternally grateful to his time in term and what he did for democracy."

Not everyone agreed with Thatcher on all her conclusions and statements made.

see THATCHER page 5

France trip remembered

By Ronald Paris
AACs Chair

This past summer (July 10 to July 25, 1999), I organized an exchange program to Paris, France for WPU students and others in the New Jersey region. This was a reciprocal visit with that of French students to the United States in the Spring of 1999.

The WPU students who participated were Germaine Witherspoon, Marshale White, Jamal Hester, Larry Joseph, Linton Gooden, Gina Johnson, Daniel Clark and Jalil Smith.

The exchange program in Paris had both an educational and cultural component. WPU students were required to register for the

see AACs page 5

WPU extends education reach to community colleges University centers to open through County College partnerships

William Paterson University is now providing additional opportunities for northern New Jersey residents to earn baccalaureate degrees through university centers located on three community college campuses.

The University is collaborating with the County College of Morris, Sussex County Community College and Warren County Community College to offer select WPU baccalaureate degree programs at the three communities. The program will begin with courses leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology/Criminal Justice and the Bachelor of Science in Business/Management.

Students who successfully complete Associate of Arts of Science degrees in relevant fields at their respective institutions would be accepted into William Paterson's

degree programs with junior class standing. Individuals wishing to pursue second baccalaureate degrees may also apply for admission to the programs. Classes begin at the Sussex and Warren campuses in late October; courses are scheduled to begin at Morris in January.

"The development of these university centers is an important step in establishing William Paterson University as the regional university in northern New Jersey," says Arnold Speert, president of WPUNJ. "We are thrilled that our ongoing relationships with three of New Jersey's finest community colleges have enabled us to establish community-based baccalaureate programs that address the specific educational needs of these communities."

The University's proposals to

the three county colleges are in concert with a report from the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education, "The Capacity of New Jersey's Higher Education System," which pointed out the limited access to postsecondary degree programs in several areas of the state, including Sussex and Warren counties in the northeast.

The report encouraged the establishment of the "multi-situation and joint degree programs both on-site and through distance learning," that should "offer collaborative and joint degree programs both on-site and through distance learning."

Last July, teams lead by Provost Chernoh Sesay, which included representatives from Continuing Education and Distance Learning (CEDL), the Department of Sociology and the College of

Business, met with their counterparts at each campus to discuss and develop the programs.

Admissions, advisement and registration for the programs will be handled through the community colleges. All upper-level coursework leading to the degrees would be offered at the community colleges through direct classroom or interactive television/Web-based instruction by William Paterson faculty.

Students pursuing degrees will be full-fledged WPU students and will have access to the institution's library and information technology resources, as well as other student benefits.

As the programs develop, additional baccalaureate degree programs, and select graduate programs may be offered.

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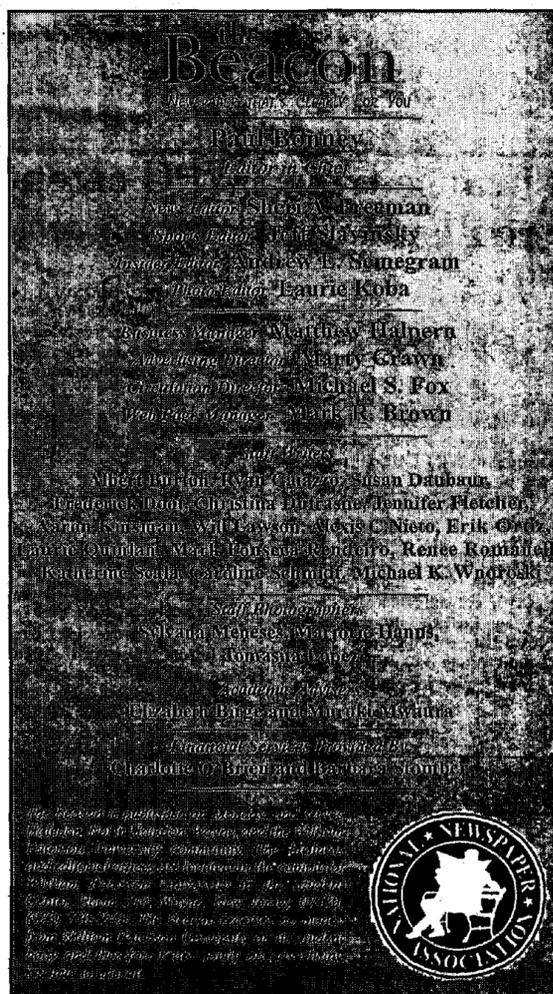
CAMPUS CALENDAR

Tuesday, December 7
Women's Center: Women's Discussion Group begins 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. every Tuesday @ the Women's Center, SC 214. For information, contact Meryle Kaplan, @ 720-2946.

Thursday, December 16
The WPU Debate Society: Executive Officer elections! SC 326 Contact Erika @ vasquexe@student.wpunj.edu.

Attention all clubs, departments, and colleges! If you would like to place an announcement in Campus Calendar, stop by The Beacon office SC310 or call 720-2576.

Good Luck on Finals!



The Beacon
Newspaper of William Paterson University

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The Beacon Buzz

The Beacon Buzz asked students this week ...

"What is your New Year's resolution for the millennium?"



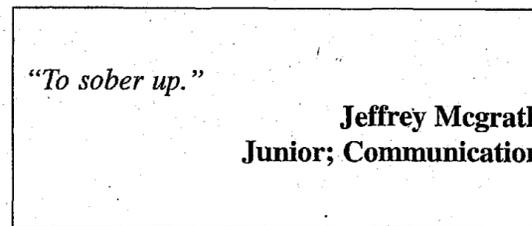
"To go back to being a full-time student and to get a permanent job."

Carlos Florez
Freshman; Education



"To make more money."

Olga Posso
Junior; Nursing



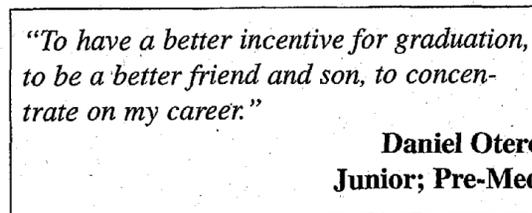
"To sober up."

Jeffrey Mcgrath
Junior; Communication



"To make twice the amount of people happy that I did last year."

Alana Sarratore
Freshman; Music Management



"To have a better incentive for graduation, to be a better friend and son, to concentrate on my career."

Daniel Otero
Junior; Pre-Med



"To stop using women as play objects."

Ray Grieco
Sophomore; Music

Have suggestions for the Beacon Buzz?
E-mail us at beacon@student.wpunj.edu

Interview and photos by Katherine Scala and Laurie Koba

On the first day of shopping, my debit card gave to me... Six better ways to pay during the holidays

Whether you're ready or not, naughty or nice, the holiday season is here, and with it comes the challenge of holiday budgeting.

Will you spend too much again this year? Chances are, expenditures like gifts for friends and family and an outfit for the company holiday party or New Year's Eve celebration will add up to more than you think. While it is a magical time of year, most people have budgets a lot less robust than Santa's belly.

It can be difficult to track all the expenses that come with the holidays. A 1999 survey by Visa U.S.A. found that one in four Americans have "no idea" where they spend their cash. While nearly a third of Americans have gone to a financial advisor in the past year, over half said they were only "somewhat successful" at revamping their budget.

Here are some easy ways to manage your holiday spending using a debit card:

- **Get on track!** Debit cards deduct purchases directly from your checking account, offering a "pay now" feature to keep post-holiday bills to a minimum.

- **Check it twice!** With a debit card, monthly bank statements can track smaller holiday expenses such as postage and last minute gifts.

- **Lose weight ... in your wallet!** With a debit card, you don't need to carry a bulky check book or large amounts of cash to the mall to shop for the holidays.

- **Reduce time waiting in line!** Debit transactions are nearly a minute faster than using cash and checks.

- **Shop online with ease!** Using a debit card online is convenient, and secure, just like in the physical world. Online merchants also provide receipts making it even easier to keep track of purchases.

- **Gain peace of mind!** A debit card offers "\$0 liability" protection in case of fraud, theft or unauthorized card usage if reported within two business days of discovery; after that your liability is capped at \$50.

Now that you've got your holiday budget organized, there is an additional way to save and still spread holiday cheer. For more information about debit cards, visit <http://www.visa.com>, call 1-888-VISA-606 for a free copy of the magazine *Knowledge Pays* or contact a representative from your bank.

Student wins free Tuition



Photo courtesy of Alpha Phi Delta Fraternity

Pictured above is Vicky Corso with Jerry Stilianessis (left), a co-owner of King George Diner and Keith Freibott (right), Alpha Phi Delta brother. Corso, the New Milford resident and member of Alpha Sigma Tau, recently won the Nick D'Atria tuition giveaway, which is co-sponsored by The King George Diner, located on Hamburg Turnpike, and the fraternity. Corso is 21 years-old and a Biology major. The annual tuition giveaway was recently renamed to honor D'Atria, a member of Alpha Phi Delta, who died in the summer of 1999.

The Beacon staff would like to wish the William Paterson community a healthy, happy, and safe holiday season.

See you all next century!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR HEALTH



Scoliosis inflicts the unwanted curve An exploration of the spinal condition and treatments past and present

By Melina M. Schmidt
Illustration by [unreadable]

Scoliosis is a very alarming problem, but it is easily treated. To see someone with scoliosis is to see someone who is hunched over slightly because one leg is longer than the other; seeing clothing tight on one side of the back and loose on the other; a nagging, annoying pain near the center of the back, and small of the back after bending over or being in a awkward position for too long; difficulty breathing; losing height gradually, and the symptoms of the disorder known as scoliosis.

In high school, many of you were told to bend over so your spine could be checked for this disorder by looking at the curve of your back. Was it level, or was one side higher than another? If the latter was the case, then they made out a note for you to see your doctor and find out through an x-ray if you had scoliosis.

What is scoliosis? Scoliosis is a side-to-side curvature of the spine usually starting during the pre-teen growth spurts. Under normal circumstances, the spine is straight, but in scoliosis, the spine curves like a letter "S", there are variations such as the "question mark" curve and the "C curve" but the "S curve" is the most common. Boys and girls are both affected, but girls are more likely to have it. There are 2 types of scoliosis, mobile and non-mobile.

Mobile scoliosis is caused by having one leg longer than the other and the person

leans over slightly to compensate and stand straight. Permanent scoliosis is usually known as idiopathic, or origins unknown. It can strike anyone from 4 years of age to 80 years of age although between the ages of 10 and 15 are the worst.

Treatment for scoliosis was a bit sketchy in the past. In the Medieval times, people were placed in horrible contraptions that pulled their shoulders up and back; their lower backs had padded rods that were jammed into them and left for 23 hours! The person was removed from the machine to bathe. Scoliosis treatment did not change much over the years until the late 1940's and 1950's. The Polio breakout was thought to cause scoliosis, so many children were brought to schools with large gymnasiums and placed in harnesses that literally held them up by their shoulders and under their arms and were hung from the ceiling!

The late 1960's saw a new innovation, traction. This involved laying the patient on a bed and tying padded straps to the ankles and under the arms and pulling the person in opposite directions to stretch the back. X-rays showed that this treatment was effective until the person was removed from the traction and within a few hours the curve was like it had been before. The 1970's saw a more radical solution, surgery. The most popular type was using what was called a Harrington bar. This involved straightening the spine and securing it in place with a metal rod and screws. Bone grafts were added later when the bar proved to be slightly unstable. The follow-up of this surgery required the patient to live for 9

months in a full body plaster cast that went from the neck down past the hips to keep the bar from having any undue stress while the body was healing.

The bar still had a high frequency of breaking under pressure, however. In the early 1980's a new system was developed called the Luque (Looock) system. This involved braiding wires through the vertebrae and into the spinal canal (millimeters from the spinal cord). This system proved the most effective as the curvature was straightened to be almost perfect, however, the wires being in the spinal canal caused the spinal canal to wear down and cause premature osteoarthritis.

Finally, a breakthrough in the late 1980's—two French scientists came up with a process called Cotrell-Dubosette, also known as CD. This involved putting two bars in place, one on either side of the curve and placing bone grafts to the spine to make it rigid and without the necessity of a cast. Actually, a person could, in theory, walk out of the hospital in three days, although most cases take 9-14 days. Variations of this technique included the CD Horizon (developed in 1993) and Texas CD (developed in 1994).

But what if the curve is too shallow for surgery, or surgery is either dangerous or unwanted? The next option is what is called a brace. This is much like the cast in theory. There are several types that differ in comfort and effectiveness. First and one of the most effective is the Wisconsin brace. This brace is labeled the most ugly, most embarrassing to wear and so on, but this brace has a reputation of stopping progressive curves and cur-

ing some altogether. The brace has a ring that goes around the neck just under the chin and then straps and more metal and pressure points that go down the body and to the hips. One person described it in F&W's Family Health as being like wearing a more comfortable tomato cage.

Another type of brace is the Boston brace. This brace is the most comfortable and the most effective. It can cure curvatures as well as stop them from going further. The next type of well known brace is the Charleston Bending Brace or CBB. This brace is worn only at night and is meant to bend the body in the opposite way of the curve. This is the most risky and uncomfortable of the braces because one can not turn over during sleep (must lie on the back for at least 8 hours) and if fitted wrong can make the curve worse. It also has very little reputation of stopping a curve, much less curing it. Exercise, although a popular method of slowing down progression has not been proved to help all that much.

Although scoliosis can be life threatening if allowed to go too far, most insurance companies see it as a cosmetic problem and often will not pay for treatment, so if you or a loved one has this sad problem, check with your insurance company to make sure treatment will be covered. So check yourselves by bending down in front of a full length mirror and check your back, go to your doctor regularly and check your children or siblings as well. This is a very treatable problem with many options and getting more and more of them each and every day. So, let the health be with you!

Announcing the WPU Summer Program at St. Edmund's College Cambridge University, England July 1-30, 2000

The WPU Summer Program at St. Edmund's College is designed to provide William Paterson students with education in two areas of Comparative Politics while living in a setting in which the comparative dimensions of the educational experience can come alive. Under the direction of Professor Michael Principe, Visiting Scholar at St. Edmund's College since 1993, students will spend four weeks at the college, sharing quarters and eating meals with graduate and undergraduate students from around the world who are members of St. Edmund's.

Who may apply? Juniors/Seniors (in credits) as of July, 2000 who are at least 20 years old and have a minimum grade point average of 2.8

What classes are being offered? Two political science seminars will be offered (Comparative Social Policy and Comparative Constitutional law). Students will register for 6 credits of summer work through WPU. The prerequisites for upper-level political science classes are Intro to Politics or American Government (these may be waived by the Chair of the Department, Professor Sheila Collins).

What is the cost of the program? The estimated cost for tuition, room and board, and transportation is \$4,000.

Financial Aid available? Yes, those students who are interested in participating in the program should speak to the WPU Director of Financial Aid, Robert Baumel, BEFORE the beginning of spring semester so they can adjust their 1999-2000 awards to include summer term.

How do I apply? Please contact Professor Michael Principe, Department of Political Science, Science Hall 244, x3619, as soon as possible. This first year of the program is limited to approximately 20 students.

Former British prime minister speaks at William Paterson DLS

from FORMER page 1

"In the international scene, you have to keep up on strong technologies," she explained.

Later that night at a special student forum, Thatcher was approached by Political Science major Jason Nunnemaker, who asked about Reagan's economic policy.

Thatcher responded with an explanation deriving from technology. She explained that Reagan didn't have the technology of the internet and like channels to get information immediately.

Nunnemaker found her answer

to be ridiculous and spoke later about it.

He said, "It had nothing to do with him cutting the taxes on the wealthy who then invested in the Japanese and Chinese products that left the poor poorer because they couldn't afford those products. It was because we didn't have America Online."

Many people felt that their questions were not answered, when directed toward Thatcher, who would not accept any questions from the media.

Doston Britton, a member of WCRN, asked Thatcher about her alleged connection to New World Order organizations.



Lady Margaret Thatcher Britton explained that he thought New World Order would

mean a totalitarian society, where all nations were under one rule.

In response, Thatcher asked Britton what a New World Order meant.

Later, Britton said, "Just like Colin Powell said, Margaret Thatcher answers questions with a question. She really didn't answer the questions."

The program described Thatcher as, "a fiery conservative" and stated that she became known as the "Iron Lady" because of her strict control over political life.

"She doesn't show me that she's this hard edge woman," stated Communication major Chris Capodese. "She didn't seem like an

iron lady to me."

According to the lecture series program, Thatcher presently does private and public engagements and continues to consult and advise the British Government.

Thatcher's lecture, as all other Distinguished lectures was made possible through grants from organizations such as AT&T, The William Paterson Alumni Association, and The CIT Group. Thatcher's price tag was not disclosed to the media.

Lectures for the new millennium are, "The Constitution and Our Modern Justice System," by Alan Dershowitz on Jan. 28 and The Capitol Steps on April 7.

AACS professor remembers summer trip to France with students



photo courtesy of Professor Ronald Paris

a group of students who enrolled in the France exchange program are pictured above in France.

from FRANCE page 1

Summer course, AACS 399: "French Policies and Social Practices in Favor of Youth," which provided a research opportunity to explore the nature of French social policy and practices concerning problems of marginalized youth and their families.

More particularly, the course examined the impact of post-colonial immigration and the social and cultural diversity of Parisian youth, whose countries of origin include North and West Africa, the Caribbean as well as Southern and Eastern Europe. Within this context, students also carried out a case study of the French voluntary

youth organization called Jeunesse Culture Loisirs et Technique (JCLT), which also hosted our visit and provided accommodation for the students. This provided a most welcome opportunity for close interaction between students and the French Youth.

On the cultural side, we visited the Loire Valley traveling to Tour via Blois and Amboise. At Amboise, we visited Chateau Amboise, which was built in the eleventh century and is where Leonardo da Vinci is buried. We overnights at the Castle of L'Abrosiere, which is owned by JCLT, leaving in the late afternoon for a visit to Castle Azay La Rideau. We next explored the

medieval town of Chinon, a "stronghold-City" surrounded by high walls and noted for the fact that Richard the Lion Hearted and Joan of Arc dismounted there in 1429. We also took the opportunity of visiting the Chinon castle, built during the X, XII, XIV and XV centuries and which had served as the favorite residence of the English Plantagenet Kings. Our museum visits included several visits to the Louvre and the Musee des Arts d'Afrique et d'Oceania. We were officially received at Hotel de Ville, the office of the Mayor of Paris, and given a tour (with reception).

Complementary to the research project we participated in a number of organized lectures. One of these was by the noted Algerian writer Mr. Salah Guemiche, who made an analysis of the historical and current relations between Algeria and France, examining the colonial experience and independence struggle and the conflicts of language and culture that accompanied them. Another lecture on French immigration and child services was presented by Services Social d'Aide Aux Emigrants (SSAE), an international network of social service agencies founded in 1924 to help families with immigration problems.

A very useful roundtable on Racism in France was held in which representatives from SOS-RACISME participated. SOS-RACISME is an organization founded in 1984 in response to the rise of anti-immigrant National Front Movement led by Mr. Le Pen. SOS-RACISME has the unique motto of, "Touche pas a mon pote." (Hands off my buddy)

On the eve of our departure, we were received by the Mayor of the fifteenth Arrondissement (district) for a reception and lecture by the Deputy Mayor, the Honorable Madame Ricca, who discussed the range of services offered by her office in favor of youth and families on the margins.

WPU students made many buddies with their French counterparts and were unanimously pleased by this cultural exchange opportunity.

The exchange visit was organized and supervised by Ronald Paris, chair of African, African-American and Caribbean Studies.

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The opinions on this page do not necessarily represent the opinions of the entire Beacon Staff.

Mailbag

Professor Mercurio says goodbye'

Editor:

much sadness, I write to obdye to the students of Paterson University. You true heart and the soul of iversity, and it has been my t privilege to serve as one of rstructors. Over the past ars, not a day has gone by in you haven't taught me a le lesson! Your personal sto-ve touched and inspired me. liverse cultures and back- s intrigues me, and opened nd to the universality of the experience. Thank you for me share in your lives. I iss you terribly, but I know u remain in my heart fore-ve become you ... and you

the professor in me cannot leave you without sharing a t thoughts. Please indulge ave often wanted to express words to you, but found it t to do so in a classroom set- The disciplines of law and ate taxation do not always themselves to discussions of s of the spirit.) I still find it hat awkward expressing now. But some of these will be familiar to those of ho have sat through my s. I repeat them now, in for emphasis - think of me xt time you write that essay nation answer or research

ays believe in yourselves. re bright, motivated and sting individuals. Never estimate your potential. for excellence in all that you

do; forget perfection. Don't be afraid to fail. But please, learn to proofread!

"Be grateful for every day - no matter how bad it may seem. Fight for what you believe, but always, always be respectful. Live authentically. Be genuine. Have compassion. At the very least, use spell check and grammar check!

Be fair and loyal. Don't cheat. Respect your intelligence. Explore its depths. But never use it to manipulate or control another. Don't compromise your principles, values or your integrity. Live with grace and poise. Buy a dictionary!

Accountants, don't be afraid of the English language - practice your writing. Writers, don't be afraid of numbers. In today's world, the best artists are business people and the best business people are artists. Get comfortable with technology (and I don't mean that new CD or DVD system). For heaven's sake, use the dictionary!

Be politically aware and civic minded. Appreciate democracy and the abundance we enjoy in this country. Make lots of money, but don't get caught up in the negative aspects of capitalism - the competition, the materialism, the consumerist culture. Never forget the less fortunate.

Read - everything you can. Don't overestimate the importance of money. Dream. Dream big. Don't listen to people who tell you you can't. Hear them, but don't listen to them. Never stop learning; never stop growing, and always have hope. Best wishes to you all.

Linda Mercurio
Department of Accounting & Law
College of Business

Professor Mercurio can be reached via e-mail at MercurioL@att.net.

What I liked and appreciated about WPU.

As I sat through an actual, professional job interview for a corporate public relations firm, I realized that I truly am graduating from William Paterson University.

The diploma that I've envisioned for the past four and half years to be hanging smack in the middle of my parents' living room wall will soon be concrete. I will be able to purchase that beautiful yet extremely daunting frame, which hangs over the heads of all students when they purchase something in the bookstore. You know the one! I'll hang it on the wall next to my brother's fifth grade DARE diploma, look at it every day for the first couple of weeks, sigh and then realize, "Shoot, I'm not so sure I'm ready for this."

Many nights I'll think about my years as a student at William Paterson and I'll most likely remember only a select few things that I whole-heartedly enjoyed. However, today, I can think of many.

Who at William Paterson College (turned University) do I truly appreciate and admire? I'm not going to even dare to say, President Speert and Provost Sesay and other "higher-ups." I of course applaud them, but I think they get standing ovations from their pay checks. I'm talking about the people who really make it happen - those whom I've had the pleasure of learning from, conversing with and generally "see in action."

Freshman year, I had a professor who really impacted me. Tom Cianci was an adjunct professor of Western Civilization. Some may know him as "Fat Tom." His class was comfortable because of his candid demeanor, and that really helped me ease into the "collegiate" environment - I only hope that I have a colleague in the work force who will do the same. Professor Gonzalez followed up with my second Western Civilization class. She was quite different from "Fat Tom," but her demeanor pushed me further into the collegiate environment. The woman held class during a blizzard. Only three people were there! I learned from her that I truly was in college and the high school, baby stuff would have to be knocked off.

This semester, I took Press in a Free Society. It's a class that I really should have taken sophomore year, being that my concentration is Journalism and Public Relations, but I took it my last semester thinking I would breeze through it and fall asleep in class. I was feeling pretty sure of myself, I guess. Adjunct Nancy

Laughlin was teaching the course. She really inspired me to learn. She was respectful of everyone's views in class, even Felix's. Her teaching approach was much of a dialogue based method, and that's what I believe should be the teaching method used by all collegiate people in the new millennium.

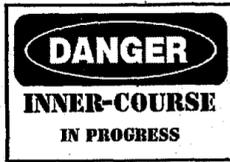
Elizabeth Birge. When her name comes to mind, I remember the first class I took with her. It was Advanced Journalism. Our first assignment was to find out as much as we possible could about "Elizabeth Birge" without speaking directly to the person. As we all went over our discoveries, all she kept saying was, "how did you find that out?!" I learned so much from you, Professor Birge. Hopefully, I will be able to not let the job (journalism) beat me. I'm sure it will a couple times, but I'll remember your classes in order to bounce back.

Wait, I learned even more outside of the class than most would think. I learned from Kalli Prosopsaltis, the "heart" of the Student Government Association office, that being organized and on top of things will get you everywhere, but it's still okay to stop and smell the roses. Thanks Kalli. Sadly, I do not remember his name, but the gentleman who works maintenance late in the Student Center has taught me to recognize people in your presence. We live in a cold environment, where people don't greet each other any more and that makes for a cruel world, I believe. This gentlemen has always greeted me with a friendly smile and I reciprocated. If I were to sum him up in one word, it would be "human."

Lastly, I would be leaving out a very important part of my college years if I didn't take the time to thank all my friends for all they have done for me and helped me to do for myself. Most of you know who you are and your chins will only elevate higher if I mention you, but there are those that absolutely must be mentioned.

Paul Bonney - One day, I will get back "Dead Poets Society," but for now, enjoy it. Thanks for talking me into all this craziness: *The Beacon*, CJR, and thanks for all that advice about "golden words." Even though I didn't listen, you cared enough to look out for me.

Dana Romatowski - You're going to be an excellent teacher. I know, I've learned a lot from you, like how to be a mad scientist.



By Sheri A. Freeman

Professor explores the Nature of Time

Richard Pardi
Env. Science and Geography

On Dec. 31 of this year, at midnight in Times Square, New York City, USA, thousands of people will celebrate an event in time; the change in years from 1999 to 2000 - the advent of the new millennium. To those people in Times Square and for millions if not billions of others around the world, that moment in time will be as close as they get to a religious experience.

Most humans will feel they are celebrating something very real, something very fundamental and important. But far from those maddening crowds, in those corners of our world that remain untouched by the hand of man ... nothing; nothing different or extraordinary, or remarkable at all will happen as the clock on Times Square marks the moment of midnight. On the lonely shores of Tierra del Fuego waves will break in a rhythm that has not changed for eons. High above the Earth clouds will swirl, winds will blow as they have always done, without hesitation.

If, as is likely, a volcano is erupting on Dec. 31, 1999, or an earthquake is in progress, it will not pause at midnight. The Earth and, in fact the Universe, will utterly ignore the coming of the millennium. The contrast between how modern humans perceive time and

what time really is tells us a lot about the nature of what we call "civilization." The march of civilization has been a march through time. The evolving concept of time has marked most, if not all, of the greatest advances of our civilizations (see Daniel Boorstin's book *The Discoverers*).



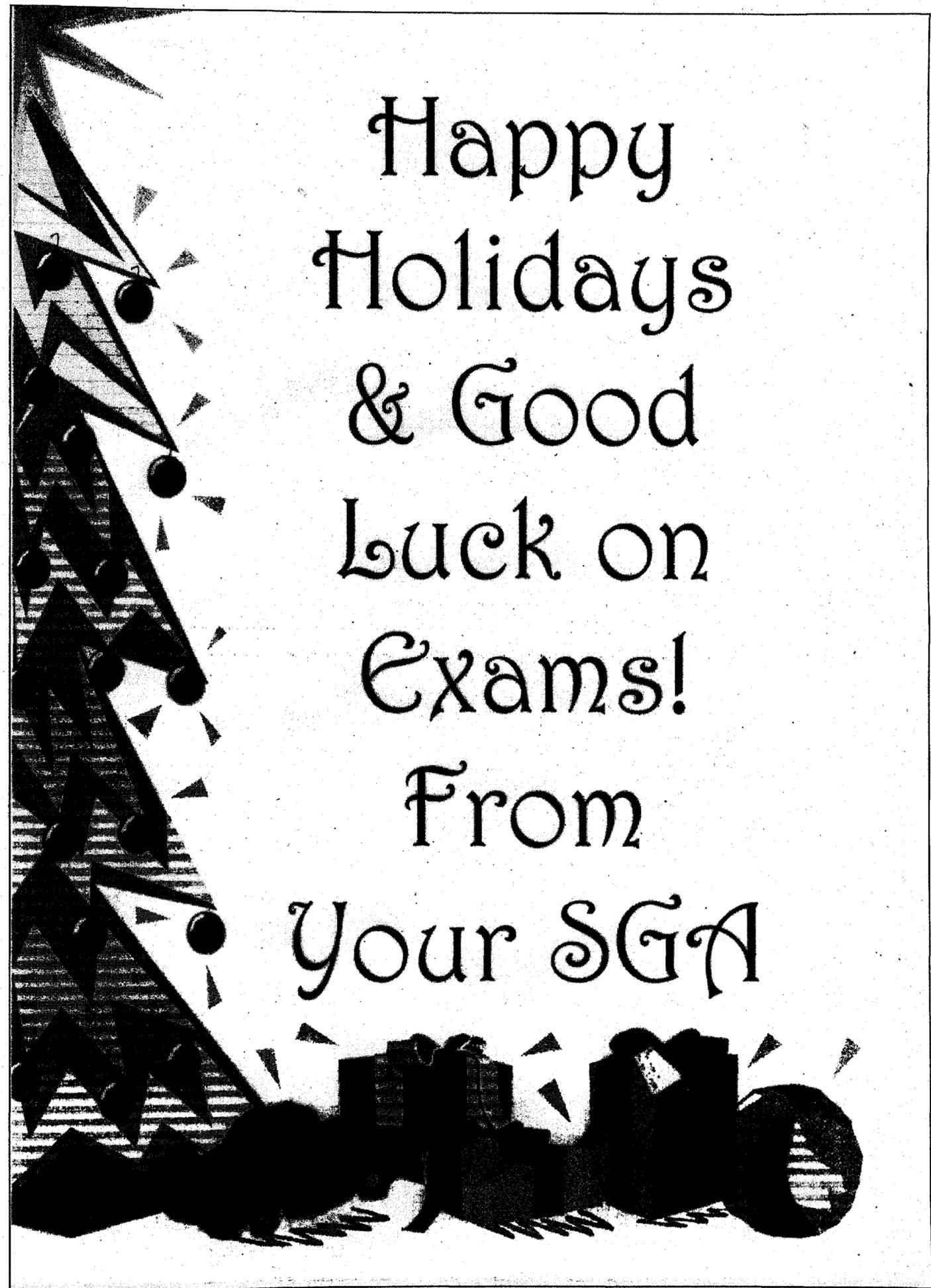
But even today few people, if anyone at all, understands what time is. Stephen Hawking, the physicist, in his book *The Nature of Time*, tries to explain what time is for ordinary people. If you read that book, I think you will agree that "ordinary people" includes all the rest of the human race except Stephen Hawking.

Time is one of those concepts so fundamental to our existence that it is difficult to define. Follow Webster's Dictionary through the definition of time and its associated words - you will follow a circular path of definitions - time is, well, time.

As a professional geologist, I share with thousands of others a preoccupation with time. The science of Geology does not exist separate from the concept of enor-

mous amounts of time. Geologists speak of time as having two "flavors" - relative time and absolute time. Relative time is the sequencing of events - list some event, whereas absolute time is a measure of an interval in terms of years. But while the terms "relative" and "absolute" may appear to put greater value on one concept of time over another, both concepts of time are equally valid and real. Both concepts of time carry equal weight, for example (as they should) in courts of law. But in fact all concepts of time are relative to some events.

If we could stop movement we could stop time. It can never, however, go backwards (even though we enjoy thinking about it). While the event that will occur at midnight on Dec. 31, 1999 will signify nothing in the cosmic order of things (it definitely does not mark the 2000th anniversary of Christ's birth since there never was a year 0), even though many will ignore the event, and some will denounce it, the celebration that engages many of the Earth's inhabitants will be remarkable. Millions, of not billions, of members of the human race, all around the world, will recognize together, in common, an abstraction powerful enough to, perhaps, get them to put their guns down for a while and toast the advent of 2000 in peace.



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THE INSIDER

Page 9 • William Paterson University

Monday, December 13, 1999

Doot's Video Dissertation

One Rock Over The Cinderblock Nest

By Jeffrey Wickersty and
Michael K. Wnoroski
Insider Writers

BY JEFFREY WICKERSTY AND
MICHAEL K. WNOROSKI

INSIDER WRITERS

Scene This One?

By Jeffrey Wickersty and
Michael K. Wnoroski
Insider Writers

Welcome to this year's last edition of "Scene This One?". We hope you have enjoyed another semester of our little article. Good luck with finals and have a great holiday break! Once again, before we begin we would like to thank the good folks at Loews Theater in Wayne for their generous support. Without them, this article would not be possible week after week. This time out, Jeff and I don our pinstripes and shackles for a visit to Cold Mountain Penitentiary, where we took a walk on ... "The Green Mile."

Presented by: Castle Rock Entertainment
Written and Directed by: Frank Dasabant
Produced by: Frank Dasabant and David Valder
Starring: Tom Hanks, David Morse, Michael Clarke Duncan, James Cromwell, Michael Jeter, Doug Hutchison, Barry Pepper, and Jeffrey DeMunn
Based on: "The Green Mile," by Stephen King

Paul Edgecomb (Tom Hanks) is head supervisor on the E Block at Cold Mountain Penitentiary, where death row inmates are housed

until their executions. Along with three friends and coworkers, Edgecomb sees some of the worst kinds of inmates come and go. But ultimately, they all walk the Green Mile, a stretch of hallway that leads to "Old Sparky" - the electric chair. But one day a new inmate arrives unlike any that Edgecomb or his compatriots have ever seen. John Coffey (Michael Clarke Duncan) dwarfs even "Brutal" Brutus Howell (David Morse), the biggest guard on E Block, with a body as wide as a doorway and thick as a horse. But what makes him different is a secret he possesses that will change the lives of all those on E Block. One they will never forget.

M - You know, I always thought taking finals was a lot like being on death row. But, "the green final" is nothing like "the green mile," as seen in the new Castle Rock Entertainment film, "The Green Mile." Those guys have a far more shocking experience than even the worst of finals. Anyway, I digress with my poor attempt at humor. I must say, "Bravo!" to another fine choice of film for Tom Hanks. This movie, despite its long running time (a little over three hours), was an enjoyable and moving viewing experience. A full gamut of emotion is poured out throughout the course of this film.

THE GREEN MILE



photo from www.thegreenmile.com
Tom Hanks, Michael Clarke Duncan, and others in the Castle Rock Entertainment movie "The Green Mile," which opened this Friday.

There were moments of humor, horror, and heartache all tied together with a well-written screenplay and a great cast.

J - Well, I don't know about you, Mike, but after taking my finals, I usually leave a Green Mile of vomit on my way out of the classroom - but I don't think that counts ... but as far as the film goes, I must agree - kudos to Tom Hanks. The thing is, you can't place all the praise for this film on Hanks. The

supporting cast was fantastic. I am really starting to like David Morse more and more. He did a great job in "The Langoliers," another Stephen King project (of much lower cinematic acclaim), and did the same here in "The Green Mile." Michael Clarke Duncan, who played the gigantic John Coffey (like the drink, only not spelled the same), did a great job as a simple minded, warm-hearted man on death row.

see KING page 11

The Christmas Spirit(s) alive and well

By Katherine Scala
Insider Writer

Joyful Christmas music ... gorgeous costumes ... plenty of cheer to go around. These were just a few of the many elements that made up my night on Friday, Dec. 10. I attended a performance of the Charles Dickens classic, "A Christmas Carol," at The Theatre at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

In one word, the show was magical. As I rushed through the entrance, late as always, I had to take a minute and pause. It was a necessity to stop and check out what people were gathered around for. The actors were lined up, portraying their characters. This was so cool because I felt as if I had traveled back in time. It was so magical and real that everything seemed to come to life. Even as I finally sat in my seat, the whole theatre was lit

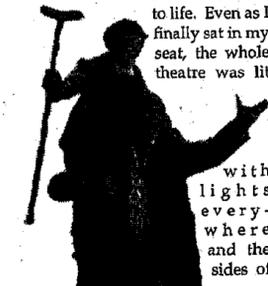
the theatre were decorated as if it were a real village at Christmas time. I had never seen this show before, so I anticipated this with much excitement.

The play began with a village of people proclaiming how excited they were because it was Christmas. The enthusiasm that was put into the song, "A Jolly Good Time" could have gotten anyone into the spirit. The glamorous costumes only added to the fun atmosphere of the scene.

In another scene, which took place in the famed "grinch" of Christmas, Ebenezer Scrooge's house, the song "Link by Link" brought chills up my spine. The costumes and scenery were all "glow-in-the-dark" material, which made the scene both spooky and mysterious. This scene would definitely be a favorite of horror flick fanatics.

About an hour after I saw the show, my friend informed me of two famous actors who were in it that I didn't even recognize. Not reading the program, I was surprised to find out that the parts of the Ghosts of Christmas Past and Present were none other than "Frenchy" from "Grease," Didi Corn, and "Carl Winslow" of "Family Matters," Reginald VelJohnson, respectively.

People always seem to speak of



Top 10 holiday movies to sidetrack you from final studies

- 1) It's a Wonderful Life
- 2) Miracle on 34th Street
- 3) National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation
- 4) Mickey's Christmas Carol
- 5) Scrooged
- 6) How the Grinch Stole Christmas
- 7) A Very Brady Christmas
- 8) Santa Claus: The Movie
- 9) The Santa Clause
- 10) The Snowman - and - Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer

WPU Wind Ensemble plays expressively

By Andrew Semegram
Insider Editor

The William Paterson University Wind Ensemble is on the verge of being a top quality performing ensemble. The performance that the ensemble presented on Thursday, Dec. 9, under the baton of Dr. J. Craig Davis, was filled with many beautifully musical moments.

Davis holds multiple degrees from the top music schools in the country. Through his guidance, the Wind Ensemble is truly on its way to brilliance. Davis made some interesting programming choices for this concert. Although not terrifically festive, the six pieces chosen represented some of the best wind ensemble arrangements available.

The Ensemble opened with "Chorale and Shaker Dance," by John Zdechilk. Based on the famous shaker melody of "Simple Gifts," this piece took a very familiar theme and gave it so many twists and turns that only snippets of the theme could be heard at any given time. For the listener, this created such a sense of anticipation that when the trumpets finally state the main theme in its entirety, a great feeling of satisfaction was achieved. This is the kind of emotional ride that can only be reached through great composing com-

posed with great playing.

The other songs played were: "Celebration Overture, Op. 61" by Paul Creston, "On An American Spiritual" by David Holsinger, "Four Scottish Dances" arranged by John Paynter, "The Hounds of Spring" by Alfred Reed, and almost as an encore piece, "Sleigh Ride" by Leroy Anderson.

Filled with some very expressive playing and emotional climaxes, "Celebration" was the kind of piece that needed to be followed by a really great movie.

The playing over the course of the evening, although excellent, was not devoid of problems. Each individual player in the ensemble is good; however, the group, on the whole, has more to learn about playing as an ensemble. There were times when the blend among the woodwinds was not as good as it needed to be. It seemed as if, at times, the players stopped listening to their neighbors, and consequently were not exactly in tune with each other.

There was also a problem with many of the tempo shifts. The different sections of the ensemble did not lock into each new tempo exactly as the change happened. Instead, it took a measure or two for the group to come together. It seemed that the individuals in the ensemble did not all look at the

see ENSEMBLE page 11

t Cetera ...

Outdoors club plans ski trip

Outdoors Club announces trip to the Ski and Snowboard College Festival in Placid, New York. The trip is scheduled for Jan. 2 through Jan. 7 of 2000. This is a fun filled trip that starts and ends upon occupancy.

Students are welcomed to attend and should call Ginny Way at 252-1515 or visit room 328 of the Student Center to sign up. There are limited tickets available, so hurry! A non-refundable deposit is required. The resort includes two indoor pools, two whirlpools, an exercise room, a nightly 'happy hour' and entertainment in the Dancing Lounge. Placid village activities and nightclubs are located within a short driving distance.

Graduation set for January 16

Not only the time of year for cheer, but it is also the year when students graduate. In January prepare for the ceremony. The ceremony date is set as Jan. 16, 2000 and it will start at 1 p.m. in the Recreation Center located near lot 6. Graduating seniors can pick up their cap and gown at the City Bookstore beginning next week. The hours set for pickup are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The size of the recreation center and the number of graduates is only allowed to accommodate tickets for family and friends. There will be no exceptions. Students are urged to pick up only the amount of tickets they need. Additional tickets may be available provided not all tickets are picked up beginning Jan. 4 in the Recreation Center. Keep in mind that the Recreation Center will be closed for the year between Dec. 24 and Jan. 2. There is no payment required for caps and gowns, however, a student I.D. card or driver's license is required.

The Beacon welcomes graduates

The Beacon newspaper is losing a staff member to graduation. Assistant Editor Sheri A. Freeman, Advertising Director Marty Cawson and Sports Editor Jeff Slavinsky will be walking on Jan. 16. The Beacon will never forget all the individuals who have done so well in their publication and wishes them the very best in their future endeavors. The Beacon also wishes all graduates the best of luck.

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PU hockey endures back-to-back physical battles

ie Quinlan
Writer

into the first period, Montclair University took a 1-0 lead.

In the first period, the complimentary play of freshman forwards Chris Hagen and Jeff Rothman proved to be an example of the Pioneers' team cohesiveness. Hagen scored WPU's first goal at 15:35, assisted by Rothman. With only 14 seconds left in the first, Hagen returned the favor by setting up his linemate Rothman for a power play goal, giving the Pioneers a lead to carry into the second period.

At 14:44 into the second, forward Aaron Jasper scored WPU's third goal, assisted by Craig Hoppey. The Pioneers held up

defensively to leave the Redhaws scoreless throughout the second and for most of the third period.

"It was a spirited, defensive-minded game and we were able to capitalize when they (Montclair) made mistakes and got themselves in the box," stated Assistant Coach Mike Chomiak.

Montclair managed to score with 5:16 left in the third, but fell short of tying the game due to Pioneer goaltending.

"Save by Zahn!" could be said more times than Montclair would care to admit. Sophomore goalie Frank Zahn was all over the net, blocking shots that sometimes seemed unstoppable.

There were "outstanding and timely saves by Frank Zahn," Chomiak said.

This was an important win for the Pioneers in the standings as well as team confidence. Defeating a tough team, such as Montclair was a glorious feat.

"It was important for the team's moral and makes you realize that you are a contender," said Captain Bobby Carnathan.

This win makes the Pioneers "one of the elite teams in the league," said Assistant Captain Don Bennett.

The raving Pioneer fans greatly outnumbered and out-cheered Montclair supporters, raising the question of who really had home ice advantage. When the Pioneers came off the ice, the roar from their fans made them feel like NHL players.

"I felt like a pro coming off the ice and was about to give my stick away to the fans!" exclaimed Carnathan.

The Pioneers' glory was short-lived when they played Wagner College the following night

"It was a slow paced game with not much intensity at first," said Carnathan. "We played a defensive neutral zone game."

Wagner College scored first, taking a 1-0 lead. The Pioneers tied the game when freshman forward Nick Faulkner went coast to coast and fired a shot to score.

Wagner went on to score four unanswered goals to put the Pioneers down 4-1.

Defenseman Joe Drigon blasted a shot from the blue line to score a goal, assisted by Carnathan and freshman forward Brian Murray, to make it 4-2, but the Pioneers were unable to mount a comeback.

Zahn had 32 saves, including a Wagner penalty shot, to total 58 saves for both games.

WPU was not pleased with the unsportsman-like conduct of Wagner.

"Wagner is an organization with a lack of class and sportsmanship," stated Carnathan. "They've been thrown out of the SuperEast League and the American College Hockey Association because of behavior problems."

Carnathan's statement was attributed to the fact that Wagner players attacked his teammate Rob Alfieri, who had to get stitches, as a result of being kicked in the forehead with the blade of a Wagner player's ice skate.

It was obviously a rough week on the ice for the Pioneers, so they are looking forward to winter break.

"The break gives us time to recuperate and for hurt players to heal," Carnathan said.

The Pioneers can enjoy the holidays knowing that they have an MCHC record of 5-2-1 and an overall record of 5-5-1.

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Personals



Congratulations to Sigma Gamma Rho on becoming a new chapter at William Paterson University. Welcome to the Greek Senate!

To all the grrls that were in Contemporary Feminist Issues over the summer:Keep the faith! Theresa G.

Pioneer Ice Hockey Schedule

M - Metropolitan Collegiate Hockey Conference
A - American College Hockey Association



- *Sat. Jan. 15 vs. TBA 6:00 p.m.
- *Sat. Jan. 22 vs. New Paltz (M) 9:15 p.m.
- Sun. Jan. 23 @ Sacred Heart 6:00 p.m.
- *Sat. Jan. 29 vs. CCM (M) 9:15 p.m.
- Sun. Jan. 30 @ Columbia (M) 7:30 p.m.

*Home game - played at Mackay Park in Englewood

WPU Men's and Women's Upcoming Swim Meets

- Sat. Jan. 22 @ Montclair (M&W) 2:00 p.m.
- Wed. Jan. 26 vs. Queens (M&W) 6:00 p.m.
- Sat. Jan. 29 @ Misericordia (M&W) 1:00 p.m.
- Wed. Feb. 2 @ NY Martime (Men) 7:00 p.m.

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Beacon Sports

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Monday, December 13, 1999

Lady Pioneers improve record to 7-1; remain perfect in NJAC

Jeffrey Slavinsky
Sports Editor

The WPUNJ Lady Pioneers kept going along after a 62-53 victory against Richard Stockton Ospreys Saturday at the Recreation Center.

The Lady Pioneers started out of gate strong and were leading at halftime, 38-30. In the second half, Ospreys of Richard Stockton cut the deficit to only two points.

Star guard Meg Renna took the lead to the basket and extended the WPUNJ lead to four. The Lady Pioneers would not look back from there, as they handed the Richard Stockton Ospreys their first conference loss and second loss of the season. The Lady Pioneers proved to 6-0 in the conference and 7-1 overall.

"One of our goals was to be 7-1 after December 11, and it's always good to hit a goal," said Head Coach Erin Monahan.

This game was to be played a lit-

tle differently by the Lady Pioneers. Although they executed well offensively, defensively they were not on top of their game.

WPUNJ committed 18 fouls which put Richard Stockton on the free-throw line throughout the game.

Despite their flaws, Dana Feltz gave a tremendous effort for WPUNJ accumulating a double-double, with ten points while grabbing 11 boards.

"Overall I would have to give (Dana) Feltz the iron woman award as she was up and down the floor, grabbing rebounds and getting some easy baskets," said Assistant Coach Keith Woods.

If you're going to start to talk about the Lady Pioneers basketball you can't help but mention Meg Renna. Renna is averaging a team high 13.3 points per game and is above 70 percent from the charity stripe.

This week Renna scored a team high 18 points to lead WPUNJ to a 60-50 victory against Montclair

State last Wednesday. While on Saturday she shattered that mark by scoring 26 points, shooting 10-25 while going a perfect 6-6 from the free throw line.

"When Richard Stockton cut into the WPUNJ lead Saturday, Meg Renna took the game into her own hands, which is what I expect from her," said Assistant Coach Keith Woods.

The Lady Pioneers will spend the next two weeks on the road playing non conference opponents.

First WPUNJ will head for Western Connecticut on Dec. 28 and 29. Next WPUNJ travels to Christopher Newport on Jan. 7 and 8 before facing New Jersey City on Wed. Jan. 12.

"During the tournament we will try to rest some of the veteran players such as Meg Renna, Wendy Kane and Dana Feltz who are playing with various injuries. This will create an opportunity to get some of the younger players on the floor and go for a run in the second half of the season," said Monahan.



photos by Laurie Koba/The Beacon

Senior forward Wendy Kane (left) goes up for two points against Richard Stockton this past Saturday, while Meg Renna's (right) return has set the tone for the Lady Pioneers this season.

Pioneers defeat Stockton; snap Ospreys eight-game winning streak

WPUNJ's 63-50 victory puts men on a winning track

Will Lawson
Sports Writer

The William Paterson Pioneers went into Saturday's game against the Ospreys of Richard Stockton with a 4-1 record overall and 4-1 in the NJAC. They bounced back from a loss to defeat Stockton 63-

The team suffered its first defeat in a barn-burner against the

Montclair Redhawks this past Wednesday. The final score was Montclair 51, William Paterson 48.

"Montclair is a quality basketball team, but they did not prevent us from running our sets. We missed a lot of shots," said Head Coach Jose Rebimbas. "When we started to miss our shots, we started to panic and take bad shots. If we knock down a few shots early on in the game, we win."

Junior point guard Horace

Jenkins went into the game against Montclair ranked number one in the NJAC in scoring with 21.2 points per game. Jenkins was also second in assists and steals.

Richard Stockton went into Saturday's game with an eight-game winning streak and eager for revenge. The Ospreys swept the Pioneers in their two regular season meetings last year. The last time that these two teams met was in the Atlantic Regional Championship game. The Pioneers advanced to the NCAA Division III Final Four by defeating the Ospreys 50-49.

"We knew that we had to keep the ball out of Jenkins hands if we were going to have a shot to win," said Stockton point guard Noel Gonzalez.

The Ospreys were successful with their game plan in the first half, holding Jenkins to only seven points on 2-of-6 shooting from the field and 3-of-4 shooting from the charity stripe.

"I knew that they were going to deny me the ball," said Horace Jenkins. "I just had to stay patient, keep my composure, let the game come to me and not get frustrated."

"My teammates really helped me out in this game. They set solid screens which allowed me to get open opportunities and when I got the ball, I set my feet and followed through and my shots started to drop," said Jenkins, who kept his composure and came out in the second half on fire, hitting three straight shots from beyond the arc. He scored 13 in the second half and finished the game with 20 points.

Jenkins was not the only player in double figures for the Pioneers. Mufeed Thomas contributed 14 points and pulled down eight

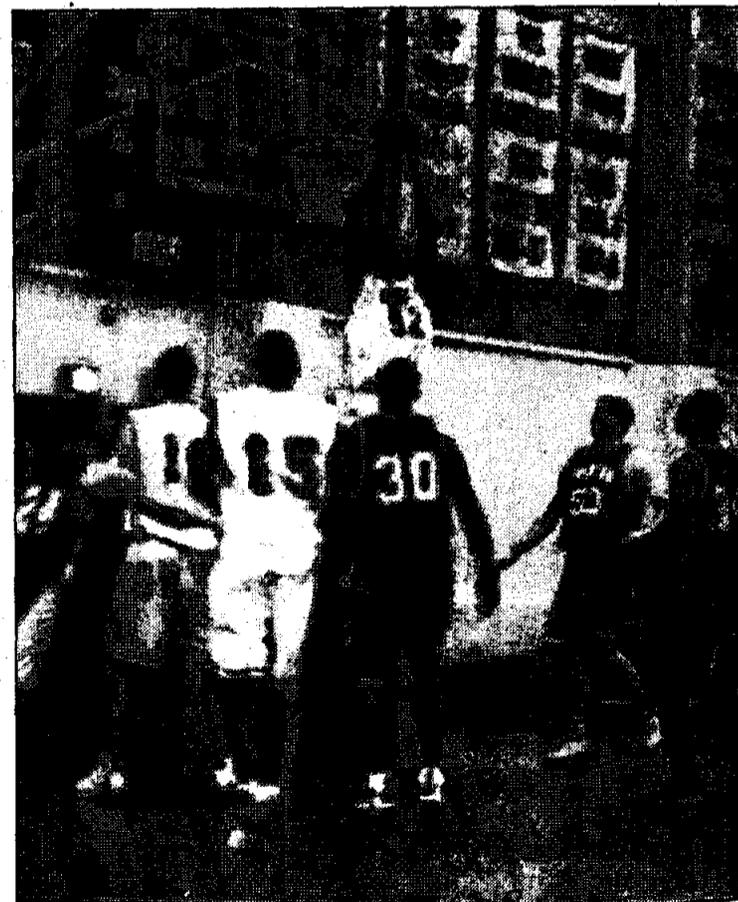


photo by Laurie Koba/The Beacon

Sophomore forward Mufeed Thomas (No. 52) drives baseline and slams it home for two of his 14 points against the Stockton Ospreys. Thomas had three dunks on the day.

rebounds. Thomas had three dunks in the game. Teammate Steve Smith added 12 points, all of which came in the first half of play. He also grabbed six rebounds.

Jermaine Ballow of the Ospreys scored a respective 17 points in a losing effort.

"I think our team played a good game, especially on the defensive end," said Coach Jose Rebimbas. "The contributions of our newcomers like Greg Anacker and Jeff

Mogila is exciting, and shows where the future of this program is headed."

With that victory the Pioneers improve to 5-1 overall and 5-1 in the NJAC. The team is still trailing the Ospreys who are in first place in the NJAC with a 7-1 record.

The team has a two and a half week break before they get back into action against New York City Tech on Tuesday, Dec. 28th at 2 p.m.



photo by Laurie Koba/The Beacon

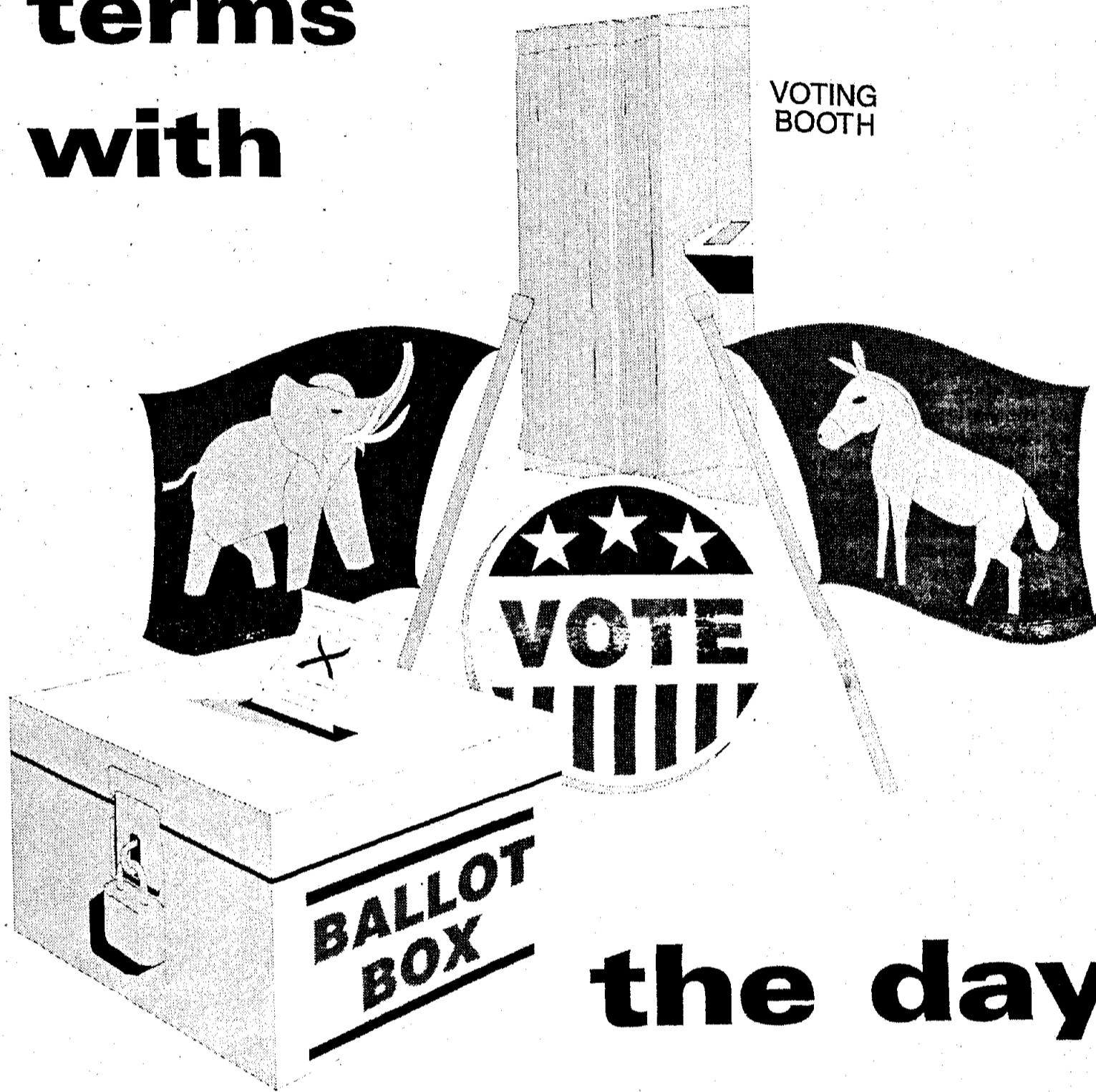
Junior forward Ray Ortiz (No. 31) attempts to pass the ball around Stockton's B. Tuscan Woolford (No. 52) to open teammate Dag Christensen (No. 33). Christensen converted on the play.



BEACON



WPC comes to terms with



the day after

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Spring registration at WPC begins with problems Page 5

WPC Students denied opportunity to vote Page 5

Under the Microscope Page 12

NEW PUB POLICY GETS MIXED REVIEWS

WITH THE ELECTIONS OVER, WHAT NOW?