

Vol. 68
No. 12

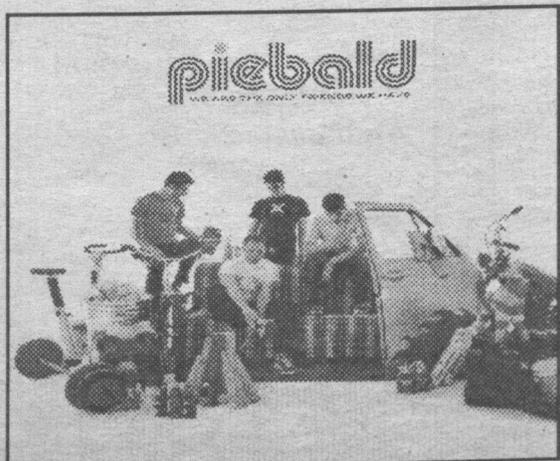
The Beacon WEEKLY

MONDAY, JAN. 28, 2002

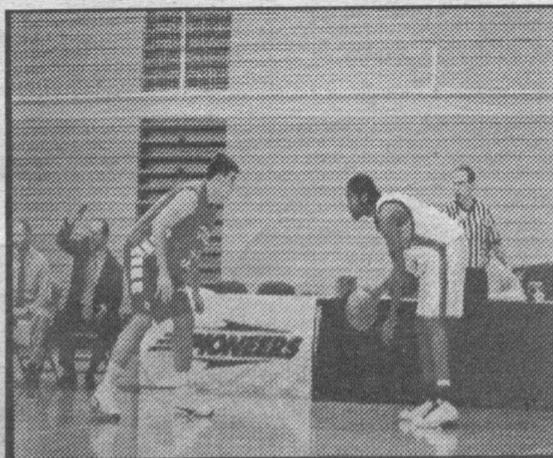
FREE

Tigers Declared Extinct?

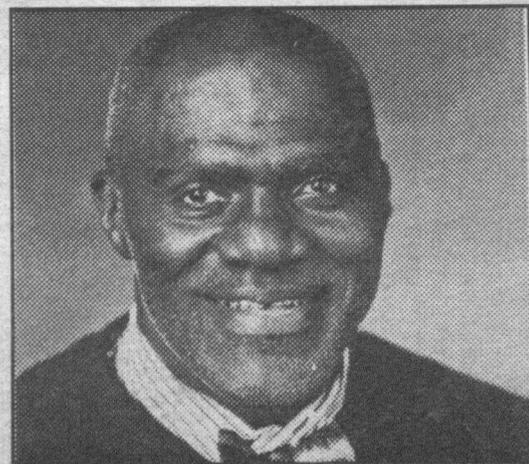
PG. 21



Who are Piebald's Friends? Pg. 12



Basketball Wrap Up Pg. 24



Alan Page to speak at WPU pg. 4



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Available in: Mild, Hot or BBQ

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\$4.99

\$2.99

\$3.99

\$3.99

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Diet Coke®
Sprite®

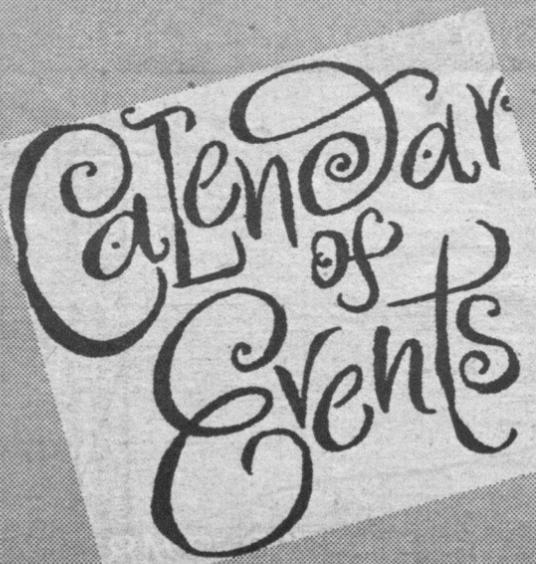
• 12 oz. Cans
• 2-Liter Bottle

• TWO LARGE REGULAR CHEESE PIES

• ONE PERSONAL PAN W/2-TOPPINGS ANY SIDE ITEM AND 2 CANS OF SODA

• ONE MEDIUM 2-TOPPING PIZZAS WITH 2 CANS OF SODA

• ONE ORDER OF WINGS W/BLEU CHEESE AND AN ORDER OF DOUBLE-CHEESE BREAD AND 2 CANS OF SODA



Monday 01-28

New Jersey Percussion Ensemble in Shea Center.
Call 720-2371 for info.

SGA: Club Presidents' Meeting 3:30 SC203-4-5 x2157

SGA: Elections Workshop 12:30-2:00 SC326 x2157

Tuesday 01-29

SGA: CJR Meeting 3:30 SC215 x2157

SGA: Finance Committee 3:30 SC324-5 x2157

SGA: Public Relations 3:30 SC326 x2157

SGA: Elections Workshop 12:30-2:00 SC326 x2157

Minority Education:
Martin Luther King Celebration, Student Center x3100

Wednesday 01-30

SGA: Elections Workshop 12:30-2:00 SC326 x2157

Perspectives on Islam Forum: SC203-4-5, x2954

WPU Toastmaster:
"Speak Out" College Hall 312, x3021

Beacon: Staff Meeting SC310, 10:00 x2248

Thursday 01-31

SGA: Executive Board 3:30 SC326 x2157

SGA: Elections Workshop 12:30-2:00 SC326 x2157

Jazz Concert: Shea Center, x2371

Tribute to Martin Luther King: Martini Conf Center, Hobart Hall

Friday 02-01

SGA: Elections Workshop 12:30-2:00 SC326 x2157

Team entires due:
Intramural 5 on 5 Basketball - call Rec Center at 720-2777

Intramural Racquetball:
Singles League begins. Call Rec Center.

Catholic Campus Ministry: Art Exhibit of Byzantint icons, Jesus Christ Prince of Peace Chapel

Saturday 02-02

Beacon: Production Day SC310, 8:00AM - 11:00 PM, x2248

Campus Calendar submissions are taken on a space-available basis: first come, first printed.

Submissions for calendar due Fridays by 5 P.M. for following Monday's publication.
Fax: 973-720-2093
Email: beacon@student.wpunj.edu

Sunday 02-03

Lecture: "Oil, Terrorism, and The War on Afghanistan": SC324-5, x3057

Cover photo by

Tiger: Corbis.com
B-Ball: Matt DeFranza
Piebald: "We Are the Only Friends We have" Album

The Beacon

WEEKLY

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Pete Markowicz • Ass't Insider Editor
Jake Claveloux • Ass't Insider Editor
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Jessica Suiter • Ass't Diversity Editor
Tim Walsh • Cartoon Editor
John Findura • Lit Editor
Liria Areche • Ass't Lit Editor
Jennifer Sarria • Proofreader

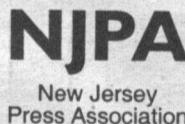
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Morris, Daniel Kreifus, Jim Schofield, Chris
Moses

The Beacon is the independent, student-run newspaper serving the community of William Paterson University and outlying areas. *The Beacon* does not receive any funding from WPU, the Student Government Association or any university affiliate, and raises all its operations revenues from the sale of paid advertisements. *The Beacon* is registered with the County of Passaic, NJ.

Member



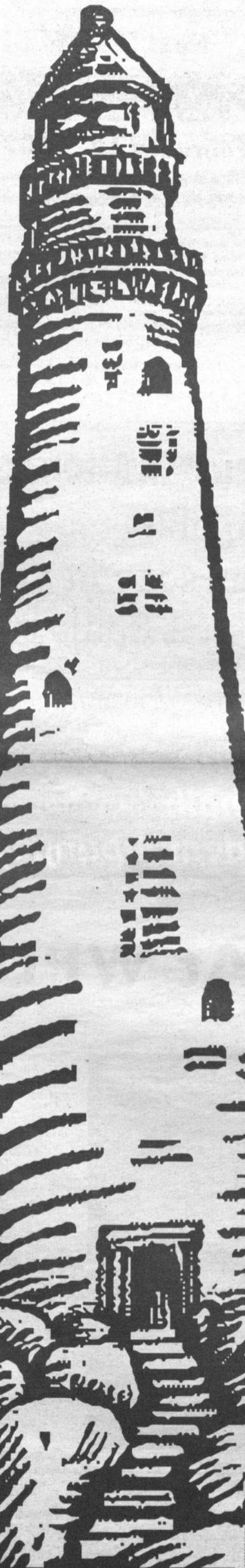
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Worldwide Headquarters

300 Pompton Road
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Wayne, NJ 07470
USA, Planet Earth
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ALL CALLS TO OR FROM *The Beacon* ARE SUBJECT TO ELECTRONIC RECORDING IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE NOTIFICATION LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION..



The Beacon office is wheelchair accessible and friendly.

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23	Classifieds
24	Sports

HEY!

Yeah, you.

Look to your left. See your name in the staff box? No? Why the hell not? Why aren't you writing for *The Beacon*?

Get busy.
Turn to page 6 for an application.

Call us at 720-2248.

Email us at:
beacon@student.wpunj.edu

Start writing. Now.

Pitch
In!

Printed on recycled—and recyclable—newspaper.



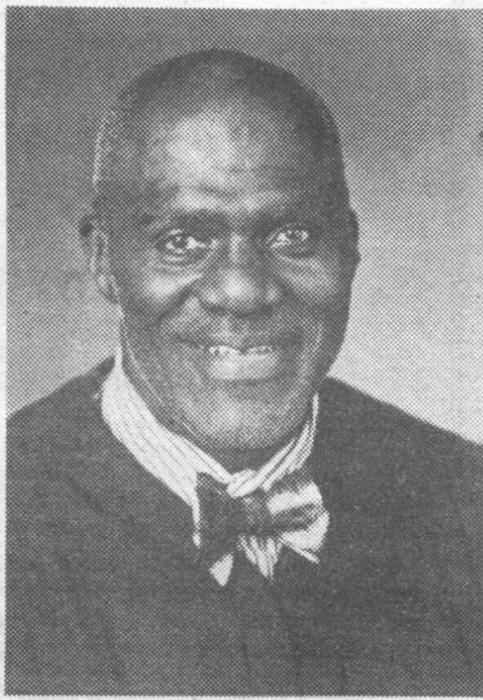
Alan Page, Minnesota Supreme Court Justice and NFL Hall of Famer, To Speak At William Paterson University

Alan C Page, an associate justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, who uses the recognition he earned as a Hall of Fame pro football star to encourage young students of color to succeed in college, will speak as part of William Paterson University's Distinguished Lecturer Series on February 1 at 8 p.m. in Shea Center on the Campus in Wayne.

A limited number of single tickets may be available at the Shea Center Box Office on January 31. For ticket availability, and to purchase single tickets, please call the box office at 973-720-2371 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.; prices are \$26 standard; \$24 for senior citizens, William Paterson faculty, staff and alumni; \$10 for William Paterson Students; and \$14 for students from other schools.

Page was appointed to the court in 1993 after serving as assistant attorney general from 1987 to 1993, and special assistant attorney general from 1985 to 1987 in the Employment Law Division. Previously, he

was an associate in the firm of Lindquist & Vennum. Prior to his career in the law, Page was a star professional football player with the Minnesota Vikings and Chicago Bears from 1967-1981. He was named the National Football League's Most Valuable Player in 1971, becoming the first defensive player to ever win the award. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1988. Page played professional ball during his law studies.

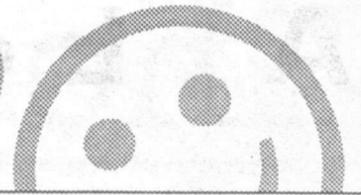


Since education played a large role in his life, he is committed to helping minority students realize the value of a college degree. To that end, he established the Page Foundation in 1988. The foundation's mission is to encourage Minnesota's youth of color to continue their

education beyond high school through a combination of scholarships, mentoring and a service-to-children program. This year, there are 450 Page Scholars who work with elementary school students as tutors, mentors and role models.



Open up and say ha...



Next Session Of PSE IMPROV CLASSES



Begins February 12, 2002

Register online at www.PossibleSideEffects.com or call 973-744-6222 for more information!

Possible Side Effects continues as New Jersey's only school for long-form improvisation. Classes are available to all. Our classes allow you to explore improvisation as an art while enhancing comic timing, auditioning skills, acting skills, etc. Improvisation is for everyone!

- o You will become a better listener and performer.
- o You will learn to feel more comfortable addressing large groups of people.
- o You will have fun!

PSE offers three levels of improvisational schooling. At the conclusion of each level, YOU WILL PERFORM! Classes will be intimate and intense. Levels 1-3 will take place in eight weekly sessions. Tuition \$150 for each level.

Gerry Brennan SGA Attorney

Available
Every Wednesday in SC
326 from 2-8pm

Write for *The Beacon*
email:

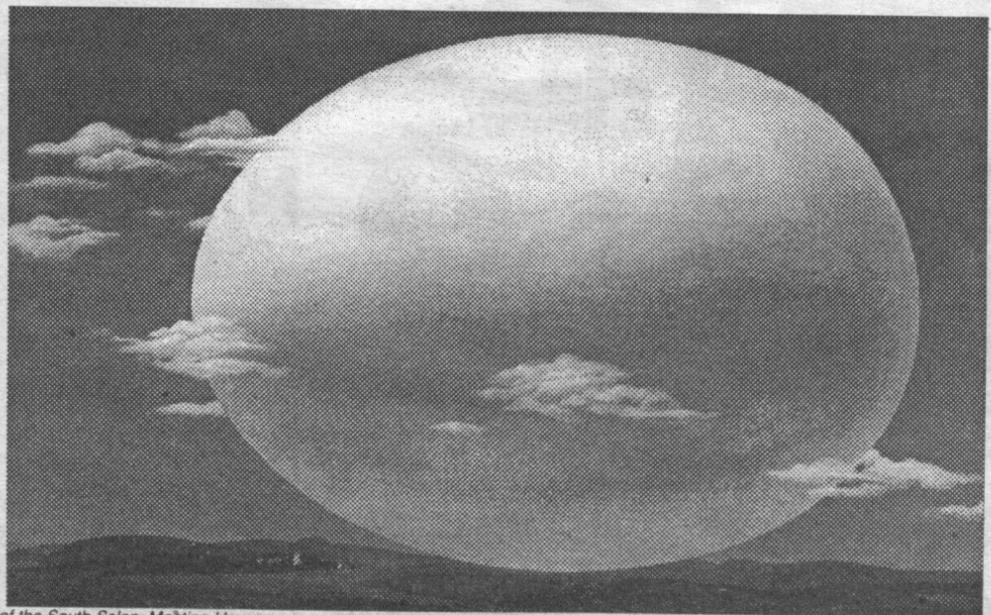
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Brenda Bryson Shahn Exhibit At WPU

Chris Moses
The Beacon

The work of artist Brenda Bryson Shahn, widow of the late world-renowned artist Ben Shahn will be presenting a retro-

spective of her long artistic career on campus here at William Paterson University. Shahn, 98 soon be 99, lives in the artist colony of Roosevelt New Jersey and still continues to produce work. The work of the New Jersey based artist is often overshadowed by her famous husband but here presents a fascinating and eclectic project of her own. Of the 50 pieces of work to be show, there is a great range of work in artistic medium as well as emotional depth and subject. Shahn diversifies her work form oil paintings to lithographs to prints and watercolors while constantly combining a sharp visual vocabulary with superb draftsmanship. The range is the exhibited work is also present in her dealing with the topic of emotion in the oil paintings "Melancholia" an image of a wooden mannequin in deep thought reminiscent of Rodin's "The Thinker" and the surreal and somewhat humorous "The World Egg Over the South Salon Meeting House". The oil paintings are the highlights of the show. Shahn has received her greatest commercial success as an illustrator and has done images for a number of books like the novel "Wuthering heights" and has authored and illustrated her own books of Greek Mythology such as "Gilgamesh" and



The World Egg of the South Salon Meeting House

oil on canvas, c. 1983

Brenda Bryson Shahn

the Zoo of Zeus. These richly colored and imaginative illustrations are all on display, and all the exhibited works are for sale, if you happen to have a few grand lying around after just grudgingly shoveling it to our fine institution to begin the New Year. But overall the pictures are beautiful, easy to look at and thought provoking, but not to the point of becoming intimidating to the average viewer. Its worth going to

look at and you can actually do something constructive with your common hour.

The exhibition is located in the east gallery of the Ben Shahn Art building on main campus of William Paterson University. The exhibition opens January 31 and will run to march 8. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

A Look At The SGA

The SGA Elections Committee has opened nominations for the Special Elections that are being held on Wednesday and Thursday the 13 and 14 of February. Nominations are open until Friday February 8. The open positions include Junior Class Treasurer, Sophomore Class Secretary, 2 Board of Trustees Representatives, 1 College of Humanities & Social Sciences Rep, 2 College of Education Reps, 2 College of Science & Health Reps, 2 College of Arts & Communications Reps, 2 Club "B" Representatives and 2 Club "C" Representatives. The Acting SGA Elections Chairman was quoted as saying, "My goal is to at least double the turnout we got at the last General Elections." Any students interested in running or getting more information should stop by the SGA Office on the third floor of the Student Center or call at x2157 as soon as possible.

SGA President Rashad Davis is forming a Residence Life Committee. This new committee will facilitate interaction between the Residence Life Department and the students. He has informed Joe Cafarelli of this, but has not heard a reply yet at the time of this writing. He has already had several students volunteer, and any students interested should come to the SGA office.

The date for the SGA Awards Dinner has been set as May 9. SGA Executive Vice President Daren Smith is chairing

the Awards Committee and is currently recruiting membership.

The SGA donated a computer to the newly formed Peer Crisis Counseling Center called SAFE (Student Advocates For Everyone). This program will allow students, after receiving training at the



SGA Meeting

photo by Jim Schofield

hands of professionals, to counsel their peers through personal crises that they may not be comfortable in discussing with an adult. Mike Remshaw is heading this program.

The Executive Board has scheduled a vote on the SGA Financial Guidelines as revised by SGA Treasurer Tyeshia Henderson and the Financial Committee. The final version of the guidelines will be presented to the Executive Board for approval at their

January 31 meeting.

President Davis is in the process of forming a Students' Bill of Rights Committee, which he himself will chair. The purpose of this committee will be to formulate a document stating the inalienable rights possessed by the students of this University. They will be using similar documents researched from other Universities as a guideline and plan to have their first meeting on Tuesday, January 29.

Several SGA Committees, most notably the Finance, Public Safety and Elections Committees, are in need of members. Students interested in applying should see SGA Treasurer Henderson for Finance, Sophomore Class President Jason Richardson for Public Safety or the Acting Elections Chairman for Elections, all of whom can be reached through the SGA Office on the third floor of the Student Center.

The Dean of Students Search Committee has narrowed the list of applicants down to five. They are planning to schedule interviews soon. President Davis is the students' representative on this committee.

Jim Schofield
-The Beacon

The Chief of Police Search Committee, after conducting extensive interviews, has narrowed the number of applicants to two. University President Arnold Speert and Provost Chernoh Sesay will choose between these remaining two. They are expected to announce their decision by mid-February. Executive Vice President Smith is the students' representative on this search committee.

After a little controversy before Winter Break, the Legislature approved revisions to the Elections Guidelines proposed by the Acting Elections Chair at their meeting of January 22. These revisions will correct various contradictions in the old edition of the Guidelines and make them more workable, in addition to providing greater details for contingencies such as special elections, run-off elections or misconduct charges. The controversy that held up their approval in December was centered on the Acting Elections Chair's attempt to approve the new guidelines under his own authority, rather than getting the approval of the Legislature. However, he acquiesced in time for the first meeting of the Spring Semester and the guidelines were passed without difficulty.

Meet Your SGA: Part Three

Name- Tyeshia A Henderson
Class- Senior

Hometown- Was born in Passaic, NJ, lived in Paterson, NJ for 11 years. Current resident of Sayreville, NJ and have lived there for 4 years.

Age- 21
Birthdate- June 22, 1980

Major- Business with a concentration in Marketing
Minor- Honors Humanities

Career Intentions- I currently work for Goldman Sachs, one of the top 3 Investment Banking firms in the world. I aspire to grow with the firm and gain knowledge and experience and one day open up my own business.



Offices- SGA Treasurer, Chief Senior Officer of the WPUNJ Gospel Choir
Previous Offices- Sophomore Class Treasurer, Junior Class Treasurer

Clubs- WPUNJ Gospel Choir, supporter of the Capoeira Club

Interests/Hobbies- The Lord has anointed me to compose gospel music as well as R&B. I am also gifted to sing and play the piano. I also enjoy working with the youth ministry at my church.

Favorite Historical Figure- Jesus Christ (and He's still strong and mighty)

Goals for the SGA- When I ran for office with Rashad Davis and Daren P. Smith, our slogan was "Change the Game". Since we were elected into office, the officers as a whole have been trying to bring about some positive changes in the Student Government Association. I encourage all clubs to participate in sponsoring events while spending the student fees wisely. We have sponsored a Unity Day, slumber party, Ski Trip and many other activities that have brought UNITY within the organization as well as with a variety of different groups on and off campus. My goal is to see the SGA continue to meet the needs of the students and aspire to bring the SGA to another level. With everything that we have accomplished and things that are still on the way, I pray that we will achieve our goal and will be able to honestly be known for Changing The Game.

Intentions for Next Year- With God's help I will be graduating in January of 2003, and beginning the hike to achieving my MBA that spring. While doing so, I intend to become a full-time analyst at Goldman Sachs. The William Paterson University Gospel Choir and my youth church choirs are currently singing my compositions and I intend to have them recorded if it is God's will.

Personal Quotes- I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS ME!!!
-Philippians 3:14

Name- Lauren Smith
Class- Junior

Hometown- Paterson, NJ born and raised

Age- 19

Birthdate- Sept. 18, 1982

Major- African, African American, Caribbean Studies
Career intentions- I hope to open a homeless shelter in Paterson, NJ and/or become a professor and develop a prison outreach program.

Office- Public Relations Chairperson
Previous Office- Sophomore Class Treasurer, Fall 2000
Clubs- Member of WPUNJ Gospel Choir, Miss SABLE



Interests/hobbies- Reading, dancing, sleeping, eating, shopping, watching Friends, and singing in the car

Favorite historical figure- Queen Nzinga, the Angolan queen who revolted against the Portuguese during the slave trade

Goals for the SGA- I want the students of WPU to know and understand who we are and what we do. I also want students to know that we are here to help. We always welcome suggestions and they are welcome to join one or more of our committees which deal with issues ranging from campus security to food service. We are here to be the voice of the students and I encourage them to utilize our services to the fullest extent.

Intentions for next year- Next year I hope to remain a part of the Student Government Association. It has given me the opportunity to meet a lot of fellow students and administration that I would have otherwise never known. In what capacity I will serve, I am not sure. However, I do know that I hope to be working with serious individuals who possess a true desire to serve the campus. I hope to build on the current administration's strong foundation of successes to build an even better student government.

PERSONAL Quote- "A person who knows nothing talks; a person who knows does not talk."



This semester, do something different.
Join The Beacon.



The Beacon Application for unpaid but rewarding position

Name		Address/Building		Room/Apt #
City (Leave blank if resident student)		State	Zip	E-mail Use address most often checked
Campus Ext.	Home phone	Pager	Cell phone	
X				
Major/Field of study	Year in college		Mac Literate?	Favorite Animal
	FR	SO JR SR	☺ ☹	

Position Requested:

- Writer***
 Photographer
 Proofreader
 Cartoonist
 Illustrator
 Graphic Designer
 Section Editor (*Inquire about availability*)
 Other _____

* **What do you enjoy writing?** _____

Please read and sign:

I, _____, am applying for a non-paid position with The Beacon, the independent student-run newspaper at William Paterson University. I agree to abide by the policies and procedures of The Beacon as set forth in the Beacon's constitution and under the direction of the Editor-in-Chief or his/her designated assistant. I understand that failure to comply with the terms of The Beacon's Constitution and policies set forth and/or directed by the Editor-in-Chief or his/her designee is cause for dismissal from The Beacon.

Signature

Date

To submit this application:

- **HAND DELIVER**
The Beacon Office, Student Center Room 310
- **SNAIL MAIL**
The Beacon, 300 Pompton Rd., SC 310, Wayne, NJ 07470
- **FAX: 973-720-2093**

YEARBOOK

CLASS OF 2002 SENIOR PORTRAITS

WILL BE TAKEN

MONDAY JAN 28TH THROUGH FEB 1ST

TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT CALL
1-800-OURYEAR (687-9327) OR
WWW.OURYEAR.COM
SCHOOL CODE: 237



TicketMaster Outlet
Mon-Fri 9 am-9:30 pm
Sat 9 am-8 pm
Sun 9 am-6 pm
Phone 720-2032
Cash/Visa/MC/AE/DC

Rec Center Building Hours
Mon-Fri 8 am-11 pm
Sat 9 am-9 pm
Sun 9 am-9 pm
Phone 720-2777
Valid WPUNJ ID required



SPRING ACTIVITIES 2002

INTRAMURALS	Entries Due	NON-CREDIT CLASSES	Begins
Basketball (5 on 5)	2/1	Aerobics Program	1/28
Volleyball (4 on 4)	2/8	T'ai Chi Chuan	1/29
Racquetball Singles	2/1	First Aid & CPR	2/4
Floor Hockey	2/25	Fitness & Wellness Seminars	2/14
Softball	3/27	Water Safety Instructor	2/19
Lacrosse	4/1	Lifeguard Training	2/28
Tennis	3/27	First Aid & CPR Instructor	4/1



SPECIAL EVENTS
Wiffleball
Ping Pong Contest
Double Dare Sports
Aerobics Superclass
Best Bench
Beach Volleyball



Date
2/15
3/10
3/27
4/25
4/25
4/26

Open Rec Swim Wightman Gym Pool
Mon-Fri 11 am - 2 pm
Mon-Fri 7:30-10:00 pm
Sat & Sun 12 noon-4 pm
Phone 720-2252
Valid WPUNJ ID required



Diversity

Culture • Society • Politics • Religion • Opinion

PROJECT OVERFLOW

I probably had the most interesting moving day in William Paterson history. It was full of more "crap" and headaches than I thought

humanly possible. I get to the Towers around 1:15 in the afternoon. I walk up to the front desk and ask where to get my key and stuff. The girl says to go over to that room (pointing to the room next to her). So I go in there and go to table number one. She gives me a sheet of paper and tells me to go into the next room to table two. I go to table two and get my keys and more paper. Then she tells me to go to table three. So I go to table three and I get this piece of paper that I'm supposed to fill out which basically tells the campus anything that's wrong with the room that way I don't get charged for it later on. So now my mother and I walk over to my room. Luckily I'm on the first floor not too far from the entrance.

I walk over there, put the key in the lock, turn, but nothing happens. The door handle won't turn. So I'm sitting there trying for a few minutes but it won't open. My mother is starting to get annoyed so she tells me to go to the R.A.'s room and she'll keep trying. So I go down the hall to my R.A. and ask her for help. Just as I do, my mother figures the door out. You turn the key as far to the right as you can and push (the handle isn't even involved... weird). Now I feel like a retard because I went up to my R.A. and said, "Can you help me?" Only followed immediately by, "Nevermind, we figured it out." Whatever. So I open the room, look in and start to get real pissed off. The room is one giant clusterfuck. The two beds are pushed together in the middle of the room and the desks are pushed against the window, plus it's hot as balls in the room. Whatever. So I make a few more trips back and forth from the car to finish hauling all my crap in the room. After I drop my stuff in the room, my mother and I go to KFC for lunch. We come back and the roommate still hasn't arrived.

By this time, I have to go to the bathroom. So I sit down, do my business, stand up and flush. There was one problem then, and that was that the toilet was clogged. So I peek out the bathroom to my mother with this look and all she says is, "No you didn't." I just shake my head and say, "It's one of those industrial strength toilets, I can't clog it." So we both start freaking out. "I saw a hardware store down the road," My mother says. So I put a sign up on the curtain that blocks off the toilet which says, "Toilet plugged up. Went out on road to buy plunger. Be back soon. —Allan" So we haul ass down to this hardware store, purchase a plunger and haul ass back. Luckily the roommate wasn't there. So I start plunging away. The water goes down a lot so I decide to flush it again. So the water is running and

Horror Stories from the Shoebox: A Bonus Article

running and running and overflowing and overflowing and overflowing. Nothing like poo-water on the floor by the toilet. Luckily I jump out of the way before the water hits me. Now my mother is yelling at me and I'm freaking out.

So I go down to the desk in the lobby and tell them that the toilet overflowed in the room, so they point me to the room that I went to to get my key. I start asking people for help and they keep pointing me to different people. Finally I find the right guy. I tell him my problem and he says he'll call a janitor to fix the problem and someone to mop up. I thank him and go back to the dorm.

Fifteen minutes goes by and still no janitor. I go find this guy and tell him no janitor. He says he called and that the janitor will be leaving any minute. So I go back to the room. Another fifteen minutes and still no janitor. I go back to the guy and tell him still no janitor. He says that he just called and is on his way. So I go back to the dorm and after another fifteen minutes, I'm about to go yell at this guy. I open the door and there is the janitor.

He goes in the bathroom and is cracking jokes the whole time. He tells me there are 2 types of plungers and that I purchased the wrong one. So he runs the snake through the toilet. "I found the problem," he says, and throws a huge brown wad of paper towel on the ground. "Someone must have been cleaning up at the end of the semester and flushed paper towels." So I'm saying to myself, "Horray!!! It wasn't me!!!" Now I ask him what's going on as far as someone cleaning up. He says that he'll go to the guy I originally went to and tell him to send a cleaning lady to mop up. But he also tells me to go down there and tell them I need someone myself, because it takes a lot to get stuff done on campus. So we do that. My mother leaves and I go back to the room. I start unpacking and the cleaning lady shows up. She starts to mop up. Then I hear a knock on my door. It's my R.A. She needs to check the floor of my room because some of the rooms were leaking over the break when it rained. My room was ok thankfully. Then I go back to unpacking and I get another knock. It's the janitor who unplugged the toilet. He wants to know if my toilet kept flushing. I tell him no. He says they gave him the wrong room. So he starts arguing with the cleaning lady, I think because she told him it was my room. So they argue and the janitor leaves. A few minutes later he comes back, yells at her some more and leaves. I continue to unpack. I get sick of doing it so I decide to go over to Jen and Jess's room.

Email me at: youeediot@hotmail.com

Allan Ringler Diversity

Our Flag and Your Country:

pg. 10

The Word Of The Week

You cannot escape from God.

No one can make anything without leaving behind their fingerprints. That's why criminals take so much

care to wipe away their fingerprints. By the same token, because God made you, God's fingerprints are all over you.

And like the criminal, we attempt to cover up God's fingerprints. Yes, for the most part, men and women in our society ignore God. Oh, some of them may pay him a little lip service on Sunday morning, but for the most part, God is ignored. Then there is a small minority, which vocally rejects God. These people want Him banned from business and education, and especially from government. God's moral standards are to be set aside

in business. Work in the classroom must also be done without acknowledging the Author of truth. And religious convictions are to be left outside the halls of government.

Unfortunately, all this

maneuvering is really an effort to escape from God. But you can never really escape from God.

You see, God's fingerprints are all over you and even inside of you. For example, every time you do something, your conscience give its approval or voices its disapproval. Why?

Because you are made in God's image. As a result, there is a special knowledge of right and wrong within you. That special knowledge of right and wrong is based upon what God says is right and wrong. This is why the Bible says the work of the Law is written in your hearts (Romans 2:15). So in the end, as much as you may try, you cannot escape from God, your Creator.



DISH WITH DIVA N' DUDE

Dear Dude and Diva,

Am I the only one who sees the racial tension on campus?

—Wide Eyed

Dear Wide Eyed,

I don't think I could really answer this question as I would need an example of what kind of racial tension you see or have experienced. Personally, I find this to be one of the most diverse campuses around and I love that there are so many different people and cultures on campus.

—Diva

Dear Wide Eyed,

Yes. There is tension. But it all depends on how you let it bother you, or get to you. And the desire to get rid of the tension has to flow both ways. I know people who've gone to pub night, and been almost beaten up because they

were one thing or another. But at the same time, I know groups of people who are more mixed than anything I know. Change has to come from us.

—Dude

Dear Diva and Dude,

I'm sort of new to the dating scene. I've had a girlfriend for a while, but we were friends first, so we didn't really date. What are the rules? What's ok, and not ok? And how much can I spend on a date?

—Rookie from Towers

Dear Rookie,

Welcome to the biggest pool party. First rule. BE YOURSELF! I can't tell you how many times I screwed up by trying to act one way or another. Second rule. BE HONEST. You don't work for NASA. You're not a brain surgeon. You probably can't even sew a sleeve onto a

shirt, much less a finger onto a hand. Third rule.

Communicate. How can you date and know someone if you don't open up, and say what's on your mind. And final rule. DATE MANY PEOPLE. No where in the book does it say that you can't go out with Betty one night, and Veronica the next. You just have to make sure that its not a secret to either girl. Then, after a couple dates, you got to pick. But that's a different problem.

—Dude

Dear Rookie,

The best relationships are those that start off as friendships. Honestly, nothing should change except for the physical stuff because you can now cross other lines that were not allowed before. It should be easier now because you are already really comfortable with each other. As far as how much to spend, DON'T BE CHEAP; no limits!

—Diva

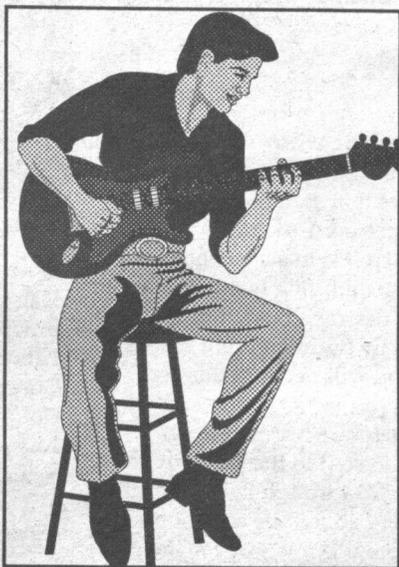
Creative Men...Confessions of a Junkie

Confession time. I have an addiction. A bad one. It may kill me if I don't get help. It's... (oh, the shame!) creative men. They are my heroin; I (sob) am a junkie.

It started early, with musicians. It seemed so innocent, just simple teenage crushes. One guy looked like the lead singer from Simple Minds, another looked like Eddie Van Halen and one was a mohawked punk rocker bass player. Musicians. As faithful as a Kennedy. Then came writers and artists, thin pale boys, dressed in black, wearing eyeliner, with no backbone. Next, college boys with fascinating and totally useless majors, so deep, so brilliant, so totally lacking in common sense. Then the actors, funny and charming and attractive and completely mental. I've never learned easily. But, learn I did.

Ladies, let me clue you in: creative men are MAAAAAD!!! Run at the first sign of a ponytail. Creative men are sweet, emotional, romantic. They will dance with you in the rain. They dedicate love songs and quote sensitive lyrics. They write poetry about your eyes, your lips, your spleen. They send cards and flowers; they paint your portrait and sketch your face. They always remember your birthday. Remember that scene in Willow? You are their sun, their moon, their starlit sky; they dwell in darkness without you.

And then it went away. Creative men are moody, temperamental, morose. They have hair-trigger mood swings. They sit in dark corners drinking that bottle of wine they were saving for a special occasion (obviously not your birthday). They will go through strange phases and disappear for weeks because they just needed to be alone and why are you so upset? After all, it's not you, it's them. They all have the "If it ain't broke, it must be" syndrome. This means that if things are going well, something must be wrong. They then go insane and either break up with you or need to have a twelve hour talk about the relationship (the same relationship he keeps insisting that you don't have). They contradict themselves and try to turn your words around so they don't look crazy. They will supply you with all the mixed signals your masochistic little heart could desire. They say things like "You just don't understand." Creative men are paranoid. Really paranoid. Don't be quiet around a creative man unless you like being asked "What's wrong?" a thousand times. Trust me, make something up; it doesn't matter if nothing is wrong. If you don't come up with something, he'll never stop. It's a



much more reasonable solution than strangulation. (I know I'm making a broad generalization; there are plenty of insane women, too.)

And most of my guy friends are creative men and I love them for it. I'm just a little cranky. Besides, it's my column, so piss off.)

Realize that, no matter what you do or say, he is comparing you with some woman who screwed him over. You cannot win. Don't try. Just run. Run before you find yourself in a relationship with this lunatic only to have him decide that his life is not where he wants it to be and he is unhappy so therefore he must break up with you. Why? Because you make him happy. Understand? I don't. Run. Right through the wall if necessary. They hide in places like art schools and colleges, smoky bars and coffeehouses. [And, I'm assuming, Bergman film retrospectives & Renaissance Festivals...-Ed.] Avoid open mike night. They hide in

these places for reasons you couldn't understand. The real reason? These places are their own little worlds, formulated so they don't have to face the real one. [Definitely Renaissance Festivals...-Ed.] Or real problems. Or (God forbid) real emotions.

I have revised my list of what constitutes the perfect man. He can fix my car. He has never had long hair or a goatee. He has never bought flowers for a woman unless his secretary does it for him. He is neither pierced nor tattooed. His musical talent begins and ends with Sinatra tunes sung in the shower. He has never written anything that didn't have to be handed in to a teacher. He reads Sports Illustrated, the paper and war novels. He watches football, Seinfeld and Lethal Weapon; he wouldn't know a Merchant-Ivory film if it bit him on the ass. His literary knowledge is Cliff's Notes. Romance means doing it on the couch. He's probably an accountant or a plumber. His name is Sheldon or Gus. He has a slight paunch; he has never owned a leather jacket. His idea of depth involves the toilet and a snake. His culinary skills include frying, BBQ's and removing the plastic covering from the desert compartment. Sigh.

Oh well. Gotta go. A pony-tailed blonde with broad shoulders and a sketchbook just walked by. I can feel the DT's already. Never trust a junkie.

Dawn Nikithser
Contributor

Horror Stories from the Shoebox:

Move-In Mayhem

Jen Sinclair
Diversity Editor

Move in day. Need I say more? Maybe I'll just let the dialogue of the day speak for itself.

Me, to my mother, after lugging all my stuff up two flights of stairs: "My key doesn't work."

Me downstairs in the office: "My key doesn't work." The office people: "That's your mailbox key."

My computer after setting it up to feed my AOL addiction without unpacking anything else: "Keyboard error or no keyboard present, press F1 to continue."

Me: "!@#%&*!!!!!!"

Me while re-hooking up my computer after the moving and re-moving of much furniture: "Where's the mouse? I need a mouse!"

Jess (My roommate): "Squeak! Squeak!"

Me: "You are not cute AT ALL right now!"

Me: "Jess, look! My stereo manual is in the top drawer!" Jess: "Well what the hell is it doing in there? Put it in the refrigerator!"

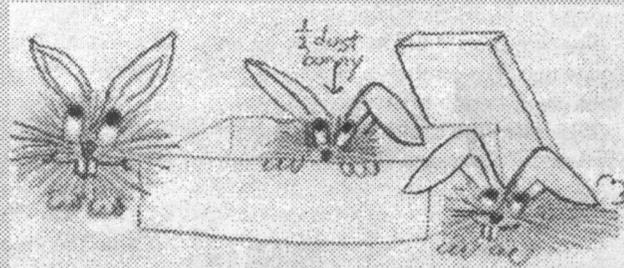
Me while watching Jess rearrange stuff: "You can't put that thing over the thing without taking the things out from underneath it first!" Jess: "Yes I can!"

Me, to Allan who had come to observe the antics: "We have

everything plugged into surge protectors."

Jess and I together: "We have surge protectors plugged into surge protectors!"

Eric as he entered the room, also to observe the antics: "Why are your peepholes nipple height?" Me to Eric, who was sitting on a bed at the time: "Did you just pull a fiber optics toy out of your ass?"



Jess, while digging around in her top drawer: "Oh look, the freezer door!"

Me: "This should be a spectator sport."

And to give you a small taste of what other Beacon staff members went through last Monday, I asked a few of them, "What was the weirdest thing you encountered on move-in day?" The responses were as follows:

Allan: A giant soapy brown wad of paper towel that came out of my toilet.

Larry: garbage can full of dishes, soap and water.

And last but not least, a Beacon staff member who wishes to remain anonymous said that the weirdest thing s/he saw on move-in day was, "My roommate's

The Stupidity Report

Parking Decals

Welcome to 2002. And with a New Year upon us, I would hope we would all be a year older, a year more mature, and a year smarter. It may be so for some people, but as we've all seen in life, that doesn't happen often. We will always have stupid people, and we will of course need to hear about these stupid people to realize how smart the rest of us are. ONWARD TO STUPIDITY!

This week is solely dedicated to those who designed the car paths for move-in day, and the same brilliant Einsteins who issued parking permits. I was working on Move-in Day, in Hillside. I first off want to apologize for the stress the parents and students had trying to get to your dorms. The campus had this great idea: close off Entry 6 so no cars can get to Hillside Hall (and I am assuming Century Hall as well), then have the guards at Gate 5 not allow anyone who is headed towards Hillside Hall to pass. So these poor people have to park in Lot 5, and then carry their stuff through

the snow to Hillside. That walk is a pain in the ass normally, but add in snow, and the idea of carrying stuff, and it's nothing short of hell. I wonder if the school plans on paying for any electronics or anything that was ruined due to forcing people to walk through this wonderful winter wonderland.

Now I hear people say, "Don't complain, unless you have a better plan." And eureka, I do. Devote Gate 5 to

Resident 2001

A representation of the current parking decals

Towers, White and Matelson. Put up a barrier right after the driveway to Towers. Then, devote Entry 6 to Century Hall and Hillside Hall. Then, cars pull in. Drop off stuff in the respective buildings lobbies, and then proceed to park, and walk back, not having to carry anything. How do I know this would work? Well, I personally witnessed people pulling up, dropping off their stuff, and parking and returning. But hey, what do I know.

Second example of stupidity. Parking and Transportation Services. I want to thank you for this

wonderful parking decal. This department has proved it's stupidity since last year. First, they issued last year's parking decals about a month before school let out. They had this brilliant idea to have students register online, then have their decals mailed to them. That idea flopped. So, they just sent everyone a decal.

This year, they decided to get us decals early. Like the start of the second semester. Great. This little red strip is going to really serve the purpose. And on top of that, they want me to waste my time, filling out this form, and sending it in. Lots of luck. I think they'll get a response of maybe one. Before I finish, I suggest we all take a close look at this decal. Has anyone else noticed that it says "RESIDENT 2001"? Correct me if I'm wrong, but aren't we in 2002?

Signing off until someone else does something really stupid. (Which means I'll be back soon).

Dan Kreifus
Diversity

P.S. - Before this semester goes too far...I STILL WILL NOT BE PAYING WITH CASH WHEN I HOLD OUT MY ID!!!!

Our Flag and Your Country

Last semester, I published an article titled "America the Confused," stating my opinions on the surge of 'patriotism' after September 11. It then occurred to me that I was complaining without giving any suggestions for correction. So, I went to my grandfather, a member of the American Legion, and obtained a small pamphlet simply entitled 'Our Flag.' Here are the points that I felt were useful and applicable to the general populace, with my additions in brackets. []

It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flagstaves in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed twenty-four hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.

The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all-weather flag is displayed.

When the flag of the United States is displayed from a staff projecting horizon-

ally or at an angle from the windowsill, balcony, or front of a building, the union of the flag should be placed at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half-staff. When

the flag is suspended over a sidewalk from a rope extending from a house to a pole at the edge of the sidewalk, the flag should be hoisted out, union first, from the building. [The union, just to clarify, being the blue field of stars.]

When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right (the observer's left). When displayed in a window, the flag should be displayed in the same way, with the union or blue field to the left of the observer on the street.

When the flag is displayed over the middle of the street, it should be suspended vertically with the union to the North in an East to West street or to the East in a North to South street.

The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water or merchandise.

The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used, or stored in such a manner as to permit it to be easily torn, soiled, or damaged in any way. [For those of you with flags flying on your cars, take note. I've seen too many shredded flags lying on the roadside.]

The flag should never be used as a covering for a ceiling.

The flag should not be draped over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle or of a railroad train or boat. When the flag is displayed on a motorcar, the staff shall be fixed firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right fender. [Once again, to all those who have been flying flags on your cars.]

The flag should never be used as wearing apparel, bedding, or drapery. It should never be festooned, drawn back, nor up, in

fold, but always allowed to fall free.

Bunting of blue, white, and red, always arranged with the blue above, the white in the middle, and the red below, should be used for covering a speaker's desk, draping the front of a platform, and for decoration in general. No part of the flag should ever be used as a costume or athletic uniform.

The flag should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever. [Now this one gets me. I've seen so many companies that suddenly had flags in their ads after New York blew up.]

The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning. [Your local American Legion will perform this service.]

The flag, when flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day.

Half-Staff Days

Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7

Peace Officers Memorial Day, May 15

Korean War Veterans Armistice Day, July 27

Flag Holidays:

New Year's Day, Jan. 1

Inauguration Day, Jan 20

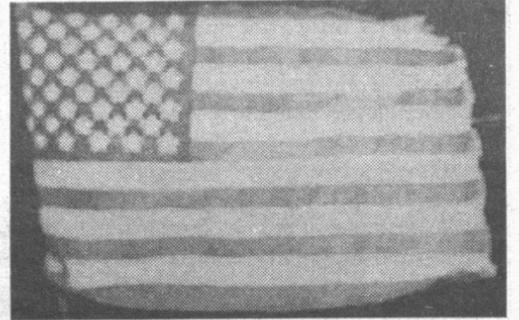
Lincoln's Birthday, Feb 12

Washington's Birthday, third Mon. in Feb.

Easter Sunday

Mother's Day, second Sun. in May

Memorial Day (half-staff until noon), last



Mon. in May
Flag Day, June 14
Independence Day, July 4
Labor Day, first Mon. in Sept.
Constitution Day, Sept. 17
Columbus Day, second Mon. in Oct.
Navy Day, Oct. 27
Veteran's Day, Nov. 11
Thanksgiving Day, fourth Thurs. in Nov.
Christmas Day, Dec. 25

And other days as may be proclaimed by the President of the United States; the birthdays of States (date of admission); and on State holidays.

I just thought that this might be a useful reference for those who wish to show their patriotism in a manner less destructive to the country's flag. Hope it actually helps.

Jessica Suiter
Ass't Diversity
Editor

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- **WPU Special:** One Large Pie and one Small Pie FREE or a Large Garlic Bread FREE for only \$8.75 (+tax)
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Music • Film • Art • Drama

TICK...TICK...BOOM! GOES OUT WITH A BANG

I entered the Jane Street Theater in NYC with expectations of boredom and exited having had one of my best play experiences ever. I'll admit, when my friend asked me to accompany her to a performance of *tick...tick...BOOM!*, I agreed to go mainly because former *New Kid on the Block*, Joe McIntyre was starring in it. Growing up I was a NKOTB fanatic, so the chance to see one of them now was kinda like living out a childhood fantasy. Only on the way inside the theater did it occur to me that I knew absolutely nothing about the premise of the play, so I prepared myself for the worst.

Luckily, I proved myself wrong. I wasn't bored once during the entire show, perhaps because it's very easy to relate to. Described as "The story of an artist on the verge of exploding," *tick...tick...BOOM!* is actually based on the life of *RENT* director, Jonathan Larsen, who also wrote this play. However, it takes place in SoHo during 1990, years before *RENT* was born.

The main character, Jonathan (McIntyre) opens the play by stressing out over his upcoming 30th birthday. Before the day comes, his goal is to write the greatest American musical and have it

produced. So he spends his days and nights song writing and focusing on a workshop for the play he wrote, titled



The Beacon's Joelle and Noelle meet Joe Mac.

"Suburbia." In between this, his girlfriend Susan (Natascia A. Diaz) also causes him grief by pressuring him to move to New England with her. His roommate Michael (Jerry Dixon) is no help

either, as he tries to persuade Jonathan to give up acting and work on Wall Street with him.

However, Jonathan sticks with waiting tables in his spare time in hopes of making his dream come true. By the final cur-

tain call one character reveals that they are dying, one gets a job offer out of state and one gets a surprising phone call that forever changes their life.

The plot is definitely the focus of the play. The stage design is simple, with very few props. There is the occasional light display, but everything else is left for the audience to create in their minds. The costumes are simple as well, leaving all the focus on the stage talent.

The three actors play a total of fourteen characters through out the play, which makes for some comical scenarios. There are a lot of jokes about Newark airport, which Jerseyans will particularly enjoy. This is a play that will especially appeal to the twenty-something crowd because they too, are probably going through some form of a mid-midlife crisis, like trying to get their lives on the right track while their friends seem to have everything all planned out. The chemistry between McIntyre and Diaz during their duet, "Sugar" is the cherry on top of their romantic sundae-they are at their best as a couple here.

The songs allow former teen idol,

McIntyre, to prove that he is not just another flash in the pan, washed up 80' singer trying to succeed in a world where he never will. His vocal chords were in fine form as he held notes longer than lines at the mall on Christmas. One song in particular, "See Her Smile," would be right at home on one of his post-New Kid solo efforts. The closing song, "Louder Than Words" is especially inspiring and makes buying the soundtrack almost enticing. However, I'm not all about Broadway CD's.

After receiving standing ovations, the actors walked back out onto stage to make a special announcement. One of the understudies in the cast was diagnosed with breast cancer and is in need of financial aid, so the cast and crew set up a fund for her. In-between signing autographs and posing for pictures, the cast had collected baskets full of money. It was no surprise that McIntyre's line was the longest, however it was a surprise when the star revealed that he wasn't feeling well. His flawless performance showed that he can make the transition from concert stage to Broadway or movie screens rather well.

Although this play officially closed on January 6 expect him to shine in his future endeavors.



Starsailor is a band from the U.K., on Capitol Records, and is very melodic and creative. The band is Ben Byrne (drums), James Stelfox (bass), James Walsh (guitar/vocals), and Barry Westhead (keyboards). The band is centered around the extraordinary songwriting talent of Walsh. The tunes are moody and beautiful, which make the listener make up his or her meaning. The music is slow and



soothing. It warms your heart. "Love Is Here" is the name of Starsailor's newest album. The piano is the strong backbone of this CD, which makes you appreciate the fine-tune ability.

The layout of the insert, cover, artwork, etc., are really good too. I

Starsailor
Sails
High

am amazed at the photography that is in the insert. The producer of this album, Steve Osbourne, has worked on other bands such as *U2*, *Doves*, and *New Order*.

Their songs are tales of love, hope and redemption. The song "Fever", rocketed into the top 20 of the U.K.'s singles chart. "Good Souls" is another hit song on this album, and in my opinion, the best one. The song "Alcoholic" hit the top ten in the U.K., as well. This band is reminiscent of the great

Pete Markowicz
Asst. Insider Editor

band *Radiohead* in some of the slow songs on this masterpiece. Is why they're blowing up? Nah, it's probably just the fact that they work hard and are a good band.

FUN W/ PHARMACEUTICALS

Waiting for a new album by a favourite band sucks. I've been continuously frustrated waiting three long years for the new *Pulp* album to come out in the United States after having been out in the UK for almost four months. A fair amount of people can relate to Britpop in some way, so it's not difficult to understand why this delay is so aggravating. But try explaining to your friends the agony of having to wait three years for your favourite Jewish-rock band to release something new. Chances are, they might look at you a bit funny. Such is the beauty of *Firewater*.

Firewater is an eclectic arrangement of musicians from various corners of the music industry. Emerging from the pubs of New York in 1996, *Firewater* released their first album, *Get Off the Cross (We Need the Wood For the Fire)*. Though critically acclaimed, the album saw little more than

underground popularity. Two years later, *Firewater's* second album, *The Ponzi Scheme*, was released and enjoyed much more commercial success and even landed them on the Clay Pigeons soundtrack. After acquiring this album and then *Get Off the Cross...* I was anxious to hear something more from the band, but as it turns out, I would have to wait another three torturous years. For the most part, it was worth it.

Andrew Visconti
Insider Writer

Take one part Klezmer, one part rock and a splash of barroom sleaze and anti-depressants, mix vigorously and you have yourself the musical cocktail known as "Psychopharmacology."

The album is made up of ten tracks of adulterated sarcasm, irony and lost love and manages to stay fresh and upbeat throughout. My only complaint with it is that it's a bit short and seems like it's missing something, but it's a very minor gripe. My favourite tracks include the swingin' spy rock of "The Man With the Blurry Face," "Bad, Bad World," one of the sleaziest duets I've ever heard, and the obsessively narcotic love song "She's the Mistake."

Psychopharmacology breathes new life into many different genres, creating a sound all of its own. It's got a little something for everybody and enough lasting power to keep you thirsty for more. The band's website is www.fireh2o.com and they are on Jetset records.

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SO YOU WANT TO BE AN ACTOR...

Do you spend your Saturday nights at home watching DVD's of your favorite Adam Sandler flicks while eating a gallon of Death

Joelle Caputa
Co-Insider Editor

By Chocolate ice cream and dreaming about one day being able to make people laugh, too? OK, so maybe you're more of an Eddie Murphy kinda person, or prefer furrier forms of inspiration, like ALF. No matter where your inner drive to entertain came from, Possible Side Effects can make your fantasy a reality!

The acclaimed improv comedy troupe will be starting a new session of classes this winter, for all levels of classes. PSE, which runs the classes out of their homebase location in Montclair at the 12 Miles West theater, is the only school in NJ that teaches long-form improvisation.

pieces detailed and realistic by adding information we have acquired from life. The task is this: turn it around. Take improv to life. Never ask questions...that is a key rule of improv. If you think to ask a question on stage just answer it instead. Deliver a 'yes' instead of an 'um?'

The group of actors who make up PSE have perfected this art and personally teach it to anyone who signs up for the classes. (FYI: the registration deadline is February 5, 2002, so don't procrastinate signing up!) This month marks their second anniversary performing their Comedy Revolution show at 12 Miles West every Saturday night at 11:00 PM. They also perform at Cafe Eclectic in Montclair every Wednesday night at 8:30 PM and 10:00 PM. PSE members perform at the Upright Citizens Brigade theater in NYC and travel to across the country performing at colleges and improv

marathons, making them experienced actors in their area.

Recently, *Improvland.com* posted an article titled "2001: The Year in Improv." In the article, the author wrote, "It seems that New Jersey's own Possible Side Effects was the most popular group in the world for most of this year." This was based on how many votes their website (www.possible-side-effects.com) got on the Improv Top 50. As it consistently stayed in the top 3,

the author continued, "I'm sure some of you worry that people who

are not familiar with every site and group in the world might be voting, thus unfairly skewing the vote in one group or another's favor. Rest assured that safe guards are in place to prevent those sorts of shenanigans from happening! Possible Side Effects can be secure in the knowledge that their group is the most popular (in other words, the best) in the whole entire world."

So where else should one learn improv than from the most popular group in the world-we're talking bigger than ALF here-and one that is from the own state? If that's not enough for all you inspiring actors, PSE also mingle with the titans of improv. On their website, fans can watch video clips of Dates and fellow PSE member Rebekka Johnson interviewing Billy Merrit and Andrew Secunda of Conan 'O Brian and VH1. If you can't make it to a show, you can still check out clips and skits on the site (a favorite is member Matt Donnelly getting drug tested for a job) until you are fully convinced that you should sign up for classes. They'll make you "Open Up and Say Ha!"



The cast of PSE get goofy at a recent photo shoot. Photo by Brian Gramo/Sempermental Productions.

Now, those who spend their Saturday nights in front of their television screens or even dancing the night away at clubs may not have even seen a PSE show (how unfortunate!), and may not even be familiar with what improv is. Basically, improv consists of live, never-done-before and never-to-be-seen-again skits. The actors on stage create the entire show as they go along, meaning there is no script to follow and nothing is rehearsed. Improv is an art form. Through the intimate classes, which take place during eight weekly sessions, PSE's "students" can learn how to do the exact same thing as they see on stage. At the conclusion of each level, the classes perform in front of a live audience.

Those taking the classes will learn how to become not only better performers, but better listeners, as well. They will be taught how to create characters and environments, along with working along with the actors they are on stage with. PSE member Rhea Dates further describes improv acting by saying, "The scoop is this: when improvising we often pull from our own pool of life experiences. We are able to make scenes and

LONELY, LONELY, PIEBALD

Jacob Claveloux
Co-Insider Editor

Hey, all you fine folks out there! I'm back from my sojourn away from

editing/writing for the Insider and the Beacon and I'm happy to be back helping out. What makes me even happier is the fact that I get to walk right back in and sit down to review

Piebald's new album, *We Are the Only Friends We Have* (Big Wheel Recreation.)

Piebald have long been a favorite of mine, since the days of *Sometimes Friends Fight*, an underrated classic screamo record. By far, Piebald's best (and most well received)

record up until now was 1999's *If it Weren't for*

Going to Get Worse Before it Gets Better",) life ("Just a Simple Plan"), and Piebald's well-dictated hate of the suit-and-tie, 9-5 lifestyle ("The Monkey Versus the Robot"). This is the third

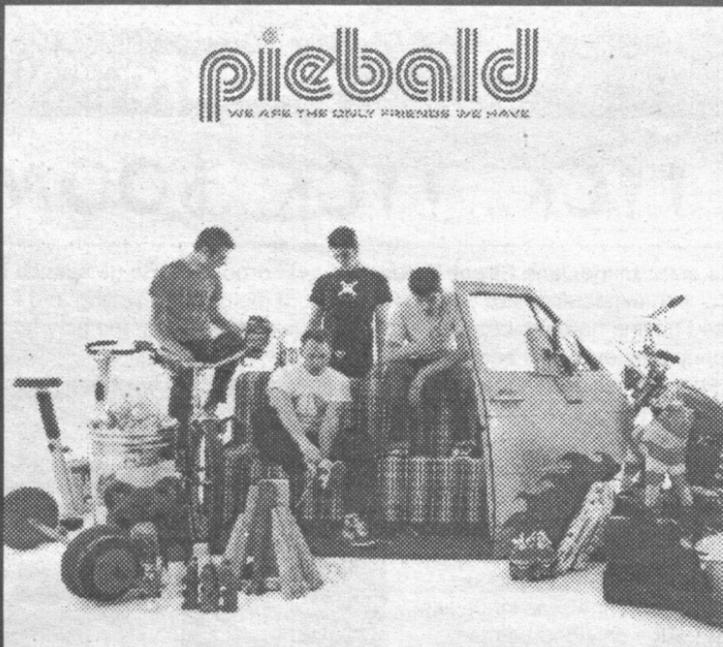
Piebald LP in a row to feature a diatribe against that lifestyle, Venetian Blinds featured "Still We Let it Choke Us," and When Life Hands You Lemons had "Our Very Own Employment Agency." Piebald has not forgotten to include their clever, funny, song titles on this album either. Just check "Karate Chops For Us

All," "Rich People Can Breed," "Look, I Just Don't Like You," and "Sex Sells and (Unfortunately) I'm Buying," to see what I mean.

In addition to all that great stuff, they have also re-recorded the best song from their *Rock Revolution Will Not Be Televised EP*, "American Hearts." Piebald fans will remember this one as the "Hey, you're part of it!" song, which gets the crowds singing along at Piebald's live shows. The first single, "Just a Simple Plan," is the perfect, catchy, mid-tempo, rock song, that may finally bring Piebald some much deserved recognition from a larger audience. The whole record is well worth purchasing, but the best

song by far, for longtime Piebald fans, is the first track, "The King of the Road," which is an ode to Piebald's infamous school bus, which used to bring Jon, Andrew, Aaron, and Travis around the country in style. Now, that's a love song worth paying attention to, with clever lyrics like "I can't believe I love something as yellow as you..." "Maybe (we'll) see you at a junkyard soon. Oh man, I really hope not," and "Maybe you're in auto heaven. Oh man, I really hope so." Go get this album now and head out on a road trip, as *We Are the Only Friends We Have* will serve you as a great driving record.

piebald
WE ARE THE ONLY FRIENDS WE HAVE



The cover for *We Are the Only Friends We Have*



The boys of Piebald sit down for some chinese and poker.

Venetian Blinds, it *Would be Curtains* for us all. That record delighted fans with the catchiest, slightly heavy, indie-pop that anyone had ever heard, and Piebald was at the top of their game.

It is now three years (and one EP, one double disc compilation encompassing all previously released material, a couple rumored break-up's, and a shitload of touring) later, and Piebald is back with the most ambitious record of their career. *We Are the Only Friends We Have* picks up right where *Venetian Blinds* left off, with catchy, fun, poppy, rock songs about relationships ("Fear and Loathing on Cape Cod," "It's



Piebald's Infamous, Old, Tour Bus

Black Hawk Down Reveals Gruesome But True Tale of Americans at War



From the opening scenes to the closing credits, *Black Hawk Down* is a compelling, informative and brutally realistic look at American troops under siege. When watching this movie, based on Mark

Bowden's book, *Black Hawk Down: A Story of*

Modern War, there is no escaping from the evils of war, for it unfolds into a cinematic masterpiece of real events.

As part of a UN peacekeeping mission in October 1993, American soldiers are deployed into the city of Mogadishu to capture Somali warlords and their counterparts. The mission, scheduled to last no more than one hour, went awry when the troops were met by Somali militia. "We don't want you here," one Somali told a US soldier, "This is our war, we will fight it ourselves." What resulted was a horrendous blood bath leaving 18 Americans dead and 73 injured.

When two Black Hawk helicopters are shot down over the city, the mission then turns into a rescue operation. The soldiers receive orders to "leave no man behind." The battle

scenes are graphically depicted with dire results. Some scenes are difficult to watch, with many moviegoers closing their eyes or commenting aloud. For instance, one soldier finds the hand of another and simply picks it up and places it in his pocket. Gruesome? Yes. But, also brutally honest and necessary to illustrate the brotherhood of soldiers.

Noelle Balnicki
Insider Writer

Academy Award winning director, Ridley Scott performs an amazing feat by presenting an honest depiction of the perils of war and the heroism of soldiers.

The cast of *Black Hawk Down* contains many characters, who are often hard to tell apart. However, the action is experienced

mostly through the eyes of Ranger Staff Sgt. Matt Eversmann, depicted by matinee idol Josh Hartnett. Eversmann must lead his men towards a safe haven, all the while maintaining a composed front. The strong supporting cast includes Ewan McGregor, Tom

Sizemore, and new-comer Eric Bana.

Black Hawk Down is an important movie to see. When leaving the theater, audiences will feel drained, but more knowledgeable about the events

which unfolded in October of 1993. The connection between events at Mogadishu and America's present war on terrorism may be subtle, but ever present. *Black Hawk Down* evokes feelings of renewed patriotism and the utmost respect for our military who risk their lives so ours can be free.

Engine Down Rock Brooklyn

Jon Tummillo
Insider Writer

My friend Jeremy and I got into Brooklyn faster than we had

expected. The show did not start for another hour, so we patronized some local establishments, favoring our hunger and our every desire. You can basically find

anything in Brooklyn that you crave, especially incredible eggplant and red bell peppers pizza. The club, North Six,



is very new to me. In fact, most of my friends have not even heard of it. It is conveniently located, a few blocks off the L Train, on North 6th Street. This is a very good thing to those of you who dare not to find your way around the city area. The place is split into a

lower-level bar area and an upstairs area where the bands play. There is another bar, and surprising amount of room for people. The stage is pretty high off the ground, and the sound system screams through the room (and your ears). As we got very into observing the NYC skyline from a street corner, the time passed. So did the first band. We almost missed their whole set. We saw some songs. I think they were called *The Black and the Brown*. They could have been called anything, actually. They were not really worth remembering. A few beers and a few moments later, *The Oranges* graced the stage at North Six. They were a four-piece rock outfit. If Huey Lewis had murdered the members of *The News* with a fishing



knife, and replaced them with members of *Sonic Youth* and *Nirvana*, they could have passed as this band. Very catchy, hard rock. Extremely fun to watch. I highly recommend you check them out. To complete the show, *Engine Down* closed. If you are not

familiar with this band, I can only hope you become familiar with them. They have quickly become one of my favorite bands. For the girls (and some guys, I suppose), they offer the "pretty, denim-clad, tight-pants-wearing, shaggy haired" approach. I admit, they are some great looking guys. On top of all the glamour, they offer an incredible sound in their music. Emotionally enticing, they are separated from the slew of popular MTV-bound boy bands of Emo (*A New Found Glory*, *Midtown*, *Jimmy Eat World*). Their music is real and not created in the studio. Their CDs have a live sound. Their live sound has a huge live sound. As they played songs like "Intent to Pacify" off of their second full length, *To Bury Within the Sound*, and a few off of their newest EP on Day After Records, *A Sign of Breath*, I was left with a quiver in my body. Their live show was very loud and heavy; there was a sound of great emotionally driven rock and a sound of serenity. The music and the voices were all mixed together into one greatness. It was good that I saw them, because they left soon after to begin their tour in Japan. If you get a chance or are curious, visit their site at www.enginedown.com. Learn about them, listen to them, and appreciate their music. Needless to say, the show was great. I am always blown away by visiting the city, especially when I get to see good bands. I mean, do



not get me wrong... Grown men pissing on parked taxi cabs and yelling things like "I can't feel my eyes!" is very fun on its own. But nothing beats good music in the city.

There was a lot of time to listen to music over the break. My Winter break involved laying around, waiting for more food to eat, a little bit of music here and there to love, a little hanging around with my friends... etc. Anything that could relax me. What better way but to use the money I should be using to buy my parents Christmas presents on new CDs for myself? There are no other ways, God damnit. Here is a list of CDs I have been very into lately, that I was really into during my time away from school...

First off, I have been in love with the newest *Ben Folds* album, *Rockin' the Suburbs*. It is as if *Elton John* and *Billy Joel* somehow got together, had sex, and spawned this. Please keep that mental image in your head for the rest of your life. The entire album is incredible, and what the best thing is about it is that Ben Folds plays everything on it. There is no Ben Folds Five anymore, which is sad to say, but Ben Folds has not stopped writing and playing great music. He has only gotten better, actually. Speaking of Billy Joel, I picked up a solo piano album, composed by Joel and performed by *Richard Joo*. Great for falling asleep to at night, or for those long, tedious nights studying for your exams and test (dying a slow, drawn-out death at your desk). The most influential album to me right now is *Q and Not U's No Kill No Beep Beep*. A bassist, two guitars, vocals, drums... all playing something completely different, together. Unique indie rock. The greatest use of hand clapping in any CD I have ever heard. The only use of the word "Olay" in any song I have ever heard. In addition to this album, I have been listening to a lot of *Engine Down*. Though not as technical, their vision is alike. Their newest release, *A Sign of Breath* is an amazing 4 songs of pretty, flowing indie rock. Rocks my socks off, in fact. If I ever wanted to kill myself, it would be after listening to *Pedro The Lion's* newest release, *The Only Reason I feel Secure*. I do not mean that I hate it and that I want to kill myself instead of listening to it. It is emotional to the point of death, but highly recommended. And as the music gets slower, the need for *Pink Floyd* grows. I got their newest greatest hits release, *Echoes*. Buy it immediately. Many of the *Pink Floyd* greats, including most or maybe all of the *Dark Side of the Moon* album. To balance out the mellow side of my collection, I tend to switch over to some more aggressive styles. *Converge's Jane Doe* is by far the most amazing album put out in the metal-hardcore genre. Different than prior efforts, *Converge* mixes a more raw studio sound into different styles of songs. Each song seems to have it's own sound, actually- from slow and brutal *Isis*-style songs to more grind-oriented *Discordance Axis*-style songs. *Ferret Records* has put out some of the greatest metalcoreish CDs in the last couple of years. In addition to *Killswitch Engage* and *SkyCameFalling*, their new roster is just getting stronger and stronger. At the end of Summer, they put out albums from *Everytime I die*, *Last Night in Town*, and *From Autumn to Ashes, Too Bad You're Beautiful*. If you are not familiar with these two bands, they are insane. I play them on the radio station and

An Insider's Winter Music Choices

Jon Tummillo
Insider Writer

everyone looks at me like I had many small clowns beating about my naked ass with hammers. The sharp end. Everytime I Die is technical and heavy. Their song, "The Logic of Crocodiles" is a melodic and deathly heavy song that makes me want to throw my head through a microwave. They have great lyrics, ranging from working in the office to killing your girlfriend. From Autumn to Ashes is very reminiscent of the style most familiarly garnished by *Poison the Well*. Emotional hardcore-metal. Their last track on their album features the most incredible guest female vocals I have ever heard. Both bands are insane. By far my favorite two young bands in the hardcore scene. While I am in the same mood, I put in *Irving Rose's* demo cd. The 4-song EP of sorts is truly amazing. What is greatest about them, besides the fact that two of them live on campus here at William Paterson, is that I know these guys pretty well. Great kids. It amazes me that the kids I know this well can play such great music. One night they play a show, the other night they make me drink beer from a plastic skull chalice in their bathroom. They are very alike *Dillinger Escape Plan* whereas they play technically challenging stuff while still having a structure that enables people to understand them. Eulogy Records brings us *This Day Forward*. Alike From Autumn to Ashes, they have an emotional sound. Their style is different; it is a more involved. Their album, *The Transient Effects of Light on Water*, has been in my CD player constantly since the summer. From serenity to death metal comes a brand new CD from *Mogwai*. Their newest effort is one 20-minute long song called "My Father My King." If you do not know *Mogwai*, they play very pretty and mature music. If you are familiar with them, you will need to know that this is a companion to their *Rock Action* album. Buy it. Love it. When I want to feel that fast and aggressive punk music I love so much, nowadays I put in *Strike Anywhere's* newest release on Jade Tree Records, *Change is a Sound*. Alike another Jade Tree band, *Kid Dynamite*, they offer a very old school and catchy punk sound. Lots of sing-alongs and fists raised in the air. The only album not easily identified with the other albums I am really into comes *Outkast*. Their newest release, which is out in stores soon if not already, is a compilation of their prior works. Their music is great. They are incredible. So, I guess this is it. I hope you all had a good break, and great holiday times. Just remember that while you were on your ass watching College Football Bowl games, you could have been elsewhere, listening to the music you love.

Beacon Movie Ratings

Can't decide which movie to fork over your hard earned cash to see? Allow us to sway your decision.

Black Hawk Down, 3 Stars:

An excellent portrayal of the actions in Somalia, realistically portraying the situation and maintaining a surprising level of attention to the facts. Above average acting, superb directing, well written. Originally based on a series of very reliable articles from the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. A must see for those interested in historical or war movies, a very good movie for everyone else. A little more background information would have been nice in the beginning, however. Sorry ladies, but no love story component whatsoever (not that that's a bad thing from my perspective). Some gore, almost on the level of *Saving Private Ryan* in a few spots.

Behind Enemy Lines, 1

Star: The acting, directing and scriptwriting were all mediocre. The plot was intriguing, but not well pulled off. I couldn't identify with the secondary protagonist (the American Admiral) because, despite the attempts of the film to portray it otherwise, his position was fundamentally wrong. A number of the action scenes were needlessly unrealistic, the "lone gunman" antagonist was a stereotype and the ending was predictable. Wait until it comes out on HBO.

Fellowship of the Ring, 4

Stars: One of the best movies I have seen in a long time! A beautiful depiction of Tolkien's world. Furthermore, the script stays admirably close to the original books, with only a handful of non-essential parts being cut. The introduction gives the viewer all the information they need without having to read the prequel, *The Hobbit*, beforehand. **Elijah Wood**, despite criticism in some circles, portrayed the character of Frodo remarkably well, including the character's almost child-like enthusiasm, his down to earth common sense, his understand-

Jim Schofield
Insider Writer

able fear and his unconquerable sense of duty. Claims that he portrays the character weakly overlook the fact that the character, at this stage in the story, is weak, meek and shy, not eager to leap into danger but doing so because it must be done. Special effects were fantastic, as expected. In other words, I can't find anything major wrong with it, and a whole lot right. I was pleasantly surprised. If I had my way, Oscars for "Best Movie", "Best Actor" (Elijah Wood), "Best Director" (Peter Jackson) and "Best Special Effects."



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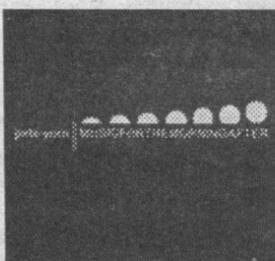
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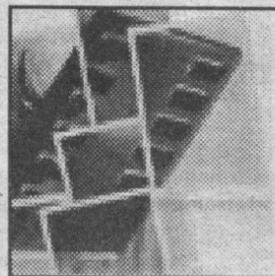
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Top 15 Albums of the Year That I Bought (in almost no particular order)

John Findura
Lit Editor



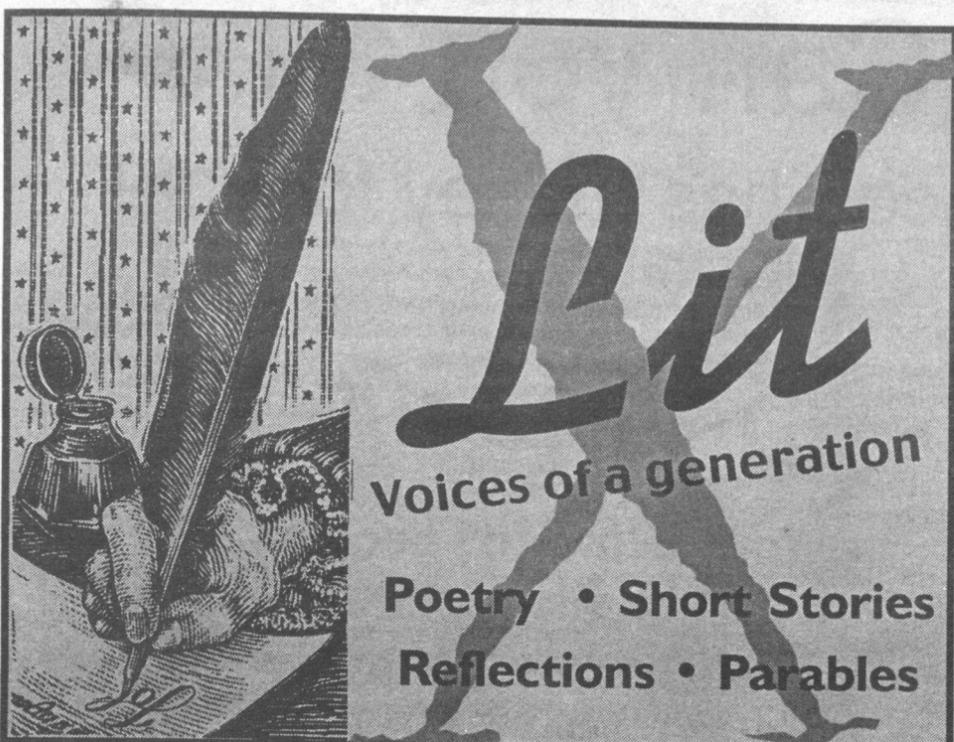
1. **Pete Yorn**, *Music for the morning after* – Best album of the year!
2. **Pete Yorn**, *Live at the Roxy* – Best live album of the year!
3. **Bob Dylan**, *Love and Theft* – His best album since...well, his last one.
4. **Incubus**, *Morning View* – Hey, it's Incubus for God's sake!
5. **Creed**, *Weathered* – C'mon, the guy can sing and Tremonti is the best rock guitarist out there right now.
6. **Staind**, *Break the Cycle* – Hard rock with no rapping. Like the good old days.
7. **Nat Janoff**, *Jake Schwartz Live* – WPU Alumni get acoustic fusion right.
8. **Dashboard Confessional**, *The Places You Have Come To Fear The Most* – Geez, I was doing this years ago...but not as good.
9. **Remember Shakti**, *Saturday Night in Bombay* – John McLaughlin is still one of the two greatest guitarists in the world, even playing classical Southern Indian music.
10. **Belle & Sebastian**, *I'm Waking up to Us (EP)* – Ah, to be a sensitive, troubled Glaswegian.
11. **REM**, *Reveal* – Makes me feel 16 again.
12. **Jimmy Eat World**, *Bleed American* – "The Middle" is the catchiest song of



the year. As for the video, see REM above.

13. **Sigur Ros**, *Agætis Byrjun* – You sorta just have to listen to this one.
14. **Ours**, *Distorted Lullabies* – I wish I was in this band when I was 19.
15. **Large Toast**, *Plays Like Buddha (import)* – Crazy guitars. Lyrics like poetry. A drummer who died in a bakery. Too good to be true.





Welcome Back, Ye Faithful Readers

Greetings all, it is I, John. It brings tears to my eyes to see you all again. I just got through with kicking the tires on this brand new semester and I'm giving it the ol' go ahead. So, what do we have in store for the next four months? Many things. First off, let me introduce the new Assistant Lit Editor, Ms. Liria Areche. "Why an assistant?" you may ask. Well, do you want to see only my opinions? Only the poems I like? Only my ideas? I sure do, but you may want some variety, so everyone please stand up and yell "Greetings Liria!" Don't you feel so much better now?

So, we have the famous Beacon Book Reviews coming up. There will be mystery's, romance's, comedy's...and then we'll read the books. If you have an idea for a book review, drop us a line. Hey, I'm here for you...and the free popcorn.

How about some interviews? We have them coming too. Interesting people saying interesting things about other interesting people and things. Trust me, we're professionals. We'll be covering local literary events, too. If you know of an upcoming event that you think we'd be interested in, for the love of God, let me know. Don't keep it to yourself. In fact, that reminds me of a story. If you'd like to hear it, swing by the Beacon office and ask for me. I will don a costume and speak all of the characters parts in different accents. I've done Shakespeare.

Also on the agenda, and this is where you come in, your favorite poems, short stories, essays, ramblings, random words and thoughts. And how about the return of "Tiny poetry Place" for all of your haiku needs? Now I can't come to you, you have to take the first step and call us. What do we accept? Well, pretty much anything I think is interesting. Always wanted to be a "published poet" and have scores of admirers and a shelf full of awards? Well me too. Hey, we can be your first step. How can you submit? Check out the big ol' ad below.

So, here we are. A bright, new, shining semester that we get to play with. Let this be the beginning to a swell new time in our lives. As always, Love, Kisses, Hugs & Squeezes -

John, Lit Editor

Once Upon A Time When Dreamers Were Alive

By Liria Areche

*Once upon a time, there existed the dreamers;
the open of heart and unflinching believers.
They saw their world through rose-colored glass.
They opted for gold instead of the brass.
They held their ideals in the highest of places
and always a smile was seen on their faces.
They believed in the fairy tales, in happy ever after.
They didn't sit in the taverns, they floated among the rafters.*

*I wonder what happened to the race of the dreamers,
the open of heart and unflinching believers.
They didn't die out; I'm quite sure of this.
They just find it much harder to get to the bliss
that used to exist in the smallest of things.
Just that much more difficult to spread out their wings
that society had clipped with excuses mundane.
It has transferred to dreamers the weight of their bane.
See, it's just so much simpler to give hurt away,
especially to those who don't hurt anyway.*

Right?

Wrong.

*It's just as hard for the dreamers,
the open of heart and unflinching believers.
Are the reasons unclear? Are they that hard to see?
It's hard because they are the ones who have to be
always the dreamers,
always open of heart, unflinching believers,
Seeing the world through rose-colored glass,
always going for gold instead of the brass,
Always holding ideals in the highest of places,
always a smile being worn on their faces,
Believing in fairy tales, in happy ever afters,
forgoing the chairs in taverns for rafters.
And if that wasn't enough for the dreamers to do,
they have to deal with reality too.*

Here's to the dreamers.

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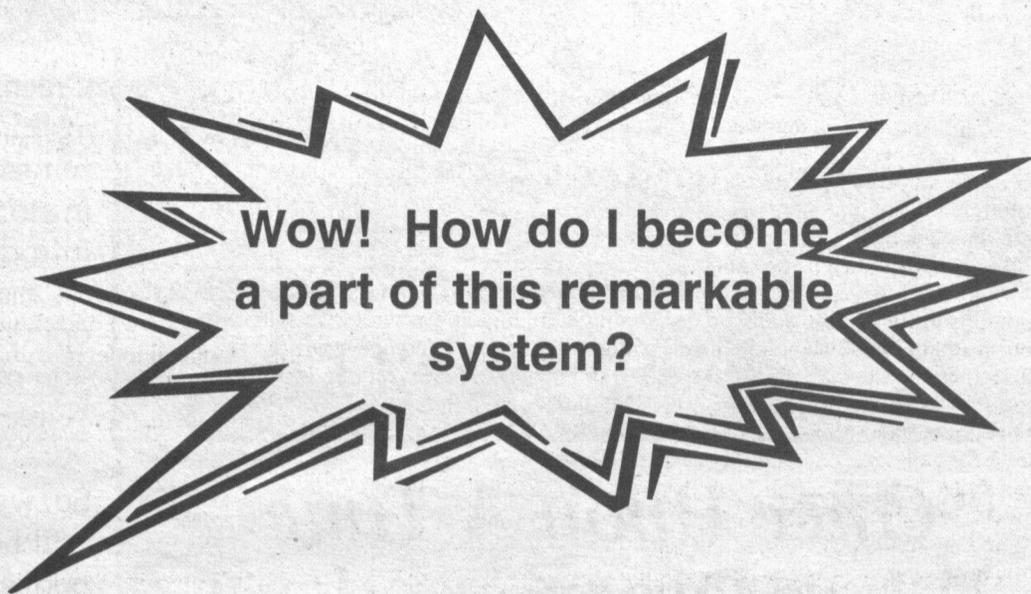
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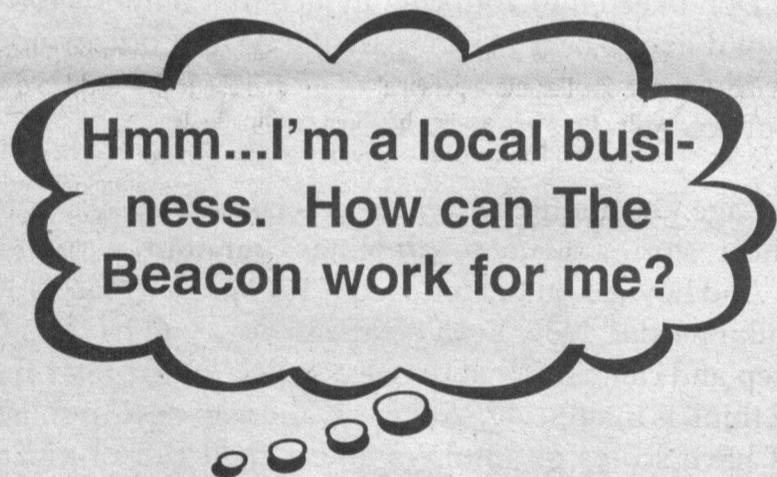
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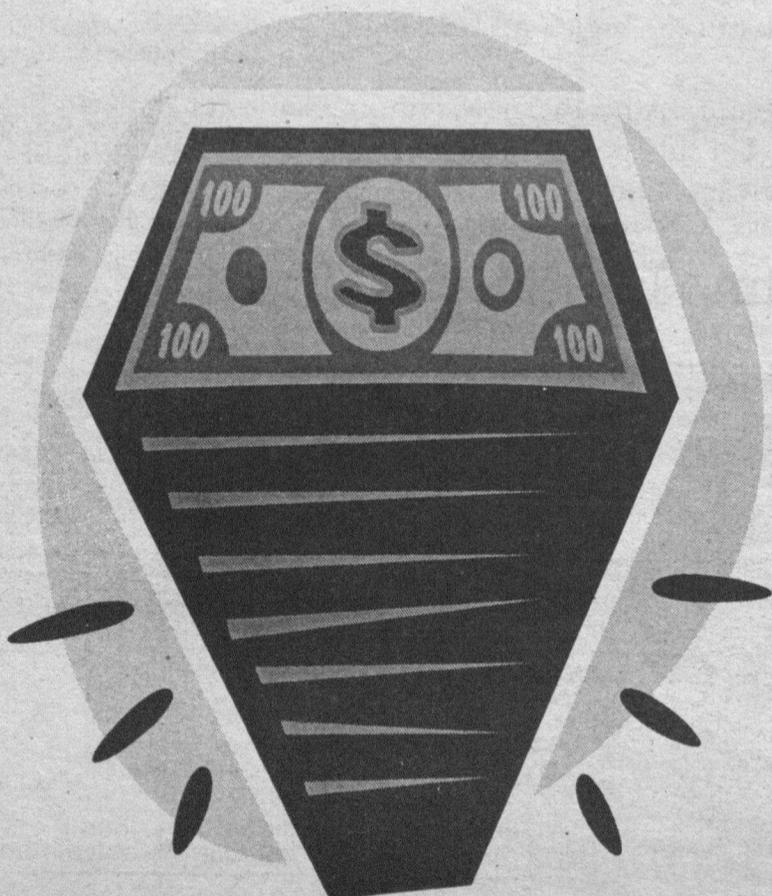
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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I am writing this in response to Robbie Stillwater's comments he had towards my article, in the 12/3 issue of "The Beacon", about why our country should not go further into war. To set the record straight, I too have friends in military areas and I thank God every day that they are protecting this wonderful country of ours. Obviously, this is an ultimate sacrifice that they are taking upon themselves. I have thought of going to the military myself and if I did, I would love to be a paratrooper; however, I have chosen college and the road that I still have yet to travel. I completely agree with you that this is a war we do have to fight. I was very troubled when you make me sound like a heartless person when you talk about "the people that were vaporized at their desks." I have a cousin who worked a block away from the WTC and I am very, very, very grateful that he escaped in time. That entire Tuesday, I could not stop thinking about him, his wife, and their newly born son Max along with the plethora of people that lost their lives. I have a friend who was in charge of bagging and tagging the following day. I still get chills down my back whenever I stop and think about what those bastards did to our beautiful skyline. So if you don't mind, I do think it was wrong of you sir to put me down and make me sound unorthodox. Everyone was effected by that day, whether you realize it or not. Oh and I do realize we are not going to be taking over the Middle East anytime soon, and that Afghanistan does not own any oil wells. I was basically talking about Kuwait, Iraq, Iran, etc. I find it insulting that you accuse my knowledge to come from hearsay, which it does not. Diners, much like this column, are just mere social places where people discuss their views. Oh and about the poisoning of the mail, much of that is coming from someone in our country not theirs, so maybe you should freshen up on your sources? We are all in this together. "United We Stand." I do thank you for your criticism, but I feel that you should think twice before you make someone feel like a slug crawling on the surface of the earth.

Lori Michael

Feeling Robbed by the Bookstore?

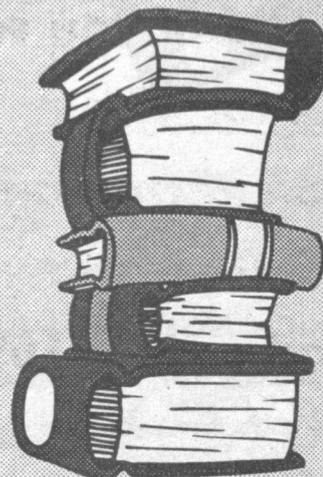
Steve DeGennaro
The Beacon

It happens every semester, we go into the bookstore and are robbed. Our hard earned cash is forked over in exchange for a book(s) that we may never even need to open and hope to sell back for a fraction of its former cost. It would just be easier for them to put on ski masks and mug us, it would save a lot more time not having to wait on line for 2 hours. The bookstore is run by a den of thieves and is an evil monopoly that engages in price gouging. Why do we put up with it year after year? You say we don't have a choice? Read on.

The mark up on the books is incredible; on most books it runs anywhere from 50%-75%. How could this even be legal? The return policy is worse. 5 days? Come on! Forget about the buy back. Buy a book for \$150 get \$5.75 for it, if you get

anything.

Half the time the books you need are either not in the right place, "in the back waiting to be unpacked" or just not there. Try



to find out when they'll be in and you'll either get a blank look or you'll be told the books will be in sometime before the end of the semester.

We shouldn't have to put up with this. We already pay through the nose to either com-

mute or live here, why should we get ripped off every time we step foot in that store? There are other options. You can boycott the store and buy online. Ecampus.com is the best site. Not only are the book prices \$20- \$30 less than the bookstore, but they also have a descent return policy and they have free shipping. The books also come within 3-5 days. Show them we're not going to take any-more. Boycott.

—Editor's Note:

Do you agree with the opinions expressed in this editorial? Do you disagree? Let your voice be heard. Contact The Beacon with the information listed below and let us know what you think.

—LC

GO GREEK!

Angela Sarrica
The Beacon

RUSH! What exactly does this phrase mean? Well it means that exact meaning it has in the dictionary with just a little variation. Greek RUSH is the time were you RUSH around and see all

the different fraternities and sororities. RUSH is the process of getting to know the different fraternities or sororities here at WPU and deciding which one suits you best.

You don't have to make a commitment, just come get some information, see what Greek life is all about, and see if its right for you.

The beginning of Rush starts this week with Around the World. This will be held on Thursday January 31st at 12:30 p.m. in the ballroom. This event is where all the members of sorority committee have tables with paraphernalia, information, and a free gift for you. So stop by and see what Sorority RUSH is all about.

Next week is the beginning of the Fraternity RUSH. You will find flyers outside the Greek Senate office on the second floor of the Student Center. The flyers will tell you about each Fraternity and where there meetings will be. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE, GO GREEK!

2002: No Room for Dead Weight

In the words of author Warren Ellis, "2001 was...a useless year that cost everyone a lot in a lot of different ways. Don't mourn. Organize." While this is a fairly bold statement to make, I am inclined to agree with the last portion of Ellis' statement. A new year is upon us, and the time we have now would be better spent on organizing ourselves in preparation for the coming year rather than mourning the past year.

Why should we be organizing for the new year? 2001 ended amid chaos, confusion and uncertainty. 2002 has started out in the same vein, with the undefinable "War on Terrorism" looking for new targets and the economy in an uncertain state. One of nation's biggest energy companies has collapsed, and the new scope of world events are starting to take shape.

We are at a cross-roads right now, and the opportunity is upon us to create a new world for ourselves. While the idea of

changing the world is abstract, on a smaller, more personal scale, it is easily achievable. On February 13 and 14, the Student Government Association will be holding special elections for various positions in the SGA.

matters into your own hands and shape the world into something better.

The Beacon is currently looking writers, photographers, and a Sports editor. This week, you may have noticed that The Beacon is a little light on news. Yes, this is due in part to just having come back from winter break, but it also due to a shortage in staff. You can change that.

There are plenty of opportunities to organize this year. Rather than just go to class and sit in your room, take a chance. Join a club, hold an office, work to make things better. But don't just sit there and complain about how things should be. Whatever it is that you choose to do, get moving. There's no room in 2002 for dead weight.

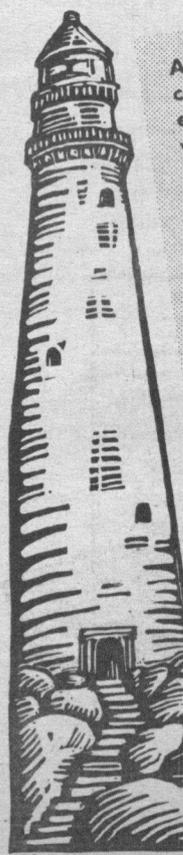


Nominations are open until February 8. Take some time this semester and get involved. Join the SGA, or any of the number of clubs that are active on campus. Be sure to get out and vote on February 13 and 14.

Remember the old adage, "The only way to get things done is to do it yourself?" It's true. Take

Larry Clow
Editor-in-Chief

Letters To The Editor



All letters to the editor must be signed and contain the author's full name and daytime and evening telephone numbers. All letters will be verified for authenticity prior to publication. Letters should not exceed 500 words. Anonymous letters will promptly be filed in the shredder (we put our names on what we write, and so should you). The best medium is for sending a letter to the editor is through email. Since we are understaffed like most organizations, we do not have time to retype a zillion letters. The volume of mail may exceed the space available for printing. In that case, the editor may literally pick letters for printing out of a hat (don't worry, it's a nice hat) in order to assure fairness. The Beacon does not censor content (see our mission statement) and will print any signed and verified letter that is not libelous or otherwise prohibited by law.

Larry Clow
Editor-in-Chief

CONTACT US



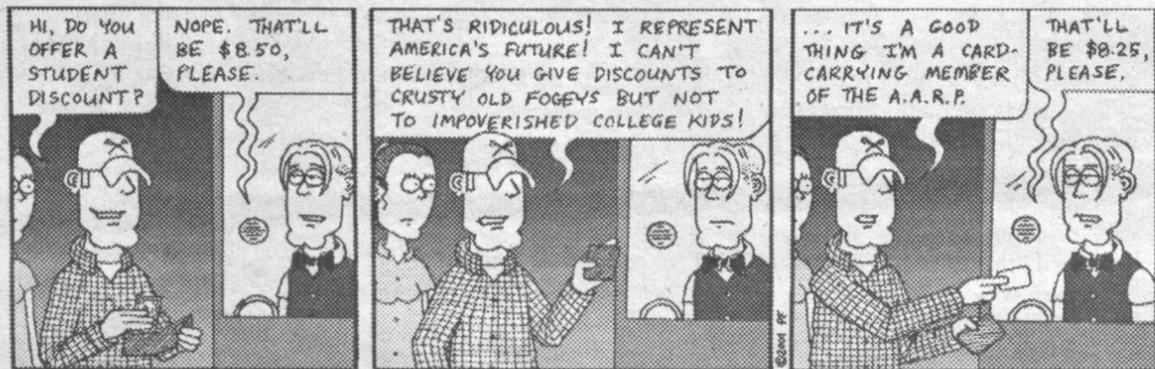
The Beacon
WEEKLY

William Paterson University
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Wayne, NJ 07470
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Fax: 973-720-2093
Email: beacon@student.wpunj.edu
Confidential Tips: beaontips@hotmail.com



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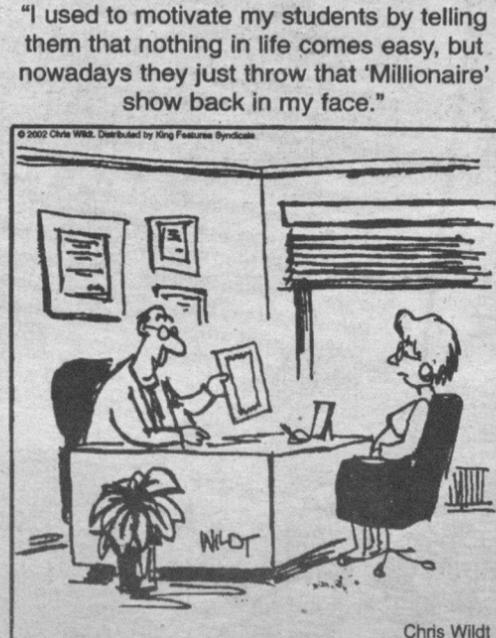
OUT ON A LIMB BY GARY KOPERVAS

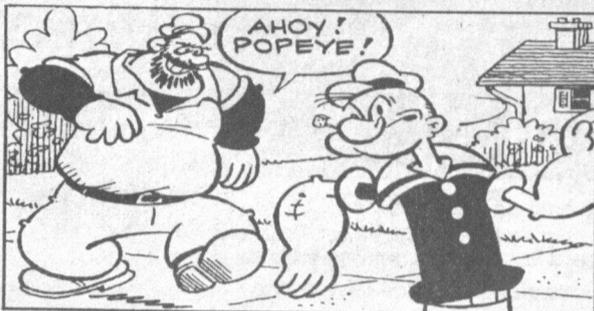


THE CYNIC



NEW BREED



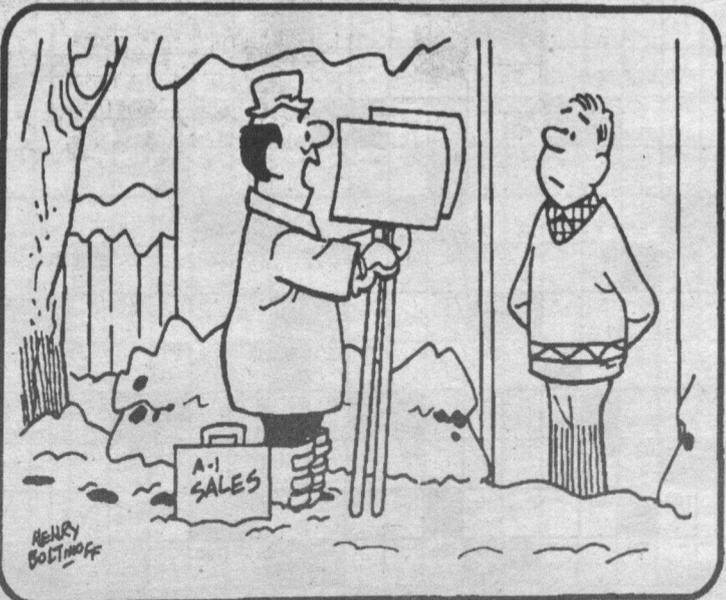


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Sweater has decoration. 2. Doorknob is missing. 3. Boots are taller. 4. One shovel is gone. 5. Fence is higher. 6. House is missing.



How would you score?

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HOROSCOPES



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your batteries should be fully recharged by now, making you more than eager to get back into the swing of things full time. Try to stay focused so that you don't dissipate your energies.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're eager to charge straight ahead into your new responsibilities. But you'll have to paw the ground a little longer, until a surprise complication is worked out.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Rival factions are pressuring you to take a stand favoring one side or the other. But this isn't the time to play judge. Bow out as gracefully as possible, without committing yourself to any position.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Reassure a longtime, trusted confidante that you appreciate his or her words of advice. But at this time, you need to act on what you perceive to be your own sense of self-interest.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You need to let your warm Leonine heart fire up that new relationship if you hope to see it move from the "just friends" level to one that will be as romantic as you could hope for.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) There's still time to repair a misunderstanding with an honest explanation and a heartfelt apology. The sooner you do, the sooner you can get on with other matters.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Expect a temporary setback as you

progress toward your goal. Use this time to re-examine your plans and see where you might need to make some significant changes.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Some missteps are revealed as the cause of current problems in a personal or professional partnership. Make the necessary adjustments and then move on.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Jupiter's influence helps you work through a pesky problem, allowing your naturally jovial attitude to re-emerge stronger than ever. Enjoy your success.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Set aside your usual reluctance to change, and consider reassessing your financial situation so that you can build on its strengths and minimize its weaknesses.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Some recently acquired information helps open up a dark part of the past. Resolve to put what you've learned to good use. Travel plans continue to be favored.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Act on your own keen instincts. Your strong Piscean backbone will support you as someone attempts to pressure you into a decision you're not ready to make.

YOU BORN THIS WEEK: You embody a love for traditional values combined with an appreciation of what's new and challenging.

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Check here next week for the answers to the Beacon Crossword Puzzle!!!

Beacon Crossword

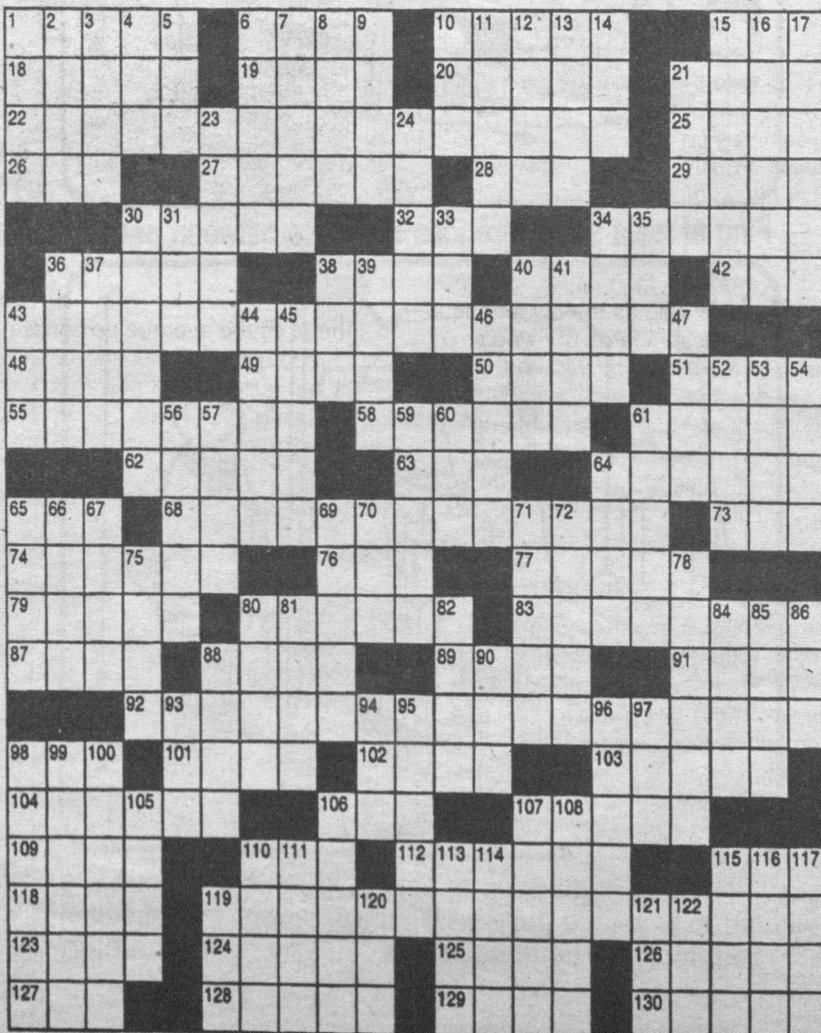
- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| ACROSS | 51 "My word!" | 104 Indifference | 6 So out | 43 Sock part | 90 "The truth |
| 1 Polish cake | 55 Won over | 106 August | it's in | 44 Basic | at last!" |
| 6 Melodious | 58 Singer John | one? | 7 Vote in | 45 Battlefield | 93 Hibachi |
| McEntire | 61 Work like a | 107 Religious | 8 Hit hard | doc | residue |
| 10 Tower | horse | belief | 9 Opposite of | 46 See 4 Down | 94 Rob Roy's |
| material? | 62 Slip cover? | 109 Big vein | aweather | place | refusal |
| 15 Yak | 63 Mauna — | 110 1 Down, | 10 "Baby — | 47 Farmer's | 95 Adult |
| 18 Caustic | 64 Soap | e.g. | "Want You" | 52 Festive | 96 Coming |
| 19 Mideastern | ingredient | 112 Adds a lane | ('71 hit) | 53 Connecticut | from Cork |
| airline | 65 Actor's | 115 Bell and | 11 Jeeves' | town | 97 "Saving |
| 20 '28 Irving | lunch? | Barker | profession | 54 Moist | Private |
| Berlin song | 68 Mark | 118 Composer | 12 Namu or | 56 Photo | Ryan" |
| 21 Antitoxins | Bowden | Siegmeister | Willy | book | extras |
| 22 Dashiell | book | 119 Willa Cather | 13 Crowd- | 57 Annoy | 98 Solidarity |
| Hammett | 73 "Ask — | book | burst?" | 59 Bring bliss | leader |
| book | Girl" ('59 | 123 Word with | 14 Itch | 60 At once | 99 Lunar |
| 25 Evangelist | film) | dance or | 15 McRaney or | 61 Present | spacecraft |
| Roberts | 74 Main drag | dunk | Ford | company? | 100 Tire type |
| 26 Wield an | 76 Mare's | 124 Art | 16 Lawrence's | 64 Ridicule | 105 Swarm |
| axe | morsel | 125 — -Neisse | locale | 65 "Very | (with) |
| 27 Hood or Tell | 77 Textbook | Line | 17 Scrimshaw | funny!" | 106 Surgical |
| 28 Have a hot | headings | 126 Tenor | material | 66 Tel — | tool |
| dog | 79 Senator | Beniamino | 21 Weeps | 67 Insignificant | 107 Postpone |
| 29 Woods | Fong | 127 Internet | 23 Warhol | 69 Yaphet of | 108 Threshold |
| dweller? | 80 Kathy of | acronym | subject | "Homicide" | 110 Food fish |
| 30 Explorer | country | 128 Put on a | 24 Dress | 70 Toque or | 111 Cuban |
| Sebastian | 83 Soldered or | pedestal | 30 European | topee | currency |
| 32 Choose, | stapled | 129 Actor | peninsula | 71 Guitarist | 113 Violinist |
| with "for" | 87 Maintain | Calhoun | 31 Half and | Eddy | Oistrakh |
| 34 Actor | 88 Splinter | group | half? | 72 Available | 114 Extinct |
| Howard | 89 Grandma | 130 Burger | 33 Sweater | letter | bird |
| 36 "Mr. | 91 Emulated | topping | 34 Meat cut | 75 DEA officer | 115 Christmas |
| Television" | the | DOWN | 35 Always, to | 78 Knee- | visitors |
| 38 Loaded | Valkyries | 1 British city | Arnold | slapper | 116 Chip off |
| 40 Siouan | 92 Agatha | 2 Pain | 36 — yester- | 80 Nasty | Woody's |
| people | Christie | 3 Make | day (naive) | 81 Zenith | block |
| 42 Hill or | book | coffee | 37 Got by, with | 82 Pay to | 117 Rind |
| Haggerty | 98 Conflict | 4 With 46 | "out" | play | 119 Actress |
| 43 Harper Lee | 101 Rational | Down, | 38 "Baloney!" | 84 Night noise | Leoni |
| book | 102 Geometry | "Vertigo" | 39 Like some | 85 Actress | 120 Seville |
| 48 Utah city | calculation | star | donuts | Purviance | shout |
| 49 Dole (out) | 103 "Rawhide" | 5 Oklahoma | 40 Brute | 86 — Plaines, | 121 Self-esteem |
| 50 Algerian | prop | city | 41 Stowe sight | IL | 122 China's — |
| seaport | | | | 88 Corset part | Biao |

MAGIC MAZE ● POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

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

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

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|-------|
| City | Domain | Province | State |
| Commonwealth | Empire | Realm | Town |
| County | Kingdom | Region | Ward |
| District | Precinct | Republic | |





Tigers Declared EXTINCT !!!

Well, it WILL happen unless you read this article!

Consider the following two questions: Which exotic animal, thought to have evolved over one million years ago, is on top of endangered species lists today? Which New Jersey town is currently taking one of it's residents to court because she keeps 24 Bengal tigers on her property without a permit?

Joelle Caputa
Eco Lounge Editor

After reading the latter question, the answer, "Jackson," probably came to mind because headlines about the "Tiger Lady" situation have covered newspapers since her saga was brought to life in 1999. That was when a tiger was seen roaming the streets of southern Jersey, much to public alarm. As a way of dealing with the situation, local police shot and killed the animal. Joan Byron-Marasek, who operates the Tigers Only preserve at the other end of town, was accused of allowing the situation to happen, although there was no evidence that the tiger was one of hers.

Byron-Marasek, a former employee of Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus, lost her permit to run the preserve three years ago and has been battling for the right to keep her tigers with her in NJ ever since. The state Division of Fish and Wildlife has other plans for the majestic creatures, which involve transporting them via a Humane Train to the Wild Animal Orphanage in Texas. That would mean Byron-Marasek would never see her beloved pets again, unless the courts grant her a year to move her preserve to another state.

Texas is the obvious choice, being that there are as many tigers living in captivity in Texas as there are roaming India. According to the American Tiger Registry, 2,370 tigers have been documented in Texas and many more go uncounted. These surprising statistics are a direct result of over 25 years of uncontrolled breeding and a lack of regulations. Thirty-nine states in the US, not including California or Maryland, allow tigers as exotic pets as long as the owner has a permit, yet no standards of ownership exist. The question now is, why aren't governmental agencies supporting, not only the safety of the public, but of the tigers themselves?

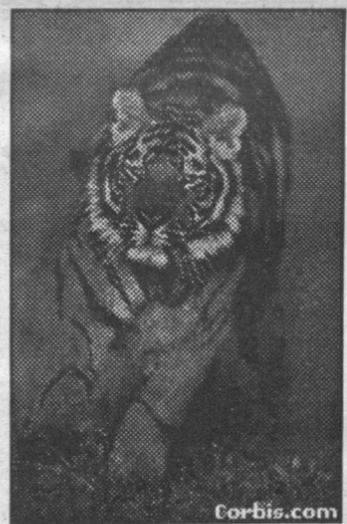
After all, by the year 2010 tigers are predicted to become extinct. That means every subspecies, every cat in the wild, every cat in a zoo, every cat in a circus will be just a distant memory in the hearts of animal lovers every where. However, the true loss will be to those who worked for and promoted Save the Tiger projects, those who donated money and adopted a tiger in the wild to aid in research to help save them. Sure, people

say that tigers are their favorite animal, wear animal print shirts and collect stuffed versions of the striped cat, but in the end, none of that matters. It doesn't make a difference how much one says they care about the welfare of an animal unless they actually do something about it. That

is exactly the problem tigers are facing today. Not enough people care and those who do are too few and far in-between.

The World Wildlife Fund for Nature has warned governments world wide of the situation. Yet, in India alone, 300 tigers a year are murdered by poachers. The animals are not just shot, they are poisoned and electrocuted by low-lying power lines hidden in their home ranges. The hunt for tigers is vicious because every part of them can earn the killer a fine sum of money once it is sold on the black market for "medical" uses. The *South China Morning Post* published an article stating, "Tiger poaching is big business, accounting for a significant share of the US \$6 billion global market in endangered species. Incentive programs cannot hope to compete with the lure of selling to the booming Chinese market."

All the controversy surrounding the fate of tigers takes a back seat because newspapers would rather focus on



Tigers in the wild no longer live carefree.

one women who is trying to keep them alive! Yet, she is made to appear as someone who neglects her animals. Granted, yes, many tiger owners should not have a permit to own them, as the average person is not educated enough on the animal. If a tiger cub is born and it's owners take it inside with the family, away from it's mother and treat it like a house cat, they are putting the cub's life in jeopardy. A fluid imbalance in cubs can cause them to go into a coma in a matter of hours. Should a mother tiger reject her newborn cubs, owners must be trained to know what to do to keep them alive. This often happens when cubs are born less than one pound and is one reason why only one-half of tiger cubs live past three years. People who own tigers should only be people who know how to take care of

them, otherwise, no saving is being done.

The situation becomes pure animal cruelty when a 500 pound animal is kept in a cage too small for it and is not fed properly. Or worse yet, when inbreeding between tigers takes place. For example, when brother and sister tigers mate with each other and produce cubs, those cubs will have serious medical problems. It can cause them to go crazy and attack people.

Attacks on humans are one way tigers get a bad reputation. In reality, tigers are solitary and shy creatures that will only attack people if they are inbred or extremely old and sick.

However, there is one other case in which a tiger will attack humans.

That is if they are starved.

The only blame on this situation is placed on humans.

People are a main threat against tigers for many reasons. One, poachers kill them. Two, people cut down trees where they live, which trap and kill the animals.

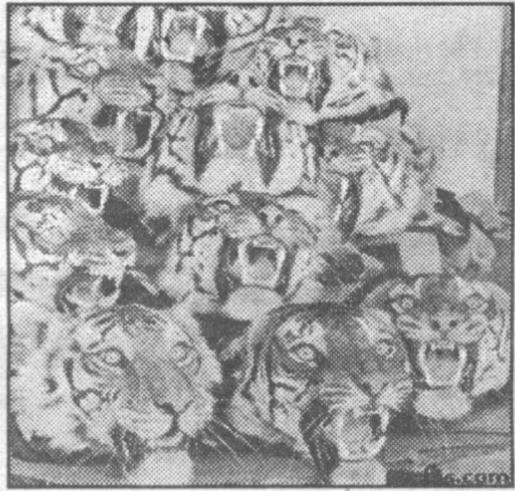
Three, as humans

destroy the tiger's habitat in the wild, humans are killing the animals tiger's eat, therefore leaving them with no other sources of food. This is when a tiger may wander into a nearby village and attack a person because they are so starved for food. As a result, tigers are given the reputation as "Man-eaters," when in reality, the real danger lies in humans.

This scenario may be more common in the future, as tigers have virtually no habitat left in the wild whatsoever. Three subspecies are extinct and the only way to

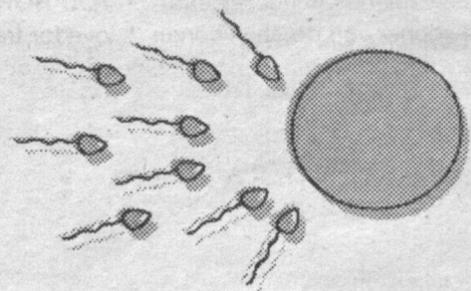
save the remaining five may be to find a way for humans and tigers to peacefully coexist. Habitat-improvement projects are underway in India to regrow land for the tigers to prosper. However, more needs to be done. Nonprofit agencies can work together to save tigers. Governments can in-force stricter laws against poachers and provide funding. Public support will ultimately be a major player in this game.

Without support and donations, organizations such as the Tiger Missing Link Foundation can't do as much as they like. Even simply spreading this information by word of mouth will raise public awareness on the issue. Saving the stripes, the beauty and grace of tigers lies in the hands of the world. Not just zoo keepers or wealthy people who can donate sums of money to the cause. One voice, one action and one person all add up to a world of caring. And that, can make a difference for the future of the world.



Tiger heads for sale.

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ECO NEWS BRIEFS:

☆ India has drawn up a major 14-year action plan to protect wildlife, their habitats and people who live near wildlife sanctuaries.

☆ WASHINGTON, DC. (ENS) - A Canadian man has been sentenced to 24 months in prison for paying people to shoot eagles, and selling eagle parts to Native American tribes.

William Paterson University

African Heritage Month 2002

“Building Bridges from Then to Now”



February 4, 2002

Unity Dinner

Performance by Universal African Dance & Drum Ensemble

Refreshments will be served

7:00pm-9:00pm, Machuga Student Center Ballroom

Sponsored by Brothers For Awareness, CARIBSA & HASA

February 5, 2002

Opening Ceremony

Guest Lecturer: Amiri Baraka

Refreshments will be served

12:30pm-1:45pm, Machuga Student Center Ballroom

Sponsored by Brothers for Awareness and HASA

February 7, 2002

Bob Marley Luncheon

Performance by Exodus Supreme Band

12:30pm-1:45pm, Machuga Student Center Ballroom

Refreshments will be served

Sponsored by CARIBSA

\$

February 7, 2002

Discussion: Destruction of the Black Male Image

8:00pm, Student Center Ballroom

Refreshments will be served

Sponsored by Brothers for Awareness

February 11, 2002

Performance: Seven Quilts for Seven Sisters

12:30pm-1:45pm, Machuga Student Center

Refreshments will be served

Sponsored by the Office of Employment, Equity and Diversity

February 13, 2002

Sister to Sister Forum

7:30pm, Towers Pavilion

Refreshments will be served

Sponsored by Office of Diversity and Minority Affairs

February 19, 2002

Marcus Garvey Memorial

7:30pm Machuga Student Center Ballroom

Refreshments will be served

Sponsored by HASA, CARIBSA & Brothers for Awareness

February 23, 2002

Blacks and Wax Museum Bus Trip

7:00am Departure - Lot 5

Sponsored by Brothers for Awareness

For ticket information contact 973-720-2518

\$5 wpunj students -\$10 others

February 26, 2002

Nutrition: Staying Healthy

12:30pm-1:45pm, Machuga Student Center Ballroom

Refreshments will be served

Sponsored by HASA

February 27, 2002

Performance: The Life and Times of Fannie Lou Hamer on a Rugged Road to Freedom”

7:30pm, Student Center Ballroom

Sponsored by SAPB & the J. Victor Machuga Fund

February 28, 2001

Back to Jazz Night

Special performance: “The Bulanians” &”Legacy”

7:30pm, Student Machuga Center Ballroom

Refreshments will be served

Sponsored by Brothers for Awareness

The African Heritage Month would like to thank the Student Government Association, the Office of Employment, Equity and Diversity, the Office of Diversity and Minority Affairs, Campus Activities and Student Leadership & SAPB for their generous funding and support.

For information about any events please contact Dorian Douglas (973)-720-2519 Jonnine DeLuarch (973) 720-3100

Beacon Classifieds

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Business Rates:
50 cents per word
Nonprofit Rates:
WPUNJ Students, SGA
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All classified ads must be paid in advance, unless you have an account with the paper.

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Attn: Classifieds
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beacon@student.wpunj.edu
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Looking for enthusiastic, special ed student to work with my mildly autistic, quiet, very well behaved 16 year old son in Wayne. (5 min. from campus). A few hours in the afternoon, occasional week-day nights and possibly Sat. and/or Sunday afternoons. Very flexible on hours. Must have a car. Very good pay!...If you are warm and loving, call Barbara at 790-7616 ASAP.

This is an opp. to perform original songs @ Coffee Houses & Various Venues in NJ & NY& to record quality demos that are being shopped to labels and publishing houses...Must have Dynamic and Creative Control of the Acoustic Guitar Singing is a Major Plus Call (973) 253-7122 Anytime for More Details.

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Domino's

In a club that's looking for some financial support? And you thought you could just turn to them for food... Domino's, the official food of The Beacon, doesn't just deliver great food anymore! Besides having great pizza, breadsticks, buffalo wings, Domino's is willing to take it a step further for William Paterson students and associations! Wondering what I'm talking about? Dominos is willing to fundraise, make food donations at blood drives, work out specific benefits for clubs and anything else you can think of to help your organization money-wise. They're just a phone call away! 973-427-0039 They don't know how to say no, so pick up a breadstick, I mean phone and call them today!

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Childcare - mother of 3 looking for P/T help. Flexible hours, Montville Area. 973-394-9046

F/T INFANT CARE - Seeking college/grad student to care for infant in my Wayne home. F/T hours M-F, excellent salary, exp preferred. Lisa 973-696-3587. P/T Clerical help needed in medical office. Flexible hours \$9/hour call 973-305-0832.

Teacher Asst., Hawthorne area, P/T, Mon-Fri, 1:00-6:00pm, Ed. Major a plus, call Robin Boyd, 973-427-7777 ext. 19

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Experience & Exposure

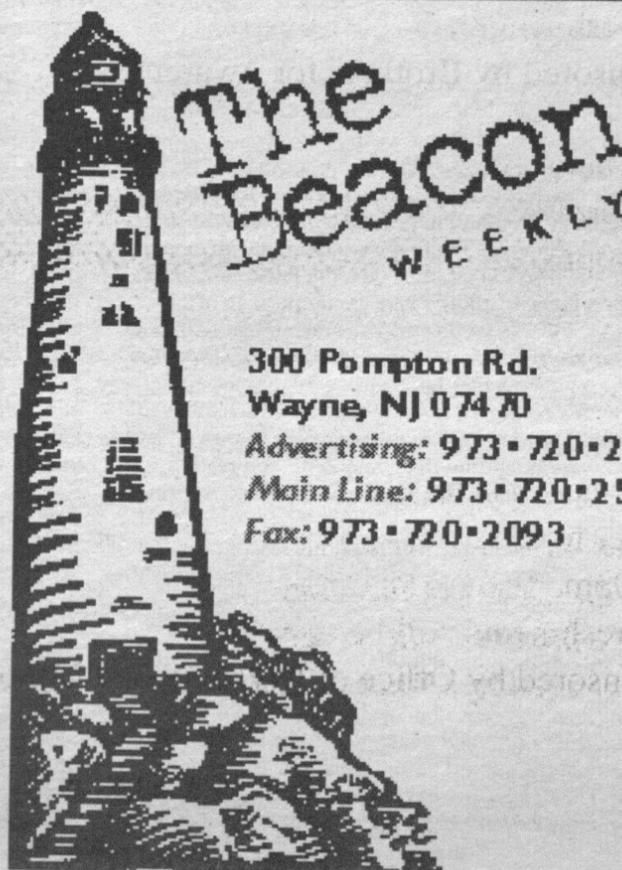
Singer/Songwriter looking for talented Acoustic Guitar Player.

Write for The Beacon

email: beacon@student.wpunj.edu

FEEDBACK

Let the Beacon know how we can make YOUR school paper better! Any comments would be greatly appreciated! Give us a call at 973-720-2248 or email us at beacon@student.wpunj.com!

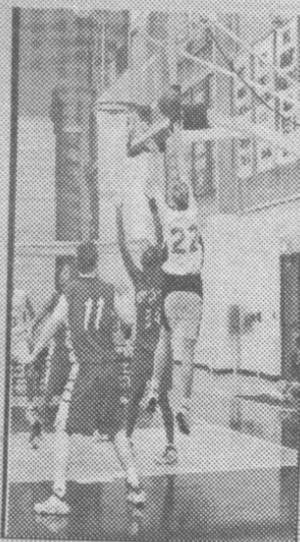


Pioneer Basketball Wrap-Up

Lady Pioneers Keep Red Wings On Their Toes

On Wednesday January 23, William Paterson University's own Pioneers bumped heads with local rivals, the Montclair State Red Wings in Women's Basketball. At 6:00pm, The Lady Pioneers (3-15, 1-10 NJAC) took the floor and dominated the first half, scoring one basket after another. Their strong defense was able to hold Montclair (8-9, 5-6 NJAC) behind throughout nearly the entire half.

However, The Pioneer's lead began to slowly taper off in the beginning of the second half, after Montclair rallied their defense and got back on the boards. By the end



Jeanine Day of WPU makes a jump shot

of the second half, Montclair came out the victors, winning by a mere 53-49 lead.

Despite the loss however, the game was highlighted by guard Kat McPhail (Sparta, NJ/Hopatcong) and forward Jeanine Day (Greenpond, NJ/Kearny). McPhail led the Pioneers with 11 points, and Day managed to supply 9 points and an impressive ten rebounds.

Overall, the Lady Pioneers did an impressive job keeping the Red Wings on their toes. William Paterson's next to games will take place on January 26, and January 30, where they will host Jew Jersey City and visit Ramapo respectively. Good luck to them and the rest of their season.

Matt DeFranza
The Beacon

Pioneers Best Montclair in 75-61 Win

On Wednesday night, the William Paterson Pioneers (10-8, 5-6 NJAC) went to battle against the Montclair State Red Hawks (12-6, 6-5 NJAC). WPU came into this game winning their previous two games. It was a hard fought game and the WPU Pioneers came out on top with a 75-61 win.

Things really heated up part-way through the first period after a hard foul by #01 Khalid Coursey. WPU coach Jose Rebimas and Montclair coach Ted Fiore shared a few words and had to be separated by the referees. Both teams were approached by game officials and told to take it easy.

The game was really highlighted by two monster dunks by #13 Rashaan Barner; one over three players and the other was an alley-oop caught high above the rim. Barner also led the Pioneers with 26 points and pulled down 12 rebounds. This was Barner's fifth straight 20 plus point game and his fifth double-double.

Allen Ringler of The Beacon had the

chance to interview Barner after the game and he had this to say:

Beacon: You're coming off your fifth straight 20 + point game. How do you feel about that?
Barner: "I'm happy we're winning, and if that's what its going to take for us to win, I guess I'm going to have to keep going."

Beacon: What do you think of your performance in this game?
Barner: "I missed a lot of open jump shots that i should have made, but you know, they'll come around. There's always Saturday."



Michael Everett of WPU eyes up MSU's #32 Scott Mavin

Beacon: Obviously, it was a very physical game; did you expect that coming in?

Barner: "Yeah, cause this is like our arch rivals, so you know, we know that they're going to play hard and it's going to be a very physical game, and they're not going to give us nothing easy, so you know."

Matt DeFranza
The Beacon

NFL PLAYOFFS

The Playoffs are upon us. Actually, that's a misstatement. Because of the way that time works, when any of you read this we'll all be anxiously awaiting Superbowl Sunday. Here's a look at how the NFL Playoff games went.

Week one, the NFL Wild Card Playoffs. First game was the NFC East Champion Philadelphia Eagles hosting the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. It was a balmy 46 degrees on the field of Veteran's Stadium, negating the Buccaneer record of 0-20 in games under 40 degrees. The first half began with the teams fairly evenly matched, with the Bucs scoring a field goal off of an interception on the Bird's first drive. The game was clinched in the middle of the third quarter when Correll Buckhalter ran 25 yards up the middle for a touchdown. The final score was 31-9, a repeat performance of last year's game and an unfortunate end tone for Tony Dungy's career as head coach for the Bucs. I had picked the Eagles over the Bucs in this contest, starting me off at 1-0 for the playoffs this year.

It was a great day for Raider fans when John Gruden led them to a 38-24 home victory over the New York Jets. Despite having lost four games in the previous six weeks, which cost them the second seat in the AFC, the Raiders returned to their normally excellent game. Rice became the oldest NFL Player ever to catch a postseason touchdown pass. Gannon completed 23 of 29 pass attempts for 294 yards and two touchdowns. My pick had been the Raiders.

At the end of the first half in Green Bay, Brett Favre commented that his team was wasting his passing talent against the 49ers. In the second half, however, the Packers opened up the passing game to allow Favre to complete 16 of 21 passes for a total of 226 yards and 19 points in that half, five of which were for 15 yards or more. The only sore point for Favre was throwing his first interception in 115 passes. Combined with a resurgent rushing defense which allowed the 49ers only 71 yards, the Packers were able to pull a victory by a good margin, ending the game 25-15 and readying to move on to play the Rams. My pick was the Packers, bringing me to 3-0.

For what was arguably the first time this season, the defending Superbowl Champion Baltimore Ravens actually looked like they were the defending Superbowl Champions. After just barely sneaking into the playoffs this year, the Ravens' defense thoroughly dominated the Miami Dolphins, who have only scored 16 points total in their last five trips to the playoffs. The Dolphins managed only 151 total yards, and their single score (a field goal) came after the Ravens fumbled the opening kickoff. They were able to get only 9 first downs. The final score was an embarrassing 20-3. I had picked against the Ravens, bringing my 2001 Postseason

Prediction Record to 3-1.

Moving right along to the Divisional Playoffs, the second seat NFC Central Champion Chicago Bears hosted the Philadelphia Eagles. McNabb's homecoming to Soldier Field marked the end of the Bear's miracle season. He completed 26 of 40 passes for 262 yards and rushed for an additional 37 yards, contributing a total of 299 yards to the Eagle's offense. The Bears, despite allowing the fewest points in the NFL, were dominated by the Bird's offense. "This is the way McNabb should have played all season," commented one jubilant Eagles fan. NFC Pro Bowl Kicker David Akers scored 4 field goals for Philadelphia in this contest. Any hopes the Bears had were dashed late in the second half when Eagles Pro Bowl defensive end Hugh Douglas threw Bears Quarterback Jim Miller to the ground while blocking him during an interception return, separating his shoulder and keeping him out for the game. The Eagles triumphed 33-19 in a game that raised a lot of eyebrows, especially since almost every sports commentator on television predicted a Bears win. I predicted an Eagles win, but a score of about 9-6. So I was half right, but I got the important half right, bringing me to 4-1.

The New England Patriots defeated the Oakland Raiders 16-13 with an OT victory*. Did you notice the asterisk? That's how I will always think of this game after a very questionable review stole the game from the Raiders. Referee Walt Coleman stared at the replay monitor, and somehow he managed to convince himself that a fumble was an incomplete pass, despite the fact that Patriots quarterback Tom Brady had stopped moving the ball and was actually touching it with his off hand. Never-the-less, the official ruled that his arm was still moving forward as if to pass and ruled the dropped ball an incomplete pass, setting up a 45 yard field goal to force overtime. During overtime, the Patriots drove and pulled off a field goal, managing a playoff victory thanks to that helpful referee. I had predicted a Raiders victory in this one, so I was brought to 4-2.

However much the Raven's defense dominated against the Dolphins, Steelers outstripped them in nearly every category. The Ravens, talking an extraordinary amount of trash going into this game, completely failed to deliver against the AFC Central Champion Pittsburgh Steelers. Falling behind 20-0, the Ravens almost did not seem like they arrived at all. The Steelers had a 2-to-1 advantage in time of possession, all without the benefit of star runningback Jerome Bettis. The Steelers, as I confidently predicted, blew Baltimore right out of the water, winning with a final score of 27-10.

I am trying to decide whether I should say Brett Favre had a bad day, or went through living Hell. With six passes

picked off by the St. Louis Defense and 8 total turnovers, I think that living Hell would be a bit of an understatement. For the first time in a while, the Rams offense did not take center-stage, with what has to be one of the most improved defenses of all time responsible for this victory. The Packers had a chance to regain their momentum when Allen Rossum ran a kick-off return 95 yards for what would have been a touchdown, if only the ball hadn't been called back on a holding penalty. The Rams mopped the turf with the Packers, chalking up a 45-17 victory. I had predicted a Rams victory, so my record in the postseason now stands at 6-2.

Which brings us up to the present. I am writing this Friday afternoon, which means the Conference Championship games are two days away.

The New England Patriots will be playing the Pittsburgh Steelers for the AFC Title. I predict a Steelers victory. Jerome Bettis will be back and well rested. If the Patriots had beaten the Raiders with a wide margin, I would give them a better chance. However, the Patriots barely squeaked by after a bad call. I predict a Pittsburgh victory, with the score somewhere in the vicinity of 35-6.

The NFC Title is not as clear cut. The St. Louis Rams are considered by many to be the best team in the National Football Conference at the moment. The Philadelphia Eagles, however, are a good, young team with a fantastic defense and a talented, versatile quarterback in Donovan McNabb. The way to beat a fast offense like the Rams is to overpower them. Eagles Defensive Coordinator Jim Johnson will have his hands full preparing for this game. The Eagles are already one of the blitziest defenses in the NFL, and that is going to help them here. Philadelphia's defensive secondary, including Brian Dawkins and Troy Vincent (if he recovers in time) also should have the speed to counter the Rams some of the time when the blitz fails or isn't used. Offensively, McNabb has matured in the past few weeks. His accuracy has increased, he has poise in the pocket, and when he rolls out, defensive backs find themselves torn between a duty to stay with their coverage and a desire to move up in case he runs. It will be a tough game for both teams, but Philadelphia has the skill and power to rival the Rams and that they just want it more. I predict a Philadelphia victory, with a score something like 20-17.

Jim Schofield
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