

WPSC faces fines, limits due to WPU budget cuts

By Jill K. Sanders
Staff Writer

William Paterson University's radio station, WPSC 88.7, could face \$5,000 fines and the loss of unlimited broadcasting hours as a result of the recent budget cuts.

Currently, the station is barely able to meet its minimum operating hours on Wednesdays as required by the Federal Communication Commission (FCC), according to Professor Ronald Stotyn, the station's general manager. As a result, WPSC could face fines or be forced to share air time with another organization.

Late last year, the Communication Department received an Incentive Grant of \$120,000, \$42,000 of which went to the radio station. However, due to the state's budget cuts, according to Stotyn, \$24,000 to \$25,000 of the money allocated to the radio station has been lost.

Stotyn had ordered \$18,000 worth of equipment that would have allowed the radio station operate 24 hours a day, he said. Under the FCC rule, the university radio station must operate a minimum of 12 hours per day.

"The only way we can fulfill that now is to have live student bodies on hand to be physically (at the radio station) running programs," said Stotyn.

Should the station fail in those efforts, the other possible result of an FCC violation, beyond the fine, could hurt the station's programming.

"Some other organization could make application to the FCC and request shared time on our frequency," says Stotyn. "That would mean we could not be allowed to broadcast unlimited hours... That would be a

SEE WPSC, PAGE 11

New York's proudest



PT photo by Robin Kavanagh

Thousands lined New York's Fifth Ave. on March 16 to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. See page 12 for our Reporter's Notebook.

The Pioneer Times wins six NJCPA awards
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Threats fulfilled: Rothman takes action against university

By Dan Diaz
Staff Writer

David Rothman, father of the William Paterson University student who drowned last spring break, has followed through on his recent threat to file legal action against the university.

Rothman filed suits on March 7 with both the New Jersey Executive Commission on Ethical Standards and the Passaic County Superior Court. He is angry about the university's failure to take action against the Zeta Beta Tau (ZBT) fraternity. Four ZBT members pleaded guilty in court last October to improperly raising money for a scholarship set up in the name of Rothman's late son, Jeffrey, who died while on vacation in South Carolina with his fraternity brothers.

Rothman believes more money was raised than admitted to in court.

"I feel that William Paterson University did not act in a responsive or democratic manner in handling my requests," said Rothman in a brief telephone interview. "Therefore I took the actions I felt were necessary. I did what I said I would do. It is no longer in my hands, but in the hands of the court."

Rothman filed the two complaints against the university's Board of Trustees, as well as President Arnold Speert, Provost Chernoh Sesay and Deputy Attorney General Cheryl Clarke.

University officials were not available for comment, however, in a past interview with a representative for the university, who wished not to be named, it was stated that the university would file an answer to any such complaint accordingly. If the university believes that the case does not have merit or will not hold up in court, the source said, then it will move to file a motion to dismiss.

Rothman appeared before the board of trustees on March 2 and requested it comment on the actions of ZBT and the fundraising matter. The members of the board made it clear, however, that after an investigation by the school's attorney general's office, it concluded that no disciplinary action could or would be taken. After that meeting Rothman said he planned to go to court.

Rothman will represent himself in both actions.

"I have paid enough to lawyers so far," he wrote in
SEE ROTHMAN, PAGE 11



Can you take '40 Days and 40 Nights'?
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Room selection rules, tips, deadlines
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Best of New York: Great weekend haunts
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International exchange shows diversity at home and abroad

By Gina Moffitt
Staff Writer

In England, a teacher would never have called on Melanie Rollinson in class.

The professor would lecture the entire time and students would take notes and listened. That's it.

But when Rollinson, an English exchange student, sat down in her graduate classes at William Paterson University, the teacher called on her, and Rollinson didn't know what to say. After three years of lecturing and just absorbing information in the English university system, Rollinson was at a loss.

"They have a different approach to teaching (in England)," she said. "I'm just not used to this. Here you have to talk more."

Rollinson is unaccustomed to voicing an opinion in class or answering questions from professors or being graded on a paper, a seminar and class participation.

According to Jessica Brophy, a graduate assistant for the Center for International Education, England is one of the most popular places WPU students go to study abroad. Though English is a language shared between the two countries, other differences exist.

Lectures are the preferred method of teaching in England, according to Rollinson. She also found it unusual that students can eat in class.

"In England, no one would dare eat," she said.

Rollinson, who wants to teach general music classes, was surprised to find that American high school teachers only instruct pupils on how to play instruments.

"(English) music teachers teach music appreciation, music comprehension, and music theory," Rollinson said.

She said students learn how to play instruments through private instruction.

While American students are aware of their grade point average, every English semester, students are not. Rollinson said that the focus in England is not on grades, but on how well students do instead.

"You never know your G.P.A until you finish," Rollinson said.

A similar grading system is used in Denmark, according to Sine Sorensen, a Danish exchange student. He added that Denmark has no tests.

Different educational approaches can be seen worldwide. Merouane Djerbal, an international student from Algeria, said Algerian students focus on one major like architecture, instead of taking broad courses in different subjects.

"Here," he said, "they make you a better over-all person. You are required to take electives and humanity courses."

Students wishing to study abroad are often drawn to England, but it not the only game in town. Australia, Spain and France are also among students' top choices, according to Brophy. She said about 20 to 35 students from William Paterson study abroad each year.

"(Studying abroad) is the perfect opportunity to explore, see the sites and be a tourist," Brophy said.

WPU also accepts exchange students, with Rollinson and Djerbal as prime examples. While here, they are soaking in all the cultural differences between their home and New Jersey.

In Algeria, Djerbal said, when greeting a female friend, it is customary to kiss her on the cheek. Yet, when he did that here, the girl backed off.

Despite this awkward moment, Djerbal is enjoying his time at WPU.

"I like the diversity of William Paterson," he said. "I like the professors. They already have experience."

"A Graduate Salute"

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The Pioneer Times

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STUDENT PRESS LAW CENTER

Jamaican visit inspires adjunct to write cultural novel

By Victoria Marlin
Staff Writer

During a visit to Jamaica, Erica McKoy-Hibbert was disappointed she couldn't find a large selection of native fiction writers.

As an avid reader of cultural novels, she left determined to add her name to that short list. Two years later, her dream came true with the publication of "Mi Neva Know Sey".

"I feel like I have accomplished something, the dream I have had since high school," she said.

McKoy-Hibbert, a Paterson resident, received her B.A. in English from William Paterson University in 1973. Today she teaches English in the Paterson school district and works as an adjunct professor in WPU's English department.

According to caribbeanamerican-bookclub.com, "Mi Neva Know Sey" is the story of Melody Pennycook, who emigrates from Jamaica to Brooklyn, join her mother and start a new life. The story incorporates facing new challenges, the determination to survive, and demonstrates how the human spirit can cope with unusual and threatening circumstances.

In her new school, Melody encoun-

ters adversity, which she deals with using resilience and resourcefulness.

"I wanted to relate a story that focuses on the cultural changes and sometimes traumatic effect any immigrant faces," said McKoy-Hibbert.

One Amazon.com reviewer from Livingston, remarked "Reading 'Mi Neva Know Sey' is a wonderful and entertaining way to learn fascinating tidbits about Jamaican culture while enjoying a heartwarming coming-of-age tale."

Of her time on campus, McKoy-Hibbert specifically remembers Dr. Vernon McClean, a professor in the African-American Caribbean Studies Department, for his enthusiasm during his lectures.

McKoy-Hibbert has published several poems and short stories in many different publications, such as The American Poetry Anthology. She was also invited to the Paterson Public Library in May 2000, for a book signing, where she received an award from the mayor. "Mi Neva Know Sey" was published in March 2000.

Several copies of McKoy-Hibbert's book can be found at the Paterson Library, where an autographed copy is also on display in the archival section.

WPU BOOKSTORE'S

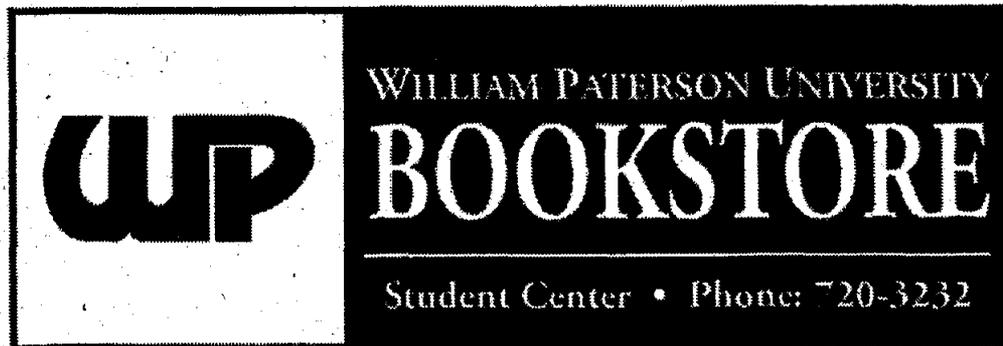
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Pioneer Commentary

University should not withhold crime information

Campus Police has been playing tag with *The Pioneer Times*.

First, it volunteers police blotter information, sending occasional notices to the newspaper office in Hobart Hall. Then when our reporters ask for this basic information, they get the "run-around".

And now since the publication of our last issue, which featured an article about campus theft, we have been told we can no longer access blotter information and are only allowed to seek such information through the university's public affairs office.

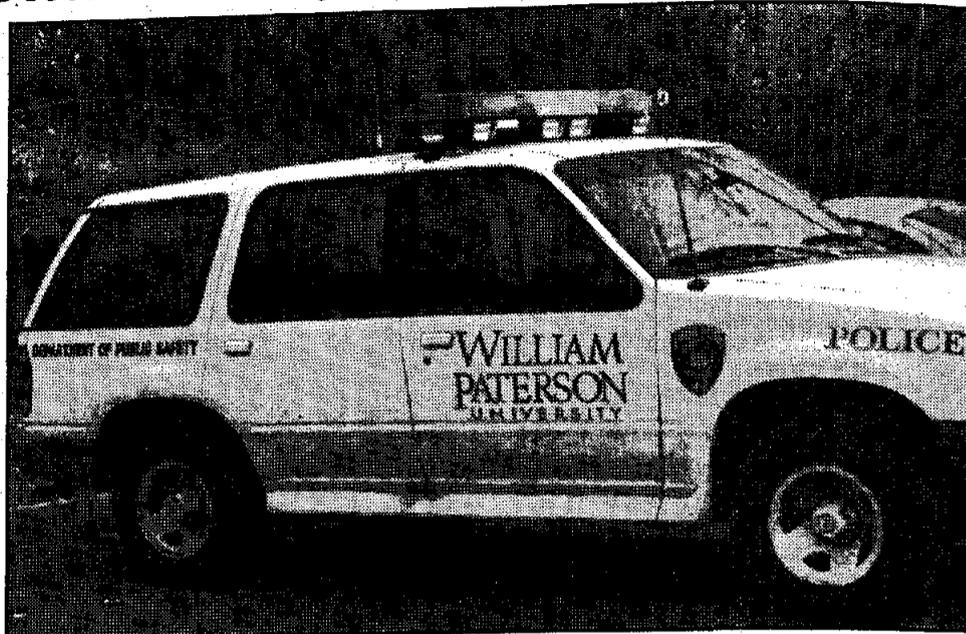
Stuart Goldstein, vice president of institutional advancement, told us the very information volunteered just months ago is not public information and therefore not subject to laws requiring disclosure of such material. After some research, we have found that he is correct-to a point.

EDITORIAL The Student Press Law Center (SPLC) is advising *The Pioneer Times* on this issue and has informed us that New Jersey public information laws are among the worst in the country. According to SPLC Representative Josh Saltzman, blotter information in New Jersey falls under the investigation category, meaning the information is not public until the case is closed.

However, there are loopholes in this law. Saltzman said basic information about a case, such as the who, what, when, where and how, must be released. Then there is also federal law, specifically the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (the Clery Act).

Signed into law in 1998, the Clery Act requires that schools receiving federal funding provide the following information to anyone during regular business hours: an annual statistical report, a daily campus crime log and "timely reports" regarding crimes that present an ongoing threat to the campus community.

According to Mike Hiestand, SPLC staff attorney, at a minimum, Campus Police must provide "the nature, date, time and general location of each crime as



PT photo by Robin Kavanagh

well as the disposition of the complaint (arrest made, referred to campus judiciary, etc.)."

Heistand said schools that do not comply with the Clery act may face consequences ranging from fines to complete withdrawal of federal funding. When asked why the Clery Act is not being applied to William Paterson University, Goldstein said the university was following the advice of the state attorney general's office.

The lack of cooperation on the part of Campus Police and Public Affairs has already prevented the completion of two *Pioneer Times* stories; two reporters have been denied the basic information required to be released by the Clery Act. This is unfair not only to this paper, but also the students, faculty and staff who are being prevented from knowing about the state of their safety on campus.

Finally, even if its intentions are above board, the university's actions suggest it is trying to cover-up campus incidents. The university needs to do the right thing and allow not only our reporters, but all students access to blotter information in accordance with the law.

Yankee fan ponders new season Will trades, injuries affect championship chances?

By Kerry Johnson
Staff Writer



With spring training coming to a close and Opening Day right around the corner, Yankee fans can't help but notice the line to the trainer's office is longer than the one to the batting cages.

The Yankees, plagued by injuries to key players throughout spring training, have only one question in mind: Will the team be healthy for Opening Day?

The doctor's report is as follows: Rondell White missed time with a rib cage strain, Andy Pettitte with tightness in his elbow, Ramiro Mendoza with neck stiffness, Bernie Williams with a calf strain, Jason Giambi with hamstring tightness, Derek Jeter with a strained neck muscle, Ted Lilly nursed a foot injury and Jorge Posada rehabbed off-season shoulder surgery.

While most injuries were minor, it is important that they heal properly so as not to reoccur during the season. However, optimistic fans see getting injuries out of the way during spring training as a good thing.

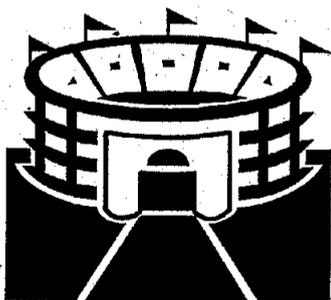
Most Yankee fans are eager to see what the new players can do for the

team. During the off-season, the team went through many changes, saying goodbye to some of its core players from the past championship seasons.

Paul O'Neill, Tino Martinez, Scott Brosius, Chuck Knoblauch and David Justice have all either retired or moved onto other teams. New additions to the team include White, John Vander Wal, Robin Ventura, and Steve Karsay.

Of course, one of the biggest off-season moves was the signing of first baseman Jason Giambi to a 7-year, \$120 million contract. The Yankees also brought back fan favorite David Wells.

With a strong rotation, a solid lineup, new talent and hopefully a healthy team, the Yankees once again look to be a threat in the American League for the 2002 season. Like most fans, I'm ready for Opening Day and excited to see what the new season will bring.



'Golden Girl' Bea Arthur's one-woman show a hit

By Emily Shafer
Staff Writer

Perhaps you knew her as the title character in "Maude". Or maybe you knew her as Dorothy in "The Golden Girls". Well, now you have the chance to know her as herself...Bea.

Beatrice Arthur takes you on a journey through her life as an actress in her one-woman show, "Bea Arthur on Broadway: Just Between Friends" which recently opened (where else?) on Broadway.

A Tony Award winner for her role in "Mame", and a twice Emmy Award winner for her roles in "Maude" and "The Golden Girls", Arthur began her professional acting career in 1954, as Lucy Brown in the play "The Threepenny Opera". After spending more than 15 years on stage, she began playing roles on television, where she stayed until recently.

"Tonight, I'm out of the box, life-sized," Arthur told her audience during a recent performance.

Arthur had much to say about her life as an actress; most was hilarious. She put a funny spin on every one of her stories, including ones from her childhood and about how people reacted to her height.

She laughed about her auditions, and talked about the roles she played. She even talked about a song she once had to sing called "Garbage". Her stories and jokes were often interrupted as she started to sing various songs.

Since I grew up watching "The Golden Girls", it was a great experience for me to see one of my favorite actresses talk about her life. The real Arthur was just as funny as her characters, if not funnier.

The simplicity of the show was great. There is no plot to understand, just Arthur talking, singing and having a great time along with her audience.

I enjoyed the show immensely, and feel that many people can benefit from the comic relief it provides. If you love New York, like Arthur does (she sings "I Like New York!!!"), and have an interest in theater and comedy, then this is the show to see.

Love us? Hate us? Let us know! Send Letters to the Editor to: pioneertimes@student.wpunj.edu

Entertainment Reviews



Photo by Chris Large/Miramax Films
UHH-Vinessa Shaw and Josh Hartnet share and awkward moment in "40 Days and 40 Nights."

'40 Days' new twist on Lent

By Kerry Johnson
Staff Writer

Matt Sullivan just broke up with his long-term girlfriend and can't commit himself to one girl.

With his heart broken, he decides to do something about it this situation. As Lent approaches, Matt decides to take a vow. And not just any vow, but one that no man has done before: to abstain from having sex for Lent. That's right, no kissing, no touching, no fooling around, nothing for 40 days.

Welcome to the new romantic comedy, "40 Days and 40 Nights."

At first Matt (Josh Hartnett) has no problem keeping up with this undertaking, until he meets Erica (Shannyn Sossamon) and thinks

he's met the girl of his dreams. But there is one problem: his oath to celibacy.

Matt's friends begin to notice his growing attraction for Erica and bet on how long it will be before he gives into nature. But Matt is more determined than ever to finish what he began, sparking problem number two: how to explain this most unusual situation to Erica. The question is, will Matt be able to withstand the pressure of 40 days and 40 nights?

This was a good movie with an interesting turn on the tradition of giving up something for Lent. Although this could typically be categorized as a date movie, it also has a cute story line. Hartnett and Sossamon make a great on screen couple. I recommend this movie to anyone in the mood for a lighthearted romantic comedy.

MOVIE REVIEW

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'Queen of the Damned' full of contradictions to Rice novels

By Jill K. Sanders
Staff Writer

Anne Rice, the author of the Vampire Chronicles, which includes "The Queen of the Damned" and "Interview with the Vampire," has a cult-like following, with people buying up her books and loving the characters she has created.

"The Queen of the Damned," the third in the Vampire Chronicles, has just been made into a major motion picture and won the number one slot in the box office in its first weekend.

It was with anticipation that I went to see "The Queen of the Damned" on

its opening night. In her books, Anne Rice creatively brings the reader into an exciting, twisting and turning exploration of life through the dead. I expected to be entertained by the movie, as I was by "Interview with the Vampire," the 1994 movie version of the book of the same title.

However, "The Queen of the Damned" turned out to be a major disappointment. The characters Rice created were torn down in a cheap teen flick, and the story was lost in the need to create a marketable movie.

The movie stars the vampire Lestat, played by Stuart Townsend of "About Adam," and the upcoming "24 Hours" with Kevin Bacon, Courtney Love and Charlize Theron.

The story quickly goes off course when a part of Lestat's past is revealed; the film shows that Lestat was made a vampire by Marius (Vincent Perez), a contradiction to the books.

Such a change would upset any true fan of the Vampire Chronicles since it also contradicts a part of "Interview with the Vampire"; Lestat would not be who he is if he had been made by Marius.

Other parts of the flick ring untrue to the true fans of Rice's books. A reader of the novels would recall that when a vampire is old, his or her skin becomes marble-like in appearance. In the movie version of "The Queen of the Damned," the vampires, clothes and all, turned completely into marble.

One laughable contradiction can be found when Lestat and Akasha, played by the late singer Aaliyah, who died last year in a plane crash, walk into the sunlight.

I laughed outright in the theater. If Lestat could walk in the sunlight, it would undo everything that Rice created in her fourth novel in the Vampire Chronicles, "The Tale of the Body Thief."

Even the end of the story was changed! The movie makers added a twist: Marius goes back to David Talbot (Paul McGann) and the audience is meant to assume that Talbot is made into a vampire. This again contradicts the "The Tale of the Body Thief," in which Talbot is a feature character as a mortal man.

The movie, even though it was cheapened by attempts to make it marketable, does have its merits. Townsend did play Lestat very well and was able to capture his "brat prince" essence in a way that would make Rice-lovers proud.

Another well-cast character was Jesse, played by Marguerite Moreau, whose most famous film credit is "The Mighty Ducks." Moreau, though her character was portrayed much younger than in the book, did very well to capture the Rice's original depiction.

If you haven't read any of Rice's Vampire Chronicles, go ahead and see the film. You may enjoy the action scenes and the gross-out factor of a vampire lifestyle. However, if you are a fan of her novels, stay away from the theater. This version has ruined the possibility of making more of Rice's novels into feature films.

Save yourself the frustration of watching this flick and reread the book. It's much better than the movie.

Graphically real, 'Black Hawk Down' is 'amazing'

By Andre Catarino
Staff Writer

Combat movies is a peculiar genre that usually reflects or are reads through war time. Past movies have reflected wartime horrors from World War II, as well as Vietnam. The newest edition to the genre: "Black Hawk Down".

"Black Hawk Down" is centered around Ridley Scott's grueling combat saga about a real-life 1993 U.S. military mission that went horribly wrong in Somalia. American soldiers are seen fighting and dying in a land filled with different beliefs and religions. The audience is shown the patriotic symbolism of a soldier, who has the heart of a gladiator and fights until his last breath in combat.

"Apocalypse Now," a ground breaking movie where the directing showed the actual fear and action involved, was an obvious influence in this film.

"Black Hawk Down" is driven by scenes of fascinating, constant battle, mastered by the director's talent for communicating the colors of war: mud, blood and looks of despair.

Motivated by extended stretches of pounding battle by the Delta Force, Scott's film has received criticism for lack of drama and the excessive amount of blood and guts. I agree. This movie needs a more stable plot to grasp the audience from their seats and create a level of compassion between the audience and the characters.

"Black Hawk Down" is based on writer Mark Bowden's newspaper reportage, which is part of the best-selling book, about the U.S. military's most costly firefight since Vietnam, where in the course of the combat, two Black Hawk helicopters were shot down.

Bowden had more space in the movie to explain who the Somali fighters were and why women and children were willing to attack the stranded Americans.

More than 500 Somalis died by the end of the battle. Playing the American soldiers were: Josh Hartnett, Ewan McGregor, Tom Sizemore and Ron Eldar. They load their ammo, blast away, fight with each other, struggle, and survive.

At a time of patriotism in the U.S. and conflict in Afghanistan, perhaps moviegoers will finally be shown what war really entails. Not all movies have to be the same, but "Black Hawk Down" was amazing. It showed the reality of war and that it exists in the world in which we live.

Apparently the movie was not meant to reveal anything new about human life, just to unleash new messages to people that events like this do occur in the world and might be happening as we speak.

Express yourself! Write for the Pioneer Times!
Stop by C142 April 2 @ 12:30 for more info.

BRIEFS

WPU family of staff tuition policy expands to graduate program

WPU will soon implement a new policy waiving tuition for graduate students whose parents are university employees. The university's Board of Trustees approved the measure earlier this month on the condition that it only apply to the children, under age 23, of full-time faculty and staff. University fees, however will not be waived.

College Road to be straightened, re-routed away from dorms

On March 2, the university Board of Trustees approved a project that would straighten and re-route a portion of College Road around the WPU water tower and away from the dorms located in the area. The project should not exceed \$45,000 and was approved primarily for safety purposes, according to board members.

Education students above state exam average

The WPU Education Department recently announced that 98 percent university students who took the state Praxis exam, passed. This is one percent above the state average. Last year, only 91 percent of WPU participants passed.

University 'close' to meeting \$2.8 million owed to state

WPU Vice President of Administration and Finance Steven Bolyai announced earlier this month that the university is "close" to meeting the nearly \$3 million it owes to the state due to budget cuts. In his report to the Board of Trustees, Bolyai said that cuts to non-operational budgets, deferments, found savings, increased enrollment and other precautionary measures have brought the university "within \$500,000" of meeting the state's figure.

Senior gift program leaves legacy, money for future students

By Victoria Marlin
Staff Writer

Wondering how you can leave your mark on the world, or at least William Paterson University, when you graduate? When you become part of the Senior Class Gift Program you will be doing just that.

All participants who contribute to this program will have the opportunity to have their name and/or organization's name inscribed on a brick that will make up the "Pathway to the Future," a brick-paved walkway that begins in front of the Shea Center for Performing Arts and leads to the David and Lorraine Cheng Library.

The money that is raised will be donated to a scholarship fund that will benefit future students.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for

each graduating class to show its support for future generations of William Paterson students", said Connie Alexis-Laona, who works in the Office of Development and serves as the fund manager. "These students have also ensured that they will become a special part of the university's future."

Since the program started in 2000, Alexis-Laona said more than 350 of the alumni have pledged to purchase a brick and the numbers are growing.

Half of the money collected for each brick goes toward scholarships for students during the next academic year. The other half goes into an endowed scholarship fund that accrues interest and provides more scholarships down the road.

For the 2000-2001 academic year, two students were awarded scholarships totaling \$2,400, said Alexis-Laona, and

one student received a \$2,500 scholarship.

A senior class committee helps promote the program and sell the bricks. The committee is made up of seniors but is also open to juniors.

Beside being responsible for promoting and selling, the committee decides how the bricks will be sold. Members of the committee can earn awards based on how many bricks they sell.

The senior class committee has conducted phone-a-thons to solicit pledges for the program. There will also be a table set up during Senior Salute on April 9 and 10 to take pledges and donations.

Bricks are priced in two ways. To order a brick inscribed with your name, a \$100 pledge must be made either full by April 30, or in two payments: one by April 30 (\$50) and the other

Room selection complex but navigable

The who, what, when, why, here and how

By Emily Shafer
Staff Writer

It may seem like a good idea to select a room for campus housing in April and figure you'll save money by postponing class registration until August or September, but it's not.

Students who want to live on campus next year must be registered for classes by the end of April, the close of the first class registration window. If not, they could lose their room assignment.

"In the past, students would reserve a room, but then not register for classes until the start of the next semester," said Patricia Whiteman, associate director of Residence Life. "This is likely so that they can put off paying their bill. But if the students don't register for at least 12 credits by the end of April, they will be warned that they must register in the next window or they lose their room."

In addition, students must have paid all outstanding university bills, including housing fines owed to Residence Life, before room selection and provide a \$150 non-refundable deposit.

Students have already received a notice about room selection, entitled "Plan Ahead For a Big Event: Room Selection Facts for Fall 2002". The flyer explains the basics about room selection, including the deposit requirement, the point system and the singles lottery. Students also will receive an information packet in their mailboxes explaining the process in more detail.

"Students need to read all of the material to find out where they stand with room selection," said Whiteman. "They also should ask for help from staff if they need it. Students don't ask enough questions of the staff."

Selection for single rooms will place on March 27. According to Whiteman, there are 56 singles available to students, excluding those reserved for the Resident Assistant. Singles are reserved for graduate students.

The singles lottery accommodates students by class standing. Seniors choose first, picking numbers from random drawing. If there are any rooms left, the juniors, sophomores and freshmen then draw in the same way.

Students who do not get a single may be placed on the waiting list. Singles are compiled new each semester according to Whiteman.

Some students, including sophomore and Century Hall resident Ki Weidele, find room selection to be

problematic.

"You need to have so much information," she said. "Everybody you're rooming with has to be there, or you need to have those proxy forms. It is such a hassle sometimes."

However, Whiteman said room selection takes a lot of things into consideration. For example, 60 spaces in Hillside Hall are reserved for the incoming freshman.

"The purpose of this is to keep a balance of different people among the residence halls," said Whiteman. "We are not in favor of segregating different age ranges."

Last fall 2,024 people lived on campus, according to Whiteman, and as a result, there were 80 triple dorms and 50 students living in the hotels, causing the university suffer a financial loss. Hotel students were only charged the normal room and board costs; the university picked up the extra fees.

Whiteman said one perk about living in the hotel is the maid service.

However, there is an RA at the hotel, and the students who live there must abide by the same policies that students in the residence halls do, including visitor policy and quiet hours.

Hotel living was not ideal, however, for freshman Jason Hamilton. Aside from living away from campus life, getting to campus was a problem.

"The shuttle service was supposed to run regularly from the hotel but it didn't," said Hamilton. "I was often late for classes because of this."

Important room selection dates

April 1 — Squatters' selection takes place in the apartment for groups of three or four students living their same apartments.

April 2 — Current apartment residents pick new apartments according to their point value.

April 3 — Apartment residents who are part of a group may choose to fill in spaces within apartments that are not completely filled up.

Also during the first week of April, W Hall and Matelson Hall community selection takes place.

April 8 — Squatters' selection is held in the Towers, Hillside and Century Halls.

April 9 to April 11 — Open Room Selection dates. Students from all buildings may select rooms according to the points earned.



Calendar of Events March 28th - April 10th

By Kerry Johnson
Calendar Editor

Thursday, March 28

The New Music Festival presents an open rehearsal with Roly Yttrehus, guest composer from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Shea Center. Admission is free. For further information call ex. 2371.

The Midday Artist Series presents Composer-In-Residence-Day with Roly Yttrehus, internationally renowned composer, performing with the New Jersey Percussion Ensemble. Admission is \$3. For further information call ex. 2371.

The Annual Women of WPUNJ Celebration recognizes of the achievements of women students, staff and faculty includes a common hour panel discussion, entertainment, crafts, food and fun at the Machuga Student Center

Ballroom from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For further information call ex. 2946.

The Prince of Peace Chapel celebrates the *Holy Thursday service*, The Washing on Holy Thursday Mass, at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, March 29

The Prince of Peach Chapel celebrates the *Good Friday service*, The Mater Dolorosa Procession, at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 30

The Prince of Peace Chapel celebrates the *Easter Vigil service*, The Baptism Liturgy of the Easter Vigil, at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 31

The Prince of Peace Chapel celebrates *Easter Day Mass* at 10:45 a.m.

Tuesday, April 2

The Philosophy Department will show a film about time-travel, entitled "Chronotrip", featuring Prof. Steinhart. The film begins at 8 p.m. in the Cheng Library Auditorium.

Wednesday, April 3

The *annual Take Back Night rally* will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. outside the Machuga Student Center. The event, intended to bring awareness to violence against women, will be followed by a march at 7:30 p.m. Immediately following the march, a discussion will be held in Rooms 324-325 of the student center. There will be a table with information set up all day in the Machuga Student Center lobby.

Sunday, April 7

Accepted Student Day begins at 12 p.m. in the Atrium. For

further information call ex.2126.

Tuesday, April 9 and Wednesday April 10

"*A Graduate Salute*" will be held for those seniors graduating in May from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Billy Pat's in the Machuga Student Center. Information and services students may need to help plan their graduation will be available in one location. The services available include, measurement for caps and gowns and commencement information. In addition, representatives from the Registrar's office, the Bursar's office, the Career Development Center, Alumni Relations, the yearbook and the senior class will be on hand to answer questions. Students may also be measured should they care to buy a Josten's class rings. For more information call Anne Yusaitis at ex. 2256.

Pioneer Times wins six NJCPA honors

Robin Kavanagh, editor of the Pioneer Times, won three awards in the 2001 New Jersey Collegiate Press Association's annual contest, including first place in the opinion category, second place in the photography category and second place in the layout category.

In addition, three other writers were recognized with honorable mention citations. They were: Jillian Allinder for news writing; Diane Koziol for opinion; and Erik Ortiz for arts and entertainment criticism.

Kavanagh, a junior majoring in communication, won in the opinion category for her editorial on commuter rights and for a commentary on her reaction as a journalist to the events of September 11.

Kavanagh's layout for the issue covering the World Trade Center attacks and for the issue devoted to William Paterson University's June graduation won the second place award for layout. Her photograph of a graduating senior proudly displaying her new degree won second place in the photography category.

"I think it speaks volumes about the staff's work and the paper itself that we won six awards," said Kavanagh. "It's really great."

Allinder, a junior majoring in communication, won an honorable mention citation for her campus news reporting. The articles were "More than 700 sign up to give blood" and "Change in policy means campus parties may cost more".

Ortiz, who graduated in January with a communication degree, won an honorable mention citation for his commentary on how Grammy award voters were out of touch with current music trends. Ortiz is working as a reporter for the *Lakeland Ledger*, in

Lakeland, Fla., as part of a three-month post-graduate internship sponsored by the Chips Quinn Scholarship program, a national award for minority journalists.

In July, he will go to the Poynter Institute for Media Studies in St. Petersburg, Fla., where he won a post-graduate writing fellowship.

Koziol also graduated in January with a communication degree, and won an honorable mention citation for her columns "The Angry Commuter: Always the last to know" and "The Angry Commuter: An antisocial butterfly".

More than 200 entries in 10 categories were submitted to the contest from 15 New Jersey college newspapers. Those entries were reviewed by 16 editors, writers and photographers drawn from New Jersey Press Association membership newspa-

pers, including the Bergen Record, the Herald News, and the Asbury Park Press.

The *Pioneer Times* is published under the auspices of the Communication Department, but is open to all students at the university. Dr. Tina Leshner and Prof. Elizabeth Birge, who teach journalism in the Communication Department, advise the paper.

Do you have something to say?

Write it down and send it to us!

The Pioneer Times accepts commentary submissions.

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The Dive Bar is perfect for locals, tourists alike



PT photo by Franklin Woolf

HANGIN'—Just another night at the Dive Bar for (from left) Andie Hernandez, Clint Bond Jr., and Kendra Kolker.

By Franklin Woolf
Staff Writer

On Friday evenings, Clint Bond Jr. works the floor of The Dive Bar. He may not be able to save the world from an evil empire or even protect you from the mob, but Bond can help you select one of 14 beers on-tap and is always ready to take your order.

Located at 732 Amsterdam Ave, between 95th and 96th Streets, The Dive Bar is a New York night-spot that attracts all walks of life.

Beside the many beers to choose from, the pub offers an extensive list of bourbons and whiskeys. Looking for something different? Order a specialty drink, such as the "Dive Orgasm," made with Bacardi O, Jagermeister, and cranberry and pineapple juices.

Sports enthusiasts are drawn to the six televisions, which are easily seen from the bar or the pool table and dartboard. But be sure to get there early; after 10:30 p.m. the bar is often standing-room-only.

Neighborhood locals frequent The Dive Bar, but are hardly the standard. Columbia University students and international visitors lodged the nearby hostel often tip a few back, as well as those who have left New York and return to see old friends.

The Dive Bar's menu keeps its clientele coming back. Menu selections range from Louis ala Francese and Chef Louis' Mexican Specialties to Dive Burgers, sandwiches and a large selection of munchies. The chicken burrito is a perennial favorite.

Springtime events, such as St. Patrick's Day karaoke and bus-trips to Yankee Stadium, always prove to be well worth the money, and a good time for all.

So if you're looking for good food, people and a large selection of beer, try The Dive Bar.

Dublin House: Taste of Ireland in NYC

By Franklin Woolf
Staff Writer

If you're looking for an Irish pub in the New York City, this is the place.

The Dublin House has been around for more than eighty years. Although it started out as a speakeasy in the 1920s, this tavern has become a legal and respectful place to spend time.

The Dublin House is easy to recognize, located at W.79 St. between Broadway and Amsterdam Ave; simply look for the big neon harp above the doorway. Once you enter, you will see a long bar that seats approximately 45 people. To the right of the bar is a row of tables; a back room with additional tables offers more privacy.

Mike Cormican, who is originally from the west coast of Ireland and has worked at the Dublin House for 10 years. He says his regular customers are col-

lege students and people who work or live in the area, although many tourists come in to see what a New York Irish pub is like.

"We have the best pint of Guinness in NYC," said Cormican.

The Dublin House offers a full bar with five beers on tap including Harp, Bass and Guinness.

Cormican doesn't need to be reminded that March 17 is St. Patrick's Day. Ask him what's planned, and he'll tell you, "Every night in the Dublin House is St. Patrick's Day."

The juke box can be found at the end of the bar, along with one the widest ranges of music found anywhere. CDs include everything from traditional Irish music to heavy metal. Looking for a particular artist? Try Miles Davis, The Beatles, The Chieftains,



The Best of New York

As part of the continued healing from the Sept. 11 attacks, the Pioneer Times will be featuring reviews of New York City bars, restaurants and clubs in the hopes of reinstating confidence in the city and helping students to find a good time on the weekends.

Who said good service was dead? Burger Heaven offers excellent service, prices

By Robin Kavanagh
Editor

Trekking through New York City one can work up a fierce appetite. One of the hardest decisions for any local, student, tourist or worker who pounds the pavement is where to go to feed that need. Well, if you find yourself on Lexington Avenue, Burger Heaven is the perfect answer.

Located just a few blocks from Hunter College, 804 Lexington is home to big burgers, of all types, fast and friendly service and a huge array of breakfast and lunch creations that prove the small restaurant's motto: "Fresh from the Garden and Grill."

A modest \$15 will get you a 1-inch-high turkey burger, served on a bun with the usual lettuce and tomato, a side of fries, a large soda, and even a slice of carrot cake for dessert.

And if you're feeling adventurous, I recommend asking for their spicy cayenne Buffalo sauce as an addition to your burger. But save yourself an extra \$5 for the tip—the service is well worth it. Smiles, attention and speed turn a lunchtime rush into a relaxing break from your day.

But the burgers are just the beginning. Burger Heaven offers sandwiches, ranging from red lobster salad to a grilled vegetable melt, on your choice of breads: white, whole wheat, rye, roll, bagel, pit, English muffin or bialy.

Breakfast lovers can drown in the assortment of eggs and omelets, available all day.

Vegetarians are also welcome. Burger Heaven provides veggie-friendly dishes, such as vegetarian chili served over your choice of rice or potato (mashed or baked). Tropical fruit, Greek, chef, spinach and grilled vegetable are the salads of choice at Burger Heaven. And check out the side dishes for even more veggie favorites.

It's not BYOB here. Burger Heaven offers beer, both foreign and domestic, red and white wine, flavored coffee, cappuccino, milkshakes, ice cream sodas, iced teas, lemonade...and the list goes on and on.

Being in business since 1943 has made this family owned establishment a place for everyone. Just one warning: get there before 12:30 p.m. for lunch or you may find yourself on a line out the door. But the wait is well worth it.



PT photo by Franklin Woolf

AT YOUR SERVICE—Mike Cormican fills up the pint glasses all night at the Dublin House.

Metallica, or Bruce Springsteen; all are featured.

Among celebrities who have stopped in are Matt Dylan and Dave Wells of the Yankees.

Whether you need a place to start or finish your night in the city, The Dublin House is always a sure bet.

University offers new health services program for women

By Sara Kiesslin
Staff Writer

Students no longer have to leave campus for specialized health services, such as screenings for cancer or sexually transmitted diseases, contraceptive devices or health-related counseling and education.

Since September 2001, those services have been available from Women's Health Services at WPU's Health and Wellness Center in Wayne Hall.

Previously, women students who required gynecological care were given a pass by the Women's Health Service to an outside institution, which performed those services at a reduced cost. But for students without cars, especially freshmen, this was problematic.

"We don't want students to worry about sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy on their own," said Lori Prol, head of the Women's Health Services. "They (students) should have the care they need readily available to them, and now they do."

According to Prol, the number of pregnancy tests administered on campus, and those that have come out positive, have been drastically reduced by the addition of these services. Students are now able to purchase oral contraceptives from the center at a reduced cost of \$15 for a month's worth of pills.

Emergency contraceptives and counseling are also available at the center, but students must call within 72 hours of having unprotected sex.

"We are here to educate students on having a healthy sex life," said Prol. "It's not just about the services we are able to provide, but also the guidance and information we can pass on to the students to help them make healthy decisions."

Student health insurance covers the main cost of these services, allowing the center to charge only a minimal fee.

The Women's Health Services operates out of the Health and Wellness Center Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12-3 p.m. These hours are reserved for female students only and the offices are shut down to anyone without an appointment. All appointments must be made in person at the Health and Wellness Center. Call ex. 2360 or visit the center for more information.

The Pioneer Times will hold a staff meeting on Tuesday, April 2 in C142 during Common Hour. All staff members should attend.

Anyone interested in working for the paper is also welcome. If you can't make it, but would still like to participate in upcoming issues, contact Prof. Liz Birge at ex. 2656 or e-mail us at: pioneertimes@student.wpnj.edu

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Campus Vignettes

The Pioneer Times announces its new series, Campus Vignettes. Every issue, we will be running small profiles of some of the people that make the WPU campus tick. As always, we are open to suggestions. If you know someone who has an interesting story, e-mail us at pioneertimes@student.wpunj.edu. Enjoy!

Silverman looks forward to 'mashing metal' during retirement

By Paula Zecca
Staff Writer

Ask Psychology Professor Dr. Toby Silverman what she has to keep her busy after her retirement in May and she'll give you a list about a mile long.

Near the top of that list is working in the Hemlock Farms Recycling Center in Lords Valley, Pa., on weekends as a substitute recycling attendant, a position she has held for two years.

Prior to taking the position, Silverman witnessed constant fighting between the male workers and patrons, followed by frequent phone calls to the police. She explained to the director that if the center had a woman employed there would be less fighting. The director then dared her to take the job.

So she did.

Silverman said she enjoys the physicality of the job, which includes separating trash, operat-

ing compactors and directing traffic.

The center is usually a place of solitude, but Silverman was surprised at how many people visit there on holidays. She worked Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve, and couldn't believe the number of people who came to the dump on those days, not to mention their generosity.

"They brought me dinner and a box of cookies," she said.

Many people are interested in the rare finds that employees come across and, for this reason, a "Wish List" has been posted at the center, including names and phone numbers of people and the items for which they are looking.

Silverman has a special interest in recycling and she said she would rather put something aside for someone than leave it in the trash.

"I like the idea that we're not polluting and people take things," she said of the "Wish List."

Among the things that Silverman has recovered for herself are a roll-top desk, a bedroom set dating back to the 1930s and her most recent find - an attache case with a \$20 bill and a Tiffany sterling silver pen inside.

Silverman will retire from WPU this May after spending close to 27 years teaching classes in the Psychology Department. Although she feels terrific about her pending retirement, Silverman said she would miss her teaching duties and interaction with the students.

On her long list of things to do are to pursue her love of pottery, to swim, to mountain bike, to take her mother on a cruise, and to complete her third murder mystery novel. Silverman will also continue her duties as a recycling attendant and looks forward to pursuing new endeavors at the center as well, such as operating the 14-foot-high heavy-duty construction vehicles, which are used to "mash metal," as Silverman puts it.

At 54, granny Stomber prefers volleyballs to rocking chairs

By Donna Alvarez
Staff Writer

Don't let this 59-year-old mother of three and grandmother of seven fool you.

Barbara Stomber, development associate in the Office of Institutional Advancement, is no knitting rocker. She swims several times a week, plays tennis, hikes, cross-country skis and plays competitive volleyball with women half her age.

At 5 feet, 8 inches tall, she's the team's favorite player. Depending on her court location, she sets or spikes.

"My daughters also play on the team", she says. "Diane isn't playing right now; she's too busy with her three boys. But Karen is still playing. We need her desperately. At 6 feet, she's an awesome spiker."

Kilroy Park, the Wayne Recreational League team on which Stomber plays, is in

first place. In fact, the team has been first for the last two out of three years, and expects to win the title again this year.

"I'm not the best player on the team," she argues. "But I am the most experienced. I've been playing for 35 years!"

Stomber, however, isn't always serious and competitive. She is usually laughing, frequently joking about misplacing her glasses.

In fact, at a recent meeting of Catholic Campus Ministry, Father Lou Scurti was desperately looking for his glasses. Stomber, chairperson of the annual Communion Breakfast, was busy preparing for the meeting and scribbling notes. After several minutes of searching the room for his glasses, the priest realized Stomber, who had misplaced her glasses, was wearing his!

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American workers' dreams championed

'Working' comes to the Shea Center

By Holly Tedesco
Staff Writer

Extraordinary dreams of ordinary people.

"Working," William Paterson's upcoming musical is about just that.

Based on the best-selling book of interviews with American workers by Studs Terkel, this play is a resurrection of your typical blue-collar worker whose unfulfilled dreams still capture pure American spirit.

"This musical celebrates the American worker—the fireman, the waitress, the construction worker, etc." said Professor Ed Matthews, producing director of the Performing Arts Theatre Series and "Working" director. "I thought it would be appropriate at this time to reinforce our nation's theme. Although we're a country of individuals, the whole is greater

than the sum of its parts."

The cast includes seven current students, one former student, two alumni, as well as two Theatre Series veterans, who are unaffiliated with WPU. One of these two men, Jeffrey Norman, was in the recent production "How I Learned to Drive."

According to Matthews, the most challenging part of making a musical is maximizing the talents of the cast, crew and staff to help reveal the author's point of view.

Stephen Schwartz conceived of his play after reading Terkel's book of interviews with real people. The original production ran on Broadway in 1978 and has since been revised to reflect a more contemporary society.

"We're using characters from the revised version of 'Working,'" said Matthews. "Back then, office assistants were called secretaries

and didn't use computers, just as the grocery store clerk didn't use a scanner. We wanted the audience to relate to the characters on a personal level."

"Working" is not a "book" musical, nor is it a "star vehicle" type of play. Therefore, there are no main characters. This play explores the American workday from all angles. The characters talk and sing about their life on the job, as well as their hopes and aspirations.

"The audience can expect a great time watching a fun show that is highly original and moving," says Matthews.

Working runs on April 11 through 13 and 15 at 8:00 p.m.; April 14 at 3:00 p.m.; and April 16 at 12:30 p.m. at the Shea Center for Performing Arts. Tickets are available at the Box Office.

rather distressing kind of situation because it would restrict the university and the radio station in what (we) are trying to accomplish."

Gov. James E. McGreevey cut the state budget in the budget in January, costing public colleges and universities \$65 million; of that William Paterson lost nearly \$3 million in state-appropriated funding and has been ordered to pay that amount back to the state.

"The trickle down effect... is that my two budget items got cut," said Stotyn.

Department chairs acknowledged that some belt tightening is going on in their areas, as requested by the university, but disagree about the long-term effects on their programs or hurt to the students.

Shortly after the state cuts were announced, WPU President Arnold Speert assured the university community that there would be no staff layoffs and that he hoped whatever budget adjustments had to be made would be done as to minimize the impact on students. Several department chairs have said, despite reductions, that goal is being met.

"We are having to cut back on some things—especially equipment," said Dr. John Omachonu, Communication Department chair. "Emergency needs are being met as they come up. Non-emergencies are being pushed back until July. All classroom needs are being met. Students would not have to suffer as a result of these budget cuts."

The chairs of two other departments have called the cuts "minor" and say the budget reductions will not affect students.

"It's just a minor cut," said Dr. Gary Gerardi, Chemistry and Physics Department chair. "[We will use our remaining budget] to make sure lab equipment is working and there is enough for students."

"In academic departments, the cuts are minor," said Dr. Susan Godar, Marketing and Management Department chair, "because the administration has determined that students wouldn't be directly hit."

"I think that, right now, we're focused on making sure that students aren't impacted," Godar continued. "Because of the timing of the budget cuts, commitments had already been made for the spring semester for things like courses and faculty."

Godar suggested that students who want to prevent future cuts needed to write their state legislators.

"If you want to have quality instruction and a quality place to learn, you need to make your desires known to the people in Trenton," said Godar. "They make real decisions about where the budget gets cut and where it doesn't."

But even now, the economic future of the state doesn't look any better. State officials have warned that the budget problems may deepen in the next fiscal year.

As for Stotyn, he is saddened that the current economics of the state and the university is affecting his program.

"I think that I might say that it is distressing that an academic institution is finding it necessary to take fiscal action that harms academic programs such as the radio station," he said.

U of Wisconsin students protest budget cuts

By Nahal Toosi

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

MADISON, Wis. - Tuition increase? Heck, no!
Budget cuts? Heck, no!
Protest? Sure, why not?

Armed with plastic piggy banks, posters and plenty of opinions, about 500 students from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and other colleges marched down the city streets and onto the Capitol steps last week, chanting against proposals to increase tuition and decrease state funding of the UW system.

Jay L. Smith, president of the system's Board of Regents, also said he would schedule a meeting of the board's executive committee within the next few days to consider lifting a freeze on admissions that was put in place about two weeks ago in response to the proposed budget cuts.

The students' ire was directed at the site assembly, which passed a measure that would cut state aid to the system by about \$108 million while increasing in-state tuition 8 percent and out-of-state tuition 2 percent. Their hopes were directed toward the state senate, where Democrats in the majority have voted to restore much of the funding.

"Senate, please, don't steal our degree!" students yelled while holding posters that ranged from the somewhat creative (Show us the money!) to the vulgar. The protest was organized by Associated Students of

Madison, the UW-Madison student government.

About two weeks ago, the UW System suspended admissions, saying it would be foolish to continue admitting students if the universities do not have proper resources to educate them. It also froze hiring.

Regents received a letter last week signed by the 18 senate Democrats who promised financial support for the system, specifically its now-endangered economic stimulus package, which would have enrolled 2,600 more students in high-tech and science fields while bringing on more faculty.

The current students, however, are more worried about their tuition bills.

"I don't think the students should be the ones to pay for (the budget crisis) out of their pockets," said Erin Salisbury, 21, an elementary education major in her fourth year. "It should be the state's problem, not the students'. I just think our school's reputation is going down with this."

Upon reaching the Capitol, 33 students took the piggy banks, which were clear and empty except for a note in each listing the students' demands, and delivered them to the senators' offices.

"I heard you outside," Sen. Majority Leader Chuck Chvala said to the four-person delegation that greeted him. He assured the protesters that the budget bill that passes his chamber will be kinder to students and the UW System.

"We've just got to set priorities," he said.

Rothman

Continued from Page 1

an e-mail sent to the Pioneer Times, "so I am handling this one."

The New Jersey Executive Commission on Ethical Standards is a state committee that was set up to "administer and enforce the New Jersey Conflicts of Interest Law."

Rothman believes that the board's refusal to grant his requests of action against ZBT places it in violation of this title.

"I had asked the board to step forward and do the right thing and act in a democratic fashion," said Rothman. "But in my opinion that was not done at that meeting."

The complaint filed with the Passaic County Superior Court accuses the university officials of violating the "Open Public Meetings Act." The complaints focuses on the investigation the university conducted.

Rothman believes that he should have had access to information regard-

ing the investigation, as well as been allowed to be present at closed meetings of the board where the investigation was discussed. Rothman is also citing the Freedom of Information Act in both cases.

Neither the Executive Commission on Ethical Standards or the Passaic County Superior Court would comment on whether or not they plan to move forward with any further action and no court dates have been set.

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From left: "The World's Tallest Leprechaun" (or so his hat says) watches the first N.Y. fire company march by; the first of New York's Bravest; N.Y. Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton; a woman blushes as firefighters scream, "WE LOVE YOU NEW YORK!" into the crowd.

Reporter's Notebook: Irish not parade stars

By Robin Kavanagh
Editor

Forget the Irish.

I feel I can say that without offending many people because I am Irish. But the New York City event that is an excuse for everyone to be Irish, even just for a day, did not fulfill its purpose this year. The real stars of the St. Patrick's Day parade were not those from the Emerald Isle (or those who would like to be), but the legions of New York City police officers and firefighters who marched proudly among the rows of bagpipe players and step dancers.

It was they who fueled the crowd of spectators who packed both sides of Fifth Avenue and the windows in the buildings above, and filled them with admiration and pride. It was they who made old women blush and young bucks cheer. It was they who screamed, "WE LOVE YOU NEW YORK!" only to be answered by the crowd, "WE LOVE YOU TOO!" It was they that brought tears to my eyes at the mere sight of their numbers, and lingering air of their courage and dedication.

You could not determine whether the breeze floating down the street was from the wind picking up or from the endless clapping of the spectators. They refused to stop. Hand upon hand

upon hand swayed in motion until the last row of New York's bravest and finest had passed.

Men and women with faces bare and unmarked, worn and experienced, marched proudly, some carrying pictures of those lost to Sept. 11. Women, stood tall and elegant, decked in the fashion of their comrades and just as pumped, walked shoulder to shoulder among the honored.

Babies looked mesmerized, as babies often do, with shamrocks painted on their cheeks and the flags of both Ireland and America in their hands. They watched from strollers under police barricades, on shoulder tops and in arms as the first wave of firefighters came marching up the avenue in a blur of red, white and blue.

In what seemed to be a battalion of urban soldiers, each held a full sized American flag on a staff as if to announce the rest were on their way. One tear, then two tears hit the pavement as I watched.

Before them came the endless rows of the men and women in blue, New York's Finest, dressed in their best uniforms and commanding a respect unparalleled in New York history. Among them marched the icons of New York and New Jersey's political arena: New York Mayor Mike Bloomberg, awash

with TV cameras and media personnel; New York Senator Hillary Clinton, shining her smile for all to see; New York Gov. George Pataki and New Jersey Gov. James E. McGreevey (marching on crutches) made a historic walk together; and former New York City Mayors Ed Koch and Rudy Giuliani, who still made locals go wild.

In the crowd, you could see police and firefighters from near and far come to support their own; Roxbury, N.J., the Bronx, Queens, Pennsylvania and even Oregon all were represented among the masses. They also all received applause and thanks from civilians they met. Even if they were not here to help with Sept. 11, these men and women were still part of the raw emotions that New York is still experiencing.

And then it happened; everything stopped. A voice over a bullhorn said that it was then exactly 12:30 p.m. and that the whole city would face south and observe a moment of silence. The thousands of voices, only second before uproarious with the spirit of the occasion, suddenly fell silent. Peers reprimanded those daring to break the silence. It was almost like the impossible had happened. New York was devoid of sound.

Silence. Silence. Silence. Then, like a crowd wave at a baseball game, cheers

and joy rang down the street. We were thankful to be alive and the parade went on, but there wasn't much point to stay after that. The firefighters and police had passed and the crowd's energy was waning.

As I was leaving, Connley's Pub and Grill on 47th Street was overflowing with customers. They were spunky folks who were enjoying this unique day while sharing pints and spirits on the street with those still waiting to get their chance to march. These strangers formed a sort of block party, as if they had all been friends forever.

I think that scene sums up the spirit of New York. The proof can be seen every day when police officers in Greenwich Village are applauded for just doing their jobs. Or when four firemen (one with a shamrock painted on his head) from the 63rd Engine Company in the Bronx pose for a picture taken by a stranger. Or when the governors from two states walk side-by-side to show the people they represent that they care. This is the deep love that penetrates all that New York is and is the ultimate show to the world that terrorism did not get the better of the Big Apple.



PT photos by Robin Kavanagh
From left: N.J. Gov. James E. McGreevey; a grieving N.Y. fireman memorializes a fallen brother; members of the 63rd Engine company in the Bronx pose for a shot; an excited boy waves his Irish flag as police officers file by.