

The Beacon

Volume 45, No. 11
November 19, 1992

Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
Wilkes University's Weekly Student Publication

Wilkes has its own special connection with Norman Mailer

By STACY HECK
Beacon Ad Manager

"After finally meeting him in October of 1972," said Dr. J. Michael Lennon, "I was surprised to discover that the image the media portrays of him is distorted. He is a genial, good listener, who is extremely interested in people and places, has a wonderful sense of humor, and doesn't want to arm wrestle with you."

Could this really be the Norman Mailer we have all read about? The same man who *The Times Leader* portrays in the following manner? "He boozed with the best of them, brawled with anyone bold enough to block his path and staged a wild, radical campaign for political office in the tumultuous '60s."

When asked about what it is like to actually know a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, Lennon said he feels he's had a great opportunity. "You don't get a chance like this in your life-time," added Lennon, "It's a great pleasure!"

Some of the traits Lennon said makes a Pulitzer Prize winner in Mailer are that he's always been devoted to the craft and profession of writing (since the age of 18 or 19).

"He took his great native abilities and sharpened them," said Lennon. "He also has an instinct for knowing what people will be concerned about in the future. He's way ahead. For instance, he wrote about drugs long before the 1960s and science and technology long before a man stepped on the moon. He has the gift of anticipating the next cultural wave."

"Mailer has the vision, style, and ability to see and shape an event—like reading a story," commented Dr. Patricia Heaman, Chair of the Wilkes English Department.

Heaman continued by saying that Mailer is a major American novelist who constantly experiments and is always looking for new forms and styles. "He has



Norman Mailer

incredible versatility and development," said Heaman.

Repetition is a bad thing, insofar as Mailer is concerned, according to Lennon. "Mailer tends not to repeat himself. He moves from project to project, a strange of novelistic technique he delivers," said Heaman, "and I expect him to surprise me again in his next project."

Lennon continued by saying that he loves all Mailers' works, but most of all the non-fiction works and "Harlot's Ghost." "Here he has a marvelous combination of fiction and history," said Lennon.

Although Mailer is almost 70 years old, Lennon assured me he is in good health, and (See Mailer, Page 3)

Aids Day plans finalized

By MARLENE MATOSKY
Beacon Staff Writer

Debbie Zehner and Dr. Michael Steele, faculty organizers of World AIDS Day, are looking forward to December 1. This is the day on which Wilkes University will be providing students, staff, faculty and the community with the best and most accurate information on AIDS.

"Everything is ready to go," Zehner stated enthusiastically. "The Department of Health was here on Monday to check the accuracy of the poster presentations. They were pleased with the information the students are giving out."

Zehner repeatedly emphasized that the students are involved. Twenty-one poster presentations are being displayed by the clubs and organizations of Wilkes. "The students worked marvelously," commented Zehner. Some of the students ran presentations, and activities include a reading of *The Normal Heart*, the first play about AIDS, performed by *Manuscript*, a poster presentation by the Biology Club on testing for AIDS and a presentation on how to lift self-esteem of elementary and junior high school students, presented by the Education Club.

The students are not the only ones involved, however. Some members of the faculty are giving

talks on the legal, social, biological and ethical aspects of AIDS. One such talk will be given by Dr. Robert Steele, entitled "What the Government Doesn't Want Us to Know About AIDS."

Zehner likes the fact that a "variety of issues from different disciplines are being presented by the people. Everyone is presenting the disease from a different angle."

"The purpose of the day is to provide people with community and peer support. This may help others in current decision making to reduce risky behavior," added Zehner. "The students are presenting information on AIDS to other students. Maybe those students who are putting themselves in danger will see it is o.k. to say no," concluded Zehner.



Debbie Zehner

Wilkes student involved in campus hit-and-run

By BONNEE BREESE
Beacon Editor In Chief

On Wednesday evening of last week at approximately 7:15 p.m., a hit-and-run accident occurred on South Franklin Street in front of the Eugene Farley Library involving a car owned by Wilkes student Heidi Hojnowski. No one was hurt in the crash.

As Hojnowski was leaving

the parking lot adjacent to the library, she pulled onto the street and was rear-ended by an unknown car. Hojnowski's car was pushed under another car that was parked on South Franklin Street. "I didn't even know what hit me," said Hojnowski.

The Wilkes-Barre Police and Wilkes University Security were called by *Beacon* staff members who heard the crash. Many people

who were passing by at the time of the accident stopped to see if anyone was in need of assistance.

A woman that had been driving behind the car that caused the crash tried to follow the car but was unsuccessful in her pursuit. The woman was unable to give Hojnowski the license plate number of the car but said that it was "a black sports car."

(See Accident, Page 3)



(Mailer, Cont. from Page 1)

besides the normal aging process, has not slowed down any.

"I expect Mailer to continue writing and be there in the public scene," added Lennon, "and I hope he will finish 'Harlot's Ghost' so we can all find out the ending!"

Mailer will give a reading of his works in the CPA tonight at 7:30, after which he will be available for a book signing.

(Accident, Cont. from Page 1)

"He turned right at Northhampton Street and sped up," the woman said. "I couldn't catch him."

Soon after, police and security forces arrived on the scene. The police officer proceeded to find out if anyone was hurt in the crash. He then surveyed the area and found the skid marks left by the unknown car. He told Hojnowski to have her car removed from

the street.

Security rushed to clean up the debris and glass that resulted from the accident. Hojnowski was escorted into the library by a *Beacon* staff member to make a telephone call to her father to find out what she should do. She told the staff member, "I've never been in an accident before. I don't know what to do."

FEATURES

Talent Show throws spotlight on students

BY PATTY PUERLING
Features Editor

Students entered the spotlight Thursday, November 12 at the United Way Talent Show, sponsored by Student Government. The show contained a mixture of song, dance and comedy. The evening was hosted by senior John Comerford. The judges were Mike "The Cafman", Wayne N. McDonnell Jr., President of Inter-Residence Hall Council, and Dr. Anne Heineman Batory, Faculty Associate in the President's office.

The first act turned out to be the top act of the night. The Percussion Ensemble, featuring Shawn Hart, Stan Griffiths, Dan Moyer and Keith Nichols, performed a piece called "Kuka Ilimoku." Their performance was entertaining and lively, and it showed a great deal of strength and talent.

While the back set was being changed, Bob Burns played

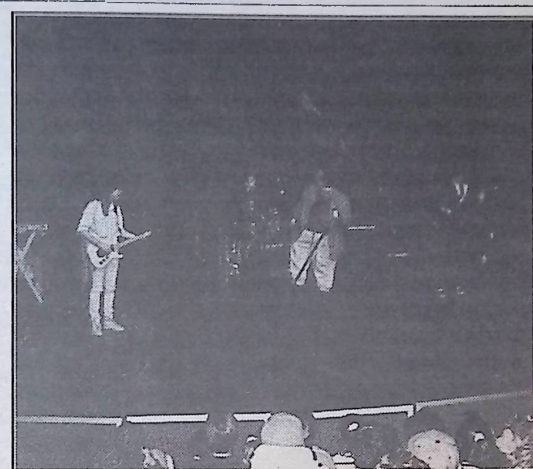
a guitar solo called "Changing Sky's." This selection was both as calm and soothing as floating clouds and as loud and distorted as a stormy day.

Next up was Bonnie Maas, who sang the song "Miracle." She sang with a strong voice that brought the crowd to a hush.

Following Bonnie was James Harris doing a rap called "Funky President." He had the crowd going wild as he rapped up and down the stage.

The second place winner of the evening was a dance act. Adrienne Tinney performed "Kitri's Variation" from Act III of the ballet "Don Quixote." It was a beautiful dance that thrilled the audience.

Zinjanthropos was a band that performed Aerosmith's "Sweet Emotions" and "The Doors' "Roadhouse Blues." If one didn't know any better, one would think they were the real thing. They had both a professional sound and presence about them that was very impressive.



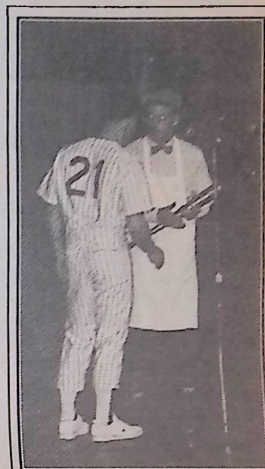
Zinjanthropos featuring Matt Brennar, Stan Griffiths, Steve Horoszko, Maurice Kennedy and Ryan Kofron.

They took third prize at the show.

Other acts that followed were Michael Brakefield and Michael Evans performing "Who's on First," Bob Pitera and Doug Rafeld singing "Margaritaville," "Brown Eyed Girl" and "Bob's Song". Wilkes University's own mas-

cot, Colonel Bob, also did an act consisting of juggling and unicycling.

The last act of the night was a comedy/ventriloquism act featuring Bob Delbo, Jeff Costello, Mike McCree, Vinny Mercuri, Larry Trakes and Mark Trakes. Whether or not a lot of talent is required to fake ventriloquism,



"Who's on First?" with Michael Brakefield and Michael Evans

the act was definitely funny.

During the night, several door prizes were awarded. Domino's Pizza donated four large pies and Red Lobster donated a gift certificate for lunch for two. All of the proceeds from the show were donated to the United Way.

Norman Mailer displayed in Library

BY STEPHANIE KRAMER
Beacon Staff Writer

Norman Mailer - An Exhibition on the Man and His Works is on display in the Eugene S. Farley Library through November. The exhibit, assembled by Wilkes University Librarian Jon Lindgren, is a collection of items from the personal archives of both Mailer himself and his friend Dr. J. Michael Lennon, Vice President of Academic Affairs at Wilkes.

Featured in the exhibit is Mailer's first national publication, "The Greatest Thing in

the World." This work by the 18-year-old Mailer appeared in the November/December 1941 issue of *Story* magazine.

Also on display is a scrapbook created by Mailer's parents following the publication of their son's first novel, *The Naked and the Dead*. This novel established international fame for Mailer and was published numerous times in both English and various foreign languages.

A wide array of Mailer's other publications are also on display, along with family photos, letters to Lennon regarding works in progress and magazines in which Mailer has been

featured.

A unique item on exhibit is a telegram dated May 5, 1969, in which Columbia University trustees informed Mailer that he had won a Pulitzer Prize for *The Armies of the Night*. Also of interest is a shooting draft of *The Executioner's Song*, (dated September 25, 1981), a Mailer novel that was later made into a screenplay.

These are among the many memoirs featured in a display detailing the continuing career of Norman Mailer. Tonight at 7:30 p.m., Mailer will be reading from his works in the CPA.

Saturday night's comedian a success



By PATTY PUERLING
Features Editor

This past Saturday night, Pat McCurdy came to Rumours to play his guitar and make people laugh. He

did just that, performing such bits as "Barry Manilow Sings Nirvana." He got the crowd involved in singing tunes such as "We're Gonna Have a Nude Party."