

Dedication of the Norman Mailer Room
E.S. Farley Library
Wilkes University
April 1, 2001

Master of Ceremonies	Mr. Jon T. Lindgren University Librarian
Introduction	Dr. J. Michael Lennon Professor of English
Dedication	Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth President
Remarks	Mr. Norman Mailer



Exhibits

Adjacent Stark Room:

Photographs of Norman Mailer taken at various intervals.
(Arranged chronologically in three rows.)

Adjacent Eleanor Farley Room:

Various sources, manuscript to print, from various writings on, and participation in, politics. Above the case is a poster from the Mailer New York City mayoral campaign in 1969.

Inside the Norman Mailer Room:

Exhibit case contains various awards, honors, and prizes accorded Norman Mailer for his achievements, including the citations for Pulitzer Prizes for *The Armies of the Night* (1969) and *The Executioner's Song* (1980).

On the Mailer Table (gift of Norman and Norris Church Mailer):
Signed first editions of nearly all of Norman Mailer's book publications. (Gifts of J. Michael and Donna Pedro Lennon.)



The President and the Board of Trustees
of
Wilkes University
cordially invite you and your guest to attend

The Twentieth Annual Event
of
The Max Rosenn Lecture Series
In Law and Humanities

Sunday, April 1, 2001 — 7:30 P.M.

Darte Center for the Performing Arts
Wilkes University

Guest Speaker
Norman Mailer

Renowned Novelist and Two-Time Pulitzer Prize Winner
Norman Mailer on American Presidents
from JFK to Bill Clinton

A book signing will follow lecture

Please respond by March 23, 2001

NORMAN MAILER

Novelist, biographer, cultural critic, filmmaker, and 1943 graduate of Harvard College in engineering. Norman Mailer was born 1923 in Long Branch, New Jersey, and grew up in Brooklyn, New York. He served as a rifleman with the 112th Cavalry in the South Pacific during World War II. He authored 40 books, including *The Naked and the Dead*, *Advertisements For Myself*, *The Armies of the Night*, *The Executioner's Song*, *Harlot's Ghost*, *Oswald's Tale: An American Mystery*, *The Gospel According to the Son*, and *The Time of Our Time*.

Mr. Mailer has directed four feature-length films, was a co-founder of *The Village Voice* in 1955, and ran unsuccessfully for mayor of New York in 1969. He served as president of the American PEN from 1984 to 1986.

The winner of two Pulitzer Prizes, Mr. Mailer also received a National Book Award, and the Emerson-Thoreau Medal from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.



Rosenn Lecture Series

You and your guest are cordially invited to attend
the Dedication Ceremonies of the Normal Mailer Room
at

Wilkes University

Eugene S. Farley Library
South Franklin & West South Streets
Wilkes-Barre

Sunday, April 1, 2001 at 4:30 P.M.

Following the dedication ceremony,
please join us for a Reception and Dinner
honoring Judge Rosenn and the Rosenn Lecture Series

Sunday, April 1, 2001
5:00 P.M. — Cocktails
5:45 P.M. — Dinner

Wilkes University Student Union Ballroom
84 West South Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA

WILKES UNIVERSITY
ROSENN LECTURE SERIES

Please check appropriate response and return by March 23, 2001

- ☐ I/We will attend the Dedication of the Norman Mailer Room
- ☐ I/We will attend the Max Rosenn Lecture and Dinner
- ☐ I/We will attend the Max Rosenn Lecture
- ☐ I/We will not be able to attend the April 1, 2001 events

Name(s) _____
Please Print

Name of Guest _____
Please Print

I would appreciate being seated with:

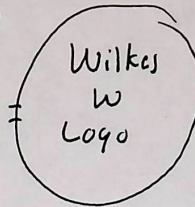
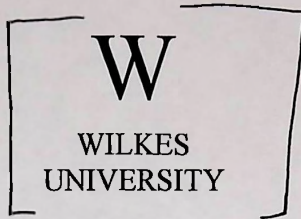
You may R.S.V.P. by phone at (570) 408-3002

ROSENN LECTURE SERIES

Wilkes University

P. O. Box 111

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766



THE PRESIDENT AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF
WILKES UNIVERSITY
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU AND YOUR GUEST TO ATTEND
THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL EVENT
OF

THE MAX ROSENN LECTURE SERIES
IN LAW AND HUMANITIES

SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2001 – 7:30 P.M.

DARTE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
WILKES UNIVERSITY

GUEST SPEAKER
NORMAN MAILER
RENOWNED NOVELIST AND TWO-TIME
PULITZER PRIZE WINNER

Norman Mailer on American Presidents from ~~1945~~ ^{JFK} to Bill Clinton

A book signing will follow lecture

Please respond by March 23, 2001

*Invitation "A". Sent to approx 1000 people on
Rosenn Lecture Series Mailing List.*

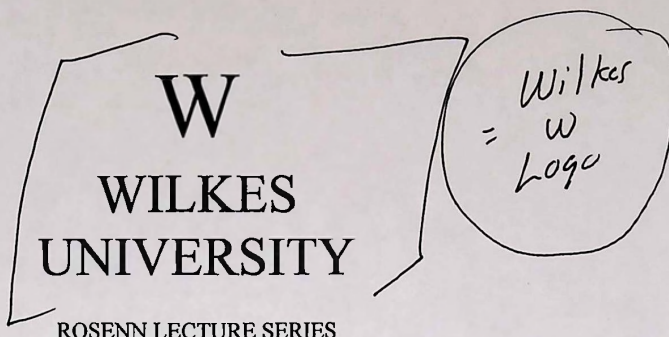
NORMAN MAILER

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Mr. Mailer is the winner of two Pulitzer Prizes, a National Book Award, and the Emerson-Thoreau Medal from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Print on reverse side of Invitation "A"



ROSENN LECTURE SERIES

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Norman Mailer Room at

WILKES UNIVERSITY
Eugene S. Farley Library
South Franklin & West South Streets
Wilkes-Barre
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Reception and Dinner
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Sunday, April 1, 2001
5:00 P.M. - Cocktails
5:45 P.M. - Dinner

WILKES UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION BALLROOM
84 West South Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA

Invitation "B".

Invitation "B" is sent with Invitation "A" to
approximately 150 people on Dinner invitation list

WILKES UNIVERSITY
ROSENN LECTURE SERIES

Please check the appropriate response and return by March 23, 2001

- [] I/We will attend the Max Rosenn Lecture Series
[] I/We will not be able to attend the April 1, 2001 event

Name(s) _____
Please Print

Name of Guest _____
Please Print

You may RSVP by phone (570) 408-3002

*Reply Card. Include with 1000 person Rosenn Lecture
Mailing List/Invitation*

WILKES UNIVERSITY
ROSENN LECTURE SERIES

Please check the appropriate response and return by March 23, 2001

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- ☐ I/We will not be able to attend the April 1, 2001 events

Name(s) _____
Please Print

Name of Guest _____
Please Print

I would appreciate being seated with:

You may RSVP by phone at (570) 408-3002

Reply Card.
Include with 150 person dinner invitation
List.

RETURN ENVELOPE

ROSENN LECTURE SERIES

Wilkes University
P.O. Box 111
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

For "A" and "B" Invitation Reply Cards.



J. Michael Lennon, Ph.D.
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Wilkes University
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766
(570)-408-4200 (P)
(570)-408-7820 (F)
lennon@wilkes.edu

- ~~Don't go back~~
- Used as a seminar room.
 - Ex. Writers Group is meeting
 - First editions of NMS writing
signed books by major scholars
 - table
 - Framed poster, degree citation, + photo
M for Mary, covers of
3 1968 mags

hope to use to catalog
M's letters



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WILKES UNIVERSITY
ROSENN LECTURE SERIES

Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Norman Mailer will speak at Wilkes

Two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Norman Mailer will be the guest speaker for the Twentieth Annual Event of the Max Rosenn Lecture Series in Law and Humanities at Wilkes University. The event is free and open to the public.

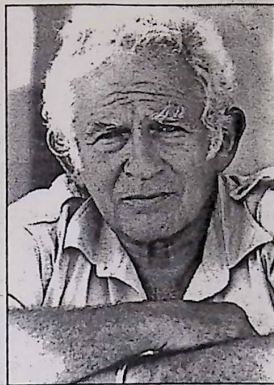
His lecture, *Norman Mailer on American Presidents: FDR to WJC*, will be held on Sunday, April 1, at 7:30 p.m., at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts. It will feature brief readings on five U.S. presidents, and Mailer will take questions from the audience. A book signing will follow, with a limit of one book per person.

Prior to the lecture, the University will formally dedicate The Norman Mailer Room at a special ribbon-cutting ceremony at 4:30 p.m. in the Eugene S. Farley Memorial Library, located on the corner of South Franklin and West South Streets. The room features a large chrome-and-glass table that was prominently displayed in Mailer's 1984 film "Tough Guys Don't Dance."

Mailer and wife Norris donated the table to Wilkes in 1999. "Norman Mailer's deepest urge has been to explore American identity and American society—the twin obsessions of his writer's life. In so doing, he has illumined our dreams and our nightmares and given us the courage to wrestle with both," said Wilkes University President Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth.

"The sum of his achievements is biography, literary criticism, poetry, history, drama, essays of every kind, political analysis, sports reportage, newspaper and magazine columns, the philosophical dialogue, and of course, the novel is without equal."

The author of more than 40 books over 50 years, Mailer won the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize in 1968 for "The Armies of the Night" and was awarded the Pulitzer again in 1980 for "The Executioner's Song." He was also a recipient of the Emerson-Thoreau Medal from the American Academy of



Norman Mailer

Arts and Letters and an Emmy nomination.

Mailer has directed four feature-length films and provided biographical studies of Marilyn Monroe, Muhammad Ali, and Gary Gilmore, and a study of the Kennedy assassination.

Mailer co-founded *The Village Voice* in 1955, was elected to the 50-member American Academy of Arts and Letters in 1984, was appointed State Author of New York in 1991, and received a Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Wilkes in 1995.

Born in 1923 in Long Branch, N.J., Mailer grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y. He earned an engineering degree from Harvard in 1943 and served as a rifleman in the South Pacific with the 112th Cavalry during World War II.

The Max Rosenn Lecture Series in Law and Humanities was established in 1980 by the judge's former law clerks, friends, and family in recognition of his 10th anniversary as Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

The annual event honors Judge Rosenn's many contributions to the field of law and to the United States judiciary system.

For more information, contact Wilkes University's Special Events Coordinator Paula Gentilman at 570-408-4306.

Rosenn Lecture Events Outline
Sunday April 1, 2001

Dedication of The Norman Mailer Room

4:30 p.m. Farley Library

- Greeting- Jon Lindgren
- Contents of Room- Dr. Michael Lennon
- Ribbon Cutting or Unveiling- President Breiseth with Norman Mailer
- Acceptance of Room- President Breiseth
- Remarks- Norman Mailer
- Closing- Jon Lindgren

Cocktails and Dinner

5:00 p.m. 5:45 Cocktails

6:00 p.m to 7:00 p.m. Dinner

- Around 5:30 p.m. President Breiseth to make remarks
- Dr. Lennon will escort Norman Mailer to the President's House
- 7:00 p.m. Paul Strunk makes an announcement about moving to the Dart Center for the Lecture
- Dr. Lennon will pick Norman Mailer up at the President's home and escort him to Room 114 in the DDD.

Lecture

7:30 p.m. Dorothy Dickson Dart Center

- Shelley Pearce, has offered her office space for Norman Mailer to use as a Green Room. The office is Dart Room 114. (Down the hallway from the back stage area)
- President Breiseth, Dr. Lennon, and Norman Mailer will enter the Stage
- President Breiseth will introduce Judge Max Rosenn and Dr. Lennon
- Dr. Lennon will introduce Norman Mailer
- President Breiseth will commentate questions (Dr. Lennon will help)
- In order for the question and answer period to be taped all questions from the audience will need to be repeated into the microphone on the podium.
- After questions Norman Mailer will interview with the media for fifteen minutes
- After media interviews he will sign books. **LIMIT ONE BOOK PER PERSON.**

*****17 Law clerks will be attending the events.**

WILKES UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

The 20th Annual Event of the Max Rosenn Lecture Series In Law and Humanities

.....
This Sunday, April 1, 2001, 7:30 p.m.
.....

featuring

Norman Mailer

Two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist

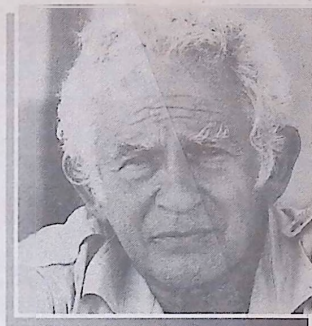
speaking on

American Presidents: JFK to WJC

Featuring brief readings and discussion on
five U.S. presidents

A book-signing will follow, with a limit of one book per person

Edward Darling Jr. Theatre
Dorothy Dickson Dart Center for the Performing Arts,
South and South River Streets, Wilkes-Barre



The power of independent thinking.®

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FREE OF CHARGE

Introduction of Norman Mailer, 20th Annual Max Rosenn Lecture
Wilkes University, April 1, 2001

By J. Michael Lennon, Professor of English, Wilkes University

Among our major living writers, Norman Mailer is perhaps the most well-known, and the most protean, both in the United States and internationally. No career in our literature has been at once so brilliant, varied, controversial, public, prolific and misunderstood. Few American writers have had their careers on the anvil of public inspection for such a lengthy period; none has been so regularly and simultaneously celebrated and castigated.

Mailer has not only published 39 books (including 11 novels), he has written plays (and staged them), screenplays (and directed and acted in them), poems (in *The New Yorker* and underground journals), and attempted every sort of narrative form, including some he invented. No record of the "new journalism" is complete without mention of his 1960s *Esquire* columns, essays and political reportage. He has reported on six sets of political conventions (1960, 1964, 1968, 1972, 1992, 1996), participated in scores of symposia, appeared and debated hundreds of times on college campuses, boxed (and fought) in several venues and led a vigorous public life in New York and Provincetown, Massachusetts, his current home. His passions, feuds, imbroglis, litigations and loyalties are numerous, notorious and complex. Happily married for a quarter of a century to Norris Church, he was wed five times previously and has nine children all told. A stalwart on radio and television talk shows, he may have been interviewed more times than any writer who has ever lived. Without being paid for his pains, he has given advice to several presidents, has run for office himself (mayor of New York), served as president of the American branch of the writers' organization, P. E. N., and won most of the literary awards, but for the Nobel. Co-founder of the *Village Voice*, he also named it, and has been the equivalent of a decathlon athlete in the effort to break down barriers between popular, elite and underground publications. He has written for at least 75 different magazines and journals.

Born in Long Branch, New Jersey in 1923, but raised in Brooklyn, Mailer graduated from Boys High School in 1939. He entered Harvard in the fall of that year as the German army marched into Poland. Mailer received his S. B. degree in engineering in 1943, and was drafted in early 1944. He served as a rifleman in the south Pacific and wrote the huge bestseller, *The Naked and the Dead* (1948), based on his experiences. Catapulted into instant fame, he has been at the center of our national cultural consciousness ever since. Mailer is, among other things, an unfrocked prophet full of foreboding about contemporary life; he celebrates the intuitional and instinctive and castigates corporate greed, plastic, and the rape of nature. But he is also, in the words of Joan Didion, "a great and obsessed stylist, a writer to whom the shape of the sentence is the story."

After a stint in Hollywood writing screenplays, Mailer wrote two more novels, *Barbary Shore* (1951), a novel of the Cold War, and *The Deer Park* (1955), a Hollywood novel about artistic integrity. In 1959, he published *Advertisements for Myself*, a showcase of all his previous work and his ambitious plans for the future, which uses his personality as

the volume's armature. Its huge influence on a generation also seeking to achieve creativity and self-realization gave Mailer a new audience and set the stage for the sixties, Mailer's happiest, most tumultuous, and productive years. He published 17 books between 1962 and 1972, including five books nominated for the National Book Award in four different categories. *The Armies of the Night* (1968), a nonfiction narrative of the anti-Vietnam War March on the Pentagon, won the National Book Award, the Pulitzer Prize and a Polk Award. He followed with *Of a Fire on the Moon* (1971), a careful study of the Apollo 11 moon shot, and *The Prisoner of Sex* (1971), a response to the Women's Liberation Movement. The pace of his publishing slowed in the mid-seventies as he worked on his novel set in the Egypt of three thousand years ago, *Ancient Evenings*, which appeared after a decade of work in 1983. He won a second Pulitzer for his critically acclaimed 1979 bestseller, *The Executioner's Song*, a 1,000-page account of the life and death of Utah murderer, Gary Gilmore. In the nineties, Mailer published the best-selling *Harlot's Ghost*, a novel of the CIA, nonfiction narratives on Pablo Picasso and Lee Harvey Oswald, and *The Gospel according to the Son*, a first-person retelling of the four gospels. He closed out the decade with a massive retrospective of his entire career, *The Time of Our Time* (1998), published fifty years to the day after *The Naked and the Dead*. He is now at work on another long narrative, the subject of which is secret.

Years ago, Theodore Bernstein, a top *New York Times* editor banned the word "unprecedented" from the paper. "Nothing is unprecedented," he said. Well, he was wrong. Please welcome the one, the only, irreplaceable and unprecedented American Proteus, Norman Mailer.

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