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THE BEACON

Sept. 18, 2012

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

Volume 65 Issue 2

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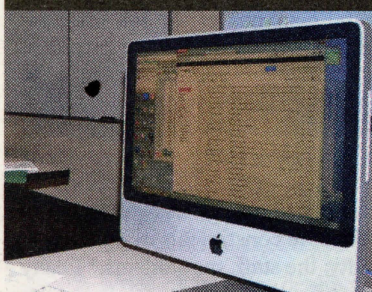
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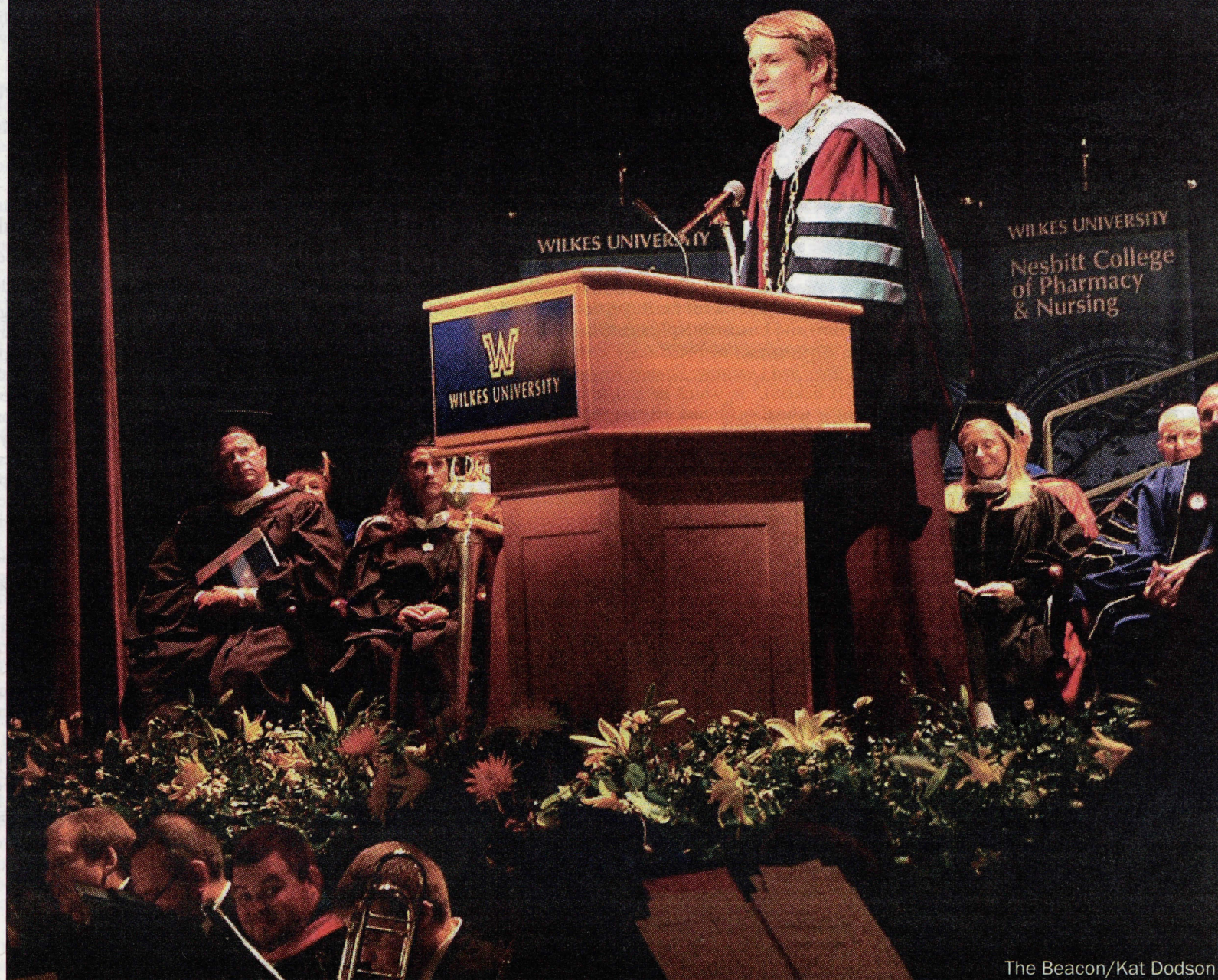
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The Beacon/Kat Dodson

For more information and content, check us out at: thewilkesbeacon.com



Sept. 18, 2012

Contact editor: christine.lee@wilkes.edu

Patrick Leahy ushers in new era at Wilkes as president

By Christine Lee
News Editor

The Wilkes campus was abuzz with activity on Thursday, Sept. 13, Friday, Sept. 14 and Saturday, Sept. 15 for the weekend of Patrick Leahy's formal installation as Wilkes' sixth president.

Reflecting on the theme of "Looking back with pride, looking forward with confidence," the weekend's festivities were arraigned by a steering committee co-chaired by Vice President of Student Affairs Paul Adams and Board of Trustees member Melanie Lumia.

Because the annual John Wilkes Society dinner, which honors Wilkes' leadership donors, happened to fall around the time of the installation celebrations, it was worked into the events leading up to the installation. It was held on Thursday night at the Westmoreland Club in Wilkes-Barre.

On Friday afternoon, five faculty members representing each of Wilkes' academic colleges presented research done in their fields. The research was part of Leahy's interest in having a faculty presentation.

"Dr. Leahy knew from the beginning that he wanted to have some kind of academic or faculty presentation and so we built that in and it just worked out that we did that as part of Friday's activities," Adams explained.

The program started off with assistant professor of biology, physics and engineering Gregory Harms of the College of Science and Engineering presented his research on "Revelations Through Image Resolutions: Stimulated Emission Depletion Microscopy and Sheet Illumination Microscopy."

Harms's research focused on improving microscopy, or the ability to visualize something small, by making the effects of a stimulated emission depletion microscopy laser smaller so scientists could see sub-cellular structures of a tissue sample. The laser would do this by turning off the signal domain "lights" of the cell selectively.

Assistant professor of education Elizabeth Johnson of the School of Education presented her research on "The Role of Statistics in Educational Research." Her presentation focused on her work with rubric development for exams and math anxiety in teachers in grades kindergarten through fifth grade.



The Beacon Archives

Dr. Patrick Leahy was officially installed as Wilkes' sixth President on Saturday, Sept. 15

Associate professor of history Diane Wenger of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences presented her research on "From Single Brother to Celebrated Snuff Maker: The Story Behind Demuth's Tobacco Shop," a case study on Demuth's Tobacco Shop that was opened from circa 1770 to 2010 in Lancaster.

Associate professor of business administration Justin Matus of the Sidhu School of Business and Leadership presented his research on "An Analysis of Technology Enhanced Pedagogy and Learning: Student Response Systems (Clickers)," in which he and several alums of the school examined whether "clickers" in the classroom have an effect on students' learning outcomes at the college level.

Associate professor of pharmacy practice Eric Wright of the Nesbitt College of Pharmacy and Nursing presented research on "Improving Health Through Patient Engagement," in which he discussed research he is involved helping patients that were not taking their prescribed medications to be able to take them.

On Friday night, students, faculty, staff and alumni were invited for a celebration of the installation in the Henry Student Center ballroom, which included free food and drinks and a dance floor for attendees to enjoy themselves to with the music of local band Pop Rox.

Adams said the committee wanted to create a series of events that culminated in the installation. In particular, the committee wanted to

have something for everyone on campus and it made sense to have the installation celebration on Friday night.

"We wanted to have a celebration for everybody at the campus, something that everybody could attend, something that everybody could enjoy, something that everyone would remember and so with a Saturday ceremony it just seemed to make sense that we would have a big campus party on Friday night," Adams said.

The weekend of events highlighting the installation theme of "Looking back with pride, looking forward with confidence" culminated on Saturday morning with Leahy's formal installation at the F.M Kirby Center on Public Square in Wilkes-Barre.

The ceremony was kicked off with a procession of 200 people that included members of the Board of Trustees, faculty, administration, delegates, alumni and student representatives from 1946 to 2016 and four past presidents.

An original musical work entitled "Noble Truths," written by associate professor of performing arts Steven Thomas with lyrics by associate professors of English Larry Kuhar and Mischelle Anthony was debuted by the University Chorus and the Robert Dale Chorale.

Speeches welcoming the new president were given by board member Virginia Sikes, Student Government President Kristofer Rivers, Matus, who is the chair of the Faculty Affairs Council, University College advising coordinator Gretchen Yeninas, Alumni Association president Thomas Ralston from the class of 1980, State Sen. John Yudichak of the 14th Senatorial District and Wilkes-Barre Mayor Tom Leighton.

A musical selection of "Fanfare and Fantasy on Wilkes Our Alma Mater," composed by associate professor of performing arts Philip Simon was performed by the Civic Band.

The keynote address was given by Rev. Scott Pilarz, president of Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis. Pilarz had previously served as the president of the University of Scranton. Pilarz was also presented with an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Board Chair Jack Miller formally installed Leahy as President with the help of board

members Melanie Lumia, the co-chair for the installation committee and Virginia Sikes, chair of the presidential search committee, by presenting Leahy with the charter of Wilkes, the seal and the presidential chain of office.

In his inaugural address, Leahy reflected on the installation theme and commented on the proud history and traditions at Wilkes while giving his outline for the future. And while he was reflective of his time at the University of Scranton, Leahy expressed to the crowd, "be forewarned Scranton, Wilkes is coming after you."

Leahy plans to spend the year getting to know the University by getting to many individuals that make up Wilkes.

"My first year will be full of getting to know the university as well as possible, the best

way to do that is to get to know as many individuals that are part of this community, the faculty members, the staff members and of course. The most constituents, the students," Leahy said. "I'm going to spend much of the first year listening and developing relationships and enjoying the opportunity to get to know Wilkes University," Leahy said.

Leahy said despite the duties of being president, he does hope to teach in the future.

"Despite the demands of the job of president, I think it's important, for the president in particular, to maintain some presence in the classroom," Leahy said.

Leahy is also said he is planning on moving his office to Weckesser Hall to be more visible on campus.

"My comings and goings will put in me in touch with the core constituents of the university, the faculty, the staff, the students," Leahy said.

Overall, Leahy acknowledged that he is grateful to be chosen as president of Wilkes.

"It's a great privilege in my life to named and installed as the new president of Wilkes University, and I'm going to do everything I can to make sure that this university meets all of the ambitions that it has for itself."

“Be forewarned Scranton, Wilkes is coming after you,”

- Patrick Leahy, President

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Meet the Staff



Carly Yamrus
Opinion Editor

New changes at Farley Library hope to improve accessibility to all

By Abbey Haldeman
Assistant News Editor

When Farley Library first underwent reconstruction in 2010 with the creation of the Alden Learning Commons the first part of a four-phase journey began.

This year the process to modernize the Eugene S. Farley library is continuing as they come to a close with phase two out of four: the remodeling of the front entranceway.

With the installation of the new handicapped entrance, everybody will be able to come in through the front door. The new ramp allows for those who used to not be able to access the library through the front door to now be able too. The new doors are automatic and allow for easy entry.

Farley library has also opened up the Alden Learning Commons 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to students.

"It was always kind of in the back of my mind when we created the Alden Commons but I couldn't quit rally enough support around it," John Stachecz, dean of library services, said about the 24-hour access system.

However, after hearing some discussion of the possibility of closure in computer labs, the thought resurfaced. With the cost being relatively small and generous donations made by Student Government and Dr. Harold E. Cox, the 24-hour access began.

With a grant given to them by Student Government, the university established a means of security throughout the building without staffing Farley through the entire night.

Security cameras run in different areas and are fed directly to the Public Safety office. A public safety officer makes their way through the library once every hour. There is also an



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

The Alden Learning Commons in Farley Library is now open 24 hours. Above is the after-hours entrance located next to South Main Street.

emergency telephone located in the Alden Learning Commons.

"I think it is probably as safe as we can make it," Stachecz stated.

An issue some students may find with the 24-hour access is that it is not technically handicapped accessible. For those who need access the library after hours and use the elevator, Public Safety officers are available to come allow you access to the elevator and walk you through the building to reach the Alden Learning Commons.

Likewise, when leaving the library, they are available to escort students from the basement to the exit. At this point, the addition of a handicapped accessible entrance being put in just isn't in the budget for the University but

nothing is written in stone yet.

Students seem to be appreciative of the advantages the 24-hour access is giving to them.

Sophomore biology major Adoma Yeboah is one of those pleased with having 24-hour access to the library.

"The 24-hour access to the library is a great addition to the new 2012 school year," Yeboah said. "I feel that it is another reliable venue to study, finish assignments as well as get papers printed. Essentially, the 24-hour access to the library sets no time limit to the way a student works."

While Yeboah told The Beacon she has not had a chance to use it, she is looking forward to it during the next few weeks.

This is something the library was looking for

with the addition of 24-hour access, availability for students who struggle to make it to the library during its 93 hours a week of operation.

The 24-hour entrance, on the southwest corner of the building is accessible by a swipe card system similar to those used in dorms. All students, faculty and staff are able to make use of the area.

The original goal was for the finishing touches to be put on the entrance before the installation of President Leahy. Remodels were put on hold for a while due to damages in the doors that were delivered.

A big difference in the entrance came not through means of renovation, but rule changes. The front entrance will now be a smoke free zone due to large amounts of complaints from students.

"It is a cost-effective way to give additional service to the students and faculty," Stachecz said.

At the beginning of the fall semester some difficulties came to place with printing in the library. These problems have been solved with the installation of new high capacity printers. On top of that, there was an additional high capacity color printer added to the library.

While renovations aren't complete, the steps in the right direction are being made. The next two phases to take place, will be the replacement of the HVAC system and to refurbish the rest of the floors to match the Alden Learning Commons though times for these to occur are not scheduled.

Stachecz said he really wants students to know that the library listens to their needs. In a century where people feel libraries are dying, Farley is only growing.

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Educational Forum series discusses issues in education

By Bob Grabosky
Staff Writer

A series of lectures dealing with issues in education are being held starting on Sept. 18 on campus. They are one of the biggest events being held on campus this semester and will take place over two months, not only for students and staff to be informed, but the community as well.

Dr. Robert S. Gardner and his wife, Judith, will host the Educational Forum series of lectures on starting on Sept. 18 and continuing until Nov. 7.

The people slated to speak are former Max Rosenn Law Clerk and General Counsell of the Los Angeles Unified School District Hal Kwalwasser, retired senior information specialist at the Library of Congress Frank Evina, associate professor of education Dr. Gina Morrison and Randy Granger, dean of academics at Wyoming Seminary.

Gardner said for the forum, he and his wife, adjunct instructor of education Judith Gardner, bring in 8-10 speakers to talk about issues in the educational process. The first will be Hal Kwalwasser on Sept. 18 at 4:30 p.m.

Gardner said the lectures fit in with his phi-

losophy that education is not only in the classroom, but also out of the classroom, where students can gain broader experience. The lectures cover a wide range of topics in education over the course of two months.

The educational forum is to let the students, faculty, staff and the community understand issues in education and to inform them about these issues are going to affect them going forward.

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Harold Kwalwasser, author of "Remaking America's Schools For The Twenty-First Century" (right), will be making an appearance on campus to talk about issues in the educational process.



Schedule of Events

Education Forum Series

Tuesday, Sept. 18
"Renewal, Remaking America's Schools for the Twenty-First Century"
4:30 p.m. | Marts 214

Wednesday, Oct. 3
"Using Library of Congress Resources in K-12 Classrooms with an overview of the Junior Fellows Intern Program"
4:00 p.m. | Breiseth 316

Monday, Oct. 8
"Teaching and Learning in Asia: The Malaysia Opportunity"
4:30 p.m. | Marts 214

Wednesday, Nov. 7
"The Independent School Experience"
4:30 p.m. | Marts 214

Marijuana usage linked to decrease in IQ, other negative effects

By Kirstin Cook
Editor-in-Chief

Adolescents who smoke marijuana could be at risk for a drop in IQ, as a new study links heavy marijuana usage in teenagers with cognitive decline. The study, published in the "Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences" at the end of August, found an IQ decline in 5 percent of teen users with a loss of up to eight IQ points.

The study is being called the first of its kind because of its long-term examination of IQ before and after routine use of the drug.

"That was the first one I looked at that looked specifically at adolescents, at least as far as IQ," said Dan McCune, pharmaceutical sciences professor at Wilkes.

The study is bringing attention to some of the known negative effects of marijuana usage, as well as what is still unknown about the drug's effects.

While knowledge on the consequences of the drug has been increasing, so have the statistics on usage. 17.4 million Americans 12 years old or older reported using marijuana at least once in the previous month, according to the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

This high number of usage may be a driving factor behind these new studies. The IQ study was groundbreaking not only for the subject matter, but for the unprecedented indication of permanent cognitive effects. McCune explained he has seen past studies showing a drop in IQ for adults, but the effect was always temporary and could be reversed after about a month.

"The fact that there's an IQ drop isn't surprising," McCune said. "The surprising part and the concerning part is that it's apparently permanent."

Psychology professor Edward Schicatanio, who teaches classes on neuroscience and how drugs affect the brain and behavior, agrees that this is the most alarming part of the study. He said the connections between neurons in the brain are usually only affected while the drug is in the system.

"It might be temporary while the drug's in the system or there might be just a little bit of the way the neurons are connecting, but that can grow back," Schicatanio said. "If you start learning again, the neurons will reconnect, and that's typically what happens. I didn't know this, that it's permanent and that's the first I've seen that."

He said the findings are alarming because they may indicate that the drug is killing cells in the brain.

"As far as this being a long-term effect on IQ... That does imply that it's killing cells, or at least the connections between nerve cells," Schicatanio said.

But McCune said he was not surprised by the findings, since the drug is affecting brain connectivity at an age when changes like breakage and formation of connections is going on at a high rate.

"During that time in life, there is a great deal of changes taking place, with the neu-

rons in the brain," McCune said.

Shannon Gilhooley, sophomore pharmacy major, also said she wasn't surprised to hear of the findings from what she observed in friends who began smoking marijuana in high school.

"Just knowing people who have done it seem to have a lower IQ," Gilhooley said. "They seem to have less ambition and don't want to try as hard."

This side effect of lacking ambition is actually a symptom grounded in science called amotivational syndrome, which is linked to marijuana usage. This syndrome is also often seen in depressed people.

Schicatanio said amotivational syndrome may have influenced the study findings.

"If you're not motivated to take a test, even an IQ test, your IQ is going to suffer, it's going to be lower," Schicatanio said.

McCune said there are other potential drawbacks to the study, like that it didn't take into account environmental and social factors.

"(With) studies of this nature, there are often outside factors like environment and psychosocial things or who knows what could've affected the outcome," McCune said. "You would like to see more studies in this particular population with adolescents to see, to verify, that this is a real and permanent effect."

Other effects of marijuana

It appears that lowered IQ is just the tip of the iceberg for side effects from marijuana usage. Schicatanio said that impaired driving is something that gets a lot of attention with alcohol, but it just as dangerous while under the influence of marijuana.

"You've got several things that all are important for driving," Schicatanio said. "So, (marijuana is) as bad as alcohol if not worse. No doubt about it."

Some of the things that are decreased by marijuana usage include reaction time, motor coordination, peripheral vision and visual tracking to follow something that's moving.

"Driving under the influence of marijuana is equally dangerous, and I don't think people really think of it that way, because marijuana does have some central nervous system depressant effects," McCune said. "It does slow your reflexes, your psycho-motor coordination and it does impair your ability to drive a motor vehicle."

McCune said that some of the subjective feelings, like a buzz or a relaxed feeling, wear off after about an hour, but the impairment to motor skills last much longer and users may not even realize.

An effect that lasts even longer may be the impairment of the memory system in the brain. Schicatanio said the long-term damage to memory is not understood and needs more study.

"While it's in the brain, your memory's not good," Schicatanio said. "What are the long-term effects of that, I'm not sure."

He said the drug affects many types of memories while in the system, and also hinders the ability to form new memories.

Another area that might call for more study is the consequences of marijuana smoke on the lungs, since there is no conclusion on the ex-

tent of damage.

"There's been some question – and there's no definitive proof, studies are conflicting – as to whether or not inhalation from smoke from marijuana is as dangerous as inhalation of smoke from tobacco cigarettes," McCune said.

He said marijuana poses issues because filters, like the ones on cigarettes, are not often used and there some of the same carcinogens in tobacco present in marijuana. However, there are other factors that influence the potential for lung cancer, like the frequency of use and size of intake of smoke.

Then, there's the misconception that marijuana is not addictive. McCune said marijuana works on the same pleasure system as heroin and cocaine do, so while it's not to the same extent, the drug does have addictive qualities.

Schicatanio said there's potential for marijuana users to fall into a pattern of habit rather than a physical addiction, especially if the drug is used to decrease stress.

"Once you start using it to calm down, to reduce anxiety, then you can become dependent."

Schicatanio said there are also positive effects of marijuana that can be applied to "special cases." He said the drug can decrease aggression, inhibit nausea, stimulate appetite and minimize stroke damage.

However, he said in the case of a college student using the drug for recreational purposes, the symptoms like decreased motivation, reduced problem solving abilities and even a drop in IQ will only be harmful to a college career.

"To be able to function, like in college, obviously marijuana would have negative effects," Schicatanio said.



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New bioengineering master's program is hands-on

By Shawn Carey
Staff Writer

For the 2012-2013 academic year the College of Science and Engineering is offering a new master's program in bioengineering.

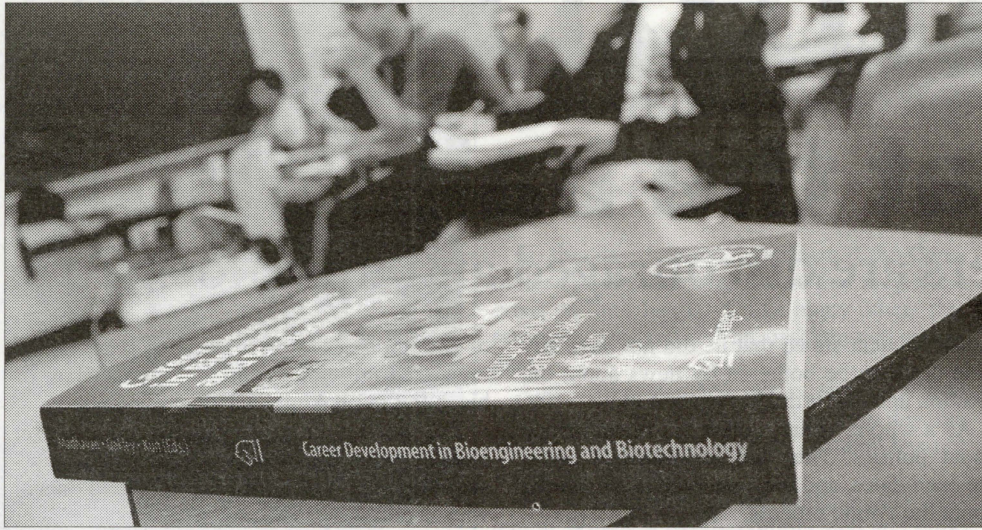
The program was officially launched this semester and has nine students taking the 36-credit course.

"It has been tremendous, because of what it took to launch the program, we did not get it approved until late into the academic year (Spring 2012)," program director Dr. Rodney Ridley said.

The program is the first of its kind in the Wyoming Valley. It is designed to give students a chance to get hands-on experience and practice real-world situations during their studies at Wilkes.

"I am anxiously excited to get things going and to see if the program will work," Associate program director Dr. William Terzaghi said.

"The bioengineering program is an exciting development for Wilkes University and an important asset for northeast Pennsylvania," Wilkes president Dr. Patrick Leahy said in a release. "Offering this advanced program will help the region increase jobs by meeting industry needs and solidifies Wilkes as the re-



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

gion's premier provider for science and engineering education," Leahy said.

Students who are accepted into the program will choose between two tracks: biomedical engineering and cell/metabolic engineering.

"The job market requires highly skilled candidates," Justin Flam, a student in the program said in a release. "This puts me in a better position to get a job right out of college at a higher

pay rate, especially in the science and technology fields."

Associate program director Dr. Gregory Harms, who also teaches in the program, commented on the uniqueness of the two-track system at Wilkes.

"Usually most programs have more of a one-track mind," Harms said. "I think that is one of our advantages, we really have a two-track

program and we are thrilled to have it."

In order to be in the program, students need an undergraduate degree in engineering or biology. Harms also commented the uniqueness of bringing these two majors together into one program.

"Biologists are going to work directly with the engineers and the engineers get to work directly with the biologists," Harms said.

Ridley stated students are going to have a lot of advanced hands on experience in the classroom and applying it to real world situations.

"You would be hard pressed to find a school where you can get really hands on, world class research and access to industry," Ridley said. "You get the benefit of what makes small schools great which is access and personal relationships and working with professors."

Students who are interested in the program should contact the graduate admissions department counselor Joshua Savitski at joshua.savitski@wilkes.edu or 570-408-4238.

Students will have to meet the graduate level admissions requirements to be in the program and are strongly encouraged to have either a biology or engineering background.

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IT, food services updates announced at SG meeting

By Abbey Haldeman
Assistant News Editor

Sept. 12 meeting called to order 6:01 p.m.

Treasurer's Report:

All College: \$9,550
Conferences: \$700
General Funds: \$18,750
Leadership: \$600
Spirit: \$1,454.34
Student Government Total: \$31,054.34

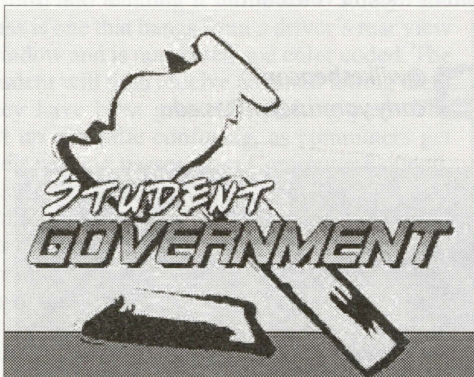
New Business:

Food Services Update:

Sodexo Advertising Manager, Jason Alinet, talked to the board about the redesign of Rifkin Café including the difference in late night now being served at Rifkin instead of Henry's dining hall. Sunday, Monday and Thursday nights there are specials running which includes pizza, wings and nachos. Students are able to call in orders on those nights or order in person. In the Henry Student Union Building Café they are offering more gluten free items and themed days and events. Also informing students of the Off-Campus Service plan, through which students can use their Flex Dollars at places such as Sheetz, Subway, and Asian Kitchen.

IT:

IT Executive Director Cindy Greene informed the Student Government panel that



Google migration will be completed in January and the split will be made from Outlook Web access to only Gmail. Thus far, there have been over 1,400 students who have opted-in. If students are having issues logging into LIVE they can access web.wilkes.edu/elearning to help with login issues. The wireless internet in Towers is being addressed.

The Help Desk hours have been changed, Monday – Thursday 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Fri. 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and opening again Sun. at 12 p.m.

Student Government T-shirts: New T-shirts are to be ordered. A motion was made to allocate enough money to purchase 80 T-shirts and was passed 21-0-3.

Called to a close at 7:09 p.m.

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Clueless at the ballot box

America's young voters are discouraged and misinformed

By Carly Yamrus
Opinion Editor

How educated are young voters in politics? How many young voters go into the poll pressing buttons, voting blindly for issues they don't even understand?

Last spring, the COM 398 Controlling Spin class at Wilkes conducted a study on young voters age 17-30. Its purpose was to gain insight on how students view the candidates and issues of the 2012 election. The first focus group consisted of men and women 18-23.

As I was reading the data from the focus group, I saw a few excerpts from students that truly bothered me.

When asked where the students received their political information from, the majority said they read it online. By online, they mean on Twitter and Facebook, and by occasionally skimming headlines of news websites.

If this is where the majority of young voters are getting their information from, we might be in trouble.

As a not-so-proud owner of both a Facebook and Twitter account, I can tell you that neither of these two websites are reliable sources of information for anything other than what that girl you met once at a party ate for lunch.

One student stated that he did not have any time at all to be bothered by news about the election and that it did not interest him.

As a whole, young voters are misinformed about politics. They are misinformed about the candidates, and they are even misinformed about the voting process.

Many young voters feel as if they should not vote because they have not gathered enough facts to make an informed decision. Media bias, personal opinions and half-truths are a problem for young voters trying to find credible sources to read up on the candidates.

It's not that we don't want to be informed. It's that we are confused and in need of some guidance. We are not incompetent. We are not ignorant.

There is no doubt that some people are simply lazy and uninterested in politics, but I do believe that many young voters, including me, are thoroughly discouraged by the empty promises and dishonesties that we've been getting from both parties this year.

I took a politics class my first semester at Wilkes. I was hoping to learn more about the voting process and the two-party system. Instead, I learned about the founding fathers and the history of democracy.

All-important, however, learning the basics

of voting process is necessary for every newly registered individual who may be unaware of his duties as an American citizen.

The election is here and now. At least on election years our history and politics classes should give students some idea about to do and why to do it.

Otherwise young voters will continue to blindingly cast their ballot based on a Facebook status they saw that morning.

According to Rock The Vote, there are 44 million eligible young voters, representing a fifth of the electorate -- 44 million people whose votes matter.

As a registered voter, you have a voice. If you would like to vote in the November election but feel you are not properly educated, there is still time to learn.

Look for credible sources when reading about the candidates and where they stand on the issues. Facebook and Twitter cannot possibly give you the wealth of knowledge you need to make an educated decision.

Young voters can register to vote at voterreg.com or rockthevote.com.

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BEACON POLL

The Beacon poll is unscientific and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on the Wilkes campus. These poll results are based on responses.

Last week's question:

How difficult has it been to park on campus??



This week The Beacon asks:

How informed do you consider yourself on politicians and their positions on national and international issues?

- Very informed
- Somewhat informed
- Not informed

Cast your vote online at:

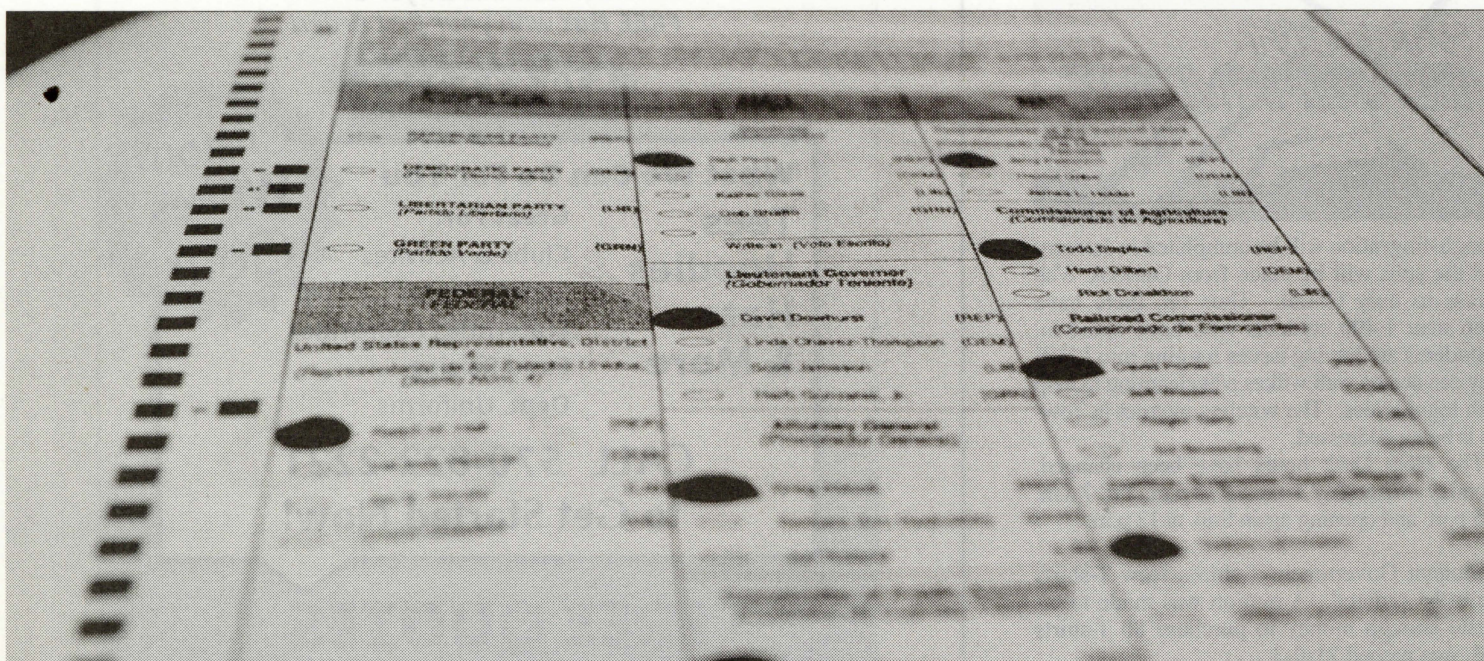
www.thewilkesbeacon.com

SPEAK UP!

The Beacon wants to hear your voice.

Send your name, major, year and opinion to:
carly.yamrus@wilkes.edu

The Beacon reserves the right to edit submitted pieces for length and content. Anonymous letters will not be published.



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Many of today's young voters feel they cannot make an educated voting decision because they have not been properly informed. Such individuals often obtain their political information from sources that are not credible, such as Facebook and Twitter.

Issues with campus parking anger commuter students



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Students have begun to park in "no parking" zones due to the lack of spaces available on and around campus.

Students parking illegally without parking passes while paying students can't find spots

By Anne Yoskoski

Life Editor

As almost everyone knows, the first week of classes is hectic in many ways: new academic pressures, new clubs to be involved in and new people to meet. There is only one little problem: where do you park to get to class?

The first week of classes has been known as a parking exemption week, a week where public safety doesn't ticket cars without parking passes in any lot.

This does help some students by giving them more time to procure a parking pass, but for other students who applied last semester, it is a large inconvenience.

Many commuters do not have time to get to Wilkes at 8 a.m. for a 10 a.m. class. Unfortunately, this is what has been happening. Students pay \$160 per semester for a commuter parking pass and then find nowhere to park.

In addition to several parking lots such as the one behind the Student Center, one located behind UCom, another behind Weckesser Hall and one on the side of the Marts Gymnasium, there is also a five-story parking garage.

This should provide plenty of room for students, especially commuters, to park. However, people have been crowding the meters, parking at the local YMCA and parking in "no parking zones."

Many of the people taking up these spots have not paid for parking passes, and as the second week of classes has showed, they may not need to if public safety continues not to ticket.

As long as "free parking" continues at Wilkes, people who paid for their parking passes, resident or commuter, are being short-changed

out of their time and money.

One can obtain a parking pass by filling out a form and handing it into Public Safety. The pass is one that hangs from a driver's rear view window and is numbered and color coded. The student will then receive an email telling them they have been granted a parking pass. The set up is a little confusing, as commuters get their parking passes from Commuter Council, residents get their passes from Res Life, and public safety enforces the policies. Most tickets are approximately twenty five dollars, and are automatically added to a student tuition statement.

In the future, students should appeal to Public Safety for separate lots: a faculty lot, a commuter lot and a resident lot, so that someone who drives from Dallas or Laughlin to school gets a parking space instead of someone who drives from the dorms, and staff members do not need to battle students for parking.

As a commuter, the parking situation can only be described as chaos. There are several spots that could be turned into more parking such as the field next to the sub parking lot. There is no reason Wilkes needs an empty field when people can not find a place to park. There are also several spots for "government officials" that no one ever uses.

As the semester goes on, hopefully Public Safety will start ticketing people who are actually breaking the rules, freeing up some spaces for students, faculty and some residents who paid for their parking passes and truly need to get to class on time.



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Commuter Council fails to communicate with students who are denied parking passes

By Austin Loukas

Asst. Photo Editor

To this day, I am not even sure if the Commuter Council was even aware that they had a crisis on their hands. I, like many others this semester, was refused an on-campus parking pass.

And I, like so many others, was only told why weeks after the fact. To this very day, the Wilkes University Commuter Council has not answered my emails.

The organization of the parking pass system at Wilkes is overly complicated and quite deceiving. To most students it may seem as if Public Safety is in charge of choosing who does and does not receive parking passes. This is not true.

For on-campus residents, Resident Life chooses qualified candidates for parking passes; for off-campus and commuter students, Commuter Council is in charge of choosing good candidates.

Neither Res Life nor Commuter Council sends out emails to notify students if they did not qualify for a parking pass. This is surely something that must be changed.

Last week The Beacon did an online editorial on the Wilkes' parking pass system that I urge you to check out. The editorial focused on Tim Jurkowski, an off-campus nursing student in Army ROTC who seemed to be overlooked when it came to parking passes this semester.

Now Jurkowski has to get ride with Public Safety to the Ralston lot early in the morning in order to get to nursing clinicals and ROTC physical training.

Jurkowski, was seemingly denied a parking pass because he lived too close to campus. The apartment building we both live in does not supply us with private parking. Thus, Jurkowski, many other off-campus and commuter students, and I were turned down.

Being adjacent to campus did not affect another student, Ryan Weber, from getting a parking pass. Weber lives the same distance from campus, however, he received a parking pass as usual this semester.

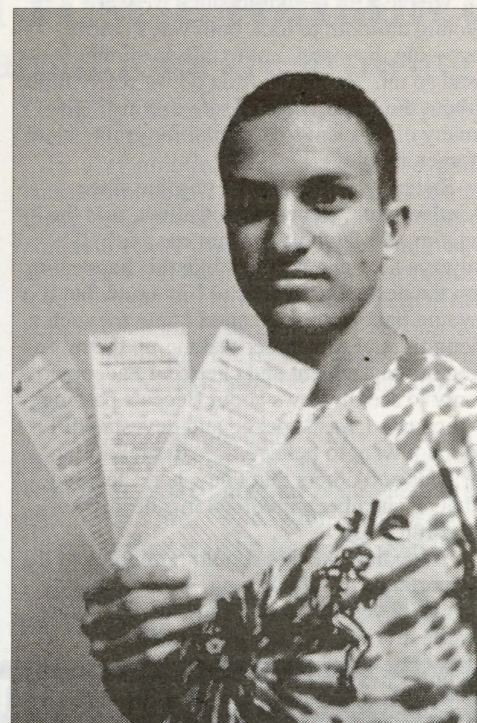
Meanwhile several commuter students, who actually drive to class in the morning, were denied parking passes along with Tim "super-busy" Jurkowski. This makes me seriously question the organization of this system.

Why are some students picked, seemingly at random, over others? Who is truly choosing who gets these passes, is it a fellow student, a faculty member, or someone from the administration?

Perhaps it is just a hogwash of random commuter council students prone to their own biases and inconsistencies. I am not sure; I have tried to reach out via email to Commuter Council several times with no response.

This parking "crisis," as I've heard it put by fellow students and friends, is not fair to the students.

I understand that there are only a limited number of spots. I have also heard many stu-



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Sophomore nursing student Tim Jurkowski displays four parking tickets as a result of the campus "parking crisis."

dents complain that they are unable to find parking spots before class even when they have received a parking pass for the semester.

I believe that it is a necessary evil that these organizations deny students for parking. I request, however, that the commuter council deny these students in some type of organized way and, perhaps even more importantly, communicate with students about the reasoning for this denial.

I also understand how hard it must be for Public Safety, they have had to deal with countless students calling and complaining while they themselves are not truly responsible.

I'm sure that it is a huge hassle for public safety to deal with the complaints of students and parents on the matter of parking on campus.

I assume it is also a hassle for public safety to cart students to and from the Ralston Parking Lot at 4am in the morning because commuter council overlooked a student's needs for a parking pass.

I urge the commuter council to speak up and educate the students to whatever organizational system they have for parking passes.

In the meantime, I'll be in the parking garage next to Boscov's.



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Deadly hit-and-run accident reminds us to drive safely

By Alyssa Stencavage
Assistant Life Editor

We have all been told since we were young children to look both ways before crossing the street, not to talk to strangers, and so on. But, how often do we really think about the importance of safe driving? Too many of us seem to take that for granted and forget about it.

Recently a close friend of mine since kindergarten, Rebecca McCallick, was the victim of a fatal hit-and-run car crash. I always hear about things like this happening on the news, but never did I imagine that it would happen to someone I knew for such a long time. I remember waking up the morning of the accident and checking Facebook, only to see the news about Becca's passing. Of course I was shocked and devastated; I did not want to believe it. After talking to friends and others that knew her, I learned that she had been involved in a deadly hit-and-run crash.

Tragedies like this should remind us of the importance of safe driving. Most importantly, never text or talk on your cell phone while driving. Do not be distracted by



The Beacon/ Samantha Dauber

The tragic death of Rebecca McCallick reminds us to always drive with caution.

friends, play loud music, or try to adjust the radio, as these can all be dangerous as well. Many people do not believe that bad things can happen to them, but you never know when you may be involved in an accident, and practicing safe driving can prevent that from happening. Also, we all need to be cautious of those around us because even if we are doing the right thing, someone else may not be. If everyone practiced these safe driving habits, there would be less accidents.

Just as important is staying safe at night, es-

pecially considering all of the recent incidents near the Wilkes campus, where several students were robbed and attacked while walking back to their dorms. For example, it is never a good idea to walk alone at night. While these are important things to keep in mind, life is too short to take people for granted. Always appreciate the people we have in our lives because as what happened to Becca demonstrates, we can lose anyone at any moment and at any time. Saying "I love you" and letting others know that we care reminds

them that they mean something to us.

Losing Becca taught me the extreme importance of being safe behind the wheel. Even though I always try to be a cautious driver, there is always room for improvement. None of us should have to imagine being responsible for claiming the life of another individual nor would we want to lose our lives as result of someone else's recklessness. I think the biggest lesson I learned from losing Becca as a close friend is to appreciate the people I have in my life because you never know when you will see someone for the last time. Each day is a privilege, not a promise. It's as simple as that.

My heart goes out to Becca's family, who I have also known for many years. The tragedy of her death should serve as a lesson to us all, no matter how invincible we may think we are.

Life brings many sudden changes, and it never hurts to take the extra precaution to ensure your safety and the safety of others.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Gun Control and the First Amendment

Second Amendment Fires Forward by Jerome Frederick

If you take a look back through the past 100 years and really look at how gun control worked you will see it failed miserably.

We can look and the great country of Germany led by Adolf Hitler who imposed gun control, Benito Mussolini leader of Italy, or Fidel Castro Cuban president, and they all have one thing in common, it failed.

Gun control is not because people are afraid of guns, it's just a way of slowly turning our democracy into a dictatorship led by Mr. Obama.

The only reason people are afraid of guns is because either they have no background knowledge or experience with guns because they think guns are only meant to hurt people since that's what they see on the news.

Well, just because you implement gun control onto this once-free land that doesn't stop the fact that those criminals will still find a way to obtain those weapons.

In those 11,493 homicides that were committed 42 percent were robberies and another 22 percent was aggravated assault and in 68 percent of those crimes the guns were not registered meaning they were received illegally (National Institute of Justice).

That leaves a minute amount of murders considering there are over 310 million guns in circulation including pistols, rifles, shotguns, semi-automatic machine guns and automatic machine guns.

People who are ill-informed about guns, and basically about what is going on in the world, would see this and say "let's ban guns," which is anything but the right thing.

Yes, guns have become much more modern in this world, and at the same time they have become harder to obtain as you need to have a

background check, proper permitting, a specific gun permit and age restrictions just to name a few barriers to own a gun.

Contradicting to the article in the (Sept. 11 Beacon) there are very few guns that have a 100-round capacity, like the one used in the Colorado shooting.

People obtaining these guns and magazines will only grow through gun control with illegal purchases.

Looking at the statistic on suicides and guns in America is like comparing "apples to oranges" they have nothing to do with each other. The gun doesn't pull the trigger on its' own; it is the operator, and what's to say that a veteran doesn't have a war flashback one day and end (his) life tragically.

That is an instance where the stress of being somewhere undesired rears its head and a terrible outcome evolves out of it, where people just see the bold letter's in the news "Man Shoots Himself" so they have something to talk about.

In America, if you look at the different states and their gun laws, you see different numbers pertaining to fatalities, but what you usually don't see is that most of them are justice being served.

It is a proven fact that where there are more concealed carries there is less crime according to Ted Nugent NRA and TeaParty member, and you only have to look at Texas to prove that.

We are the only ones who can stop this madness from happening and as far as I can see we American Gun owners will never let that happen.

I am a proud to say I am an avid outdoorsman, hunter, trapper, shooter and I will always be a proud member of the NRA and fight for our gun rights.

Experiencing flaws in gun distribution by Nancy Weeks

I am writing in response to your "Second Amendment is out of touch with modern technology" article, published on Sept. 11, 2012.

Your article has especially hit home to me, considering that I was involved in the Mehoopany Wind Farm shooting you might have heard about several weeks ago. It was my vehicle that the rogue, intoxicated gunman aimed and shot at. The shooter, Wade Douglas Wright, a known associate and friend of Hugo Selinski, has had at least one former arrest, previously jailed for a probation violation on a drunken driving conviction.

At the time, we were traveling on public roads (not private as articles incorrectly stated) when we came upon Wright sitting on his parked quad in the center of the road. He had purposely created a roadblock so that we had no choice but to stop and comply with his demands.

Upon releasing us, Wright waited a few seconds and then started to fire shots directed at us as we were exiting the area. One of the two bullets of the .22-caliber pistol, later found inside Wright's residence, traveled through the back seat, completely through my sister Mary Jo's chest and lung, and lodged inside of the lining of my husband's seat.

I ask myself repeatedly, how is it possible that this lunatic was in possession of a gun after having a police record and probation violation? I assume Wright must be registered under the National Criminal Background Check System; however, what agency is assigned the task of researching the existence of and physically removing any additional guns in the possession of known criminals?

Wright is now being held in the Wyoming County jail, in lieu of his \$250,000 bail. He awaits his preliminary hearing, scheduled for Oct. 1.



The Beacon/Laura Preby

Prompted by recent shootings, gun control is being heavily debated.

Field of dreams: Wilkes students' movie a tale of rustic romance

From comedy skits to dark drama, directing duo Wood and Oravic's ambitions are growing

By Bill Thomas
A&E Editor

On Friday, Sept. 7, the first night of shooting for the short film "Pitchfork" took place. Right out of the gate, co-directors Ryan Wood and Todd Oravic realized they needed to call 911.

It's not that there was an emergency, but the recipe for one was certainly there.

"The scene we shot on our first night was, by far, the hardest scene in the entire film," Wood said. "It was us in the pitch-black of night, with 8-foot torches on a stage while people danced, and we had to make it rain on cue. With a budget like ours, that is a worst-case filming scenario."

An independent production paid for primarily with donations garnered via crowd-source-funding website Kickstarter.com, "Pitchfork" is the most ambitious project to date for Woodavic Studios, a filmmaking company founded in 2011 by Wood and Oravic.

"It was chaotic," Wood, a senior communication studies major at Wilkes University, said bluntly when asked to describe that first night of filming.

At the suggestion of the film's lead, Michael Lally, who is also a firefighter in Scranton, Wood and Oravic decided to let emergency services know of their plans ahead of time.

"I told them right away 'Listen, this is not an emergency' and the response was just 'Uh, OK,'" Oravic, a senior English major at Wilkes, recalled. "I said 'We're shooting a film in this cornfield and there's going to be a lot of fire. We just don't want people to call you guys saying there's a field on fire.'"

"Their response was 'Well, we can have it on the docket as a controlled burn, but if we get any calls from anyone saying that everything's ablaze, we're coming out there anyway.'"

Fortunately for the pair, filming for that scene went off largely without a hitch. That's more than can be said about the rest of the weekend, though.

On Saturday, the planned shoot got rained out. Wood and Oravic also found themselves overwhelmed, at first, in their attempts to oversee the large crew assembled before them. Prior to the shoot, they'd hope to at-

tract volunteers, but they hadn't expected the sheer number of people who would actually show up to help.

While thankful for the eagerness with which the public has embraced the project, the directors admit the film has revealed itself to be more of a double-edged sword than a pitchfork.

On top of inclement weather and potential fire hazards, abrupt and unforeseen circumstances sent the filmmakers in search of a new filming location mere days before production was scheduled to begin. Despite all the headaches, Wood and Oravic feel "Pitchfork" is a project worthy of their best efforts.

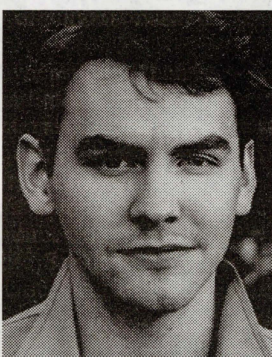
"When we read the script, we were blown away," Wood said. "We knew right away that we had to make this movie."

Written by Kevin Conner, who finished the screenplay while enrolled in Wilkes' graduate Creative Writing program, "Pitchfork" tells the story of a down-on-his-luck farmer trying to salvage both his drought-ravaged cornfield and a slowly hemorrhaging marriage, only to find that the future of one may come at the expense of the other.

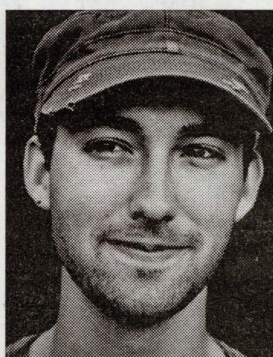
"It goes to a dark place, but it's also goes into an amazingly uplifting place. It's a love story, but a gritty one," Oravic said. "The tone of it is very quiet. There's no dialogue. It's heavily based around sound effects and visuals and the performances and the music."

The intense-yet-subtle dramatic narrative of "Pitchfork" marks a departure for Wood and Oravic, whose previous collaborations have mostly focused on no-budget skits of absurdist comedy. To date, the pair estimates they've made around 15 such skits together, several of which can be viewed on the Woodavic Studios YouTube channel.

Though their background is in lighter material, the directors believe the division between comedy and drama is a superficial one. Both genres, they noted, are still based on engaging the emotions of an audience and



WOOD



ORAVIC

moving viewers toward a specific impassioned reaction.

"Comedy and drama are different houses built on the same foundation. They're just different color houses," Wood said.

"You go about designing it differently, but really the roots are the same."

Fittingly, the directorial duo's excitement for "Pitchfork" has proven equally as infectious as a hearty laugh. Though their initial fundraising goal was \$2,500, donations came in not just from family and friends but from people the pair had never met before, from as far away as Singapore, Australia and

Portugal. The outpouring of support pushed the budget up to \$4,176.

In a symbiotic cycle wherein the pair's enthusiasm seems to spread to those around them, only for the enthusiasm of others to embolden their own, Wood and Oravic have developed lofty aspirations for their labor of love. Once "Pitchfork" is completed, they hope to submit it to a number of film festivals, including the iconic Sundance Film Festival, and will also be seeking distribution.

"The second anybody reads this script they're in love with it and they instantly want to do everything they can to help bring this thing to life," Wood said. "All we can do is be sincerely grateful for all the help we've received."

For more information, visit facebook.com/PitchforkFilm.



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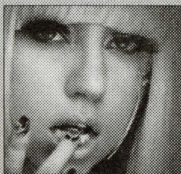
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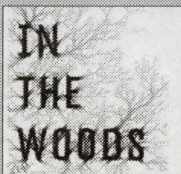
Courtesy of Woodavic Studios

From left: Ryan Wood and Todd Oravic seek advice from writer Kevin Conner while directing actor Michael Lally in their latest film production, "Pitchfork."

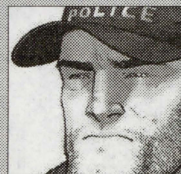
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CULTURE CLASH
with Sarah Mitrotz & Bill Thomas
Lady Gaga vs. Taylor Swift

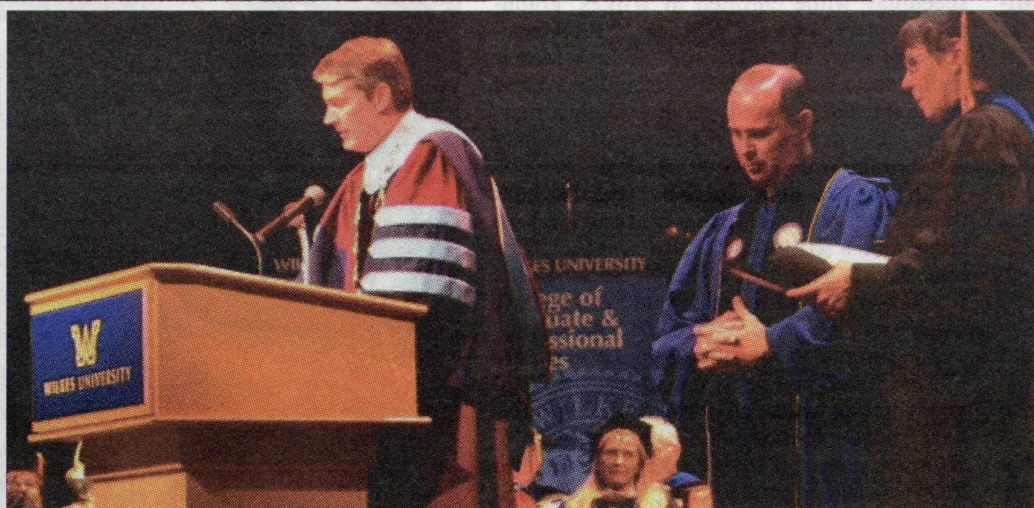
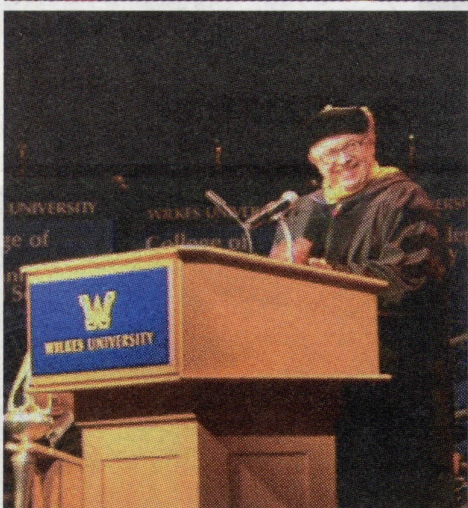
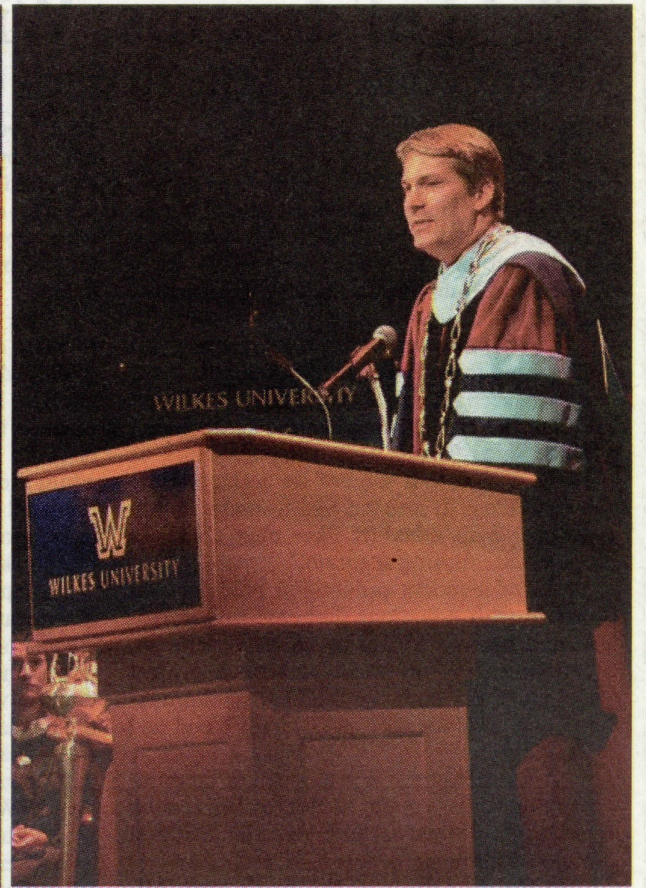


THE BOOK REPORT
with Anne Yoskoski
"In the Woods"

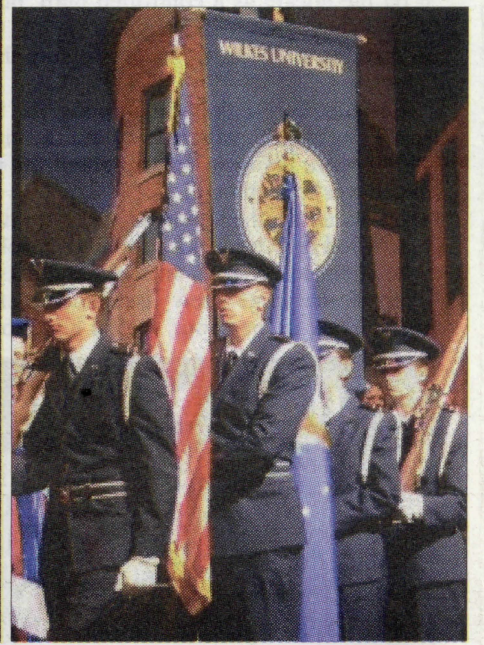


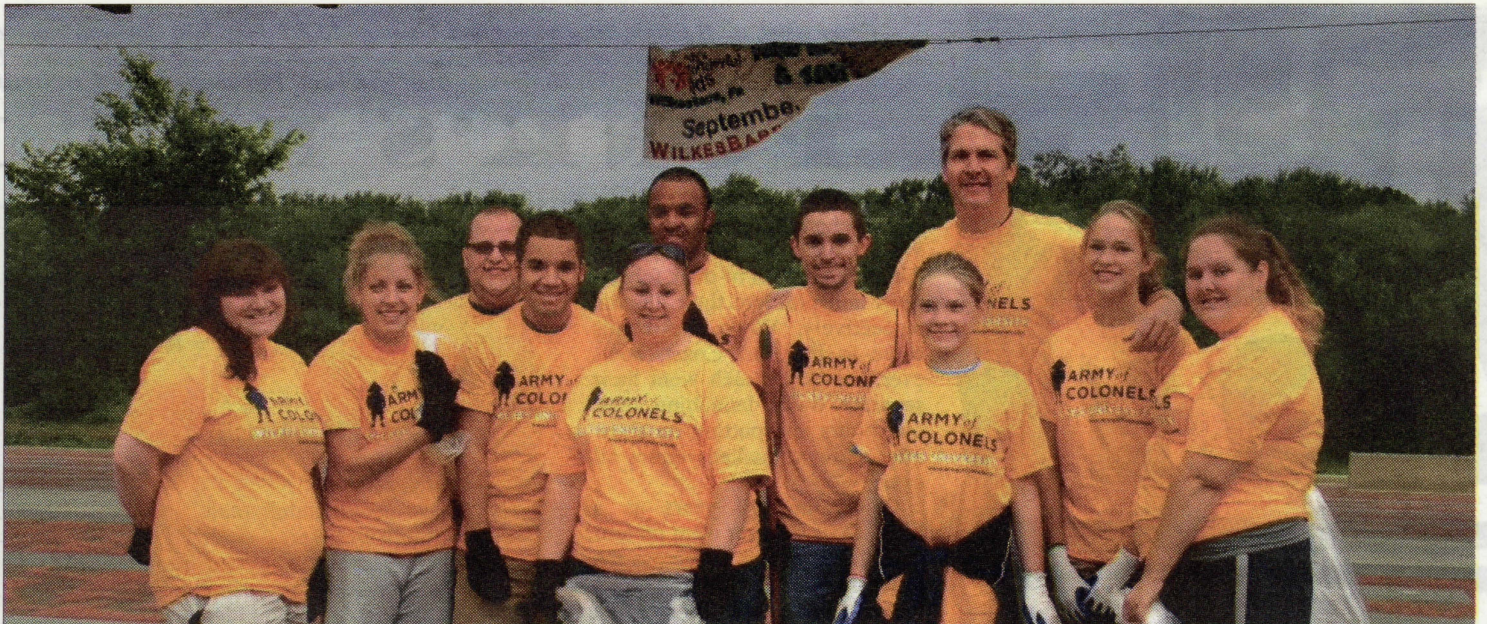
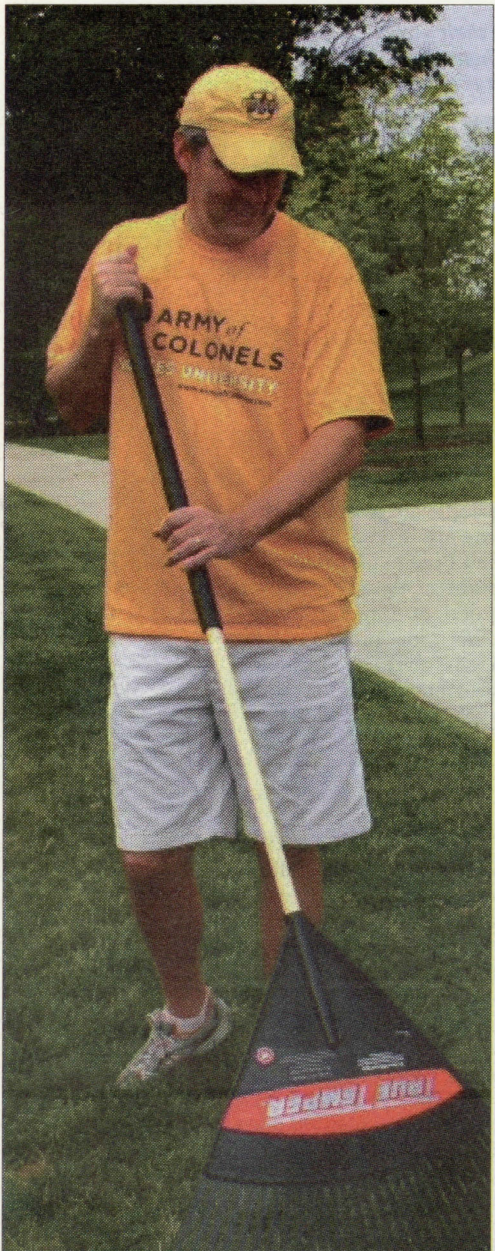
THE GRAVEYARD SHTICK
with Jake Cochran
Examining Shane Walsh

“Looking back with pride, looking forward with confidence,” Patrick Leahy is installed Wilkes president



Above, Board Chair Jack Miller formally installed Dr. Leahy as Wilkes president with the help of trustees Melanie Lumia and Virginia Sikes. Left, Leahy presents an honorary doctorate of humane letters to Rev. Scott Pilarz. Below, the University Chorus sang “Noble Truths” and ROTC members processed flags in.





Above, left, right, below: On Saturday, Sept. 8, Dr. Leahy, his two daughters and student volunteers helped clean up around the city of Wilkes-Barre. Below: Students, faculty, staff and alumni were invited to a campus-wide celebration in the Student Union Building Ballroom on Friday, Sept. 14, complete with free food, a dance floor and local band Pop Rox.



THE 101

Every issue, A&E Editor Bill Thomas and Assistant A&E Editor Jake Cochran indulge their vanity and give a thoroughly biased crash-course in whatever madness happens to be dwelling in their warped minds. Their views do not reflect those of The Beacon, its staff or Wilkes University. Blah blah blah. This week, **Jake Cochran** is triumphantly declaring...

PUNK'S NOT DEAD

up for a handful of shows on the West Coast, to commemorate the anniversaries of their formations and promote their albums respectively. When the bands came to the East Coast, however, the bands each went their separate ways, launching their own tours and putting on show after show at packed venues all over.

Celebrating 40 years as a band, Cock Sparrer went on tour and played shows all across the globe. During this tour the group visited Philadelphia for the first time in its generation-bridging career. In this writer's estimation, the band put on an absolutely flawless performance.

Before the show, fans standing in line were cracking jokes that frontman Colin McFaull would need to have his microphone attached to a walker, but once the show was finished they had the respect of everyone in the sold-out venue. Proving even further that age hadn't tamed Cock Sparrer's youthful punk-rock spirit, the end of the show was not even close to the end of music. The band played the same venue again the next day. Once again, the show sold out almost instantly.

Rancid started its tour for its 20-year anniversary as a way of jumpstarting the creative spark it will need when the band members head back into the studio to record their first album since 2009. According to founding member Tim Armstrong, the band is looking at an early spring 2013 release, if everything goes as planned.

Armstrong is expected to have a busy next few months, as it's also been rumored that he will be going back to the studio with partners-in-crime Skinhead Rob and Travis Barker of Blink 182 for a new Transplants album. That would be the group's first album since 2005. The punk-rock supergroup has already teased fans with a sporadic series of shows featuring a new song, "In a Warzone."

Speaking of album releases, just last Tuesday The Adicts released their newest album, "All the Young Droogs." Sticking to the group's roots, "All the Young Droogs" serves up 12 cuts of overly theatrical party music with lighthearted lyrics and sing-a-long hooks. The members of The Adicts are also touring across North and South America to celebrate this release and, if you've never seen The Adicts live, you should reconsider your life choices.

Not alone in releasing new material, NOFX put out an album on Tuesday, Sept. 11, the same day as The Adicts. Called "Self Entitled," the new release is one of the faster albums NOFX has put out to date, but it sticks to the group's trademark tongue-in-cheek make-fun-of-everything style, truly showings that punk is nowhere near dead.

To read more about the above-mentioned albums and tours, as well as other random "war stories," visit The Beacon online at thewilkesbeacon.com.



CHEAT SHEET

Nobituaries

Tim Armstrong

When people think punk, they think mohawks, spiky clothes and angry music. Enter Tim Armstrong. While Armstrong has traded in his "Liberty Spikes" hairdo for a wicked skull tattoo, he is still as energetic as ever and has seen success in a variety of his side project as well as one of the founding members of Rancid, of course.

Matt Freeman

Some people are good at their trade. Some are legendary. Then there's Matt Freeman of Rancid. At one point in time, Freeman was so good at standard bass that, for his side project (everyone needs one), he decided to switch to stand-up bass and form a psychobilly act called the Devil's Brigade.

Jello Biafra

Of the many people who have run for mayor in San Francisco or for President of the United States for the Green Party, one can safely assume that only one candidate has ever snarled the lyrics to songs like "I Kill Children" and "Nazi Punks F*** Off." That would be Jello Biafra, former frontman of California hardcore act Dead Kennedys. Still one of the most outspoken and well-spoken members in all of the entertainment industry, Biafra has no problem saying what's wrong with the world and how to fix it.

Jerry Only

Some people would say horror-punk group The Misfits ended once mastermind Glenn Danzig left. Those people would be idiots. Jerry Only is the longest running member of The Misfits, only missed out on official "original member" status by a scant few months. And while that isn't actually the most prestigious title, you need to give him credit for inventing the Devilock, horror-punk's signature hairstyle.

Iggy Pop

To borrow a term from Brazilian MMA phenom Vitor Belfort, Iggy Pop is what could only be referred to as a "Young Dinosaur." Simply put, Pop is straight out of Cretaceous Era of punk-rock music. Best known for ingesting mountains of drugs and alcohol as lead singer for The Stooges in the late '60s and '70s, its miracle this guy is still alive.

STZA Crack

"STZA" is not his Christian name but, it's what he's best known as. What he does best though is hate all authority figures and play songs with a strong ska influence. He's associated with many acts, but is mostly known for the bands Leftover Crack and Choking Victim.

Lars Fredericksen

Some people would be content with having been on MTV at some point during the '90s, but not Lars Fredericksen. Like fellow Rancid member Tim Armstrong, Fredericksen has started a few side projects over the years and been associated with even more. More recently, he produced Cocksparrer's 2007 album, "Here We Stand." This guy's got his hand in damn near every pot in today's punk scene.

Keith Warren

The members of The Adicts are known for the ridiculous carnival atmosphere of their live shows show. The ringleader of that carnival is Keith Warren, aka "Monkey." Sporting outrageous outfits that would make Liberace blush and dancing with the frenetic energy of a man half his age, Warren is the personification of all things Adicts.



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Making the switch: many students are opting in to the new Gmail system

By Alyssa Stencavage
Assistant Life Editor

It is no surprise that many people have been experiencing frustration due to a loss of emails or just having to face yet another email issue. But for every problem, there is a solution, and the solution here is the new Gmail system by Google.

Since the opt-in period has begun, many students and faculty have been taking advantage of the perks the new system has to offer. It does not take much to understand what prompted the migration to the Cloud, as there are a number of reasons for the switch. But even before we ask why, we must also consider some of the issues our campus was facing before.

As technology has moved forward, the question has become, should we be investing so much time and money managing a system that everyone considers troublesome? That was a question posed by Gloria Barlow, chief information officer of information technology services.

"A lot of students wanted to stop using their email because they didn't want to keep deleting mail, and too much mail means not receiving everything you need," Barlow said.

But then Microsoft introduced Google Apps, and the idea of being able to deliver information in a more efficient and cost effective manner using Google as the free service that it has started to seem like the better option. Last year during the flood we faced an email shut down, and with Google's new Gmail system we hope to prevent that from

happening again.

Wilkes University has been using the old system for a while.

"Approximately 60 percent of colleges and universities across the county have made the migration, and we wondered if we should be doing the same," Barlow said. The Cloud Email Evaluation Sub Committee spent months examining the pros and cons of alternatives. The committee then made a unanimous recommendation for the Cloud, which IT reviewed and unanimously agreed upon. Finally this was taken to the cabinet, and approved. "It is very unusual to find everyone on campus in agreement," said Barlow.

Barlow said Wilkes could be saving \$90,000 over the next five years by switching to the new Gmail system, which was part of the committee's charge. These savings include peripheral costs, hardware costs, and software licensing costs. Some software licenses could also be eliminated.

When we look at the benefits of making the switch to Gmail and Google, many aspects have to be considered to see that this system has proven to do better than Outlook. Cost savings, efficiency, functionality and integration, increased access, no advertisements and mobile access are among the many advantages these solutions provide. As a college campus, we are always in need of computers and working email. Better functionality was needed for staff, faculty and students. Gmail also allows for larger mailboxes for storage. Barlow said Google provides 25 gigabytes, which is 250 times the 100 megabytes we have now. Business continuity can also be added to the list of

advantages for Gmail. This means that if for some unforeseen event or technical problem were to occur and a person happened to have Internet connection, he or she would still have email connection, which would in turn enable continued connection with everyone on campus. Finally, if you are worried about having to change your email from the address used with Outlook, with Gmail you can continue to keep the same email address as well. It is still firstname.lastname@wilkes.edu.

So, where do we stand now? Well, "we have migrated more than 1,100 students and of those 1,100, less than 1 percent have had any difficulty with the new system," Barlow said. "We have had the opt-in period for about three weeks, and more than 1,100 students have made the decision on their own."

All staff will be migrated at once because they do too much collaborative work to be switched at different times. The decision is being left up to students and faculty for now whether they want to opt-in or not, but at the start of the Spring semester shortly after the first of the new year, everyone will be required to make the switch to Gmail. "By winter we will be shut down and Wilkes will have become a Google campus," Barlow said.

Barlow said students do seem to be happy with the new system "because it is a system and an application that they are comfortable with." Students are also voicing their opinions

about the new Gmail system.

"I like it a lot better. It's much easier to navigate on the computer and I like how professors and students names come up in the 'to' section. The only problem I have is for some reason it didn't sync to my phone so that's annoying," said Kendra Kuhar, a junior English major.

"I haven't heard complaints about using the system," Barlow said. "I've had more questions than complaints. If students have concerns, they can come to me or the IT department, and we take care of it."

Sophomore Tyler Brown voices his opinion about the email system: "It sucks because I only get some emails to the Gmail and for some reason all the important ones stay in the regular mail so I don't even use it anymore."

It is definitely a learning process for students and faculty alike, but "people will appreciate their mailboxes not being full," Barlow said.

You can make the switch to Gmail at: ewilkes.wilkes.edu.

@wilkesbeacon
alyssa.stencavage@wilkes.edu



Please enter your Wilkes user name and password.

User name

Password

Login

Questions? Check out the FAQ.

Flex program gives students many dining opportunities

By Anne Yoskoski
Life Editor

For Wilkes Students, the Flex Dollars program has just been upgraded. Several new venues are now accepting Flex Dollars, such as Sheetz, Rodano's, Asian Kitchen, Frank's Pizzeria, Primo Hoagies, Subway, Maer's Barbeque, and Vesuvios.

Previously, some of the choices students had for Flex Dollar venues were limited. Now, many popular Wilkes-Barre hot spots will be accepting Flex dollars in lieu of cash.

"I go to Rodano's with my friends and usually we have to use cash or charge it," said P2 Pharmacy major Kiran Rai. "As college students, we don't always have a lot of money, so if we can use our Flex Dollars that would be great! A lot of people who don't really go out to eat might be able to now."

For students who are not familiar with the Flex Dollars program, it is a way to use your Wilkes student ID as a card, pre-loaded with money or charged to your tuition bill. The Wilkes website states that "Wilkes University partnered with Off Campus Solutions by Sodexo to create the Flex Dollar Program as the ultimate compliment to your campus experience. Flex Dollars can be spent to make ala carte purchases in any campus or local establishment that accepts them."

The Flex Dollars Program provides security, convenience, flexibility and freedom to students. Using the Flex Dollars plan makes the job of budgeting your money easy, as you can put money on the card at any time and also not worry about over-spending. Special off-campus discounts and promotions are also sometimes available, saving students even more money.

Some students do not use Flex Dollars, and like to keep their spending money out of their university funds. With a debit card, students can check their balance almost anywhere, even on their phones, while the process of checking the amount they have left on their Wilkes ID may be tricky or only pointed out after a purchase.

"It's nice that there are more choices," said senior T.J. Dennis, "but I am not sure if I will really use them." This sentiment seems to be reflected by not only commuter students, but students that reside in other states when they are not at school.

A New Jersey or New York gas station or Subway restaurant will not accept your Wilkes ID, and that renders your money useless until the next time you come to Wilkes-Barre.

Another problem with the Flex Dollars program is that even though the choices have ex-

panded, they are still limited. If all gas stations and restaurants in town, even local hot spots like Movies 14 or some of the stores around campus accepted Flex Dollars, more students would most likely take advantage of the program. The best situation would be if out of state Subway restaurants and other venues accepted Flex Dollars.

The upgrades and improvements regarding the Flex Dollars Program are great for students that use Flex Dollars. In order to get more students involved in the program, the venues may have to be expanded in both number and size.

While students can now use a Wilkes ID in more places, even more choices would benefit the school financially and the students in regard to variety.

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Taking a look at historic buildings in Wilkes-Barre

By Christine Lee, Amanda Leonard, Mikel Hartsough
News Editor; Correspondents

Wilkes-Barre has garnered a reputation of being a city with run-down buildings and high levels of poverty and homelessness. Some do not realize Wilkes-Barre has many historical buildings in its downtown area and in the surrounding communities that shape the city's landscape. Today many of these buildings are open to the public for tours and special events and have undergone extensive renovations to update their interior or preserve their historic qualities.

Forty-Fort Meetinghouse

The Forty-Fort Meetinghouse, located 40 River St. in Forty-Fort, is known for its Vespers and memorial services. It is also known for being one of the oldest establishments in Northeastern Pennsylvania, located beside the famous Old Forty Fort Cemetery.

Joseph Hitchcock created the design for the house. He also designed the Zion Church in Wilkes-Barre. The building is called a meeting house because it was shared by two different faiths since many churches were destroyed during the Revolutionary War people resorted to practicing their faith in what was called meeting houses. This meeting house was shared by both the Presbyterian and Methodist faiths in the area.

"The church was built mimicking a New England style meeting house, definitely not the style you would imagine in this area during the early 1800's," Nancy Lychos, a member of the Preservation Committee and co-chair of the Docent Committee of the meeting house, said. "We did get a grant in 2009 from the state gaming fund, we got the exterior of the building painted, and we do not receive any money from government within Luzerne County."

The meetinghouse is open for weddings and memorial services and any school is invited for a tour and can make reservations.

"People love the meeting house, they want to see it preserved," Lychos said.

Wilkes-Barre YMCA

The Wilkes-Barre YMCA, similar to the Forty-Fort Meetinghouse, was also founded to foster the religious programs within the community. The current YMCA building across from Pearsall Hall that students are given free

membership to was opened in 1934 with a budget of \$625,000 on the site of the former George S. Bennett mansion.

"We've been a staple in Wilkes-Barre since as long as people can remember," YMCA marketing director Meghan Davis said.

While the current YMCA is not as religiously based as when it was built, it still closes down on religious holidays such as Easter and the program still acknowledges its roots and promotes its faith.

"The YMCA puts Christian principles into practice through programs to build healthy spirit, mind and body for all," Membership Director Kim Greenip said.

Greenip said the YMCA has been an integral part of local history, even serving the children of Wilkes-Barre in an important way.

"The YMCA has become a huge part of Wilkes-Barre's local history. At one point it had

a mining school located inside the building."

Recently, the historic downtown building has undergone extensive renovations on its interior including new exercise spaces and men's and women's family locker rooms.

"We have been working on our huge \$15 million renovation project since July 2011 and plan on finishing it by mid-May, which we will hold a grand opening for," Davis said.

Davis said the historical aspect of the YMCA makes it marketable in the area for attracting new members, especially since the re-opening in May.

"We often advertise the historical aspect of our building for upcoming events such as our re-grand opening."

Frederick Stegmaier Mansion

Nestled near Wilkes is the Frederick Steg-

maier Mansion, a building that exemplifies high Victorian and French Chateau Style with a Gothic revival.

A locally renowned architect and builder, Missouri Houpt, constructed the mansion in 1870 with the aid of architect Bruce Price. Houpt and Price worked together on many of Wilkes-Barre's historic buildings, including the Colonel Ricketts Mansion, otherwise known as Wilkes residence hall Rifkin Hall, which is on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the River Street Historic District in Luzerne County.

After two previous owners, Frederick Stegmaier purchased the mansion in 1906. The Stegmaier family also owned and operated the Stegmaier Brewery and made many contributions to Wilkes-Barre. In 1857, Charles Stegmaier began brewing Stegmaier beer and by 1913, the beer had won many gold medals in Paris, Brussels and Rome; shortly after it was called the Stegmaier Gold Medal Beer. This beer is still brewed at the Lion Brewery, 700 N. Pennsylvania Ave. in Wilkes-Barre.

In 2001, Joseph Matteo, proprietor of Frederick Stegmaier Mansion, purchased the mansion and has worked to restore its former structure.

"In the past 11 years I have restored everything wall-to-wall to get it back to its former self," Matteo said.

The mansion now serves as a bed and breakfast and a historic house that holds banquets, wedding receptions and other prestigious events. Historic tours are also available.

Matteo said that unlike most cities, Wilkes-Barre does not have a preservation code to help maintain historic buildings with funding or anything enforceable to protect it.

"There really should be a specific code that helps with the keep-up with such buildings," he said. "Most cities have applications that have to be cleared by the National Register of Historic Places to protect the integrity of the building."

Most cities place buildings like the Fredrick Stegmaier Mansion on an ordinance that cannot be touched without approval of application. Along with the application, the potential buyer needs to submit a plan with intended alterations.

"I could have bought this mansion and painted it weird colors or tore it down," he said.

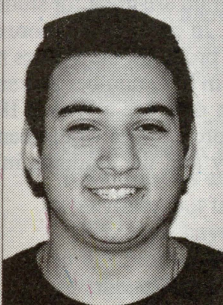


The Beacon/Austin Loukas

The Stegmaier Mansion, former home of Fredrick Stegmaier, was built in 1870. The owner of the brewery lived in the mansion from 1906 until his death. In the past several years, restorations have been underway to restore its beauty.

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THE WORD AT WILKES: What is your weirdest study habit?



Peter Tuzzo:

**Sophomore
Pol Science
Major**

**"I type all
my notes in
class."**



Cassidy Musser:

**Freshman
BioChem Major**

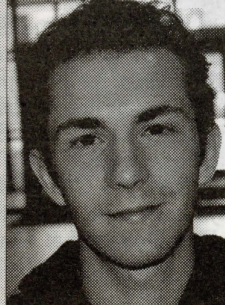
**"I don't know,
I don't even
study."**



Ryan Heck:

**Freshman
Mechanical
Engineer**

**"I listen to
screamo when I
study physics."**



**Forest
Hawkins:**

**Freshman
Criminology
Major**

**"I go back and
forth between
studying and
reading comic
books."**

Insanity workout creator to visit Wilkes University

Shawn Carey
Staff Writer

Shaun T, the creator of the worldwide phenomenon known as Insanity, is making an appearance at Wilkes on November 3 in the UCOM.

The Insanity workout is an exercise program that was created in 2009 to turn up the volume of the mundane workout. Since then people have been flocking to the stores to buy the routine and try it for themselves.

However, for Wilkes University students, they do not have to buy a copy because Insanity is coming to Wilkes-Barre for one day.

On November 3 from 1-5 in the UCOM gymnasium students will get to do the insanity workout with Shaun T himself and will get a chance to meet him as well.

Health and Wellness Club, or HAWC. The club was formed last year and has been doing the workouts since last semester. Besides the Insanity workouts, HAWC also offers cycling classes at the Wilkes-Barre YMCA.

They are still deciding on the actual workout that will be done. Coordinator of HAWC, Allie Givens stated, "The workout that Shaun T will do on the day of the event is unknown. I am assuming he will pick the workout we do the day of the event or closer to the event."

Students who are interested in the event will need a ticket to get into the event. Giv-

ens stated, "We are only selling 300 tickets and as of right now we are looking at starting to sell tickets sometime in October." Students should notice signs going up soon about ticket information.

Tickets will be free to Wilkes University students that are interested in the event.

The event will be laid out between one and five on that Saturday. The actual workout session will be from 1-2 with a break from 2-3 where students will get a chance to purchase Shaun T inspired apparel and then from 3-4 there will be a meet and greet session with Shaun T and then Shaun T will do a closing ceremony from 4-5.

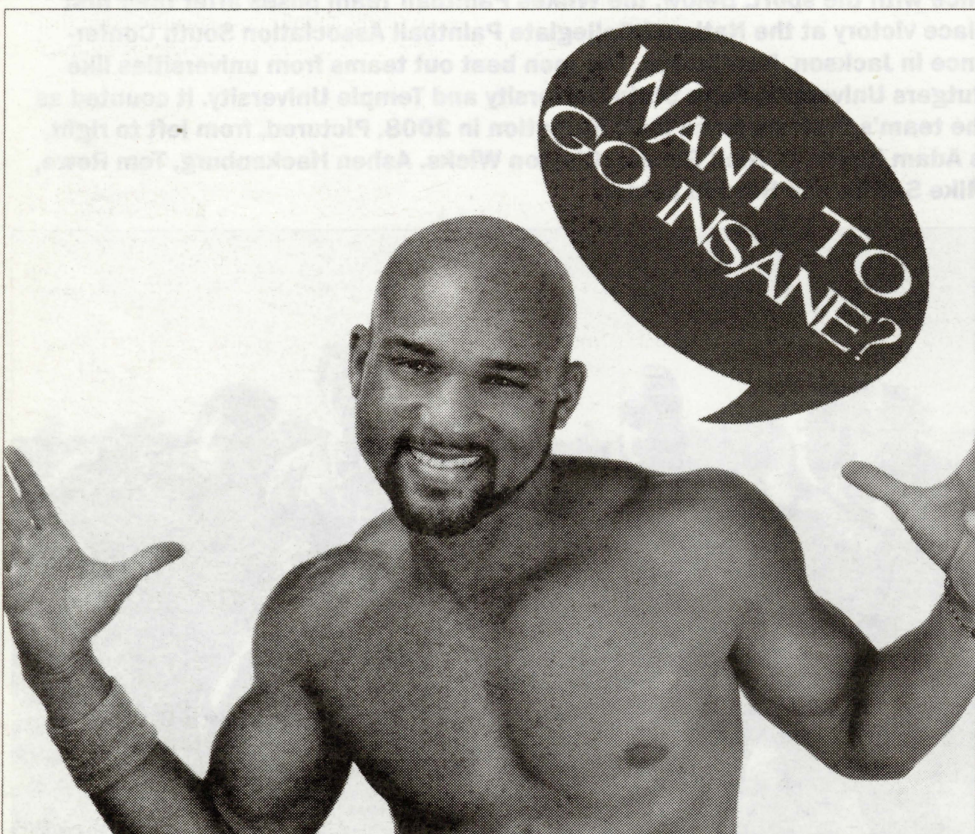
Givens said there will not be any restrictions for students. "We do encourage them to be safe while participating in the workout and only push themselves as much as they can." Givens stated.

Givens is also very excited for the event stating, "I cannot even describe how excited I am to meet Shaun T and actually perform a workout with him in person! It will be an awesome experience and I can't wait!"

Other students have also shared their excitement of the event. Kyle Henry, shared his thoughts about Shaun T stating, "Having Shaun T come to Wilkes is beyond amazing! His fitness programs have helped change my life around. In the past year alone, I feel like a healthier and more confident individual."



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shawncarey@wilkes.edu



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

Shaun T, creator of the Insanity workout, will be at Wilkes November 3 from 1-5 p.m. workign out with students in the UCOM Gymnasium.

Questions about diversity?

Diversity is something that everyone will at some point encounter, and most likely something everyone has questions about. New this semester is a column called "Open Inclusion Dialogue with Office of Diversity Initiatives," welcoming student questions about diversity. Common diversity-related issues are : race, gender issues, stereotyping, disabilities, religion and culture.

Students who have questions are encouraged to ask the questions they have been curious about or have previously been afraid to ask.

diversity@wilkes.edu

Erica Acosta, Associate Director of Diversity in the Wilkes Center for Global Education & Diversity will be answering your submitted questions. Don't hesitate to better yourself with information!

What does reflection of one self have to do with diversity?

By Erica Acosta

They go hand in hand. How do we expect to learn about others and understand their culture when we might not understand our own? When learning about diversity and including others you have to be comfortable with sharing your space. At times it might feel uncomfortable and that is ok. It is ok because you are introducing yourself to something new and you have to find your own position in that new environment. Once you understand your own culture, traditions, your stand on different issues, it becomes easier to understand the other person. When you have reflected and understood your personal diversity then you can start embracing others' diversity and seeing how similar or not so similar you might be to that specific group. This process does not happen overnight knowing yourself is important to embrace diversity & it takes time.



Wilkes Paintball Team looks to move up

Developing group continues to grow in the hopes of building on high rankings from past

By Frank Passalacqua
Sports Editor

You would never guess that Wilkes University would be associated with schools like Florida State University, University of Alabama, Rutgers University, and Clemson University.

You probably would have never guess that Wilkes would be ranked higher than all of them either. In fact, you probably did not even know Wilkes had a paintball team.

Well guess what, Wilkes has a paintball team, and they're pretty good.

The Wilkes University NCPA Paintball Team is currently ranked 30th in the Class AA Rankings, and the history behind it is rather interesting.

Take it back five years ago. If someone around the Wilkes campus was a life-long paintballer and wanted to keep their hobby going, they were out of luck. It was time for change, and a group of guys wanted to start something new for their school.

In 2008, Kevin Meinenger founded the club and along with the seven original members, they brought the team to life immediately. The following year after getting the team off the ground, Charles "Nick" Gambo was voted president and remained so until he graduated in 2011.

In the first couple of years as a recognized collegiate team, Wilkes found themselves ranked in the Top 10 and fought for some respect. In 2010, Wilkes placed second at the Blue Crab Classic in Maryland. This win was the first "podium" finish for the team, and it did not stop there.

2011 brought great success with a first place victory at NEIC Event 1 in Jackson, New Jersey. Not only was winning gold sweet, but it was the team's first ever gold in a NEIC Event.

Following the win, Wilkes landed third-place in Syracuse, New York at the SUNY Open (NEIC event 2), and another third-place medal in Maryland at the White Oak Challenge (NEIC Event 3).

For a relatively new team with only seven players, these accolades are highly respectable.

With only one senior left on the squad, young blood is looking to take over right where the team left off.

Tom Rowe, sophomore, Mike Sawka, ju-

nior, Hayden Lerner, senior, Chris Wildfoerster, freshman, Gabe Nazareno, freshman, and Jesse McDermott, freshmen, are currently the men representing WU.

Mike Sawka is the team president and after only his second year on the team, Tom Rowe has been voted captain due to his past experience with the sport and is looking to make great things happen.

"It's really just like any sports team like in high school," stated Tom Rowe, Team Captain. "You just need to have the level head in all the situations and be there for your guys. Everyone deals with tournaments differently, but paintball feels different than all those other sports. You're watching a clock tick down until your start, your adrenaline is going as you're stepping onto the field and lining up at the starting box ... there's really nothing else like it to me. It's one of the best feelings in the world."

At the past Club Day, many students gained interest in joining the team. In fact, the paintball team filled up over 70 slots on their sign-up sheet, all of which looking to be a part of the team.

"That's 70 new faces that have never been associated with Wilkes paintball and we're really excited to get a few outings this semester to some local fields," stated Rowe.

Despite all the recent success the team has had in the past year, Wilkes is not the top team in the conference. That is one thing the team is aiming to improve on in 2012.

Looking forward to the upcoming tournaments, these Colonels know what needs to be accomplished in order to move their way back up the charts.

"We only play at events that count for competitions. Generally schools compete in 2 per semester due to funding and being able to prepare for them," said Rowe. "We're hoping to play two this semester and at least one in our conference, the

NEIC, and Nationals next semester. Our first event is the Brick City Open held in Syracuse, NY and hosted by RIT."

Do you think this is your cup of tea? The Wilkes paintball team welcomes anyone and everyone who wants to play.

"As far as the club goes all you need is the desire to play paintball and if anyone wants to start playing competitive they're more than welcome to come out and they can practice with us. No one is going to get turned away for lack of skill or gear," stated Rowe.

For updates and news on the Wilkes paintball team, check out wilkespaintball.com.



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Photos courtesy of Tom Rowe

Above, Paintball Team captain Tom Rowe takes aim during competition. Rowe was voted team captain after two years on the team due to his past experience with the sport. Below, the Wilkes Paintball Team poses after their first place victory at the National Collegiate Paintball Association South Conference in Jackson, New Jersey. The men beat out teams from universities like Rutgers University, Penn State University and Temple University. It counted as the team's first win since their formation in 2008. Pictured, from left to right, is Adam Keeth, C. Nick Gambo, Clayton Wicks, Ashen Hackenburg, Tom Rowe, Mike Sawka and Hayden Lerner.



Powers

Continued from Page 20

What is the best part about playing volleyball? The best part about playing volleyball is always having something that I'm able to push myself to become better at. All year I work hard to become better than I was the day before. Also, I love being on this volleyball team for the fact that I have gained eight new friends that I now consider to be like my sisters because of how close we have become.

Being a freshman, what's the biggest challenge you feel you have? So far, the biggest challenge I have come across when playing as a freshman and basically having the role as a "quarterback" on that court, is realizing that this is a whole new level of playing. The nonsense that happened in high school isn't accepted here. Controlling my temper has been a huge part of my game too.

Is there something you do before every game? Whether we're on the bus for an away game, or I'm walking over to the Marts Center for a home game, I always listen to the song "Remember the Name" by Fort Minor. The song gets me pumped up and excited for game time!


Are there any proud moments in your career that you could never forget? The top

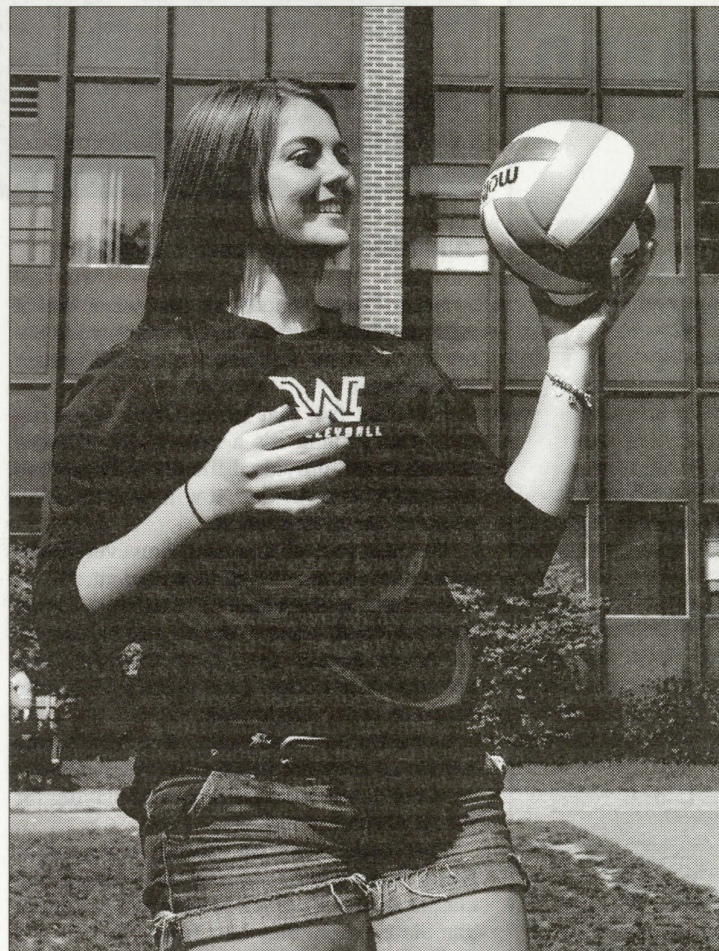
two moments in my career that I would say I am most proud of would have to be when I was named player of the year in my division my senior year. Also when I recently broke the Wilkes school record for most assists in one game, which was previously set in 1993.

When you think of the word "team," what comes to mind? When I think of the word team, I immediately think of the word family. With only having nine girls on our team, we are closer than many other teams. We work together as one group with confidence in one another that things on the court will get done. But also, we look at each other off the court with the love and respect that a family would.

Is working with classes and practice hard? Absolutely. One of the hardest things so far is trying to manage my time. Everyday classes get harder and the work gets more demanding. But being able to get through a day of classes, lifting, practices, and studying gives me a great sense of accomplishment because of how much I really do get done in a day.

Do you have any idea of what you want to do with your major? Yes, as of right now I am majoring in accounting and I am planning on double majoring it with business administration. I hope to pass my CPA exam, then make more career decisions after that.

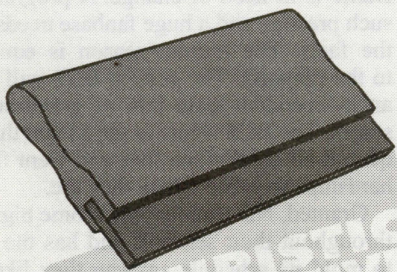
 @wilkesbeacon
michelle.coyle@wilkes.edu



Athlete Megan Powers is already getting comfortable with being a new player on the Wilkes volleyball team. She said the biggest challenge of being a freshman on the team has been adjusting to a whole new level of playing at the college level. She also said she has to work hard to control her temper during the game.

The Beacon/
Laura Preby

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Wilkes University Television Program Guide

Channel 97: Service Electric Cable

Monday September 17, 2012

6pm Rosenn Lecture Dillon-Dau
7:00pm Spotlight
7:30pm As You Like It
Classic Arts Showcase

Tuesday September 18, 2012

6pm Spotlight
6:30pm Det. Stores
7:00pm I Enjoy Being A Girl
7:30pm Showstoppers
8:00pm Rosenn Lecture-Lec Zanny
9:17pm Classic Arts Showcase

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

6:00pm Spotlight
6:30pm An American In Normandy
7:30pm ShowBizKids
8:00pm Wy. Val. Media
8:30pm Kirby Lecture-Tom Zasky
Classical Arts Showcase

Thursday, September 20, 2012

6:00pm Spotlight
6:30pm Ax Of Murder
7:30pm Student Press Freedom
8:00pm Kirby Lecture Lawrence Reed
9:00pm Philadelphia 2000
Classical Arts Showcase

SCOREBOARD

Football

9/15 Wilkes - 13
Albright - 27

Field Hockey

9/14 Wilkes - 3
Widener-2

M-Soccer

9/11 Baptist Bible - W 6-0
9/15 Elizabethtown - L 1-4

W-Soccer

9/13 Lebanon Valley - L 1-0
9/15 Widener - W 5-0

Volleyball

9/15 Baptist Bible - L 3-0
9/15 Lycoming - L 3-1

W-Tennis

9/15 Lycoming - W 9-0

M-Tennis

9/15 Lycoming - W 8-1

M-Cross Country

9/14 Cougar Classic - 7th

F-Cross Country

9/14 Cougar Classic - 8th

WEEK AHEAD

M-Soccer

9/18 VS. Penn College
9/22 VS. Lebanon Valley

W-Soccer

9/22 at Arcadia
9/23 VS. Daemen

M-Tennis

9/22-23 Scranton Trnt.

Football

9/22 at Widener

Field Hockey

9/18 at Juniata

Cross Country

9/21 NEPA Classic

Volleyball

9/22 at Keystone

Joseph Pugliese
Columnist



An offer they can't refuse

Notre Dame announced this week that it will join the Atlantic Coast Conference in every sport except football, which will remain independent.

I like the fact that Notre Dame is joining the ACC. I think it's a very good fit. Even though it will provide difficulty in basketball with stiffer competition, it will raise the level of the program as a whole.

The best part of this deal, however, is the football program staying independent.

By staying independent, the Notre Dame football remains one of the biggest unrestricted power houses in college football. This prestige alone allows them to have a big time schedule every single year.

Notre Dame already plays five ACC teams a year, so they are practically in the conference but do not have the luxury of playing for the ACC championship.

That being said, by staying independent Notre Dame gets to play big-time schools and classic rivals like USC, Michigan and Michigan State, whom they beat Sept. 15.

Another key proponent of staying independent is the automatic BCS bid that Notre Dame gets if it is in the top eight in the nation.

Also, Notre Dame is allowed to represent the ACC in bowl games should the conference decide to go on that route.

The biggest part of this, however, is the money.

Notre Dame gets to keep all of its television money from its national television contract. This was the deciding factor in where Notre Dame Football goes.

If Notre Dame was in the ACC, the conference would get the rights to televise conference games.

In this case, Notre Dame, being a premier program, would be televised by the ACC as much as possible. That would take preference over Notre Dame's independent television contract.

That is a lot of money lost for the school.

Overall, this is a deal that Notre Dame cannot go wrong with. If I were the athletic director and school president, I would be ecstatic on the way this all worked out.



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joseph.pugliese@wilkes.edu



Tweet us:

Send messages
and pictures to:

@WU_BeaconSports

FACE OFF



Should the Notre Dame football team stay independent in the Atlantic Coast Conference?

The facts: Notre Dame has announced it will join the Atlantic Coast Conference, but its football team is staying independent.

The argument: On one hand, keeping the rights to the football team means more advertising money for Notre Dame. The downside is Notre Dame forfeits the chance to compete in the ACC championship for football.

To join the debate, go to:
www.thewilkesbeacon.com

Or tweet:
@WU_BeaconSports

Justin Franiak
Columnist



Time for change

With the recent trend of developing super conferences in college sports, it's almost inevitable that every college football team will be on the move in the next few years. The interesting part will be to watch how the famous independent teams handle the changing landscape.

In the last week, the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame jumped ship from the Big East to the Atlantic Coast Conference.

On the outside it seems like a decent move, until I found out the football program will remain independent.

The ultimate goal of any sports program is to win a championship. The road to a championship goes through conference play.

With the current BCS system, conference play is compared to the level of the playoffs since the BCS doesn't have a playoff system. Since there is no playoff system, being in a strong conference with strong competition helps teams become recognized and chosen for the championship game.

Notre Dame decided to switch all sports to a new conference. This will create great rivalries and help the student-athletes win championships. The only downside to this switch, besides the money and pending lawsuits, is that football remains independent.

Notre Dame is based on tradition and consistency. The tradition comes with the uniforms and pre- and post-game antics, while the consistency and tradition meet in remaining an independent football team.

I respect tradition in all aspects, but Notre Dame is in need of change. A program with such prestige and a huge fanbase needs to see the facts. The regular season is equivalent to the playoffs. The current BCS will not let an independent team into its grandest of all stages. The BCS wants to see a team that conquered all conference foes and went through hardships to get to where they are.

Granted, ND usually plays some big names throughout their seasons, and has the ability to mold its schedule anyway they like. That flexibility can make or break a team like the Irish when it comes to going to the big game.

Notre Dame will play up to five ACC opponents per year within the next few seasons. So in a sense the Irish are playing a conference schedule without committing to a conference.

I believe it's time that Notre Dame put aside tradition for once. They need to jump ship and become part of a conference. Becoming part of the ACC will create new rivalries and bring better competition. It will make things more exciting for fans and alumni. The most important thing though it will bring all the fans, students and players what they want: a championship.



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Fourth choice gets shot at UFC 151 championship

Belfort jumps at chance to take on Jones

By Jake Cochran
Assistant A&E Editor

After Jon Jones rejected the UFC offer to fight Chael Sonnen as a replacement for Dan Henderson on nine days notice to defend his title on the advice of his coach and manager Greg Jackson, the light heavyweight title picture became murky.

Once the organization decided there was no hope for UFC 151, they immediately had to decide what to do with the title fight and who would face the champion.

Chael Sonnen was already signed to a fight later that year, his title aspirations were dashed as quickly as they were presented, after all what did he have to show to say he deserved the shot, other than he would fight on short notice.

Then the organization did the logical thing and went to the next No. 1 contender in the Light Heavyweight Division, Lyoto Machida, but he was currently unreachable because he was visiting his relatives in Brazil and didn't have cell phone service.

He really can't be blamed at this point because, honestly, a title fight to decide who he would face next was nine days away. So why would he expect a call to arms so soon?

But during the cancellation of UFC 151 it was stated that The Dragon would be fighting Jones at UFC 152, on Sept. 22. Later that day, Ed Soares released a statement saying that Lyoto wasn't even aware of this arrangement,

because he is still unreachable because there was no service, so he never agreed to fight Sept. 22.

After Machida was brought back from the stone age and made contact with his manager he said that he would not fight at 152 but he would fight at 153, which is scheduled for later date in October.

This was too far for the UFC, so they needed to find a replacement for the title fight that was just moved to UFC 152.

This is where the UFC decided to offer Shogun Rua the title shot, but Rua had to decline because he was still under a medical suspension from fighting recently.

They decided that Vitor Belfort another perennial contender should fight Jones.

Vitor Belfort jumped at the opportunity and is now set to face Jones at UFC 152.

"Kids today are worried about their careers, I just want to fight," Belfort said.

Belfort will have a quite a task with taking on the current champion because the odds opened at 13:1 making Belfort the biggest underdog in a title fight since UFC 69.

Georges St. Pierre was a huge favorite over Matt Serra but that didn't stop The Terror from interrupting the champion's reign in the first round with a flurry of punches to complete a story fit for a movie.



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The BEACON
News of Today Reported By the Journalists of Tomorrow

Getting to know...

Megan Powers

Freshman Volleyball Player

BY MICHELLE COYLE
Staff Writer

Meet Megan Powers, a freshman volleyball player who has already stepped up and shown off her skill in games. In high school she was named All-Area her senior year and captain. Studying accounting at Wilkes, she has a plan for her future and is excited to make decisions down her path. From Pottsville, Pa. to a new team at Wilkes, she already feels like family and she couldn't be happier. She says if it wasn't for her most inspirational person in life, her dad, she wouldn't be where she is today.

When did you start playing volleyball? I started playing volleyball in 6th grade for my CYO team.

Why did you get involved with the sport? I got into playing volleyball because I was told my by cousin, who played, that I'd enjoy it and had the potential of being a good player. After learning all aspects of the game, I completely fell in love with the sport and that caused me to put in the effort to become a great player.

Did you always know you were going to play in college? Originally I had planned to play volleyball in college, applying to Wilkes, West Chester and Shippensburg. I changed my mind and decided to apply to the University of Alabama. After I got accepted, I visited the school and made the choice to go there. But I then changed my mind again realizing that volleyball was a huge part of my life that I wasn't ready to give up yet.

Where do you get your inspiration? My inspiration comes from all the support I receive from my family, friends, and even old high school coaches that coached me. At least weekly I get texts and calls from coaches congratulating me or asking me how everything is going. I'm also blessed with family and friends who make it to games and are so supportive. My mom and dad try to never miss a game, and seeing their faces in the stands make me push 10 times harder to make them proud. Knowing I have such great people behind me gives me the inspiration to be the best I can be.

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