



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Students utilize the personal and group study areas in the newly renovated library basement.

Alden Learning Commons: renovations nearly complete

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS

News Editor

After three months of construction, The Alden Learning Commons in the basement of the Eugene S. Farley Library is approximately 98 percent complete according to Paul Kaspriskie, manager of capital projects.

Minor electrical wiring and reshelving the bound periodicals is all the work that remains in the newly renovated space.

Overall, the project cost about \$400,000 with \$100,000 of the amount going toward technology and furniture. The demolition of the basement began on October 15, 2009 and was 98 percent complete on the first day of classes of the spring 2010 semester.

The renovations include four new high-tech group study rooms,

which each housing 42-inch flat screen televisions and a white board. One of these study rooms has a video recording device that students can use to record what they covered in their group meetings. This device was donated to the Alden Learning Commons by Student Government.

There are also group-study/lounge areas divided by half-walls, which make the area almost cubicle-like. These areas are complete with large couches and a Mac computer. A portable white-board is also a resource for students who are working on a group project.

John Stachacz, the Dean of the Farley Library, said that the new half-walls give the area a sense of place.

"Before the renovations, there was no sense of place. Now, we

SEE ALDEN, Page 4

Earthquake in Haiti: effects reach Wilkes University

BY ANDREW SEAMAN

Online Editor

From a televised benefit that raised over \$57 million for relief efforts, to the personal stories and fundraising efforts at Wilkes University, the effects of the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that struck the small island nation of Haiti have been felt around the globe.

Frantzddyn Pamphile, a Wilkes junior psychology student from Brooklyn, is of Haitian decent and said she still had family living in the area destroyed by the violent earthquake.

"I was surprised, because it happened to little Haiti. Nobody ever expected it to happen of there," said Pamphile.

Pamphile remembers Haiti from a trip she made when she was younger.

"I remember the parts of Haiti



The Beacon/Andrew Seaman

Student Government (SG) hosted a candlelight vigil on Wednesday, January 20. Speakers at the ceremony included Nicholas Koch, SG president, Megan Boone, community service coordinator, as well as others.

that they don't show of Haiti," where the whole entire block is she said. "There's a place in Haiti

SEE HAITI, Page 5

Wilkes hires associate director of Global Center of Education and Diversity

Dr. Tristana Harvey brings experience and new perspectives to Wilkes

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS

News Editor

Wilkes University hired Dr. Tristana Harvey as associate director of Global Education and Diversity after the position was vacant for about one year.

Previously, Brandon Ice held the position, but left in December of 2008.

Dr. Godlove Fonjweng, director

of Global Education and Diversity, believes that Harvey has experience and new perspectives, which she can bring to Wilkes University's diversity program.

"She seems to have the type of personality that students will like," said Fonjweng. "She has the right credentials and excellent references."

Harvey, originally from Chicago, Ill., earned her doctoral degree

from Penn State University, where she was later employed. Formerly, Harvey spent most of her professional career at Penn State University where she worked as a multicultural counselor.

"In that role, I assisted students with any academic, personal or career issues that may impact their academic success," said Harvey.

Harvey helped undergraduate and graduate students learn about

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Opinion Pages 6-8

Diversity a two-way street

Wilkes makes effort to create a diverse and cultured community, but students must meet administration halfway. **PAGE 6**

Life Pages 9-12

Wilkes prof studies abroad

Dr. Zanolini Morrison travels to her husband's home country of Malaysia to continue research of women in higher education. **PAGE 9**

Arts & Entertainment Pages 13-15

Guitar Hero record attempt

Sophomore mechanical engineering major Aaron Nikles is trying to play his way into the Guinness Book of World Records. **PAGE 13**

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Tilley snags coaching gig

Senior Business major and former field hockey captain Amanda Tilley has accepted an Assistant coaching job at DeSales University. **PAGE 16**



Established 1936
PA Newspaper
Association Member

FEBRUARY 2, 2010

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Beacon Briefs

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS

News Editor

SORDONI ART GALLERY EXHIBIT

– The Sordoni Art Gallery opened the Brian Wood art exhibit on January 18. Wood has shown his work in New York City and internationally. The exhibit contains paintings, drawings, prints and photographs and will be on display until March 14. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 12:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. and admission is free.

CAMPUS COMMUNITY WEIGHT

WATCHERS PROGRAM – As part of the Employee Wellness Initiative, the Health Services Center is beginning a Weight Watchers program for students, faculty and staff. There are weekly meetings, which cost \$10, consisting of a weigh-in and a 30 minute meeting. Wilkes community members interested in joining the program should call Anita at 408-4730 to register. In addition, let Anita know what time of the day works best for you.

WILKES PHONATHON: EARN

CASH – The Wilkes University Phonathon asks Wilkes alumni for their participation in this year's annual Wilkes Fund. The Phonathon runs from Sunday through Thursday beginning February 1 until the beginning of May. Students will be calling alumni to try to raise money for the Wilkes Fund. Students earn \$10 per hour and being a student-caller is a flexible position. Interested students should contact Amy Hetro at 408-4302 or amy.hetro@wilkes.edu.

RELAY FOR LIFE

– This year, Relay for Life will be held on Saturday, April 24. Students who are interested in forming a Relay for Life team should contact Bethany Sharpless at Bethany.sharpless@wilkes.edu.

SEXUAL JEOPARDY – Health Services and the BACCHUS club will be hosting "Sexual Jeopardy" on February 9 at 9:00 p.m. until 10:15 p.m. The program will be held in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. Health Services and BACCHUS are looking for four teams of four people each to participate in a question and answer game. The winning team will receive prizes. The program will provide answers to questions about sexual health and issues. Contact Health Services at 408-4730 to participate on a team.

CAMPUS MEDITATION

– Weekly campus meditation will take place on Wednesdays from 5:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. in the Kirby Hall Salon. Contact Linda Paul at linda.paul@wilkes.edu or Mischelle Anthony at mischelle.anthony@wilkes.edu.

COLONELS RUN FOR KIDS

– The second annual Colonels Run for Kids will be held on Saturday, April 10 at 10:00 a.m. at Kirby Park in Wilkes-Barre. This five kilometer race will benefit Wilkes-Cross Country and Valley Santa. Pre-registration is \$10 and to registration on race day is \$12. For more information, go to www.neparunner.com.

2009 TAX TUITION FORMS

– The Student 2009 Tax Tuition forms are available on the Wilkes Portal. Log on to the portal for more information about accessing your form.

EAP PROGRAM

– Wilkes University provides an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) to faculty and staff. A representative from EAP will be on campus on February 23 at 12:00 p.m. The presentation will be held in the Henry Student Center Ballroom and will provide information on how to access services on health, family, financial and legal issues. The presentation will in-

clude lunch. Interested faculty and staff should contact Michele Grushinski at Michele.grushinski@wilkes.edu to R.S.V.P. by February 12.

DEAN'S LIST: FALL 2009

– Wilkes University has announced the Dean's List for the Fall 2009 semester. In order to be named on the Dean's List, students must carry at least 12 credits and obtain a GPA of 3.4 or higher. To access the Dean's List, go to www.wilkes.edu.

PEER TUTORING

– Peer tutoring is now available, free of charge. Make an appointment at: <http://tutortrac.wilkes.edu>. All tutoring will be held in Conyngham Hall in Room 113. For more information or

questions, contact Alberto Prado at alberto.prado@wilkes.edu.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS WORKSHOP

SERIES – University College will be presenting a series of weekly workshops to help students manage college life. Workshops will be held at 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. in Conyngham Hall, Room 109 every Tuesday through February. There will be a workshop on February 2, which focuses on task management.

Win an award? Hear about an important event? If you think it's newsworthy, send it in! Email jacqueline.lukas@wilkes.edu or cathryn.frear@wilkes.edu with your tip.

Sestak visits Wilkes



The Beacon/Jacqueline Lukas

Representative Joe Sestak (D-PA) spoke with Dr. Thomas Baldino's legislative behavior class Thursday January 28. Students in the class could take this opportunity to ask him questions about where he stands on different political issues that they may have concerns about. Also during his campus visit, Sestak spoke with *The Beacon's* editorial board. He discussed how his role as senator would differ from his current representative position as well as where he stands on healthcare and the price of tuition. Sestak is currently campaigning in a run for the Senate's democratic primary against incumbent senator Arlen Specter (D-PA). According to a Franklin & Marshall College Poll, Sestak lags 30-13.

The BEACON

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Meet the Staff



Ruth Whispell
 Assistant Life Editor

Student Government Notes – January 27, 2010

BY MOLLY KURLANDSKI

Correspondent

Treasurer's Report:

All college: \$29,700.00
Conferences: \$16,260.00
General Funds: \$14,060.00
Leadership: \$5,235.00
Special Projects : \$2,750.00
Spirit: \$2,000.00
Start-up: \$2,100.00

New Business:

Relay for Heat Donation Request (Week 1 of 1): The Wilkes University Running Club requested \$1,200 to organize a Relay in which all proceeds will go to the Martin Luther King Fuel Fund, administered by the Commission for Economic Opportunity (CEO). \$500 was allocated to the Running Club for this request. Student Government voted 26-10-3.

Spirit Club Shirt Allocation (Week 1 of

1): On February 20 at 3 p.m., during Winter Weekend activities, the Spirit Club will be giving away free Wilkes T-shirts during the Wilkes and Kings game. Student Government allocated \$1,850 to give away T-shirts. The vote was 33-0-3.

Old Business:

The Library and SUB construction is winding down, with 98 percent of the library complete. All computers are up and running. Use the library website to make suggestions and comments.

Events:

Winter Weekend 2/19 – 2/20: Themes are still being considered.

Committees:

Campus Support: Elevator construction continues in the Towers.

Class Reports:

Megan Dickenson, junior class president, is organizing a trivia social on February 10 at 9 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Closing Comments:

Vagina Monologues will be held on February 12 and 13 at 7 p.m. in the Ballroom.

***At 6:45 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn the SG meeting. The motion was approved.**

SG Meetings are open to all students. They are held every Wednesday in the Miller Conference Room on the second floor of the HSC.

CONTACT MOLLY KURLANDSKI AT:

molly.kurlandski@wilkes.edu

for more information check out...

wilkesbeacon.com

GO!



HIRE

Continued from FRONT PAGE

the university's policies and procedures, the campus and the opportunities that were available.

Before coming to Wilkes University, she taught at Bloomsburg University, but decided teaching wasn't her strongest asset.

"That experience wasn't quite what I thought it would be," said Harvey. "So I decided administration is probably a bit more where I needed to be."

Harvey accepted her current position at Wilkes University in late December and started working on January 18. Wilkes University is smaller than the other two schools at which Harvey has been employed, but she doesn't see that as a negative aspect.

"It's a much smaller school, so the ability to [reach out to] students much more directly is amplified, significantly," said Harvey. "For me, it's going to be fun."

Presently, Harvey is assessing reports and getting to know the Wilkes community to see how the diversity programs on campus can be enhanced.

"I've had the opportunity to read over a number of reports that the University has put together on diversity and [the University's] prior efforts," said Harvey.

She wants to bring the University's diversity goals to life in the near future by looking at what has been done in the past and what is being done now. Harvey is in the process of establishing contacts with different departments within the University

community like Student Affairs, University College and Alumni Relations.

In cooperation with Marketing Communications, one of Harvey's goals is to improve the Global Center for Education and Diversity's webpage. She would like to get rid of information that is no longer pertinent.

"There are generalizations there," said Harvey. "There are pieces there that tell you about past programs that have been done."

She would not only like to see more current information about the Global Center itself, but also more about upcoming events that the Center will host or co-host.

Harvey will also be working closely with the Multicultural Student Coalition (MSC) and is looking to facilitate programs throughout the university in cooperation with MSC.

Tracy Garcia, president of MSC, was excited for Harvey's arrival at Wilkes.

"I am looking forward to seeing some new ideas and programming that Dr. Harvey may have to offer," said Garcia. "My main goal is that we would be able to create awareness of diversity and also to educate more people on the Wilkes campus about diversity."

Fonjweng said Harvey has been well-received by students, faculty and staff and is excited about her joining the Wilkes community. Fonjweng also sees that Harvey will help infuse global and cultural ideas into the University community.

"I think the most exciting thing about my job will be seeing ideas come to life and actually having the students take part in it," said Harvey.



The Beacon/Jacqueline Lukas

On Tuesday, January 26, the Global Center for Education and Diversity held a meet and greet for Dr. Tristana Harvey, who is the new associate director for the center. Students from the Multicultural Student Coalition (MSC) were there to speak with Harvey about her plans for diversity within the Wilkes community. Harvey, left, is speaking with a student, right, about her hopes for MSC.

In her spare time, Harvey likes to exercise and is still exploring the ski areas available in Northeastern Pennsylvania. But most of all, she enjoys international travel and has been to many places in Europe, including Milan, Italy; Dublin, Ireland; and Paris, France.

CONTACT JACQUELINE LUKAS AT:

jacqueline.lukas@wilkes.edu

Dr. Harvey's office is located on the second floor of the Global Center for Education and Diversity. She welcomes all students to stop by her office and speak with her.

For students interested in obtaining more information or joining MSC, contact Tracy Garcia, president, at: tracy.garcia@wilkes.edu

ALDEN

Continued from FRONT PAGE

can inhibit noise [with the walls] while students are working,” said Stachacz.

In addition to these work spaces, there are also smaller, more intimate work spaces for groups of two or three. These also have the same large computers, but a bigger desk and chairs as opposed to the other area with couches.

“We wanted to accommodate multiple learning styles,” said Stachacz.

The classroom, toward the back of the Alden Learning Commons, was updated as well.

“The old classroom could accommodate about 45 to 50 students,” said Kaspriskie. “Now, it can hold about 60 to 65 students with enhanced lighting.”

Stachacz and Tom Messenger, executive director of campus support services, agreed that the classroom renovation was a 180 degree change.

Kaspriskie also pointed out that there have been renovations to the men’s and women’s bathrooms and the addition of a handicapped bathroom approved by the American Disability Association (ADA). The renovated bathrooms and new ADA-approved bathroom are energy efficient with energy-saving fountains, automatic hand towel dispensers and motion-sensor lighting.

In addition, the Writing Center has made its move from Breiseth Hall to the Alden Learning Commons. Though the Writing Center’s new home is a slightly smaller

space, Dr. Chad Stanley, director of the Writing Center and English professor, is very pleased with the relocation.

“It’s a move that benefits both the Writing Center and the library and certainly the students and faculty at Wilkes,” said Stanley. “It makes sense to have the library be the location for the Writing Center.”

Stanley said now that the move is complete, he would like to see the Writing Center extend their hours. Currently, they are open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

“We could experiment with adding some hours into the evening; we could even experiment with some weekend hours,” said Stanley.

Currently, the Writing Center’s staff has about 30 students, with room to expand.

Kristen Pechulis, junior English major and employee of the Writing Center, is unsure about some of the logistics of the move.

“I think the new space is really nice but I am unhappy because the size is really inadequate for the number of consultations that can occur in any given day,” said Pechulis.

Pechulis is worried that students might not be able to get the help they need due to an insufficient amount of space, but hopes that the Writing Center will still be a valuable resource on campus.

Kaspriskie said that the planning for this new space was a collaborative effort.

“John [Stachacz] sat down with architects and students to find out what was lacking in the basement,” said Kaspriskie.

To Stachacz and Library staff, the renovations in the basement seem to appeal to the majority of the students who have visited



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

In addition to group study rooms, there are also group study areas with couches, pictured above. Dean John Stachacz’s main goal was to accommodate multiple learning styles and add many group study areas. Here, students can work with a larger group and a large computer screen.

the basement since it has re-opened.

“It’s always packed down here,” said Stachacz.

“[The Alden Learning Commons] is a very high-profile area,” agreed Stanley.

Stachacz also said that the renovations will be a great way to attract prospective students to Wilkes University.

“No ifs, ands or buts about it, [the Alden Learning Commons] will be a great recruitment tool, as well as a retention tool for current students,” said Stachacz.

Messenger said that the timeline for renovating the remaining three floors of the Farley library is still unknown. The budget must be approved before any demolition, construction or renovation can begin.

“For the first floor [of the library], we plan on re-thinking the entrance to have better access,” said Messenger. “[We plan on making] cosmetic changes, like carpeting and furniture.”

CONTACT JACQUELINE LUKAS AT:

jacqueline.lukas@wilkes.edu

Susquehanna at flood stage



The Beacon/Andrew Seaman

Due to heavy rainfall on Wednesday, January 27, the Susquehanna River rose to flood stage. The new River Common, which opened in the Summer of 2009, was flooded and now, needs to be cleared of debris. In addition, the flood portals under the bridges of the River Common were closed because of the rising waters.

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One form per person. The winner will be announced in next week's issue.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

MYSTERY WORD: _____

HAITI

Continued from FRONT PAGE

filled with white houses, and they have hotels that are twice as nice as the ones in New York. Those are the places I remember.”

Fortunately, Pamphile’s family escaped unscathed and was able to fly into the U.S. after the quake.

Pamphile’s family’s story of exodus from Haiti is quite different for another group of students’ stories, who will be flying to the island of Hispaniola in March as part of Alternative Spring Break (ASB).

The students will spend time in the Dominican Republic, which shares the island with Haiti, working with orphans through the organization Orphanage Outreach.

“Despite the unfortunate events in Haiti, I continue to be very optimistic that my ASB trip will be a huge success,” said Jason Woloski, a biochemistry and pre-med senior at Wilkes, who will be taking part of the program in the Dominican Republic. “Fortunately, the Dominican Republic was spared from most of the devastating consequences of the earthquake.”

April Bielinski, a Wilkes junior communication studies student, will also be heading

to the Dominican Republic with ASB.

“Having seen a great deal of media coverage on the disaster in Haiti, it’s clear that the earthquake made a bad situation worse,” said Bielinski. “The people of Haiti were already fighting a losing battle to begin with and it’s truly heartbreaking to see the struggle worsen. Haiti has already been the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere for so long and now their uphill battle is even greater.”

Haiti has been plagued by troubles since the late 15th century. According to the U.S. government, most of Haiti’s native population was killed by Spanish settlers within 25 years of Columbus landing on the island in 1492.

Most recently, Haiti’s former president was sent into exile in 2004. The country then elected a new president and parliament in May 2006 with the guidance of the United Nations.

Megan Boone, Wilkes’s community service coordinator, will accompany the Wilkes’ students to the Dominican Republic and has also helped coordinate a fundraising drive to help the earthquake victims in Haiti.

Boone said there are two tiers to Wilkes’ program to help the people of Haiti.

The first tier is a two-dollar fundraiser,

which was organized by Dr. Mary Beth Mullen, Wilkes’ coordinator for student affairs.

“It’s still ongoing, and we keep getting more donations day-in and day-out,” said Boone.

People can donate \$2, which is the amount some Hatians live on a day, by dropping it off at Boone’s office in the student center, Mullen’s office in Conynham Hall, or the UCOM.

The second tier is a collection of ‘hygiene kits’ that will be sent to the people of Haiti, which are being put together by the Alpha Chi honor society and the community service office.

Pamphile said the worldwide fundraising efforts are good things, but the problems still exist on the ground in Haiti.

“I was shocked at how much money was raised, but all the actions that need to be done that needs to be there to supply people food; they have no organization. It’s all dysfunctional. That’s the bad part,” said Pamphile. “They’ve fundraised a lot of money – that’s the good part. But to get all the supplies to Haiti isn’t organized at all.”

According to The Chronicle of Philanthropy, U.S. non-profit organizations have raised \$560 million for relief efforts in Haiti.

Pamphile says she hopes the people of Haiti will rebuild with disasters like this earthquake in mind, and that the U.S. helps guide Haiti into a better future.

CONTACT ANDREW SEAMAN AT:
andrew.seaman@wilkes.edu

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Students, faculty and staff who wish to donate to Haiti to help with the earthquake relief can do so at the following places:

American Red Cross International Response Fund: (800)-RED-CROSS or (800)-257-7575 (Spanish); www.redcross.org <http://www.redcross.org>; or donate

\$10 to be charged to your cell phone bill by texting “HAITI” to the number 90999
The Salvation Army: (800) SAL-ARMY; www.salvationarmyusa.org <http://www.salvationarmyusa.org>; or mail checks to Salvation Army, 61 NW 67 St., Miami, FL 33150

UNICEF: (800)-4UN-ICEF; <http://www.unicefusa.org/haitiquake>

Catholic Relief Services: www.crs.org
Doctors Without Borders: Donate with a debit or credit card at <https://donate.doctorswithoutborders.org/>

American Jewish World Service: (212)-792-2900; <http://www.ajws.org>



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FEBRUARY 2, 2010

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Attempts at a diverse campus a two-way street

Students must meet administration and faculty half way

BY THE BEACON

Editorial Board

As the spring semester begins, *The Beacon* would like to address an important issue that we see present within the Wilkes community. The point here is not to point fingers or make people look bad, but to arouse discussion. So what is the issue? Multicultural Diversity.

Wilkes has continually made every effort to bring students of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds to the university.

Currently there are students of Indian, Saudi Arabian, Asian, Hispanic and various other ethnic backgrounds in undergraduate and graduate programs on campus.

Wilkes continues to draw these students here based on their tireless commitment to and development of multicultural programs and organizations. The best example of this is the Center for Global Education and Diversity, which encompasses each of these multicultural organizations. Their goal is to support the minority population, to educate and encourage the entire student body to actively participate with other multicultural students.

The Wilkes administration and faculty have done a commendable job thus far in terms of multicultural diversity awareness and encouragement, but the attempt to make the campus a cultured and diverse environment is a two way street. Wilkes can make

every effort to diversify the campus, but if the overall Wilkes community is not getting involved and doing its part, there is really no point in trying.

The majority of the student body needs to get more involved in multicultural diversity. A general low attendance at multicultural organization meetings, events and general campus observations show that Wilkes students are putting forth little or no effort to do so. These international students are interesting and accepting of people who are attempting to learn the American culture. So why don't the rest of the native students reciprocate?

for Global Education and Diversity, and the plethora of multicultural organizations' efforts would not be in vain.

Some examples of the multicultural organizations at Wilkes are: the Multicultural Student Coalition, the Islamic Interest Society, the Indian Cultural Association, and the Chinese Student Association. Most of these organizations do not restrict who can join. In fact, they encourage diversity amongst the various organizations, meaning that if a Caucasian student wished to join the Multicultural Student Coalition or the Indian Cultural Association, they easily could. However, most choose not to do so.

Most of the events these organizations plan are well attended, such as Family Heritage Day, which featured a variety of different ethnic foods such as Polish, Chinese, Puerto Rican and more, a celebration of Dawali, which featured dance performances and Indian cuisine, and Global Coffee Hour, which takes place every Wednesday in the Savitz Multicultural Lounge from 3:00 and 5:00

p.m. Wilkes also offers global dance lessons teaching dances common in other cultures.

If you are a student who wishes to get more involved in multicultural diversity on campus, visit the Center for Global Education and Diversity and find out how to get more involved with these other cultures.



The Beacon/Allison Roth

American and International students mingle at Global Coffee Hour in the Savitz Multicultural Lounge. Students speak about their unique perceptions of global events.

While international students do communicate and assimilate with other students on campus, they do so merely with students of their own same ethnic background, not the overall Wilkes community, and it is not their fault. If greater strides were made by the majority of the students to get to know these minority students, Wilkes, The Center

Beacon Poll

The *Beacon* poll is unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on campus.

This week, *The Beacon* asks:

Have you participated in a multicultural diversity event at Wilkes?

- Yes
- No

Visit www.wilkesbeacon.com to cast your vote. Results will be published on the website next week.

Speak Up! It's Your Right!

The Beacon wants your opinion. Contact us at wilkesbeacon.oped@gmail.com with your Name, Major, Year, and Opinion!

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



Haitians will rebuild society with hope and sense of history

BY DR. C. REYNOLD VERRET

Wilkes University Provost

Editor's Note: This editorial is the first of a weekly series written by Wilkes University faculty and administration.

Some things are sad; this one oppressively so when 200,000 perish, some in a brief moment, others in lingering agony lasting days. The illustrious like Georges Anglade, the renowned geographer and a founding member of l'Université du Québec a Montréal, and many less known and unknown were lost in what seemed the blinking of an eye. Surely, we will grieve, when we allow ourselves, when time allows amidst the pressing business of caring for each other.

Yet even in this catastrophe, the Haitian people secure embers of hope from the ashes and contemplate a better day. This is a resilient people that have endured much throughout its history, from its breaking from slavery in 1804, to a complete isolation imposed by European powers and the United States, to the punishing payment of reparations to France for the audacious claim of freedom, to a legacy of corrupt tyrants.

Still, the word “debrouiller” comes easily to Haitian lips, meaning to manage, to find a way when often there seems no way. But the scale of 200,000, roughly 10 percent of the population of Port-au-Prince and its surroundings, is astonishing.

Shortly before Christmas, I received a pretty photograph of the palace in Port-au-Prince decorated with lights for the Christmas season. Long a place of fear, a house of despots, this palace had been transformed into a shimmering symbol of hope and re-

demption.

Now, it lies in ruin. We are filled with horror at the shattering of the capital city. Indeed, the recent government had become a servant of the people. With international support, it had undertaken restoration of essential institutions, such as the courts, police, customs, and ministries of finance. The police and armed forces, which for generations had been agents of terror, now protected and served. It was a long-hoped-for transformation that stirred hope for the Haitian nation, and for its diaspora that was scattered to the four winds by the Duvalier dictatorships.

For a better day to come, structural inequities and impediments that have mired the people will have to be overcome. A succession of corrupt governments have prevented real development and absconded with the nation's wealth to bank accounts in Switzerland, France or the United States. Education had been limited to the few, thus preventing the full flourish of the people's genius.

A class system derived from feudal practices of the colonial era impeded any real development, and kept the rural peasantry, the majority of Haitians, underfoot little access to power, to education and to any real wealth. The majority did not speak French, the language of the elite power. Furthermore, deforestation and despoliation of the land undermined agricultural productivity.

Many corrective measures had begun to take root before the quake. These and more must continue. The international community and especially the USA has responded magnificently in the last few days, partnering with a government in dire straits. With their help, the Haitian people must build a new society and not restore the old.



Photos Courtesy of Dr. C. Reynold Verret

Above left is a picture of the National Palace in Port-au-Prince before the earthquake. The picture on the right is what is left of the National Palace in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Haiti.

The
Observatory

Everybody is looking for someone to blame but themselves

Commentary on Luzerne County Corruption

BY MATTHEW GOGAS

Opinion Editor

Kickbacks, bribery, blatant outright theft. These are all words to describe the current political climate in Luzerne County. With as many as 23 federal corruption cases currently under investigation, the citizens of Luzerne County have probably lost complete faith in the officials they elected to make informed decisions for them. I am personally waiting with anticipation for more corruption cases to come out of the woodwork and I will tell you why shortly.

To briefly recap, it all started with the investigation of Judges Mark Ciavarella and Michael Conahan and since then, many other county officials, attorneys, school officials, clerks and even, surprisingly, a barber have gone down. Even County Commissioner Greg Skrepenak was charged with accepting bribes. I could round off the countless others involved in the corruption, but that would be a waste of time and I am trying to make a point here.

The reason I am so excited to hear about the Who's Who of Luzerne County corruption is the public reaction. The citizens of Luzerne County are so angry and feel so taken advantage of that they use any venue to preach about it. From my own personal observations, I have heard complaints at the bar, the supermarket, people's homes, and even walking down the street. From all this I have gathered that most people are looking for someone to blame (at least those with less than half a brain.) Some blame the corrupt themselves, some blame their superiors, and some blame Pennsylvania and the Federal Government for not keeping a closer eye on the county procedure.

So, if you are a disgruntled Luzerne County citizen and you are looking for someone to blame for all of the corruption you have

seen so far, look no further than yourselves. For those of you that vote, three judges have been charged, three judges that were publically elected into office by you. You can make the assertion that you did not know they were corrupt at the time, but that can only go so far. It is your responsibility to find out who these people are, and not rely solely on what they tell you while campaigning. You should not blindly elect public officials because they make your decisions for you; they are your REPRESENTATIVES.

The same goes for Greg Skrepenak - a novice in public government who was elected to office of County Commissioner because of his popularity as an ex-football player. Again, you elected him.

As for the school officials, those of you who worked closely with these people at these schools and had some sort of knowledge that something fishy was going on shame on you.

And finally for the barber, how do you get away with accepting \$6,000 for giving county prisoners haircuts and then not cut their hair? How many people let that one slide? I am glad so many people got laid off this year and last year so Luzerne County could pay people not to do their jobs.

You can only blame the guilty for so much. Yes, they are guilty, but many people in Luzerne County enabled them to commit these crimes, many people that are not going to jail for it. If you want to lay all the blame on their heads, you are without a doubt wrong. Blame those who turned a blind eye to this corruption; blame those who fueled the rumor mill with their co-workers at the courthouse, and blame those who ignorantly elected these officials.

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A decade in review: the good, the bad, and the ugly

BY KAYLA MATTIOLI

Correspondent

A lot has happened in the last ten years. We got older, technology has changed and reality shows took over television. This past decade has brought us many changes even if we are unable to remember them all. So let's take a look back at the good, the bad, and the ugly.

The Good: This decade brought about many new and innovative technologies. For the first time, we could do more with our cell phones than just make a call with the mainstreaming of Smartphones. Social networking sites changed the way we keep in touch with friends and the digitalization of music allowed us to enjoy our favorite one hit wonder without paying for the rest of the crappy CD.

On May 17, 2004, Massachusetts became the first state to allow gays to marry. It is so nice to see that some of us are finally acknowledging that "all men are created equal" and should have the same rights.

On May 15 2008, California began issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples. The state soon told city officials to cease and desist when in 2008 California voters said "yes" to Proposition 8, which banned

same-sex marriage statewide.

The 2008 election finally forced American's to choose leaders that were not the typical old white men. The Democrats gave us the choice between Hillary Clinton, a woman, or Barack Obama, a black man. The two battled for the candidacy in what felt like the longest primary election campaign ever. The Republicans on the other hand gave us Sarah Palin, the now former Governor of Alaska, as a running mate to their old white man, John McCain.

The Bad: It began in 2000 when we brought in the new millennium. Y2K sent everyone into a frenzy as we thought the New Year would bring the crash of computer systems worldwide and the collapse of the stock market. Luckily, we were spared the stock market fiasco for another few years.

Following September 11, 2001 the terror level was often on high alert and anthrax started appearing in mail across the country. In 2003, President George W. Bush decided to declare war on Iraq because of "evidence" that their leader Saddam Hussein had "weapons of mass destruction."

This war soon took precedent over the finding of Osama bin Laden, who was in fact responsible for the 9/11 attacks and had little or nothing to do with the nation Iraq, or Saddam. As an update, bin Laden has

never been found, Hussein is dead, and Iraq is no better off now than they were before we took over.

The writers' strike in Hollywood left us with little entertainment to take our minds off the various crises of our lives. As it takes a long time to complete a movie, we are still seeing many that were affected. Films that should have been blockbuster hits became huge flops. But for what it's worth, I don't know that the "Land of the Lost" remake starring Will Ferrell was destined for box office gold anyway.

The Ugly: September 11, 2001 is one of those days that will never be forgotten. Nearly 3,000 people were killed by four hijacked planes. Nine years later, New York has yet to rebuild much of anything in the former site of the Twin Towers. Did I mention Osama Bin Laden is still alive and kicking?

In 2005 Hurricane Katrina swept through the Gulf Coast devastating New Orleans, as well as surrounding areas, and killing more than 1,200 people. It has been decided that Wal-Mart did more to help the survivors than the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). According to Kanye West, this is because "George Bush does not like black people," while Wal-Mart on the other hand is an equal opportunity em-

ployer. Ultimately, the United States failed to help the people at home who were in need of assistance.

Due to the collapse of the subprime mortgage market, America was thrust into the worst recession since the Great Depression. Big auto dealers were nearly bankrupt and banks had to foreclose on millions of homes.

Former President George W. Bush signed a \$700 billion dollar bailout plan for the banking industry prior to leaving office. Months later, President Obama pass a multibillion dollar stimulus package used to create jobs and give tax credits to people buying new homes or cars. After all that, the unemployment rate of the country is at 9.7 percent, which is higher than it was prior to these "bailouts."

Overall, aside from the occasional feel good story (like Sully and the Miracle on the Hudson), the entire decade was kind of a bust. However, I find it easier to make it through the day by self-medicating and realizing that things can't get much worse. We are, after all, Americans. Powerful, entitled, and maybe just a little dense.

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No sign of spell check in SUB atrocity

BY MICHAEL CIGNOLI

Assistant Online Editor

We've all been to a movie, sporting event, museum, or play at some point in our lives, so this next question shouldn't be too difficult for anyone.

You know the word for that little slip of paper that you receive once you've paid the price of admission? The one that says you're entitled to enter the premises? It rhymes with the phrase "click it."

How is that word spelled?

Right, "T-I-C-K-E-T." Ticket.

Everybody gets a gold star for that one. Except, sadly, for the person who was charged with creating the sign advertising the discounted movie tickets that all Wilkes University students have the ability to purchase.

According to that person, ticket is spelled "T-I-C-K-I-T."

Of course, if they had double-checked this, they would have discovered that they were mistaken. However, they didn't. They just went ahead and put the incorrect spell-

ing down in big, bold purple letters on a sign that hung prominently in the Henry Student Center or as some refer to it, the SUB.

The sign has since been removed, but the damage has been done. Somewhere, Noah Webster is rolling over in his grave.

Now, that's far from the worst spelling error that I've seen. That would be the time that someone told my friend via Facebook that they would make an excellent "raper."

What the person meant to say was that my friend would excel in the same genre of music that Tupac found success in. They instead hypothesized that my friend would excel in the same type of crimes that John Wayne Gacy committed.

Thankfully, the sign's been taken down. However, it still troubles me that the atrocity was publically displayed in the first place.

When I first visited Wilkes in the summer of 2006, the Student Union Building was the first place that the tour guide took my parents and me. To this day, the SUB is still a popular stop on all campus tours.

I don't know about you, but if the first thing that I saw when I stepped on campus was a

gigantic sign with a glaring spelling error, I would have serious doubts about the quality of education that the University offered.

It is inexcusable. I understand that no human being is perfect (including myself) and that people make mistakes, but come on. This is what happens when you spend too much time tending to your crops in the online game FarmVille and not enough time paying attention in class.

To make matters worse, I'd like everyone who purchased a discounted movie pass in the past week to take a moment to look at it.

The word "ticket" is correctly spelled on the ticket a total of not one, not two, but four times. If you count three, the one you're probably missing is in very small print underneath where it says "Void After."

That's just sloppy. Don't let this happen again, Wilkes.

The last thing this University needs (aside from more fire alarms in the Towers) is for the sign designer to make another egregious spelling error.

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The Beacon/Michael Cignoli

This sign advertising discount movie tickets was prominently displayed in the SUB last week. As you can see, the word "tickets" is spelled incorrectly.



• Dr. Mark Reid uses his time in college to find himself and change his way of thinking.

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Dr. Zanolini Morrison to research in Malaysia

Women in leadership roles in higher education focus of new study

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS

Life Editor

Studying abroad, traveling the globe, and finding what one really wants to do in life is something college students do every day. Now a college professor is going to give it a try.

Dr. Gina Zanolini Morrison, associate professor of English, was just granted a sabbatical for which she will be traveling to her husband's home country of Malaysia to begin new research in the field of women in higher education.

"We [my husband and I] met in a coffee shop in Kingston, PA, but we travel to Malaysia to visit his family that is over there once in a while," stated Zanolini Morrison.

Morrison points to Malaysia as a country that has found a way to take pride in their multi-cultural heritage.

"I learned a lot about how to do diversity just by going over there to Malaysia," said Zanolini Morrison.

On her last trip to Malaysia over the summer of 2009, Zanolini Morrison was asked by a fellow Wilkes professor, Dr. Vijay Arora, who also happened to be in the country, to travel south and visit the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM).

In November 2008, Zanolini Morrison and Arora did a presentation to create a link between UTM and Wilkes.

Through their presentation, the two research professors tried to connect the research efforts of Wilkes and UTM, as well as create an international exchange program to Malaysia.

UTM is the premier university in engineering and technology, according to the UTM handbook.

After traveling approximately three hours south of her husband's family in Malaysia to UTM, Zanolini Morrison met with a woman named Dr. Siti Hamisah Tapsir

(known as Prof Siti) who encouraged Zanolini Morrison to help do research on women in engineering.

While the trip to meet Prof Siti was originally for academic purposes, when Zanolini Morrison arrived, she found that she would be doing a lot more than research.

"One day I got a call from Prof Siti and she asked me to breakfast. I wore traditional clothes out of respect. When we met for

"Every woman has a piece of the puzzle, and we will bring them together. My piece is transcribing our qualitative research," stated Zanolini Morrison.

Replicating a study first done in Northeastern Pennsylvania, Zanolini Morrison and her colleagues interviewed young women in the engineering department of

The group of four researchers want to embark on new endeavors.

Along with Zanolini Morrison and Prof Siti, Dr. Durrishah Idrus, director of the research held in Kuala Lumpur, UTM's international campus, and Dr. Lou Jean Beishline, an adjunct professor at Bloomsburg University, will come together once again

to research women's roles in higher education.

They will be joined by a fifth female researcher for the studies conducted on women in higher education leadership roles, Dr. Azizah Abdul Manaf.

Zanolini Morrison and her colleagues from two separate corners of the world are waiting to hear if their research will be accepted to be presented in May.

While she is hopeful to present their profound research, Zanolini Morrison is not waiting to begin more research in Malaysia.

With her newly appointed sabbatical, she and her husband and their 11 year-old daughter will travel to Malaysia beginning in August for one year.

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breakfast she looks at me and says, 'I think you can meet the King today,'" said Zanolini Morrison.

They embarked on an afternoon of meeting the King of Malaysia at a golf tournament outside the city limits.

According to Zanolini Morrison, there were approximately 100 people at the event, but she and Prof Siti were the only women.

After some consideration, Zanolini Morrison accepted the request to aid in the research and joined three other female researchers, two from Malaysia and one from the United States to conduct research on women in engineering in Malaysia.

UTM and asked them questions about their parents' influence on their choice to become and engineer.

Zanolini Morrison conducted the interviews and found that many women in Malaysia had a great respect and admiration for their parents' wishes when choosing career choices.

Photos courtesy of Zanolini Morrison

Top left: Dr. Zanolini Morrison shakes hands with the chairman of the board of trustees for UTM, Tan Sri Abdul Halim Bin Ali. Top right: The table of the King of Malaysia at an alumni golf tournament held outside the city limits. Bottom left: Dr. Zanolini Morrison, left, sits with Prof Siti, also a fellow researcher and newly appointed to the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education.

Wilkes senior wraps up first season as Eagles' flyer

BY NICOLE FRAIL

Editor-in-Chief

When Holliann Brooks was in eighth grade, she had no intention of becoming a cheerleader. Her mother, however, encouraged her to give it a shot.

"I didn't want to try out, at all," said Brooks, a senior business administration major at Wilkes University. "I was totally against it, but my mom made me. And I made the team."

Years later, Brooks is not only a member of Wilkes' cheerleading squad, but she also recently completed her first season as a professional cheerleader for the Philadelphia Eagles' football team.

Despite her initial lack of enthusiasm for cheerleading in high school, she soon formed a bond with the rest of the Delaware Valley varsity squad. Together, the team made it to a national cheerleading competition and placed fifth of fourteen.

After enrolling at Wilkes, Brooks became a member of the university's cheerleading team. In her junior year, Brooks was also a cheerleader for the Pioneers, Wilkes-Barre/Scranton's former arena football team. At one of these games, she was approached by a scout for the Eagles' cheerleading team. The franchise was looking to put together a stunt squad, which would differ in responsibilities and training than the original dance squad.

"After the game, [the scout] found me and introduced herself and told me that tryouts were coming up in March and April," said Brooks.

Brooks struggled with the decision to try out for the Eagles' team. After talking

it over with her mother and some of her friends, she made the drive to Philadelphia in spring 2009.

"I was so nervous," said Brooks. "[After I had made all of the cuts], they interviewed me; it was pretty intense. During the interview, they asked me all these Eagles questions and I had no idea because, to be honest, I don't even like the Eagles. I like the Giants. They gave me a hard time and were busting on me, but I was totally fine with it."

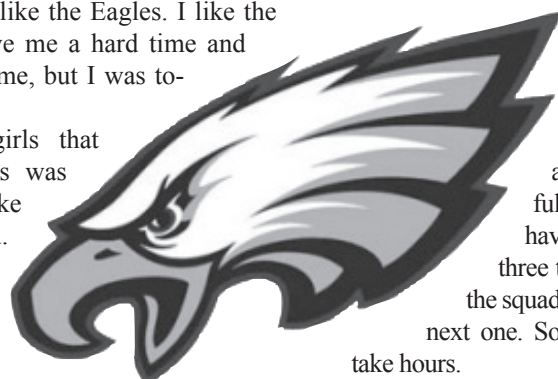
Of the 300 girls that tried out, Brooks was one of 27 to make the stunt squad. She would hold the position of "flyer." In other words, she was one of the girls that was tossed into the air during routines.

"Being a cheerleader myself, I thought it was pretty cool that stunting is catching on in professional football and that Holli has a chance to be a part of it," said Kerri Waldeck, junior psychology major and Brooks' roommate. "I was extremely excited for her because I know how much she loves cheerleading and how important it was to her to make the squad."

Brooks' role on the squad required her to drive to Philadelphia for practices on Tuesday nights and on the weekends. Even before her first practice, Brooks knew that being a member of the team would be both challenging and rewarding.

"It was super intense," said Brooks. "There's a weight limit for your height and

your age and if you don't make your weight, they won't let you cheer at all. You get suspended. It was hard for me; I think I missed my weight once. But at the same time, you're in front of an audience who came out to see you and if you're not in physical shape to do it, you probably shouldn't be doing it."



Despite controlling her weight from week to week, training at practices was also difficult and sometimes stressful. Each routine would have to be hit perfectly three times in a row before the squad could move on to the next one. Sometimes, this would take hours.

"If I made a mistake, bobbled or anything, they would switch me automatically," said Brooks. "There is no second chance. This is really serious stuff. They don't deal with lateness or missing games. It was weird getting used to."

After practicing for hours Tuesday night during the fall semester, Brooks would often make the drive back to Wilkes, where she had class at 10:00 the next morning. On the way to class, she would often see Dr. Marianne Rexer in the hall.

"We talked about the plane trips, the time changes of some of the away games, and starting a new week as a student," said Rexer, professor of accounting for the Sidhu School of Business. "Holliann had committed herself to finishing school and, with all of the demands on her time, had the time

management skills to make sure she made it to class. I'm sure it was really difficult to get home at 3:00 a.m. and make it to class, but she seemed to handle it well."

While Brooks admits that her grades were somewhat affected by her traveling and her commitment to the Eagles' team, she says the changes were not drastic because she was able to incorporate her studies into her travels. For example, her mother bought her a laptop so she could work on papers and presentations for school when she was on the plane for away games.

Even though the profession is demanding, Brooks became fully aware of its rewards during the first pre-season game she cheered at in North Carolina.

"It was the first time I was actually in North Carolina and it was amazing," said Brooks. "I can't even say how much bliss I felt. It was so nice, the crowd was amazing. I was in complete awe; my heart was beating so fast. I was so excited because all of the stunts hit. Everything went sweet as candy."

While the cheerleaders are forbidden to seek out contact with NFL players, Brooks admits to having met Brian Westbrook, running back for the Eagles, when she was getting her knee inspected by a trainer one day.

Brooks is looking forward to fulfilling her responsibilities as a flyer next season. Her former position, however, is not guaranteed. She will have to drive to Philadelphia once again this coming spring to try out for the squad.

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Student of the Week: *Derek Nye, junior biology major*

BY RUTH WHISPELL

Life Assistant Editor

"Oui, je parle francais un peu. Je ne le parle pas tres bien mais j'etudie les cours francais cette semestre," said Derek Nye, a junior at Wilkes University.

Nye actually said, "Yes, I speak some French. I don't speak it very well but I am studying French courses this semester to improve."

Nye is a biology major at Wilkes, with a minor in international studies, and also intends on going to medical school.

His hometown is Athens, Pennsylvania, but from January 7 through May 29, Nye will reside in the Latin Quarter, also known as the 5th arrondissement of Paris.

Needing to complete credits for his international studies minor, Nye decided to

study abroad in Paris.

"I'm staying with fantastic French family, pardon the alliteration," said Nye.

Nye said he wants to see and do everything while in Paris. He was able to visit an orphanage in Monte Christe, Dominican Republic recently.

"The state of normal living conditions, public health care, and education was extremely eye opening and I consider it a vital influence in not only my career goals but also my personal character and aspirations," said Nye.

Nye is intrigued by global medicine, public health and certain humanitarian organizations. "I feel like besides being a skilled

doctor it's necessary to be an educated and diverse citizen of the world," said Nye.

Nye is a recognizable face on campus due to his role in the new 'Be Colonel' commercial. He was a research assistant with Dr. Linda Gutierrez of the biology department and Dr. Jun Ling of The Commonwealth Medical College.

You can read more about Nye's experiences studying abroad in Paris at Nye's blog: www.nyeinparis.wordpress.com.

The Beacon: Where do you see yourself in ten years?

Nye: I have no idea, but by then I'm hoping to have my MD and resi-

dency completed, working on another degree (Ph.D/MPH), fellowship, research, or NGO.

The Beacon: Describe yourself in three words.

Nye: Anataidaphobic [The fear that you are being watched by a duck], Frisbeetarian, and ludic

The Beacon: Finish the sentence: "My friends would be surprised to know..."

Nye: The bottom indentation of a wine bottle is called the "kick" and reinforces the bottle, but lessens holding capacity.

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Photos courtesy of Derek Nye

Wilkes University's Health & Wellness Corner

BY SUSAN BISKUP

Campus Counselor

Each week, Susan and her colleagues from Health Services will answer your health and wellness questions.

Q: I want to hang out with my friends but often all they want to do is drink. Why do college students seem to drink so much and so frequently?

A: You ask a very good question. First let me start by saying that although it seems that all college students are drinking, the reality is that there are many students who do not drink at all. In fact, statistics show that approximately 19% of students do not drink. Additionally, 63% of students consume an average of four or fewer drinks per week.

That being said, there are many reasons why students to drink. Students who drink excessively and often can be uncomfortable in social situations and they find that alcohol temporarily relaxes them. However, this is a short term fix for a long term issue.

I believe that many people are longing for

real, healthy relationships—a sense of community if you will. We are “thirsty” for relationships that are secure, lasting, fun and full of trust. Whether we’re watching Sex in the City or logging onto Facebook, it is apparent that we like to watch people who appear to be connected. In this way, some students choose to connect to Jack Daniels or sit close to the keg of beer at a party. It’s safer, easier, and in some ways comforting—always there when you need it.

It can mistakenly make you feel funny, attractive, fun to be with and, most of all, accepted.

You might say it is a “friend with benefits.” But just like that concept, it eventually leaves you feeling empty and lost. Our desire for relationships is strong but often we look for it in the wrong places such as drinking, spending or even food.

A healthier way to connect with people is to engage in counseling to find out what your specific relationship and/or alcohol dependence issues are and to work through the change to become the best version of yourself.

BY DIANE O'BRIEN

Director of Health Services

Q: My roommate seems to constantly play her music loud at night and talks on her phone when I’m trying to study in our room. I’m afraid to say something to her because we get along pretty well and I don’t want her to get mad at me. But, it’s my room too and this is really starting to bother me. What can I do?

A: Effective communication is essential in order for any relationship to be successful. I realize this is easier said than done. It’s important to consider and evaluate your rights within your current situation. You share the room with this individual; therefore you do have the right to ask for what you want.

Designate a mutually agreeable time to discuss this problem, unless you decide that spontaneous assertiveness is necessary. State the problem in a way that conveys how you are negatively affected. Be as objective as you can without blaming. For example, “I am having trouble concentrating with the loud music and talking. Let’s compromise on a time to study and a time to relax.”

Remember that you are responsible for your own thoughts and feelings. No one causes you to have feelings of anger, upset or anxiety.

Therefore, when asserting yourself with another person, it is always better to use “I” rather than “you” statements. For example, “I would appreciate it if there were less noise in our room during study hours because the loud music and talking are really distracting and upsetting me.”

When you make your request, use assertive, nonverbal behavior such as establishing eye contact, using an open posture and staying calm. Be specific and ask for precisely what you want in a nonjudgmental, non-blaming manner. Don’t apologize for your request. If after attempting this request you are still unsuccessful, talk with your RA who can be a helpful mediator.

Do you have a question for Susan? Email it to her at susan.biskup@wilkes.edu, and you may see your question in next week's Wellness Corner. Privacy will be protected.

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College Days

Dr. Mark Reid is “still wild and crazy” but has better judgment

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS

Life Editor

Dr. Mark Reid, assistant professor of philosophy, followed the path set for him by his parents. He went to a fine private high school in Virginia and adapted his thinking to the ideals constructed by his parents.

And then he went to college.

“I went to the College of William & Mary, which was about 45 minutes away [from home]. So it was close enough to home but far enough away,” said Reid.

College can be known as a time period for young individuals to separate themselves from their teenage pasts and spend years figuring out what one wants to do with one’s life.

Reid did not begin at the College of William & Mary with such a mindset.

Following the logical, practical mindset he learned in high school and at home, Reid began college as a physics major.

“I never read or wrote, because I was going to be become an architect,” said Reid.

During his first undergraduate year, Reid admits to not being the best student. He recalls only obtaining a 2.8 grade point average and putting a great deal of emphasis on his social life instead of school.

“I did not do so well in school,” said Reid. “I went to school for partying my freshman year, and it was great. I was just in school for social life and for the practical reason of

getting a job.”

Despite the good times with his friends, Reid realized that the track of physics was not where he wanted to be.

Changing his major, he took on reading and writing courses--courses he admits doing extremely poorly in before.

“My sophomore year I said to myself, ‘Okay, just take anything else.’ I did not know what philosophy was. I took philosophy and psychology courses. My parents told me I would not survive a day, because it’s all reading,” stated Reid.

He survived much more than a day.

Reid soared in the areas of liberal arts. While he was determined to become an architect, he took his former GPA of 2.8 and bumped it all the way up to a 4.0 in the areas of philosophy, psychology, and art.

“I loved the content,” said Reid.

Despite changing his major, Reid completed school in four years. He admits to not knowing what to do with his degree, but eventually found his way to the University

of Maryland and then Illinois to earn his master’s degree.

While Reid got his academic life on track early in his college career, his social life needed a bit more time to steam out.

Reid went to school with several people he knew from high school, but he was not particularly excited by the idea.

“I went to college with 15 people I went to high school with, but I sort of wanted to break free from that. It was occasionally interesting to talk to them, but mostly I didn’t want to see people from my high school. I wanted to have a clean break,” said Reid. “I wasn’t particularly fond of high school, because of the

same reason I love philosophy-it was too limited. Too many people doing what their parents expect them to do [with] little free thought.”

He had found a large group of friends in

college, but there was still one area where Reid was not entirely comfortable yet: girls.

“I struggled socially with being shy. I was afraid to go and talk to members of the opposite sex. I wanted a girlfriend so bad sometimes that I wouldn’t know how to do that,” admitted Reid.

Reid points out that his social awkwardness with girls ironed itself out over time. He believes that it takes time for individuals to come into themselves and be comfortable.

“I feel like I discovered myself [in college],” said Reid.

In his own words, Reid sings to a new friend:

My friends and I were walking across campus. When we passed a woman, I (for some reason, not sure why) spontaneously started singing to her at the top of my lungs “If I could save time in a bottle, I would spend it all with you. . . “ She was shy and seemed a bit embarrassed. Later that day, we struck up a conversation at a party, dated briefly, and remained friends.

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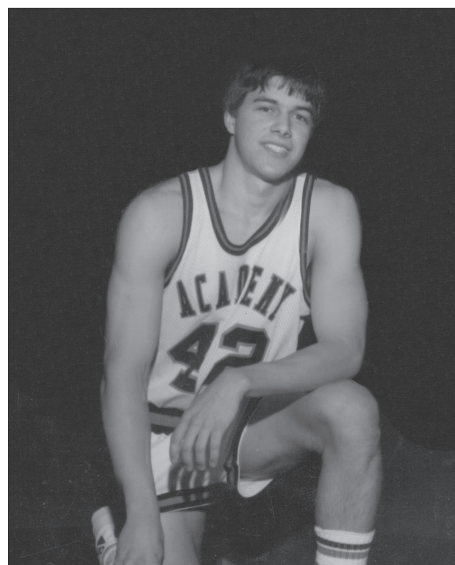


Photo courtesy of Dr. Mark Reid

Reid’s goal upon entering college was to become an architect. He soon found out that his love was in philosophy.

Dorm Recipes

Pizza Bagels by Ashley Zehner

Ashley Zehner, a freshmen elementary education major, makes pizza bagels when she’s looking for a quick and simple meal. Pizza bagels are an easy to make, inexpensive lunch, snack or dinner. “Just don’t burn it,” warns Zehner.

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| <p>Ingredients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 bagel 1 bottle of marinara sauce, or pizza sauce American cheese (You can actually use any type of cheese you’d like.) Garnish, such as pepperoni | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. (Optional) Garnish pizza bagel with your topping of choice. 3. Put the bagel in the oven or toaster oven at 350 degrees. 4. Cook for 2-5 minutes, checking frequently. |
|---|---|

Directions:

1. Spread the sauce evenly over the bagel then sprinkle or lay on your cheese of choice.

Dorm Recipes

Galaxy Cake by Mohammed AlMoumin

Mohammed AlMoumin is a 20-year-old student in the Intensive English Program at Wilkes. AlMoumin, originally from Saudi Arabia, explained that Galaxy Cake takes about 15 minutes to make and is a popular dessert in Saudi Arabia

- Ingredients:**
- 1 box of Social Tea Cookies (Can be found in the cookie isle of any grocery store)
 - 16 oz. heavy cream
 - 2 bags Dream Whip Powder
 - 3 tbsp. cocoa
 - ½ cup milk

- Directions:**
1. Mix the heavy cream, dream whip powder and cocoa until smooth.
 2. Next arrange a single layer of cookies in the bottom of a 9” x 13” pan.
 3. Dip a pastry brush in milk and brush over the cookies until cookies are damp.

4. Lastly spread a thin layer of mixture on top of the cookies.
- *Repeat steps 2-4 two more times, then spread the remainder of the mixture on top. The top layer should be thicker than the bottom two layers. Refrigerate galaxy cake and serve it cold.

Photo courtesy of Melanie Thomas



Galaxy Cake is a popular desert in Saudi Arabia.

Student attempts to break world record for *Guitar Hero*

BY KIRSTIN COOK

A&E Assistant Editor

Most people play *Guitar Hero* for fun, but for Aaron Nikles it is a more serious matter.

The sophomore is planning on breaking the Guinness World Record for the longest streak of continuous play of the video game *Guitar Hero*. His attempt at this goal is scheduled for Friday, February 5 at 3 p.m. until Sunday, February 7 at 3 p.m.

Nikles, a mechanical engineering major, said that the current record of straight *Guitar Hero* play is 24 hours and two minutes, but he hopes to double that time for a full 48 hour streak. This attempt began as a simple idea between Nikles and a friend.

"I've always wanted to break a Guinness record," Nikles said. "I just had to find what I wanted to do."

Nikles speculated that the biggest challenge with the attempt would be the friction on his hands from constant guitar playing. He is hoping that people will attend to help maintain his morale. "I want a lot of people there, especially late hours because it's going to be rough then."

Since a requirement to break the record is to have at least one witness present at all times, Nikles is planning on setting up a time chart where people can sign up for blocks.

Nikles said that when people hear about his objective, they often think it is a crazy

task. But, Nikles remains determined.

"It's a personal challenge. I just want to see if I can do something like this," he said.

In pursuing this goal, Nikles plans on managing his time strategically. "According to Guinness, every hour of play I get a ten minute break," said Nikles. He plans on utilizing these breaks efficiently.

Nikles' roommate Michael DiPasquale, sophomore chemistry major, is planning on witnessing a portion of the event.

"I'm pretty sure he'll break the world record," said DiPasquale. "I don't know if he'll be able to make it to 48 hours. My money's on that he'll collapse at like 36 (hours)."

While DiPasquale is hopeful for his roommate, he holds some concerns about his well-being.

"I'm a little worried he's going to develop carpal tunnel from his perpetual playing of *Guitar Hero*, but otherwise he's good," he said.

Nikles has been playing *Guitar Hero* since the age of 13. "It's a lot of music I really like...it's challenging...and it's actually good exercise," Nikles said. Philip Ruthkosky, the Associate Dean of Student Development, is assisting Nikles with planning this event, but was unavailable for comment.

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The Beacon/Kirstin Cook

Aaron Nikles prepares for his upcoming attempt at breaking the Guinness World Record for longest continuous play of *Guitar Hero*. His attempt will take place on Friday, February 5 beginning at 3 p.m. Nikles will be striving for 48 hours of continuous *Guitar Hero* play.

• • • • • Band Spotlight: *I Am Alaska* • • • • •

BY MICHAEL TEDESCHI

Correspondent

When the genre "progressive rock" is mentioned, who instantly comes to mind: *The Beatles*, or *Pink Floyd*?

Although those two bands may be two of the most influential bands in musical history, it is time to start to take those who have been influenced by them more seriously. Which bands are now considered to be modern "progressive rock" artists? Into whose hands have we left the musical timeline?

If you do not have a clue, you must not have discovered indie music. Among the hundreds of indie bands hailing from Pennsylvania, one of my personal favorites is undoubtedly *I Am Alaska*.

What makes this band different from

many others is their exceptional transitions and build-ups. Most of their songs start out fairly slow and instantaneously pick up the tempo. Although this is a popular technique among many bands, *I Am Alaska* has a definite smoothness that truly makes them stand out.

It is also remarkable how the lead singer's voice can maintain flow while keeping up with the constant change in tempo. His voice is comparable to Cedric Bixler-Zalvala, frontman of *At the Drive-In* and *The Mars Volta*.

I was lucky enough to have a short interview with *I Am Alaska*'s guitarist, Drew Magid.

Beacon: Who are your influences?

Magid: Our influences are *At The Drive-*

In, This Day Forward, Maps and Atlases, Nirvana, Elliot Smith, and Circa Survive.

Beacon: Are your songs up for interpretation or do they mostly have a specific meaning?

Magid: All songs are about specific things. For example, all the songs on our "To Elude The Architect" EP are about escape in one way or another. The song "Train Car" is about a little girl in Nazi Germany escaping a death camp.

Beacon: Which *I Am Alaska* song do you recommend to readers?

Magid: I would recommend "Proletariat", a song about the every day working man, or "Lobo".

Beacon: Is there anything else you would like to say about *I Am Alaska*?

Magid: We're a five-piece band hailing from the Greater Philadelphia area but are currently all across the state from Philly to Pittsburgh. Still managing to practice twice a month and touring around school breaks. We're recording our next record in May and plan to tour for about a month this summer. We are also doing 10 days in the Midwest in March, while planning a possible show in Wilkes-Barre or Kingston in early March.

Check out *I Am Alaska*'s myspace for details about their upcoming shows.

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Movie Review: "Legion" can confuse even the faithful

BY GILLYAN GOWARTY

A&E Assistant Editor

Editor's Note: Review may contain spoilers.

Legion is a strongly theologically-based movie, directed and written by Scott Stewart. The plot unfolds as God loses faith in man and sends a very large team of angels in human form to a small town. Those angels are sent to exterminate the human race so that God may start over.

Aren't angels supposed to be Holy and good creatures? Not in this case. These angels are killers. Will they successfully wipe out the human race? Is there a human strong enough to triumph over them? These are among the many questions I asked myself while sitting in the movie theater for 100 minutes.

Charlie (Adrianne Palicki) is a young woman who is eight months pregnant and thinking about giving her baby up for adoption. The baby's father is out of the picture and she claims she never wanted the baby.

Jeep Hanson (Lucas Black) is just an ordinary guy, but he has a lot of faith in Charlie. He is in love with her and he wants her to keep the baby so they can raise him together.

Bob Hanson (Dennis Quaid), Jeep's father, has lost faith in himself and the rest of the world after he bought a diner in the middle of nowhere, which was unsuccessful, causing his wife to leave him.

A family stops at the diner after their car breaks down. Howard, Sandra, and Audrey are stuck at the diner until the car can be repaired.

When it is discovered that the television, radio, and phone lines are not working, everyone in the diner believes that something is wrong. Shortly after that, an old lady enters the diner. Charlie is her waitress and they begin talking about the baby. When the old lady finds out that Charlie is unmarried and no longer seeing the baby's father, she tells Charlie that the baby will burn.

SEE LEGION, Page 15



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

"Legion," directed by Scott Stewart, sends out unexpected images of angels not being so angelic. It is considered to be a horror-action themed movie that is bound to captivate and leave the audience somewhat bewildered. "Legion" opened January 22.

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graphics
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(it's a mouthful, but it just tastes so darn good)

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THE DEEVOQUIP!

BY DAVID LEWIS

Staff Writer

Use the clue provided in order to decipher the meaning of the puzzle. The clue represents a letter that can be used to guess what other letters within each word are. Through the process of elimination and knowledge of vocabulary, solving the puzzle depends upon how well you can deduce the possibility of one letter equaling another. Once you assign a letter to equal another, the letter cannot be changed for the remaining letters in the puzzle. Good Luck!

OS L FGDLQ MBLQ CBOVJK BRGAVJ ZG MQBLE

ZJB OIB ZJBR L QJORG'K CBOVJZ TAKZ

MB TGQB ZJLR BRGAVJ ZV MQBL ZJB

FOIE-FO DORB!

This week's clue: O= I & Z=T

What's Happening Around Wilkes

BY KRISTEN KARPINSKI

Staff Writer

All Week Long:

-Sordoni Art Gallery Exhibition:
Brian Wood

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

-Shoot the Moon @ RockStars
Sports Bar & Grill, Wilkes-Barre at
8 p.m.
-Workshop on the Professional Uses
of Social Media @ Henry Student
Center Ballroom from 5:30-7 p.m.

Thursday, February 4, 2010

-Early Valentine's Day Root Beer
Social @ Henry Student Center
Lounge from 6-7 p.m.
-"The Price is Right" at 6 p.m. in
Stark 101, Wilkes Campus
-We are in the Crowd, Secret Secret
Dino Club, The Brightlife & A
Golden Era @ Cafe Metro, Wilkes-
Barre at 9:30 p.m.

Friday, February 5, 2010

-Friday Night Live Music @
Barnes & Nobles from 6:30-8:30 p.m.
-Angelina Pivarnick of MTV's Jersey
Shore @ Hardware Bar, Scranton

Saturday, February 6, 2010

-Three Days Grace w/ Chevelle & Flyleaf
@ Mohegan Sun Arena at 7 p.m. - \$35
-Uncle Cracker @ Hardware Bar,
Scranton
-Dear Dallas, Bring the Heat, Deceiver &
We Brought War @ Cafe Metro, Wilkes-
Barre at 10 p.m.
-Flyleaf in-store signing & performance
@ Gallery of Sound (Mundy St.) at 2
p.m., Wilkes-Barre

LEGION

Continued from PAGE 14

Howard jumps up to confront the old lady and she reacts by biting his neck like a vampire would. Amidst the struggle to keep Howard alive, a new character is introduced. Michael comes in to warn everyone of God's wrath. They are angels sent by God, and he knows all of this because he was one of them. He then explains that the baby will be born soon and he will save humanity, if he is not killed first. This makes Charlie a modern day Mary.

Even as a Catholic with a basic knowledge of the Bible, I found myself lost throughout much of the movie. I did comprehend that there was a strong theme of anti-abortion throughout the film. There is a scene where Charlie reveals that she almost had her pregnancy terminated on more than one occasion.

I wish we were given more of Jeep's background. We know that Bob is his father and his parents are separated, but we do not get any information about his mother, other than the fact that she was displeased with the lack of success of the diner.

I also kept wondering why the setting was

only on this diner in this small town. I think we at least should have seen people from other parts of the country to see if they were being attacked as well. One would think that God would be angry with residents of larger cities as well. I think it would be interesting to see how they were affected and if the attacks were similar.

The ending of the movie was very confusing. I was completely lost during the last 20 minutes of it. Things just kept happening and nothing was explained, and then it ended.

Overall, I did find the movie enjoyable. There is plenty of action, along with some aspects of a romance, although Jeep's true feelings for Charlie are never revealed to her. The angels attacking humans in such a manner was a little bit over the top. After the movie was finished, I still wasn't convinced that angels would bite humans in the neck like vampires would, even if God was angry and did choose to send an apocalypse. It shows an ongoing battle of good versus evil, but eventually the lines are blurred and meshed together, which makes it unclear for us to determine who is on which side.

Rating: 3/5

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CONTACT US: wilkesbeacon.sports@gmail.com

Tilley ready to set sail on coaching career

Senior field hockey captain will join Bulldogs as assistant coach

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA
Sports Editor

For most graduating seniors, the weeks and months following this year's May 22 commencement will be spent searching for jobs in a crowded field of candidates.

For departing senior and field hockey captain Amanda Tilley, the hunt is already over.

Tilley has signed on to become an assistant field hockey coach at fellow Middle Atlantic Conference member DeSales University starting in the fall of 2010. And for the former Colonel defender, summer practices cannot come soon enough.

"I want to start this spring; tomorrow," exclaimed Tilley. "Unfortunately they don't have a spring tournament."

Tilley, who is set to graduate with a degree in business this May, has yearned to set foot in the coaching world since her sophomore year here at Wilkes University, and she's thrilled at the opportunity to get a start right away.

"I'm just excited to be a coach," said Tilley. "This is a job that I want to do. It's like a doctor who passes the MCATS or a lawyer who passes the bar and gets excited. I just don't have to pass a test, I get to play field hockey."

As a player, Tilley has been a driving force behind the resurgence of the Wilkes women's field hockey team over the last four years.

Arriving at a program that traditionally finished toward the bottom of the standings, Tilley, along with her fellow seniors and head coach Sarah Meyers, took an under-achieving bunch and turned them into a nationally ranked powerhouse. Over the past two seasons, the lady Colonels have posted a 33-8 record, including a national ranking as high as 12th in the country, a school record.

Now that her time as a player is done, she is looking forward to the challenge of coaching players whom she has played against on the field herself.

"I'm a retired field hockey player now," laughed Tilley. "But being able to stay in the game and bring to this team what I know will help me get started. Field hockey is changing all the time, and I know the present game of field hockey, and the kids they will be playing against because I played against them."

Among her coaching duties, Tilley will

kin, was Tilley's coach her freshman year of high school.

Tilley's new coach, Sarah Fosdick, is thrilled to add the young, vibrant Tilley to the Bulldog field hockey staff. Although not originally searching for an assistant, Coach Fosdick was approached by Tilley to be part of the staff. After just one talk with her, Fosdick knew Tilley was the right fit.



The Beacon/Melissa Polchinski

Tilley, seen here on the right along with teammates and fellow seniors Jen Keegan (far right) and Brittany Sines (left), will take her skills and abilities to the coaching profession, accepting an assistant coaching job at MAC rival DeSales University.

be in charge of the team's conditioning and fitness. She's already prepared for the challenge that comes with making conditioning a habit.

"I'm in charge of fitness, so they will probably hate me," laughed Tilley. "But I just want them to realize that the more in shape and fit you are, then the easier it is to play the game. That's one of my goals, to get them in shape."

Although it will be her first season as a coach, Tilley is quite familiar with the school. The campus is located directly across the street from her high school Alma Mater, Southern Lehigh. Not to mention, another DeSales assistant coach, Pat Dier-

"I knew that she was interested in pursuing coaching after speaking with [Wilkes head coach] Coach Myers and was intrigued to get to know Amanda so we could decide if she would be a good fit for DeSales," said Fosdick. "I was sold on having her as an assistant coach because of her passion and desire to get into the coaching world."

One major hurdle will be avoiding becoming friends with her new players, some of whom may be older than their new assistant coach. Fosdick is confident, however, that this will not be a problem for Tilley.

"There are challenges in being so close in age to the players," explained Fosdick.

SEE TILLEY, Page 19

Colonels drop the Dutchmen

DeRojas pours in 30

BY GINO TROIANI
Managing Editor

Coming into last Monday's game against Lebanon Valley College (LVC) the Colonels had one thing on their mind: payback.

With a 71 to 65 victory over the Dutchmen, the Colonels managed to avenge a two game skid against the Dutchmen in their last two regular season meetings, most recently with a heartbreaking 76 to 70 loss.

However, history would be re-written after Monday's game at the Arnaud C. Marts Center as Wilkes unleashed a weapon that had not been at their disposal in their last meeting because of injury: junior point-guard, and team captain Chris Derojas.

Playing in his first game after scoring his 1,000 career point, the junior point guard ran circles around the LVC defense, finding openings and torching the Dutchmen for a total of 30 points on the night.

"Our mindset was to build on [our last] win and try and get another win going into the second half of conference play," said Derojas.

Derojas managed to hit an astounding 11 of 15 from the field, with six of those shots coming from beyond the arc, helping the Colonels win their third conference game in a row. Playing with an unmatched tenacity, the Colonels silenced the Dutchmen with a 24-4 run in the first 11 minutes of the game. During that time, Lebanon Valley was ice cold, missing 14 of their 16 shots.

"We had a very strong start which kind of set the tone," said Head Coach Jerry Rickrode. "We were looking to continue to build momentum with another win."

Despite the lead, Lebanon Valley buckled down and was able to cut the difference to just four points with 2:35 left in the first half after a 21-4 run of their own, closing the gap to a score of 34-27 before the half in favor of Wilkes.

"I was pretty sure they were going to make a run on us," said Rickrode. "They were just coming off an overtime loss against Albright who has a 15-2 record, another overtime loss against (Elizabethtown), and a close loss to Widener, all quality teams."

SEE BASKETBALL, Page 19

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SCOREBOARD

WRESTLING

*SINCE JANUARY 18, 2010

1/18 @ TCNJ 20-18 W
1/30 vs. Gettysburg 29-21 W
1/30 vs. Plymouth State 24-15 W
1/20 vs. Kutztown 12-30 L

MEN'S BASKETBALL

*SINCE JANUARY 18, 2010

1/20 @ DeSales 64-78 L
1/23 vs. Delaware Valley 70-62 W
1/25 vs. Lebanon Valley 71-65 W
1/30 @ FDU-Florham 61-58 W

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

*SINCE JANUARY 18, 2010

1/20 @ DeSales 48-100 L
1/23 vs. Delaware Valley 57-71 L
1/27 vs. Lycoming 41-58 L
1/30 @ FDU-Florham 46-66 L

WBS PENGUINS

*SINCE JANUARY 18, 2010

1/22 @ Syracuse Crunch 6-3 W
1/23 @ Rochester Americans 3-5 L
1/29 vs. Hershey Bears 6-8 L
1/30 vs. Manitoba Moose 4-6 L

WEEK AHEAD

WRESTLING

2/5 vs. Ithaca @ 7pm

MEN'S BASKETBALL

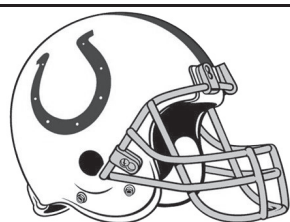
2/5 @ Misericordia @ 8pm
2/6 vs. Manhattanville @ 3pm

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

2/3 @ Misericordia @ 6pm
2/6 vs. Manhattanville @ 1pm

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FACE OFF



Who will win Super Bowl XLIV? *Unfortunately for the Colts, this just aint the Aint's*



Sports Editor

ANTHONY DORUNDA

All right, listen. I can't sit here and argue against Peyton Manning because frankly, he may just be the greatest quarterback to ever play the game of football.

Only problem is, even Peyton Manning cannot defeat destiny. The Saints just ain't losin'.

I can sit here and go on and on about many different factors that favor New Orleans. I could talk about the eight defensive touchdowns the Saints had this past year. How they were third in the league in picks, second in the league in turnover margin, sixth in rushing, and had the number one air attack. But instead, I'm going give you two reasons why this is the Saints' Super Bowl to lose.

First, this is not the Jets, or the Ravens for that matter. This is the best offense since the Rams 'Greatest Show on Turf.' Is it just me, or did the Colts have the easiest path to the Super Bowl this year? The Jets have a

great rushing attack, but (and I love Mark Sanchez) their passing attack is downright putrid. And do the Ravens even have an offense? The Colts have to buckle up the chin straps and get ready, because this Saints attack is a high flyin', trick play runnin', gun slingin' lookin' to explode on whatever defense gets in their way.

They will get on you and will do so in a hurry. For all those who say the Colts have the speed off the edge to shut down this high flyin' attack, guess again. What beats speed? Draws up the middle. Screens to the outside. Quick passes right over the top. And no one in the league runs it better than the Saints.

Second, they are armed with literally every sort of arsenal imaginable. Have you seen the playbook Sean Payton carries around? It looks more like a menu at the Cheesecake Factory than a playbook. They have more weapons than the USS Eisenhower has on deck.

And their baby is, of course, Drew Brees. The entire offense, scratch that, the entire team, scratch that too, the entire city goes where he takes them. From the pre-game

chants to the post-game celebration, the entire heartbeat of this organization runs through him. The man is just phenomenal. He can put the ball wherever he likes, whenever he likes, however he likes. All he has to do is have the football, which, unfortunately for the Colts, he has on every single play.

Anyone at anytime can score for the Saints. Twenty-one different players have scored a touchdown, and it has come in a variety of ways. It can be on the ground or catching the ball out of the backfield with one of the three headed monsters at running back.. Or it can be through the air, to the array of wide outs Brees has to throw to.

But to win, they have to stop Peyton Manning. And to do that, they have to do exactly what they did to Brett Favre last week – get to him on every snap. Attack, attack, attack. That's the name of the game. And they have the right amount of playmakers on the defensive side of the ball to do just that. They get to him, Mardi Gras will come nine days early this year.

Final Score: Saints 31, Colts 27

Sorry, but this aint the Saints' year



Assistant Sports Editor

DANIEL KAUTZ

Listen, I would like for the Saints to win their first Super Bowl Sunday. In the best of times for the franchise, their fans have endured mediocrity; in the worst, well, there's a reason they were once referred to as the 'Aints. They have become representative of an entire city's road to recovery, and feature one of the most entertaining offenses in recent memory.

The problem is, of course, that they simply won't.

Oh, I expect it to be a hard fought and emotionally charged game, with Drew Brees and company giving their all to defeat the Colts. The reason that they will not win is because of the play of Peyton Manning, the TV pitch man who happens to throw a football phenomenally well.

He is simply unstoppable. He attacks game film like Mr. Dorunda does a tray of Whiskey Business wings, and then executes on the field at a level that few quarterbacks,

if any, ever have. Witness his performance last week against my beloved New York Jets: after being rattled in the first quarter by Rex Ryan's multiple defensive looks and blitzing schemes, he and his offense recovered to thoroughly stomp what many considered to be the best defense in the NFL this season. An advantage the Jets had over the Saints in the match-up was the presence of Darrelle Revis, who took Reggie Wayne out of the equation (though Wayne's three receptions and 55 yards were impressive compared to how other receivers have fared against Revis this season); this allowed them to double-cover Dallas Clark for stretches in the beginning of the game. The ultimatum they attempted to deliver was simple: either run against our No. 1 ranked rushing defense, or take your chances with your young receivers.

Well, Jets fans are now painfully aware of the names "Pierre Garcon" and "Austin Collie," who combined for 18 receptions, 274 receiving yards, and a couple of touchdowns.

This was against a Jets defense that ranked first in defending the pass this season, al-

lowing a paltry 153.7 yards through the air, good enough to be tops in the NFL. Indeed, the Jets gave up 1,310 less passing yards on the season than the Saints, an average of almost 82 less yards a game. Against that type of passing defense, Peyton threw for 377 yards with three scores and no picks. Lost in the aftermath of the game was the fact that their rushing attack also hung 101 yards on the Jets, whose rushing defense was best in the NFL.

So am I to believe that the Saints, who will not be benefiting from a shutdown corner, will be able to adequately cover all of his options while containing their run and creating pressure on Manning? No sane defensive coordinator in the world would want this assignment.

Maybe on a neutral field the Saints will be able to pull out the win. It won't be with their defense, though; Brees had better throw for at least 350 yards and three scores if this game is going to be close. He knows it, too. I just can't see them outscoring the Colts.

Final Score: Colts 34, Saints, 24

TILLEY

Continued from Page 16



TILLEY

As for her first tilt with her college alma mater, she's already got the day marked down.

"It's toward the end of the season on a Saturday," said Tilley. "It's going to be different because I'm from around there so everyone I know is going to be there, and my parents are going to be torn on who to root for."

Although her former teammate will be wearing an opponent's colors, Junior Alyson Paulauskas couldn't be happier.

"It's going to be exciting and nerve-wracking at the same time," said Paulauskas. "She brings a ton of knowledge of the game to DeSales, but I'm excited to see a good friend who has had such a huge impact on me get to coach. It will be exciting."

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BASKETBALL

Continued from Page 16

The majority of the second half was a shootout, however. The two teams exchanged points the entire half, responding to each other's runs with a scoring run of their own.

Wilkes slowly pulled away to a ten point lead with 2:22 left in the game after a 5-0 run with the help of Derojas's hot shooting from the outside and senior forward Tom Kresge's defensive presence down low. Kresge, the 6'5 forward, racked up a total of 10 points and pulled down seven rebounds throughout the game, turning on the heat towards the end of the game to solidify the win.

In the remaining 2:22, Wilkes scored another six points all culminating with a final score of 71 to 65, defeating the Dutchmen for the first time in the last three meetings.

"It feels good, [the win] gets our confidence back up and we are ready for the second half of conference play," said Derojas.

After Saturday's win against FDU-Floham University, the Colonel's were able to improve their winning streak to three games, and their overall standing to 12 and seven overall, and jumped to 3-5 in conference play.

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The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Sophomore Kendall Hinze made all three of his free throw attempts in Wilkes University's victory over Lebanon Valley.



The Beacon/Gino Troiani

Senior Anthony Gabriel goes up for an easy score against conference foe Lebanon Valley in their 71-65 victory on January 25. Gabriel finished with 14 points in 26 minutes of action.

REMEMBERTOVOTEFOR THE COLONEL CHARITY CHALLENGE! Voting ends on February 5

This year's Colonel Charity Challenge, to be held in the spring, will raise money to benefit one of the following charities. Students and faculty are encouraged to vote for the charity they would most like to be benefited; voting ends on February 5. Cast your vote on the school's athletic website, gowilkesu.com. The poll can be found on the left hand side of the home page.

Gift of Life – www.donors1.org

Non-profit agency serving the eastern half of Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and Delaware, is responsible for recovering and distributing organs and tissues used in life-saving and life-enhancing transplants.

Turn 2 Foundation – www.mlb.com/players/jeter_derek/turn2/index.jsp

To create and support signature programs and activities that motivate young people to turn away from drugs and alcohol and "TURN 2" healthy lifestyles

Bo Tkach Foundation – www.botkach.com

To create awareness for Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and other mental health issues while providing essential funding for youth athletic programs, scholarships and otherwise inaccessible individual mental health screening and treatment. Bo Tkach was a former Wilkes University student as well as a student athlete.

Our Military Kids – www.ourmilitarykids.org

Provides tangible support to the children of deployed National Guard and Military Reserve personnel and to the children of the severely injured service members through grants for sports, fine arts and tutoring that nurture and sustain the children during the time a parent is away in service to our country.

***All information courtesy of the Sports Information Department.*

No rest for the weary: Winter sports teams use winter break to improve

BY DANIEL KAUTZ

Assistant Sports Editor

While the majority of Wilkes students were home over winter break enjoying their time off, members of the men's and women's basketball teams, as well as the wrestling team, remained behind.

For them, winter break is hardly a time for relaxation; indeed, it is one of their most important stretches of the season, as the extra practice helps to prepare them for the second half of their schedules.

"Winter break really is a tough time for us," said Jonathan Laudenslager, head coach of the wrestling team. "We need to work real hard to get back the conditioning we may have lost with a two week lay-off."

The wrestling team came back to school on December 26 in order to prepare for the Wilkes Open, which they hosted on December 28. They were then given a break from December 30 to January 2. Upon returning, they quickly adjusted to their daily practice schedule, which included a morning workout and 4 PM practice.

"We did some free time in the morning where they could get out of bed and lift, drill or run, and then reported back everyday for practice at 4 PM," said Laudenslager. "For the most part break was all business and getting back into great shape for the second half of the year. It was tough though; it's really boring as we do nothing but wrestle. With no classes it's really uneventful and a long two weeks."

Junior Jacob Weinrich, an environmental engineering major and third year wrestler, described the lifestyle he and his teammates adopted over the break.

"Our two practices a day were tough, but what was sometimes worse was filling the down time you had outside of it," said Weinrich. "At the beginning of break it was really nice but pretty soon you had to start looking for ways to entertain yourself. You would really just try and hang out with your teammates as much as possible."

Benjamin Marich, an integrative media major and fellow junior wrestler, transferred from Lehigh University last year. Though he was injured for most of the break, his experience at his previous school helped to prepare him for what he would face at Wilkes.

"It really wasn't much different than what I



The Beacon/Daniel Kautz

Seniors Rich Pellegrini (left) and Frank Heffernan of the wrestling team trained with their teammates over break. Here, Heffernan offers a spot at the end of an extensive workout.

went through there. We did a lot more cross-training here though, including lifting and running, instead of just straight wrestling."

The time outside of practice was spent bonding, according to Laudenslager, as the team spent most of their free time and meals together.

The members of the men's basketball team had a few more days off than the wrestlers, as they reported back on December 29. They held practice from 12:00-2:30 for the first ten days, and then switched to 12:00-1:00 shoot-arounds with practice from 4:00-5:30. They received no time off until the day before classes started.

"[The time over break] is very important because we have the week off from practice during finals, as I do not believe in practicing then so [the students] can concentrate on their grades," said head coach Jerry Rickrode. "Then we have the Christmas week off as well. It's like starting another season when we get back. We have to get the brain functioning on all the stuff we have not run for three weeks and we have to make sure our physical conditioning is up to speed."

Christopher DeRojas, a junior business administration major and co-captain of the team, agreed.

"[The members of the team] all react the

same way. Of course we're going to miss being at home with family, friends, and good meals but at the same time we know we have to be ready to get better and during the break is a great time to improve on things."

Time not dedicated to the hardwood was spent resting and hanging out with teammates, he added.

The women's basketball team had a similar schedule as the men. They arrived the week following Christmas, and had morning shoot-arounds with afternoon practices that usually ran two hours.

"I thought the practices we had over break were really beneficial for the team," said undeclared sophomore Lyndsay Ellis. "It was tough work."

With a little less than a month until conference tournaments begin, time will tell how helpful the extra practice sessions were.

Coach Laudenslager, whose team upset then-No. 7 TCNJ over break, is a firm believer in the extra time winter break affords the different teams to prepare.

"Thankfully it was successful, as we are now back at classes with everyone having used break to improve and get ready for the stretch run."

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BY THE NUMBERS

30+

Average length, in days, of most student's winter break.

10-15

Average length, in days, of most student-athletes' winter break. The members of the wrestling team reported back the earliest (December 26), with both the men's and women's basketball teams arriving shortly afterwards.

2

The number of daily practices each team held. The morning/early afternoon usually featured a personal workout or shoot-around, with a serious practice later in the day.

3

Number of weeks until conference tournaments begin for each team.



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