

# The BEACON



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## SHE plans leave fate of Sordoni Gallery in question *Future site of collection, art studios also uncertain*

BY NICOLE FRAIL

Editor-in-Chief

& JACQUELINE LUKAS

News Editor

On Thursday, October 22, members of Wilkes University's College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences learned that floor plans for the future Science, Health, and Engineering (SHE) Building did not include the Sordoni Art Gallery or any of the art studios located in the basement of the Stark Learning Center (SLC).

"It wasn't a surprise," said Joe Dawson, chair of the Visual and Performing Arts. "It is logical that the gallery and the studios wouldn't be part of the science building and I think we all kind of knew that. My initial reaction was - we have to find a place for the gallery and we have to find a place for the studios."

The announcement came after Dr. Thomas Baldino, interim dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, received a phone call from Thomas Messinger, executive director of facilities, concerning the SHE building plans.

"[After the phone call], I then conveyed that information to the relevant people who report to me on this, so I called Joe Dawson, Sharon Bowar and Brittany DeBalko," said Baldino. "And then on Thursday, when I had a meeting with the College faculty, I announced to the faculty that this would be the plan, because this is what I learned. At that point, there were questions from the audience [...] And I said this is what I have: there will not be art studios or a gallery in the new SHE Building."



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

**Plans for the new SHE building may not include locations for the Sordoni Art Gallery or art studios. New locations for these facilities are currently under discussion and have not yet been determined.**

### Sordoni Art Gallery

After discussing the issue at the faculty meeting, rumors about the future of the visual arts at Wilkes and the Sordoni Art Gallery spread across campus. According to some of the rumors that *The Beacon* intercepted, the gallery was to be permanently removed from campus.

"The announcement did leave a lot of uncertainty," said Sharon Bowar, associate professor of art. "When there's uncertainty, people's imaginations... you know, they assume things, and sometimes really bad things - like the gallery is closing."

On Thursday, October 29, Dr. Reynold Verret, provost, sent an email to the deans

of the university addressing the rumors. The email read:

"I know that two related rumors are circulating - that the Sordoni Gallery will be closed and that the Sordoni Collection will be sold to fund the law school. Neither rumor is true. If you are asked by your faculty or staff, please reassure them that neither option is being considered..."

The email then went on to instruct the deans to forward the information to their respective chairs.

President Tim Gilmour did not wish to provide further comment regarding the email.

*See SORDONI page 3*

## Wiesel brings international stories to Wilkes

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS

News Editor

Elie Wiesel, Nobel Peace Prize winner, Holocaust survivor, Boston University professor and author, has sold out the fifth annual Outstanding Leadership Forum. Wiesel will speak tonight at 8:00 p.m. at the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts.

Wiesel, 81, was born in Sighet, Transylvania, now part of Romania. He was 15 years old when he and his family were forced to Auschwitz. After surviving the Holocaust, Wiesel became a journalist and then decided to write about his own life. He has been teaching at Boston University since 1976 where he participates in the University Professor Program. This program works with gifted students and the purpose is to create ties between different disciplines within the University. According to Wiesel, teaching is his passion and he prefers to work with young students.

"In the beginning, no publisher wanted to publish [my book]," said Wiesel. "I feel grateful, really, each time I hear from a child or a student that he or she read it."

In 1986, he won a Nobel Peace Prize for his book, *Night*.

According to Dr. Paul Browne, Dean of the Sidhu School of Business, choosing a speaker for the Outstanding Leaders Forum is critical.

"We're looking for people who embody some of the principles of leadership that

*See WIESEL page 4*

for more information check out...

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### INDEX

News.....1-5

Opinion.....6-8

Lifestyles.....9-11

A&E.....12-15

Sports.....16-20

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## Library moves forward with Learning Commons renovations

BY NICOLE FRAIL

Editor-in-Chief

When classes resumed after fall break in mid-October, demolition in the basement of the Eugene S. Farley Library was underway. Although a mere month has gone by, Paul Kaspriskie, manager of Capital Projects, said that the project is ahead of schedule.

As of last week, 99 percent of demolition had been completed, said Kaspriskie. The basement of the library currently displays a dark, yet detailed, skeleton of what is to come.

Amidst exhaust vents hanging from the ceiling and extension cords snaking across the floor, metal framework hints at the formation of four group study rooms, diner-style study areas, and semi-private small and large computer terminals. The majority of this area will be referred to as the Alden Learning Commons, said John Stachacz, dean of the Farley Library. Alden Trust contributed a \$75,000 grant to the project.

According to Stachacz, the orders for 24 new computers and new furniture have already been placed and processed. Much of the old furniture has been donated to other

areas of campus, including the second and third floors of the library.

The old furniture is not the only thing missing from the demolition site, however. The old, musty smell that wafts throughout the entire library has slowly made its way out of the basement.

“[The smell] is finally starting to dissipate,” said Kaspriskie.

As the carpets are removed from the first through third floors in future renovations, Kaspriskie and Stachacz predict the library will lose its infamous smell altogether.

Throughout the week, four to eight workers plus the general contractor can be seen working on various areas and projects in the basement. With the demolition and the construction comes somewhat necessary noise – noise that has proven to be disruptive to some professors and students whose classes take place in the Media Room.

“There have been a couple of days when it’s just been unbelievably loud – not just jackhammers and drills, but radio, too,” said Dr. Kyle Kreider, assistant professor of political science. “The biggest problem is that it’s disruptive to the educational environment. What makes it worse is that we’re



The Beacon/Allison Roth

**Demolition began in the basement of the Farley Library after fall break in mid October. As of the second week of November, 99 percent of demolition was complete.**

at a time in the semester when the students are already stressed, [they have] a lot of papers and a lot of work, and they’re showing very little patience for this very disruptive environment.”

Dr. Marianne Rexer, professor of the Sidhu School of Business agreed.

“The noise level depends on the day. I have requested that the workers be quiet on test days and that has been easily accommodated,” she said. “On non-test days, the noise level varies between low level noise and jackhammer noise. Hopefully, the re-

*See LIBRARY page 5*

## WILKES NEWS BRIEFS

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS

News Editor

**GOVERNOR RENDELL TO SPEAK AT WILKES** – Today at 2:30 p.m., Pennsylvania Governor Edward Rendell will be speaking at Wilkes regarding state funding for education in Pennsylvania. The Governor’s speech will be held in Room 1 of the Stark Learning Center. All members of the Wilkes Community are invited to attend. **STUDY**

**ABROAD FAIR** – Today there will be a study abroad fair from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00

p.m. in the Henry Student Center. Interested students will be able to learn more details about studying abroad. Wilkes University students who have studied abroad will be available to talk with other students about their experiences.

**WILKES-BARRE CHRISTMAS PARADE FLOAT VOLUNTEERS** – Student Government is asking for volunteers to be on Wilkes University’s float in the Wilkes-Barre Christmas Parade on this Saturday, November 21. This year, Wilkes’ theme for the float will be “Celebrating Diversity.”

Multicultural flags will be displayed and MSC may participate, as well. Nursing Student Organization (NSO) is participating. Line-up will be starting at 2:15 p.m. Students, groups or clubs interested in participating should contact Megan Dickinson at [megan.dickinson@wilkes.edu](mailto:megan.dickinson@wilkes.edu).

**CIRCLE K BOOK DRIVE** – Until November 20, Circle K will be holding a book drive to benefit Ruth’s Place. Buckets are located in the lobby of the Stark Learning Center and the first floor of the Henry Student Center. All books are accepted, new or used, and children’s books are preferred.

**NEW HOURS FOR R.A.C.** – The Recreation and Athletic Center will now be open

until 10:00 p.m. from Monday-Thursday.

**PSI CHI HOSTING WEBINAR** – Today, Psi Chi will host a webinar at 3:00 p.m. in Breiseth 211. The title of the webinar is “Successful Strategies for Getting into Graduate School is Psychology.” Questions should be directed to [anna.mcfadden@wilkes.edu](mailto:anna.mcfadden@wilkes.edu).

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE TABLES** – Today, in the cafeteria, tables hosted by foreign language speakers of Spanish, Polish, Chinese, Hungarian, Arabic, Hungarian, German, French and other languages. Students are encouraged to go and practice their foreign languages.

# The BEACON

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**Allison Roth**  
Assistant Photo Editor

## SORDONI

from FRONT PAGE

According to Brittany Kramer DeBalko, interim director of the Sordoni Art Gallery, the gallery was established in 1973 after the university received a gift of valuable paintings from the late Senator Andrew J. Sordoni's personal collection.

"Included in this gift were funds earmarked for the acquisition of additional works, ensuring that the gallery would be able to continue to expand and enrich its holdings," said DeBalko.

While the university currently has no intention of closing or removing the gallery from Wilkes' campus, there has been discussion as to where it will be relocated when construction begins for the SHE Building.

Baldino stated that Wilkes faces a "spectrum" of possibilities concerning the relocation of the gallery when the time comes. The university could choose to simply move the gallery and all of its components to a bigger building on campus. They could also choose to purchase more land or acquire new buildings to build a brand new gallery. Another possibility might be purchasing space downtown and creating a Wilkes Gallery that would belong to the university, but would be located off-campus.

According to Messinger, in the Master Plan for 2005, the university had planned to move the Sordoni Art Gallery to a renovated Bedford Hall, located on the corner of West South Street and South River Street. The gallery has not been relocated thus far. As a new Master Plan is created, architects will be asked to find an appropriate place for the gallery.

According to many faculty members and students at Wilkes, it is vital that the Sordoni Art Gallery remain on campus. "The Sordoni Gallery is a well-known gallery; it's not just a campus gallery," said Dawson. "A lot of work goes into attracting artists that are renowned artists. You can go to Soho in New York City and see some of these same artists... [The gallery] can teach you something about culture and ways of expressing yourself. It can tell you things about current thinking, philosophical outlook; all those important things. A gallery can really broaden your world view."

Baldino agreed, stating that an art gallery enhances the educational opportunities for students across all programs at Wilkes. "Any college or university that has an art gallery makes it distinctive and helps it separate those institutions with such galleries from the many others that do not."

Erin Sweet is a senior integrated media major who has been required to complete many art courses for his major. He has visited the gallery numerous times during his

tenure at Wilkes and said he sees the value the gallery brings to campus.

"I think in order to have a good art department, you need a gallery—a professional gallery, not one that you see hanging in the halls of Breiseth," said Sweet. "[We need] an area that you can change lighting and shift walls around in, a place that looks and feels like you are walking through a museum-type atmosphere. This gives art students the ability to see professional work so they can get an idea of what is actually being done in the real world."

Bowar agreed, stating that it is important that the gallery remains on campus a short distance from classrooms where students meet to study the arts. In many of Bowar's classes, she walks with the students to the gallery to study the featured exhibits. If the gallery were too far away, the majority of a 50-minute class would be spent walking to the exhibit, said Bowar.

According to Messinger, discussions regarding the fate of the gallery are ongoing, but he said that as far as he knows, it will remain on campus.

"To me, there has been no discussion of [not having a] Sordoni Art Gallery. The Sordoni Art Gallery, as far as I know, would not disappear," said Messinger.

"It was apparent to all of us that [SLC] is not the best location for an art gallery," said Petra Carver, vice president of Finance and Support Operations. "As we move forward with the SHE design, we'll have to determine what the best solution for the art gallery is and that decision has not been made."

### Sordoni Art Collection

The fate of the Sordoni Collection also came into question during the discussions of the Gallery. Since the establishment of the gallery in 1973, Wilkes has accumulated approximately 1,300 pieces of art.

"Nearly 70 percent of the collection has come as gifts from friends and donors carrying on the Senator and his family's founding vision to acquire, preserve and interpret works of art of the highest quality for this community," said DeBalko.

DeBalko would not disclose how much the collection is worth, citing that its value is "confidential information."

The majority of the collection is stored in a vault located below the flood plane in the basement of SLC. DeBalko has not heard if the collection will be moved when construction begins for the SHE Building, but welcomes the possibility of a change in location.

"I don't know why the vault was initially placed in the basement of a building adjacent to a river that floods, or threatens to flood, annually," said DeBalko. "But the fact that the vault is located there is very



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

**Pictured above is an art studio, which is located in the basement of the Stark Learning Center. With the renovation of the SHE Building, the studios will be moved.**

problematic. Every time the Susquehanna River threatens to flood, the Sordoni staff, with the help of other university and safety personnel, is forced to evacuate the contents of the vault to higher ground. Not only is this a massive amount of work, [but] the security of the art is then jeopardized and is prone to damage during the process of twice moving the art..."

Even though the future location of the vault is unclear, Gilmour said that the university has no intentions of selling any of the objects in the collection.

"The ownership of the Sordoni Collection does rest with the university and includes art not part of the gift from the Sordoni Family," said Gilmour. "That said, the ultimate decision [to sell any of the pieces] would be made by the Board of Trustees in consultation with the Sordoni Family and those affected by the decision on campus and in the community. The idea of selling the collection for any purpose is not under consideration."

### Art Studios

While blueprints for the SHE building may not include a space for the Sordoni Art Gallery, they may also force the relocation of the art studios that are currently in the basement of SLC.

According to Bowar, an ideal art studio designed for educating students would include open space that is naturally lit and can be easily configured to adapt to different projects. It is also essential that the studios have adequate storage, office space for art faculty, updated technology and exhibition space for student work.

Sweet agreed. "I honestly think what Wilkes should do is pick out a few art schools

and travel to them to view the setup of their studios and offer room suggestions if they were going to build a new studio for the art department," he said.

Bowar said a strong example of a building that would provide the space needed for good art studios would be similar to the former Blasi Printing building located on South River Street. The building is currently for sale through Lewith & Freeman Real Estate.

"That type of a building could be easily reconfigured and would be very suitable for teaching the studio arts and also perhaps some parts of the integrated media program," said Bowar.

Carver said that regardless of the plans for the SHE building, space would be allocated to house the arts somewhere else on campus.

"If we have some programs that are currently happening [in SLC], we'll have to find a home for them, whether within Stark or elsewhere," said Carver. "But all of this [the SHE building] is currently in the planning phase and I'm very surprised how [the rumors] came into being."

"The people from the science building aren't looking to evict us [the arts] or anything like that," said Dawson. "They're very sympathetic to what our needs are."

"The arts being displaced from the SHE building should be viewed as an opportunity to create a good, state-of-the-art home for the arts rather than a step backwards," added Bowar.

At the time of publication, the Sordoni family was unable to be reached for comment.

# Veterans Day Ceremony



The Beacon/Allison Roth

Members of Air Force ROTC lower the flag in the middle of the greenway to honor veterans during the University's Veterans Day Ceremony.

## WIESEL

from FRONT PAGE

we try to teach," said Browne. "Among those [principles] are authentic leadership, emotional intelligence, strategic vision, principle decision making."

Browne explained that people who have made a mark on society are important to the decision making process of choosing the speaker.

"Of all the people living today, Dr. Wiesel probably stands at the front of the line of people who challenged us to be true to our conscious and ask ourselves, 'Where is our humanity?' I think that is a remarkable role that he has played for us," said Browne.

Browne added that Wiesel's speech is aimed at both the Wilkes University and the Wilkes-Barre community.

Dr. Holley Hansen, visiting assistant professor of political science, also touched on Wiesel's presence in the area and hopes students take advantage of Dr. Wiesel's unique perspective.

"Just to have a speaker of this magnitude is a phenomenal opportunity for the students to get to experience," said Hansen. "He has a very impressive resume and even large[r] universities have a hard time pulling in someone like this."

Vicki Mayk, assistant director of marketing communications, said that Wiesel's international caliber brings knowledge to Wilkes-Barre and the surrounding area.

"It's bringing somebody who's literally world renowned to this community and giving people an opportunity to hear him speak," said Mayk. "So many people have experienced his work through his book, Night."

As for Wiesel's topics during the speech, he said that they are always different and he doesn't like to repeat himself. The Nobel Peace Prize winner likes to speak about current and relevant topics, especially to students.

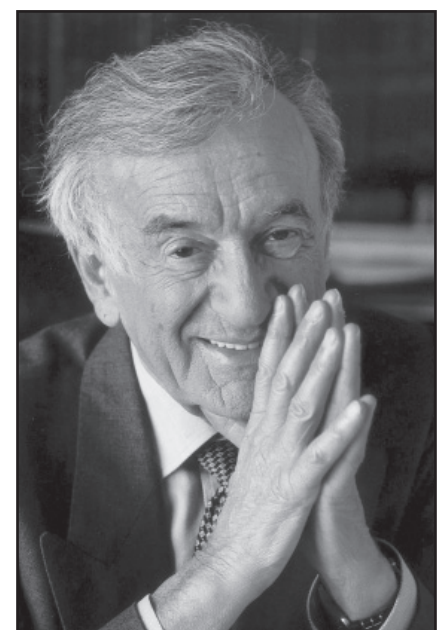
"I like to come and give something that is especially important to the students [at all schools]," said Wiesel.

Wiesel has spoken at many college campuses in the nation and likes doing it. He prefers to speak to young people because of his vast teaching background. Wiesel has never been to Wilkes University.

"Students on campus must know to study, to be educated," said Wiesel. "To seek knowledge means to accept other views, as many as possible, from all the horizons of the world."

Hansen has seen some of Wiesel's speeches online and said that he tries to open people's eyes to the problems that the world faces through his use of storytelling and personal speeches.

"One of the nice things is that, when he does give these speeches, he really does try to take on issues to make people aware," said



Courtesy of Marketing Communications  
**Elie Wiesel, pictured above, will be speaking to the Wilkes-Barre community tonight.**

Hansen.

Through Wiesel's international humanitarian work, he is able to talk about these experiences during his speeches. Currently, Wiesel said he is concerned with the war in Darfur.

Although the tickets are sold out, Mayk said that she continues to receive calls on a regular basis from people in the community regarding the event.

The money from the ticket sales funds the Outstanding Leadership Scholarship Program at Wilkes University. Tickets sold for \$10. A number of tickets were sold through sponsorships, as well.

In addition to the speech this evening, a Leadership Day was held on campus, which incorporated local high schools. The schools brought over 100 students who attended workshops and a question and answer session with Wiesel. Leadership Day is run by Matthew Sowcik, director of the Sidhu School of Business.

The Outstanding Leaders forum has included past speakers such as former President of Mexico, Vicente Fox; former mayor of New York City, Rudy Giuliani and former Secretaries of State, Madeline Albright and Colin Powell.

"I think one of the remarkable things about [Wiesel] is that he's never asked for anything in return," said Browne. "He is a humble man who is happy to live a simple life. He just seems like such an ideal prototype of a leader."

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# LIBRARY

from PAGE 2

sults will be worth the disturbances.”

Professors are not the only ones who have noticed the noise.

“The renovations in the basement are usually quite loud for the duration of my Criminal Law class, and it is distracting for me at times, and I’d venture to guess for the rest of the class as well,” said Jon Casey, freshman criminology major. “At certain points, the renovations are loud enough where they do, in fact, overpower Dr. Kreider and any students who may be responding and participating in class.”

Kaspriskie noted that they anticipated this problem from the start of demolition, but have received very few official noise complaints. To avoid becoming a distraction at times, members of the demolition crew received copies of the Media Room’s schedules to work around.

As noted previously by Rexer, professors have also been asked to notify Stachacz when an exam is to take place during their class period.

“I gave an exam on a Monday and I notified [Stachacz], who is very nice and very supportive, and he talked to the crew and they didn’t work during that hour,” said

Kreider.

“These guys are doing their best to work around the class schedules,” said Stachacz. “With enough head time, these folks can do something else that won’t make noise.”

Rexer, Kreider, and their students tolerate the noise during their classes due to their understanding of the necessity of the project.

“I understand that the work needs to be done,” said Kreider. “I understand that they need to do some work up front before they can do the work that doesn’t have noise involved.”

“Although I am not fond of listening to the sound of power tools echoing throughout the Media Room during Criminal Law lectures, the library is in desperate need of an upgrade,” said Sarah DeCesaris, senior political science and international studies major.

Thomas Messinger, executive director of facilities, initially predicted that the renovations in the basement would be complete during the spring semester. As work progresses, however, it looks as though the project may be complete as early as the start of the semester in January.

“It’s a short term inconvenience with long term benefits,” said Stachacz.



The Beacon/Allison Roth

**Capital Projects, which is renovating the basement of Farley Library, will be using green products whenever possible. Everything taken out of the basement that was not able to be utilized in other campus locations was recycled. New items to be added to the basement include energy efficient light bulbs and recycled carpet tile.**



## B & N Wilkes-King’s Bookstore

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# Opinion

NOVEMBER 17, 2009

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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## Needed health care reform should pass minus Stupack Amendment

BY THE BEACON

Editorial Board

Many students will walk off Wilkes University's campus in May and enter a frightening world. Too old to be covered by their guardian's plan and not yet employed, they will join a growing number of Americans who flinch at every cough or sneeze, buy Tylenol instead of antibiotics, forgo cancer screenings, and hope that pain in their chest will just go away. There are almost 50 million of them in the U.S., and several Wilkes students will be their newest recruits. They are the uninsured.

On Saturday, November 7, the U.S. House of Representatives took one giant leap forward in the fight to cover those 50 million people by passing H.R. 3962: the Affordable Health Care for America Act.

For Wilkes students, one of the most important features of this legislation is that it allows people up to 27-years-old to stay on their legal guardian's health plan. The bill also ensures that students who are not covered by their guardian's plan can be accepted into Medicaid, a federal and state run insurance program for low income Americans.

H.R. 3962 faces many obstacles, unfortunately, the most challenging being the myths about the legislation, which are being encouraged by Congress' Republican leadership and insurance companies. These rumors include "death panels", long lines at the hospital, bureaucrats standing between a person and their doctor, economic ruin, tax dollars being used to pay for abortions, and grandma dying because she was

kicked off of Medicare.

One of the most popular myths is that the proposed legislation will force the U.S. down the path of socialism. Unfortunately, the people propagating this myth forget about Medicare and Medicaid, two successful government-operated healthcare systems. Granted, the two systems suffer from wasteful spending, but H.R. 3962 even tries

the amount of legalese in a woman's way by making her purchase riders--supplemental policies that would cover abortions--on a private insurance program if she accepts federal affordability credits from the new insurance plan, which will lead many back to the days of back alley abortions.

The Stupak Amendment is simply unjust, and should be removed from the legislation.

The U.S. is closer than it has ever been before to real reform in our healthcare system. No longer will the U.S. healthcare system be based on the almighty dollar. Instead, H.R. 3962 would move the U.S. closer to a mission-based system like that in the Netherlands.

People need to think about what side of the debate they are on. Are they prepared to be part of the generation that said no to the healthcare reform? Are they prepared to continue to see their friends and neighbors forced into bankruptcy by mounting medical bills? Are they prepared to renounce Medicare and Medicaid because they are socialist concepts?

The Beacon urges the Wilkes community and

our members of Congress to take these thoughts into consideration, and listen to reason -- not those who are supported and endorsed by insurance companies.

Editor's Note: The views and opinions expressed in this editorial is solely that of The Beacon's staff. Their opinions in no way reflect the views of the University. Wilkes University does not engage in activities which promote or advance a political candidate, political party, proposition, or PAC as a result of the Federal Elections Campaign Act of 1971.



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

**Health care centers and hospitals groups like Geisinger will benefit by H.R. 3962 if the Senate passes the bill. They will receive \$171 billion over the next 10 years in reimbursements for the newly insured under this legislation.**

to correct that by cutting excess spending without sacrificing quality.

One sad truth about the bill is the Stupak Amendment, a late night addition to the legislation by Reps. Bart Stupak (D-Mich.) and Joe Pitts (R-Pa.). The amendment encroaches on a woman's Constitutional right to an abortion by putting several road blocks in her way.

The 1976 Hyde Amendment already bans federal funding of abortions, except in cases of rape, incest, and life threatening complications. The Stupak Amendment increases

## Beacon Poll Results

The following are results of a poll that The Beacon conducted online this past week. The poll was unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on campus. Results are based on 17 responses.

### The Beacon asked:

*Do you think Wilkes University's campus is clean?*

- Yes 59%
- No 41%

### Next Week's Question:

*Do you think that the health care reform bill should pass with the Stupack amendment attached?*

- Yes
- No

Visit [www.wilkesbeacon.com](http://www.wilkesbeacon.com) to cast your vote. Results will be published in next week's issue of The Beacon.

## Speak Up! It's Your Right!

The Beacon wants your opinion. Contact us at [wilkesbeacon.oped@gmail.com](mailto: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.



# YOUR VOICES

## Stop wiping boogers on bathroom walls

Dear Editor,

During a time when flu finds its footholds in the public sphere, and during which time the public has the added fear of H1N1, a very important matter must be discussed. Gentlemen, or perhaps the gentlemen do not suffer from this malady, but men, we live in a time where antibacterial soap is in abundance. We have toilets that flush on their own to decrease the amount of contact we come into in the bathroom. We have sinks that run without touching the handle, and we have hand dryers and paper towel dispensers that operate with a wave of the hand. This is all done to slow the spread of germs. During this flu season, these considerations seem to be most helpful and even necessary. However, there are those who will go out of their way to continue undermining these efforts. To these men this editorial is aimed.

Stop wiping your boogers on the walls of the bathrooms. It makes no sense and has the capacity to be very dangerous to the healthy members of your sex. Because you find solace in the privacy of the urinal does not for one second establish an availability to find solace in the immature. From my

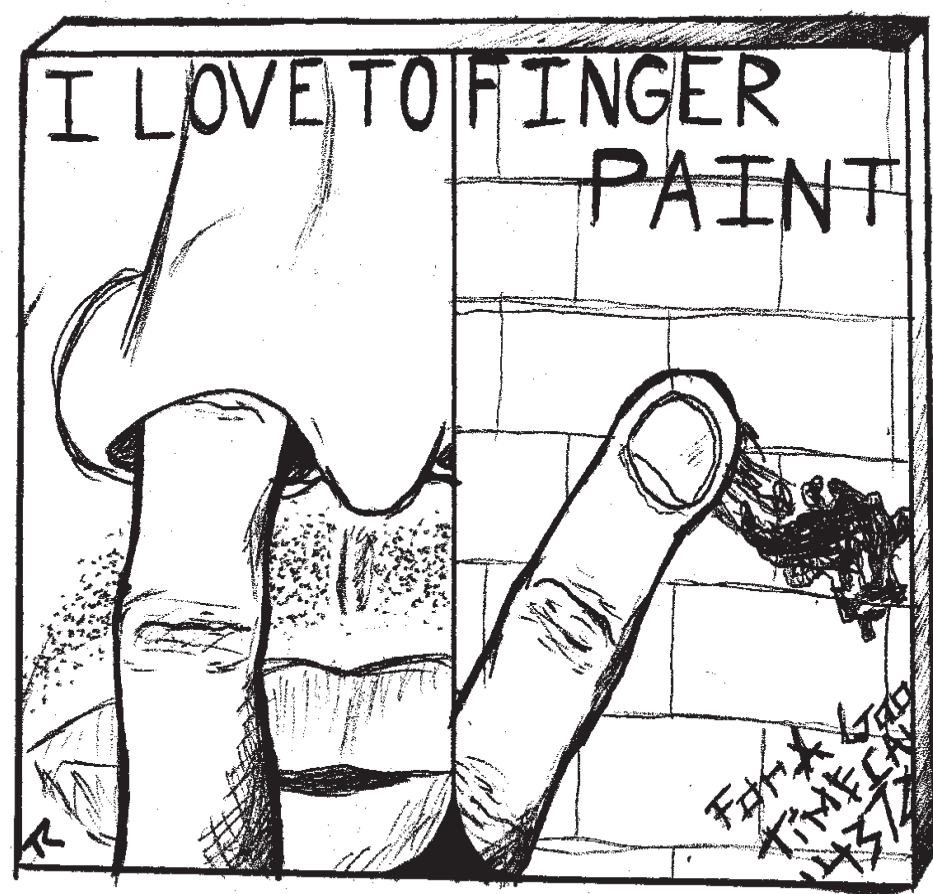
observations, this despicable act transcends age and class. Whether it's a bathroom at McDonald's, a mangy bar, or the Wilkes University Breiseth second floor bathroom, boogers abound. No bathroom is immune. This must stop. For all of the cares taken to shield us from the spread of germs, one foul placed booger ruins it all.

For all of you that are right now thinking that you have never seen this phenomenon, look closer the next time your are sidled up to the porcelain. For you ladies out there, who may be hearing this for the first time, a quick Google search of "boogers urinal" yields seven hits on the first page alone. And for all of you having a self-congratulatory snicker, I have only one piece of advice. Grow up.

I'm ashamed for all of our sex that this issue even needs addressing.

Dutifully yours,

Jason Sutton  
Senior, English major



Cartoon by Tom Reilly

## The Observatory



## We are all guilty of fueling celebrity stalking



Opinion Editor

**MATTHEW GOGAS**

Some of the most annoying news briefs are the ones that tell us about celebrities being stalked by crazed fans. I see these briefs every couple of months in headline news or on the E! Entertainment channel. The extreme length that these stalkers go to get close to or gain the attention of their celebrity victims is ridiculous. They sneak into their houses, send them love letters, build shrines to honor them, etc.

Celebrity stalking is a serious global issue. Some of the world's greatest celebrities or stars on the rise have been killed by their stalkers. The media is not helping the issue either. They usually do not run coverage of these celebrity stalking cases until the stalker is caught, so they are not even helping identify these stalkers so that everyday people might the police and catch the stalkers.

Not to mention they glorify these celebrity stalker cases as much as they can because people find it entertaining. Yes, I understand the idea. The coverage sells and with the media market being what it is, news companies have to do everything in their power to make money and stay afloat. However, the media is only contributing to the problem and putting celebrities at risk of stalkers by giving them so much attention in the news. In fact, news coverage of Ryan Seacrest's latest stalker bout is what spawned this entire editorial. For those of you who were not aware, 25 year old Chidi Benjamin Uzomah Jr., who was arrested in September for assaulting Ryan Seacrest's bodyguard in an attempt to get to the star was arrested nearly two weeks ago for disobeying a court order again attempting to get to Seacrest at the E! Entertainment building in Los Angeles.

Stalking is a crime yes, but in the case of celebrity stalkers, it is also a mental illness.

It is an obsessive fixation. These people stalk their prey because they have some sort of delusion that they share a deep connection with the star that they idolize. Then they go to the extreme and start following them and make news headlines. This is where the media digs the knife into the wound a little deeper. They give the stalkers the attention that they want- the attention they crave.

We do not help the situation either, both by showing interest in celebrity stalking coverage and by not identifying these celebrity stalkers before they go off the deep end and do something stupid that warrants news coverage. And in light of the latest celebrity stalking of American Idol's Ryan Seacrest, new evidence tells us that it is becoming more difficult to identify celebrity stalkers, so we all need to be observant and vigilant.

Author and fame psychology expert James Houran told CNN that, "there's a stalker in all of us, and given the right set of circumstances, virtually anybody can be pushed to be a celebrity stalker, or at least someone that obsesses about celebrities to the point that it interferes with our daily life."

So, from one journalist and human being to others: stop contributing to the celebrity stalker problem. Journalists have a responsibility to inform about issues that actually matter. Celebrity stalking only matters to the celebrity being stalked and gives the stalker unnecessary attention. And we as individual people should be doing our part to solve or at least minimize the problem, too. Apparently there is, "a stalker in all of us," so watch your friends and family. Keep them in check. Make sure that their celebrity idolization does not become a fixation because if they go to the extreme they could possibly kill Ryan Seacrest or Miley Cyrus (not that I would mind, but I am sure other people would).

# The workin' man needs to replenish his electrolytes too



Asst. Opinion Editor

**DAVID  
LEWIS**

Enterprises such as Gatorade and Powerade market their products specifically toward the athlete in need of re-hydration.

This is an understandable move considering that the two products are designed to replenish electrolytes and other minerals the body exerts during physical activities. Professional athletes are the ultimate examples of physical energy exerts who would be in need of sport drink designed specifically to aid the body in performing at a normal hydrated level.

However, athletes are not the only demographic of people who exert physical energy on a daily basis: the mail-carrier transports a heavy sack the length of many roads; the full-time student scales a vast amount of terrain on his or her campus; a custodian uses that elbow grease to scrub all surfaces to their shining point.

Although these examples sound menial and not worthy of a re-hydrating sport drink, the amount of energy required to perform certain 8-hour jobs would suggest that these non-athletes deserve a Gatorade or Powerade.

Gatorade's "Instant Powder Mix," which is available on the Internet, reads that it "replenishes the much-needed carbohydrates and electrolytes lost from the body through sweat and exertion."

Watching a Gatorade commercial would

have a non-athlete but hard-working construction worker believe that he is not worthy of replenishing his carbohydrates or electrolytes because he is not dunking a basketball or scoring a touchdown.

Sport drink marketing masterminds should take into consideration all people who need to replenish their carbohydrates or electrolytes throughout a work day, not just the athlete's.

We have seen a range of Gatorade's marketing ability span from the not-too-publicized triathlete all the way up to the high profile superstars like Michael Jordan. During our country's time of economic unprosperity and decay, it would be nice to see a commercial with the Gatorade beads of sweat rolling down the sweaty arms of grocery store clerk/bagger or the Gatorade "G-theme" beating to the rhythm of hammers of construction workers erecting green warehouses.

According to Peter Hadzipetros of CBC-news, the sport drink market is estimated to be a \$4 billion dollar a year industry. Professional, semi-pro, and high school/collegiate athletes are not the only components making up the \$63.87 million dollars Gatorade contributes to that sport drink industry.

People who are not athletes can burn carbohydrates and need to replenish just as many electrolytes as a professional athlete. Sport drink enterprises should give laborers some credit in at least one commercial.

If that is too much to ask, then maybe the sport drink industry could focus more on

creating a better tasting electrolyte replenishing beverage.

Gatorade and Powerade are not known for having great tasting sport drinks, however this may be an option for the two companies to consider putting more effort toward.

The Beacon's unofficial and unsponsored "Gatorade vs. Powerade Taste Challenge" held on November 5 in the Henry Student Center sought to see which sport drink tasted better.

Fifty-Five people volunteered to take the challenge and 23 volunteers acknowledged that they had difficulty distinguishing between the two disguised yet obvious orange-flavored sport drinks.

One of the 55 volunteers happened to be an ex-professional NHL enforcer by the name of Dennis Bonvie. He chose "B" as the better tasting of the two sport drinks--Powerade.

All that sweaty athlete marketing did not pay off for Gatorade in this situation, considering Bonvie did not choose the sport



The Beacon/Allison Roth  
**Juniors Andrew Sobiesiak and Shawn Klitsch take The Beacon's Gatorade vs. Powerade Taste Challenge.**

drink which sells itself as the replenisher of carbohydrates and electrolytes. Bonvie currently is the owner and operator of Downtown Wilkes-Barre's Blue Chip Gourmet restaurant, working a regular job exerting just as much energy through the course of an entire day as he did as a hockey player.

If the sport drink industry wants to become even smarter marketers, they will make an effort to sell their product to the working class.

## Letters to the Editor Policy

The Beacon wants your voice to be heard. *Your Voices* is an opportunity for students, faculty and staff to voice their concerns. If you want your voice to be heard, please submit a letter to the editor with the following information:

- 1 Your email address and a phone number where you can be reached
- 2 Your name, major, and year and/or position
- 3 Your opinion



Please keep letters to 300 words.

The Beacon reserves the right to edit submitted pieces for space and content.

The deadline for letters to be published in the print edition is Friday at 5 p.m.

Please submit letters to [thebeacon.oped@gmail.com](mailto:thebeacon.oped@gmail.com)

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## College Days

# Chapman took academic road less traveled, has no regrets

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS

*Lifestyles Editor*

Debra Chapman hurries inside her house. She checks under her bed. She checks the closets. She checks every room of her house.

Chapman just returned home after seeing *Halloween* with her boyfriend.

She is checking for Michael Meyers, the savage killer featured in the film.

"I thought I was going to die. I was so scared," remembered Chapman.

Movies were only one part of Chapman's college days. She filled her time at Wilkes, where she was enrolled from 1977 to 1981 as a biology major, with watching movies, watching friends play the fiddle, and disco dancing.

"We went to the Vox Box. It was a big disco place," said Chapman. "We would disco dance. We had some very good dancers who were friends of ours who would compete. As a commuter it was hard to socialize, but I had a boyfriend who lived on campus, so that was my connection."

As a biology major in the late 70s, Chapman and her peers were part of a collaboration with the Haneman Program. This program connected pre-med and biology majors with a sister medical school that is now Drexel University.

Chapman was not a pre-med major like many of her classmates, so her first two years of school and her last two years of school were drastically different.

"Socially, [college] was tough, because my friends left after two years," said Chapman. "They were pre-med and they left. That was hard because 'now what?' The last two years were, socially, not as fun. I filled

the void by studying. The traditional bio majors were the minority, so when they left our class size went from huge to extremely small."

The loss of peers and friends hit Chapman hard. To deflect the pangs of being one of the few left behind, Chapman hit the books.

"I did a lot of teaching assistant work, and you don't learn anything better than when you teach it. And you aren't going to go into a classroom of your peers without knowing your stuff, because you really need to know what you're doing," stated Chapman.

Her friendly demeanor and positive attitude added to the strong curriculum Wilkes presented to its biology majors at the time.

"We had to do double the bio that they do now. Every seven weeks we completed a course in biology, which, obviously, means we were moving pretty fast in lecture. Plus we had two labs a week, where they only have one now," said Chapman. "The caliber of student that we had here obviously was up there."

Pushing through her four years, Chapman's senior year brought on a crisis of continuation.

"I didn't know what I wanted to do. I didn't want to do research. I knew from what I had seen here--the passion and commitment to be good at what you do is 100% and more. I've always wanted to be a teacher all my life. I just knew research wasn't for me. At that point in time, I wasn't that kind of thinker," said Chapman.

Even though she already had a seat held for her at SUNY-Binghamton for Ph.D. research, Chapman panicked. She said that she really struggled with the decision to leave her seat behind and return to Wilkes.



Photo courtesy of Debra Chapman

**Dr. Debra Chapman, in 1990 with her daughter, had a seat at SUNY-Binghamton to do research, but she knew she did not want to do research and wanted to begin a family.**

Mid-summer Chapman was offered a tutoring position at Wilkes.

"I knew it [SUNY] wasn't for me, and I never, ever looked back. I called SUNY and told them I wasn't coming. Then I had to tell me research advisor. It wasn't good. I then had to take him as a graduate student. But you've got to do what's good for you, not what's good for your professors," said Chapman.

Chapman received her Master's in biology education while working at Wilkes and

climbed the academic ladder to become the professor she is today.

"I am extremely fortunate to have the job I have today, because I have a Master's, I don't have a Ph.D.," said Chapman.

She may not be running home from the movies or disco dancing her way through the Vox Box, but Chapman created a fervor for teaching, and for life, at Wilkes in 1977 and has never stopped.

### In her own words, Chapman gets scammed:

*When I was in college, I think I was scammed over by a boyfriend of mine. I'm not totally positive, but I think. I was a TA at the time, and he knew I had access to the tests and such. So, I think he stole the answers and gave them out. Needless to say, we are not together anymore.*

# Pharmacy professors support the Great American Smokeout

BY RUTH WHISPELL  
Lifestyles Assistant Editor

On Thursday, November 19, smokers will take one long smoke break. That is, they'll smoke less or perhaps even try to quit for good, if they participate in The Great American Smokeout.

Daniel Longyhore, Pharm.D., assistant professor of the Nesbitt College of Pharmacy and Nursing and his colleague, Dan McCune, Ph.D., an assistant professor for the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences School of Pharmacy, have very strong views against smoking and nicotine's negative effects on people who smoke. The two are preparing themselves for The Great American Smokeout.

"To me the Great American Smokeout is a double-edged sword. The good thing is that it brings this huge awareness to people that it's time to quit smok-

ing; the downside is that everyone thinks they have to quit smoking on November 19," said Longyhore.

Longyhore explained that you can quit smoking anytime you want, but there is a lot of prep work involved. People who quit and then begin smoking again think they let someone down and it makes that second attempt to quit even harder.

"In reality, it takes the average smoker eight times to quit smoking," said Longyhore.

Longyhore also said that smokers need to tell as many people as possible that they are quitting, because then when they want a cigarette, they think about all the people they already told they were quitting.

Perhaps for this reason, many people are skeptical about the effectiveness of the Smokeout.

"I think the Great American

Smokeout is a great idea because it gives people a reason to quit smoking, but I don't think it will be effective; even if they quit for that day, they probably will pick it back up again," said Christina Leetz, a freshmen nursing major.

Katelyn Kozma, a sixth year pharmacy student at Wilkes, recently appeared on The Outlook radio show with Longyhore, McCune, and some other students to talk about The Great American Smoke Out.

"I think it [The Great American Smokeout] is an excellent idea because it raises awareness about the negatives that are associated with smoking. It also provides a community feeling to trying to quit; having support when you are trying to quit is very important," said Kozma.

The Outlook radio show will air on 98.5 KRZ, Froggy 101, and 102.3 The Mountain, on Sundays at 6 a.m. and 7 a.m..

While some students may not see the benefits of quitting smoking, Longyhore offered even more insight on why quitting smoking would aid college students, women in particular.

"Smoking is a procoagulant, which means it causes your blood to congeal," said Longyhore. "On a campus like this where you have many young ladies using oral contraceptives to regulate their cycles or prevent pregnancy, estrogen is also a procoagulant; when you put those two drugs [nicotine and oral contraceptives] together it puts someone at a very high risk



The Beacon/ Tom Reilly

Freshman biology major Evan Kriner has a smoke break while standing outside Evans Hall. Thursday, November 19 is the Great American Smokeout a day meant for smokers to either quit smoking all together or smoke less.

of getting blood clots in their legs, heart or brain, which would cause a stroke."

McCune explained that there is a plus side when someone quits smoking: shortly after quitting, a smoker's circulation will gradually improve, their heart rate and blood pressure will begin to lower and the risk factors for diseases such as cardio vascular disease begin to become lower, as well.

Some benefits, according to McCune, may take a bit longer to improve, but eventually within one year a smoker's risk of coronary heart disease is cut in half, and in about 10 to 15 years their risk of having a stroke would be back to

the base line.

Dr. Mary Beth Mullen is the advising coordinator for the College of Science and Engineering and a biology teacher here at Wilkes. Mullen has strong feelings against smoking because of the many health problems that can accompany the habit.

She added, "I just get flabbergasted to see how many students smoke, and they know the dangers... It's literally suicidal. The risks of getting cancer are 30 times greater than if you don't smoke."

Longyhore added that people who need help quitting can call 1-800-QUIT-NOW, which is a 24 hour help line.

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# The miles do not mean anything

## Foreign students keep in touch with family via internet

KIRSTIN COOK  
Staff Writer

The Internet tends to make everything easier for the typical college student. Simple tasks are now done online, such as paying bills, refilling prescriptions and shopping for gifts. However, the Internet takes on a new importance for foreign students at Wilkes. The Internet is a vital resource that helps students from foreign countries stay in contact with their families back at home.

The majority of foreign students use the Internet to keep in touch and overcome the difficulties of distance. Often times, students will use online messenger programs, webcams and e-mails to communicate with loved ones.

Junfeng Ma, a junior from China, states, "Internet makes the distance short."

They also take advantage of texting and calling family members to keep in touch.

One of the most frequent online tools used is Skype, a program that allows the user to make online calls with webcam capabilities. Aziz Aldabal, who traveled here from Saudi Arabia, said he often misses his family between his visits back home, but seeing them with Skype helps.

"I can see them in Skype", said Aldabal.

For foreign students, seeing their parents becomes a rare privilege. Many times, this rare occasion is reserved for graduation

day.

Gaurav Jhamb, who is from India, is looking forward to having his parents visit him during graduation.

"We'll be sending them graduation invitations, and then they'll be coming," said Jhamb.

The next time Ma's family will get to see him may be a bit farther off.

"Maybe when I graduate, maybe then," stated Ma.

Prabhat Jain, is a student from India who is currently pursuing his masters degree. He said that talking to his family takes an importance over other social activities on campus.

"Family first, and then friends," said Jain. He also commented on some cultural barriers that make it difficult for family members to communicate back. He explained that some people, like his mother, don't know how to use the communication programs on the computer. Fortunately, the tutorial methods available make it easier, and his family has made an effort to learn about computers.

Another barrier of communicating with family is the time zone difference. There is approximately a difference of ten hours separating many of these students from their families back at home. This difference makes it hard for the students to time their calls and contact their family.

Many aspects on campus make foreign students miss their families even more. Events such as religious festivals from their home country make them miss their family traditions.

Another part about missing home is the traditional food from their culture.

Zhengwei Zhu, a graduate student, said he misses home most, "When [he's] hungry." The Wilkes cafeteria food is just not the same as their cultural dishes from home.

To overcome these feelings of homesickness, students try to talk to their parents more often. Gurpreet Kingra, typically talks to his family online at least once or twice daily.

There are programs other than Skype that foreign students use to help them communicate with family and friends. Orkut, a social networking service run by Google, is another popular program. To instant message family members, Yahoo Messenger is also commonly used.

There are many obstacles that make it difficult to communicate with family at home, but these foreign students find ways to overcome these obstacles.

"It's cheap and it's convenient," says Zhu. Even though talking online with family is not quite as good as talking in person, it helps to make the miles more bearable.



The Beacon/ Tom Reilly

**International students face many hardships when leaving their home countries in order to go to school at Wilkes, but thankfully they can communicate with their families online. Students use a variety of mediums to connect with family and friends from their home countries, including popular social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter, and MySpace. They also use Skype to video conference with their families.**

## Student of the Week: Michael Piotti

KIRSTIN COOK  
Staff Writer

Every student at Wilkes has been impacted by the swine flu in some way. Students must face the danger of the virus, as well as the dilemma of the vaccination. In the middle of the swine flu frenzy is Michael Piotti, a senior nursing major. Piotti took on a pivotal role of administering swine flu vaccinations and from this experience has developed a fuller understanding of the dilemma.

Piotti said he was honored to be a part of the vaccination distribution. He volunteered to participate in the service and gained a great deal of experience from the opportunity.

The best part of distributing the vaccine, according to Piotti, was the amount of children that attended the clinic. Piotti was happy to see them being protected. He

also enjoyed the ability to be helping in the midst of the community, which differs from his clinical work in the hospital.

Through this experience with the vaccination, Piotti has become more informed. "It's important for a community such as a college to get the shot." He added that it is vital for college students to realize how at risk they are, but they also must weigh their options. He believes the flu will be spreading to the area and affecting even more people. "I don't think we've hit the highest point of it."

From the beginning, Piotti has had an urge

to impact his community, which led him to nursing. "I've always wanted to help people," said Piotti. He saw the rising need for nurses and hopes to help fulfill that need. He especially enjoys the one-on-one patient interaction in his field.

Piotti's ultimate goals are to eventually work in the Emergency Room, as well as earn his Master's degree in hospital administration. He has already begun to develop his leadership skills right here on campus, with his status of Captain of the men's cross-country team. He also is active in other activities in his community, such as ski club and environmental club.



The Beacon/Allison Roth

Originally from Williamstown, New Jersey, Piotti came to Wilkes as a freshman but only stayed for one semester, returning to his hometown mostly to cut back on the cost of college. He returned to Wilkes to complete his degree, a decision he is glad he made. However, as Piotti has been a college student since 2005, he is ready to graduate. He is eager to emerge in his community and begin to make a greater impact.

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

**Piotti:** Hopefully working in a hospital in Philadelphia and married with kids.

**The Beacon:** Describe yourself in three words.

**Piotti:** Hardworking, dedicated, outgoing.

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

**Piotti:** In high school I was a skater punk kid.



## “Brenda Bly: Teen Detective” offers something for all

**BY KIRSTIN COOK**  
*Staff Writer*

The fall semester musical at Wilkes will surely attract all types of audience members. Young and old can appreciate all the different facets to which “Brenda Bly: Teen Detective” appeals. Being regarded as a blend between Grease and Scooby-Do, “Brenda Bly” provides a mix of mystery, humor, and romance.

“Brenda Bly” taps into the up-and-coming mainstream concept of detectives. The detective theme was seen in the “Nancy Drew” movie from 2007, and will be continuing into 2009 with the premieres of “Nancy Drew 2” and “Sherlock Holmes.” The detective theme in Brenda Bly is emphasized with the use of flashlights and private eye garb. All through the lyrics and dialogue are detective puns that satirize the concept.

From the very beginning of the production, the audience is faced with a cliffhanger -- literally. The plot focuses the attack of one of the girls at Whitney Ellis Private School for Girls. Throughout the show, the audience members are led on a wild goose chase in an attempt to figure out who is guilty in the mystery.

Countless leads are brought up simply to guide the audience to dead ends. The actors are successful at looking needlessly suspicious in several occasions, resulting in audience members remaining on the edge of their seats. Everyone looks to Brenda Bly, a private eye teenager played by Casey Lynch, a senior musical theatre major, to tackle this case and save the day.

Wilkes takes a humorous approach to the mystery genre with the show, so that the seriousness of the whodunit story is balanced with jokes.

“There’s something that I think everyone will get a good laugh out of,” said Lacey Willis, sophomore communication studies major and assistant stage manager for the show.

There are numerous parody aspects that the show takes on, poking fun at both mysteries and musicals. The exaggerated elements of the characters are one of the most memorable and humorous qualities.

“It’s really entertaining, it’s something to do on the weekend,” Willis adds.

Mystery and comedy are not the only genres involved. Romance also takes center stage. The highlighted lady, Brenda Bly,



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

In this photo, it is opening scene of the musical. It is a scene featuring Alyssa Glueck as Darcy (in the space suit.) rehearsing “Rocket Girl: the Musical.” “Brenda Bly” takes place in 1958, a time when space exploration was the center of excitement and people began to take an interest.

## Wilkes to hold Diwali celebration November 21 in HSC

**BY MELANIE THOMAS**  
*Staff Writer*

Imagine a holiday that combines both the Fourth of July and Christmas, where beautiful lights decorate people’s homes and fireworks blast and fill the sky. Diwali, a Festival of Lights, is such a holiday celebrated in India that is being brought to Wilkes.

On November 21, the Indian Cultural Association will hold a Diwali festival in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. At this Diwali celebration, participants can expect dancing, food and a presentation about Diwali.

According to Iloveindia.com, Diwali falls on the day of “Amavasya,” or the new moon, usually in the month of October or November. On this day, people light tiny diyas (earthen lamps) to illuminate their homes with bright light that creates lovely designs all around their home with colorful

rangoli art.

Paran Mukhija, p2 pharmacy student, and member of the Indian Cultural Association, typically celebrates Diwali with her family in India. During the Festival of Lights, Mukhija and her family participate in special traditions such as gift giving, decorating and cleaning of their home, special prayer in the evening, setting off fire crackers outside with neighbors and family, and storytelling.

“We have Diwali on campus as a celebration,” Harnisha Patel, an Indian Cultural Association member, said. “All the students celebrate the festival together away from home while wishing to enlighten souls around them. Our Diwali function has and will always be open to all of the students and the community members.”

Performances include dancing, singing, musical, etc.

*See DIWALI page 13*



Photo Courtesy of Paran Mukhija

Paran Mukhija, third in from the right front row center, is shown in this photo from last year’s Diwali, which is a festival of lights. Attendees can expect dancing, food celebration, and a presentation on the history of Diwali.

BLY from PAGE 12

struggles in her relationship with Buddy Rogers, her daring boyfriend played by John Layton. Cecil Sessil, a security guard played by Casey Thomas, attempts to win the hard heart of Vera Van Strander, the manipulative headmistress played by Casey Gow. JoJo, a boy-crazy starlet played by Jessica Lech, pursues her love of Stu, Buddy Roger's oaf sidekick played by Bill McGovern.

Lynch has enjoyed being able to play to different audiences.

"The show is cool because you get to play to a child audience but there's also these adult themes that we get to play with too, so it's really fun," Lynch said.

She explained how children audiences will like the cute themes, young adult groups will enjoy the hidden innuendos, and older audience members will like the parodies of the 60's.

Lynch has been inspired by theater since she saw a production of "Beauty and the Beast" when she was in 4th grade, and now, as a senior majoring in theater arts, she has plans of continuing acting in her future. Her goals include future auditioning for parts and possibly even touring with productions. She is going to miss the community within the theater program at Wilkes and the network of teachers that she has developed when she leaves Wilkes upon graduation.

Along with all the laughs and suspense, there are deeper meanings to Brenda Bly, as

Lynch points out.

"Anyone's going to be able to take away a really good message out of the show, and they're going to laugh the whole time they're here," she said.

These messages include finding your place in the world, and following your passions. Cierra Cellerari, whose role is the optimistic Nurse Wilder, is an example of the encouragement to never stop trying through her song, "Oogie Woogie Boogie".

Another interesting aspect of the show is the concept of the musical within a musical. Alyssa Glueck plays Darcy, who in turn plays "Rocket Girl" in her school's upcoming musical. This musical features the wonders towards the idea of space exploration from that time period, and not to mention tap-dancing aliens.

The song "All American Boy" is a showcase of the time period genre. It takes place in McFrostie's Soda Shop, which is the perfect setting for the theme. This number emphasizes the presence of 'pink girls' and 'greasers,' and a time when Rock and Roll was just becoming popular. This scene of soda pop and jukeboxes will create flashbacks for older audience members.

No matter what you take from the show, "Brenda Bly: Teen Detective" is a great chance to laugh and dance along. The production will continue to run on November 20 and 21 at 8 p.m., and November 22 at 2 p.m., with free admission to anyone with a valid Wilkes ID.

## Taste of Wilkes



The Beacon/Allison Roth

**Faculty, staff and students enjoyed sampling food at the thirteenth annual Taste of Wilkes, which took place on Wednesday, November 11 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event provides an opportunity for all members of the Wilkes community to try their hand at preparing some favorite recipes for everyone to enjoy.**



Photo Courtesy of Paran Mukhija

**From left: Paran Mukhija, Dr. Linda Paul, professor of philosophy at Wilkes, and Tia Hickman, a fourth year Pharmacy major, pose at last year's Diwali festival that took place in the Henry Student Center last fall.**

## DIWALI from PAGE 12

Indian food is also provided from the Indian Cultural Association.

The celebration of Diwali holds a deep and holy meaning for Hindu people.

"Diwali is a very holy and joyous Hindu festival celebrating the return of Ram Bhagwan to Ayodhya from his 14-year exile, and the victory of good over evil...[signified by the lighting of oil lamps dispelling the darkness]," Patel said. "The way the people of ayodhya lightened diyas to welcome Lord Rama...we lighten our hearts and forgive and forget misdeeds of others family, friends, and relatives."

Mukhija explains that the purpose for the lights is to ward off evil; there can't be any darkness anywhere in and around the house.

Famous stories are told during Diwali. Mukhija tells the story of Lord Rama. Lord Rama is known to the Hindu people as the perfect man. He is a deity that symbolizes self control and virtue. Diwali is celebrated because of his return home from his 14 years of exile. Lord Rama was married to another deity, Sita, who Hindu's believe to be the embodiment of perfect womanhood.

When Mukhija was growing up in India

she remembers the story that was told during the holiday about Lord Rama and Sita. Mukhija recalls when Lord Rama was in exile, his wife Sita was captured by Ravana. He then went to battle against Ravana for her. After his victory he returned back to Ayodhya. Later Lord Rama became emperor.

With Diwali's rich and interesting history, it may be a surprise to some that Diwali is not observed here in the United States.

"People would wonder what we were doing if they saw us decorating our houses in the middle of October," Mukhija said.

The Indian Cultural Association's president Silvia Silvi is ensuring the events success by fundraising.

The Indian Cultural Association will be holding a Gertrude Hawk candy and hen-na sale in order to help pay for the event costs.

"It is very important to celebrate Diwali here at Wilkes because of the number of Indian students at Wilkes, especially international students," Patel said. "Some of the students have been away from home for the first time especially at Diwali. We want to make them feel like home by giving them a chance to perform and also celebrate Diwali with the rest of the community."

# Brie's Adventures

## A day at the Heaven Psychic Faire in Wilkes-Barre

BY BRIE FRIEDMAN  
A&E Editor

As I stepped into the convention room in the Quality Inn & Suites on Kidder Street, I was hit with a wave of aromatic incense and mesmerizing acoustic music. This was my first encounter with the Heaven Psychic Faire and I was suprised to be greeted by a young woman by the name of Ang Rasimas.

"You must be Brie," she said.

"How did she know that?" I thought in surprise. (Then I realized my press pass with my name on it dangling from my neck in plain eyesight.)

Rasimas, who was kind enough to tell me a little bit about the Faire, said it is going on its thirteenth year. She has been participating for the past few years.

The first thing I saw--and no, it wasn't crystal balls--was a stand with healing lotions and crafts, mostly of fairies, that are hand sculpted out of polymer clay by the artist Theresa Popiolek.

Once a woman in the corporate world in the heart of Manhattan, Popiolek said she had to abandon it due to her constant dreams of fairies. She began to explore her spirituality and began to use fairies to express her beliefs and the magical powers they may possess.

Since then, she has moved around to a few places but is now settled in Tobyhanna, PA. The fairies, she believes, are symbols of love and since they are connected to nature, it is a way to become more connected to the planet.

Once a customer purchases a fairy from Popiolek, she encourages them to ask the fairy its name. Within the next few days, a

name will intuitively pop into the customer's mind, this being the answer from the fairy. Once that has occurred, the definition of that name (which the customer will have to figure out by doing research) will be the fairy's message.

"We all need some positive energy," said Popiolek. Though that it is true, I was unable to purchase a fairy.

As I turned the corner of the fairy stand, I noticed other people at tables that read "Aura Photography," "Foot Reflexology and Ear Candling," and much more.

Nearby, a family of three, Daelynn and John Farrell and Lindsay Suchowieski, had a table representing H.U.G.E. (Hauntings & Unexplained Ghostly Encounters). These paranormal investigators share this passion, but only as a hobby.

They have about 15 years of experience and currently have 20 members to their organization in Wilkes-Barre. After explaining the equipment that was laid out on the table, such as a K2, which measures electromagnetic fields, Daelynn told me that the trick to investigating paranormal activity is consistency. When training, they teach people how to use the equipment, finding consistent patterns, what to look for, and what questions to ask.

Daelynn, the psychic in the family, uses something other than technology to determine her investigations. She turns to her crystals and stones when she needs to focus hard on a certain area when on location for investigations. The tiger eye crystal, for example, is for protection and the smokey quartz resembles an eye that is meant to be stared into. Peering into this quartz increases focus and concentration because it is, in fact, a mesmerizing crystal.



The Beacon/Jahmitza Perez

**Theresa Popiolek showcases her fairies at the Heaven Psychic Faire that are believed to bring positive energy and increase connection between the customer and the planet. Popiolek, a former businesswoman in New York, found her passion in spirituality via these fairies that she makes herself.**

Moving on, I observed the beautiful jewelry and funky accessories made by the talented artists and psychics. Debra Cross, who makes her own jewelry and has a business called New Moon Creations, Jewelry with Spirit, had a variety of jewelries from beads to silver, to necklaces made out of fabric. Every piece was beautiful.

Finally, I went to the corner of the room that had the tarot readings. It was a bit crowded and very involved--psychics staring into clients eyes, some holding hands and others looking intensely at the cards. There was an adornment of all different kinds of tarot cards and the psychics looked intriguing, to say the least, especially the woman wearing a cape.

Ramona Maiolino, who just finished with a customer, invited me over. Though she does tarot readings, her preferred art is astrology, which she has been doing for 52 years.

"I guess you could say tarot cards are my newest passion, even though I've been doing it for 30 years now," laughed Maiolino.

She continued to enlighten me about tarot reading and clarified that it doesn't necessarily predict anything. Instead, the cards tune into our energies and that it is our energy that shuffles the cards. It concentrates on what is on the mind. I observed while

speaking with Maiolino that tarot readings weren't the only things going on. People can do readings via touching the hair or the hands, palms, and by rubbing metal or a piece of jewelry that is worn often. Being psychic is a natural gift for Maiolino, but it wasn't an accepted one. When she was young, she was punished for it. I was unable to see what the cards had in store for me, but perhaps I will when the Faire comes to Wilkes-Barre again in February.

"The vibes that are shared between us and the client is what's important," said Maiolino. "There is much to be learned from these things but you must have intuition, and everyone has it."

Overall, I was amused and entertained at my first-ever trip to a Psychic Faire. The teeny-tiny skeptic in me was well-behaved and I enjoyed learning about a completely different culture of spirituality and conversing with people who have refreshingly different views.

The Faire took place this past weekend, and only cost \$6 for admission. The Faire will be coming back in February, and is definitely worth going to if you want to step outside the box of the typical.

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# THE DEEVOQUIP!

BY DAVID LEWIS  
Assistant Opinion Editor

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!

"R P B D J K R L M O Z D J Y M O X D D W R M,  
Q M C R S S C O T U O K S O Y Y D P Z R S W"

This week's clues: Q=H & D=O

Answer from last week: IF A SHEEP EATS A PIECE OF SHEPHARD'S PIE, THEN THE SHEEP IS A-MOVIN' ON UP!

## — Osterhout Game Night —



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

On National Game Day this past Saturday, the Osterhout Free Library, located on Franklin St. in Wilkes-Barre, participated by hosting board games and card games all day. The Wii game system was also available to play from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. In this photo, two young children are enjoying Super Mario Kart on the Wii.

## - What's Happening Around Wilkes -

BY KRISTEN KARPINSKI  
Asst. A&E Editor

### Tuesday, November 17, 2009

- Wilkes Crew Fundraiser "Wii Rowing Tournament" @ Rodano's  
-18-20 - \$6, 21+ - \$3 Starts at 10 p.m. - **FREE PIZZA** @ 11 p.m.

- Professor Elie Wiesel @ FM Kirby Center - \$10 - 8 p.m.  
\*\*SOLD OUT\*\*

- Star Wars: In Concert @ Wachovia Arena - \$35+ - 7:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, November 18, 2009

- "An Enemy of the People" @ Kings College Theatre - \$10 - 7:30 p.m.  
- 11/18-11/21

### Thursday, November 19, 2009

- Brian Regan @ FM Kirby Center  
- \$39.50 - 7:30 p.m.

- Pappy & Dylan of *Cabinet* and Kris Kehr of *The Recipe* @ River Street Jazz Café, Plains - FREE - 10 p.m.

### All Weekend Long

- Kevin Hammonds and Charles Miller's "Brenda Bly: Teen Detective" @ Wilkes University - Free to Students w/ ID - 8 p.m. (Fri./Sat.) 2 p.m. (Sun.)

### Friday, November 20, 2009

- *Hot Day at the Zoo* @ The Bog, Scranton - \$5 - 10:30 p.m.

- *Glass Empires* @ Club JAM, Pittston - \$5 - 9 p.m.

- Zach Deputy @ River Street Jazz Café, Plains - \$8 - 10 p.m.

- Trans-Siberian Orchestra Winter Tour 2009 @ Wachovia Arena - \$25+ - 8 p.m.

### Saturday, November 21, 2009

- *Grammar Debate w/ Kite Party* @ The Bog, Scranton - \$5 - 10:30 p.m.

- *Tip the Van* @ Café Metro - \$8 - 8 p.m.

- *Skye is Falling* @ Club JAM, Pittston - \$5 - 7 p.m.

- *One For The Angels, Aherin & Centralia* @ Club JAM, Pittston - \$5 - 9 p.m.

- *The Brew & JMMD* @ River Street Jazz Café, Plains - \$5 - 10 p.m.

### Sunday, November 22, 2009

- Lily Tomlin @ FM Kirby Center - \$39+ - 7 p.m.

- The "World Famous" Lipizzaner Stallions 40th Anniversary Edition @ Wachovia Arena - \$24+ - 2 p.m. & 6 p.m.



# What is the greatest rivalry in all of sports?

*There's a reason it's known as "The Game"*



Sports Editor

**ANTHONY  
DORUNDA**

No rivalry is more heated than the battle that takes place on the third Saturday afternoon in late November.

The rivalry I'm referring to is the one that pits the scarlet and gray from Ohio State against the maize and blue from Michigan.

I can't go with the Yankees and Red Sox because they meet nearly 20 times a year. As much as I wanted to go with Duke-Carolina, I have too much bias pulling in the direction of the Tar Heel Blue, and they meet at least twice, but usually three to four times a year. Michigan-Ohio State? Once a year.

Ali-Frazier was an individual rivalry, nothing more than that. When Ohio State and Michigan collide, two whole worlds are on a crash course with one another.

The game involves two states, two massive schools, thousands of players, students, and alumni, and most of all, thousands of fans that absolutely hate each other.

Ohio State and Michigan go head to head on the gridiron just once a year in the very last game of the season and in nearly every meeting, the Big Ten title and a trip to the Rose Bowl is on the line in some way. That's why this is the greatest rivalry, hands down. They meet once, usually for the biggest prize, and it's the last game of the season for each. That is what rivalries are made of.

It all began in 1922, when Ohio Stadium was opened. The opponent for the Buckeyes?

The Wolverines. And they rained on that parade with a 22-0 win, setting the stage for what has become not only the fiercest rivalry in college football, but the fiercest rivalry in all sports. Period. Kapeesh. Goodnight.

This game draws over 100,000 spectators to the stadium no matter the venue. And that doesn't count the thousands outside the stadium and the thousands more watching on the television.

Look at it this way. If you are from Ohio, you can go to any school in the country that you choose. It could be Penn State, Notre Dame, Wisconsin, or Michigan State. But don't you dare choose Michigan. You will be shunned forever. And the same goes for Michigan natives. You could go to Michigan State before you went to Ohio State. If you choose the other, say goodbye to your state voting rights.

This rivalry represents the pure college experience, and the epitome of college football. School pride is on the line in every meeting. At every meeting, there are 100,000 screaming fans are going berserk the entire time, relentlessly booing the opposition at every opportunity. There was an

even HBO documentary made about it.

When players graduate, they're not judged on how many championships they won, they're judged on how many times they beat Ohio State, or vice-versa. These teams could win one game a season, as long as it was against the other.

The Buckeyes and the Wolverines each have the same purpose at the beginning of each season: Beat Ohio State. Beat Michigan.

Here's a little FF (fun fact) to end on: In 1970, a Columbus judge dismissed an obscenity charge against a man wearing a T-Shirt that said "F--- Michigan," because the saying "accurately expressed" local feelings about the University and the state.

If that doesn't scream rivalry, nothing does. It just doesn't get any bigger than that.

## The Thrilla in Manilla



Asst. Sports Editor

**RYAN  
HOLMES**

Everyone knows that when it comes to sports, no matter what sport it is, there are always rivalries and battles that seem to continue even after the clock hits all zeroes. And even if you are playing on a team there are still individual battles or rivalries that the athletes just absolutely live for.

When it comes to the best sports rivalry there is no way that I could pick a rivalry where an entire team was involved, the best rivalries occur between two people like Shaq versus Kobe or LeBron versus Howard. I know that I am leaving out some of the big ones but still, you get my point.

However, the best rivalry has got to be Muhammad Ali versus "Smokin" Joe Frazier.

This fight had everything. From the powerful punches and change in momentum to the great finish in the end.

Although none of us were born back when "The Thrilla in Manila" took place we can all appreciate the amazing display of pugilism.

The two men met in the ring three times with "The Thrilla" being the last and best time. Ali and Frazier faced each other for 132 minutes to decide who was the better man. This fight is considered to be the most brutal battle of all time.

This was also the only fight between the two that did not last the full time it was scheduled. Round by round Ali and Frazier traded punches leaving each other com-

pletely battered and bruised.

With every round each fighter grew more and more tired but the determination replaced the energy that they had lost. Blow by blow, sweat and blood poured from the body of each man.

With each round the judges grew more and more skeptical of who was going to be the winner. Ali kept coming at Frazier and Frazier kept coming at Ali. Neither man was going to back down. They both let their fists fly in hopes of putting the other to the canvas. By round 14, Frazier's left eye was completely shut from the punishment of Ali's right hand.

But he kept on coming in hopes of hitting that spot to put Ali down. But it never came.

With both completely exhausted and beat

up, they sat in their corners awaiting the last round to come. Back then if both men made it to the last round there was a little bit of a longer break to let them recuperate and give it everything they had left in the final minutes.

But the last round never came.

During the break, Frazier's trainer took one last look at him and just knew that he could not go on. So before the men could even get up to give each other whatever they had left, it was stopped. They had already given everything and there was no more that needed to be done.

The fight ended with Ali as the victorious one. To this day that fight is still talked about and I believe that it will forever be the best sports rivalry of all time.

## WHAT'S THE WORD AT WILKES?

How do you feel about our editors decisions? Check out the story online, at [www.wilkesbeacon.com](http://www.wilkesbeacon.com), and give your opinion. While you're at it, tell us if you agreed with Anthony's or Ryan's choices this week, and every week.

for more information check out...

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**GO!**

# Wrestling has impressive showing at John Reese Duals

COURTESY OF CRAIG MERRIMAN  
Sports Information Director

The Wilkes University wrestling team had an impressive showing at the fifth-annual John Reese Duals, posting wins over NYU, Scranton and Centenary while falling to Cortland.

Wilkes took a 31-6 victory over fellow Metro Conference member NYU as it won all but two bouts in the contest. Scott Mantua gave the Colonels a 3-0 start at 125 with a 5-2 win over Kyle Christensen. NYU would bounce back to win the next two bouts to take a 6-3 lead, but Wilkes would score 28 unanswered points the rest of the way.

At 149, Nathan White took a 3-0 lead over Gabe Gleason before James Histed won his bout 4-1 over David Rice to give the Colonels a 9-6 lead. Ben Marich continued the winning ways for Wilkes at 165 before Frank Heffernan recorded the first pin of the day over Steve Massey at 174 in 2:08, giving the Colonels an 18-6 lead. Jesse Vilella, competing at the 184-pound division for the first time this season, took a 4-3 win before Zach Pizarro pinned Jamie Myers



Courtesy of Marketing Communications  
**Senior heavyweight Drew Feldman is undefeated this season. At the duals, Feldman upended Cortland's Joe Murphy, the number eight wrestler in the country, at 285.**

in 4:08 at 197. Andrew Feldman picked up his fourth-straight win after beating Justin Murberg 12-2.

The second match pitted two top-25 teams

as Wilkes took on Cortland. The match went back and fourth before Cortland won four-straight bouts to secure the 21-9 win. Jared Lemik took a close 6-5 win over Mantua at

125, handing the Colonel wrestler his first loss of the season. Ryan Wilson tied the match at three with a 4-0 win over Dave Dolaginvanni, but Al Sterling would give Cortland the lead once again when he defeated Kris Krawchuk 4-2.

Stephen Perez gave Cortland back-to-back wins before James Histed took a 6-4 win, closing the gap to 9-6. Unfortunately Cortland would win the next four bouts to take a 21-6 lead before Feldman beat Joe Murphy, who is currently ranked No. 8 in the country, 3-1.

After dropping their first dual match of the season, the Colonels bounced back to route Scranton 43-0. AJ Fisher, Villella and Feldman recorded pins for Wilkes, while White, Dustin Stough both recorded shut-out victories.

In their final match of the day, the Colonels won five-straight bouts that would eventually lead to a 31-9 win over Centenary.

The Colonels are now 4-1 on the year and will travel out of state next weekend when they compete in the Buckeye/Keystone Challenge in Columbus, Ohio.



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# Wilkes University basketball prepares

## FULL ROSTER

|                       |   |           |
|-----------------------|---|-----------|
| 1 - Chris DeRojas     | - | Jr. - G   |
| 2 - Tyler Breznitsky  | - | Fr. - G   |
| 3 - Chris Gulla       | - | Sr. - G   |
| 4 - Mike Donatoni     | - | So. - G   |
| 5 - Matt Meier        | - | Fr. - G   |
| 10 - Steve Blish      | - | Fr. - G   |
| 12 - Cliff Richardson | - | Fr. - G   |
| 14 - Greg Colucci     | - | So. - G   |
| 20 - Anthony Gabriel  | - | Sr. - F   |
| 21 - Trey Tietz       | - | Fr. - G   |
| 22 - Aaron Dombrowsky | - | Fr. - G/F |
| 30 - Paul Huch        | - | So. - G/F |
| 32 - Bernard Edmonds  | - | Fr. - F   |
| 33 - Tom Kresge       | - | Sr. - F   |
| 34 - Kendall Hinze    | - | So. - F   |
| 40 - Nic Wilkins      | - | Fr. - F   |

## SCHEDULE

|          |                             |         |
|----------|-----------------------------|---------|
| 11/16    | PSU Hazleton                | 7:00 PM |
| 11/20-21 | Susquehanna Tournament      |         |
| 11/23    | Penn College                | 7:00 PM |
| 12/2     | Misericordia                | 8:00 PM |
| 12/5     | FDU-Florham                 | 3:00 PM |
| 12/9     | Elizabethtown               | TBA     |
| 12/12    | Lycoming                    | 1:00 PM |
| 1/2-3    | Wilkes-Barre Challenge      |         |
| 1/5      | Marywood                    | 7:00 PM |
| 1/7      | Baptist Bible               | 7:00 PM |
| 1/9      | Manhattanville              | 3:00 PM |
| 1/13     | Eastern                     | 8:00 PM |
| 1/16     | King's                      | 3:00 PM |
| 1/20     | DeSales                     | 8:00 PM |
| 1/23     | Delaware Valley             | 3:00 PM |
| 1/25     | Lebanon Valley              | 7:00 PM |
| 1/30     | FDU-Florham                 | 3:00 PM |
| 2/3      | Misericordia                | 8:00 PM |
| 2/6      | Manhattanville              | 3:00 PM |
| 2/10     | Eastern                     | 6:00 PM |
| 2/13     | Delaware Valley             | 6:00 PM |
| 2/16     | DeSales                     | 6:00 PM |
| 2/20     | King's College              | 6:00 PM |
| 2/24     | Freedom Conference Playoffs |         |

Home games in BOLD

## STATISTICS

9 - Members of last season's team that are returning this season. That total includes seven of their top eight scorers.

33.6 - Combined total of points-per-game scored by Chris DeRojas and Tom Kresge last season. Those two will captain Wilkes this season.

2 - Wins that the Colonels needed to win the conference championship last season. However, they lost in the tournament semi-finals to DeSales.

## Men's team blessed with wealth of returning talent

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA  
*Sports Editor*

The number nine will play a significant role for the men's basketball team this season, one that can both make, and break their season.

The Colonels return nine players (including seven of their top eight scorers) from a team that finished 15-11 before bowing out to DeSales in the Freedom Conference tournament semi-finals last season.

That loss to DeSales marked the ninth straight time that they have fallen victim to the Bulldogs. But with the plethora of talent and experience returning to the hardwood this season, a new chapter of Wilkes University basketball is sure to be written.

"This team is a lot better than it was last year," says sophomore guard Greg Collucci, who will be vying for time at one of the guard positions. "I can't stress enough how great our leadership is. It is so important to have it throughout this long season and I think we finally have it."

Leading the team this year is junior guard Chris DeRojas and senior forward Tom Kresge. Both were All-Freedom Conference second-team selections last year and are both former conference rookies of the year. And this season, they have been chosen as team captains.

"[Chris] DeRojas's work effort is second

to none, while Tommy is one of the most coachable kids I've ever had," says head coach Jerry Rickrode, who is entering his 18th year at the helm for the Colonels. "It's fairly unanimous amongst the players and the coaching staff that those guys should be captains. They have a great demeanor and the guys respect them."

As the Colonels' floor general DeRojas led the team in scoring, averaging 17 points per match-up. Kresge was a force in the middle, leading the team with 8.4 rebounds per game while chipping in with 16.4 points per game.

But it takes more than two players to win a basketball game, and the Colonels have plenty of options waiting in the wings.

"Right now we have a pretty definable seven guys, but were looking for a couple others to step in," says Rickrode. "If that occurs we could be really good. It's a hard working, coachable bunch."

Joining DeRojas and Kresge will be seniors Chris Gulla and Anthony Gabriel, and sophomores Kendall Hinze and Paul Huch.

Gulla averaged five points per game while starting 23 of the teams 26 games. The 6'6" Gabriel chipped in with 5.5 points and 4.6 rebounds per game down low, while the 6'5" 230 pound Hinze provided the muscle on the inside for the Colonels, snatching 48 offensive rebounds. Huch, a 6'6" talent who can play guard and forward, led the team with 30 blocks last season, adding versatil-

ity to the Colonels' lineup.

Freshman Tyler Breznitsky will start at guard beside DeRojas. All Breznitsky did in his high school career was score 1,880 points, shattering his school's record. He was also named the Wyoming Valley Conference Division-IV MVP in the process. His adjustment to the college game should be no problem, as he has been thrust into a starting role as a freshman before.

"I had to deal with this once before in high school when I was thrown into the starting line-up as a freshman, so it's something I can relate to already," says Breznitsky. "I'm excited to get an opportunity to make my impact on the team and I feel like I am more then ready to take that responsibility and really just help the team win games."

For this team to make a run into the post-season, they're going to have to do just that - run.

"We got to try to be different than other teams," says Rickrode. "We concentrated very hard on getting the ball out fast and being more of a team that scores often this year. If we can play at that pace and be solid on defense, I think we'll have a good chance."

"I think this year the team can play a much more up-tempo game which we weren't able to do last year," said sophomore guard/forward Paul Huch. "That is going to be a big advantage for us with the guys we have that can run the floor."

## PLAYERS TO WATCH



CHRIS  
**DeROJAS**

He averaged 17.2 points-per-game last season, a total that was good enough for third in the conference. He was named Second Team All-Freedom Conference. This season, he's one of the team's captains.



TOM  
**KRESGE**

Like DeRojas, Kresge was named Second Team All-Freedom Conference. He earned that honor by averaging 16.4 points-per-game, while contributing 8.4 rebounds-per-contest. He will also serve as a team captain.



TYLER  
**BREZNITSKY**

Though he's a freshman, Breznitsky stands to play a huge role for the Colonels this season. A former 1,880-point scorer in high school, the rookie was named one of the team's starting guards by coach Rickrode.

All Photos: Courtesy of Marketing Communications

# for another season on the hardwood

*Young women's team features seven rookies, six freshmen*

BY MICHAEL CIGNOLI

Assistant Sports Editor

There's one statistic about the women's basketball team that can't be ignored.

Out of the thirteen members of the team that finished 11-14 last season, eight will not be returning to the court this year.

The Lady Colonels lost Khadija Bates and Chelsey Gosse to graduation, but that's just the tip of the iceberg. Six non-seniors parted ways with the team during the offseason, meaning that fifth-year head coach Rachel Hartung Emmerthal had a lot of voids to fill via recruiting.

The eight players that are no longer with the team scored a combined 910 points last season, a total that amounted to 61.9% of Wilkes's total offense.

So, how do the Lady Colonels plan to address these departures? They don't.

"As a team we have decided to focus on the members we have and not address the absences of former players," said junior guard Brittany Ely.

Fellow junior guard Erin Schneider also declined to comment on the issue.

Schneider and Ely are two of just five players that have played under coach Emmerthal before this season. The duo, plus junior guard Sam Lynam, sophomore guard Whitney Connolly, and sophomore center Lindsey Gosse, have been thrust into lead-

ership roles.

"I am very excited about my leadership role this season," Ely said. "I am looking forward to helping the freshmen adjust to the college game and watching our team come together to be successful."

There's no question that the Lady Colonels are going to rely heavily on the five veterans that are returning to the court. But if they want to eclipse the 11-win mark that they achieved last season, the newcomers have to be ready to step up to the plate.

This season's roster is rounded out by sophomore Lyndsay Ellis, as well as six freshmen - Amanda Pawlowski, Angela Palmerio, Morgan Palermo, Megan Kazmerski, Samantha Rohn, and Jennfer Rommer.

"This is the youngest team I have ever played on but I see it as a challenge rather than a set back," said Ely. "The rookies have a lot of potential and with a good group of juniors and sophomores to guide them, I believe they will be able to fit right in and be successful on the college level."

"This year we are very young," Schneider added. "However all of our players are working very hard together."

Though the rookies are short on NCAA experience, they stand to benefit from a pair of solid additions to Wilkes University's coaching staff.

Joining Emmerthal behind the bench this

season will be Merideth Alexis, who played professional basketball in Europe and attended training camp with two Women's National Basketball Association teams.

As if having a former WNBA prospect as an assistant coach wasn't enough, the team also brought in Lindsey Sykes, who captained Misericordia to the conference playoffs last season, as an assistant coach.

"I do believe that Merideth Alexis and Lindsey Sykes are great additions to our coaching staff, and can really help us to continue to grow," said Schneider.

"Both have great basketball experiences and they each bring valuable knowledge of the game to practice every day," added Ely. "They are passionate about making this team a success and have a huge love for the game. With Coach Alexis helping with the posts and Coach Sykes working with the guards, Coach Emmerthal is allowed to focus on the bigger picture."

If the Lady Colonels achieve their ultimate goal this season, that picture will have the team with at least a .500 record and possibly a berth in the NCAA tournament.

"I don't feel that being young will be a weakness this season," said Ely. "Each of the rookies brought certain strengths that when combined with the experience of the few upperclassmen we have will allow for us to continue to build toward a winning season."

## FULL ROSTER

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| 3 - Amanda Pawlowski  | - Fr. - G   |
| 12 - Samantha Lynam   | - Jr. - G   |
| 13 - Whitney Connolly | - So. - G   |
| 14 - Erin Schneider   | - Jr. - G   |
| 20 - Lyndsay Ellis    | - So. - G   |
| 21 - Angela Palmerio  | - Fr. - G/F |
| 22 - Brittany Ely     | - Jr. - G/F |
| 30 - Morgan Palermo   | - Fr. - F   |
| 32 - Megan Kazmerski  | - Fr. - G   |
| 35 - Samantha Rohn    | - Fr. - F/C |
| 40 - Jennifer Rommer  | - Fr. - F/C |
| 52 - Lindsey Gosse    | - So. - C   |

## SCHEDULE

|          |                    |            |
|----------|--------------------|------------|
| 11/16    | PSU Hazleton       | TBA        |
| 11/20-21 | Frostburg State    | Tournament |
| 11/24    | Marywood           | 6:00 PM    |
| 11/30    | Cedar Crest        | 7:00 PM    |
| 12/2     | Misericordia       | 6:00 PM    |
| 12/4     | FDU-Florham        | 7:00 PM    |
| 12/7     | Baptist Bible      | 7:00 PM    |
| 12/9     | Susquehanna        | 7:00 PM    |
| 12/11-12 | Elizabethtown      | Tournament |
| 1/6      | Lebanon Valley     | 7:00 PM    |
| 1/9      | Manhattanville     | 1:00 PM    |
| 1/13     | Eastern            | 6:00 PM    |
| 1/16     | King's             | 1:00 PM    |
| 1/20     | DeSales            | 6:00 PM    |
| 1/23     | Delaware Valley    | 1:00 PM    |
| 1/27     | Lycoming           | 7:00 PM    |
| 1/30     | FDU-Florham        | 1:00 PM    |
| 2/3      | Misericordia       | 6:00 PM    |
| 2/6      | Manhattanville     | 1:00 PM    |
| 2/10     | Eastern            | 6:00 PM    |
| 2/13     | Delaware Valley    | 6:00 PM    |
| 2/16     | DeSales            | 6:00 PM    |
| 2/20     | King's             | 6:00 PM    |
| 2/24     | Freedom Conference | Playoffs   |

Home games in **BOLD**

## STATISTICS

910 - Points scored by the eight players on last season's Lady Colonels team that won't be returning this season.

11 - Wins recorded by the Lady Colonels last season. That was a significant improvement from two years ago, when they won just two games.

7 - Players that are new to the Wilkes University women's basketball team this season. That includes six freshmen and one sophomore.

## PLAYERS TO WATCH



ERIN  
**SCHNEIDER**

The junior guard is one of just five Lady Colonels that is returning to the team this season, and the team will rely heavily on her veteran leadership. Last season, she averaged 5.3 points-per-game and scored 23 three-pointers.



BRITTANY  
**ELY**

Ely, a junior guard/forward, is Wilkes's top returning rebounder. She recorded 90 boards last season, while also leading the Lady Colonels with 63 assists. Ely said that she is looking forward to her new leadership role.



LINDSEY  
**GOSSE**

The sophomore is the lone returning center for the Lady Colonels. Though she didn't start a game last season, the 6'1" product of Allentown, Pa. collected 3.8 rebounds-per-game and 4.9 points-per-game from the bench.

All Photos: Courtesy of Marketing Communications

# Colonels come up short in Mayor's Cup match

## *Latest installment of long-standing rivalry has the wrong outcome for Wilkes*

BY RYAN HOLMES  
Assistant Sports Editor

The Wilkes-King's rivalry began in 1946 when Coach George Ralston added the cross-town Monarchs to the schedule. Wilkes came away victorious in that first meeting 7-0, capping off a 6-0 perfect season and marking the beginning of a rivalry that continues today.

The Colonels took on the Monarchs from 1946-1952, losing only in '51 and '52. After that the two teams did not appear on the gridiron against each other for 40 years (1953-1993), leaving the Mayor's Cup at the King's end of River Street.

Wilkes and King's met again after the 40 year drought at King's in 1993. It was then that the Mayor's Cup returned to hands of the Navy and Gold when the Colonels triumphed 41-14.

For seven years, the cup stayed with Colonels until they lost it again in 2000. King's regained the power and kept it for two more years after that until it was finally returned to Coach Sheptock and the Colonels in 2003.

And this past Saturday, the Colonels looked to keep up the dominance of the completely one-sided series.

"I'm really playing for the seniors," said junior defensive back Darnell Corbin before the game. "These seniors have taught me so much over the years and it's really my turn to give back to them and send them out with a perfect record against King's."

Senior Quarterback Rob Johnson spoke about the rivalry on Friday before the game as well.

"We have won the game for six years," said Johnson. "I really want to go out there on Saturday and do my best to make sure it stays for a seventh. It's my last time playing King's and I really want to go out with a win."

Every year since, the cup has remained in the hands of the Colonels. That was until this past Saturday, when the dominance the Colonels have shown over the past six years was ended.

Early on, it looked like the game was going to be a shootout.

King's took it to the Colonels' defense in



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

**Wilkes University president Tim Gilmour poses with running back Zach Tivald. Tivald was named the Colonels' Most Valuable Player of the Mayor's Cup, but the team lost to King's College for the first time since 2002.**

the opening drive of the game. Monarchs' quarterback Corey Lavin took his offense all the way down the field on their first possession and put six points on the board.

The Colonels answered shortly after when Zach Tivald rushed 22-yards for the score. Tivald's touchdown sparked the Colonels, who began to feed off of the early touchdown.

Wilkes forced the Monarchs to punt on their next possession and did not hesitate to put another six points on the board. Tivald reached the end zone for the second time on the afternoon putting Wilkes in the lead 13-6.

However, that would be the last time that anyone for the Colonels would see the end zone. King's answered with a score of their own and allowed just three more points from then on.

The Monarchs scored before the half and entered the break up 19-16, marking the first time in a seven year span that the Colonels have trailed King's at the half.

Lavin and the Kings offense then turned the second half into their own personal highlight reel.

The third quarter started out with both teams fighting for control, but King's finally grabbed a hold of the game in their second possession of the half making the score 26-16. The rest is history.

The Monarchs posted one more score on the board in the fourth quarter to make the score 33-16, where it would stay.

Tivald was named the Most Valuable Player for the Colonels, rushing 13 times for 77 yards and two touchdowns. For the Monarchs, Lavin took home the MVP plaque for his efforts on the day.

After the loss on Saturday, the Colonels lead the rivalry 18-6, but the bragging rights and the Mayor's Cup Trophy belongs to the team in Red and Gold from down the street. This year also marks the first year since 2002 (the last time King's won) that Wilkes gave up 30 points or more in the battle for the cup.

"I would have really liked to get the MVP and the win," Tivald said after the loss. "But, I guess today just wasn't our day."

Wilkes completed their season with a 6-4 overall record (3-4 in the conference), finishing fourth in the conference.

## BY THE NUMBERS

# 2,535

Total yards amassed by the Wilkes University offense this season. Of that, 1,778 yards came via passing, while 757 were through rushes.

# 33

Points surrendered by the Colonels on Saturday afternoon. It's the first time since 2002 that Wilkes has allowed more than 30 points in the Mayor's Cup game.

# 77

Rushing yards recorded by Wilkes running back Zach Tivald. Tivald scored two touchdowns on the day, earning MVP honors for Wilkes University.

# 6

Consecutive victories the Colonels recorded against King's College prior to Saturday's match-up. The win streak dated back to the 2003 Mayor's Cup game.



# Men's & Women's Basketball

Everything you need to know about the Colonels | Page 18 & 19