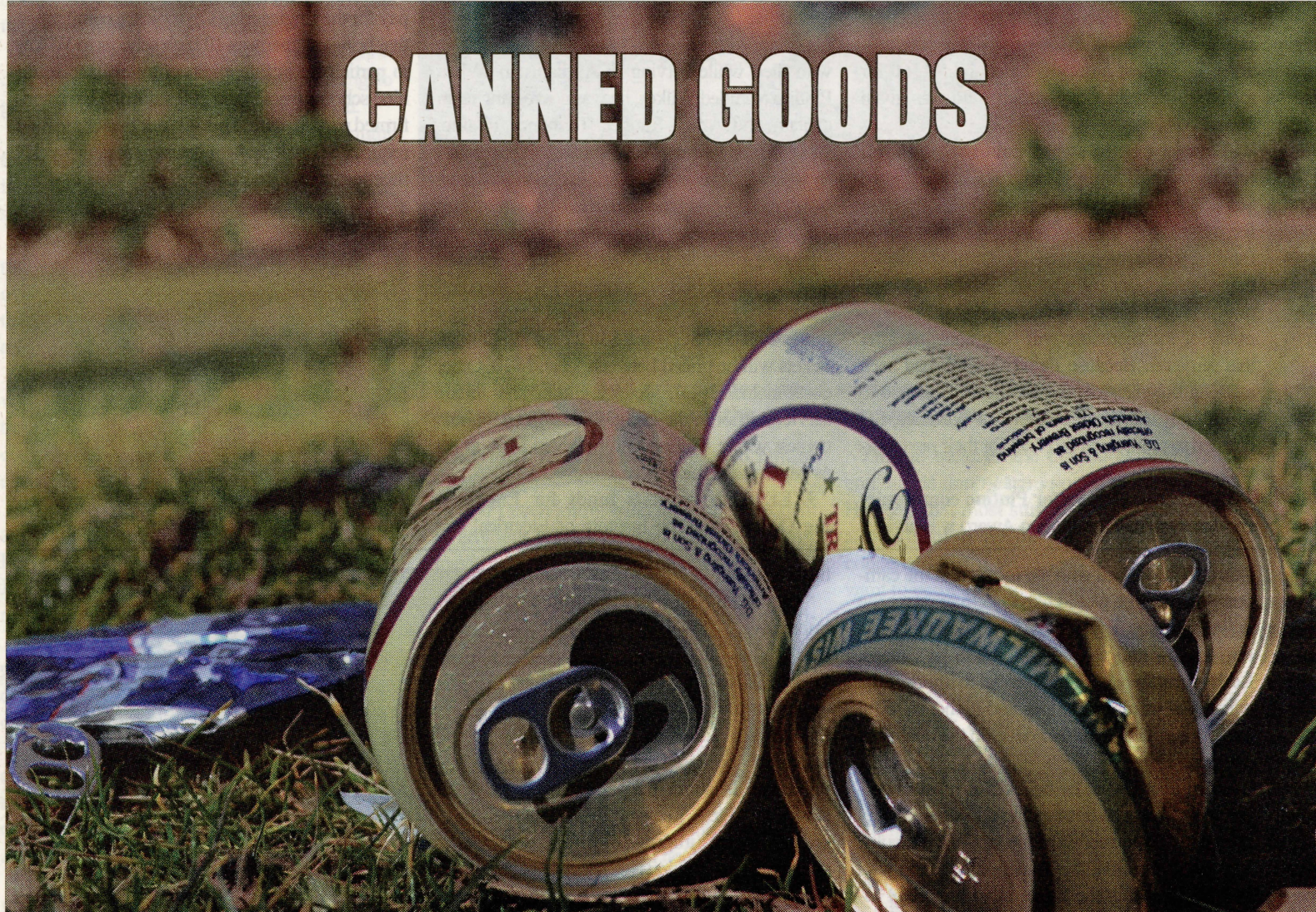


CANNED GOODS



The Beacon / Austin Loukas

Aftermath of the biggest party weekend at Wilkes University left beer cans scattered in front of Breiseth Hall.

Scranton VP goes colonel as 3rd candidate

BY DEVONI NOVAK
Assistant News Editor

The last of the three candidates, Scranton University's vice president Dr. Patrick Leahy, came to Wilkes last week to meet with students, faculty and staff. At the student forum, Leahy led off by declaring what attracted him to the presidential position at Wilkes along with what he feels he can do if given the position.

"I'm going to be perfectly candid with you," Leahy said. "I sense that there is some great work that happens here and I'm not sure that it's properly appreciated; I think there's a real opportunity to promote what we do here better than we have."

Leahy feels he can be helpful in making Wilkes a better known school, which in his opinion will add to the university's credibility. After meeting with various members of the faculty and staff, Leahy noticed that many had a strong interest in improving the

SEE PRESIDENT, PAGE 2

Behind the scenes of the real Winter Weekend

BY DEVONI NOVAK
Assistant News Editor

Students celebrated the annual Winter Weekend in starkly different ways. Some students participated in an on-campus photo scavenger hunt ending with five grueling rounds of Nickelodeon

trivia. Others roamed South River Street with solo cups and cases of beer in their backpacks.

Every year, Student Government sponsors the official campus Winter Weekend event for students. In addition to SG's events, numerous off-campus events also take place.

When asked what Winter Week-

end meant to them, many students had the same reply as senior communication studies major, Evan Katz.

"Partying," said Katz.

This year, Katz and his roommates took part in the festivities by creating their own team "Are You Afraid of the Dark? Because you

look better with the lights off," in line with SG's theme of '90s Nickelodeon. The team attended various off-campus house parties.

Junior earth and space sciences major Mack Thomas planned to spend his Winter Weekend checking out the special events Downtown bars had to offer. Thomas

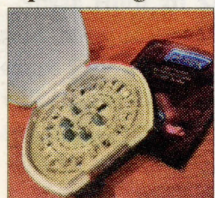
also planned to host his own house party complete with \$5 cups and team T-shirts.

Thomas explained what Winter Weekend means to him.

"It means celebrating my time at Wilkes by drinking more than I usually do," he said.

SEE WEEKEND, PAGE 3

Opinion Pages 6-8



Birth control in vending machines

PAGE 7

Life Pages 9-12



Bio dept's wild inhabitants

PAGE 9

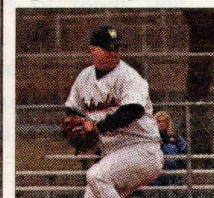
Arts & Entertainment Pages 13-15



Anti-Flag punk politics

PAGE 13

Sports Pages 16-20



Wined up for Wilkes Baseball

PAGE 18



Established 1936
PA Newspaper
Association Member

FEBRUARY 28, 2012

CONTACT EDITOR: phatnguyen@thewilkesbeacon.com

SG Notes

BY DEVONI NOVAK
Assistant News Editor

Bottom floor of SUB to be renovated -

Buffer Fund, a group that works on large projects, is working with architects on refurbish the space on the first floor of the SUB. The fund will make the space more cohesive, modern and warm. Making the three rooms on the bottom floor flow together better will allow the space to feel more open, the architects suggested. Renovations will include new paint, wallpaper, carpet, lighting and seating.

Funds granted for rock wall equipment and mascot head - Buffer Fund Committee requested funds for new rock wall safety gear including ropes and harnesses. Buffer budgeted two ropes for \$900 and 30 harnesses at \$55.33 each. Buffer fund also asked for \$3,500 for a new colonel

head, claiming the old one was growing illness-causing mold. Because both issues concerned safety, SG voted in favor of two separate motions: \$3,500 for a colonel head and \$2,560 for rock wall gear. In total, Buffer Fund was given \$6,060.

SG attempts to wean paintball club off tournament funding - Paintball Club requested \$617.53 to help pay for upcoming tournament fees. Because the club consistently asks SG to fund their tournaments, SG deliberated whether they should grant the amount. SG also felt continuation of Paintball Club was an issue because many of the members will be graduating after this semester. Because Paintball Club has been a strong organization and has been dedicated to community service throughout its existence, SG decided to grant them \$617.53 for their next tournament.

SAAC fund request for Plutino community service award - The Plutino Award was an idea

proposed by Student-Athlete Advisory Committee that will encourage community service while honoring Wilkes alumnus Sgt. Sandrino Plutino, who died while serving in Afghanistan. When Plutino attended Wilkes, he was a wrestling team captain and Army Ranger. To honor Plutino, sports teams will compete for the Plutino award by obtaining the most community service hours per player. SAAC requested \$570 to put toward a plaque that will list the winning team each year.

Spring Fling at the Woods - A Hollywood-themed Spring Fling is scheduled for March 30 and will be held at the Woodlands. The venue and dinner will cost SG about \$30 a person, although tickets will be priced between \$5 and \$10. Other costs include a DJ, security guards and shuttle services. Prior to the event, there will be a photo contest where winners will be given \$100 to act as paparazzi at the dance.

IEEE Club requests funds for Engineering Olympics - The Institute of Electrical and

Electronic Engineers requested \$4,000 to help pay for the Engineering Olympics, a competition that brings as many as 10 high schools to Wilkes to participate in five engineering events. So far nine schools (more than 200 students) have confirmed participation. This is week one of the fund request; SG will make a decision at next week's meeting.

Correction:

The Beacon would like to apologize for some confusion in last week's SG notes on Academic Bankruptcy. The Academic Standards Committee recently began discussing revision of "Grade Adjustment Policy" a policy that was used in the 1980s. Because the matter is to be discussed further and presented to the full faculty, it will not be decided on in the immediate future.

CONTACT DEVONI NOVAK AT:
devoninovak@thewilkesbeacon.com

PRESIDENT

Continued from Front Page

university. To Leahy this attitude is a positive; he said it's great that so many are "hungry for improvement."

Wilkes' sense of family is another aspect of the university that Leahy appreciates. While searching for a school that has the atmosphere he found at Wilkes, Leahy was surprised to find it in his present hometown. The more Leahy learns about Wilkes the more enthusiasm he gains for the possibilities.

"To be able to find a place where I think that there's untapped potential where I think they really care about improving and where I think they really care about each other, I've been traveling far and wide to find a university like that to be a part of," Leahy said.

Thrilled to be one of three finalists, Leahy believes he is a unique candidate that has distinctive experiences to bring to Wilkes. His involvement both inside and outside the system of higher education is a valuable skill Leahy feels he can use to overcome the university's challenges.

In addition to the university's values, Leahy

was also impressed with the location of the campus. Although he would like to help improve the downtown area, Leahy likes how the campus has a river view and proximity to the town's shops. Leahy feels there is great potential to improve the attractiveness of the campus and if chosen to fill the job, he plans to further develop the quality of campus.

When asked what he believes is most important to receiving an outstanding education, Leahy placed the responsibility in the laps of the faculty. In Leahy's opinion, it is student interaction with the faculty that is the single most important aspect of their education, although he understands it takes a little more than that to make an outstanding institution.

"A university is only as good as the people who work there, go to school there, and dedicate their lives there," Leahy said.

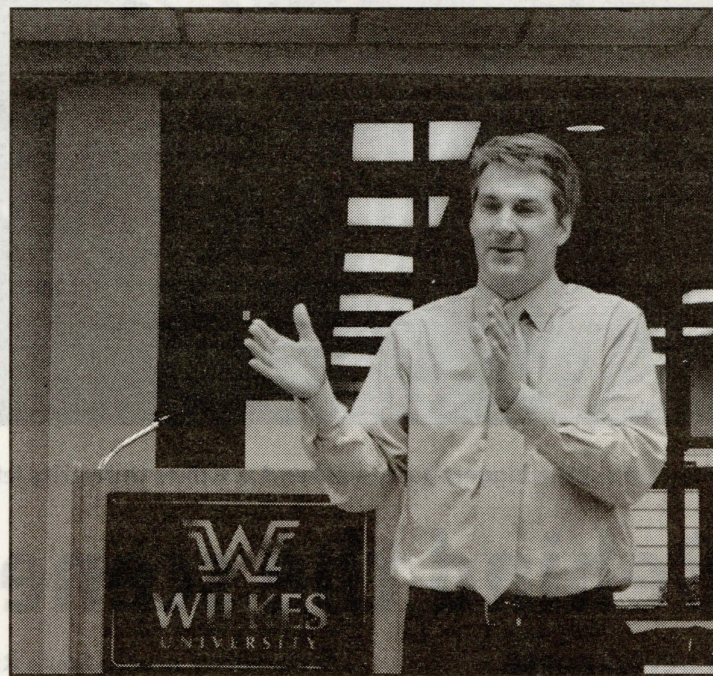
After the last of the three candidates made a presence on campus, students had many opinions on each of the applicants. Although many felt all three had something unique to bring to Wilkes, most favored Gandre and Leahy.

Before hearing Leahy, junior John Sweeney was leaning toward Gandre. However, after meeting Leahy, he was unsure which of the two

he liked more.

"They were both very impressive," Sweeney said. "What I like about Gandre is his approach to student interaction, I think that's something important because the university is about the students; Dr. Leahy is also very impressive with his fundraising abilities and he still seemed to have good intentions with student interaction."

Crista Filipkowski said she is unsure which of the candidates will get the position as she feels all of them have strong qualities. The online survey at, www.wilkes.edu/candidates, can be filled out by students and will be considered in choosing the next president.



The Beacon / Austin Loukas

Dr. Tim Leahy respects Wilkes' value on family.

CONTACT DEVONI NOVAK AT:
devoninovak@thewilkesbeacon.com

BEACON

130 S. River St.
First Floor, Conyngham Hall
Wilkes University
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

PHONE: (570) 408-5903

WEBSITE: www.thewilkesbeacon.com

Editorial Staff 2011-12

Editor-in-Chief: Kirstin Cook
Managing Editor: Michael Klimek
Ad Manager: Brittany Battista
Photo Editor: Laura Preby
Adviser: Loran Lewis

News Editor: Phat Nguyen
Opinion Editor: Carly Yamrus
A&E Editor: Bill Thomas
Life Editor: Christine Lee
Sports Editor: Justin Franiak

Meet the Staff



Nona Poehler
Design Editor

WEEKEND

Continued from Front Page

One team in particular put extra planning into their party: team Rocket Power. Since the off-campus house mates previously lived in the dorms, they have looked forward to hosting their own Winter Weekend party.

Rocket Power kicked-off their party Thursday night with a team-exclusive gathering to get them ready for the big weekend ahead.

The team hosted a house party Friday night that included a DJ, multiple kegs and an ice luge. Saturday morning, kegs and eggs were served followed by the beer Olympics.

A party this big required a lot of work and money. Allegedly, team Rocket Power grew to over 100 people, all of whom paid a \$25 fee that got them a T-shirt, solo cup with unlimited refills, access to the house events and food.

All together the team estimated that \$2,000 was spent on the entire weekend. Although they originally hoped to make a profit, they considered it good budgeting to at least break even.

When asked why they spent so much time and money on this one weekend, Rocket Power team member and junior biology major Jabih Hernandez, said it was all about having a really good party and an even better time.

"Wilkes isn't really known to be a really big party school, so to have one weekend that's dedicated to partying makes you want to go all out," Hernandez said.

Students that celebrate Winter Weekend off-campus as opposed to the events run by SG do so for various reasons. Most of these students claimed that they simply didn't hear much about SG's Winter Weekend.

"I don't really know what that is about," Katz said.

Junior psychology major Ally Gill said she was unfamiliar with SG's Winter Weekend and that she was unable to go anyway because of her job at Red Robin.

"I actually didn't hear anything about it," Gill said. "My freshman year I heard they do games and stuff in the SUB but I didn't go."

Senior psychology major Nick Zinskie said



The Beacon/ Austin Loukas

Empty beer cans and cartons decorated student porches after the recent Winter Weekend festivities. Some say the celebration was a time to drink more than usual.

SG's Winter Weekend was foreign to him as well.

"I don't even know what goes on in Student Government Winter Weekend, I'll be honest," Zinskie said. "I actually found out a few weeks ago that it's some scavenger hunt, I think."

Zinskie hosted his party at The Mines on Friday, Feb. 24. He used the event for his entrepreneurship class, in which he was required to create a project that generated money.

Since Winter Weekend has always been full of memories for him, Zinskie decided to use The Mines event to finish his last year with a bang.

"It's the one thing that we look forward to every year," Zinskie said. "There's not much in this area, let's be honest, besides bars; from the beginning of the year we all know that winter weekend is going to happen, everybody looks forward to it all year."

The party at The Mines included a DJ, live band, food from Maer's BBQ, an appearance from Angelina of Jersey Shore and drinks compliments of Clique Vodka. Students 21 and over from neighboring colleges were invited to attend.

Zinskie believes the official Winter Weekend events don't cater enough to the students. He feels that most students pick a school that allows them to live the college lifestyle. He is concerned that if Wilkes isn't fun, no one will want to come here in the future.

"People are in college and some want to drink and some don't, that's as simple as it is," Zinskie said.

Although some consider drinking to lead to bad behavior, Zinskie believes that the majority of students are responsible when they party. He suggests that different demographics exist among students.

"There are certain demographics that come to college for the college experience off-campus and there are also people who go to school for education, that's how it is," he said.

SG members hold their own opinions on students celebrating Winter Weekend off-campus.

"Realistically the students are going to do what they want to do," said junior P-1 Pharmacy major and SG Winter Weekend coordinator, Kris Rivers. "Students are going to do what they want to do off-campus but we will

continue to offer them the opportunity on-campus to participate in the activities."

As a resident assistant, Ian Foley expressed his concerns for Winter Weekend.

"RAs like myself are committed to making sure our residents have a safe weekend, as they do each weekend of the school year," said Foley, a sophomore political science and communication studies major. "We are a very safe campus and public safety also does a good job at making the campus safe."

However, some would disagree. Zinskie said he frequently calls Public Safety for a safe ride to avoid driving while he's drunk, although he can tell Public Safety does not like giving rides.

"I go to ask for a ride home from the bar and they give me a lot of grief about it," Zinskie said. "I do it every weekend, that's what they're there for."

Public Safety officer Zakk Patterson said Public Safety's main concern with Winter Weekend is vandalism.

"Our main objective is to keep campus safe from any vandalism that may go on," Patterson said.

Patterson also said Public Safety's Safe Ride policies have been revised because too many were taking advantage of the service. Now, students can only use the Safe Ride for an on-campus address.

Whether students decided to celebrate on or off-campus, participants of both groups claimed the weekend was memorable.

Junior mechanical engineering major Sloan Citriello shared his fondest Winter Weekend memory.

"Freshman year I got really drunk, and then I took two Natty Lights and put them in my jeans and went to Rifkin," Citriello said.

"I ordered something and put them on top of the tables and I was drinking a beer in Rifkin. Nobody said anything to me and it was fine, I don't know how I got away with it."

CONTACT DEVONI NOVAK
devoninovak@thewilkesbeacon.com

Navigating for healthy options: a warning to eat better

BY BOB GRABOSKY
Correspondent

A registered dietitian held a presentation on Tuesday, Feb. 21 on the Wilkes campus.

Susan Hurd, of Sodexo Dining Services, said that students should all eat healthy because they will acquire more energy, which will reduce the risk of high-blood pressure and minimize the possibility of a stroke.

There is a rising concern in the United

States about child obesity. Children who eat an enormous amount of chips, candy, white bread and cookies when they're young are at risk of becoming obese when they are adults.

People who are obese are at risk for diabetes, a disease that forces those who have it to limit their diet.

There are about 26 million diabetics in the United States alone.

Guidelines at Wesley Village nurs-

ing home suggested people with diabetes should not have seconds at any meal.

The best way to curb diabetes is to cut out the starchy foods such as chips, diet soda and sugar packed snacks.

Hurd provided examples of foods that should be part of a diabetic diet.

"Eat more whole grain, vegetables, fruits, low-fat or fat free milk, yogurt, cheese, or fortified soy beverages, and vegetable oils," Hurd said.

The dietitian said healthy eating is necessary but it is also important to eat at every meal. Skipping either breakfast, lunch or dinner every day is not a good sign.

"Always eat breakfast, because it is the most important meal of the day," Hurd said.

For more information, see the American Diabetes Association at diabetes.org.

CONTACT ROBERT GRABOSKY AT:
robert.grabosky@wilkes.edu

Benefits to support student injured in accident

BY PHAT NGUYEN
News Editor

Sophomore biology major Natalie Smirne and a friend were driving home from a concert in New York on Route 84. A routine drive turned for the worse when a deer ran across the highway. The driver swerved to go around it, but it was too late as sudden shift caused the car to flip over.

Although the driver was unscathed, the accident left Smirne paralyzed from the chest down.

After being discharged from the hospital, Smirne found she could not go home. Her house was not equipped for her needs. It was not wheelchair-accessible and the doorways were too narrow for her wheelchair.

My parents are working on it. They got a loan so they could get it remodeled, but that won't be until after March, Smirne said.

"Bring Natalie Home" is a series of two benefits being held to raise money for a down-



SMIRNE

stairs bathroom and ramps for her house.

Professional wrestler A.J. Evers, a high school friend of Smirne, is one of the hosts of the other benefit. He wanted to do something for her as soon as he found out what happened.

"It was a really heartbreaking story," said Evers, a junior business major at King's College. "I had this wrestling thing going on so I decided to help out an old friend."

Keystone Wrestling Live features an eight-man single-elimination tournament to name the first ever Keystone Wrestling champion on Saturday, Mar. 3 at Grant's Martial Arts, 404 Main St. in Plymouth starting at 7:30 p.m. The event also features the first ever tag-team championship.

While professional wrestling might turn

away audiences, Evers said the wrestling is a family friendly event.

"We don't want the stereotype where we're an 'over the top' offensive group," he said. "It's basically PG-13 rated version of Smack Down. Bring your kids."

The benefits will help with repaying the loans and medical expenses.

In addition to a show, they plan to have concession stand and a 50/50 raffle to benefit Smirne.

Tickets go on sale Wednesday, Feb. 1, and will be available at a number of locations, as well as at the door the day of the show.

General admission tickets are \$10 while reserved ringside seating is \$12. A.J. Evers can be contacted for ticket information at 570-479-0366.

A Keystone Wrestling Live Facebook page has been created for more information.

Kildare's Irish Pub in Scranton is hosting the other benefit. As of Feb. 26, a benefit for Nata-

lie Smirne's Facebook page has 360 people attending.

The response has Smirne nervous, but very excited.

"I'm kind of nervous," Smirne said. "It's a lot of people. I'm very happy about that."

Smirne believes the success of this event is due to the efforts of her managers at New York and Co, Tracy Capalongo and Breyne Stanko.

Her managers can be contacted for tickets at Breyne Stanko 570-909-8844 and Tracy Capalongo 570-589-1473.

"If it wasn't for them, I don't think this would've really happened so quickly," she said. "They're doing a lot for me. I really appreciate the help."

"There are a lot of people who are helping and they really don't need to be, but they are."

CONTACT PHAT NGUYEN AT:
phatnguyen@thewilkesbeacon.com

E.L. Meyers High School may become the next Hotel Sterling

BY KIRSTIN COOK
Editor-in-Chief

A chorus of the E.L. Meyers High School alma mater ended the night after a special meeting focused on the possibility of closing the school.

The Wilkes-Barre area school council held the meeting to reveal and discuss the findings of a report analyzing the effects of moving the 1000 current Meyers students to the other area schools, GAR, Coughlin and Solomon/Plains.

Current students, alumni, parents and local politicians nearly filled the Coughlin High School auditorium to capacity, speaking out on this possibility of closing Meyers. They brought up concerns that a deserted Meyers High School building would become another Wilkes-Barre eyesore.

"I hope it doesn't become another Hotel Sterling," Wilkes-Barre councilman George Brown said.

Superintendent Jeff Namey said the idea of closing Meyers evolved from discussion on more efficient budgets, which led to the study of consequences of moving Meyer's students from the building.

Namey said the closure would be an attempt to cope with a constantly shrinking budget from cuts to the Pennsylvania Department of Education. He said the goal would be to lessen the burden on taxpayers and benefit students at the same time.

"There are some positives, there are a lot of negatives, and most importantly, there are a

lot of unknowns," Namey said.

Some of the unknowns include the boundary separation on which school students would be redistributed to, and classroom space in the other schools. Supervisor of Curriculum Andrew Kuhl said all the rooms in the remaining three schools are already assigned.



The Beacon/ Austin Loukas

Meyers High School, located on Carey Ave may close due to a lack of enrollment

Kuhl said the study estimated that, with the addition of Meyers students, the class size at the area high schools would average in the high 20s to low 30s, which the crowd responded to with gasps.

"We are fully aware that (those numbers)

are excessive," Kuhl said.

Namey reiterated that these class sizes would be unacceptable, saying he understands the importance of a good student-to-teacher ratio.

"We're very much aware that 30, 32, 33 in a classroom is outrageous, and that is some-

thing that we would not do," Namey said.

After the results of the report were released, the meeting turned into a forum of praise toward the school's value and protest toward its elimination.

Luzerne County Judge William Amesbury

spoke as a Meyers alumni on the school's community and history.

"Meyers is not simply a building located on Carey Avenue, but it is part of the substance and soul and the fiber of those who have walked through its halls," Amesbury said.

Josh Schiowitz, an eighth grader, said it would be much more efficient to hire more competent and capable janitors and grounds keepers to repair maintain the building than relocating students.

Michael O'Donnell, an area attorney and "proud" 2001 Meyers graduate, wanted to know why studies aren't being done on closing the other schools. He held up a thick book of laws that outline Pennsylvania codes for school closures or district reorganization, saying the many Meyers graduates in law enforce those laws.

"Rest assured that the lawyers of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and the families they support will be holding you to the letter of the laws in this book," O'Donnell said.

Along with pride for the school, speakers reflected many questions they had on the possibility of a closure. How would the education of students be affected? Would the building end up boarded up and broken? Would there be issues of increased crime at the other schools? Will there actually be a savings through the closure?

For now, those questions remain unanswered.

CONTACT KIRSTIN COOK AT:
kirstincook@thewilkesbeacon.com

Clean energy debate ignites to drive research at Wilkes

Biased opinions on Marcellus Shale contradict recent scientific studies

BY KIRSTIN COOK

Editor-in-Chief

A debate has ignited over Marcellus Shale drilling and whether the natural gas it produces is as clean as it's claimed to be. The concerns of air emissions from natural gas production have environmental engineering professors and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection calling for more information on the topic.

The conversation has spread to The Institute for Energy and Environmental Research at Wilkes.

Kenneth Klemow, IEER director and Wilkes biology professor, said more research must be conducted on the extent of emissions. He said the IEER is looking for funding to allow Wilkes researchers to conduct independent measurements and studies to shed some scientific light on the concerns.

"There are different perspectives that you have and that's fine, but we need more science, we need more research to be able to figure out what's going on," Klemow said.

The debate is between coal and natural gas, and which is the better energy source for the environment. Natural gas derived from Marcellus Shale has been generally held to be cleaner, but Klemow said there's not enough research for the public to be sure on this.

Marcellus Shale is a rock that is found under approximately 72 percent of the surface of Pennsylvania, according to the IEER. Natural gas, mostly composed of methane, is extracted from the shale to produce energy.

The problem, Klemow cited, is some researchers may have opinions on gas drilling that interfere with their studies.

"It seems that there are some scientists that have almost an anti-drilling agenda, so the question is whether they're letting their preconceived ideas influence their science," Klemow said.

With the IEER, Klemow said the goal is to analyze both sides of the debate and evaluate scientific findings without bias.

"We see the discussion is so fractured," Klemow said. "People are really in favor of this, or people are really against it, and our view is that we see both benefits and drawbacks."

Klemow worked with IEER Coordinator Ned Fetcher to write "Greenhouse Gas Emissions Associated with Marcellus Shale," an essay in which they attempted to surveying the findings – some of them contradictory – of various studies in an unbiased manner.

The paper was updated three times to include newer studies. However, Klemow said



Courtesy of the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research

Gas well locations all over NEPA raise questions about environmental well-being.

the most recent version, released in December 2011, is already out-dated because of how quickly information is being dispersed.

"Now there are a couple new studies that have come out, which this is sort of out of date also, so the science on this is moving very quickly," Klemow said.

A particular study that has served to fuel this acceleration was a project that stated natural gas from shale could emit up to twice the greenhouse gases compared to coal or oil. The study, conducted by a Cornell University team led by Santoro Howarth and focusing on data from the Environmental Protection Agency, contradicted previous statements on natural gas.

"This just created a firestorm of controversy, and a lot of people were very, very upset by Howarth on this," Klemow said. "If you have people in the industry saying we have to use gas and not coal, but then if you have some scientist saying 'no, coal is better than gas,' that's going to have tremendous ramifications."

Fetcher explained the concerns were based on an apparent reversal of the status quo of natural gas. He said methane is often advertised as a cleaner form of energy than coal.

"Methane and natural gas have been sort of touted as the answer to some of our greenhouse gas problems, because presumably when you burn natural gas it's much more efficient than burning coal," Fetcher said.

Many researchers analyzed the same EPA

data that Howarth did and found different conclusions. Howarth issued a rebuttal and fueled a heated and opinionated argument that Klemow said is detrimental to scientific reasoning.

"Science isn't really based on opinion, we come to conclusions based on data," Klemow said. "And if you have a disagreement, the way you resolve the disagreement is not like having an argument with somebody, you go out and you collect new data, or you do new experiments."

He said this recycling of EPA information is one reason researchers need to collect new data.

"If anybody else just does a reanalysis of EPA data, or some of the other data ... I'm going to throw up my hands and just scream and go running out the building," Klemow laughed.

Fetcher said that most of the concern from this data is focused on leakage that occurs during the extraction period.

"When you bring it out of the ground, some of it's going to leak into the atmosphere, and the problem with that is methane is a very powerful greenhouse gas," Fetcher said.

He added that leakage may occur during processes such as shipment and storage, as well.

These leaked emissions can travel by wind to areas beyond the drilling sites, said Prahlad Murthy, associate professor of environmental engineering and earth science. He said

this route of pollutants is one reason people should pay attention to air quality issues even if they do not live near a drilling site.

Murthy has been working with students to study damaging emissions from drilling operations, such as construction of roads to sites and usage of heavy-duty diesel vehicles. He said they found indication that smog can develop from nitrogen oxides emitted from burning natural gas.

"Initial results indicate there is potential for us to have smog related issues in the region," Murthy said.

Despite the significance, Murthy said air issues have often been overlooked.

"Most of the focus has been on water," Murthy said. "Air quality is an issue we need to be thinking about too, especially because, in the case of air, the problem doesn't sit at the source."

Lauren Burge, staff attorney for the Group Against Smog and Pollution, echoed that air quality often "falls under the radar." She said a major issue with air emissions from Marcellus Shale is the long-term effects are unknown.

DEP announced on its website that long-term monitoring studies on natural gas air emissions will begin this year. To spark this process, DEP is requiring 99 natural gas facilities to submit data on their air emissions from 2011.

Burge said these reports, which will be available to the public by the end of the year, are important in planning and prevention by identifying pollutants.

"It's hard to be able to reduce those emissions if we don't know what they are," Burge said.

Also, the reports would help provide the state necessary information to EPA to determine if health standards are being met.

"Right now they don't really have the information they need to report accurately on the Marcellus Shale industry," Burge said.

Klemow feels these reports will be beneficial in eliminating what he calls an information gap on Marcellus Shale air emissions. However, he said the best solution to this lack of information would be scientific field work by scientists, which he hopes the IEER can accomplish.

"If it keeps moving the way that it does, in two or three years we should have a good idea about what's going on, but right now we're still at such an infancy of knowledge," Klemow said. "At Wilkes, we'd like to contribute to that knowledge."

CONTACT KIRSTIN COOK AT:

kirstincook@thewilkesbeacon.com



Lessons learned in laptop shooting

Unusual punishment teaches respect and appreciation

BY CARLY YAMRUS

Opinion Editor

If you have not yet seen the most recent home video gone viral, you probably should. I am talking about the Youtube video entitled, "Facebook Parenting: For the troubled teen."

The video features a fuming dad, Tommy Jordan, sitting in a lawn chair and smoking a cigarette as he reads and responds to a nasty letter that his 15-year-old daughter, Hannah, posted on her Facebook wall. The letter, titled "To my parents," is nothing more than a long list of complaints about the chores that Hannah's parents require her to do. With a lot of attitude of course.

In the letter, Hannah writes things like, "I'm not your damn slave," and "We have a cleaning lady for a reason." She offers a solution to the problem which was, "You could just pay me for all the sh** I do around the house!"

Prior to finding the letter online, Jordan had just spent time and money updating his daughter's laptop. After his response to her Facebook letter, he then took his pistol and shot 6 rounds into her computer.

The video was originally posted for Hannah's friends and the parents of these friends.

While this method of punishment may have been extreme, I firmly believe the dad's spoiled, disrespectful daughter definitely deserved that. Since the video, several opinions have sprung up. Some say that the punishment was ineffective and sent the wrong message. Others congratulate the man for taking a stand and giving his daughter a taste of her own medicine.

In my opinion, that father had every right to be mad at his daughter. After all, her father gave her that laptop and only asked for chores in return. She repaid him by writing nasty messages on her Facebook about her parents, not once, but multiple times! Clearly this girl is a spoiled brat who did not appreciate everything that her parents provided for her.

But was gun use the proper way of solving this particular problem? In this case, sure! Come on, the video was funny. The dad



Image courtesy of Youtube

A North Carolina man shoots his daughters laptop after repeatedly disrespecting him.

didn't threaten to shoot any people, just an inanimate object. Happens every day.

When asked in a Question and Answer why Jordan had used a gun to destroy the laptop, he responded, "Because that was what I promised her two months ago. If I'd promised to use a hammer, or promised to give it to someone else, then that's what I'd have done."

No, I don't "like" guns, but they exist, and they are legal in some states. If shooting animals is okay, then shooting laptops is definitely fine.

The point of the laptop shooting was to prove a point. Jordan gave his daughter a laptop, and he has every right to take it away if she disrespects him, (which she did several times.) It wasn't necessarily good or bad parenting; it was permanent fix to a reoccurring problem. This doesn't mean we should solve all problems with guns, I just don't think shooting a computer did any psychological damage on this man's daughter.

Yes, there were definitely better ways of disposing of the laptop. He could have donated it to someone more deserving or appreciative. But in the end, it was his laptop to do what he pleased. The overall message was a good one. I'm sure Hannah will remember this punishment and think twice be-

fore bashing her parents who give her everything. I highly doubt that she will "fear" her father for using his gun on something that wasn't moving. He could have easily used a hammer, a shovel, a rock, or a bathtub to ruin the computer.

There are too many children who have this "entitlement" mind set, as if their parents are obligated to give them a computer, an iPhone, a television, etc. It is perfectly fine for a teenager to have to do a few chores in return for all these nice material items that are handed to them. Most parents would be livid if their child was that unappreciative! Kids deserve to be punished, especially if that kid has an attitude and continuously fails to comply with their parent's rules. Nowhere in this video was the child harmed in any way. There may have been "better" ways of solving the issue, but hey, it made a good video. Hopefully Hannah learned a lesson in respect and appreciation.

And if you were wondering what Hannah had to say about it, here was her reply: "I was mad, but you would be too. I got over it. I'm not, like, scarred for life."

CONTACT CARLY YAMRUS AT:

carly.yamrus@thewilkesbeacon.com

BEACON POLL

The Beacon poll is unscientific and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on the Wilkes campus. These poll results are based on 10 responses.

Last week's question:

Which Winter Weekend activities, if any, are you participating in?

- Attending off-campus parties - 60%
- Visiting area bars - 30%
- I will not be participating - 20%
- Competing on a Student Gov't sponsored team - 10%
- Watching Student Gov't sponsored campus events - 0%

This week The Beacon asks:

What are you doing over Spring Break?

- Going on vacation
- Staying on campus
- Going home
- Alternate Spring Break
- I don't know

Cast your vote online at:

www.thewilkesbeacon.com

SPEAK UP!

The Beacon wants to hear your voice.

Send your name, major, year and opinion to: carlyyamrus@thewilkesbeacon.com

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

Food regulation gone too far

Inspector takes a pre-schooler's lunch

BY LYNDIE YAMRUS
Assistant Opinion Editor

Within the last few years, health news articles regarding childhood obesity have increased tremendously. The problem is now being referred to as a nationwide epidemic.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, childhood obesity has more than tripled in the past 30 years, and by 2008, more than one third of children and adolescents were overweight or obese, and the numbers are growing.

It is without a doubt true that American children are growing in size. With more than 17 percent of children and adolescents being overweight or obese in the US, restrictions are an absolute must. The government had the right idea in 2004, passing the Prevention of Childhood Obesity Act that aimed to coordinate federal policies and activities in hopes of lowering obesity in homes, schools and in the community, according to congress. Some states chose to advance with their own restrictions such as required physical education for grades K-12 and the prohibition of sugar-sweetened drinks in vending machines. These restrictions and requirements are perfectly acceptable, and as unappealing as gym class in the middle of the day may sound, it's necessary.

But how much is too much?

A preschooler at West Hoke Elementary School was recently forced by a state inspector to put her home-packed lunch away and eat a school-provided meal because her lunch did not meet United States Department of Agriculture standards. That day, the four-year-old girl's mother had packed her a turkey and cheese sandwich, a banana, a bag of chips, and apple juice: a perfectly reasonable meal.

When I was young, I vaguely remember eating junk foods like Fruit Roll-Ups, Gushers, and Smartfood popcorn. The girl's

lunchbox had most of the essentials, including meat, dairy, fruit, and grains. They must have denied the meal due to the lack of vegetables and substitution of the salty potato chips.

The mother of the child explained that the girl was a picky eater, and vegetables were never included in her lunch because she ensures that her child gets them at home.

Picky four year olds don't care about national food guidelines, obviously.

To make matters worse, the girl was then given a school lunch in which she ate only three chicken nuggets and ignored the rest of the food on the tray out of pickiness.

Let's talk about this. Are three chicken nuggets really more nutritious than the home-packed lunch described in this article? And preschool caretakers actually sat around and watched this young girl avoid her lunch?

They couldn't have just given it back to her and advised her mother to pack more acceptable lunches in the future? Nutritionally speaking, 60 percent of a chicken nugget is fat, whereas

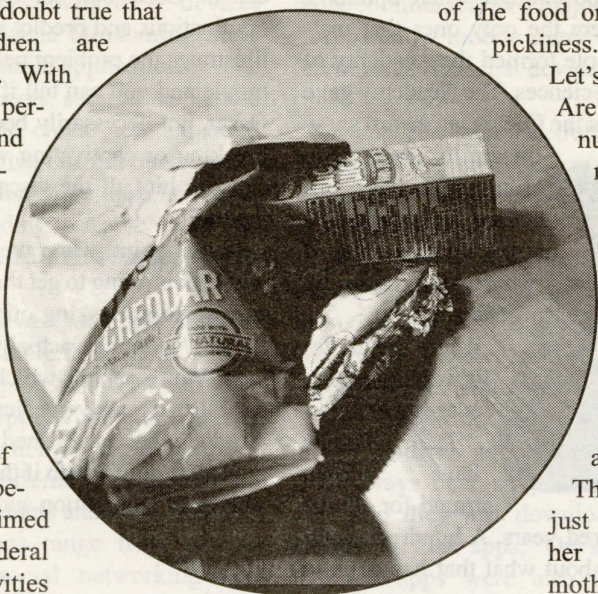
a turkey and cheese sandwich is around 40 percent, according to various nutrition fact websites. Plus, chicken nuggets are deep fried! Talk about healthy!

With this, West Hoke Elementary mandated that the mother pay for the school meal forced upon her child.

Now I know if I were the parent in this situation, I would be extremely bothered by this. When it comes to childhood obesity in America, I am all for moderate food regulations and the addition of daily physical activity in schools. However, lunch box searching and seizing just crosses the line completely, especially when it comes to preschoolers. They're three and four years old. They don't understand.

Photo: The Beacon/Laura Preby

CONTACT LYNDIE YAMRUS AT:
lyndie.yamrus@wilkes.edu



A preschoolers lunch was confiscated because it was deemed "unhealthy". The meal was replaced with an unhealthy alternative.

Shippensburg U offers Plan B

BY DEVONI NOVAK
Assistant News Editor

I disagree with those who criticize Shippensburg University for offering Plan B in a vending machine. College is a time of experimentation and people sometimes get a little crazy. As young adults, students often don't think of the consequence until it is staring them straight in the face. But why should someone's entire life change because of a single mistake? I think Shippensburg offering this second chance to their students is not only acceptable but responsible.

If a nurse were to simply hand the pill over, I feel that no one would think negatively about it. However, because it is offered in a vending machine, the public has this nasty image that they now correlate with Shippensburg University. I would like to clarify the cheap picture many have of vending machines all over Shippensburg's campus where students can buy a Coke, a snickers and, if needed, the morning after pill. In fact, there is only one vending machine that sells Plan B at Shippensburg, and it is located in a private room inside the university's health center.

In my opinion, the health center using a vending machine to distribute Plan B preserves the discretion of students. Instead of having to ask a nurse, which could be embarrassing, a student can inconspicuously purchase the drug. Jimmy Chadwick, an entrepreneurship major who graduated this past December from Shippensburg believes the machine is a good idea.

"I think the machine is a great way to allow those in need of Plan B to buy it more discreetly and maintain privacy," Chadwick said.

According to ibtimes.com, the morning

after pill can be legally obtained at any pharmacy without a prescription as long as the purchaser is 17 years or older. Because the machine is offered in the university's health center, only students have access and according to their latest records, all students enrolled at Shippensburg are 17 and over. So why shouldn't the university be able to supply the morning after pill to their students?

Campus health care facilities are able to administer other medications such as antibiotics which need a prescription. If campus health centers are able to provide prescription drugs, then they should be able to provide medications that don't call for a prescription as well. It's just common sense.

The FDA has questioned whether or not proper medical advisory has been given to those who have purchased the pill at Shippensburg. In my opinion, this argument is weak because any purchase of Plan B comes with medical information in the package.

Also, the machine is located in the health center where medical aids are always on duty. Not only does information come with each purchase, but any student who wishes to seek further advice is in the proper place to do so as soon as the pill reaches their hands.

Providing Plan B in their health center's vending machine does not encourage unsafe sex but instead allows students to make responsible choices according to their own beliefs. The same machine also provides condoms and pregnancy tests so students are not swayed by any one products availability. The University is merely making over the counter products more easily available to their sexually active students.

CONTACT DEVONI NOVAK AT:
devoni.novak@thewilkesbeacon.com



The Beacon/Laura Preby

A vending machine at Shippensburg discreetly dispenses Plan B, condoms and pregnancy tests to students.

Oscars give a narrow minded view of greatness

BY BILL THOMAS

Arts and Entertainment Editor

There's no such thing as a bad movie, only a bad audience.

That may seem a strange thing to say from someone who writes movie reviews, but, it's how I feel. My reviews are my opinions, nothing more. I don't pretend to speak for everyone, nor do I have the audacity to think my opinions are the "right" ones. In any case, I'd like to get say something else that may seem strange coming from someone like me, and that's this: I hate the Oscars.

What's wrong with the Oscars? You mean, besides the fact that they amount to little more than a decadent, masturbatory, self-congratulating, backwards-thinking sham wherein nominations and wins are awarded more because of industry politics than legitimate achievements? You mean besides their focus being more on maintaining the status quo and playing favorites with already-established stars -- many whom are long past the point of true relevance -- than on pushing the boundaries of the medium and honoring the hungry young talents on the front lines, who are busting their asses trying to expand and explore new possibilities in storytelling? You mean, besides all that?

Well, how about this?

The Oscars are bad for cinema.

Period.

No, on second thought, hold the "period." Because the Oscars aren't just bad for cinema specifically; they're bad for art and entertainment in general. On a broader scale, I'll even argue that they're bad for society. Don't laugh, I'm serious.

Now, we can argue all day long about who deserves to win an award and who doesn't, or about who got snubbed and why. The truth is it doesn't really matter. It's all opinion. The fact that it's all opinion, however, reveals a deeper problem with the Oscars, and that's that they are

built primarily on the idea that some people's opinions are more valid than anyone else's.

See, here's the thing: art and entertainment are subjective. That's the way it is and that's the way it should be. "Good" and "bad" are meaningless words, the definitions of each relative to the worldviews of individual people. Simply put, different people have different tastes. Those with similar tastes may gravitate towards each other and form bonds based on shared opinions. Friendships are born.

Somewhere along the lines, though, some people with shared opinions got together and decided that a friendship based on common tastes wasn't good enough. Their opinions, they decided, were the only ones that mattered. Those people formed the Academy of Arts and Sciences. The Academy gave us the Oscars, an award show meant to honor those films that best embodied the Academy's narrow-minded ideal of what distinguishes excellence.

We've been deferring to them ever since.

The Oscars have been around for almost a hundred years. A hundred years! Think about what that has done to our cultural consciousness, to the

cinematic zeitgeist. For almost a century, the Oscars have essentially billed themselves as America's guide to the best filmmaking on the planet. We look to them to tell us what's good, and, by association, what's bad.

The Oscars are a great, big homogenizing machine, dictating people's tastes to them. Modern society has developed a conventional, elemental understanding of what constitutes quality based on what we're told is worthy of Academy recognition. We all know that Katharine Hepburn was a brilliant actress, or that John Ford was a genius director. We know this because the Oscars said so.

The fact that you can watch a movie and call it "Oscar-bait" or look at the Academy nominations and predict who is going to win illustrates the problem perfectly. You watch a movie and you can tell if it's going to get an Oscar, not necessarily because it's a groundbreaking or captivating work of art, but because it hits all the Oscar criterion right on the head.

At this point, when we ask ourselves who we think is going to get the "Best Picture" Oscar, we're not asking ourselves which "Best Picture" nominee actually is the best of the best. We're asking which one fits the long-established, easily-predictable model that the Academy has established as necessary for all movies to conform to if they are to be deemed worthy of recognition and acclaim.

CONTACT BILL THOMAS AT:

billthomas@thewilkesbeacon.com

Benefits of being short during possible zombie apocalypse

BY CATHRYN FREAR

Staff Writer

Growing up, I lived in a house of tall people, with their average height being just below six feet tall. There were setbacks to this, due to my height being five-foot-two. I had a hard time reaching and often even seeing things which were kept on top of the refrigerator or in the top two shelves of cabinets.

It seemed unfair that I was so unlike my family. Our extended family still thinks I am between five and eight years younger than I am solely based on my height, as they had all been this tall by fourth grade or so. They continually tell me, "Don't worry about it, Chatti. You'll be fine. You're still growing!" I am 23-years-old. Growth outlook: not so good.

Luckily, with age comes wisdom. A better understanding of the world and your place

in it. Putting that into perspective has made being short a gift. Mostly due to the realization we will outlive all of you tall people.

Within the next year or so, there will likely be many, many deaths due to Armageddon being upon us. No, it has nothing to do with the Bible or the Mayan calendar; those are just cover-ups for the real impending problem: the zombie apocalypse. During this zombie takeover, short people will be less likely to die. Bare with me. There are reasons. They are real.

Short people have greater agility because, while our proportions may be the same as a tall person, we have less length to actually move. This means we can more easily dodge brain-consumption attempts. Especially is these are going to be the slow-moving zombies of "Night of the Living Dead," which, for the record, are so much scarier than fast-moving zombies.

We short folks are also more likely to be

able to use the agility for a longer period of time as the instance of health ailments such as heart disease and cancer are found less in short people. Issues with many other organs occurs less in short people, as well, because our bodies are shorter and our cell reproduction can be used in more useful places, like our livers and kidneys, which both lead to healthier blood, which leads to healthier everything else. It's a cycle of awesome, you guys.

The planet will also last longer because we need less to live. Namely, less food, water, our clothes require less cloth, and so on. Because of our needs being quantitatively less than tall people, our carbon footprints are also lower. If everyone were shorter, we would use less fossil fuel because there would be less energy used for the supplies humans need. Tall people: the real cause of climate change.

In addition and possibly most in direct re-

lation to the fast-approaching zombie apocalypse is our tininess gives us more options in the places-to-hide department. I can, if necessary, fit inside of a dryer or in the cupboard underneath a sink. Point made there, I think.

The only setback? It's much easier for our bodies to become unhealthy because the things we consume affect us greater than tall people. What does this mean? Mostly it means it's much easier for a short person to get fat, which cancels out all of the aforementioned benefits. So it's probably best you start to get yourself fit, now, short people.

So, the next time someone picks on you for needing to stand on that rickety chair or that squeaky footstool—I'm talking to you, Farley Library—let it slide. They'll be dead soon, anyway.

CATHRYN FREAR AT:

cathryn.frear@wilkes.edu

FEBRUARY 28, 2012

CONTACT EDITOR: christinelee@thewilkesbeacon.com

Mobile apps a popular means of entertainment

BY REBECCA BOLUS
Assistant Life Editor

The world of technology speeds ahead minute by minute. In this world of technology, smart phones have turned into more than just a means of communication, but also a source for entertainment and information.

Everywhere you look, people are glued to their smart phones. With these devices comes the trend that is blossoming more than ever before: mobile applications.

Mobile app producers, such as Apple and Android, continue to create new apps and are constantly updating current ones.

Every day more and more apps are being downloaded. According to Apple's website, Apple is nearing its 25 billionth app download.

The app market is vast for Apple and Android. Apple offers more than 500,000 apps and Android offers more than 400,000.

These immense options include free and paid apps. Apps are not just for cellular devices either and are offered by products such as iPads, Android tablets and even Kindles.

Categories of apps range from games, news, shopping, social networking and much more.

So what is it about these apps that attract mobile device users?

Apple's app store states on their website in bold lettering that there are apps "for work, play, and everything in between."

After asking several students why they love mobile devices that provide apps, they adhered to Apple's statement from their website.

"Apps take a plain phone and turn it into everything," said Anthony Bartoli, sophomore communications major.

Apps allow mobile users to do many different tasks from that device anywhere, anytime.

An app can turn a cellular device into a flashlight or a barcode scanner. It can help you figure out the name of a song when you're stumped.

"Apps sort of transform my phone into what I want and what I need. They're easy to install and once I download an app, I'm curious as to what else is out there," said Stephanie Orr, sophomore education major.

Apps appear to be a part of socializing among students, as well.

"I always hear people talking about the new app they just downloaded or people comparing their apps," Orr said.

Sports apps were also a very popular choice among students.

"My favorite app is the ESPN app because I can check scores of any game right from

my phone," said Steve Oprendeck, freshman, undeclared major.

Overall, students surveyed about their favorite apps mentioned mainly social networking ones, such as Facebook and Twitter.






"I like that I don't have to go on the computer to update my Facebook or Twitter since I have the apps for them; It's just convenient," said Nicole Kelly, junior p1 pharmacy major.

Along with the ability to check Facebook and scores of sports games, apps provide a world of gaming and music entertainment. Popular game apps among the Wilkes students surveyed, are Temple Run and Scramble with Friends. For music, Pandora radio is the most popular among music streaming apps.

Apps have changed the way phones are being used entirely. This popular trend attracts students through its easy installation, being a convenient source for news and information, and its offerings of many different games.

Who knows where the app market will take us in the future? The opportunities seem to be endless.

Top Free Apps

1.  **Move the Box**
Games
View in iTunes ▶
2.  **Draw Something Fre...**
Games
View in iTunes ▶
3.  **Blood & Glory**
Games
View in iTunes ▶
4.  **Police Chase Smash**
Games
View in iTunes ▶
5.  **Temple Run**
Games
View in iTunes ▶

Courtesy of Apple.com

Pictured are the most-downloaded free apps on the Apple app store. The top apps among students are social media apps.

Ferrets, cockroaches, other wild inhabitants of Bio Department

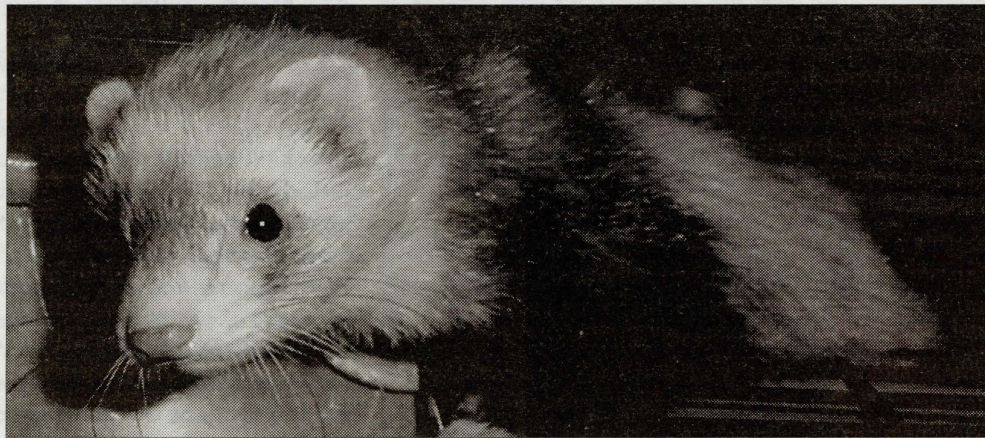
BY CHRISTINE LEE
Life Editor

Walk through around any room in the Biology department on the third floor of Stark Learning Center and one is likely to encounter a critter wandering around in a tank, cage or on its own through a classroom or lab.

Most of these animals are used for scientific research involving undergraduates. Research Associate Andrew Bartlow has been doing research in the plant-animal interactions lab for several years and highlights several research projects the department has undergone that involve small animals.

One project done two years ago involved research on patterns of seed dispersal, focusing on how rodents disperse seeds and how it affects oak forest regeneration that involved grey Squirrels at Kirby Park.

The study looked at the cache recovery



Courtesy of Dr. William Terzaghi

Dana (above) and Rana were familiar sights to those who had a lab with Dr. Terzaghi. Sadly, both ferrets have passed away. Terzaghi also keeps Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches.

behavior of grey squirrels, or grey squirrel behavior around burying acorns in the ground for later use. The question posed was whether grey squirrels have priority over

their caches. Bartlow said part of the experiment involved live trapping and marking Eastern Grey Squirrels.

"That's what I did for a month, just trapped

squirrels everyday and marked them, painted them up," Bartlow said. "We had at least four or five people on that project and that's what we did for one summer. That was fun."

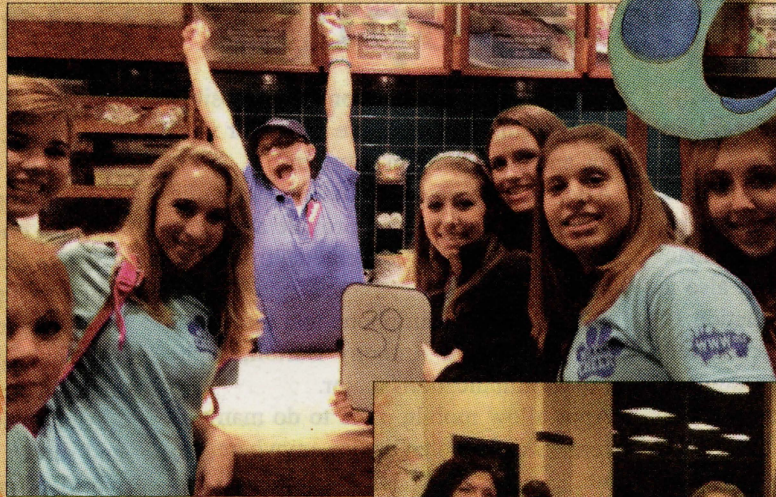
Passive integrated transponder tags, small electronic devices implanted into an animal's skin used to track movement, were placed in acorns and presented to the squirrels and the team observed the squirrels burying the acorns, making sure they were in the ground with the tracking tags.

"We had two types of animals: animals that were left in the park as we monitored the caches and squirrels that were taken to Dr. (Mike) Steele's house as we monitored the caches," Bartlow said.

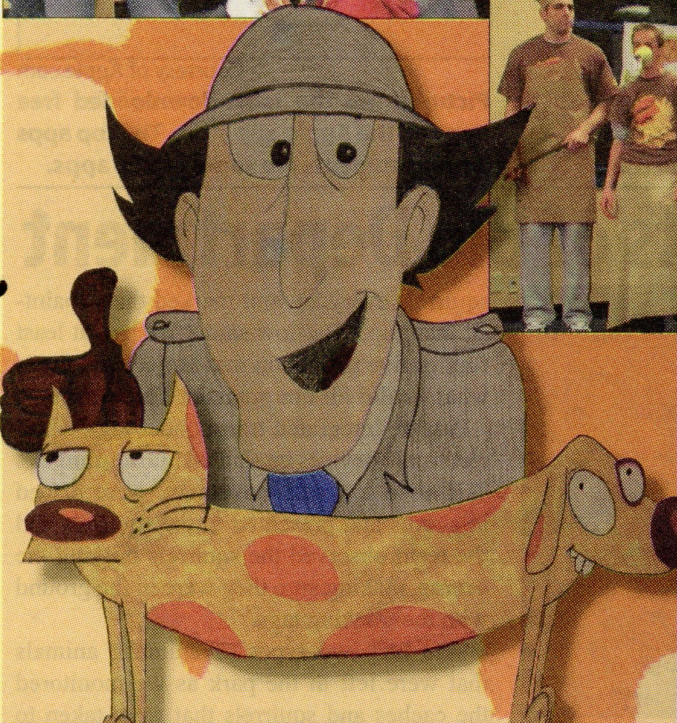
Bartlow explained that the caches of squirrels that stayed in the park had acorns that

SEE ANIMALS, PAGE 12

Winter Weekend 2012



First place: angry beavers
second place: blue's clues
third place: hey arnold



Photos: Courtesy of Jason Benjamin, Meribeth Derkach and The Beacon/Dan Lykens

Winter Weekend culminated the weekend of Feb. 24-25. Teams included members of the Ultimate Frisbee Team, Cheerleaders, Student Government, History Club and Chemistry Club. The winning team of Angry Beavers was composed of members of the Ultimate Frisbee Team. Blue's Clues was composed of cheerleaders and Hey Arnold had members of the History Club as its members. Events included athletics in UCOM, a scavenger hunt and a mascot competition. The winning team of Angry Beavers will have its name engraved on a plaque outside the Student Government office.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY EVENTS MARCH IN THROUGHOUT THE MONTH

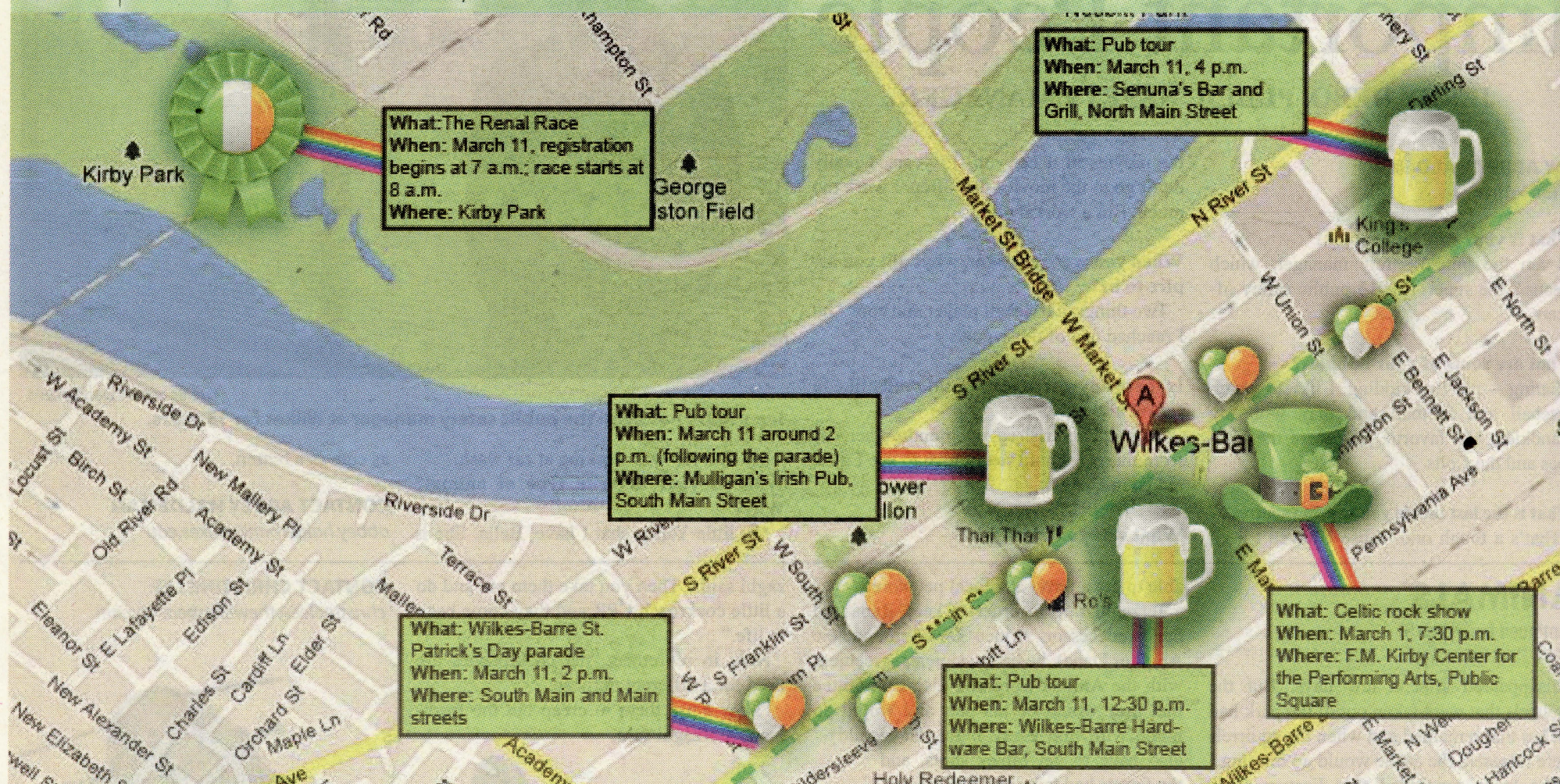


Photo Illustration: Nona Poehler

St. Patrick's Day celebrations will take place around Wilkes-Barre leading up to the March 11 parade on South Main and Main streets. Special Events Coordinator Lore Majikes said the parade usually draws from 10,000 to 15,000 people every year. Throughout March there are celebrations taking place all over NEPA, such as Scranton.

BY KIRSTIN COOK
Editor-in-Chief

Irish pride in the Wilkes-Barre area has expanded St. Patrick's Day celebrations from more than just one day.

Butch Modzelewski, self-proclaimed Polish bagpiper, said it's more like "St. Patrick's month." The Wyoming Valley Pipe and Drum band, which Modzelewski plays the bagpipes for, will be performing throughout the month at area pubs, as well as the Wilkes-Barre and Scranton parades.

Modzelewski said the crowds love to come out for the band's unique bagpipe sound and Irish outfits. The audience members aren't the only ones that enjoy the show.

"We put a lot of fun into our performances ... we have a ball," Modzelewski said.

He said their signature song, "Five Times Fast," really gets the crowd going. The song starts out slow but then speeds up, resulting in an upbeat performance that

has the bagpipers jumping and dancing and the crowd clapping.

"People really get into that," Modzelewski said. "It draws a nice crowd; people love it."

The Wyoming Valley Pipe and Drum band has been around for four years, and they've played in the Wilkes-Barre parade every year.

This year's parade will take place 2 p.m. Sunday, March 11, along South Main and Main Streets. Lore Majikes, special events coordinator for Wilkes-Barre, organized the parade and said it gives everyone a chance to celebrate the Irish culture regardless of their heritage.

"Everyone has a little Irish in them that day," Majikes said.

She said all of the Irish clans are represented in the parade.

"They all want to be out there to celebrate their pride," Majikes said.

The parade will include many musical performances, from the Wyoming Valley Pipe and Drum band to The Imaginary

Boys. Majikes said there are a lot of young adult performers that would appeal to college students.

The Wilkes-Barre St. Patrick's Day parade draws an estimate of 10,000 to 15,000 attendees, Majikes said.

"Our parades are always very popular."

She added that they don't try to compete with the Scranton parade, which will take place noon on Saturday, March 1. She said the relatively smaller Wilkes-Barre parade gives everyone good views of the event.

Majikes said the parade has such a good turnout because it's something different to do in the springtime.

"I think people are just looking for something different to do," Majikes said. "People are anxious to get outside and do something different."

A new addition to the parade events is The Renal Race, which is a one-mile fun run to raise funds for The Kidney Cancer Association. Registration will begin at Kirby Park at 7 a.m., with the race starting at 8:30.

The parade and related activities are only a part of the St. Patrick's day plans for the area. "St. Patrick's month" begins with Gaelic Storm, a Celtic rock show at F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts at 7:30 p.m. on March 1, which are \$22 for balcony seating and \$32 for orchestra and mezzanine seating. According to kirbycenter.org, the band plays traditional music of Ireland with a modern American rock and pop twist.

The band will be visiting the Wilkes-Barre Hardware Bar at 12:30 prior to the Wilkes-Barre parade on March 11, and after the parade will stop at Mulligan's Irish Pub, Senuna's Bar and Grill, Outsiders Saloon and more.

To continue the March St. Patrick's festivities, the Wyoming Valley Pipe and Drum band is holding several pub tours throughout the month. More details on their events can be found at <http://wyomingvalleypipeanddrum.com>.

CONTACT KIRSTIN COOK
kirstincook@thewilkesbeacon.com

Unimportant Questions with Important People

JERRY REBO, PUBLIC SAFETY MANAGER

BY ABBEY HALDEMAN
Staff Writer

What is your role on campus?

I am the public safety manager, which means I the supervisor 15 public safety officers.

What are some of your hobbies?

Eating -- no, I'm kidding. I like to watch baseball and football and play with my grandkids. My favorite teams are the Yankees and the Colts

What is the last movie you saw in theatres?

That's a tough one 'cause I haven't been

the movies in, I bet you, 15 years. I really don't go to the movies that often. I work too much. I'm a workaholic.

When you were younger, what did you aspire to be?

Two things, a baseball player and cop. And I reached one of those goals.

Is there anywhere you would really like to travel and why?

Ireland. I am Irish so, my grandmother was from there. I would really love to see Emerald Island.

What was your first job?

able to get a ferret at a local pet store.

Terzaghi said in order to keep Rana and her predecessor, Prince Deoxyribonucleic Acid (or Dana), he had to sign an agreement with the Animal Care and Use Committee that they would be his pets and would go home with him every night. He would also have to get rabies shots, and the ferrets had to be confined to one part of Stark.

He said most students liked the ferret mascots and was surprised by the number of students who had ferrets and liked the animals.

"About 90 percent positive, 5 percent neutral and 5 percent hated them," Terzaghi said.

"I had quite a few girls over the years that said 'I miss my ferret, can I pet him?'"

Terzaghi said ferrets have to be trained about not biting and are playful and cat-like, investigating things and socializing with people and other animals on their terms.

"In a Biology department you ought to have living things running around, it's fun and it's something to talk about," Terzaghi said.

Terzaghi originally got a colony of Madagascar hissing cockroaches for what he calls "cockroach death matches" during Pre-Med Day.

"I would have two different varieties of cockroaches and we'd put them both in a container with dry ice and saw which keeled over first," Ter-



The Beacon / Dan Lykens

Jerry Rebo has been the public safety manager at Wilkes for 15 years.

My first job was working at car wash.

What is your favorite type of animal? Why?

My little Yorkie that I have, Bella. She is

as cute as a button.

CONTACT ABBEY HALDEMAN
abbey.haldeman@wilkes.edu

ANIMALS

Continued from Page 9

disappeared after a few days. But the squirrels that were taken out of the park had caches that remained and when the squirrels were released, the cache would go missing.

The team concluded that Eastern Grey Squirrels have priority over their caches with no pilfering.

Bartlow said small mammal trappings of mice, chipmunks and voles are common in the department. The department also monitors animals indirectly by placing seeds and monitoring how the animals in the wild interact with the seeds.

He explained that small animals are useful in research because they show best how species of plants and animals interact.

Students that have had a laboratory with professor of biology Dr. William Terzaghi will no doubt be familiar with the two ferret mascots that frequented the lab or the Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches that inhabit his office.

Terzaghi got Princess Ribonucleic Acid (or Rana) after students working in the lab over the summer asked for a lab mascot. A student noticed a ferret that was up for adoption at the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Terzaghi said he had to work with Dean of the College of Science and Engineering Dr. Dale Bruns and biology department chair Dr. Mike Steele to get approval. But by the time approval was granted the ferret at the SPCA had been adopted but Terzaghi was

zaghi said. "Then you take them out and do a little cockroach CPR and they come back to life."

Now in retirement, the cockroaches are used for a different purpose.

"Now I use them to creep out the freshman," Terzaghi said.

CONTACT CHRISTINE LEE
christinelee@thewilkesbeacon.com



Courtesy of Milana Gregoriev

Anti-Flag's punk rock politics



Courtesy of Cory Morton

Touring in support of a new album, Anti-Flag's W-B show will offer fans free music.

BY BILL THOMAS

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Since the 1997 release of Anti-Flag's debut album "Die for the Government," the Pittsburgh-based punk group has gained a reputation for being a "political band," openly voicing their support for groups such as Amnesty International and Greenpeace.

Likewise, the band has performed everywhere from the steps of the Minnesota State Capitol, in opposition of the 2008 Republican National Convention, to the middle of New York City, in support of the Occupy Wall Street protests.

Still, guitarist Chris Head insists that, regardless of the causes the band support, the message at the heart of Anti-Flag is a relatively simple one.

"Whether it's just going to school and hearing someone throw homophobic speech around or whether it's going to your job and your boss is an asshole but you feel like you can't say anything to him because he's your boss," Head said. "With our songs, what we try to do is give people some solace."

Fifteen years after "Die for the Government," Head and the others members of Anti-Flag — singer-guitarist Justin Sane, bassist Chris #2 and drummer Pat Thetic — are set to release their 15th full-length studio album. Titled "The General Strike," it is due out Tuesday, March 20.

Before that, however, the band will perform at Wilkes-Barre's Redwood Art Space on Saturday, March 10, supported by The Flatliners and Have Nots.

Talking about "The General Strike," Head

explained that, following Anti-Flag's departure from major label RCA Records and the release of their 2009 album "The People or the Gun" on independent label SideOneDummy Records, the members of the band members found themselves contemplating just what defines Anti-Flag.

"Maybe there are others who have a similar agenda that we do, but I don't think many people approach that in a fashion similar to the way Anti-Flag does. Whether for better or worse, with Anti-Flag you know you're going to be getting a band that is writing songs that are standing up to racism, sexism and homophobia," Head said.

"We felt like, in 2012, there aren't really any bands that sound like Anti-Flag so let's just be confident and make the best-sounding Anti-Flag record we can make. That's what 'The General Strike' is."

To give fans a taste of "what 'The General Strike' is," everyone who attends any of the Redwood show will receive a free download card featuring three songs from the album as well as two exclusive unreleased tracks.

"When we picked the songs that we thought were right for the record, we were left with a few more," Head explained. "We figured the basis of the band is the live show and the people who come out to the live show. So why not reward them with these extra songs?"

Admission for the Redwood Art Space concert on Saturday, March 10, is \$15. Doors open at 7 p.m. For more information, visit anti-flag.com or redwoodartspace.tumblr.com.

CONTACT BILL THOMAS AT:

billthomas@thewilkesbeacon.com

'Human Floor' breaks record but not bones

BY BILL THOMAS

Arts & Entertainment Editor

When most folks say "people walk all over me," it's a bad thing. When Pete Tino says that, it's a way of life.

Pete Tino, you see, is "The Human Floor."

What does that mean? Well, in 2010, at the Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee On Delaware, Tino set a world record by having 21 women, weighing a cumulative total of 3,531 pounds, stand on his torso, arms, legs and even his face for 10 seconds. The achievement was recorded by the Record Holders Republic.

"Everybody asks me if I meditate when I do this stuff, and I say 'No. I just do what I do.' I don't put any thought into it," Tino remarked. "If I think I can do it, I can do it. That's all there is to it."

On Saturday, March 3, Tino will return to NEPA for a show at Diane's Deli & Internet Café in Pittston. In between performances from local bands Our Ashes Remain, One Red X, Psycho 38 and Snow Falling on Cedars, Tino will entertain audience members with an assortment of freakish feats from his bag of tricks, which includes eating and breathing fire, rolling around in piles of broken glass and being sandwiched between beds of nails.

Tino points out that, unlike many sideshow performers, he doesn't use assistants. The people he gets to throw darts at his chest and swing sledgehammers at those cinder blocks stacked on his stomach aren't trained professionals. They're average, unsuspecting people plucked from the audience.

In addition to whatever else he has in store for those who check out the Diane's Deli show, Tino will also try to break his record. As always, he's looking for the audience to get involved.

Specifically, Tino hopes to get at least 24 girls to come and stand on him, hoping for a combined weight of 4,000 pounds, or two tons.

Strange as Tino's act may seem, his abilities have landed him TV appearances on such shows as "America's Got Talent" and "The Tyra Banks Show" among others. Despite pushing his body to the very limit literally hundreds of times throughout his life, though, Tino said he's never been seriously injured.

"This one time, I was on a bed of nails with two girls standing on top of me. I had my arms outstretched and I had my bracing onto something. One of the girls went to get off me and she stepped right on my arm. It pushed my elbow in," he said. "It felt a little funny at the time, but the next morning I couldn't move my arm. I thought I broke it, but it was OK. I got lucky."

Admission for the show at Diane's Deli in Pittston is \$5. The event starts at 9 p.m. For more information, call 570-602-5200 or look for "The Human Floor" on Facebook.

Watch videos of "The Human Floor" in action at:
www.thewilkesbeacon.com

CONTACT BILL THOMAS AT:

billthomas@thewilkesbeacon.com



Courtesy of Pete Tino

Pete "The Human Floor" Tino is inviting the ladies of NEPA to be a part of his record-breaking attempt to withstand two tons on his face, torso and extremities.

NEPA filmmaker seeks funding for 'smoking hot' new project

BY BILL THOMAS

Arts & Entertainment Editor

For NEPA-based filmmaker Mitch Csanadi, it's all about the characters. The more unique, colorful or over-the-top, the better.

Since founding Dirt Productions in 2005 alongside producer Dan Maher, Csanadi has written and directed a number of short horror films and one feature. All have been lensed in NEPA, throughout the Lehigh Valley, and all have showcased their fair share of oddball personalities.

The characters that have captured Csanadi's imagination as of late, however, have not been works of fiction.

"Everything from a gnarly 85-year-old dude in a wheelchair who orders his wife around while she's cooking all this barbecue at a competition to a team of really hot, young, blonde girls from Long Island who do it and win," Csanadi said, describing some of the personalities that have inspired his latest project: an in-depth, feature-length documentary about competitive barbecue called "American Smoke."

"There are so many interesting characters out there. It really writes itself. I was like 'We have to capture this. This is a chunk of America. We've got to get this scene.' It's a scene I never even knew existed four years ago."

Four years ago. That's when Csanadi got bit



Courtesy of Mitch Csanadi

"American Smoke" allows Csanadi to combine his passions for film and barbecue.

by the barbecue bug and began competing. He is now part of two teams, Zombie Barbecue and Smokerhead Barbecue, which make the rounds in the East Coast competition circuit.

The other bug that bit Csanadi, the one that bit the hardest and whose grip has held the longest, is the filmmaking bug. Talking about his adolescence, Csanadi describes himself growing up as "just a little punk, renting a VHS camcorder from West Coast Video down the street and shooting backyard horror movies."

Hold down the fast-forward button. Csanadi, now 30, has plied his passion on a seeming-

ly endless number of short films — including award-winners "Nothingface" and "The Dead" — as well as a music video for Allentown-based hip-hop act Fat Cat Daddies. The filmmaker's first feature-length project, the raunchy '80s-inspired comedy "Nacho Mountain" was recently picked up for by Chemical Burn Entertainment for national video-on-demand DVD distribution this summer.

With all that under his belt, "American Smoke" marks Csanadi's first adventure into documentary territory.

"As a filmmaker, I never want to get lumped

in with any one category. I love the excitement and I love the challenge of doing some completely different," Csanadi said. "We've never done something like this, but the material is so damn interesting to us. Also, it's unique. It's something we really haven't seen. Yeah, there's been TV shows like "BBQ Pitmasters" and little things here and there, but there's really a huge underground world of barbecue competitions that's never really been explored in-depth. These people are dihard."

Csanadi plans to venture beyond the East Coast competition circuit to get a fuller picture of the barbecue lifestyle. To do that, he is currently raising funds for "American Smoke" on Kickstarter.com.

Accepting donations until Sunday, March 11, the project has received \$1,190 of its \$2,500 goal as of press time. For more information, visit dirtproductions.com or kickstart-

Watch Mitch Csanadi's short horror film "Torment" as well as the trailer for "Nacho Mountain" at www.thewilkesbeacon.com

CONTACT BILL THOMAS AT:

billthomas@thewilkesbeacon.com

Vintage photos offers glimpse of harsh history

BY JANEL NARO

Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Lewis Wickes Hines died in 1940, but his work continues to have an impact even today.

A sociologist hired by the National Child Labor Committee in 1906 to illustrate the harsh working conditions children faced in the coal mining industry, Lewis spent 10 years taking pictures of workers in canneries, coal mines, cotton mills, farms and sweatshops.

The goal was for Hines' photos to capture the attention of both the government and the public, raising concern against child labor in the United States at the time.

Many of those photos can currently be viewed as part of an exhibit called "Let Children be Children: Lewis Wickes Hines' Crusade Against Child Labor," which will be on display in Wilkes University's Sordoni Art Gallery until Sunday, March 11.

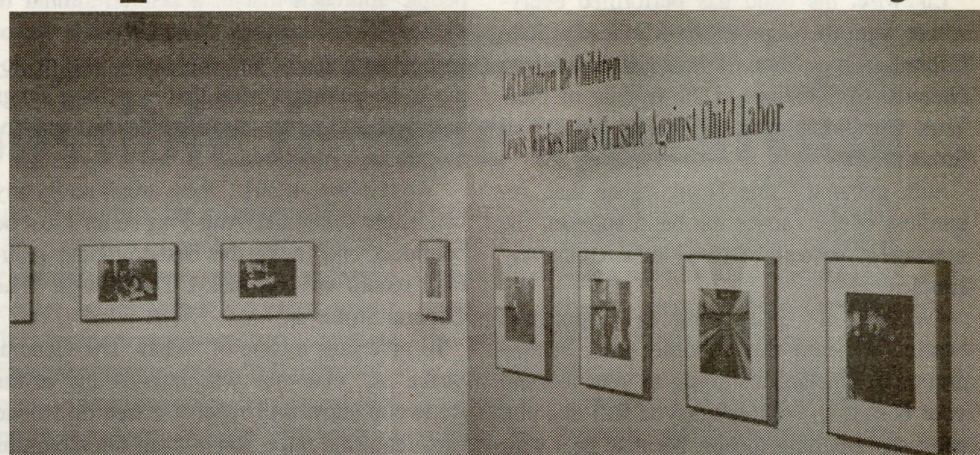
"(Hines) was a visual socialist. He was a reformer," Robert Wolensky, a University of Wisconsin Stevens Point sociology professor, said. "He was fighting for a very important cause - to get rid of child labor, to outlaw it — which eventually happened — and to get these kids in school."

Wolensky, also an adjunct professor of history and sociology at King's College, gave a presentation entitled "The Anthracite Mining Industry in Northeastern Pennsylvania During the Lewis Hines Years" at the opening of the exhibit on Jan. 17. For Wolensky, what made, and still makes, Hines' work stand out the most was, and is, "his dedication to the cause of eliminating child labor and, secondly, he took photograph of local boys that nobody ever took."

Wolensky, originally of Swoyersville, has written books on Northeastern Pennsylvania's history, with an upcoming release "Anthracite Labor Wars," co-authored by William Hastie, due out in the spring. Wolensky is also involved such area organizations as the Luzerne County Historical Society, the Lackawanna Historical Society, the Huber Breaker Preservation Society, the Anthracite Living History Group and the Anthracite Heritage Foundation.

Like many others who grew up in the area, Wolensky has a connection to the Pennsylvania coal mining industry through family ties.

"Both of my grandfathers were miners, and many uncles, and my own father was a mine



The Beacon / Austin Loukas

On display until March 11, the current Sordoni exhibit is a window into the past.

worker," Wolensky said. "The breaker is a big, tall, black building where coal is processed. There are about 300 in the area. My father worked above ground at the breaker, cleaning the coal."

The conditions faced, especially for children, were extreme.

"There were some young boys who worked underground too, opening and closing doors, they controlled the draft. They worked in the damp and cold for 10 or 12 hours a day

picking rocks out of the coal," Wolensky said. "Children should not be working in breakers. They were terribly abused. It was a brutal existence."

The Sordoni Art Gallery, located in the Stark Learning Center, is open daily from noon to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 570-408-4325.

CONTACT JANEL NARO AT:

janel.naro@wilkes.edu

Generic rom-com focuses on clash between yuppies, hippies

BY BILL THOMAS
Arts & Entertainment Editor

There are two types of people in this world. There are people who hate hippies. And there are hippies.

It's not the philosophy that rubs folks the wrong way, mind you. It's the execution. The hippie ethic of peace and love is a worthwhile vision, but the holier-than-thou superiority complex, impractical naïveté and flighty lack of reliability quickly become overbearing and obnoxious.

It's appropriate, then, that "overbearing and obnoxious" turns out to be an ideal description of "Wanderlust," the latest comedy dud from producer Judd Apatow and director David Swain.

Jennifer Aniston and Paul Rudd play Linda and George, a couple of uptight would-be social climbers trying to keep up with the fast pace and high cost of big-city life. When that doesn't pan out, they pack up and head out to the suburbs, where George's insufferable brother offers him a bottom-rung job doing data-entry for a Port-a-Potty rental agency.

Serendipitously, the pair's pilgrimage instead leads them to a hippie commune, where they decide to trade in their beautifully manicured but meaningless existence of "stress, Blackberrys and sleeping pills" for a life of pot-smoking, casual sex and didgeridoos. In other words, paradise. After all, who doesn't love a didgeridoo?

Unsurprisingly, the high-strung duo's metropolitan worldview ends up clashing with the hippies' hardline nature-worshipping, New Age rabble-babble. Wackiness ensues.

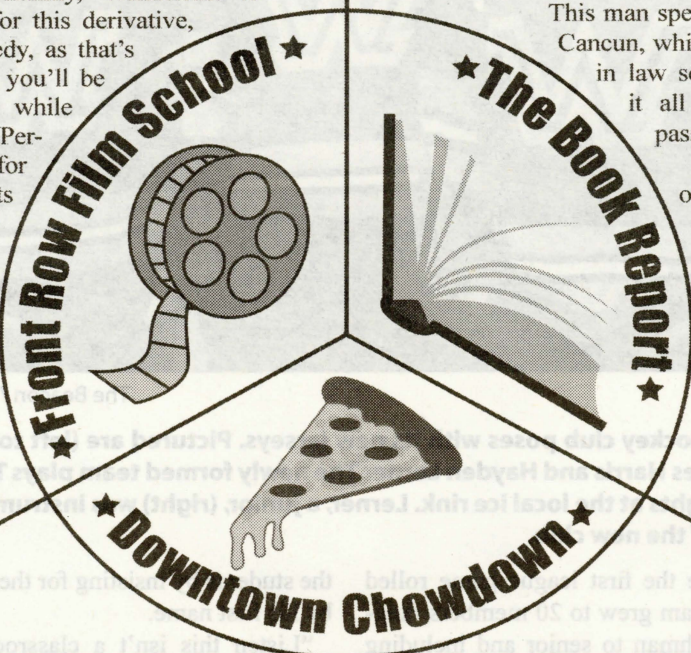
Or, rather, it's supposed to.

Sure, the directing, editing,

ing and music here is competent and confident, even exceptional. But this is a comedy, and that means the weight of the film rests on the shoulders of the script and the actors. In examining these elements, one major flaw becomes unavoidably apparent.

Simply put, there's not a single likable character anywhere in the film. Our protagonists are irritating. The hippies are irritating. The villains are irritating. The ancillary characters are irritating. It almost seems like this was done purposefully, as if "Wanderlust" was trying to deliver some kind of misanthropic message: There are douchebags everywhere, in the city and in the country, in business suits and bell bottoms. In short, everyone sucks.

Speaking frankly, "Wanderlust" is an apt title for this derivative, generic comedy, as that's exactly what you'll be struck with while watching it. Personally, for much of its 98-minute runtime, I could not help but wish I was somewhere else. Anywhere else.



Euro Bistro is a diamond in the rough

BY DOMINICK COSTANTINO
Staff Writer

I love going to restaurants where I feel welcomed the minute I walk through the door. This was the way I felt when I ate at Euro Bistro located at 21 Public Square in Wilkes-Barre. I knew my dining experience was going to be wonderful when the owner was so welcoming and outgoing.

My regular dining partner Brittany Battista and I were greeted and then given menus once we got to the counter. The menu has European-style homemade soups, bistro salads, sandwiches (wraps or pitas), baked sandwiches, paninis, sweets and pizza.

I love panini and I don't get to eat them often, so I decided to order the "Veggie Baby."

This panini is made with a traditional eastern European vegetable spread (grilled eggplant, tahini, lemon juice and garlic), zucchini, onion, sweet peppers and mozzarella. It was delicious. The homemade panini bread was crunchy and had a great texture. The sweet peppers and zucchini dominated, packing a powerful punch. This is definitely a wonderful menu option for vegetarians.

Brittany got a panini called "For Chicken Lovers Only." This one had roasted chicken, pickles, sweet peppers and mozzarella over a thin spread of honey mustard. Brittany said it was delicious. The chicken was tender and flavorful. She wasn't sure how she would like pickles with this particular combination, but once she tried it she thought

'Hilarity Ensues' is hard to put down, but it's not for everyone

BY ANNIE YOSKOSKI
Staff Writer

Many of you have probably heard of Tucker Max. Best known for his runaway best-seller "I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell," Max created his own genre dubbed "fratire." "Hilarity Ensues" is Max's third and final book of this nature.

Many people have been offended by his writing, and just as many have laughed hysterically over it. Even so, Max's books should come with a warning "do not try this at home, unless you're Tucker Max."

Most of Max's stories center around drinking and sexual escapades. The main thing I wondered though was, how does he get away with all of this?

This man spent a month in Cancun, while he enrolled in law school. To top it all off, he still passed.

Max not only admits that he is a jerk, but is proud of it. He has the biggest ego of any autobiographer out

there. He has vices that society frowns upon and an intelligence level most of us wish that we possessed. Even if you end up pretty much disgusted with him, depending on how easily offended you are, you still don't want to put the book down.

Tucker and his cast of friends move throughout life and go on ridiculous adventures that land them in various parts of the country, in jail at the O'Hara airport, on the Northwestern of "Deadliest Catch" fame and in many, many bars. He tells these stories with as much honesty as he can remember and even the pickiest of readers can all agree on that one thing: the man can write.

These books do not necessarily need to be read in order of publication date. The stories are different each time. The only part that might be confusing would be to figure out who some of his nicknamed friends are, but Max explains it as well as he can without going over the entire cast of his life again. The first book has also been turned into a movie.

Tucker Max is a phenomenon, something no one understands, something most young adult men want to emulate for a short period of time and something women are confused by. Max is loud, crude and does some of the most infantile things, but he is also intellectual and hilarious and much more honest than many autobiographers out there today. He has captivated many people with his writing and the "fratire" genre he's created.

If you are not sure whether or not his writing is too crude for you, check out his website, tuckermx.com, and sample some of his stories there.

the walls are stunning. The owner said they're even better at night when it gets dark out and they shine special lights on them.

The staff really went above and beyond to talk with us and make sure we liked what we ordered. It was also very nice of them to let us sample some of the items. When we went to pay, the owner asked us if we were students so he could give us the 10 percent off discount. In most restaurants, the customer has to mention the discount.

I would recommend this place to anyone who loves phenomenal service and great food. For more information, visit theeurobistro.com.

CONTACT BILL THOMAS
billthomas@thewilkes.beacon



FEBRUARY 28, 2012



Hockey skates its way onto campus

New team is finding identity on and off the ice

BY PHAT NGUYEN
News Editor

The phrase 'to break a leg' is used to wish someone good luck.

Junior psychology major Hayden Lerner got the most of this well-known idiom when he literally broke his leg.

That bit of luck was exactly what the Wilkes Hockey Club needed.

A broken leg forced Lerner to take a medical leave of absence, allowing him to focus all his attention on starting up the Wilkes Hockey Club last fall.

Lerner and a friend pitched their idea to Student Government, which voted in favor of the formation of the club.

The next step was to find a way to pay for uniforms. Lerner's luck came through once again, and after hundreds of emails between companies like Warrior, Timberline and National Business, Warrior decided to sponsor the Colonel club.

"They reluctantly gave us jerseys, which really saved us a lot of money," junior psychology major Ryan Maloney said.

As the team grew, the biggest hurdle was finances. They wanted to join a Men's B league on Coal Street that costed \$2,400. Also, every player on the team would need to pay the \$40 registration to USA hockey.

They presented to SG that they needed \$900-\$1,700 for the league, \$300 to refill their account and \$500 for the community service that they did as a club.

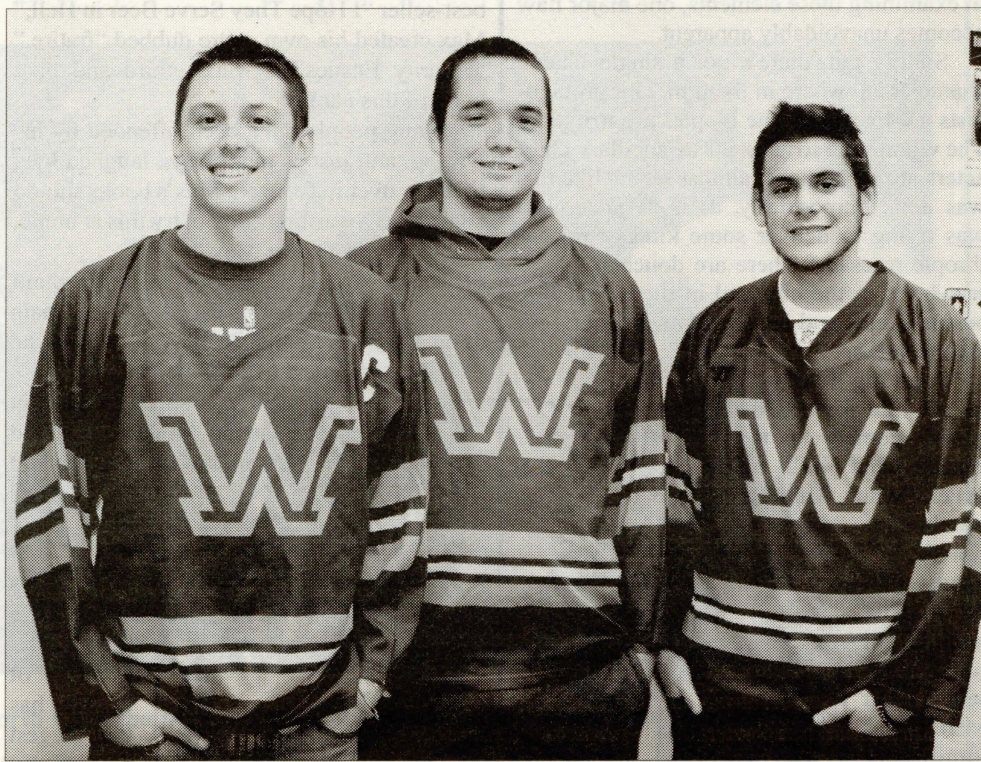
The club has worked to fulfill their service hours this semester by making Nylon with the Chemistry Club for Women Empowered through Science, and through a dual team Relay for Life with the Mixed Martial Arts club.

After gathering the majority of funds, the next biggest hurdle was gathering interest, Lerner said. With a limited roster, it would be difficult to consistently field a team.

"We only had seven or eight guys initially, and I was really worried that we didn't have enough for a team," Lerner said.

But the team saw progress quickly as time went by.

"Even though we only had seven or eight guys responding to emails initially, as word spread and got out, the team grew," Maloney said.



The Beacon / Phat Nguyen

The Wilkes hockey club poses with its new jerseys. Pictured are (left to right) Ryan Maloney, Epes Harris and Hayden Lerner. The newly formed team plays Tuesday and Thursday nights at the local ice rink. Lerner, a junior, (right) was instrumental in the formation of the new club.

By the time the first league game rolled around, the team grew to 20 members ranging from freshman to senior and including Dr. Gregory Peters, an assistant professor of chemistry. Peters was recruited through multiple students in the club.

"Personally, I'm friends with him," Maloney said. "Our club secretary Jess Khalil is also very good friends with him."

Peters played competitive hockey in graduate school at Wyoming nearly 18 years ago.

"The last time he played hockey competitively was before some of our freshmen were born," Lerner said.

"He's not bad, but some of his equipment would've looked bad on Gretsky though," Maloney joked after noticing Peters' old gloves.

Junior criminology major Epes Harris said he's seen a lot of passion from Peters.

"He has real fire in his eyes," the assistant captain said. "He even slammed his helmet on the bench one time."

Peters has adjusted to the camaraderie of

the students by insisting for them to call him by his first name.

"Listen this isn't a classroom. Call me Greg," Peters said.

The Coal Street men's league has nine games, plus two play-off games. Harris believes the competition is top notch.

"We're playing against pros, former pros, semi pros and junior hockey players -- the level before you go pro -- and NCAA guys," Harris said. "Dennis Bonvie was on defense for the last team."

Bonvie was a former member of the Wilkes-Barre Scranton Penguins.

Another problem the club has is that it's limited to hold regular practice since paying for ice is expensive.

"That's the biggest reason why I never played when I was growing up. The league itself is \$2000 to set up," Maloney said.

They are limited to open hockey at UCOM. Coaching and managing the team is

The Broad Street Breakdown

BY BRYAN WISLOSKY
Columnist

Well, it's almost March, which means we are getting into the heart of the NFL offseason. The NFL Scouting Combine started this past week with over 100 hopeful NFL prospects participating in the drills.

This year, there is also a plethora of high profile free agents hitting the market, especially at the wide receiver position. Oh, and there's the situation regarding Peyton Manning's future, just in case you didn't hear. It's just over six months until week one of the 2012 NFL season, and with all these major offseason stories to follow, the landscape of football will be bent backward by then.

With the combine comes thoughts of April's NFL Draft. Will the Colts take Andrew Luck? What will the St. Louis Rams do with the second pick? Is Heisman Winner Robert Griffin III a better pick than Luck? And most importantly, will fat Andy finally stop trying to outsmart everyone and actually make a move to push the Eagles in the right direction?

Even though I will be more focused on who Philadelphia will take with their first pick -- hopefully a linebacker -- the majority of football fans will be looking at the Colts.

With Peyton Manning owing a massive bonus at the end of March and having the opportunity to draft a quarterback with the most promise since Manning, the Indianapolis Colts need to decide if they want to keep their four-time MVP QB or cut him loose and start over with Luck. Rumors surfaced this week that the most probable destination for Manning is the Miami Dolphins. I personally think Indy should draft Luck and keep him under Peyton's wing for two years, but that's just my opinion.

Rookies won't be the only players calling new cities home in September. 2012 has quite an impressive free agent class, headlined by Saints quarterback Drew Brees and Ravens running back Ray Rice, although both of them are likely to remain with their current teams.

The big story in free agency this year is the laundry list of wide receivers on the list.

SEE HOCKEY, PAGE 19

SEE NFL, PAGE 19

SCOREBOARD

Men's B-Ball

2/22 Eastern W 103-98 OT
2/25 Misericordia L 69-42

WEEK AHEAD

Baseball

3/3 @ Manchester, in S.C.
3/4 @ Roanoke, in S.C.
@ PSU-Abington
3/5 @ Catholic U, in S.C.
3/6 @ PSU-Harrisburg, in S.C.
3/7 @ Averett, in S.C.

Softball

3/2 @ York, in V.A.
@ John Jay
3/3 @ F&M, in V.A.
@ N.C. Wesleyan, in V.A.
3/4 @ Randolph, in V.A.

HOME	00:00	GUEST
00:00	00:00	00:00
QUARTER		
BONUS	POSS	BONUS
FOULS		
00	00	00

Tweet us pictures of the
scoreboards

@wilkesbeacon



Joseph Pugliese
COLUMNIST



The MLB offseason has focused mainly on the Miami Marlins and the L.A. Angels.

The Marlins added all-star shortstop Jose Reyes, as well as veteran Mark Buehrle and shut down closer Heath Bell. The Angels added the best hitter in baseball, Albert Pujols, and the best starter available, C.J. Wilson. But neither team is the most improved in the league.

As far as wins and losses relative to other teams in the division, neither is a lock. In the NL East, the Phillies the favorites. The Marlins can add as many players as they want, but if Josh Johnson does not give them 30 plus starts they will not get close to winning the division.

Though the Phillies certainly haven't gotten better, they are still a 94 to 97 win team. Reyes, Buehrle and Bell cannot close that gap alone. Add healthy 20-game winner Johnson and it is possible, but still unlikely. Chances are, the Marlins will be fighting for a wild card berth.

The most improved team is the Yankees. The Yanks had one glaring need and weakness that prevented them from getting far, which was starting pitching. They addressed it the right way by trading Jesus Montero -- whom they did not need -- for a great young starter in Michael Pineda, who last year at age 22 pitched to a 3.74 ERA with 173 strikeouts on a last-place team.

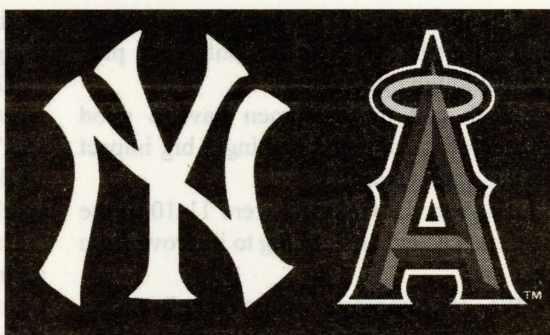
They also added Hiroki Kuroda, a great work horse and mentally tough veteran. Last year, Kuroda, had a 3.07 ERA and had over 200 innings pitched -- exactly what the Yankees needed.

With the Red Sox a big question mark and the Rays showing no glaring improvements other than maturity, the defending division-winning Yankees did what they needed to do. They will not win many more than 97, but they have succeeded in widening the gap. They still have an all-world lineup and a close to unstoppable bullpen. Rivera at age 42 is still the best closer in baseball and with David Robertson as the best setup man in the league and Soriano as the seventh inning guy, starters usually just have to get to six with a lead to secure a win.

The Yankees for once will show you don't need big names to have big improvements. They will be the favorite to win the AL east and most likely the AL. Yankees have another year or two before they have to replace the rest of their core in Jeter and Rivera, -- and even A-Rod soon, -- but these guys will be hungry for one more.

CONTACT JOSEPH PUGLIESE AT:
joseph.pugliese@wilkes.edu

Faceoff



The Debate:

Which MLB team has improved the most this offseason?

The Buzz:

With major free agents like Prince Fielder and Albert Pujols joining new teams, what other teams have made strides to a World Series?

The Options:

Who improved the most: The Angels? Rays? Marlins?

The Results:

Justin thinks the Angels have made the biggest strides. Joe thinks the Yankees have become better.

Spring Training is just about in full swing.

Will the big moves in the offseason translate to a postseason run?

To read and join the full debate visit:
www.thewilkesbeacon.com

Justin Franiak
SPORTS EDITOR



The MLB season is quickly approaching, and the smell of pitchers and catchers is in the air. Gloves are being broken in, bats are being cracked against the ball and cleats are being screwed in. Everyone is undefeated.

Looking back at this past offseason, many teams made big moves, while some stayed content with what they have.

The newly named Miami Marlins come to mind as a very improved team. With the addition of Heath Bell and Mark Buehrle, the fish have added to a solid pitching staff which includes Josh Johnson and Ricky Nolasco.

The health of the Marlins is a big concern. Jose Reyes in an injury prone shortstop and hasn't finished a season in the last couple years. The addition of Reyes also leads to Hanley Ramirez having to bump over to third base, a position he has never played.

Staying within the division, the Washington Nationals made big strides in the NL East. The Nationals expect Stephen Strasburg to come back and be healthy and effective. I would also not be surprised to see Bryce Harper up in the bigs this year.

The Nationals made my favorite move of the offseason in acquiring Gio Gonzalez. This young pitcher is on his way to pure domination in the league. The Nationals also snagged closer Brad Lidge, and expect Ryan Zimmerman to have a stellar year.

The Nationals can make a push for a wild card, but it comes down to Jayson Werth getting back to his old ways.

The Detroit Tigers became a whole lot better with the addition of Prince Fielder. The vegan slugger will fit perfectly in Detroit and automatically bring them more wins.

The Yankees added Hiroki Kuroda and Raul Ibanez in the offseason. Kuroda was a very smart addition, but Ibanez will be a work in progress at the designate hitter position.

A sleeper pick for a very improved team is the Toronto Blue Jays. The Jays added Reds reliever Francisco Cordero, along with White Sox closer Sergio Santos, to make an effective punch in the late innings.

The Angels made the biggest and most effective moves this offseason. They added the feared hitter Albert Pujols, "El Hombre," who will absolutely thrive in L.A. But what is more interesting is the Angels' pitching rotation.

C.J. Wilson was one of the best offseason signings. He has no pressure in L.A., as he will be the No. 3 started behind the talented Jered Weaver and Dan Haren. This pitching staff will be something to watch this year.

CONTACT JUSTIN FRANIAK AT:
justin.franiak@wilkes.edu

Wilkes baseball uses preseason to improve skill

Colonel sluggers are set to take on spring training in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

BY JUSTIN FRANIAK
Sports Editor

The grass is being mowed and the field is being raked to prepare for this year's Colonel baseball squad to march out for its 2012 campaign.

The Colonels are looking to improve their record of 21-16 from 2011, after losing a few key components from last year.

Returning to the team are athletes Tay Sidler and Matt Ruch, both of whom batted above the .330 mark, with Ruch recording 34 RBI's. Sidler posted a .443 on base percentage in the 2011 campaign.

Infielder Carmen Lopresto also returns, bringing his 33 runs scored and .300 batting average from last year.

Senior business administration major and relief pitcher Mark Siebel is excited for new players this season.

"I'm excited to see how the freshmen

do," Siebel said. "I've been impressed so far, I want to see them in conference play against tough opponents."

Siebel said the freshmen have a good chance of starting and making a big impact on this year's team.

Last year, the Colonels were 11-10 in the conference, and are looking to improve from that.

"We can improve everywhere," Siebel said. "Hitting and pitching are areas where we can always improve."

The Colonels return pharmacy major and starting pitcher Ryan Fetterman who led the team with a 3.26 ERA from last season. Fetterman also tacked on 11 batters struck out looking.

Senior Sean Flecknoe led the team with 13 batters struck out looking last season.

Senior history and secondary education major Mike "Snail" Olerta say the preseason is going well. When asked what the purpose

of the long preseason is, Olerta said many things are involved.

"Getting and shape and staying focused is what we need to work on now for the season," Olerta said.

Olerta, along with others, will look to spark the Colonels offensively this season.

The team will soon leave on its annual spring training trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Siebel and Olerta both said the trip is fun and enjoyable. The team bonding is a key component of the trip.

Senior business administration major and Colonel infielder Tom Plessl also commented about playing on the turf in South Carolina.

"There's not bad hops, which helps everybody," Plessl said.

Personal goals are a part of every team season, and the Colonels are no different.

Siebel is within grasp of the appearance record and saves record and hopes to break

both of those. Plessl is at 79 games played and his goal is to reach 100. Olerta would like to break the .300 average this season.

A major team goal for the season is making a playoff run, according to Siebel.

"If you make the playoffs anything can happen," Siebel said. "The ultimate goal is to win the MAC."

Olerta said that there is always room for improvement, and with improvement comes that coveted playoff run. Olerta said it boils down to one thing.

"Winning," Olerta said. "Winning and hitting, I think we have a good team this year."

Siebel summed up his biggest fear for the season simply.

"I hope my curveball works," Siebel said.

CONTACT JUSTIN FRANIAK AT:
justin.franiak@wilkes.edu

Grotto Pizza

the legendary taste

Go Colonels!

We Deliver to Wilkes University!
Call (570) 331-FAST (3278)

Ask about our combo specials featuring our complete line up of pizza, subs, wings, burgers & more! visit us online for a complete menu & listing of specials at

www.grotopizzapa.com

or visit our restaurant & sports bar
Grotto Pizza, Gateway Center, on Rt. 11 in
Edwardsville (just across the bridge!)

Grotto Pizza
the legendary taste

\$5 OFF Any Order of \$20 or More

For delivery or take out

Expires 06/30/12

valid only at Grotto Pizza locations

STRESSED? HEADACHE?

Headaches and back pain are two of the most common ailments treated at our clinic. Often, we can bring relief simply by taking the pressure off a pinched nerve. Here are other common symptoms of a pinched nerve.

Neck Pain Back Pain Shoulder Pain

Arm Pain Leg Pain Muscle Pain

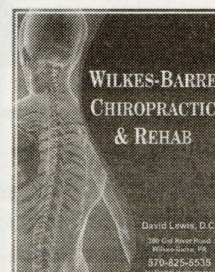
— Sports Injury — Auto Accident —

**FREE 20 Min
Hydro
Massage**



**FREE EXAM
& FREE 1st
Treatment**

Wilkes-Barre Chiropractic & Rehab



Dr. David Lewis
Chiropractic Physician

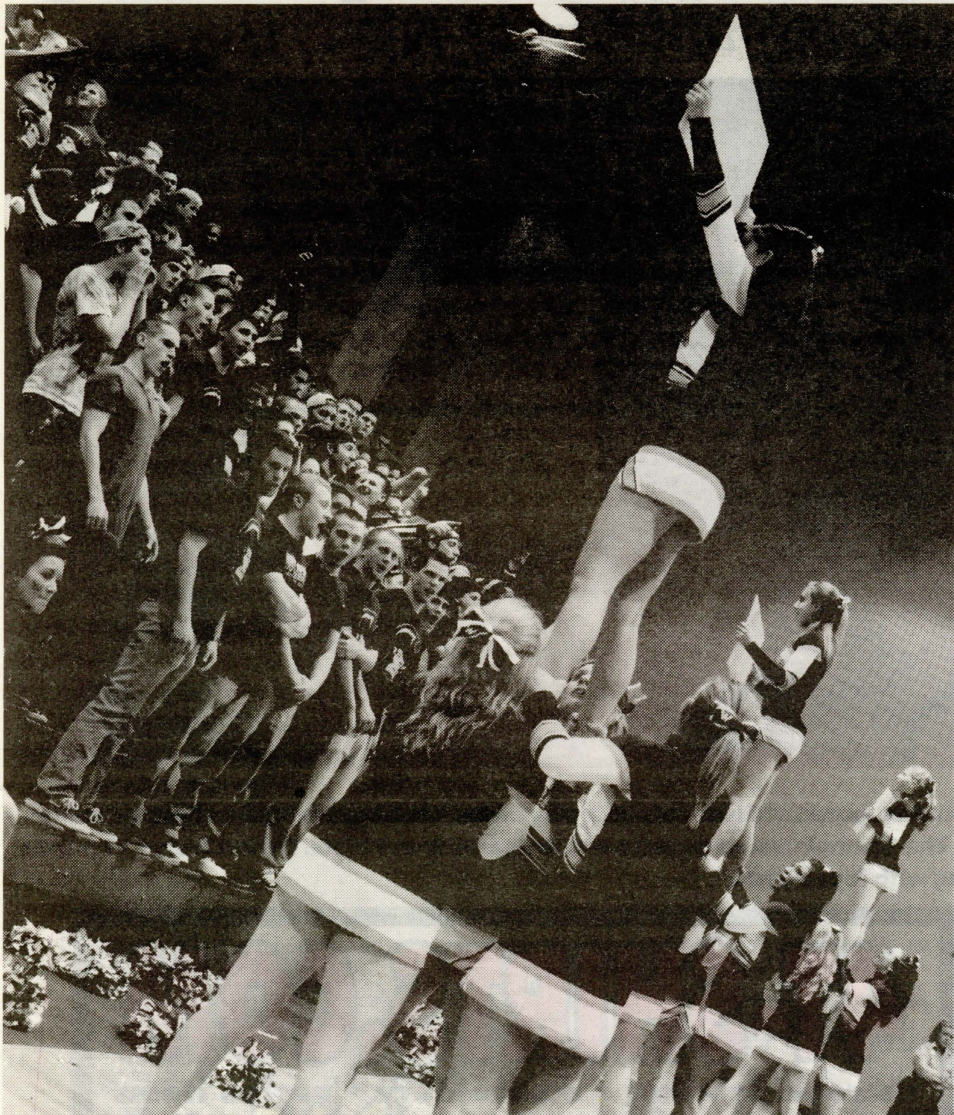
All
Insurances
Accepted

825-5535

380 Old River Road
Wilkes-Barre, PA

dblewis326@aol.com
www.nepachiro.com

'W' is for Wilkes



The Beacon/Laura Preby

Wilkes cheerleaders lead soccer players, wrestlers and Wilkes fans. The cheerleaders and "Blue Army" cheered Wilkes to an overtime victory over the visiting Eastern Eagles, putting them in the Freedom Conference Championship Game.

NFL

Continued from Page 16

Notables include Dwayne Bowe (Chiefs), Marques Colston (Saints), DeSean Jackson (Eagles), Vincent Jackson (Chargers), Mario Manningham (Giants), Mike Wallace (Steelers), Reggie Wayne (Colts) and Wes Welker (Patriots).

Now Pittsburgh's Wallace is a restricted free agent, so they have a very good chance of resigning him, but everyone else is basically free game.

Personally, I'm waiting to see what Philly does about their prima donna WR. Just as early as the end of the 2010 season, DeSean Jackson was adored in Philadelphia.

He was known as the most explosive player in the league and essentially end-

ed the New York Giants season with a game-ending punt return to cap an incredible three-touchdown deficit comeback.

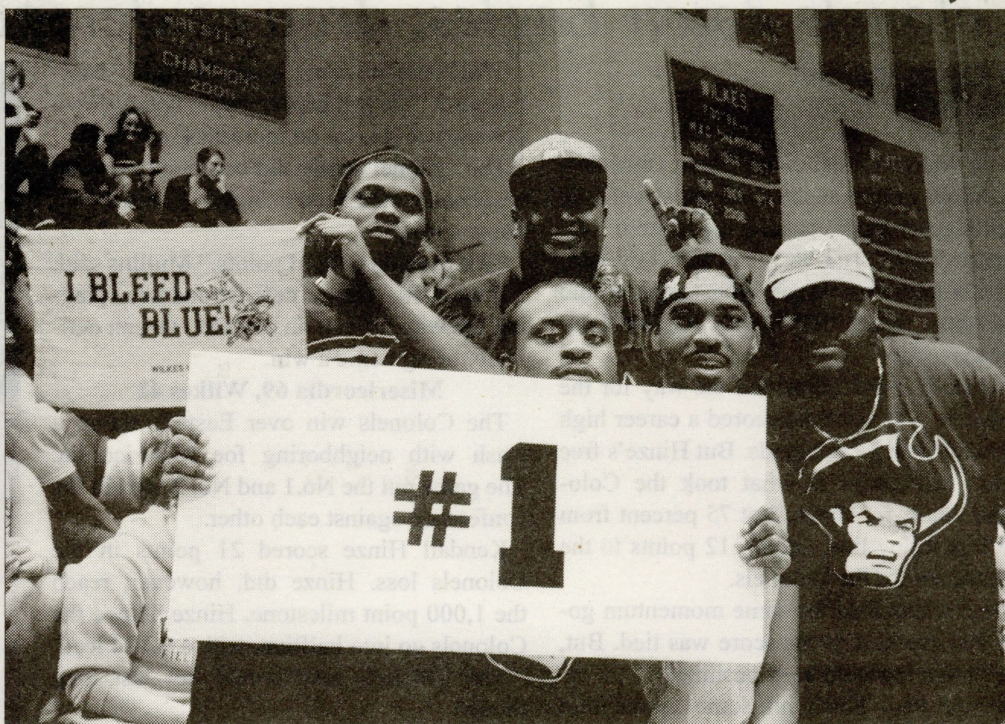
However, at points this season, he was doing his best Terrell Owens impression and didn't even look like he wanted to play. By the end of the season, it appeared he realized he was being a baby and actually started to try.

I think they should give him the franchise tag and focus on giving LeSean "Shady" McCoy a contract extension so he doesn't become a free agent next offseason.

Also a minor note, Reebok's contract with the NFL ran out, and Nike scooped it up. So Nike will now be making NFL jerseys. It is also planning make many different jerseys for each team, like it does for the Oregon Ducks. So it definitely appears as though the NFL is entering into a strange new world.

CONTACT BRYAN WISLOSKY AT:
bryan.wislosky@wilkes.edu

Fans cheer Colonels to victory



The Beacon/Laura Preby

Students who were a part of the "Blue Army" get rowdy at halftime of Wednesday's Freedom Conference Playoff game. The crowd featured students with painted bodies, referee shirts and the "Blue Army" shirt. Wilkes went on to win the game in overtime, helping the Colonels advance to the Freedom Conference Championship Game.

HOCKEY

Continued from Page 16

another problem. Team captain Maloney balances out the team while he lets Lerner manage lineups.

"He's a dictator," Maloney said with a smile. "Hayden did a lot for the club. He's been putting out the lines. Sometimes not everyone agrees with him, but we'll have a talk before the games."

The goalie situation is a mess, Maloney said.

"Right now we have three goalies, that's unheard of," he said. "We're giving them all a period each because there's nothing we really can do."

Some of the players are still trying to understand the game.

"It's tough. Some kids are trying to score and don't even have a puck," Lerner said.

The captains said there are only two true defensemen on the team with 15 skaters who don't want to play defense.

This forces them to put a few of their best forwards as defensemen because no one wants to play defense.

There is also a wide range in skill level, Harris said.

"The skill level ranges from 15 years experience to someone who says, 'hey this is my fifth game,'" Harris said. "So picking lines is tough. At the same time, we are play-

ing in the very tough league."

However there has been many signs of progress, Maloney said.

"We lost the first game 20-8, but we were playing against a kid named Marty, who tried out for the baby Pens," he said. "We're just a bunch of college kids who are trying to have fun. He made us look silly to say the least."

"I love this game. I've played football for 15 years of my life, but there's nothing like stepping on the ice for the first time," Maloney said. "Being on there when someone scores their first goal of the season, it's a special feeling."

There have been many close calls where the game was in reach for the Colonels, but due to sloppy play, they have been unable to convert them to wins, until last week when they won their first game ever.

But even with losses, the team said the experience was still unbeatable, Maloney said.

"To play with some of the guys who I've grown up with, it was still a lot of fun to actually get on the ice and play some hockey."

The club also draws in a strong fan section, which includes roughly 30 people a game. Maloney claims that half those people are probably his family members.

The hockey club team has long term goals to one day become a D-III athletic team.

CONTACT PHAT NGUYEN AT:
phatnguyen@thewilkesbeacon.com

Wilkes outlasts Eastern to advance to championship

Colonels down Eagles; drop conference championship to Misericordia

BY JUSTIN FRANIAK
Sports Editor

The Marts Center was rockin' this past Wednesday night as the Colonels opened up their playoff run by beating the Eastern University Eagles 103-98. The win, however, did not come easily, as both teams would need extra time to finish this Freedom Conference game.

Senior Kendall Hinze led the way for the Colonels. The big man scored a career high 28 points and 14 rebounds. But Hinze's free throw percentage is what took the Colonels to the win. Hinze shot 75 percent from the free throw line, adding 12 points to the scoreboard for the Colonels.

Both teams held the same momentum going into the half as the score was tied. But, the Colonels would keep pushing.

Senior Paul Huch hit some momentum swinging three throughout the entire game. Huch shot 80 percent from beyond the arch, adding to his total of 24 points.

The Colonels held the lead with under two minutes left in the game, but the Eagles answered and tied the score back up.

Wilkes held the advantage late in the game, but the Eagles would not backdown. Eastern would need a jump shot to send the game into overtime as the score stood 75-75.

The Colonels opened up the overtime period on a hot streak. Freshman Jourdon Wilson would score the Colonels first six points as Wilkes jumped to a lead quick.

Wilkes would outscore the Eagles 28-25 in the extra time. With under three minutes to go the Colonels would have the advantage 86-81, but the Eagles would not be held down. A few three-pointers later the game was still very close.

The Colonels would use their excellent foul shooting to pull them through this hard fought victory. The foul line saw the Colonels shoot a 77 percent.

Wilson scored 17 points and dished out four assists, while senior Matt Mullins would also tack on 17 points and four assists.

"We knew the game would be close," Mullins said. "We just kept trying to knock down our shots and keep on increasing our lead."

The Colonel senior did comment on what his squad would need to improve on to bring home a ring.

"We gave up a lot of points," Mullins said. "If we stiffen up our defense and keep playing the way we can on offense, we can definitely bring home a win."

Misericordia 69, Wilkes 42

The Colonels win over Eastern set-up a clash with neighboring foe Misericordia. The game put the No. 1 and No. 2 seed in the conference against each other.

Kendall Hinze scored 21 points in the Colonels loss. Hinze did, however, reach the 1,000 point milestone. Hinze helped the Colonels go into halftime with a 27-24 lead.

The Colonels lead would not last long though.

Misericordia would open up the second half with a hot three-pointer streak, giving them a 35-29 lead within the first three minutes of the second half.

Wilkes would not regain the lead for the rest of the game. Misericordia would lead by 25 points at one point, and the Colonels would not catch up.

Wilson scored seven points in his rookie year finale. Senior Paul Huch would add five points, four blocks, and two steals for the Colonels. Matt Mullins dropped four points and a steal.

Misericordia's Steve Artzerounian would be named the Freedom Tournament's most valuable player. Artzerounian dropped 18 points while snagging 10 rebounds in the game.

Junior Cliff Richardson summed up the loss by being optimistic.

"We have nothing but determination to get back to the MAC championship game," Richardson said.

CONTACT JUSTIN FRANIAK AT:
justin.franiak@wilkes.edu



The Beacon/Laura Preby

Freshman Jourdon Wilson sets up a play in the Feb. 22 game against Eastern University. The Colonels would go on to win the game in overtime. Wilson scored 17 points along with four assists.



4T-SHIRTS.COM

screen printing • embroidery • promo items

ASK US ABOUT OUR SPECIALS!

OVER 15 YEARS EXPERIENCE!

SPECIALTY INKS AVAILABLE. GREAT SERVICE. GREAT PRICES!

570.823.9272

146 SOUTH PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE / WILKES-BARRE, PA 18701