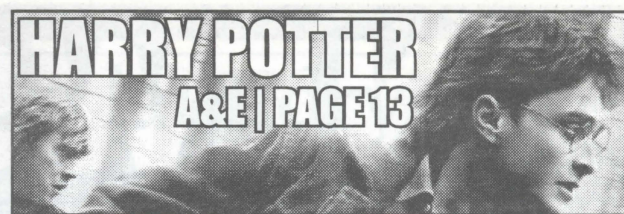




The BEACON



Tuesday, November 23, 2010

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

Volume 63 Issue 10

Final three VPFSO candidates hold forums, share qualifications

BY CATHRYN FREAR
News Editor

Wilkes University held three forums over the past couple of weeks to give an opportunity for the final three vice president of finance and support operations candidates to speak to members of the Wilkes community. Attendees were also invited to ask questions.

Each candidate presented his qualifications and why he was interested in the position.

The first candidate, Richard Metz, said he had a lot of experience to offer the university.

Metz described himself as a career administrative official. He started out his career as a teacher, but quickly realized that was not the path for him.

"I really enjoyed the administrative aspect of universities and was eager to get back into that setting," Metz said.

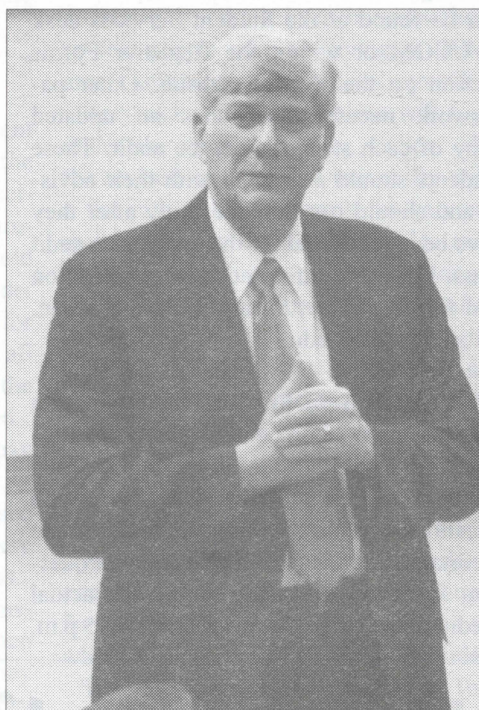
He began meeting his goal first by serving as College Center Operations Manager at Towson State University in Baltimore, Maryland. His job there basically entailed being the manager and facilities director of their 160 square-foot student union facility.

Metz has since worked at five other universities serving in positions such as Vice President for Administration and Business Affairs at California State University and Vice President for Finance and Administration at the City University of New York in New York City.

"As vice president for finance and administration, I have had to take on a lot of the same responsibilities that I would for this job," Metz said.

The second candidate, Kevin Wilson, currently serves as the Vice President of Finance and Administration at Keystone College. He said he was interested in Wilkes because it is similar to the job he is doing now, but he was impressed by the Wilkes culture.

"I have been (on campus) for about a day



Richard Metz, Kevin Wilson and Loren Prescott are the final candidates in the running for Wilkes' new vice president of finance and support operations. Each candidate came to visit campus to talk to the campus, evaluate Wilkes' needs and share with the community what experience they bring to the table that would make them the best choice for the position.

and the maturity of the students here is really impressive," Wilson said.

He said that while he started off his career as an accountant, he found the college setting to be the place for him.

"My intentions at the time were to stay in public accounting and make a career of that," Wilson said. "The firm I worked for at the time had just signed some contracts with some colleges and having just graduated college, I thought I'd really still like to be in that environment."

He said that while he isn't familiar with every aspect of this job, he would immerse himself and be willing to adapt.

The third candidate was Loren "Chip" Prescott, Special Assistant to the President at Wilkes, said that his familiarity with the university gives him an advantage that the

other candidates don't have.

"I work here and I know the people and I know what the University's needs are," Prescott said. "I think it's important to have relationships formed with people so that when something comes up and you begin those discussions, they can be open and honest discussions where you don't have to worry about the consequences."

He also said that he had positions where he completed similar tasks to the one he would be doing as VPFSO.

"A significant portion of this job, I am already very familiar with," Prescott said. "There are only parts I do not have responsibility for right now: finance and IT."

Prescott said he would work with each of those departments to familiarize himself, but also that he has a background in accounting

that would assist him with the finance part of the VPFSO position.

As The Beacon reported last week in Issue 9, the VPFSO search committee, which is responsible for overseeing the process of weighing the pros and cons of each candidate, will report to President Joseph Gilmour what they have found. The president will then report that information to the board of trustees and make a recommendation as to who he thinks is best suited for the position. The board then makes the final decision.

The decision on who will take over as VPFSO is slated to be completed before the spring 2011 semester starts.

CONTACT CATHRYN FREAR AT:
cathryn.frear@wilkes.edu

Opinion Pages 6-8

Future oil crisis?

Recent studies suggest oil will run out 90 years before replacements are available. We need to push for alternatives to oil.

PAGE 6

Life Pages 9-12

Chatting with faculty: Jean Adams

Jean Adams has been passing on her love of pottery, to students for 25 years.

PAGE 10

Arts & Entertainment Pages 13-15

Book Review: "House Rules"

The national best seller discusses living with Asperger's Syndrome.

PAGE 14

Sports Pages 16-20

Intramural Champs

Backyard Skooks defeat the defending champion Coal Region Legion to take home the intramural football title.

PAGE 16



Established 1936
PA Newspaper
Association Member

Beacon Briefs

BY CATHRYN FREAR
News Editor

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT – Sunday, Dec. 5 at 5 p.m. will be a basketball tournament held in the UCOM. All are welcome to attend and compete. Questions, comments and concerns can be directed to Neal Biscaldi at neal.biscaldi@wilkes.edu.

HOLIDAY PARTY – The faculty Affairs Committee, along with Dr. Joseph Gilmour and Patty Gilmour, will be hosting The University Holiday Party Thursday, Dec. 9. The event will take place in the ballroom on the second floor of the Henry Student Center from 5 to 8 p.m. Employees, family of employees and other guests of employees are invited to attend. Monetary donations to the United Way as well as non-perishable food items to be donated to a local charity will

be accepted at the event. Santa will be in attendance.

LIBRARY REFERENCE BOOK SALE – Now through Dec. 10, the Farley Library will be holding a reference book sale. The books that are for sale are available on the bookshelves in the library basement. Also on the shelves are bags for buyers to fill with books. Each bag of books costs \$1.

STUDY BREAK PARTY – Sunday, Dec. 12 IRHC will be holding a study break party in the Henry Student Center to offer students an opportunity to take a break from studying for finals. There will be giveaways, food and fun. The theme is Winter Wonderland. All students are welcome to attend.

CLASS OF 2011 – Order forms for caps and gowns as well as those for diplomas should be completed as soon as possible

for those anticipated to graduate in the May 2011 graduation commencement. Forms can be found at the Student Services desk in UCOM or within the Registrar Forms section on the Wilkes website. Other paperwork necessary includes an updated copy of each student's degree audit. These students should also meet with their adviser and should run the audit only after they have been registered for the graduation audit class. For more information on registration and forms, contact Susan Hritzak at susan.hritzak@wilkes.edu.

WEEKLY MEDITATION – Meditation sessions are held on campus every Wednesday from 5 to 5:30 p.m. in the Kirby Salon on the first floor of Kirby Hall. Those with questions or concerns as well as first-time meditators are also invited to attend a question and answer session before the actual meditation session Wednesdays at 4:45 p.m.

Interested parties can also contact Dr. Linda Paul at linda.paul@wilkes.edu or Dr. Michelle Anthony at mischelle.anthony@wilkes.edu

LIFE EMPOWERMENT CLASSES – Life empowerment classes are being held by Dr. Ed Schicatanio every Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. at Arts YOUNiverse. The classes are meant to help rid oneself of any existing negative emotions, stress, anxiety, fear and phobias. The cost for one of the classes is \$10 per person. More information can be found by calling 417-3309 or by visiting www.artsyouniverse.com or www.ahealthymind.webs.com.

CONTACT CATHRYN FREAR AT:
cathryn.frear@wilkes.edu

SG allots \$22,000 to Adventure Education program

BY CATHRYN FREAR
News Editor

Last Wednesday, Nov. 17, a motion was made at the Student Government meeting to allocate \$22,000 to Adventure Education to bring the program from part-time to full-time.

The issue was first brought up at the Nov. 3 meeting and was meant to be voted on the following week at the Nov. 10 meeting. The vote was put on hold to give all SG members an opportunity to consider this request as well as ask any questions they may need cleared up.

Ben Beidel, facilitator of AE as well as president of SG, said that he spoke with

President Joseph Gilmour about whether or not the university would be providing funds along with SG.

The issue that arose here is Beidel said that Gilmour could not give him a definite yes or no answer right now.

"President Gilmour said that he can't give his assurances at the moment," said Beidel.

Although Gilmour cannot give an a definite answer right now, SG is voting now and Beidel supports that decision to vote.

"I think it would be an error to wait," he said. "We want to give the message that this is a significant program and that we are confident there is going to be increased activity."

Thomas Markley, another AE facilitator, said that activity has already increased in

the program, which has been around about two years.

"We have seen the growth (of the program)," Markley said. "Without a (full-time) coordinator of the program, it will be lost."

One concern brought up at the meeting was what the program would actually be doing.

"I'm just trying to figure out what they budget would look like," said Christina D'Ippolito, inter-residence hall council president. "I would have liked to have seen that."

Elizabeth Swantek, SG adviser, said that they have a plan and that they just did not present it.

The motion passed 27-7-3.

Meeting Notebook:
Treasurer's Report:
All College \$1,194.92
Conference \$600.00
General \$2,000.00
Leadership \$341.20
Special Projects \$500.00
Spirit \$0
Start-up \$300.00
Total \$4,936.12

CONTACT CATHRYN FREAR AT:
cathryn.frear@wilkes.edu

The BEACON

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

PHONE: (570) 408-5903
E-MAIL: wilkesbeacon@gmail.com

Editorial Staff 2010-11

Editors-in-Chief: Michael Cignoli & Jacqueline Lukas
News Editor: Cathryn Frear
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Meet the Staff



Amanda Leonard
Assistant Op/Ed Editor

University Towers makes change to laundry system

BY KIRSTIN COOK
Assistant News Editor

Starting in the spring semester, students living in University Towers will no longer have to search for quarters to do a load of laundry.

The coin-operated portion of the washers and dryers in Towers will be removed over winter break, making laundry free for all residents.

Elizabeth Swantek, director of resident life, said that this change has been in the works for a few years and was a joint decision between student affairs and the procurement office. She said this conversion would make laundry facilities free university-wide.

"In essence, it would probably be better for the university if all of our buildings and all of our residence halls would be marketed the same, with the free laundry," Swantek said.

Currently, students in Towers must pay \$3 to wash and dry one load of laundry. At the end of the semester, they are reimbursed a \$60 laundry stipend. Swantek said there were some complications with this process.

"I think some of the students were frustrated with the prices going up, and so then we would increase the stipend; but then they sometimes felt that they did more laundry than x amount of dollars per weeks, so it's really about making everything fair and consistent," Swantek said.

Justin Kraynack, procurement office director, worked directly with the contracting company to make this change possible.

Kraynack explained that the coin-operation was not eliminated when the building

was purchased because about 50% of people living in Towers were non-resident paying tenants, compared to the current eight or nine tenants. He said that these tenants are allowed to use the free laundry system, but there will not be a significant loss to the university.

"Beforehand it didn't make sense for the university to take it over, but now there are so few people who are living in there that aren't university-affiliated," Kraynack said.

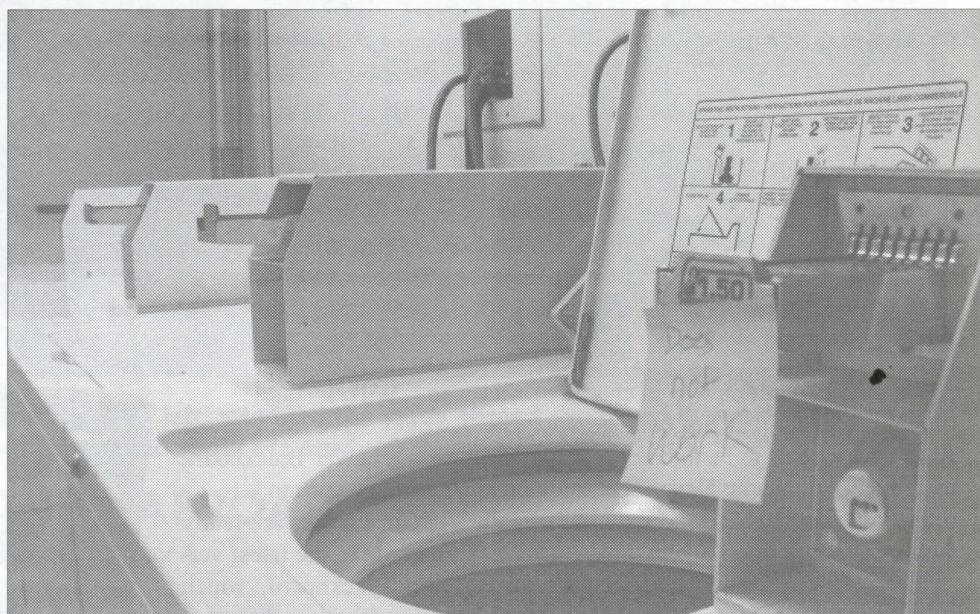
Kraynack said the machines will function under the same company, Calico. Under the revised contract, the university will pay a flat rate to the company for service and maintenance to the machines. He said the contract, which was purchased along with the building, has around two years of applicability left.

"What this will allow us to do is satisfy the contract requirements that we have with Calico and just make it an easier process for everybody," Kraynack said.

Kraynack said he would like to buy new machines, since the current ones are about eight years old, but that would require more analysis. He said that few other schools offer free laundry to students, so it is a somewhat unique advantage to Wilkes students.

Trey Tietz, a resident assistant in Towers, has faced many difficulties with the laundry facilities. The machines are often broken, and he said it is a lengthy process for Calico to fix them.

"I just think the machines really aren't that good, to be honest," Tietz said. "They just don't function that well anymore, and the company is not that close so it takes them a long time to get here and fix them."



The Beacon/Kirstin Cook

Residents in Towers have faced many issues with the currently coin-operated washers and dryers, like difficulties with receiving refunds when machines are not working. Eliminating the coin system will eliminate this problem.

Tietz, a pre-pharmacy major junior, said it is a challenge with the current system to get money refunded when the machines eat coins. He said the most the Calico will refund is \$3.75 per person, and there is still about \$10 in funds that he requested but never received from the company.

"The company isn't too good at refunding or customer service, so everyone gets a little angry about it," Tietz said.

Tietz said another issue is when residents take their clothes home to wash them and still receive the \$60 stipend. Also, residents often will not have quarters for the machines, which is a problem since there is

no coin machine on campus. He is eager for the coin-operated system to be removed, since he feels it will help with many of these issues.

"There will be less complaining and more people will use the washers in Towers," Tietz said. "I think it'll be a lot better than it is now."

Swantek said that it is the responsibility of students to report broken machines and to use proper laundry practices to avoid overloading and breaking the machines.

CONTACT KIRSTIN COOK AT:
kirstin.cook@wilkes.edu

Admission applications increase for fall 2011

BY RYAN WOOD
Correspondent

It didn't take long for the Wilkes' Admissions Office to notice the positive changes coming from their new strategy for attracting freshmen for the fall semester of 2011.

Through a multi-pronged approach to admissions, Melanie Mickelson, vice president of enrollment services, and her team have seen significant results. Applications are up 20 percent compared to previous years, with web-based application up 75 percent.

Mickelson said the newly launched BeColonel.com is largely responsible because of its "very tailored messaging."

Jack Chielli, executive director of marketing communications and government relations, added that the site helps organize content in a format more accessible for students

and parents. BeColonel.com allows students to get a feel for what it is like to be a colonel.

"Applications increased by 700 percent in a test group at North Pocono High School," Mickelson said.

While this isn't entirely because of the site, she believes the increased middle level scholarship money has created some interest.

There are four levels of scholarships at Wilkes, which are mostly distributed based on a student's SAT score.

"The middle level SAT (scores) are between 1500 and 1600," Mickelson said.

"We have adjusted our financial aid package to better serve worthy students who need the most help," Chielli added.

Besides increasing the scholarship level for that range, a method called predictive modeling has given the admissions staff the

upper hand. Predictive modeling determines "the likelihood of a student enrolling," Mickelson said.

"We obtain juniors through the PSATs and find students who are in the demographic typical of Wilkes," she added.

This computer program determines major of interest, geographical location and economic status, to name a few. The team also implemented new graphical elements to spark interest.

"We refreshed our message and graphic elements to align with our market research," Chielli said. "After four years of the same designs and messaging it was time to test what we had done and what new messages might work."

Design elements have also been placed in the view book. The view book is a direct mail publication that is sent to students

and Chielli says, "features a unique design known as French folds."

While there is an increase in applications, the percentage of accepted students will not change, Mickelson assured.

Wilkes' recently publicized budget deficit has caused concern for many current students and the families of potential enrollees.

"Any time we can exceed revenue expectations it will help reduce projected deficits, but we have to remember we have not exceeded anything other than last year's numbers at this point in time," Chielli said.

The effects of this increase on the budget deficit at Wilkes remains to be seen and Mickelson warned, "No one thing solves budgetary issues."

CONTACT RYAN WOOD AT:
ryan.wood@wilkes.edu

Replacement considered for platform software

BY ANGELO BLADES
Staff Writer

Wilkes is considering erasing the Blackboard software WebCT and the software platform Moodle from its list of learning management systems.

Matthew Koch, manager of Instructional Technologies, said the most frequently used LMS among Wilkes' faculty is WebCT.

What the committee was in charge of was finding an LMS that fits both groups. The LMS that appears to be the most compatible to the committee is Desire2Learn, which offers both an internal and external e-mail system.

"We were surprised to see that the choice among the committee was almost unanimously Desire2Learn," Koch said.

Over the last few years Blackboard has been purchasing rival companies, according to Koch. Therefore, while WebCT is its own product, it's also under the umbrella of Blackboard.

"The one that is used by most of the university is called WebCT, but WebCT was

purchased by Blackboard," Koch said. "So, officially, it is Blackboard Learning System, but it is an older product called WebCT that we've used here for some time."

Koch said the older version of WebCT is no longer being updated, so Wilkes would have to convert to the newer Blackboard Learning System.

"Our choices are really upgrade to the latest version Blackboard, which is significantly different, or look for a different system," Koch said.

Moodle, which is being considered to replace WebCT altogether, is the second software choice among the faculty of Wilkes. Moodle is an open source LMS, which means it is free to use by any downloader. However,

there is not a technical support comparable to a commercial LMS.

"We worry that development for those systems is not moving forward," Koch said.

"It is not like a product like Blackboard where they

have corporate resources and you know they are developing updates and you can see where they are headed in the next few years."

Weighing the positives and negatives of each of the products currently in use, Wilkes is looking to figure if there is a viable

replacement that will have the update security of a commercial product and is a good deal.

According to Koch, there are multiple

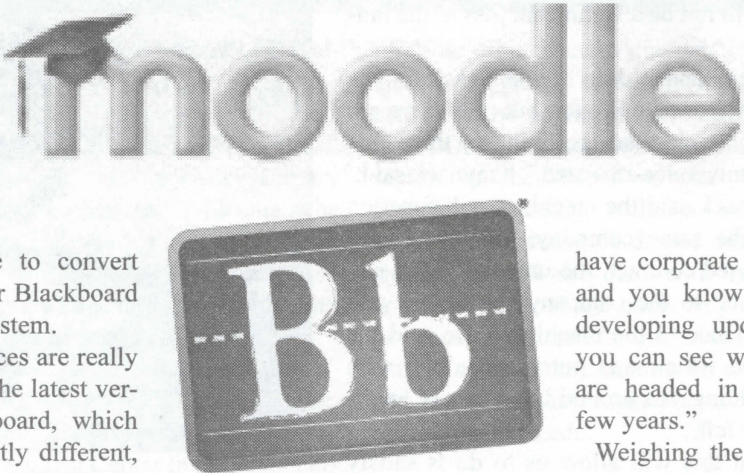
learning management systems to choose from, which makes finding a new one difficult. For Wilkes to make the correct selection of LMS, a committee was formed.

"On the committee there were...faculty and staff to get a real good look at all the systems," Koch said. "As part of the committee we looked at Blackboard (and) D2L. We also looked Pearson, Epsilon and we looked at the two open source options (which were) Moodle and Sakai."

There are some preferences toward the current systems that the committee has to recognize in finding the most ideal program for faculty to use, such as the e-mail function.

"One of the big things between Moodle and WebCT is the e-mail," Koch said, "WebCT has an internal e-mail, Moodle does not. This means that you have to use your Wilkes e-mail. Some faculty like it one way, some like it the other way."

CONTACT ANGELO BLADES AT:
angelo.blades@wilkes.edu



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Saturday	21 Public Square W-B
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Study Abroad event held to help inform students

BY LAURA PREBY
Correspondent

Last Tuesday, Nov. 16, the Center for Global Education and Diversity held an event in the Ballroom on the second floor of the SUB.

The event was called "See the World: Wilkes Study Abroad" and was designed to help students learn more about the Study Abroad program, how to get involved in it and how to deal with issues they may have with the process, such as affording to travel.

"This study abroad program is becoming more and more popular among students," said Dr. Paola Bianco, assistant professor of Spanish and coordinator of the Spain Summer Study Abroad.

"The Study Abroad event was an event run by Zebra Communications," said Aubree Armezzani, a junior communications studies major and one of the managers of the event. "The manager of the team was Jacki Lukas, with co-managers Crista Behr and myself. Our goal was to be able to inform students on the Global Education and Diversity department we have at Wilkes, and some of the

interesting things, like studying abroad, that can be done there."

Above all, the event was meant to inform.

"I think it was very helpful, because students actually get to talk to other people about their experiences, and get to see all the things the studying abroad can offer," Crista Behr, a senior communications studies major. "Also, it was great for students to talk to people from the financial aid department to discuss how to finance your trip"

As well as being able to grab a bite to eat, attendees could visit eight different tables at that represented each of the places that Wilkes students could visit with Study Abroad, such as France, Wales, Australia, Turkey/London, Costa Rica, Uganda, Tanzania and Spain.

There was also a table for Alternative Spring Break. At each table, attendees were able to learn more about each destination from students and professors that had been to that specific place before with the Study Abroad program at Wilkes.

One of the programs, the Spain Summer Study Abroad, is currently on its 10th year.

SEE STUDY ABROAD, Page 5

ESL graduate courses now offered fully online

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS
Editor-in-Chief

Courses on how to teach students English as a second language in a traditional classroom can be difficult, but with the new online education courses offered by the graduate education program, the assistant director says that the program will benefit students in a different way.

"We're open to an international audience, as well, which is a great advantage for the other students in the program because with the discussions and the online interaction, they'll have a chance to be in a global environment and get a lot of different perspectives," said Kimberly Niezgoda, assistant director of ESL.

Beginning in January 2011, the graduate education program will offer ESL courses fully online, in addition to the hybrid course, which is a combination of traditional and online courses. The course will have all the same requirements as the hybrid course, which will also be offered, the difference being that it is online.

"The only difference between what we're doing now, and what's going online is that there is a slightly different format the way we set up the course," Niezgoda said.

She credits accessibility as the driving force behind this additional online ESL program.

"There are so few fully-accredited master's degrees from nonprofit institutions that there is really a market for it and a real need as well," Niezgoda said.

There are five bilingual adjuncts teaching the course and most have their doctorate or are in the process of completing it. In addition, all the instructors have taught abroad and are experts in their field, said Niezgoda.

Niezgoda said that all of the adjunct instructors who teach at Wilkes online go through a facilitators training seminar, a three-week online course, in order for the instructors to effectively teach online. This course includes using discussions to replacing class conversations, methodology and facilitation of the course.

"Wilkes does a great job of preparing adjuncts for online instruction," she said. "In order for (the course) to work, your adjuncts have to be really well-trained in how to do it."

Although the program is now fully online, Niezgoda said that this will not hinder students in any way because of technology and also the big push for online courses.

"You can do so many things to enhance a Power Point, you can video record yourself and post it for all the other students to watch," Niezgoda said. "Technology has just made it so much better. And honestly, I think that the online formats are a lot more work in some ways."

Niezgoda said she thinks that students will get more out of the program than if it were a hybrid course. She said that every student is forced to contribute to discussions online by way of topic postings and a response is required from each student.

Students have a number of requirements in online courses and instructors can check a student's progress, last posting and if he or she has read each assignment.

Niezgoda mentioned the versatility of an online course as opposed to a traditional course because so many more students can take the course and it adapts to learning styles, depending on what the student wants out of the course.

"And you can be anywhere... You don't have to be in Wilkes-Barre, Pa," Niezgoda said. "So the diversity you get in the classrooms is amazing."

Karen Lau, ESL teaching specialist at Wilkes, is completing her final capstone course in teaching English to speakers of other languages in the hybrid course.

"For me, personally, I enjoy the in-person classes," Lau said. "I've taken online classes before, in my undergraduate studies... and I enjoy that. It makes it possible for students in other places to take advantage of (the courses)."

Lau said that the program is strong and it has met her needs thus far.

"I think the teachers were wonderful, very well-qualified, knowledgeable in their field and I really feel that I have come out with a lot," Lau said. "I really feel it has taken me to another level and I'm very happy."

Currently, there are 13 students enrolled in the fully online course for next semester, including one from Colombia and another from Puerto Rico, and inquiries about the new course keep coming.

"I just answered 20 phone calls yesterday about the program," Niezgoda said. "So the fact that we're going online is generating a lot of interest for people."

For more information on the online ESL courses, call Kimberly Niezgoda at 408-4170 or e-mail kimberly.niezgoda@wilkes.edu.

CONTACT JACQUELINE LUKAS AT:
jacqueline.lukas@wilkes.edu



The Beacon/Allison Roth
Jessica George, left, attended the study abroad event and listened as Raina Connor, right, talked about her study abroad experience in Spain.

STUDY ABROAD

Continued from Page 4

"This is really a study abroad in the sense that students live in the country, are free to travel, mingle with the Spaniards and learn their life style, customs, and priorities in life," Bianco said. "Students do their own touring or they can choose the tours organized by the school. They don't just visit the beautiful touristic places."

Bianco also said that the Spain trip lets stu-

dents explore a whole other way of life that they wouldn't normally get to see.

"They spent one month living, learning and loving Madrid, Spain," said Bianco. "It is a cultural, academic, personal experience and they have fun while they really discover a foreign country and what else there is besides their own territory and lifestyle."

Those who want more information Dr. Godlove Fonjweng or Dr. Paola Bianco.

CONTACT LAURA PREBY AT:
laura.preby@wilkes.edu

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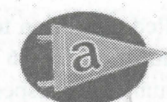
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CONTACT US: wilkesbeacon.oped@gmail.com

Replacements for oil must be pursued soon

BY THE BEACON
Editorial Board

Imagine you are running late for work and your gas tank is almost empty. You stop at the nearest gas station only to discover that their fuel supply has been depleted along with every other gas station in the area. Not only would you be unable to get to work, but a widespread panic would be unleashed across the globe.

According to a recent study by the University of California published in Environmental Science & Technology, the world's oil supply will run out 90 years before replacement technologies are readily available. If replacements are not developed at a faster pace, a global crisis may ensue. *The Beacon* feels that as citizens with the power to make change, we need to push for the development of alternatives to significantly decrease the 90-year gap.

Nataliya Malyskhina and Deb Niemeier, authors of the University of California's study, believe that at our current consumption rates, the world will run out of oil by 2041. This is a pressing issue for all of us, as this oil crisis may occur in our lifetimes.

According to the CIA World Factbook, throughout 2009, the United States consumed about 18,690,000 barrels of oil per day, far more than any other nation on the planet. That averages to one barrel of oil for each United States citizen every two and a half weeks.

Each barrel contains 42 gallons of crude oil, only half of which becomes usable gasoline, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Considering the amount of motor gasoline produced per barrel, it is easy to imagine yourself consuming at least one barrel of oil per month, especially if you drive an SUV.

Even if replacement fuels are discovered, it may be quite a while until these alternatives are available for mass consumption.

"Our results suggest it will take a long time before renewable replacement fuels can be self-sustaining, at least from a market perspective," Niemeier said. While the global economy remains focused on oil, replacements will be developed slower.

Two of the most prominent possible replacements being pursued are biofuels and hydrogen fuel cells. Biofuels create food

from fuel, yet also create many disadvantages, such as a decrease in food supply. Hydrogen fuel cells, which are likely to become the first major alternatives to oil, power vehicles by producing electricity, which is accomplished by converting hydrogen and oxygen into water. A major advantage to fuel cells is that they do not create pollution.

According to the International Energy Agency, in the most optimistic conditions, 30 percent of the planet's vehicles will be powered by hydrogen fuel cells by 2050. Unfortunately, because Malyskhina and Niemeier believe the world's oil supply will run out a decade earlier, 2050 may be a bit too late.

More than \$1 billion has been dedicated to fuel cell research and development in the U.S., yet much more support is needed for the technology to become mainstream.

As consumers of oil, we need to remind our politicians that oil is a finite resource and alternative technologies must be pursued. *The Beacon* feels that although oil is important to our economy, oil will not last forever and replacements need to be developed and made readily available within the next few decades.

More blame should be placed on parents, less on teachers

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS
Editor-in-Chief

The world today is filled with bad influences for young children.

Peer pressure, drugs, alcohol and choosing the right group of friends are just a few. However, far too many people are placing the blame on teachers for poor decisions made by students, which is unfair.

More of the blame should be placed on parents. There is absolutely nothing more valuable than a good upbringing. With a good childhood and supportive parents, a child will flourish and grow into a successful adult. But a lack of parents that give support, love and confidence can hinder a child and influence poor decision-making based on what he or she learned as a child.

I do not believe that all the blame should be placed on parents because there are some bad teachers in this nation. However, I do believe that parents should step up to the plate and do what is right for their child: provide a

solid upbringing with lessons about life that can be used and applied everyday.

It is difficult for teachers to do their job, which includes teaching a specified curriculum, reprimanding children and also teaching life lessons. Parents, not teachers, should teach these life-lessons. Teachers have enough on their plate with the ridiculous standards the government and school districts place on them. They shouldn't have to exercise child rearing in class as well.

Parents become upset at their child upon realizing that he or she is not doing well in school. Parents need to take more responsibility for supporting their children and actually making an effort to work with their child and make sure that schoolwork is going as it should.

Stacia Garland, a gifted education teacher who has worked in education for 16 years, blogs online about numerous aspects of teaching. One post, dated March 22, 2010, talks about blaming teachers for low student performance. She lists a number of reasons

why students have low test scores and one of the reasons is the parents. She says that parents who provide "a healthy physical and emotional environment are much more likely to have a child who succeeds in school."

Garland also mentions another aspect by saying that a teacher has no effect on the way a child was raised and that if the child is not raised properly, the child will never be able to perform to his or her full potential.

Of course, it is understood that some children will be under certain circumstances that may hinder parenting. For example, parents could be involved with drugs or alcohol and pay no mind to their child. But again, this is not the child's fault, but the parent's fault.

Teachers are so easily blamed for the things that are wrong with the educational system in this country, but the focus of that blame is being misplaced and more parents should take responsibility for their children.

CONTACT JACQUELINE LUKAS AT:
jacqueline.lukas@wilkes.edu

BEACON POLL

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

Last week's question:

Did you vote in the most recent election?

- Yes 40%
- No 60%

Cast your vote online at:
www.wilkesbeacon.com

SPEAK UP!

The Beacon wants
to hear your voice.

Send your name, major, year and opinion to:
wilkesbeacon.oped@gmail.com

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



Campus should take advantage of technology Wilkes has to offer

BY AMANDA LEONARD
Assistant Opinion Editor

Imagine the convenience of logging into WebCT to check the syllabus and your current grade in any of the classes you are currently taking.

However, we often find ourselves left frustrated in a classroom with a teacher who does not use the technological resources Wilkes has to offer.

Besides not making use of Wilkes' online portals, there are some teachers who infrequently check their e-mail, leaving the student who was out all week with the flu to come into class next week without an idea of where the class is. With these resources available to teachers, it is puzzling why most of Wilkes' campus is still traditional in terms of classroom interaction.

Many students would have peace of mind knowing they can check their grades at any given time to see how they are doing in a particular class. With finals right around the corner, this stress will be accumulating for students and the desire to know will only increase.

On top of the obvious convenience to both the teacher and student, the use of technologies in the classroom would also benefit Wilkes' environmental movement to go green.

The amount of paper students acquire from classes and turn in for assignments surely

adds up after four years. The amount of paper that could have been saved if all of your teachers used online assignments or uploaded the link to a certain document instead of printing it out is astounding.

If the campus as a whole can e-mail more and print less, the school can cut funds used to fund the printers and printer paper and use the money to update our current portals and enable better security to lessen the phishing attempts that frequently occur.

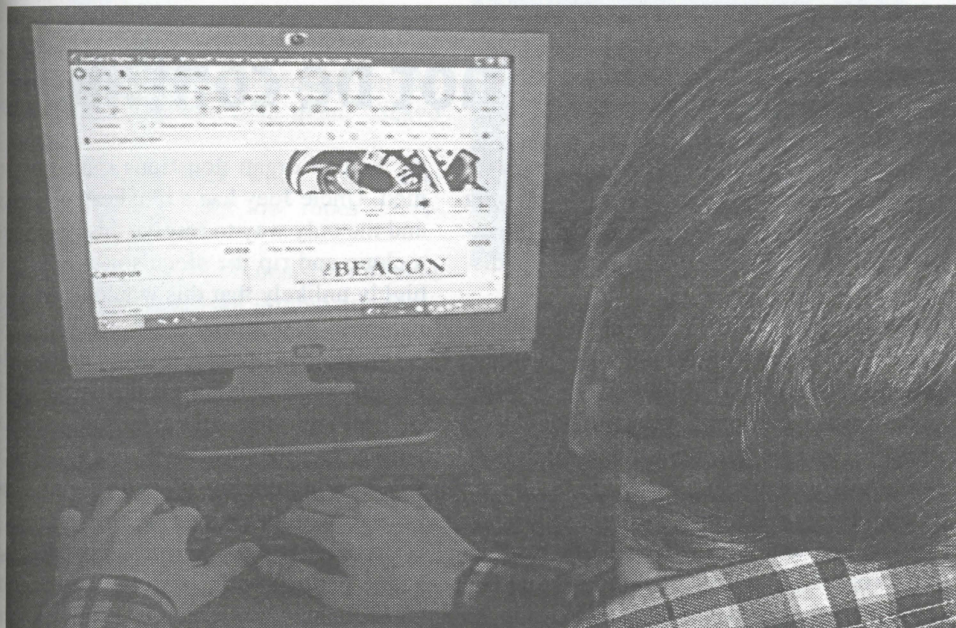
Almost daily, multiple e-mails are sent out stating that another phishing scam has hit campus; however, some students on campus do not bother to check their e-mail because they may not have a reason to do so.

While some teachers stress the importance of checking e-mail and WebCT daily, the few students who do not are enrolled in classes that are not as technologically advanced as the ones that require technology as an integral part of learning.

The number of teachers who are not using WebCT or any other online interactive platform hinders Wilkes' technological progress.

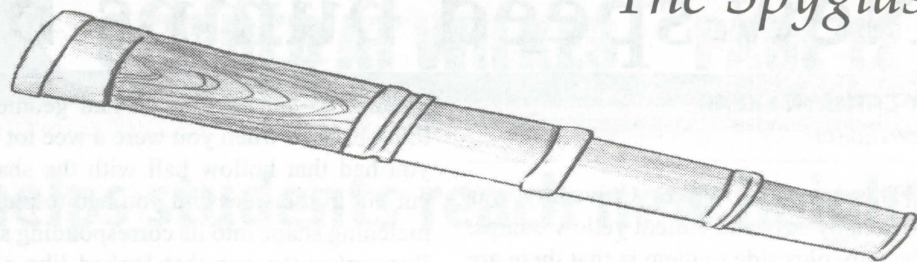
If the entire campus is not on the same page, it will be difficult to have newer portals and interactive features if our current accessible technology is not being used that much now.

CONTACT AMANDA LEONARD AT:
amanda.leonard1@wilkes.edu



Robert Quinones, sophomore business administration major, pictured above, browses his myWILKES page, preparing to log on to WebCT. Many professors unfortunately do not take advantage of WebCT, despite the various benefits it offers to both students and professors.

The Spyglass



Why drive where you can fly?

BY ANTHONY TRUPPO
Opinion Editor

When I was a child, I looked toward the future expecting innovative methods of transportation, such as a flying car. Flying cars have been among the most prominent subjects in science fiction, yet cars capable of air travel may soon become reality in the United States. If the Jetsons can do it, why can't we?

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the research and development office for the United States Department of Defense, is funding the Transformer (TX) program.

Carnegie Mellon University's Robotics Institute has been given a 17-month, \$988,000 grant for the Transformer program.

The Transformer would be the first automobile capable of air travel and would be used by the United States military.

I feel that if the Transformer is successfully developed, scientists will be taking a huge step forward in creating innovative technology that will undoubtedly be beneficial to the United States.

The Transformer itself would combine the qualities of an SUV, airplane and helicopter. The Transformer will have four wheels, airplane wings, a horizontal stabilizer and a propeller resembling one that would typically be seen on a helicopter.

According to DARPA, the Transformer will be able to carry four people and up to 1,000 pounds of materials for 250 miles on a single tank of fuel.

DARPA also reports that the Transformer will be easy to operate. A soldier without any pilot training will be able to operate the vehicle. Perhaps the most interesting quality of the Transformer is that the vehicle would be able to fly itself.

In a press release, Sanjiv Singh, Carnegie Mellon University research professor of robotics, said, "The vehicle will need to be able to fly itself, or to fly with only minimal input from the operator. And this means that the vehicle has to be continuously aware of its environment and be able

to automatically react in response to what it perceives."

Basically, the Transformer would be powered by a robot with keen awareness. I feel that this can benefit the troops using the vehicle, as they will be able to focus more on their mission than on the operation of their vehicle.

I believe that completing the Transformer would not only be a technological breakthrough, but would also be extremely helpful to the military.

There are many practical uses for military use of the Transformer. If a soldier becomes lost, the vehicle can quickly shift from ground to air travel, the search being much easier in the air.

If the soldiers wish to avoid an enemy platoon, they can abandon the road and continue their current path or find a new path in the air. The vehicle can also be used to escape from a heated battle. Also, the Transformer can be used to deliver supplies to troops in the field.

The development of flying cars seems to be accelerating, as a Florida man also recently created a working flying car. Steve Saint, a Florida missionary, has finished building a flying car that has already been approved by the Federal Aviation Administration.

All that is required for the car to become airborne is that the driver flip a switch while driving.

In a recent CNN broadcast, Saint said, "It can fly over, find somebody who needs to be rescued and you can land and then drive to them ... border patrol, pipeline monitoring, ranching and extreme sports. There is just all kinds of uses. I'm sure we'll be surprised by the uses people put this to."

I believe that the flying car is not only a technological breakthrough, but can make lives easier not just for the military, but for all people.

I fully support the research and development of flying cars and feel that they will create a better, more productive future for the United States.

CONTACT ANTHONY TRUPPO AT:
anthony.truppo@wilkes.edu

New speed bumps bumping the wrong way

BY CATHRYN FREAR
News Editor

This semester, Wilkes University was stricken by ugly and violent yellow bumps. The only plus side to them is that there are only three, but a huge downside is that the bumps are only felt in a highly trafficked area on campus.

Yes, I am talking about the speed bumps beside the Student Union Building. Now before you go all "Hey, I walk there, buddy, and I was sick of people flying through there yada, yada, yada," hear me out.

First of all, I am not anti-speed bump. Obeying the speed limit is important. There are rules set in place for a reason and generally a speed limit is equal to a safe limit.

Having said that, it's great that they actually tried to slow the speed of what was once an alley that was walked and driven on more than the majority of other places around campus.

The main problem with these particular speed bumps is that it doesn't matter how slow someone drives on them. They do not place limits on speed; they jolt fear into anyone driving a car, who is attempting to cross their bright yellow path.

Go ahead, drive seven miles an hour over them. I dare you. They still jar you in a way that will make you believe there should be a warning on them for folks who are pregnant or who have a heart condition.

The reason that the speed bumps do this is because of their shape. Think back to ge-

ometry. If you have never had geometry, think back to when you were a wee tot and you had that hollow ball with the shapes cut out in the sides and you had to put the matching shape into its corresponding side. Remember the one that looked like a triangle with the top cut off?

That, ladies and gentlemen, is known as a trapezoid.

Why in God's name was that the chosen shape for the speed bumps beside the SUB? There are such things as round speed bumps, which are much gentler on one's car. Round speed bumps put the driv-

er more at ease. Round speed bumps say "You can do this, driver. Just be gentle."

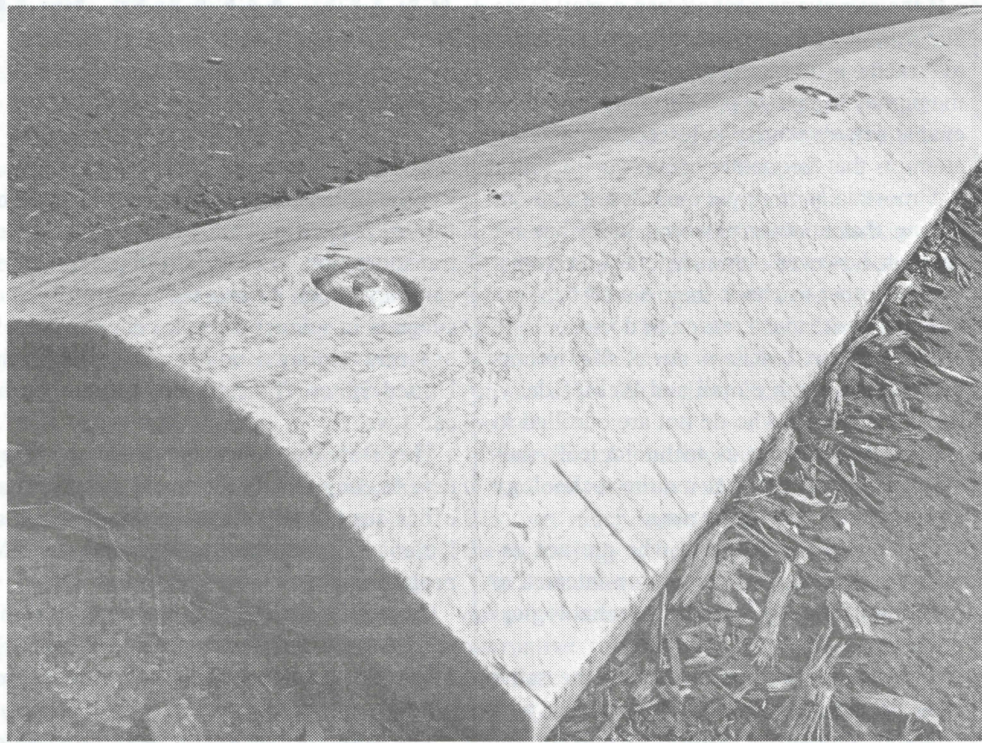
You know what doesn't say gentle? Big metal bolts that secure the plastic speed bumps into the ground. Big metal bolts as in the ones that are rearing their scary, bolty heads overtop the speed bumps. For now, these aren't such a big deal. Giant bolts will break tires if they happen to come ajar from whatever they are bolted into. If you remember nothing else from this article when you are done reading it, remember this: things break. And those bolts will come loose eventually.

Speaking of things breaking, the speed bumps are made out of some kind of plastic. Ah, plastic. The most durable of all synthetic substances.

Why, I don't understand why roads weren't made out of the magic that is plastic years ago?! Oh, that's right, reader: plastic breaks. Pretty easily, at that. And hard plastic becomes a sharp, anti-inflating tire weapon. Unlike asphalt, which is also used to make not only speed bumps, but the roads with which the asphalt is connected. Asphalt is also the material of which all other speed bumps around campus are made.

These particular speed bumps are a nuisance to the Wilkes community. They must be removed or at least converted from plastic into asphalt. Either way, they must be stopped. Or at least slowed down.

CONTACT CATHRYN FREAR AT:
cathryn.frear@wilkes.edu



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Pictured above is one of the three speed bumps that have recently been placed outside the SUB. These speed bumps are oddly constructed and are not as smooth as traditional speed bumps, resulting in a sharp jolt to the driver.

Cloning is a disturbing procedure that should not be continued

BY STEPHANIE WILKIE
Staff Writer

If you have ever seen a thousand genetically modified storm troopers marching on some faraway planet in movie, then you have witnessed the art of cloning.

According to Time magazine, cloning began in 1952 and by 1995 the first genome DNA sequence was decoded by Craig Venter. Cloning has come a long way since then and has provoked many researchers to decide that cloning humans is a good idea. However, the downfalls of cloning are very problematic and should be taken under serious consideration.

In 1996, Sir Ian Wilmut cloned a sheep, Dolly. Dolly lived only six years, which is half the life span of a regularly birthed sheep.

This was due to the fact that Dolly had only possessed half the chromosomes of a regular sheep. It took Wilmut 277 tries before he successfully cloned a sheep, which means that he took the productive organs of 277 sheep. Therefore, for Wilmut to create just one sheep, he had to destroy 277 sheep embryos.

If human cloning became possible, the diversity within our population would be significantly decreased. Parents would spend millions of dollars to make carbon copies of their children and loyal pet owners would resort to a program called "Best Friends Again" to make copies of their aging dogs. This poses many genetic problems.

Gene diversity allows for an organism to survive and adapt better. By cloning, genes are unnaturally combined, which impacts survival and adaptation skills. Genes

are also lost during cloning which can reduce an organism's chance of developing a strong immune system, therefore developing a limited chance of fighting off diseases.

Furthermore, there is no way to make actual copies of an organism. At this point, cloning is not advanced enough to the point where exact copies of an organism can be made. There is no guarantee that Lassie will look the same as Lassie 2.0.

The thing people fear the most is the unknown and that is exactly what happens in the process of cloning. A human being has never been cloned before and there is no way to confirm if human cloning will produce mental or emotional problems.

In addition, a person's intention for cloning their child, husband and so on cannot be confirmed. The rumor of using clones

for human organ donations cannot be denied. Uncle Joey has a rare heart condition and the only way to resolve this is to create a clone and rip the clone's heart out? It is highly unlikely that this would fly with the humanist population.

The United States Congress has already considered banning human cloning, which is a telltale sign that something must be wrong with the procedure. Why should we risk overpopulation of humans, let alone pet overpopulation?

There is a reason Bob Barker always urged us to get our pets spayed and neutered. I believe there are many disadvantages to cloning that should not be ignored or overlooked.

CONTACT STEPHANIE WILKIE AT:
stephaine.wilkie@wilkes.edu

NOVEMBER 23, 2010

CONTACT US: wilkesbeacon.lifestyles@gmail.com

The Adventure Education Program helps students reach new heights

BY RUTH WHISPELL
Life Editor

Since last fall, Gabriel Lamberti has been helping students climb to new heights.

As the coordinator of Wilkes' Adventure Education Program, Lamberti runs the rock wall and the ropes courses in the UCOM.

"I schedule and manage high/low ropes team building events; supervise, train and certify the Adventure Education step up facilitators and organize and lead outdoor trips," Lamberti said. "I also serve as an adviser to the Alternative Spring Break Program."

Step-up facilitators assist Lamberti in the high and low ropes courses as well as the rock wall.

"The certification was a very long two-day weekend," said junior psychology major Maria Scavo, who was certified as a step-up facilitator last January. "The people or company who built the rock wall trained us to belay. He (the instructor) also taught us all different types of knots and which ropes to use for which activity."

Belaying is a technique used when climbing to secure the person to the rope so if the climber falls they do not fall very far or fast.

"The belay device we have holds up to 5,000 pounds. Anyone could go up the rock wall and you can hold them," Scavo said.

Along with the rock wall, Scavo also assists in the high and low ropes courses.

"The high and low ropes consist of different things. The low ropes are ground and logic based. They're designed for team building. We split the groups into teams and do different activities with them like Spider's Web and Nitro," Scavo said.

Spider's Web is a trust-building activity where a group is split into two teams. Members of each team have to help each other through a web of ropes without touching the ropes. If one team member touches a rope, then all of the team members have to start from the beginning.

Nitro is an activity where four wooden boxes of the same size and shape are placed in a square formation on the floor and a rope



The Beacon/ Allison Roth

Step-up facilitator Rob Walsh, a junior mechanical engineering major, belays Pat Lamberson, a sophomore business major, while Lamberson climbs the rock wall in the UCOM. The rock wall is open Mondays and Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m.

is hung from the ceiling. The group members are split up between the four blocks and each person must use the ropes to move to a different block without touching the ground.

Lamberti explained that the high ropes courses are opened a few times a semester.

"The low ropes are open to any club, class or group that would like to access it," Lamberti said.

Area high schools also participate in the high and low ropes courses at Wilkes. Kristofer Rivers, a sophomore pharmacy major, has been the high school leadership coordinator since the beginning of the fall semester.

"The low ropes events help the students to break communication barriers with peers, learn new things about each other, and help build teamwork and leadership skills," Rivers said. "Some events push the stu-

dents to new limits that they may not normally come across, in a safe environment, helping them to grow as individuals and a group.

"The high ropes events are designed to build personal improvement by allowing students to overcome barriers and try new things. They learn about themselves with the encouragement of their peers."

Along with the rock wall and ropes courses, Lamberti also schedules a number of outdoor related events available to Wilkes students throughout the school year.

Ali Weidman, a senior elementary education major, went on the Adventure-Education-organized Susquehanna River kayak trip and a trip to Jim Thorpe where she went biking, took a train ride and went on a ghost tour of the Carbon County Jail. Weidman explained that she enjoys the events because they're fun and are available at a great price.

"It's a great way to experiment with different activities without spending a lot of money. All the planning is done for you. You don't have to schedule a kayak rental or make your own lunch, Gabe does all of that. He is also very knowledgeable in outdoor sports and activities," Weidman said.

"The schedule is winding down for this semester, however early next semester we will be running a ski/snowboarding trip and a few other big days. The Wilkes Climbing Association is one of the newest clubs on campus and I serve as the adviser," Lamberti said.

"In the next few months we hope to establish a committed group of climbers who are interested in learning the craft of climbing in a safe, fun environment."

The rock wall is open in the UCOM on Mondays and Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m. Anyone interested in learning more about the Adventure Education Program should contact Lamberti at gabriel.lamberti@wilkes.edu.

CONTACT RUTH WHISPELL AT:
ruth.whispell@wilkes.edu

Chatting with faculty: Jean Adams

Adams spends 25 years at Wilkes throwing clay and inspiring students

BY RUTH WHISPELL
Life Editor

Every weekday morning Jean Adams, a part-time integrative media faculty member, unlocks the door to the Bedford Annex, pulls on a clay splattered shirt and sits down at her potter's wheel to begin creating what most of her students consider pottery marvels.

This routine has become somewhat of a ritual over the course of Adams' college career and the 25 years she has been working at Wilkes.

Adams grew up in Emerson, N.J., a borough of about 7,200 residents in Bergen County. Her love of art and pottery is partly due to the fact that her father was a New York City jeweler who designed and created jewelry for other internationally known jewelers. Because of this, she grew up in a very creative and artistic house.

"I am like my father in many ways," Adams said.

After graduating high school in 1974, Adams came to what was then Wilkes College,

and majored in art education with a concentration in clay.

After graduating from Wilkes in 1978, Adams traveled to New York City and began working for a design firm. Shortly after she started working at the firm, Adams decided she didn't like working in the city and returned to Wilkes.

"I truly loved Wilkes College. My husband may have had something to do with it though, he was also coming back," Adams said.

Adams has been married to Dean Paul Adams, vice president of student affairs, for 30 years. The two met and fell in love as students at Wilkes.

Since then, Adams has held several jobs at Wilkes. Shortly after her return, Adams began working as the assistant director of resident life. After that, she began working at the Sordoni Art Gallery. A few years later, she began teaching and passing on her love of ceramics to Wilkes University students.

The Beacon: Have you always wanted to teach ceramics?

Adams: When I was an art education ma-

ior I knew I would end up teaching. I just didn't know where. It's wonderful to be able to teach in your concentration.

The Beacon: What is your greatest accomplishment and why?

Adams: My greatest accomplishment would be my children, my husband and my family, by far.

The Beacon: What is your happiest memory?

Adams: The birth of my children.

The Beacon: Where have you traveled?

Adams: My father is from Germany so we have traveled to Germany and through some of the U.S.

The Beacon: Where would you like to travel?

Adams: My dream vacation is a Viking river cruise down different rivers in Europe.

The Beacon: If you were on a deserted island, what three things would you want with you?

Adams: My husband, Paul, and my two daughters, Lindsay and Caroline.

The Beacon: What were you like in college?

Adams: I think I was a pretty normal college student. I spent a lot of time in the ceramics studio, which used to be behind Sturdevant Hall in a building that has since been razed, called Conyngham Annex. It housed an art gallery, jewelry studio, ceramics studio and another studio upstairs.

The Beacon: Do you miss college?

Adams: I miss being in a studio environment with my peers who share the same interests as me.

The Beacon: What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

Adams: Throwing pottery.

The Beacon: Do you have any regrets in life?

Adams: My one regret is that I never told Byron Temple (a famous potter who has passed away) how much of an influence he had on my clay career.

The Beacon: Describe yourself in three words.

Adams: Creative, patient and caring.

The Beacon: What words of advice do you have for students?

Adams: Always try your hardest and find your passion in life.

The Beacon: What is your favorite color and why?

Adams: I can't pick one favorite color.

I love all color. I love decorating with color.

The Beacon: What is your favorite movie and why?

Adams: "To Kill a Mockingbird." When I watch it, I feel like I'm watching an Ansel Adams photograph.

The Beacon: What are your goals in life?

Adams: To always improve and never stay stagnant in my art work. I tell my students all of the time that you've never done your best and that I have never done my best. Our best is yet to come.

The Beacon: What type(s) of music do you like?

Adams: Classical. I thoroughly enjoy Strauss and I like Beethoven.

The Beacon: If you had one wish, for what would you wish?

Adams: World peace.

The Beacon: Are you the kind of friend that you would want as a friend?

Adams: Yes, because I'm very loyal to my friends.

The Beacon: Are you the kind of teacher that you would want as a teacher?

Adams: Yes, because I hope I've taken what I think are the best qualities of all of my teachers and put them together.

The Beacon: What do you think your students think and say about you?

Adams: I think that they would know how much I love clay, to live with it, to make it and to use it.

The Beacon: Do you have any fun projects that your students are required to do?

Adams: Once students develop enough throwing skills, I teach them how to make teapots. To see my students succeed is a thrill for me.

The Beacon: What was your favorite toy as a child?

Adams: Toys were so different then. My favorite toy as a child was when someone got a new refrigerator on the street and we got to play with the box and make things out of it. The other things that made great toys were my father's saw horses. We would pretend that they were horses and we were riding them. I also enjoyed water color sets and my blue Schwinn bicycle with no gears. I made it extra special by putting the cards from bubble gum on the spokes so it made noise as you rode.

CONTACT RUTH WHISPELL AT:
ruth.whispell@wilkes.edu

One Night Without a Home



The Beacon/Allison Roth

On Monday, Nov. 15, Wilkes students spent the night on the Greenway as part of Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. Willie Eggleston, a junior pharmacy major, was just one of the countless students who slept on the Greenway.

Wilkes University's Health & Wellness Corner

Wilkes University's Health & Wellness Corner is a weekly feature in The Beacon. Students who ask questions will remain anonymous. All questions will be answered by Health Services staff.

Q. My friend was diagnosed with a MRSA skin infection. Should I be concerned that I will get it, too, if I am her roommate?

A. MRSA is abbreviation for methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, which is a bacterial infection that is resistant to the usual antibiotics we typically place a person on when they have a skin infection.

It is very important that if you notice an area on your skin that looks red, warm to touch, painful and has pus at the site where your skin has a sore, abrasions or cuts, you should have it examined as soon as possible by your healthcare provider along with a culture of the area. Do not try to treat the infections yourself by picking or popping the sore.

If MRSA is diagnosed, it can be spread easily to another person if the proper precautions are not followed. Wounds should

always be covered and the dressings disposed of in the proper way by placing them in a sealed plastic bag before putting them in the garbage.

Take your antibiotics as prescribed. Clean your hands thoroughly with warm soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub. Especially after changing the bandage or touching an infected wound.

Do not share personal items, including towels, washcloths, razors, clothing and uniforms. Wash used sheets, towels and clothes with hot water and detergent. Use a dryer to dry clothes completely.

Good hand washing is the key to not spreading infection.

Do you have a question for the Health & Wellness Corner? E-mail your questions to wellness.services@wilkes.edu, and you may see your question in next week's Wellness Corner. Your privacy will be protected. You can reach those working at Health Services at 570-408-4730 or by visiting their office on the first floor of Passan Hall.

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Mentoring promises students new opportunities

BY CHRISTINE LEE
Staff Writer

As the spring semester approaches, two mentoring programs give students the opportunity to learn more about their career paths and gain good leadership experience. Alumni mentors and E-mentors are two mentoring programs on campus that allow students to gain new perspectives and valuable leadership experience.

The alumni mentoring program was started in fall of 2009 through a committee of the Alumni Association that is focused on mentoring, with eight or nine alumni working to build the program. Its goal is to give communication studies and psychology majors a chance to get an additional resource that is beneficial to them in networking and provide advice for research projects as well as internships.

According to Alumni Relations director Mirko Widenhorn, the alumni mentoring program allows students to get feedback on their job application materials and to develop a network of contacts, while providing the student with information about the field in which the alumnus works.

"One of the key ways (the program works) is to provide the student with a network, also to give them feedback on their resume, their cover letters," Widenhorn said. "(The focus of the program) is really to provide some feedback from the working world about what a student should be prepared to do once they get out of Wilkes."

Widenhorn said the alumni mentoring program's intent is to give students an alumna who will work with them for a semester and help the student get more information about what it's like after Wilkes. Students can also become more aware of the Wilkes network of 30,000 alumni.

"It's nice for students to see (what Wilkes alumni have done after graduating) while they are students and know that they can reach out to people even once they graduate," Widenhorn said.

Mary Balavage-Simmons, class of 2010, said students don't think of how great it is to have a mentor who was a student at Wilkes.

"I think students will gain an appreciation for the program once they're in it," Balavage-Simmons said. The program lets students see that there are Wilkes alumni outside of Wilkes that are interested in working with and helping current students.

The alumni mentoring program currently has 110 students enrolled, which is double the number of students enrolled last year. It is expected that there will be another 60 to 70 students between the higher career courses and the communications studies courses, which means that close to 200 students will have worked with an alumnus this year. There are just over 100 alumni who have been interested in the program that are currently mentoring students.

"The goal of the alumni association is to continue to build the program out," Widenhorn said.

The E-mentor program is designed to help first-year students get useful advice that aides in transitioning into the college environment as well as to provide first-year students a supportive environment for achievement and growth. The mentors are assigned a group of about 10 to 15 first-year students based on students' majors.

By becoming an E-mentor, one can gain leadership experience and friendships, according to Internship and Mentoring coordinator Sharon Castano.

"The orientation leader is a good position to have over the summer in that you are basically responsible for the (first-year) students for the entire orientation weekend," Castano said. "You make friends within the E-mentor group as well as the incoming freshmen, so I think socially it expands the number of people you know on campus."

E-mentors are respected as a resource because of their knowledge of the campus and the students. This would mean that those who are interested in becoming an E-mentor are active in extracurricular activities and on campus.

"I look for someone who's very involved in campus activities, very involved in the community, such as providing service," Castano said. "Academically they have to be a strong student, and I also look for someone who has a true passion for wanting to be at Wilkes."

The group is one that has varying interests with 45 to 50 E-mentors generally

selected, with the aim of getting one representative from each major. The program was initiated by the university in 2006 with the intent of helping first-year students ease into their first semester of college. According to Castano, the program is added onto each year.

"Each year we add something different to the program to enhance it one step further. For example, the E-mentors are orientation leaders during orientation but also at Welcome Weekend."

The process of becoming an E-mentor involves filling out an application and getting a letter from an academic adviser. If you are called into an interview, you would be interviewed by at least four to five Student Development staff members. The process lasts around four weeks for one to be selected as an E-mentor.

Castano said the E-mentoring program has evolved into one of the most positive things Wilkes offers because of the friendships it forms and the ability for students to interact with first-year students.

"I've heard stories (from E-mentors) that their mentees are still in touch with them and they're hearing now that their mentees are graduating from Wilkes," Castano said. "It's a program that's created a legacy (because) a lot of the students that were very active as a mentee become mentors."

CONTACT CHRISTINE LEE AT:
christine.lee@wilkes.edu

Bullying is no longer limited to its traditional forms

BY AUBREE ARMEZZANI
Correspondent

It was the one person a child dreaded seeing at school, the playground or in the neighborhood. That child was full of fright, and always knew that when he or she crossed the bully's path, nothing good would come of it.

Many students have been there and no matter what they did, bullies were always around to make them miserable.

In the past people might only deal with traditional forms of bullying.

Today, bullying has taken an entirely different form of ridicule and torment. On top of the cruel words and embarrassment, adolescence has been taken over by a social world that could ultimately do so much damage to a victim. Many children who have been bullied will forever be either traumatized or insecure from the cruel words and bane that someone has done to them.

Mischelle Anthony, an associate professor of English and author of "Little Girls Can Be Mean," said, "You don't expect that level of meanness to start at such an early age."

Younger children are most prone to bullying, but bullying from teenage years to college days has also increased. People at this age, who assume that they should be able to defend themselves, usually are not able to reach out help; instead they resort to drastic measures, some including death to ease the pain that a bully can cause.

After the suicide of Rutgers University student, Tyler Clementi, who was ridiculed after video footage of him with same-sex individual was posted online, many college students started to raise the awareness about bullying.

Clementi was found on Sept. 23, 2010, at the George Washington Bridge after jumping to his death and posting his note of suicide on his Facebook page.

Nick Fabri, a student at Cabrini College, who has openly admitted that he is homosexual, said the embarrassment and torment from peers was very hard to overcome.

"I hated running into people who knew I was gay," says Fabri. "It was really annoying and really embarrassing to hear what comments were going to come out of their mouths."

Fabri did not openly admit his homosexuality until his senior year in high school, because he said he was being judged. "I just knew that everyone there would judge me so much, so by the time I was a senior I really didn't care what anyone thought," Fabri said.

Dr. Jane Elmes-Crahall, a communication studies professor at Wilkes, said bullying deals with the emotional intelligence that people have. Elmes-Crahall said people in our lives teach us how to act out our emotions, therefore teaching us what cir-

cumstances qualify to be embarrassed or ashamed.

Maggie Mattu, a junior pharmacy major, explained she is bullied over her choice of major.

"I'm a pharmacy major, and I really hate when I get ridiculed from my peers about what my major is," Mattu said.

Mattu said she feels the bullying she deals with has a lot to do with not hanging out with her pharmacy peers outside of the classroom.

The formal policy of Wilkes University allows no hazing on campus and students who are found bullying or hazing are immediately will be subjected to disciplinary actions. Depending on the severity of the situation, students may face punishments dealt with the school or with the law.

CONTACT AUBREE ARMEZZANI AT:
aubree.armezzani@wilkes.edu

NOVEMBER 23, 2010

CONTACT US: wilkesbeacon.ae@gmail.com

Harry Potter premieres in local theaters for midnight show

BY MOLLY KURLANDSKI
A&E Editor

Before "Twilight," there was "the boy who lived" and that boy's name was Harry Potter. For more than ten years, the film adaptation to the bestseller book series written by J.K. Rowling, has created a phenomenon and has easily become one of the highest grossing film franchises in the box office.

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" is the first part of the finale of the movie series. The sequel will be released in theaters on July 15, 2011. "Hallows" premiered at select theaters in the area for a special midnight showing Friday, Nov. 19. Followers of the film franchise waited in line for two to three hours just to get a good seat in the late-night showing.

More than 300 people were at the Cinemark theater in Moosic alone, including Austin Loukas, a sophomore psychology major at Wilkes. Loukas said how he stood in line for more than two hours anxious to see the film.

Loukas, who hasn't read the book series and has only seen the films, added that he has a unique experience when watching the "Potter" films.

"I always enjoy the movies more because I haven't read the book," Loukas said. "I always hear people say after the movie that it's not like the book. I get a different experience (than true 'Potter' fans)."

Both the book and the film series have been relatively close in story and subject matter which is why the films have been so successful. For many Potter fans, the book series was a form of nostalgia, a reminder of something they've had since they were 11 or 12.

Salvatore Infantino, a recent Wilkes grad, has gone to the midnight premiere of every Harry Potter since the third movie's release.

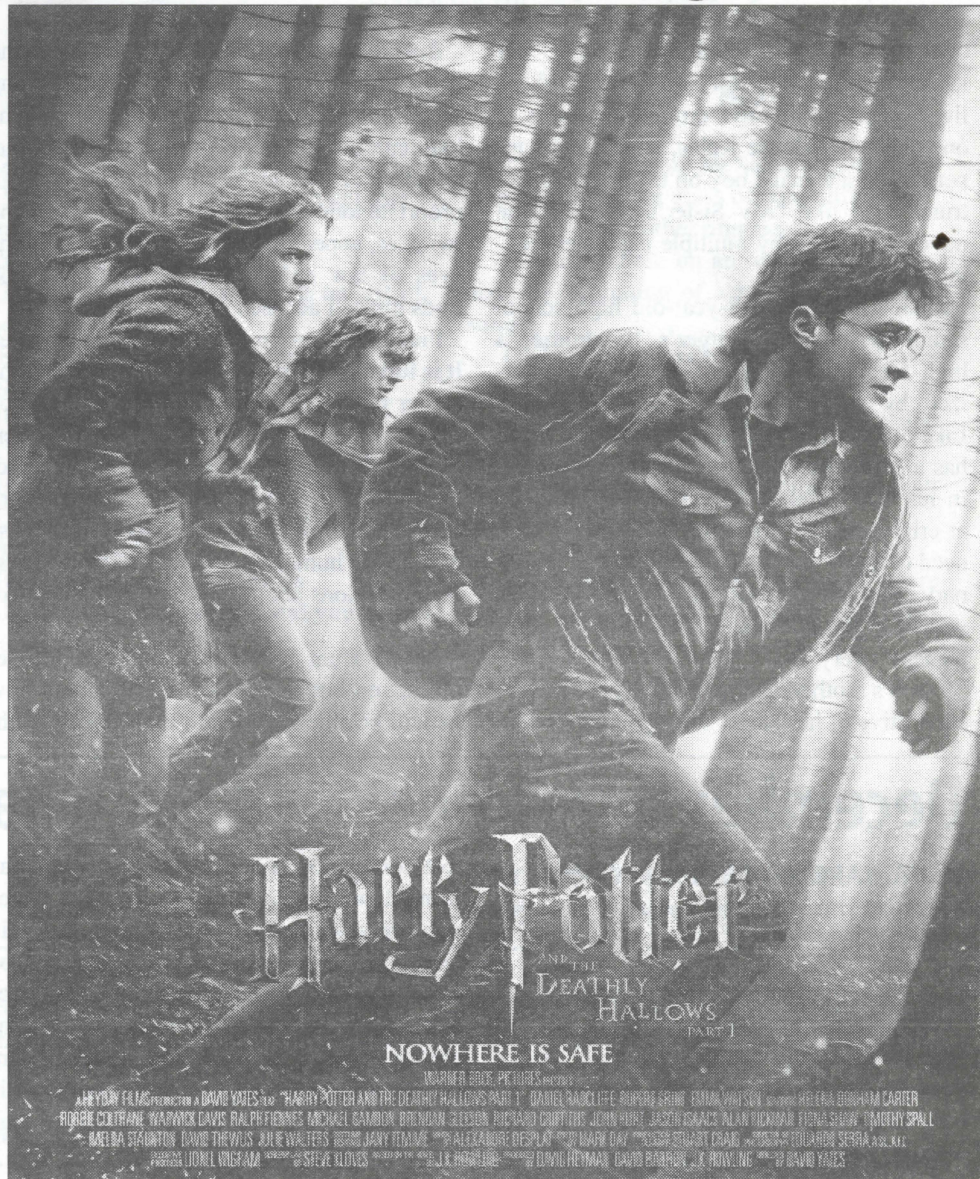
"With this movie, and the next movie, this is the last thing we have from our childhood," Infantino said. "Everything else has essentially ended. I was 10 years old when I got the first book. I was a huge fan of these books and never expressed interest in watching the films for fear of ruining the book series. It's interesting because I've aged with these characters from 10 to 18."

The final movie for the pop culture hit will premiere next summer and many "Potter" fans are suggesting that it will be a sad moment in movie history and the wait is almost unbearable.

"I know I will be upset when the last movie comes out," Infantino added. "But I think it's very exciting to lose something. We've been waiting for these books and movies every summer. It ends relatively happy but it will be hard to let go."

The story revolves around a wizard boy after the evil Lord Voldemort's first attempt to kill him when he was just a baby. Left with an ignorant family who treats him horribly, Potter is accepted to Hogwarts, a school of witchcraft and wizardry. With the help of his new wizard friends, Hermione Granger (Emma Watson) and Ron Weasley (Rupert Grint), Potter discovers that he is the only one who can possibly defeat Voldemort and save the wizarding world he has come to love.

CONTACT MOLLY KURLANDSKI AT:
molly.kurlandski@wilkes.edu



Courtesy of Facebook/Harry Potter & the Deathly Hallows
"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," which is rated PG-13, is now playing at theaters everywhere.

Interesting 'Potter' movie facts

Liam Aiken, from "Stepmom" was originally given the role of Harry Potter but when it was discovered that he did not have a British accent, it was taken away.

Steven Spielberg wanted Haley Joel Osment to play Harry Potter.

Richard Harris only accepted the role of Albus Dumbledore after his granddaughter threatened to never talk to him again if he did not take it because she was a huge Harry Potter fan.

In a draft for the script of Harry Potter, Drew Barrymore had a cameo. Rosie O'Donnell and Robin Williams expressed

interest in the film and wanted a role so badly that they both agreed to make an appearance without any pay.

Hugh Grant was offered the role of character Gilderoy Lockhart for "The Chamber of Secrets" but turned it down due to scheduling conflicts.

Moaning Myrtle is actually 37 years old. Daniel Radcliffe made \$20 million for each film. Emma Watson and Rupert Grint reportedly made \$15 million for each film.

For Harry Potter movie facts, visit imdb.com



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Book Review: 'House Rules' is relatable and educational

BY CHRISTINE LEE
Staff Writer

Those that were moved by Jodi Picoult's 2004 novel "My Sister's Keeper" will be entranced by the multiple perspectives presented in her latest novel "House Rules." Much on the same lines of "My Sister's Keeper," her latest novel tells the story of a family whose lives seemingly revolve around the needs of one child. In "House Rules," that child happens to be a teenage boy on the autism spectrum. Also like "My Sister's Keeper," the novel is narrated by multiple characters telling the same story.

Jacob Hunt is an 18-year-old high school senior who has Asperger's Syndrome, a high-functioning form of autism characterized by problems with social interaction. Like others with Asperger's Syndrome, Jacob has a restricted interest in a particular topic, in his case forensic analysis. He shows up at crime scenes to tell the police what they need to know about a case and sets up imaginary crime scenes. His daily routine involves watching the fictional crime show "Crime-busters" every day.

Jacob's mother, Emma Hunt, has been very supportive of her eldest son, fighting for him

in school for proper learning accommodations and using a great deal of her money to pay for the medications that help Jacob get through a typical day. All her time spent on Jacob has made his younger, regularly functioning brother Theo feel ignored, causing him to sneak out and break into homes.

But when Jacob's social skills tutor is found dead, the police are suddenly questioning Jacob on the whereabouts of the crime. The hallmark behaviors of Asperger's Syndrome, notably not looking people in the eye, inappropriate tone of voice, and awkward tics and twitches, appear to be the signs of guilt in the eyes of law enforcement. Suddenly, Jacob finds himself accused of murder.

Picoult's latest novel is one of her best yet. It is full of suspense at every part, making the reader not want to put down the book. Each different perspective allows readers to understand how the opinions of each main character impact the entire novel. The characters of Emma and Theo Hunt are relatable to because of the very human way in which they express their emotions about Jacob and the events of the novel.

Emma Hunt has an intense love for her oldest son but worries constantly about how he will be able to function in the world with-

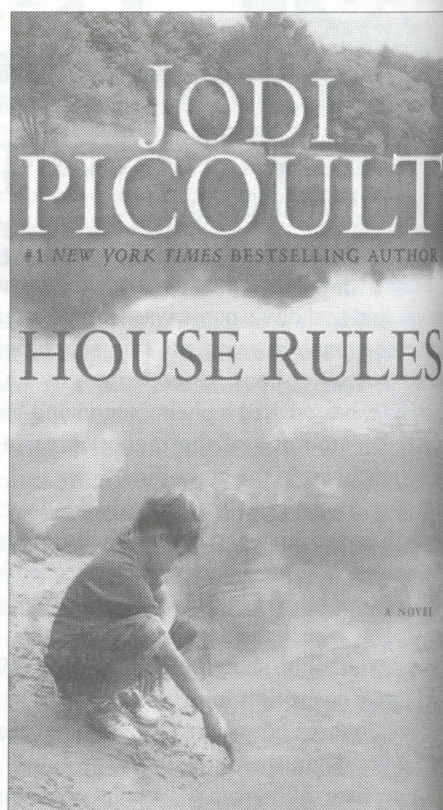
out her with his Asperger's Syndrome. Even though this is a unique circumstance of parenting because of Jacob's Asperger's Syndrome, many parents are worried about what their children will do in life when they get older and they are not there to tell the child what to do. Concern for their children is a shared characteristic for all parents.

Theo Hunt is Jacob's younger brother who feels ignored because of his mother's preoccupation with treating the symptoms of Jacob's Asperger's Syndrome and trying to help Jacob overcome them. Many children or teens feel this same way if their parents' attention is focused on one child, causing many to want to run away to seek comfort.

Picoult also able to give the reader a good idea of the autism spectrum disorder of Asperger's Syndrome, which is uncommon and little understood, even by experts. The character of Jacob Hunt narrating parts of the novel and the other narratives give readers an idea of what it is like to live with Asperger's Syndrome as well as a better understanding of Asperger's Syndrome and the difficulties it presents to families.

"House Rules" is now available in paperback form.

Rating: 4/4 stars



Courtesy of the Jodi Picoult Fansite

CONTACT CHRISTINE LEE AT:
christine.lee@wilkes.edu

December Horoscope: Find out what the stars say next month will bring

BY DR. KAPOLKA'S FYF 101 CLASS
Special to The Beacon

Aries (March 21-April 19)

You will have a positive attitude toward life. If you work hard, something you've been waiting for might come your way. Be patient though, or all of your work will be wasted. Make sure to voice your opinion and do not let others make decisions for you. Take advice from friends and loved ones seriously. This will help you achieve the goal you have been trying to reach. The moon may make you more opinionated and emotional this month. Don't let this go to waste. Use this to your advantage, but be careful as to what you say when speaking out.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Taurus is defined by force and power which is related to the bull. One has a unique way of thinking and enjoys the reassurance of being in the presence of one's own environment. Taurus is also known to be practical and convey a positive influence on their surroundings. They tend to care what other people think about them. You will feel strongly about an issue but be cautious to the actions expressed. Watch what you say and be careful not to become too attached

to a companion, a derogatory comment may bring down this concrete relationship. Since you are a very passionate person, this will lead you to success in a field in which you work diligently. The trait of independence keeps your focus set on your dreams. The ability to stay interested, in unison with ambition, will lead one to accomplishment in the month of December. Being humble may lead to much success.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

A new someone catches your eye, perhaps after the semester ends, and the appeal overtakes both your mind and body. You could have trouble concentrating on almost anything else. This is all a bit overwhelming and you are more nervous than you've been for a long time. You even start to think about exercising so that you'll be more appealing. Think about what you are doing; slow down and don't let your heart get broken.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

In December, Venus will be in the fifth house. For Cancers, this might mean a fascination with financial-risk taking. Beware, as this could be disastrous. Cancers should take control of any gambling instinct. Skillful games, such as chess, however, can still be enjoyed. The sun will be in the sixth house,

which concentrates on health, diet, and exercise. December will be a good month for Cancers to change their diet or focus on a new exercise routine. Both Mars and Mercury will be in the seventh house. This will lead cancers to direct a lot of positive energy toward their partnerships, and use strength to make them full of friendship, progress, and direction. The moon in the 10th house tells us that cancers hard work in school or work will pay off. December will also be a good month to do something creative involving the imagination.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

December is a good month for you, dear Leo. The beginning of December is particularly pleasing in the love department. You shine as Jupiter enters your sign. Be aware that on Dec. 7, 8 and especially on 10, you will receive quite a bit of romantic attention from more than one admirer! This will bring you with a decision to make. Money will become more important toward the end of the month. During the last week of December, you may come across an interesting job offer. Many last-minute opportunities and new adventures will arise and you'll happily accept these endeavors. With all of this positive energy, be sure to try to carry it into the new year!

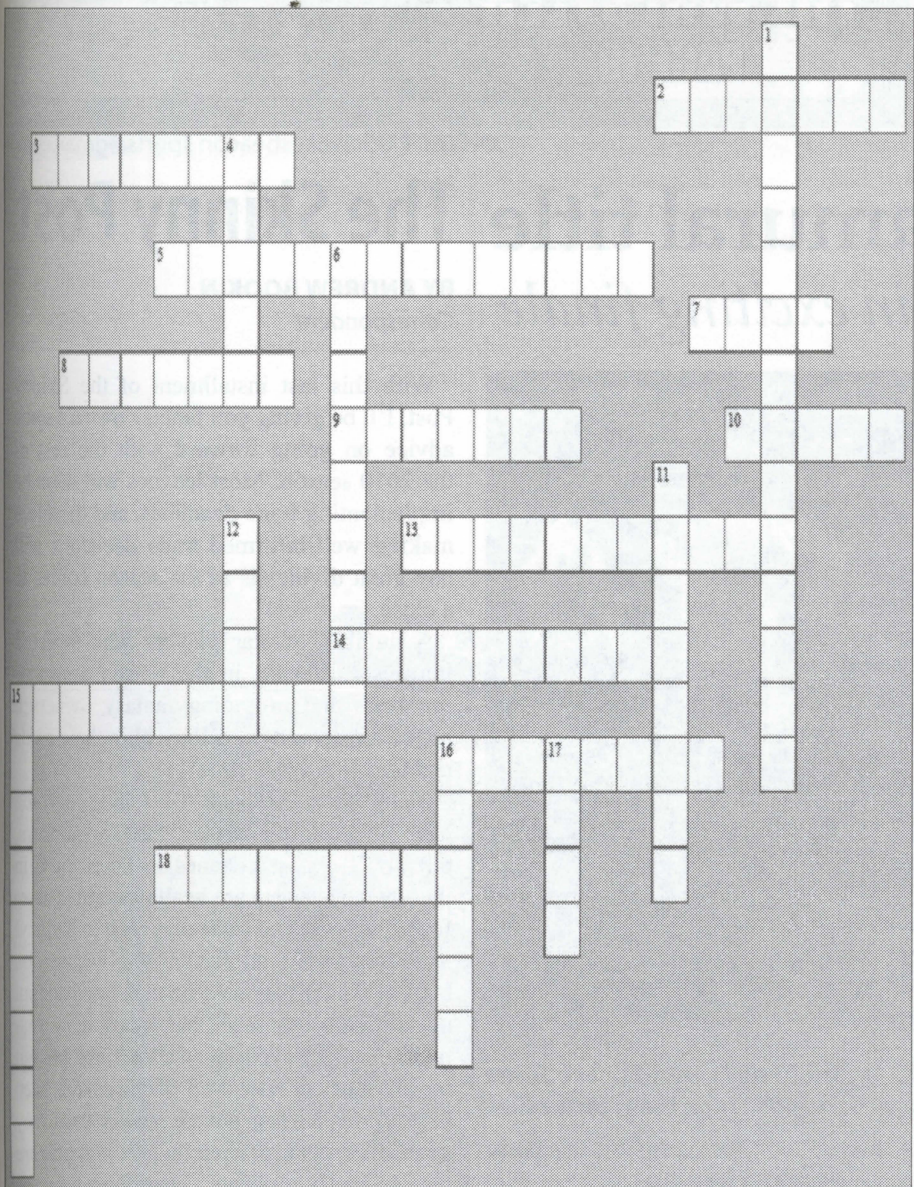
Virgo (August 23-September 22)

You have the desire to please everyone around you. You want to serve and sometimes are easily taken advantage of because of this. You are always feeling busy and worried, but this month especially. You will have great anxiety when it comes to financial issues. This will be a learning experience as you will take better care in your handling your money. This month to avoid stress you will also make sure you have all the facts before you make a decision. You are very versatile and show good judgement and therefore will find it easy to succeed in what you set your mind to this month.

Libra (September 23-October 23)

This month is very busy for Libra in the concentration of family matters. There may be some heated issues involved which could require a lot of intelligence and mental function to get through. You may spend a lot of time dealing with other people as well which may become frustrating. Therefore this requires much courage. As for yourself, you are feeling very at home with who you are, and understanding your place in the world more and more.

SEE HOROSCOPE, Page 15



ZerCross

"Almost Christmas"

BY ASHLEY ZERFOSS
Correspondent

Across

2. The reindeer with the shiny nose
3. Because of the holiday, you get this from school
5. I'm dreaming of this...
7. Slide down the frozen hills on one of these
8. Comet, Cupid, Donner, and...
9. Frosty was a...
10. The big guy in red
13. Sweet treat used for houses and men
14. The first to give gifts on Christmas
15. You'll hear these as you go dashing through the snow
16. Hang this by the chimney
18. Get caught under this and you'll need to pucker up.

Down

1. Leave these out for Santa on Christmas Eve right next to a glass of cold milk
4. All of the other reindeer
6. Roast these on an open fire. This is also the beginning of a beloved Christmas song
11. Look for these under the tree. If you are good, you will get a lot of them
12. Deck this out with ornaments and lights.
15. Watch out for this guy nipping at your nose
16. A one-horse open...
17. If you've been bad, this is all you're getting for Christmas. It's black and rock-like.

CONTACT ASHLEY ZERFOSS AT:
ashley.zerfoss@wilkes.edu

HOROSCOPES

Continued from Page 14

You're becoming quite sure of yourself, and obtaining a greater confidence, which leads you to become even more accepted. Romance is also highly valued this month, and if it is not going very well, Libra may rely heavily on possessions.

Scorpio (October 24–November 21)

You express really strong emotions toward people in everyday life. There's no happy medium, you either don't acknowledge someone at all, or include them in every aspect of your life. In relationships, you may experience strong jealousy. You generally don't enter into any sort of relationship unless there is something to gain. You are a man/woman of your word; your friends can depend on you. You strive to achieve your goals, but don't become too narrow-minded. You know you are an ambitious person, and always strive to do your best, but don't judge

your colleagues superficially, look past what you may see on the outside and try to get to know them. Don't overlook anyone. Changes may be on your horizon.

Sagittarius(November 22–December 21)

Sagittarians look at life as a glass half full. They're easily one of the most positive out of all the signs. They are full of energy, cheerful and open minded. They aren't selfish with their money, which may come across as carelessness. Nature, camping, and hiking are their favorite activities to do. Besides the outdoors, they like to travel the world and meet new people. They don't like staying in one place for a long period of time. Because they have huge goals, they are always biting off more than they can chew. Sagittarians are interested in finding the truth. The love life of these people is conventional. They tend to seek religion, and once they discover their specific beliefs they preach it to everyone around them. Their love of travel affects their careers because they feel the need to

be constantly moving. Pressure and responsibility follows their careers.

Capricorn (December 22–January 19)

You should receive a happy surprise when your report card arrives this semester - your unconscious efforts have paid off and your professors have rewarded your quiet diligence and organization. All that hard work has finally paid off - and you especially like how it is going to look to others. The semester break is a time to rest - but for know, keep up your studies!

Aquarius (January 20–February 18)

You often keep thoughts and desires to yourself because you are afraid of what others will think of you, but don't let that affect you this month. The way your planets are aligned, step up to the plate and be a leader. Your ideas will carry you far. With the help of some friends, you can achieve great things on a big project in store for you. You know how to get what you want, so don't let

fear hold you back. Put out your ideas, don't worry about what others will say about you, and you'll be guaranteed success.

Pisces (February 19–March 20)

You are generally a spiritual and emotional person, but sometimes you put other people's problems before your own. You will have a sudden desire to make new friends. Fill your life with the companionship of others to allow you to feel fuller. Perhaps taking a trip with your close friends or joining a club will allow you to fulfill your passion for learning. You will resolve your career issues and you will become aware of what you truly want to do in your life. This month you will be the life of the party and make plenty of friends in the process.

CONTACT DR. ANTHONY KAPOLKA AT:
anthony.kapolka@wilkes.edu

NOVEMBER 23, 2010

CONTACT US: wilkesbeacon.sports@gmail.com

Backyard Skooks score intramural title

Flag football team defeats defending champs in exciting finale

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA
Sports Editor

They didn't win the Super Bowl, but that doesn't mean that their win wasn't super.

With their 4-3 victory over the defending champion Coal Region Legion, the Backyard Skooks laid claim to their first ever title in the intramural flag football league.

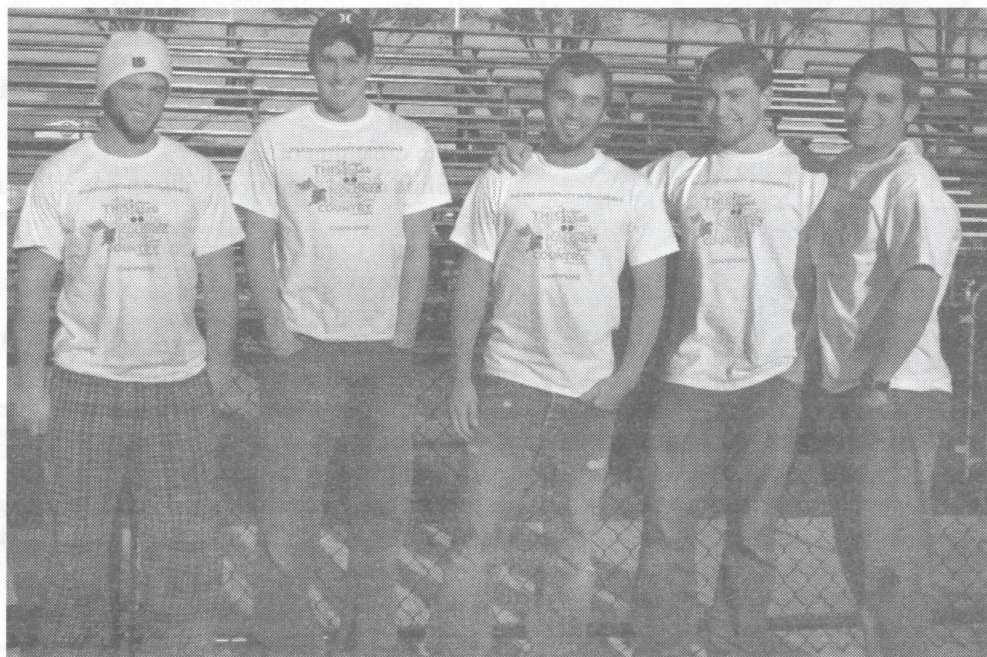
Just beating the Legion — their bitter rivals — made the win super enough.

"We wanted to beat them more than we wanted to win the championship I would say," senior captain Wes McDonald said. "Most of our other games were a lot of fun, but that one we took a lot more seriously. They practice their plays and they get in a huddle every time and take it pretty seriously."

"(We wanted to beat them) pretty bad."

It wouldn't be an easy task. The Legion — the defending champs and two-time runner up before that — scored first. After cutting up the Skooks defense through the air, quarterback Trevor Strenchock found Kevin McNavage over the middle for the first touchdown of the game.

But the Skooks would answer when quarterback A.J. Fiore connected with Omar Richardson for the tying score. As the heat cranked up between the two teams — and the



The Beacon/Melissa Polchinski

Pictured from left to right, members of the Backyard Skooks Bud Roszel, Brian Fanelli, Wes McDonald, Guy Roszel, and Nick LaBarbera, pose for a team picture.

tempers flared — the two would go into halftime deadlocked at two.

"Our game plan going in was to put a lot of pressure on Trevor (Strenchock) because when he has time he rips people apart," McDonald said. "And between him and his receiving crew, and actually having drawn up

plays, they usually do pretty well against teams. So we said if we put pressure on him and give him no time, we should win."

The Skooks, which is a name people from Schuylkill County call themselves, brought the pressure in the second half.

SEE INTRAMURALS, Page 19

Winter athletes bond over holiday break

Extra weeks on campus gives teams a chance to build Camaraderie

BY CHRISTOPHER HOPKINS
Assistant Sports Editor

December is usually a time for college students to go home, enjoy the company of their family, and celebrate the holidays. However, for the winter athletes at Wilkes University, that is not the case. For the men's and women's basketball and wrestling teams, Winter break is not much of a break at all, but a chance to fine tune their games without the distraction of college life.

During the holiday months, winter athletes don't go home when the typical college student gets to. After finals, they have to stay later and come back earlier in order to meet

their schedules. While all the other students are at home, these athletes come back early and stay on an empty campus for roughly two weeks with only the company of their teammates and the other in season athletes.

It would seem that to be by themselves on campus without classes or other students would make those two weeks drag on. Yet, with the strict schedule that these teams have, there is not as much free time as it would appear. Amanda Pawlowski, a sophomore guard on the women's basketball team, acknowledges their strong practice schedule as a key to filling up their time on campus.

"Normally during break, we both practice and condition/lift each day," she said. "Most

of the time we are pretty much drained from the two-a-days that by the end of the day we usually just hang out and watch a movie or something."

With an agenda full of practice and games, the month doesn't drag on as much as it would seem. Aside from not having to worry about a heavy workload from classes, this winter month gives players a chance to bond with their team in an atmosphere that they wouldn't have had before. Kendall Hinze, a junior forward on the men's basketball team, sees the free time as a great team builder.

"A lot of times after games, we'll go get

SEE BREAK, Page 19

The Skinny Post

BY ANDREW BOOKIN
Correspondent

With this last installment of the Skinny Post, I'll be giving you fantasy owners some advice on going forward with the rest of the 2010 season. Most leagues will soon be implementing trade deadlines, and therefore making well-informed trade decisions will pay great dividends as the season comes to a close.

A number of star players who suffered injuries earlier on in the season are coming back and providing fantasy owners a lot of opportunity — if they play their cards right.

Many back-ups have filled in nicely and have been putting up good fantasy numbers, but don't expect coaches to keep them in there when starters are healthy again. Therefore, I suggest you trade players like Keiland Williams and Ryan Torain who've been on hot streaks for players who may have not put up as high of numbers, but are more consistent. From my experience a lot of people put more value on how well players have been playing in the last couple weeks than they should, especially when fantasy playoffs are just around the corner. Therefore, take advantage of these types of fantasy owners and make those final tweaks in your lineup while you still can.

Some notables who will be returning and are worth starting in the last few weeks include Chargers' wide out Malcolm Floyd and Reggie Bush of the Saints. Also worth note here is the health (or lack thereof) of Antonio Gates, who has made fantasy owners very happy this year.

Many back up tight ends have filled in very nicely this season, such as Jacob Tamme of the Colts in Weeks 8 and 9; therefore take some stock in Gates back-up Randy McMichael if Gates' foot keeps giving him problems.

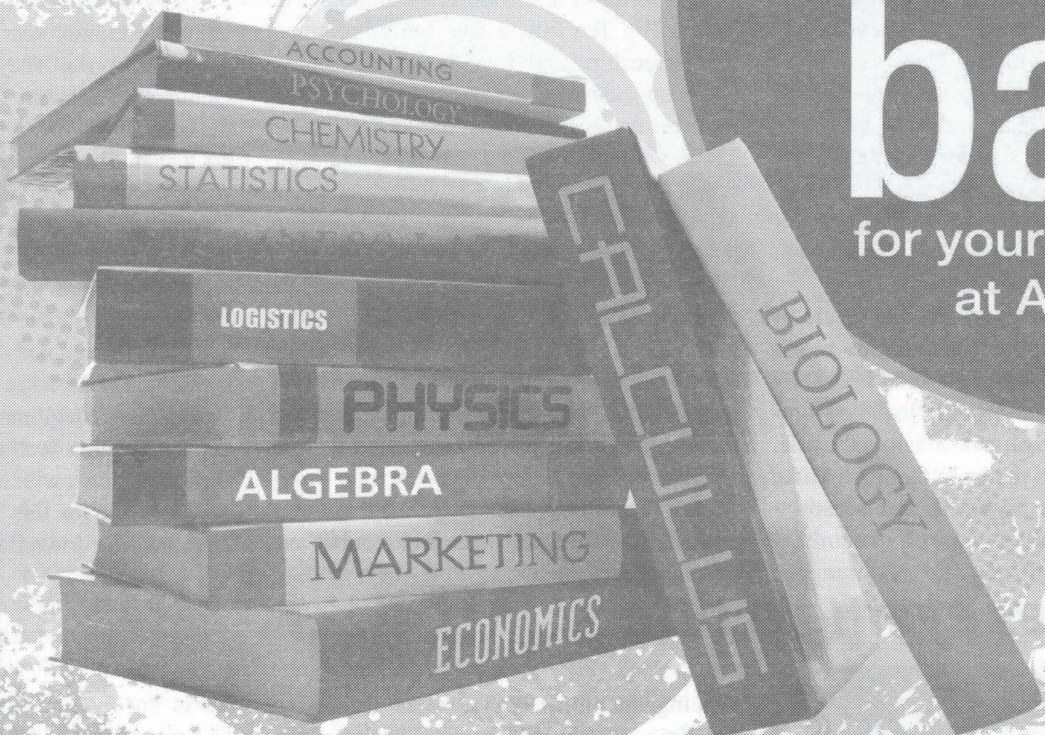
Remember to start healthy, consistent players and use players who've had explosive weeks only recently as trade bait, and you'll be serious contenders for your fantasy championship.

Good luck with the rest of your 2010 fantasy season!

CONTACT ANDREW BOOKIN AT:
ronald.bookin@wilkes.edu

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SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL

11/20 vs. Moravian 14-26 L

WRESTLING

11/20 vs. Mount Saint Joseph 28-13 W

11/20 vs. Ohio Northern 20-18 W

MEN'S BASKETBALL

11/15 @ PSU Hazleton 74-45 W

11/19 @ Gallaudet 66-74 L

11/20 vs. Rosemont 76-47 W

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

11/15 vs. PSU Hazleton 56-43 W

11/19 @ Western New England 56-69 L

11/20 vs. MIT 55-62 L

WEEK AHEAD

MEN'S BASKETBALL

11/23 @ Lebanon Valley

12/1 @ Misericordia

12/4 @ FDU-Florham

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

11/23 vs. Marywood

12/1 @ Misericordia

12/4 @ FDU-Florham

WRESTLING

12/3 @ Messiah Tournament

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FACE OFF



Who will win the NCAA Tournament?

Look out for the locomotive



Sports Editor
ANTHONY DORUNDA

In a season that lacks star power (for heaven's sake a freshman is on the pre-season all-American team), it's tough to define a clear-cut favorite to cut down the net this year.

Most experts have tabbed Duke as the pre-season favorites. Sure they're the defending champs, but delve a little deeper into who they return: just two starters. Granted, those starters are consensus first-team all-American and odds-on-favorite for national player of the year, Kyle Singler, and second team all-ACC selection Nolan Smith.

Which points out how weak, in terms of star power and dominant teams, this year's crop of title contenders is - which is exactly why even without star forward Robbie Hummel, Purdue is my pick to take home the title.

Remember, this is the team that took Duke to the brink in the Sweet 16 last season - without Hummel.

Even with the loss of Hummel (who no doubt was the glue of the team - head coach Matt Painter calls him the "facilitator"), this Purdue team still returns as much top end talent as any team in the country. Leading the cast are first-team all-American center JaJuan Johnson and slick shooting guard (and all-America candidate) E'Twaun Moore.

Both Johnson and Moore are seniors who have a Big Ten title, a Big Ten Tournament Championship, and two Sweet 16 appearances on their resumes already. Last season, Johnson averaged a substantial 15.5 points per game, while snatching 7.1 boards, and swatting a Big Ten leading 2.1 blocks per game. Moore, an honorable mention all-American, led the Boilermakers in scoring last season.

The player that will benefit most from the fruits of these two superstar's labor is point guard Lewis Jackson, who is back for his third year as a starter - and having a point guard with two years starting experience under his belt is a prized possession that not many teams can claim.

With Hummel, the Boilermakers were ranked, in some polls, as the number one

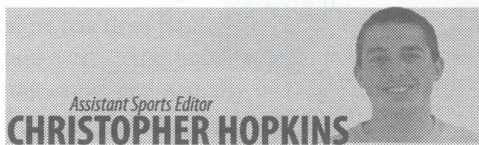
team in the country. Once Hummel re-took his ACL, Purdue's Final Four and National Title hopes were instantly dashed and written off - by pollsters. Without Hummel, the team's second leading scorer and rebounder, pundits felt as though Purdue had no shot at any of the glory they had anticipated them to have with their star forward.

But the Boilermakers got a head start on life without Hummel near the end of the regular season last year. They went 5-3 after losing Hummel on February 24 - ultimately falling to the Blue Devils 70-57. Sure 5-3 is not pretty, but it's a start. They have had an entire summer to prepare without him while he was recovering.

Although replacing Hummel's production won't be easy (it will be done by committee with sophomore guard Kelsey Barlow and fab-freshman Terone Johnson), Purdue is still a legitimate team without him. And with a very weak non-conference schedule, the Boilermakers have a legitimate shot (barring any hiccups at Virginia Tech and Minnesota) to enter their showdown with Michigan State at 21-0.

Watch out for this locomotive, because it ain't slowing down this year.

Buckeyes eyeing a title



Assistant Sports Editor
CHRISTOPHER HOPKINS

You might think that losing last year's national player of the year to the NBA draft would eliminate any chance a team would have of winning a national title. However, that's not the case at all for the Ohio State Buckeyes. Ranked fifth in the coaches' poll to start the season, the Buckeyes have started this season on the right foot; going undefeated though its first three games.

Ohio State has shown that they can handle themselves just fine without Evan Turner, the second overall pick by the Sixers in last year's draft. An early favorite to take the Big Ten along with Michigan State, the Buckeyes should have a much bigger prize in sight.

Although the season is still young, Ohio State has shown great promise thus far. They took down the tenth ranked Florida Gators in only their second game in con-

vincing fashion, 93-75, after trailing at halftime by three. Usually early games are hard to measure how a team will truly fare because of the weak opponents they usually schedule early on, but a win like that against a top-ten team certainly shows something.

With their recruiting class that came in this year, Ohio State put themselves in good shape to rebound from such a talented player leaving early. Their star freshman Jared Sullinger is making Buckeye fans quickly forget about that Turner fellow. Sullinger put up a 26 point effort to go along with his 10 rebounds against a very talented Gators squad in only his second collegiate game. In his first game against UNC-Willington, Sullinger had 19 points and 14 boards to make him the first Ohio State freshman to start his career with consecutive double-doubles since 1977. With this start, he has certainly made an early case for Ohio State to not lose that national player of the year title. That's pretty impressive if you ask me.

As good as Sullinger has looked so far,

he is surely not the only Buckeye with a strong start. Junior David Lightly has looked just as impressive early on, averaging 18 points and five rebounds through his first two games. Senior forward Dallas Lauderdale has been an intimidating force in the middle so far for the Buckeyes. Standing at 6'8" and weighing 255 pounds, Lauderdale has nine blocks and 14 rebounds already though his first two games. With a shot blocker like that, it's going to make it hard for opposing teams to get those important points in the paint.

In a conference like the Big Ten, which consistently has talented teams ranked nationally, the Buckeyes definitely won't have to worry about lack of competition on their schedule.

However, this can be a positive thing come time for the big dance. Having strong opposition leading up to the NCAA tournament can get a team ready, both mentally and physically, for the most important postseason games. Ohio State will be introduced to that early on in conference games.

Athlete Spotlight: Nathan White, the wrestler

BY PHAT NGUYEN
Correspondent

The 2010 Wilkes University Wrestling team kicked off the season with a fast start. The Colonels took first place at the Monarch Invitational Tournament held at King's College and had a strong performance at the John Reese Duals. With so many talented wrestlers on the squad, it's hard to highlight just one, but you could make a strong case for sophomore Nathan White.

White wrestles in the 157 weight class and coming into this season, he has been competing with six other teammates for that starting spot, which includes two Division I transfers, Shane Everett from Penn State and Brandon Dixon from Edinboro. With this sort of open competition, you could only imagine what practice is like for those guys. "A lot of people were wondering who would be starting and what was going to happen at that weight," White said. "But I forced myself to focus on the things that I could control and believed that everything would fall into place."

Both Nathan and Coach Jon Laudenslager agree that having so much depth at that weight will only make everyone that much better.

"Day in and day out we are constantly battling and trying to gain the upper hand," White said. "With everyone so closely matched, we are constantly having to push ourselves just to be the best in the room."

"I believe they have helped our guys and I think on the flip side they are learning a lot as well. It's always good when you have competition because you need to keep improving and training the right way."

BREAK

Continued from Page 16

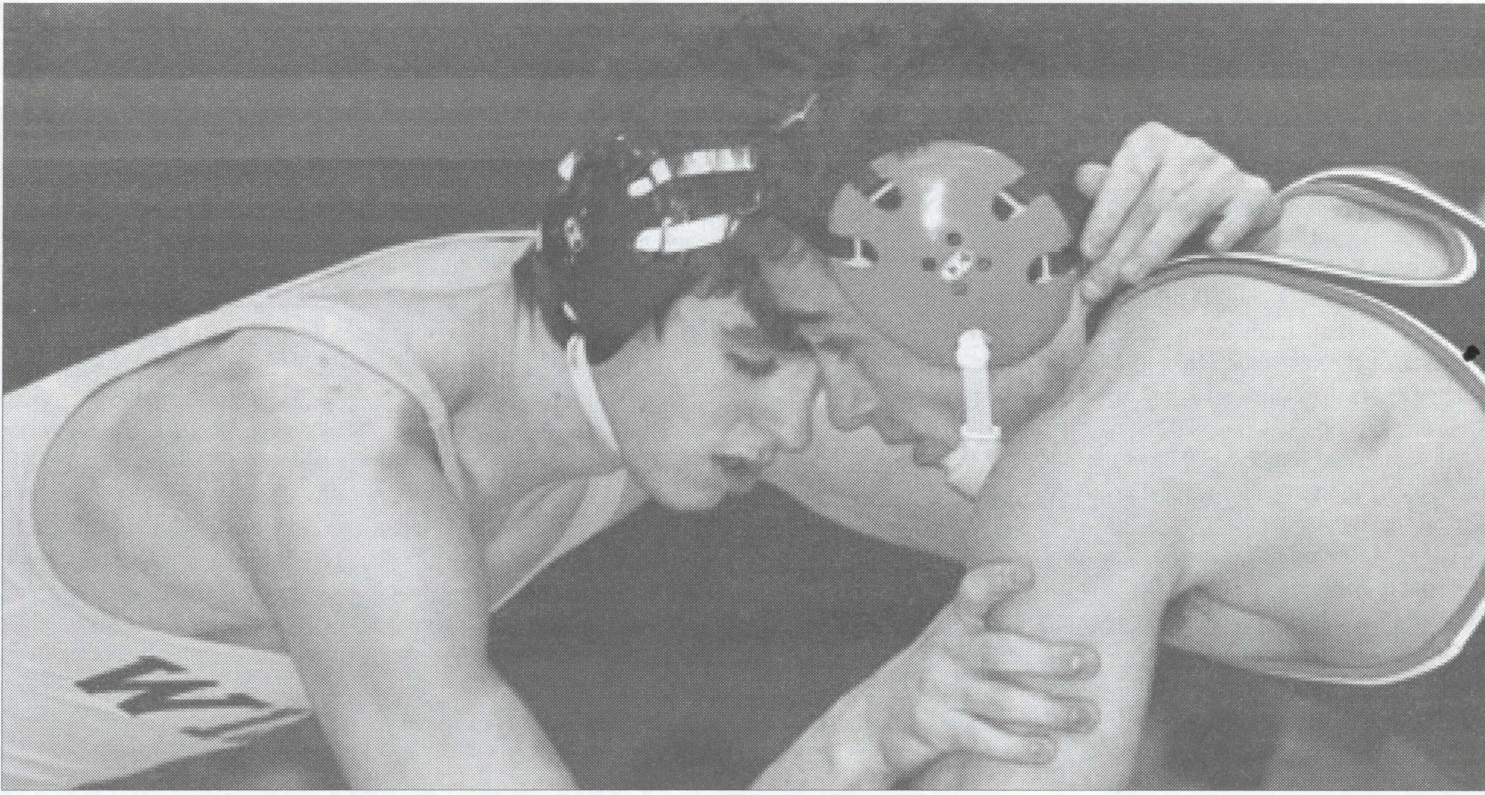
something to eat as a team," Hinze said. "It's a great chance to hang out with everyone on the team and talk about the game."

Pawlowski mentioned that there are fun parts to coming back early.

"A lot of team bonding nights are arranged and we enjoy them a lot," Pawlowski said. "One thing we do in particular is have a small Christmas party and exchange gifts with each other when we first come back up from our break."

In the down time that they do have, Wilkes winter athletes have the opportunity to hang out with teammates without having to stress about school or other outside distractions.

"One big thing that we do during break is just hang out and play video games or just



Courtesy of Sports Information

Sophomore Nathan White is off to a fast start this season, sporting a 5-1 record at the 157 lb. weight class.

All that hard work and competition at practice has clearly paid off so far as Nathan was able to take home his first title this season at the Monarch Invitational.

"Winning the title at the Monarch Invitational was a pretty great experience for me," White said. "Last year I opened up the year with a runner-up performance there, so coming back this year it was definitely a goal of mine."

As a freshman, Nathan adjusted quickly to the college level and was able to rack up 20 match wins. He is quick to credit all of the coaches he has had.

watch TV with the other guys to kill time," Hinze said.

In a time that most people reserve to spend with family, most winter athletes are not bothered by having to be back on campus earlier than most. Pawlowski, for one, sees it as a time to be with her second family.

"As much as people probably think that it is the worst to have to stay here over break, it really isn't that bad because your team is your family and the time flies by before you know it."

CONTACT CHRISTOPHER HOPKINS AT:
christopher.hopkins@wilkes.edu

"I definitely credit my success to my coaches for taking me to the next level," White said. "The key to wrestling is to be able to constantly improve, and this season I hope to do so with the help of my coaches, teammates, and personal motivation."

"Nathan had lots of success in high school," Laudenslager said. "He also has a good commitment level and is eager to learn new techniques. He has a great sense of awareness on the mat and a good understanding of the sport, so adapting to college wrestling was not very hard for him."

INTRAMURALS

Continued from Page 16

The defensive line, led by Jake Roberts and Guy Roszel, made life miserable for Strenchock. Their constant pressure gave him no time, forcing errant throws, and eventually, a turnover on downs.

"The defensive line did a lot of work," McDonald said. "They put a lot of pressure on the quarterback and they couldn't get time to run their plays to perfection like they normally do."

The turnover gave Fiore the glimmer of light they would need. They captured their first lead of the day when Fiore found wide out Brian Fanelli searing through the Legion defense in the back corner of the end zone for the go-ahead, and game-winning score.

The pass caught the seldom-thrown-to Fanelli by surprise.

In addition to the Monarch Invitational, Nathan opened up the season with big wins where he went 3-0 against Stevens Tech and 1-1 at the John Reese Duals, but fell a little short against Centenary.

"Luckily, it is still very early in the season and this match was able to show me what improvements I need to make in order to set myself up to peak perfectly at the end of the season," White said.

CONTACT PHAT NGUYEN AT:
phat.nguyen@wilkes.edu

"If I'm open I may get it, but lots of times I just like to run around and if I don't get the ball, I'm ok with it," Fanelli said. "But Fiore looked at me and I was just like 'ahh!' I really didn't know it was the game winner."

The Skooks, who except for Fanelli, is made up of mostly former high school football players, savored the championship - and the quality time spent with each other.

"It's (flag football) just a lot of fun," said McDonald. "Me personally, I miss playing sports. Even when we don't get enough for two whole teams and we split our teams up and just fool around with everybody."

"It's fun getting together with your friends every week and actually going out and throwing the ball around."

CONTACT ANTHONY DORUNDA AT:
anthony.dorunda@wilkes.edu

END OF AN ERA

Senior class leaves mark on Wilkes football program, lays groundwork for future

BY MICHAEL CIGNOLI

Editor-in-Chief

Exit the Munson Fieldhouse, descend the concrete steps, jump around in the end zone, rush out onto Ralston Field.

It's a path that the 11 seniors of the Wilkes University football team know well. Over the course of the last four years, the Colonels have made that same walk before all 23 of their home games.

If for some reason those 11 players really wanted to make that walk again, they could do it very easily.

However, following Saturday afternoon's 26-14 loss to Moravian in the ECAC Southeast Championship, it'll never be the same.

The loss marked the end of the 2010 Wilkes football season. For the seniors, it also marked the end of their collegiate football careers.

Some things — like team meetings at 6 a.m. on Mondays — they won't miss at all.

But stepping onto the field week after week with the same core group of guys that they've been with since they first arrived on campus as freshmen?

"There's nothing like it," said senior guard Joe Lemoncelli. "It's the most cohesive team sport of them all. You make such a bond with everybody on the team."

Because of that, not being around his teammates — his friends — as much as he used to be is going to be a little weird.

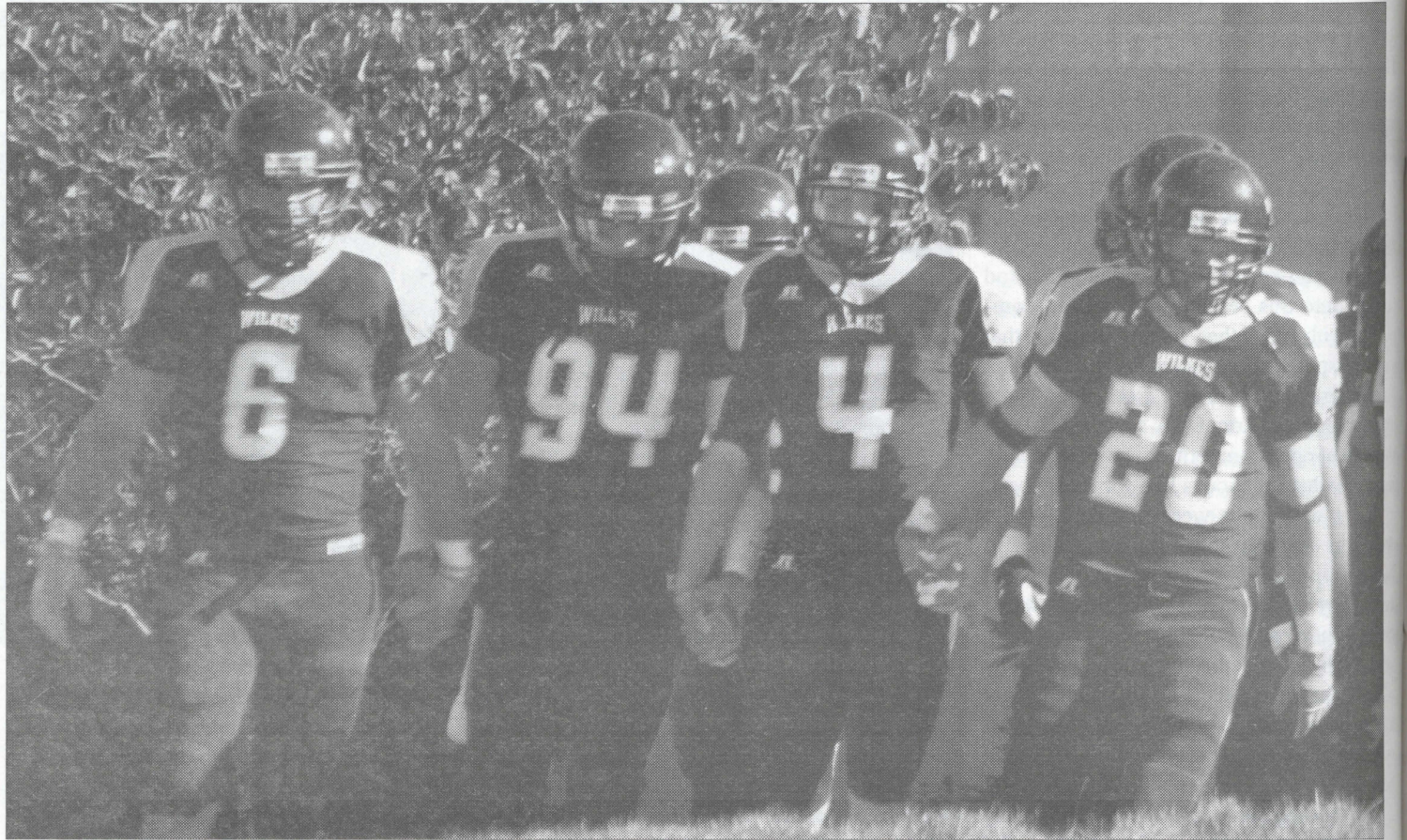
"It's not going to be the same," he continued. "Maybe I'll see them around campus, hang out with them over the weekend or on a week night, but it's not going to be the same as going on the field with them hand-in-hand, going out looking for a victory."

When Lemoncelli and his fellow seniors arrived as freshmen in the fall of 2007, the Colonels were coming off two of their most successful seasons in recent memory.

In 2005, the Colonels finished 8-3 and qualified for the NCAA playoffs for just the second time in school history. The Colonels followed that performance with an 11-1 record in 2006 and another NCAA playoff berth, advancing to the second round.

But Wilkes' highly-anticipated third consecutive trip to the national playoffs never came to be, as the team struggled and posted uncharacteristic 4-6 records in both 2007 and 2008.

"We went through a rough spot there," said senior safety Kevin Gerhart. "We turned it around last year (finishing) at 6-5. We were hoping for some big things this year and



The Beacon/Michael Cignoli

From left, senior captains Anthony Dorunda, Chris Swinarski, Jordan D'Emilio, and Kevin Gerhart lead the Colonels out of the locker room.

there were signs of it, but we just never got over that hump to put us into the playoffs."

Indeed, there were several signs that indicate that the future of the program is going to be bright.

Freshman linebacker Tate Moore-Jacobs was named first-team all-conference after finishing the regular season with 130 tackles, the seventh-highest total in all of Division III. By comparison, Kyle Follweiler, arguably the greatest linebacker in Wilkes history, recorded 85 tackles as a rookie in 2004.

After leading the team in rushing yards with 844 and finishing second in receiving yards with 358, junior running back Zach Tivald figures to improve on both those totals next fall.

Joining Tivald in the backfield will be Auxence Wogou, who showed flashes of brilliance during his freshman season. Head coach Frank Sheptock designed the Colonels' sparingly used, yet effective "Wild Ox" formation around the freshman back after he posted 114 yards on five carries against FDU-Florham.

Tyler Berntsen and Alex George will both

return to the Colonels after the pair of first-year quarterbacks combined to throw for 1640 yards and nine touchdowns. Protecting them, as well as the rest of the backfield, will be an offensive line that returns four starters.

"They've got a lot of good returners," Lemoncelli said. "I wish I'd be coming back for one more year."

Sheptock wouldn't mind seeing his seniors back for another year, either.

As a head coach, he has the chance to recruit talented players on a yearly basis. But this year's graduating class brought something to the team that you don't often find in the recruiting pool — natural leadership ability.

"That part will be hard to replace," Sheptock said. "You can't teach young men to be leaders. You try to build leadership, but certain players have that magnetism about them that gets people to want to follow them."

Though the seniors certainly led the Colonels in the right direction over the past two seasons, they're leaving before they get to fully see the fruits of their labor. However, Sheptock says that the seniors will have a lot of satisfaction in that they were the ones

who laid the groundwork for Wilkes' future success.

"It's your goal as a player to leave the program better than you found it," Sheptock said. "When they came here, we were 11-1. The next two years weren't real good for us and they put us back on the right track. For that, I'm extremely thankful to them. That takes a lot of hard work. That takes a lot of initiative in the locker room. That takes a lot of team building."

"That senior group is the foundation of this program's future success."

Maybe someday, the seniors will be proud of what they accomplished.

Right now, though, they're still getting over the fact that they just played their final game.

"There were tears rolling down my eyes," Lemoncelli said. "It's real tough. Last time of strapping on my pads. Usually, when Tuesday comes around we're not looking forward to practice. I wish this Tuesday I'd be practicing."

CONTACT MICHAEL CIGNOLI AT:

michael.cignoli@wilkes.edu