

WILKES

SUMMER 2008

BAY
6



PHARMACY AT WAR | RED STATE/BLUE STATE | HIGH FLYER | BEYOND CHICKEN SEX

Wilkes Works to Ensure Student Access to Loans

RECENT TURMOIL IN MORTGAGE MARKETS HAS now trickled down to student lending, which in Pennsylvania means cuts in state grants to needy and middle-income college students. With a virtual moratorium on its profitable student loan business, the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency will cut at least \$40 million from its contribution to the PHEAA Student Grant Program for Pennsylvania college students. And PHEAA representatives say the remaining \$35 million it currently plans to spend next year could be in jeopardy.

Even though the governor has proposed increasing state funding to the PHEAA Student Grant Program by \$11.6 million, the maximum student aid grant of \$4,700 may be cut by as much as \$700. If the state does not close this gap, as I and other Pennsylvania college presidents advocate, our students could experience further significant losses in purchasing power.

Wilkes University is working with students and their families to reduce anxiety and help students to access aid. Students with questions should contact their lenders and/or financial aid specialists at their institution.

The Wilkes University community prides itself on serving first-generation students; 96.1 percent of college-bound students receive financial aid. Recognizing conditions facing our students, we've held our tuition increase this year to the lowest of our regional peers. We can do this because we are controlling costs and developing new graduate and continuing studies programs that add to the bottom line.

Wilkes has asked our campus community to contact Pennsylvania's lawmakers and the governor to urge them to fill in the gap. To learn more about this issue or how to make your voice heard, look for "PHEAA Outreach" on the Financial Aid pages of www.wilkes.edu.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads "Tim Gilmour".

Dr. Tim Gilmour
Wilkes University President

Students and parents file into the Henry Student Center during move-in day 2007. PHOTO BY CRAIG THOMAS

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SUMMER 2008

Wilkes University is an independent institution of higher education dedicated to academic and intellectual excellence in the liberal arts, sciences and professional programs. The university provides its students with the experience and education necessary for career and intellectual development as well as for personal growth, engenders a sense of values and civic responsibility, and encourages its students to welcome the opportunities and challenges of a diverse and continually changing world. The university enhances the tradition of strong student-faculty interactions in all its programs, attracts and retains outstanding people in every segment of the university, and fosters a spirit of cooperation, community involvement, and individual respect within the entire university.

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On the cover: Air Force pharmacist Nokomie Welsh-Harris '03 of the 332nd Medical Support Squadron draws medicine from a trauma cart at Balad Air Base, Iraq, in January. PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. JOSHUA GARCIA/U.S. AIR FORCE

FUTURE ISSUES

- Fall 2008 75th Anniversary
- Winter 2008 Environmental Initiatives

Have a story idea to share?
Contact us at
wilkesmagazine@wilkes.edu or
Wilkes Magazine, 84 W. South St.,
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766.

First Annual Diversity Awards Honor Achievements

Wilkes recently held its first annual Diversity Awards Ceremony and Banquet to recognize members of the community who work toward making the campus an increasingly inclusive community.

Among those recognized were student diversity ambassadors who have made significant contributions to multicultural programming at Wilkes. The ambassadors assess and publicize events and offer support to campus students.

For their work, the students each received a Kente stole handcrafted with a gold dust pattern, the symbol of honorable achievement, wealth, royalty and spiritual purity. Kente stoles represent African cultural heritage.



Members of the University's Diversity Task Force also received Kente stoles.

Joseph Francisco, professor of physical chemistry at Purdue University, discussed the history of African American chemists.



Above: Giselle Pedraza, Eva Blanco and Dayana Rodriguez, members of Angeles en la Tierra (Angels on Earth), performed at the awards ceremony.

Left: Palak Sutaria, Nitasa Sahu, Frantzydyn Pamphile, Tracy Garcia, Jennifer Jones, Jasmine King, and Valerie Martinez display their Kente stoles.

Not in the photo: Ashish Javia, Krystian Tavarez and Cindy McCoy. PHOTOS BY CURTIS SALONICK

“Focus the Nation” Highlights Global Warming

Global warming was the hot topic as Wilkes University participated in a national event called “Focus the Nation.”

Wilkes was one of 1,000 schools across the country to participate in the weeklong winter event that included a national teach-in and a webcast of *The 2% Solution*. Last year, Wilkes underscored its commitment to sustainability when President Tim Gilmour signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, which outlines steps Wilkes will take to achieve a higher level of climate neutrality.

As part of the climate change event, Wilkes hosted a green fair with information and exhibits by regional organizations actively engaged in research and education about global warming and reduction of carbon emissions.



A green fair was part of a weeklong series of educational events on global climate change. PHOTO BY SHANNON CURTIN



Runners Heat Up the Winter

The Running Club raised \$1,500 during its fourth annual Relay for Heat on Saturday, Feb. 23.

That brings the group's four-year total to \$8,500 to help the Commission on Economic Opportunity's Martin Luther King Fuel Fund. Students, faculty, staff and community members participated in the 100-mile relay along the dikes in Kirby Park.

While most Americans spend 5 percent of their income on energy, low-income households spend more than 20 percent. Consequently, many Luzerne County residents seek crisis assistance for heating during the winter months.

Alumnus Fred Gedrich '73, right, joined in the 100-mile relay. Running Club advisor Will Terzaghi is in the center.

PHOTO BY CURTIS SALONICK

The Write Stuff: Sports Journalist Wins Scholarship

Carlton Holmes, a senior communication studies major from Newark, N.J., won a Freedom Forum-NCAA Sports Journalism Scholarship. The national contest honors only eight students each year and is one of the most competitive of its kind. Through a grant to the NCAA, the Freedom Forum gives \$3,000 scholarships to college juniors planning careers in sports journalism.

Holmes is the first sports journalism student from Wilkes to receive this level of recognition. He is an executive staff member for student radio station WCLH-FM 90.7 and sports editor of *The Beacon*.

In 2006, Holmes won the College and University Public Relations Association of Pennsylvania Communications Internship Award for Students of Color, a competitive scholarship to be used for an internship of the student's choosing. That award allowed Holmes to intern with WBRE-TV, the local NBC television news affiliate.

In addition to his internship at WBRE, Holmes was one of only two sports interns at New Jersey's *Star-Ledger* daily newspaper. Holmes served as a summer sports reporter, interviewing athletes and covering the National Basketball Association draft.

As a Freedom Forum-NCAA Sports Journalism Scholarship winner, Holmes joins the ranks of students from universities such as Yale, Columbia and Penn State. To be eligible for the scholarship, students must enter their senior year during the 2008-09 academic year with a major in journalism or sports journalism, or they must have campus sports journalism experience.

Andrea Frantz, associate professor of communication studies, nominated Holmes for this scholarship and provided a faculty recommendation. "I have been impressed over and over again by what this young man has to offer the field. I can think of no student with whom I have worked who is more deserving."



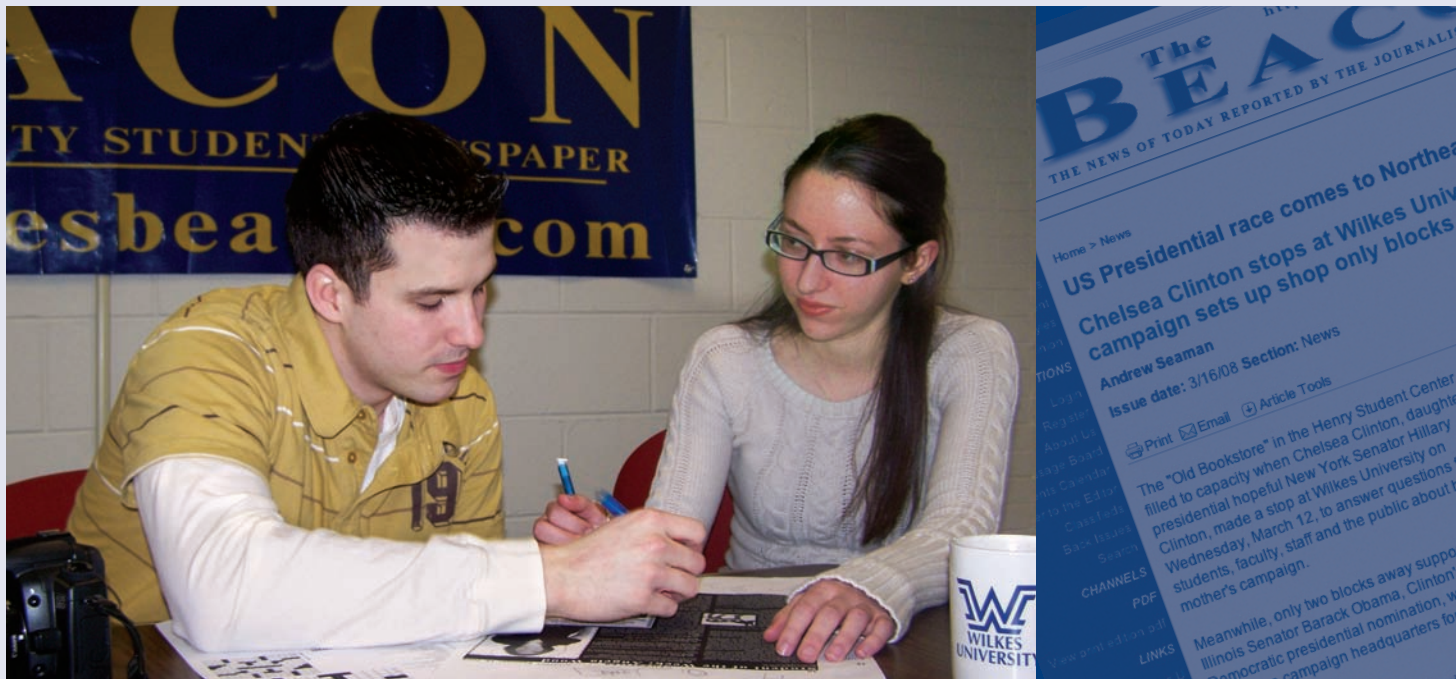
I can think of NO
STUDENT with whom
I have worked who IS
MORE DESERVING.

- Andrea Frantz

Carlton Holmes covers action on the court as sports editor for *The Beacon*. The aspiring sports journalist was recently named one of eight students from across the country to receive the Freedom Forum-NCAA Sports Journalism Scholarship.

PHOTO BY GINO TROIANI

Beacon Staff Wins Honors



Student journalist Jamie Gwynn, left, took first place for news photo at the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association Keystone Collegiate Press Awards luncheon in March. Christa Sgobba, right, took second place for personality profile. PHOTO BY CARA KOSTER

Pharmacy Students Win Statewide Competition

Pharmacy students in the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy recently won a state competition that tests knowledge of over-the-counter and self-care treatment options.

The Self-Care Championship was held at the Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association Midyear Meeting in Camp Hill, Pa., from Feb. 8 to 10. More than 130 students, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians attended.

Student teams from Pennsylvania's six pharmacy schools competed in the Jeopardy-like competition. The Wilkes team of professional pharmacy students Todd Weibel, third-year; Melissa Sweigart, fourth-year; and Shannon Carr, fourth-year, beat teams of pharmacy students from Temple, University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne and Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. The winning Wilkes team received a traveling trophy and monetary award.

The Self-Care Championship is endowed by Proctor & Gamble and jointly supported by the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations



Professional pharmacy students, from left, Melissa Sweigart, Todd Weibel and Shannon Carr competed in a Jeopardy-style contest. COURTESY OF PENNSYLVANIA PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION

and the Nonprescription Medicines Academy.

Pennsylvania is one of 16 states participating in the NASPA/NMA Student Pharmacist Self-Care Championship.

Environmental Engineering Goes Green With Infrared

For many area businesses, going green just became easier.

Wilkes' environmental engineering department recently purchased thermal imaging cameras and other monitoring equipment to conduct energy audits. The department offers the audits and can help develop environmental management systems for clients of the University's Small Business Development Center. The infrared cameras assess temperature variations caused by building cracks, heat loss and moisture.

Marleen Troy, chair of environmental engineering and earth sciences, says students who develop skills in energy conservation will be well-served when they enter the job market. The cameras, a \$20,000 investment, are also used

by the Division of Engineering and Physics for research and classroom demonstrations.

Funds for the equipment came from a Pennsylvania engineering education grant with matching support from alumni.



Marleen Troy and John Luff, a junior environmental engineering major, test a thermal imaging camera.

PHOTO BY SHANNON CURTIN

READERS RESPOND

Thanks to everyone who took time to complete the *Wilkes* magazine online readership survey.

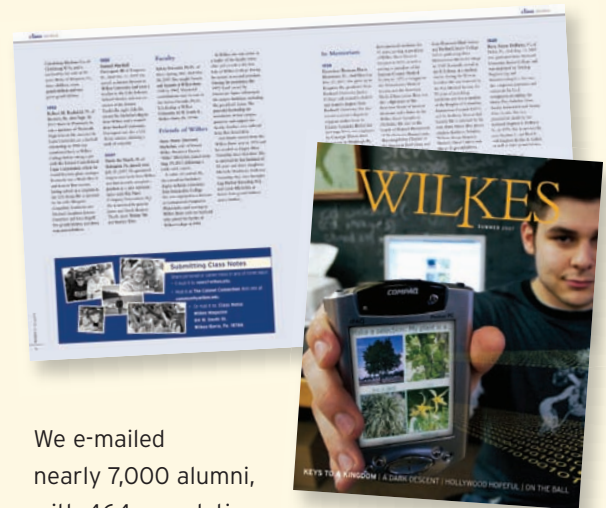
According to those who participated, you're most interested in articles profiling successful alumni. Next in line come campus improvements, new academic programs, student achievements, social issues, faculty achievements and athletics, respectively.

Some other highlights:

- An article featuring memories of Dean George Ralston was most memorable, hands-down.
- Eighty-nine percent of readers responding report at least scanning the annual Report of Gifts.

- Sixty-seven percent prefer to submit Class Notes via e-mail (which you can now do by e-mailing wilkesmagazine@wilkes.edu).
- Comparing 2007 and 2006 surveys, the redesigned magazine reaped large gains in the number of alumni rating it "good" or "excellent."

Photography ranked highest in satisfaction, with 89 percent of respondents rating it "good" or "excellent"; writing and design both came in at 85 percent.



We e-mailed nearly 7,000 alumni, with 464 completing the online survey. We're listening to your input and working hard to make this magazine a must-read. If you have an idea for an article or would like to comment on any of our content, please e-mail wilkesmagazine@wilkes.edu, or write to Editor, *Wilkes Magazine*, 84 W. South St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766.





COURTINING SUCCESSES

BASKETBALL COACH JERRY RICKRODE NOTCHES 300TH CAREER WIN

By John Seitzinger and Kim Bower-Spence

PHOTOS BY WARREN RUDA

WHEN MEN'S BASKETBALL coach Jerry Rickrode arrived at Wilkes University in summer 1992, he inherited a team that hadn't seen a winning season in five years.

He quickly turned things around. And on Jan. 30, his efforts earned him his 300th career win, with a 79-54 victory over FDU-Florham. His career record at Wilkes now stands at 303 wins and 119 losses.

"First let me say that the 300 wins are the University's wins, not mine," says Rickrode, the first Wilkes basketball coach to achieve this milestone. "We work extremely hard but never get hung up on individual coaching records. I didn't have to shoot, pass, handle or play defense

in any of those wins. But the players did. They deserve the recognition."

Rickrode, who previously served as an assistant coach at Ithaca College, immediately injected new life into the program, and successes came quickly. In his first season, he led the Colonels to a 16-9 record and a conference playoff berth. The following season, Wilkes went 20-6, the first 20-win season in school history. The team earned berths in both the Middle Atlantic Conference and Eastern College Athletic Conference playoffs.

Matthew McCaffrey '94 M'97, now associate director of admissions at Wilkes, played forward when Rickrode arrived. "To say that the culture of Wilkes basketball changed that summer would be putting it too mildly. Jerry made it very clear early and often what it would take to be a successful program," he recalls. "Jerry also arrived here with a ferocious desire to recruit better student-athletes."

Over the course of the next seven years, Wilkes was one of the dominant programs in Division III. During that span, Rickrode led the Colonels to seven straight conference playoff appearances, where his teams claimed MAC titles in 1996, 1998 and 1999, along with a Freedom Conference championship in 2001.

Wilkes also enjoyed a run of six NCAA Division III playoff appearances. The 1995 and 1996 teams advanced to the Elite Eight, while the 1998 squad became the first team in school history to reach the illustrious Final Four.

“ Jerry also arrived here with a **FEROCIOUS DESIRE** to recruit better student-athletes.

- Matthew McCaffrey '94 M'97

Rickrode's run at Wilkes includes 16 consecutive seasons of posting winning records, including seven years in which the team has registered 20 wins or more. During that same time frame, the Colonels earned 14 conference playoff berths. Rickrode is a three-time conference Coach of the Year recipient, while also garnering the National Association of Basketball Coaches Mid-Atlantic Regional Coach of the Year Award four times.

Notes McCaffrey, "Jerry instituted an entirely different attitude regarding how we went about everything related to basketball; that is, everything from how we prepared in the off-season to how we dressed to how we practiced. Behind the scenes, recruitment, scouting of opponents and practice preparation were the order of the day."

His teams learned the value of hard work and that winning was much more fun than not winning, McCaffrey adds. "Players coming into the Wilkes program since 1992 under Jerry Rickrode know three things: one, they will go to class; two, they will improve as an individual player; and three, they will win as a team."

PHARMACY AT WAR

WILKES GRADUATES MAN
FIELD HOSPITALS IN IRAQ

By Sherrie Flick

JOINT EXPEDITIONARY
FREEDOM HOSPITAL



PHARMACIST NOKOMIE WELSH-HARRIS '03 TRADED HER WHITE LAB COAT FOR BODY ARMOR AND KEVLAR HELMET WHEN THE AIR FORCE CAPTAIN WAS DEPLOYED TO IRAQ LAST FALL.

THE TAMAQUA, PA., NATIVE SPENT FOUR MONTHS STATIONED AT BALAD AIR FORCE BASE, 40 MILES NORTHEAST OF BAGHDAD IN THE SUNNI TRIANGLE. THERE, SHE WORKED AS A CLINICAL PHARMACIST SIX DAYS A WEEK, 12 HOURS A DAY, SWITCHING OFF WITH ONE OTHER PHARMACIST. "BEING AT WAR IS SOMETHING YOU'RE NEVER PREPARED FOR," SHE SAYS. "WITH BOMBS GOING OFF ALL AROUND, WE HAD TO WEAR BODY ARMOR EVERY DAY AND KEVLAR HELMETS, EVEN THOUGH THE BASE WAS A PRETTY WELL-DEVELOPED STRUCTURE."

SHE IS ONE OF TWO WILKES PHARM.D.S TO SERVE IN IRAQ RECENTLY. A THIRD EXPECTS TO DEPLOY TO AFGHANISTAN LATER THIS YEAR.

Sheakoski (highlighted) arrived in Iraq in January.
PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN SHEAKOSKI

“ I knew up front it would always be **CHANGING** and **CHALLENGING**. There are new drugs coming out **EVERY DAY**.

- Pharmacist Nokomie Welsh-Harris '03



Welsh-Harris returned from Iraq in January. PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. JOSHUA GARCIA/U.S. AIR FORCE

Wilkes' Nesbitt School of Pharmacy graduated its first students in 2000. Since then, seven Wilkes pharmacists have entered the Air Force while another two have entered the Public Health Service, reports Bernard Graham, dean of the Nesbitt College of Pharmacy and Nursing. Two more will enter the Air Force this year, and one will enter the Public Health Service. What draws these alumni to military service differs, but they all agree that their pharmacy degrees in combination with military service have given them the opportunity to use leadership skills that might have languished in the private sector.

Graham says the program prepares graduates of his program to be leaders. "Throughout the entire program, we focus on team building, which includes understanding conflict resolution among team members. It encourages a culture of professionalism."

In Iraq, Welsh-Harris was required to do rounds twice a day with the medical personnel, and she also had to be ready in a moment's notice for emergency calls. "Any time we had an emergency – you know, this is pharmacy at war – there would be a 'trauma call.' We'd have a minute to get there. We'd be in the emergency room as they offloaded the patients from the choppers and take reports, from the flight medic, including vitals, meds, etc. As the doctors were receiving that information, they started on their assessment, calling out drugs – right there in real time. The doctors would call it out, we'd fill it and read it back to the nurse, who then administered the medication."

Welsh-Harris notes the very hands-on role Air Force pharmacists play at Balad, "when every second counts between life and death" in the number one trauma hospital in theater. Pharmacists there play a critical role, assisting providers with therapeutic choices. The hospital also treats local children, more than one would expect to see in a war zone, she says. With no pediatricians, Welsh-Harris and other pharmacists recommend pediatric drug selection and dosing.

"Our military medicine has improved leaps and bounds over the decades," she notes. "Our troops are medevaced to our facility within 30 minutes from the time of injury – compared to the weeks it took in Vietnam and days that it took in the first Gulf War. Our hospital has a 98 percent survival rate, meaning 98 percent of the patients that make it to our hospital alive will live, regardless of the magnitude of their injury. This is fantastic."

Welsh-Harris found it difficult seeing some young soldiers coming in with injuries. Though the experience was sometimes graphic, she always knew she wanted to work in health care. "I was just always generally interested in it. Most people try to avoid their doctor, but they seek out pharmacists. I liked the idea of that personal interaction," she says.

"I knew up front it would always be changing and challenging. There are new drugs coming out every day."

She decided on the Air Force her third year of pharmacy school. "I started going to the national conventions and talking to lots of pharmacists in order to see what they liked about their jobs. I kept running into Air Force pharmacists. They seemed to have the most job satisfaction. They weren't stressed out. At first I thought, 'Me? In the military? Ha-ha.' Then I thought maybe I should look into this."

Welsh-Harris won a Healthcare Profession Scholarship. She was originally stationed at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona but then traveled to Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, to do her American Society of Health-System Pharmacists pharmacy practice residency.

Welsh-Harris, who married Anthony Harris in March, returned to Wilford from Iraq in January and now works in the oncology pharmacy with bone marrow transplants and chemotherapy. Because Wilford is a flagship medical center for the Air Force and its biggest Air Education and Training facility, she expects to deploy to Iraq or Afghanistan every year.

MILITARY, CIVILIANS OR INSURGENTS

Capt. Brian Sheakoski '05 began his deployment at Kirkuk Regional Air Base in Iraq in January. He is one of 200 active-duty pharmacists in the Air Force. A portion of those pharmacists are continuously deployed.

In Kirkuk, Sheakoski is the only pharmacist at his facility, and there are no pharmacy technicians. But, he notes, "Pharmacists deployed to the Middle East tend to keep in touch and network with each other about issues and supply shortages that we can help each other with." So he doesn't feel alone.

A typical day involves filling prescriptions for personnel and maintaining the pharmacy stock. "On not-so-typical days," Sheakoski says, "we're taking care of the traumas that occur outside of the base, which could be U.S and Iraqi military, Iraqi civilians or insurgents," says Sheakoski, who is married to Elizabeth Alles '03 M'05.

In 2006, Sheakoski spent two months at a U.S. base in Qatar during the 15th Asian Games Doha. He helped assemble a field hospital designed to take on mass casualties from a structural collapse or a terrorist attack. Nothing out of the ordinary happened, but he takes great pride in knowing "we turned 40 airplane pallets into a functioning hospital in two days."

TO AFGHANISTAN

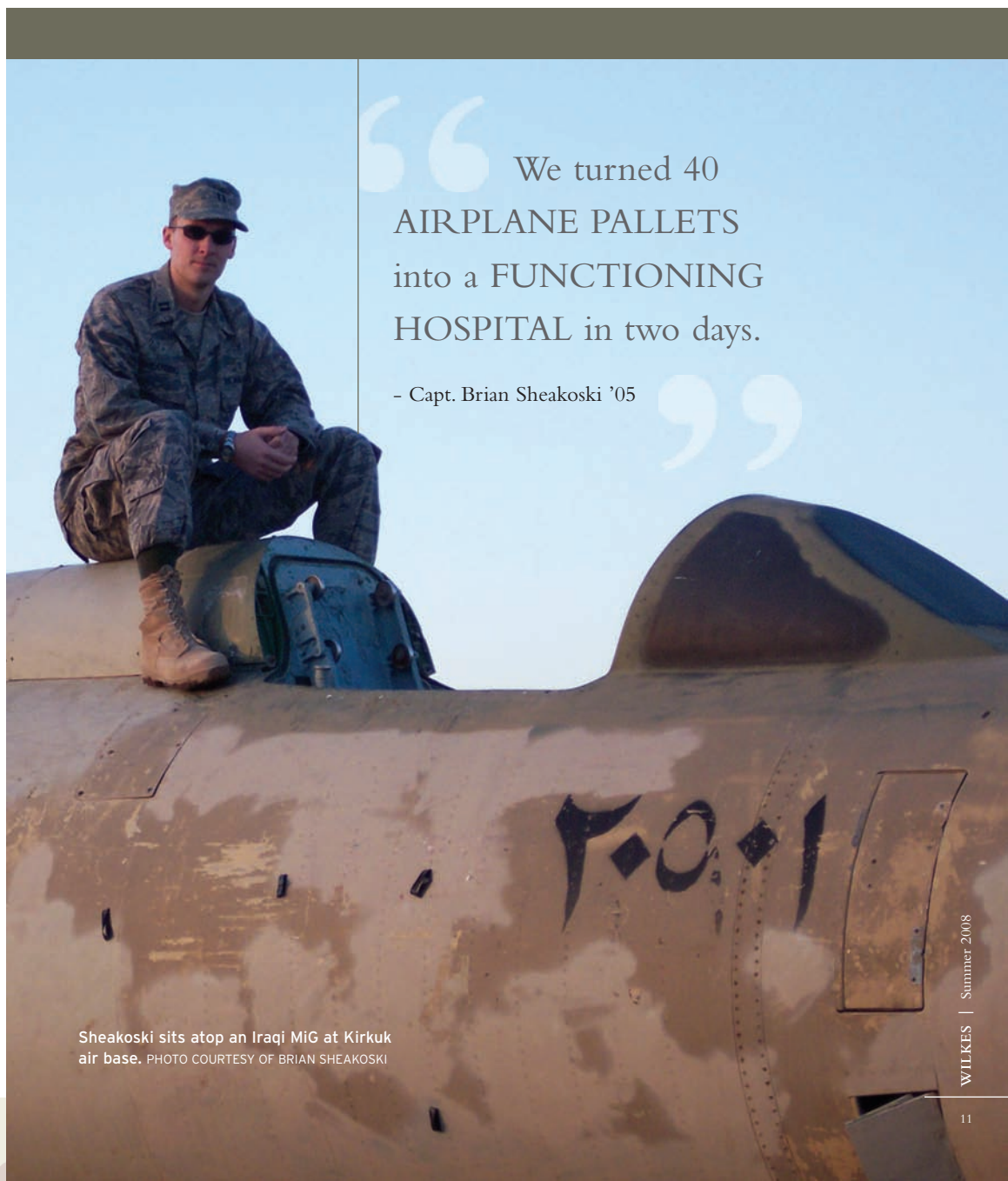
Capt. James Mason '06 wanted something a little more challenging for his future. He sees the Air Force as an opportunity to use his education and leadership skills in a way he wouldn't have had a chance to as a civilian.

Mason, from Old Forge, Pa., is stationed just outside of Las Vegas at Nellis Air Force Base. He expects to be deployed to Afghanistan by the end of 2008. "The Wilkes pharmacy program prepared me to be a pharmacist from day one," he says. "Within a week of graduating, I was in Alabama for officer training and then off to Nevada. So six weeks after graduation, I was in a pharmacy and expected to be a pharmacist and leader."

Mason, who is engaged to marry fellow pharmacy graduate Jennifer Kazemka '05 in July, serves as chief of outpatient pharmacy services for the 99th Medical Support Squadron at Nellis. The hospital is a joint venture between the departments of Veterans Affairs and Defense and is one of the largest of its kind. "Working under the same roof as the VA is a unique experience. We are always working together to do what is best for our patients." The pharmacy fills about 1,000 prescriptions a day.

TWIN EXPERIENCE

Graham's twin brother, Benjamin, served in the Air Force as a dentist for 22 years; both brothers had gone to pharmacy school. "I talk it up," the Wilkes dean says. "I encourage students to join. I talk to them about my brother's experiences and accomplishments to show them the



“ We turned 40
AIRPLANE PALLETS
into a FUNCTIONING
HOSPITAL in two days.

- Capt. Brian Sheakoski '05 ”

Sheakoski sits atop an Iraqi MiG at Kirkuk air base. PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN SHEAKOSKI



Mason, left, expects to be deployed to Afghanistan later this year.
PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES MASON

PHARM.D.S SERVING IN UNIFORMED SERVICE:

U.S. AIR FORCE

- Capt. Melissa Pammer '00
- Capt. Sarah Beck '03
- Capt. Nokomie Welsh-Harris '03
- Capt. Jeff Brittain '05
- Capt. Brian Sheakoski '05
- Capt. Kim Whipple '05
- Capt. James Mason '06
- Capt. Audrey Simpson '08
- Capt. Joshua Swantek '08

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

- Lt. Ted Hall '02
- Lt. Susan Pellock '05
- Lt. Stephanie Victor '08

“ Even after
Wilkes ... we have this
TEAM MINDSET.
We're still working
together. We talk and
**HELP EACH
OTHER OUT.**

- Capt. James Mason '06

Air Force can provide a good professional life and career.”

He notes that often Wilkes students see an opportunity when they consider enlisting. “In northeast Pennsylvania, there are a lot of very civic-minded people – people who have a sense of duty about them and a love of family and country,” Graham says. Most pharmacy students enter the Air Force by first applying for a Health Professions Scholarship.

“They've all won scholarships. These scholarships picked up most if not all of their tuition or costs of education.”

Graham says the buzzwords for his program are team-based education, small class sizes, great faculty and student interaction, and a high degree completion rate. The students are taught to work in teams in

real-life scenarios, and this helps promote an air of cooperation and professionalism.

Mason agrees. “Even after Wilkes,” he says, “we have this team mindset. We're still working together. We talk and help each other out, whether it's by phone or e-mail – whether we have a question or we're just having a bad day.”

NO TWO DAYS ALIKE

Welsh-Harris, Sheakoski and Mason have had experiences that never would have popped up had they stayed in northeastern Pennsylvania as retail pharmacists. For instance, Nellis hosts Red Flag, a combat training exercise for fighter pilots. Pilots from all over the world and many distinguished visitors come to see the pilots perform. “It's exciting,” Mason says. “When those people get sick, it's our job to take care of them.”

No two days are alike for these pharmacists in uniform, whether stationed in the U.S. or abroad. “The degree from Wilkes definitely prepared me for my leadership responsibilities,” Welsh-Harris says. “But pharmacy in the military is different than pharmacy in general. You aren't just a pharmacist, but an officer too.”

Political Posturing



“I am running because of what Dr. King called the FIERCE URGENCY OF NOW, because I believe we are at a defining moment in our history.”

- Barack Obama, reported by Andrew Seaman, *Beacon* news editor



Pennsylvania’s surprise prominence in the presidential primaries brought candidates to Wilkes University’s doorstep. Former President Bill Clinton stumped for wife Hillary, and Barack Obama addressed students and others during separate gatherings in the Marts Center. Chelsea Clinton rallied supporters during her “Hillblazers” tour.



“If the people of Pennsylvania support Hillary on Tuesday, you will wake up Wednesday in a different world.”

- Former President Bill Clinton, campaigning for wife Hillary three days before the Pennsylvania primary.



red/blue STATE STATE

WILKES' TOM BALDINO SAYS POLITICAL DIVISIONS ARISE FROM TENSIONS BETWEEN AMERICA'S TWO CONFLICTING VALUES:

LIBERALISM AND DEMOCRACY By Kim Bower-Spence



EVER SINCE THE CONTENTIOUS ELECTION of 2000, TV talking heads, pundits and now bloggers have divided the United States by color. Not the black, white and brown of race, but the blue and red of Democrats and Republicans, liberals and conservatives.

While it's convenient to color political disagreements along party lines, Wilkes University political scientist Thomas J. Baldino traces the perennial struggles to competition between two values on which the nation was built: liberalism and democracy. "We have inherently conflicting values. We are a liberal democracy."

Citizens value individual freedoms and their right to pursue their dreams. But the U.S. is also a democratic system, which empowers a government to act on behalf of the people. This means that a government may limit individual rights and freedoms to protect the majority.

Baldino cites polygamy as one example of where an individual's right to live as he or she wishes may be curbed. "That's a violation of community standards," he says. "You sense the balance that has to be struck there – to balance the 'right' of the individual to have multiple wives against the community's need to establish rules for an ordered society."

"Liberalism" early in U.S. history drew its meaning from its 18th Century origins, and was associated with individual freedom – of speech, of religion, of assembly, of self-determination. It reflected one understanding of equality: that everyone has the same opportunities and must be treated the same under the law. "As (Thomas) Jefferson understood equality, we will all be treated the same by the government, based on abilities and ambition," Baldino explains. This concept supports a capitalist system, where everyone can acquire property and pursue happiness.

Professor Tom Baldino asserts that the United States map is much more purple than red or blue. PHOTO BY MARK GOLASZEWSKI



Franklin D. Roosevelt transformed the meaning and use of “liberalism.” In trying to reconcile liberalism and democracy, Roosevelt argued that Americans couldn’t enjoy their freedom to succeed unless the community ensured citizens’ survival. “The community decides what the necessities for survival are,” explains Baldino, “and government provides them for those unable to acquire them for themselves.”

For example, the community decided to provide free public education to everyone. What a person does with that education is his or her choice. But providing free education has a cost borne by every citizen, even those without children or who send their children to non-public schools. Similarly, freedom of speech guarantees that the Ku Klux Klan can promote its views on race even though it offends a majority of people.

Over the course of U.S. history, Americans vacillated between promoting liberalism and promoting democracy, Baldino notes. He cites several “refoundings” since the birth of the United States. The Democratic-Republicans, led by Jefferson and James Madison, felt that Alexander Hamilton and the Federalists were concentrating too much power in the federal government. With Jefferson’s election in 1800, he sought to limit the power of the federal government and strengthen states’ rights. Other refoundings occurred in elections of 1828, 1860 and 1932.

Baldino also lists 1968 as a pivotal year. Roosevelt’s New Deal and Lyndon Johnson’s Great Society raised questions of “How much do we want the government to do for us?” With the anti-war, environmental, women’s, and civil rights movements dividing the country, political winds shifted toward the Republican Party with its promise of a smaller federal government and a greater emphasis on individual choice. The trend continued through Democratic President Bill Clinton, who revised the welfare system to put more responsibility on the individual, Baldino points out.

“The contemporary parties tend to muddle the issues by misidentifying the terms,” he says. For instance, party operatives quickly shriek “socialized medicine” at any attempt to reform health care, or “privatization” when changes are proposed for Social Security. The pejorative language taps into emotions and squelches constructive debate.

Even on abortion, Baldino contends, opponents who can get past the rhetoric can get to the heart of the issue – unintended pregnancies – and work

together to try to find solutions. “People who are willing to talk and listen can find common ground.”

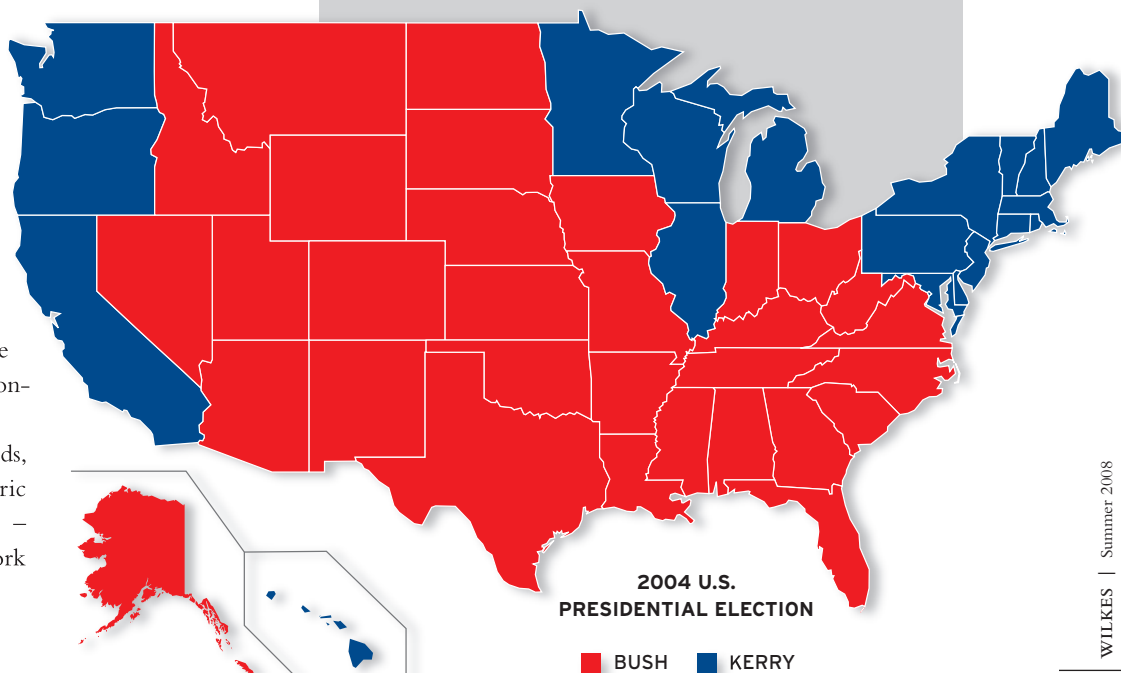
Despite the divide, Baldino asserts, the country is much more “purple” than simply red or blue. County-by-county break-outs show a mix of red and blue even within states. Pennsylvania itself sports nearly a red “T,” with Philadelphia and Pittsburgh heavily Democratic and the heartland more Republican.

“If you depoliticize the debate and remove the hyper-inflated rhetoric, people want their problems solved,” Baldino concludes. “We need to reduce the inflammatory rhetoric so people can understand both sides of each issue.”

ELECTION FACTS

- **Alabama** disqualifies from voting those who have committed a “felony involving moral turpitude,” without offering a definitive list of what qualifies as “moral turpitude.”
- **Seven states** require photo identification before voting.
- **Seven states** mandate that felons permanently lose the right to vote unless they are able to obtain a pardon.
- **In Pennsylvania**, felons retain their right to vote once they complete their sentence, probation or parole.
- **All Oregon** elections are conducted by mail-in ballot.

COURTESY OF KYLE KREIDER,
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE



SOURCE FOR MAP: MICHAEL GASTNER, COSMA SHALIZI AND MARK NEWMAN, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

High Flyer

HARPER SERVED ON ADVANCE TEAM FOR AIR FORCE ONE

By Sherrie Flick

WHEN PRESIDENT BILL Clinton flew to Helsinki, Finland, to meet with Russian President Boris Yeltsin in March 1997, it was Jeff Harper '81 who told the Air Force One pilot where to park the 747.

For three years during the Clinton administration, Harper served as an advance agent preparing Air Force One and Two for takeoff and landing. That Helsinki flight marked Harper's last and favorite trip as an agent. "It was March and it was cold, but it was a neat city, neat people."

Growing up in Endwell, N.Y., Harper never imagined he'd one day work so directly for a U.S. president. He did know, however, by seventh grade that he wanted to fly airplanes.

Harper was a scholarship cadet in Wilkes University's Detachment 752. After receiving his mathematics degree, he headed to navigator school at Mather Air Force Base, Sacramento, Calif., as a second lieutenant. Less-than-perfect eyesight kept him from becoming an Air Force pilot, but he later earned a private pilot's license.



Harper now works for a consulting firm planning for the next Air Force One.
PHOTO BY STEVE BARRETT



Harper, shown in top photo with President Clinton, supported Air Force One flights for three years during the Clinton administration.
PHOTOS COURTESY OF JEFF HARPER

After stints at Grissom Air Force Base, Indiana, and March Air Force Base, California, where he flew in KC-135 air-to-air refueling aircraft, he was hand-picked to be an advance agent. He gained a special security clearance, passed the interview process, and was seated in 1994 at the rank of major.

“It’s probably the only job in the Air Force where you support the president of the United States. It was an honor,” he says.

Harper served Air Force One in addition to his regular duty, which involved coordinating KC-135 operations on the battle staff of a three-star general. Schedulers would call upon a pool of 60 advance agents, two of whom were needed for each Air Force One stop.

Trips might take one day or two weeks. He flew into London, Indonesia, the Philippines, Iceland, Las Vegas, Boston and Los Angeles, among other destinations.

He didn’t fly in Air Force One; instead, he traveled ahead of the plane to coordinate plans and security with the airport and pilots. Agents serve as the eyes and ears at the airports for the

president, the flight crew, the Secret Service and anyone involved in any Air Force One flight. They coordinate with air traffic control and fire and rescue teams, and ensure security of aircraft fuel.

“Before any fuel is put on board that particular airplane, it is tested and secured,” Harper notes. “We tell the pilot where to park, what time he needs to be there. We do drawings of the air field, scale drawings of the runway, where to taxi, measurements in feet from various obstacles and other airplanes.”

Pilots receive detailed, step-by-step directions and know exactly how to taxi and park, as if they’ve already been to a particular airfield before. “We’d have lines taped on a ramp — a ‘T’ — that’s where the plane was to stop at exactly the right time,” says Harper. “It had to be exact.”

It’s a zero-error work environment. “At the end of the day, if we saw the president take off or land as planned, that was fun,” says Harper. Sometimes the distinguished visitors (DVs) or the president would acknowledge the advance agents as they stepped off the plane.

Harper eventually moved on to the Pentagon, where he scheduled planes for the vice president, four-star generals, the secretary of defense, secretary of state, and the joint chiefs of staff. He retired from that position in 2004 as a lieutenant colonel.

Today, Harper works for the consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton and is analyzing engineering and capability needs for the future fleet of presidential airplanes, scheduled to be in the air around 2017. He lives in Triangle, Va., with his wife, Heidi, and children Shannon, 13, Robby, 10, and Kaylee, 7.

“It’s probably the only job in the AIR FORCE where you SUPPORT THE PRESIDENT of the United States. It was an HONOR.”

Lt. Col. Jeff Harper, Triangle, Va.

B.S., Mathematics 1981

M.A.S. Aeronautical Science,

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University 1990

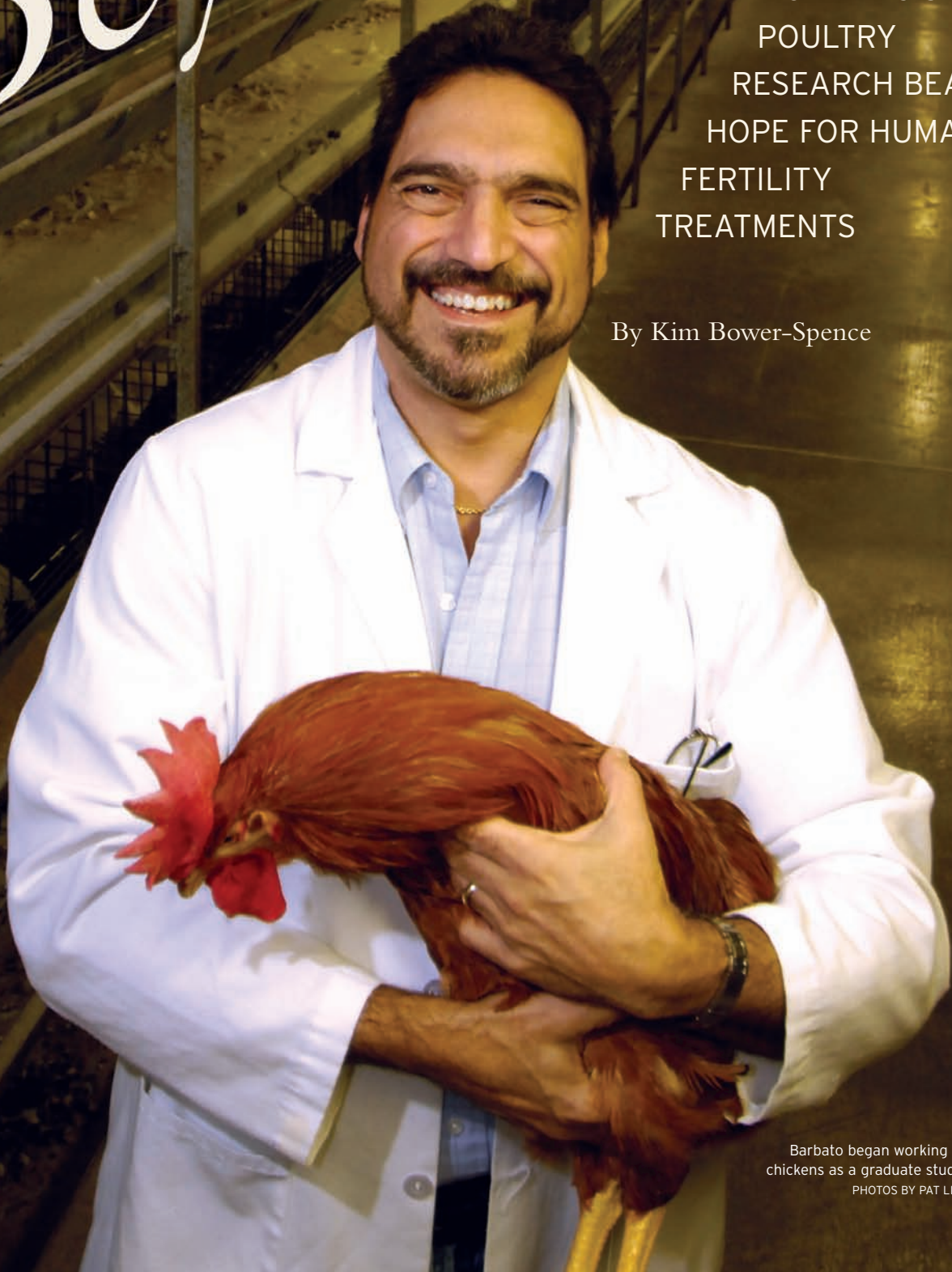
Career: Retired Air Force lieutenant colonel who now works for consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton

Notable: Served on advance crew for Air Force One

Beyond Chicken Sex

GENETICIST'S
POULTRY
RESEARCH BEARS
HOPE FOR HUMAN
FERTILITY
TREATMENTS

By Kim Bower-Spence



Barbato began working with chickens as a graduate student.
PHOTOS BY PAT LITTLE

GUY BARBATO'S CAREER VERY quickly went to the birds.

It started when the Wilkes biology major challenged a scientist at a seminar. The speaker, biologist Martin Schein, mentioned that Japanese quail couldn't nest. If humans didn't gather the eggs for incubation, the birds would no longer exist.

"I said, 'That's impossible. You can't lose a fitness trait,'" Barbato '77 remembers. He ended up back at biologist Lou Rigley's house until 2 a.m. arguing his point over pizza.

The discussion hatched the Newark, N.J., native's career in poultry genetics. From Wilkes, Barbato's interest in feeding behaviors led to a master's degree in nutrition, where his work happened to be in chickens, followed by a Ph.D. in genetics. Both advanced degrees came from Virginia Tech.

Then came two years at chicken producer Holly Farms, in Wilkesboro, N.C., where he helped develop leaner birds for consumers. He left Holly for post-doctoral fellowships in human nutrition, neurochemistry and protein chemistry.

One day he noticed an ad for a poultry scientist that seemed to be written for him: Penn State sought a geneticist and physiologist with nutrition experience; industry experience a plus. "How many people like that can there be?" he wondered. Soon he, wife Aileen and

their young children, Guy and Brittany, moved to State College, Pa. He's been a poultry science professor there since 1987.

His spends 25 percent of his time teaching poultry management and genetics to undergraduate and graduate students; 75 percent is devoted to researching the genetics of poultry growth and reproduction. It's more than chicken sex.

His recent research focuses on the biochemistry of genes

influencing whether sperm and egg "stick together"—the first event before fertilization. "A lot of the things that we're discovering along the way can be used in other species," including humans, Barbato notes.

He holds five patents, including one for an assay that can determine whether a male produces sperm capable of fertilizing an egg. It's currently being tested in humans, dairy cattle and other domestic animals.

For now, practical application comes in the form of pest contraceptives, marketed by Innolytics LLC. Barbato and colleagues have been researching a method of nonhormonal, nontoxic birth-control that prevents pigeons and resident Canadian geese from laying eggs. "It's a very green procedure, meaning that it doesn't pollute the environment," he says.



And it doesn't harm non-target species. "It's only the animals that eat it that lose reproductive capacity." In fact, it won a "Best Bird-Friendly Innovation" award from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. Barbato thinks that they can extend the same procedure to rats and mice. Eventually, the method might even find use in humans.

In 2007, Barbato and two colleagues launched a new company, Gallimed Sciences, to license intellectual property he develops at Penn State into human and other uses. He serves as Gallimed's president.

"I've had great experiences with teachers and mentors and professors over the years who've been very generous with their time and knowledge," he explains. Barbato tries to do the same for his students.

"The students really like him," says Robert Elkin, head of the Poultry Science Department at Penn State. "He's very engaging."

Barbato credits Wilkes professors Lester Turoczi and Lou Rigley with introducing him to genetics, with courses like gene expression, sociobiology and the evolution of behavior. "The idea that genes could influence behavior was extremely powerful. It just changed my life," he says.

Turoczi recalls how as an undergraduate Barbato requested to take a graduate course in advanced genetics. "He brought an energy and a vitality to that course that was stimulating," he says, noting Barbato's ability to ask probing questions without putting people on the offensive.

For all Barbato's research in poultry over the years, the question that started it all still eludes him. He hasn't quite found the answer to what happened to nesting behavior in Japanese quail — yet.

“
The idea that
GENES could
INFLUENCE
BEHAVIOR was
extremely powerful.
It just CHANGED
MY LIFE.”



Guy Barbato, State College, Pa.
B.S., Biology 1977

Career: Associate professor of poultry science at Penn State University

Notable: Holds five patents and launched a new company, Gallimed Sciences Inc., to bring to market contraceptive products resulting from his research.

2008 Alumni Scholarship Awarded and Coach Sheptock Honored

The Annual Alumni Scholarship Award Dinner took place on April 5, honoring Wilkes head football coach Frank Sheptock.

“Coach Sheptock has been an inspiration to the players, the program and to the community for more than 12 years,” according to Fred Demech '61, chair

of this year's event. Sheptock's father, Frank Sheptock Sr., and President Tim Gilmour, among others, spoke of his accomplishments.

The event was attended by many of Frank's family, friends, past and present players and alumni. “We are pleased that so many people came to share in Frank's recognition. It shows the impact Frank has had during his time at Wilkes,” says Sandra Carroll, executive director of alumni relations.

Each year, the Wilkes University Alumni Association awards the alumni scholarship to a current student who has had a sibling or parent who graduated from Wilkes. Applicants need a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. This year's recipient is Andrew Durako, who is majoring in accounting.

This event allows the Alumni Association to raise the level of the scholarship to more fully fund tuition expenses.



Andrew Durako, left, is the winner of the Alumni Scholarship for 2008. With him are parents Andrew '77 and Ann Marie Durako.

Alumni Enjoy 'An Extra Night in Florida'

Alumni gathered at the Bay Colony Beach Club in Naples on Feb. 29 for a reception hosted by Wilkes' community partner, M&T Bank.

Terry Casey '82, first vice president of the Alumni Association and vice president of M&T Bank private investment group, welcomed alumni and friends. The program featured University President Tim Gilmour, Wilkes-Barre Mayor Tom Leighton and Barnes & Noble Vice President and University Trustee Bill Miller '81.

The president shared his vision and plans for Wilkes. Leighton spoke about the strong partnership between Wilkes and the City of Wilkes-Barre in revitalization and explained steps the city has taken. He invited attendees to come back and experience the many new restaurants and



Bill Miller '81, Gerald McHale '67 and Betsy Condrum M '79 visit in Florida. PHOTO BY MIRKO WIDENHORN

businesses that have come to downtown Wilkes-Barre.

One of these is the Barnes & Noble College Booksellers

store that opened on Main Street in 2006. Miller, also a member of the Alumni Association board, spoke about the success of the first-ever main street Barnes & Noble shared by two universities, Wilkes and King's College. The store engages the community through events featuring local authors and artists.

The Florida event brought Wilkes and its host community to life for those with deep Wyoming Valley roots who happen to have a current Florida address. Special thanks to Don Wilkinson '58.

Kerrs Host Fellow Alumni Near Boston

Alumni joined hosts John and Renate (Dargel) Kerr, both class of '72, for a Feb. 20 dinner at the Walpole Country Club, located near Boston.

Provost Reynold Verret and deans Paul Browne, Dale Bruns, Darin Fields, Bernard Graham and Michael Speziale talked about progress Wilkes has made and University plans. Special guest Helen Ralston '52 also joined the festivities.

"It was exciting to meet fellow alumni in the Boston area and have the opportunity to spend time with our deans and each other," says John Kerr.



Fred Gemino looks through a yearbook with alumni board member Tom Ralston '80 in Walpole, Mass. PHOTO BY TOM AND CHERYL MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

Checked Out The Colonel Connection Recently?

Updates to The Colonel Connection online community continue to improve communications to and among alumni.



You can now pull in Real Simple Syndication (RSS) feeds and widgets like YouTube and Flickr, and you can pull information into a dynamic profile from these sites. Create your own blogs and receive comments, and create an extensive friends list to include friends of friends.

The Colonel Connection can show the latest postings in your social networking sites. Remember to post recent photos, submit class notes or become a mentor. You can also find a classmate, update your information and find out about upcoming alumni events and programs. Log on at community.wilkes.edu.

CELEBRATE WILKES' 75TH ANNIVERSARY AT HOMECOMING

Plan now to visit campus for the historic celebration of the 75th anniversary of Wilkes, from its earliest years as Bucknell University Junior College, to Wilkes College, to Wilkes University. This year's Homecoming begins Friday, Oct. 3, and continues through Sunday, Oct. 5.

You'll have plenty of opportunity to mix and mingle with your classmates. Don't miss the Friday golf tournament, followed by an auction of Dean George Ralston's famous ties, which have been generously donated by his wife, Helen Ralston '52. On Saturday, take advantage of an opportunity to be back in the classroom for short courses taught by alumni and professors.

Your support of the Wilkes football team is always appreciated. This year, you can help celebrate the accomplishments of the Golden Horde—those football teams that hit the field from

1965-1969—and Coach Rollie

Schmidt at the game.

Many other activities are planned for your return to campus, so save the date and come back to experience and hear about the many changes on campus and in revitalized downtown Wilkes-Barre.



1955

Roland Featherman of East Stroudsburg, Pa., has been appointed by Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell to serve on the Governor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities.

1958

Reunion Oct. 3-5 

Ronald A. Olson, M.D., is an ophthalmologist at Eye Centers of Florida, Naples, Fla. Previously, he served on the ophthalmology staff at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center, Wilkes-Barre. Prior to that, he was in private practice for 25 years in West Pittston, Pa. He and wife **Leona (Baiera) Olson '62** have lived in Naples for five years. Their son, Christian J. Olson, and his wife, Kimberly, reside in Pompano Beach, Fla.



ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP DINNER PLANNERS: Members of the planning committee for the annual Alumni Scholarship Dinner were, from left: Rosa Khalife-McCracken '79, Fred Demech '61, Andrea Petrasek '69, Katie Cappelloni '08, Mirko Widenhorn and Michelle Diskin '05.

1963

Reunion Oct. 3-5 

Robert Bomboy, former English department faculty member, is the author of *Smart Boys Swimming in the River Styx: A Novel of Love and War*.

1979

Daniel J. Cardell, C.F.A., is president and chief investment officer of Wayne Hummer Asset Management, a

subsidiary of Wintrust Financial Corporation. Cardell, with 25 years of investment management experience, will lead an expansion of the firm's investment strategies. In addition to his position at Wintrust Financial Corporation, Cardell teaches finance to MBA candidates at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Cardell and wife **Anne Marie (Booth) Cardell '79** reside in Palatine, Ill., with their two children.

1985

Sean Connolly was appointed to the board of the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank. Connolly is a public relations consultant and lives in Camp Hill, Pa., with his wife, Beth Ann, and children Colleen and Patrick.

1987

Paul Isaac is enrolled in the master of science program in pastoral care and counseling at Neumann College in Aston, Pa. The program combines psychology, psychiatry, theology and spirituality. He also

continues to participate in long-distance races, including marathons, and hopes to qualify for the Boston marathon.

1995

Alexandria (Marchel) Zuranski is a claims assistant for a local Social Security field office. She resides in Albany, Ga., with her husband, Chris.

1996

John E. Schwear Jr. and his wife, Lisa, welcomed their second child, Erica, born on Nov. 16, 2007. She joins a brother, John Eugene III. The family resides in Drums, Pa. John is a vice president with the M&T Bank Business and Professional Banking Group.

1997

Brian P. Morrison is a principal of Cocke, Szpanka and Taylor CPAs accounting firm in Reston, Va. CS&T is ranked among the top certified public accounting firms in the northern Virginia and greater Washington, D.C., metropolitan regions.



ALUMNUS MEETS WITH ROTC CADETS:

U.S. Army Col. Mark A. Rado '80 discusses leadership with the cadets of Air Force ROTC Detachment 852 at the Kingston Armory in February 2008. While a student at Wilkes, Rado was an AFROTC cadet. He enlisted in the Army in 1985 and was commissioned upon graduation from Officer Candidate School. He became a colonel on Nov. 1, 2007, and currently attends the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Washington, D.C. Upon graduation in June, he is to be reassigned to the Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq, where he will serve as a personnel advisor to the Iraqi army.

1998

Reunion Oct. 3-5 

Lisa (Niewinski) Ciampi and husband Lou announce the birth of their son, Nicholas Edward, born on Jan. 15,

2008. Nicholas joins a brother, Louis. They reside in Wyoming, Pa.

1999

Thomas Duffy M'03 has been appointed principal at Dallas Middle School, Dallas, Pa.

Aaron Sherburne and Lauren (Castelli) Sherburne '00 welcomed their son, Jason Patrick, on Dec. 14, 2007. The family resides in Pequannock, N.J.

Frappolli is South Jersey's Winningest Coach

Joe Frappolli's official title is director of student services at Florence Township Memorial High School. But to most residents of Florence, N.J., he's better known as simply "Coach."

Frappolli '69 has been leading the Florence Flashes high school football team for the past 34 years and is currently South Jersey's All-Time winningest coach, with an overall record of 236-101-5. He has chalked up 17 championship seasons and twice won four consecutive Freedom Division Championships, including a current streak of seven championships in a row.

Under his leadership, the Florence Flashes had a three-year unbeaten streak from 2003 to 2006. They reached 43 undefeated/untied games before losing in 2006. His team took the South Jersey Group I Championship in 1985, 2004, 2005 and 2006.

The Florence native attributes much of his success as a coach and educator to his experiences at Wilkes. The history major fondly recalls playing on the Colonel football team, where he was part of the "Golden Horde." That team won four Middle Atlantic Conference championships and had a 30-plus game winning streak.

The former quarterback, receiving back, defensive back and kick returner also played on one of two teams inducted into the Wilkes Athletics Hall of Fame. He was Unsung Player of the Year in 1968.

Upon graduation, Frappolli returned to his hometown to teach history and government for 17 years before becoming a guidance director and later athletic director. He became head football coach in 1974, after earning a master's degree in student personnel services at Trenton State College.



Frappolli leads a 12-member coaching staff.

"I wanted to teach and coach and help (students) achieve the greatest victory they would ever achieve: what they will do with the rest of their life," he says. The biggest challenge he and his 12-member coaching staff now face is to "overcome the 'me-first' attitude of many young people, and getting them to recognize the importance of 'team first' instead."

Frappolli acknowledges that coaching is not just about knowing how to play a sport. "It's how you achieve in getting your players to learn what you've taught them and then put it to work." Frappolli feels lucky to be able to put to use some of the same theories and principles learned at Wilkes. "We try to emphasize the fundamental values or pillars of good character."

- By Shannon Curtin '07

2000

Nicholas Adler, resident choreographer and theatre instructor for the Conservatory Theatre Department at Wilkes, has accepted a position as the performance manager for Jazz

at Lincoln Center in New York City. In this new position, Adler will be in charge of managing any one of the three main performance venues, the largest of which seats upward of 1,600 people.

Nelson M. Braslow, M.D., is the executive vice president of medical affairs and chief medical officer of MVP Health Care. He is responsible for leadership of MVP's medical affairs division,

including oversight of all clinical staff, medical policies and protocols. MVP Health Care has locations in upstate and central New York, New Hampshire and Vermont.

LeDonne Covers Finance from London

It's easier to teach a writer how financial markets work than to teach a financial expert to write well. That premise, which launched Gabe LeDonne's financial reporting career, has now taken the 2005 communications studies and English graduate to London.

LeDonne started his career with financial news service SNL Financial after completing his dual degree. LeDonne worked as a reporter at SNL's head office in Charlottesville, Va., covering the financial market for two years before he was sent to London, where he currently works as senior industry editor.

His increased responsibilities include getting SNL's European and Asian news coverage up and running. "While a good bit of my job is still reporting on our coverage universe in Europe and Asia, I'm also working to build contacts and sources here, and trying to establish SNL's name as a news agency."

LeDonne has been meeting with executives and trade groups and attending conferences and industry events. Building a division of a company from scratch is a challenge, but LeDonne finds it exciting. "It's been really fascinating learning about the differences in how companies and markets operate in Europe and Asia. Every country has its own system. Some aspects are quite similar to the U.S., other aspects are drastically different."

LeDonne enjoys living overseas. "I have always wanted to live abroad – it's been a longstanding

ambition. I really love living in London; it's a wonderful and culturally diverse city."

Another perk to living in London is the ability it provides LeDonne to travel. "Since I've been here, I've visited a few places – Edinburgh, Paris, Athens and the French Riviera – and I have trips coming up later this year to Seoul, South Korea, Stockholm, Munich and Frankfurt."

LeDonne does miss seeing friends and family, but a few of them have already visited, and many more are planning to do so. He doesn't know when his job might return to the United States.

"I'm keeping an open mind about it. These last nine months have just flown by, and there are still lots of things I want to do."

- By Shannon Curtin '07



His London-based reporting position gives LeDonne, shown here in Monte Carlo, opportunity to travel throughout Europe.

English Graduate Clothes Pro Athletes, Then Talks

Shakespeare, Chaucer, Reebok, Adidas, Super Bowl. Such was the career path of Eddie White '80, whose days of studying English at Wilkes led to a career in sports information and marketing — and now talk radio.

The Wilkes-Barre native recently left his full-time position as vice president of team properties and sports marketing for Reebok and Adidas to be a public relations consultant for the brands. Working out of Indianapolis, White oversaw a staff of more than 30 people who serviced teams from the National Football League, National Basketball Association, Women's National Basketball Association, NBA's D-League and NFL's Europa.

White continues to work one-on-one with senior executives of each league, as well as the head coach from every team. The job has taken him to 20 Super Bowls, most of the time concentrating on organizing the pregame show and national anthem.

His work as a sports industry insider opened up a new venture for White. He recently became co-host of an evening sports radio show. He and *Indianapolis Star* sports columnist Bob Kravitz talk about local and national sports topics on "Kravitz & Eddie" on the ESPN affiliate in Indianapolis.

One of his most recent highlights was covering the Big Ten Men's Basketball Championships in Indiana and his interview with fellow Wilkes graduate Bo Ryan '69, head coach of No. 1 seed Wisconsin. They spoke every day during the tourney, and most of the talk on air consisted of



White, left, teams with Bob Kravitz, right, for a talk radio program in Indianapolis. PHOTO COURTESY OF ESPN 1070 THE FAN

memories of Wilkes and the Wyoming Valley. To listen in, go to the station's web page (1070thefan.com) and click on the Bo Ryan podcast.

His position with Reebok-Adidas takes him all over the country, but White began his career in the sports industry closer to home. Upon graduation, he became sports information director at Wilkes. He then moved to assistant sports information director at Notre Dame.

White also served as director of public relations for the Miami Dolphins, where he was directly involved with designing the press box for Dolphin Stadium. After four years with the Dolphins, White became involved in public relations, advertising and marketing programs for the Logo 7/Logo Athletic apparel company, which was purchased by Reebok. That was later bought by Adidas.

In 2001, White received the Wilkes Alumnus of the Year award. He resides in Carmel, Ind., with his wife and son.

- By Shannon Curtin '07

2001

Jessica (Crowley) Howard, Pharm.D., was named Shore Memorial Hospital's employee of the month for March 2008. Howard has been a staff pharmacist at Shore Memorial, Somers Point, N.J., since 2002. She resides in Egg Harbor Township, N.J., with her husband, Brian.

2004

Gangi Cucciuffo is the principal of Highland Elementary School in the Ephrata Area School District. He resides in Reading, Pa.

Kate (Gowisnok) Menta and her husband, Jarrod, welcomed their first child, Sofia Elizabeth, on Oct. 25, 2007. The family resides in Luzerne, Pa.

2006

Mike Burnside is executive director of the Cultural Council of Luzerne County.

He has also been the managing editor of Wilkes-Barre-based Etruscan Press and is an active member of the Luzerne County Historical Society, the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor and the Great Valley Technology Alliance.

Curtin Bags 12-Point Elk

While many Americans were scrambling with last-minute Christmas preparations, Shannon Curtin '07 and her father, Dennis, traveled cross-country in pursuit of elk.

The pair left Berwick, Pa., Dec. 16 in a Dodge Ram diesel pickup, arriving 32 hours later in Dulce, N.M.

Their Apache guide, Eldridge, who also serves as a game warden and conservation officer, took them scouting the night before the hunt. The next morning, the trio struck

out at 6:30 a.m. into brushy, open gamelands dusted with snow.

Just before 7:30 a.m., they spotted an elk. Eldridge bolted from the truck and took off running, with Curtin behind him. "My first shot I got off while he was running," she recalls. "I'm trying to load and run at the same time."

Curtin, who as a high school senior was top shooter in the Eastern Pennsylvania league and second in the state,



Curtin took this 12-point elk while hunting in New Mexico with her father.

rested the rifle over Eldridge's shoulder as she squeezed off her final shot, and the 700-pound elk dropped. Its 12 points — six on each side of the rack — and 32-inch spread make it an average-size animal for that region.

Her dad took his elk the next morning, as daughter slept in. "We were expecting to be out for two or three days," recalls Curtin, who began shooting at age 4 and hunting at age 12. The next couple days, the pair watched a lot of Discovery channel on television as they waited for the local grocer to butcher, package and freeze the meat. They arrived home

about 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

Curtin, currently a Wilkes MBA student and graduate assistant in Marketing Communications, commissioned a local jeweler to craft the ivory teeth into a necklace for her mother and earrings for her. But her biggest prize? "Traveling across the country with my dad was a great experience, one I'll remember for the rest of my life."

- By Kim Bower-Spence

In Memoriam

1938

Ilaria (Sterniuk) Zubritzky M'76, 88, of McKees Rocks, Pa., died on Dec. 14, 2007. A native of Dearborn, Mich., Zubritzky's family moved to Wilkes-Barre when she was a toddler. Zubritzky attended Bucknell University Junior College and graduated with a degree in English and French from Bucknell University in 1941. In 1976, she earned a master's degree in English literature from Wilkes University.

Following her marriage to the late Paul Zubritzky in 1941, the couple moved to McKees Rocks, Pa., where she worked as a substitute teacher for McKees

Rocks, Stowe and Sto-Rock school districts. Zubritzky served more than 50 years as a volunteer at Ohio Valley General Hospital, including three terms as president of its Ladies Auxiliary/Ladies Aid Society. In addition, she put in more than 50 years for the Ohio Valley College Club, raising funds for scholarships for Montour and Sto-Rox students, and served as regional vice president and alumni board member for Wilkes University and chaired reunion committees for Bucknell.

Zubritzky is survived by sons Peter and Paul M. Zubritzky, and daughter Hillary.

1942

Wallace F. Perrin of Abington, Pa., died on Oct. 26, 2007. He is survived by his wife, Shirley.

1944

Daniel E. Williams, 83, of Wilkes-Barre and southern New Jersey, died on Jan. 18, 2008. Williams, a retired educator and guidance counselor, was born in Wilkes-Barre and graduated from Meyers High School in 1942. He attended Bucknell Junior College and enlisted in the Navy upon graduation in 1944, where he served as a member of the Navy Medical

Corps during World War II.

Following his military service, he returned to Wilkes College under the G.I. Bill and was part of the first group of Wilkes College students to engage in practice teaching in the Wilkes-Barre city schools. He later received a master of science degree in education from Bucknell University and taught social studies in schools in Pennsylvania, Germany and New Jersey.

He retired in 1982 as director of guidance and special services for Blackhorse Pike Regional School District, New Jersey. Williams dedicated his life to preserving and promoting Welsh-American culture and heritage.

He was a lifelong member of the St. David's Society of Wyoming Valley.

Surviving are several cousins, including Gilbert A. Clark, Forty Fort.

1959

Samuel M. Davenport III, 77, of Kingston, Pa., died on Dec. 11, 2007. Born in Kingston, Davenport was the son of the late Samuel M. Davenport, a long-time trustee and board member at Wilkes University, and Harriet Mensch Davenport. Davenport graduated from Kingston High School in 1948 and completed post-graduate studies at Wyoming Seminary in 1949, later obtaining his bachelor's degree from Wilkes College and master's degree from Bucknell University.

Davenport worked as a teacher in the Lake-Lehman School District and was later employed by Wilkes University as the alumni director. He is survived by a brother, Bill Davenport, and a sister, Barbara D. Neville.

1961

John O. Turner, Ph.D., 68, a resident of Shavertown, Pa., and Wilkes-Barre, died on Feb. 15, 2008. Born in Wilkes-Barre, Turner was the son of the late John W. and Elizabeth Oliver Turner. He was a graduate of Coughlin High School and received a bachelor's degree from Wilkes. He earned a doctorate in chemistry from Penn State University, where he met his wife of 42 years, Carol Miller Turner.

He served as laboratory director of the Kirby Health Center, Wilkes-Barre, and then manager of the Kirby Health Center. He later became chief health officer of the City of Wilkes-Barre, where he remained for 36 years. He received a special commendation as Wilkes University Alumnus of the Year in 1995.

Surviving are his wife; sons Douglas and Gregory; daughter Allyson Burak; sister Joan Turner Brode; a granddaughter; and several nieces and nephews.

1963

Harvey Rosen of Riverdale, N.Y., passed away recently. Rosen, a native of Brooklyn, N.Y., completed an economics degree at Wilkes before starting his career at IBM. After traveling with IBM to Alaska, California and New York City, Rosen started his own technology negotiation firm, K&R Negotiation Associates, in 1994.

During his time at Wilkes, Rosen held records for the most free throws made in a game and the best single-season free throw percentage. He is survived by his wife, Alice; sons Matthew and Lonnie; daughter Sarah; sister Martie; and three grandchildren.

1991

Richard McCleve, 59, of Lady Lake, Fla., died on Dec. 18, 2007. Born in Newark, N.J., McCleve spent his younger years playing guitar in a rock band around New York City before working at shoe manufacturer Endicott

Johnson Corp. in Binghamton, N.Y. He soon became vice president of the company.

He moved to Orlando in 1992 and served as the manager of retail merchandising at Walt Disney World for several years before accepting an offer from MGM Grand in Las Vegas as vice president of retail development. McCleve also served as the senior vice president of development for the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville before beginning his own consulting firm, R.B. McCleve and Associates, in Orlando, Fla.

He is survived by his ex-wife, Pat McCleve; daughters Heather and Stephanie; mother Edna McCleve; brothers John and Roger; and five grandchildren.

Friends of Wilkes

Friend and long-time benefactor of Wilkes University, **Frank H. Hughes**, 77, died Thursday, Sept. 20, 2007, in the Hospice Unit at Heritage House, Wilkes-Barre. Born Nov. 27, 1929, in Paterson, N.J., to Frank and Elsie Dick Hughes, he also resided in Ridgewood, N.J., and Bermuda before settling in Kingston. He was a 1947 graduate of Wyoming Seminary and Lafayette College, Class of 1951, and held a master's degree from Lehigh University in administrative engineering. Hughes served in the U.S. Army Chemical Engineering Corps from 1953 to 1955.

He worked at Robbins Door and Sash Company of Wilkes-Barre, and from 1971 until his death he was president of Wyoming Valley Motors of Kingston and Larksville. He was a member of the board of directors of the First Eastern Bank, the First Peoples National Bank, the Guard Financial Group and its bank and insurance subsidiaries, and the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority.

He was a member of the Church of Christ Uniting, Kingston, the Westmoreland Club, the Wyoming Valley Country Club, and the Huntsville Golf Club.

Hughes loved to travel and enjoyed many summers at Bear Creek Village. He loved golf and was proud of scoring a hole-in-one at the Wyoming Valley Country Club on May 19, 1977.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Jean Robbins Hughes; sons Frank Robbins Hughes of Kingston and William Shonk Hughes of Park City, Utah; daughter Betsy Hughes Phillips of Summit, N.J.; four grandchildren, Andrew and Christina Hughes of Kingston, and Caroline and Leslie Phillips of Summit, N.J.

Trustee Ronald D. Tremayne '58 passes away in Fla.

Wilkes University lost a dear friend when Trustee Ronald D. Tremayne, 71, of Dallas, Pa., died April 3, 2008, in Fort Myers, Fla.

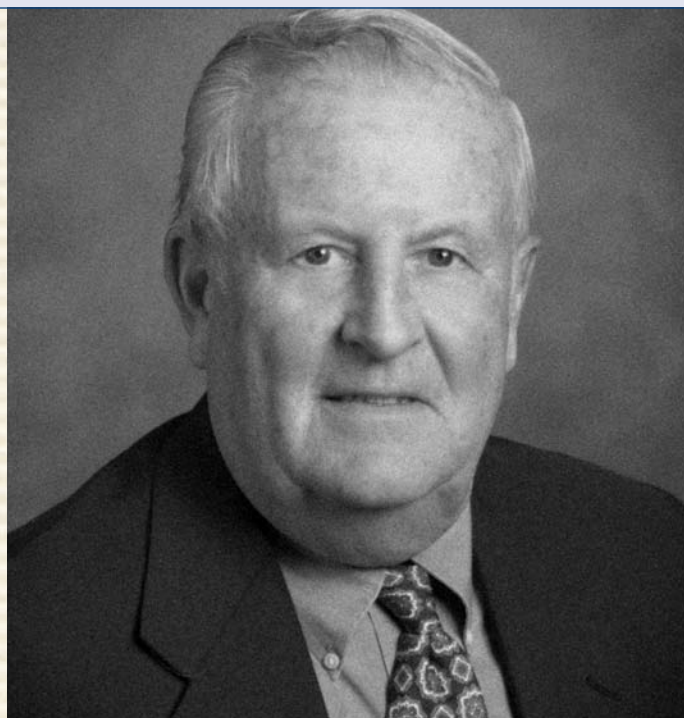
Tremayne '58 served as a member of the board of trustees since 1989, and he had also served on the University's alumni council. The Alumni Association honored him and brother William Tremayne '57 at its 2006 Alumni Scholarship Dinner Dance for their many years of outstanding service and commitment to the university and community.

"Ron was a long-standing friend of Wilkes who will be greatly missed," says President Tim Gilmour. "Ron, more than anyone else, focused us on the needs and condition of our students. This legacy will be a lasting one that we will all carry on."

Adds Jack Miller '68, chair of the board of trustees: "Ron was a committed and valued trustee. He was truly a student advocate, serving as vice chair of the Academic and Student Environment Committee."

Born in Nanticoke, Tremayne attended Nanticoke High School. After graduating from Wilkes College, he became associated with IBM Corp., where he worked as an executive in sales and marketing for nearly 30 years, retiring in 1987.

He and his wife, the former Joyce Fink of Nanticoke, returned to the Wyoming Valley following his retirement. Tremayne served as chairman of the Crippled Children's Association in Scranton and as chairman of the Boy Scouts Explorers of Central



New York. An avid golfer, Tremayne was active with the Irem Golf Association and the Irem Chanters, a men's choir. He was a member of the Firwood United Methodist Church, Wilkes-Barre, and its choir. He was also a member of the Nanticoke Masonic Lodge. The Tremaynes would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year.

In addition to his wife, Tremayne is survived by two daughters, Kathy Menzies, Wilkes-Barre; and Karen Wright, Harleysville, Pa.; four grandchildren; and brother William, Piscataway, N.J., also a Wilkes trustee.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Wilkes University Alumni Scholarship Fund, 84 W. South St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766.



Submitting Class Notes

Share personal or career news in any of three ways:

- E-mail it to wilkesmagazine@wilkes.edu.
- Post it at **The Colonel Connection** Web site at community.wilkes.edu.
- Or mail it to: **Class Notes
Wilkes Magazine
84 W. South St.
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766**

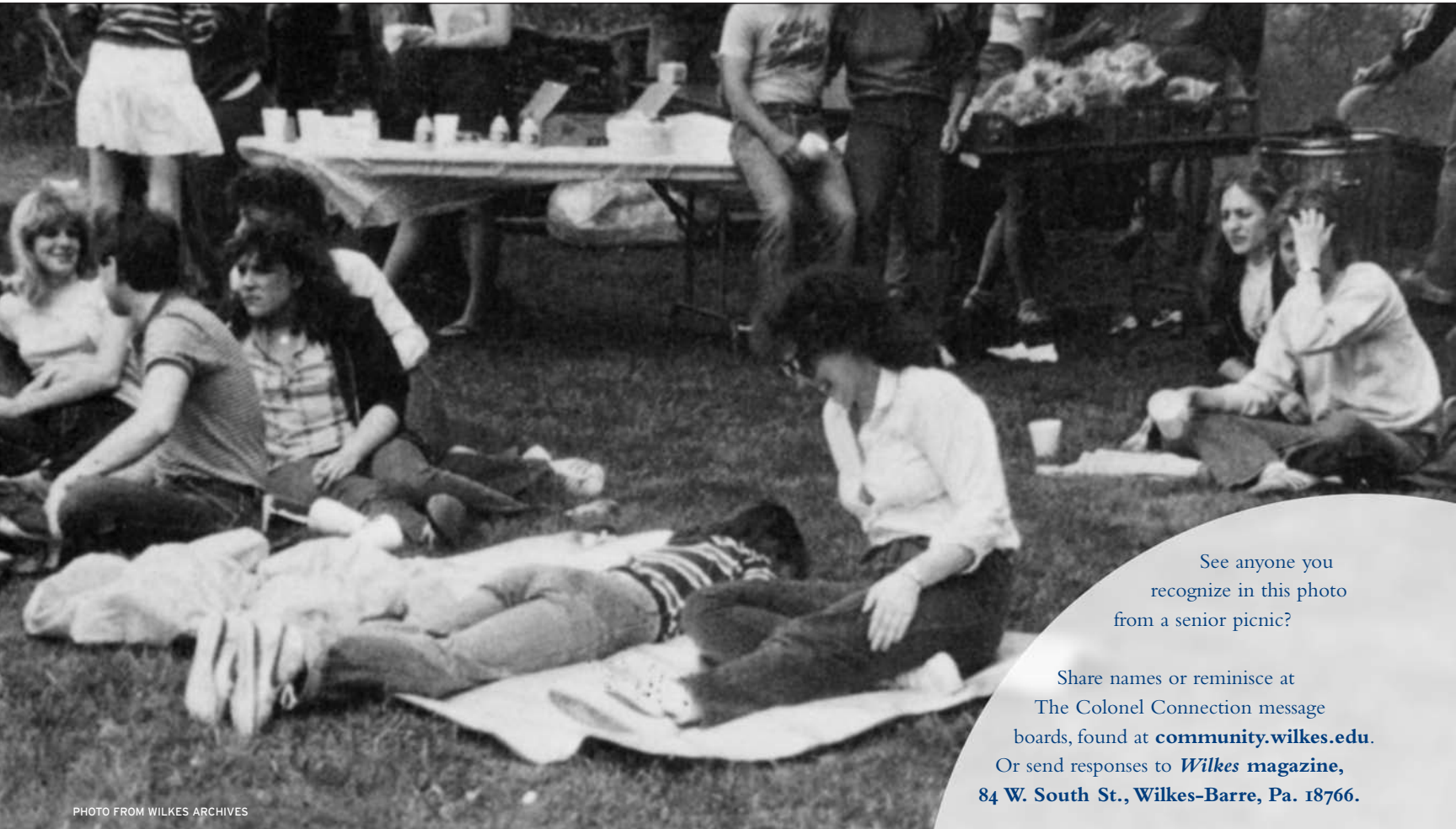


PHOTO FROM WILKES ARCHIVES

See anyone you recognize in this photo from a senior picnic?

Share names or reminisce at The Colonel Connection message boards, found at community.wilkes.edu. Or send responses to *Wilkes magazine*, 84 W. South St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766.

LEADERS OF THE BANDS

Dean Houck '72 identifies the following members of the Wilkes College Concert Band: from left, Bill Lehmkuhl '72, retired elementary teacher in Old Forge, Pa.; Bob Zampetti '73, retired elementary band director in Tunkhannock, Pa.; the late Joe Gurka '74; Dave Cooper '74, band director in Elk Lake, Pa.; Tom Frew '76, band director in Scranton, Pa.; and Houck, retired band director from Montrose, Pa. Band director at the time was Raymond Nutaitis '62.



"We had a great music department during those years, with many music majors."

Seniors enjoy good food and fellowship at the 2007 picnic on the lawn between Chase and Kirby halls, one last celebration before graduation and the next phase of life.



PHOTO BY MARK GOLASZEWSKI

June

- 21 “A Day at the Races”
Alumni Gathering,
Mohegan Sun at
Pocono Downs
- 23 John Chwalek Open,
Wyoming Valley
Country Club
- 26 “Big Apple Bound”
Alumni Event in
New York City

July

- 12 Belmar Beach Bash,
Belmar, N.J.
(now Lake Como)

August

- 21-29 Canyon Country
Alumni Travel
(Arizona and Utah)

September

- 5 Alumni Reception,
home of Fred '61
and Janet Demech

October

- 3-5 Homecoming/75th
Anniversary Celebration



PHOTO BY KIM BOWER-SPENCE

For more information on times and locations, visit www.wilkes.edu or
The Colonel Connection, community.wilkes.edu. Or phone (570) 408-7787.



WILKES UNIVERSITY
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766