

Franklin & Marshall scores 19 points in the fourth quarter, wins South Atlantic Bowl on last-second TD.

Beacon
Give-a-way
Inside!

Casino Night

A&E | Page 12

The BEACON



NOVEMBER 24, 2009

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

Volume 62 Issue 10

Students robbed on campus last Thursday

BY CATHRYN FREAR
Assistant News Editor

A pair of incidents on campus this past Thursday sent one student to the hospital and left another without her purse.

According to a statement sent out to all students and staff by Wilkes President Tim Gilmour, the first incident occurred around 4 p.m. The suspects were two Caucasian males, one described as having a medium build with dark curly hair and a beard, wearing a dark sweater and blue jeans. The other was only described as wearing a dark, hooded sweatshirt.

Manager of Public Safety, Gerald Rebo, said that Edward Maye, the victim of the first incident, was walking from Slocum Hall, where he lives. He was approached by the two men, described to be in their late 30s to early 40s.

One of the men forcibly removed Maye's cell phone from his pocket. At this point, Maye tried to get it back, and he and one of the men started to wrestle. This is when the suspect took out what may have been a screwdriver and, according to public safety's records, grazed the student's abdomen.

"He got his cell phone back, but in the mean time the guy cut him with something," Rebo said.

"We don't know what it was. Could have been a screwdriver, could have been a razor blade."

See **ROBBED** page 4

Turnout lower than expected at H1N1 clinics



Courtesy of Dr. Edward Foote

Above, a pharmacy student draws a dose of the H1N1 vaccine. Nursing students helped by drawing doses and injecting vaccines at Wilkes University's clinics. Clinics were held for Wilkes students, faculty and staff. Later on, the clinics were opened up to Wilkes family and friends.

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS
News Editor

Wilkes University recently received 1,500 doses of H1N1 vaccines. Of the 1,500, approximately 1,100 vaccines were administered to faculty, staff, students, and their families within the past few weeks.

Of the 1,100 vaccines given to the Wilkes Community during the vaccination clinics, there have been no reported complications or issues.

Paul Adams, dean of Student Affairs, listed numerous reasons why the vaccine is so important at the University.

"First and foremost, you want to protect the educational environment at the University to make sure it isn't interrupted unnecessarily," said Adams.

He continued, saying that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) warned Wilkes of the possibility of having to temporarily close the school if there was a 20 percent absenteeism rate.

"One of the interesting things we're struggling with is why so many students have not gotten immunized," said Dr. Edward Foote,

See **VACCINE** page 3

Rendell visited Wilkes, discussed State budget

BY GILLYAN GOWARTY
Staff Writer

Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell visited Wilkes University to give an address about state finances on Tuesday, November 17.

Approximately 80 people attended Rendell's address including President Tim Gilmour, and Jack Chielli, executive direc-

tor of marketing communications.

Rendell focused on the Pennsylvania State Budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, which was passed 101 days after deadline.

With the passing of the budget, Rendell said several educational programs were cut. A total of \$2.5 billion was cut from the budget with the elimination of these programs and other educational programs, such as the

hallmark tutoring initiative.

The Governor's School of Excellence, which is a summer program for high school students to study agricultural sciences, creative and performing arts, global entrepreneurship, health care, information technology, international studies, the sciences, and

See **RENDELL** page 4

for more information check out...

wilkesbeacon.com

GO!

INDEX

News.....1-5
Opinion.....6-8

Lifestyles.....9-11
A&E.....12-15
Sports.....16-20

Established 1936
PA Newspaper
Association Member



Hunger & Homelessness Week educates campus on social concern

Former Bloom professor works to spread awareness about homelessness

BY MELANIE THOMAS

Staff Writer

On Friday November 20, students gathered in the Henry Student Center ballroom to discuss one of the biggest social issues that America faces today--homelessness.

Last week, was Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week with a variety of activities and events to shed light on this ever-growing social concern.

Gary Clark of Bloomsburg University, professor emeritus, gave a presentation that focused on putting a face to this very serious and growing problem in Wilkes-Barre and nationwide.

Clark is a photojournalist who tries to capture the true identity of the homeless by photographing homeless individuals. He explained that homeless people are treated as if they are invisible. With the use of his emotionally charged pictures, he said his goal is to inspire others to reach out and help.

Clark's presentation on the faces of homelessness exposes what being without a home truly means because his photos show the harsh reality.

More than 500 campuses nationwide get involved with Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week every year.

"We have this here on our campus so that we can be aware of the hunger and homelessness that is in our own community," said Caitlin Czeh, interfaith coordinator.

She continued, "There are many people, who are hungry and homeless in our area, but there are very limited resources to help them."

Czeh explained that the current economy and its limited resources are stretched. "This year, because of the economy, there are even more people who are struggling every day to make ends meet, and therefore

they must depend on area food pantries to help them."

Throughout the week there were specific events that aimed to bring homelessness awareness to the area. "A mile in her shoes," which was a tour of places that homeless women visit each day. Dinnerless Dinner was an event where people donated canned goods instead of a dish to share. There was a Hunger Banquet and The Hungry for the Holidays canned food drive. The Many Faces of Homelessness were some of the highlights that encouraged students to get involved.

Inspired by the streets of New York, Clark wanted to find out who the homeless really were.

According to Clark 96% of homeless people didn't expect to ever live on the streets. "One wrong turn, one bad decision, and you can be on the streets."

Clark emphasized that, "It's not just about the people on the streets. It's about all of us."

Sandy Sharp, senior sociology major, came to the presentation to get some questions she had about homelessness answered.

"The more I'm learning about homelessness the more I'm finding how widespread it is," said Sharp.

Carrie Early and Max Morales, sophomore psychology and sociology majors, respectively, attended the event to learn more about homelessness.

During his presentation Clark discussed how children are affected by homelessness.

"As children, we draw pictures of what is really important to us. Children draw pictures of houses and their family. This gives them the sense of security and order that is essential to any child's development."

Through Clark's efforts to bring awareness to homelessness, there have been many

success stories.

Clark's website, essentialhumanity.com, tries to bring families back together by posting homeless people's faces on the site along with who they are trying to find.

He explained that, "The families hurt just as much as the victims themselves."

Clark encourages us all to defeat homelessness by becoming advocates for those who cannot "beat the streets."

"Be social irritants," said Clark. "Get our politician's to provide more funding for homeless programs. Typed letters on letterheads will get their attention."

Students can also donate time, food, clothing, and blankets to the Reach shelter at 35 South Franklin St. in Wilkes-Barre. Contact them at 829-5611.

Outstanding Leaders Forum



The Beacon/Cathryn Frear

Dr. Elie Wiesel spoke at the Outstanding Leaders Forum on Tuesday, November 17. Wiesel is a Nobel Peace Prize winner, Holocaust survivor and professor at Boston University.

for more information check out...

wilkesbeacon.com

GO!

The BEACON

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

PHONE: (570) 408-5903

EMAIL: wilkes.beacon@wilkes.edu

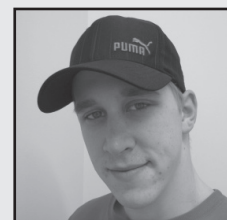
Editorial Staff 2009-10

Editor-in-Chief: Nicole Frail
Managing Editor: Dan Kautz
Advertising Manager: Michele Flannery
News Editor: Jacqueline Lukas
Opinion Editor: Matthew Gogas

Advisor: Lindsey Wotanis

Lifestyles Editor: LeeAnn Searfoss
A/E Editor: Brie Friedman
Sports Editor: Anthony Dorunda
Photo Editor: Thomas Reilly
Online Editor: Andrew Seaman

Meet the Staff



Tom Reilly
Photo Editor

VACCINE

from FRONT PAGE

professor and chair of pharmacy practice. “The general population of students were not getting immunized and we’re not quite sure why.”

Adams agreed with Foote regarding the resistance they’ve seen from students on the the vaccine. Adams said he believes students may have been reluctant to get vaccinated because they don’t necessarily feel vulnerable to the H1N1 virus. Adams also cited Youtube.com videos and different media sources as students’ reasons for fearing the vaccine.

The videos showed people who were negatively affected by vaccines. Adams said that these specific cases get attention from media because they are so rare.

“Ultimately, I don’t think the University would offer something to its students that we believe is unsafe,” said Adams.

Side effects of the H1N1 vaccine include a sore arm or mild symptoms of a common cold according to Dr. Adam Welch, assistant professor of the pharmacy practice.

Some students were apprehensive about the receiving the vaccine.

“I didn’t get the shot just because it’s so new,” said Gousfin Hanna, sophomore pharmacy major. “My sister had the [H1N1 virus] and was put on medication. She’s fine now.”

Hanna continued, saying that she would rather get the flu and have it run its course than get the H1N1 vaccine.

Kelly Ferrell, sophomore English major, said that she was aware the University was giving the vaccine but chose not to get it.

“I missed the times, but I’m a commuter so I can just go over to my doctor’s office

because they are giving it out,” said Ferrell.

The Health and Wellness Services has held about eight vaccination clinics total. In partnership with the nursing and pharmacy programs, two clinics were open to family of members of the Wilkes community.

According to Foote, about 15 faculty members of the pharmacy and nursing programs have helped with the clinics by giving the vaccines.

The first few clinics were lightly attended; therefore, there have been multiple attempts to reach students such as moving the vaccination site from the Marts Gym to the Henry Student Center Lounge. In addition, pharmacy and nursing students and faculty have been assisting with the clinics to expedite the process.

“Everyone seems very appreciative,” said Diane O’Brien, director of Health and Wellness Services. “As soon as we got [the vaccines], we really tried to sit down with Student Affairs and Paul Adams and really have a plan to just deliver them quickly.”

There are a few populations that are most susceptible by the H1N1 vaccine including children, people under the age of 24, pregnant women and the elderly.

Dr. Julie Olenak, assistant professor of the pharmacy practice, said that school-aged children and young adults are contracting the H1N1 virus because of decreased immunity.

“So what happens normally with the flu, it’s the elderly that get sick and are hospitalized and die,” said Olenak. “But that’s not the case with H1N1 and that’s because [students] lack immunity. [Students] have never seen a similar virus, so their body has no protection against it.”

According to Welch, the vaccine is a new



The Beacon/Jacqueline Lukas

In attempts to increase the number of students receiving the immunization, clinics were moved from the Marts Gym to the Henry Student Center, pictured above.

strain of influenza. Every February, the CDC determines three main strains of seasonal influenza, and then those strains are put into a vaccine. Since the H1N1 virus was not identified until April 2009, the vaccine had to be produced in six months as opposed to the seasonal flu vaccine, which is produced in eight months.

“If [the swine flu] had been identified in February instead of April, it would have been in this year’s seasonal flu shot, and we wouldn’t have had a need for an additional H1N1 vaccine,” said Welch.

Other students supported getting the vaccine.

Meaghan Williams, a junior psychology major and a neuroscience minor, wanted to get the vaccine to protect herself.

“It wasn’t a hard decision to come to,” Williams said. “I wanted to do anything I could to keep myself from becoming susceptible.”

Trevor Hirsh, a junior entrepreneurship major, business administration and marketing minors, also said that he felt vulnerable to the H1N1 virus.

“I got the vaccine because of the risk peo-

ple under the age of 24 faced,” said Hirsh. “Since a lot of college campuses were being hit hard with swine flu, I decided it would be a good idea.”

Other area colleges and universities like King’s College, Luzerne County Community College and Misericordia University are administering immunizations, as well.

O’Brien confirmed approximately 10 cases of H1N1 on campus during the swine flu tests and 20 isolated cases; all students returned to class without complications. If a student went to Health and Wellness Services with symptoms of the H1N1 virus, they were treated as if they had the virus with Tamiflu, an antiviral flu medicine.

Adams confirmed the approximate 10 cases of H1N1 on campus during the President’s Coffee Hour on November 19.

If students, faculty or staff want the H1N1 vaccine, they can visit Health and Wellness Services on the first floor of Passan Hall to receive it.

O’Brien reminds students that washing hands and not sharing drinks or cigarettes is important to keep the H1N1 virus and the seasonal flu from spreading.

Wilkes alumni help in development of H1N1 vaccination

BY AUBREE ARMEZZANI

Correspondent

KAYLA MATTIOLI

Correspondent

& NICOLE FRAIL

Editor-in-Chief

The H1N1 virus, also known as the swine flu, continues to make headlines across the country. Antibacterial lotion, vitamins, and tissues have been flying off the shelves of supermarkets and stores all over the world. In approximately one year, H1N1 has left about 500,000 people dead, said CNN.com.

Wilkes University has offered free vaccinations at the Marts Gym multiple times in the last month. Each time the shot was offered, students, faculty, staff and their families waited in line to receive the vaccine.

While the University has hosted many

of these clinics, they have also had a hand in the development of the vaccine. Wilkes’ alumni Roger Raby, ’05 and Matthew Nighbert, ’09 are employed by Sanofi Pasteur, a pharmaceutical company located in Swiftwater, Pa. that develops and produces the vaccines.

“We’re trying our best, and we’re solving this more and more one day at a time,” said Raby, a level two technician at Sanofi.

According to Nighbert, a laboratory analyst, the procedure for making the vaccine is extremely complex. They begin by growing seed strains of the virus. Scientists are then able to identify a strain that triggers the immune system but doesn’t make people sick.

At Sanofi Pasteur, the vaccine for the Swine flu is made just like the vaccine for the regular common flu, except there are different ingredients.

“With the common flu you use three strains of flu, where as with swine, you only use one strain of flu,” said Raby.

“The flu vaccines are usually grown in fertilized chicken eggs,” said Nighbert. “The seed virus is injected into these chicken eggs and they are then incubated for a period of time, which allows for the viral strain to replicate and multiply.”

The egg is then opened and the virus, still live at this point, is harvested. It then goes through an inactivation process. The inactivated virus is harvested, purified and formulated by adding other ingredients.

“I am very confident with this vaccine; I really do think we’ve finally found a solution to all this mayhem,” said Raby.

When Nighbert was a student at Wilkes, biology education specialist Debra Chapman was his advisor. After receiving word

of Nighbert’s job at Sanofi Pasteur, Chapman was excited and proud.

“As his advisor, I, too, was thrilled that Matt was employed by a company that would provide a challenging and motivating environment for him,” said Chapman. “Advisors share in the success of their advisees, and this is no exception.”

Both Raby and Nighbert enjoy their jobs at Sanofi Pasteur and welcome the challenges that some projects, such as the development and production of the H1N1 vaccine, bring to their day to day lives.

“I really like what I do; I like the fact that I’m helping people all over the world,” said Raby.

Nighbert agreed. “The best part of my job is knowing that what I do can save lives,” he said.

ROBBED

from FRONT PAGE

According to the Wilkes-Barre City Police Department, however, Maye was leaving his dorm when he was approached by two men who asked for money. He told them he had none and a "struggle ensued."

The official police report said the struggle led to Maye being "stabbed" in the abdomen with what may have been a screwdriver by the man with the curly hair.

Maye was taken to Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center for treatment and released the same night.

A mere four hours after the first incident occurred, at around 8 p.m., another robbery occurred in the parking lot of Weckesser Hall.

According to Rebo, Chi Vu was walking to University Towers from Breiseth when she saw two suspicious-looking in their 20s.

In the statement from Gilmour, these men were also described as Caucasian. One of the men had dark, curly hair and was wearing a dark hooded sweatshirt and blue jeans, while the other was wearing a gray jacket with a fur-lined hood.

"She saw the two males sitting on the bench inside the bus stop," said Rebo. "They were watching her very intensely and it scared her."

Vu said that the incident really shook her.

"I was scared and shocked. I couldn't believe that this happened to me," said

Vu. "I had a real bad feeling when seeing those two guys sitting there, and tried to walk faster, but then I heard them running after me. I was pushed down and the next thing I could remember, I was chasing after the guy who had taken my bag, screaming."

She went on to say that she realizes that she should not have chased after the men, but did it on instinct.

The men then reportedly made their way down South Street and onto South River Street.

Rebo said that if someone is robbed, the best thing to do is not to confront the mugger. While pride may tell a person otherwise, personal property isn't worth risking making the situation worse.

"My advice is give it up," Rebo said. "It's

not worth getting injured."

Gilmour had similar advice for students, stating in his message, "If someone is forcibly taking your property, such as a cell phone, purse, wallet or backpack, don't resist. Your personal safety is of greater value than whatever is being stolen."

It is not yet known whether the two occurrences are related.

Students can sign up to get text message alerts on such incidents by visiting <http://www.wilkes.edu/pages/2611.asp>.

Thomas Messinger could not be reached for a copy of the official report from Public Safety.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT NOTES

11-18-09

BY CATHRYN FREAR

Assistant News Editor

Treasure's Report:

All College: \$4,800
Conferences: \$10,000
General: \$50
Leadership: \$2,225
Special Projects: \$600
Spirit: \$1,000
Start-up: \$900

New Business:

Wilkes Fitness Club Recognition (Week 1 of 2): The Fitness group is looking to gain club status. SG will help the group members rework their constitution next week.

Chemistry Club (Week 1 of 2) Fund Request: Saturday, November 21 Wilkes University hosted a Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Seminar. It was free for all attendees. This event was not hosted by Chemistry Club; it's hosted by the chemistry department. Chemistry Club requested \$500 to replenish funds spent on the event.

Wilkes Mini Baja Club Fund Request: Baja

Club requested \$2400 to finish building their Baja and to test it out next semester for a competition in June.

Survey System Renewal: A motion was made to allocate \$660 to renew current survey system, as well as to maintain the system, for the next year. The motion passed 31-5-0.

Events:

OCC Wing Wars will be held December 1

A study break party will be held December 13

*At 7:25 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn the SG meeting. The motion was approved.

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

for more information check out...

wilkesbeacon.com

GO!

RENDELL

from FRONT PAGE

teaching on college campuses, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, was eliminated.

Classrooms of the Future was also cut. This program was put in place to supply laptops and SMART Boards in all Pennsylvania public school classrooms.

According to Rendell, those educational programs were cut because they were not considered to be part of the state's core function.

"The core function is to provide emergency services, to educate, to provide health care, to provide child and social services, and to provide corrections," said Rendell.

In regards to higher education, the new budget has resulted in a reduction in the grants made by the Pennsylvania Higher Education

Assistance Agency (PHEAA). PHEAA's Grants to Students program will receive \$403.6 million, less than a one percent reduction from the 2008-2009 budget year, according to the Pennsylvania Office of the Budget.

"Harrisburg has looked at our colleges and universities as problems rather than resources," said Rendell.

Pennsylvania has the second highest concentration of colleges and universities, the first being Massachusetts.

Governor Rendell said he has visited Wilkes University five or six times during his stint as Governor. Despite the changes and reductions made, Rendell said that Pennsylvania is one of the ten states in the union which are in a solid financial situation.



The Beacon/Allison Roth

Tuesday, November 17, Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell visited Wilkes and spoke about the issues and concerns with the State budget. Other topics he discussed included limiting campaign financing, a possible merit selection of state judges, and a new reapportionment, which is the process that defines territories of districts for state and federal legislatures. He plans to accomplish these things during the remaining 14 months of his governorship.

NORTHAMPTON STREET DELI

Located inside the YMCA

Non-Members Welcomed

Mon thru Thurs 11:00 am to 8:00 pm

Fridays & Sundays 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

**** Please note new Sunday and Evening Hours ****

10% discount w/ Student ID - Free WiFi Available

Eco-friendly living-learning community approved

Ross Hall will become "The Green House at Ross Hall" in Fall 2010

BY CATHRYN FREAR
Assistant News Editor
& GILLYAN GOWARTY
Staff Writer

The proposal for the Sustainable Living-Learning Community (SLLC), which *The Beacon* reported on earlier this semester, has been approved and is now slated to start in 2010.

As reported by *The Beacon*, the SLLC will be an eco-friendly residence on campus where students will work together to reduce their carbon footprint. The goal is to make the house completely carbon-neutral.

Sarah Decesaris, senior political science and international studies double major and SLLC project manager, said she has been working diligently for months to get the proposal approved.

"I presented it in July and August, and the environmental working group approved the proposal," said Decesaris. However, since then, a more technical process has begun.

The process included getting support and

signatures from Dean of Students, Mark Allen; Director of Residence Life, Elizabeth Roveda; Executive Director of Facilities, Thomas Messinger; Dr. Marleen Troy, as a faculty sponsor and advisor; and Dr. Ellen Flint, director of undergraduate education and coordinator of the campus living-learning communities, who also serves as a representative of the office of the provost.

"In September, there had been verbal support and commitment given, but it took a while to gather all of the signatures," said Flint. "We had to go through several steps in the approval process, so we had to gather signatures from different constituencies."

The Provost, Dr. Reynold Verret, has signed off on the budget. Flint noted that this is only the beginning of another long process. However, she stated that this is a good start.

"What that signifies is that we have support and approval for this living-learning community from all of the constituencies involved," said Flint.

The application process is being imple-

mented currently. Flint said that they want residents who are ready to step up and be committed to sustainable living. "This living learning community will require that the-community members bring specific strengths and interests and qualifications to the experience."

Therefore, she said, the application is one of the most important parts. "We need to be sure that the application allows us to learn about people's interests and what they intend to bring to this experience."

The prospective student members will need to complete a certain number of service projects per semester. What the tasks will be and how many they will have to complete will be determined once things are started up, said Flint.

Decesaris has been working on this aspect of the SLLC. "It's called the low-carbon diet. It's very simple steps to reducing your carbon footprint. Things like timing your showers, buying locally grown produce, not driving [but] getting a bike instead—all these things that we hear about, they'll be

practicing," said Decesaris.

Though students from science and engineering have been working on the project, Decesaris and Flint both emphasized that students from all majors are welcome to apply to be members of the community. Also, they both want for the living-learning community to encompass all graduation years.

"As in any community, [it] is made all the richer for the diversity of its membership," said Flint.

Flint is also working to develop a curriculum that will run along the same lines as the community, educating the students involved on eco-friendliness.

Now that approval has been made, the next step is getting the actual structure in place. Ross Hall has been designated as the location and will be known as the Greenhouse at Ross Hall, according to Flint.

If all goes as planned, the first group of students will move into the community in Fall 2010.



B & N Wilkes-King's Bookstore

7 South Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701 ~ 570.208.4700 ~ wilkes.bncollege.com



Jansport Sale

November 29th -

December 19th!

Buy one Jansport item and

get the second Jansport item

at 50% off.

Opinion

NOVEMBER 24, 2009

CONTACT INFORMATION:

matthew.gogas@wilkes.edu

david.lewis3@wilkes.edu

wilkesbeacon.oped@gmail.com

Variety of skills essential in bleak job market

Stay competitive later by doing more now

BY THE BEACON

Editorial Board

In today's job market, it would be wise to make yourself marketable in every way possible. Employment rates have been fluctuating all year and the average amount of debt among graduating seniors is about \$22,500, according to FinAid.org.

Due to these facts, it is our position that current students need to take advantage of the opportunities Wilkes has to offer before finding themselves struggling to obtain work.

One misnomer that people seem to have about the future is that as the economy recovers, certain jobs will come back; that is not the case. Many corporations have streamlined their operations, which will make the hunt for jobs that much more competitive.

College graduates will be competing for limited positions against not only each other, but adults who are much more experienced and qualified. As such, *The Beacon* feels that students should make the most of this time to hone new skills that may not be in their primary field of interest or study.

Communication majors, for example, will be graduating into a market that has undergone seismic change in the last several years due to shrinking profit margins. As such, graduating students are being advised more than ever to diversify their skill sets; gone are the days of the traditional print journalist. Today's journalists need to know how to shoot and edit their own video, launch Podcasts and take their own photos.

Education majors can distinguish themselves amongst competitors by taking courses in English as a Second Language (ESL) or Special Education. Taking additional psychology courses past the core requirements could be rewarding in the future, for example; though teachers will always be needed, those with multiple disciplines will be more attractive than education majors who studied only a single track.

Another suggestion is to become involved with co-curriculars and club organizations on campus. These can not only steer you in

a direction of interest but can also further develop your skills in your field.

With over 100 different clubs and organizations at Wilkes University, getting involved on campus should be an effortless no-brainer.

One of the major organizations that could

valuable skills and experiences in an array of disciplines. They can also join clubs; for example, Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) teaches students how to do this by allowing them to start their own business using marketing, financial planning, ethics and environmental sustainability.



The Beacon/ Tom Reilly

Freshman Ryan Wood plans future events for WCLH using his computer in the Henry Student Center. He also participates in paintball and rock climbing through Wilkes.

benefit from the participation of more students is Student Government. Students could learn leadership and ethics in a political setting. This type of organization could benefit a political science major, for example.

Wilkes also incorporates the military. Those involved in the Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps (AFROTC) learn valuable lessons in leadership, dedication and hard work. These students may qualify for leadership roles in the military when they graduate from Wilkes and serve their commitments.

Learning skills like how to run your own organization may be attractive to employers, as well. By enrolling in business or entrepreneurship courses, students can garner

There are plenty of majors that could support interdisciplinary studies, such as integrated media, English, business administration, and international studies, to name a few. There are also many other interdisciplinary activities and groups on campus that could help students develop new skill sets, like Wilkes Programming Board, Psychology Club, Campus Interfaith and the Multicultural Student Coalition.

No matter what you may be interested in, Wilkes probably has a course, club or organization to suit your needs. Becoming involved will benefit you when you graduate and if you truly enjoy the club or organization you are involved in, your time at Wilkes will be more rewarding and more memorable.

Beacon Poll Results

The following are results of a poll that *The Beacon* conducted online this past week. The poll was unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on campus. Results are based on 7 responses.

The Beacon asked:

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

- Yes 14%
- No 86%

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

Speak Up! It's Your Right!

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

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



Farmville grows lazy crop of students



Asst. Sports Editor

MICHAEL CIGNOLI

I think that's what gets to me the most about this game.

For the sake of argument, let us assume that each of the 63.7 million Farmville users spends just one minute per day playing the game. That is a total of 63.7 million minutes that are wasted worldwide, which converts to 121 years.

Think about that. At the very minimum, society as a whole is wasting 121 years of manpower every day on this game.

That is in addition to the countless number of hours that people have to spend sifting through the countless notifications they receive in their Facebook news feed.

In a 20-minute span last Sunday, I received four notifications from the same classmate about their exploits on their farm.

Conversely, I received no notifications from the Amish about their exploits on their farms — the ones with real crops and real animals that provide real people with real food.

You know, if I have a choice in farm-related notifications, I would prefer to receive notifications from the Amish.

I would like Facebook to inform me if there is going to be some sort of famine that will have an impact on the world's food supply, not if a fictitious, abnormally colored cow is lost and needs my assistance.

But I digress.

Do 63.7 million people really have nothing better to do than play Farmville?

I would like to think that there are things that our society has discovered that would be more enjoyable and more productive than wasting time on this game.

Getting teeth pulled comes to mind.

This is getting ridiculous.

I do not care how many lonely stray animals wander onto the farms of you Farmville users. I'm not going to help you rescue them. Please stop asking me to do so.

If you're one of the hundreds of millions of people in this world that has a Facebook account, you know what I am talking about. If you are not, consider yourself lucky.

Since June of this year, 63.7 million people have added the Farmville application, a real-time simulation that allows players to own and operate their own virtual farm, to their Facebook accounts.

Unfortunately, those 63.7 million users have their in-game achievements published in their friend's news feeds approximately every five minutes. I find this notification system to be a bit excessive.

Imagine if you were talking to your friends in real life and a group of them started playing handheld video games. You would probably become annoyed if they kept randomly shouting, "I found a black sheep!" or "I leveled up!" In fact, they probably would not be your friends for that much longer.

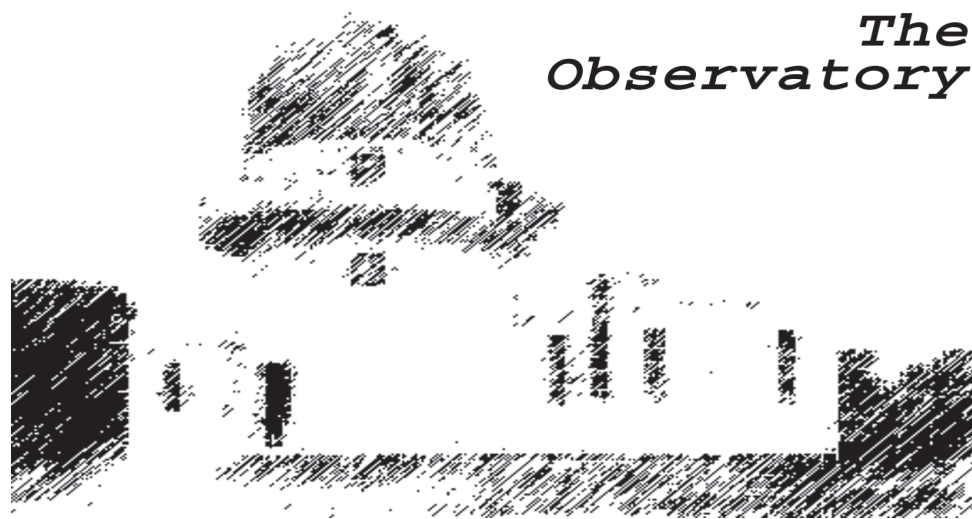
That is the situation in which I currently find myself.

My friends keep inviting me to play Farmville. I keep declining the invitations. If I wanted to spend my free time farming, I would plant a vegetable garden. That way, when it came time to harvest, I would have food that can actually be eaten.



Rachel Zomerfeld, a freshman pre-Pharmacy major, spends some free time on her facebook page managing her farm in the Stark Learning Center.

The Observatory



No good deed goes unselfish



Opinion Editor

MATTHEW GOGAS

Albert Einstein once said, "Only a life lived for others is worth living." For someone who devoted their life entirely to finding the scientific explanations behind existence to say something so profoundly philosophical is surprising to say the least. While his words may be powerful, a little reason and common sense should tell you that maybe he misspoke.

Einstein's famous quote is founded upon the most basic interpretation of altruism. For those of you with a reading level lower than the ninth grade, altruism is "unselfish regard for or devotion to the welfare of others," according to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary. For far too long has the word altruism has been thrown around, thoughtlessly expelled from the mouths of people who think altruism actually exists and pretend that their good deeds in life make them altruistic. I contend that altruism does not and cannot exist in our everyday lives.

I must preface my argument by saying that I am not trying to pick on the do-gooders of the world. I am not cynical or disgruntled, and I certainly do not hate Gandhi, or Einstein or Mother Teresa. I just cannot call them altruists. It goes against logical reasoning to do so.

The famous philosopher and novelist Ayn Rand spent her entire life trying to promote her philosophical view on life, which she called objectivism. Objectivism requires a person to seek their own happiness or self interest and the pursuit of individual rights. Rand also spent the majority of her life deconstructing altruism in the process. Her assertion was that a person could not devote his or her life to others because that person's own happiness and well-being naturally take first priority. Therefore it contradicts

the notion of unselfish regard for others if your own interests must come first. Rand also states that altruism only truly exists in emergency situations of life or death where—as the basic instinctual and protective skills step in and people are willing beyond any other circumstance to sacrifice their life for others.

Only when critics alter the interpretation of the word altruism by including, "regard for yourself and for others," do Rand's ideas about altruism not hold true. Otherwise, her points are valid and thoughtful.

The other flaw behind altruism that I see is it cannot be unselfish for reason of personal satisfaction. No matter which way you look at it, any good deed done for others gives the person doing the deed a feeling of appreciation—that sense of satisfaction. If you benefit from helping others, even on an emotional level, your actions cannot be deemed unselfish—especially when people strive to seek that satisfaction by helping others.

For example, say I help an elderly woman across the street and she smiles and thanks me for my kindness. When I walk away, I am going to feel like a good person. I am going to feel that satisfaction. Say the next day I see a different elderly woman crossing the street and I remember how good it felt to help the first old lady, so I help the second. She thanks me. I walk away, and I feel pretty good about myself. That is the selfishness. Personal interests are at play here, which brings us back to Rand's idea of objectivism.

Believe that you are a good, decent, unselfish altruist and I can without a doubt tell you that you are not. There is nothing unselfish or selfless about helping others and it is not such a bad thing either. We are all selfish in our own right. It is basic human nature to be that way. Just try to understand that concept and try to understand that altruism does not exist in our everyday lives.

SG not doing enough to represent the student body

Voting patterns suggest “group think” and a “go with the flow” attitude



Lifestyles Editor

**LEEANN
SEARFOSS**

er our voices when voting upon decisions.

The American version of Democracy is structured in a way that at least allows citizens to analyze the “popular votes” to tell how well their voices were represented by the Electoral College. Student Government should, at the very least, send out e-mails keeping the student body abreast of the topics upon which they are voting.

If they wanted to get serious about hearing our voices, they could use the same voting software that Wilkes Programming Board recently used when inquiring which musical acts the student body would like to see on campus.

SG should take a lesson or two from Programming Board. The 36 members of SG should do more to solicit and hear the 2,500 students they aim to represent.

It’s sad enough that a true democracy is not represented by our own country. This sad example does not have to carry over into our University.

The difficulties, perplexities and demand of a free democratic government make this often-marveled “perfect system” imperfect. This is true of governments across the board - including Wilkes’s student government.

I recognize that it is difficult to manage the balancing act of representing an entire student body. Therefore, it is important to

put individuals in those positions who are free-thinkers and innovative.

The voting records at SG meetings seem to follow a pattern. Students vote to either favor, oppose or abstain from the motion on the floor. Here are some recent voting numbers: 33-3-0. 33-0-4. 28-8-2. Do you see the pattern? The majority of SG members “go with the flow.” There’s rarely a close vote. It seems that an active and representative government, even at the student level, would engage in a more active debate.

Taking the voting records of SG at face value would not be a fair assessment, however. So, I went to a SG meeting, something I can say I have never done before (and I am a senior). I wanted to see the balance of representation between classes and how lively the discussion of those representing the entire student body is. After the usual roll call, there seemed to be a similar pattern of events. The agenda was clear, typed on brightly colored paper. Perhaps the fact that the agenda is in print persuades individuals to feel they cannot press issues or create new agenda items.

Whatever the case may be, I did notice that some individuals participated in an active discussion when asked. However, those individuals were either juniors or seniors. Classes were clustered together, and their perspectives and input seemed to reflect

that. The freshmen and sophomore class representatives sat quietly at a long table on one side of the room, while the junior and senior class representatives sat as a mirrored image on the opposite side of the room.

It is tough to have active conversation when you are not even facing each other.

I hate to think the body of students chosen to represent the entirety of Wilkes’s campus are not actively engaging, challenging and bringing students’ concerns to the forefront.

But the debate over government is two-sided. Not only should a government keep one another fair and continue on in active discussions, the student body as a whole needs to be more aware of the government created for them.

I was able to observe many things at the SG meeting, but one of the most blatant and irking of these was the fact that members of the general student population were not there. People may have comments about the way SG, or any other organization on this campus, is run. But until those comments are actually brought to a meeting or addressed to a representative, the student body is as much to blame as those who represent it for not maintaining a high quality government.

And that is a real shame, because democracy is wonderful.

Letters to the Editor Policy

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

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



Please keep letters to 300 words.

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

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

Please submit letters to thebeacon.oped@gmail.com

Last week's winners of 5 Free Appetizers at T.G.I. FRIDAYS

April Bielinski and Ben Andrews

Who Doesn't Like Free Stuff?!

The Beacon Weekly Giveaway!

Two winners will each receive a...

\$25 Gift Card

Sponsored By:



Located on Kidder Street, Wilkes-Barre

Find the mystery word online at www.wilkesbeacon.com.

HINT: It will be attached to the sponsor's logo!

****Drop forms off at The Beacon office in Conyngham Hall or at the desk in the Student Union by Monday, November 30, by noon.****

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

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

MYSTERY WORD: _____

Philosophy professor brings meditation to Wilkes

CATHRYN FREAR

Assistant News Editor

As attendees sit in the meditation session, there is a feeling of calm. It's dark, and it's quiet. Quiet outside, quiet inside. This is a key part of meditation and is something Dr. Linda Paul, a Wilkes philosophy professor, has been practicing for 16 years.

Since 2003, Paul has been enlightening her students to the practice of meditation by holding sessions in Kirby Hall. Dr. Michelle Anthony, an English professor at Wilkes, estimates she has been attending the sessions since the spring 2004 semester. Nowadays, however, Anthony assists Paul in heading up the sessions.

"Linda and I take turns, so we do about half and half," said Anthony. "Whoever wants to that week leads. I always defer to her if someone asks me a question and I'm leading. I'll give the best answer I know, but then I'll say 'Linda, do you have anything to add?'"

Paul's meditation sessions started as a kind of fluke right here on campus.

"I was teaching here at Wilkes," explained Paul. "I had not studied Buddhist thought or anything other than Western thought in graduate school and undergraduate school and when I came here I received in the mail a textbook that had world philosophies in it and started reading some of the Buddhist stuff."

However, Paul says that "they" say that you cannot really understand Buddhist philosophy unless one practices it.

"You know, they say you can get only a very superficial understanding from reading and thinking about it, so they say you have to actually keep [practicing]," said Paul.

Regardless of her initial lack of enthusiasm toward putting all of her mental efforts into exceedingly mundane tasks, such as vacuuming, she tried it.

"[At first] I thought 'Well, why would I want to be just focusing on the vacuum going back and forth across the floor?'" recalled Paul.

Oddly enough, at the end of the day's chores, what she would describe is not a feeling of tire or boredom. She felt happy.

"Not wildly excited kind of happiness, but just a nice kind of happiness. I thought,

'These guys may be onto something,'" said Paul.

From there, she began to study and practice regularly on her own, striving for the same result.

"The goal actually is that you are focused and very aware and that was throughout your entire day so whatever you're doing – you are really in the moment experiencing what's going on right now," said Paul.

That's exactly what Paul began to do. Anything from peeling carrots to cleaning her apartment to brushing her teeth – she began to be "there," in that moment. For her, the practice has been well worth it and the benefits plenty.

Upon this realization, Paul recognized meditation as simply focusing on the now.

"I'm going to pay attention to this very simple thing I'm engaged in," said Paul.

She started out doing walking meditation, which is basically focusing on, well, walking. It's a focus on breathing; whether it's one breath with each step taken or three. It's also a focus on how the body actually feels and responds to the steps. Eventually, however, Paul transitioned into the more traditional sit-down pose of meditation.

As to why meditation works, Paul says it's very basic; like flipping a switch. "I think part of the thing is that our minds just are kind of crazy and they jump around to all this stuff and if you really listen to them, a lot of the things they jump around to is not really happy stuff, its worry about stuff, stressing about this, anxiety about that. And really, you're turning that off. Not by trying to turn it off, but just by saying, 'Okay, I'm not going to pay attention to you anymore,'" said Paul.

Paul, as well as countless studies, credits the success of meditation to it changing the way the brain actually functions. The studies of evidence range from modest meditators, such as Paul, to Tibetan monks who have more than 60,000 hours of meditation under their kerags [belts] What's the difference? Alpha waves. These are the waves released in the brain when someone is happy or relaxed. The more a person meditates, the more alpha waves that person tends to produce.

According to Paul, when studies are con-

ducted, within the monks' brains-on a structural level-they tend to think about different things differently. In the studies, they would be asked to simply concentrate on different things or emotions. The biggest proprietor of alpha waves within the brains of the monks occurred when they were concentrating on compassion.

"The interesting thing about that is the Dalai Lama, who is the leader of Tibetan Buddhism, says, 'If you want to be happy, practice compassion.' It turns out now that they can actually support that now with what happens in your brain," said Paul.

Anthony said that while people aren't supposed to concentrate on actually calming themselves down, that is a side effect. She recommends students try it out. "I wish

I knew about this when I was in school! I didn't learn about meditation until after I had my Ph.D.," said Anthony.

Junior mathematics major Benjamin Collins became interested in the meditation sessions through a philosophy class taught by Paul.

"I decided to go to one [a session] and it was just relaxing; it was enjoyable. Nothing too strenuous. Not a major commitment," said Collins.

Everyone sits in silence. The only audible exceptions are the occasional ringing of a bell followed by Dr. Paul's voice. "Breathing in, I know I am breathing in. Breathing out, I know I am breathing out." Quiet outside, quiet inside.



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Dr. Linda Paul leads Wilkes students in a meditation session in the salon of Kirby Hall. Each meditation session helps guests focus on their breathing, calming their minds, and centering their thought processes.

Christian Fellowship Club promotes Christianity at Wilkes

SALVATORE INFANTINO
Correspondent

In the Wyoming Valley last year, residents witnessed churches closing left and right. Watching sacred buildings become pieces of property bought and sold as easily as a New York City apartment might have caused the average person to start questioning their own faith.

There is one organization at Wilkes University that's sole purpose is to spread faith through the university. This organization is known as the Christian Fellowship Club (CFC).

The CFC has been an official Wilkes sanctioned club since the fall of 2006, but according to Erin Wimer, one of the club's co-presidents, it existed unofficially for a year or more before that.

The main purpose of the CFC, according to their website, is "to provide a comfortable learning atmosphere for those seeking the

faith of Christianity, and also for those looking to strengthen their walk with Christ."

"Obviously, we see the biggest enrollment from those who follow the teachings of Jesus Christ, but anyone is welcome to come and

cuss scripture," explained Wimer. "Thursday is an activity-driven day. There is still some Bible study, but it usually consists of team building games, and we also use the time for event planning."

One of the activities CFC mem-

Kitchen can trace its roots back to the late 1800's. Through the years, it grew and evolved but always kept one basic idea in mind: helping those in need.

Julie Engebrecht, a sophomore pharmacy major, is another active

sheltered."

Engebrecht added, "I enjoyed seeing the people being able to load up their plates with a good-sized warm meal. You could see how much it meant to them when you looked into their eyes."

Another event that was a consistent part of the CFC's regimen is their yearly trip to the Heritage House to sing Christmas carols for the residents.

"We've done it every Christmas since [2007]. It's just really fun to go down there," Wimer said.

Wimer pointed out that the carols sung by the CFC are traditional Christmas songs, with the mindset for the Christian-based club being "Keep Christ in Christmas."

"It's so much fun. One year, we actually left Heritage House and just kept caroling. We caroled... around public square," Wimer recalled.

Obviously, we see the biggest enrollment from those who follow the teachings of Jesus Christ, but anyone is welcome to come and see what we're all about. - Erin Wimer, CFC co-president

see what we're all about," said Wimer.

The club meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12 p.m. in Gies Hall in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center, as well as on Thursdays at 9 p.m. in Kirby Hall.

"Tuesdays are designated as more of a Bible study day, where we sit down, read and then dis-

bers partake in at least once a semester is a community service outreach project at the St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchen. "Something like that is open to anyone," Wimer said, "but it's usually frequented by King's students, because their curriculum calls for a certain amount of service hours."

The St. Vincent DePaul Soup

member of the club who recently volunteered at the St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchen.

"As we met in the SUB and piled into cars to drive over, I wasn't sure what to expect," said Engebrecht. "I grew up in a pretty wealthy neighborhood and went to one of the nicest public schools in New York. I know I grew up

Interested in Journalism?



Need to build your portfolio?



Want to write an article or two?



Learn the basics of journalism and sharpen your writing skills by writing for
THE BEACON!

You can write for Opinion, News, Lifestyles, Sports, and/or Arts and Entertainment

??? INTERESTED ???

Stop by a Beacon Meeting on Sundays from 2-3pm in Conygham Hall, 1st Floor



-OR-



Contact:

Professor Lindsey Wotanis, *The Beacon* faculty advisor, lindsey.wotanis@wilkes.edu

or

Nicole Frail, Editor-in-Chief, nicole.frail@wilkes.edu

College Days

Coach John Sumoski goes from frat boy to dedicated athlete

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS

Lifestyles Editor

Feisty, loud-mouthed John Sumoski showed up at a spring practice for the University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown men's soccer team when he was a senior in high school.

"My coach didn't play me, because I was a flight risk to myself [when playing high school soccer]," stated Sumoski, the current head coach of the women's soccer team at Wilkes. "I would talk back to everyone. Coaches, referees, and the other teams' players."

Coming from a highly successful high school soccer program back in Flemington, New Jersey, Sumoski was one of two players to go on to play college athletics.

Despite his loud-mouth and fiery personality on the field, Sumoski knew he was good with facts and numbers and wanted to go to school to further his skills.

"My big thing was that I wanted to play soccer. That was my thing," stated Sumoski.

Sumoski began his first term as a 3.0 student. As his second term unfolded, he found himself down to a 1.75. The large decrease in grade point average was in large part, due to the fact that he began pledging a fraternity, according to

Sumoski.

"One of my biggest challenges while in school was just trying to keep my head above water academically," said Sumoski. "I lived with my fraternity brothers and spent so much time doing things for the fraternity and playing soccer that school was really tough to keep up with. At least the frat did community service, though."

Sumoski chose pledge projects, like building bars and painting crests for the frat house, over hitting the computer labs to write programs for his computer science degree.

"You were just a minion for them," said Sumoski. "You didn't matter. That's what frats were. Anything you saw on those frat movies, that's just how it was like."

While his academics were not getting his full attention, Sumoski did put extra effort into his blossoming soccer career.

"I gave myself these goals: I wanted to be All-Conference, then All-Region, then All-American," said Sumoski.

With such lofty goals, Sumoski knew he needed to spend more time on and off the field training. Reaching out to his mother back in Flemington, Sumoski worked out with a trainer and began tak-

ing tips from a nutritionist."

"We were doing Rocky-type stuff," said Sumoski. "I would run up hills with logs on my back. That kind of training."

While he may not have reached his goal of becoming an All-American, he did become All-Region, being recognized for his extremely hard work.

"Another goal was to become a leading scorer," said Sumoski.

And that he was. Sumoski became tenth in the nation for scoring. Sumoski recalled breaking down games by numbers and knowing he needed to score one out of five shots a game to obtain such a high honor.

"I also understood numbers," said Sumoski. "That made sense to me. Maybe it was from the computer stuff, but I was always very interested in facts and numbers. I thought to myself 'Okay, I can make one, just one out of five.'"

With his dazzling soccer career and partying under his belt, Sumoski left Pitt-Johnstown after three and a half years to finish out his undergraduate degree with a paid internship back in New Jersey.

As Sumoski took his first job, he told the employer that he received his degree from Pitt-Johnstown. Turns out he was wrong.

"I thought I had it. Turns out I was two credits shy of graduating. So, I had to take another course to finish out my degree," said Sumoski.

Sumoski's personal drive as an athlete took him to different coaching positions. After seeing the coaching position for Wilkes women's soccer job listing on

the National Collegiate Athletic Association website, he knew he wanted to put his years of training to work for a team.

He may not be carrying logs on his back and running up hills, but Sumoski continues to push himself and his players to the limit. Hard to think he was once a "lowly" frat boy.



Photo courtesy of John Sumoski

Sumoski shoots a ball with his forehead during a soccer game.

In his own words, John Sumoski gets a big break:

In college, I broke a really big window...that the school owned. It was winter, and we [my frat brothers and I] were having a snowball fight outside. I decided it was a good idea to pick up a huge slab of rock/ice and I had it right here, by my shoulder. I then proceeded to shuck it towards a dorm, and just as I did, the door closed and the entire glass door shattered. I could have ran, but I stuck around. The resident assistant came and called public safety, but that was \$250 that I, as a college student, didn't have.

Students of the Week: David Cook and Jeffrey Niemiec

KIRSTIN COOK

Correspondent

The third largest debate tournament of the year took place over the weekend of November 14th in Western Connecticut. Over 400 students competed overall, with 124 students in the Novice Division of Policy Debate. Out of the 62 teams in the Novice Division, the Wilkes debate team led in the top position after five preliminary rounds.

The team went on to the octofinal round, and won 3-0 against University of Rochester. Two debaters, David Cook and Jeffrey Niemiec, were both recognized for their speaking abilities. Cook received the 5th place speaker award, while Niemiec was award

14th place.

This accomplishment qualified the team for the National Tournament at University of Louisiana, which takes place in February. They were also qualified for competition at a Junior Varsity level and open divisions for next semester.

Christine Mellon, advisor of speech and debate, attributed the success of the team to the hard work these two students put into the competition.

"The fact that they were willing to do as much research as needs to be done, they're willing to put the time in, their competitiveness...I think that above all things they really like to debate, and I think that is incredibly important because

you want to be passionate about the things you are doing."

Niemiec, a senior serving as president of speech team, as well as a representative of the Pennsylvania Forensics Association, is grateful for the impact that both speech and debate have had on him.

"Speech, as well as debate, is definitely the best thing I've done in college, and everything you put into that you see out 110%, because you learn how to speak, how to reason, how to interact with people."

Cook is a sophomore, and is currently the president of debate.

"The most important thing is really the fact that last year we were absolutely nowhere. We didn't

have an office, we really didn't have a lot of money and everything and now, just a year later, every tournament we've been to we've been breaking, we've been winning, it just really shows how much work we've all put into this."

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

Niemiec: Building the next generation of roller coasters while continuing to coach and judge speech on the side.

Cook: I see myself working as a lawyer, hopefully out in Boston.

The Beacon: Describe yourself in three words.

Niemiec: Multifaceted, blunt, coaster-loving.

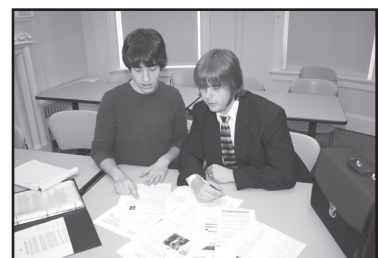
Cook: Ambitious, cynical, dedi-

cated.

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

Niemiec: ...in high school I was Senior Class President and Homecoming King.

Cook: ...I served as council to the Queen of England on matters of national interest.



The Beacon archives



CHECK OUT THE
BUZZ ON BOX OF-
FICE HIT, "NEW
MOON" - PAGE 13

A & E

NOVEMBER 24, 2009

CONTACT INFORMATION:
brie.friedman@wilkes.edu
kristen.karpinski@wilkes.edu
wilkesbeacon.ac@gmail.com

12

Casino Night provides prizes and fun for all students

Macbook Pro, 47" Samsung HDTV, Nintendo Wii and PS3 among prizes

BY KIRSTIN COOK
Staff Writer

For the gamblers and risk-takers among the student body, Student Government (SG) presented Casino Night last week in the Marts gymnasium.

On Friday, November 20, from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. more than 400 students packed into the gym to play poker, blackjack and roulette.

Prizes included a MacBook Pro, game systems such as Playstation 3 and Wii, Coach purses, an iPod Touch, a DVD home system, and much more. The most desired prize of all was the 47" Samsung HDTV, which everyone had an equal opportunity to win, as it was a door prize.

Ben Beidel, junior and treasurer of SG, had a vital role in planning the entire event. He stated that one of the aspects that attract students the most is when the prizes are displayed through a window in the Henry Student Center.

"It really draws people in. They start asking, you know, 'How do I win that?'" said Beidel.

Even if they were not playing and earning more chances to win, students had a chance to win a door prize restaurant gift card every fifteen minutes. Also, there was free pizza and soda for everyone.

Nick Koch, SG president, said he felt that the night was a success.

"I think this is on par with some of the most successful events that we've had, not only Casino Night but other events," said Koch. "I think that's a testament to this year's board."

Koch said that the most satisfying aspect about the event was seeing the faces of winners.

"The best part of this event is seeing the happiness on the students' faces who win the prizes, who come and enjoy all the hard work we do," said Koch. "I think this event is one of the best ways to see direct satisfaction from the student body."

The grand prize winner of the event was Lataysha Willis. Willis, a sophomore ((MAJOR?)), walked away that night with the 47" HDTV.

"I never win anything, so I'm ecstatic," said Willis. "I'm happy, I'm even lat a loss for words."

On November 4, SG allocated \$14,000 for the Casino Night Budget. The event was funded by the activity fee, which is incorporated into every student's tuition.

"I mean, really all we're doing is taking your student activities fees and putting them towards prizes, so really I just want everyone to have a good night," stated Beidel.

Upon entering the event, students were given a beginning cup of tokens. They used those tokens to wager and earn more tokens.

Ten yellow tokens were exchanged for a raffle ticket. This raffle ticket was then entered into a drawing for any prize of the student's choosing. Students did not have to be a professional poker player to have a good shot of winning one of the prizes.

The entire Student Government was involved with the event. Members were serving as card dealers at the playing tables, exchanging tokens for tickets and handing out pizza and drinks.

According to Koch, the success from the event was worth the amount of work.

"It seemed like everyone had a great time, which is the most important thing," concluded Beidel.



The Beacon/Allison Roth

ABOVE: Students enjoy gambling with their poker chips at Casino Night on Friday, November 20.



The Beacon/Allison Roth



The Beacon/Allison Roth

ABOVE: Students enjoy a game of Blackjack at Casino Night.

RIGHT: The 47" Samsung HDTV was one of the top prizes of Casino Night.

Crowds packed downtown for “New Moon” premiere

BY MEGAN PARSI

Staff Writer

Thursday nights typically aren't the most active at the movie theaters in Wilkes-Barre, especially at midnight. But early on Friday morning, at approximately 12:01 a.m., the premiere of Stephenie Meyer's "New Moon," the second movie in the best-selling "Twilight Saga," premiered on five of the screens at the Wilkes-Barre R/C Movies 14 theater.

Masses of people of all ages rushed into the theater as early as Thursday afternoon to wait for the opening of this movie.

Garret Silva of Dallas, 29, was one of the many to wait in line all day to get into the theater.

"I've been here since noon, so it's very exciting," said Silva.

"New Moon" was directed by Chris Weitz. Weitz's most recent films include: "American Pie," "About a Boy," and the movie based on the novel, "The Golden Compass."

"It was exciting to see the outcome of this movie due to the new director," said Meribeth Derkach, a freshman pharmacy major at Wilkes. "I expected it to be as good as the last movie, if not better. They have a new director, and it's such a big teen phenomenon. I liked it."

"New Moon" is the second book in Stephenie Meyer's "Twilight" series. This fantasy-romance story follows teen Bella Swan as she copes with losing her vampire boyfriend, Edward Cullen. Edward has chosen to leave Bella in Forks, Washington, where she is safe from any danger his presence may bring. With Edward gone, Bella's close friend Jacob Black steps in to fill the void. A battle between vampires and werewolves ensues.

The movie focuses mostly on Bella and how she copes with the loss of Edward and the Cullens, and her journey to get him to come back and see her once again.

Even waiting for the flocks of people to flood into the theater, the excitement could be felt surrounding R/C Movies 14. After viewing the movie and exiting the theatre around 2 a.m., fans appeared to be both excited and satisfied with the quality of the movie. The chipper crowds came down the escalator and stairs of the theater chatting about their favorite parts and recounting scenes they could not wait to see again.

"I liked it better than the book itself, and as far as movies go, I thought it was better than the first 'Twilight' movie," said Allison Kasper, junior psychology major. "It's



The Beacon/Megan Parsi

a lot different than the first one and it followed the story much closer than the first movie did. I would pick the movie over the book."

Overall, according to the consensus and buzz from people surrounding the flick, it seemed the popular vote went to the movie rather than the book, since the movie stayed true to most of Stephenie Meyer's novel. According to viewers, it delivered the essential plot themes and supplied the needed elements to keep the audience in suspense the entire time, and that is exactly what the audience desired.

BY TOM REILLY

Photo Editor



Above and below are photos of the huge crowds that came out to Movies 14 late Thursday night to catch the midnight showing of "The Twilight Saga: New Moon." This novel/movie series phenomenon made \$140,700,000 at the Box Office, and worldwide grossed about \$118,100,000. Altogether, this pop culture spectacular made about \$258,800,000 just on opening weekend. This isn't just a teenage girl fantasy-- people of all ages come out to see this movie.



The Beacon/Megan Parsi

THE DEEVOQUIP!

BY DAVID LEWIS

Assistant Opinion Editor

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

EZ U CADOB GOUBT CBEOZT PYOF VO'T HBACUCJK

RAEFR PA ROP QFAMQON AIP HBOPPK WIEMQ...

ROP EP!?

This week's clue: E=I & R=G

Last week's answer: IF YOU GIVE A MOUSE A COOKIE, HE WILL WANT A GLASS OF MILK.

Movie Review

“The Box” is as dull as its title, lacks build-up

BY KRISTEN KARPINSKI

Assistant A&E Editor

Richard Kelly, the director of “Donnie Darko”, takes his chance at transforming fantasy writer, Richard Matheson’s short story “Button, Button.” The outcome is less than appealing.

“The Box” is an almost two-hour film that could have been compiled into a thirty minute episode of a show similar to the “Twilight Zone.” It also doesn’t help that the movie was released when big hits such as “Paranormal Activity” and “The Fourth Kind” were thriving in the box office.

The movie can be summed up in about three sentences. A couple is given a box containing a button. If they refuse to press the button, nothing happens. If they press the button, they will be given one million dollars, but someone they don’t know will die.

The only real connection found in this movie is the fact that the world is dealing with an economic recession and who

wouldn’t want to find a box with a button that could give you one million dollars if you dare to press it – and kill an innocent person.

The basic situation of the story is that a couple, Norma and Arthur Lewis (Cameron Diaz and James Marsden, respectively) are given a mysterious box at their home with the options mentioned previously. The setting of this movie is in Richmond, Virginia in 1976.

Arthur is an engineer at NASA who is working on the Viking mission to Mars. Norma teaches literature at a private school their son attends. Norma walks with a limp throughout the movie because of a freak x-ray accident that happened a few years ago. All of the toes on her one foot were removed because of it. She is set to have an operation due to the accident, but the couple is facing financial woes.

The mysterious box, which is delivered to them at their home by an unknown man with half of a face, places a bit of anxiety on the couple – should they press it or ig-

nore it? It’s definitely certain that they are in need of money.

The movie lacks any central or coherent theme. The audience is left to wonder what is the couple actually dealing with – government conspiracy, alien invasion, etc? The numerous zombies lurking outside of their home do anything but clarify the confusion.

And what is the purpose of all of those zombies acting as waiters or valet drivers? The audience has to make their conclusions. Let’s face it: who wants to think critically while at a movie?

I wanted to enjoy myself – not spend \$7.50 for a lesson in critical thinking.

However, the only conclusion I could come to is a test from a higher being: testing the morals of the human population. Would greed become more powerful than the ability to save a life – or would the just the opposite occur? What would you do in that situation – if you were given the box and could get one million dollars by pressing a button and having one innocent person

you didn’t know die – would you press the button?

I wasn’t too impressed with the movie. I felt like I could have spent my night at home doing something more productive. The addition of Cameron and James was a good choice; however, the entire concept of the movie didn’t allow them to showcase their acting abilities to a high level. If you want to go see a movie this week, “Paranormal Activity” or “The Fourth Kind” might be a better choice.

Rating: 2/5



The Beacon/Tom Reilly



ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS!!

Looking for a way to get the **WORD OUT** about your business but don’t have a lot of **MONEY** to spend?



Advertise with **THE BEACON!**

Rates Start as Low as **\$60** for 1 issue (1/8pg ad)!

Buy more than 1 ad and save!!

--Now taking advertisers for the **SPRING 2010 SEMESTER--**

INTERESTED?

CONTACT:

Michele Flannery, Business/Advertising Manager

PHONE:

570-817-0171

EMAIL:

michele.flannery@wilkes.edu



KARPINSKI WORD SEARCH

BY KRISTEN KARPINSKI

Assistant A&E Editor

D	G	H	E	C	D	A	Z	L	A	N	N	I	N	G	W	S	M	X	S
C	M	C	G	R	A	W	R	E	S	Z	S	C	H	S	F	R	A	S	Z
I	F	T	V	X	W	Z	S	Q	S	T	N	O	M	I	S	G	R	S	W
B	R	A	E	S	S	A	Z	C	V	M	J	Y	R	R	E	C	I	C	D
R	S	C	L	A	O	W	W	S	X	R	T	U	I	R	M	E	A	S	R
E	C	T	N	L	N	T	H	O	M	A	S	U	V	A	C	R	N	G	I
K	A	W	E	R	O	Z	S	W	A	D	Z	D	R	H	Z	V	I	R	S
A	R	B	C	I	Y	N	R	B	I	A	R	E	T	I	B	J	Y	E	C
B	F	E	D	S	X	W	S	V	J	M	V	C	P	Z	W	A	D	B	O
X	S	W	R	H	I	N	R	P	D	S	R	A	B	J	A	T	F	N	L
C	E	S	W	O	S	N	K	R	H	E	Y	C	Y	S	W	D	S	I	L
A	W	R	D	C	V	O	E	G	T	A	F	A	U	E	T	Y	R	E	R
N	X	N	V	K	N	N	S	R	C	X	I	B	S	F	S	W	S	T	V
O	D	A	E	R	T	O	A	B	N	M	K	R	J	S	W	D	T	S	C
I	V	N	D	W	B	U	B	E	S	B	Q	A	S	C	Y	U	N	N	V
H	R	G	E	S	X	Z	U	N	I	C	E	D	F	L	I	H	W	I	C
C	T	E	Y	F	U	W	K	D	B	L	J	R	A	W	O	B	R	S	L
L	R	D	C	S	T	A	B	I	N	S	K	Y	B	I	U	T	A	R	D
E	F	H	U	I	V	D	W	S	H	R	S	U	I	V	S	W	S	T	U
M	R	T	B	V	N	O	N	N	E	L	G	R	F	S	D	T	R	E	S

Word Bank:

Adams
Baker
Bowar
Busa
Dawson

Degnan
Driscoll
Fallon
Glennon
Harris
Kubasek

Lanning
Lindsey
Mariani
McGraw
Melchiona
Phair

Shock
Simon
Stabinsky
Steinberg
Thomas
Unice

- What's Happening Around Wilkes -

BY KRISTEN KARPINSKI

Asst. A&E Editor

Tuesday, November 24, 2009

- *Thanksgiving Break Begins*

@ 10 p.m.

- Open Mic Night for Acoustic Music and Poetry @ Barnes and Noble – 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 25, 2009

- *My Own Armada & more!*

@ Café Metro - \$7 – 8 p.m.

- Battle of the Bands 2 @ Club JAM, Pittston - \$5 – 7 p.m.

- *Brothers Past* @ River Street Jazz Café, Plains - \$18 – 10 p.m.

Thursday, November 26, 2009

- *Happy Thanksgiving!*

- *George Wesley Band* @ River Street Jazz Café, Plains - \$5 – 10 p.m.

All Weekend Long

- Cirque Dreams Holidaze @ Scranton Cultural Center - \$32-52 – times vary

- “A Christmas Carol” @ Music Box Players, Swoyersville - \$35 dinner/show; \$18 show – Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 3 p.m.

Friday, November 27, 2009

- *Herring Bones, Kite Party, The Owl Stations, Lesser Animals*

@ Cafe Metro - \$7 – 8 p.m.

- *Three Imaginary Boys* @ Club JAM, Pittston - \$5 – 9 p.m.

- *MIZ and Dirk Quinn Band* @ River Street Jazz Café, Plains - \$8 – 10 p.m.

- Friday Night Live Music @ Barnes and Noble – 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 28, 2009

- Tom Petty Appreciation Band @ The Bog, Scranton - \$5 – 10:30 p.m.

- *Cipher, Putrefied Flesh, Black Friday Massacre, Abraxas* @ Café Metro - \$8 – 8 p.m.

- *Faithful Aggression, The Mess, Dealer In Wares* @ Club JAM, Pittston - \$5 – 9 p.m.

- *Jam Stampede* @ River Street Jazz Café , Plains - \$8 – 8 p.m.

Monday, November 30, 2009

~ *Classes Resume @ 8 a.m.*

This is our last issue for the fall 2009 semester!

Keep a look out for the next issue of *The Beacon* that will be hot off the presses on February 2!



NOVEMBER 24, 2009

CONTACT INFORMATION:
anthony.dorunda@wilkes.edu
michael.cignoli@wilkes.edu
ryan.holmes@wilkes.edu
wilkesbeacon.sports@gmail.com

16

Busy week for both basketball teams

Men open season with 2-1 record, women start 1-2

BY RYAN HOLMES
Assistant Sports Editor

Wilkes's men's and women's basketball teams got their season started in impressive fashion with victories over Penn State Hazleton last Monday. Some key veterans stepped up for both teams as well as some pretty talented newcomers.

On the men's side of things Paul Huch lead the Colonels with 18 points, 9 rebounds, and 6 assists. Aiding Huch on the court was Anthony Gabriel who had a double-double with 17 points and 11 rebounds.

Going through the first quarter of the game, the Colonels stayed in control and never relinquished their lead to the Nittany Lions. However, the Lions did catch up to Colonels tying up the score at 21 about 11 minutes before the half. But that was the last time that the Colonels let the lead slip away as they took a 38-36 lead into halftime.

In the second half leading scorer, Huch and Captain Chris DeRojas heated up again and lead Wilkes on a 12-2 run to extend their lead to 14 points. Gabriel assisted them to add to the lead pushing Wilkes to an 84-53 victory.

While the men were taking care of business on the home court, the women traveled to PSU-Hazleton to take of some business of their own.

The Lady Colonels showed no mercy as they took the court with a "can't be beat" attitude and didn't look back until the clock read all zeroes. With Lynam leading the charge with 22 points, the ladies took it to Penn State beating them by an impressive score of 80-23.

"We are a young team, and I am anxious to see how much we can build this year," Sam Lynam said after the victory.

After recording victories over Penn State Hazleton, the men and women got on the road. The men headed to the Susquehanna Tournament to take on Elizabethtown in their first game on Friday.

The Colonels seemed to carry their season opening success into the first half against Elizabethtown.

Kresge recorded his first double-double of the season with 20 points and 11 rebounds against the Blue Jays who went into half-



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Members of the men's team talk strategy during the team's win over PSU-Hazleton. Early in the season, #33 Tom Kresge and #30 Paul Huch are emerging as leaders.

time trailing the Colonels 40-34.

A 9-0 run in the first half powered the Colonels to their first half success. Wilkes dominated the game shooting 57.1 percent before the half.

However, Wilkes lost their edge in the second half.

The total team effort that the Colonels displayed in the first half was gone and they struggled to make field goals shooting under 30 percent to give Elizabethtown the lead and the momentum.

With the game in the hands of the Blue Jays, Wilkes began to heat up again when Kresge took over to give Wilkes the 47-44 lead. But Elizabethtown regained the lead once again and never let it go as they went on to defeat the Colonels 66-57.

The following day the Colonels took on Penn College in an attempt to redeem their selves from the day before.

With the leadership of Kresge, the Colonels regained their swagger to top Penn College. For the second consecutive game, Kresge recorded a double-double. With 26 points and 13 rebounds he was followed by Gabriel and Chris Gulla who also scored in the double figures against Penn.

The total team effort that they started the

season with returned and the Colonels came out on top to leave the Susquehanna Tournament with a 1-1 record.

The Ladies didn't do so well either in the opening round of the Frostburg State Tournament as they fell to Gettysburg in a devastating loss. Early on, Wilkes found their selves down 13-0 against the Bullets. Lynam scored the first basket for the Ladies, but it did not seem to make much of a differences. Lindsey Gosse attempted to spark the Lady Colonels in the first half with two steals, four points, and nine rebounds but to her disappointment it did not work.

Down by a score of 46-19 going into the second half freshman Megan Kazmerski attempted to help Gosse and the rest of the team to wipe away the deficit. But the Bullets were too strong for the Colonels as they beat Wilkes in convincing fashion by a score of 80-43.

Kazmerski was the leading scorer for the Lady Colonels as she ended up with 13 points and four rebounds against the Bullets.

Gosse finished the game with six points and 10 rebounds in the loss as well.

Students challenged to pick charity

BY DAN KAUTZ
Managing Editor

The Colonel Charity Challenge has been a fixture at Wilkes University since 2005. An event modeled after a similar Penn State University tradition, the Challenge originated when a Board of Trustees member inquired about the athletic department's contribution to local charities.

Though Wilkes athletic teams are mandated to perform community service, it was decided that the athletic department was capable of doing more, and the idea of creating some type of affair that would draw student interest was floated around different groups.

Keith Klahold, the strength and conditioning coach at Wilkes, was asked if he could run such an event. He was chosen because of his previous experience with organizing physical contests similar to those that make up the Challenge, such as several weight lifting competitions. He readily accepted the opportunity, and the groundwork for the Challenge was laid.

Over the years, the Challenge has benefited several charities chosen by the athletic department; this year, however, students are being given the ability to vote on the charity that they would like to see supported from the event.

When the Challenge was still in its infancy, it was decided that two charities would be benefited each year; the Children's Miracle Network would be a fixture, while the second would change annually. In 2005 and 2006 Klahold and the athletic department bounced around ideas for what the second charity would be internally, while in 2007 and 2008 they were aided by a committee. The idea of having Wilkes University students help decide the second charity came to Klahold this year as a way of increasing student participation.

"The basis for the idea was simple," said Klahold. "We wanted students to pick local

Athlete Spotlight: Paul Huch, solid start to season

BY JUSTIN JONES

Correspondent

It's basketball season, people.

The Wilkes Men's team came out for their season opener against PSU-Hazleton determined to start the year right with a win after going 15-11 in 2008-2009. One player in particular stepped his game up to lead the team to an 84-53 victory, and that was sophomore guard/forward, Paul Huch.

Hailing from Tuckerton, NJ, Huch has played basketball since his father got him into the sport when he was a little kid. His fondest basketball memory is when he racked up three consecutive triple-doubles his senior year of high school, two of them occurring after he broke his wrist.

Two years later, he is still creating great memories on the court.

"I felt really confident," commented Huch when asked about how he felt during the game. "I just found the open areas and tried to hit the shots when I was open."

The open areas seemed to be everywhere for Huch, a 6'5" swingman with the ability

to stroke it from the outside. In the season opener, the sophomore set career highs in points scored (18), three-pointers made (3), field goals made (7), rebounds (9), and assists (6). Nothing seemed to get in his way in this game as he caught fire early and never let up.

"I knew that my shot was on but I had no idea that I was going to get career highs in anything until I saw the write up on the game," he said. "I try to play hard all the time and help the team as much as possible with my defense."

Huch didn't just show up a better player for this game. He spent most of his off-season in the gym, getting better physically as well as working on his game. He worked out and put himself in game situations at least five days a week, prepping for the rigors of the long basketball season. He also participated in a summer league in Belmar, NJ to prepare for this season.

But for Huch, the stats are the last thing on his mind. The most important statistic for him is the score at the end of the game, with Wilkes in the W column.

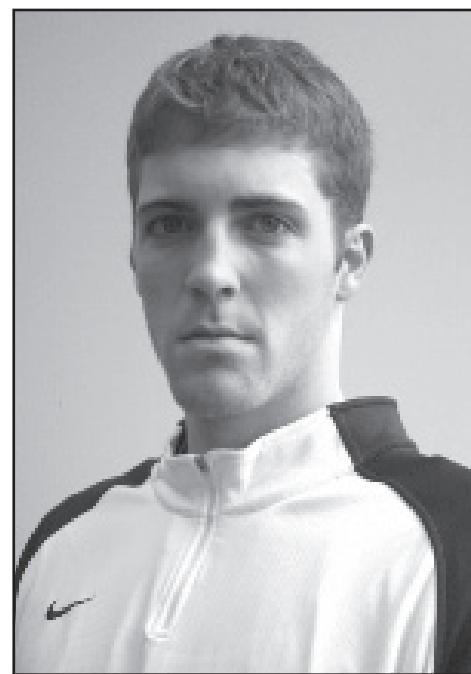
"Overall my goals are to just do what I know how [to do] and play hard whenever I'm on the court to help the team win," said Huch.

Huch said that winning the first game of the season was huge for the team, a win that could propel them through the rest of the season.

"We started the game with a couple of made shots but then started to struggle a little bit and were only up by two at the half," said Huch. "After talking it over at halftime, we came out strong and started getting the ball down low a lot more which really opened up the floor for us."

Looking past his career game, Huch sees the team repeating their performance against PSU-Hazleton throughout the rest of the season. As for this sophomore star, he is not looking back on this one game; he knows he's got the whole rest of the season ahead of him.

"I'm just going to keep playing hard and try to help the team win."



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

Huch opened up the season on a tear, setting career highs in points, rebounds, and assists while leading the team to a season opening victory over PSU-Hazleton.

RODANO'S

53 PUBLIC SQUARE 829-6444

DOWNTOWN COLLEGE SPECIALS

ALCOHOL SPECIALS FOR 21+ WE I.D.

SUNDAY

Happy Hour 7-9
\$1.50 Well Mixers
\$1.50 Domestic Drafts
\$2.50 Import Drafts
½ PRICE APPETIZERS

MONDAY

Happy Hour 7-9
\$1.50 Well Mixers
\$1.50 Domestic Drafts
\$2.50 Import Drafts
½ PRICE PIZZA

TUESDAY

DJ OOHWee
Happy Hour 10-12
\$1.50 Well Mixers
\$1.50 Domestic Drafts
\$2.50 Import Drafts
½ PRICE APPETIZERS
COLLEGE NIGHT
NO COVER W/ COLLEGE ID

THURSDAY

Live Entertainment
Happy Hour 10-12
\$1.50 Well Mixers
\$1.50 Domestic Drafts
\$2.50 Import Drafts
\$1 SLICES DURING HAPPY HOUR

Saturday

Live Entertainment
Happy Hour 10-12
\$1.50 Well Mixers
\$1.50 Domestic Drafts
\$2.50 Import Drafts
\$1 SLICES 11PM-1AM

COME CHECK OUT WHAT'S NEW AND EXCITING AT RODANO'S
CALL TO BOOK OUR PRIVATE ROOM FOR ANY CLASS EVENTS
OR SOCIAL GATHERING

RODANO'S LUNCH SPECIALS OFFERED 7 DAYS A WEEK FOR \$5.95

SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL

11/21 @ Franklin & Marshall 29-24 L

MEN'S BASKETBALL

11/16 vs. PSU-Hazleton 84-53 W

11/20 vs. Elizabethtown 66-57 L

11/21 vs. Penn College 98-57 W

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

11/16 @ PSU-Hazleton 80-23 W

11/20 vs. Gettysburg 80-43 L

11/21 vs. Guilford 68-54 L

WRESTLING

11/14 vs. NYU 31-6 W

11/14 vs. Cortland 21-9 L

11/14 vs. Scranton 43-0 W

11/14 vs. Centenary 31-9 W

WEEK AHEAD

MEN'S BASKETBALL

12/2 vs. Misericordia

12/5 vs. FDU-Florham

12/9 @ Elizabethtown

12/12 @ Lycoming

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

11/24 @ Marywood

11/30 vs. Cedar Crest

12/2 vs. Misericordia

12/4 vs. FDU-Florham

12/7 @ Baptist Bible

12/9 vs. Susquehanna

WRESTLING

12/4 Messiah Tournament

12/12 @ York

12/12 @ Penn State DuBois

12/12 @ Thaddeus Stevens

twitter

@BeaconSports

For up to the minute reports on your favorite Colonels teams throughout the week, follow *The Beacon Sports* on Twitter at www.twitter.com/BeaconSports



FACE OFF



Should the Heisman be awarded to non-Division-I players?

The trophy for the best should go to the best.



Sports Editor

**ANTHONY
DORUNDA**

Now this is a hot-button question...OK. Not really, but it is kind of interesting to think about.

So, should Division-II and Division-III players be considered for the Heisman Trophy? You know, that 25-pound bronze trophy that is annually awarded to the best college football player on the planet?

Well let me make this short and quick for everyone. No.

Listen, I myself play Division-III football. And when I say play, I mean I'm on the team, cheering them on from the sidelines. I have seen some great players in my three short years here; players that have been some of the best that I have seen with my very own eyes.

But that in no way means that I would consider them contenders for the Heisman Trophy.

Why you may ask? Well, my answer is

relatively simple. Studs from Division-II and Division III schools just do not play the same competition on a weekly basis that division one teams do. These guys that play at Ohio State, USC and Texas play each other, the best of the best, every single week.

This is nothing against any players who do not participate in division one athletics. Because we know that some of the best players have, in fact, come from non-Division-IA schools. Names like Andre Reed, and Jerry Rice come to mind. (OK. So Rice played at Mississippi Valley State, which is Division-IAA, or the Football Championship Sub Division, but it's still not pure Division-I.)

There are great players in other levels other than Division I. Often times, it's the players that are overlooked by the big guys, the standouts who were two inches too short, or ran a 4.5 instead of a 4.4, but are every bit as athletic or as football smart as the guys that do go big time.

It's just that you cannot be considered for the award handed out to the greatest footballer in college if you don't consistently

play the best of the best. You may very well be the best player on the planet, but you have to play everyone else to even think about being in the hunt for the trophy. You can't expect to be in it if you're playing the Menlo Oaks while Tim Tebow is playing Alabama one week, and LSU the next. It's just not the same.

I'm not saying that a non-Division-I player cannot play at the division one level; Actually, I'm sure he probably could...but would he be the same type of player? Would he put up the gaudy statistics against the Oklahoma's and the Miami's of college football? I'm just saying that just because he puts up ridiculous numbers at the Division-II or Division-III levels does not mean he should be in consideration for the most coveted trophy in college football.

If the best players really reside in division one, then the trophy goes to the best of that bunch, regardless of age, but that's a whole 'nother issue.

See ya next semester!

Can we get a nomination...please?



Asst. Sports Editor

**RYAN
HOLMES**

Before we get started I would like to have a moment of silence for Georgia's mascot UGA VII, who passed away last Thursday.

OK, now let's get started. There are plenty of players who play college football, but there is only one honor that each of them would love to have besides a championship and that's the Heisman Memorial Trophy.

But the Heisman is not awarded to just the best football player or the player with the best stats, because if it was then there would be players from Division-II and Division-III considered for the award.

I don't want to get all official on anyone, but as stated by www.heisman.com, "The Heisman Memorial Trophy annually recognizes the outstanding college football player whose performance best exhibits the pursuit of excellence with integrity. Winners epitomize great ability combined with diligence, perseverance, and hard work."

I didn't want to quote the whole para-

graph, but I can tell you one thing it does not say and that's "he who has the best stats gets the trophy." I could be mistaken, which I most definitely am not, but it doesn't say that the player it goes to has to be a Division-I athlete.

If you don't believe me then come find me because I want someone to prove me wrong. As you can see from week to week, Mr. Dorunda has yet to do it.

But anyway, I am not saying that a player from outside D-I should win, I am just saying that they should be considered. Here's a fun fact: there are players in the NFL right now that won the prestigious award in question that watch the game just as much as the rest of us do on Sunday's (i.e. Matt Leinart). And then we have players like Pierre Garcon who played at Mount Union a D-III school and are doing nothing but making plays on Sundays.

Now, I am no rocket scientist, and I'm not saying that Garcon deserved to win the trophy so don't be mistaken. I'm just saying that if you looked at his stats (in college), which are definitely the deciding factor for who wins, he could have been sitting next

to Mattie boy at that ceremony.

Garcon is just one current example, but in the past there have been plenty of players outside of D-I that could have been considered or that made it to the NFL and were a lot better then the person who won the trophy.

Now I'm going to let that one marinate on your brain for a bit. But just think if the Heisman committee actually picked based off of the criteria they have set up then wouldn't there be more players considered from outside D-I for the trophy? I don't know, just think about.

As Forrest Gump would say, "That's all I have to say about that."

Before I conclude, I would like to thank everyone from week to week for reading all the dangerously hilarious things that Mr. Dorunda and I had to say. I wish all of you luck next semester, have fun and "Remember, today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday."



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

All participants in last year's Charity Challenge received a t-shirt. On the back of the shirt were the logos of the two charities that the event benefitted, The Children's Miracle Network and Bo Tkach Memorial. This year, Wilkes University students have the opportunity to vote on which charities will receive the proceeds from the event.

CHARITY, from Page 16

charities that they could identify with."

The hope is that turnout will increase once the students' input is considered.

"The bigger the event, the more money is raised for both [charities]; it's easy," said Klahold. "We've had great turnout before, but we can probably do even better."

Klahold's desire is to poll the committee and have them rank their top five preferences for the desired charity out of a list of 15-20 local ones. That list of five would then be weeded down to three, at which point the list will be made available to students so that they can vote on what they would like to see chosen.

"[The Challenge] is always a great experience," said Michael Koehler, a junior criminology major and past participant. "Last year's event was wild because there were so many students involved. It was a really good showing that the students care."

Koehler believes that giving students the ability to vote on the second charity is a sound idea.

"If it will increase the amount of kids going and help [the Challenge] raise money, then I'm for it," he said. "It'd be great to see even more kids there this year."

Jeff Kaufman, a junior engineering management major, agreed with Koehler.

"It's a good thing, as far as I can see," he said. "Because the options will be local charities I think students will be able to

make more informed decisions, and if they feel strongly about [their pick] they'll show up more."

Senior criminology major Brittney Hodnik enjoyed last year's Challenge, which she said was surprising in its competitiveness.

She was also a fan of greater student input.

"We have to pay to participate so I do think it's a little more fair that we get a say," said Hodnik.

This year's Colonel Charity Challenge will be held on April 11, 2010. Last year's event drew its largest-ever crowd of participants, as 275 students divided themselves into teams of five to compete in the physical contests that are a mainstay of the Challenge.

Poster advertisements and sign-up sheets will be available next semester in the Student Union Building, as well as in the Marts Center. Students will be able to e-mail their charity vote to charitychallenge@wilkes.edu once the options are narrowed down. Additionally, Klahold also hopes to have the poll available on the university's athletic website.

"The Challenge is a great community event that does a lot of good for others," said Klahold. "Hopefully it will continue to grow and benefit those that are in need."

WHAT'S THE WORD AT WILKES?

How do you feel about our editors decisions in this week's Editor Face Off? Check out the story online and give your opinion. While you're at it, tell us if you agreed with Anthony's or Ryan's choices this week, and every week.

for more information check out...

wilkesbeacon.com

GO!

BASKETBALL

From Page 16



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

The Colonels huddle during their game against Penn State Hazleton on Monday, November 16. The Colonels defeated the Nittany Lions 84-53 to earn a victory in their home opener.

They hoped to bounce back and get the win in their second game, but the Lady Colonels never got back on their feet as they lost their second game of the tournament to Guilford College. Although this battle was a bit closer than the first, the ladies still couldn't overcome the struggles of their first loss against Gettysburg.

Once again the ladies trailed at half time and found that they would not be able to pull their selves back up as they lost to the Quakers 68-54.

"We had a strong showing in our first game," Kazmerski commented after the teams upsetting outing at the tournament. "The tournament in Frostburg, Maryland was a huge learning experience and will only make us better as a team."

Gosse was named to the All-tournament team for Wilkes which proved to be the lone highlight for them on the weekend. But the honor did not go to Gosse's head as she credited her team for the support they provide her.

"I think we have a lot of potential and if we play together we can be successful," said Gosse who looks to assist in the early season turn around.

Catch the men's team in action again next Wednesday night when Misericordia makes the trip to the Mart Center gym at 8 p.m. The women travel to Scranton today to play Marywood in hopes of bouncing back from the losses at the Frostburg Tournament.

Diplomats bowl over Colonels in fourth quarter

Franklin and Marshall's fourth quarter comeback wins ECAC South Atlantic Bowl

BY MICHAEL CIGNOLI

Assistant Sports Editor

That definitely wasn't the way the Colonels wanted to see their season end.

Franklin and Marshall scored 19 unanswered points in the fourth quarter to take a 29-24 victory over Wilkes in the ECAC South Atlantic Bowl on Saturday afternoon.

It was the first postseason appearance for Wilkes since the team won the conference championship in 2006, and their first appearance in an ECAC bowl game since 2003. The seniors on this year's team were freshmen in 2006. So when they learned that the 2009 club would be playing an eleventh game once again, they were thrilled.

"Coach [Frank] Sheptock always talks about leaving the program where you found it and I know we didn't make the NCAA playoffs," senior quarterback Rob Johnson said before the game. "But we still are playing in a postseason game and it's a step in the right direction for Wilkes football."

Unfortunately, Wilkes stopped stepping after the third quarter.

The Colonels had a 24-10 lead after 45 minutes of play but the Diplomats vetoed that in the final frame. Franklin and Marshall scored touchdowns on drives of 69, 86, and 79 yards in the fourth quarter, with the game-winning score coming with just eight seconds to play.

The comeback began just 56 seconds into the quarter, when running back John Kaschak caught a nine-yard touchdown pass from Diplomats quarterback John Harrison. Mike Shin's PAT bid was successful, cutting the Wilkes lead to 24-17.

Exactly seven minutes later, Kaschak struck again. This time, he capped off a lengthy Franklin and Marshall drive with a five-yard run, making the score 24-23 in favor of Wilkes.

The Diplomats pressed their luck and went for a two-point conversion that would have given them a 25-24 lead; but the Colonels defense came up big and stopped running back Ryan Murray's bid from two yards out.

Though they stopped Murray once with the game on the line, the Colonels defense couldn't stop him a second time.

Murray caught a two-yard touchdown pass from Harrison with eight seconds remaining in regulation, giving the Diplomats their first lead since the opening minute of the second quarter.

It also gave the Diplomats, who compete



Courtesy of Jason Prushinski

Junior safety Kevin Gerhart had two interceptions, but the Colonels dropped the ECAC South Atlantic Bowl to Franklin and Marshall on Saturday. The Colonels had a 24-10 lead at the end of the third quarter, but ultimately lost 29-24.

in the Centennial Conference, their ninth win of the season. Franklin and Marshall improved to 9-2 on the campaign, while the Colonels saw their record fall to 6-5.

"They're a pretty good team," junior defensive back Darnell Corbin said of the Diplomats. "They just missed the NCAA playoffs."

The Colonels originally drew first blood when Chris Horn kicked a 37-yard field goal less than five minutes into the game.

But they surrendered the 3-0 lead with 1:21 remaining in the first quarter, allowing a 16-yard touchdown reception by Kaschak. Franklin and Marshall kicker Mike Shin nailed the PAT, giving them a 7-3 lead that they carried to the end of the opening 15 minutes of play.

Johnson then connected with sophomore wide receiver Shawn Gregson for a 26-yard touchdown pass only 11 seconds into the second quarter. Horn's PAT bid was successful, putting the Colonels up 10-7.

The Diplomats equalized the score with 7:04 remaining in the half when Shin's 20-yard field goal attempt sailed through the uprights.

The Colonels then scored back-to-back touchdowns and PATs to jump out to a fourteen-point advantage.

Before the first half was over, sophomore

running back Zach Tivald got away from the Diplomats defense and rushed into the end zone for a seven-yard touchdown run.

In the third quarter, senior wide receiver Gennaro Zangardi caught a pass from Johnson and ran 81 yards down the field for his sixth touchdown reception of the season.

But in the fourth quarter, Franklin and Marshall showed that no lead was safe, and the Colonels fell to 3-4 all time in ECAC bowl games.

Though the 2009 season is officially over, the returning Colonels are going to remember this game as they begin their quest for the postseason in the fall of 2010. With the junior class on this year's team already receiving a great deal of playing time, the Colonels believe that they have the opportunity to enjoy prosperity next fall.

"We have great leadership in the junior class," said Corbin. "[Safety] Kevin Gerhart, he's one of the main leaders. He was just named to the First Team All-MAC. With Gerhart, [defensive end] Chris Swinarski, guys like that on the team, offensively we've got Jordan D'Emilio, who's a big playmaker for the wide outs. The younger guys on the team, we take upon leadership roles already... so we've been put in a position to be successful next year as seniors."

BY THE NUMBERS

2006

The last time that the Colonels posted a winning record prior to this season. It was also the last year they qualified for postseason play, earning a NCAA playoff berth.

19

Points scored by the Diplomats in the fourth quarter on Saturday afternoon. They overcame a 24-10 deficit to pick up a 29-24 win.

8

Seconds that the Colonels were away from a win on Saturday. But Franklin and Marshall scored the game-winning touchdown in the game's final moments.

3-4

Wilkes University's all-time record in ECAC bowl games. Before Saturday, the last time the Colonels appeared in a bowl game was in 2003.

