



ANTONIO'S WINS 'WARS'

The Beacon/ Dan Lykens

Wilkes Programming Board hosted Pizza Wars, an event which featured 60 pizzas from six different restaurants in Wilkes-Barre. Sophomore political science major Ian Foley counted 381 students. Antonio's Pizza was voted best pizza, and Mac Miller was announced to headline Wilkes' spring concert.

Watergate 2012: Water the concerns with Wilkes H₂O?

PHAT NGUYEN
News Editor

Junior business major Jahleel Sterling does not trust the tap water and noted its unique smell from his facet in University Towers.

"It's cloudy and it smells," Sterling said. "It's putrid. It smells like rotten eggs. I don't trust tap water anywhere. I always use my filter."

Thirty years ago, students in Dr. Michael Case's water quality class tested the drinking fountains in the Stark Learning Center and a few other administrative buildings for metals such as iron, manganese, copper, cadmium, lead and zinc after concerns that metals might have dissolved from the pipes. The water company at the time only chlorinated the drinking water without any filtration or pH adjustments, so metals went unnoticed.

In 1986, Case's students found Giardia lamblia cysts, which cause diarrheal illness, on and off the Wilkes campus. The EPA confirmed the results and in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection required Pennsylvania Gas and Water to build several new treatment plants at the cost of several million dollars.

Since then, the water in the area has improved to meet standards. Pennsylvania American, the current water company, now does pH adjustments to around a neutral pH of 7. Lower levels of pH would in-

crease the chances of acidic water that could erode the pipes.

In the years since, there has not been testing on campus dorms. While formal complaints have not been made by students, most residents often rely on filtering devices and bottled water rather than reporting issues.

"To the best of my knowledge, there's never been any formal testing in the residence halls," Case, environmental engineering and earth science professor, said. "There also hasn't been a need to do that unless the students have complained of a problem."

Case said the problem has been minimized in urban areas, but there should always be concern especially in bigger cities about the underground piping that delivers the water.

"Still when you have old pipes in the ground, there could be a little break in the pipe," Case said. "There it could start bringing in sediment into the supply water."

In those 26 years, students have also never filed any serious complaints, Paul Adams vice president of Student Affairs, said.

"I don't think there's any reason for us to think there would be an issue if the pipes were galvanized copper, pipes were being flushed all the time and if we weren't receiving complaints from students

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tunes team
for another
MAC title**

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**Established 1936
PA Newspaper
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The beginning of the end for seniors *First Farewell is a chance to reflect on academic success*

BY DEVONI NOVAK
Assistant News Editor

After four years of late nights, early mornings, study groups and research papers, the class of 2012 is excited to finally see the light at the end of the tunnel. The First Farewell will give seniors the opportunity to celebrate their upcoming graduation with fellow classmates and professors before the class says their final goodbye this May.

"It gives you a chance to celebrate all the work you've done," said Willie Eggleston, senior Pharmacy major and student government president. "I think it's important that we reward all of our seniors."

In Eggleston's opinion, The First Farewell is a chance for seniors to give themselves a pat on the back after years of academic dedication. He feels the event is a great way to initialize their departure from Wilkes and will make what little time seniors have left more special. The First Farewell will be an opportunity for seniors to spend with friends they will soon be saying good-bye to.

Senior class representatives along with student government and The Alumni Association have collaborated for five years to plan the annual First Farewell. Each year has been more successful with increasing attendance. So far 90 students for the 2012 gathering have registered.

Bridget Giunta, Wilkes alumnus and associate director, has taken part in planning The First Farewell for the past three years. Giunta wishes the event was offered when she was a senior, although she is glad to help put the gathering together for the seniors now.

"I just think it's so much fun; every year students tell us how much fun they had at the event," Giunta said. "It's not an event that (seniors) would want to miss."

Moving on to the next chapter of life will



Photo courtesy of Meribeth Derkach

The farewell is the first of many events hosted for seniors set to graduate in May.

be a bitter-sweet experience for the class of 2012. At this point in the semester, seniors are feeling the crunch of pressure as final projects are due, graduation draws near and job applications need postage stamps. At the same time, their hard work is about to finally pay off and their hands are extended in full reach toward their diplomas.

While some plan to continue their studies at the graduate level, others are beginning to seek professional jobs and are concerned about the economy. Stacy Prelewicz, senior class president and pharmacy major, expressed concerns for her fellow classmates who will be seeking jobs next year.

"I think many are worried because the economy is so bad (and) a lot of people that have graduated had trouble finding jobs which makes paying off debt and things very difficult," Prelewicz said.

To help graduating seniors deal with their

student-loan debt, Prelewicz and other class officials are working with Philip Ruthkosky, associate dean of Student Development, to coordinate a loan debt workshop that will take place in March.

As the beginning of saying good-bye, The First Farewell will take place Feb. 9 from 7-9 p.m. in the Ballroom. Dinner, drinks and entertainment will be offered. Registration for attendance must be done by Feb. 7 through the Alumni Office. Attendance is free but limited to seniors age 21 and over; inviting faculty is encouraged. Following the Farewell will be a senior social at Mulligan's Irish Pub on South Main Street from 9-11 p.m.

"It's a great night to stop and just celebrate your last semester and your time as a class with your friends," Giunta said.

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Wilkes to get a leg up on heating bills

BY PHAT NGUYEN
News Editor

The Wilkes Running Club is hosting its annual Relay for Heat fundraiser Saturday, Feb. 25.

The event benefits the Martin Luther King Fuel Fund Luzerne County through the Commission on Economic Opportunity to help families below a certain poverty line.

Last year the club raised \$2,500 which helped 70 families.

Running club adviser Dr. William Terzaghi said the club formed the idea back in 2005 when the club was trying to think of an appropriate fundraiser during the winter to help community.

"We sort of came up with this crazy idea to have a 100 mile relay in the middle of the winter," the Wilkes biology professor said.

The club takes donations from anyone including family and friends and local businesses. Student government is usually one of the bigger sponsors of the event.

"We shake down everybody we can. One year SG donated \$1,200," Terzaghi said.

Junior biology major Thomas Mike, one of the coordinators of the event, encourages everyone to participate.

"You don't have to be a great runner to participate," Mike said. "You can run, walk or even just donate money."

"Last year we had more alumni than students participating," Terzaghi said. "I hope we can turn that around this year."

The Relay needs 25 volunteers to run/walk a 4-mile leg. Volunteers can sign up at the student union building during club hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays or email william.terzaghi@wilkes.edu or thomas.mike@wilkes.edu for donations.

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Meet the Staff



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BY DEVONI NOVAK
Assistant News Editor

To prevent students from binge drinking,

President of Student Affairs Paul Adams said a survey done last year showed only 19 percent of the freshman class admitted to binge drinking, compared to a national average of 33 percent. Adams is proud to say that Wilkes does not share the negative profile of other schools when it comes to binge drinking; however, he admits it does happen here

McCune stated that prolonged binge

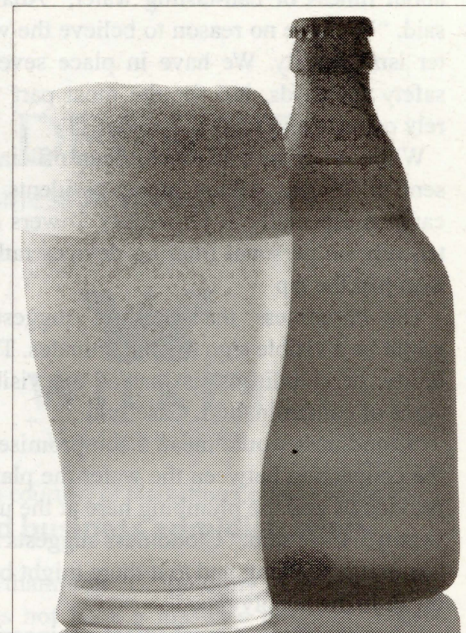


Photo courtesy of Stock Xchange

Depending on one's body weight, gender and personal tolerance level, the amount of alcohol each individual can handle varies. McCune believes that someone who consumes on a regular basis builds a tolerance that increases their body's ability to metabolize the alcohol. For example, two men of the same weight may consume the same amount but depending on tolerance, effects differ. To see the statistics on binge drinking, visit www.cdc.com.

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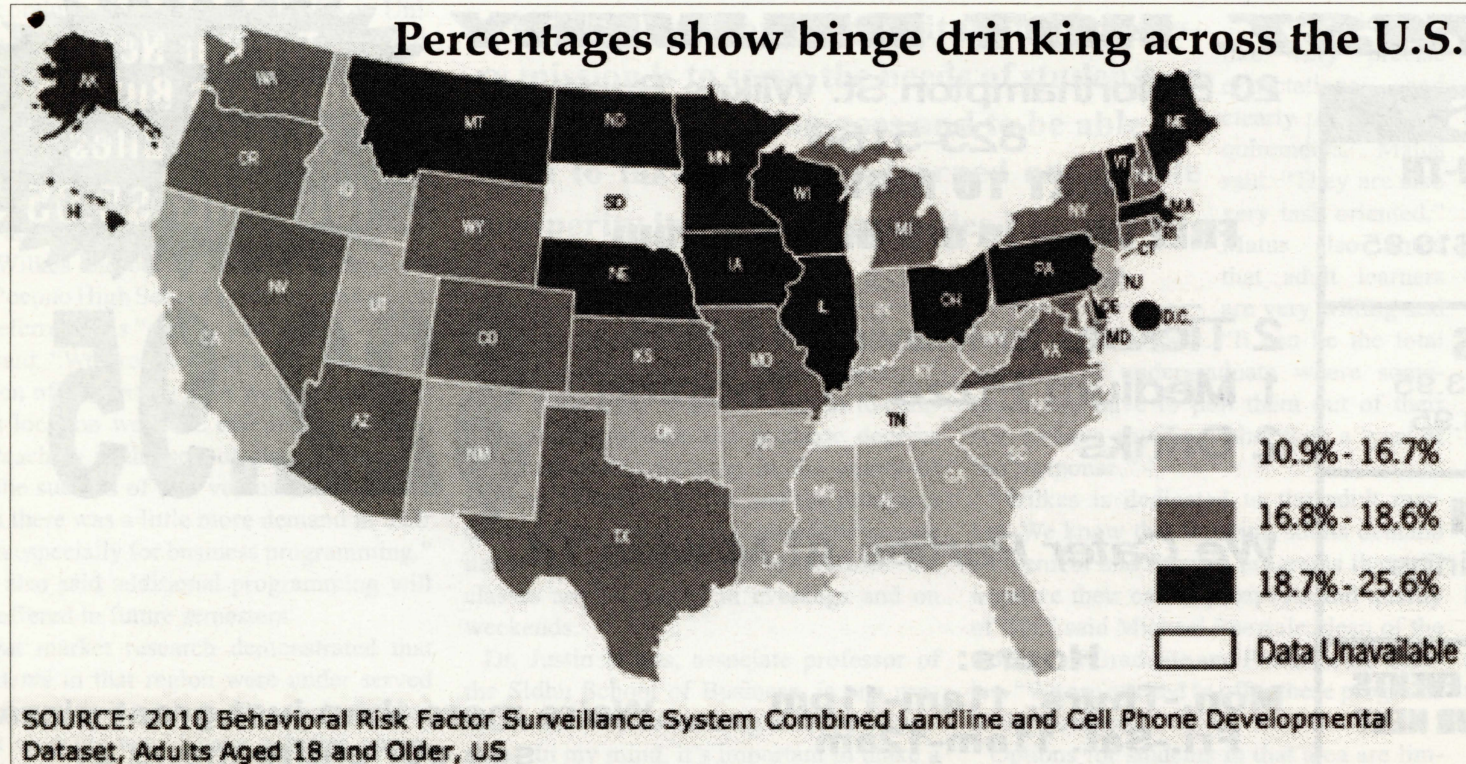


Photo courtesy of the Center for Disease Control

WATER

Continued from Front Page

about illness or bad-tasting water," Adams said. "We have no reason to believe the water isn't quality. We have in place several safety standards, but for the most part we rely on state and federal standards."

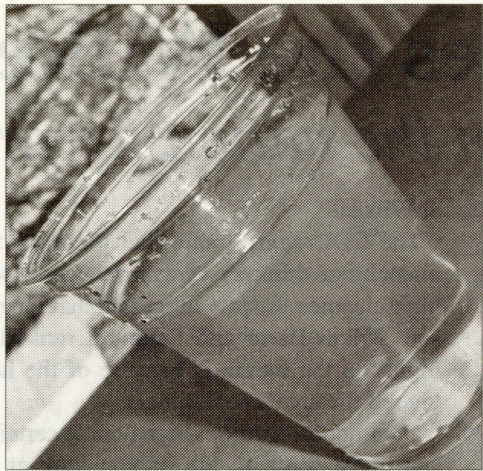
While no complaints have been officially sent to Student Affairs, many residents on campus especially at University Towers often rely on personal filtering devices rather than just the tap.

The cloudiness that Sterling suggested might be a visible sign of contaminants. Turbidity, or cloudiness, is one of the visible signs of contamination, Case said.

"Cloudiness would mean a compromise in the connection between the water the plants provide us and the plumbing here at the university," Case said. "Cloudiness suggests filters aren't working and that there might be a break in the supply pipe."

When sophomore mechanical engineering major Jonathan Townsend first moved into Towers, he also noticed cloudy white water through his kitchen faucet and even a strange chemical odor while bathing.

"I immediately went to Wal-Mart and got a pure water filter," Townsend said. "Even



The Beacon/Bryan Calabro

Turbidity, or cloudiness, is a potential sign of contamination.

in the showers, I can smell chemicals or cleaners in the water. It has a sharp, chemical smell."

Townsend has never filed a complaint because he would not know who to complain to.

"I was concerned at first, but after I spent \$30 on a water filter, I have some peace of mind now," he said.

Carbon filters, such as Brita, are only designed to use with treated water systems to remove bad taste, Case said. Bacteria is not filtered.

Joseph Pesta, interim executive director

of Facilities, said all the filtering systems on campus are updated twice every year and bathroom renovations have been in Weiss, Catlin, Sterling and Rifkin halls.

Pesta also said he's been drinking the Wilkes-Barre tap water since 1981 and he's "still here."

"Since we're on the public water system, I don't see any need to test water periodically."

Case also is confident in the tap water.

"I think filtered water is as good as bottled water," Case said. "I fill my water jug from the tap in Stark."

Even the transparency of water is not necessarily an indication of cleanliness, Case said. Only testing would properly indicate whether or not the water meets EPA standards.

"If the water is clear, you should then test for residual chlorine, and if you find that they're reasonable, it's safe to assume it's safe from a microbiological standpoint," Case said. "Water treatment facilities take their testing really seriously and keep detailed public records."

The presence of free residual chlorine in drinking water is correlated with the absence of disease-causing organisms.

"Plants are using minimal chlorine now, simply because filtration is so good now," Case said. "Many places are also using ozo-

nation to treat water. Ozone has greater disinfection effectiveness against bacteria and viruses compared to chlorination and can also reduce the concentration of iron, manganese, sulfur and eliminate taste and odor problems."

Case and other environmental engineering professors teach the importance of water quality, but they believe a vast majority of people continue to take clean water for granted.

"Water quality here does matter. Fifty percent of the water from the Susquehanna River goes into the Chesapeake Bay. We need to educate people to conserve water and protect the watersheds in my opinion."

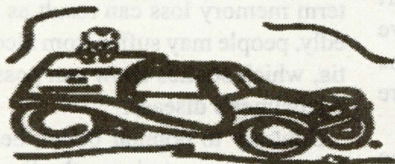
Politicians are among the uninformed, Case said.

"I am extremely alarmed at the extent members of congress have taken against the EPA and water and air quality. The People of the U.S. want clean water. They expect the air to be breathable. They expect their children to be able to play outside and get dirty without getting contaminated. These are reasonable beliefs in a democratic society."

If students are concerned with the quality of the water on campus they should contact 2FIX and email their concerns to student affairs at paul.adams@wilkes.edu.

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Wilkes Pocono branch offers education at convenient location

Accelerated bachelor of business administration attracts new students

BY BRITTANY BATTISTA
Advertising Manager

The Wilkes University Pocono Education Center will offer a master of science degree in engineering management, a master of business administration degree, and an accelerated bachelor of business administration program for those looking to complete their degree.

The new storefront SA facility is at the Shoppes at Crossroads at the Bartonsville exit of Interstate 80. The undergraduate program being offered also features hybrid learning.

One half is done physically in the classroom and the other is done online. Costs for programs vary but the tuition is "competitive" and financial aid is available for those who qualify.

Dr. Vernon B. Harper, associate provost, says that the 2,800 square foot space includes two classrooms. Harper, said the facility will open mid-January.

"We felt Wilkes could serve students in that area," Harper said. "In any postsecondary institution its primary mission is to serve the needs of students as far as their education goes and to be able for them to take what they learned and create prosperity in their communities."

"We feel this is an ideal place to expand our offerings, based on impressive population growth and numbers of people eager to continue their education." Wilkes University President Tim Gilmore commented, "Wilkes is ready to serve Monroe County and surrounding areas."

The project began when Wilkes discovered a high demand after leasing space out of Pocono High School to begin to serve the area.

"Wilkes had been offering programs out of Pocono High School for some time which is referred to as "on-site instruction," Harper said. "We provide instruction to a population of students at their work place. So at this location we were offering instruction to teachers in the school district. Because of the success of that venture, we realized that there was a little more demand in their area especially for business programming." He also said additional programming will be offered in future semesters.

Out market research demonstrated that students in that region were under served as far as their options. Research showed that students would have a better opportunity to matriculate if they had this loca-

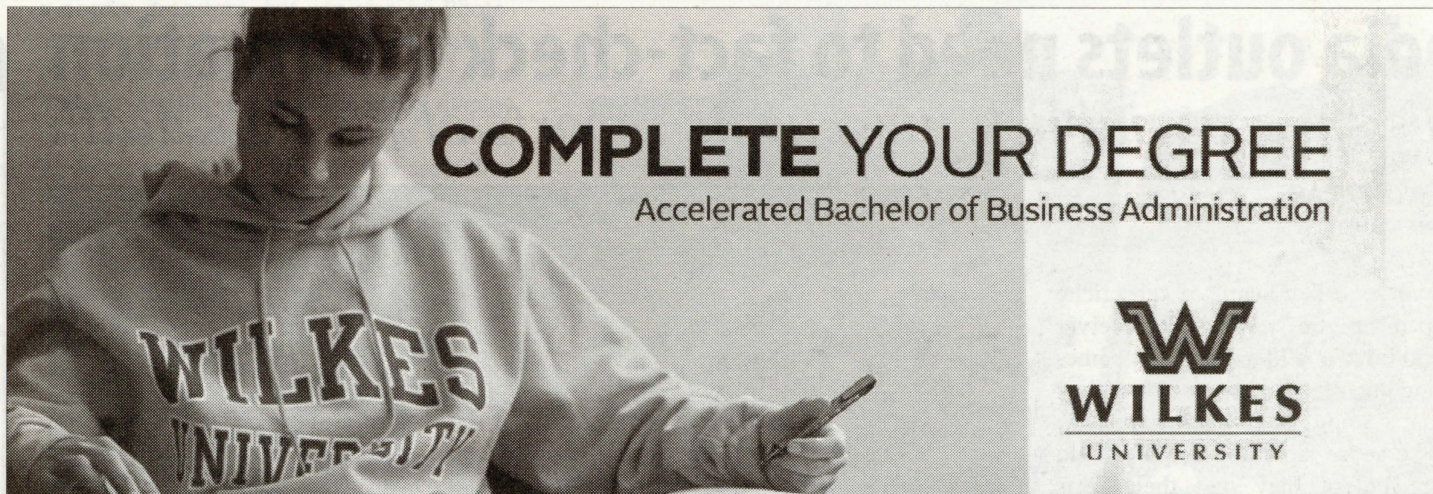


Photo courtesy of Marketing Communications

Wilkes Pocono campus offers new master's programs for engineering and business administration.

tion that was closer to their work and home which also had more convenient hours.

"We are working with three other departments on campus that are interested in programming there for all of next year," Harper noted. "We expect that the number of programs offered at its peak will be five to six. We should hit our peak in about two to two and a half years."

Members of departments who are not currently involved in the Poconos including Dr. Mark Stine, associate professor and chair of Communication Studies; Dr. Linda Winkler, the dean of College Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; and Dr. Laurence

erally speaking, my working definition of an adult learner is someone who has had a significant break between high school and resuming higher education."

Matus said adult learners have different needs and may not have the same issues challenges than an average undergraduate student. Adult learners tend to come into the class with much more anxiety. It is probable that they work full time as well as juggling family life which causes this heightened feeling of anxiety.

It's the job of the instructor to keep in mind these differences in order to create a comfortable learning environment for everyone.

"Adult learners like very precise expectations and clearly defined requirements," Matus said. "They are also very task oriented." Matus also noted that adult learners are very willing and

"In any postsecondary institution its primary mission is to serve the needs of students as far as their education goes and to be able for them to take what they learned and create prosperity in their communities."

-Dr. Vernon B. Harper, associate provost

Kuhar, chair of the English Department, all did not wish to comment on the subject.

The Pocono site will allow adults to complete undergraduate and graduate degrees at a convenient location in the center of Monroe County. The site and the programs offered were developed to meet the unique needs of adult learners. Therefore, the classes are scheduled in evenings and on weekends.

Dr. Justin Matus, associate professor of the Sidhu School of Business, is one professor who will be teaching at the new location. "In my mind, it's important to make a few distinctions about adult learners. Gen-

eager to participate. "It can be the total opposite of undergraduate where sometimes you have to pull them out of their seat to have anything other than a 'yes' or 'no' response."

"Wilkes is dedicated to the adult market. We know that working adults demand convenient and flexible programs that will improve their career prospects and quality of life," said Michael Speziale, dean of the College of Graduate and Professional Studies. "We are excited to offer these programs in the Poconos."

Options for students in that area are limited to East Stroudsburg University and

Northampton Community College. ESU does not have a master's program. Therefore, this new location is even more beneficial to prospective students in Monroe County.

Sophomore communications and political science major, Ian Foley, says that the new storefront location is in a business area and prospective students can further their education without driving 20 minutes to ESU. A Pocono native, Foley attended East Stroudsburg Senior High School where he says that most of his peers attended ESU.

"It doesn't have the same feeling as our Wilkes campus since it's not really a campus environment," Foley said. "As I am told it has an office, some class rooms and a conference room. The feel of the location is more for those transit adult learners and part time college students than for us."

"Walking in you're going to hit a blue wall and behind that is going to be a yellow space and then a different shade of blue behind that," Harper said. "It plays nicely and uses the Wilkes color palate."

Harper said that there are students who are currently enrolled in classes in the Pocono's in an alternate location.

"Usually when you open an additional location to make sure you have enrollment for the location you start out at a temporary site," Harper said. "There are two programs currently enrolled in a temporary location at The Chateau Resort and Conference Center Road in Tannersville."

The two programs current students are taking are the master of business administration degree and the accelerated bachelor of business administration degree.

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Media outlets need to fact-check information

News sources publish inaccurate reports of Joe Pa's death

BY CATHRYN FREAR
Staff Writer

Most everyone has heard of the cliché "he jumped the gun." What the receiver is meant to infer in a literal sense is someone pulling the trigger of a gun before they know what's going on. What it implies in a figurative sense is someone did or said something before they had their facts straight.

This really needs to stop. Plain and simple. It only serves to create myths, confusion and anger. Occasionally, it creates a pretty funny story.

A perfect example of this is the "Joe Pa is dead" fiasco a couple weeks ago. The Onward State site reported this rumor to the public, as well as emailed football players informing them of Paterno's passing. CBS soon reported their own story independent of Onward State stating the same thing. Then, as many of us saw, it made it to Facebook. Since Joe Paterno's death was Facebook official, the rumor was good enough for people, who hadn't even heard it on a news outlet, to believe it.

It was everywhere. If you weren't watching the news or on Facebook, you likely got a text or e-mail all about the situation.

Reporting a public figure's death is one thing. Incorrectly reporting a public figure's death is a horse of a completely different color. Onward State had absolutely no confirmation Paterno had passed. They only knew that he had been taken off of the respirator. All anyone knew for sure was he was literally on his death bed. Speculation is his death was reported so quickly because Onward State wanted to be the first to report on it.

This isn't the first time a major story was incorrect when it broke. Most of us probably don't remember 1948, but many of us have heard about an event which took place. The economy baby boomers were on the rise. And because it was divisible by four, 1948 was an election year.

On the morning of Nov. 3, Chicago Daily Tribune announced Thomas E. Dewey as the new President Elect of the United States of America. If you don't remem-



The Beacon/ Kirstin Cook

Penn State students, alumni, family and fans pay tribute to Joe Paterno's passing by leaving letters, drawings and Penn State paraphernalia at the foot of his statue.

ber President Dewey, you are not alone, because he was never president. Harry S. Truman was declared the actual president elect. In fact, the most popular image of this just so happens to be Truman holding up a copy of the incorrect Tribune article and stating "That ain't how I heard it!"

That story was a bigger deal than Paterno's death, for pretty obvious reasons. This was a story reporting on the next 'leader of the free world.' Luckily, word had spread pretty quickly that the story was false and only a small minority was under the impression Dewey actually won.

The worst part of Paterno's story being incorrectly reported is it gave off an image of the media which told their audience, "We don't care about facts; we just want a good story."

It was disrespectful of a man's death to glorify his latest scandal to sell a story. It's irresponsible to run a story without confirming facts. It's unreal how we have advanced in technology so much, yet advanced in basic human decency so little.

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PHOTO AUTHENTICITY
QUESTIONED
PAGE 7

BEACON POLL

The Beacon poll is unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on the Wilkes campus. These poll results are based on 11 responses.

Last week's question:

How do you feel about the SOPA/PIPA acts?

- They should not be passed 100%
- They should be passed 0%
- I don't care 0%
- Not enough information 0%

This week The Beacon asks:

What are your thoughts on the tap water quality on campus?

- The water quality is fine
- The water needs to be improved
- I use a water filter
- I drink bottled water
- I don't know

Cast your vote online at:
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The Beacon reserves the right to edit submitted pieces for length and content. Anonymous letters will not be published.

Kodak Moments lesson, technology wins again

Photography improvements lead to the loss of authenticity and originality

BY LYNDIE YAMRUS
Staff Writer

"You press the button - we do the rest" promised George Eastman in 1888 with the introduction of the first roll-film camera.

The Kodak camera was priced at \$25 and came pre-loaded with enough film exposure to produce 100 pictures. When the film was used up, the camera was sent back to the Easton Kodak Company, where it was developed and printed, re-loaded with film and mailed back to the customer for \$10.

Kodak became the trusted name for capturing memories, creating different consumer photography products ranging from one-time-use cameras like the Kodak FunSaver to what Kodak claims to be the world's first true color negative film, Kodacolor.

My Sony Cyber-shot digital camera requires me to also press the button, then attach the USB cable to the camera and computer and upload the pictures onto a picture-viewing platform. This is undoubtedly more convenient and perhaps easier than the Kodak method used 131 years ago, but they are now merely pixels on a computer screen. They can be printed at

a nearby drugstore, but can also be Photo-shopped, re-touched and enhanced with the click of a button.

Photo-sharing websites like Flickr display the amateur photography work of millions of users, and many of the photos are edited in one way or another.

The ever-popular iPhone offers the Instagram app, allowing users to apply filters to their photos to create vintage looks with their pictures.

Photographs are no longer authentic.

Digital cameras as we know them today have only been around since the beginning of the twenty-first century, but they have already lost their appeal to me. Anyone can go to Best Buy or other electronic distributor and purchase a digital camera for under \$150 and be a "photographer".

Photography is now mainstreamed, and there are even debates as to whether or not it should be referred to as an art. How can photography be an art if it requires little to no artistic skill? A perfect example would be Tumblr, a blogging website, where millions of users upload or "reblog" images they enjoy. From my experiences with Tumblr, many of the photos are creative, but many are imitative of others, thoughtless or inconsiderate to other individuals. Some even ap-



The Beacon/Laura Preby

pear as if the creator tried way too hard to be artistic.

Photographs are no longer original.

A sadder thought than the loss of authenticity and originality of photographs is that the Eastman Kodak Company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy on Thursday, Jan. 19 2012 due to its inability to successfully adapt to the increasing demands of our digital world.

Kodak has filed for business reorganization and aims to "build a company that will

be successful in the marketplace."

It is only a matter of time before Kodak and other classic film companies slip under altogether with the introduction of a new technological advancement in picture-taking.

We need to move forward, but remind ourselves of what got us here in the first place.

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New NH education law grants too much authority to parents

BY CARLY YAMRUS
Opinion Editor

The New Hampshire legislature recently passed a bill to enact a new law allowing parents to decide which lessons their children are taught in public school. If the parent objects to any course material or method of teaching in the classroom, the teacher is required

to teach an alternative to that parent's child.

Now I can definitely see where a parent may consider this bill an option. Subject matter in classes, such as sex education and science, may not fit every person's ethical, moral, and religious stances, but this bill is equally as broad as it is ridiculous.

As a public school attendee, I can remember a few times in which I thought the subject

matter or a teachers methodology were not up to par. But worthy of being probed and rejected based off of individual opinions? No, not really. Sure there were things that I did not enjoy or agree with, but what student enjoys or agrees with everything they are taught or the ways it is taught to them? This New Hamp-

shire law not only allows parents to veto lesson plans at their whim, it does not require them to give a reason for why they are objecting to it in the first place. If they wish to, parents can effectively object to lessons if they think the material is too hard, unfair, or incorrect, as long as they provide a reasonable alternative. Meaning students can opt out of public speaking, math topics, history facts, entire books, or anything else they don't want to do, as long as their parents sign off on it and give the district another idea.

Somebody tell me how the teacher is supposed to write and deliver several different lesson plans at one time for several different students? It's just not logistical or logical. The loss of efficiency and time would cause the students to suffer. So much for well-rounded individuals. How unfair it is to deprive students of class time because of one or two parents that couldn't "go with the flow," so to speak.

The point of learning is to be knowledgeable on an array of subjects. After you learn the facts and theories, you are able to then decide which ideas you agree with or disagree

with. Education is for anyone wishing to do just that. The purpose of public school is not for parents to object and intervene on every topic they personally don't agree with. The purpose is for a mass of young individuals to seek knowledge and growth.

If a parent really thinks they know what is best for their student education-wise, they should probably sign their child out right now and start homeschooling before public school completely rots their minds with terrible ideas - or worse - facts.

Education is not Build-a-Bear or Burger King. You can't pick and choose parts and you certainly cannot have it your way.

Yes, there are rights and we all have them, but why disrupt the course of a teacher's lesson plan over personal theories and opinions? These personal theories and opinions are the parents, not the students. Let the children learn.

A teacher must be qualified to teach. Parents, not so much. Let's leave the educating to the people who earned the degree for it.

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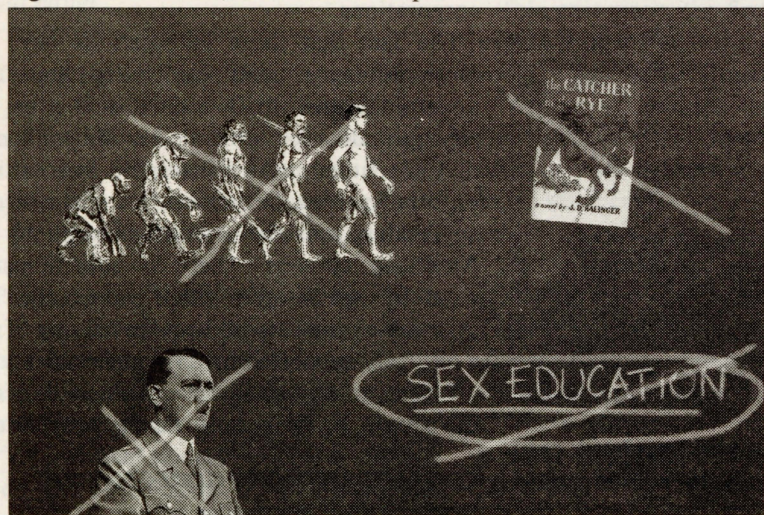


Photo illustration/Laura Preby

TONY G'S



SPOT

SOPA: It's the beginning of the end...

BY ANTHONY GORECZNY
Staff Writer

Imagine a world without Facebook, Google or Wikipedia. It's not hard to after the Internet blackout that was organized as a protest in response to the proposed Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) and Protect Intellectual Property Act (PIPA).

These bills were so strongly opposed that over 7000 websites shut themselves down for 24 hours. The bills were intended to do exactly what their names indicate. The problem, however, is what that would have actually done.

These bills, to put it simply, would have allowed the American government and powerful corporations to essentially control the flow of information and content available on the Internet.

The first of the two bill to emerge was PIPA. It was proposed to the Senate on May 5, 2011 and sponsored by Democratic Senator Patrick Leahy from Vermont. The purpose was to allow the Justice Department or a corporation to demand that any websites which supported or linked to copyrighted content could be forced to remove to remove the material in question or block access to that site, even without a trial.

While this may seem guiltless after a cursory glance, closer inspection reveals that this bill could have grave implications in the realms of free speech and due process of the law. The other, more well-known bill was SOPA, which has a similar goal and methods, and would have had many of the same consequences. SOPA was proposed on October 25, 2011 House of Representatives by Republican Representative Lamar Smith from Texas. In addition to the powers outline in PIPA, SOPA adds those of another Senate bill,

known as the Commercial Felony Streaming Act, which makes web streaming of copyrighted content a felony with a penalty of five years in prison.

What constitutes a felony? Apparently if the video in question is watched ten

or more times in 180 days then the person who uploaded the video, the website it is hosted on, any websites which linked to the video, possibly the Internet service providers which the uploader used and even those that host the servers of the websites involved are all liable of being charged with the felony.

For example, if a mother were to upload a video of her daughter singing "Hurt" by Christina Aguilera to Youtube, as soon as that video reaches ten views within 180 days, she is now a felon capable of being sentenced to prison. Youtube is also liable, as well as any website which may have linked to the video, including Facebook, Google, Wikipedia, Stumbleupon, Digg, Yahoo!, Blogspot, Twitter, Bing ... you get the idea.

Additional information available on opencongress.org shows which organizations supported and opposed the bill. Almost every major media corporation or publisher supported the bill, including the National Music Publishers' Association, Independent Film & Television Alliance, Motion Picture Association of America,

Viacom, Comcast and the Association of American Publishers. Also supporting the bill were massive corporations like Eli Lilly and Company, Dow Chemical and Estée Lauder Companies.

The regulations these corporations favored would not only have repercussions in the US, but would affect countries around the world. This is because the Internet isn't only an American innovation, but a global phenomenon. What right does a single country have to regulate a public domain? These bills would be akin to Congress declaring that it was planning on stopping ships in international waters and confiscating any goods it felt were illegitimate, then impounding the ships.

But the bills were defeated, right? That is true, but both branches of congress have already proposed a new bill restricting Internet use. And since they failed to pass a bill which focused primarily on American websites, they have decided instead to expand their attack to those hosted by foreign countries. This new bill, currently on the floor in both the House of Representatives and the Senate is known as OPEN, or the Online Protection and Enforcement of Digital Trade Act.

This new act would take those same measures that were so strongly protested in SOPA and PIPA and direct them at the websites of foreign countries, regardless of whether the country is our ally or not. Not only would this prevent people around the globe from accessing those sites, but it also has the potential to initiate an international Internet censorship conflict.

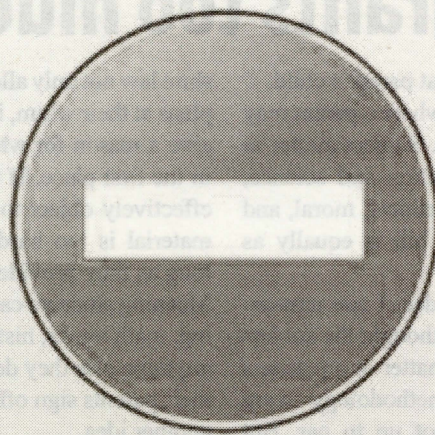
The one thing that is most disturbing about OPEN is that even though, as evidenced by the recent Internet blackout and dissension, the American public is opposed to the government censoring the Internet. Congress' reaction to the rejection of these bills is to propose another, with the exact same goal, just using an underhanded method to acquire a cheap victory spurred on by the massive media corporations.

The fact that these corporations have more influence upon the United States government than its own citizens is a terrifying realization, and a clear indication that any attempts to censor the Internet, especially those laced with international aggression, must be rejected outright by American citizens. There is something woefully out of order when people must organize a protest to prevent the passing of a bill fully supported by their government.

Whatever happened to government of the people, by the people, for the people?

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SECURITY THROUGH CENSORSHIP
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Courtesy of Facebook

This is an image that many users posted as their profile picture on Facebook protest the Online Piracy Act. The image portrays what a user's computer screen would look like if they visited a website in violation of SOPA.

Unimportant Questions with Important People

DR. JEFFREY ALVES, NEW DEAN OF SIDHU SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LEADERSHIP

BY KIRSTIN COOK
Editor-in-Chief

What is your favorite aspect of your job?

The opportunities. As a society, we're recognizing that we're not going to be top dog infinity as we see the emergence of countries like China and India emerging as economic forces. They're beginning to influence not just world economics, they're influencing the way we think and do things. So doing business in the future is going to be a little different than it has been in the past. We have to take into account that these players in the marketplace have different views of the world.

Is this the job you always saw yourself in?

No, I never saw myself as a college or university administrator at all. But, my experience at the Allan P. Kirby Center for Free Enterprise, interacting with the faculty here in the business program and now the Sidhu school, I almost view my role here as a continuation of what I did at the Kirby Center. It gives me the opportunity to explore dif-

ferent ways to prepare students for a world that's going to be different than the one we grew up in.

What was your role at the Kirby Center?

We were primarily trying to develop entrepreneurship programs and initiatives both on campus and in the region, and so we develop the minor, we developed the major, we reached out to other departments on campus to draw expertise.

When was your first job?

It was in sixth grade, I had a couple of people I mowed lawns for, and that was nice because allowances didn't quite make it. But my first, quote, real job, was when I was in the Air Force; I was an administrative officer for a unit down in Tucson, Ariz., and that was very interesting.

What is something most people would be surprised to know about you?

That I've jumped out of perfectly good airplanes. I had a good time. But it's addictive, it really is. You could spend 100 percent of your time focusing on those free falls.



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

What was the last movie you saw?

"Beginners," and before that "Midnight in Paris." I enjoyed "Midnight in Paris" very much. "Beginners," the way the movie is put together it moves around a little bit, and it took about half the movie for me to get into that. But I thought the acting was exceptional, the topic, the theme was both emotional intellectually challenging, so I enjoyed it.

If you were an animal, what animal would you be?

Probably a Morgan Horse. Morgans are very versatile animals that can be showy but also are work horses.

What is your favorite pastime?

We have a farm, and we don't raise anything on the farm anymore, but I very much enjoy getting out on the farm cutting wood, getting on the tractor and driving in circles.

What is one item on your bucket list?

I have not visited South America. I'm really intrigued with Brazil and Argentina. And I'd like to go to Patagonia, but my wife tells me it's too cold.

Is there a story behind the bow tie?

My wife's father wore bow ties, in fact I don't think I ever saw him in a straight tie, and he's about 5-5, and he decided he was going to teach me how to tie a bow tie, except he had to get on a chair. And I just thought it was cool, so I started wearing bow ties time to time. It's just something a little bit different, it's not intended to show off, I just think they look classy.

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Programming Board brings entertainment to Thursday nights

BY ABBEY HALDEMAN
Staff Writer

This spring semester, Thursdays are about to get a little livelier. That's because Programming Board, lead by advisers Jamie Miller and Melissa Howells, are finding ways to help students find something fun to do for their Thursday afternoons and evenings.

Programming Board is planning events for every Thursday of this semester. From bingo to laser tag, Karaoke and Zumba classes, students will find something to do that interests them.

"We just want students to have something to do with their Thursdays," said junior elementary education major and Programming

Board President Jessica Short.

This past week, the first of the Thursday events, Pizza Wars took place in the ballroom of the Student Union Building.

"Groups of students from Programming Board went and tried some of the pizzas and after, they ask the restaurant if they are willing to sell them for around \$5 a piece," Short said.

The restaurants that participated made 60 pizzas for this year's Pizza Wars.

For those that like to dance, but don't feel like dressing up, Programming Board has scheduled a sweatpants dance.

"There will be a DJ and everyone is welcome to come in their sweats or yoga pants," Short said.

As you can tell, there are a variety of differ-

ent events scheduled for this semester alone. If you are interested in getting involved and helping the programming board set up events, you can attend their weekly meetings on

Thursday at 11:30 a.m. in the Miller Room.

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Feb. 9: Laser Tag, 6-10 p.m.	UCOM
Feb. 23: Bingo, 8-10 p.m.	SUB Lounge
March 15: Sweat Pants Dance, 8-11 p.m.	SUB Ballroom
March 18: Zumba, 4-6 p.m. (tentative)	SUB Ballroom
March 29: Spa Night, 8-11 p.m.	SUB Lounge
Man Night, 8-11 p.m.	SUB Ballroom
April 15: Zumba, 1-3 p.m.	SUB Ballroom
April 19: Scavenger Hunt, 9-11 p.m.	SUB Lounge
April 26: Ice Cream Social, 8-10 p.m.	SUB Lounge

Wilkes-Barre's most romantic places for Valentine's Day fun

BY LAURA PREBY
Photo Editor



Instead of celebrating Valentine's Day like most couples, take your sweetheart out for a night he or she will never forget. These ideas will guarantee a fun-filled evening for you and your loved one.

1. Arts YOUNiverse

Arts YOUNiverse has been offering Valentine's Day events for the past few years, and has formulated the perfect evening for couples to come and get to know each other just a little bit better. Starting at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 11th, couples will be able to choose between four classes to take with their loved one for a cost of \$25. The options are hard to pick from, as there are so many good choices. For example, "Couples Collage," an art class, lets couples work together and use their imagination to create a piece of memorable art they can save forever. "Candlelight Couples Yoga," taught by Corrine Farrel, is self-explanatory.

"We use only candlelight as illumination in one of our studios, and the instructors lead couples in gentle yoga stretches that are done together," says organizer Kathleen Godwin. "Yoga is a healthful and relaxing activity that we hope couples continue to practice long after the class."

Arts YOUNiverse will also hold a classic ballroom dancing class, which may seem intimidating, but the beginner's course, taught by Raphael and Lauren Cooper, just may bring couples closer together. Finally, they offer "The Nearlywed Game," a variation of the "Newlywed Game" led by Angel Berlane, a trained drama instructor skilled in hilarious improv. There will also be complimentary light refreshments available. Reservations for these events are required, so call 570-970-ARTS to save a spot for you and your loved one.

2. The Crimson Lion

If you're a fan of hookah, coffee or live music, you've probably been to The Crimson Lion Hookah Lounge on South Street. This Valentine's Day, you and your sweetheart can stop by for a cup of coffee, or one of their new birthday cake drinks, a new secret recipe that tastes just like cake, according to owner Mike Pasquini. They will also be offering \$1 butterbeers and a new mix of shisha called "Love Bug" for \$3. While you're there, check out their display of art work, including a new mural by Omar Guerrero.

3. Restaurants

The cliché Valentine's Day dinner seems like an overdone concept, especially since it can be expensive for a college student.

Here are three restaurants in the area that will provide you with a unique dining experience and perk up your holiday dinner. Mirakuya, a Japanese restaurant located by the Wyoming Valley Mall, has inexpensive sushi lunches and fantastic hibachi dinners, with chefs that entertain as well as they do cook. If you're not a fan of oriental food, Kevin's Bar and Restaurant on the Avenue in Kingston serves delicious food in a cool atmosphere. They provide amazing service, and while the restaurant is fancy, the entrees are not insanely overpriced. For those over 21, they also have a full bar available. Finally, the River Street Jazz Café in Plains Township is having a Valentine's Dinner with the Skursky Jazz Trio. Prices on meals vary, but admission is free, however this event is for those 21 and over. Promising a romantic, jazz-filled evening, the Jazz Café opens their doors at 5 p.m. on Valentine's Day, and will be taking reservations at 570-822-2992.

4. Millennium Salon & Spa

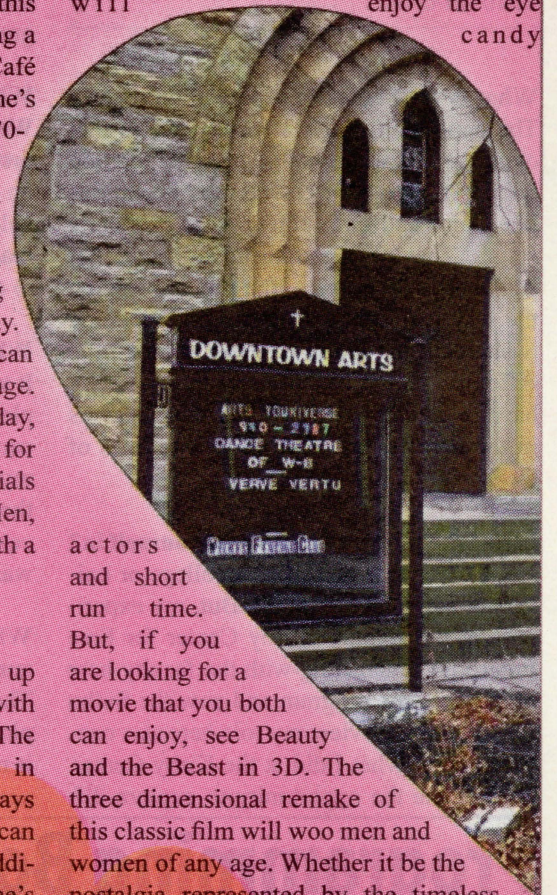
Millennium Salon and Spa on South Main Street in Wilkes-Barre is having a special for couples on Valentine's Day. For \$110, you and your significant other can take part in an hour-long full-body massage. Call ahead for reservations for the big day, or buy your sweetheart a gift certificate for use at any time. They also have specials on pedicures, manicures and facials. Men, don't be ashamed to pamper yourself with a massage – your body will thank you.

5. Movies

Nothing says "I love you" like curling up in a dark theater with your loved one. The \$3 tickets available in the SUB on Tuesdays and Wednesdays can be an inexpensive addition to any Valentine's Day adventure. So head over to Movies 14, and don't forget the free small popcorn you receive with your Wilkes' ID. But what types of movies are there for the star-crossed lovers that dwell the lobbies and hallways of the Cineplex? Well three of them, which are out now, can definitely help with your plans this holiday. Guys, if she is in the mood for a gushy, romantic, or otherwise boring film, you would

score major points by taking her to see The Artist. This Academy Award nominated film captured the hearts of many critics with its romantic portrayal of the silent movie industry. And for the guys, the movie itself is silent so you don't have to hear the characters belt out poorly written soliloquies of how much their significant other means to them. It's a win-win for both of you. Now, ladies, if you want to take your man out to see a movie he would enjoy since he was a gentleman the night before, he would love to see "Chronicle".

This movie will be perfect for you since it is full of action and only has a run time of 84 minutes. The guys will enjoy the jaunty humor and epic fight scenes, while the girls will enjoy the eye candy



actors and short run time. But, if you are looking for a movie that you both can enjoy, see Beauty and the Beast in 3D. The three dimensional remake of this classic film will woo men and women of any age. Whether it be the nostalgia represented by the timeless classic or the humor and romanticism that it exhumes. It has something for everyone and its newly re-mastered 3D presentation will help with the excitement. There you go, now go out and buy your movie tickets and prepare for a night you will never forget ... probably.

The Beacon/Laura Preby

Above: Downtown Arts Arts YOUNiverse is offering romance-based art, yoga and dance classes on Feb. 11 for couples to take part in.

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Intimacy can boost your immune system

BY CHRISTINE LEE
Life Editor



William Shakespeare once said, "So dear I love him that with him, all deaths I could endure. Without him, live no life."

Love is an enduring characteristic in many people's lives, but it is a complex process that has many ups and downs. Professor of psychology Dr. Carl Charnetski said there are various ways for two



people to become attracted to one another. One way is by facial symmetry.

"The more symmetric the face is, the more attractive that person is," Charnetski said.

Charnetski said a study done in Switzerland showed that scent plays a role in attraction. Women were told to smell men's T-shirts and rate the attraction based on the particular scent of the T-shirt. The study found that women were more attracted to men who had similar bacteria from the perspiration on the shirts as they had.

"Women were more attracted to men that had similar bacteria or a similar immune system as their own," Charnetski said. "The bacteria that were left over were not killed by the immune system."

In a study published in Charnetski's 2001 book, "Feeling Good is Good for You: How Pleasure can Boost Your Immune System and Lengthen Your Life," Charnetski found that love can boost one's immune system.

In the study, the most important aspects of love are intimacy, passion and commitment as cited by psychologist Robert Sternberg. Sternberg created the Triangular Love Scale to measure these aspects, which Charnetski used in his study.

"I found that people who are very much in love and engaged in a moderate amount of sexual activity had higher levels of the antibody Immunoglobulin A than couples that engaged in less or more sexual activity," Charnetski said.

Immunoglobulin A is one of the major antibodies critical to disease prevention and resolution of diseases. He said by measuring the variables of intimacy, passion and commitment, scientists can determine how in love people are.

In terms of how people fall are attracted to each other, there are many factors that are primarily emotional but some physiological.

"First impressions that later develop into lasting relationships can often begin with what is considered to be attractive and the physical first impression does matter," says professor of communication studies Dr. Jane Elmes-Crahall, who teaches a course in interpersonal communication that touches on romantic relationships.

Elmes-Crahall says shared activities are what bond people together.

"Most of what attracts people has to go beyond the physical exterior, it has to include shared goals, values, similar communication styles and interests," Elmes-Crahall said.

One of the key features of a long-lasting romance is commitment, which Elmes-Crahall describes as "a leap of faith." In this stage of a romantic relationship, she says couples make the decision that they are going to do both the good and the bad, the easy and the not so easy aspects to keep the relationship together as they want to be together long-term.

"Commitment is the hard part because it is scary," Elmes-Crahall said. "You know that they are going to know you and for everything good and bad, but in spite of all that there is something that will bond (couples) together."

She says the idea of shared values usually bonds couples together and that it takes hard work, forgiveness and negotiation to keep a relationship together.

When people first get together, there is a certain length of time for people to become comfortable with one another. The words people say also have different meanings, which can become sacred or hurtful.

"We take it to the point where words hurt and then there are words that are legally binding in romantic relationships such as marriage vows," Elmes-Crahall said.

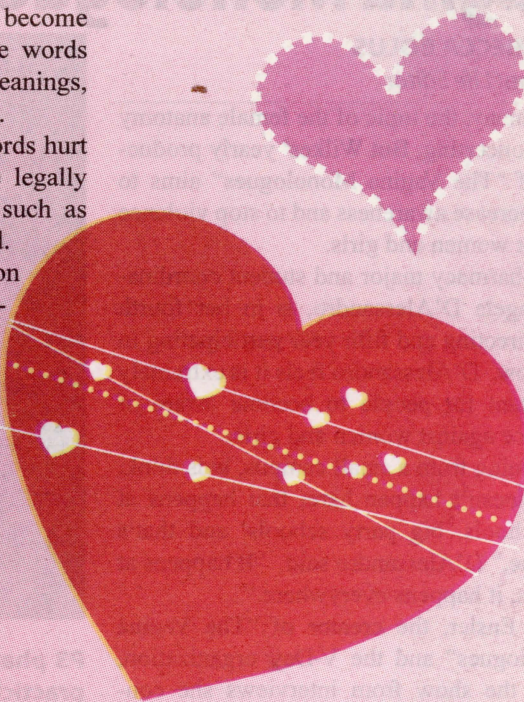
Overall, romance depends on whether the content of the relationship balances with the relationship.

Photo: The Beacon/Dan Lykens

At left: A couple takes a sunset walk down the River Common. Studies have shown that intimacy can reduce one's risk of heart disease.

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'Vagina Monologues' advocates against violence to women, girls

BY REBECCA BOLUS
Assistant Life Editor

For many, the topic of the female anatomy is disconcerting. But Wilkes' yearly production of "The Vagina Monologues" aims to help increase awareness and to stop violence against women and girls.

P3 pharmacy major and student coordinator Angela D'Alessandro, is in her fourth year directing and fifth year participating in the show. D'Alessandro feels it is extremely important for people to become aware of violence against women and girls.

"Coming from a small campus, kids think, 'that doesn't happen here; that happens at big schools, big party schools' and that's not true," D'Alessandro said. "It happens at Wilkes, it happens everywhere."

Eve Ensler, the creator of "The Vagina Monologues" and the V-Day organization, wrote the show from interviews she conducted with women from all over the world who shared their real life experiences with sex, masturbation, birth, rape and names associated with the vagina. The monologues have been performed all over the world, at college campuses across the country and by celebrities such as Whoopi Goldberg and Jane Fonda.

"They're basically vagina interviews," D'Alessandro said.

The monologues are based women's personal stories and pushes past comfort zones into reality and truth behind different women's experiences. D'Alessandro says the openness and honesty has surprised many people in the past.



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

P3 pharmacy majors Angela D'Alessandro, left, and Nicole Willis, right, take turns practicing the monologue "Six-Year-Old Girl" which is a 6-year-old girl talking about her vagina.

"We tell people in the very beginning, it's OK if you want to laugh or if you want to cry," D'Alessandro said. "People don't usually talk about vaginas out loud and up front."

The show will present some monologues with a comedic angle, but some stories will be serious, with the intent of creating an open and honest way for people to become more aware violence to women around them.

"There are some monologues that are so heart breaking, and it's so sad, but they're beautiful," D'Alessandro said.

"The Vagina Monologues" was created to not only increase awareness of violence

to women and girls in the world, but to assure women that they are not alone. That there are places women can get help if they are being abused, know someone that is being abused or if they just want to talk. The Victims' Resource Center, The Domestic Violence Service Center, and Planned Parenthood of Wilkes-Barre. They will have tables set up providing information about their different resources and their contact information.

Each year since 1998, the V-Day organization does a spotlight monologue about an area of the world where women and girls are the most vulnerable. This year's "Va-

gina Monologue" has a different spotlight from last year's performance. This year the spotlight will be focused on the Democratic Republic of Congo, New Orleans, La., and Haiti. It will be read by senior English major Sarah Crolick.

The money made from Vagina Monologues show goes toward the National V-Day Organization, The Victim's Resource Center, The Domestic Violence Service Center and Planned Parenthood in Wilkes-Barre.

"We also ask donations from some of the deans, programming board, and student government to help us and allow Wilkes students to come for free," D'Alessandro said.

The Vagina Monologues has also brought together students and teachers for this cause.

"It's cool because a lot of us don't get to see kids from different majors and to work with teachers in a different way and it really brings people together," D'Alessandro said.

The Vagina Monologues will be performed at 7 p.m. Feb. 10 and 11 and will be held in the Henry Student Ballroom of the SUB. Tickets are free for Wilkes students; tickets for other colleges with their student IDs are \$5, and general admission is \$10. T-shirts and chocolate vagina lollipops will be sold there as well.

For more information about the performance and the V-Day movement, contact the Vagina Monologues student coordinator, Angela D'Alessandro at angela.dalessandro@wilkes.edu.

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Students 'like' what they see on social media pages

BY CHRISTINE LEE
Life Editor

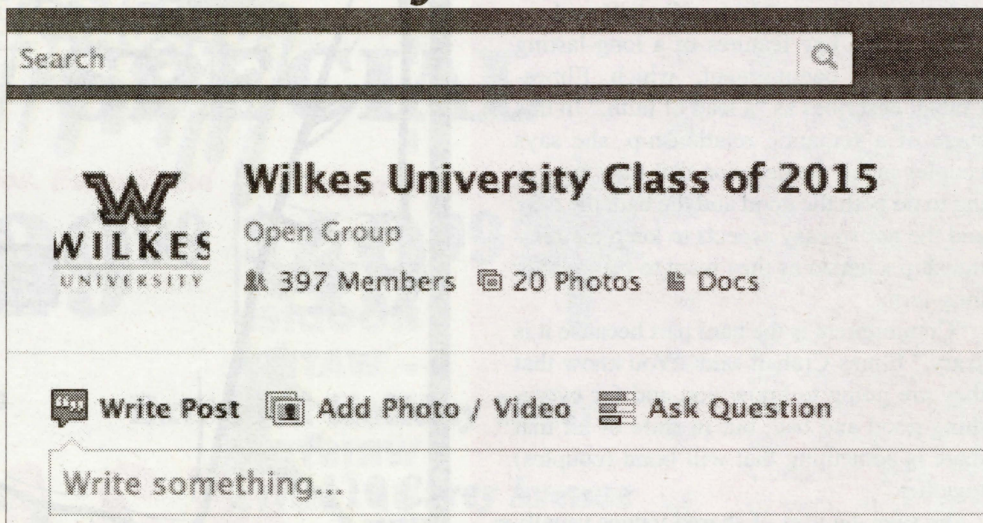
This is Part 2 of Wilkes' Use of Social Media. In this part, Student Development and the Wilkes Alumni Association use Facebook for their benefits and to get their messages out.

Student Development coordinator Melissa Howells says Facebook allows students to engage with Student Development and the Colonel.

"We are where the students are and it gives us another outlet to communicate with them," Howells, who administers both the Student Development and Colonel pages, said, "The Facebook page gives the Colonel a voice to be able to talk to students and gets spirit up."

Howells said Facebook allows students to participate actively with Student Development. For the Colonel, they want to make him more involved in student life and visible.

"It gives us an opportunity to let them know about things," Howells says. "It's also



Courtesy of Facebook

Facebook groups have been created for the classes of 2014 and 2015. The class of 2015 page has been used as an interaction tool for first-year students.

more prompt with updates."

Associate Alumni director and alumni

Facebook page administrator Bridget Husted said social media is good tool for con-

necting alumni across the country.

"Facebook has been an easy way for people to stay connected and learn about what's happening on campus," Husted said. "We wanted to utilize these social media tools to make it easier for alumni to stay connected."

Husted said the alumni page has given the department the opportunity to connect with alums.

"Alumni are more willing to interact with us through that venue and it has given us the chance to learn about them," Husted said.

It is clear with Wilkes pages on Facebook and Twitter people can access information about events on campus with ease.

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Editor's Note: To see Part 1 of this story, go to: www.thewilkesbeacon.com



FEBRUARY 7, 2012

CONTACT EDITOR: billthomas@thewilkesbeacon.com

Supernatural forces collide in Wilkes alum's dark debut novel

BY BILL THOMAS
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Talking to Sabrina Benulis, you'd never know this was a woman with an apocalypse inside her, just roaring to get out.

Friendly, outgoing and seemingly without pretension, Benulis has a charm that is disarming and a laugh that is infectious. But swirling inside her mind is a portal to another dimension.

It's a raging universe teetering on the edge of cataclysm, a battleground where angels and demons battle for dominion and, at the heart of it all, a damaged young girl with red hair struggles with issues of identity and fate.

This is the world of "Archon," the first installment in Benulis' "Books of Raziel" trilogy. The book was released internationally this winter by publishing powerhouse HarperCollins, through its fantasy-themed Voyager imprint.

Before becoming an architect of Armageddon, Benulis juggled majors at Wilkes University, graduating in 2005 with degrees in both English and psychology.

The 28-year-old author, who lives in Drums, recently took the time to share with The Beacon the inspirations that motivated the evolution of "Archon."

Tell me about the story of "Archon."

I could say Archon takes place in the future, but I'd rather say it's more like an alternate reality on Earth about a hundred years from our timeline. In this world, there is a prophecy of a "dark messiah," called the Archon, that will appear on Earth, and according to this prophecy that person will have red hair.

In this world, people with red hair are known, derogatorily, as "blood heads." Angela Mathers is one of them, and they're all gathered at a special school situated on an island city owned by the Vatican. Angela suspects it's the Vatican's way of weeding out who this possible dark messiah might be. What she doesn't realize is that she's suspected to be a candidate.

Anyway, she gets involved in a rivalry with this other girl who is the head of what seems to be a witches' coven, and who seriously wants to be the Archon, the dark messiah.

The Archon is a focal point for angels and demons and other creatures, because she is supposed to be the reincarnation of an an-

gel who wrote "The Book of Raziel," which contains a power that can tip the balance of the universe.

That's it, in a nutshell. I know that's a lot. (laughs)

Where did the inspiration for "Archon" come from?

My inspirations are everywhere. Since I was little I loved reading about mythology and world religions. I grew up Catholic, so I would say it's that and then popular culture like movies.

I'm also big fan of anime and manga, which was a strong influence on the visuals in the novel. I think maybe subconsciously I took all those things and combined into something that was my own world, my own story.

How did your experiences as a Wilkes student influence your writing career?

At first I was a psychology major, and I enjoyed it, but, when I really looked at the careers in that field, I thought, "This isn't for me." So then I had enough room for another major, so I decided to go into English. I always loved to write, but it was mostly just for myself, just for fun.

I took a creative writing course taught by Bernie Kovacs, and I wrote a short story for one of the assignments. When I got it back there was a note on it that said he wanted to see me after class, but the way it was worded I thought there was something wrong. (laughs)

I was kind of preparing myself for problems. But he just said to me "This is really, really good. Have you ever thought of doing this professionally?"

That's what got me thinking about what I could do. The idea for this novel had been simmering somewhere in the back of my mind, and that was when I decided to seriously give it a shot.

The more I started doing it, the more I loved it. When you find what you love to do you don't really want to do anything else. (laughs)

What can readers expect from the trilogy in the future?

Well, I should say "expect the unexpected." (laughs)

I can't say I wrote a plot that hasn't been done before, because everything's been done

before. But it maybe does things that people haven't seen before. This is definitely a book series that takes chances, it takes chances with the characters, it takes chances with the plot.

I've had a lot of people have interesting reactions to the fact that it deals with angels and demons. Because of that, I've had people try to figure out - I don't want to say the religious aspects of the book because it's not Christian fiction or a religious book - but I think that they'll be surprised with the mythology that they know.

Also, it's unusual in that this first book is very dark. Usually books start light and progress toward a dark point. I took the opposite approach, kind of a "going toward the light" effect.

All I can say is you could expect some pretty interesting things. I'm really excited about the second book. Its tone and atmosphere are complementary to the first book, but, at the same time, they're different.

Whereas the first book

you could say had a sort of Halloween feel, the second book has a sort of Christmas feel. When it begins, there's snow and candlelight and that quiet atmosphere, and it progresses from there.

Read the complete, uncut interview with Sabrina Benulis at www.thewilkesbeacon.com

CONTACT BILL THOMAS AT:
billthomas@thewilkesbeacon.com



Photo courtesy of Sharon J. Naples

The brainchild of 2005 Wilkes graduate Sabrina Benulis (right), the book "Archon" (left) is a dark, epic fantasy-thriller inspired by Christian mythology.

Blood spills in avant-garde theater production

BY BILL THOMAS

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Art should be controversial.

That's the mindset of 33-year-old stage director Justin John Costello of Kingston. His latest production, a risqué version of the already risqué Shakespearean potboiler "Titus Andronicus," will run at Wilkes-Barre's Little Theatre on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 10, 11 and 12.

True to form, Costello said his interpretation of the material is all about pushing buttons and breaking boundaries.

"No matter what the medium is, art should make you think. It should not be safe," Costello said. "It's visceral. It gets under your skin. All art should do that. I embrace the controversy. It inspires conversation and debate. The experience you have will travel with you when you leave."

"Titus Andronicus" is arguably an ideal choice with such a goal in mind. The play is not only one of William Shakespeare's most obscure works, it's also one of his most violent. A bloody tale of deception and insanity, "Titus Andronicus" regales us with the downfall of the title character, a Roman general locked in a vicious conflict with Tamora, the Queen of the Goths.

Despite the well-worn vintage of the material, Costello promises his vision of "Titus Andronicus" will be anything but old-fashioned. For starters, the setting of the story has moved from ancient Rome to "outside of time."

"Our set is completely symbolic. It's not a traditional set at all," Costello said. "The costuming is also all symbolic, based more on character than on any time period or setting. You will definitely not see anyone in togas."

Citing such influences as "Theatre of Cruelty" founder Antonin Artaud and "Hellraiser" scribe Clive Barker in his decision to shape the aesthetics of his production with avant-garde theater techniques, Costello went on to describe "Titus Andronicus" as a bleak horror story that is "all about extremes." He also stressed that the production is intended for mature audiences only.

"It's going to be very dark," he warned. "We're going (heavy) with the blood. We're amping up the sexuality and sensuality of the piece with costuming and what's going on. We're trying to make it as bold and provocative as it can be."

Commenting on the choice to run

"Titus Andronicus" the weekend before Valentine's Day, Costello let out a wry, wicked chuckle and added that "nothing says love like revenge, murder, incest and adultery."

Mark Petrole, 33, of Pittston, portrays Aaron, a character responsible for some of the play's most memorable acts of debauchery and dismemberment. Though Petrole admitted that he's had more experience in the musical and comedy genres, the actor remarked that Costello's experimental approach to the age-old play made this production an irresistible challenge.

"When I heard how he was going to be presenting this, I jumped at the challenge," Petrole said. "I wanted to really grow as an actor, and I have. I've learned a lot. It's really been different for me, really a challenge, but a fun one and one well worth taking."

The torrid and tenebrous subject matter of "Titus Andronicus" may be fresh territory for some members of the cast, but Costello is no stranger to dramatic extremes. Among the director's list of credits are productions of Clive Barker's "History of the Devil," Bryan Goluboff's "The Other Five Percent" and Euripedes' "The Bacchae." With all that under his belt, you might think Costello is just about finished plumbing his darkest depths.

You would be wrong.

This spring, Costello hopes finally to make flesh a pet project he's been nursing for several years. Titled "Amongst the Living," it's an independent film to be lensed throughout NEPA. The thematic meat of the picture, Costello said, will deal with his favorite artistic obsessions: horror, sexuality, identity and religion.

Why such a fixation on the more sinister sides of the human condition?

"Clive (Barker) said it best when he said 'Sometimes you have to embrace the darkness in order to see the light,'" Costello explained. "Then you can recognize the good things that are happening."

"Titus Andronicus" will run at Little Theatre (537 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre) at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 10 and 11, and at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 12. Tickets are \$10.


For more information, call 570-823-1875 or visit littletheatre.org.

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Courtesy of Justin John Costello

In rehearsal for one of the most brutal scenes in "Titus Andronicus," Wilkes student Kathryn Priestash (left) plays Lavinia while Sam Troy (right) plays the titular Titus.



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'Woman in Black' shivers spines but only grazes the stomachs

BY BILL THOMAS
Arts & Entertainment Editor

From the '50s to the late '70s, Hammer Film Productions was one the premier names in horror cinema. Sadly, changing audience tastes eventually resulted in the demise of the studio.

As the company's psychological thrillers, pulpy vampire adventures and stylish haunted-house yarns went the way of the dodo, replaced with a gut-pile of hack 'n' slash bloodbaths, the iconic House of Hammer closed its doors.

For upwards of three decades, they remained shut. Then, in 2007, Hammer returned out of the blue, under new management. Still in the process of lumbering back to life, the company recently began picking up steam with the artistic success of such projects as Matt Reeves' remake of "Let the Right One In" (retitled "Let Me In") and David Keating's "The Wake Wood."

With "The Woman in Black," a new adaptation of Susan Hill's 1983 novel, Hammer officially revisits the distinctly British breed of gothic horror that defined so much of its early classic output.

Seemingly try to erase the public perception of him as "that Harry Potter kid," Daniel Radcliffe stars as Arthur, a single father living in Edwardian England. Traveling to the secluded Eel Marsh House to consolidate the private papers of the recently deceased lady of the manor, Arthur soon finds himself engulfed in a swelling sea of superstition and tragedy.

Looming over it all is a malevolent wraith, the titular "woman in black," whose appearance serves as an omen of the impending

death of a child. With his own son potentially in danger, Arthur becomes determined to unearth the secret of the shadowy specter and rid Eel Marsh of her curse once and for all.

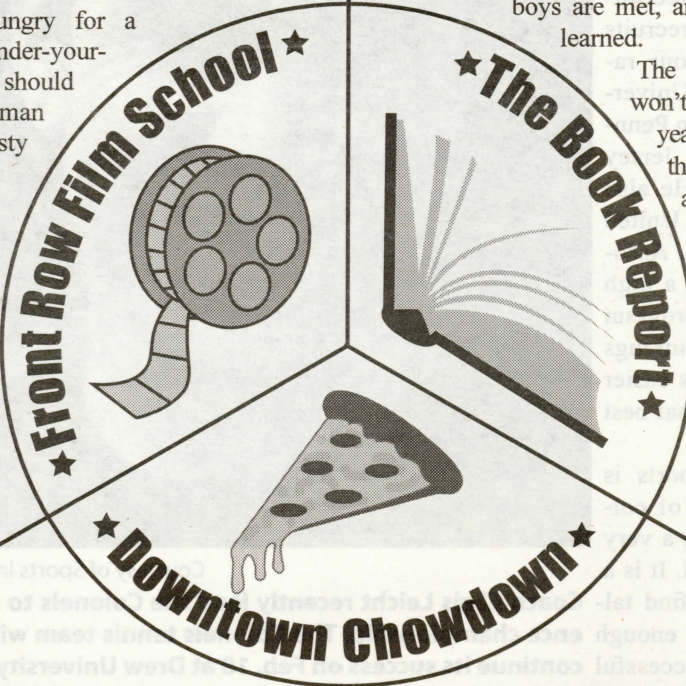
Director James Watkins offers a welcome respite from recent horror duds like the tried-too-hard "Paranormal Activity 3" and the didn't-try-hard-enough "The Devil Inside."

The film's brooding visuals permeate it with an ominous, ever-present atmosphere of sorrow and dread, sending shivers up your spine even when screenwriter Jane Goldman's script tests your patience with an obnoxious overabundance of cheap jump-scares.

Though the second act stretches itself fatally thin, the pacing is methodical, with more emphasis on emotion and ambience than unwarranted action.

Those hungry for a good get-under-your-skin chiller should find "The Woman in Black" a tasty treat indeed.

More a stomach-grazing spook-show, though, than a real-deal meal.



More than just pizza, Frank's is a feast

BY DOMINICK COSTANTINO
Staff Writer

Great prices, excellent service and tasty food all come to mind when thinking about Frank's Pizzeria and Italian Ristorante. The restaurant, which recently moved to 198 S. Main St. in Wilkes-Barre, has a wide variety of menu options. Diners can get anything from a classic slice of pizza to a full Italian meal.

I chose to get cheese ravioli, and I'm so glad I did because they were wonderful. The ravioli were the perfect size, cooked al dente. Many restaurants don't cook ravioli long enough and some restaurants cook them too long. This was not the case at Frank's.

The cheese filling was very tasty, and there was the perfect amount of cheese in

each of the ravioli. The tomato sauce that covered the ravioli was delicious. It wasn't too sweet or bitter – it was just right! There was a lot of sauce on the plate which made the six slices of bread perfect. The bread had a crunchy crust, and the middle dough was nice and warm. This meal was just as good as any up-scale Italian restaurant.

For my appetizer, I could have either soup or salad. I chose to get meatball ravioli soup because it was something different. The soup was very good. It reminded me of hamburger soup, just with two little ravioli added to it. In addition to the ravioli, there were many little meatballs in the tomato-based soup.

Since elementary school I heard fellow

'Gossip girl' von Ziegesar goes to college with mixed results

BY ANNIE YOSKOSKI
Staff Writer

Cecily von Ziegesar is best known for the smash hit "Gossip Girl" book series. Even though the television show based off of the novel series is wildly popular with its teenage audience, von Ziegesar's newest venture, the fledgling "Cum Laude" series, targets a new crowd: college-age women.

The first entry in the series, also titled "Cum Laude," introduces us to the girls who go to Dexter College, small liberal arts college tucked away in the quiet town of Home, Maine.

The girls are exactly what you would expect. Some are well-off, while others are on scholarships. Parties are thrown, boys are met, and lessons are learned.

The class of 2014 won't start their year off quietly, though. Shipley and Eliza are living up to the school motto of "Find Yourself," dealing with life's problems as they are

handed to them or sometimes as they create them.

This really is a story of growing up. The downside is that almost no one lives like this. Not everyone has their Mercedes stolen from campus or fires a bartender from a party. The students hook up, break up, make up and cause a scene.

This is a depiction of college life, just not the average one. Even though this novel focuses on four different freshmen, none of them could exactly be called "average" or "normal."

This is especially true considering that these students seem to want for almost nothing, even though they are only college freshman. Every character seems to fall above or below the line of normal, leaving the people in the middle without representation.

As with all of von Ziegesar's novels, however, the writing is tremendous and tightly woven. The drama is high and will reach out and pull the reader into the storyline scandals.

This may not be an accurate description of college life, but it certainly lives up to the standards that became her precedent when von Ziegesar penned the "Gossip Girl" series.

The perfect way to describe this novel is "Gossip Girl: The Next Step." Dealing with new found freedom can be daunting, but this set of freshman takes it to a whole new level using the imaginative, compelling and sometimes unrealistic writing of von Ziegesar.

As unrealistic as it is, the novel is still a good read.

it.

Service was excellent here. The waitress was friendly and came over frequently to make sure that we were satisfied with our meals. The restaurant décor is also very nice. The seats are comfortable and the entire restaurant is very clean.

If you want a delicious home-made Italian meal at a reasonable price, go to Frank's. My ravioli meal with soup and bread was under \$8. I've paid up to \$17 for the same quality meal at other Italian restaurants. This is definitely an affordable spot for college students. On top of that, Frank's offers 10 percent off to Wilkes students who show a valid ID.

CONTACT BILL THOMAS
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★★★★★ 4.5/5

FEBRUARY 7, 2012

Tennis team prepares for new season

Coach uses prior experience to turn program around

BY MIKE BOYLAN
Correspondent

Although the Wilkes University men and women tennis teams are not one of the most popular sports to watch, they have been one of the more dominant teams here on campus. The men and women programs are led by the same coach, Chris Leicht. Upon entering the head-coaching job for the Wilkes University Colonels tennis teams were below .500 average winning percentages. They were always a team towards the bottom of the Middle Atlantic Conference for its existence.

Leicht was the man to turn around both the tennis teams around. Starting at the age of 10 he has been playing the sport of tennis. He has always lived around Wilkes-Barre area, growing up in Danville, Pa. When attending Danville High School, he was on the varsity tennis team.

After graduating high school he decided not to play tennis collegiately. In 2000, he graduated from Bloomsburg University with a degree in business administration and also earning masters in business administration. His first job was at his alma madder, Danville high school. As he took the men's varsity team he had early success. And that success continued throughout his tenure there.

He compiled 57 wins and 4 losses. In his final two years at Danville High School his team won the league and district IV championship and advanced to the state semi finals, which they lost back-to-back years, losing to identical scores (3-2). "I left Danville High School for a better job opportunity" Leicht says.

He came to Wilkes University as the director of residence life. He grew to miss the game. So began his coaching career with the Colonels as a volunteer assistant. Very soon after, the Wilkes University athletics department offered Leicht the head coaching position of the men's team.

After one season with the men's program Leicht was offered the women's head coaching job as well. Taking over both programs he knew he had his work cut out for himself.

He prides himself on his team because of the work he puts into it. The main reason

on why the turn around of these programs happened quickly was because of the great recruiting.

"Bringing in better players was the start of becoming a better program", Leicht says.

The coach has his methods with recruiting, he usually recruits within a three-hour radius of Wilkes University. He recruits in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. He also benefits from the United Tennis Student Association, which is a high school tennis program that gives out rankings to players so it is easier to find a player that best fits your team.

Division III sports is the lowest level of collegiate sports but a very competitive level. It is a difficult task to find talent that is good enough to make you successful in any Division III sport.

The difficult part is, if that talent is good enough why is he/she not going to a Division I or Division II schools. In Division III you have to work very hard and travel a lot to find these players that will be successful in Division III. You have to be very persistent and make the player feel most comfortable with your program and your school as if it was the perfect fit.

"Recruiting is difficult for everyone in every sport" Leicht says. Leicht definitely has his work cut out for since he has double the work for recruiting because of both the men and women programs.

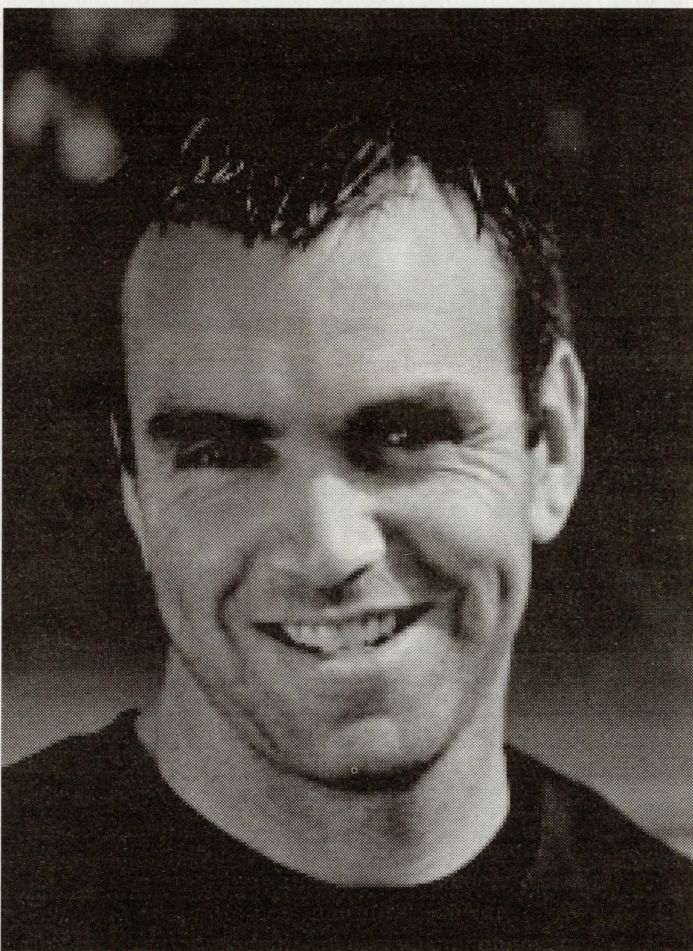
The amount of success that he is having is remarkable. The work that goes into making one successful team is a tough task but Leicht has done it with two teams consistently.

sistently.

"Coach was one of the main reasons I came to Wilkes University," says men's tennis player Brandon Helfrich. "He was always in contact with me and always checked up on me to see how I was doing in tennis and in overall life. He made me feel wanted as a player and that makes you feel good as a recruited athlete," Helfrich says.

Coach Leicht is a great recruiter because you are not just his player he actually cares about you. So that makes you feel more comfortable coming to this school to play for him.

Men's tennis player Clarke Freeman agrees. "You want to come here and play



Courtesy of Sports Information

Coach Chris Leicht recently lead the Colonels to a conference championship. The Colonels tennis team will look to continue its success on Feb. 18 at Drew University

SEE TENNIS, PAGE 19

The Broad Street Breakdown

BY BRYAN WISLOSKY
Columnist

It's the beginning of February and spring training is right around the corner. The feeling in Philadelphia is cautious optimism given that the heavily favored Phillies choked big time in their National League Division Series loss to the St. Louis Cardinals, who became the eventual World Series champion. Plus, the Phillies haven't really done much to improve in the offseason.

Their biggest acquisition has been former Red Sox closer Jonathan Papelbon, but they've refused to address their obvious flaws at the plate.

While the Phillies still have the most dangerous pitching staff in the National League, possibly the entire majors, they just aren't good hitters.

Perhaps Ruben Amaro is hoping to see more hunger in his every day players.

For instance, the impending free agencies of outfielders Shane Victorino and Hunter Pence will motivate them to put together their strongest seasons ever.

Chase Utley who has been plagued by injury the past few seasons is finally looking healthy and will be looking to put together another All-Star season as he begins to transition to the twilight of his career.

The heart and soul of the Phillies of the past decade Jimmy Rollins didn't get any respect from the free agent market ended up taking a discount to come back to Philadelphia and will be looking to prove his doubters wrong.

So maybe some of the field will have extra incentive to produce this year, but we can't ignore the \$125 million gorilla in the room.

Let's face it, when Ryan Howard comes back from his ruptured Achilles tendon the most he'll be good for is 230 strikeouts.

I don't know if the Phillies will be a serious contender until he's out of the lineup.

However, when we look at this upcoming season, it's hard to not pick the Phillies to at least win the division.

Although the Marlins and Nationals have made some signing to improve, neither of them really have that it factor that says divi-

SEE PHILLIES, PAGE 19

SCOREBOARD

Wrestling

2/3 @ TCNJ W 27-10

Men's B-Ball

2/1 @ Misericordia L 61-76
2/3 Manhattanville W 64-58

Women's B-Ball

2/1 @ Misericordia L 45-61
2/3 Manhattanville W 89-74

WEEK AHEAD

Wrestling

2/10 Ithaca

2/11 @ McDaniel, UMBC, Ursinus

Men's B-Ball

2/8 @ FDU-Florham
2/11 @ Eastern

Women's B-Ball

2/8 @ FDU-Florham
2/11 @ Eastern

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Joseph Pugliese

COLUMNIST



This year the attention in baseball will be on the NL East. The Nationals and Marlins made big splashes, while the Phillies and Braves hope some young talent will step up. The Phillies will be the favorite to win the division not unlike last year. But they will not be the division winner.

The NL East champions will be the Washington Nationals. The Nationals have improved more than the Marlins; the Marlins added an injury prone shortstop and an aging pitcher to their injury prone rotation. The Nationals added a great young pitcher in Gio Gonzalez, who with the A's had a 3.12 ERA, won 16, and pitched more than 200 innings the last two years.

They also recently added Edwin Jackson who quietly has pitched 200 innings the last three years, and last year had a 3.79 ERA with 12 wins. Jordan Zimmerman had a 3.12 ERA last year, and at 25 years old, is only getting better.

With a healthy Strasburg, this is one of the best young rotations in the league. They have four starters that could win 15 games all with a low ERA.

Ryan Zimmerman is a great player who has never had much around him, he will bat close to .300 with at least 25 home runs and 100 RBIs. Adam LaRoche had an injury plagued year last season, but when healthy is good for a very respectable .275 with 25 home runs.

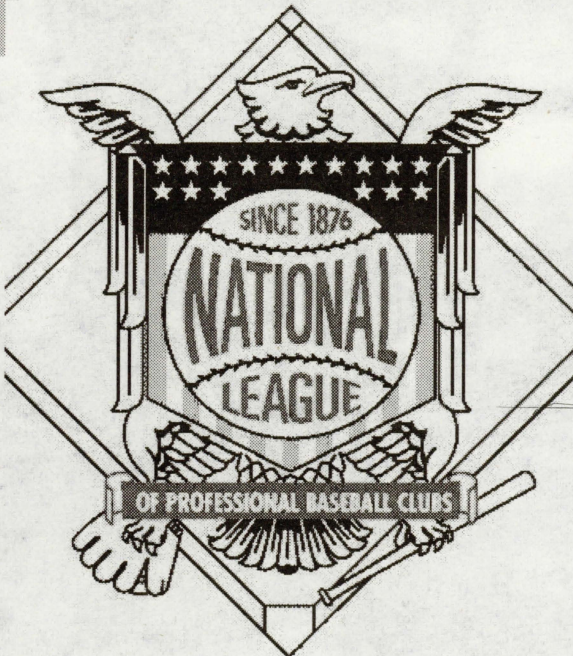
Mike Morse emerged last year hitting .300 with 31 home runs and is expected to come close to that mark again. Jayson Werth cannot have as bad as a year as he did last year. He should rebound, maybe not to the level he was with the Phillies, but he should be a threat.

Another factor is the Phillies are not as good as last year. Rollins has not been the same in recent years, Polanco is quickly becoming a non factor with a WAR last year of only 1.5. Hunter Pence will have a good year, but left field is a big question mark.

The starting rotation is still their strong point, but how long will Hamels stay? He could very possibly be traded by the deadline with only one year left on his deal. Their bullpen is also weak in front of Papelbon.

The Braves young stars did not step up to their potential last year and their veterans seem to be too old. The Marlins are reliant on the health of Josh Johnson and Jose Reyes, as well as the motivation of Hanley Ramirez. And finally the New York "Mess" won't even be a factor this year.

All of this leaves the division open for the Nationals to shock baseball.



The Debate:

Who will win the competitive National League East?

The Buzz:

Lots of big names and big talents came to this division, making it an intriguing race.

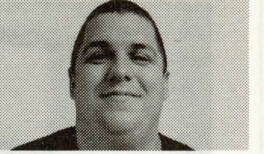
Results:

Baseball season is right around the corner.

To see and join the full debate visit:
thewilkesbeacon.com

Justin Franiak

SPORTS EDITOR



Another year of baseball is approaching fast and my excitement is rising. But at the same time I am a nervous wreck.

My Phillies are once again favored to win the NL East, but the amount of competition has greatly increased.

The Marlins made the biggest changes this offseason. With the addition of shortstop Jose Reyes and pitcher's Mark Buehrle and Heath Bell, the Marlins all of a sudden look like competitors.

Jose Reyes, however, is injury prone. He was putting up MVP number before his injury last year. The question is, can he pick up where he left off?

Heath Bell is a quality guy to have in your bullpen, and he will definitely continue his success in Miami.

Mark Buehrle is a little old, but a solid pick up to back up pitching phenom Josh Johnson. With Stanton in right, and a solid hitting line-up, the Marlins will compete.

The Braves haven't really improved from last year and look like they could be in for another downfall.

The Braves need to redevelop themselves from that monster collapse last year on national television.

The Nationals made some killer off season signings. Gio Gonzalez is arguably the best young pitching prospect in the league. He will one day be considered an elite pitcher.

The Nationals also have a healthy Strasburg coming back, and everyone has seen what he can do.

Ryan Zimmerman will continue to impress the fans in Washington as he is the star down there.

The Nationals have somewhat become the "mini" Phillies. With the signings of Brad Lidge and Chad Durbin, the Nats are starting to build a decent bullpen.

This year's winner of the NL East will be the Phillies, but the window for another championship is closing fast, and this may be the year to do it.

With the addition of Papelbon, the Phils added a solid experienced closer.

The big question marks come in left field, third base, and first base. Ryan Howard will miss a good chunk of the season, and Polanco is not what he used to be.

Left field will pretty much be by committee. Jimmy Rollins is also a wait-and-see kind of player now.

That's my complete analysis of the NL East. Oh yeah, the Mets? Who are they?



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POOL

Continued from Page 20

Playing a 16-man double elimination bracket, Burt recently placed first at one of the tournaments and several other members of the club placed as well.

Not only does the pool club compete in tournaments at Pepe's Pizza, they are in charge of running the Intramural Billiard Tournament, and will be running a variety of different tournaments next semester such as team tournaments, 8 ball, 9 ball, and mixed.

Burt and two other members of the club are looking to join a local American Poolplayer's Association Team. The APA is the largest billiards league in the world and host the U.S. Open in Las Vegas, one of the biggest tournaments in the world.

Members not only want to join on the local level, but the national level as well.

With the club getting involved in more tournaments, it is always open to new players, and they welcome everyone from experienced players to people who have never played the game before.

The club does not have any set practice times, but uses club hours when they can and many of the players spend much of their free time practicing.

The club also offers one on one practice sessions for anyone who is inter-

ested. It currently has 10 to 20 active regular members.

"We are open to anyone who wants to play, and we are willing to teach anyone" Cheung said.

The pool club has recently been looking into getting a new pool table for the game room so they have more room for practicing, and tournaments.

Most pool tables cost thousands of dollars and the Pool club is only given \$300 from Student Government.

This means the pool club is going to be doing a lot of different fundraisers in the future in order to reach their goal of getting a new pool table.

The Wilkes University pool club is aware that not many people know a pool club even exists. This is another reason why the pool club is looking forward to doing fundraising and holding more tournaments and events.

The club is also hoping that becoming more well-known will score them a sponsor. If the club could get a sponsor, this would help them with finding and transportation to tournaments while possibly allowing them to get more involved.

If interested in joining the Wilkes University pool club, or regarding more information you can contact adam.burt@wilkes.edu or timothy.cheung@wilkes.edu.

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proaches, it's easy to get excited for another year of domination by the Phillies, but it's just as easy to think that we're setting ourselves up for another big disappointment.

Are you a Phillies fan? Add your comments and thought at <http://www.thewilkesbeacon.com>.



CONTACT BRYAN WISLOSKY AT:
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TENNIS

Continued from Page 16

for Coach Leicht because there is a standard that he holds you to and that is winning championships." Since the Men's program has won the last four Middle Atlantic Conference championships and the Women's program won the last five MAC championships, this is an attractive area for tennis players. Championships are the goal of any athlete, no matter what the level the athlete is playing on.

Another reason why Leicht says the Colonels have had more success recently is because that his players are playing in two seasons every school year.

The reason his players can play in two seasons is with the addition of the UCOM an indoor facility that includes three indoor tennis courts, so even in the winter when you can not play outside the Wilkes University Colonels tennis team is in training and getting better.

During the time between the two seasons

the tennis players are always at work. Thanks to Wilkes University's Fitness Center down stairs of the Marts Gymnasium both men and women's tennis teams are lifting and trying to improve their game.

"We have lifting three a week and speed and agility training whenever we have free time" says Helfrich. "No one on this team needs to be forced into the weight room. The whole team wants to get in here and make themselves better. There is a standard and we all abide to it."

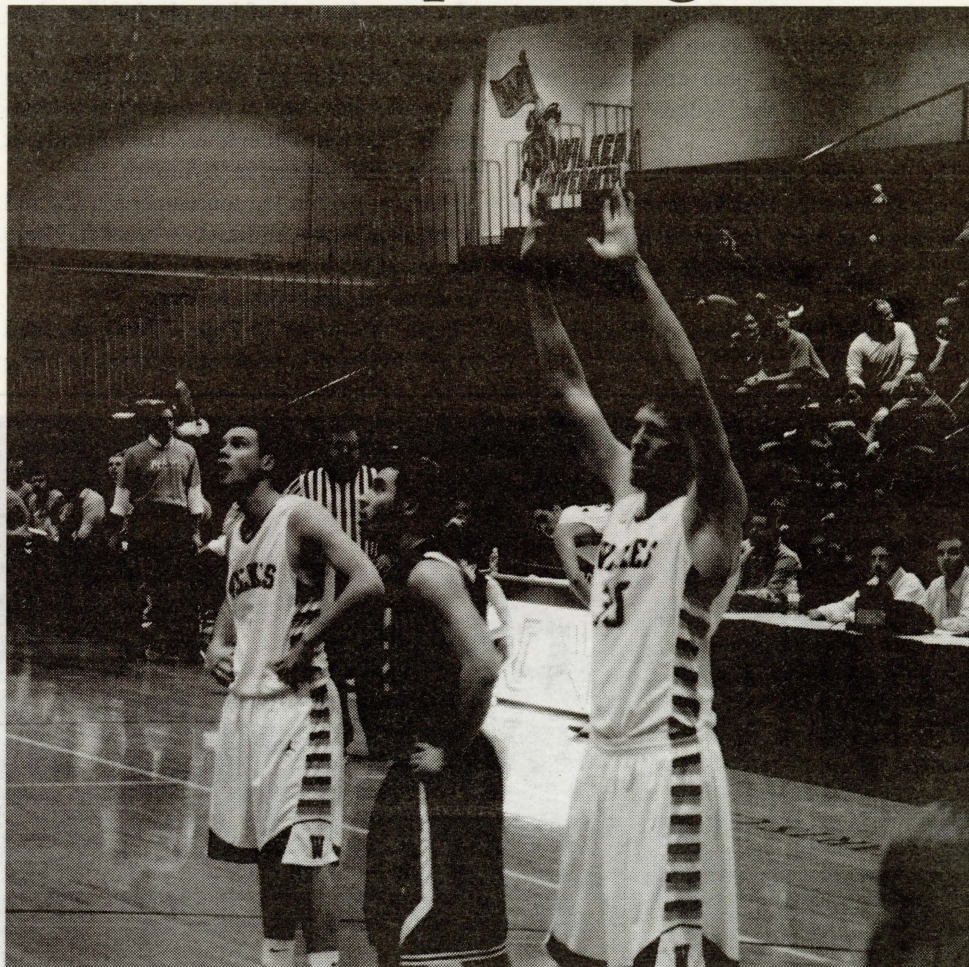
Alex Makos is one of the leaders for the men's tennis team. "No one is going to train as hard as me, I will be the most ready for the season," Makos said.

Chris Leicht has done so much in 10 years here at this university. He said he has no interest in leaving Wilkes because he loves being at a small school, has been successful and is close to his family.

The Colonels look to continue their success on Feb. 18 as they travel to Madison, N.J. to play in the Drew University Invitational.

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Colonels Snap Losing Streak



The Beacon/Justin Franiak
The Colonels recently ended their three game losing streak by beating Manhattanville 64-58 this past Saturday. Seniors Matt Mullins (left) and Paul Huch (right) combined for 17 points in the Freedom Conference win. The Colonels return to action Feb. 8 against FDU-Florham.

Wilkes University Pool Club calls its shots

Club members compete in tournaments, turn their hobby into serious sport

BY SERENA MOLYNEUX
Correspondent

The loud talking, scuffling and laughter are drowned out by the sharp crack of a cue ball hitting the eight ball across the green velvet table, driving it into the pocket and ending an exciting game in the game room of the Student Union Building.

For some students this is only something that happens when there is time to kill, but for the students who are part of the Wilkes University Pool Players Association, this happens almost every day.

Wilkes University gains new clubs every semester, and one of the newest is the Wilkes University Pool club. The club started last fall, and is hoping to gain new members, new trophies and a new pool table in the future.

This all began when two Wilkes students decided they wanted to make playing pool more than just a hobby to fill their free time.

Adam Burt, a P2 Pharmacy major and President of the club co-founded the pool club along with Tim Cheung, junior and computer information systems major.

"We are group of pool enthusiasts who play regularly in the Wilkes SUB game room," Burt said.

The duo wants the club to be open to everyone and teach others the love of the game that they both enjoy to play so much.

"It's not just a game, it's a sport," Burt said.

Burt started playing pool at the early age of 13.

"My dad and I used to go to the local bar and get food, and we'd play pool for an hour or two," Burt said.

This is where his love for playing pool began. Burt started going almost every Tuesday and Thursday to the bar when they offered free pool playing from 5 to 7 p.m. Burt even went when his father couldn't, and although he was underage the bartenders never gave him a hard time for wanting to play pool.

"By the time I was 15 or 16, I was playing in pool halls more frequently and still visiting local bars, playing whenever I could," Burt said.

Soon after Burt stopped playing pool to pursue other interests, but picked it up again during his freshman year here at Wilkes.

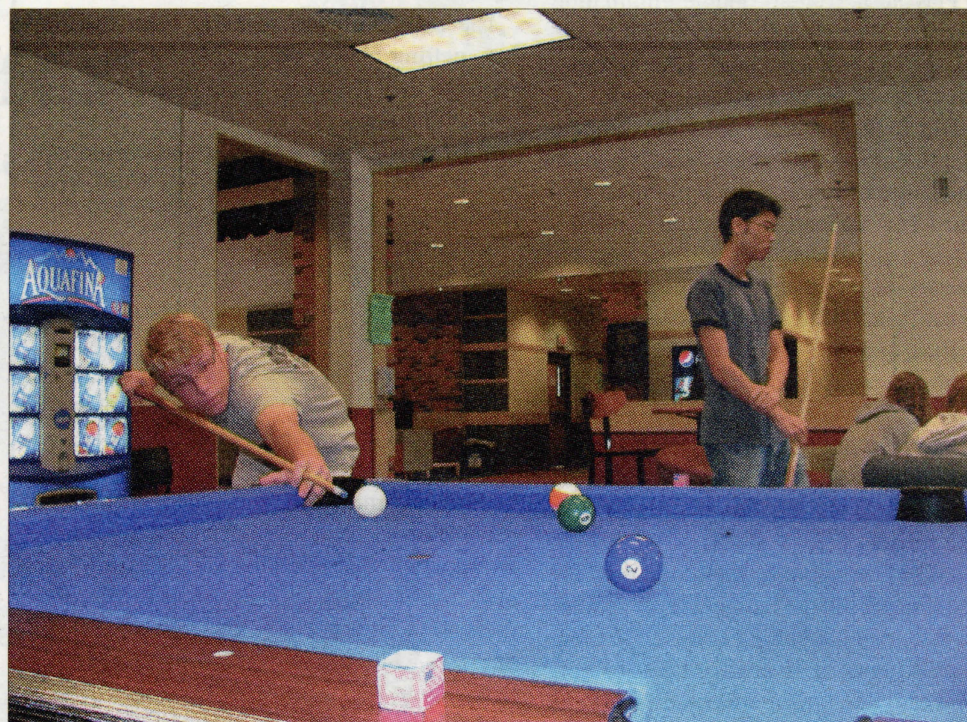
"I actually did the math; I spent more time playing pool my freshman year than I did attending all my classes combined," Burt said. "I was, and still am, usually found at the pool tables."

After finding love for the game again, Burt realized that other people at Wilkes loved playing pool too. Burt wanted the solidarity of a team, instead of just playing for pleasure.

Since the club got started, the pool club has gotten involved in competing in tournaments. The tournaments are held weekly at Pepe's Pizza located in Plymouth, Pa.

Entry to play in the tournament is \$5, and is run as a double elimination bracket. There are usually 10 to 20 people present at the tournaments according to Burt.

Pepe, the owner of Pepe's Pizza, decided to get involved in pool tournaments to bring



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

A few students play pool in the SUB lounge. This hobby has recently been adopted by Wilkes as a club. The members compete in tournaments for cash prizes.

in more business. Although the tournaments have been going on for about a month, Pepe plans on continuing the tournaments. Pepe thinks it's great the Wilkes University pool club is competing in the tournaments at his business. "There is a cash prize for players who take first and second place," Pepe said. He believes this could be very helpful to the college students, because they may need money.

The tournament is a start-up one meaning

the tournaments have been ongoing since Thanksgiving, and although it has only been held three times, Burt is certain that it will be continued and members will continue to compete.

When competing at Pepe's, Wilkes pool club is the only club, or team present. The other competitors are locals and patrons at the bar.

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COLONELS TENNIS TEAM PREPARES FOR A NEW SEASON, PAGE 16

For more information and pictures, check us out at: thewilkesbeacon.com