



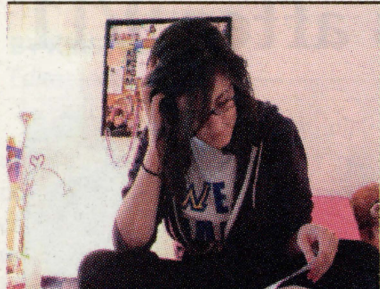
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Volume 64 Issue 15



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LUCK OF THE IRISH

Leahy wins top spot at Wilkes

The Beacon/Dan Lykens

After being announced as Wilkes' sixth president, Patrick F. Leahy made it a point to visit every academic and administrative office on campus within his first 60 days. He currently serves as executive vice president at the University of Scranton. Leahy begins duties July, 1.

THE NEWEST COLONEL

Wilkes appoints Patrick Leahy to succeed Gilmour as President

BY KIRSTIN COOK
Editor-in-Chief
PHAT NGUYEN
News Editor

Patrick Leahy went from being a Scranton Royal to a Wilkes Colonel in a matter of hours.

The former executive vice president of University of Scranton was announced as Wilkes' sixth president on March 12.

"It's not every day that a college administrator can become a Colonel in just a few hours," Leahy said.

After his introduction, Leahy stressed his plans to both enhance liberal arts at Wilkes and expand professional programs.

"In my opinion, nothing prepares students better for the complexities of today's world than a liberal arts education," Leahy said. "I think engineering students should read Shakespeare. I think business stu-

dents should study the American Civil War."

Leahy stressed this enrichment of liberal arts would be a continuation of Wilkes' strengths.

"We must strengthen the traditions of the past as we imagine the possibilities of the future," Leahy said.

Leahy stated his first goal will be to get to know the campus community.

"My first assignment will be to

get to know as many of you personally as I can, and try to understand as well as possible the rich history here at Wilkes," Leahy said.

He began this goal immediately following the announcement by visiting the cafeteria, library and classes to talk one-on-one to students about what they like about Wilkes, and what they'd like to change.

Leahy, who begins his position July 1, promised to visit each academic

SEE LEAHY, PAGE 4

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow

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



National Security remains hot topic ten years after 9/11

BY DEVONI NOVAK
Assistant News Editor

Wilkes political science students brought two speakers to the Miller room in the SUB last Tuesday to speak on behalf of national security. Although it has been 10 years since the devastation of 9/11, many believe national security remains a topic with many questions remaining.

"As the two panelist discussed, it is still an open debate," said political science professor Kyle Kreider. "Even though we know what the issues are, we still do not have set answers as to what is the proper balance between liberty and freedom."

The Wilkes chapters of Pi Sigma Alpha, Sigma Pi and the National Political Science Honor Society along with the rest of the political science department welcomed two speakers who presented "Ten Years Later: 9-11 and American Life."

The two presenters, Richard Glenn of the department of government and political affairs at Millersville University and Reggie Shuford, executive director of the Pennsyl-



Photos Courtesy of Kyle Krieder

Richard Glenn, left, and Reggie Shuford spoke about finding an acceptable balance between government actions towards security while maintaining American ideals of freedom to a room full of students.

vania American Civil Liberties Union, both shared their knowledge on the history of national security before turning the discussion over to the audience for open conversation.

The matter of debate was finding an acceptable balance between government actions toward security while maintaining the ideal freedom America was founded upon. Concern for national security has been an everlasting weight on the shoulders of each president to take office.

Kreider explained that presidents receive classified information daily that the public

never knows about and therefore the responsibility to keep the country safe lies predominantly in their hands.

"The presidents have a need or desire to protect national security," said Kreider. "They are the ones that would face the recourse at the ballot box if there is a terrorist attack in the United States; they feel the pressure to keep America safe."

Because the president has such a huge responsibility to maintain national security, the matter allegedly makes political party obsolete. For example, Kreider explained

how many expected Obama to reform the policies Bush implemented for the War on Terror drastically. However, Obama kept the policies in place and just recently began bringing troops home from the Middle East.

Political science professor Andrew Miller explained how significantly different views are to students on such a controversial issue.

"I think it's important for students to get a different perspective," said Miller. "To cover different topics with different voices."

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Beacon Briefs

BY DEVONI NOVAK
Assistant News Editor

ASME car show - Wilkes American Society for Mechanical Engineers club requested \$5855 for their annual car show which takes place Apr. 22. The club has \$850 in their account with the addition of an anonymous check. With a projected cost of \$5854.50, many SG members questioned why ASME did not factor in the money they already have in their account. ASME claimed the check will go toward covering prize costs for trophies and plaques. ASME believes this event is beneficial to students as it allows them to connect with people from different

age groups while learning about the history of mechanics. Some SG members argued this event benefits students directly. Since ASME only requested \$2000 last year, SG feels this year's show cost increase comes with very little change. The decision on the fund request will be decided next week.

April Fool's Day - Students, faculty and staff are invited to join the "Big Event" Apr. 1. The event is a campus wide community service project allowing clubs and organizations who have not fulfilled their community service requirement for the year to do so. Breakfast will be offered before shuttles and SG vans transport participants to service sites. An estimated 200 participants have registered to date and will be working in conjunction

with United Way, Luzerne County Disaster Relief and the City of Wilkes-Barre to make a difference in the community. The event will cost a projected \$3000.

Changes in SG - Because many students have complained about lack of friendliness portrayed by SG members at meetings, SG is considering creating a new position to host presenting students. A new office as sergeant in arms will welcome in students presenting at SG meetings by restricting the amount of chatter among representatives. SG has also discussed a harsher probation. Members who have scarce participation have been given the status of probation in the past. Because probation is nothing more than a status, little reform has happened.

Campus e-mail switch to g-mail - IT's efforts in converting Wilkes e-mail over to Google's g-mail is a work in progress. Many SG members seem to be in favor of the idea. However, the decision is ultimately up to the IT department and their determinations.

Mac Miller concert - Tickets for the Mac Miller concert are available every day in the SUB from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from now until Mar. 30. Student tickets are \$15 with ID and limited to two per person, faculty/staff/alumni tickets are \$20 and also limited to two per person, public tickets are \$30 with a limit of four per person.

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SHE building shoots for green and gold standards

Architects plan for environmental friendly features, better energy efficiency

BY KIRSTIN COOK
Editor-in-Chief

The new Wilkes science building is going to be silver and green. Silver meaning the certification level it is aimed to reach with an environment-friendly design, and green for the conscientious impact designers hoped to have on the planet.

Architects hope to ensure green standards through the design and construction of the science building by including many innovative, environment-friendly features. These features include everything from the restroom sinks to carpeting.

Wilkes President Joseph (Tim) Gilmour described the new science building as green in nature at the March 1 groundbreaking ceremony.

"We will really have a green building in character," Gilmour said.

The building architects are aiming at reaching the second highest level, silver, in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification, but Gilmour said he'd like to see the highest standard.

"We're hoping for gold, but we will definitely be at least LEED silver," Gilmour said.

One of the designers for the building, SaylorGregg architect Tom Breslin, said the architects met with the building committee to discuss the LEED checklist. The LEED certification is granted based on a system that awards points in categories, such as energy efficiency and construction waste management.

"We try to be as wise as we can selecting the strategies we can use that will get the most bang for your buck, both in terms of investing in future savings and just environmental impact of what credits you go for," Breslin said.



Photo Courtesy of Marketing Communications

One of the green features includes a "living wall," an exterior wall covered in vines which would cut back on heating in the winter and save on cooling in the summer.

Breslin said they hope to use sinks that are quick use and low flow, which will make the building much more water efficient compared to traditional buildings.

"The goal is to reduce water use by 30 percent over what a typical building would be," Breslin said.

Kenneth Klemow, biology professor and associate director of the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research, said another feature that would reduce water usage would be no flush or low flush toilets, which he said would be hygienic as well as conservative.

"There are things that you can do that are

still sanitary but reduce the amount of water coming through," Klemow said.

Klemow was involved with the design of the building, as he and other faculty members provide ideas to the architects. He said the green considerations are as detailed as the carpeting and adhesive used in construction, which may release vapors and pollutants depending on the type.

But focusing on these details was always part of the plan, as Klemow said they've been planning on having the science building reach green standards since the first discussion. He said the building will allow Wilkes to "lead

by example" in environmental design.

"We knew a long time ago that we wanted to make the building a green building, because we wanted the building to be like a showpiece," Klemow said.

One of the green features of the building will be a living wall, an exterior wall covered in vines, which Klemow said would cut back on heating in the winter and save on cooling in the summer.

Large windows will be a feature to save energy on lighting by allowing maximum natural lighting inside the building. But, to balance out this light intake, Klemow said awnings must be included over the windows to avoid excessive heating in the summer.

"It's a whole bunch of things that you have to balance off of each other," Klemow said.

Another feature that will help maintain building temperature will be the green roof, which will partially be covered in plants. Klemow said this roof will also help with storm water issues, and will direct excess rainwater to a rain garden that students can help design and monitor.

Breslin said the roof would work as a sponge, as rooftop plants would absorb rainwater and prevent flooding issues from the traditional gutter system.

"You're decreasing the additional load on the storm system and sewage treatment plants and everything down the line," Breslin said.

Breslin said the biggest challenge of planning the building was offsetting the high-energy consumption of the science laboratories.

"A lab building in general is an enormous user of energy," Breslin said.

Klemow explained that much of the energy is consumed by about 70 fume hoods needed

SEE SHE, PAGE 5

New businesses downtown W-B

BY AMANDA LEONARD
Correspondent

A walk through Wilkes-Barre's downtown a few years ago would seem dull and almost lifeless, compared to today's revamped scene.

Recently, Wilkes-Barre has had a face lift, as well as many businesses jumping at the opportunity to open or establish a business in the area.

With the implementation of the RC Wilkes-Barre Movies 14 theater and the renovation of Wilkes-Barre's YMCA, the streets have become more lively.

The trend of Wilkes-Barre businesses opening is on the rise and each owner has a different rea-

son why he or she decided to open in the area.

Tim Multahy, owner of ArtStreet USA & The Sweet Café, was born and raised in the area and is aware of the economic hardships the area has faced. However, he believes in the potential that the downtown area holds.

"I'm from the Heights area (Southwest Wilkes-Barre) and I've always seen downtown as thriving and attractive for visitors," he said. "It took a little bit of a downturn for awhile but I think it's well on its way to recovery."

Multahy has seen the downtown revitalized with RC Wilkes-Barre Movies 14 theater on 24 E. Northampton St.

"I want to be part of this revitalization as seen by the movie theater and new restaurants on the square," he said. "So far, my business is doing very well."

Multahy's business offers an assortment of coffee, vintage penny candy and jewelry that is made in the USA.

Multahy is not alone in deciding to open a business in downtown Wilkes-Barre. According to a storefront occupancy trend chart provided by Larry Newman, vice president of planning, policy and development, the past six years have been successful for new business owners.

"The reason is that 2006 is the year when our

downtown revitalization efforts really hit their stride with the opening of several anchor projects, such as Movies 14 and Barnes & Noble," Newman said.

Since 2006, 70 businesses in Wilkes-Barre have opened while 38 closed. Newman said that in the United States, 3 of 10 businesses fail within the first two years of opening and more than half of all businesses fail within the first four years of opening.

"The recession has only exacerbated this trend in the United States," he said.

However, Wilkes-Barre continues to see new businesses open to take the place of those that have closed.

SEE BUSINESS, PAGE 4

BUSINESS

Continued from Page 3

The trend of opening a business in downtown Wilkes-Barre seems to be a mix of overcoming economic hardships and the desire to showcase a potential talent or skill.

Susan Wampole, owner of Brazil Street Blues, found that a mix of both of these factors helped her make the decision that she wanted to open up a homemade pierogi business.

The idea for her one-woman business, based entirely in her home, originally started within her family when they wanted to find a place that sold locally homemade pierogies. Most of the local churches that had sold pierogies at bazaars or other church-sanctioned events had stopped selling them, due to lack of volunteers and funds.

So, while churches closed their doors on the pierogi-making business, Wampole opened hers.

Wampole said that the supply and demand for pierogies is what structured her business.

While some business owners open a business solely to sell what it is they have to offer, other owners delve more into the marketing aspect of it and understand that the supply and demand aspect is much more prevalent in a city that is developing, as seen in Wilkes-Barre.

Mulligan's Irish Pub, located on 41 S. Main St., is within walking distance of both Wilkes University and King's College. With the success of Hardware Bar, the owner, Kaminoka Entertainment Group, has decided to open up another bar aimed toward college students, but without the club scene that Hardware Bar offers.

Kaminoka Entertainment Group owns the Hardware Bar chain that includes the Bourbon Street Saloon, Buck Wild Rode House and Mulligan's. The chain is now extended to five locations: Bloomsburg, Harrisburg, Scranton, West Shore and Wilkes-Barre.

Angelo DelSordo, general manager of Mulligan's, has always been attracted to the area and wanted to be a part of the downtown restoration.

"The downtown area of Wilkes-Barre has been cleaning up nicely and there is a huge potential for bars locally, between all the businesses in the area along with colleges," he said. "Mulligan's is doing extremely well thanks to the local colleges."

The majority of Wilkes-Barre's business growth stems from local colleges that have students who are looking for something to do at night. Prior to downtown's revamping, students' options were limited.

As Wilkes-Barre continues to grow, business owners and college students alike become more attracted to the area and help with the revitalization and cleanup of a once broken city.

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LEAHY

Continued from Front Page

department and administrative area on campus within his first 60 days.

"We'll have ample opportunities to get to know each other, that I promise," he said.

He said focus groups will help him to establish a personal connection with students.

"Students are the heart of the matter at a university like Wilkes," Leahy said.

Leahy plans on using this feedback to remodel the decision-making process, placing a priority on involving campus views.

"What we'll do is take a fresh look at governance here at the university to ensure that we're getting the proper voice from students, faculty and staff, the three important constituencies on campus," Leahy said.

Besides this assessment process, Leahy initially plans on ensuring the new science building is "on-time and on-budget."

He said his next target would be increasing enrollment, but he hopes this is not limited to NEPA.

"I think we continue to invest in the campus so that we make coming to Wilkes University, coming to Wilkes-Barre, Pa. a destination place for students," Leahy said. "And not only throughout eastern Pennsylvania, but I think increasingly throughout the entire northeast portion of the U.S. and even specific areas abroad."

Leahy said the futures of Wilkes University and Wilkes-Barre are intertwined, and Wilkes plays an important role in the city's revitalization.

Leahy's appointment as the newest Wilkes president ended a nine-month search by an 11-member search committee composed of students, faculty and staff.

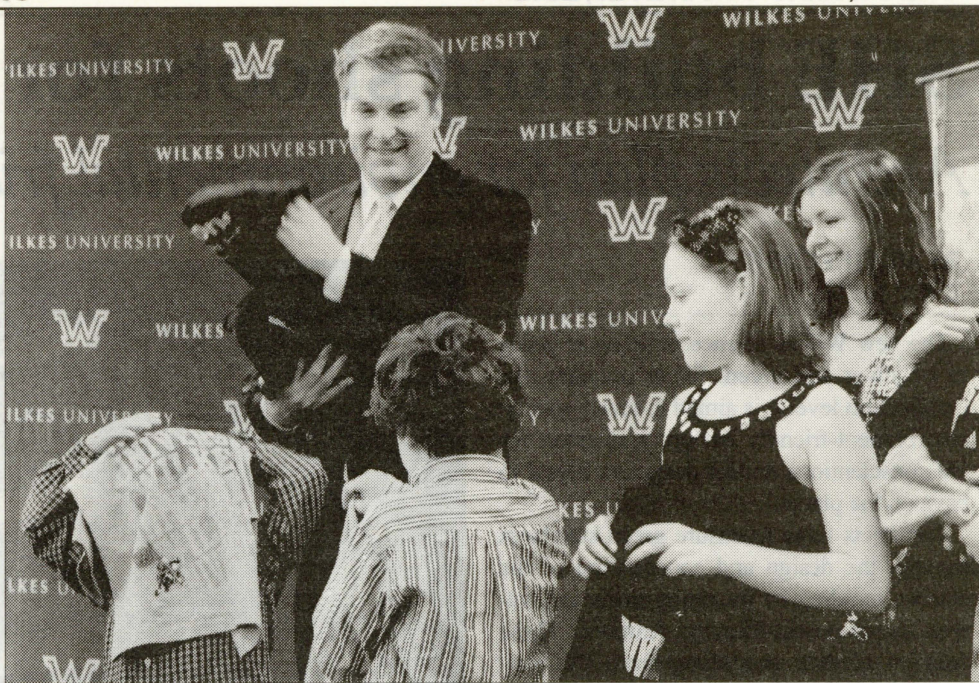
The university's Board of Trustees chair Jack Miller said Leahy's presentation to the committee on his vision for Wilkes included a track record of outstanding fundraising, financial management and budgeting skills.

"In order to move the institution to new levels of achievement, we need a visionary leader," Miller said. "I'm confident that Patrick Leahy is that leader."

While Leahy said fundraising today is challenging, two things will make it easier to raise funds for the project.

"One, is it is a very compelling project. What that science building will do is strengthen what is already a strong part of this university," Leahy said. "Two, we have no shortage of people who care about Wilkes University."

During his tenure at the University of Scranton as executive vice president, Leahy's achievements include 16 percent increase in undergraduate applications



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

Christa Filipkowski, far right, handed out gifts to Leahy and his family following the open remarks. One of the Leahy sons struggled to put his new shirt on.

leading to enrollment of a class of 1,059 students in fall 2011.

He was also a part of a team that raised \$125 million "Pride, Passion, Promise Campaign" that ended at 29 percent above its original goal – nearly three times as much in the previous capital campaign.

Leahy joined the University of Scranton in July 2004 as executive assistant to the president and has also taught student through the business leadership honors program.

He earned a doctor of education degree in higher education strategy and management from the University of Pennsylvania and a dual master's degree from Cornell University in business administration and labor relations. He earned a bachelor's degree in English literature at Georgetown University.

He said he is both humbled and energized by the university's prospects.

Current president Joseph (Tim) Gilmour said he feels positively about the future of Wilkes with Leahy as his replacement.

"I think he's someone who is extremely well-prepared for the position," Gilmour said. "I also think he understands what Wilkes needs to do next, and I think that's really exciting. I feel that Wilkes is going to be in great hands."

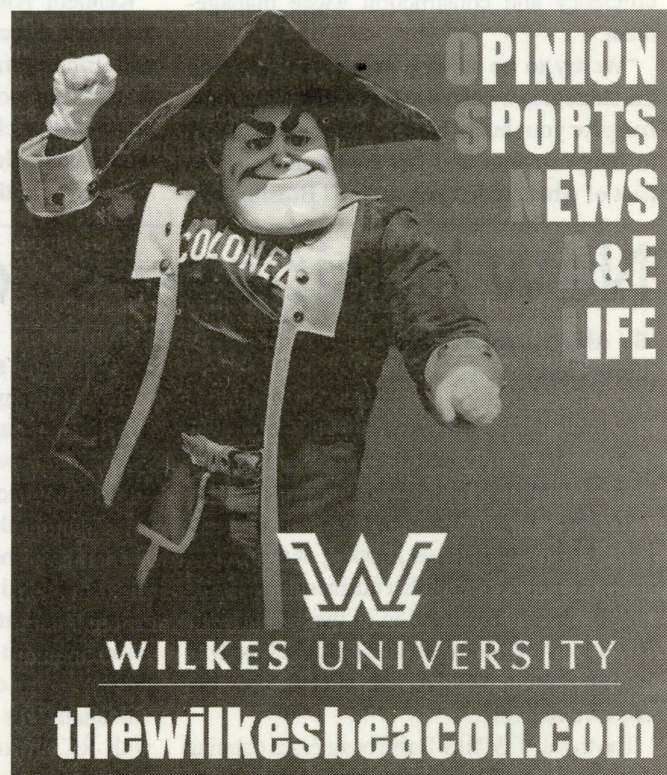
Gilmour joked that he did not have any tips for the new president.

"I'm not going to tell him anything," Gilmour said with a smile. "I'm actually going to see if I can learn from him. He's a great guy. I know he's going to be great."

Gilmour said he has worked to establish Wilkes as a leading educational institute, and feels Leahy will continue to guide the school to its fullest potential.

"The thing that I've been working for these years to do is set the stage for Wilkes to really emerge on the big stage," Gilmour said. "I think (Leahy) is the right person to do that."

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SHE

Continued from Page 3

is consumed by about 70 fume hoods needed in the labs to remove dangerous fumes from chemicals from the building.

"In some cases, each hood can use as much energy as a small house," Klemow said.

To combat this, high efficiency lab machinery will be installed, which Breslin said would lead to 19 percent less energy usage.

Erin Emery, communication manager of the U.S. Green Building Council that coordinates the LEED Certification, said energy consumption is just one of the wide variety of categories the certification process considers.

Emery said the LEED system, which began 11 years ago, has seen an increase in demand. She said they currently have over a billion square feet of projects certified, and 25 percent of new construction projects in the U.S. are pursuing some level of LEED certification.

Emery said a commitment to sustainability is only one of the reasons LEED is important.

"There are so many different reasons," Emery said. "It's about a consciousness of the space you occupy in the environment and how you treat your environment and our planet."

She added that financial benefits are particularly pertinent with the economic state, which she said may be part of the increase in demand for certification.

"There are also really money savings associated with it," Emery said. "There are big advantages to saving on energy, not only an conscientious impact to bettering our planet, but it's also saving the bottom line."

Emery said that attaining these savings through certification doesn't necessarily have to be more expensive.

"It doesn't have to cost any more money to build to LEED standards than it does to build to regular standards that don't consider any green measures, but people can save a lot of money," Emery said.

Some of the LEED credits are based on location. Breslin said that points specific to building in Wilkes-Barre emphasize storm water and construction waste management, with the respective issues of the nearby Susquehanna River and lack of local landfills.

Breslin said he is confident the building will reach the goal of LEED silver, even though he said some parts of the requirements, such as proper disposal of waste materials, can not be estimated beforehand.

"Based on our current projections, we are well exceeding LEED silver, so we feel like we have a good buffer," Breslin said. "If anything comes up during construction, we feel like we should be able to achieve LEED silver."

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Commuter addresses misconceptions

Living at home with mom and dad is really "not so bad"

BY ALYSSA STENCAVAGE

Correspondent

Coming to Wilkes as a freshman, I was nervous about the workload and making friends, like everyone else about to embark on their college career.

Being a commuter made that worse in a way, since I am not on campus all of the time and thought it would be more difficult to make friends. My nerves got the better of me, and I can remember on the very first day of classes I almost did not know what to do with myself. The first couple weeks were somewhat rough for me as I was adjusting to the new environment and getting the feel for what college would be like. I felt that it was going to be more difficult for me to make friends that I could socialize with in my free time and spend time with outside of school.

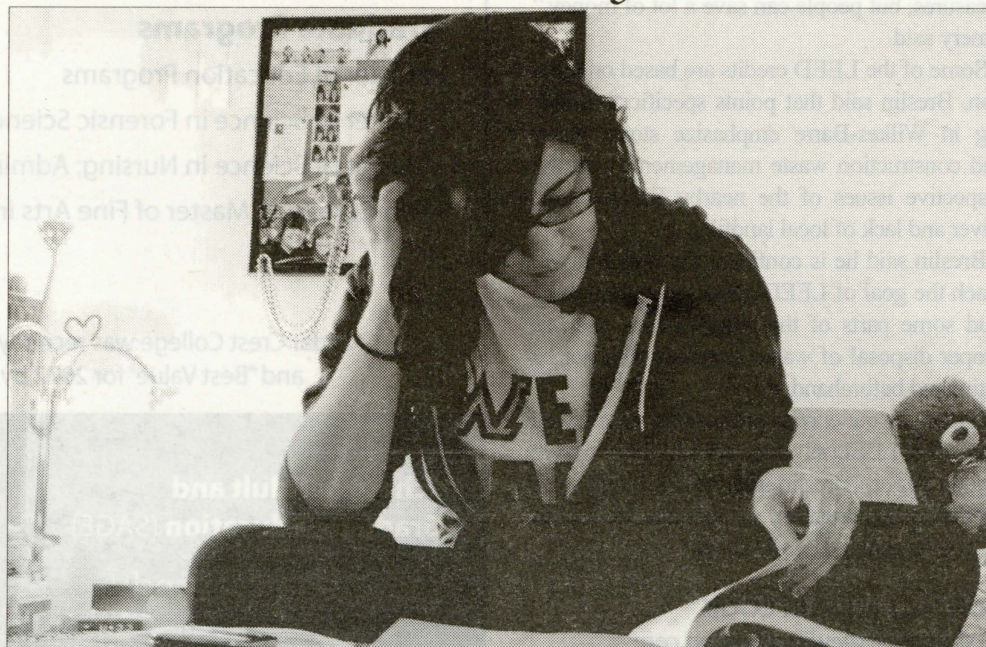
However, as the semester progressed, I gradually found myself becoming more comfortable and things got much better. I began to socialize a little more and feel good about going to classes.

Now, I could easily blame so much of this on commuting, and there is no doubt that commuting makes some aspects of college more complicated than living on-campus. But in the end, it was ultimately my decision, and after one semester down, I can say that I would not want it any other way.

After much debating on what major I wanted to pursue and what college would be best for me, I concluded that dorm life was not for me. Some people may think that wanting to live at home and driving to and from school every day is a bad idea. The truth is, commuting is not nearly as bad as some people are led to believe. I find comfort in knowing that at the end of the day I can return home to do my work in peace rather than be bothered by the usual distractions of dorm life that I so often hear about.

Granted the experience residents have is a little than the typical commuter experience. But, any commuter could do all the same things as a resident if he or she chooses to.

Part of the reason I was initially so nervous to start at Wilkes was because even before school began, it seemed that the residents had formed groups. However, all resi-



The Beacon / Laura Preby

Junior Katie Circone enjoys living off-campus because it gives her freedom to study and do her own thing. However, she still remains active in extracurricular activities.

dents I have encountered so far have been extra friendly. Naturally, I think I clicked more with other commuter students who were probably in the same situation as me coming in, but I am also friendly with some residents.

I personally feel that commuters are just as much a part of the overall Wilkes community as are those who live on campus, even though commuting is not what most people think when they hear the word "college."

Many commuters choose to live at home because for many people who live in or around the area, Wilkes is a local university which allows people to save money and still get a good education. After all, Wilkes does have a high commuter population.

People who live within 30 minutes or less of the university would rather not spend \$15,000 on the 'college experience' when they can have the same experiences while living at home.

The only downfall of commuting is the possibility of inclement weather during the winter months, but Wilkes is accommodating to those who have to drive to school.

Furthermore, commuters have many opportunities to participate in different activities both on and off campus. For example,

my friends and I attended the Winter Snowball Semiformal dance last semester at Bentley's, and we had a great time. The comedy night featuring Dave Russo was also a great time and offered the opportunity for a good laugh.

Overall, even as a commuter student I feel fully satisfied with my college experience at Wilkes thus far and I am also so glad I chose to live at home. Some may disagree with the idea of commuting because college is about coming out of your comfort zone and meeting new people.

I do believe that it is important for everyone to know what commuters do and that commuting really is not so bad. It allows one to do well academically, participate in social events and activities and enjoy the college life all at the same time. I love being a commuter and I would not change a thing.

Many people assume that I am a resident most of the time, as if commuting in some cases is unheard of. In fact, a man at work recently said "I bet you wish you didn't live at home," and I found it interesting, because many commuters do not feel this way at all.

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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 25 responses.

Last week's question:

What do you REALLY think of the SHE building?

- It's ruining the greenway - 32%
- It's a great opportunity for the school - 32%
- Don't care - 21%
- Would rather have a law school - 17%

This week The Beacon asks:

How much food do you dispose of on an average day at the Wilkes cafeteria?

- None
- About a cup
- A plateful
- Several platefuls
- I don't eat at the cafeteria

Cast your vote online at:

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Ellen DeGeneres makes her haters her motivation

BY LYNDIE YAMRUS
Assistant Opinion Editor

On typical Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, I usually go straight from politics class to the SUB cafeteria and watch The Ellen DeGeneres Show as I eat a grapefruit. Since its debut in 2003, the show has become very popular, and includes jokes and gags, celebrity appearances and audience participation.

Ellen almost always starts her show with a dance segment, a witty monologue and a chit-chat with the DJ. The show and Ellen herself are both funny and entertaining. I can't see why anyone would have a problem with her.

But unfortunately, One Million Moms (OMM), an activist group against negative influences from society on children, is in great distress over Ellen regarding her new role in JC Penney commercials, which first aired during the Oscars in late February. The commercials feature Ellen shopping in different periods in time, including Ancient Rome, the Old West and Victorian England.

OMM's official purpose is to end child exploitation from the media, including profanity, immortality, violence and vulgarity in TV commercials, movies and music, to name a few. The group argues that fighting against such exploitations is highly necessary in order to preserve a moral society for our children.

Now this sounds like a good cause, and I can definitely see their reasons for existing, but their recent complains have been nothing but ignorant. OMM believes that hiring Ellen as an "openly homosexual spokesperson" is essentially a joke, and will cause JCP's business to plummet since most of their current customers are primarily traditional families who have been forever faithful to the department store. They complain that homosexual individuals make up only a small percent of their customer base overall. The group also accuses JCP of "jumping on the pro-gay bandwagon." OMM's webpage includes whiny details about the issue, complaining that JCP's corporate customer services ignore their complaint calls, transfer them to voicemail or hang up on their demanding requests to replace Ellen with a more family-value oriented spokesperson and remain neutral in the culture war.

What we're really dealing with is a lot of close-minded people with strong opinions and large mouths to voice them.

There are five new commercials, and not a single one of them shows any sign of homosexuality whatsoever. The chance of children being exploited by these commercials is extremely low. Most children probably don't even know that Ellen is gay. I'd be surprised if they even knew what the word "homosexuality" means! The commercials are fun, amusing



Courtesy of JC Penney

Ellen DeGeneres dresses as a cowgirl in the new JC Penney commercial. Her cameo has sparked outrage from the family-value activist group "One Million Moms." OMM believes JC Penney is jumping on the pro-gay bandwagon.

and accurately represent the new changes JCP is trying to make.

Thankfully, JCP is holding their ground. The company stood firm on their decision to keep Ellen as their spokesperson because her values match those of the company. According to Ron Johnson, JC Penney's CEO, the company was founded 110 years ago on the rule of treating people fairly.

Ellen responded herself by giving a monologue on one of her shows, saying, "haters are my motivators."

"First of all, being gay or pro-gay is not a bandwagon," Ellen joked. "You don't get a free ride anywhere, there's no music, and occasionally we'll sing 'We Are Family', but that's about it."

All in all, major props to JC Penney for doing the right thing, and to Ellen for being the strong, confident and ambitious individual she is.

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Mobile apps are invading our privacy

BY TONY GORECZNY
Staff Writer

Most people are well aware of George Orwell's 1984, and more specifically the character of Big Brother, the embodiment of tyrannical government control achieved through a complete and utter lack of privacy.

Well, if the government is conceptualized

as Big Brother, then Facebook must be that annoying, nosy cousin who you don't really want to spend time with, but your parents make you do so anyways.

According to a report by The (London) Sunday Times, Facebook has been using the access granted by its app to read user's personal text-messages.

As surprising as this may seem, Facebook

isn't the only company who has admitted to doing this. Other companies, including Flickr and Yahoo, have been snooping into your personal lives as well.

Don't think it stops at text-messages either. Certain apps can intercept and listen in on your phone calls,

and the YouTube app can access your camera at anytime to capture pictures or video without asking your permission.

In 1984, the government monitored us through our television screens. In 2012 corporations track us through our cellphones.

Governments are well aware of these capabilities as well. Though ours does not constantly monitor the messages and calls of the average person, it has the ability to access your phone and do all sorts of fun things. These abilities include reading text-messages, listening to calls, accessing your GPS locator, gaining control of your camera and even turning on your phone's microphone.

Even if your phone is turned off, someone, somewhere can simply press a button to turn it on and create a window through which they can see the most personal and private aspects of your life.

While this is a crux of modern technology that we must live with, it is the government's job protect a person's privacy, not to infiltrate it.

Though there are laws in place to help protect phone records and prevent wiretapping, the legislature has been unable to keep up with the incredible growth rate of mobile communication technology. There are currently no laws specifically restricting what an entity can or cannot do with your smartphone

through installed apps.

According to Lawyers.com, courts have deemed it inappropriate for government officials to track people through the GPS locators in their smartphones. The only exception to this is when a person with a GPS equipped cellphone calls an enhanced 911 service, so that emergency responders may more easily locate and provide assistance to the victim or victims. Well, what about corporations?

The government must protect people's privacy not only from itself, but also from other people. According to the Supreme Court rulings in *Dartmouth College v. Woodward* and *Santa Clara County v. Southern Pacific Railroad*, corporations are people. As such, they should not only be afforded the protections given to people, but adhere to the restrictions which confine them as well.

The actions of Facebook, YouTube and the other implicated companies are an egregious invasion of privacy. Not only should they have to answer for these abuses, but permanent protections should put in place to protect a person's privacy from the proclivities, and propensities of profligate people looking only to profit from the penetration of an individual's personal and private passions.

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The Beacon / Laura Preby

It has recently been reported that Facebook, YouTube and other sites have been using their apps to read texts, intercept phone calls and view pictures without their user's knowledge.

Here's a restaurant tip: Pay your server, or else!

BY CARLY YAMRUS

Opinion Editor

As a server working in food service for the past five summers, I've come to the realization that many people of varying ages and ethnicities do not know the first thing about restaurant etiquette. In particular, I mean tipping your server.

The minimum hourly wage of a tipped employee in the state of Pennsylvania is a whopping \$2.83, according to the United States Department of Labor. Subtract the taxes and, well, that's almost nothing. Almost all of what a server makes comes from tips.

Many people complain about having to tip at restaurants. They often ask why the restaurant doesn't pay its servers minimum wage -- between \$6 and \$8, depending on the state. It actually makes a lot more sense to tip your server based off their performance. A server is not running around, getting drinks, taking orders, carrying food or writing checks for the kitchen staff, they're doing all that for their customers.

The most irritating thing about being a



The Beacon / Laura Preby

Misconceptions about restaurant employee pay leaves many servers stiffed and unhappy. Good service deserves 15 to 20 percent tip.

waitress is bending over backwards for a customer, thinking you did a really good job, only to find an awful tip or worse: no tip. This is extremely discouraging and confusing to those servers who did everything they could to make their customer's dining experience a good one. People may not tip because they are assuming that their server

is making tips on top of minimum wage. Restaurants are only required to compensate their employees if their tips and meager "tipped employee" wage does not equal the hourly minimum wage.

Before leaving the restaurant, one must consider a few things before deciding how much they will leave their server. Were they friendly? Did they greet you and effectively explain the menu? Did they answer your questions and make you feel comfortable? Did they deliver your food in a timely fashion? If you answer yes, then they probably deserve 15 to 20 percent tip.

Servers are not robots. They are not perfect and sometimes they make mistakes. It is easy to forget that food service is a pro-

cess and many people are working together to satisfy the customer. Sometimes there are miscommunications and things go awry. Understand that they have other tables to tend to and that their focus cannot be on you at all times. If anything, remember that they may be the ones cleaning up the mess you made on the table when you leave.

However, a poor tip is acceptable if your server fails to recognize your needs or if they are unpleasant. Even if the service was unacceptable, remember that it is almost never acceptable to throw a temper tantrum in public. Customers who yell and cause a scene can hardly be taken seriously, as they are being rude to not only the staff but to other customers.

If you take anything away from reading this article it's this next part right here: If you cannot afford to tip your waiter or waitress, you cannot afford to eat at that restaurant. A poor college student myself, I understand why people are so frugal with their money. However, this is no reason to stiff a server who relies on their customers' understanding and generosity, or lack-there-of. So the next time you go out to eat, I hope you sit down, order your drink and consider the logistics of that restaurant and how hard the staff is working to get those chipotle chicken tacos to your table.

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Letter to the Editor: Sugar Tax

BY GARY NEALE

MD Laparoscopic Bariatric and General Surgeon

Pennsylvania collects \$1.5 billion from cigarette sales, and the CDC recommends they spend \$155 million on tobacco prevention. Sadly, Pennsylvania spends just 9 percent (\$13.9 million) on prevention (tobacco-freekids.org).

Obesity is an enormous problem, and you can continue to allow people to eat all the sugar they want, but they will gain weight, develop more diseases, cost more money to care for, and that means higher health insurance costs for everyone. Not to mention the added costs to programs like Medicare and Medicaid that are run by the government through taxation.

Thirty eight percent of the country is obese (has a body mass index greater than 30, healthy is between 18.5 and 25), and 68 percent of the country is obese or overweight, which means being of a healthy weight now represents the minority. So do not worry yourself that just a few people are ruining things for the rest of us. Obese individuals have 50 percent greater medical costs, and 80 percent greater prescrip-

tion costs. Morbidly obese people (generally more than 100 lbs overweight) have a greater risk of diabetes, hypertension, sleep apnea, cancer and a shorter life expectancy. Next to smoking, it is the second leading preventable cause of death.

The medical costs associated with obesity total over \$168 billion a year. Taxation of sugar may seem ridiculous, but the public has shown that making healthy choices is not easy, since 1.8 million of Pennsylvanians smoke. And do not think for a minute that obese people do not affect the lives of those around them, like drunk drivers or second-hand smoke. When people get to 300 lbs, 400 lbs or 500 lbs and have appendicitis or colon cancer, they put all the the health care workers at risk. From back injuries trying to lift the patient, to the bad outcomes of increased rates of infections, bed sores and mortality.

Sugar taxation may not do much more than raise awareness, but since we have gone so far as to develop surgical operations for weight loss, perhaps we should still consider all options, even taxation.



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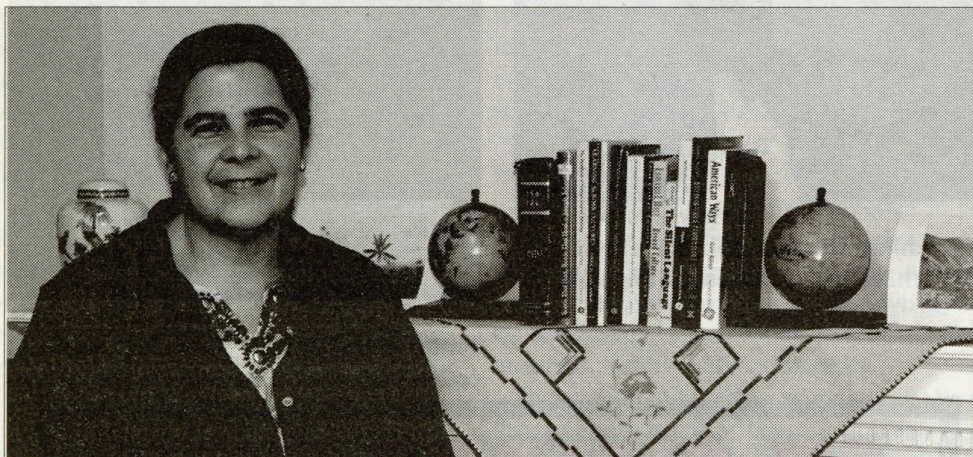
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Unimportant Questions with Important People

GEORGIA COSTALAS, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
CENTER FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION AND DIVERSITY



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

Georgia Costalas has been working with international students for 30 years.

BY ALYSSA STENCAVAGE
Staff Writer

What exactly does your job entail?

I have two jobs. I am Executive Director for the Center for Global Education and Diversity, which oversees study abroad, international student services and diversi-

ty initiatives; three separate units. Here I act as the supervisor, where I support and help get things done.

I am also the Director of International Student Services. I work directly with students about international student issues, help international students come to campus adjust and help professors with paper

work involving these students.

What is your main goal in this position?

To provide Wilkes University with opportunities for learning perspectives that are different from one's own.

What is your favorite hobby?

Biking. I've been doing a lot of that in the past year. It's just been tremendous.

What is your favorite and least favorable part about Wilkes?

My favorite part is that people seem so willing to go out of their way to help. My least favorite part is that I have to travel 62 miles to and from work every day.

What is your favorite book?

My favorite book is "Jane Eyre."

What is your favorite and least favorite part about your job?

My favorite part is the interaction with students and my least favorite part is the paperwork.

How old were you when you got your first job and what was it?

I was in sixth grade, 11 years old, and I took care of a first grader when she got home from school, such as helping her do her homework.

What you find is the best way for you to relax after a long day at work?

Reading or biking, depending on the weather. If I'm exhausted, reading.

Is this the career you always saw yourself in?

Being in education, yes. I've worked with international students since 1982.

Where is your favorite vacationing spot?

Colly, Columbia, my other home. I used to come to the United States for vacation and now I go there.

What has been your greatest or worst experience at Wilkes so far?

Having this job is the greatest experience of my current life. It is my dream job.

What advice can you give to the students here at Wilkes?

To take advantage of opportunities that introduce them to people that are different than themselves. It is safe environment to do that, and it will help them forever.

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C.A.S.U.A.L Day brings awareness of colon cancer

BY REBECCA BOLUS
Assistant Life Editor

Colon and rectal cancers are some of the most frequently diagnosed cancers in areas of Northeastern Pennsylvania with regional incident rates about 18 percent higher than the US average, according to Northeast Regional Cancer Institute.

In response, the institute has created Colon Cancer Awareness Saves Unlimited Lives Day. This is a program to promote awareness of colon cancer and how early detection could significantly save lives.

Student Services Associates Ann Marie Carey and Camille Daniels volunteered

as captains for the Wilkes University C.A.S.U.A.L. Day "team."

Both learned about the event from a Lunch 'n Learn, coordinated by Wilkes human resources generalist Michele Grushinski. At these Lunch 'N Learns, faculty and staff are welcome to a free lunch and to learn about various wellness topics.

"This is what got us involved," Daniels said. "We were shocked that Northeast Pennsylvania is 18 percent higher than the US average, and with early detection, you can be helped."

C.A.S.U.A.L. Day was created in memory of Helen Phillips, who battled against colon cancer and passed away in the summer of 2002.

Northeast Regional Cancer Institute will host the ninth annual C.A.S.U.A.L. Day on March 29. This event will be a day dedicated to wearing C.A.S.U.A.L. Day golden-yellow T-shirts and pins that were sold earlier in the month at Student Services.

Various organizations across Northeastern Pennsylvania, including Gertrude Hawk Chocolates, Marywood University and WNEP News will be sponsoring C.A.S.U.A.L. day alongside Wilkes.

"It's good as a university to get involved in the community to support public awareness," Carey said.

The proceeds of the C.A.S.U.A.L. day T-shirts will go toward colon cancer awareness.

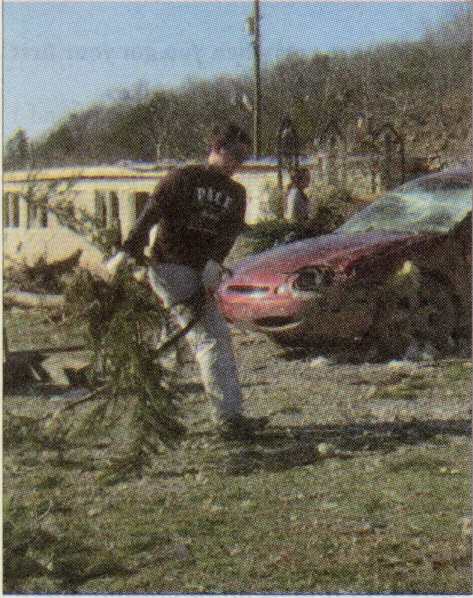
"Since the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute is a local organization, 100 percent of the funds raised through C.A.S.U.A.L. Day will stay in Northeastern Pennsylvania to support colorectal cancer education and outreach efforts," Northeast Regional Cancer Institute Community Relations coordinator and Wilkes alumnae Christine Zavaskas said.

For more information about C.A.S.U.A.L. Day and to participate in March Colon Cancer Awareness Month activities, visit www.cancernepa.org.

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Students deliver service to others during break

Alternative spring break provides Colonels with unforgettable retreats



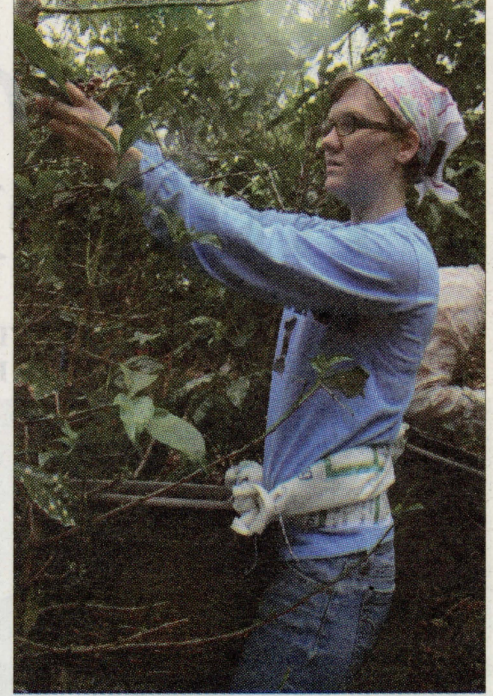
Courtesy of Caitlin Czeh

Sophomore psychology major DJ Remish clears debris in Eastern Kentucky.



Courtesy of Justine Pevac

Senior psychology major Justine Pevac poses with children at a school. She taught English to international students through Outreach360 in the Dominican Republic.



The Beacon/Kirstin Cook

Junior history major Alex Madaya picks coffee beans at a plantation in Costa Rica.

BY CHRISTINE LEE
Life Editor

On May 22, 2011 a tornado one-mile-wide and six-miles-long struck the city of Joplin, Mo., leveling the city. On March 2, 2012, an outbreak of tornados struck Eastern Kentucky and also wiped out entire towns.

In other words, time to send in the Army Of Colonels.

This year's Alternative Spring Break had students heading to four distinct locations at home and abroad to lend a hand. They were Joplin, Mo., Kentucky, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic.

Missouri

Upon arrival at the Southwestern Missouri city, an hour west of Springfield, a group of six students and three chaperones encountered a site they could only describe as "incredible."

The group knew the city needed help and were prepared to work to help out, but they were unprepared for just how extensive the damage was. Even a year after the city was struck, the damage was still apparent.

"I had an idea of what to expect but it's so much worse than you can ever imagine without actually seeing what it's like," junior business administration and accounting major John Sweeney, one of the students who went to Joplin, said.

Student Development coordinator and Joplin chaperone Melissa Howells was humbled by the people of Joplin's resilience in wanting to rebuild their city.

"My impression of Joplin was that no one is leaving, they are rebuilding and that's all there

is to it; they're not going to let this scare them out," Howells said. "Most of the people who have been in Joplin have been there their entire lives and they are not giving up on their city."

Sweeney feels he made a difference by helping with relief work in Joplin. He said he could see firsthand that the group's work was helping residents out.

Sweeney said even clearing lots made a difference and said you could see it on their faces the satisfaction people were feeling about their work.

Howells said she cannot say enough about how satisfied she is with the work the students accomplished.

"They were always looking for more to do and you can only accomplish so much in a week but I feel completely satisfied with what we did," Howells said.

Dominican Republic

As soon as Willie Eggleston walked into a school in the Dominican Republic, he was greeted with the chants of "Americano!" from the children.

Eggleston, a senior pharmacy student who went to the Dominican Republic, described the children as affectionate and said he didn't expect the children to trust the group so quickly.

"We walked into that school, taught our first class and had a recess after that with the kids and they were climbing on us and hugging us," Eggleston said. "The trust was immediate."

The group worked with the organization Outreach360 teaching in English to students in

SEE ASB, PAGE 12

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Adventure Education to host 'Cabin Fever' field day at Wilkes

BY CHRISTINE LEE
Life Editor

Who's ever heard of Cabin Fever Day?

Or better yet, who's ever jumped out of an airplane before? Or gone on a last-minute, completely random hike?

Turns out these are just some of the activities and initiatives offered by Adventure Education this spring.

Cabin Fever Day is a University-wide program in conjunction with Residence Life that is billed as a "University-wide field day." It will consist of teams of students competing in physical and strategic challenges that involve obstacle courses, problem-solving and communication exercises.

"We are looking for ways to partner with Residence Life and provide more on-campus opportunities for residents to intermingle with the student body as a whole and to have some fun competition between the two groups," Adventure Education Coordinator Gabriel Lamberti said.

Cabin Fever Day is scheduled to take place April 14 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Information tables were set up in the Student Union Building on March 13 and 15 and this week.

Another highlight that Adventure Education has planned for this spring is a skydiving trip at the end of April. Lamberti said this trip is only offered every few years due to the challenges of arranging a trip of such large proportions. But it is one that nonetheless students look forward to when it is offered.

One thing that Adventure Education is starting this spring is random hikes. Lamberti said this one kind of event that is designed to fill the downtime students may have.

"I try and fill some of the downtime when it feels like there's enough of an opportunity to get a few people together, and the weather's been so great to try and do a couple short-notice hikes or maybe a mountain bike or try to get people outside a bit when we catch a break in the winter weather," Lamberti said.

Lamberti also said he is open to suggestions from students or groups of students for outdoor activities when the weather is nice.

Recently, the rock wall and high ropes course in the University Center on Main building gym has been given a buffer fund from Student Government that has provided the rock wall with new ropes and harnesses so the older equipment, as Lamberti puts it, "ends their useful life."

"All this equipment is still safe," Lamberti said. "(But) you retire it every x number of times that it's been used. If you (have) such an increase in the use of the rock wall, that time has come a little bit earlier, so it's a good thing that we have to buy more gear because it means that the (equipment) are getting used significantly more than they were in the past."

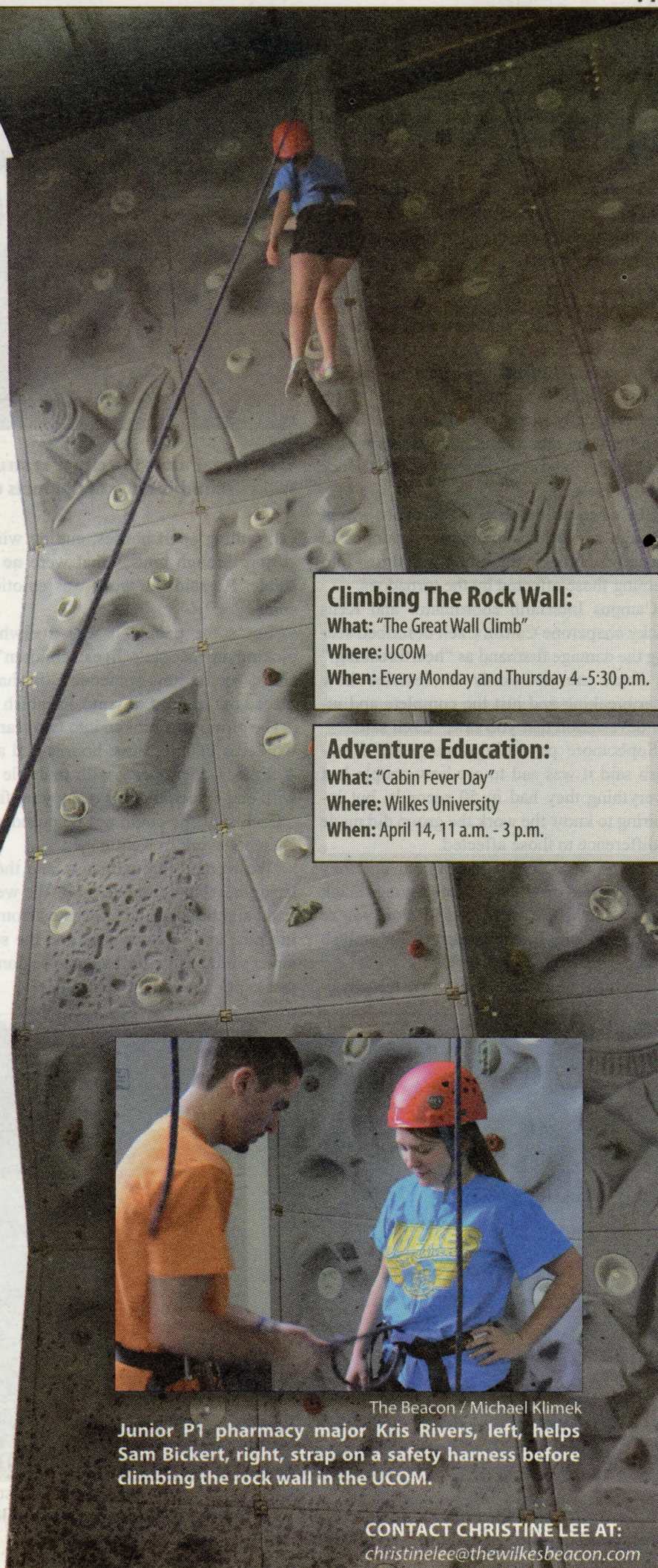
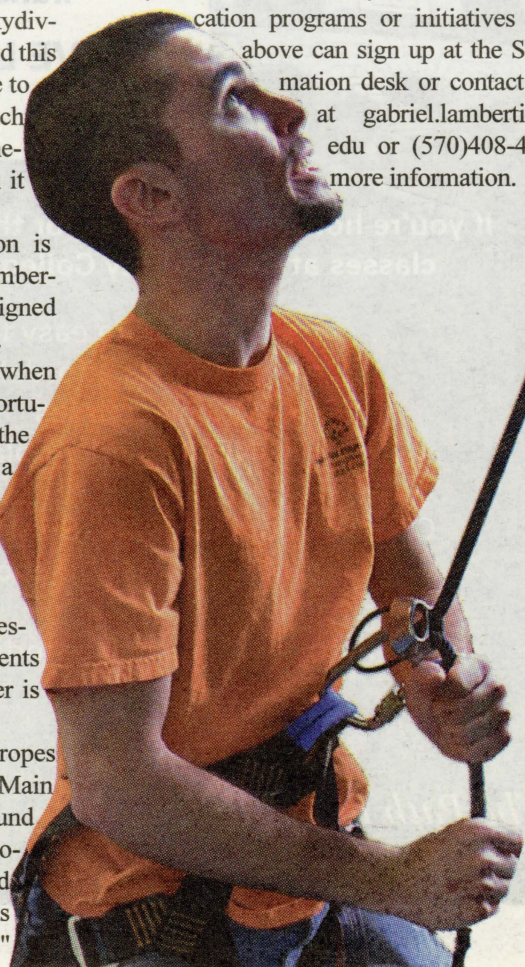
Lamberti said this is the first renewal of the rock wall equipment since the wall has been opened for five years. He said the ropes were in need of replacing and the harnesses are "pretty decent" but said it is a good idea to replace everything as brand new so it can be tracked for risk management purposes.

Open rock wall is every Monday and Thursday from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Lamberti said he is always interested in people becoming potential facilitators for Adventure Education trips and programs. He is also interested in forming the Adventure Education Advisory Council comprised of members of Student Government members, faculty, staff and students.

The mission of the advisory group is to "to guide the program toward offerings and events that appeal to the widest swath of students" and to serve as a liaison between Student Government and Adventure Education.

Anyone interested in any of the Adventure Education programs or initiatives explained above can sign up at the SUB information desk or contact Lamberti at gabriel.lamberti@wilkes.edu or (570)408-4036 for more information.



Climbing The Rock Wall:

What: "The Great Wall Climb"

Where: UCOM

When: Every Monday and Thursday 4 - 5:30 p.m.

Adventure Education:

What: "Cabin Fever Day"

Where: Wilkes University

When: April 14, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The Beacon / Michael Klimek
Junior P1 pharmacy major Kris Rivers, left, helps Sam Bickert, right, strap on a safety harness before climbing the rock wall in the UCOM.

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ASB

Continued from Page 10

"No matter where you were, no matter what the language was, you still felt like you were at home because these people were so friendly," Eggleston said.

Sweeney, Rembish, Adams and Eggleston said their trips were excellent, life-changing and amazing experiences for them they will surely never forget.

Kentucky

Since last year, students have gone to Eastern Kentucky to work with the ministry organization Christian Appalachian Project housing facet to repair homes. The group was originally slated to do general home improvement repairs and renovations for the elderly, disabled and those who can't work for themselves.

But when an outbreak of tornadoes swept through Magoffin and Johnson counties in Eastern Kentucky, the group was thrust into helping those affected by the tornadoes.

Campus Interfaith coordinator and Kentucky chaperone Caitlin Czeh described seeing the damage firsthand as "heartbreaking."

"There are no words to describe how heartbreaking and just the complete and utter devastation that you saw," Czeh said.

Sophomore psychology major D.J. Rembish said it was sad to see how people lost everything they had in 50 seconds, but inspiring to know the work the group did made a difference to those affected.

"There was a family that came in and they literally cried on our shoulders saying 'thank you so much, you are my inspiration, you're the reason why I keep going on,'" Rembish said.

Rembish described the work as physi-



Courtesy of Melissa Howells

Even a year after the city was struck by a tornado, the damage was still apparent. Wilkes sent this army of Colonels to Joplin, Mo. during spring break.

cal: pulling apart houses, cutting wires and sifting through houses that were no longer stable. He said the work was emotional to some.

"For some people it was overwhelming picking up people's lives: children's toys, shirts, seeing how someone's life had been placed out in front of you," Rembish said.

The group was broken into two teams who worked a church, three houses and a holler -- a piece of property with multiple homes with one owner and one occupying family.

Czeh said she could not be prouder of the students' work in Kentucky.

"We worked through snow and then blistering heat, in complete mud. We were battered and bruised and exhausted from working nine and 10 hour days and the students never said 'I can't' or 'I want to be done,' they just kept on going," Czeh said.



The Beacon / Kirstin Cook

Students in Costa Rica turned coffee beans to properly dry them during a volunteer project. Alex Madaya attempts to turn beans.

periences of the students in assistant professor of political science Dr. Andrew Miller's Politics of Coffee class who went to the Latin American country.

"The lifestyle there is a lot more laid back, the people are extremely friendly and it just gives you a wholesome and warm feeling everywhere you go," said senior psychology major Justine Adams, who went to Costa Rica this year.

Having gone to the Dominican Republic last year, Adams said although she loved both trips, her trip to Costa Rica as a service learning trip had more variety to it.

"You did different projects every day rather than focusing on one specific project, so there's a little more diversity with the services (done)," Adams said.

Adams said going to Costa Rica taught her about the culture of another country.

"I learned a lot about the environment and different ways of life that Costa Rica has that we don't have in the U.S.," Adams said.

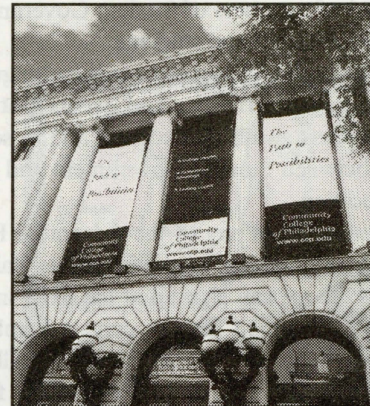
Costa Rica

The expression "Pura Vida" is Spanish for "pure life" and is universally known in Costa Rica since the 1950's.

This expression certainly described the ex-

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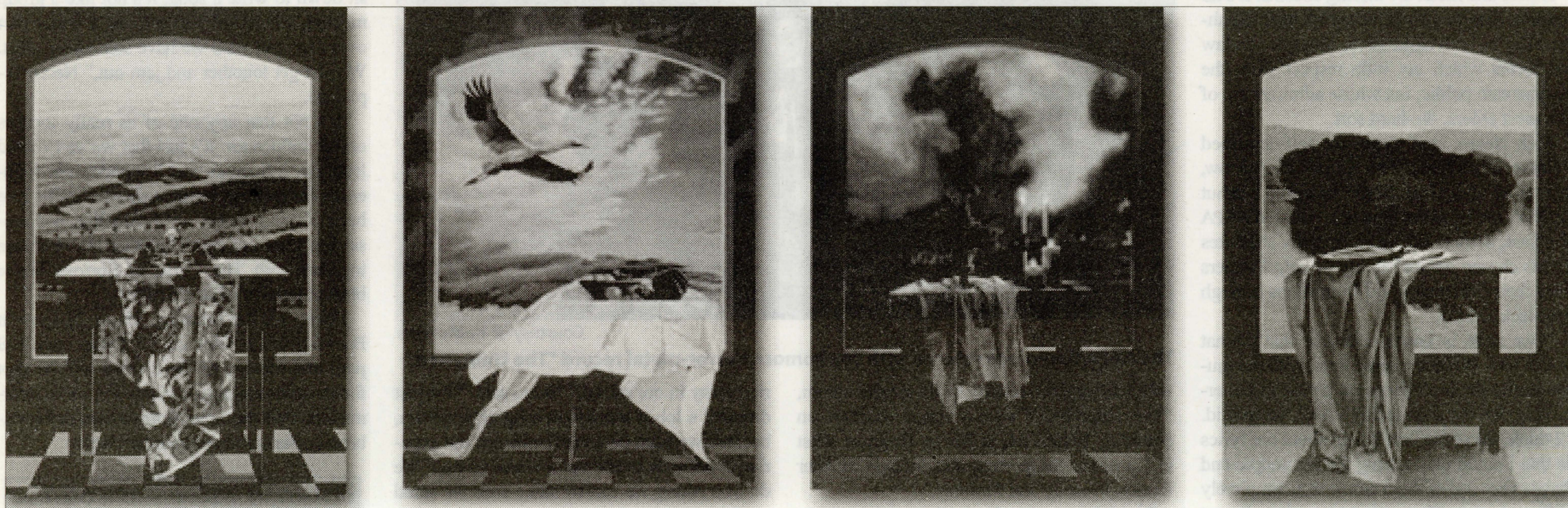
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Courtesy of Sharon Cosgrove

The four paintings in the Elements Series, by art instructor Sharon Cosgrove, are currently on display in the home of US Ambassador Kenneth Fairfax in Kazakhstan. From March 26 to March 31, she will act as a cultural ambassador for the U.S. State Department's ART in Embassies Program, representing America through her art.

Wilkes prof. takes US culture international

Sharon Cosgrove to teach classes in Kazakhstan as part of ambassadorial program

BY BILL THOMAS
 Arts & Entertainment Editor

Though Wilkes University associate professor of art Sharon Cosgrove speaks neither Kazakh nor Russian, the two primary languages of Kazakhstan, she said that when she travels there at the end of the month, she doesn't expect the language barrier to be much of a problem.

As part of the US Department of State's ART in Embassies Program, Cosgrove's trip will take her to areas with strong English-speaking populations and she will also be accompanied by a translator fluent in both Kazakh and Russian. However, Cosgrove explained, there is something even greater that allows her to communicate on a deeper level with the people of Kazakhstan.

"Even though I don't speak the language, we have the visual language of art," Cosgrove said. "Colors, lines, shapes, styles. It transcends politics or climate and things like that."

From March 26 to March 31, Cosgrove will spend time in Kazakhstan visiting schools and cultural institutions in the Kazakhstani cities of Astana, Kostanay and Almaty. There, she will act as a cultural ambassador, meeting and greeting Kazakhstani citizens and of-



Cosgrove

Started in 1963, the Art in Embassies Program will soon celebrate its 50th anniversary. In all those years, Cosgrove points out, the program has allowed the United States to share thousands of works of art with its international neighbors, so much so that art historian Henry Geldzahler notably referred to the program as a "footprint that can be left where people have no opportunity to see American art."

Arguably more important, though, is the way the program allows for mutually beneficial cultural exchange, as the artists who participate interact with peoples of various foreign cultures.

"This is a great international program that represents American artists worldwide," Cos-

grove said. "It's like being called to duty to represent America. Why wouldn't I want to be involved?"

Of the many items on Cosgrove's overseas agenda, one key element will be her visits to Astana, Kostanay and Almaty's "American Corners."

American Corners are, in Cosgrove's words, "special places where they have movies, games, speakers, all in English." According to the website for the U.S. Embassy in Kazakhstan, access to the American Corners is free and open to anyone. Their extensive offerings of activities and English teaching materials are intended to help interested Kazakhstani citizens learn English in more organic, engaging manner than a single simple academic course could offer.

"That's part of it," Cosgrove noted, discussing the purpose of the program, "to help them prepare for classes in America."

Cosgrove's visits to the American Corners, she said, will be "very informal" compared to the classes and the presentations will be doing.

"Those will be big, long productions. It's very friendly, just us sitting down and talking," she said.

Furthermore, Cosgrove points out that, whereas her classes will be geared specifical-

ly toward art students, her American Corner visits will allow her to interact with "children, adults, people of all ages and walks of life."

"My role as a cultural ambassador is something I'm very excited about," Cosgrove said. "I wish I could leave tomorrow."

Experiencing other cultures is nothing new to Cosgrove. She has also spent time in Italy, where she was a visiting artist at both The International School of Art in Umbria and The American Academy in Rome, and taught students at Santa Reparata International School of Art in Florence. In 1999, she was the recipient of the Medici Award from the International Biennale Exhibition of Contemporary Art in Florence.

"Every time I travel to a place other than home it's an opportunity to see the world from a different perspective and gain insight from different point of view," Cosgrove said.

"I think that what happens, as an artist, is it doesn't always take effect immediately. I tend to be very reflective. It takes a while to put things into place. Sometimes it takes months of years for whatever it was that transformed you to settle in. For an artist putting that into their work can have a very profound and long-term effect."

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Curse of Sorrow rocks, shocks with new album

BY BILL THOMAS

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Horror and metal are kissing cousins. It's no surprise that the two genres work well together. They're both aggressive, cathartic, outlaw art forms which get little respect from the mainstream public, but whose admirers are of the most ardent, die-hard sort.

Nick Necro, lead singer for self-described "Grave Rock" act The Curse of Sorrow, knows all about that. Since the group's debut in 2006, the band has built up a devoted NEPA fan base, something Necro partially attributes to his chosen genres' ability to help listeners vent their own real-world frustrations through jet-black fantasy.

"Our style is horror, because that's what we're into. But at the same time, with the music itself, we don't focus on trying to be terrifying. We focus on reality a lot," Necro said. "I think one of the best things about our lyrics is that I could play a song for ten people and have every one of them take it in a completely different way. They can personalize it, put themselves into the songs."

Preparing to unleash another slab of snarling, raucous horror-metal on the helpless masses, the Wilkes-Barre-based five-piece — which also consists of lead guitarist Jay Bones, rhythm guitarist Mark Massacre, bassist Steve Slaughter and drummer Evil Eric —



Courtesy of Keith Perks

The NEPA five-piece returns with sophomore horror-metal record "The Uninvited."

will celebrate the release of its second album, "The Uninvited," with a special concert on Saturday, March 24, at Brews Brothers West in Luzerne. Supporting acts include Sinister Realm, Prosody and Mobday.

Promising an unforgettable stage show, Necro remarked that the band's reputation for delivering flashy, frenzied live performances is no accident.

"We do everything in our power to put on one hell of a show for anyone who comes out. We go above and beyond with our energy. We're not all about the shock, but we get car-

ried away in our music," Necro said. "We just dropped a lot of money on a lighting system, because we want people to come out and experience not only music but a visual as well. We do everything we can to make sure we stand out."

Ultimately, however, Necro feels the music itself is the star attraction. He credits the band members' eclectic range of influences for contributing to their unique "Grave Rock" sound, rattling off a list of inspirations including everything from Motley Crue, The Misfits and Iron Maiden to more surprising additions like

The Grateful Dead and Johnny Cash.

"That's the one thing I pride myself the most on with The Curse of Sorrow. When we sit down to write a song, it's not like a group meeting where we start playing a guitar part over and over until we have something great. We just get together and jam out," Necro explained.

"It's not that any one of us really focuses on our influences. It's just that we've evolved from our influences and listened to our influences for so long, it just comes naturally. I've been playing music my entire life, but music just does not come together like it comes together with The Curse of Sorrow. We're blessed to have what we have."

Tickets for the Saturday, March 24 show at Brews Brothers West are \$7. Doors open at 8 p.m. and footage of the concert will be shot for an upcoming music video. For more information, visit thecurseofsorrow.com or brewsbrothersbar.com/brewsbrotherswest.

Listen to a free track off The Curse of Sorrow's upcoming CD "The Uninvited" at www.thewilkesbeacon.com

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WB film series commemorates centennial of Titanic disaster

BY BILL THOMAS

Arts & Entertainment Editor

For many, when thinking about the Titanic in cinema, the first thing that comes to mind is the James Cameron-directed 1997 epic. A new film series being offered at Wilkes-Barre Movies 14, though, may just change that.

From Thursday, March 22 to Sunday, April 15, the downtown multiplex will present "A Titanic Experience," a series of five films, one screening every Thursday at 7 p.m., with the exception of the Sunday, April 15 date, which will mark the 100th anniversary of the night the Titanic sank back in 1912.

The films included in the series will be the documentaries "Titanic Tech" (2003) and "Ghosts of the Abyss" (2003), and the fictionalized docudramas "A Night to Remember" (1958) and "Titanic" (1953). In between the latter two will be blockbuster adventure film "Raise the Titanic" (1980).

More than just an opportunity to see a series of classic motion pictures up on the big screen, however, the series also promises to be an

educational experience, with introductions and discussions led by Penn State Wilkes-Barre communications instructor Bill Bachman.

"I'm going to guarantee that everyone who walks out of the series at the end of the fifth week will be a semi-professional on the Titanic. People will learn so much about that ship than they ever thought possible," Bachman said.

"I felt it was necessary to give everyone a foundation in the first two weeks. What the heck was the Titanic? Was it unsinkable? In the second week's screening (Ghosts of the Abyss) we can see it literally dissolving into the ocean floor."

The series will also feature a few special guests, including Penn State Wilkes-Barre chemistry professor Dudley Snyder and engineering instructor Jon Carson. It is the April 15 screening's guests, though, that Bachman is most honored to have present.

"At the conclusion of the movie on April 15, I will introduce two families in the audience, one from Wilkes-Barre, one from Plains, both of whom had relatives on the Titanic," Bachman said. "They will speak for several

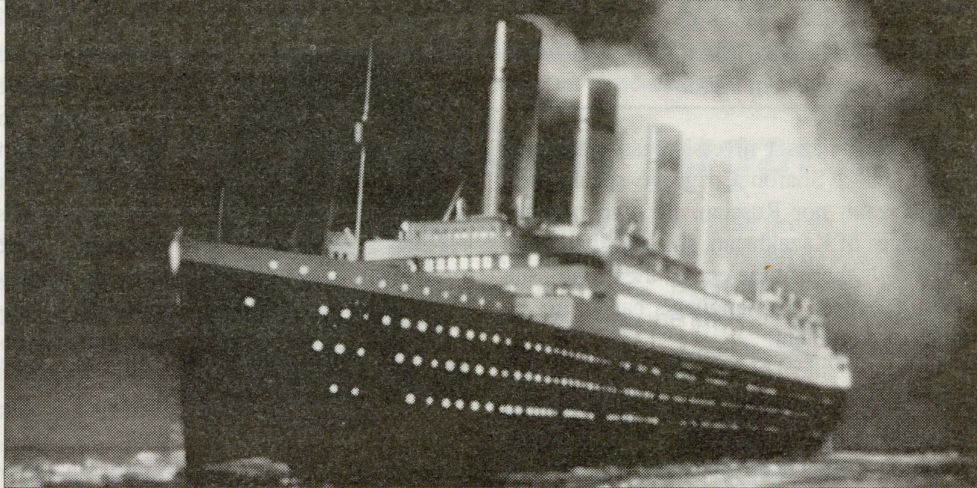


Photo Courtesy of 20th Century Fox

No Leo here! The 1958 film "Titanic" will screen at Wilkes-Barre Movies 14 in April.

minutes and we'll conclude the whole thing with a memorial service, 100 years to the day the Titanic sank. We'll never get a chance to do something like this, not ever."

Though the series is being offered as a class to students of Penn State Wilkes-Barre, it is open to the public and Bachman encourages both students from other schools and non-students in general to check it out.

Non-Penn State students can attend the screenings either for their own pleasure or for the benefit of receiving a continuing education credit from Penn State Wilkes-Barre, which Bachman also encouraged non-Penn State

students to talk to their advisers about transferring to their home schools.

Anyone interested in participating in the series should register as soon as possible. Registration can be done online, by mail or in-person at the inaugural March 22 screening. Registration ends Thursday, March 29.

Cost is \$40. To register, go to wb.psu.edu/ce. For more information, contact Rachel Rybicki by phone at 570-675-9269 or by email at rrybicki@psu.edu.

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'John Carter' is a stellar sci-fi flick that no one wants to see

BY BILL THOMAS

Arts & Entertainment Editor

The box office has not been kind to "John Carter." The sprawling science-fantasy epic cost more than \$250 million to produce, but made less than a quarter of that in America its opening weekend.

Interestingly, audiences who actually paid to see "John Carter" have been much kinder to the floundering film, and a positive word-of-mouth buzz has begun to stir. Still, the future of the any planned sequels is in jeopardy. That's a shame, because, all in all, "John Carter" is pretty damn good.

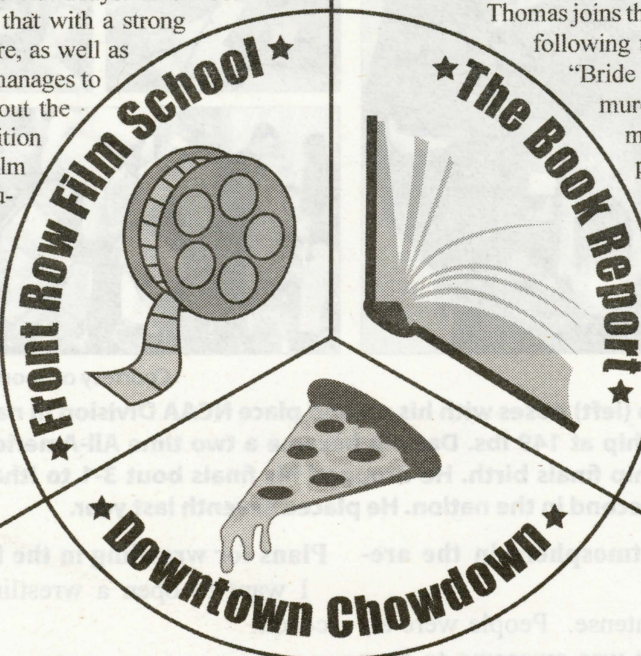
Based on Tarzan creator Edgar Rice Burroughs' seminal series of genre-bending sword-and-stardust stories, "John Carter" sees the title character (Taylor Kitsch), a Civil War-era cavalryman transported by means mysterious to him (and us) to the planet Mars, which he finds is neither airless nor lifeless, but dying. In addition, he finds his human muscles, accustomed to the greater gravity of Earth, make him capable of fantastical feats of strength and also allow him to make huge leaps that would turn The Incredible Hulk green(er) with envy.

Lost in this strange, alien environment, called "Barsoom" by the natives, Carter wanders in search of a way back home, but instead finds himself embroiled in conflicts both between and within the various tribes of Mars, which include the green-skinned, four-armed, tusk-faced warrior Tharks and the royal Red Martians. It is from the latter group that Carter encounters Dejah Thoris (Lynn Collins), a strong-willed princess of the city-state Helium. A romance between the two slowly blooms as cata-

clysm looms over the red planet.

It's sad, and damning evidence of Disney's grossly incompetent marketing campaign, that many mainstream audiences think "John Carter" is some generic "Star Wars"/"Avatar" knock-off. The truth is that Burroughs' "Barsoom" books are among the most unique and enduring adventure tales in the canon of American pulp fiction. That this adaptation has been in the works literally since the 1930s and that its release coincides with the centennial anniversary of the series' original publication makes the misconception even more insulting.

As it is, "John Carter" inspires a genuine sense of awe and wonder, not to mention thrilling two-fisted fun, the way few films manage nowadays. Even better, it blends that with a strong emotional core, as well as subtext that manages to say much about the human condition despite the film being populated with characters who are, on the surface, anything but.



Abe's: a classic that always hits the spot

BY DOMINICK COSTANTINO
Staff Writer

Most people in this area are familiar with the taste of an Abe's hot dog. There are many locations in the Wyoming Valley. The location I chose to eat at, though, is just down the street from Wilkes University on S. Main St. It is a little street-side restaurant that draws countless customers every single day.

I never ate at this location so I figured I would give it a try. The restaurant is small, but has a decent amount of tables for customers to sit at. Customers have the option of either sitting down and eating at the restaurant or ordering their food at the counter and taking it out. I took notice that a lot

of people get their food for takeout.

Since Abe's is famous for their hot dogs, I knew I had to order a couple. I got mine with "everything" on it. "Everything" translates to mustard, onions, and their homemade meat sauce. The hot dog itself was cooked well. It had a little bit of a brown grill but it was not burnt. The buns had a good texture and were not soggy at all. Some places that I've had hotdogs at before had buns that were mushy.

The mustard and onions both added to the taste but did not dominate. I was a little disappointed in the meat sauce, though. It had a good taste to it and they definitely put plenty of it on the hot dogs, but the meat was a little dry. I am a fan

of meat sauces that are a little more juicy. Despite this, the hot dogs were still very good.

A friend of mine ordered a grilled ham and cheese sandwich on white toast. She described the sandwich as being "delicious and gooey." I tasted a little piece and found the toast was crunchy and the cheese melted and warm. The ham had a little bit of a salty taste, but still very good.

The personalities of all the workers here were great. They were extremely hospitable and showed us they really appreciated our business. "Thank you so much for coming," and "Thank you, buddy," were repeated multiple times prior to our leaving.

A woman at the counter in particular

strict attorney Jill Bernhardt, the prosecutor who needs all the evidence that she can get. These four women make a group of talented, powerful individuals and form what they call "The Women's Murder Club," taking on the case from different perspectives and utilizing all the resources they can.

The first novel in a series, Patterson alternates viewpoints from each short chapter to the next, writing from the perspective of all four women and the killer. The constant switching of characters is not as confusing as one might think, because every piece fits together. This isn't Patterson's typical hard-boiled detective novel, but it's also not the clumsy, cozy, amateur-finds-out-a-big-secret mystery either.

It's rare to find a detective novel with multiple heroes, but Patterson juggles all four women, the killer and their separate lives with ease, even giving Lindsay Boxer a love interest. Everything intertwines at the end.

One would think with so much detail that Patterson would make it easy to find out "whodunit." Think again. One of the best parts of this novel is the ending, which comes as a complete surprise to the reader. Just when the book seems to close and everything is nice and tidy, another twist is thrown in the epilogue. The ability of Patterson to constantly keep his readers on edge and still make everything plausible and interesting is a rare talent in writers today.

If you like detective shows on television like "Law and Order," "Castle," "NCIS," or any of the others you will love reading "First to Die."

was very personable with us and asked us how we were enjoying the beautiful weather. This is definitely a place where you feel welcomed the entire time.

Prices are very cheap here. My two hot dogs with everything and a large soda came to less than \$5. This is definitely an affordable lunch spot for anyone who is watching their spending.

In addition to hot dogs, Abe's also has hamburgers and other grilled sandwiches. If you're up in time, they also have a large breakfast menu. By the amount of people that were coming in and out as I was there, I can tell Abe's is a landmark that people value and love.

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MARCH 20, 2012



**DOUBLEHEADER
AT EASTERN
PAGE 18**

Getting to know...

Anthony Dattolo

Senior Captain, 149 lbs.

BY JUSTIN FRANIAK
Sports Editor

Meet Anthony Dattolo, a senior captain from Succasanna, N.J., who repeated as an All-American in NCAA Division III national wrestling championships in Wisconsin. Dattolo fell in the finals to Ithaca's Jeremy Stierly 3-1. The prior weekend Dattolo won his second consecutive Metroplitan Conference Championship.

Year: Senior

Major: Business Administration

Hometown: Succasanna, N.J.

Going into conferences where was your head at?

At this point in the season, it is do or die so I knew I had to wrestle tough for the full seven minutes of each match.

What were your thoughts going into nationals?

Going into nationals, the only thing I was thinking about was becoming an All-American. There was no way I was going to be denied. I got a lot of inspiration from my coaches, teammates and family.

When you got closer and closer to the finals what was running through your mind?

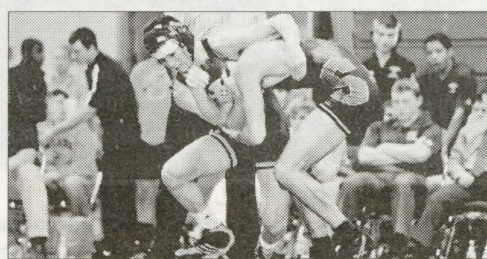
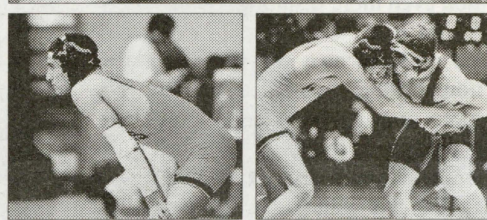
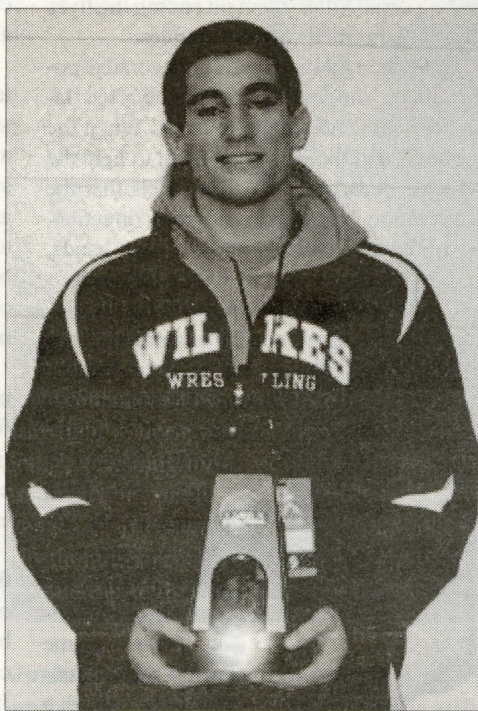
I tried not to become overwhelmed with emotions as the tournament went on. I tried to keep a level head throughout the weekend.

How about wrestling long time rival Zac Andrews from Delaware Valley to get into the finals?

It was a war.

Best moment at nationals?

Making the finals and wrestling on the main stage.



Courtesy of Sports Information

Anthony Dattolo (left) poses with his second place NCAA Division III national wrestling championship at 149 lbs. Dattolo became a two time All-American en route to a championship finals birth. He dropped his finals bout 3-1 to Ithaca's Jeremy Stierly, placing second in the nation. He placed seventh last year.

How was the atmosphere in the arena?

It was really intense. People were always yelling. It was awesome to hear the roar of the crowd.

How was the cheese in Wisconsin?

Delicious. My favorite was the Pepper Jack.

Did you really see WWE Superstar Booker T?

Wilson, Fleck and I saw him waiting for his flight in the Detroit airport.

Best moment during your Wilkes Career?

My four years of competing.

Advice for the young guys?

Want it more than the guy in front of you and wrestle like there is no tomorrow.

Plans for wrestling in the future?

I want to open a wrestling club and coach.

Any regrets in your career?

All the times I cut weight the wrong way.

Favorite pair of wrestling shoes?

2000 Adidas Sydney's.

Favorite food?

Pizza with a lot of black olives.

Favorite Athlete?

Derek Jeter.

Favorite TV show?

"It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia."

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Intramurals offer fun, social outlet

BY BILL CONWAY
Correspondent

The Wilkes Intramural program allows students with a tight schedule to get out of their dorms to enjoy a fun, social college sports experience.

That's the primary goal of Intramural director Neal Biscaldi, getting the students out of their dorms and involved in a valuable learning experience through sports with fellow students and faculty.

"A benefit of being involved in the program is meeting, and making new friends," Biscaldi said, "I love seeing these individuals around campus after just having met at one of our events."

Biscaldi feels that the Intramural program is not only a great way to make friends, but that it is also a great way to take your mind off of school.

The program offers a variety of sports, and has season specific programs. For example in the Spring, the program offers basketball, volleyball, indoor soccer, and bowling.

Biscaldi says that it is possible to suggest other sports that you might be interested in playing, all you have to do is e-mail him, and prove that there is a big enough group for participation so that they can form a league.

The area of participation is an interesting one. Biscaldi mentioned that for the more popular sports such as soccer, and basketball that they get between 70-100 kids participating.

Biscaldi also encourages more female participation. The ratio of men to women is staggering, and Biscaldi would like to see it evened out.

"I'm not really sure what the problem is," Biscaldi said, "I have done research and it's like that everywhere, not just here."

If you're one of those females not participating in Intramurals, or a male looking for something to do – the Intramural program is a way to solve that.

The activities take place around two nights a week from 8:30 to 9:30, and to get involved e-mail neal.biscaldi@wilkes.edu

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After all, defense wins championships.

Lady Colonels down Elizabethtown, stay unbeaten

Wilkes women's tennis nearly sweep singles, sit at a perfect 7-0 in the MAC

COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

The Wilkes University women's tennis team moved to 7-0 on the season in a matchup of two unbeaten squads Saturday afternoon posting a 7-2 win over Elizabethtown College.

The Lady Colonels took two of three doubles matches before posting five wins in singles play. The team of Melanie Nolt /Katie Lynn scored an 8-4 win at the No.1 doubles position, while Anna Mitchell /Ana English grabbed an 8-5 victory at No. 3 doubles giving Wilkes a 2-1 lead heading into singles play.

Ally Kristofco posted a straight set 6-0, 6-0 win at No. 3 singles followed by another Lady Colonel win at No. 5 sin-

gles from Alexis Donner (1-6, 6-2, 6-2). Lynn clinched the match with a 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 win at No. 2. Nolt and Holyk were also victorious in their singles matches at No. 1 and No. 6 respectively.

Wilkes returns to the courts Tuesday with a road contest at Division II Bloomsburg University at 3:30 p.m.

Wilkes University 7, Elizabethtown 2

Singles

1. **Melanie Nolt** (Wilkes) def. Madison Pipkin (ETWN) 4-6, 6-1, 6-2
2. **Katrina Lynn** (Wilkes) def. Alena Marani (ETWN) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3
3. **Ally Kristofco** (Wilkes) def. Allison Burkhardt (ETWN) 6-0, 6-0

4. **Kristi Noecker** (ETWN) def. **Anna Mitchell** (Wilkes) 6-3, 5-6, retired

5. **Alexis Donner** (Wilkes) def. C. Evangelista (ETWN) 1-6, 6-2, 6-2

6. **Amanda Holyk** (Wilkes) def. Sarah Poulle (ETWN) 6-3, 6-5

Doubles

1. **Melanie Nolt/Katrina Lynn** (Wilkes) def. Allison Burkhardt/Madison Pipkin (ETWN) 8-4
2. **Alena Marani/Kristi Noecker** (ETWN) def. **Ally Kristofco / Alexis Donner** (Wilkes) 9-7
3. **Anna Mitchell /Ana English** (Wilkes) def. C. Evangelista/Kaitlyn Pellegrino (ETWN) 8-5



Photo courtesy of Steve Finkernagel
Wilkes' Ally Kristofco continued her hot streak by beating Allison Burkhardt 6-0, 6-0.

Eastern downs Wilkes baseball twice in doubleheader weekend

COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

The Wilkes University baseball team dropped a pair of games at Eastern University Saturday afternoon in a Freedom Conference doubleheader.

Eastern claimed an 18-1 win in game one, then followed with a 10-7 victory in the nightcap.

Wilkes slips to 5-8 overall and 1-2 in league play, while Eastern improves to 9-4 overall and 2-1 in Freedom contests.

Game one was all Eagles as the hosts pounded out 19 hits and 18 runs over the seven inning affair.

Eastern jumped out to a 7-0 lead after two innings of play then plated 10 runs in the fourth to clinch the opener.

Carmen Lopresto finished with two hits for the Colonels.

Matt Ruch, Tay Sidler, and Bobby Schappell posted one hit each as Wilkes managed just five hits in the contest.

Starter Ryan Fetterman recorded the loss on the mound going just one and two-thirds allowing seven runs on eight hits.

The Eagles wasted little time getting off to a good start in game two leading 4-0 after three innings of play.

Wilkes finally responded in the fourth with a four-run frame to tie the game.

Joel Watson singled to right field followed by a Stephen Ruch single to left field. Pinch-hitter Michael Olerta connected on an RBI single to center field scoring Watson.

After back-to-back walks loaded the bases, M. Ruch doubled to deep center field plating all three Colonel runs tying the game at four.

The Eastern bats were up to the task yet again breaking the tie with a five-run fourth inning to take back the lead for good, 9-4.

Wilkes scored twice in the seventh to make things interesting down 10-7, but the Colonels could not find another key hit to make the comeback complete in their final at-bats.

M. Ruch finished 2-for-5 with three RBI's to lead the Wilkes offense in game two. Watson and Schappell added two hits each.

Sean Flecknoe was tabbed with the loss on the mound going three innings allowing nine runs on 11 hits.

The Colonels host Penn College Tuesday in non-conference action at 3:30 p.m. at Artillery Park.

STRESSED? HEADACHE?

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

Neck Pain Back Pain Shoulder Pain

Arm Pain Leg Pain Muscle Pain

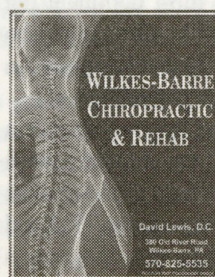
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"ACHIEVING OUR DESTINY"

Wilkes breaks ground
for new science building

The Beacon/Dan Lykens

Ceremony opens SHE building's construction

BY PHAT NGUYEN
News Editor

President Tim Gilmour was revealed as the mystery excavator for the groundbreaking kick-off March 1.

Equipped with a shovel used in the Stark Learning Center's 1956 opening, the president was the first to remove dirt for Wilkes University's new \$35 million science project.

The new building will house Wilkes' biology and health sciences, chemistry and engineering programs.

The 72,500-square-foot building is scheduled to open in the fall of 2013. It is located between the Stark Learning Center and Conyngham Hall.

Gilmour believes that the building will bring not only state-of-the-art collaborative learning spaces to the campus, but also an enhanced pursuit of excellence in science education.

"This greatly increases our ability to attract the best and brightest students every year," said Gilmour.

Gilmour hopes the new building will open new opportunities for medical and other research with partners such as the Commonwealth Medical College in Scranton and regional health care organizations like Geisinger Health System.

"The building will contribute to the economic development of the region, but it is for our students first and foremost," Gilmour said.

The project is funded through private financing, philanthropy and government grants.

Jack Miller, the chair of Wilkes Board of Trustees, announced the public phase of "Achieving Our Destiny," a \$20 million fundraising campaign. The campaign has already raised \$10.4 million towards its goal.

Miller believes the science building will ensure another decade of extraordinary success.

"Wilkes is at a tipping point and this building will put us over the top," Miller said.

The Institute for Public Policy and Economic Development estimates the building's annual economic impact at \$5.8 million from new jobs and scientific research.

The 18-month construction period will generate \$20.5 million in Luzerne County and \$46.8 million in Pennsylvania.

Trustee member Michael Mahoney serves as chair of the campaign, with Hedy Wrightson Rittenmeyer and John Cefaly as co-chairs. Frank M. Henry and William B. Sordani are honorary chairs.

The campaign's leadership donors played a major role in securing the more than half of its \$20 million goal.

Wilkes plans to use tax-exempt bonds to finance the remaining \$15 million.

State Sen. John Yudichak, state Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski and Wilkes-Barre Mayor Tom Leighton were all in attendance and helped secure \$1 million from the Pennsyl-

vania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program and \$2 million from Local Share Assessment Fund, gaming funds.

Yudichak also spoke before the groundbreaking events stating his pleasure with the SHE building.

"Wilkes and president Gilmour have been unrelenting in their quest to establish the university as a regional, educational and economic asset," Yudichak said. "Wilkes is boldly charging into science and research."

He went on to quote former US president John F. Kennedy saying, 'If history teaches us anything, it is that man in his quest for knowledge, is determined and cannot be deterred.'

Yudichak then linked Wilkes' success as a leader in science to attract pharmaceutical giant CVS Caremark to the area.

The project creates 18-months of ongoing construction and fences off half of the university's 'greenway,' however, student government president William Eggleston believes the barriers and loud construction will be worth it.

"Over the next few semesters, we'll encounter some noises and fences, but it'll all be worth it, because being Colonel means making these sacrifices for students who will follow in our footsteps, so they can truly achieve greatness," Eggleston said.

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BY THE NUMBERS

35

Million dollars projected for the total cost of the SHE building.

72,500

Square-foot structure. It is located between the Stark Learning Center and Conyngham Hall.

10.4

Million dollars have already been raised through the "Achieving Our Destiny" campaign.

18

Months of construction are expected for the SHE building.

5.8

Million dollars will be generated annually from the new jobs and scientific research.

