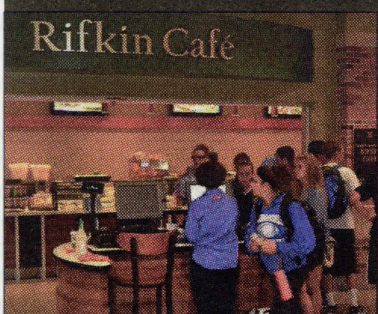




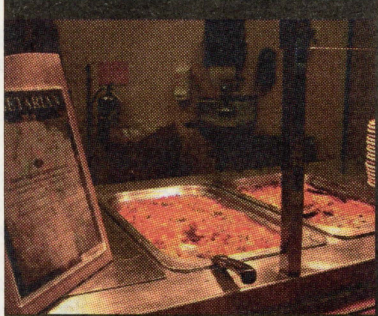
Updating SG vans

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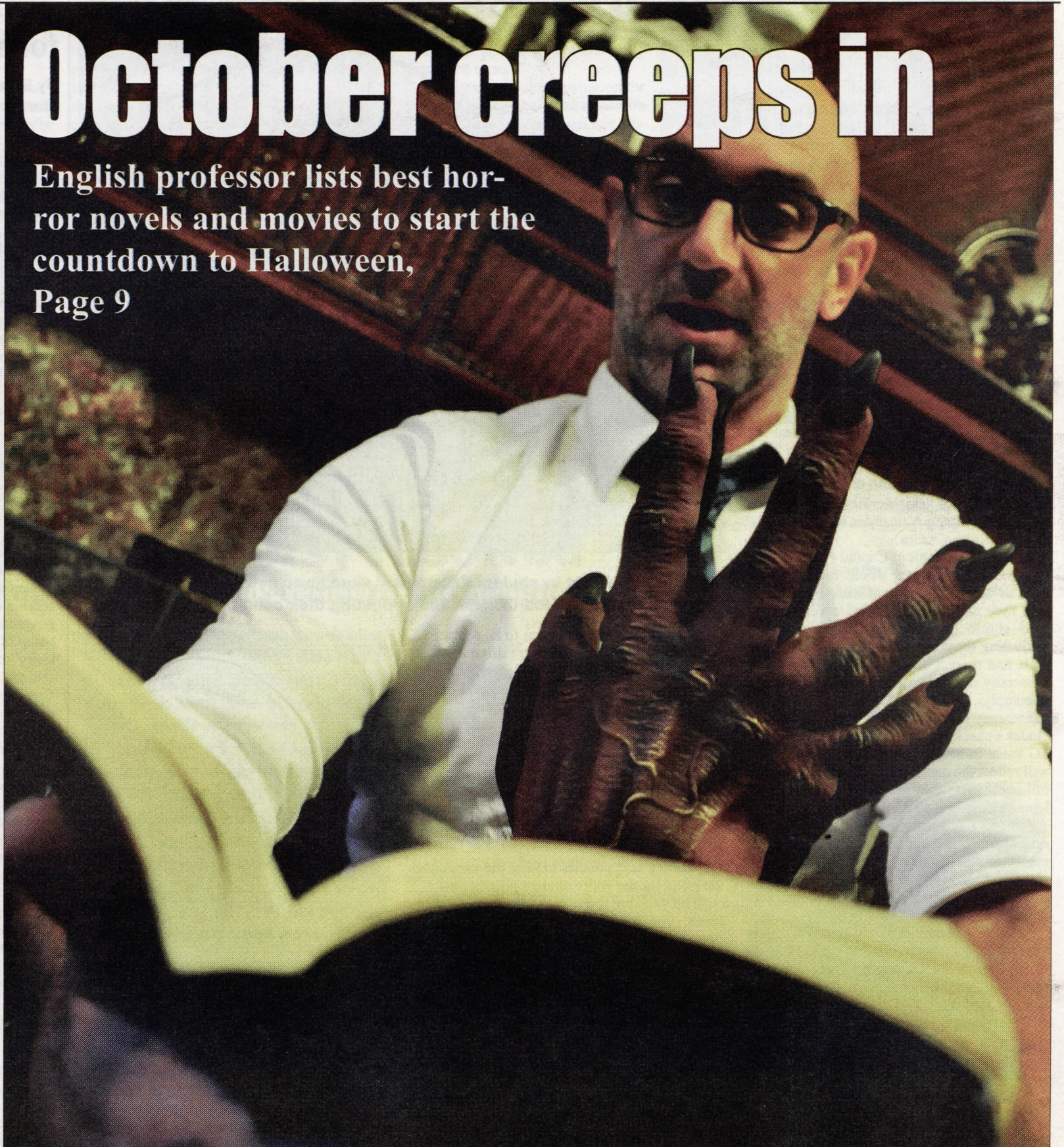


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The Beacon/Laura Preby

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



Oct. 2, 2012

Contact editor: christine.lee@wilkes.edu

SG vans undergo \$840 update after a year of use

By Abbey Haldeman
Assistant News Editor

Last fall after flood relief efforts, the Student Government vans underwent full detailing to return them to their original form. However, over the past year the vans have not had the proper upkeep and SG says they are in need of a full detailing once again.

"They are used on a close to daily basis, it is hundreds of different students using them across the area they just naturally get dirty," John Sweeney, vans committee president and senior class vice president, said.

During the SG meeting held on Sept. 26, the executive board voted to grant the vans committee \$840 to ensure the \$210 fee per van is covered for the full detailing they will undergo starting next week.

"Although it does sound expensive, it is an extremely thorough cleaning," Sweeney said. "It is really a complete 180 from when we drop them off to when we pick them up."

While there has always been a policy in place to help ensure the safety and cleanliness of the university vehicles, they are hoping to make some changes in order to fix some of the re-occurring issues.

Executive Director of Capital Projects John Pesta said the changes would include items such as drivers must be at least 19 years of age, they must submit a Motor Vehicle Record check, drivers being responsible for evaluating the condition of the university vehicle and drivers being subject to applicable university disciplinary procedures for failure to comply.

Sweeney said the vans committee now includes a checklist for those making use of the SG vans. In-town trips will have a form that will reflect the name of the driver, the starting mileage, where they are going and any problems there may be with the vans.

For out-of-town trips, there is a full check-out form, including, name, WIN number, names of passengers, where the trip is going, if the van has a full tank of gas, if it is clean, if the taillights and headlights work and other details.

"We decided that it would be a good time to really update the way that we track the use of the vans to make sure that they are staying clean, that they aren't being left on empty, that we find out when a taillight or a head-



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

The vans rented out by student government were given new regulations dealing with factors as age, record check and evaluating their condition.

light is out or the wipers need to be replaced," Sweeney said. "Because I don't drive them all the time, we need the feedback from students so we can properly maintain them and ensure their safety."

For those using the vans that do not properly follow the new system or are still returning the vans with messes or problems, there will now be a suspension system put in place. For first-time offenders there will be a warning, and after the second and third time there will be a possible a two-week suspension from using the vans.

Sweeney said policies to keep the vans clean are good for the entire student population.

"The vans are there ... so, by keeping them clean, you are not just helping yourselves, you are helping the student body as a whole," Sweeney said.

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Corrections:
In the story "New Shorts' offers eight plays in one" from the Sept. 25 issue, students in the accompany photo were incorrectly identified. The correct caption is "From left: Cierra Cellerari, Jamie Alderiso and Luke Brady act in 'New Shorts.'" Also, in the Sept. 18 issue, the cost of the on-campus parking fee was incorrectly reported. The cost is \$120. The Beacon apologizes for these errors.

Autism group given formal SG club status

By Shawn Carey
Staff Writer

The Student Government meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

All College: \$9,550
Conferences: \$700
General Funds: \$18,213
Leadership: \$600
Spirit: \$872.34
Student Government Total: \$29,935.34
Paintball Club

A representative from the Paintball Club discussed the club and successes over the past year. They are hoping to keep new membership up for the year and want to be sanctioned by the NCPA. The club is on week 1 of 2 for requesting funds for an upcoming trip. The club is requesting \$673.92. They said that they do not have any plans for a large fundraiser because of the transition of leadership.

Autism Speaks

The Autism Speaks club met for the second week. The club is seeking club status by the student government. Club representatives said they met with the community service department who said it would not make sense for them to be considered a community service club, but instead should be a student government recognized club. They said they have 78 students interested in the club, majority of that comes from sophomores and seniors.

A motion was made to recognize the Autism Speaks club as a Student Government recognized club. The motion passed 33-0-7.

Van committee update

The van committee presented for the second week. The committee is seeking funds from Student Government to clean and get new decals for the vans. Chair of the vans committee, John Sweeney, said that the cost for cleaning the vans would be \$840. He was also asking \$70 for new magnetic decals.

A motion was made by treasurer Sam Bickert to allocate \$840 to clean the vans, no magnets. The motion passed 38-2-2. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

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Meet the Staff



Michelle Coyle
Assistant Sports Editor

Wilkes named military-friendly school for the third year in a row

By Devoni Novak
Staff Writer

For the third consecutive year, Wilkes University ranked among the top 15 percent of Military-Friendly Schools in the nation for its dedication to aiding the success of veteran students.

With 55 veterans enrolled, Veterans' Counselor Lt. Col. Mark Kaster explained the significance of Wilkes' making the Military Friendly Schools List in G.I. Jobs Magazine.

"It's a great honor," Kaster said. "It shows that Wilkes has met many high standards to support veterans at many different levels."

When considering which school to attend, "military-friendly" stands out to veterans and encourages them to pursue higher education. Marine Corps veteran Cassandra Mignot, a pre-physical therapy major, is one of those who has benefited from the veterans' counseling program on campus. She said she was looking at four other schools when she decided Wilkes was the one.

Mignot chose Wilkes because of the services the institution offers to vets. Before coming to Wilkes, Mignot attended Penn College, a school that was not as accommodating to the knee injury she acquired while on active duty. As a school that values students that are military veteran, Wilkes has provided Mignot with convenient parking and her professors allow

her to sit during three hour lab courses.

"Wilkes was a lot more military friendly," Mignot said. "They have the yellow ribbon program which allowed me to go to a private school, not a lot of private schools offer that."

As a yellow ribbon school, Wilkes makes an extra effort to aid veteran students. When tuition costs aren't completely covered by the post 9/11 G.I. Bill, Wilkes picks up the remaining costs by splitting the remainder 50/50 with the Department of Veterans Affairs. These benefits can also be passed to a vets spouse and children.

Although all schools accept the G.I. Bill, the yellow ribbon benefits are not always adopted. According to Alex Magee, Marine and president of Veteran Counsel, the added support is a big relief.

"For a lot of veterans, the yellow ribbon benefits are a huge reason for coming to such an expensive private institution," he said. "That's one of the big factors as to why I chose Wilkes."

Magee is taking advantage of her GI bill and the yellow ribbon benefits and hopes to eventually get into the pharmacy program. She said joining the Marine Corps gave her the focus he needed to go back to school and get her degree.

"It's one of those holes in my life that hasn't been filled yet," Magee said. "The Marine Corps definitely helped me focus; now I know which direction I want to go with my life."

Magee feels that being able to use his mili-

tary benefits to further her education at Wilkes is a great honor.

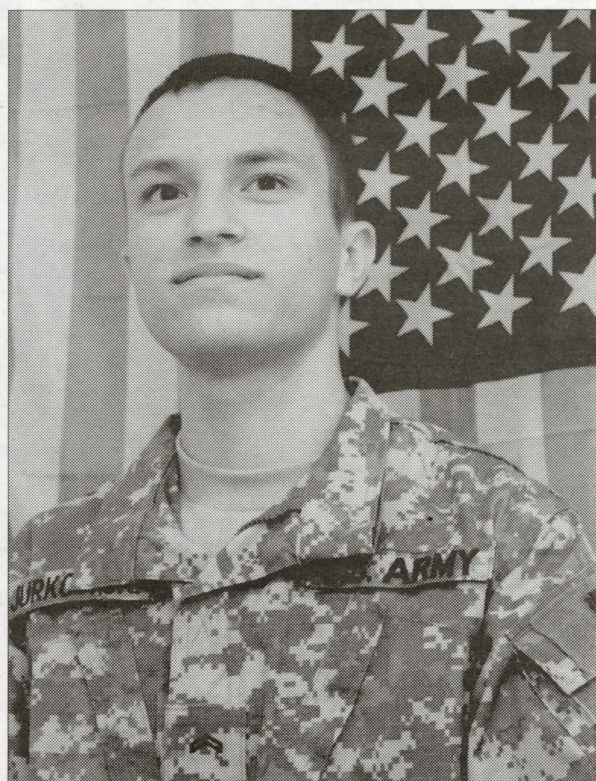
"Every day I wake up it's almost a privilege because of everything I've been through and everything that I did in the military," Magee said. "It is really nice to be able to come back and have the community give back to me."

Wilkes is a guiding institution for veterans as they make the transition from military career to college student according to Kaster. He feels that because Wilkes provides yellow ribbon benefits, the school is genuinely committed to their vet students.

"I believe that hiring me (as veteran counselor) shows a very high level of commitment," she said.

As veteran counselor Kaster feels his position is an opportunity to continue to serve his country.

"I spent 32 years in the military," she said. "I always felt to serve our country was a great honor for me and in a way I am still doing that by helping the vets at so many different levels."



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

Junior nursing major and Air Force ROTC member Tim Jurkowski is one of those helped by the recently hired veterans' counselor.



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Colonel logo controversy resolved Md. high school using Wilkes logo has removed infringement

By Christine Lee
News Editor

A high school in Maryland using a logo bearing an uncanny resemblance to the Wilkes colonel logo has removed the design from everything school-related.

The Beacon first reported in 2011 that Colonel Zadok A. Magruder High School in Rockville, Md. was using a logo looking exactly like the colonel logo primarily used by Wilkes athletic teams. The case came to the attention of administrators when wrestling coach Jon Laudenslager visited the high school on a recruiting trip in December 2010.

The discovery led administrators to question whether it was possible they had infringed up on Magruder's logo. However, an investigation later revealed Wilkes had purchased the sole rights to the logo from New York City-based Phoenix Design Works in 2003.

According to associate vice president of marketing communications and government relations Jack Chielli, after the incident was brought to Wilkes administrators' attention, a letter and phone calls were sent to Magruder asking them to stop using Wilkes' logo. Chielli said because the school wasn't a direct competitor and it wasn't misusing the logo, it had an unspecified period of time to remove and change the logo.

Magruder Principal Leroy Evans said the situation came as a complete surprise on his

part and everyone involved with the school, as no one knew they were infringing on Wilkes' logo until representative visited the school.

"It took a lot of us by complete surprise," Evans said.

However, Evans said the school complied with the request from Wilkes and removed the logo from everything school-related.

"We started the process immediately of removing the mascot," Evans said.

Evans said the school understood fully that it was infringing on Wilkes' logo and it is designing several new logos.

"We are in the process of creating a new, unique logo," Evans said. "We hope to have two, one that is business-academic and one for sports."

Evans said the school is still completing the design with the help of students and faculty. It is also making sure these new logos are authentic.

Chielli said he hasn't had any communication with Magruder since the formal request was sent to remove the logo. He explained it was important for Wilkes and Magruder to have separate identities to avoid confusion.

"When it comes to university identities such as mascots, it's pretty difficult to have someone imitate your logo so directly," Chielli said.

"While there isn't a great danger that anything could happen there is some confusion or if something should happen at the high school and that particular icon gets splashed all over the national media, people would confuse it with ours, and that's the main reason for such

separate identities."

Evans said the school did the right thing by removing the logo to avoid any legal proceedings.

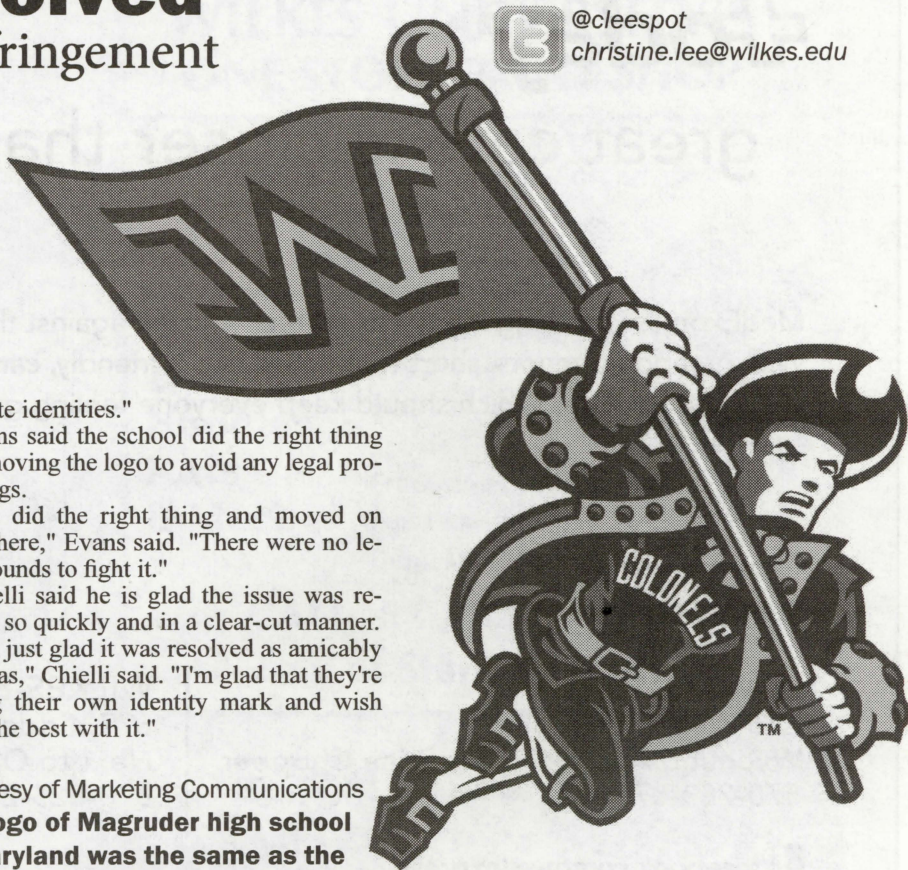
"We did the right thing and moved on from there," Evans said. "There were no legal grounds to fight it."

Chielli said he is glad the issue was resolved so quickly and in a clear-cut manner.

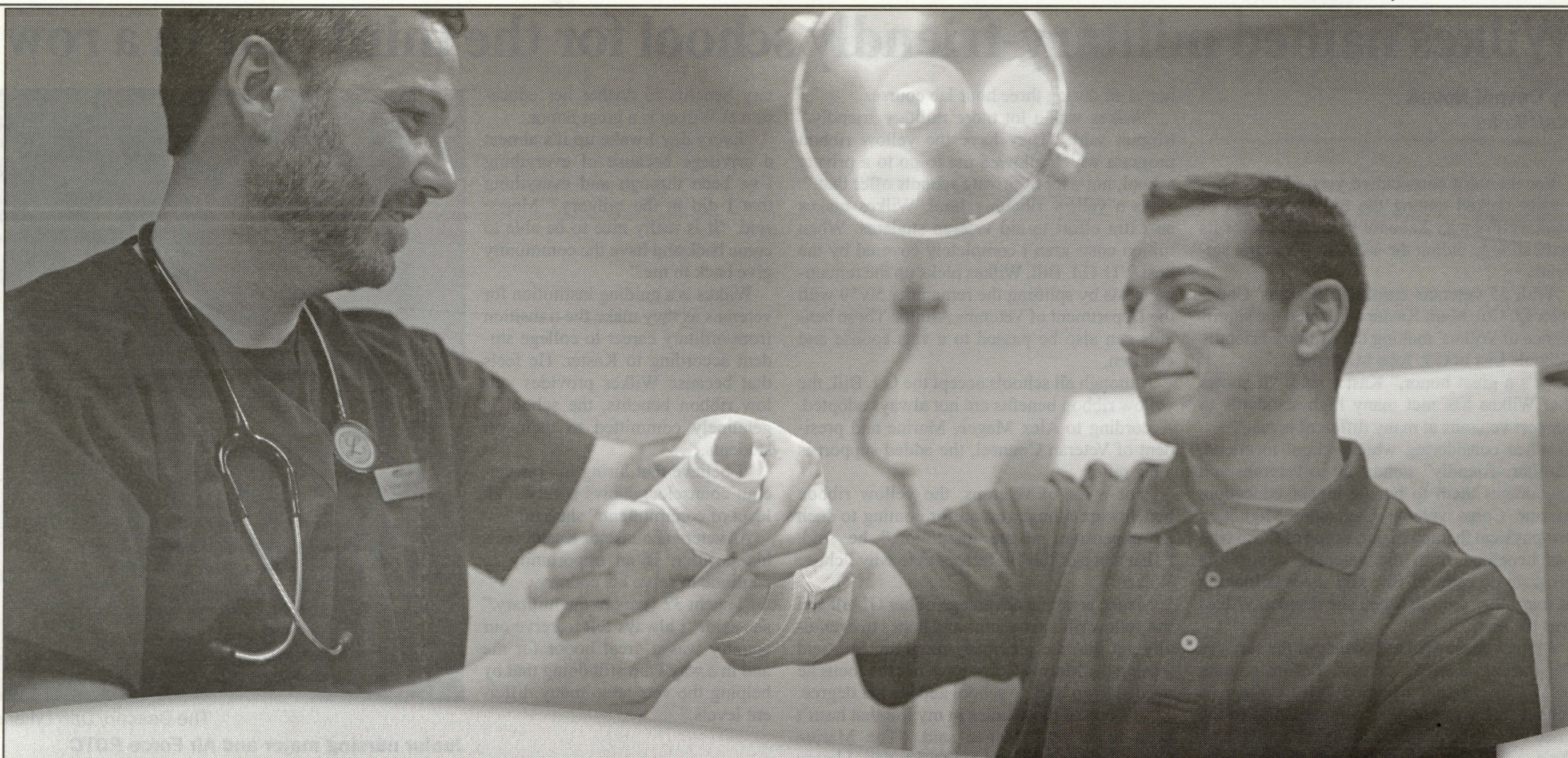
"I'm just glad it was resolved as amicably as it was," Chielli said. "I'm glad that they're getting their own identity mark and wish them the best with it."

Courtesy of Marketing Communications

The logo of Magruder high school in Maryland was the same as the one below except the 'W' in the flag was replaced with an 'M' and was shaded grey and purple. The logo has been removed.



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Wilkes to unveil new mobile application this semester

By Shawn Carey
Staff Writer

Now, Wilkes can count itself among those who can say, "there is an app for that!"

Debuting for the fall 2012 semester, Wilkes is creating a mobile application for students that have an iOS or Android smartphone.

"The app will allow us to bundle a lot of services to students. So think of it as a mobile version of the MyWilkes portal," Chief Information Officer Gloria Barlow, said.

The app will be linked directly to the student's LIVE D2L account, have access to events on campus, sports schedules and weekly dining menus.

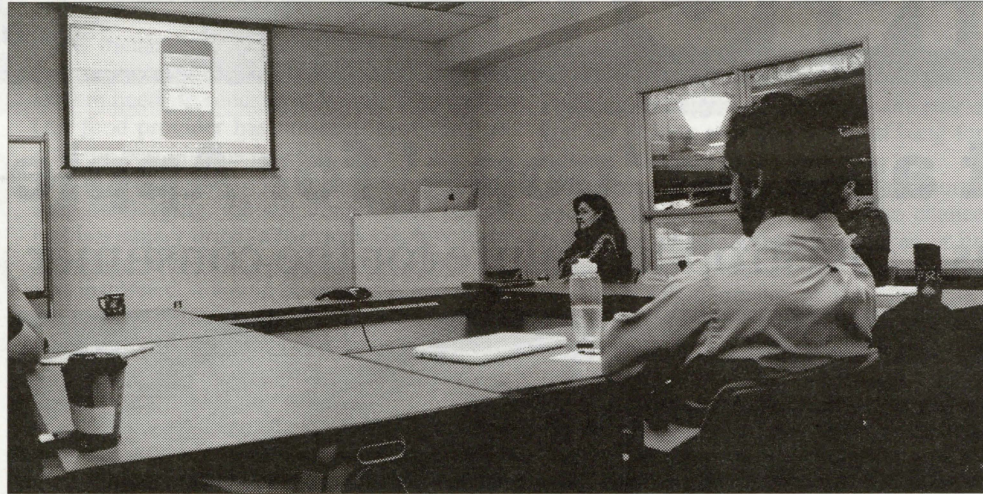
Students will be able to download the app for free.

There will be different "phases" for the app and more features will be added to the app in the future.

However, the features will be dependent on student's reaction to the app.

The tentative release of the app is scheduled for the middle of October. So far, students seem to be very excited about the release of the app as well.

"It would be really convenient to be able to have information like the dinner menu and



The Beacon/Dan Lykens
Chief Information Technology officer Gloria Barlow presented a rough draft of the app to faculty, staff and administrators in a meeting on Sept. 26.

sports schedule at my fingertips no matter where I am," sophomore pre-pharmacy Krista Bower major, said.

The app is being made by mobile convergence company Moofwd, whose primary goal of is to design mobile applications that stu-

dents and faculty members can use for educational purposes.

Barlow has been working with Moofwd since February to design an app that students would want to use.

This past week, The Beacon, was able to get

an "insiders-look" at the new proposed app that students will use.

Students will have access to their professors, grades and course documents whenever they want.

Professors will be able to send students notifications right to their mobile device when there is new course content. Students will also have access to their grades and how they are doing in each course.

Barlow said the cost the university has to pay for the app is laid out in a "pay-per-student" agreement.

"A wonderful thing that I am delighted with this company is that it is taking a more progressive pricing model," Barlow said. The university will only pay for the number of students that download the app and not a large lump sum of money.

Barlow also said that she will be having a contest for students to name the new app. There will be more information to come.

Students with any questions about the app or contest can contact Barlow at gloria.barlow@wilkes.edu.



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Ed prof gives education lecture

By Haley Adam
Correspondent

Gina Morrison, associate professor in the School of Education will present a free public lecture on "The Malaysia Opportunity" at 4:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 8, in Room 214 of the Marts building as part of the Educational Forum series.

Series co-founders Robert and Judith Gardner started the series as an outgrowth of their personal classroom teaching.

It is a way that students, faculty, staff and the public can learn about issues in education without being cooped up in a classroom all day.

"It's part of our philosophy of teaching that learning should not be confined to the classroom," Robert Gardner explained. "We believed that these experiences offer opportunities to be other places and hear other voices. These are powerful experiences that help people understand what education can be."

Other lectures in the forum are scheduled throughout the semester. The topics are varied so as to reach out to different people.

Lecture topics vary from "Using Library of Congress Resources in K-12 Classrooms with An Overview of the Junior Fellows Intern Program," presented Oct. 3 by retired senior information specialist in the copyright department of the Library of Congress.

Another is "The Independent School Experience," presented by Wyoming Seminary academic dean and dean of the faculty Randy Granger on Nov. 7.



Courtesy of Wilkes in Malaysia blog
Dr. Gina Morrison will deliver a lecture for the Educational Forum series which will focus on multi-cultural education, specifically her work teaching in Malaysia.



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Oct. 2, 2012

Contact editor: carly.yamrus@wilkes.edu

Replacement app an 'oops' for Apple

iOS6's Apple Maps was a catastrophic failure for the consumer

By The Beacon Editorial Staff

Apple's new operating system is now available for purchase and despite the many features it offers to faithful, casual and long-term Apple users, the smartphone contains one huge flaw. The upgrade to iOS6 eliminated Google's Mapping application, the default map app for the iPhone and iPad.

Not only did Apple attempt to cut ties with the largest, most reliable and widely used mapping tool known to humankind, it also failed miserably with its replacement application.

'Hooray, I have the newest version of Apple's operating system on my iPhone: iOS6, but now I am lost. I am lost because Apple took away my long time default 'go to' mapping application: Google Maps and they replaced it with their own version of maps, which leads me literally in the wrong direction,' said this reporter along with thousands of other consumers.

Apple's forced alternative to Google Maps is not even close to the quality of Google's Maps in many ways.

Users have experienced multiple issues since the new Maps made its debut on iOS6. The app has been said to miscalculate locations of entire cities, businesses, streets and towns and display a melting wavy effect on many of the streets in satellite view. Many have compared Apple's maps to Salvador Dali's Persistence of Memory painting.

Blogs, news sources, forums and social networks have been buzzing over the past weeks about this inferior "upgraded" mapping application.

Christina Bonnington, a writer for Wired, calls this new app a "Mapocalypse."

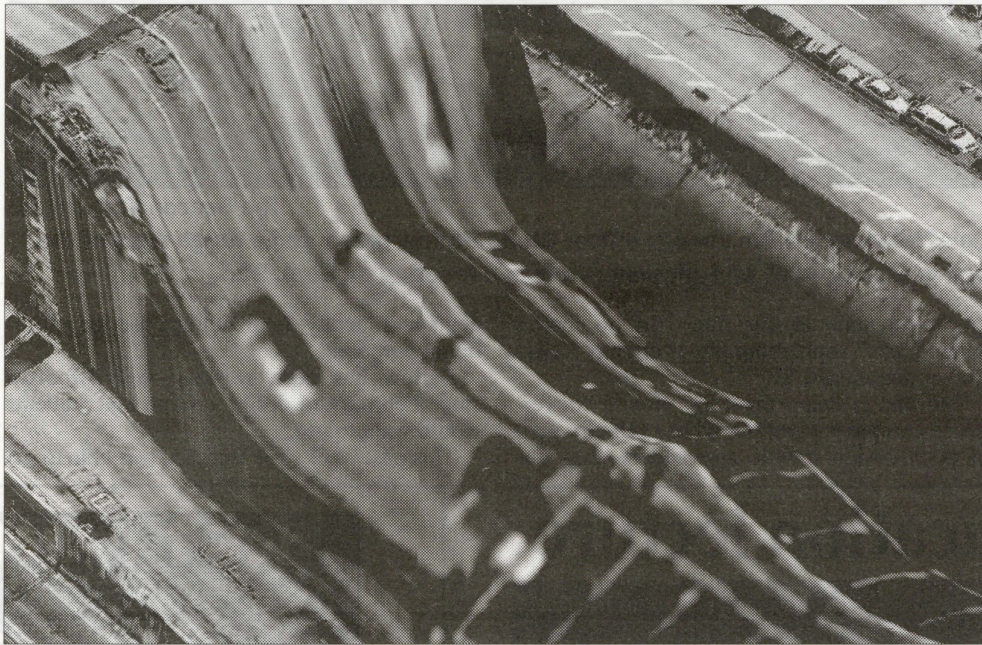
Huffington Post calls the new map app a "debacle."

And @jsjohnst tweeted it best: "Doing LSD was one of the most important things I've done in my life." --Steve Jobs

Before we agreed with all these people (there were many more), The Beacon staff decided to investigate how Apple's new map app compared to Google.

When we opened Maps for the first time, we decided to lookup the Brooklyn Bridge in New York City. When we found the pin we dropped it on the Brooklyn Bridge location, I was shocked to see the Brooklyn Bridge collapsed and cars driving off the edge into a hole in the ground.

TomTom, the leading manufacturer of automotive navigation systems in Europe, is a major contributor for all the information Apple used to create this digitized wonky version of navigation. However, they maintain the fact they had no part in the actual creation of the



Screenshot Courtesy of Apple Maps iOS6 Maps

The Brooklyn Bridge is just one of the many iconic structures distorted in satellite view on Apple Maps. Users are also plagued with misrepresentations of entire cities, businesses, streets and towns.

app.

"There is a difference between a map and an app. We don't develop the app. We license the map data, which is like a foundation. The customer can build on top of that, but we license the same mapping data to all our customers," said TomTom media manager Cem Cohen.

If an alien were to look at this application before visiting our planet, they would think our world was in chaos (without the smoke and fire of course), I bet this was not in the data Apple received from TomTom.

"We don't know what is causing the issues (on the Apple maps) but from our perspective the quality of our data is great and we stand behind it," said Caroline Fisher, vice-president of TomTom's consumer business unit.

TomTom insists they will continue to work with Apple and give them support to work out there mapping issues.

"We are more than willing to work with Apple to help fix any problems, as we would with any of our customers," said Fisher.

TomTom is known mainly in the US for its line of small navigation systems that can be placed on dashboards inside cars.

Apple stands committed to fixing the problems associated with their mapping service.

"We launched this new map service knowing it is a major initiative and that we are just getting started with it," an Apple spokeswoman said, according to Mashable.

Getting started with what? How can I possibly worry about "getting started with" a form of navigation on my phone that does not work? It seems to The Beacon that Apple was a little unprepared.

There has also been a blog set up solely dedicated to listing all the problems people have with the new Apple software. The blog is called The Amazing iOS6 Maps blog and can be found at: theamazingios6maps.tumblr.com/.

People can submit their own issues for review, The Amazing iOS6 blog collects them and distributes them across the Internet.

All of this negative publicity is still publicity for Apple. Apple will continue to still have these faithful, casual and long term users. This map app dud can be hopefully be remembered as just a hiccup in Apple's past in the future.

We are sure there are many software updates to come to Apple's iOS6. These updates will no doubt build on the feedback Apple has been getting bombarded with across the world. Although, Apple still may never be on par or surpass what Google has been building with its mapping app since 2005. Google Maps is here to stay. Apple Maps still needs to prove itself.



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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 seven responses.

Last week's question:

Do you think employers have the right to view online profiles to make employment decisions?



This week The Beacon asks:

About how many apps do you have on your smartphone?

- 0 apps
- 1-5 apps
- 6-10 apps
- 11-20 apps
- More than 20 apps
- I do not have a smartphone

Cast your vote online at:

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

Rifkin cafe should accommodate student requests

By Nicholas Wesley
Correspondent

Progress is an illusive dream, or so it seems. With change comes growing pains, but with time come amendments, and so we progress. At Wilkes University we have seen many changes come about with our food supplier, Sodexo. Within the past few months we have seen changes such as late night in Rifkin, the dropping of Einstein Bagels, and the introduction of Starbuck's coffee. Despite all the bells and whistles, there are still some major underlying problems with campus dining options.

Late night at Rifkin is one example as I experienced firsthand. When a person goes to eat one last time before they go to bed, they normally opt for something light and healthy to allow that person to fall asleep faster and wake up earlier. In my isolated incident I wanted a buffalo chicken wrap, nothing more, nothing less.

Upon picking this one wrap I was told that it comes with chips, a fountain drink and a brownie. My reaction was simple. I said that I did not want the brownie, chips or fountain drink, all I require is a wrap. When I asked how much the wrap would be I was told I could not pay for the sandwich alone.

"We have to charge you for the whole package, you cannot just get the one item," Sodexo said.

A student's health is directly related to his or her performance. A healthy individual will have more energy and focus. More energy and

focus translates to an increase in knowledge retention and problem solving. This is what a student needs to succeed at Wilkes University. Our food provider has not been providing us with the best options possible.

So I kindly went to the manager. I am planning on sleeping, the last thing I need before bed is a sugary drink, a high-calorie, low-taste brownie or a bag of Lays potato chips. But as I was instructed, it would be impossible to serve me just the wrap, I am required to have these other food items. I am required to pay \$7 to Sodexo because it is after 8 p.m. and there is nothing they can do about it.

So there you have it folks, we built the Panama Canal, we figured out how to put a man on the moon in less than 10 years, but it is im-

possible to separate a meal from a sandwich after 8 p.m. Somehow I'm not convinced. It's a pricing strategy; Sodexo could care less what you eat as long as it gets the most bang for its sub-par buck.

The second problem is there are no organic options. Besides coffee there is no chance of finding an organic tomato or chicken or juice. That's a major problem. If I am expected to buy from this company, at least give me the choice to eat what I want, something healthy, wholesome, and something that is not killing the earth, acre by chemical ridden acre.

From this point on I am opting to vote with my dollar. I will not buy from a company that will sacrifice health for money. Instead I am going to shop local and do what this university

is so keen on claiming they're doing and that is enhance the Wilkes-Barre community. Bring outside funds into local restaurants, shop at the farmers market which is every Thursday on the square.

There are plenty of places that will give you much more bang for your buck. For example, Maer's BBQ, right on Main Street will give you a fantastic BLT with pulled pork for around \$7, and it is open late!

Circles, on the square, has delicious sandwiches and artisan food products, along with a deli to make your own cold cuts at home. Euro bistro has slow-cooked, fresh gyro's and salad bowls for around \$5.

There are numerous other examples, Frank's Pizza, Pete's Place, Akeno Sushi, Abe's hot dogs all which serve better food for much less than Rifkin. Most people get the block meals and dining dollars for convenience, but it's a rip off.

What can Sodexo do? Give a S***! My goal is to show what's available and how we can save money, contribute to the community, and best of all eat better. You only live once, why eat microwaved chicken when there is a cook slaving over a slow-cooked BBQ chicken not 200 yards from you right now?



The Beacon archives

Rifkin Cafe should offer more choices for students, including organic options and late-night meals with less sugar and calories.

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America's obsession with celebrities brings our country down

By Lyndsie Yamrus
Assistant Opinion Editor

In the news today, among political remarks, NHL and NFL lockout rants and whatever Apple has to say: "Kristen Stewart in Short Shorts." And guess what, guys. She paired the shorts with a nude and black-colored top and black patent leather shoes. Additionally, her relationship with Twilight co-star Robert Pattinson has been rekindled, if anyone cares.

I just want to thank ABCNews.com for sharing this fascinating information with all of us. News like that is definitely too big of a deal to leave out, I know.

In all seriousness, ABC, are stories like this necessary? I think not.

A similar news article that I had stumbled across online a few weeks ago displayed a bold headline that mentioned both "9/11" and "Kardashian."

Turns out, while every other major news network paused their scheduled programs to air the moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. in remembrance of the 2001 attacks, NBC decided that it was OK to just go ahead and completely skip over the tribute and continue the "Today Show" airing of a story on Kardashian mom Kris Jenner's breast augmentation.

More than one person at NBC must have thought this was fine because the network actually went through with it. After intense criticism, the network hardly apologized, stating

Rather than focusing on important news topics, the media often covers the lives of celebrities. Focusing on celebrity gossip is a waste of time and shows us how skewed our priorities are.

The Beacon/
Austin Loukas



that NBC had already devoted a significant amount of airtime to anniversary events and that acknowledging the national moment of silence "wasn't their tradition" like all of the other major news stations, and an apology was therefore unnecessary.

What completely blows my mind more than NBC's distasteful actions is the fact that people actually care about Kris Jenner's personal life choice to get implant replacements, Kristen Stewart's outfits, that Miley Cyrus cut her hair, or that Justin Bieber is writing a book. Hundreds and thousands of women get breast implants every year, we all wear clothes, everyone cuts their hair, and an uncountable number of people write books.

Looks like we have a problem: America is altogether unhealthily obsessed with celebrities. We stalk them on Twitter like we know them and take humiliating pictures of them for our own enjoyment. We spend our hard-earned money on perfume, clothes, shoes and other items solely because their names are on them.

Our priorities are all wrong.

When Neil Armstrong passed away recently, coverage of the story and his life were rather limited. I don't even think I found out until a day later. With that, NBCNews.com actually even managed to screw up big time on one of their article headlines. The title read, "Astronaut Neil Young, first man to walk on the moon, dies at age 82." I could be wrong, but

I'm pretty positive that Neil Young is still alive and is most certainly not an astronaut. News networks were apparently broadcasting their usual jail documentaries and re-run interviews a few hours after the news broke, according to the Huffington Post.

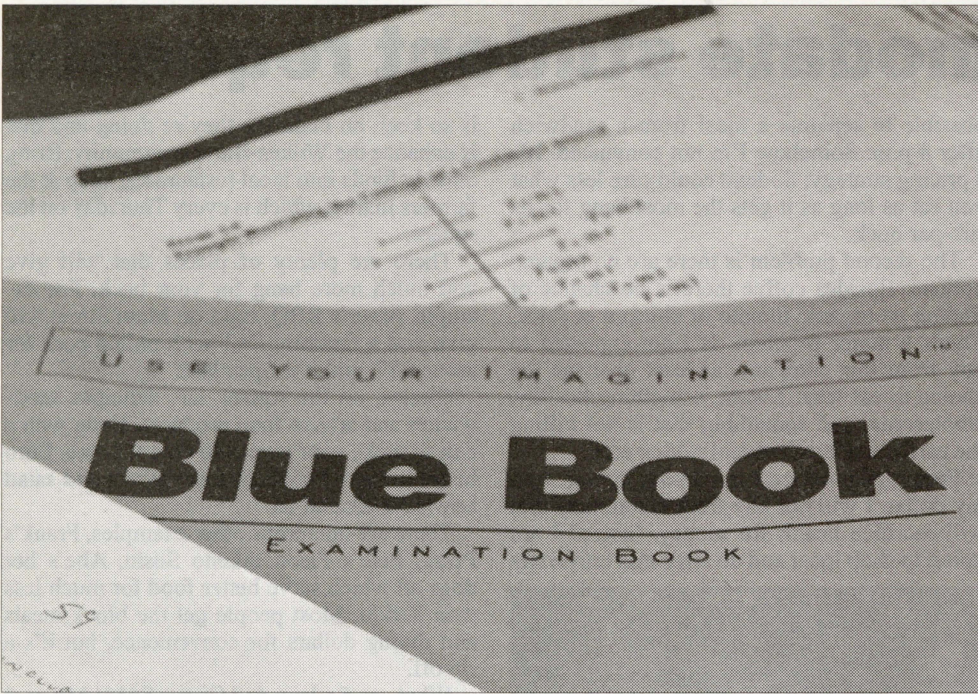
But when news broke of Michael Jackson's death back in 2009 however, the media went nuts. The King of Pop made headlines every week for a long while. Whitney Houston's death in February gained significant coverage as well. In any case, the man who took one "giant leap for mankind" should have been celebrated just a little bit more.

The media clearly doesn't have their priorities straight if they think Kris Jenner's implants are more important than a remembrance service for the victims of Sept. 11, or that Neil Armstrong deserves less air-time than a documentary about criminals in jail and a couple of celebrities.

Let's talk about something that matters instead of who is dating who, who wore what, or the latest Hollywood scandal. A lot of the gossip knowledge fed to us by the media is useless, and we don't need to be wasting our time hearing the nonsense.

As they say, "Great people talk about ideas, average people talk about things, and small people talk about other people."

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The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Assigning a perfect score to students' work gives them the idea that their work is flawless and does not need improvement. Is a 4.0 really perfect?

Perfect scores hinder learning

"4.0's will mean nothing to me when I am out of school and need to apply the information I learned to real life scenarios."

By Carly Yamrus
Opinion Editor

A lot of people here at Wilkes have a similar goal, and that is to obtain a certain GPA. Preferably a high one. We spend our semesters striving for that 4.0; a perfect score. But is a 4.0 really a perfect score?

Well it really depends on what you are measuring. The knowledge in testing can be either objective, which is unbiased, factual information, or subjective, which can be analytical and interpretive. A 4.0 in a calculus class is far different from a 4.0 in a creative writing class. In calculus, you either got the answer right or you got it wrong. In the writing class though, there is always room for improvement.

In my first year English course I received multiple 4.0's on papers that I believed were far from flawless. So here is where I pull out the double-edged sword. Of course I want a 4.0. Why? Because we need a high GPA to succeed in future endeavors. But did I deserve a 4.0? I don't think I did. I wanted my papers to be better. I would rather be a good writer with a C than an average writer with an A.

We are cheating our students by telling them that they are turning in perfect work when they have ample amounts of room to expand their ideas and improve their abilities. There is simply too much emphasis placed on getting that "perfect" score.

When we focus so hard on such an impractical grading system we lose sight of the real goal of higher education, which is to learn and understand new ideas and to practice until we

get it right.

I have found myself on many occasions cramming in last-minute fragments of information for a test, and then completely forgetting what I had learned after I was done. That 4.0 will mean nothing to me when I am out of school and need to apply the information I learned to real-life scenarios. So much information, so little time.

We are sponges. Always absorbing information and then getting it squeezed out of us so we can absorb more. A vicious cycle, really.

I suppose the number grades are really only there as an incentive to try. Not everyone is self-motivated enough to want to learn information for the sake of knowing.

So which is more effective: infiltrating our brains with a vast amount of information that we have a nominal understanding of, or focusing on only a moderate amount of topics that we have more time to become familiar with? A 4.0 to me doesn't necessarily mean you know the information.

I really do believe that too much emphasis is placed on the grade. A 4.0 seems to me like a period at the end of a sentence. Once its reached, we're done. Finished. Don't have to learn anymore. But really there is no end to our knowledge and understanding.

There is always room for improvement. We should continue to further develop our skills and go beyond our set definition of what is "perfect."



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Internship Fair



**Thursday, Oct 18th
11am - 1pm
Ballroom, 2nd Floor**

**Bring Résumé
Dress Professionally**

Contact:
Sharon Castano
(570) 408-2950
sharon.castano@wilkes.edu

Oct. 2, 2012

Contact editor: billthomas@thewilkesbeacon.com

Horror instructor recommends Halloween fare for thrill seekers

By Chad Stanley

Associate Professor of English

Spiders and mice. The dark. Nuclear war. Rats and actually "any sort of critter." Clowns, mimes and people in "huge costumes (like) the Easter Bunny."

What these things have in common is that they were all responses when I asked students in my current ENG 397: Horror and Science-Fiction in Modern Literature course, "What are you afraid of?" Apparently, there are a lot of things that scare us, even those of us who have willingly enrolled in a course on horror fiction.

This is not surprising. During the Cold War, fear became cultural currency. Now, more recent events have awakened anxieties that generally lay dormant during the 1990s. It's no wonder that horror has again become a growth enterprise and that horror writing and filmmaking are undergoing a new renaissance.

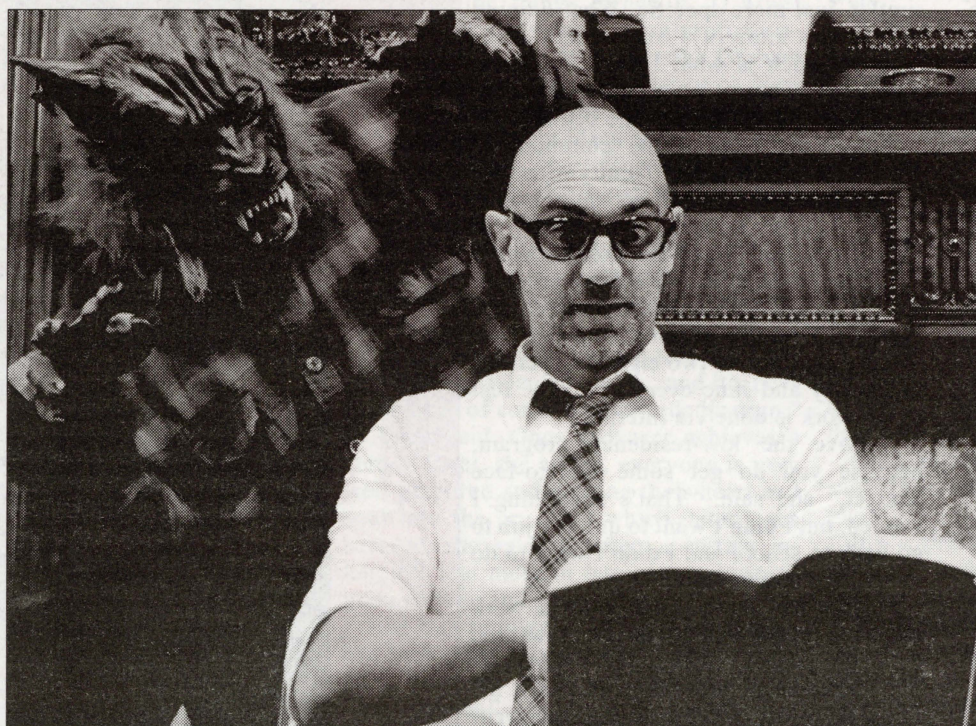
But while horror novels and films capitalize on and sometimes amplify our fears, they should also allow us to put our anxieties into perspective, reminding us that our world is actually a much safer place than we often perceive it to be: Werewolves and vampires don't really exist – and as the Centers for Disease Control glibly reminded us this summer, neither do zombies.

As long as we keep this in mind and truly do keep it real, there's some great scary stuff out there to enjoy – as always, it's a good time to be scared.

The following list collects a number of interesting, mature and multicultural American, British, Spanish, Norwegian and Russian horror novels and films:

"The Ritual" (2011)
written by Adam Nevill

Starting with the line "And on the second day things did not get better," this novel focuses on a group of former college friends hiking through Sweden. They get lost, bicker and fight, and things get progressively worse. Then they encounter something else in the woods. A supernaturally infused improvisation on James Dickey's "Deliverance," this novel is also an interesting take on a very real early-'90s Norwegian cult and its legacy. Nevill's "Apartment 16" (2010) is excellent as well, and his newest novel, "Last Days" (not yet published outside of the U.K.), is spookier than anything else he's written.



The Beacon/Laura Preby

Chad Stanley has heard of college students acting like wild animals, but this is ridiculous. Can't a guy enjoy a book without lycanthropic interference?

"Dog Soldiers" (2002)
directed by Neil Marshall

The "Twilight" films tell us that where vampires shop at Hot Topic, werewolves model for Abercrombie & Fitch. But it's a lot easier to make an informed life-decision about selecting a vampire or a were-boy as your significant other when the werewolves are 8-foot tall mangy critters that look like Scottish Deerhounds on steroids. This movie is fun and smart, from a time before we completely "Fight Club"-ed the image of the werewolf (see "Underworld"). Also, like Marshall's later film, "Doomsday," this movie pokes fun at the history of Scottish-English tensions and related concepts of race and ethnicity.

"Mr. Gaunt and Other Uneasy Encounters" (2008)
written by John Langan

This collection contains some very creative short stories. My personal picks are: "On Skua Island," about the exhumation of a bog mummy, and the over-the-top titled "Episode Seven: Last

Stand against the Pack in the Kingdom of the Purple Flowers," where two people are pursued not by werewolves, but a pack of another kind of seriously supersized canines.

"[Rec]" (2007), and "[Rec] 2" (2009)
directed by Paco Plaza

These two Spanish films – about what at first appears to be a standard zombie outbreak – are extremely tense, realistic and immersive. Filmed in "shaky cam mode," they create a sense of immediacy and powerlessness for the viewer. Unusually, the sequel is every bit as good as the original, and they are both very smart, and very scary. Nyctophobics beware.

"Horns" (2010)
written by Joe Hill

So the story goes: a twentysomething man goes out for the night and wakes up feeling less than well. Not an ideal or to-be-condoned situation, but not so unusual. At least not so unusual until we realize that he's grown horns overnight,

which explains the headache. Understandably, he puts on a hat. But then people start telling him about their most disturbing urges, and the horns grow. "Horns" is a brilliant, surreal, funny and quite sentimental, heartfelt horror novel. Essentially a breakup story, it's a mixture of Nick Hornby's "High Fidelity," Franz Kafka's "The Metamorphosis" and Stephen King, who is, in real life, Joe Hill's father.

"Troll Hunter" (2010)
directed by Andre Ovredal

I didn't think there was any way the image of a troll could arouse fear or even laughter anymore. I was wrong, so very wrong. Here, a few students in Norway decide to investigate illegal bear shootings; They're film/communications majors, so they videotape everything. However, instead of finding an unlicensed bear-hunter, they find a troll-hunter, a sort of fish-and-game warden employed by the Norwegian government. Not all that scary, but a really fun movie.

"Dead Snow" (2009)
directed by Tommy Wirkola

Another Norwegian film, this – be warned – is a much more gory horror-comedy about a much more real historical inheritance. During World War II, Norway was occupied by Germany, and while Norwegians established an effective resistance force, Vidkun Quisling seized power and became the nation's Germany-backed leader. Horrors, and a legacy of guilt, ensued. In this movie, students head to the mountains for a holiday in the snow. There, they get a history lesson and confront zombified German soldiers.

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Read more of Dr. Stanley hair-raising horror book and movie picks at TheWilkesBeacon.com

HALLOWEEN . COUNTDOWN

29 Days

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CULTURE CLASH
with Sarah Mitrotz & Bill Thomas
Vampires vs. Zombies



THE BOOK REPORT
with Anne Yoskoski
"Grave Mercy," by Robin LeFevers



THE GRAVEYARD SHTICK
with Jake Cochran
Examining Andrea

Creative Writing grads brings visions to life

From stage to screen to printed page, Wilkes students make good

By Bill Thomas
A&E Editor

In their heads, it's all so clear. The images are vivid, the characters as real as people in the flesh. It's not always easy, though, for writers to translate the things they see in their mind's eye onto paper.

That's where Wilkes University's low-residency Creative Writing MA/MFA program comes in.

"I grew up down South, in Alabama," Taylor M. Polites said. "I went to college in St. Louis to study history and French. Then I moved to New York City and ended up working in finance for 13 years, but I always wanted to write novels."

Polites, who now lives in Providence, R.I., graduated the program with his MFA in 2010. His first novel, "The Rebel Wife," about the struggles of a Civil War widow, was published by Simon & Schuster earlier this year.

While the idea behind "The Rebel Wife" predates history-buff Polites' enrollment at Wilkes, Polites nevertheless said it was the Creative Writing program that helped him refine the skills he needed to bring his long-held vision to life.

"It was great to go down to my basement and write every day. I was making progress and I was writing things, but it was in a bubble," Polites said. "I had this anxiety of wondering 'Am I doing this right? Is what I'm writing making sense? How can I understand the quality of the work I'm doing?' I began to realize the kind of support and feedback I could get from a community of writers."

"Community" is a word that seems to pop up a lot when talking to graduates of the program. And quite the sizeable community it is, named by literary organization Poets & Writers as the largest program of its kind in the country.

The program currently has 79 full-time and 11 part-time students enrolled, instructed by 30 faculty members in five tracts: fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, playwriting and screenwriting.

The faculty line-up covers every aspect of the writing world, from editors and published authors — like Beverly Donofrio, whose memoir "Riding in Cars with Boys" was turned into a movie of the same name starring Drew Barrymore — to literary agents and film producers.

"A lot of the programs I looked at before Wilkes' didn't offer screenwriting," Jonathan Rocks, of Philadelphia, said, noting the wide range of styles and genres the program covers.

Rocks finished the program in 2009 and has since had a screenplay he wrote in it, called "Luke Whimsey," optioned by New York-based production company Triboro Pictures, who will take the script to this year's American Film Market at the end of October to seek funding.

"My expectations were more than met,

they were exceeded," Rocks said of the program. "I came out of an undergraduate program and I expected something similar, just more specific. What I found instead was more of a true writers' community, which is what I think (program founders) Bonnie Culver and Mike Lennon have strived for since the beginning."

There's that word again, "community." All despite students and faculty often being separated by miles, if not entire states.

For Laurie Powers, who lives in Shreveport, La., one of the most attractive things about the Creative Writing program was its balance of in-person and distance learning: Creative Writing students visit Wilkes' campus for two eight-day periods in January and June every year. The rest of the work is done via Internet.

"I love the low-residency program, because you do get some face-to-face contact," she said. "That's something I wanted, but I didn't want to quit my job to go back to school and I didn't want to do everything online either."

Powers has done visual effects work on many major motion pictures written by other people, including "The Amazing Spider-Man" and "Men in Black 3." Looking to develop her own screenwriting further, she recently received her MA through the program, and is pursuing an MFA.

"Killing Time," one of Powers' own screenplays, which she wrote in the program, was recently made into a short film that is now a finalist in the Louisiana Film Prize festival, due to take place this coming weekend. Passionate about working in mediums outside of film as well, though, Powers' MA thesis was a stage play called "Spirit Medium."

Telling the story of supposed psychic Mina Crandon, who is best-known today for her early 20th century clashes with Harry Houdini, "Spirit Medium" has since had readings in Los Angeles and New York City. Another play Powers wrote, "The Trunk," was staged at the Virginia Playwrights' Forum last November.

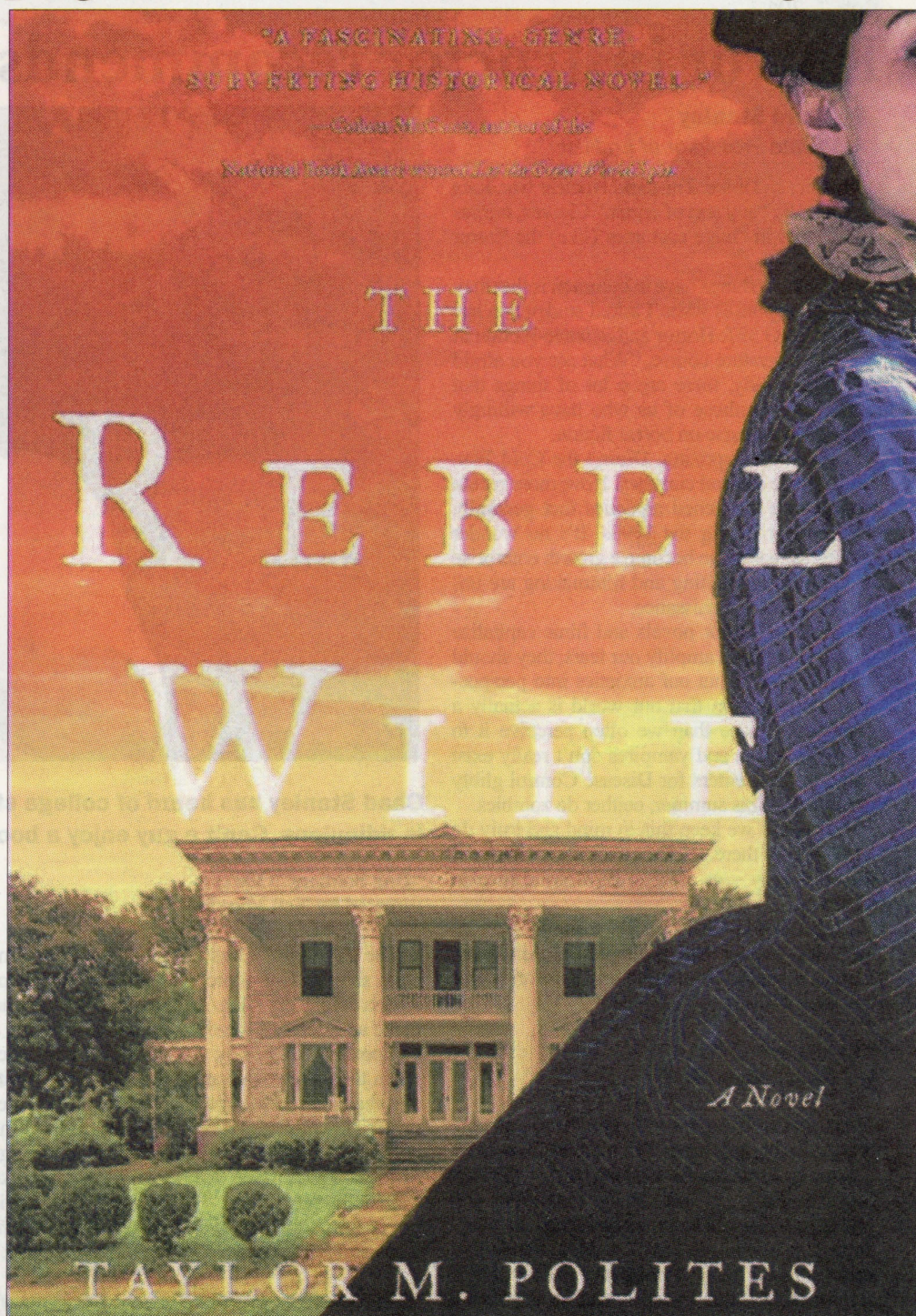
All of these things, Powers said, may never have happened if it weren't for her participation in the program.

"Before I went in, I liked to write but I wasn't really disciplined to write. Going through the program really puts you in the mindset of being a writer and writing every day," she said.

"It helps you understand how to start a project and how to finish it and how to get through all the hard stuff in the middle that a lot of people give up on."



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Courtesy of Taylor M. Polites

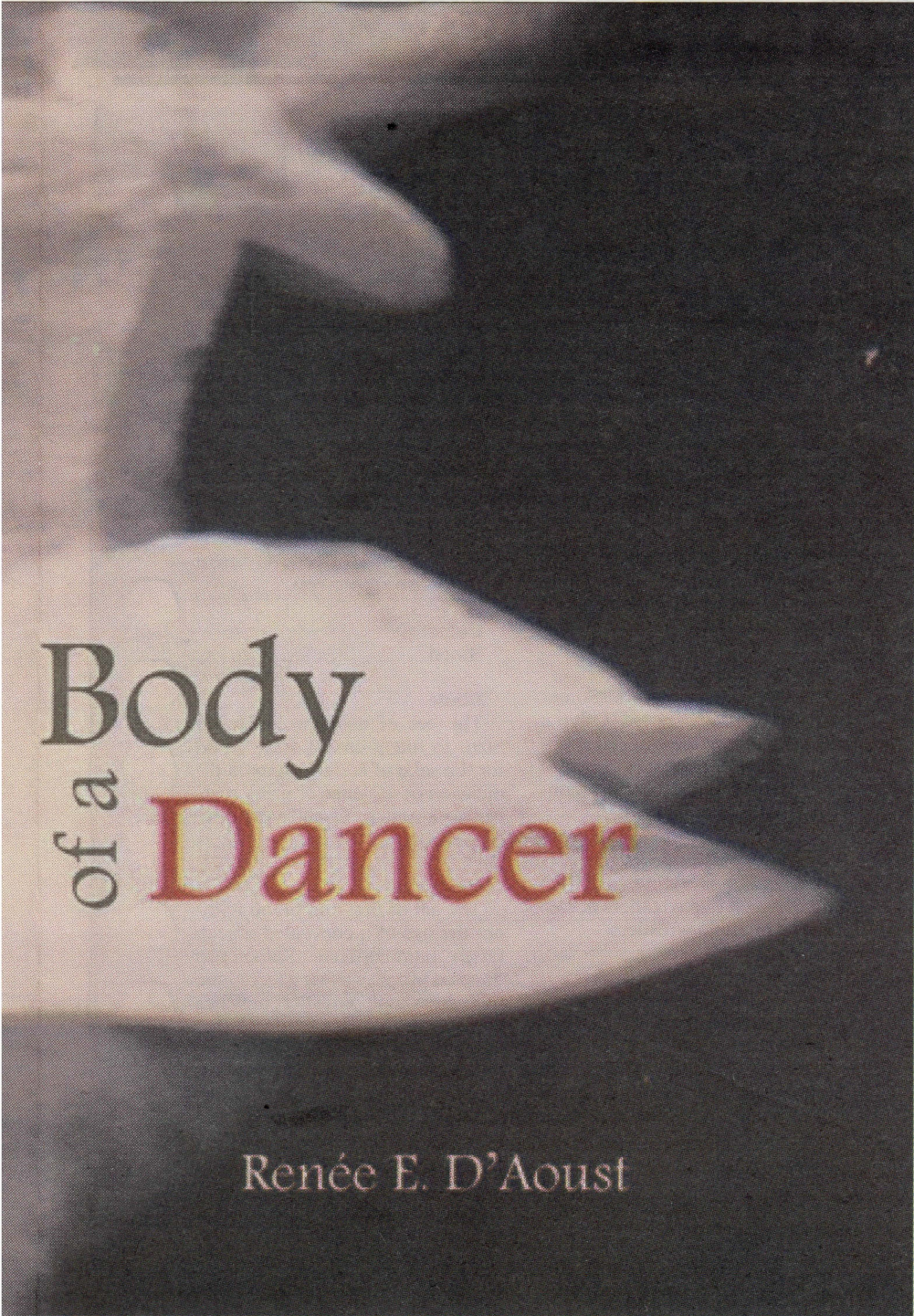
Taylor M. Polites always dreamed of being a published novelist. His first book, "The Rebel Wife," was published in Simon & Schuster. He credits the Wilkes graduate Creative Writing program with helping make that happen.

"I began to realize the kind of support and feedback I could get from a community of writers."

- Taylor M. Polites, "The Rebel Wife"

Dancer turned writer visits Wilkes campus for reading

Renee D'Aoust recounts tales of passion, struggle, self-discovery in NYC



By Jake Cochran
Assistant &E Editor

One of the things Renee E. D'Aoust learned very early on, as a pre-professional dancer studying at the Martha Graham Center for Contemporary Dance in New York City, was that the old theater adage of being in the right place at the right time was very much true. However, she remarked, there is also a part to that adage that often goes unsaid.

Simply put, it's not just about being in the right place at the right time. There also has to be a role there to begin with, and, yes, luck is a part of it.

"In my book you will see that there are just so many talented people, and it's never an issue of commitment or dedication," D'Aoust said. Once a dancer achieves a certain level, she added, everyone is very well-prepared and pouring their heart and soul into the art. That which determines success, she said, is often a certain intangible that more or less comes down to good fortune and good timing.

Just this Sunday, D'Aoust visited Wilkes University to sign, read from and answer questions about her memoir, "Body of a Dancer." The book was published in December 2011 by Etruscan Press, an on-campus publishing house founded by Philip Brady and Robert Mooney, both of whom also serve as faculty members for the school's graduate Creative Writing program.

"Body of a Dancer" recounts D'Aoust's experiences as a student at the aforementioned Martha Graham Center, revealing the extensive physical – and sometimes emotional – toll the demands of modern dance can take on a person.

Perhaps the experience with the most impact, she recalled, were those that saw her going head to head against other dancers at open "cattle call"-style auditions.

"When you are at these auditions you are walking around with your number on, and other people are bumping into you," she said. "It's almost overwhelming how many people would be there."

The talent pool at these auditions, she said, was immense and far deeper than most in the general public might expect. The competition was dedicated, vivid and real. The energy? Unimaginably intense. For some, it showed. Others came across as relaxed and casual. For D'Aoust, all these different personalities combined to create a peculiar environment with an array of emotions.

One lesson D'Aoust learned from her audition experiences, a lesson that has continued to stick with her all these years, is the idea that every moment counts toward something.

"Sometimes the person that would give the dancers their numbers and deal with the sign-ins at the auditions would also be the rehearsal director," she said. "That way,

they could get a feel for how the dancers would carry themselves when they weren't being watched, or at least didn't think they were."

When D'Aoust found this out, it cemented the idea in her head that every moment counts and that one should also be aware of he or she is meeting.

"The training at the professional dance schools is such that you're always representing yourself and you have to be together when you walk in the door," she said. "You also are still who you are, though. You do not put on any airs. You honor who you are, but you just are aware that you are being watched."

Another lesson that she learned through her time as a dancer which is can be applied to more in life than just dancing is how to deal with rejection.


"The rejection doesn't stick," D'Aoust said. "You still have to get up every morning."

It's a philosophy D'Aoust has retained and used in her future endeavors. Though she said she still loves to dance, these days she's indulging the whims of another muse: the written word. D'Aoust is an English instructor at North Idaho College and has contributed writings to such anthology titles as "Reading Dance" and "On Stage Alone."

Just as her roll-with-the-punches attitude helped keep her motivated while braving the hazards of dance auditions and New York City life, it has likewise kept her motivated when the time came time to send her writing out in hopes of getting published. Unlike the dance auditions, though, the experience proved far less harrowing.

"When you get the letter no one is yelling at you, no one is saying your body isn't right for the part, it's really quite civilized," D'Aoust said, explaining that she never feared rejections letters.

They simply couldn't compare to some rejections she witnessed, and received, in her time as a dancer.

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Last Sunday, Renee D'Aoust performed a reading of her book, "Body of a Dancer" in the Kirby Hall salon at Wilkes University. The book was published by Etruscan Press, a publishing house founded by Wilkes faculty.

"You do not put on any airs. You honor who you are, but you just are aware that you're being watched."

- Renee E. D'Aoust, "Body of a Dancer"

For more information on the Creative Writing program, visit Wilkes.edu/CreativeWriting.

For more information on Renee D. D'Aoust, visit ReneeDAoust.com

For more information on Etruscan Press, visit EtruscanPress.org.

THE 101

Every issue, A&E Editor Bill Thomas and Assistant A&E Editor Jake Cochran indulge their vanity and give a thoroughly biased crash-course in whatever madness happens to be dwelling in their warped minds. Their views do not reflect those of The Beacon, its staff or Wilkes University. Blah blah blah. This week, Bill Thomas is laying the smackdown with some...

In-Ring Psychology

By Bill Thomas
A&E Editor

There is a belief held by some, including yours truly, that comic books and professional wrestling are the two closest things modern society has to traditional mythology. Last week, The 101 took a guided tour through the world of comics, so this week we're going to step inside the squared circle to analyze this thing called affectionately by some "rasslin'."

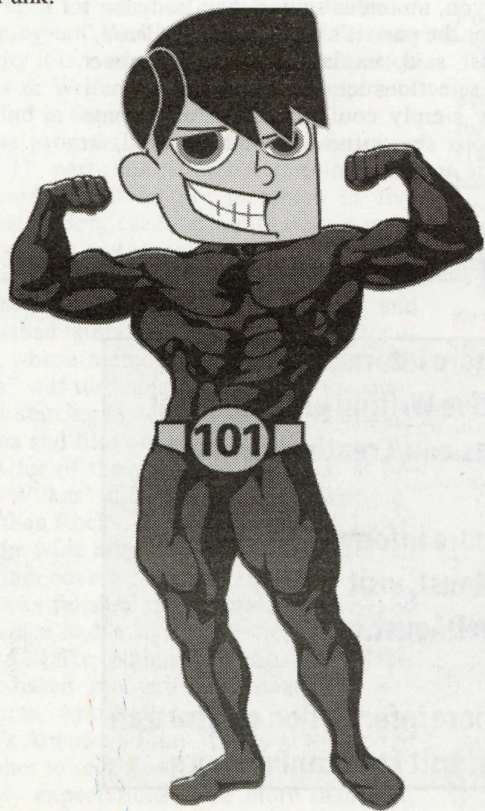
Looked down on by pseudo-intellectual elitists who consider such things "low brow," pro wrestling nevertheless provides a ritualized, streamlined outlet for both emotional catharsis and the symbolic expression of timeless values via elemental iconography.

Likewise, both pro wrestling and comic books focus on larger-than-life characters specifically designed to represent classic archetypes.

Really, is there any truly significant difference between Hades, Batman and The Undertaker?

Of course, all these over-the-top personalities are locked in perpetual combat with one other on an ever-shifting battlefield, one wherein the more things change, the more they stay the same. The costumes may be oh-so-colorful, but good and evil are often as clear-cut as black and white.

Just like there will always be kids who dream of flying the skies like Superman, there will similarly be those who fantasize about filling the boots of "The Nature Boy" Ric Flair, Bret "The Hitman" Hart, "Stone Cold" Steve Austin or "The Best in the World" C.M. Punk.



Put on pedestals as emblems of rugged individualism – not, as some would contend, archaic misogynist masculinity – figures like these become more than merely men in tights. They become representations of undisputed human ideals like chivalry, tenacity, nonconformity and self-actualization.

Their ceaseless warring mirrors that of the gods of old, as well as the conflicts, both external and internal, that every person on Earth engages in daily.

Some will laugh and snidely quip that "it's all fake." However, what such detractors fail to realize is that most fans, save for those with the mental capacities of children – not all of them actually are children – already know that.

Still, you wouldn't call ballet fake, would you? What about opera?

Therein shines the elevating beauty of pro wrestling. Despite some superficial similarities, it's completely unlike boxing or mixed martial arts, both of which could arguably be fingered as legitimate examples of contemporary barbarism, along with hunting, fishing and capital punishment.

See, pro wrestling is all about cooperation instead of competition. Consider pro wrestling matches to be "exhibitions," if that helps. Does that make them any less athletic? Any less demanding of skill, strength, speed, stamina and timing?

The bloody feuds that play out in wrestling rings are fictions. But the blood itself, left smeared across foreheads and turnbuckles? That's real. The elaborate and carefully orchestrated body slams may not deal as much damage as we're led to believe, but there is damage done nonetheless.

Being thrown to the ground hurts, regardless of who does the throwing. Injuries happen. A lot.

Why, then, would someone put themselves through such rigorous physical conditioning only to turn around and put his or her body on the line for something so many snobs will continue to derisively denounce as "fake"?

For some, it's passion. For others, it's business. Or a hunger for fame, a need for attention. In the end, though, it all comes down to two simple things: Telling a story and entertaining the crowd.

As much as it may or may not be a "sport," pro wrestling is infinitely more than that. It's a form of art. It is theater and it is drama. Tragedy and comedy. A carnival, a circus, a sideshow. It's a hustle, a dance and, yes, even a soap opera.

Pro wrestling is mythology. It's folklore made flesh. It's all these things smashed together, distilled to their purest essences, then injected full of testosterone, with the pageantry and spectacle turned all the way up to 11.

Sounds like fun to me.



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CHEAT SHEET

Smark's Pocket Dictionary

Kayfabe

The fictional canon of a wrestling company and its wrestlers. Also used to describe the obsolete rule that a wrestler should always uphold that canon in public. (see "work" and "angle" below)

Work

An action, event or series of events with a fictional basis. Done to uphold kayfabe and enhance an "angle." (see below)

Shoot

The opposite of a work. Something real and unscripted. Often a speech or interview, but can apply to in-match occurrences as well, such as strikes that actually connect. Implies intent.

Angle

A wrestling storyline, usually a feud between two wrestlers or two factions of allied wrestlers.

Gimmick

A wrestler's in-ring persona or signature shtick.

Face

Short for "babyface." A "good guy" wrestler. The hero in a given angle.

Heel

A "bad guy" wrestler. The villain in a given angle.

Tweener

Neither a face nor a heel. Something in between. Shades of gray. Often difficult to pull off.

Turn

When a face becomes a heel, or vice versa. Necessary due to audience fatigue with familiar gimmicks and played-out angles. A turn usually kicks off with a swerve.

Over

When a wrestler is getting exactly the kind of reaction he hopes to get. Whether the wrestler is a face or heel, being over requires

the audience to love or hate said wrestler enough that it regularly garners an impassioned reaction.

Jobber

A wrestler either too new or uninteresting to get over. Continually loses matches as a way of getting others "over."

Sell

The way a wrestler reacts to another wrestler's offense to make said offense appear real.

Color

Blood.

Blade

The act of using a concealed razor to intentionally draw blood for the sake of adding an extra dimension of violence or gritty realism to a match. Usually done by oneself.

Hardway

The act of drawing blood without the use of a concealed object. Often unintentional. Sometimes done on purpose using a technique by which one wrestler punches another at a precise angle so that the puncher's knuckles split the punchee's eyebrow.

Mark

A wrestling fan who actually believes what he or she is seeing is 100 percent real. A dying breed, composed primarily of young kids, stubborn die-hards or the exceptionally dense.

Smart

An industry insider who knows how the business works, knows that matches aren't truly competitive, that their outcomes are in fact predetermined.

Smark

Half-smart, half-mark. A smark is a wrestling fan who knows the same things a smart knows, but isn't an insider and is, in actuality, just as much a fan as a mark. Smarks enjoy wrestling for its athletic and artistic qualities, regardless of the illegitimacy of its appearance as competitive sport.

Oct. 2, 2012



Switching to meatfree,
Page 15

Contact editor: anne.yoskoski@wilkes.edu

2012 pep rally kicks off Programming Board and SG collaborate

By Anne Yoskoski
Life Editor

Wilkes University will have its first pep rally of the 2012 fall sports season from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4. This year's pep rally being a unique one for Wilkes, as the organization of the event was a collaborative effort between the Wilkes University Programming Board and Student Government.

The event kicks off at 7 p.m. with a performance by the cheerleaders. Coaches for fall sports teams will then make speeches about their homecoming weekend games and introduce their players. The dance team will close out the ceremony, leaving students to wander around to different activities and enjoy the night.

Jessica Short, president of Programming Board has planned many fun events for students.

"We will have inflatables or blow ups, such as an ultimate sports arena, jousting, boxing, a touchdown pass game, sumo wrestling and

others. There will be a sign-making station for students to make spirited signs for the game. There will also be a T-shirt making station," she said.

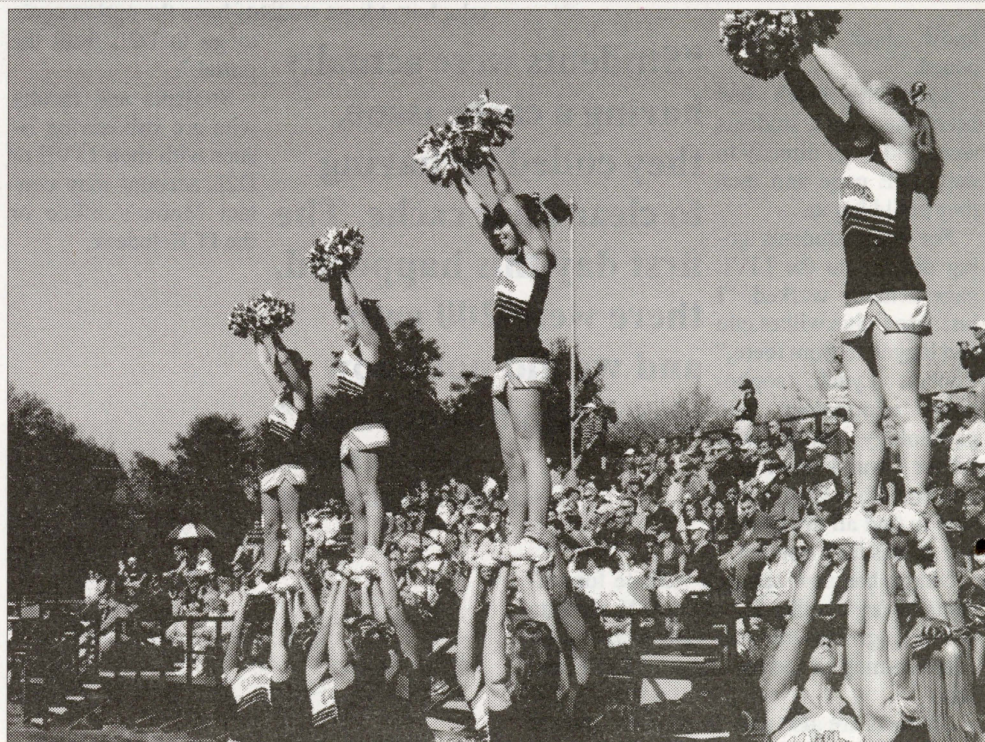
The T-shirt making station is predicted to be one of the most visited tables. There will be 500 white "Colonel Pride" shirts for students. At the station, there will be puff paint, spray fabric paint and fabric markers for students to decorate the T-shirts to wear to the game.

Before leaving, students can enjoy a meal of "cotton candy, snow cones, soft pretzels, popcorn, hot dogs and hamburgers," Short said.

The first pep rally of the season has been in the planning stages for months now, and the WUPB and Student Government are excited to see the outcome.

"WUPB is funding the whole event, while student government has done a lot of planning aspects over the summer," Short said. "We are all excited for the students to let loose and have fun."

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The Beacon/archives

The pep rally will spotlight sports teams for the 2012 season, including the cheerleading team.

This year's homecoming to include community service opportunities

By Alyssa Stencavage
Assist. Life Editor

Wilkes University will soon be holding two community service events in support of the upcoming Homecoming Activities.

The first of these events is a bone marrow registration event called "Get Swabbed," which will take place from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 5, in the Student Union Building Lounge. "Get Swabbed" is a national program for bone marrow registration, and on Oct. 5 students will be given information about becoming a bone marrow donor.

For those who do not know, bone marrow is for people who are suffering from cancer. Every year 10,000 men, women and children could benefit from a bone marrow transplant, but only four out of 10 patients will find a match.

All it takes to register is a cheek swab, which will then be sent away to a lab. Students will then be given a questionnaire, all of which takes only five minutes. This is where to start in order to become a person on the registry. The event will have stations, and volunteers are needed: both donors and people to help out in general.

"It's painless," Megan Boone, coordinator of Student Development, said. "We are hoping to maximize the number of students we have coming in."

The donor and patient must have at least eight tissue characteristics in common.

By registering to become a donor, you are increasing the chance that a patient will find the lifesaving match that he or she needs.

If you do register and are selected as a matching donor, you are still able to decline the donation. If you are interested in continuing, a few blood tests will be conducted as well as a review of your family medical history.

In order to become a donor, you must be 18 to 55 years of age, in good general health, weigh at least 110 pounds, not exceed a body mass index of 40, and be willing to donate to any patient in need.

For the second event, about 20 students, faculty and staff will be able to attend the Commission on Economic Opportunity, where volunteers will be packing boxes of food for distribution.

"We are hoping to get a lot of boxes packed for a supplemental food program," Boone said.

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Problems with D2L continue

By Shawn Carey
Staff Writer

Since the start of the semester, some students have been having numerous problems with the online class program, LIVE, also known as D2L.

Students have not been able to access their classes through the MyWilkes portal; instead they were told to go directly to the LIVE page.

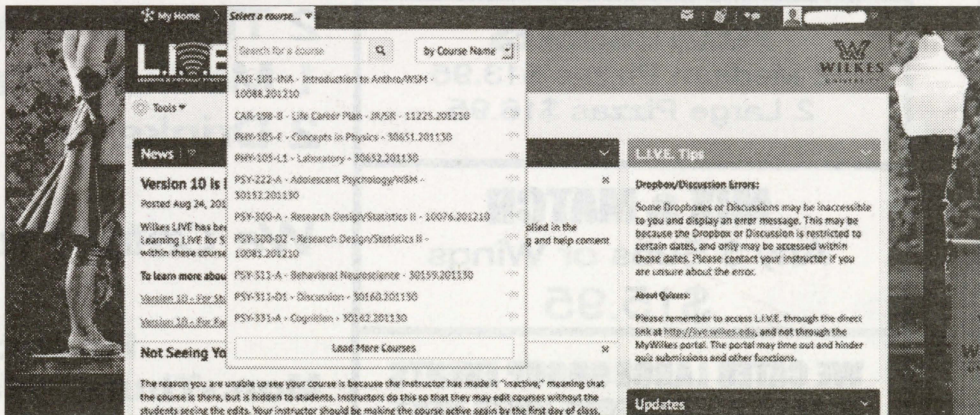
"What we found out is actually a patch to view the upgrade was put on our system, which should not have been put there," Barbara Mo-

ran, director of eLearning and the center for educational research, said.

The program that is used recently underwent an upgrade of software over the summer and after the upgrade, a patch was placed on the communication between the portal and the LIVE page.

"Students were actually having a cache issue, they ended up having to clear their cache," said Moran, "The first day this happened, there were 200 calls and we did not

See D2L, Page 14



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

D2L is the online learning platform. Students have been having issues accessing classes and submitting assignments.

D2L

Continued from Page 13

know about what happened."

After the patch had been discovered, students were told to go directly to the LIVE page and then they could log in.

For some students going directly to the LIVE page actually worked. "I just used live.wilkes.edu and logged in from there," Rhonda Lynch, sophomore criminology and psychology major, said. "After I was logged in it was smooth sailing. I was able to find all my classes and access their content."

Moran has now set up a website for students to see whether or not the D2L website is working. Students can visit web.wilkes.edu/elearning to see the status of LIVE and D2L.

Students are also able to enroll in student tutorial classes that help teach them how to use the new software. Students are able to go directly to their LIVE homepage to enroll in

the courses.

According to Moran, "the 'Portal to L.I.V.E.' connection is working again as of this morning which is great news for us. We still recommend that students go directly to <http://live.wilkes.edu>, but at least students have the option again

to go to D2L from the portal."

Students and faculty who are still having issues with their LIVE or D2L account may contact Moran's office or the IT Helpdesk.

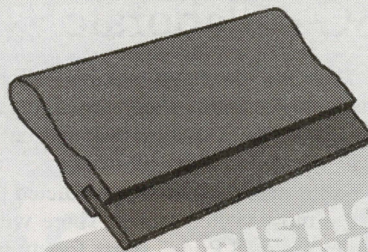
"Students were actually having a cache issue, they ended up having to clear their cache. The first day this happened, there were 200 calls and we did not know about what happened,"

- Barbara Moran,
director of eLearning



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Vegetarian Awareness Month a chance to go meatless

Meat-free options included vegetarian section; artificial meat items available at the cafeteria

By Kirstin Cook
Editor-in-Chief

It's a way to reduce your risk for cancer, heart disease, diabetes and obesity. It cuts back on air and water pollution, land use and climate change. It prevents the killing of cows, chickens and pigs.

These are just a few of the reasons to turn vegetarian, as listed on peta.com. But when it comes to taking the step and making the change in our diets, there are obstacles in the way of cutting out meat altogether.

Alyssa Klinitski, a senior psychology major, first decided she wanted to become a vegetarian two years ago after watching a PETA video on chicken cruelty in the meat industry. But, her first attempts were unsuccessful.

"I tried going cold turkey – no pun intended – and it didn't work," Klinitski said.

But as of two months ago, Klinitski said she is a full-fledged vegetarian, and she has noticed a huge difference.

"After about a month or two you notice your body feels better, you feel lighter and more fit," Klinitski said.

With October being Vegetarian Awareness month, there's no better time to take advantage of these health benefits. And with new options at the Wilkes Henry Student Center Dining Hall, it's easier to make the switch and still have variety.

Wilkes Chef Brian Kaden said it's not hard being a vegetarian while eating at the cafeteria on a regular basis.

"I don't think it's difficult at all," Kaden said. "We really focus on having something available at every station."

Kaden said he typically features three or four items at the vegetarian section, which is an expansion on the previous standard of maybe one item.

"When I first got here, we had the vegetarian section in the corner," Kaden said. "It seemed like an afterthought. It didn't look like anyone put much effort into it."

Now, Kaden said the section is a focal point for vegetarians.

Besides the vegetarian section, there are meal options at the other cafeteria sections too.

There's the full salad bar, of course, but that's just the beginning.

Kaden said there's a vegetable served at the Classics section every night. There are veggie burgers, grilled cheese sandwiches and cheese quesadillas at the Grill, egg salad sandwiches at the Deli.

He also tries to incorporate the Red Hot Chef and the International sections with things like the popular tropical stir fry or the fettuccini alfredo with broccoli.

For those who want to become vegetarian, Kaden suggested they survey the options at the cafeteria.

"I would just say look at all the options you have," Kaden said. "Sometimes the thinking is that it's boring food, it's just vegetables and



rice and potatoes, but there's a lot of real cool things you can do with different ingredients."

Along with trying different items at the cafeteria, Klinitski advised to try items from different store brands, like Morningstar Farms or Boca. This was how she found what she liked, and she came up with even more options by mixing foods together or seasoning meat substitutes as if they were meat.

"I started mixing in different vegetarian meats and found what I liked and what was delicious," Klinitski said.

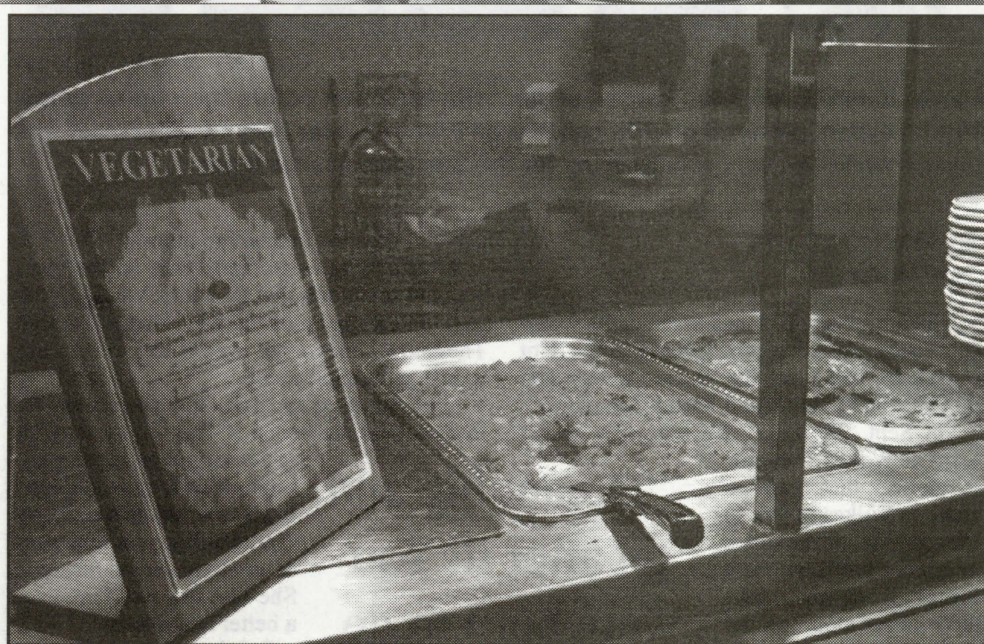
Another tip that helped Klinitski transition is to start slowly. This is where Klinitski went wrong in her first attempt at becoming vegetarian. She said the successful approach was to first cut back meat items to one a day, and then scale back to only eating meat six days a week. She continued this process until her diet was meat-free.

Morningstar Farms, a major provider of meat substitutes, offers tips on going meatless on its website, and a gradual start is one of the first things the site suggests. It advises to start with familiar meals with meat components and using textured vegetable protein as a replacement.

To find out about these replacements, Kaden said it's good to do some research.

"If someone's looking to turn and go the vegetarian route, I highly encourage them to research exactly the products that are out there, come see what we're doing, come talk to me," Kaden said.

Talking to people is not only a good way to



The Beacon/Kirstin Cook
Top, cafeteria server Josh Gardinor serves a vegetarian chicken burger, which is one of the meat alternatives offered at the dining hall. Below, improving the vegetarian section has been a focus for Chef Brian Kaden.

get advice, but also to get support during your transition. Klinitski said finding other vegetarians and getting people to hold you to the diet makes the difference for success or failure.

You can also clear up misconceptions about vegetarianism by talking to people. A few of the big ones include the ideas that vegetarians only eat vegetables, or that they can't get enough protein.

But Kaden said those are invalid if you look at the variety of meals at the cafeteria and the high-protein options like soy product tempeh

or wheat product seitan.

"It's not just, throw some vegetables out there and throw some rice out there, we really try to incorporate things that are going to give a balanced diet, not just the simple stuff," Kaden said.



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"After about a month or two you notice your body feels better, you feel lighter and more fit,"

- Alyssa Klinitski,
senior psychology major

Oct. 2, 2012

Contact editor: frank.passalacqua@wilkes.edu

Soccer star pays Wilkes soccer team visit

Olympic, World Cup soccer goalkeeper, Jillian Loyden, serves as role model for players



Courtesy of Kate Mahoney

Above: Jillian Loyden, top center, smiles with the team before their home game. Right: Loyden, pictured on left, poses with Wilkes senior Katy Fissel. Fissel met Loyden while she was volunteering for the Sky Blue soccer team.

By Michelle Coyle
Staff Writer

When inspiration comes to mind, the women's soccer team thinks of Jillian Loyden. Not everybody can have the chance to say that they met an Olympic and World Cup player.

On Sept. 23, 2012, the women's soccer team at Wilkes was able to do just that. Loyden came to Wilkes to talk to the team about the game of soccer and obviously inspire them and make them never stop chasing their dreams.

"Dream big and go after it. You were born to do big things," was just one of the inspiring things Loyden said after asking her what's her main goal for coming and talking to the girls.

She wants to travel around, being a positive role model to young soccer players, and make them push themselves to be the best player they could be.

She came to speak to the team, talk to the youth about her experience about the World Cup and the Olympics, and just simply inter-

act with the girls and talk to them.

After talking to a couple girls on the team, you can really tell that they took what Loyden said to heart and realized what she said is true. They now believe that even if they dream big, to just go out and excel.

She also tried to make the players on the team realize that even if they don't start the game, or get as much playing time as they would have liked, she emphasized that you're still just as important as anybody else on the team. She said this will make you a better teammate.

Loyden explained that if you believe that your time will come, and you put the effort in, people will notice. Only positives can come out of working hard and reaching your goal.

Senior Katy Fissel had already met with Loyden through volunteer work. She became her one-on-one trainer and family friend.

Volunteering for the Sky Blue team, Fissel did half-time event coordination for each home game they had. The Sky Blue team was the year before the women's professional league was re-established.

"Dream big and go after it. You were born to do big things,"

~ Jillian Loyden
Professional Soccer Player



Courtesy of Katy Fissel

Loyden talked about her experience with soccer and how she's grown up and molded into the kind of player she is today.

"It makes me smile. It makes it worth living for," Loyden said.

Loyden said she lives for the opportunities to be able to travel and play the exciting game she loves. To Loyden, it's more than just a game, it's her life.

"She was always encouraging me while I trained, on and off the field. We would discuss the game and what I can do better," Fissel said.

Fissel said Loyden was always an inspiration to her. And now since she's made the national team, and has a gold and silver medal, giving the athletes more reason to look up to her as a role model.

After hearing the motivating words of Loyden, the girls on the team took what she said and brought it all on the field. They ended up defeating Daemen College that day, 4-0.

The girls were really excited and thankful for Loyden to take the time to come and speak to them. They won't forget the words she spoke, and will forever use what she said for the future.

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Men's Soccer

By Matthew Ciampaglio
Correspondent

The Wilkes University men's soccer team looks to get back over .500 when it takes on one of the top teams in the conference, DeSales University, at 4 p.m. Oct. 9 at Schmidt Stadium. The Wilkes team is 3-4 but has also dropped its last three games, while DeSales is 5-2-2.

"Obviously we're not where we want to be," junior defender Geoffrey Arentz said. "Luckily we have a lot of games left to play to make up for it."

Eric McAnena leads the Colonels with four goals, trailed closely by Joe Brennan who has three.

The goalie situation for the Colonels has not been very clear, with both Dave Marr and Patrick Loube getting equal playing time.



Photo courtesy of Sports Information

Women's tennis team seeking to continue its winning ways

By Frank Passalacqua
Sports Editor

The Wilkes University women's tennis team is looking to bring home a first-place victory in the Middle Atlantic Conference Individual Tournament.

The Lady Colonels will participate in the MAC Individual Tournament at the Ralston Athletic Complex in an all-day event starting at 8 a.m. Oct. 6-7. The four senior players Melanie Nolt, Katie Lynn, Alexis Donner and Amanda Holyk will be playing in their final tournament.

"The team is very excited about our upcoming MAC Individual Tournament," Coach Chris Leicht said. "This tourney concludes our fall season, and we look forward to it each and every year. All of our fall preparation leads into this tourney."

The MAC Tournament is hosted at Wilkes every year on the six tennis courts and also takes advantage of the additional 10 courts at Kirby Park. A total of thirteen teams from the MAC Conference will be coming, and each team will bring at least six players to participate. Albright, Alvernia, Arcadia, East-

ern, Elizabethtown, Fairleigh Dickinson, Hood, King's, Lebanon Valley College, Lycoming, Messiah, Misericordia and Stevenson are all expected to compete.

Over the past two years, Wilkes has won more titles than all the other 13 schools combined.

Wilkes is 2-0 and is second in the Freedom Conference behind only Misericordia (3-1).

Singles:

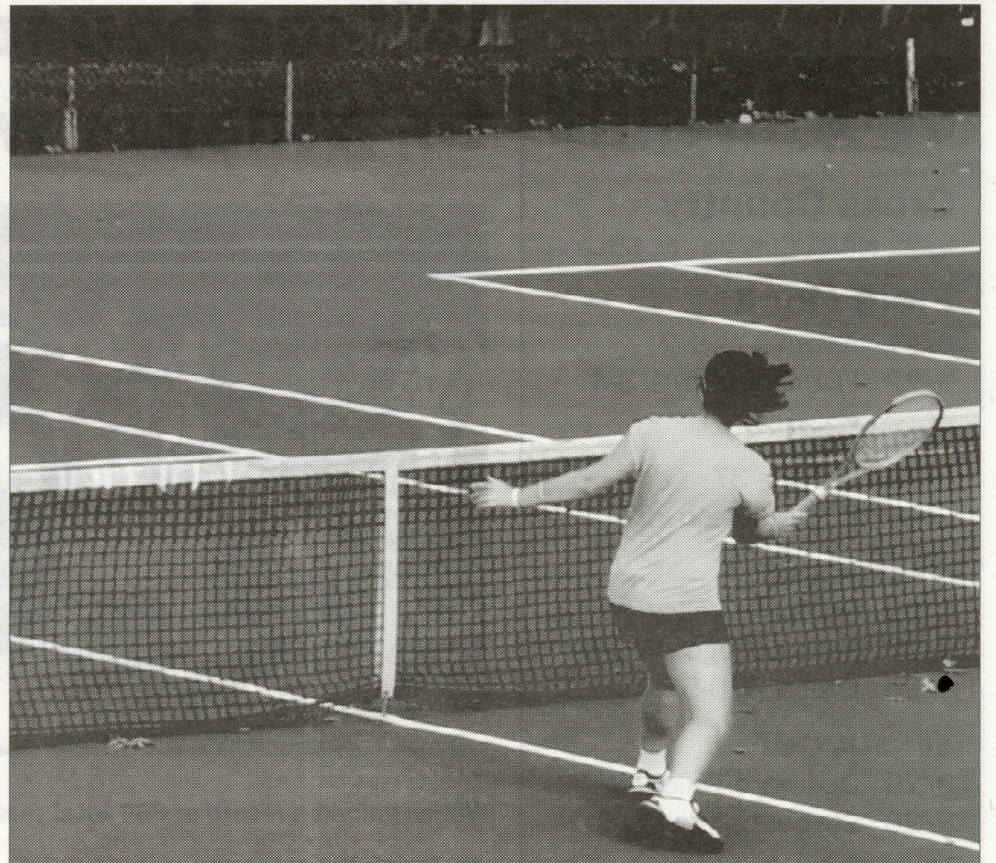
1. Melanie Nolt
2. Alexis Donner
3. Ally Kristofco
4. Katie Lynn
5. Amanda Holyk
6. Anastasia English
7. Amanda Rossi
8. Cayleah Markulics

Doubles:

1. Nolt - Lynn
2. Donner - Kristofco
3. Holyk - English
4. Rossi - Olivia Hewison



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The Beacon/Laura Preby

Senior women's tennis players practice for the upcoming MAC conference.

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Cross Country

9/21 NEPA Classic - M 5th

Field Hockey

9/24 Alvernia - L 1-2

9/22 FDU Florham - L 3-4

Football

9/29 Wilkes - 37

FDU Madison - 27

M-Soccer

9/29 Delaware Valley - W 1-0

9/27 Penn College - W 2-0

9/25 Elmira - L 0-5

W-Soccer

9/29 Delaware Valley - W 3-0

9/26 Susquehanna - W 3-0

Volleyball

9/26 King's - W 3-1

WEEK AHEAD

Cross Country

10/13 DeSales Invitational

Field Hockey

10/6 at Manhattanville

10/9 VS. Susquehanna

Football

10/6 VS. Misericordia

M-Soccer

10/3 at Steven's

9/6 at FDU Florham

10/9 VS. DeSales

W-Soccer

10/3 at Rowan

10/6 at FDU Florham

M-Tennis

10/13-14 MAC Individual Trnt.

W-Tennis

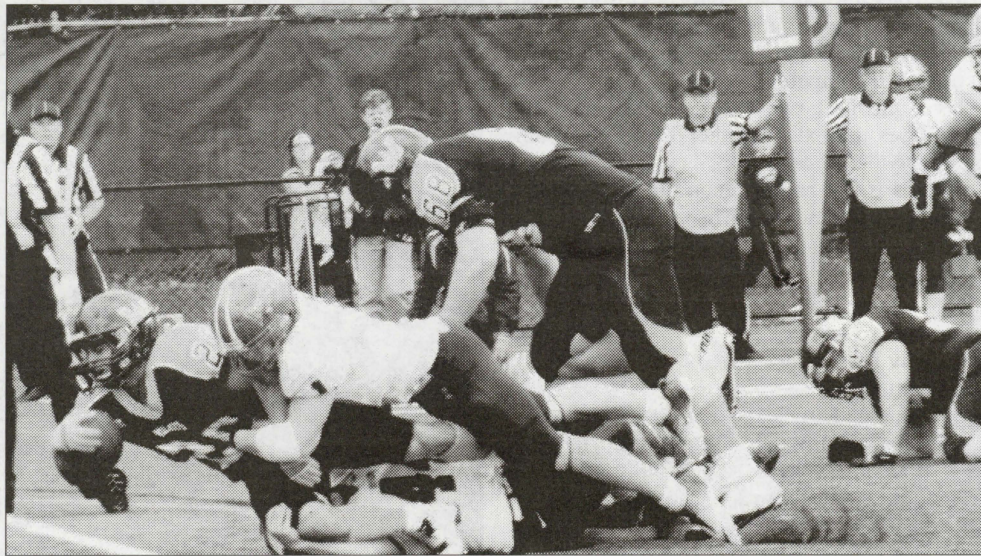
10/6-7 MAC Individual Trnt.

Volleyball

10/2 at DeSale's

10/6 at Alvernia

Wilkes bounces back after major loss to Widener with record-breaking game



The Beacon/Jon Conklin

Wilkes gained a record of 667 total yards in its 37-27 victory against Madison.

By Frank Passalacqua
Sports Editor

After last week's 0-90 loss to Widener University, the Wilkes football team is looking to put the past behind them and move on.

Sitting at (2-2) on the season, Coach Frank Sheptock said the Colonels know what is needed of them to succeed.

"We need to embrace the adversity we went through, we need to learn from it and grow from it," Sheptock said. "The next step is to focus on what we can control this week from a preparation standpoint. Practice, film study and team unity, adversity teaches us we need each other."

With six games remaining on the schedule, the team is still optimistic about getting back on track.

Last year, Wilkes beat Widener 35-27 and ruined Widener's chance at the Middle Atlantic Conference Championship. Was this beating revenge for last year? Many people think it may be. However, Widener Head Coach Isaac Collins said otherwise.

"I'm 100 percent opposed to someone scoring 90 points in a game," Collins said in an interview with the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Regardless of the score, Sheptock and Collins shook hands at the end of the game and the Colonels walked off the field with their heads up.

Sheptock zeroed in on a few areas the team will look to improve on and wants the recent loss to be motivation for the future.

"We need to improve on being opportunistic with offense scoring chances, and defensive big play opportunities on third and fourth down," Sheptock said. "We need to handle the momentum swings of games with more consistency and improve in red zone scoring. We didn't play very well fundamentally but we had done well in that area in the first two games."

Sheptock said the athletes are eager to improve.

"I met with the team, and many of them individually as well - they are disappointed

but anxious to take the field again. They understand what we went through doesn't define who we are; it was a tough day, but together we are pulling through.

"This is a group of committed student athletes whom take great pride in representing Wilkes University and the Colonel football program. They are learning to control what they can control. We controlled how we would respond -- together and focused. We will be back!"

When the Colonels took the field on Sept. 29 against FDU-Florham, it was clear their heads were on straight. Wilkes put up a school record 667 total yards in the 37-27 victory.

Everything Sheptock said the team needed to improve on was corrected and perfected. Adding to impressive day, Sheptock sealed his 100th career win as head coach for Wilkes.

Wilkes takes on Misericordia next Saturday in a home game at 1 p.m. and will try to improve to (3-2) on the year.

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Colonels face Misericordia for historic first football game

By Trevor Gilliam
Correspondent

History will be made when Wilkes takes on the Misericordia Cougars for the first time ever.

Wilkes hosts Misericordia at 1 p.m. Oct. 6 at Schmitt Stadium in the Cougars' first season of football.

The game will be played at Schmitt Stadium on Wilkes University's home field.

Tickets will be sold at the gate for \$5; students get in free if they show their Wilkes student IDs.

"They can beat this team with their speed and quickness. The size matches up well also, but the Colonels have smarter players," junior running back Cal Garvin said.

Misericordia is in last place with a record of 0-4 in the Mid-Atlantic Conference, and Wilkes University is in eighth place with a record of 1-2 in the Mid-Atlantic Conference.

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The Beacon/Jon Conklin

After coming off of a big win this past weekend, the team is looking to take on Misericordia on their home field, this Saturday Oct. 6.

Getting to know...



By Evan Willey
Staff Writer

Wilkes welcomes freshman cross-country runner Brian Smith to the team. Being a full-time pharmacy major doesn't tire him out too much as he continues to provide his talents to the university and team.

Smith comes from the small town of Sullivan County, Pa., where his skills stood out. In his senior year of high school, Smith qualified for PIAA Cross Country states and was named first team Heartland Athletic Conference All-Star. With a positive attitude and natural running ability, the path looks clear for a successful cross-country season.

What does running mean to you? How does it make you feel?

Running is important to me. I love running. I always have fun whether I'm out on a run or competing. It keeps me in good shape as well.

How does it feel to adjust from high school cross-country to being on a college team?

Having a new team was different, but my teammates are great so that wasn't too hard to adjust to. There's definitely a difference running a 5k compared to an 8k and I'm still getting use to that. I'm really enjoying my first year of college running, though.

What is your favorite thing about being on your new team?

The best thing about the new team is listening to each other's stories on runs and having good times together. A lot of the guys on the team have things in common and the stories we share always make me laugh.

What is your main goal to accomplish this year for cross-country here at Wilkes?

My goal for this year is to run at Regionals and possibly break the school record.

What is a memory you will never forget?

The best memory I had would be last year at districts when I went from 21st place with a half-mile to go and finished eighth to qualify for States.

Do you have any special rituals you do before a meet?

I try and do everything the same every time

before my race. I listen to music on the way and I picture myself running even if I've never seen the course. I always put my left sock and shoe on first, I slap my legs to get myself pumped up and put my left foot on the start line!

What are some of your favorite things to eat and drink before and after a run?

The night before I have a lot of pasta, bread and water. I have a bagel and water for breakfast and after the race I usually have Gatorade and Subway.

How do you like Wilkes University so far?

Wilkes is nice and I've met a lot of people already. The construction is annoying though, but everyone is friendly.

What are some of your other hobbies you do when you are not running?

I like to hunt, ride four-wheelers, go swimming and work on cars.

Why did you choice to major in pharmacy?

I chose pharmacy because I want to help people and by supplying them the right medication I can enable their wellness.

Who or what inspires you to keep running?

Being healthy inspires me to keep running. Also reaching goals, as well as my family's love and support.

Do you look up to any professional athlete?


Jordan Burroughs, an Olympic gold medalist in wrestling. His determination and hard work pays off and proves it works.

What is your biggest strength you've added to the Wilkes cross-country team?

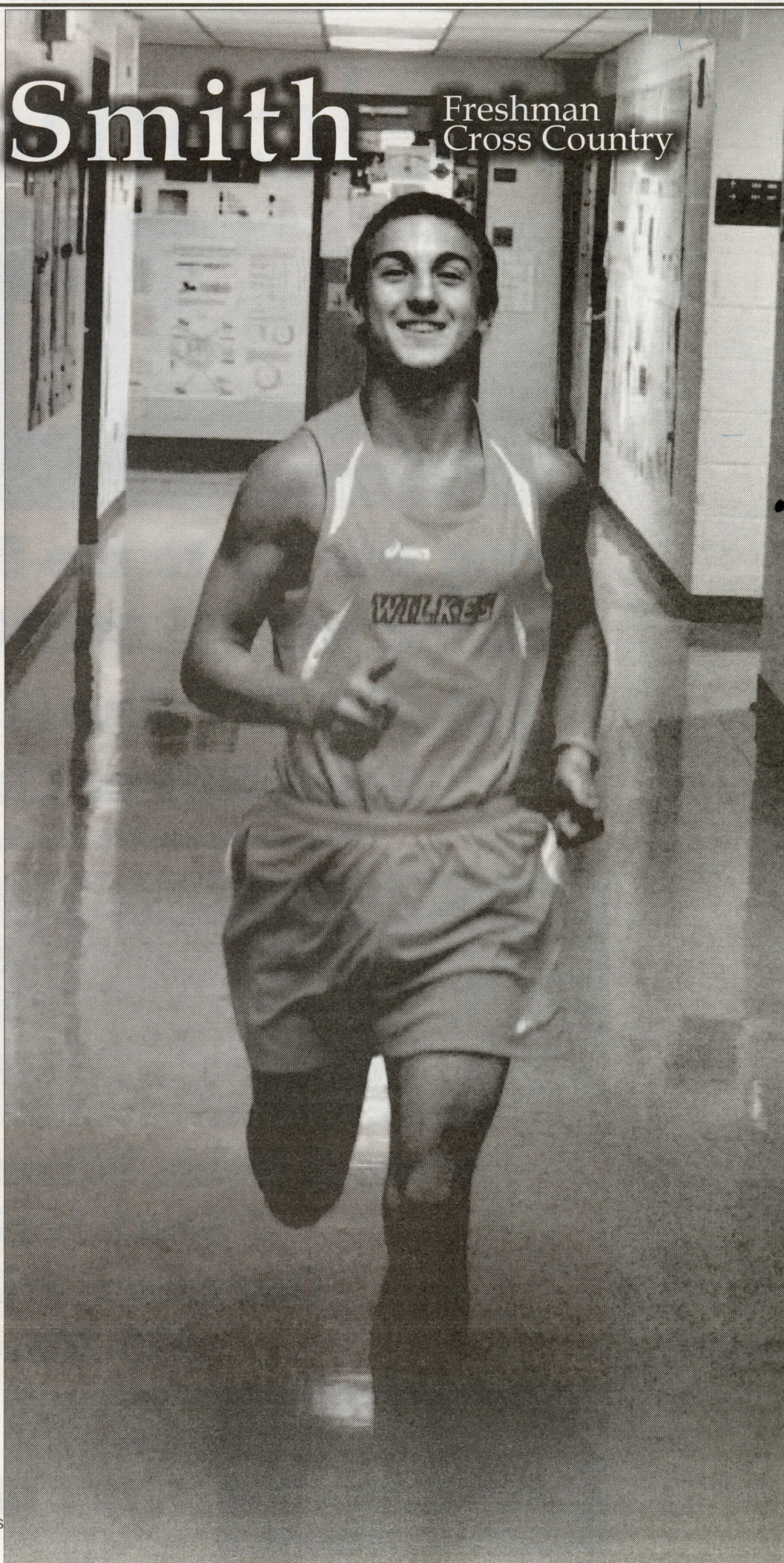
I feel like I add a little bit of leadership and I help push the guys to work harder.

Lastly, what is a major obstacle you had to overcome to reach you goal?

A major obstacle I had to overcome would be the district race because I haven't had a lot of success there in previous years.

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The Beacon/Austin Loukas



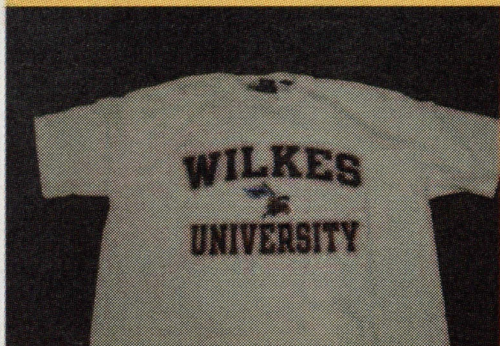
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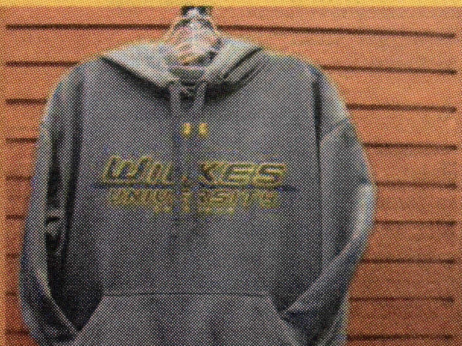
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