



The Inkwell Quarterly

Volume 6

Issue 4

Spring 2012



Photo Courtesy of Kendra Kuhar

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Go the Distance: Australia

By Kendra Kuhar

It is no secret that traveling abroad is overwhelming to plan due to sleep accommodations, airline bookings, and finding enough time to actually go. So, why bother? Why would we put so much time and energy into an overseas journey? Here's why: cultural experience.

At the beginning of March, I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to travel to Australia. My grandfather, who is originally from the distant land, travels to see his family every few years; I, along with my brother, also visited. While there, we visited Melbourne, Cairns, and Sydney and were exposed to and submerged in a variety of Australian culture.

After a sixteen-hour flight from Los Angeles, we landed in Melbourne on the morning of March 4 and my great uncle picked us up from the airport. Following a barbecue and a few hours of conversation with family members, I realized how little I actually knew about Australian geography and culture. Australia is a large country that is divided up into five states and one territory: Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland, Victoria, New South Wales, and the Northern Territory. It is not much smaller than the mainland of the United States, and people tend to fly from one state to the other because the drive takes too long.

Culturally, I was shocked. In the United States, sporting events are such a large part of life throughout high school and college. However, this is not the case in Australia. While there are many leagues to play sports at any age outside of school, it is rare for a high school to have sports teams associated with their school and there really is no such thing as college level sports. It is interesting that there isn't as much opportunity to play sports on a higher level, with the exception of being in a professional sports league in Australia, as there is in the United States. Oddly enough, Australia is one of the most sports crazed nations in the world and they are passionate about supporting professional sporting events.

A few days after spending time in Melbourne, we flew to Cairns. Cairns is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the world because of the Great Barrier Reef and the tropical rainforest. The Great Barrier Reef is located off the coast of Green Island. Both the reef and Green Island are extremely impressive. We also visited the rainforest in Cairns and I found out that the rainforest there was the inspiration for the scenery in the 2009 film *Avatar*.

The last week of the trip was spent in Sydney. Sydney is the most beautiful place I have ever been to and the climate was ideal.

Spring Capstone Presenters and Dates

By Sara Crolick

The Spring 2012 Capstone Presentations were scheduled for Thursday, May 3rd and Friday, May 4th in the Kirby Salon. Presentations took place from 1– 3:30 on both days. Presenting students include:

Student

May 3rd, 2012 1:00-3:30

Jacob Reichert
Jonathan Kadjeski
Elizabeth Voda
Jason Neare
Tony Thomas
Dave Cook

May 4th, 2012 1:00-2:00

Kelly Clisham
Marwa Al-Daraweish
Jeffery Ford

Advisor

Dr. Linda Paul
Dr. Tom Hamill
Dr. Helen Davis
Dr. Chad Stanley
Dr. Marcia Farrell
Dr. Marcia Farrell

Dr. Michelle Anthony
Dr. Larry Kuhar
Dr. Chad Stanley



Humanities Club and Faculty Updates

By Jonathan Kadjeski

- Members of Sigma Tau Delta and Manuscript, along with Dr. Michelle Anthony and students from King's College, participated in the Poetry Reading of International Female Poets at the Women's and Gender Studies Conference on April 17. The event was well attended and well-received, generating important discussions on the poetry canon and poetry at Wilkes University.
- The History Club held its annual Wilkes History Day on April 19. The club filled the SUB Lounge with displays on a variety of historical topics including the Titanic disaster, the Vietnam War, the history of public education, the American Civil War, and more.
- The History Club also went on its annual historical club trip, this year to Boston, Massachusetts. The trip, April 20-22, saw nine club members visit every site along the Freedom Trail, tour the historic Boston Harbor, and experience New England's natural history at the New England Aquarium.
- Dr. Sean Kelly will see his article "American Idle: Washington Irving, Authorship, and the Echoes of Native American Myth in 'Rip Van Winkle'" published in *Short Story*, 19.1, this year.
- Dr. Dennis Hupchick is in the process of finishing his next book, *Silver Lined Skulls and Blinded Armies*. The book is a medieval military history focusing on the conflicts between Bulgarian and Byzantine armies during the ninth, tenth, and eleventh centuries.
- Dr. Marcia Farrell's article "Poster Children: Laurens van der Post's Imperial Propaganda in *A Far Off Place*" will be published this summer in *ARIEL* Volume 42.3-4. Farrell was also awarded tenure this year.
- Dr. Larry Kuhar recently read his poetry as part of a conference in Scranton, PA in April 2012. *IQ* is still trying to convince him to allow us to be the first to publish his work.

Congratulations to Senior Award Winners

Co-Winner of the Annette Evans Humanities Award: Justin Balint and Erin Robinson

Winner of the Frank J. J. Davies Award: Sara Crolick

Co-Winners of the Phi Alpha Theta Book Award (History Program): Thomas B. Goldberg and Jared Ryan
Lacefield

Winner of the Outstanding Graduate in Spanish: Anna Mitchell

If you are interested in joining *The Inkwell Quarterly* staff and/or enrolling in English 190:Projects in Writing: Inkwell, please contact Dr. Marcia Farrell (marcia.farrell@wilkes.edu) or Anne Yoskoski (anne.yoskoski@wilkes.edu) for more information.

Welcoming

By Annie Yoskoski

As the Spring semester comes to a
goodbye. Although I will miss the
positions.

As of Fall

Congratulations to the new staff members who would gladly welcome you to the Best, Annie Yoskoski,

Farewell from To

The time worked my way from was when I learned being Copy Editor

I would like to work with the *Quarterly* to life.

I would like to work with the English program making all of this Best,

Tony Thomas, C

Farewell from Da

It's funny to think still only about

I have worked with who we are, as we continue to push the Department, but I departmental co-ordinator "why does the English halls will remember staff will move us

In thinking to be here, as a student

Welcoming and Farewell for our Editors

By Annie Yoskoski, David Cook, and Tony Thomas

As the Spring 2012 semester comes to a close, it is time for the current editorial staff of the *Inkwell Quarterly* to say goodbye. Although this is bittersweet, we would also like to welcome the new editors and encourage them to embrace their new positions.

As of Fall 2012, the new editorial staff will be:

Editor in Chief: **Annie Yoskoski**
Managing Editor: **Kendra Kuhar**
Copy Editor: **Gabriella Zawacki**
Assistant Copy Editor: **Carly Yamrus**
Layout Editor: **Stephanie Wilkie**

Congratulations to the new Editorial Board. And, please, keep in mind that *IQ* is always looking for new recruits and would gladly welcome any interested English majors and minors to its staff.

Best,

Annie Yoskoski, Editor-in-Chief, Volume 7

Farewell from Tony Thomas:

The time that I have been working on *The Inkwell Quarterly* has been one of my favorite memories here at Wilkes. I worked my way from the ground up. I started as a writer, and then one day I was asked to be the Layout Editor. Doing layout was when I learned about the hard work that goes into every issue that gets published. My days as Layout Editor brought me to being Copy Editor, where I learned to understand the fine writers on our staff.

I would like to congratulate the new staff on accepting the responsibility of bringing new editions of *The Inkwell Quarterly* to life. I am exceedingly confident in their ability to make the magic happen again and again. I had the honor of working with the new staff on the previous issue. I look forward to what they produce.

I would like to thank the English faculty for helping me shape my evolution as an English student. My times here in the English program have been wonderful. I would also like to thank **Dr. Farrell** for her immense patience and her hard work in making all of this happen.

Best,

Tony Thomas, Copy Editor, Volume 6

Farewell from David Cook:

It's funny, as I sit here, writing what I know is my last article for the *Inkwell Quarterly* as an undergraduate student, I can think still only about the future.

I have worked hard over the last two years to elevate this publication's standards and its image, to make it more reflective of who we are, as **Dr. Kuhar** would say in that way in which only he really could. Even so, I know it can do better and can continue to push forward and break new boundaries and become something truly great, not just for us in the English Department, but for Wilkes University as a whole. This publication can be, without question, one of the finest examples of departmental co-curriculars and successful mentoring. It can serve as an answer to unspeakable, (but yet spoken) questions like, "why does the English Department need money?" And, it can be something every Humanities student who walks through our halls will remember for the rest of their lives. This is the future this publication can have, and I know **Annie**, and the rest of her staff will move us all towards this goal.

In thinking of the future, I am, of course, compelled to take a moment and consider what has made it possible for me to be here, as a student writing this, his final article. Without a doubt, what has led me here is all of

Continued on page 12...

The Inkwell Quarterly Staff

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Marcia Farrell
Editors-in-chief: Annie Yoskoski and Dave Cook
Managing Editors: Kendra Kuhar and Tony Thomas
Senior Copy Editors: Tony Thomas and Carly Yamrus
Layout Editor: Elizabeth Voila
Staff Writers: Jamie Bellissimo, Sara Crolick, Holly Evans, Jeffrey Ford, Buddy Gouger, Vicky Hevener, Jon Kadjeski, Kendra Kuhar, Leanna Rolon, Annie Yoskoski, Stephanie Wilkie, and Gabby Zawacki
Photographer: Kendra Kuhar
Faculty Contributors: Dr. Larry Kuhar, and Dr. Thomas A. Hamill

Marrissa Fedor's Travels in Malaysia

By Jason Neare

Through an application process, English major **Marrissa Fedor** and five other student teachers were chosen to travel to Malaysia to gain teaching experience in their selected field. The work entailed teaching ninth through eleventh grade students English. While talking with Fedor, she stated that one of the most difficult aspects of teaching English in a foreign country included grammar, writing, and comprehension. However, Fedor was capable of breaking the learning barrier by implementing journal writing learned at Wilkes to aide in the composition process. Responsibilities included taking over various classes, teaching, and assigning homework to guide the students through learning a new language. Marrissa credits her success in Malaysia to student teaching at local high schools around the Wilkes community.

Aside from teaching students, the trip gave Marrissa the opportunity to explore another culture by interacting with the locals of Kuala Lumpur. Activities included riding an elephant and taking the mass transit known as the LRT, or Light Rapid Transit System. Malaysia is a heavily populated country where everyone seems to be in rush to get from one place to another. While Marrissa enjoyed watching how the society operates, being able to sit back and enjoy the sights was a memorable experience. The rapid pace of society even managed to transcend into the classroom atmosphere. Marrissa now appreciates the American educational system for its focus on PSSA state assessment and quizzes and tests to analyze student progression.

Unlike the American educational system, Malaysia seems to lack a sense of organization. Many students were misbehaving and not demonstrating order while in class. A crucial objective learned at Wilkes was to realize that all learning facilities have faults and glitches. Well qualified educators are capable of realizing these faults and altering the system to help both students and teachers. By integrating American values into her teaching, Marrissa was capable of helping Malaysian students advance in the IDIC assessments and trials. The IDIC is similar to the SATs in that they assess the readiness for potential students to enter higher education. One difference between the American and Malaysian educational system is that Malaysian students working towards university status must go to school for two years following high school. Then students apply for admission into the university level of education.

While talking about how the trip has changed her feelings towards education as a teacher and as a Wilkes student, Fedor discussed the lasting friendship she made with a new teacher at the school. This teacher helped carry her through the tougher moments of the experience. What this demonstrates is that no matter how difficult the educational process can be, the ability to meet the needs of educators and students is an extremely rewarding experience. Learning is not simply a one way process from teacher to student. Instead, many educators learn values from other teachers and ambitious students. The value of an education breaks the boundaries location and can become a rewarding global experience.

Fedor has always had the passion to travel the world before beginning a professional career. While stating apprehension towards simultaneously traveling and teaching, Marrissa stated that she believes traveling during the summer would be the most logical approach. Being able to apply other cultures from first-hand experience will not only empower her approach towards education, but will also encourage others to get out and experience the world. While discussing closing comments on the experience in Malaysia, Fedor stated that Malaysia was extremely rewarding and hopes that the relationship between Wilkes and the Malaysian school community continues to flourish. Being able to share experience with others is one of the highest forms of fulfillment one can experience in education.



Photo Courtesy of Marrissa Fedor

Summer/Fall Courses

By Anne Yoskoski

Summer 2012

ENG 281 American Literature I with **Dr. Grier**

Fall 2012

ENG 334 Studies in 18th Century Literature with **Dr. Anthony**

ENG 342 Studies in Shakespeare with **Dr. Stamer**

ENG 352 Studies in the American Novel with **Dr. Kelly**

ENG 397 Senior Seminar: Horror & Science-Fiction in Modern Literature with **Dr. Stanley**



Christina Fedor

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W. U. T. ends the 2011-2012 production season with *Amadeus*

By Jamie Alderiso

Peter Shaffer's 1979 play *Amadeus* first enjoyed a successful premiere in London, before starting another successful run on The Great White Way the following year. A production that starred **Ian McKellen** as the conflicted Antonio Salieri, garnered wide spread attention and success. *Amadeus* won five 1981 Tony Awards, including Best Actor for McKellen, and Best Play. The production enjoyed a healthy run on Broadway, and still ranks as one of the top one hundred longest runs in Broadway's history. The noteworthy 1984 film garnered eight Academy Awards, and has continuously placed on many critics' lists for top films of all time.

The piece is gripping and moving and has continuously translated over many productions, and most notably in its translation on film. One aspect of the drama remains completely at the center of each translation; the heated rivalry between **Antonio Salieri** and **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** remains the focal point of the dramatic fabric. Salieri is a hardworking, but embittered composer who must endure the endless, but seemingly effortless compositions of Mozart's musical genius. The play has a nugget of truth in every scene, but it is not a historical play. Instead, Shaffer uses these nuggets of truth as a springboard to create a heart wrenching piece of intellectual theatre. The play juggles with envy, genius, innocence, betrayal, love and the nature of God all within two and half hours.

On April 12th-15th, W.U.T. performed the play, after only a month of rehearsals and two school breaks in between. The cast included myself as Antonio Salieri, **Luke Brady** as Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, **Kelly Pleva** as Constanze Weber, and **Corey Martin** as Joseph II. **James Langan**, **Cassidy Conroy**, **Jimmy Basquill**, **Lacey Willis**, **Janel Naro**, **Mandy Thomas**, **Cierra Cellerari**, **James Daly**, **Kearasten Jordan**, **Erin Weinberger**, **Allison DeLuca**, and **Caitlin McKee** were also featured. Director of Theatre, **Teresa Fallon** directed the last production for W.U.T's 2011-2012 season.



Photo Courtesy of Jamie Alderiso

A Literary Moment: American Romanticism

By Gabby Zawacki

Dr. **Sean Kelly**'s favorite literary movement is American Romanticism. Covering 19th century American literature, some major authors of the period are **Nathaniel Hawthorne**, **Herman Melville**, **Henry David Thoreau**, **Ralph Waldo Emerson**, **Margaret Fuller**, **Harriet Beecher Stowe**, **Frederick Douglas**, **Edgar Allen Poe**, **Emily Dickinson**, and **Walt Whitman**. Many of these writers are authors of great works that many people recognize, and while the familiarity of these authors is an apparent draw to this time period, Dr. Kelly has some interesting reasons for specializing in this branch of American literature. Enjoying "the intellectual adventurousness and urgency of the mid-nineteenth century", Dr. Kelly likes the diverse range of works and topics that American Romanticism produced. From Poe's tales of terror to Thoreau's quest for the sublime in nature, to Hawthorne's romances, the 19th century offers something for every reader due to its wide range of ideas and topics.

While the 19th century is an interesting and innovative period in American literature, one of its most engaging qualities is its ability to connect past to present. Many 20th century writers, such as **Mark Twain**, **Allen Ginsberg**, **Flannery O'Connor**, and **Toni Morrison**, are clearly influenced by American Romanticism, which gives deeper meaning and importance to its moment in American literature.

Student Update: Erin Robinson

By Sara Crolick

Erin Robinson, a graduating Wilkes English major, has enrolled in a graduate program for the Fall of 2012. After a great deal of deliberation, Robinson chose a M.A./PhD track at the University of Tulsa, which offered her funding through a teaching assistantship. Robinson visited the University of Tulsa in April, in addition to two other schools she had been accepted to, but ultimately chose Tulsa because of the program's strength. Robinson also saw the potential for mentoring opportunities, work she prioritized and wanted to continue from her time spent at Wilkes. According to Robinson, mentoring at Wilkes shaped her "intellectual, personal, and professional growth." Robinson will return to Tulsa the first week of August for orientation and the start of her graduate coursework.

Kuhar's Corner: "Deconstructing Graduation: On the Value of Student Teaching and Capstones"

By Dr. Larry Kuhar

In 1967 Jacques Derrida coined the term "deconstruction." As most *Inkwell* readers are aware, graduating English majors have been celebrating the 45th anniversary of the term's coining throughout the year in Kirby. Battling budget cuts and votes of no confidence, our graduating seniors have remained steadfast in their singular focus on deconstructing any, and all, texts that come their way. Satisfied in establishing multiple meanings/selves, they re-arrive, Phoenix-like, in capstones and student teaching assignments to affirm the power of these new-found identities.

But why is everyone celebrating? Who are these seniors and what have they done to our undergraduates? What does this term mean? Isn't it counter-intuitive to define a term that, by definition, aims to dissolve the availability of a single meaning in a text?

For everyone involved, the term 'deconstruction' has proven notoriously difficult to define. Everyone, that is, except our graduating majors. English majors learn early and often how to deconstruct. This is a good thing. Watching the leaves bloom and fall for four years on the tree outside Kirby 305, our seniors are prepared to move to the next window (?). They know better than anyone that our program's values encourage majors to rethink *who we are*, to dispose of the notion that we are limited to possessing one voice. Our program teaches how to do it. And we see the proof - undeniable and absolute - in our graduates' work in the classroom as student teachers and in their presentation of their capstones.

Our graduates, it seems to me, have deconstructed the voices they possessed when they arrived in our English program only a few years back. They've deconstructed many texts beyond self - whether literary, personal or institutional - that they found as cynical, unethical or of no worth in this post-industrial, *Inkwell*-driven Kirby society. They affirmed the value of practical, critical and analytical skills. As a result, they've *written themselves* as new texts, ones that show the value in what it means to establish a voice, to lead in the classroom and to serve the local community. They affirm the core vision of the program that emphasizes unremittingly (if it's a word) that a degree in English prepares a person for a successful and rewarding career and a life beyond the corridors of Kirby Hall. In short, they've *written themselves* as texts that demonstrate excellence.

Ask Alicia Lewis about the importance of having a voice. Alicia graduates in May and recently completed her student teaching at Hanover Area Jr. Sr. High School. When I saw Alicia teach writing to her 10th grade students, she comported herself with confidence, professionalism and integrity. Her voice was real. She was possessed (*in a good way!*) by the voice and values of an educator. She communicated the importance of outcomes to her students: "Great point," she said in response to a student's comment, "Now you need to apply that point in your draft." She had deconstructed the 'Alicia' that had arrived in our program four years ago and reconstructed in a professional voice as an educator.

When I asked Alicia to share how her teaching was going and to identify her favorite aspect of teaching, she responded with, "Teaching is going great! I love it! My favorite part would have to be when students who are struggling finally get the difference. Her voice here is personable. Real. To achieve this, we often need to deconstruct some aspect of who we and renewing energies found in possessing a new voice, the voice of an educator in this case.

Ask graduating senior Buddy Gouger if he understands the importance of nurturing and developing your own voice against the delivered, pre-packaged and authorized views of the establishment. Buddy just finished his student teaching at West Side Career and Vocational Center. When I saw Buddy teach a few weeks back, he commanded a strong voice and the voice with which I worked in English 351: Studies in Postmodernism. He had reconstructed his voice. It was different than finding the reconstructed voice is not often easy. Deconstruction/education works this way. It requires us to throw away some of *whom we were*. . . . Some of what was authorized as the knowable text, the final reading. The process of navigating these terrains created challenges for Buddy. He was working hard, "as an educator" (as he wrote to me), but was challenged by the indifference he felt some students expressed toward the work of reading and analyzing *Romeo and Juliet*. Give in to apathy? Find another voice? Our program teaches us to affirm our own voice against the pressure of falling in line with the 'authorized' voices. We learn how to resist the ever-present temptation to accept pre-packaged answers that institutions and centers of authority promote.

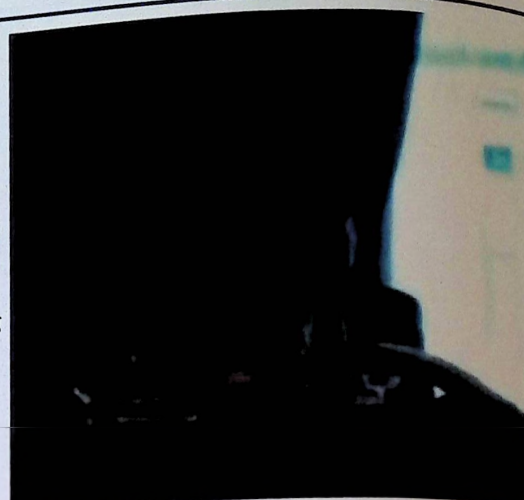


Photo Courtesy of Dr. Mischelle Anthony

Kuhar's Corner Continued from page 6...

Precisely because we become aware that we can possess different voices, deconstructions often result in a broader awareness of our shared human condition. Buddy affirmed the value of his efforts as an educator to resist becoming pessimistic about the challenges of teaching: "One of the positive aspects is I can see the difference I'm making in some students' lives, especially those who have IEPs [Individualized Educational Programs] and learning disabilities." This is a new voice - *this sentence alone constructs it* - for Buddy. Buddy deconstructed the too-easily-affirmed idea that uninterested or challenged students cannot or will not understand the ideas and values delivered in English classrooms. Buddy's supervising teacher applauded Buddy's passion for teaching and the real-life values he brought to his students. I agreed and lauded his new voice and the confidence that this new voice possessed (while hiding my disappointment that I was not in his classroom the day before when, I learned from his supervising teacher, he threw himself on the floor acting out a scene in the play).

Ask **Marrissa Fedor**, who spent half of her student teaching in classrooms in Malaysia and half at West-Side, if she feels 'possessed' by a different voice now that she has completed her student teaching.

Deconstructions surprise us. Or, maybe, it's the arrival of new voices that surprises. Consider the empowered voices possessed in our graduating majors' capstone projects. Ask capstone presenters and graduating seniors **Marwa Al-Daraweish, Kelly Clisham, Dave Cook, Sara Crolick, Jeff Ford, Jonathan Kadjeski, Erin Robinson, Anthony Thomas** or **Liz Voda** about the pride and identity they felt as they presented their original research - whether creative, literary or technical - in their capstones. *Possessed* by new voices, these graduates exemplified the power and dignity that comes with moving forward -- in a new voice - toward a reimagined version of self.

Congratulations to our program graduates! Your student teaching and your capstones show us the overwhelmingly positive outcomes possible with deconstructive readings, that is, deconstructive readings *of self*. You are moving forward in new-found voices. Whether you are moving into the workforce, a graduate program, public education, law school or where ever your story takes you, you're going forward with the empowering awareness that you have reinvented yourself. With this you are aware that you can reinvent yourself again and again and again. It's in your textual blood. And, if Derrida had it right 45 years ago, you will have no choice but to reinvent yourself again and again and again.

Nala wants everyone to know that she says, "Congratulations" to the graduates and "have a great summer" to all.

And, she's on call in case Dr. Kuhar may need his own shaming space one day...



Photo Courtesy of Kendra Kuhar

Local Events

By Tony Thomas

- With the summer fast approaching, there are many activities and events upcoming in the Wilkes-Barre area.
- The Wilkes-Barre YMCA is hosting their 26th annual Night at the Races at the Mohegan Sun Casino. Costs are \$15 and \$20. There will be free food and refreshments. The event benefits youth services such as the YMCA.
 - May 19th at noon the Fine Arts Fiesta kicks off on Public Square in Wilkes-Barre.
 - Geneva School's 7th Annual "Taste of the Valley" will be held May 2, 5:30-8 p.m at Fiorelli's in Peckville. Tickets at \$15 advanced and \$20 at the door. Come and taste some of the best food from some of the valley's best eateries. All proceeds benefit the Geneva School.
 - June 16th is the start of the Ousterhout Library's annual lawn book sale. The sale runs the 16th-23rd. The selection is always huge ranging from classic literature to cookbooks. Stop by the giant tent on the library's lawn and find some books for your summer reading list.

Jason Neare - Senior Spotlight

By Elizabeth Voda

Senior **Jason Neare** didn't come to Wilkes as an English major at first; a five page paper seemed like a struggle to Neare four years ago. Neare was first Undecided. He experimented with different majors, including Biology on the Pre-Med track. Neare explained, "I found myself miserable and unfulfilled with the work in which I was accomplishing." His Eng 101 class with **Dr. Thomas Hamill** changed his mind and he knew that English was his calling, where "I enjoyed creating arguments and defending them through research, conversation with others, and writing," he said. "Everyone within the major seems to connect with one another and build off the encouragement and ideas from others." He felt a connection with both the faculty and students in the department.

Neare credits **Dr. Janet Starner**, **Dr. Helen Davis**, **Dr. Chad Stanley**, and **Dr. Marcia Farrell** for his own intellectual development at Wilkes. His experiences throughout his education include working with the Oxford English Dictionary and the iPad's position in the classroom. **Dr. Andrew Miller** of the Political Science department also influenced Neare's development. Currently living in Lehman, Pennsylvania, he isn't quite sure whether he wants to attend law school or graduate school. He plans to take a year off from school to save money that will aid his attempt at an advanced degree.



Photo Courtesy of Jason Neare

Senior Spotlight—Liz Voda

By Jason Neare

For many students entering the college community, trying to discover a passion and identity can be a challenge. Senior English major **Liz Voda** can attest to this notion. Coming into Wilkes University, Voda already had experience writing and editing for journals and newspapers such as the Wyoming County Press Examiner. Wanting to pursue a passion for writing and journalism that developed during high school, Voda experimented with many discourses including Communications, Integrative Media, and Secondary Education. Not feeling fulfilled in these majors, Voda decided to give English a try, always enjoying reading and discussing the works of famous authors and poets. Aside from engaging in intellectual conversations about literary works, Voda accredits her development as a student and individual to the many discussions carried on during class time. While recently talking with Voda, she mentioned "I truly feel that I have grown as a person because of the English Department."

Being a fellow classmate, Voda has demonstrated leadership and excellence in and outside of the classroom. Voda is involved in many clubs and extracurriculars at Wilkes University and in the community including Vice President of the Wilkes Anime Club, Copy Editor for Manuscript, Layout Editor for the *Inkwell Quarterly*, Vice President of Sigma Tau Delta, and member of Alpha Chi (top 10% of junior/senior class). Currently residing in Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania, Voda would like to develop her passion for writing and sharing information with others by finding a career after undergraduate studies. Voda has stated that her interests lie in carrying out a passion for editing. Other interests include writing for either a magazine or a company and blogging.



Photo Courtesy of Liz Voda

Congratulations to all of our recent graduates: **David Cook**, **Tony Thomas**, **Elizabeth Voda**, **Liza Prokop**, **Marrissa Fedor**, **Sara Crolick**, **Erin Robinson**, **Kristina Spaulding**, **Matt Endress**, **Jeff Ford**, **Kelly Clisham**, **Alicia Lewis**, **Buddy Gouger**, and **Marwa Al-Daraweish!**

Confessions of a Grad School Wannabe (part II)

By Sara Crolick

Applying to grad school taught me a great deal about myself. I learned that I have the strength and courage to pursue something that is important to me, even when the task seems nothing short of impossible. I learned that I am capable of facing challenge while embracing life. I learned I am capable of critical thinking and that my ideas are of academic value, and I reaffirmed that there is something worthwhile, something magical, about what we do within the walls of Kirby Hall every single day.

I believe the greatest gift any person can give him or herself is to carry an unyielding sense of gratitude for life's surprises. My personal journey has provided me with a few revelations, very few of which came easily. The easy lessons are rarely the lessons we need to keep safe. Serious illness, rejection, personal differences, breakups, and any pain can be great teachers if you accept the wisdom they have to offer. There are lessons everywhere, and I have one to share with you:

Aside from being my final semester at Wilkes University as an undergraduate, this semester had personal significance for me: this was the semester I would hear back from schools regarding acceptance. Like a child waiting for sleep the night before Christmas, I felt time slip by excruciatingly slow. Anticipated dates for notification came and went, calls were placed, and I was repeatedly reassured that schools had not misplaced my application, final decisions were still being made. Then, the letters came rolling in. Not all of the letters exclaimed "congratulations" in their opening lines, but two of my top choices did. I have been offered admission to SUNY Stony Brook University and Fordham University. Oh, happy, happy day.

In an ideal world, every accepted graduate student would be granted opportunities to assist with the cost of school, as well as opportunities to develop skills to help them as future English Professors. The formula seems simple enough: student applies to grad school + student gets accepted to grad school = student goes to grad school. Granted, I am an English major, not a math major, but I can tell you with certainty, that other variables are at work in this equation. For example, some schools *only* extend offers to students who are guaranteed teaching assistantships, or fellowships. The availability of funding, while a huge benefit to those selected, drastically reduces the number of accepted students. Students are ensured scholarships which help (often completely) with tuition, and are, at times, offered a stipend position to alleviate living costs while enrolled. Other schools distribute a limited number of financial packages, but also extend offers to qualified students without aid. Stony Brook and Fordham fall into the latter category.

So now? Decisions, decisions. Six months ago, I told myself that I would do whatever was necessary to get into a graduate program of my choice. I was successful in that endeavor; however, while limiting my search geographically, I hurt my chances at securing an assistantship or other form of financial support. Schools in and around New York City are competitive, so although I earned congratulatory letters, I was not fortunate enough to earn a package that would allow for my attendance at this time; I simply can't afford it. Despite my disappointment, I am proud of what I have accomplished and do not believe this is a tragic end to my beautiful romance with literature studies. I can reevaluate schools, my application components, and my priorities and apply again; it really can be that simple. Life has offered me an opportunity for revelation, and I have to trust in that process. Joseph Campbell said, "We must be willing to let go of the life we have planned, so as to have the life that is waiting for us." So, at this moment in time, I am letting go. I am taking some wonderful advice and I am slowing down, because there is time. There is *so* much time.

Books into Movies: A discussion on literary adaptations

By Annie Yoskoski

Many times I have walked into the theater and wondered "how badly did the director butcher the book this time?" walking to my seat. So many recent movies have been based on books; take *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, *The Hunger Games*, *The Lucky One*, *Snow White and the Huntsman*, and *One for the Money* into consideration. All of these movies were books first, and sometimes the movie adaptations do not do the original text justice.

Without writing there would be no movies. This is a fact many people do not consider. Every movie starts with at least a written screen play. Screen plays are not novels, but they are still respected literature. It does not matter how many amazing actors volunteer to play a part of a character if the character in question has not already been brought to life by an author.

Many changes are made to books in their corresponding movie adaptations because of time. Sometimes books are even split into two movies, like *Harry Potter and the Jason Bourne* series. Even hardcore movie enthusiasts cannot sit through a six hour movie without losing focus and becoming edgy. Looking at this in a practical way, directors and movie executives sometimes split the book into halves or sometimes into three parts in order to make two to three hour movies that have all of the details of the original novel, but are still tolerable to watch.

No one can put aside the financial aspect of this venture either, three movies make more than one movie does, as ticket sales double or triple respectively. Time is not just a matter of how long one is sitting in the theater for, however. Making a movie takes time, and some of the best novels to ever grace bookstore shelves take a lot of

Continued on page 11...

Senior Spotlight: Tony Thomas

While certainly no John Wayne, **Tony Thomas** certainly is, without a shadow of a doubt, a Tony Thomas.

When Thomas walked into to Wilkes in 2008 and stumbled into Dr. Farrell's English 201, probably late, his life, like so many others that day, would be changed for ever. Sitting in the front row, next to David Cook and Kenneth Stucker, Thomas would go on ad nauseam about literary and political issues, and as the legend goes, if you listen closely, you can still hear him talking, and talking, and talking.

Indeed, Thomas talked so much that on one fateful day in Dr. Farrell's Seminar on Salman Rushdie, Thomas, discovered in the computer lab a device which would allow him to record his own voice, for everyone to hear, and they all did. As a result, the word microphone has been covertly erased from his memory. When he reads this the word microphone will appear as the word gaggle.

Outside of his constant rambling, Thomas is also known for his impression, as to say impressions would imply that he has more than one. In reality, they all blend into one mildly offensive parody. Thomas, however, never seems to realize this, and gets surprised when we cannot guess who he is trying to be.

After graduation Thomas plans to take some time to plan out his future and work on his first memoir, *My Life: An Erotic Thriller*. Thomas says that it will be the best selling memoir of all time, and will more than likely win the Nobel Prize for Literature.

In addition to his memoir, Thomas plans on continuing to master his food discourse, hoping to make everyone as uncomfortable as Cook and Farrell are when they listen to his discuss his favorite dish, "a good Ruben."

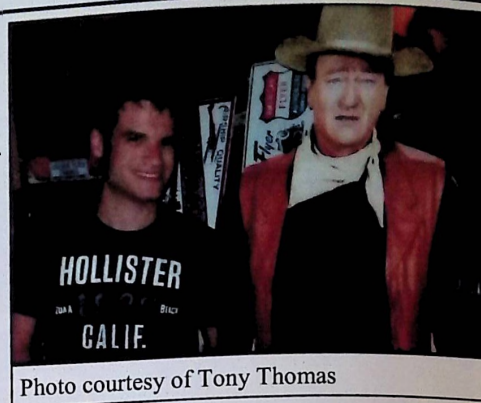


Photo courtesy of Tony Thomas

Pop Culture Literature vs the Canon

By Anne Yoskoski

Twilight. An English major muttering this book title usually pairs it with a creative curse and a disgusted sigh. The problem is that the *Twilight Saga* has sold more copies of its respective books than **T.S. Eliot** or even **F. Scott Fitzgerald**. The reason? Pop culture. The mass media uses marketing to promote novels much differently now than they did in the past. Now with a novel comes a franchise: clothing, jewelry, movie deals, spin offs, the list goes on and on. When the canon was established, these marketing techniques weren't in place for literature. The chances of there being a Ulysses t-shirt in 1922 were slim to none. Today, the novel has become a cultural staple.

We still have the canon, and it may need an update. Not all popular novels are bad, such as Harry Potter. However, books that one can pick up in a grocery store, like a celebrity tell-all or autobiography, do not deserve to be promoted as they are today. When I walk into Barnes & Noble today, I see a distinct difference between the sections. The young adult section is colorful, bright, and compelling with amazing cover art and interesting tag lines. They also contain sub-genres such as "teen paranormal romance" and "coming soon to theaters". The second sub-genre mentioned says it all. These books are being read because of their fleeting popularity, not the deep meaning of the writing or the appreciation of the prose. It is hard to respect a book series that has terrible writing yet sells out faster than the books can be published. People are picking up these books because everyone else is, not because they believe it would be an interesting story or an intriguing piece to study and analyze.

For the past three weeks I have had people who know how much I read ask me if they should buy *Fifty Shades of Grey*. My answer is always no. What people do not realize is that it's based on *Twilight* fan fiction. Obviously this is not a work of fiction that should make it into the canon. The reason people are asking me this is because the book has some press and has become a moment in pop culture that no one wants to be left out of. This is the case for many books, such as *Kardashian Confidential* or *Confessions of a Guidette* which are obviously not read for their inspiring prose.

The aspect of many pop culture literature pieces that make it difficult to dismiss them is that they are based on classic stories- many from the canon. Some of these authors are taking a tried and true plot and using it to make their own story. The significant difference is that the quality of writing is acceptable in the books of the canon while the quality of the grocery store novels is sub-par. Every once in a while there will be that rare gem from pop culture that produces a great piece of literature. Those can be considered for inclusion in an updated canon. However, just because a book sells well does not mean that it deserves a place of prestige in literature, a concept that many have yet to grasp.

Contemporary

By Jason Near

In the memoirs are now scheduled for September on the prophet and government novels by Rushdie

Katherine

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Literary Adaptation

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By Jamie Bel

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Contemporary Author Update

By Jason Neare and Annie Yoskoski

In the upcoming months, **Salman Rushdie** has announced the publication of his memoirs, *Joseph Anton*. The memoirs are named for the alias he took after being threatened with death by **Ayatollah Khomeini**. The release date is scheduled for September 18th. The memoirs will reflect on nine years spent in hiding due to a fatwa for an alleged insult on the prophet Mohammed. The memoir will follow Rushdie's relationship with the armed police, intelligence agencies, and governments in a struggle to obtain freedom from social impacts of the novel *The Satanic Verses*. Other more recent novels by Rushdie to check out include *The Enchantress of Florence* and *Luka and the Fire of Life*.

Katherine Howe's new book *House of Velvet and Glass* was published in April. Also, world renowned author **J.K. Rowling** is set to release her new novel, *The Casual Vacancy*, will be released September 27, 2012. This will be Rowling's first novel not attached to the Harry Potter series. Also in Rowling news, her interactive online world, Pottermore, on which she collaborated with Sony has been released from Beta and is open to the public. Fans can now create accounts, be placed into houses, practice spells and brewing potions, all while fighting their way through the first book in all of it's important scenes. The website also contains all of the Harry Potter books in e-book format, and plans to release an interactive adventure for each book in the series.

Literary Adaptations continued from page 9...

imagination to portray on a screen. Many books have characters who reside in imaginary worlds, with new species, languages, locations, and landscapes. Another problem is that many readers already have an image placed of what certain characters should look or act like due to the author's description. It takes time to find the right person to play the role of a character if the producers are dedicated to pleasing the author, fans, and doing justice to the original text.

As soon as casting is done the book will be re-released in a paperback form with the "movie cover" usually featuring a close up of the main characters mid-scene. Every English major has seen these books, and let's admit it, sometimes people are judged based on their ownership of the original or movie version copy of the book. Owning the original can make someone appear "cooler" or "more intelligent" because it is assumed that they read the book before the movie deal was announced, somehow linking them to highbrow scholars of literature.

Anytime a movie comes out that was based off of a previously written and distributed book, people will be either pleased or angered about the result. It can be the big picture things that set a reader off, such as saying that the fictional world is not up to their standards. It can be the casting, citing the recent outcry of many people after *The Hunger Games* due to the lack of diversity of race in the casting, even though the book portrayed it this way. The chief complaint though, seems to always be the details left on the cutting room floor, the tiny nuances created by the author that makes the novel the fantastic adventure and escape that it is for many readers. These crucial details are not always able to be emulated by a director or cast, leaving out some of the original charm and magic the novel created for many readers.

As time goes on, with technology and experience, filmmakers are getting better at portraying the novel, letting some of the dust settle when it comes to this decades old debate. There will however, always be a more imaginative author or a more creative director waiting in the wings to either write something fantastic or think that they have the prowess to change the original work. The better the book, the better the movie is not always the case, but it certainly does seem to be heading in that direction with all of the recent book to film adaptations gracing the box office with huge revenues.

What are you excited to do this summer?

By Jamie Bellissimo

When asked what they were most excited to do this summer, many people's responses were obvious - not having to deal with the daily stress of college anymore, and having a lot more free time. But special vacations and trips made the top of the list for a lot of people as well, like **Miranda Godlewski**, a freshman. "I'm excited to go to Myrtle Beach for a week," she said. **Megan Petrochko** felt the same way, saying that she couldn't wait to go camping over the upcoming summer break. **Kathryn Roshong** said she could not wait to go to the beach whenever she wants, but also mentioned work. "Being able to work at my summer camp again with my girls is going to be a lot of fun," she admitted. All in all, the thoughts of warm summer weather and plans for travel have everyone thinking, "Is it summer yet?"

Don't forget to check the Fall 2012 Writing Center Hours! If you want to get involved contact **Dr. Chad Stanley** at chad.stanley@wilkes.edu

Wilkes/King's Women and Gender Studies Conference

By Jason Neare

April 16th and 17th marked the annual Women and Gender Studies Conference, with the theme of "Women Across the Globe." The conference is a collaboration between Wilkes University and King's College to come together and share research on women's issues. As years progress, the conference has been growing in attendance and popularity with many more participants from the community. Presentations were delivered from students, professors, community activists, and guest lecturers. The event is headed by **Dr. Jennifer Thomas** of Wilkes University and **Dr. Robin Field** of King's College. **Nicole Pollock**, Women and Gender Studies Mentor, also helped in the planning and organization of the event.

This year's keynote speech was delivered by **Dr. Ashley Mears** of the Sociology Department at Boston University. The title of Mears' lecture was "The Production of Value within an Aesthetic Economy." For a doctoral thesis, Mears worked within the fashion industry as a model to see the ways in which women have a monetary value attached to themselves based on the "buzz" which is produced among fashion scouts. What Mears found was that an inverted labor scale results in the modeling industry that allows women to make up to seventy-five percent more in wages than a male counterpart by portraying an image of passivity. Mears' lecture raised a common theme among the conference panels in that much improvement needs to be made to correct the position of women within a patriarchal society.

Many students presented papers with various faculty members. **Dr. Helen Davis**'s 397 students, **Marwa Aldaraweish**, **Ashley Bringmann**, **Jeffrey Ford**, **James Gambucci**, **Victoria Hevener**, **Jon Kadjeski**, **Jason Neare**, **Elizabeth Voda**, and **Ashley Zerfoss** presented their work in the "Charlotte Bronte and Her Legacy" panel. **Matt Bishop** presented "Men, Women, and a Game: Gender Stereotypes in *The Replacements*." Students **Michelle Byrnes**, **Anne Mason**, **Julia Cikota**, and **Sara Williams** from **Dr. Janet Starner**'s English 324 course presented their papers as part of the "Sexism in the English Language." **Kadjeski** presented his paper "Re-Affirming the Gendered Pronoun: Methods for Teaching Writing." **Neare** and **Erin Robinson** presented work as part of **Dr. Chad Stanley**'s panel, "Domestic Violence/ Public Voices." **Stephanie Wilkie** presented the paper "Insult of a Lifetime: Gender-biased Language." **Jamie Alderiso** and **Kelly Pleva** participated in a performance of *The Waiting Room*. **Bringmann**, **Caevaun DuBarry**, **Neare**, and **Todd Oravic** presented "All Women Have One Career in Common, Being a Woman: The Construction of and Manipulation of Female Identity." **Dr. Marcia Farrell** presented "Unraveling the Bonds between Catharsis and Fiber Arts: An Examination of Stitching Culture in Neocolonial Literature." In addition, **Dr. Michelle Anthony**, **Alderiso**, **Miranda Baur**, **Bringmann**, **Sara Crolick**, **Dr. Davis**, **Hevener**, **Kadjeski**, and **Voda** participated in the Poetry Slam.

Panels varied in topics such as providing medical supplies to foreign countries, domestic violence, feminist ideals within literature, and Academy Award winning movies based on women's issues. The co-produced conference is a means of bringing together the community at large to talk about the oppression of women and ways to empower our future. Students interested in obtaining a minor in Women and Gender Studies should contact **Dr. Thomas** or **Nicole Pollock** in order to register. The minor allows students with a way to diversify themselves among other graduates in the professional world.

IQ Editorial Farewell, continued from page 2...

you. Every student in this department who ever argued with me, listened to me, asked for help—each one of you taught me something and helped me shape and discover who I was as an English major, and I thank you for all of that. And of course, I would be nothing without the professors. I can honestly say that every one of you, even those I have not had in class, but have simply talked to in the halls, has been important. I have cherished every conversation, every passing remark, every 15 minute meeting which goes on for hours, and of course, every paper I've had to write, even 20 page rhetorical analyses on 1500 year old texts.

That brings me to another important, and singular influence in my life, and that is **Dr. Farrell**. I can honestly say, that without the effort she made to mentor me, to make me a better writer and a better scholar, I would not be who I am today, and I certainly would not be sitting here writing my farewell. **Dr. Farrell** always knew how to push me to my absolute limits, break me down, and help me stand back up as a better student of English. I am, and shall always be, in her debt.

I would like to thank my staff, especially **Tony**, **Liz**, and **Annie** for helping me to make sure *Inkwell Quarterly* comes together every issue, even when it seems impossible. It amazes me what you all have been able to make happen, and I know that as all of you move forward with your lives, that in whatever you undertake, you will make empires out of sand.

I try, very hard, to not be overly sentimental in these sorts of things, but clearly, in this instance I have failed. These last four years have been a wonderful experience, and I can only hope that as new students enter the program they will have the desire to connect with this program and grow from it as much as I have.

Finally, I would simply like to congratulate the **Wilkes University Faculty** for their vote of no confidence. I know I speak for many of the students here when I say, we will stand with you and support you as you move forward. We believe in Wilkes because we believe in the teachers. The fiscal vanishing act needs to stop, and I know all of you made a first and powerful step towards closing that curtain.

Sincerely, **David Cook**, Editor-in-Chief, *IQ*, Volume 6

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By Tony

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El Rincon Latino: A Review

By Tony Thomas

Mexican cuisine has become one of my favorites. The food is hearty and the flavors can range from savory to mild and then 'round again to spicy boldness. More authentic Mexican restaurants have been opening up in the Wyoming Valley over the past couple of years. One of the newer ones is El Rincon Latino, which is at the 69 N. Main Street in Wilkes-Barre.

The restaurant is warm and inviting with its wood interior. The wood floors and walls breathe a comfortable coziness while dining or drinking. The restaurant has two sections. A bar with seating all around and high top tables. There are several televisions on the walls playing sports stations. The other half is the dining area with a nice array of tables.

The wait staff is exceptionally friendly and inviting. Never are you rushed to order or to finish your plate. Never are you constantly pestered every five minutes to see how you are enjoying your dinner. Though, whenever you need more drink or more food, your waiter or waitress will be fast by to oblige.

I have dined here several times and you can find delicious authentic Mexican food. The tacos are made on house pressed corn or flour tortillas and you can get them filled with a variety of meats ranging from pork, chicken, beef, and chilies, and tripe. Tripe, for those not aware, is beef stomach. Another classic Mexican dish they feature is poblano mole. Mole is a chocolate chili sauce that is just as popular in Mexico as ketchup is in the States, but the recipe for mole can vary from region to region. The sauce is savory thanks to the chocolate, but offers a mild heat from the chilies. The flavor is unique and must be tried in order to be fully appreciated.

El Rincon Latino features a variety of weekly specials. Tuesday is Taco Tuesday and they feature \$1.00 small tacos. They also have Tequila Thursday offering a variety of tequila specials such as \$5.00 shots of Patron.

For those wanting to experience authentic Mexican cooking or perhaps craving adventurous flavors, El Rincon Latino is a must-dine establishment near downtown Wilkes-Barre.

Senior Spotlight- David J. Cook, esquire.

By Tony Thomas

When he is not debating the merits of postcolonial theory or talking to walls, **David Cook** is a part-time Time Lord. Cook began his studies at Wilkes back in 2008. The day he entered **Dr. Marcia Farrell's** English 201 course, his life would be forever changed. From the spirited debates of that class he evolved into even more of a polyphiloprogenitive master of English.

He often spent his time dreaming of a world where everyone loved **T.S. Eliot** as much as he did. Cook is known for his rabid defense of Formalism and the Modernists. Though in the same breath, he would defend postcolonial discourse faster than the best podracer in the galaxy.

His talents are not limited to the study of English literature. He is also majored in Communications with a concentration in rhetoric and public address. He is the President of the Debate Team. He has conquered many a foe in the field of argumentation. He has amassed a collection of speaker awards that symbolically represent the heads of his defeated opponents. His conquests would make **Genghis Khan** blush.

The times that are not spent at Wilkes, Cook consumes what time he has playing hockey for The Rebels. He plays center and is feared by all when he gets onto the ice. His hockey stick is stained with blood. He also enjoys watching *Dr. Who* and British television programming.

After leaving this prestigious and certainly not broke University he plans on doing little for the next year and then making his triumphant return to academia by going to grad school. He plans on studying Modernism to further his love affair with Eliot's poetry.

Though, starting on May 15th Cook's life will be consumed by his secret lover, Diablo. His entire summer will be taken with him playing *Diablo III*. While only a video game, this may just be enough to make him a recluse. Cook will gleefully use magic and iron weapons to do battle with horrific demons.



Photo Courtesy of David Cook

Students and Faculty Work to Promote Local History

By Jonathan Kadjeski

Many students, faculty, staff, and community members may not be aware of the extent of Wilkes's involvement with local history. For two professors and three students, they are not merely aware of Wilkes's community engagement but rather very crucial part of it.

As part of Wilkes's Oral History and Wyoming Valley History studies, **Dr. Loran Lewis** and **Dr. Chad Stanley** began working on a regional history project focusing on local farming and the popular Wilkes-Barre Farmers' Market. The project collected research with the assistance of senior history major **Alexandra Madaya** and then began conducting interviews with the regional farmers who visit the market. Madaya's research focused on local farming families whose lives are based on selling their farm products at regional farmers' markets. "Everyone things of this area as a coal region," Madaya said, "but this region has an agricultural base." Junior English major **Todd Oravic** and junior Communications major **Ryan Wood** worked closely with Stanley filming and editing videos. Oravic and Madaya both expressed their beliefs about the importance of this project and the importance of recording Luzerne County's current history. Oravic elaborated, saying that "it's important to know what the culture is really like, instead of what people assume it's like."

The Fall 2011 semester presented some significant challenges, especially the flooding disaster, but the team has been able to create a project introduction video and several short video interviews. Wood and Oravic, though only juniors, have worked together editing many videos as part of their collaborative film studio, Woodavic Studios, and will continue working with the Wilkes Wyoming Valley History Project as Wilkes's engagement with regional history continues to expand over the coming years.

Stanley characterized the project's goals as to both "add to and publicize the history of our region." It is certainly a most rich and diverse history, grounded in the region's agricultural heritage, and it does not take much to experience this agricultural heritage - the Wilkes-Barre Farmers' Market is only blocks away from Wilkes, Kings, and most downtown business.

Medieval Drama in Brooklyn

By Kendra Kuhar

On Saturday March 25, **Dr. Hamill's** Medieval Drama class traveled to New York to see the Cheek by Jowl production, *'Tis Pity She's a Whore*. The playwright was performed at BAM Harvey Theater, formerly known as The Majestic, in Brooklyn. Written by **John Ford** and published in 1633, *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* is a 17th century tragedy that tells the story of an incestuous relationship between brother and sister. Since incest is and was never accepted as a social norm, the relationship ultimately insinuates corruption and murder.

In spite of the play being written in 1633, the production was accessible and appealed to contemporary audiences because it was visually modern. The setting of the entire play was intended to mimic that of a teenager's bedroom. The walls in the "bedroom" had a poster of the popular television-series "True Blood," along with other similar advertisements. This modern characteristic of the scene especially caught the attention of the audience from the beginning because they were able to relate to the main characters by having similar interests. Additionally, there were other modern objects utilized such as a laptop and headphones.

While they seem insignificant on paper, these contemporarily visual qualities of the play made the already propelling story even better. Cheek by Jowl put on a fantastic production and although one may not be inspired to travel to see the play, a reading of *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* through contemporary eyes will equally impact the audience and readers alike.

Manuscript Update

The Manuscript's Spring 2012 edition was unveiled at 1:00pm on Monday, May 7, 2012 in the Kirby Hall Salon, along with the 2010/2011 issue of *The Kirby Canon* and the first collection of stories from the women of the DVSC. Also, **Holly Evans** announced the publication of *The Elephant in the Garden*, a collection of works written by women at the Domestic Violence Center who participated in Creative Writing workshops conducted by Evans and **Erin Robinson**. Copies of *Manuscript*, *Kirby Canon*, and *The Elephant in the Garden* will be available in Kirby Hall.

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Luzerne County History

By Jonathan Kadjeski

On July 27, 1934, Harry Tompkins was walking on a well-used footpath adjacent to the Erie and Wyoming Valley Railroad line early in the morning when a train approached and an object, protruding from the train but hidden by darkness, struck Tompkins, knocking him to the ground where his right arm was crushed beneath the train's wheels. Tompkins did what many would do today: he sued the railroad company in federal district court through the US District Court for the Southern District of New York. What happened to his case however, was nothing ordinary.

After *Swift v. Tyson* (1842), plaintiffs often sued in federal court because the federal courts were not required to use the common law of the state in which the suit was being filed. The court applied an "ordinary negligence" standard to Tompkins's case, not New York or Pennsylvania common law. The district court's law opposed Pennsylvania's common law of "wanton negligence," the state's standard for the duty of care railroads owed to trespassers, which Tompkins was awarded damages and the railroad appealed the decision to the nation's highest court.

The majority opinion, written by Associate Justice Louis Brandeis, changed common law litigation in the United States. Brandeis wrote that nothing in the Constitution permits Congress to empower federal courts to create federal common law for cases that do not involve an issue of federal law. Because Tompkins was filing suit under a claimed violation of state law, the federal courts had to apply Pennsylvania's common law. Legal debate being settled, Tompkins's case was heard under the new civil procedure in the Second Circuit Court of Appeals under the merits of Pennsylvania, and the court subsequently threw out Tompkins's case. Federal civil procedure has since changed again, but the legal precedent remains the same as decided in *Erie Railroad Co. v. Tompkins*. The course of federal law was changed by a man doing what was, and still is, a very common action in Northeast Pennsylvania - taking a shortcut home along the railroad tracks.

Dr. Farrell's Recipe: BBQ "Chicken" Pizza for Vegetarians

By Dr. Marcia Farrell

As some of you already know, I made the decision to become a vegetarian over winter break for no other reason than I feel healthier having done so. However, I also love food, and the stereotypical veg fare of salad and hummus wraps just does not cut it for me. So, I decided to find ways to make tasty alternatives to some of my favorite "meat" dishes. Although not known for its health benefits, BBQ chicken pizza is a great Friday-Movie-night food. My spoof on the dish for those who want to cut back on their meat intake is actually quite simple and just as tasty. If you'd prefer "real chicken," however, just change the LightLife Chik'n strips to thin slices of chicken.

Ingredients:

- One package of LightLife Chik'n strips (Or, one chicken breast cut up into strips if you're a carnivore)
- One bottle of your favorite BBQ sauce (I really like honey BBQ, but you might like something with a bit more kick.)
- One medium-sized yellow onion, chopped
- One already prepared pizza crust (Boboli is really good), or you can go old-school and make your crust from scratch. Weight Watchers has a fabulous basic pizza crust recipe that makes enough crust for you to divide and put a second crust in the freezer.
- One package shredded provolone cheese

In a slow cooker (I still use the small one I bought for \$10 during graduate school) or a medium-sized pot, cook the Chik'n, onion, and about 1 1/2 cup BBQ sauce on low heat for about 1 hour (longer if you are using chicken). Once the Chik'n looks nice and reddish from the sauce, you can start building your pizza.

Preheat oven to 375. Knead and shape your pizza dough into a round on a pizza stone. Using a ladle, spread the BBQ sauce, Chik'n, and onion mixture around the inner ring of the dough (I'm sure you can figure this part out). Try to spread the mixture evenly so that you don't have one half of your pizza with all of the Chik'n and the other half without. You may find that you want to add a little more sauce to the top of your pizza. Try not to pile the ingredients on too high, though. You don't want your pizza to be undercooked in the middle.

Once the mixture is even, sprinkle on as much provolone as you like. While your cheese may be bubbly and golden, your crust may not have baked. Bake for about 20 - 25 minutes, but watch your crust. The crust should be a nice light golden color before you remove it from the oven. all the way through if you are using it from scratch. The crust should be a nice light golden color before you remove it from the oven.

Enjoy!

Brown Bag lunches are held monthly by Dr. Marcia Farrell and Dr. Helen Davis. If anyone is interested in attending these meetings or have any topic of interest to discuss, please contact Marcia Farrell or Helen Davis at:

marcia.farrell@wilkes.edu OR helen.davis@wilkes.edu

English Department Facebook Page

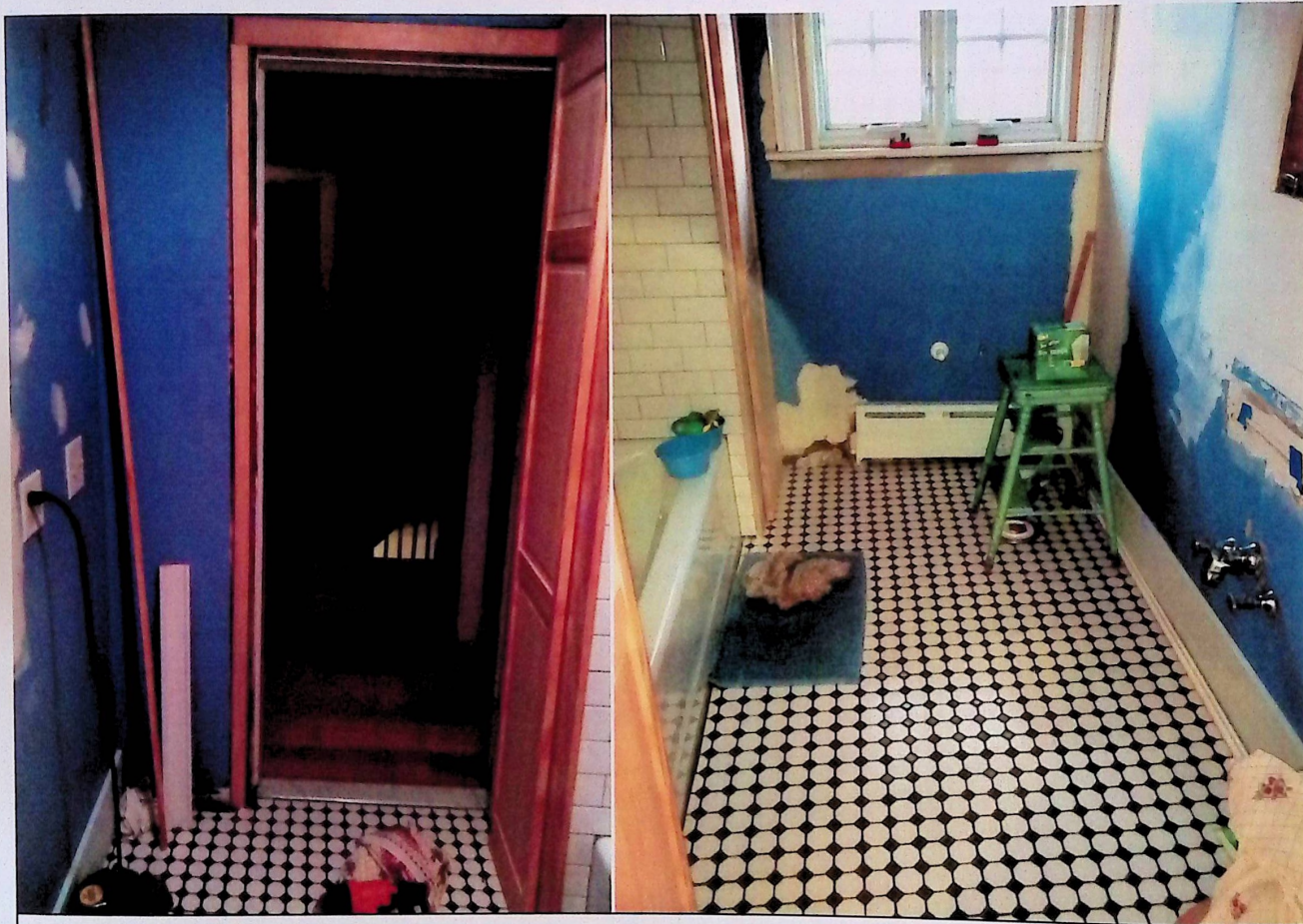
By Elizabeth Voda

Wilkes students, faculty, and alumni can stay connected via Facebook. By Dr. Lawrence Kuhar's request, Dr. Marcia Farrell created the Wilkes University English Department Facebook page to communicate with those of the department in an easier way. The page was primarily created for English department alumni and any interested prospective students because contacting these individuals is more difficult through email.

Farrell explained that, "Given the prominence of social media as a forum for announcements and public discourse, I think the page is particularly important as a way for us to "advertise" and inform others about the unique work that we are doing and to invite them to different activities." The page includes events and notifications, such as the English honor society Sigma Tau Delta Induction, senior capstone projects, and reminders for submitting to the Kirby Canon.

HAMILLS HUNCHES

In lieu of writing an actual column this month, Dr. Thomas A. Hamill has submitted to *Inkwell* Quarterly photos for his Shaming Space:



So, shame on Dr. Hamill. Shame....

Farewell

By Dr. M...

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Farewell to the Editors from Dr. Farrell

By Dr. Marcia Farrell

Over the past six years, *Inkwell Quarterly* has undergone profound change. What began as a short, informational newsletter designed to update majors on events in the department became a 20-page magazine, showcasing not only informational articles and updates but also a name and appearance change along with a solid four issues per year (with a few special issues), feature stories tackling some of the most pressing issues surrounding English Studies, and even serialized stories. Many of these changes—including our move to a color publication—occurred under the direction of previous Managing Editor, **Matt Kogoy** and his staff, most notably **Kristina Spaulding** and **Justin Jones**.

The contributions by outgoing Editor-in-Chief, **David Cook**, Copy Editor, **Tony Thomas**, and Layout Editor, **Liz Voda** mark a new era for *IQ*. Under Cook's direction, *IQ* began to delve into yet-unexplored terrain with greater emphasis on stylistic experimentation and innovative story-telling. Furthermore, under the direction of Cook, Thomas, and Voda, *IQ* has attained an presence and identity that I certainly did not imagine when **Dr. Maria Hebert-Leiter** initially asked me to co-advise the publication back in Fall 2006. In many ways, under Cook, Thomas, and Voda, we have found our voice as far as publications go, and I firmly believe that our new editorial board will be able to maintain and even grow that voice as we launch our seventh volume.

As a personal aside, however, I would like to extend my congratulations to the graduating editorial and staff members of *IQ* and tell you that you have made work on this publication one of the most profound and rejuvenating experiences of my life.

Tony, your innovative ideas and sometimes maddening processes that only you seem to understand have, at the very least, given all of us a hearty laugh, and at the most, contributed to the range and focus of a truly tremendous body of work. I'll miss your descriptions of food, your ideas, and your, at times, quirky work habits. You've made me laugh on days when I have sorely needed to do so.

Liz, your vision for our layout and your often unsung efforts in squeezing in last-minute additions (and often past-deadline articles—eh, hm, **Dr. Hamill**, **Dr. Kuhar**, **Dave**, and **Tony**) provided us with the solid identity and consistency that we have. This publication is YOU in many ways, and I am forever grateful for your efforts to instruct and to fix our pitiful efforts to keep up with you. I am deeply proud you.

Jason, **Jeff**, **Sara**, **Matt**, **Kristina**, and **Buddy**, I so appreciate your willingness to lend your voices to *IQ* and to step in at the last minute when we have needed to include information about various events. Without you, we would not have been able to learn more about one another, to share our "confessions," or have as many wonderful shared laughs. I appreciate all you have done for *IQ*, for the division, and for me.

Finally, **Dave**... It's hard to figure out exactly what to say to you. You are one of the strongest voices we have not only in *IQ* but also in the department (and the greater Wilkes community, if we are being technical). When you took over *IQ* from Kogoy, you had strong vision of what we could be, and I wholly believe that we have achieved that vision within the body of volume 6. Your personality bleeds through every inch of this publication, and to be able to consistently publish 20 page issues is a tremendous accomplishment. You have challenged our staff to be better, our publication to be better, *me* to be better, and I will remain grateful to you for all time.

Good luck and congratulations, graduating Inkwellians! I will miss you enormously. I love you all!

The Prismatic Portal of the Professor: Part 4

Collaboratively written by Tony Thomas and Dave Cook

Everyone was just standing around, wondering what to do next. Then Tony had a brilliant idea.

"Let's go back to Al! He must be waiting for us outside of the palace," exclaimed Tony.

He ran off towards the exit. Everyone else followed suit.

"Do you think Al is okay? Like you don't think that while we were trying to save Dr. Farrell, Rahuk's forces intercepted Al and captured him?" asked Annie.

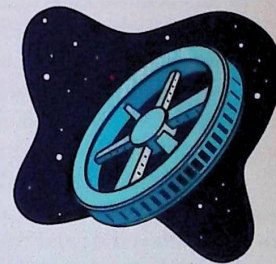
"Don't even say something like that! In this bizarre world your speaking may have made it happen!" yelled Dr. Farrell, still rather angry at her imprisonment. This has been a very bad week for a lot of people.

The heroes exit the Foreboding Fortress of Fear and when they reach the landing pad they notice that something is amiss. Al's flying fabtraption is nowhere to be seen. Then suddenly a familiar voice came from behind a large pile of crates.

"I am here!" yelled Al. Al emerged from behind the crates, but he was not alone. A man was holding a gun to Al's back.

"Now stay right where you are," said the mysterious stranger.

Continued on page 18...



Senior Spotlight—Buddy Gouger

Those of us who know graduating senior **William “Buddy” Gouger** know his good-natured attitude and “tell-it-like-it-is” presence. A member of the Wilkes Wrestling team, Buddy hopes to blend both his love of English literature and sport in the future.

“Next year I plan to substitute teach around the area and do some job hunting for teaching positions and possibly do some TSS work on the side,” he says. He also plans “to help coach at one of the junior high wrestling programs” in an effort to get his foot in the door.

An avid hunter, Gouger is originally from southern Pennsylvania and attended Pleasant Valley High School in Broadheadsville, PA. He currently works as a backroom associate at TJX Companies, a job he plans to continue working at until he lands a permanent teaching position.

Inspired by his father, Gouger is a natural teacher and is deeply concerned with educating the whole person. In a recent conversation, he related a story about student teaching in which he chose to explain to a student why she was being disciplined at the high school so that “she would understand why what she did was wrong.”

Known for his blunt commentary, Gouger is a quick favorite among his classmates. Characteristically, on his Facebook page, Gouger explains, “Yes, my name is Buddy. No, I am not related to Buddy the Elf, Buddy Holly, or any other fictional character/celebrity that shares my namesake. No, you cannot call me anything else.”

His classmates often comment on how much they miss spending class time with him.



Photo Courtesy of Buddy Gouger

Books Vs. Movies

By Kendra Kuhar

For quite some time, filmmakers have been basing movies off of novels or turning the novels into movies. In some cases, this has been done particularly well such as with *Harry Potter*, *Lord of the Rings*, and so on. However in other cases, like *The Scarlet Letter* and *Shutter Island*, the movies do not do the books justice.

When deciding if the theatric version of a film is better than the book, it is wise to start by looking at what genre the book classifies as. Usually, fantasy books tend to be easily made into movies because filmmakers can utilize special effects. This is the case with *Harry Potter* and the *Lord of the Rings*. Each book series is based on a fantasy world in which computers make it easy to regenerate.

With this being said, it is no surprise that more realistic books do not make for good films. *The Scarlet Letter*, one of the most famous novels ever, was a terrible movie. The case is the same with *Shutter Island*. This is mostly because it is nearly impossible to reflect the complete value or suspense of the writing in the novel through a screen.

It is natural for readers to give characters faces and play out novels in their minds when they read. After seeing a movie that is derived from a novel, some readers may claim that they have already created the perfect representation of the novel in their minds and that the film has ruined it. Another conflict is that if someone sees a movie after reading the book, they forget their original idea of what the book is like because the images and voices in the movie are so much stronger that they replace what was imagined.

Ultimately, you can decide for yourself whether you like the book or the movie version of a story better. Just remember this: If you’re going to debate whether the book or movie version is better, always read the book before seeing the movie. While the movie might be a good replica of the story, it will never amount to the experience you have while reading the book.

The Prismatic Portal... Continued from page 17...

"Who are you?" asked David.

"Who am I? Who are you? Who are we? I am Sir Oorloofris, the high guard captain of Rahuk. You will all be coming with me nicely or Al will die. And you don't want that do you?" asked Oorloofris as he jabbed the gun into Al's back. Al whimpered in pain.

"Do as he says," implored Al.

"Yes. Do what I say and this will be a rather nice trip," said Oorloofris as he called down his hovercraft. Realizing that they had no other choice, they all boarded the vessel.

The journey was actually a rather nice trip like Oorloofris said it would be. The interior of his craft was decorated with a master's charm. The radio speakers played the finest interdimensional jazz, which sounded like bluegrass. The tunes were damn toe tapping good.

"So where are we going?" asked Dr. Farrell.

"We are going to Rahuk," said Oorloofris.

"That sounds terrifying," said Annie with a smack of sass to her voice.

"Oh it is. Trust me," said Oorloofris as he laughed maniacally.

After a journey that took about half an hour, they all arrived at Rahuk's fortress. The fortress was shaped like a giant cube and it glistened like the finest of diamonds. In fact it was made entirely out of diamonds. A super villain can spare no expense. They landed on the landing pad and Oorloofris lead them into the compound.

"Be quiet or else", said Oorloofris as he lead them down a long and poorly lit hallway. There wasn't much room in the budget left for proper lighting. Soon they entered Rahuk's chamber.

"I am Rahuk. Lord and master of this realm," said the villain. He had long robes on and sported a bowler hat. He was just odd for sure, but still quite menacing.

"He doesn't look so scary," said Dave.

"Silence!" bellowed Rahuk and with a flash Dave was encased in a block of ice.

"Well, that's impressive," mused Tony.

"What are you doing here?" asked Rahuk.

"We came here to save our friends," said Annie.

"There will be no such thing. You are all doomed!" said Rahuk menacingly. "I have your friends locked in this magic box covered in magical locks."

Sure enough everyone that they had sent out to save were locked in the magical lock box.

Suddenly Al grabbed the arm of Oorloofris and twisted it. Screaming in pain Oorloofris dropped his gun.

"Quick! Do something," yelled Al as he began to scuffle with Oorloofris. Nobody really knew what to do and they just stood around arguing what about to do. Al was clearly getting irate.

"Go and kick him or something!" yelled Al as Oorloofris tore out a tuft of his fur.

They all ran up to Rahuk and they reached for him, but their hands passed through thin air. Rahuk then disappeared.

"He was a hologram," exclaimed Tony.

"Indeed, that was just a hologram. I am somewhere hidden in this castle," came Rahuk's voice over a speaker system. "You will never find me."

"I found him!" yelled Dr. Farrell. She was standing behind Rahuk. Rahuk was not known for great hiding spots. He was hidden behind some poorly placed crates.

"Release them," demanded Dr. Farrell.

"No...well...I will only if you can beat me in a battle of wits.

"Deal," said Annie who assumed the group would want to undergo a battle of wits.

"It shall be done!" yelled Rahuk. "Let the battle commence!"

In this dimension a battle of wits was actually a duel with lightsabers. No one understood the correlation between waving a sword with an energy beam and wits. Still, the battle was underway. The battle was to take place on the very top of the palace, thousands of feet in the air.

Dr. Farrell was chosen to battle Rahuk. They swung hard and fast. Parry here and parry there. Suddenly Rahuk swiped at Dr. Farrell's legs causing her to lose her balance.

"I shall win!" yelled Rahuk. Just as Rahuk was about to deliver the killing blow, Al came charging in and plowed into Rahuk sending the both of them off the top of the castle.

"All" yelled Tony.

Everyone rushed over to see both bodies fall fast and disappear into the mist below.

Continued on page 20...

The Prismatic Portal... Continued from page 17...

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"Al!" yelled Tony.

Everyone rushed over to see both bodies fall fast and disappear into the mist below.

Continued on page 20...

The Prismatic Portal... Continued from page 19...

"He saved us all," said Annie.

Morosely, they all walked back to the chamber where everyone was imprisoned and where Dave was encased in a block of ice. When they got in there they noticed that everyone had been freed and Dave was dripping wet.

"What happened?" asked Annie

"Al killed Oorloofris and then used magic to unlock the locks and he unfroze me from the ice," said Dave. "He was a wizard."

"Wait, if he was a wizard then why did he wait all this time to use some of his magical powers! That would have saved so much time!" yelled Dr. Farrell.

"He said that he didn't like to brag," said Dave with a shrug.

"Yes my kind do not like to brag about our powers," said a familiar voice.

"Al!" said Tony.

"Yes I am still quite alive. See, when I dove off the tower with Rahuk I was actually entering another space of time because of the clothes that I dressed in today. I was able to defeat him, save your friends, and I will get you back to your own dimension post haste!" said Al.

"Since you are a wizard, can you give me a new hand?" asked Tony.

"Sure!" said Al and with that Tony had his hand back.

"That doesn't make any sense that bit about the clothes. How is that even possible?" asked Annie.

"A wizard did it. I am a wizard and I saved the day. Therefore a wizard did it," said Al.

"But..." began Annie.

"Wizard" said Al.

And so our heroes and their friends were whisked back their own dimension via the other end of the prismatic portal, which Al conveniently found and put on his spacecraft. Everyone walked out of Dr. Kuhar's office and looked around.

"It is good to be back," said Dr. Farrell. They all walked outside, but something was amiss. They were all indeed back at Kirby Hall, but something was not right.

"My god. Al didn't take us back to the right time!" exclaimed David.

"We are in the future!" said Tony as they all gazed towards the space car traffic right above their heads.

Literary Anagrams!

Directions: Use the clues to unscramble the anagrams.

A Sea Jet Nun: Mark Twain said he wanted "to dig her up and hit her over the skull with her own shin-bone."

Razed Upon: He wanted to make it new.

Cowards Lie: He would find being earnest of utmost importance.

A Renegade Poll: Don't get wine with him from the cellar.

Angering Bells: The best minds of his generation were destroyed by madness.

Answers:

Allen Ginsberg
Edgar Allan Poe
Oscar Wilde
Ezra Pound
Jane Austen

The Narrative Theory of Video Games

By Tony Thomas

Narrative theory is a branch of literary studies that examines the structure of how narrative impacts the experience of readership and how these structures affect the perception of the reader. In recent years more academic study has been conducted on the narrative structure of video games.

Video games have long been about telling a rich story that allows the player to interact and experience it through his/her play time. The earliest role playing games were text based. They were essentially virtual choose your own adventure stories. Role playing games have changed radically since then, but the premise of these games have largely remained the same. Complex plot lines with multiple side plots with the decisions of the player impacting how the story is told.

Though in some games the sand-box element, allowing you to play at your own pace and do what you please, can make the delivery of the story more staggered. A game like *The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim* allows you to do what you please. You can put off story missions for quite some time and just hunt and slay dragons. While the storyline is engaging and rich the difficulty in studying the game as a whole is that you do not have to simply play the storyline and experience it in the same way that you would a text.

The stories of some video games are rich and can possibly rival some in fiction. The field for studying the narrative structures of video games is growing and will continue to grow as games become more complex. Perhaps one day video games will be considered texts to be canonized.