

# The BEACON

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## Students adjusting to being far from home are in the minority

BY KIRSTIN COOK  
News Editor

The average temperature in Julian Amor's hometown of Miami is about 70 degrees this month. The days are consistently sunny and warm, and the palm trees are swaying at the beach, which is 20 minutes away from his house.

But instead of enjoying the sun and warmth, the sophomore criminology major is more than 1,000 miles away in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Amor is a student who decided to travel a significant distance to attend Wilkes University, but he is in the minority. According to the Wilkes 2010-11 fact book, 94 percent of students are from Pennsylvania, New Jersey or New York. Fall 2010 enrollment numbers indicate only 117 students are from other states.

Amor came to Wilkes mainly because he was recruited for football and Wilkes offered him more money than the other schools he was considering. He and two of his friends from high school decide to attend the school together.

However, Amor said that many of his classmates stayed in Florida for school against their will.

"I know some students from my high school who were dying to go out of state, but they just really couldn't afford it," Amor said.

Amor attributed this to in-state schools being less expensive for



The Beacon/Kirstin Cook

**Chelsea Uselding, a student from Illinois, packs for winter break. Uselding is among a small percentage of students not from Pennsylvania, New Jersey or New York.**

students. Plus, his high school classmates had option of them seeing their family members more often if they stayed home.

"It's a lot more affordable and just easier for them to do things with their family," Amor said.

Amor said that one way that Wilkes could help students with travel difficulties is to provide more financial aid for gas and airfare for students who have to travel a significant distance to school.

**SEE DISTANCE, Page 3**

## Spaghetti for a good cause

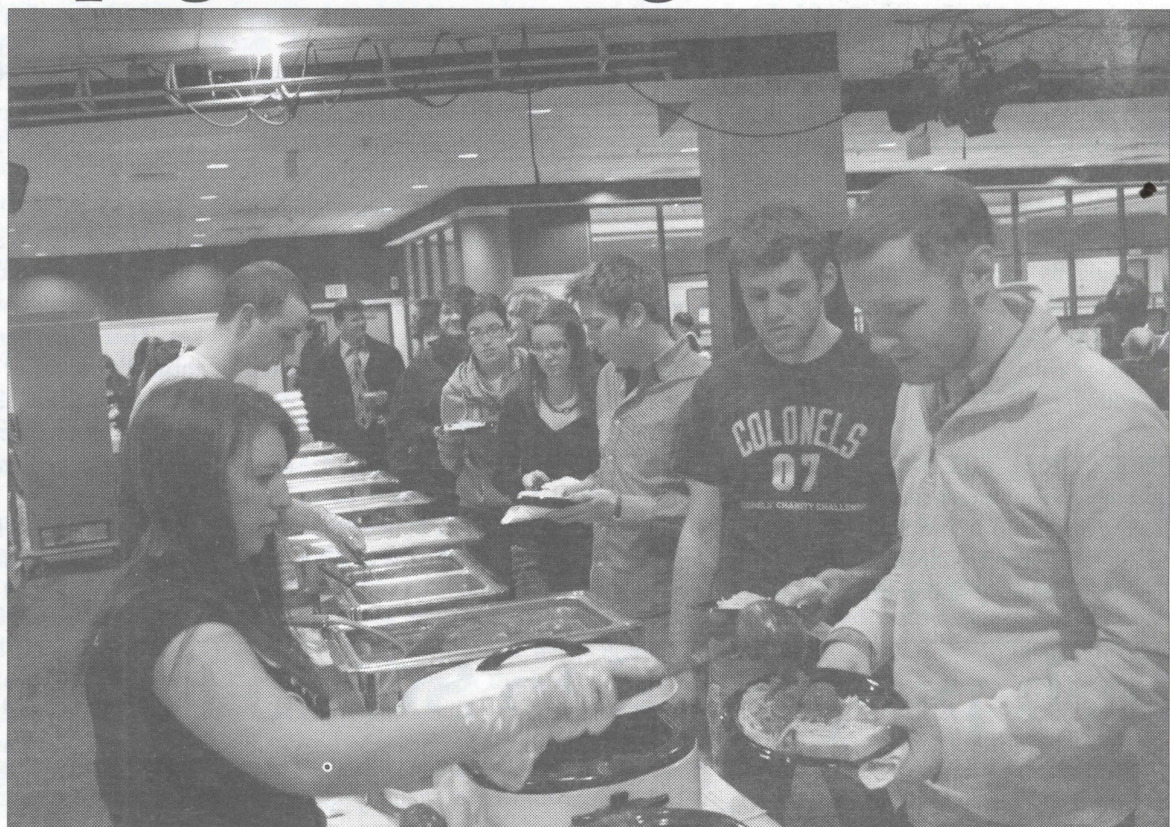


Photo courtesy of Jason Gebauer

**Wilkes University Alternative Spring Break program hosted a spaghetti dinner on Thursday, Jan. 27, in the ballroom. They raised money for students traveling to Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, New Orleans and Kentucky for community service. For more information on ASB, see page 10.**

## Wilkes offers summer study abroad

BY AMANDA LEONARD  
Assistant News Editor

Those who envisage studying abroad or visiting a foreign land can now do so thanks to two separate trips to Spain and France that Wilkes is offering in the summer.

Spanish professor Dr. Paola Bianco is assembling a group of students interested in traveling to Madrid, Spain for four weeks in July.

The academic trip is open to all

majors and up to six transferable credits can be earned. An average of 12-14 courses will be offered and courses range from general education to colonial literature. Classes will be taught in English and Spanish.

Although the professors are from Spanish-speaking countries, they are very familiar with the American education system.

"This is the real study abroad experience," said Bianco, who has

organized this annual trip since 2003. "Students are not just tourists in another country, but actually live in Spain for a month."

The trip runs from July 2-30, 2011. One of the highlights of the trip every year is the long weekend students can spend in Paris. For four days, a student can get a taste of another culture.

Bianco said that this type of program puts students into the real

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Opinion Pages 6-8

**Wi-Fi connectivity at Wilkes**

Wilkes offers many wonderful things to its students and campuswide Wi-Fi should be one of these things.

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Life Pages 9-12

**Chatting with Dr. Longyhore**

Professor of pharmacy, Dr. Daniel Longyhore, talks about his newborn son, passions in life and his style of teaching.

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Arts & Entertainment Pages 13-15

**Sordoni highlights jazz era**

"Portraits from the Golden Age of Jazz" features jazz singers and musicians at highlights in their careers.

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**Getting to know...**

Bernard Edmonds scored 22 points against Del Val last week. Now he sits down to answer a few questions.

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## Beacon Briefs

BY AMANDA LEONARD  
Assistant News Editor

**EDUCATION FORUM SERIES-** Wilkes University professor Robert Bohlander will be speaking about the wide-ranging benefits of Neuro-feedback in schools at 4:30 p.m., Feb. 1 in Marts 214. All members of the Wilkes University community and interested citizens are invited to attend. For more information about the series, please contact Robert Gardner at 800-WILKES-U Ext. 4686, or email him at robert.gardner@wilkes.edu.

**CONNECTING THE DOTS-** The annual alumni/student mentoring event will be held at 6 p.m., Feb 3 in the SUB Ballroom. All undergraduates are welcome to attend to converse with alumni about life after col-

lege. Alumni representing a wide variety of careers will be present. For more information,

**SEXUAL JEOPARDY-** The Bacchus Club is sponsoring the program at 8:30-9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 8, in the Henry Student Center Ballroom, to educate students about sexual issues and concepts. Students, staff and faculty are invited to participate in 4 teams with 4 participants per team. There will be a question and answer exchange. Contact Health Services at 408-4730 to register.

**RED CROSS RUN-** The second Annual American Red Cross Run will be held on March 26. All proceeds benefit the Blood Services Program at the Wyoming Valley Chapter. Participants may preregister

individually for \$15 or \$20 the day of the race. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the race starts at 10:30 a.m. at the Northeastern Regional Blood Center in the Hanover Industrial Park. For more information, contact Amy George at 823-7161, ext. 322.

**RELAY FOR LIFE-** Registration for Wilkes University's Relay for Life is now available. The dates of the race are April 9-10. To register, visit [www.relayforlife.org/pawilkes](http://www.relayforlife.org/pawilkes). There, one can join an existing team or form a new team. Teams will have themes relating to game shows or reality television shows. Contact Bethany Sharpless with any questions at bethany.sharpless@wilkes.edu.

**SEEKING ARTWORK-** Arts YOUNiverse is seeking artists and photographers who are interested in showing their artwork

in the Lower Level Gallery in Arts YOUNiverse, located at 47 N. Franklin Street. Those interested should contact Arts YOUNiverse by calling 905-7308.

**AUDITIONS FOR COLONEL** - Wilkes University is seeking highly energetic, motivated and reliable students to represent the university as The Colonel at various events through the current spring semester and the 2011-12 academic year. Students should be available approximately 10-15 hours per week, including evenings and weekends. An annual scholarship is awarded. Audition dates will be set soon. Contact Melissa Howells at 408-4645 or at [Melissa.howells@wilkes.edu](mailto:Melissa.howells@wilkes.edu) for details.

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## Club proposed to SG to focus on African culture

BY KIRSTIN COOK  
News Editor  
EMMA ZIMMERMAN  
Staff Writer

Several students proposed to start the Wilkes African Students Association to the Student Government this week. Club members state that currently Wilkes does not have a club focusing on African culture and heritage. The main concern was if WASA would be overstepping with the Multicultural Student Coalition.

According to its constitution, WASA's intention is to unite African students and to provide support for them and other minorities.

"So far there is no African club on campus, and there is no club on campus really focused in on the African culture and the different countries and everything Africa

does," said Mercy Tachie, a club member.

The club would hold events that tie into African culture such as selling traditional hand-made African jewelry. They wish to host other events such as car washes and fashion shows and use the money to donate to charities for children in Africa.

The concern about MSC was discussed, and board member Stacey Prelewicz mentioned that there is an Indian Culture Association and Saudi Club on campus who are not affiliated with MSC.

"An idea that was brought up was maybe MSC having little subsets underneath it. That might be a better way to do it," Prelewicz said. "So we already do have a subset out of MSC, but then it also could clash with, and see they are talking about doing the same sorts of things with little twists like the fashion show."

Student Government will continue the dis-

cussion of passing WASA's constitution at next week's meeting.

**New Business:**

**Constitution discussion** - A committee was formed to create an article in the SG constitution that allows professional academic organizations, as separate entities from clubs, to request funds. Since professional organizations limit membership to professional students, SG proposed to make them a separate entity from clubs. Clubs must be open to all students, which is where the entities would differ.

**Winter Weekend Budget** - A budget was proposed for Winter Weekend for a grand total of \$4,962, an increase from last year's amount of \$2100. The increase is from t-shirts that will be purchased for both teams approved by SG and spectator students who attend the evening event on Friday, Febru-

ary 25. They also plan on purchasing lanyards to give away on Saturday, February 26 to attract more attendees. This year's theme is Disney movies.

**Meeting Notebook:**  
**Treasurer's Report:**  
**All College \$23,869.92**  
**Conferences \$12,800**  
**General Funds \$11,250**  
**Leadership \$3,341.20**  
**Spirit \$2,000**  
**Special Projects: \$3,500**  
**Start Up: \$1,500**  
**Student Government Total: \$58,261.12**

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## Meet the Staff



**Phat Nguyen**  
Assistant Sports Editor



# Students help community members file taxes

*Volunteer tax group will assist low-income residents fill out their 1040 forms*

BY DEVONI NOVAK  
Staff Writer

Junior and senior accounting majors are volunteering their Saturdays to provide income tax assistance to the general public.

This tax season marks the 20th consecutive year that the Wilkes University's student-run Volunteer Income Tax Association program through the Jay S. School of Business and Leadership, one of 12,000 VITA programs in the nation, will be assisting people with filing their federal, state and local tax returns.

Clients come in with their W-2 forms and sign-in. After being called, junior tax preparers look over the client's paper work to be sure they qualify. A pair of students will

then prepare the 1040 form while interviewing the client. All paper work is reviewed a final time before the forms are electronically filed and sent to the International Revenue Service.

"VITA is the perfect opportunity for students to apply what they learn in the classroom," said Dr. Cynthia Chisarick, Wilkes' faculty VITA coordinator.

The 15 students involved with VITA are able to gain tax law experience while providing a service to the community. The organization is a great way for accounting majors to gain real job experience. At the same time, those who qualify are able to file their taxes free of charge.

"I give the students a lot of credit," Chisarick said.

VITA requires a high level of commit-

ment for people who want to be involved. Completion of a taxes course is the initial requirement. Aspiring members must then take a certification test that is given by the IRS over winter break.

In February, VITA members spend three hours every Saturday filing taxes for the public. Though February is not the only month VITA is active; a great amount of planning goes into preparing for tax season, so VITA members begin the preparation process in November.

Despite the 20-year run for VITA at Wilkes, it will be the first year for junior coordinator Jared Sabol.

"I am looking forward to working with VITA. We have a good staff," Sabol said.

However, VITA is not offered to everyone. It is meant to provide help for those with a

low to moderate income. Clients must make less than a household income of \$49,000 a year. Citizens with disabilities and the elderly are also accepted.

This year VITA services will be open Feb. 5, 12, 19 and 26. It will be located on the first floor of Breiseth Hall from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Students along with the community are encouraged to come.

"We get a lot of community members as clients, many of whom come year after year. VITA is a service they feel comfortable with and appreciate," said Katie Munchel, senior coordinator for VITA.

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## DISTANCE

Continued from FRONT PAGE

Chelsea Uselding is also a long way from home. The junior from Evanston, Ill., which is near Chicago, typically gets the same response from students after they ask where she is from.

"They usually are like, 'Why are you here?' 'How did you find Wilkes?' They're very surprised," Uselding said, "People seem really surprised when you're not from the east coast."

Uselding, a psychology and international studies double major, said that one of the most difficult parts about attending a school in Pennsylvania is getting back home. She said the 14-hour drive is tough. Her car even broke down on one occasion. Other times, she chooses to fly, though that is a pricey option.

"I only get to go home like two times a year, if I'm lucky, and the airfare is really expensive," Uselding said.

Many of Uselding's classmates in Illinois had never heard of Wilkes since it is not advertised there.

"I don't think Wilkes has done a lot to advertise outside of this area just because it's relatively new and a small school, so I think they focus on this area more than branching out," Uselding said.

Amy Patton, director of admissions, said that Wilkes tends to focus on recruiting in states that have produced the most students, such as Pennsylvania, but statistics demon-

strate that this scope may need to change.

"Especially since the number of 18-year-olds in Pennsylvania is on the decline, in the next years it's critical that Wilkes looks to states outside of Pennsylvania so we can maintain our freshmen class at a steady number or even grow it," Patton said.

Patton said that it is difficult to promote to other states because of the smaller size of the school. She said there are many approaches that may or may not be effective, such as social media, billboard space, radio and television advertisements and even a video chat question and answer session between potential and current students.

Patton identified one of the biggest factors in publicizing Wilkes to be word of mouth from current students or alumni.

"I do believe that that's helpful, having students going back to their hometowns and talking about Wilkes, because typically someone from Miami wouldn't have heard about a small, private school in Wilkes-Barre," Patton said.

Uselding also said that a good way to attract students from broader areas would be for students to go back to high schools to promote Wilkes at events like college fairs.

"I would be willing to do that, because I would love for more students from Illinois to come here," Uselding said.

Uselding has managed to make arrangements during breaks, even if it meant not going home. She said that being a resident assistant was helpful, as is having a boyfriend from New Jersey that she could go home with.

"It's worked out for me. I could see how it

could be difficult for other people, though," Uselding said.

Amor said the shorter breaks, such as Easter and fall break, are more difficult because traveling reduces the time he has at home.

"It's kind of a pain in the butt, you pack your suitcase for maybe five days," Amor said. "And once you get settled in and see everybody, you've got to pack your stuff and head back to school."

Susan Hritzak, registrar of student services who is involved with putting together the school calendar, said that allowing more travel time for distance students before breaks may reduce difficulties and attract more distance students. However, she said there are many elements that prevent this schedule change.

"I'm sure it would attract students [from different areas], but I think that's an issue or an option with any school anywhere, if you have student coming from far away and choosing to go to that university you try to accommodate things like that, but you do the best you can," she said.

A change in the schedule would need to go through student government and be approved by the president's cabinet, Hritzak said. Also, distance students are in the minority, so they have less influence, which Hritzak also said may prevent a change in the calendar.

Hritzak recommends that students who have to make travel arrangements do so in advance, as the final exam schedules are posted two months prior to finals week.

Liz Swantek, director of residence life, said that arrangements may be made for

distance students to stay in residence halls during shorter breaks, but that is something that needs to be approved by her in advance. Swantek said that residence life works with students to accommodate them with issues of traveling home.

"We have rules set in place so students know this is the path you need to take and this is what you need to take in order to stay during (breaks)," Swantek said, "But for those who live really far away ... we have some students from California, for instance, they're not going to fly home for four days, and we have complete understanding of that."

Residence life displays signs in residence halls for breaks, instructing students to contact residence life if need to stay for academic or athletic reasons. However, the flyer does not mention conflicts with living far from home.

"I think the reason we don't talk about anything like that on the flyer is because a far distance to some people and not a far distance for others," Swantek said.

Swantek said that they mostly work on a one-on-one basis with distance students, and they take into account aspects such as if the student has a car, and if they could take a bus back.

Swantek encourages distance students to make a connection on campus to help them adjust to being far from their homes.

"This is essentially your home away from home," Swantek said.

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# Alumni and professor looking for students to invest in club

BY CATHRYN FREAR  
Assistant Opinion Editor

Two Wilkes alumni from the business department, along with associate business professor Theodore Engel, are looking to start an investment club on campus. However, they are in need of interested students as members of the club in order to begin the process.

"Any students, any majors, from freshmen to graduate students are invited to participate," Engel said.

According to Engel, two of his former students, Dan Cordell and Fred Hermann, took his investments class while attending Wilkes. They want to take what they learned and bring it to current students.

"The founders were students in my investments class where we used imaginary money to create investment portfolios," Engel said. "They wish to make the investment game a realistic experience (for students)."

Engel said that the most important thing for those in this club to experience is education, not whether or not the actual investments are successful.

"The principal goals are educational in nature, as well as to be enjoyable," Engel said. "The aim is not necessarily to beat the market."

He also said that as far as the structure of the club goes, it won't be exactly like other clubs on campus. Other clubs have an adviser or two and then students as members. This club would also have an adviser and student members, but in addition to all of that, Cordell and Hermann would serve as members of their advisory board.

"The club will be structured in a manner similar to that of a traditional investment organization," Engel said.

As far as whom they are accepting to join and who they actually want in the club, Engel said that all students from all majors are welcome.

"Any students, any majors, from freshmen to graduate students are invited to participate," Engel said.

Cortny Sasserson, a junior business major, said that she thinks there is a place for such a club, but certain business students' previous commitments may prevent them from joining.

"I think that there would be some interest," Sasserson said. She continued, "They would probably have to target the younger business majors as many of us upperclassmen are already committed to other Business clubs like SAM (Society for the Advancement of Management), SIFE (Students In Free Enterprise) and Money Matters."

Sasserson has a finance concentration and said that she would be interested in a club like this, if she had the time, due to its application of actual money investing.

"An opportunity like this will allow the students to be accountable and learn from experience how to invest their money in smart ways," Sasserson said, "especially because they are applying real world money."

Sean LaFleur, a senior psychology major, said that he has his doubts, but that those doubts may stem from a lack of investment knowledge.

"It's not really something I would be interested in," LaFleur said. "I don't know what they would be investing in or where that money would go. Maybe if they were donating the money to a charity, I'd have a better feel for what the club was about."

Engel estimates that 60 students have shown interest and that they are in the beginning stages of organization.

"We are within a few weeks of getting started," Engel said. "The funding is available and our account (of money to invest) has been opened."

Engel is open to discussing the club further with students. He can be contacted at [theodore.engel@wilkes.edu](mailto:theodore.engel@wilkes.edu) or in person. His office is located in Breiseth Hall, room 109.

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# University's move to online services drawing mixed reactions

BY EMMA ZIMMERMAN  
Staff Writer

In an effort to save paper and increase efficiency, Wilkes University is offering students the option to perform more tasks online. However, this transition is being met with resistance from some older generations.

Services available on the MyWilkes site include access to unofficial transcripts, registration and billing. According to student services clerk Lynda Heffernan, Wilkes is trending towards more online resources and working on improving the system.

"I would like to see more things online, to be honest with you," Heffernan said. "It's a slow process, but I'd love to hear the ideas from (students), what they think."

Dr. Bradford Kinney, of the communication studies department, says that if too many services are put online, students will not be able to return to the face-to-face communication.

"We become so technically savvy that we lose that personal touch, and when we lose that personal touch we become robotic," Kinney said.

Kinney said he finds it is often easier to resolve issues in-person, rather than online.

"I look at MyWilkes and I think to myself...it's fuzzy, it's confusing, it's hard to

get information out of. I don't think that's fair to students," Kinney said.

While Kinney objects to a rapid electronic transition, he sees the resourceful advantages in online services.

"I realize for the university and for many, it's a way to cut back," said Dr. Bradford Kinney, communications studies professor.

One of the newer services now on the Wilkes portal includes the meal plan; prior to the switch, students would have to wait in line to just hand in a slip of paper, which Heffernan said could be misplaced.

"There can be glitches in the system," Heffernan said. "We could feasibly lose a piece of paper, that has to go back to the controller's office and then they have to put it in, now it's all electronic."

There can still be problems with doing the submissions online. Younger students who have had home computers readily available are more likely to easily adapt to using the portal, Heffernan said. She found that senior and junior students tend to avoid online services, such as online bill pay.

Heffernan also found that parents may have trouble due to the generational gap when they try to pay their child's tuition online.

Kinney noticed the generational differences when it comes to online proficiency as well, which mostly stems from his personal

and professional experiences at Wilkes.

"You get older folks... we're not as savvy as (students) are in that," Kinney said.

There can still be issues with the portal when the student may have to come in to student services to take care of the problem, such as unusual charges.

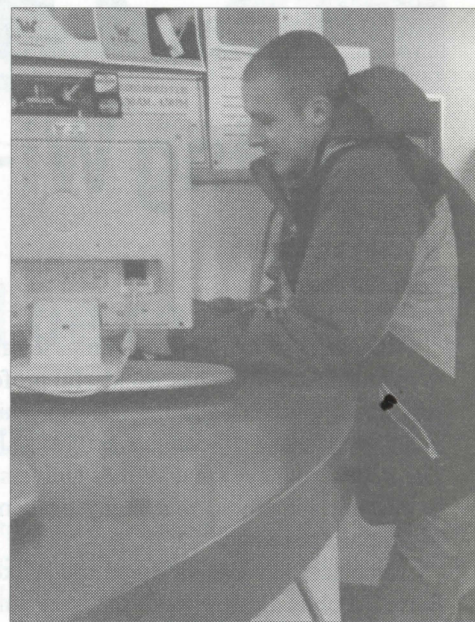
"I think the biggest ones that we have here are confusions about the bill, or 'why do I have a hold?'" Heffernan said.

Heffernan also does enjoy the option for student to come in and have the face-to-face communication because everything is not self-explained on the portal.

"Although I love my job and I love talking to the kids, it does make it more convenient," she said. "And then the student can spot if there's something they need to be doing, for financial aid purposes, or they get confused, they can look at it, print it out and bring to me and say, 'It's confusing, can you explain it to me?'"

The ability to choose between coming in to take care of a bill or simply submitting the payment online opens more times during the day for students to take care of their business.

"I think it's excellent, because we're not open 24 hours a day and (students) in the evening want to know what's going on and there's nobody on the phones, nobody at the front desk... so it makes it much easier for



The Beacon/Kirstin Cook

**Pre-pharmacy major junior Trey Tietz, waits for help at the student services desk. Heffernan said that when students have issues with online services, they can come in and talk to a clerk.**

student to go on," Heffernan said. "I like the idea that the (students) can empower themselves."

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## STUDY ABROAD

Continued from FRONT PAGE

world of Spain. One can go out and get a coffee in the morning, go to a flamenco show at night and truly live like a European. Not only can students gain cultural insight, but they can also perfect secondary languages outside the classroom.

"I think we really need to this type of world experience to not only learn about another cultures, but to help understand ourselves," Bianco said.

The program has grown over the years and this year more than 15 students are expected to attend. The deadline to sign-up is March 31. Any interested students should contact Dr. Bianco for further information and also to pass transferring credits through the Wilkes system.

In terms of obtaining financial aid for the trip, students must register for no less than six credits in order to be eligible to apply for federal aid.

Students cannot apply for institutional aid since it is not an exchange student program. However, federal aid, such as grants and

loans, can be used for the school they will be attending in Spain. One would have to make sure the registered credits will transfer to Wilkes and the financial aid department can then begin the grants and loans process.

"Students will need to stay on top of their paperwork and make sure everything is approved as soon as possible, to avoid issues and be able to have a wonderful experience," said Joe Alaimo, director of financial aid.

On the topic of experiences, Bianco emphasized that the month long program is a "personal, academic, cultural and more importantly a fun experience."



The Beacon/Bryan Calabro

**During France's informational meeting on Jan. 23, students were able to learn more about the trip, as well as eat traditional French snacks.**

Students interested in traveling abroad to Spain in the summer are welcome to attend an informational meeting on Feb. 10, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Kirby Hall salon. General guidelines will be explained.

For those interested in a cultural experience that is not quite as long, a trip to France for a week is being offered.

Mathematics professor Dr. Louise Berard will be escorting the "Splendors of France" trip, which takes place May 24 to June 1, 2011.

Though the trip is non-credit bearing, participants will be able to partake in numerous guided tours and sightseeing.

Some of the highlighted tours include vis-

iting Rouen, the trial and execution place of Joan or Arc, and Normandy Beaches, where one can see remembrances of World War II.

The cost is \$2,795 per person and is open to all undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty and staff. The cost includes round trip airfare, hotel accommodations, several meals and all designated sightseeing stops that are noted on the itinerary.

Berard, who will also be accompanied by her husband who teaches at King's College, said, "Being educators, a trip like this is an extension to share the experience with others."

She said that a trip like this, especially for those who have not traveled to a foreign land, will help traveler's woes and the regimen will facilitate the trip.

An average of 25 people attend and anyone interested have until February 24 to sign-up with a \$300 deposit upon booking. Anyone interested in more information about the trip or to register, should contact Louise Berard as soon as possible.

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FEBRUARY 1, 2011

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# Offering Wi-Fi is in Wilkes' best interest

BY THE BEACON  
Editorial Board

Wilkes University has many things to offer to its students. Wilkes has wonderful professors, many majors and minors from which to choose, on and off campus activities, but *The Beacon* believes that Wilkes University is missing something that many academic institutions have.

Even places like Panera Bread and Wilkes-Barre's Public Square have the very thing Wilkes is missing:

Wi-Fi.

The Wi-Fi Alliance was created in 1999, according to the website, wifi.org. The Wi-Fi Alliance sees the vision of the organization as: "Wi-Fi as the center of seamless connectivity, providing the best connected experience across devices, market segments, and geographies."

Wi-Fi has been around for more than 10 years and Wilkes University has just been coming around to Wi-Fi within the past year. Though the library has Wi-Fi configuration, which it should, it is often difficult to log on and a three-page instruction sheet is needed

if a student's computer was never brought to campus before.

Additionally, the rest of the campus does not have Wi-Fi configuration. In 2008, a Technology User Satisfaction Survey was released and, while many of the comments have been addressed, the comments made about Wi-Fi in 2008 still hold true in 2011.

On page 30 of the survey, anonymous student comments are listed:

"Even though Wilkes states that University Towers is wireless, there is no signal reaching my apartment."

"If Wi-Fi was more available in dorms and/or on the entire campus that would be good."

"Well, I was a little pissed off that it took a good six weeks to get Internet in our apartment in Ten East. Now, it's spring semester and we STILL don't have a wireless connection in the bedroom. We've had to move both of our desks into the living room."

"It would be nice to have wireless service across campus, including in the classrooms and dorms. It seems that Wilkes is behind other colleges in this area."

"The wireless does not work in all build-

ings on campus, and throughout the rest of the campus; even though it was supposed to be finished in fall 2005. This was a promise during freshmen orientation of the summer of 2005."

In total, there were 43 comments out of six pages of student comments that dealt with the lack of wireless or slow Wi-Fi connections. From the comments, one student said that he/she and his/her roommate had to literally move their desks into the living room because they could not get connections in the bedroom.

The last comment listed is an important one. When students were touring the Wilkes campus for the first time four years ago and even before that, Wi-Fi was a promise made by recruiters.

Wilkes recruiters said that Wi-Fi configuration would be active on the campus within the next year. Now, it is 2011, and Wilkes still does not have a campuswide Wi-Fi configuration.

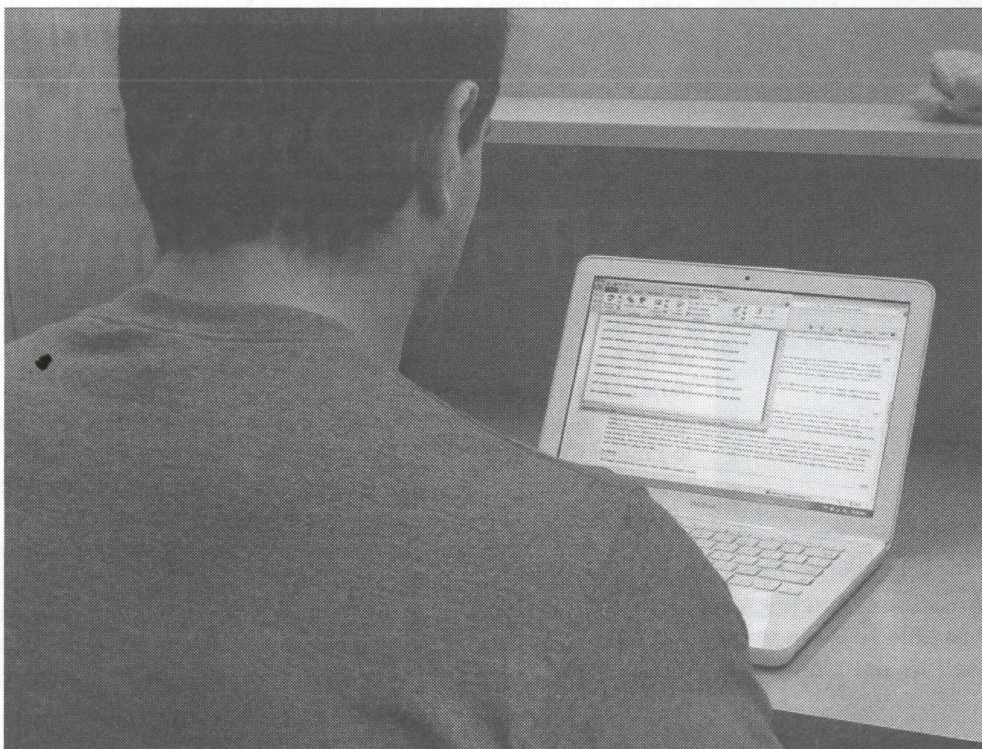
Both King's College in Wilkes-Barre and Misericordia University in Dallas have Wi-Fi connections that are simple and easy to use. Wilkes University should have Wi-Fi as well because it shows that universities with Wi-Fi are encouraging use of technology on campus and in classrooms.

Wi-Fi is also a great recruiting tool for future students. Judging from the comments listed, many students may even have animosity toward Wilkes about the lack of advancement in technology. This animosity could have an effect on the way current students or graduates portray the university to prospective students.

Technology, especially the use of computers, has changed the way we, as students, live; it is important to acknowledge that and enhance the use of computers as a learning tool. From *The Beacon's* standpoint, Wi-Fi is not only suggested, but also necessary in an academic environment.

Wilkes University students should have the liberty to be able to use the Internet when and where they want without major inconveniences, without three-page instruction sheets about how to connect and without having to complain about Wi-Fi every chance they get.

*The Beacon* believes that Wi-Fi connectivity is essential to a quality academic institution like Wilkes University.



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Mike Scalese, P3 pharmacy major, accesses the Internet in the library using his laptop. Many Wilkes students use their own laptops around campus, and would benefit greatly from the convenience of a campuswide Wi-Fi system.

## BEACON POLL

*The Beacon* poll is unscientific and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on the Wilkes campus.

### Last week's question:

No poll question last week.

### This week's question:

Would you benefit from Wi-Fi connectivity at Wilkes?

- Yes
- No

Cast your vote online at:  
[www.wilkesbeacon.com](http://www.wilkesbeacon.com)

## SPEAK UP!

*The Beacon* wants  
to hear your voice.

Send your name, major, year and opinion to:  
[wilkesbeacon.oped@gmail.com](mailto:wilkesbeacon.oped@gmail.com)

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





# The movie version isn't as good as the book. And?

BY CATHRYN FREAR  
Assistant Opinion Editor

"The book is better than the movie."

It's almost guaranteed that you will hear that sentence uttered at some point during every conversation about a movie based on a book. While this is basically always true, the point is moot. Everyone understands this and it is now time to move on, people.

The book is always better than the movie. Books have an unlimited number of pages on which they can tell their story. Therefore, they can provide whatever details they wish.

Those who have read "Lord of the Rings" understand why those movies' average duration is just over three hours. However, three hours is really pushing it and many people will use that as their sole reason to not see a movie. If the movie were as detailed as the book, it would be at least twice that length.

The other thing about the details in books is that the reader can envision them however they like. The movie gives the viewer no choice. The problem with that is that the movie is rarely, if ever, the same as what

anyone envisions while reading. In fact, sometimes the details change completely.

But the real question is does it really matter?

I have read "The Wizard of Oz" novel. For those of you who haven't read the book but love the movie, brace yourselves.

Did you know that it was written as a metaphorical statement about economics at the time?

Or that there are an estimated 44 differences between the book and the movie? How about that the Wicked Witch of the West was only in one chapter?

Get this: the infamous ruby red slippers were originally silver. They were changed to red to stand out and take advantage of the newest technology at the time: Technicolor.

For those of us who have grown up on this movie, the fact that it wasn't the same as the book didn't matter.

We may have been disappointed that it was just a dream at the end, but not as disappointed as we would have been had we known that everything depicted throughout the story in the book, including Oz, was

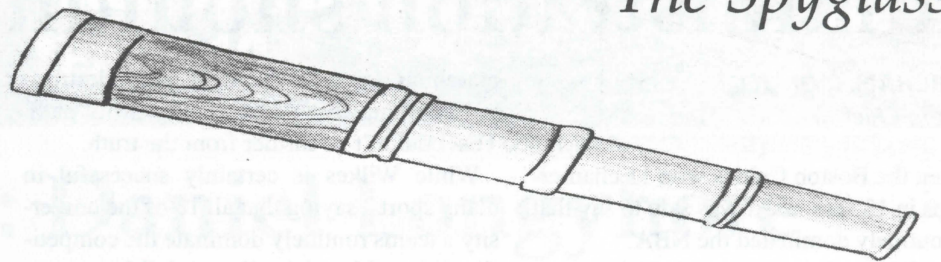
SEE MOVIE, Page 8



R/C Movies 14 in Wilkes-Barre, pictured above, is a local establishment to which many local residents flock. In modern times, many would rather watch a movie than read a book, yet books should not be ignored. Books and movies tell stories in different ways and saying, "The book is better than the movie" is a moot point.

The Beacon/Tom Reilly

## The Spyglass



# GM crops should be considered as a way to increase food supply

BY ANTHONY TRUPPO  
Opinion Editor

As American author Fran Lebowitz once said, "Food is an important part of a balanced diet." Even though all human beings require food to survive, our planet's food supply is unfortunately finite.

The world population will eventually grow to a point at which food production will be at much higher demand than it is now. Thankfully, genetically modified crops provide a chance for increasing the planet's food supply.

According to Sir John Beddington, an expert in population biology, our planet's population is likely to reach 9 billion by 2050.

Beddington also believes that by 2030, a majority of the planet's population will live in cities, uninvolved in acts of growing crops or raising animals for food.

Based on his studies, Beddington believes that by 2050, the world will need 40 percent more food than is currently required for humanity.

Genetically modified (GM) crops are crops that have had their DNA modified in laboratories to enhance specific traits of the plant, such as the plant's ability to ward off pests or resist drying out.

Genetic modification is most often done through breeding of plants.

Through genetic engineering, scientists can transfer specific genes from one plant to another through a process that is much quicker and more accurate than breeding.

Several crops that have been modified include soybeans, corn, cotton, Hawaiian papaya, sugar cane, squash, sweet peppers, potatoes and tomatoes. Rice will likely be introduced into the group of GM crops in the near future.

In Deborah B. Whitman's article, "Genetically Modified Foods: Harmful or Helpful?," Whitman highlights the many advantages of GM crops, such as pest resistance,

tolerance to herbicides, disease resistance, cold tolerance, drought tolerance and nutritional benefits.

Since many nonmodified crops are lost to factors such as climate change and insects, GM crops can increase the world's food supply by surviving circumstances in which nonmodified crops would likely be destroyed.

GM crops are already being produced in mass quantities across the world. According to Dr. Julian Little, chairman of the Agricultural Biotechnology Council, a group advocating agricultural biotechnology in the UK, more than 300 million acres of GM crops are planted across the world every day.

Little also claims that in total, 2 trillion meals containing GM ingredients have been consumed across the planet in the last 12 years.

Unfortunately, however, the science of genetic modification of crops is still in its early stages and much is still unknown about its effects on human health and the environment.

Many researchers have admitted that it is still far too early to determine whether GM crops are harmful.

The United States has already begun banning GM crops due to the lack of research on environmental effects.

A judge at the The United States District Court for the Northern District of California has banned the genetic modification of sugar beet in the United States based on the premise that the Agriculture Department has not done enough research on the possible negative environmental effects of planting GM sugar beet.

The issue of GM crops is still highly debated in agricultural circles. The ABC praises GM crops, claiming to have witnessed no substantial impacts on health or the environment.

SEE CROPS, Page 8



# Administration shouldn't lie about athletic feats

BY MICHAEL CIGNOLI

Editor-in-Chief

When the Boston Celtics won 11 championships in 13 seasons, it was safe to say that they routinely dominated the NBA.

When Wayne Gretzky recorded 14 consecutive 100-point seasons, it was safe to say that he routinely dominated the NHL.

When Wilkes University's athletic teams often finish the seasons with sub-.500 records in Division III, it is safe to say that they routinely dominate.

One of these things is not like the others – and is, frankly, a significant distortion.

Nonetheless, Wilkes University's BeColonel.com, which provides details about the school to prospective students, claims "Wilkes' 16 NCAA Division III teams routinely dominate."

That sentence conjures an image of Wilkes as an unstoppable force of blue and yellow

marching down River Street while destroying anything that dares to step in its path. That couldn't be farther from the truth.

While Wilkes is certainly successful in many sports, saying that all 16 of the university's teams routinely dominate the competition is horribly misleading and dishonest.

Many universities are guilty of stretching the truth when it comes to recruiting, but there's a significant difference between leaving the least desirable residence halls off the campus tour and saying that a school reigns supreme in every sport.

As of Sunday, the women's basketball team has won just six of its last 42 games. The lacrosse team finished 2010 with a conference record of 0-11 and the men's soccer team scored just one goal in its final seven games of 2010.

Student-athletes should be commended on their abilities to balance Wilkes' strong academic course loads with practices and

games, but the university shouldn't make it sound as if its men's basketball team has the same roster as the Dream Team from the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

The site's fables continue with the claim that fans "pack in to create a sea of yellow and blue, especially for the game that really matters: any face-off against cross-town rival King's College."

In reality, the Marts Center is seldom near its capacity of 3,500. Even though Wilkes offers its students free admission to any home athletic contest, the most-seen color at the vast majority of basketball and volleyball games is empty-bleacher brown.

The student-athletes certainly can't be criticized for a lack of effort, especially when Wilkes' isn't a Division I school and has no athletic scholarships to distribute to players. Student-athletes donate their time and energy to Wilkes athletics not because there's a paycheck involved, but because they truly love the sport they play.

However, there's a trade-off.

Extremely talented student-athletes who can "routinely dominate" the competition attend big-name Division I schools where their top plays will be broadcast on ESPN, not WBRE.

Accordingly, fans of Penn State, Texas, Alabama and other top Division I programs

regularly pack the stands to watch some of the top players in the country.

For Division III schools like Wilkes, athletics are little more than a very time-consuming extracurricular activity. And in the same sense that Penn State students wouldn't organize a White Out for meetings of the Vegetarian Club, Wilkes shouldn't expect fans to pack the house for cross country meets.

Wilkes needs to take a different angle in marketing its athletic program to prospective students. There are plenty of positive activities that its student-athletes do off the court that aren't recognized on BeColonel.com because the university would rather invest its resources in creating illusions.

The women's soccer team, for example, not only performed community service in Brazil last summer, but hosted its third annual Futsal Frenzy Tournament for high school soccer players on Jan. 22 and 23.

The football team helps first-year students move in during Welcome Weekend and the volleyball team raised over \$450 for a high school student that has cancer.

At the end of the day, those are exponentially more important than the team's records anyway.

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The Beacon/Michael Cignoli

A Marywood defender blocks Sam Lynam's shot during a women's basketball game on Nov. 23. Marywood overcame a 15-point deficit to beat Wilkes 63-48.

## MOVIES

Continued from Page 7

real. It's still a good movie. Nay, it is one of the greatest movies of all time, regardless of the fact that there were numerous important details changed.

The fact of the matter is, a book and a movie do not compare. They are two different media and tell a story in two completely different ways. And movies are only based on books. They don't claim to contain every single detail.

To put it simply, people who like books better than movies like to read. They like it because they can imagine whatever they want. They make the pages come alive. And really, imagination is always better than what is put in front of us. This applies to everything from relationships to how your weekend is going to go to what your dream job will be like.

Movies are someone else's imagination, which is never as good as our own. Our imagination keeps us going; our imagination keeps us reading.

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## CROPS

Continued from Page 7

On the other hand, Friends of the Earth, the world's largest grassroots environmental network, feels that the world is not yet ready for GM crops. Friends of the Earth feels that biotech companies are benefiting from GM crops, rather than we the consumers. Friends of the Earth also argue that a large amount of pesticides are being used on GM crops.

Friends of the Earth argues that GM crops are costly and better ways to feed the world exist, such as ecological farming and fairer trading systems.

Although much is still unknown about GM crops and the science is still progressing, I feel that GM crops should be considered for their ability to increase the planet's food supply.

I do not believe GM crops will completely solve the inevitable issue of a declining food supply, but I feel that scientists should continue to study the effects and develop new methods of genetic modification of crops.

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FEBRUARY 1, 2011

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## — Chatting with faculty: Daniel Longyhore —

BY LAURA PREBY

Staff Writer

Dr. Daniel S. Longyhore, associate professor of pharmacy at Wilkes University, is in his seventh year teaching at his alma mater. A licensed pharmacist in Pennsylvania and South Carolina, Longyhore is a member of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, and serves as the adviser to Phi Lambda Sigma (Pharmacy Honor Society) and the Wilkes University Pharmacy Student Recovery Program.

After completing his residency at Palmetto Health Richland in Columbia, S.C., and a specialty residency at Saint Louis College of Pharmacy in St. Louis, Mo., Longyhore made the decision to move back to Pennsylvania. Some of the courses he is currently teaching in the Pharmacy department include Clinical Research & Design, Information Mastery and Infectious Disease Pharmacotherapeutics.

While he enjoys what he does at Wilkes, Longyhore is involved in a new experience — being a father. He and his wife, whom he met during his residency in South Carolina, welcomed their first child, a son, into the world this past November. Aside from being a father, he loves home improvement, Star Wars movies and listening to his favorite band, Queen.

**The Beacon:** What were you like in college?

**Longyhore:** I was a really big goofball. I tended to like to be the center of attention. I did that by being loud and sometimes obnoxious. It was pretty frequent that people would say that they were annoyed with me before they really got to know me.

**The Beacon:** What do you do in your spare time?

**Longyhore:** Well, that's changed within the last ten weeks. Ten weeks ago, my wife and I had our first child, a son, and my free time is spent making sure he's taken care of. But prior to that, it was playing baseball, playing golf and lots of home improvement. I like to do stuff around the house, I don't necessarily like to have people come in and do it, like lay hardwood floors, finish a basement and some minor landscaping outside.

**The Beacon:** Tell us about your wife and son.

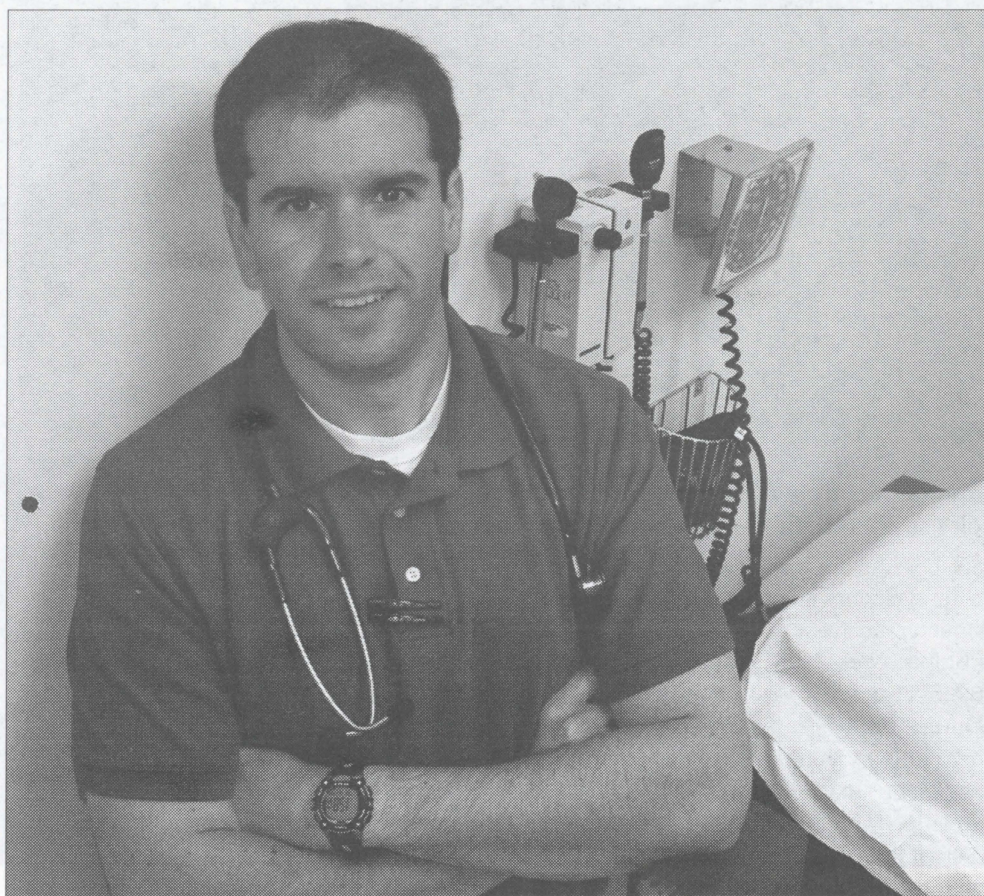


Photo courtesy of Daniel Longyhore

**Dr. Daniel Longyhore teaches pharmacy and is a certified pharmacist in two states.**

**Longyhore:** My son was born in November, right around Thanksgiving. He's a great kid; I mean, he doesn't do anything great except cry and want to eat, that's it right now. But, I met my wife when we were working and training together in Columbia, S. C., but we were from the northeast — she was from New Jersey and I was from Pennsylvania. So it was kind of nice to find someone down in the South who understood some of the subtleties of the North and eventually wanted to move back here, just like I did.

**The Beacon:** If you were on a deserted island, what three things would you take with you?

**Longyhore:** I would probably take a radio that played nothing but Queen music, I would take my tools, and I would take a lot of lumber to build a boat.

**The Beacon:** Describe yourself in three words.

**Longyhore:** Animated, positive or optimistic and indecisive.

**The Beacon:** You said that you liked Queen. Is their style your favorite type of music? Why?

**Longyhore:** Classic rock is my favorite, rock from the late '60s, '70s and early '80s. To tell you the truth, I have no idea why, I just like the sound of the guitar and I think in that generation that was the instrument that drove the way music sounded.

**The Beacon:** What do your students think of you?

**Longyhore:** I hope they think that I'm approachable and that I know what I'm talking about, but I wouldn't be surprised if many think that I'm demanding and tough to negotiate with.

**The Beacon:** What's your favorite thing about being a teacher?

**Longyhore:** One of the things I like to do, in everything that I do, is I never like to do things the same way twice. I'm always trying to find a new way to do things. I find

that my time in the classroom and my time at Wilkes as a teacher, I've got endless ways that I can accomplish a goal and I have the freedom to kind of do that with students, just because there's constant trial and error in everything that I do. Wilkes, and being a professor, lets me do that. I can try different in-class activities and take feedback from students, and really tweak it to make it worth their time and worth their effort.

**The Beacon:** What goals do you have for the future?

**Longyhore:** With regards to Wilkes, I haven't found it yet, but I want to find something unique within education or within pharmacy that when people think of that, I don't know what it could be, it could be a medicine, it could be a medical condition, it could be a process, that they think of the university.

Personal goals for me are simple. I just want to spend as much time with family and friends as possible. I would hate to be one of those parents that miss their kid growing up.

**The Beacon:** What is your favorite color? Why?

**Longyhore:** I would say green, and it's because it's not a primary color. It carries the best of both worlds. It's got an element of warmth to it, newness, if you think of green grass or a plant.

**The Beacon:** What are your favorite and least favorite things about the winter?

**Longyhore:** My favorite thing is snow blowers and my least favorite thing is snowplows.

**The Beacon:** What is your favorite movie and why?

**Longyhore:** My favorite movie is "Return of the Jedi." I am completely captivated by any storyline that takes a person who never knew they had some sort of ability and takes the time to develop that character to the point where they could use that ability. Like the "Star Wars" trilogy has always fascinated me, "Harry Potter" fascinates me, the Chris Paolini book series, (including) "Eragon," "Eldest" and "Brisings" captivates me.

SEE LONGYHORE, PAGE 10



# Students making a difference this spring break

## *Alternative Spring Break offers rewarding experiences both at home, abroad*

BY DEVONI NOVAK  
Staff Writer

For many college students, spring break is a time for relaxation and vacations to tropical locations. Though many retreat to a warm, sunny place for their week off, Wilkes University offers a rewarding substitute.

Alternative Spring Break is a community service project in which students provide assistance to organizations or towns they travel to while experiencing different cultures.

Students are discouraged from believing these trips are vacations. Instead, there are set responsibilities each student traveling must fulfill in order to contribute to the well being of the places being visited. But it doesn't mean the trips aren't enjoyable, says Dr. Andrew Miller, a political science professor who helps coordinate the trips and decides which students are able to go on the trips.

"Alternative Spring Break is not a vacation but it's often more fun," Miller said. "On these trips students are able to get involved with things they normally wouldn't have had the chance to. In my opinion, that is better than a vacation."

Wilkes has been offering the Alternative Spring Break program for 20 years. During these years, students have gotten the opportunity to travel all over the world. Previous destinations included places such as India, Germany, Poland, Peru and various U.S. states.

"It isn't something students do that is forgotten because they contribute to the history of the organization," said Megan Boone, an



The Beacon/Allison Roth

**Students, faculty and members of the local community enjoy themselves at last week's spaghetti dinner, an annual fundraiser hosted by Alternative Spring Break.**

ASB coordinator for five years. "Students are forever entwined with the people they encounter on these trips. They come back with open eyes. They are almost always internally changed."

During the trips, students develop teamwork skills by taking risks and establishing trust. The primary goal of the program is to help others while establishing a commitment to social justice. The experience allows students to develop leadership skills while learning about other cultures.

Students take part in a variety of services depending on the organization aligned with ASB for that specific trip. In the past students have helped build and repair homes, provided aid to senior citizens, and taught children in local schools.

Fundraisers are a means in which students pay for the program fees along with the overall costs of their trips. Students also ask local businesses and churches for donations.

One fundraiser conducted is a Spaghetti Dinner, which took place in the Henry Student Center ballroom last Thursday. Another is the selling of products from the Joe Corbis Company.

There are four alternative spring break trips being offered this year. The three destinations are Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, New Orleans and Kentucky.

The Costa Rica trip is supplemented by Dr. Miller's class on the Politics of Coffee. Students will work with Coope Tarrazu, a coffee corporation in San Marcos de Tarrazu. They will learn about the fair trade param-

eters of coffee and how politics and religion are influenced by its production.

Those going to the Dominican Republic will be working with Orphanage Outreach, an organization that assists with disadvantaged children based in Monte Cristi. Wilkes student volunteers will teach children in local schools English, while also interacting and sharing stories with the children.

During this trip students will be staying in tents and showering in bathroom facilities provided by the orphanage. The arrangement sounds unflattering however, students manage.

"Before we go I make sure all the comforts of home are available to students," Boone said.

Students in Kentucky will be working with the Christian Appalachian Project, which is similar to Habitat for Humanity based in Lexington, KY. Students will be split into groups of ten to repair private homes with jobs ranging from patching leaky roofs to replacing rotted floors. A skilled carpenter will be designated to each group.

An additional community service opportunity abroad will be offered this summer. This trip will be in conjunction with same Orphanage Outreach as in the Dominican Republic, but will instead be taking place in Nicaragua from May 28 to June 4.

"I encourage everyone to apply (for this trip)," Miller said. "This is a good chance for students to travel and gain a great international experience."

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## LONGYHORE

Continued from Page 9

**The Beacon:** If you could have one wish come true, what would it be?

**Longyhore:** I would want some sort of superpower. On the show "Heroes," there was a character by the name of Sylar, and Sylar's secret power was basically that he could understand the inner workings of everyone and everything around him, and take on that superpower. I think that's what I'd like my superpower to be - to understand how to create superpowers.

**The Beacon:** Tell us a random fact about yourself.

**Longyhore:** When I was in high school, I

performed and was the lead in a few musicals. We did "Anything Goes" and "Oliver," those were two of them.

**The Beacon:** What words of advice do you have for students?

**Longyhore:** It's really simple. It's "Do what makes you happy." It's always great to be accomplished, but being accomplished means nothing unless you're happy. No matter what you do. The least successful person can be the most envied because they're happy with what they do, and the most successful could be the most miserable because they hate what they do, so no matter what you do, always make sure that it makes you happy.

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## Martin Luther King Day March



Photo courtesy of Milana Grigoriev

**Students, faculty and staff gathered on Monday, Jan. 17 to honor Martin Luther King by walking from the SUB to Wilkes-Barre's City Hall.**



## Campus Interfaith: spiritual and religious support at Wilkes

BY JOSHUA DONAIS  
Correspondent

Freshmen at Wilkes leave pets, home cooked food and parental support at home when they move into their college dorms. This can make the transition to college life difficult for many students, especially if they feel they don't have the same spiritual support they had at home.

One Wilkes organization exists to help such individuals, as well as anyone who needs any form of spiritual support.

"We are here to make sure that all students, faculty and staff – regardless of their faith or tradition – are cared for spiritually," said Caitlin Czeh, Interfaith coordinator. "The purpose of the office is to offer a welcoming and nonjudgmental place for all to begin or continue their spiritual journey, enable them to take responsibility for their personal, spiritual, or faith life, build community within the university, and to grow spiritually."

Campus Interfaith supports several worship services such as an on-campus Sunday Word and Worship service, Catholic Mass, Jewish Sabbath services, Islamic, and Hindu prayer. The office also offers other prayer services.

During the prayer service on Veterans Day, scripture and prayers from five faith traditions – Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism and Hinduism – were read to remember lost loved ones, war veterans, and those who had taken their own lives because of bullying.

Programs offered by Campus Interfaith are broad, so they don't cater to one particular faith. For example, "Scoops of Spirituality" is an ice cream social held on the last Monday of each month and "Feast on Faith" is a free dinner held on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Both social events are designed as times to get together, socialize and foster fellowship with conversations revolving around different kinds of spirituality. Holidays and other religious events specific to certain faiths, such as Advent, Lenten Evening of Reflection, Hanukah, and Passover are also sponsored through Campus Interfaith.

"Since caring, concern, and outreach to others are pillars of most faiths, Campus Interfaith oversees all the non-activity drives, which include canned, clothing and coat drives," Czeh said. "We also sponsor the annual Holiday Giving Tree and National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week."

Several clubs associated with Campus Interfaith include the Christian Fellowship



The Beacon/Allison Roth  
**Caitlin Czeh welcomes students to her office on the second floor of the Henry Student Center to talk about spiritual and religious activities. She also has a calendar of events outside of her office for the campus community to view.**

Club, the Islamic Interest Society, and the Hindi Spirituality Club. They are also working to re-establish the Newman Club, the campus Catholic ministry and to establish a Hillel Club, a Jewish campus ministry.

"All groups are student-run, have primary faculty advisers, and use the Office as a resource," Czeh said.

The Christian Fellowship Club was started in 2006 with the goal of providing a comfortable atmosphere for anyone wishing to strengthen their Christian faith or learn more about it.

The CFC hosts many activities and events including cookie baking, game nights, Thanksgiving meals for the homeless, and Winter Worship Night. It is also sponsoring a young girl in Swaziland.

"I've heard mostly good things about faith-based organizations," said Julie Engenbrecht, Christian Fellowship Club Co-President. "Our core group (that meets) has become important and it's nice to have that underlying support group you can turn to when school gets too crazy."

The purpose of the Islamic Interest Society is to spread knowledge and understanding of the Islamic religion and provide a group for Muslims on campus to come to for spiritual support.

It also hosts events for Islamic holidays such as Ramadan, which is the Islamic month of fasting, and Eid ul-Fitr, which marks the end of Ramadan.

Campus Interfaith provides students with various forms of spiritual support catered to each individual. This kind of support has been seen as beneficial by some.

"I think that spiritual support is important while you're away from your family," said Alexandria King, an undeclared student. "I'd probably go crazy if I didn't have people that I could rely on."

### Campus Interfaith Schedule of Events:

**Scoops of Spirituality:** meets first Monday of each month from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Fenner Hall

Talk with members of the campus community while enjoying ice cream sundaes.

**Christian Fellowship Club:** meets Tuesdays at noon in Dorothy Dickson Darte Center, Gries Hall and meets Thursdays at 9 p.m. in the Kirby Hall Salon.

Members will read and discuss scriptures, pray and fellowship.

The Campus Interfaith office is in Room 204 on the second floor of the SUB. Students, faculty and staff can contact Caitlin Czeh at 408-5904

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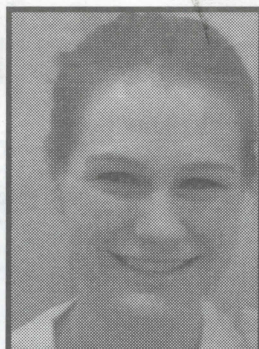


## STREET BEAT

# WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

BY CHRISTINE LEE  
Life Editor

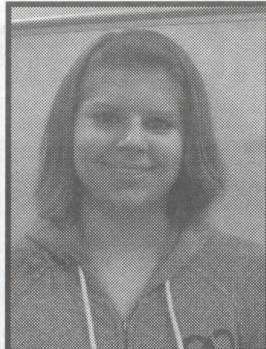
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**Amanda Shonk**

Sophomore  
education  
major

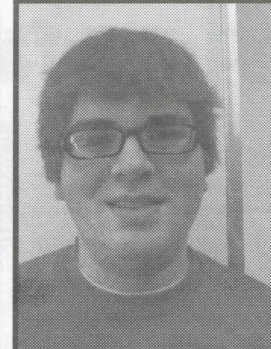
"To work harder in school."



**Ashley Rash**

Freshman  
criminology  
major

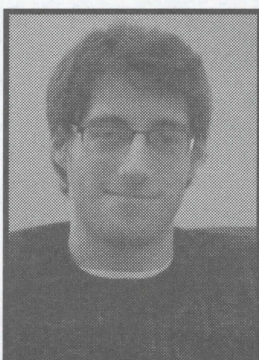
"To be more active."



**Zack Kendra**

Freshman  
undeclared

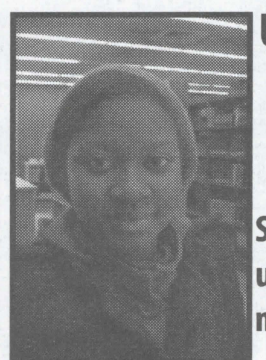
"To spend more time on my school-work instead of playing video games."



**Peter Polyak**

Senior  
psychology  
major

"To cut down on sweets."



**Unity Essah**

Sophomore  
undeclared  
major

"To get (a) 3.0 GPA in all my classes."



**Gabriel Lamberti**

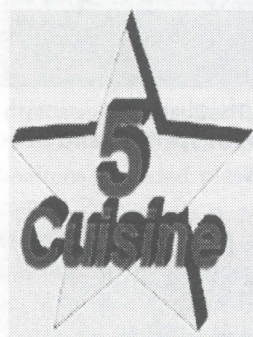
Adventure  
Education  
Coordinator

"To spend as much time as possible with my son and family."

for more information check out...

wilkesbeacon.com

GO!



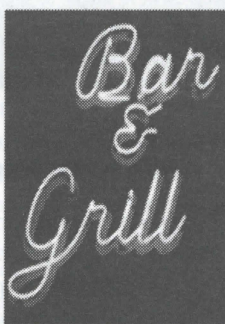
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## Wilkes University's Health & Wellness Corner

Wilkes University's Health & Wellness Corner is a weekly feature in The Beacon. Students who ask questions will remain anonymous. All questions will be answered by Health Services staff.

**Q: Even though I have a 3.8 GPA, am the president of some organizations and have been recognized for the work I'm doing, I don't feel like I deserve it. I think anyone can achieve what I've done. Somehow it doesn't seem good enough. I keep hearing about what a great role model I am, but I don't see it. How can I start feeling better about myself?**

**A:** Often, negative thought patterns can greatly contribute to eroding one's self-esteem. Thankfully, there are steps you can take to bolster your self-image through learning healthy, positive ways of thinking. Low self-esteem can adversely impact many parts of your life such as relationships, school, jobs and health. Altering your thought patterns regarding yourself and your life is necessary to

improve self-esteem. It is important to identify concerning situations or conditions and journal them. Become aware of your thoughts or beliefs. Consider your own "self-talk" and your own interpretations. You may notice many negatives in that assessment. Recognize false or negative thinking because this can directly affect your reaction to a situation and can trigger detrimental emotional, physical and behavioral responses. Challenge the negative or incorrect thinking. Finally, once you've identified inaccurate or negative thinking, you can work on replacing with accurate thoughts and beliefs therefore improving coping patterns and boosting self-esteem.

Do you have a question for the Health & Wellness Corner? E-mail your questions to [wellness.services@wilkes.edu](mailto:wellness.services@wilkes.edu), and you may see your question in next week's Wellness Corner. Your privacy will be protected. You can reach those working at Health Services at 570-408-4730 or by visiting their office on the first floor of Passan Hall.

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FEBRUARY 1, 2011

CONTACT US: wilkesbeacon.ae@gmail.com

## Sordoni highlights jazz music through Gottlieb photographs

BY KIRSTIN COOK  
News Editor

A picture is worth a thousand words, or in this case, a thousand chords.

The Sordoni Art Gallery is displaying "Portraits from the Golden Age of Jazz," which captures jazz singers and musicians at their finest. The photographs, taken by William Gottlieb, capture the age of jazz between 1917 and 2006.

The majority of the photographs are black and white and each is accompanied by information about the specific artist and their career.

Brittany Kramer-DeBalko, assistant director of the Sordoni Art Gallery, thinks the exhibition provides opportunities for both people who are oblivious of jazz history and those who are enthusiastic about it.

"I hope that it serves as a platform to sort of introduce people to some of these great jazz legends, or for people who are already familiar with them there's a lot of information on the labels with the exhibit," Kramer-DeBalko said.

There are many well-known icons included in the photographs, such as Nat 'King' Cole and the Cole trio, Frank Sinatra, Louis Armstrong and Billie Holiday, though Kramer-DeBalko said there are some obscure names as well.

"There are some big names in there ... that I would think that pretty much everyone would be familiar with the name of the person, but then there's a lot of other ... not as well-known artists in there," she said.

Kramer-DeBalko said that one of the most interesting aspects of the exhibit is the positive angle that it takes on the artists.

"These photographs really focus on showing the artist at work and at their best and doing what they do. The photographer wasn't one of those photographers like we see today who wants to get the shot of the artists at their worst."

The exhibition, which Kramer-DeBalko said was larger than most of the past exhibits at the gallery, is mostly composed of candid photographs of the performers on stage, rather than posed portraits.

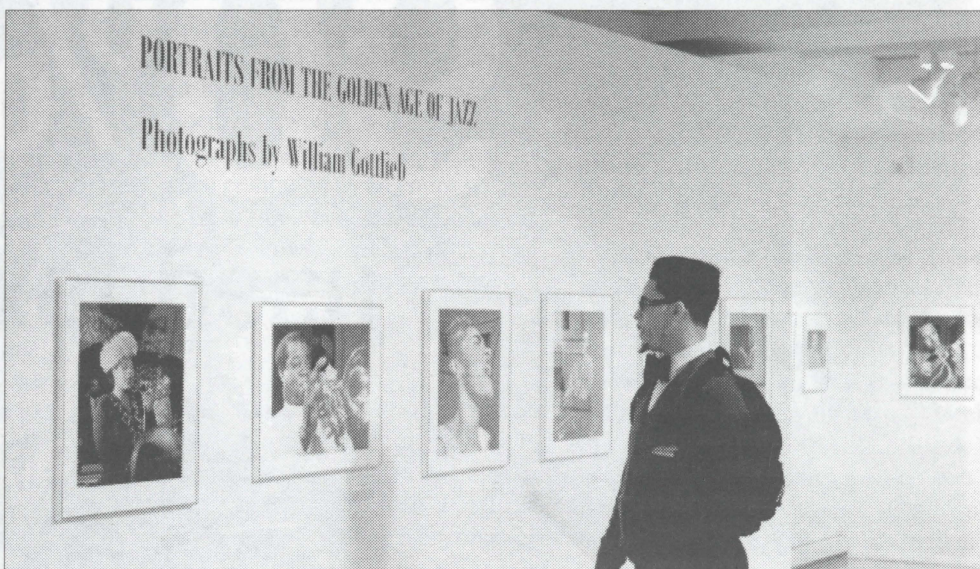
Kramer-DeBalko said that the exhibition could be integrated into many of the music classes at Wilkes.

"Some of the people featured in the exhibition and the artists are already being taught in some of the jazz classes, so it's kind of a nice fit for the university and the city of Wilkes-Barre," Kramer-DeBalko said.

One of the reasons that the gallery chose this exhibition, Kramer-DeBalko said, was that it complements the previous exhibit that featured Bob Marley. Also, she said there's an enthusiasm toward jazz that already exists in the area.

"There's a lot of jazz enthusiasts, including right here on campus. We had Phil Simon and his jazz ensemble play at our opening reception," Kramer-DeBalko said.

Sara Pisarchick-Rech, assistant professor of integrative media, took her Art 101 class to the exhibit because of the connection between pencil and charcoal drawing and black and white photography.



Jonathan Bowman/The Beacon

**A.J. Wallace, a senior communications major at Wilkes, looks at several of the photos displayed in the exhibit. The exhibit will last until March 6 and is open to the public.**

"There's an emphasis in drawing on light and shadow and the emphasis in black and white photography very easily relates to the same important aspects in illustration with the light and shadow," Pisarchick-Rech said.

Pisarchick-Rech observed that the recent exhibits have shown a theme of focusing on historical figures rather than outstanding photography.

"The photos in there have an amazing historical value, but some of them aren't spectacular examples of photography," Pisarchick-Rech said.

However, Pisarchick-Rech said she is thrilled to have the gallery as a resource for

students, and felt that many pieces communicated strong themes.

"There are a lot of emotional pieces in there. There are a lot of pieces that have a lot of action, emotion, feeling," Pisarchick-Rech said.

"Portraits From the Golden Age of Jazz" will be displayed in the Sordoni Art Gallery until March 6. Gallery hours are noon to 4:30 p.m. daily, though Kramer-DeBalko said she would be willing to open the gallery early or close late for classes that want to visit.

**CONTACT KIRSTIN COOK AT:**  
kirstin.cook@wilkes.edu

## Bacchus Club offers 'Sexual Jeopardy' to Wilkes students

BY MOLLY KURLANDSKI  
A&E Editor

Game shows and sex education for money... how about that?

For students who are looking for an opportunity to have fun while learning, they can register to compete in a sex-themed Jeopardy game.

Sponsored by the Bacchus Club, "Sexual Jeopardy" will take place 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 8 from in the Henry Student Center Ballroom.

The basic appeal of "Sexual Jeopardy" is

that it provides basic sexual education in an hour-long, game-show-themed fashion in order to educate students about popular sexual issues and concepts. The event also encourages students to seek out any information regarding sex education. Now in its sixth year, the event usually has a decent turnout.

Gail Holby, coordinator of the Health and Wellness Services as well as the adviser for the Bacchus Club, said how she looks forward to the event each year.

"(With this event) we are trying to provide a different educational activity for the students," she said. "Past programs involve

having four to five teams with four to five people per team. The more the better since the collective genius of the students allows them to do better."

Both food and beverages will be served, compliments of the Bacchus Club. What can be more fun than eating pizza and asking and answering questions about sex? If that's not enough to win a student over, at the end of the night, the winning team will receive a \$25 Visa gift card per person on that team.

Shakima Davis, a member of the Bacchus Club stated that this is her first 'sexual jeopardy' experience. Many of the Bacchus Club members will be keeping score and

setting up the event.

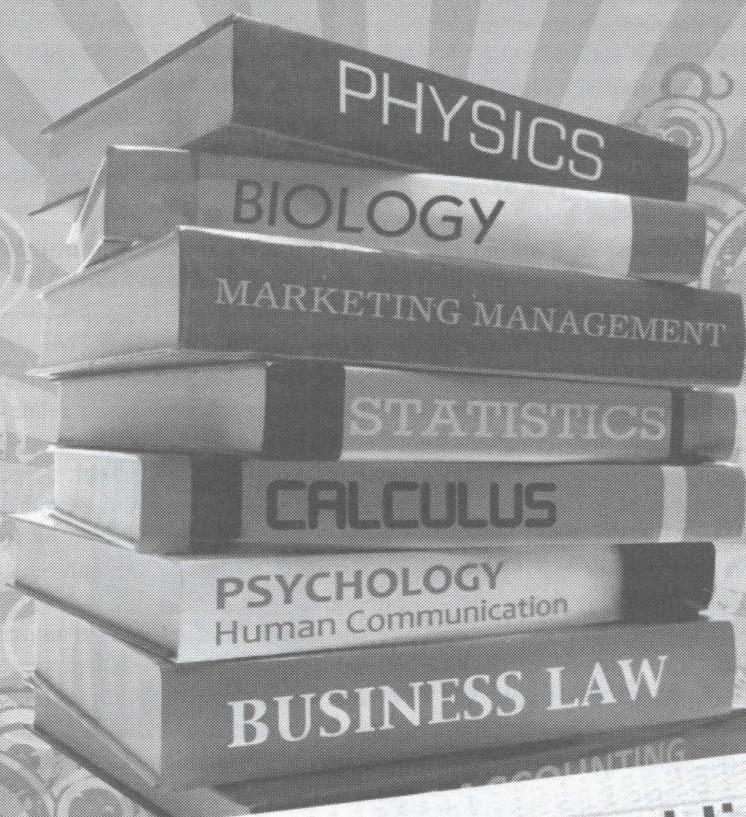
"I'm looking forward to learning a lot and having fun. It will be a great learning experience so (students should) come out and enjoy (themselves)," Davis said.

For more information about this event, students can contact Gail Holby at gail.holby@wilkes.edu or by calling Health Services at 570-408-4730.

**CONTACT MOLLY KURLANDSKI AT:**  
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# Oscar Review: Which actors and actresses should go home with gold

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA

Staff Writer

& PHAT NGUYEN

Asst. Sports Editor

## Best Director

How many fantastically original films does Christopher Nolan have to make before he gets some long-overdue credit? Flat out, the man is a filmmaking genius who also writes his own films (with his brother), yet not a single one ("The Dark Knight," "The Prestige" and "Memento" come to mind) has earned him a slot in the Best Director category. With his latest mind-bending thriller smashing the box office this past summer, he not only earned a nod -- but should have been a legitimate front runner for the award.

Since he is nowhere to be found on the ballot, I have to go with David Fincher for his strikingly beautiful portrayal of the "humble" beginnings of Facebook. Though he took his liberties with the story -- the fact that he made a story, and a near impeccable movie, out of a social network website is reason enough -- he guided us on a whirlwind adventure full of secret societies, fascinating new college drinking games, and Ivy League parties (who said the Ivy League didn't know how to party?).

## Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role

This award belongs to one person -- Chris-

tian Bale. When you finish watching a movie, and you see the real character an actor is depicting and question whether or not he or the actor portraying him is the real person, you hand over the Oscar to that actor. When I saw the real Dicky Eklund during the credits of "The Fighter," I swore he was just an actor and Christian Bale was the real Eklund. That job screams Oscar winner.

## Best Writing, Screenplay Written Directly for the Screen

Dream-snatching. Manifesting ideas. Dreams inside of dreams. Fighting in hotel hallways with no gravity. Nolan has distinguished himself from everyone else by creating original story ideas -- and "Inception" may be his most clever to date. It's really no competition -- this summer's biggest blockbuster was original and fascinating.

## Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role

Although the Coen brothers latest flick, "True Grit," was loaded with A-list talent, it was, in fact, Hailee Steinfeld in her role as Mattie Ross who stole the show. Although I was mystified as to why she was nudged into the Best Supporting Actress slot considering she is the centerpiece of the story, she delivered a dynamite performance undoubtedly worthy of this award -- and we may have witnessed the emergence of a new star in Hollywood.

## Best Achievement in Music Written for Motion Pictures, Original Score

The easy choice here would be to hand the award over to Hans Zimmer, who seems to be nominated every year. (On a side note, it's almost as sure as the sun will rise each day that a movie with a score composed by Hans Zimmer will be enjoyable to watch.) But not this time. Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross's work in "The Social Network" was phenomenal. One scene solidifies this award -- Have you ever been that enthralled by an entire scene of just crew? Didn't think so. Only that electric score could make rowing seem like the coolest and most exhilarating sport on earth.

## Best Picture

"The King's Speech" is a solid drama with a rousing climax. It delivers a compelling story during an uplifting period of time that achieves its dramatic peak with a full historical accuracy. The leading and supporting cast is terrific arguably one of the best of the last several years. The on screen chemistry between Colin Firth and Geoffrey Rush really made the movie special. I'm really surprised to hear that more people haven't seen this movie yet, but the Oscar for best picture will change that soon.

## Best Actor

The sheer awkwardness that Colin Firth portrayed as King George was remarkable.

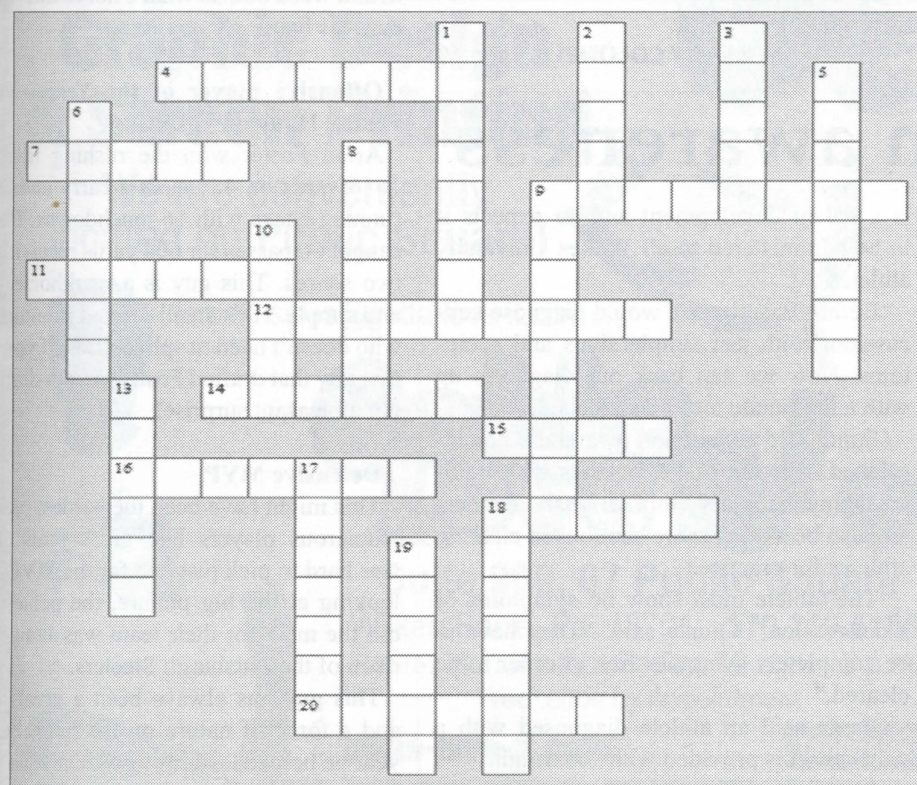
From the opening scene, Firth made the audience feel nervous as if we were like "come on Bertie!" Firth spoke so well with his stutter you would think it was natural. The movie gets an R rating for excessive use of the "f word" which interesting as through counseling we find that Firth doesn't stutter during curses! Fact is, Colin Firth is the best actor of the year -- his portrayal of a real historic figure was so genuine and on point that it's hard to argue against him.

## Best Actress

Over the years, Natalie Portman has given us some remarkable performances in films such as "V for Vendetta," "Closer" and "The Professional," but has yet to win any Oscars. I absolutely love the fact that she took up ballet and did nearly all of the dancing for the swan lake performance. "Black Swan" is shot from Portman's perspective which takes us on a real psychological trip to the point where we forget what the actual reality is until the movie is over. The movie ends so dark and tragic, but essentially fulfills the role of perfection that Portman seeks during her whole career.

CONTACT ANTHONY DORUNDA & PHAT NGUYEN AT:

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phat.nguyen@wilkes.edu



## ZerCross "Whose Office is This?"

BY ASHLEY ZERFOSS  
Correspondent

Across

Down

4. Pearsall 301
7. Darte Center 122
9. Breiseth 327A
11. SLC 127
12. SLC 152
14. SLC 356
15. Breiseth 101
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20. Kirby 308

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3. Pearsall 308
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17. SLC 320A
18. SLC 440
19. Darte Center 305

CONTACT ASHLEY ZERFOSS AT:  
ashley.zerfoss@wilkes.edu



FEBRUARY 1, 2011

CONTACT US: wilkesbeacon.sports@gmail.com

## Lady Colonels make devil of a comeback

### Connolly nets two free throws to pull Wilkes to win

BY PHAT NGUYEN  
Assistant Sports Editor

The Lady Colonels rallied back with strong defensive and offensive urgency in the second half of Saturday's matchup with conference rival FDU-Florham for their fourth win of the season.

In the first half, leading scorer Sam Lynam set the tone offensively with 12 points, giving the Colonel's an early lead. But the Devils surged with a big run before the half to take a 30-24 lead into halftime.

The second half was a different story. With a new found energy and intensity, the girls came out firing on all cylinders.

"We want to win," head coach Rachel Emmerthal said. "We're not going to sit back and let things happen. I just told them they're more than capable of winning this game, and that's what they believed."

"Coach told us we need to play a 40 minute game," Lynam said. "We came out stronger and we knew we could things going after a few turnovers."

And that's just what they did. The Lady Colonels came out of the gates swinging, forcing three turnovers and going on a 5-0 run to bring the game back within one point, 30-29. Defense and forcing turnovers was a



Photo Courtesy of Steve Finkernagel

Connolly hit the go ahead free throws with 25 seconds left to lift Wilkes to the win.

key as the Colonels outscored FDU 17-8 on fast break opportunities in the second half.

The game was back and forth until late in the second half, when the Colonel's got some late-game heroics from a senior Erin Schneider and junior Whitney Connolly,

who combined for 21 points in the second half.

Schneider had big buckets late, including a big three point play that shifted the momentum.

SEE LADY COLONELS, Page 19

## Headstrong on concussion awareness

BY JUSTIN FRANIAK  
Correspondent

Concussion awareness is on the rise as coaches, trainers and athletes, amateur and professional alike, are becoming more attuned to this serious injury.

The old attitude of "just rub some dirt on it" is being thrown out the window with concussions becoming more of a serious concern throughout the athletics community.

"Concussions aren't more prevalent, it's just that awareness is growing," head wrestling coach at Wilkes University Jon Laudenslager said. "In the case of wrestling, the sport hasn't changed in the past 50 years, just the concern for concussions has."

With contact sports such as football, hockey and wrestling, concussions occur as a part

of the action. But taking a blow to the head now isn't treated as it was a decade ago.

According to WebMD, a concussion is a brain injury that is caused by a sudden blow to the head or to the body. The brain is moved violently inside the skull because of this blow. This sudden movement causes all the cells in the brain to fire violently. Tests have shown that brain activity from a concussion victim show signs of being very similar of a person who is in a coma. The firing of the cells also resembles brain activity during a seizure.

Joe Giunta, a Wilkes University athletic trainer, said it is now easier to diagnose these high-contact sport concussions, in part, because of a new program called Baseline, which tests the athlete's memory, balance and coordination. Giunta said the program

is a recent development and he expects it to be administered to all Wilkes University athletes.

"Before Baseline we would diagnose concussions with just simple signs and symptoms. Now we can back our diagnosis up with a legitimate test," Giunta said.

Giunta said concussion awareness has increased over the past few years with trainers taking the injury more seriously. Trainers are also becoming more cautious in clearing athletes for practice.

"The athlete must show no symptoms of a concussion," Giunta said. "They have to be completely symptom-free in order to be cleared."

Giunta said an athlete diagnosed with a concussion is provided with "overnight

SEE CONCUSSIONS, Page 19

## The Skinny Post

BY PHAT NGUYEN  
Assistant Sports Editor  
ANTHONY DORUNDA  
Staff Writer  
BILL RICCETTI  
Correspondent

Welcome back sports fans. I'm glad to let you know that your favorite section of the Beacon is back for its sophomore season, so my gift to you for being so loyal all NFL season long, is complete coverage all year long. I'm going to try something a little different and kick things off with the NFL regular season awards.

### MVP - Tom Brady, New England Patriots

No player has come even close to Tom Brady's success this year throwing 36 touchdowns to just four interceptions. He sported a 14-2 record with arguably the toughest schedule. Brady also received a unanimous vote as the quarterback on the all-pro team. Did I mention the Patriots got rid of Randy Moss after week four? They finished with the best points differential in the NFL with plus-205 despite a young defense, which can only be achieved with an elite quarterback and coach. Love him or hate him, Tom Brady does so many little things right week in and week out, so what's not to like...other than his hair.

### Offensive player of the Year - Arian Foster, Houston Texans

Arian Foster won the rushing title with 1616 yards on 4.9 yards a carry and led all running backs with 16 touchdowns. He also caught 66 passes for 604 yards receiving and two scores. This guy is a workhorse, plain and simple. He's an all-around running back who doesn't need to split carries. If you were that guy that drafted Foster in your draft, you got a pleasant surprise!

### Defensive MVP

This might have been the hardest pick yet. Numerous players had great years and it was hard to pick just one for the MVP. After looking at the big picture, the person who did the most for their team was James Harrison of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

This guy has always been a great player and a force of nature on the field, but this year he helped lead his team to a third Super

SEE POST, Page 19

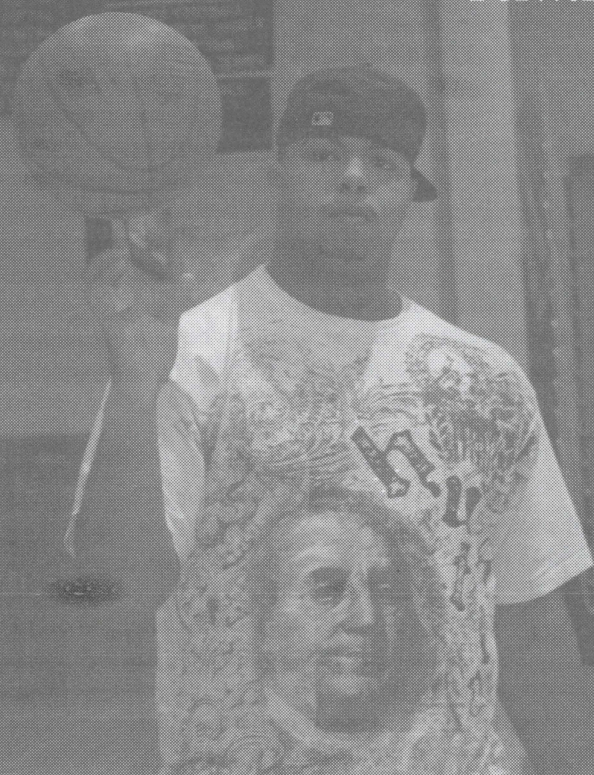


Getting to know...

# Bernard Edmonds

Forward, Men's Basketball

Meet Bernard Edmonds, 6'4" sophomore forward from nearby Wyoming Area. Growing up down the road in Exeter, Edmonds has been living, breathing, and eating basketball ever since he can remember. Last week, in a loss to Delaware Valley, Edmonds was a terror in the post. Coming off the bench, Edmonds filled the stat sheet with 22 points, two blocks and three rebounds, shooting a perfect 9-9 from the field and 4-4 from the charity stripe. But besides trying to find his next hot jersey pickup, Edmonds is a big movie buff, with a particular Tarantino movie topping his list.



The Beacon/Melissa Polchinski

Earl Campbell Houston Oilers one.

**Favorite food?** My grandmother's fried chicken and macaroni and cheese. It's probably the best thing that god has ever created. It's strictly a holiday meal.

**Pre-game rituals?** Always got to have music, always listen to Jay-Z before any game, it just gets me hyped up. And I try to fit a nap in their sometime, but other than that, not really.

**Compare your game to one pro-player.** That's a tough one. I'd probably say Andrew Bynum. Straight back to the basket player, complete post player, and I like that job.

**You had 22 points in 23 minutes, shot perfect from the field, what did you do differently?** I was a little upset that I hadn't been playing as much, and I told my coach "let me show you what I really can do." After I scored that first basket, something just clicked, and after that it was just over and I went off.

**At that point, be honest, were you demanding the ball every time**

**down court?** Oh yes, I was. After that first score, I don't care who I'm playing, I feel like I can score on anyone. Around the basket is where I'm most comfortable. If they can't stop me once, why not keep trying?

**Dream job?** Play basketball.

**If not basketball I would be...**

Playing football. I played a little bit in high school, but I didn't like it too much. They put me on offense but I don't like getting hit. I like to do the hitting.

**Favorite movie of all time?** Pulp Fiction. Best man movie of all time. It's just an all-around man's man movie, it's the best way to describe it.

**If you could star in a movie, what would it be?** The Hangover.

**Who would you play?** Probably be Phil because I'm so sarcastic.

**Four players you want in your starting five, past or present —**

**you're the starting center:** Julius Erving, Earl Monroe, Bill Russell and "Pistol" Pete Maravich.

**Bernard Edmonds in five words or less:** The next best thing.

**CONTACT ANTHONY DORUNDA AT:**  
anthony.dorunda@wilkes.edu

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**Age: 19**

**Favorite Sports Teams?** New York Yankees, New England Patriots, New York Giants and Philadelphia 76ers.

**Patriots and the Giants? Had to pick one in Super Bowl 42.** Patriots. I like Tom Brady's game. I think he's the best quarterback in the league. I like New England's intensity when it comes to the playoffs

**Favorite jersey you own?** I have two or three of them, but my favorite one of all time is my Bill Russell one.

**That's a classic. Do you actually wear it?** I've had it for four or five years now and I've worn it one time, that's it. It's in the same plastic cover I got it in. I searched all over the Internet for it, for almost four months. I bought it from some guy in California. It's definitely my most expensive.

**So is Russell your favorite player?**

Nah, Julius Erving is my favorite

**So you have his jersey, right?** No, the old school New York Nets one is basically the only one I don't have.

**How many jersey's do you own?** Pushing forty, not counting the ones I got rid of. My favorite football one I have is a



## SCOREBOARD

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

1/19 vs. DeSales 57-89 L  
1/22 @ Delaware Valley 73-77 L  
1/24 vs. Penn College 99-63 W  
1/29 vs. FDU-Florham 67-53 W

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

1/19 vs. DeSales 44-78 L  
1/22 @ Delaware Valley 70-81 L  
1/26 @ Lycoming 54-68 L  
1/29 vs. FDU-Florham 63-59 W

## WEEK AHEAD

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

2/2 vs. Misericordia 8 p.m.  
2/5 @ Manhattanville 3 p.m.  
2/9 vs. Eastern 8 p.m.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

2/2 vs. Misericordia 6 p.m.  
2/5 @ Manhattanville 1 p.m.  
2/9 vs. Eastern 6 p.m.

### WRESTLING

2/2 vs. Scranton 7 p.m.  
2/4 vs. TCNJ 7 p.m.  
2/8 @ Elizabethtown 7 p.m.

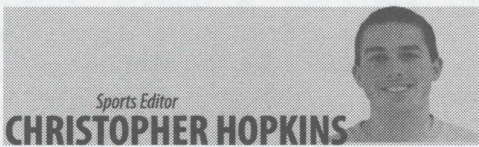
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# FACE OFF

## Who will win the Super Bowl?

### The Pack Attack is Back Jack



Sports Editor  
**CHRISTOPHER HOPKINS**

As the spring semester is now fully under way, I'm sure everyone is excited to be back into the school state of mind. Who needs peace and relaxation, right?

Well, with the spring now just around the corner, it can only mean one thing...

Spring Training.

As excited as I am for baseball season to be so close, there is something a little more important coming up this Sunday, the biggest Sunday of the year. Super Bowl Sunday -- America's unofficial holiday.

It was a pretty eventful NFL season with the Patriots "rebuilding year" earning them the no. 1 seed in the AFC and the Seahawks becoming the first team under .500 to win its division. After the dust has settled, this year's Super Bowl will match the Packers and Steelers, a game that I'm sure would have surprised no one at the beginning of the season.

It would be hard to argue against Pittsburgh in any Super Bowl, just by looking at their past. Six rings are pretty impressive. Not to mention a Pittsburgh defense that held the opposition to a mere 62 rushing yards per game. There's a little problem with all of that though.

They're going to be running into the hottest team in the NFL. The Green Bay Packers are playing great football at the perfect time and have showed no sign of slowing down. Led by Aaron Rodgers, who is making it very easy for Green Bay fans to quickly forget about that Favre fellow, the Packers have made themselves just the second sixth seed in NFL history to reach the Super Bowl.

Rodgers has looked nothing short of spectacular this postseason just his second appearance in the -- playoffs -- completing 71 percent of his passes for 790 yards and six touchdowns in just three games. At the age of 27, he has not shown any signs of playoff jitters that may come with a young quarterback, but instead has catapulted his name into the talks of the NFL elite. I won't say he's at all in the class of a Tom Brady or Peyton Manning, but a Super Bowl title here

could begin to change that and argue that he is quickly becoming the best quarterback in the league as the other superstars we know begin to age.

Now the scary part is some say that the Packers offense isn't even their strong suit. Holding opposing offenses this post season to just 51 points in three games, the Packers "D" has come out strong and could pose a huge problem to the run heavy offense of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Made up of two pretty scary looking, long-haired guys at linebacker in Clay Matthews and A.J. Hawk, last year's defensive player of the year, cornerback Charles Woodson, future "Dancing with the Stars" contestant B.J. Raji clogging up the middle, I'd say the Packers make a strong case to stop Roethlisberger and Co. come Sunday.

So this Sunday, I'm sure I don't have to tell you twice to find the biggest TV around, grab a few dozen wings and a beverage of choice, and settle in to watch the latest installment of the Super Bowl. No matter who takes home the Lombardi, it's sure to be a good one.

**Packers 24-21**

### Number one D Good Enough for Me



Assistant Sports Editor  
**PHAT NGUYEN**

I am going to have to respectfully disagree with you, Chris. I mean, I know I'm new to the position, and it's probably bad that I disagree with my boss, but I will give you four reasons why the Steelers will beat the Green Bay in this year's Super Bowl: Experience, Big Ben, Dick LeBeau and the run game.

I'm going to throw out the most obvious fact first - the Steelers have already been there and won two Super Bowls in this past decade alone, one under head coach Mike Tomlin and the other under Bill Cowher. While the Pack has had their fair share of success, this game will be the first for Mike McCarthy's upstart team. I feel that the veteran experience of Roethlisberger, Polamalu and Harrison -- three MVP-level guys -- can make that big play to take over that game.

Day-in and day-out Ben Roethlisberger always has that knack to win big games. In fact, he is 10-2 in playoff games and already a perfect 2-0 in the Super bowl, including a Super Bowl MVP award. He also has arguably one of the greatest throws in Super Bowl history known as "the Catch" to Antonio Holmes, although it probably should have also been called "the Throw." Big Ben might not be the more precise passer than Rodgers, but his previous history leads me to believe the guy just has ice water in his veins.

Last time I checked, Dick LeBeau is the master of the 3-4 defensive scheme and will use a combinations of zone attacks, coverage and blitzing to give Aaron Rodgers and that Packers offense a long day.

Pittsburgh definitely gets the check in the run game both offensively and defensively. They have the league's best rush defense allowing only 62.8 yards a game and only allowing 14.5 points per game. In fact, the shut down the Jet's potent run game and

held that dynamic duo of Shonn Greene and Ladanian Tomlinson to only 68 yards rushing. Offensively the Steelers were able to pound the ball with Rashard Mendenhall who had 100 yards rushing before the first half, against the Jets -- one of the league's best rushing defenses!

Although Rodgers torched the Steelers "D" last time they played with 383 yards through the air with three touchdowns, and their play through the playoffs thus far has been phenomenal, but I think the buck stops here. Troy Polamalu, who missed the previous meeting, will be the difference maker. Here's a stat to look at: the Steelers are 16-6 with Polamalu and 5-6 without him, I'd say that's going to make a world of a difference. While I have the most respect in the world for what those cheese heads have overcome to get to the Super Bowl, I feel that this will not be their year.

**Steelers 30-24**



## POST

Continued from Page 16

bowl appearance in five years. He finished with 100 tackles and had 10.5 sacks. But that's not the stat line I'm interested in, listen to this: six fumble recoveries, forced five interceptions rushing the quarterback, and picked off two passes.

He may have been fined \$100,000 for his concussion-inducing tackles, but his MVP performance will earn him a big pay day.

## Defensive Rookie of the Year

Hands down, there was not a more disruptive rookie, and you could make a compelling argument for more dominating interior defensemen in the NFL, than Detroit's Ndamukong Suh. The Lion's rookie phenom was a nightmare for opposing offenses. Suh led all defensive tackles (ahem, ALL) with 10.0 sacks (second rookie defensive tackle with that many ever) while chipping in with 66 tackles (as a defensive tackle remember), one forced fumble, one interception and one fumble returned for a touchdown. As a reward, he was selected to the 2011 NFC Pro Bowl team as a starter, and was named a first-team All-Pro, the only rookie on the team. And just for kicks, he even kicked an extra point for the Lions this year. Is there

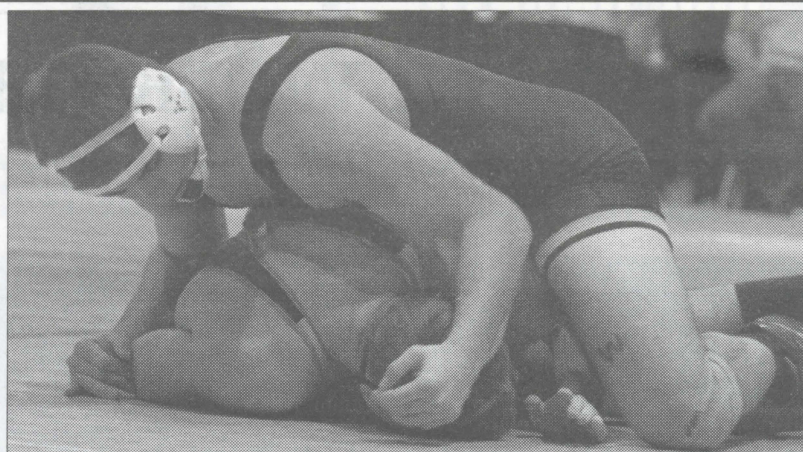
really an argument for this award?

## Offensive Rookie of the Year

However, there is a legitimate argument on the offensive side. The easy choice would be last year's top-pick – stud Rams quarterback Sam Bradford. And, frankly, that wouldn't be the wrong choice after his phenomenal rookie campaign where he single-handedly resuscitated the left-for-dead Rams. I, however, will go a different route. Josh Freeman had a breakout sophomore campaign en route to becoming one of the most promising young guns in the NFL. But the argument can be made that he, and the surprising Bucs who went from 3-13 to 10-6 this year, went as far as rookie wide out Mike Williams could take him. Besides making highlight reel catches week in and week out, the rookie out of Syracuse was an absolute beast all season. Williams finished the year with 65 receptions for 964 yards and 11 touchdowns, which led all rookies (and it wasn't close). He also became the first rookie since Randy Moss in 1998 to have 10-plus touchdown receptions. So although Bradford is the likely choice, he's not necessarily the right choice.

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The Beacon/  
Allison Roth

Conussions, especially in wrestling, have become a major concern for athletes and coaches alike.

## CONCUSSIONS

Continued from Page 16

instructions." These instructions tell the athlete to have someone to check on them during that night's sleep. He urged that if someone who has been diagnosed with a concussion starts to experience gradual pain, the athlete should immediately get to a doctor because this may signify increased bleeding of the brain.

Matt Gaines, a sophomore communication studies major and Wilkes wrestler, has had experiences with concussions.

"I had a concussion in high school and it was not fun. It affected my wrestling and everyday life," he said.

Gaines added that he was glad his high school had a similar program to Baseline testing. He believes the testing helped his athletic trainers diagnose his injury better. Gaines said he did not rush back to wrestling because he wanted to make sure he was completely healthy.

"It's all about being smart with your injuries. You can only play sports for a short time, but your health and well-being lasts a lifetime," Gaines said.

Laudenslager reinforced the seriousness of concussions, "If you sprain an ankle and you say you are all right, I will wrestle you. If you have a concussion, I am more cautious because of the long-term effects."

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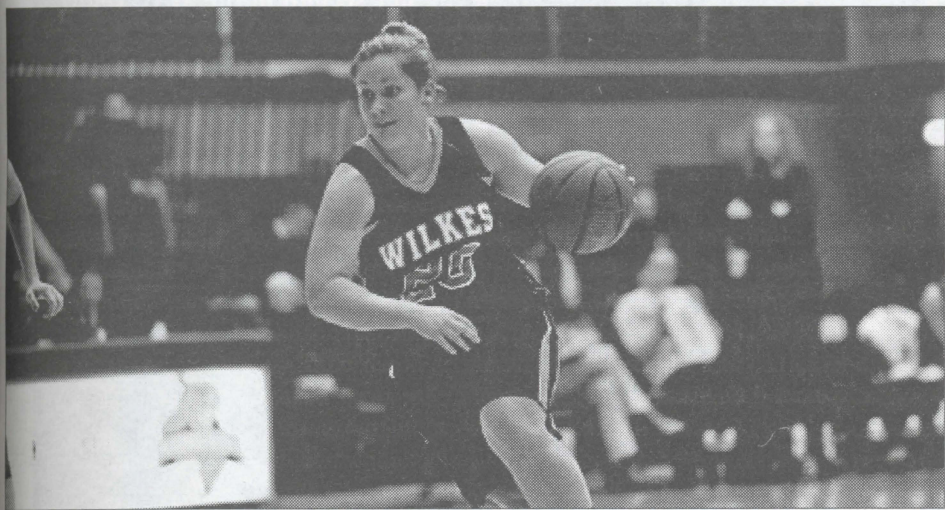


Photo Courtesy of Steve Finkernagel

Erin Schneider netted 13 points while going 5-5 from the foul line on Saturday.

## LADY COLONELS

Continued from Page 16

Playing with a severe height disadvantage against a much taller FDU team who out-scored the Colonels 34-20 in the paint, the Colonels grinded it out, drawing fouls down low and making the Devils pay from the free throw line. The Colonels went 13-14 from the free throw in the second half, with Connelly going a perfect six for six from the stripe, converting two with 25 seconds left on the clock to take the lead 61-59.

"I wasn't worried," Connolly said. "I had

been hitting all my free throws today, so I felt pretty confident."

"We wanted to get a strong team effort going, and after a few early turnovers, I felt confident and started to attack the hoop and get my personal game going," said Schneider. "Enough is enough already, we just want to win."

With the win, the Colonels improved to 4-14 on the season, and will look to win back-to-back games for the first time since December 8 when they host conference foe Misericordia Wednesday night at 6 p.m. in the Marts Center.

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# Lynam's hard work paying off

## Wilkes guard stands just 107 points shy of illustrious 1,000

BY CHRISTOPHER HOPKINS  
Sports Editor

On paper, it would look like basketball is only a five month sport, played from November to, if you're lucky, March with a few games a week and a few practices thrown into the mix. Ask Sam Lynam, senior guard on the Lady Colonels basketball team, and she'll tell you that that's not the case at all. For Lynam and the rest of her team, it's the hard work off of the court in the offseason that makes them better on the court.

Lynam, who is having a stellar season ranking second in the MAC in scoring with 20.1 points per game, finds that her game benefits most with the effort she gives between games.

"I work out with my dad during the summer," Lynam said. "That with all of the work-outs with coach Keith and Coach (Emmerthal) have been the most beneficial. It just all came together this season."

Lynam put up a season high on Dec. 8, when she went off for 32 points at Susquehanna. She would add 10 rebounds to her total to finish off the double-double and seal the win for the Lady Colonels, 75-73. Lynam has had two 30-point performances this season already.

Josh Pstrak, a former member of the Wilkes men's basketball team who now helps out at the women's practices, notices how much



The Beacon/Melissa Polchinski

**Sam Lynam has posted 893 points so far in her Wilkes career. She would be the ninth player in Wilkes women's history to reach the 1,000 point milestone.**

expects from me," Lynam said. "I try not to goof around. I just want to be in the zone."

Lynam, who is in her fourth and final year, has had a solid career at Wilkes. After Saturday's victory against FDU-Florham, she stands just 107 points shy of the 1,000 point milestone. She is no stranger to the court and has been a pivotal part of the Wilkes program since her freshman year, where she was the third leading scorer on the team.

Lynam's clutch scoring ability dates back to her sophomore year when the Lady Colonels defeated King's at home. At the time, Wilkes had not beaten King's in 11 straight seasons, but Wilkes would get the win in double overtime by a score of 65-61, in which Lynam sent the game to the second OT with her layup to tie the score with six seconds to go.

This season with seven scheduled games left, she would need just over 15 points a game to reach 1,000, well under what she has averaged to this point. Reaching the

mark would make her the ninth 1,000 point scorer in Wilkes women's basketball history, the first since Whitney Bull in 2003.

"(1,000 points) was in the back of my mind when I first got here, but coming in I didn't really know what to expect," Lynam said. "Now that's it's getting closer and I keep getting reminded about it, it's hard not to think about it. It's not something that I'm worried about though."

Lynam said the first thing on her mind this season would be to notch a few more wins before her career ends. Saturday's victory versus 63-59 FDU-Florham was the first step to ending her career on a winning note.

She did explain that it would be meaningful to reach the milestone though, as she came just a few points shy of the mark in high school at Quakertown.

"It would be a great thing to have."

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## BY THE NUMBERS

# 893

Points scored by Sam Lynam in her Wilkes basketball career as of Sunday. She stands just 107 points shy of the milestone 1,000.

# 8

Players in Wilkes women's basketball history who have reached the 1,000 point milestone, the last by Whitney Bull in 2003.

# 20.1

Points per game Lynam has averaged this season as of Sunday, placing her second in the MAC conference.

# 32

Points is Lynam's season high so far. She torched Susquehanna putting up a double-double with 32 points and 10 rebounds.



LYNAM

to elevate her game to what it has become to today," Pstrak said.

Before games, she determined it best to get by herself and focus on the task at hand.

"I find that I get most prepared when I just plug in my iPod and focus on what I need to do to help the team and do what Coach

