



The BEACON



OCTOBER 27, 2009

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

Volume 62 Issue 6

Program ties freshmen to med schools

BY BETHANY YAMRICK
Correspondent

Wilkes University is now offering the Pre-medical Scholars Early Assurance BS/MD program, a new scholarship for premedical freshman. The program grants early acceptance to one of three medical schools to those who are approved for the scholarship and maintain certain requirements.

Eileen Sharp, manager of health sciences, admitted four freshmen into the program this year. The students admitted were Jacquelyn Gallo, Nisarg Joshi, Nathaniel Lamoreaux, and Brielle Stanton, all freshmen pre-med majors. The four students were able to choose from three participating medical schools: Drexel University, State University of New York, and Hersey PA State College of Medicine.

In order for each student to maintain the scholarship, they must meet different requirements set by each of the medical schools.

Gallo said her minimum requirements at the Hersey PA State College of Medicine are to maintain a 3.5 GPA in all of her science courses. When taking the MCATs, Gallo's score must meet the average set by matriculants during the previous year. In addition, Gallo must participate in 25 hours of community service each year. During her last year, she must shadow in a hospital.

"You [also] must be from central Pennsylvania, with intention to work [in central

See FRESHMEN page 3

Wilkes hosts 8th annual Alcohol Awareness Week



The Beacon/ Allison Roth

This overturned car was on display during Alcohol Awareness Week, held from October 19 through October 23. To see the full story, including student opinions and DUI by the numbers, see **ALCOHOL AWARENESS WEEK** on page 4.

Wilkes software detects computer virus, stops spread

BY NICOLE FRAIL
Editor-in-Chief

On Monday, October 12, Wilkes University's Information Technology Services (IT) was notified of a campus-wide virus attempt. The attempt occurred in the form of an email, which was disguised as a message from tech-admin@wilkes.edu.

The message read, "Attention! On October 16, 2009 server upgrade will take place.

Due to this the system may be offline for approximately half an hour. The changes will concern security, reliability and performance of mail service and the system as a whole. For compatibility of your browsers and mail clients with upgraded server software you should run SSL certificates update procedure. This procedure is quite simple. All you have to do is just to click the link provided, to save the patch file and then to run it from your computer location. That's

all."

A link was provided for the recipient to click, which would lead to the download of the virus.

According to Ikram Muhammed, technical director of Client Services, a university staff member contacted the IT department after clicking the link provided in the email. Before the program could begin to down-

See VIRUS page 2

Trespasser found in Commuter Lounge

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS
News Editor

On Sunday, October 18 at 1:17 a.m. a man was discovered trespassing in the Commuter Lounge, located in the basement of Conyngham Hall. Public Safety confirmed that the man is not a student at Wilkes University.

The man gave Public Safety the name of Josh Samuels, but after learning that the Wilkes-Barre Police were en route, he changed his name to Menachem Mendel Wachtel.

According to the City of Wilkes-Barre's police report, the incident was cited as criminal trespassing and the suspect, Wachtel, 18, was arrested.

While Public Safety officers were making their rounds, they discovered the front

See TRESPASSER page 5

for more information check out...

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PA Newspaper
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WILKES NEWS BRIEFS

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS

News Editor

SORDONI ART GALLERY FACULTY EXHIBIT – On Monday October 19, the Sordoni Art Gallery will begin running a faculty exhibit that will continue until December 13. The faculty members who contributed include Jean C. Adams, Sharon Bowar, Nicole DePolo, Beverly Glennon, Bruce Lanning, Darlene Miller-Lanning, Mary Lou Steinberg and Professors Emeriti, Richard Fuller, and Herbert Simon. The artists worked in a broad range of techniques and styles.

SPAIN STUDY ABROAD TRIP – This summer, there will be a trip to Madrid, Spain and four days in Paris during July 1 to 29, 2010. Students earn six credits, which are transferable to Wilkes, while traveling in Spain. The trip costs \$3,995 and includes two three credit courses, international

round-trip airfare from NY to Madrid, flight from Madrid to Paris, airport transfers, lodging in a single room, all meals included (except for dinner on Sundays), four days in Paris for a hotel and breakfast, guided tours and health insurance. For more information, please contact Dr. Paola Bianco at paola.bianco@wilkes.edu or 408-4519.

MIDDLE STATES SELF-STUDY OPEN FORUMS – The Middle States Steering Committee will be holding the second and third of three open forums next Monday, November 2 at 3:00 p.m. and Tuesday, November 3 at 2:30 p.m., respectively. The purpose of these forums is to discuss the Middle States Self Study draft. The forums will be held in the Miller Conference Room.

VIRUS

from FRONT PAGE

load, the university's anti-virus software, Sophos, blocked the program and identified it as a virus.

Upon confirming the attempt on Monday afternoon, a message was sent to all students, faculty and staff informing them to refrain from clicking the hyperlink if they received the email in question.

"Several schools received a mass-mailing of that same message, with their school's domain name changed in the link that went to the actual virus," said Jason Wagner, a web programmer for the College of Graduate and Professional Studies. "Oklahoma State University was also affected by the virus mailing."

Wagner further explained, "The link in our email was to updates.wilkes.edu.secure.1-admin.net, and through domain forwarding, it is very easy to just create URLs on the fly. They could replace wilkes.edu in there with

okstate.edu, and have the URL updates.okstate.edu.secure.1-admin.net forward the visitor to the same place as the URL sent to Wilkes emails."

The process used in the attempt to spread the virus is called mail-spoofing, said Wagner. In this case, messages appear to be sent by one user -- tech-admin@wilkes.edu -- but are really sent by another.

Muhammed and Wagner do not know where the virus originated, but Muhammad noted that the domain "admin.net" is hosted in Russia.

Members of IT also do not know what would have happened to a computer if a recipient would have clicked the link and had it successfully downloaded to the hard drive. Muhammad and other members of IT did not wish to click the link and risk infecting school or personal computers to find out the extent of damage the virus was designed to cause.

"I think the purpose of this email was simply to spread the virus, but I didn't go into



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

The Sordoni Art Gallery held the opening reception of the Faculty Exhibition 2009 on Sunday, October 25. Pictured here are the contributing artists; the exhibit will run through December 13.

details to find what the intent was," said Muhammad. "It could have been for the fun of it, the excitement of it, or maybe they used this one as a launching pad to set it up on the machine and launch another attack down the road."

He noted that IT had not received any reports of infected computers on or off campus.

Had someone successfully downloaded the virus onto one of the school's computers, Muhammed said that it would not affect the students, faculty or staff members who use the computer at a later date or time.

"All of the computers in the labs on campus are frozen," he said. "So even if they click on it and it affects the computer in any way, shape, or form, once the computer is rebooted, it is in pristine condition."

While users with a background in computer sciences or technologies would have been able to identify the link as a threat simply from its lack of "http," users without this knowledge may have mistaken the link,

and the message, as credible. Muhammad stated that there are various ways every user can avoid computer viruses. This includes going to the official website, such as My-Wilkes, to locate the announcement, installing anti-virus software, such as Sophos, and calling IT if there are any doubts to a message's credibility.

Bianca Sabia, senior English major, has had to deal with an infected computer in the past, and is now suspicious of many emails that call for an action, such as submitting personal information or following a link to an unknown website.

"I won't click on anything that I don't recognize already," said Sabia. "A lot of emails from familiar sites, I won't click on them if I haven't requested the information... I won't go to a Web site that's questionable, either."

As of Sunday, October 18, all of the university's online systems were working properly and were free of all virus-related threats.

The BEACON

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Michael Cignoli
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FRESHMEN

from FRONT PAGE

Pennsylvania] post graduation,” Gallo said.

Stanton and Joshi had similar requirements. However, Stanton must complete a writing assignment which sums up her educational experiences at the end of each year. Joshi also had an obligation to join the pre-professional society club.

“I like the program because I know exactly what I have to do, and the goals are set,” said Joshi.

If the students do not complete these requirements, they lose their scholarship. However, they may still apply to medical school.

The students interviewed with Sharp, as well as the medical school that grants acceptance into the program and the hospital where the student will shadow. Each medical school limits the early acceptance scholarship to one or two freshmen.

Gallo, who is committed to Hershey PA State College of Medicine, explained that such eight-year programs are becoming more common and respected, as opposed to the shorter accelerated program.

On the other hand, Stanton does not believe many other medical schools will pick up on the trend of this type of scholarship.

“I don’t think med schools will allow many programs like this because they are already very selective with who they admit,” Stanton said.

Stanton, who is committed to State University of New York, explained that she found out about the scholarship through her admission counselor at Wilkes.

Lamoreaux’s experience with the scholarship was a bit different. He was first accepted to Wilkes, and then contacted by Sharp to apply for the scholarship. According to Lamoreaux, who is committed to Drexel, being accepted to the early acceptance premed program helped him decide on Wilkes, in the long run.

Joshi, who is committed to Drexel, as well, shares Lamoreaux’s experience.

“I was researching similar programs, and came across it online,” said Joshi. “It is a prominent program, but not too many schools have it, probably [only] 20 to 25.”

All of the four accepted freshmen agreed that there are benefits to the program and it affected their choice to come to Wilkes.

Stanton agreed it is a good program for freshman.

“If [students] are definitely sure they want to pursue medicine then it is a great program to get into because it eliminates some of the pressure,” Stanton said.



The Beacon/Allison Roth

During the week, there was a display in the Henry Student Center with photos and captions of people who have died due to alcohol related accidents. A student from SUNY Buffalo who was killed in a drunk driving accident is pictured above.



B & N Wilkes-King's Bookstore

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What's New!



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Camouflage hats for you outdoor enthusiasts!



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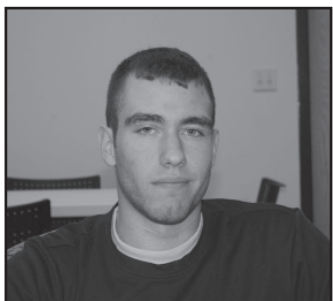
WILD BUNCH PLUSH ANIMALS!



Is Alcohol Awareness Week effective?



"I know there's a walk, but it needs better advertisement. There should be a video or mandatory speaker session." - Adrienne Dorcent
Sophomore, nursing major



"Yes, it's a good thing to help students know what to do." - Josh Shaver
Freshman, pre-pharmacy major



"Yeah, I've seen [the car] before and I think that is effective. I haven't gone to any events, though." - Sarah Gerstman
Junior, environmental science major



"It's not applicable to me. If I partied, then maybe. I've seen the car and I'm thinking, 'What's the reason?'" - Mohamed Jalloh
Sophomore, undeclared

Students reminded of drinking dangers during Alcohol Awareness Week

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS

News Editor

& JOSHUA PELLEW

Correspondent

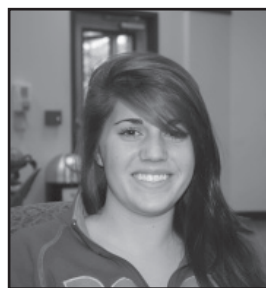
For one week during the month of October, Wilkes University observed its eighth annual National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week. During the week-long event, students are presented with the dangers and effects of Alcohol and Driving Under the Influence (DUI), as well as ways to prevent alcohol-related incidents from occurring.

During the week of October 19 through October 23, different events were organized by Gail Holby, coordinator of health and wellness promotion, urging students to "Be Part of the Solution." Events were held both on and off-campus.

"National Collegiate Awareness week is a great opportunity to promote and educate students on the dangers of alcohol," said Holby.

The week started off with the DUI Victims Moving Memorial presented on the greenway on Monday, October 19. The Wilkes community honored and remembered those who lost their lives as a result of driving while impaired or at the hand of other drunk drivers. This event also increased awareness about the intense consequences of driving under the influence.

The Moving Memorial is a replica of the original DUI Victims' Memorial. The Pennsylvania DUI Association dedicated the original DUI Victims' Memorial Garden in 2003. The original Memorial Garden is located at the DUI Association's headquarters in Harrisburg. The garden includes 1,300 engraved bricks with the names of victims who died in DUI related accidents.



"The most effective part was the car. It's more effective than the signs on campus because it's in your face and you have to look at it." - Jordan Brown
Sophomore, Spanish major

On Tuesday, October 20, an Alcohol Awareness Walk encouraged students, faculty and staff to heighten alcohol awareness. Holby explained that more than 300 participants, including students, faculty and staff came out for the walk, making this year's walk either the biggest or second biggest in its eight year history.

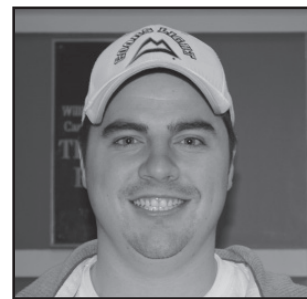
Anna Mitchell, sophomore Spanish major, attended the walk.

"Many people from the community came and showed support for alcohol awareness," said Mitchell. "It has made me reconsider the consequences of alcohol among college students."

The BACCHUS (Boosting Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students) club helped conduct Alcohol Awareness week. BACCHUS sponsored the "Alcohol Bingo" on October 22 where students were awarded Henry Student Center gift cards as prizes. Krista Hill, a senior psychology major, is involved with BACCHUS and said this week is important on the Wilkes campus.

"Every month we promote a different health-related theme, but Alcohol Awareness week is definitely our biggest week," said Hill.

Hill, on behalf of BACCHUS, provided some tips for students contemplating an evening filled with alcohol. She urged students to avoid binge drinking. If students do choose to drink, Hill added that they should not get into a car. If they must get into a car, a designated driver should be selected before the night begins. Students can also use the University's 'Safe-ride' system. The 'safe-ride' system provides Wilkes University students who are under the influence with transportation back to campus by Posten Taxi. The service is free of charge.



"I do not believe it is effective at Wilkes because no one pays any attention." - Jim Colosimo
Senior, criminology major

Alcohol Awareness week ended with an educational display by Health Services and Campus Counseling, who presented students with information and answered questions about alcohol.

Holby, a coordinator and speaker at the event, encouraged students to know the signs of alcohol poisoning and seek help.

Holby recommended some tips to students about how to prevent the dangers and effects of alcohol. She explained that it is important for students to get involved in different activities because there's always something to do on campus, especially within organizations. She also recommended that students know the signs of alcohol poisoning and get help if someone is in trouble.

According to Holby, the effectiveness of the week is difficult to measure, but overall, she is happy with the turnout at various events.

"If one student says, 'Hey, wait a minute, I don't think I'm going to do this,' then we've done our job. If just one person is affected, that is great," she said.

DUI BY THE NUMBERS

in Pennsylvania last year:

40,000
arrests made

13,574
alcohol related crashes

10,619
people injured

542
people killed

Facts from the Pennsylvania State Police DUI StrikeForce

STUDENT GOVERNMENT NOTES 10-21-09

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS
News Editor

Treasurer's Report:

All College: \$5,600
Conferences: \$10,000
General: \$2,300
Leadership: \$3,000
Special Projects: \$2,050
Spirit: \$1,000
Start-Up: \$1,500

Club Reports:*Programming Board:*

Joshua Seth performed October 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the Ballroom.

John Zaffas talked about ghost hunting on October 25 at 8:00 p.m. in the Ballroom.

MSC:

On Saturday October 24, MSC took a trip to New York City to go to Ellis Island.

Talent show sign-ups start on October 22.

A Thanksgiving dinner is planned for November 21.

New Business:

Dean Adams and Dr. Lew – Middle States Discussion: Paul Adams, dean of student affairs, and Dr. Vee Ming Lew, associate professor and chair of math and computer science, spoke about the Middle States Committee. Adams and Lew are the co-chairs of the committee. Middle States is designed to monitor the quality of higher education in the Middle States region. Middle States

is sanctioned, not run or controlled, by the Federal Government. Receiving Title 4 financial aid comes from the Middle States and it must be accredited to the University by the regional accrediting body. Every ten years, the Middle States Committee at Wilkes University must do a self-study. The self-study of Wilkes University has been comprised in a collaborative effort by faculty and administrators.

"Basically, if this were a marathon, we would be in the 22nd mile of the 26.2 mile race," said Dr. Lew. He continued to explain that the Middle States Committee at Wilkes University is at the feedback stage of revising the self-study. Middle States expects the institution to constantly self-examine and assess the institution itself. Also, Middle States would like to see more staff development which would mean keeping faculty and staff as up-to-date and as skilled as possible.

For more information on the Middle States Committee and discussion, open forums will be held on November 2 at 3:00 p.m. and November 3 at 2:30 p.m.

Saudi Interest Club Recognition (Week 1 of 1): The Saudi Interest group currently has about 45 members. It is open to all students and aims to introduce new Saudi students to the area. The group plans on exchanging culture and activities between Saudi students and American students. They also would like to celebrate some Saudi holidays. The members of the group would like

to increase student involvement by creating flyers around campus. A motion was made to grant the Saudi Interest group club status. The motion passed 24-3-2.

Old Business:*Homecoming Events*

Member of the Month: Stacy Prelewicz

Events:

McGlynn Halloween Party on October 29

Open House on November 14

Texas Hold 'Em on November 19

Casino Night on November 20

The City of Wilkes-Barre Annual Christmas Parade on November 21

Committees:

Campus Support met to discuss topics including:

Leaf removal on campus has begun.

Test on the Wilkes University text message alerts

H1N1 vaccine will be on campus in the first week of November. Wilkes University has requested 2,000 doses of the vaccine. Students will be given the vaccine first and then it will be given to faculty and staff.

Class Reports:

Freshmen: Planning a pumpkin decorating contest.

Sophomores: Art Appreciation Day will be held on today, October 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Juniors: Planning a full class meeting soon.

Seniors: Bart & Urby's social was held on October 22.

Closing Comments:

OCC: Pizza with the President went really well. A meeting was held on October 22.

IRHC: A dorm decorating contest was held with 13 participating halls; also planning a Study Break party.

CC: Planning a New York City bus trip and a meeting was held on October 22.



*At 7:15 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn the SG meeting. The motion was approved.

SG Meetings are open to all students. They are held every Wednesday in the Miller Conference Room on the second floor of HSC.

TRESPASSER

from FRONT PAGE

and side doors of Conyngham Hall ajar, explained Gerald Rebo, manager of Public Safety. The officers then decided to look around inside the building where they found Wachtel sitting in the lounge, watching television.

Wachtel told Public Safety that he had been in the Commuter Lounge before with a friend once last year and thought he would go to the lounge; this time, by himself. Rebo explained that Wachtel was not armed or dangerous and nothing was taken or damaged in the Commuter Lounge.

"He says he is from Canada," said Rebo. "We think he lives in the Jewish home across from Breiseth Hall. We have trouble with [those residents] all the time."

Rebo explained that residents from Bais Menachem, the Jewish home located on 148-150 S. Franklin Street, have given Public Safety and Wilkes University students problems in the past. Rebo said that the residents from Bais Menachem enter Breiseth

Hall and use the computers and facilities available to Wilkes students.

Rebo reminds students that Public Safety monitors all buildings on a regular basis and that Conyngham Hall is safe and secure.

During the Commuter Council (CC) meeting on October 22, Courtney Sasserson, vice president of CC and sophomore business major, brought up the trespasser. The students in attendance were surprised and confused, but all students agreed they need to make sure the door of the lounge is locked when the last person leaves.

"Things have been taken care of in the Commuter Council Lounge," Sasserson said. "We will try to put a sign up in the lounge reminding students to keep the door locked. Public Safety will continue to make their rounds so that the building will remain safe and secure."

Kevin Hettrich, president of Commuter Council, declined comment. Barbara King, adviser to Commuter Council, could not be reached for comment.

Last week's winner of Dinner and a Movie for 4 at JANUZZI'S & MOVIES 14

Anita Williams

Who Doesn't Like Free Stuff?!

The Beacon Weekly Giveaway!

Two winners will each receive...

5 tickets to a Haunted Attraction

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Find the mystery word online at www.wilkesbeacon.com.

HINT: It will be attached to the sponsor's logo!

Drop forms off at The Beacon office in Conyngham Hall or at the desk in the Student Union by Thursday, October 29, by 4pm.

The winner will be announced in next week's issue.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

MYSTERY WORD: _____



Opinion

OCTOBER 27, 2009

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6

Culture of pride, school spirit missing at Wilkes

BY THE BEACON
Editorial Board

Western civilization places both positive and negative connotations upon references to size. Consequently it is those things which are deemed "small" that receive the brunt of the negative references.

Since the approach and passing of the new millennium, those things which have been classified as "small" have made attempts to strike back against their small status and do big things for the world.

We see the clearest examples of those deemed as "small" making "big" things happen in Hollywood movies: Disney's *Toy Story* illustrates that small and insignificant action figures Woody and Buzz can represent two different types of person's ability to coexist and work together for a common good. And Frank Miller's *300* where a small unit of Spartans defend their homeland from over 150,000 Persian invaders.

Much like those small toys or the 300 brave men, Wilkes University's 2,300 full-time undergraduate students from 20 states and four foreign countries represent but a small portion of people also making larger-than-life moves.

Our university makes great strides toward getting its students fully prepared for whatever it is that they may want to pursue during and after their graduating from Wilkes.

We have exactly 100 clubs/organizations, eight Division-3 sporting teams for both men and women, intramural sports for both the spring and fall semesters, and 16 separate national honor societies.

Although our University provides students with such a wide array of opportunities to expand and grow as future professionals, it is disheartening to see the lack of school spirit expressed by the student body after all of the opportunities it is afforded.

For example, go to a women's volleyball game. The team doesn't even have a cheering section. This is disappointing, especially since the team is doing so well this year. They have a 500- winning percent average

in their conference and don't even have a cheering section.

Our homecoming parade took exactly 10 minutes and .07 seconds from start to finish because 98% of the people in attendance were either marching in the parade or just "happened" to be walking up or down N. Main street.

Attend a Student Government meeting, and you would see that very few students

at any time throughout any day.

But is it really fair to compare Wilkes University to Penn State? Yes. Why shouldn't we? If size is the only difference between us, then there is no reason why we could not outmatch their spirit and pride on any given day.

We have just as much in which to take pride as they clearly do. We have athletes who break records and win championships.

Our students are successful in the classroom and in society. The Wilkes faculty are some of the most qualified educators in the country. Our alums are spread all across the globe, doing many great things that are making a difference in the world.

It's easy to take pride in something that gets as much publicity as a university like Penn State, but the real displays for pride and school spirit are shown when nobody else is looking.

There is a clear presence of pride within the small number of students we have on this campus. We have students touching lives and contributing to cultures all over the world, and little do they know that they are also representing the "small" campus of Wilkes university when they do such things. The only problem with these small displays of pride in the University is that we do not share them with each other.

If a student at Wilkes University just published a research finding, broke a record, or held a door open for an elderly woman walking past, a spirited chant of support is in order for that person. The small things go the furthest in life and the same motto applies to our university.

We may not have a Division-1 sports program, 15,000 incoming freshman every year, or Detla houses, but we do have a lot to be proud of within the small confines of our comfortable university. Join a club. Attend events. Stick around campus rather than heading home after your last class of the day. Take pride in Wilkes University, because it takes pride in seeing you succeed. We all need to take more strides to create a culture of school spirit and pride at Wilkes.



The Beacon/Melanie Thomas

Wilkes University's Homecoming Parade from N.Main St. to Public Square in downtown Wilkes-Barre was a prime example of the lack of school spirit on campus.

show up at the meetings who are not SG members. These meetings are open to any and all Wilkes University students who are willing to voice their concerns to an elected body of fellow students. Yet no one goes. It seems that no one cares.

We have many organizations on our campus dedicated to putting on functions that are designed to enhance the Wilkes University experience. But why are our students not as dedicated to elevating their pride in a university which obviously values them?

The answer lies in the sad fact that finding an enthusiastic student covered in blue and gold garb chanting for The Wilkes University Colonels at 9:00 a.m on a Monday is unlikely to happen.

At a University such as Penn State, you will hear "WE ARE" on one end of the campus and the response "PENN STATE"

Beacon Poll Results

The following are results of a poll that *The Beacon* conducted online this past week. The poll was unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on campus. Results are based on 32 responses.

The Beacon asked:

Do you think Wilkes professors give too many assignments over break?

- Yes 75%
- No 25%

Next Week's Question:

Do you think the collective Wilkes student body has enough school spirit?

- Yes
- No

Visit www.wilkesbeacon.com to cast your vote. Results will be published in next week's issue of *The Beacon*.

Speak Up! It's Your Right!

The Beacon wants your opinion. Contact us at wilkesbeacon.oped@gmail.com with your Name, Major, Year, and Opinion!

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



YOUR VOICES

Dear Editor,

Have you ever envisioned your future to be a tremendously fulfilling, happy place? Perhaps you have dreamt about a life for yourself that encouraged a gratifying smile to form across your face? I know I have! The exceptionality of my situation is one whereby my dreams became my reality and furthermore, I attribute much of my success to my mentor, Dr. Anne Heineman-Batory. Her support coupled with great family and friends and my resolve to embrace opportunity has comprehensively created a life for me that I often times query as a quirk of fate...but is it?

The purpose of my writing is in response to the article that ran in *The Times Leader* entitled, "Wilkes teachers honored with awards." As an adoring alumnus of Wilkes University, I not only value the education I received, but moreover the extraordinarily precious relationships I formed with their caring and talented faculty. Early on in my academic career, I stumbled upon my very first encounter with a professor that had captured my interest in a way I never realized was possible. Although we had not officially met at the time, Dr. Jeffrey Alves willingly embraced my request to serve as my academic advisor the year I transferred to Wilkes. I will never forget that summer meeting, nor will my parents, as it was the first time I actually became excited about learning! From there, the experiences only matured to what I consider an amazing time in my life where I truly discovered myself.

It was not until I continued on in the MBA program at Wilkes that I had the pleasure of working with an invaluable faculty member, who is still an integral part of my life today. Dr. Anne Heineman-Batory em-

braced my inquisitiveness and encouraged my passion for marketing, leadership and most of all working with people. She has been an essential ingredient in every aspect of my professional life to date, supporting me in all of my career decisions from industry experience, to adjunct teaching, to present day where I serve as a full-time faculty member at Moravian College, Bethlehem. I knew she was special when she encouraged my decision, with my husband, that I would quit my corporate marketing position, sell our home, and uproot my family to Miami, Florida for the sole purpose of embracing my dream to be a college professor. The few years I spent working on my doctorate were painfully pleasurable and, like Dr Batory promised, nothing short of a transformational experience.

It is my hope that I can give back to my students at Moravian College by not only modeling Dr. Batory as an exemplar of stewardship, but also through self-reflection and the impact this special relationship has had on my life. Mentors are the little angels that guide us through the peaks and valleys of life and, for me, they are precious gems that I can only aspire to replicate. In sum, my message is simple – if you are a mentor or aspire to be a mentor take the time to reflect on the impact you can have on individuals and if you have a mentor remember to appreciate and communicate their value often.

Kind Regards,
Katie P. Desiderio, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Management
Moravian College

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Beacon wants your voice to be heard. *Your Voices* is an opportunity for students, faculty and staff to voice their concerns. If you want your voice to be heard, please submit a letter to the editor with the following information:

- 1 Your email address and a phone number where you can be reached
- 2 Your name, major, and year and/or position
- 3 Your opinion

Please keep letters to 300 words.

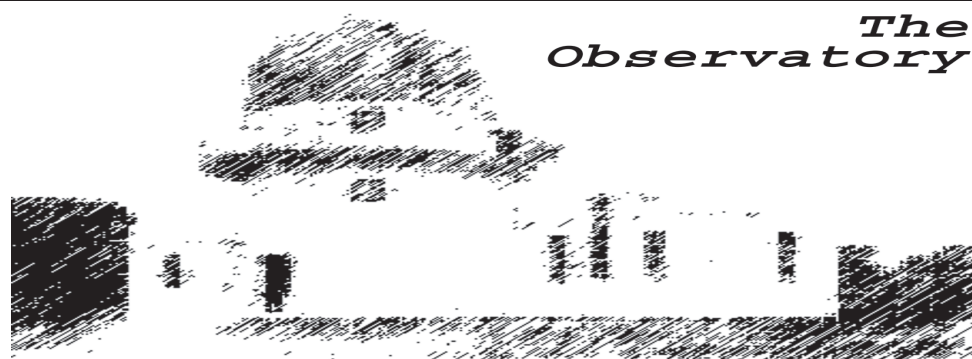


The Beacon reserves the right to edit submitted pieces for space and content.

The deadline for letters to be published in the print edition is Friday at 5 p.m.

Please submit letters to thebeacon.oped@gmail.com

*The
Observatory*



Bottled water no safer than tap



Opinion Editor

**MATTHEW
GOGAS**

we all see it in every corner store, gas station, supermarket, cafe, and fast food restaurant: the exuberant amount of bottled water brands. From Aquafina to Zephyrhills, the list seems endless and ongoing.

We are all guilty of indulging ourselves in a bottled water or two from time to time, and for some of us the preference to drink bottled water instead of tap is almost an addiction. According to the Beverage Marketing Corporation, an organization that provides consulting and marketing reports to the global beverage industry, bottled water accounts for 28.9% of the global beverage market--second only to carbonated soft drinks--and is projected to increase.

The grand question is: Would bottled water be the second most consumed beverage on the market if we were all aware of the potential dangers and environmental effects that drinking bottled water causes? Certainly not. These disillusioned consumers that think they are drinking water that is safer than tap must be informed about the facts and stop drinking so much bottled water.

Municipal drinking water, or tap water, if you have a preference, is regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). According to the EPA, municipal drinking water must meet standards for 90 different contaminants. If the water does not meet all of these standards, water suppliers may not supply it to the public. Bottled water is regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). In relation, the EPA also states that the FDA sets bottled water standards based on their tap water standards, but the bottled water produced may be treated more, less or not at all. This is a great risk if you do not know specifically how the bottled water is treated for sterilization.

According to The Public Health and Safety Company (NSF), bottled water companies use a variety of different treatment methods to sterilize water, such as ozone or ultraviolet technologies, filtration, reverse osmosis, or distillation. Each bottled wa-

ter company may use all of these methods, some, or even just one.

In a study conducted by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), nearly 22 percent of the brands tested contained, in at least one sample, chemical contaminants at levels above strict state health limits and if some of the chemical contaminants are consumed over a long period of time, they could cause cancer or lead to other health problems.

While there are dangers associated with bottled water, there are also benefits to drinking tap water besides it being potentially safer. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) prides themselves on providing technical assistance in the fluoridation of water in the United States, which is a major factor responsible for the decline of tooth decay. Most bottled waters, however, do not contain fluoride.

For those concerned with the effects bottled water has on the environment, the NRDC estimates that only about 13 percent of the plastic used to bottle water gets recycled. If you are still not convinced to drink tap water instead of bottled water, consider the cost and how much money you would be saving. Some bottles can cost up to \$2.00, while tap water costs a fraction of a cent per gallon.

So, the next time you get the urge to quench your thirst and only water will do, make it tap water in a reusable sports bottle. Or, if you dislike that mineral-like taste specific only to tap water, get yourself a Brita filter for your sink faucet. They are only around \$30 and will give you better piece of mind in the long run. You will save yourself the health risks and some money while helping the environment. And maybe you will keep your teeth a little longer in life.



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

LONG LIVE THE SPIRIT OF HALLOWEEN

Christmas can take a backseat to the best holiday around



Asst. Opinion Editor

**DAVID
LEWIS**

It's the hap-happiest seeeason of all ... And, I'm definitely not talking about that washed up holiday that always ends up leaving moths in your wallet at the end of every year--Christmas.

The season of concern here and now is Halloween, the holiday that comes just once a year, but humbly for one day, unlike its evil counterpart, Christmas, which takes up almost two months.

Christmas pails in comparison to Halloween's barrage of spooky-themed fun packed into one day: dressing-up in cool costumes, making mischief, eating candy, scaring unsuspecting citizens, telling ghost stories, trick-or-treating, pulling Halloween pranks, carving pumpkins, and jumping into big piles of brown and yellow leaves scattered about the ground.

Celebrating Halloween takes but one day's time.

Imagine trying to do the same with Christmas rituals: Malls all over America would be ransacked, highways would be shut down due to catastrophic traffic jams, and the level of body fat on every celebrator of Christmas would at least double.

To celebrate Halloween, you don't need to shop for gifts, travel to see all of your relatives, or eat three separate dinners in one day. All of the fun surrounding Halloween requires little to moderate preparation.

My main beef with Christmas is that it is drawn out between Black Friday and even a few weeks after December 25. During this time, celebrators of Christmas aren't as worried about making preparations for celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ; they feel it is the "last chance to buy presents."

And on top of its daunting length, the components that comprise the Christmas holiday season for almost two months tend to linger. For example, putting on unwanted pounds from all the Christmas dinners and Christmas cookies one consumes become difficult to remove, and Christmas songs that have been around for 50 years or more are heard constantly anywhere and everywhere.

The worst thing you could get from the piles of Halloween candy you'll likely consume in this one blessed day is a belly ache because after 20 miniature Snickers bars, your brain is going to make them lose their appeal. And there are only a handful of Hal-

loween songs one may hear occasionally on the radio: Thriller, The Monster Mash, or The Ghost Buster's Theme Song.

Above all lingering problems with the Christmas holiday hovers the pressure to buy the perfect gifts for relatives and friends. Along with this pressure comes the checklist of making sure you at least sent cards to all those people unworthy of a gift exchange, which is where the ultimate meaning behind Christmas becomes complicated.

There remains some semiotic representations of the what the true meaning of Christmas in America is supposed to be, such as: baby Jesus in the manger, the Star or angel on top of trees, little drummer boys, the statues of three-wise men bearing gifts. Instead of these symbols being highly celebrated from Black Friday until two weeks after December 25th, they are usurped by the notion buying gifts.

In comparing the main activities both holidays imply from an American tradition standpoint, gift receiving/sending is more of a chore when contrasted against dressing up in a costume and partying all night long.

By exchanging gifts with another person, the act will indefinitely elicit some sort of anxiety before and afterward.

You will wonder: how much should I spend on this person? how much did he/she spend on me? should I mail it or give to him/her in person?...this is all a bunch of unnecessary malarkey.

The greatest gift you could ever give someone is the sharing of a good time. And good times are the only thing to be had during the core celebration ritual of Halloween, dressing-up in costumes.

I bet you can remember your first Halloween costume you ever wore. Now try and feel the same about your first Christmas-sweater your mom forced you to wear during midnight mass.... definitely not a good time.

Another downer about Christmas is having to eventually discover the truth about the person leaving presents under your tree for the first 18 years of your life. Upon the discovery of this ridiculous lie, the Christmas spirit slowly beings to die.

Unlike Christmas, Halloween's spirit cannot die because there is always something to be scared of and always a way to make your costume more ridiculous. In essence, Halloween gets better as you get older and it is the best. And don't even think that you are ever too old not to go trick-or-treating, that's a bunch of crap.

Multi-tasking can be useful

Except when driving and texting simultaneously

BY JASON SUTTON

Correspondent

Studies find that driving while texting, eating, or a myriad of other daily activities are a dangerous gamble. We all, of course, understand this notion. Let's be honest for a moment, if we could.

Recently pundits have brought to light the hypocrisy of news outlets and government organizations sending text updates to drivers. These pundits blame the outlets for not practicing the safety that they air on the news each night. However, I believe that we must sincerely examine the notions of personal responsibility in this situation, and determine if these outlets truly are at fault.

Some claim texting while driving is worse than driving drunk. Others, like Monash University Research Center throw statistics into the discussion. Drivers responding to a text message take their eyes off the road nearly 400 times as often as those not texting. Drivers texting attempt to compensate by distancing themselves from the car leading them, but do not reduce speed.

In a country rife with the inability to pass laws effectively, nearly half of all states in America have passed laws banning cell phone use while driving.

Let's, for a second, step away from the issue of texting, and instead concern ourselves with the outlets reporting these statistics. News outlets have run these stories into the ground. State departments have all made public comments on the dangers involved. However, these outlets are the same companies, channels, and governments issuing traffic reports via text message. A few such examples of this would be areas such as Virginia, Maryland, and Washington D.C. (all of which have banned cell phone use while driving) issuing up-to-the-minute traffic information via Twitter and texts. Such organizations like Google and NAVTEQ offer the service of having traffic alerts sent to your mobile phones, regardless of where you are in the United States, granted you are in cell phone reception. News stations like WSAZ that broadcast to Kentucky, West Virginia, and Ohio and NBC Washington, which broadcasts from Washington D.C. also offer the same mobile traf-

fic alert service. Virginia, Maryland, and Washington D.C. also offer traffic alerts via Twitter. However, it is not just the news stations that send these texts and tweets, it is also the state departments. The Virginia Department of Transportation sends alerts and updates to your email which many people now get on their phone. The Minnesota Department of Transportation offers Twitter alerts as well.

This raises a question. Are these traffic texts and tweets counter-indicative to the laws? Many would say "yes." These agencies, instead, have remarked that the tweets can be read before leaving the home or office, and that drivers should be accountable for handling these messages responsibly.

My response is that of course drivers should be held accountable. We don't need statistics and laws to tell us texting while driving is dangerous. Anyone who has done it inherently knows the dangers involved. Sure, a text about road conditions might catch the eye of a would-be texter, but the drivers that would break the law in this instance would break the law regardless as to the content of the text message.

Simply put, detractors of this method tend to believe that drivers exist who would never break this law if only they wouldn't receive Transportation texts.

To blame state departments for sending these texts would be equivalent to blaming bars for serving would-be drivers. A bar or liquor store is not at fault when a driver blows a .11 behind the wheel; the driver is held accountable for breaking this law. Why should text messaging be any different?



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Receiving updates on mobile phones while driving diverts driver's visual attention away from the road, demonstrating the hazard of multi-tasking behind the wheel.

College Days

Dr. Mischelle Anthony travels many roads in college

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS

Lifestyles Editor

Five year-old Mischelle Anthony rides her bicycle around her yard in central Oklahoma. She weaves around the yard as the sun starts to peak through the clouds overhead. She looks up.

"I remember thinking, 'Okay, God, are you coming now? Make sure to get my family, too, and my dog,'" remembers Anthony, an associate English professor at Wilkes.

As Anthony looked through those clouds and watched the sunbeams flood down onto her little patch of Oklahoma, it set in motion what would become her unique and vivacious view of the world.

"It's a tiny, tiny town. No stoplights. I graduated with 33 people," says Anthony.

Of the 33 students she graduated with, Anthony was the valedictorian. Upholding a family tradition of valedictorians, Anthony followed both her father and grandfather as the strongest academic.

Her love of learning and value of education was deep rooted from her childhood and family values.

"The transition [from high school to college] was made easier through my family's value of education," states Anthony.

Anthony traveled only 20 minutes away from home for her undergraduate degree in psychology at Central State University in Oklahoma. The transition into college life was an eye-opening one for Anthony.

"It was almost a non-transition. It was a big deal, because it meant perhaps I wasn't going home every weekend to visit my family. They were always just very supportive. They would go, 'Ok, great. We'll visit you. We'll have dinner,'" remembers Anthony.

Despite reaching out to her new college

peers, Anthony still felt pressure to stay connected to her home life.

"I have to say that in the midst of that [moving to college], my mother and grandmother were not thrilled that I didn't want to live at home. They really wanted me to commute," says Anthony.

As a psychology major, Anthony flew through the bachelor's program and earned her degree in three years. When Anthony took on college, she took it on full force.

"When I was an undergrad it was about speed and efficiency," says Anthony.

Anthony acquired her bachelor's in psychology degree in 1990 and began her masters in psychology, also at Central State, the following year. Almost halfway through her masters program, Anthony had an epiphany.

"I started to get to know more people that were going to be my colleagues in the psychology field and realized I didn't have the personality for it. I had a crisis of education," says Anthony.

At a pivotal point in her higher education, Anthony chose a path that did not, in fact, lead forward. Her path led her back to undergraduate education and into the field of English.

When reassessing her educational choices, and with an army of supportive family behind her, Anthony backtracked in her education to unveil her true passions. Anthony began speaking to old undergraduate professors at Central State to try and figure out where her talents lied.

"They noticed that I had an English minor, I loved reading books and talking to others about them. In fact, they noticed that I cornered people to talk about books," recalls Anthony.

With the support of family and professors,

as well as an instilled self-confidence, Anthony spent the next two years taking prerequisite courses and finishing her bachelor's degree in English at Central State. She would eventually go on to receive her Ph.D in English from Oklahoma State University, all the while never being more than 45 minutes from her family.

Anthony's winding course through college and back again was a unique experience for her.

"The great thing about my undergrad degree is that it was such a new world for me. In high school I was a big nerd. I went to one party my entire high school experience, and I just kind of sat on the couch, watched my friends drink too much, and I didn't know what to do. I couldn't find people I had things in common with," remembers Anthony.

She continued, "Oh my gosh! When I got to college, though, there were people who were nerdy like me, who liked to read. They also liked to relax and enjoy life. That is something I didn't learn, unfortunately, from my family life," says Anthony.

In fact, Anthony credits college with saving her life.

"Turns out I had a history of depression in my family, that I didn't know about, and I actually suffered from depression, but didn't know it at the time. Being able to go to college and see this whole new world outside of my small town literally saved my life," says Anthony.

This high-achieving English major from Oklahoma traveled leaps and bounds to work here at Wilkes University. In fact, she was so excited about being interviewed by Wilkes that she admits to almost throwing up right in her interview.

"I called my grandmother after the first



Photo courtesy of Dr. Anthony

Dr. Mischelle Anthony, age 18, rides on a train in the western countryside on a class trip.

day of interviews and said 'I just love it here, and I don't know why they would want to hire me,' states Anthony.

Anthony credits much of her success and outlook to the support she received from strong female leaders.

"When I got to college, I started meeting these women professors who changed my life. I started looking at my grandmother, my mother, and how much support I got from them and how much I wanted to be like them," she recalls.

Anthony continues to instill vivaciousness throughout her students each and every time she stands up to talk about yet another piece of literature. With her sweet southern drawl, Anthony brings her unique view of life and literature to Wilkes.

“ In her own words, Dr. Anthony sees her professor in a whole new light:

When I was getting my psychology degree, I took a creative writing class. The professor's name was Russ T. Bowlen. He was our writer-in-residence at the University. I really enjoyed his class. He was a different kind of teacher. He would wear these crazy outfits. He would wear polka dot suspenders that were canary yellow, and a bow tie with a different pattern, and very shiny shoes. He was just very dapper. I was fascinated by him. One day, he didn't show up for class. We kept wondering where he was. So, we left after the 15 minutes you should stay. The next class day, he showed up and said "I'm sorry I missed class, I was in jail, because I got caught drunk driving. So don't drive drunk everybody". And he went on and taught class. I realized that not all professors are the same. People have lives. This was a crack in their armor.

”

Female fall fashion is in full swing

Brightly colored tights, scarves and coats leading trends this season

BY ADRIENNE SHELLINGER
Correspondent

Temperatures and leaves are falling. That means it's time to change your wardrobe again. Every year autumn brings back sweaters, boots and darker colors, and a whole new array of fall fashion trends.

This year plaid is in--plaid shirts, skirts, and vests. To pull off this look, wear a fitted plaid shirt or combine two trends in one by adding a belt to a looser or longer fitted plaid shirt. Wide belts are also big "whether it's [with] a dress, a coat or a long shirt, slap a wide black belt on it," according to Lorain Blanken's "How-to Fall Fashion 2009 Guide".

Bling is also in, whether it's metallics or sequins. "I like that sparkly shirts are a current fashion trend," said Trisha Sikora, 21, pharmacy major. Bling is not just for going out at night; wear a subtle amount of sparkle to dress up casual daywear.

Blacks, grays, navys and neutrals are always great colors for fall, but jewel-tones add a pop of color to your outfits.

"I like to wear fall colors like gold and brown," said Erin Robinson, 19, an English major. Consider adding some jewel-tones

Some that look great with the typical fall colors are gold, pink, and teal. Add them in the form of tights, scarves, and coats.

Brightly-colored coats are also big this season; they are "fall's wardrobe punch-up, eye-catching without extravagance," according to *InStyle* magazine."

"During fall, scarves are a must-have. [Fall fashions] are versatile," said Robinson. "Scarves, especially, because you can mix and match things with them."

Sophomore education major Kaitlyn McGurk added, "Scarves are a cute way to accessorize."

Wearing boots is fashionable and functional during the fall. Slouchy suede boots are comfortable and create a trendy, yet casual look when worn over skinny jeans. Another look is ankle boots with a skirt and tights.

"This season, designers are taking the opaque tights trend of last year to the next level," according to CollegeFashion.net. "This year, the hottest types of tights for fall come in interesting patterns or jewel-tone colors," the website adds.

Mixing and matching seems to be the biggest fashion trend this season because recessionistas are trying to get more for their money.

"I like having lots of layering pieces be-

cause you get to mix and match them and get more outfits," said Sikora.

Cardigans are a great layering piece, "what could be more better than a slip-it over/under-everything," said *InStyle*. Cardigans are also a great way to re-use some of your summer pieces while staying warm. A tank top you wore this summer can be transformed by simply wearing a cardigan over it.

Fashion can seem complicated, but this year if there's one trend to follow it is hitting the sale racks, mixing and matching, reusing, and saving money.



The Beacon/ Tom Reilly

Instyle magazine is the place to look for all the fall fashion trends.

Recipe: cranberry almond gorp

BY RUTH WHISPELL
Lifestyles Assistant Editor

Michaelene Ostrum is the office assistant in the Upward Bound Office. Her desk is usually surrounded by graduates of the Upward Bound program who are now students at Wilkes University, other students who pass through the office and stop in to say hello, and fellow co-workers. She recently made Cranberry Almond Gorp and it got such a positive response that she brought it to school to share with everyone in the office. She decided to share the recipe with *The Beacon*, so those who didn't drop in to say hello that day could have a taste of this fall treat.

Cranberry Almond Gorp

Serves about 20 people and takes about 25 minutes to make.

Ingredients:

¾ Stick butter
½ cup packed light brown sugar
1 tablespoon maple syrup
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
1 ½ cups dried cranberries
1 ½ cups slivered almonds
1 ½ cups trail mix
1 ½ cups pretzel nuggets, lightly salted

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. Melt the butter, brown sugar, and maple syrup in a large pot over medium heat.
3. Stir in cinnamon and pumpkin spice.
4. Add cranberries, almonds and trail mix
5. Once the ingredients are all combined, add the pretzels and stir.
6. Spread mixture on greased cookie sheet and bake for about 20 minutes or until mixture is crunchy and lightly browned.

"If you buy a trail mix that includes some of the ingredients then you don't have to add extra of that ingredient into the recipe. Just double up on the trail mix," said Ostrum.



The Beacon/ Ruth Whispell
Michaelene Ostrum made Cranberry Almond Gorp as a fall treat for everyone in her office to enjoy.

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Love led Brena-Martinez to Wilkes

BY RUTH WHISPELL
Lifestyles Assistant Editor

Debora Brena-Martinez, now 26-years-old, was living in Brazil about a year ago with her mother, father, and younger brother. She had a degree in logistics from a University of Technology in Brazil and was working with planning and production control at a company that produced rubber pieces used to fix machinery.

The furthest thing from her mind was moving to the United States and attending Wilkes University.

When she attended a friend's wedding, Debora was spotted by a young American business man, Ivin Martinez, who was a friend of the brides. Ivin was working with a company based in Wilkes-Barre and travels a lot.

Ivin met the bride of that wedding through a company based in Brazil, that she was working for. The company Ivin was working for was doing business with her company.

"It was love at first sight for Ivin. I had a bad experience about six months before and wasn't sure if I wanted to be in a relationship," said Debora.

"The first thing I received was flowers, then he sent post cards, emails, and we chatted on MSN," said Debora. She didn't know that her friend gave Ivin her address, email and cell phone number, so when the flowers first arrived, Debora was surprised and taken back by the romantic gesture shown by someone who had just met her.

He became a close friend, and as their friendship grew they began to talk more often.

"I told Ivin that we'll be friends and he said 'I don't want you as a friend, I want you as my wife,'" recalls Debora.

After a while she also fell in love and Ivin eventually asked if she would move to the United States to be closer to him.



Photos Courtesy of Debora Brena-Martinez

Debora and Ivin Martinez enjoying spending their free time together. The two have been married for five months.

In April of 2008, Ivin began to fill out the paperwork required for immigration so that Debora could move to the United States to be with him; the paperwork took about six months to be approved.

In September 2008, however, Debora's mother became ill. She had blood clots in her lungs and at the same time was suffering from thrombosis in her leg. Thrombosis is a form of a blood clot that is found in a blood vessel.

"In the beginning of November, we went to the theater and my mother fainted. She spent 25 days in the hospital," said Debora. Debora wouldn't move to the United States until she was absolutely sure her mother was going to be ok.

"My family is the most important thing to me, but for me to be happy I needed to move on and make a life with the man I love," said Debora.

On February 12, 2008 Debora joined Ivin on a business trip to Mexico, where they stayed with his parents. "He was there for business, but I was on a vacation," said Debora.

Ivin's parents are from Monterey, California, and have welcomed Debora into their family with open arms.

"You can't possibly be with someone and not get along with their family, too. He has a good relationship with my family; my mother said she wasn't losing a daughter, but gaining a third son," said Debora.

The two were married on June 18, 2009.

Debora and Ivin haven't been back to Brazil to visit her parents yet, because they are waiting of Debora's passport application to be approved.

Debora is currently a student in the Intensive English Program at Wilkes University. She is improving her English so she can apply for a job in logistics in the United States.

"I was going to study online, but I need to be around people. I came here to polish my English, but it has improved since moving to the United States," said Debora.

Three weeks ago Debora began working at Macy's in the Wyoming Valley Mall behind the jewelry counter. She is enjoying learning more about the English language, and married life

About the Intensive English Program at Wilkes

- The Intensive English Program (IEP) at Wilkes University helps international students learn English, improve their English, and learn more about the American culture before they immerse themselves into an American college atmosphere.

- The students in the IEP have scheduled classes six hours a day for five days a week.

- The students study reading, writing,

listening, speaking, grammar, conversation in preparation for the TOEFL exam.

- TOEFL stands for Test of English as a Foreign Language Exam; international students take this exam worldwide to prove they have the skills in English they need to study at an American college or university.

- The IEP is a section of The Center of Global Education and Diversity here at Wilkes.

- Students who enter the IEP can come in at five levels, Beginner, speaking little or no English, Low Beginner, Intermediate, High Intermediate, and Advanced, speaking clear and concise English.

- The Center also has a program called Global Partners. This is where international students can get together with American students and go to a movie, play pool in the Student Center or just hang out.

- The Center for Global Education and Di-

versity offers a Global Coffee Hour every Thursday from 3-5 p.m. in the Savitz Multicultural Lounge on the second floor of the Henry Student Center.

- Anyone interested in becoming a Global Partner should contact Kimberly Niezgoda via email at kimberly.niezgoda@wilkes.edu.



David Yezefski: eyes, ears of Darte theatre

BY BRIE FRIEDMAN
A&E Editor

The Dorothy Dickson Darte Center is home to many students, particularly those whose schedules involve a heavy dosage of dancing, music, and acting. It's not unusual to find a theatre student pacing back and forth practicing a monologue for an audition of an upcoming show, or a dancer stretching after rehearsing a routine for a recital.

Though you can't see him stretching or pacing back and forth, David Yezefski is practicing just like any other performing arts student to get ready for an upcoming theater performance. He's working hard to make sure that everything the audience sees and hears is perfect.

Yezefski, a 20-year-old junior at Wilkes, is the man behind the scenes. He is also the first incoming freshman to major in Theatre Arts with an emphasis in design.

It's easy to become distracted by the talented performances that take place on stage, but most of the aesthetic appeal of the shows comes from Yezefski's fingertips. He works the audio consul for shows as well as the lighting, which is much more involved than just flipping a switch or two.

"Once you grasp how a system functions and understand the controls on any given audio consul, you could get lost for days," said Yezefski. "What's difficult is learning everything, while simultaneously staying on top with what's currently going on in the industry," said Yezefski.

Yezefski, born and raised in Nanticoke, didn't discover his interest in audio visuals until he was in high school, thanks to state representative Eddie Day Pashinski, who was a music teacher there at the time. Pashinski took Yezefski under his wing and introduced him to a new, fascinating world of audio electronics. Once Pashinski moved on and all the students who had knowledge on audio graduated, Yezefski was the only one left who knew the basics.

"I was the only one so I took things apart that I wasn't supposed to, put them together again, and even exploded a few things. It was the best way to learn," said Yezefski, "I loved to see the way things work."

Yezefski is usually found in the Darte

Photo courtesy of Bruce Phair



David Yezefski in his usual spot in the theatre behind his audio consul. This is where he creates his mixes and stands for an entire show to prepare for his cues.

bumping elbows with Bruce Phair, the Darte Center Director.

"Without Bruce, I wouldn't be close to where I am now. He's the guy who explains everything. He's my business partner, friend and mentor. He knows so much about the industry. Hopefully I'll thank him somehow," said Yezefski.

Yezefski said he chose Wilkes because it has a great theatre and sound facility--better than most other schools in the area. The small size, proximity to "home" and close interpersonal relationships with his mentors, like Phair, are the things Yezefski likes best about Wilkes.

What makes this full time student stand out even more, however, is the fact that he has his own production company, DBY Production Services. He eats, sleeps, and breathes production--inside and outside of classes. His company has a varied clientele who mostly deal with concerts.

Yezefski has helped out with a number of shows outside of Wilkes, mostly at Mon-

tage Mountain, that include big names such as *Dave Matthews Band*, *Rascal Flatts*, and *Crew Fest*. The exciting aspect is being able to help out huge performers, but the best part for him is being exposed to the up-to-date and cutting edge technology, which helps with his business.

At Wilkes, Yezefski is also partially responsible for redesigning the theatre's sound system, which is now beginning its last phase of renovation.

After graduation, Yezefski plans to focus on his current company 100%. In five years, he hopes to see himself running, or starting to run, a successful regional production service, complete with a retail outlet for equipment and a large clientele.

The next time you sit down to watch a show at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center and you're wowed by the awesome lighting or startled by the dramatic music, it's likely that Yezefski has been practicing all week to give you that thrill.

Elysburg haunted house and woods offers scare

BY KRISTEN KARPINSKI
A&E Asst. Editor

Did you ever want to feel like you're living in a horror movie?

Look no further than the small town of Elysburg, PA for your frightening fantasy. The Elysburg Haunted House & Woods are sure to provide an overwhelming amount of scary monsters and horrifying attractions that will give you nightmares for the next week.

The Elysburg Haunted House & Woods are created by the firefighters of Elysburg and Ralpho Fire Departments and volunteers from the surrounding communities. The volunteers spent four weeks making sure the haunted house was in perfect condition and ready to be opened on October 16. With the addition of more blood drips and a few more scare tactics, the haunted house was ready for its thrill-seeking guests.

Harvey Boyer, president of the Elysburg Fire Company, added, "The setup does take time and aggravation. But it is all worthwhile when you hear that first scream!"

Cory Kowaleski, first-year surgical technology student at LCCC, said, "I have never been to the haunted house before because I've always heard it was extremely scary and I'm not one for horror and gore. I've had friends that have gone and came out crying when it was over."

This attraction is not for the faint of heart; however, guests ranging in age from a couple months old to an eighty-year-old woman have gone through the Elysburg Haunted House & Woods, according to Boyer. The chill in the night air only adds to the terror that is already felt while venturing in the haunted house and woods and some people just live for that feeling.

There are blood-thirsty ghouls and zombies just waiting to attack when you enter a

Photo Courtesy of Elysburg Fire Company



A frightening zombie skeleton droops over a toxic waste can at the Elysburg Haunted House & Woods located just 2 miles from Knoebels Amusement Resort.

ELYSBURG *from* PAGE 12

the line, and blood-chilling screams can be heard from all ends of the Valley Gun & Country Club in Ralpho Township -- the location of the Elysburg Haunted House & Woods. If the zombies aren't enough to make you scream like a little girl, you'll love the buzzing chainsaws they carry with them through the attraction.

Chip Wetzel, treasurer of the Elysburg Fire Company, explained, "There are many characters [in the attraction] that are there in strange form. You name it, it has made an appearance."

The Elysburg Haunted House & Woods have been a long standing tradition in the Elysburg area for over 30 years and bring scarier attractions each year. A crowd favorite, the basement and "jungle room," will be returning. New to the haunted house are an electrocution room and a murder scene for the guests' haunting experience.

The main house contains 14 rooms for guests to walk through and scream in terror filled with snakes, ghosts, spiders, and a few surprise guests that may seem to pop up out of nowhere.

Boyer has experienced some unexplainable events while setting up the attraction for the year, such as hearing "unexplainable sounds" as he worked with the other volunteers and firefighters.

Although the Elysburg Haunted House & Woods are meant to scare the guests, it provides nothing but amusement to those who put on the attraction each year. Boyer recalled "seeing someone running away screaming from a guy with cornstalks taped to a crutch," as his funniest memory of the attraction.

The Elysburg Haunted House & Woods are located about two miles from Knoebels Amusement Resort and will be open rain-or-shine on October 30 and 31 at 7 p.m. Admission for this attraction is \$8.

For more pictures of the Elysburg Haunted House & Woods, check out the online edition of this story.

for more information check out...

wilkesbeacon.com

GO!

THE DEEVOQUIP!

BY DAVID LEWIS

Asst. Opinion Editor

Use the clue provided in order to decipher the meaning of the puzzle. The clue represents a letter that can be used to guess what other letters within each word are. Through the process of elimination and knowledge of vocabulary, solving the puzzle depends upon how well you can deduce the possibility of one letter equaling another. Once you assign a letter to equal another, the letter cannot be changed for the remaining letters in the puzzle. Good Luck!

KRGU J PRZQX TJXTRGQ QJXBHIJF UMPRX

AGDGH, MX TJU BQBJCCF LG AZBUI LZZ - PFMUP

ZU XRG IJUTG - ACZZH

This week's clues: B=U & Z=O & X=T

Answer from last week: IF TWO ELEPHANTS FIGHT OVER ONE PEANUT THEN CHANCES OF THAT PEANUT CAUSING AN ALLERGIC REACTION ARE SLIM TO NONE



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Movie Review: The Stepfather

BY KRISTEN KARPINSKI

A&E Asst. Editor

Similar to the classic cult film of 1987, *The Stepfather* includes a serial killer who finds his way into an unsuspecting family and dives in for the kill. This time, Dylan Walsh takes his turn as the serial killer with Sela Ward as the obviously-in-love fiancée.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to realize that from the very beginning David Harris (Dylan Walsh) is not exactly who he seems to be and that there's already a search in place for this killer by the police. The family, soon to be destroyed, is introduced shortly after Harris's flee from his last murder scene where he massacred an entire family.

They meet at a supermarket in Oregon and Susan Harding (Sela Ward) is immediately attracted to this man who happens to be two things her ex-husband, Jay (Jon Tenney), never was: nice and reliable.

It only takes a few months and Harris is already living with the family with the in-

tention of marriage. To further the advance of this killer, the kids even like him. Well... the ones he knows about at this point.

Michael (Penn Badgley), Susan's oldest son, arrives home from a military school, exciting his mom and girlfriend Kelly (Amber Heard). Kelly appears in the movie only as eye candy, wearing next to nothing. I think she lives in the pool, since that's the only place the viewers ever see her.

David, who tells Michael he is a widower, tries to make Michael feel welcome and create a connection between the two. He vows to unite the Harding family and find his place within it. Jackie, Susan's sister (Paige Turco), is fond of David until his alibis don't match up. He refuses to prove his past, locks cabinets in the basement, and destroys IDs and photos of himself. At this point in the movie, suspicion rises.

This movie seems to be quite content just being average. Its biggest problem was that the movie felt more like a TV movie, rather than an actual remake of a classic movie. It

doesn't help that the entire cast of the movie is from TV shows like *Gossip Girl*, *ER*, *Nip/Tuck* and so on. The film was also directed by Nelson McCormick, who is known for his TV series directing skills. Much of the movie seems like a Lifetime special, rather than a feature film.

The fact that David is a successful serial killer is hard to believe when he makes stupid mistakes like saying the name of his dead daughter and finding himself in "oops, did I just say that?" moments. Walsh is great at some parts, but lousy at others, like when he's going in for the kill and it seems like more of a chore than an actual intense murder. Walsh's robotic acting makes it seem like even he's bored.

However, Walsh can't be blamed for the script. McCormick had poor judgment when he selected a script that lacked subtlety where necessary in the film.

Badgley doesn't do too badly in the movie but his character is rather dull. To our delight, he doesn't play out as the teen with



revenge, a cliché character in many horror films. Amber Heard is a waste of space in the movie, as she's only seen in a bikini or panties. *The Stepfather* will entertain audiences although it's a highly predictable plot. If you've seen the original, don't bother going to see this. You won't be surprised or shocked. You'll just regret paying \$7 to see a movie you could have rented for \$4.

Rating: 2.5/5

Restaurant Review: The Beer Deli

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS

Lifestyles Editor

"Number 26! Number 26!" the waitress yelled at the top of her lungs.

I slowly rise when I realize that is my number she is yelling.

Number 26: a reuben sandwich and spinach and pasta soup.

An elderly woman with a forceful demeanor slowly walks my tray over towards me. I stand up to help her, but she does not need help. According to the man sitting to the table to my left at the Beer Deli in Forty-Fort, "she has been doing this a long time."

The Beer Deli may seem like a typical deli when someone walks in; however, it gives off a feeling of a close-knit, family-owned restaurant once you're settled inside.

After ordering off of the giant whiteboards that are suspended above the deli counter, which hold menu items from hot and cold sandwiches to spaghetti and meatball dinners, I made my way around the corner to the dining room. There are no booths here at the Beer Deli. In fact, only tables. Tables slanted, tables crooked. Patrons seem to prefer it this way.

Sitting in the back corner, I begin to construct a plan to tackle the huge sandwich in front of me. This was a monster of a sandwich. Coleslaw actually tumbled out of the sides of it. Despite its size, I devoured the delicious sandwich. It was easy to devour this sandwich, since it was one of the best

reubens I have ever had.

When ordering, all I could focus on was the constant bustle of employees from one side of the counter to the other, from the back of the restaurant and to the front. They seemed to work systematically, like a well-oiled machine. A well-oiled machine that makes really, really good reuben sandwiches.

And then there is the white-haired waitress who holds some of the most important jobs at the Beer Deli. Her number one role is to yell out the number of the orders so patrons know when their order is ready. Despite yelling very, very loudly each and every order number, she still insists on carrying the trays of food to each table.

But her most important role of all is another unique facet of the Beer Deli: she passes out the free dessert. The Beer Deli offers each patron who dines in free dessert. While the dessert choice changes from day to day, it is a refreshing and kind aspect of this small corner restaurant just off of Exit 4 on Route 309, not to mention delicious! The cake was moist and the icing worked well in combination.

The Beer Deli's large selection and family-like atmosphere make it a great stop for a quick bite or for long lunch.

Rating: 4.5/5

NEW LOCATION FOR 2009!!

NIGHT TERRORS

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Kidder St, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Final Nights!
October 30th and 31st
6-11PM

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*Regular Price: \$10

Behind the Scenes of Wilkes Barre's "Night Terrors"

BY BRIE FRIEDMAN

A&E Editor

Are you looking for a fun scream for Halloween that isn't too far from campus? Look no further. "Night Terrors" can provide you with the scary fun that most seek out around this time of year.

Terrors is unique from most haunted houses, since it is located in a mall complex. The sound of it may be unappealing, but what that really means is that there's over 30,000 square feet to cover, which makes it a huge venue full of frights. It is a growing multiple-use venue that currently has a haunted walk-through as well as a Halloween-themed miniature golf course, complete with 13 holes.

Terrors opened the evening of Sept. 24. Joe Niemiec, the manager, hopes to continue doing this every year. Originally in West Pittston the last three years, it was moved into the East End Center below the Wyoming Valley Mall, where the Red Lobster is located, in June.

After being introduced to the actors, mostly made up of high school students, I was able to see a lot of the efforts put in to working something like Terrors. It seems like a fun job, but some of the actors have shared stories with me about people assault-

ing them. It's best for patrons and actors to just keep to yourself and listen to directions. For example, a young actress was punched by a patron to see if she was real or not.

Since there has to be an even flow to this haunted walk-through, the ushers take you into a holding area and play old-fashioned scary movies like *The Fly*. They will let you through row by row. Upon waiting, I caught up with Robert DuBoice, a senior Wilkes mechanical engineering major who works at Terrors, providing the audio visuals. DuBoice helped with the big move from West Pittston to Wilkes-Barre, as well as with the assembly of the majority of the set.

"It's neat. As an engineer, I get to see the finished project and see every step it took to get there, especially all the things that happen behind the scenes," said DuBoice.

Upon walking through the haunted complex, I found that it was your typical scare for the most part. What makes Terrors a bit different is that it provides a more personal experience with the actors. Though they don't touch you, they will get in your face and follow you around. My favorite part was the bellboy in the elevator, but I won't spoil anything more about that. The walk-through took about five to ten minutes.

Did I mention the Babushka Bettys? They happen to be the most delicious pierogies



The Beacon/Brie Friedman

An actress prepares for her night of frightening customers at Night Terrors in Wilkes Barre's East End Center located below the Wyoming Valley Mall.

I've ever eaten. Apart from the walk-through and mini golf course, they have great food and games to play on the side.

It is open rain or shine and is handicap accessible. It will be open this Friday and Saturday from 6-11 p.m. and Sunday 6-10 p.m. It is \$10 per person and there are group

rates available, but if you bring your Wilkes student ID, it'll only cost you \$8. For more information visit: www.niteterrors.com or call (570) 237-5062.

Go to Page 4 of NEWS to enter to win 5 tickets to Night Terrors.

- What's Happening Around Wilkes -

BY KRISTEN KARPINSKI

Assistant A&E Editor

Tuesday, October 27, 2009

- Toasters, Skip Town Matty, AM Rev 2, Fridge Full of Popsicles @ Café Metro - \$10 - 7 p.m.

- Open Mic for Acoustic and Poetry @ Barnes and Noble - 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

- The In Crowd, The Bride Wore Black, This Condition, The Heisman Hopefuls @ Café Metro \$8 - 7 p.m.

- "War of the Worlds" / "The Lost World" @ FM Kirby Center - \$20-\$32.50 - 7:30 p.m.

- Paleface & Bog Swing Band @ The Bog, Scranton - \$5 - 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 29, 2009

- Clinton Curtis @ River Street Jazz Café, Plains - FREE - 10 p.m.

All Weekend Long

- (Oct. 29-Nov. 1) Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Zing Zang Zoom @ Wachovia Arena - \$22-\$85 - Times Vary

Friday, October 30, 2009

- Halloween Covers Show @ Café Metro - \$7 - 8 p.m.

- Eden Everlasting @ Club JAM, Pittston - \$5 - 9 p.m.

- Push & Suicaudio @ River Street Jazz Café - \$5 - 10 p.m.

- Runaway & The Suburban Losers @ Vintage Theater, Scranton - \$5 - 8 p.m.

- "Phantoms of the Operetta" @ Radisson Lackawanna Station, Scranton - \$55 - 6 p.m.

- Jon Casey @ Barnes and Noble - 6:30-8:30 p.m.

- Eastern State Penitentiary Haunted House Bus Trip @ Wilkes - \$5

Saturday, October 31, 2009

- PANKED! Halloween Special @ The Bog, Scranton - \$5 - 10:30 p.m.

- Drop Veil & Unlabeled Affect @ Club JAM, Pittston - \$5 - 9 p.m.

- Daddy O and the Sax Maniacs @ River Street Jazz Café - \$7 - 10 p.m.

Sunday, November 1, 2009

- Big City Lights & The Owl Stations @ Café Metro - \$8 - 7 p.m.

Coming Up:

FM Kirby Center:

- Mad Science presents CSI Live! - Nov. 3 - \$6.50 - 10 a.m.

Scranton Cultural Center:

- Froggy 101's Guitars & Stars feat. Kellie Pickler, Phil Vassar, Jason Michael Carroll, and Jimmy Wayne - Nov. 3 - \$27 - 7 p.m.

Wachovia Arena:

- FallFest 09' feat. Sean Paul, Keri Hilson, & Colby O'Donis - Nov. 13 - \$31.50-\$101.50 - 8 p.m.

- Daughtry, Theory of a Deadman, & Cavo - Nov. 16 - \$32-42 - 7:30 p.m.



Wilkes crew team braves frigid waters *Little known club is making waves in Susquehanna*

BY DAN KAUTZ
Managing Editor

Be honest with yourself. You were probably unaware that Wilkes had a crew team.

The co-ed club, which has been a part of the university for decades, has gotten used to the fact that many students don't even know what crew is, let alone that we have a team.

"Crew is a way of life," said Amanda Gunther, a junior communications major and the president of the club. "Our team is very different than any of the other teams on campus. It's much more involved than just simply rowing a boat, which I don't think many people realize."

The crew team holds ten practices a week, five in the early morning and five in the afternoon. Members must attend at least five of these throughout the week in order to participate in organized regattas, three of which will be attended by Wilkes's team this year.

The team meets in the back of the Student Union Building prior to practice before driving across the Market Street Bridge into Kingston, where their boathouse is located. Upon arrival, the team follows a series of vocal commands before attempting to lift the four and eight-man boats, which can weigh several hundred pounds each. After they have hoisted the massive boats in the air, they simply carry them down the dyke running alongside the Susquehanna until they reach the water's edge— a walk of several hundred feet.

"We try and stress the need for our members to be in good physical shape, not only for races, but just to be able to get our boats to the water before we collapse," said Gunther with a laugh.

Upon hitting the frigid waters of the Susquehanna, the team's members help one another install the boat's massive oars into the boat riggings before the rowers jump in.

"Wading out into that [cold] water never gets any easier," admitted Jose Ruiz, a sophomore business administration major and biology minor. "It's probably the thing the majority of people fear most when com-



The Beacon/Allison Roth

Members of the Wilkes University crew team lift their four-man boat out of the water at the conclusion of a practice last week. Pictured from left to right are Willie Eggleston, Paul Karmilowicz, Thompson Palmer, and Jesse Hassan.

ing to practice."

After receiving a helpful push from those remaining on shore, the members on the water are free to take off on their trips up and down the river.

One would imagine that following the hard work needed to get their boats to shore, the rowing would come easily in contrast. This assumption couldn't be further from the truth.

The act of rowing requires a great deal of strength, coordination and teamwork. The physical motion starts at the legs, which are held in place in Wilkes' boats by a pair of Velcro-laced shoes. The legs push the body backwards on a sliding seat while the rower begins to lean backward, transferring the energy up to his or her lower back. The rower's arms then follow the body backward, pulling the boat's oars through the water to generate thrust.

It is a repetitive and exhausting act that is further complicated by the need for a team to row in sync; just one person rowing out of rhythm with his or her teammates can slow a boat down dramatically, or in the worst case, tip it.

To counter this, teams utilize a coxswain, or rowing instructor, who sits at the stern of the boat and shouts orders throughout a race. The coxswain's role is to help those rowing maintain a sustainable pace.

To Gunther's knowledge, no Wilkes crew team has capsized a boat in at least six years. "I have absolutely no desire to find out what that experience is like," she added.

While the sport is indeed taxing, it can also be quite serene. A team working in unison truly glides across the water, a sensation that can be liberating and extremely fun.

Lady Colonels follow Reed's lead in 5-0 wins

BY RYAN HOLMES
Assistant Sports Editor

Leading scorer Julissa Reed fueled the Wilkes University women's soccer team to their fifth and sixth victory of the season last week. Reed was assisted by her partners of punishment Taryn Hollowell and Katy Fissel to record their first Freedom Conference victory of the season against King's College.

This season hasn't been too promising for the Lady Colonels as they are currently posting an overall record of 6-7-3 and 2-2-2 in the conference. However, things started to turn around for Wilkes when they stepped on the field against the Lady Monarchs last Tuesday.

Shortly after the start of the game, Reed converted the Hollowell pass into their first goal giving them the lead with a mere 6:37 off the clock. From there the dominance took off for the ladies and a total team effort exploded.

Reed found the back of the net once again in the 19th minute from the assistance of Fissel's pass to record her sixth goal of the season making the score 2-0 early on. Reed would also score in the game against Delaware Valley tallying seven goals for her so far this season. Reed's seven goals are leading the team this season with Hollowell, Sargent, and Clementson behind her each with four goals a piece.

Shortly after Reed recorded her sixth goal of the season against King's, Megan Clementson extended their lead to three goals going into the break. As Wilkes went into halftime with their head held high and a commanding lead, coach Sumoski reminded them to stay focused because there was plenty of game left to play.

"I was just as honest as I usually am with them [at halftime]," said Sumoski. "We had some nice goals, we followed the game plan, but we needed the intensity level to go up."

Athlete Spotlight: Lindsey Davenport, the shutout artist

BY MELISSA POLCHINSKI
Staff Writer/Photographer

Meet Lindsey Davenport, a talented and determined sophomore goaltender for the Wilkes University Lady Colonels field hockey team from Dallas, Pa. Davenport is majoring in elementary education along with a minor in special education and reading.

Already in her short college career, the dominant goaltender has recorded nine shutouts with three of them coming this season. With a total of eight saves against FDU-Florham this past week, Davenport recorded her third shutout and was also named the Freedom Conference Player of the Week.

Having heard she received this honor, Davenport was both excited and humbled.

"I couldn't achieve these honors and success without my teammates and coaching staff," said Davenport.

After having a shutout game, she was pleased to see that her time and effort has been paying off. With an overall record of

12-2 and is 3-1 in the conference, this year's field hockey team is having a great deal of success and according to her teammates Davenport is a big part of that.

"Lindsey makes a huge impact on the team," said fellow teammate Chelsea Minix. "She's the final line of defense, and she gives us every reason to trust her. We know she'll do everything she can to stop the ball and usually she does."

Playing as hard as she can from start to finish is Davenport's goal every game, a goal that will hopefully help the team accomplish its goal of becoming Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) Champions. She said that the key ingredient to continue their successful season is to play as a unit. Davenport has proved to be a dependable goalie that is determined to win every game. It's clear that her teammates feel very comfortable with her in the net.

"Lindsey gets to see the whole playing field and her communication is a key when it comes to our defense," senior Jen Keegan said about Davenport. "Having a talented goalie is always a good thing for any team

to have. She saves our butts in tight situations."

The truly humble sophomore is ecstatic about the success that the team is having.

"The season is going really well," said Davenport. "I am proud of how good our team is doing. The only thing I would want to change is our losses."

Davenport and her Lady Colonel teammates go into the last week of their regular season poised for a championship. With her leadership from in between the pipes, the Lady Colonels look to finish off their season the same way they started - on top.

With Davenport taking charge of the defense the Lady Colonels are poised to win their first Championship under Coach Myers. Clearly, their overall 18-4 record and second place Freedom Conference ranking from a season ago has the ladies hungry to be number one.

Davenport suits up again tonight, when assistant Coach Comiskey's alma mater Misericordia pays a visit to Artillery Park, in hopes of upsetting the championship-minded Colonels.



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

Davenport has been clutch this season for the Wilkes field hockey team, posting three shutouts in between the pipes while leading the team to a 12-2 record.

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\$1.50 Domestic Drafts
\$2.50 Import Drafts
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SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL

10/17 @ Delaware Valley 0-23 L
10/24 vs. FDU-Florham 7-6 W

MEN'S SOCCER

10/13 @ Misericordia 0-3 L
10/17 vs. Eastern 2-1 W
10/21 vs. King's 1-1 T (2 OT)

WOMEN'S SOCCER

10/14 @ Misericordia 1-2 L
10/17 vs. Eastern 1-1 T (2 OT)
10/20 vs. King's 5-0 W

FIELD HOCKEY

10/13 @ FDU-Florham 5-0 W
10/21 vs. King's 3-2 W

VOLLEYBALL

10/14 @ Delaware Valley 3-1 W
10/17 vs. Albright 3-1 W
10/17 vs. Marywood 3-2 W
10/20 vs. Eastern 0-2 L
10/22 @ Scranton 0-3 L

WEEK AHEAD

FOOTBALL

10/31 @ Lycoming

MEN'S SOCCER

10/31 @ DeSales

WOMEN'S SOCCER

10/27 @ Cortland
10/31 @ DeSales

FIELD HOCKEY

10/27 vs. Misericordia
10/29 vs. Delaware Valley
10/31 vs. Mangattanville

Cross Country

10/31 @ MAC Championships

Volleyball

10/28 vs. Misericordia

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For up to the minute reports on your favorite Colonels teams throughout the week, follow *The Beacon Sports* on Twitter at www.twitter.com/BeaconSports



FACE OFF



What team will win the NBA championship?

Do you believe in (the) Magic? I do.



Sports Editor

ANTHONY DORUNDA

You know what I really hate? Pre-season predictions. They're bogus. How can we accurately predict who is going to win it all when we can't even begin to imagine who's going to get injured, who's going to be traded, and if the Clippers will ever get off the schlide.

Okay. That may not happen in our lifetime, but they do have Blake Griffin, so that's a start.

But since it's this week's topic, I'll trudge through it, forcing tears from Mr. Holmes's very own eyes.

Raise your hand if you thought that the Magic would be on the court last June. Precisely, only you, Stan Van Gundy. That's not the case this year.

Orlando won't be sneaking up on anyone. With the reigning NBA Defensive MVP beasting the paint, a budding superstar floor general fully healthy, and a pure scorer joining Rashard Lewis in the backcourt, the Magic are fully loaded and ready to hang that elusive championship banner.

Why the Magic? Well, the only team in competition in the East is the Cavs, the one

team who matches up horrendously against the Magic. They bring in "the Diesel," who is more like a Chevy S-10 at this point in his career thinking he's going to be able to shut down the man-child that is Dwight Howard.

I got news for you, Mike Brown, there ain't no stopping Dwight inside.

Shaq has to try and run up and down the court with Howard. Not happening. He has to defend Howard. Won't happen.

At this point in their careers, with Shaq nearing retirement, Howard is a much more explosive athlete, and Shaq just cannot hang with him. That addition, as great as it sounds, just won't work. Ask the Suns.

The knock on the Magic last year was their offensive rebounding. With them spreading the floor with four on the perimeter, no one was inside to help Dwight on the boards. Enter Brandon Bass, who was underutilized in Dallas, but brings ferocity to the power forward position that the Magic desperately need. To call him a workhorse is an understatement. The dude can flat out rebound and will bang bodies around until he has the rock.

Oh, and they also got a healthy Jameer Nelson. Remember, before his injury last season, Nelson was on fire and was a lock to start the all-star game. Although the Magic

had a serviceable backup in Rafer Alston, the vastly underrated Nelson is a superior player.

And all this trash about them losing Hedo Turkoglu is nonsense. They replaced him with a decent guard in the off-season, who goes by the name of Vince Carter. Heard of him? Thought so.

In terms of pure athleticism and basketball ability, Carter is a monumental upgrade over Turkoglu. Vince creates more shots with pin point accuracy, defends better than even the video game version of Turkoglu does, and is just an overall better player. Sure, he may underachieve from time to time. But I'll take a high flyer that can slash as well as stroke it from beyond the arc over a guy who all but disappeared in last year's finals.

When it's all said and done, they have vastly improved their frontcourt with the additions of Bass and Ryan Anderson, got insurance for Nelson with the signing of Jason Williams, and with Carter's presence, have four legitimate all-star players in their starting five.

When Orlando is hanging the 2010 championship banner in their sparkly new arena next season, just remember who told you so.

"Win a ring for the king"



Asst. Sports Editor

RYAN HOLMES

This year the obvious preseason favorite to win the NBA Championship has got to be the newly rebuilt Cleveland Cavaliers.

So before I get started let me just ask, "Can you dig it?"

In the past few years, LeBron "The King" James has moved mountains to do everything but put a championship trophy in his hands and a ring on his finger. And he did it all with limited help on the court. Yes, I know he had Delonte West, Mo Williams, Anderson Varejoa and Zydrunas Ilgauskas to assist him, but as you can see LeBron brings MVP trophies to Cleveland, not championships, without the proper help.

But this year the Cavs roster has been upgraded by trading for the greatest big man in middle, Shaquille O'Neal. From the looks of what's been going on in the preseason,

the Cavs are poised for greatness.

Once again, I will commend Mr. Dorunda on his guess, but as you can see from previous weeks, he obviously enjoys being wrong. However, when you look at the facts, the Orlando Magic does own a series victory over the Cavs. But that was last year, and last year is over.

Along with "The Diesel," Cleveland added Anthony Parker, Jamario Moon, and Leon Powe to the franchise this year. Now with the four guys I named earlier that helped The King last season and the four that were added this year, the NBA is in for a rough season when they step on the court with the Cavs.

But wait; hold on a second, Mr. Dorunda. I know what you're thinking. Dwight Howard is the man or whatever else you want to call him. (I believe he prefers Superman which KryptoNate Robinson knows is wrong.) Last time I checked, Shaquille O'Neal is the first and original Superman of the NBA and he has the rings to prove it.

Plus, I know that everyone saw that episode of MTV Cribs. He reps the symbol proudly, especially on his 15'x30' bed.

But I digress.

Now, let's talk about the man responsible for all that is great in Cleveland: Mr. LeBron "The Phenom" a.k.a. "The King" James. Since he stepped on the court in his first NBA game, he has been making some serious noise and as AJ Fiore would say, "he's a bit of a guy," no doubt about it.

Every year LeBron elevates his team to the next level of success, coming the closest to a championship last year. We all remember that last second shot that gave them the win in game two. So back up off the man. He was doing the best he could with what he had. But this year, I can see King James hoisting the Larry O' Brien Championship trophy over his head. Once they win, it will make Shaq's purpose for being in Cleveland all true.

Now get off my court, Mr. Dorunda. This game is over and you lost (again).

CREW

From Page 16



The Beacon/Allison Roth

The Wilkes Crew team practices on the Susquehanna River nearly ten times a week, learning how to work with one another in order to maintain a proper race rhythm. Their practices are intensive but offer beautiful perspectives of the river that few get to experience otherwise.

The team usually rows from the Market Street Bridge upstream to the Luzerne County Courthouse.

Members of the Wilkes crew team get to experience this feeling at their regattas, where they participate against dozens of

opposing schools.

This past weekend the teams participated in the Head of the Fish regatta in Saratoga Springs, New York.

Unfortunately for Wilkes, the competition was impacted by inclement weather.

The Men's Open Novice 4-man race team saw its race called because of lightning in the area, but the Women's Open Novice 4-man team finished second in its race.

Said Nicole Cook, a junior biology/pre-med major, as well as the vice president of the team, "It was an awesome learning experience for our new rowers and gave us some great experience to take to [our next regatta]."

The team is expecting to participate in additional regattas before the conclusion of the school year.

The next time you take your afternoon run down the River Commons, keep an eye out for your fellow students as they float merrily down the stream.

SOCCER

From Page 16

Katy Fissel and Brooke Edwards only needed a short amount of time after the break to connect for another score. Fissel turned Edwards' assist into another goal to put them up 4-0. In the 59th minute, Jenna Sargent scored their last goal of the day, making the final score 5-0.

"It was a good win for us," Sumoski said after the win. "We hadn't won in six games and needed the win to be in contention for playoffs. We are healthy and playing well, which is right where we want to be at this time of year."

The Lady Colonels made the trip to Delaware Valley on Sunday, with Wilkes again winning 5-0. This time it was Christina Stepanisky finding the back of the net twice for her first two collegiate goals. Sargent and Clementson also followed up at Del Val with goals of their own to propel them to their second Freedom Conference victory in a row.

When she's not in class, Roper is "Crash"

BY MICHAEL CIGNOLI

Assistant Sports Editor

Call her Crash.

That's the name that Whitney Roper, a junior communication studies major, goes by when her roller derby team practices on Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Roller derby is a physically demanding sport that involves playing offense and defense simultaneously. Certain players — jammers — attempt to score points for their team by skating far enough ahead of everyone to lap them, while the other team does everything in its power to prevent the jammers from passing them.

Roper, who is still learning how to roller-skate, is one of the youngest members of the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Roller Radicals. That's where her nickname comes from.

"I crash a lot," Roper said. "I fall a lot. I get knocked over a lot. I'm trying to come up with something better, but so far that's all I've got."

A lot of her wrecks come from one particular practice drill that her team does, called Queen of the Rink. It's a last woman standing match where the Queen isn't crowned until all of the other skaters have been knocked to the floor. But it's not a free for all.

Like derby bouts, which are what games are called, there are rules that have to be obeyed.

"You can't elbow people, you can't punch people, it's nothing like that," Roper said. "You have to use your hips, your (exple-

tive), and your shoulders, basically. You can't check somebody or anything, but you can shove them. You can push another girl into them.

Clearly, Roper isn't concerned about breaking a nail.

"I've always been a tomboy," Roper said. "I've always been very physical. I'm not a girly girl. I don't like being pushed around. I like to take a beating."

Though she doesn't appear physically intimidating, Roper can hold her own in a bout if the need arises. If you don't believe it, just ask her about the splatter on one of her belts.

"That is stained blood from a girl's face because she started a fight with me," Roper said. "I tackled her. I had her blood all over my shirt and everything. The girl was three times my size."

Granted, that was from a past altercation that had nothing to do with roller derby. But it illustrates that Roper is tough enough to physically compete with people who are bigger than she is, which is something that she will need to do at the rink. Most of the league's participants are ten to 20 years older than she is.

Though Roper doesn't share a common age with her team, she does share some common interests with them.

"Everybody on the team is into the same music," she said. "Everybody has tattoos. Everybody is into the same stuff."

The music scene is actually how Roper discovered roller derby in the first place.

A few years ago, Roper encountered a

derby team member while they were at a psychobilly music show in Kingston, Pa.

Roper was already into the music, which she described as a mixture of Elvis and punk rock, but once she found out that one of the female team members called herself Betty Brains, she became intrigued and decided to learn more about the sport.

She was going to join the team last year, but didn't want to be the only young person on the team. She and a friend finally joined this season, and Roper is quickly learning that the sport can be quite painful.

"We were practicing falls (Tuesday) and I cracked my knee pads," Roper said. "My knees are both really bruised and hurt. I can't walk on stairs right now. I'm in a lot of pain."

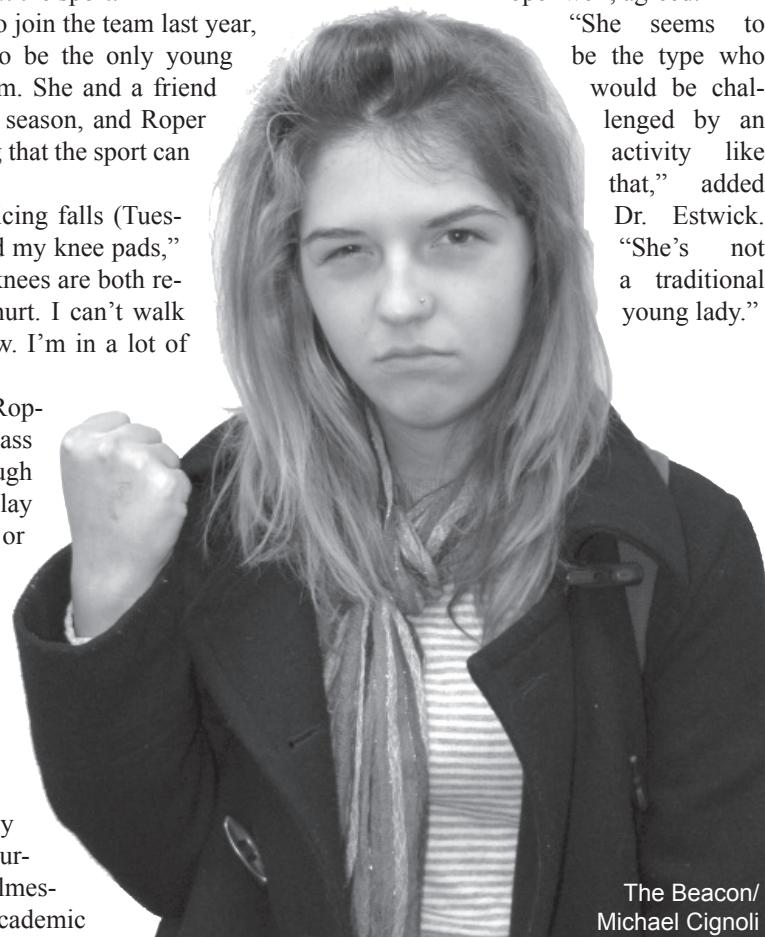
In spite of that, Roper made it to class Wednesday. Though she didn't display any visible limp or signs of pain in Dr. Jane Elmes-Crahall's class, the fact that Roper skates with a roller derby team didn't surprise the professor.

"A roller derby league does not surprise me," said Elmes-Crahall, Roper's academic

advisor at Wilkes. "There is an aggression to Whitney that doesn't show in the classroom, but does the frustration build and is this kind of a competitive outlet for her that surprises me? Absolutely not."

Evene Estwick, associate professor of communication studies who also knows Roper well, agreed.

"She seems to be the type who would be challenged by an activity like that," added Dr. Estwick. "She's not a traditional young lady."



The Beacon/
Michael Cignoli

Women's tennis cruises through fall season undefeated

Clinches top seed for Freedom Conference tournament in the spring

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA
Sports Editor

Wilkes University women's tennis and Freedom Conference Champions are kind of like peanut butter and jelly – you can't have one without the other.

For the past three years, the Lady Colonels have absolutely owned the rest of the conference by winning three straight titles, culminating with an unbeaten regular season campaign last year.

And now that the 2009 fall season is all wrapped up, let the run for number four begin.

"We don't have to prove anything else to anyone anymore," said freshman Melanie Nolt, who holds a 10-1 singles record playing as the team's number one. "When we go to play, we go to get the job done, no questions asked. We have made a name for ourselves this year."

You could call it a name, or a resounding warning to the rest of the conference come tournament time.

With impressive victories last week over FDU-Florham and cross-town rival Kings, the Lady Colonels finished part one of their quest for an unprecedented fourth straight conference crown with a pristine 8-0 fall record, 6-0 in conference play.

"It's a huge confidence-booster [being undefeated]; it's a sign that all of our hard work is paying off," said junior Michelle Knight, who is 5-3 on the season, with a perfect 4-0 record in conference singles play and an 8-1 record in doubles play. "We are the real deal."

The real deal for sure. The Lady Colonels haven't just beaten their opponents; they have flat out embarrassed each and every one.

Of the eight victories thus far, six have been clean sweeps - 9-0 thrashings in both the doubles and singles competitions. And had it not been for some academic obligations, tests and mandatory night classes that restricted some of the girls from making the trip to the FDU match, it would have been seven. Instead they took two forfeit losses and dominated the rest, essentially shutting out the Devils 7-0.

Another victim on that list of demoralized opponents was rival Kings College. Last Tuesday, October 20, in a match up of conference unbeaten, Wilkes humiliated the Monarchs with a 9-0 shellacking on their own courts, sweeping the doubles portion of the match before cruising through all six singles matches in straight sets.

The victory erased any glimmer of hope the Monarchs may have had for stealing the top spot in the conference tournament.

The two matches capped off their dominant fall campaign and earned them the top spot in the Freedom Conference Tournament, which will be played in April.

That's right - April - a mere six months from now. The long layoff has its advantages and disadvantages. Some believe it's a refreshing break, a chance to rejuvenate and get some rest. On the other end are the ones who want to just keep it rolling while they're on top.

Nolt is one of those who want the tournament to happen sooner rather than later.

"It's a long wait that I don't want to wait

for," shrugged Nolt. "I wish it was next weekend."

Knight, on the other hand, likes the break for a variety of reasons.

"Knowing that the playoffs are so far away motivates us to stay on top of our game through the winter. We practice just as much if not more, which allows us to go into the conference playoffs refreshed and at the top of our game."

Either way, the ladies will enter the conference tournament seeded number one. And with the way they're crushing opponents now, a clear path straight to their fourth consecutive crown.

And hopefully a trip past the first round of the National tournament, a feat that has eluded them each of their past few trips there.

"We want this so bad, and we know that we are capable of making it farther in nationals," said Knight. It's just a matter of making sure that we are in peak condition and on top of our game. We will come prepared this year."



Melanie NOLT
Fr. / Manheim, Pa.

Combined Record **20-3**



Katrina LYNN
Fr. / Berwick, Pa.

Combined Record **20-3**



Michelle KNIGHT
Jr. / Roaming Shores, Oh.

Combined Record **13-4**



Alexis DONNER
Fr. / Belmar, NJ

Combined Record **19-1**



Xiaoaqiao ZHANG
Sr. / Zhengzhou City, China

Combined Record **12-4**



Rebekah SHANAMAN
So. / Richland, Pa.

Combined Record **14-1**

All photos courtesy of Marketing Communications

The top six have been nothing short of dominant this season, paving the way to an unbeaten fall season and clinching the top seed for the conference tournament.

BY THE NUMBERS

29

Number of matches it has been since the Lady Colonels last dropped a regular season tilt.

6

Number of matches in which the Lady Colonels have shut out their opponents in both singles and doubles competition.

0

Number of matches that last year's conference MVP, Victoria Bybel, has played in this season. She has been hampered by an injury all fall, but will be back in action for the spring season.

31-2

The combined singles records of freshmen Melanie Nolt, Alexis Donner, and Katrina Lynn. In just their first season, they have provided in immediate spark to a team already chalked full of talent.



WHAT'S THE WORD AT WILKES?

Our editors debated what NBA team is most likely to win the title this upcoming season. We asked our readers the same question that we debated and posted their responses in a video on *The Beacon's* website. Log on to see which NBA team your classmates think will take home the championship trophy this year.

for more information check out...

wilkesbeacon.com

GO!