

W I L K E S

UNIVERSE

VOLUME 5 ♦ NUMBER 1



**OUR
CHAMPIONSHIP
SEASON**



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It's Nice To Be Home.

After the suitcases were unpacked, after the tickets found their way into the scrapbook, and after I treated myself to a day's worth of R&R, there was time. Time to reflect on what it all meant.

That's when I heard this story.

A conversation was overheard between two women in the lobby of the Clarion Hotel, Salem, Va., immediately following the men's basketball Division III Championship Game.

The first woman turned to the second and said, referring to a reception near the hotel lobby, "Boy, those Plateville-Wisconsin fans are really proud of their team."

The second woman corrected her, "That's not Plateville, that's Wilkes University."

"No it's not. They're the national champions. Listen to them cheer and scream for their players."

"Believe me, that's Wilkes."

Puzzled, the first woman asked, "Isn't Wilkes the team that came in fourth place? What are they celebrating?"

The woman answered, "Wilkes."

What the woman in the story failed to see was that 1,000 fans didn't travel all the way to Salem, Va., just to cheer on a winning team. They had been doing that all season. They went to celebrate their school. Feelings that laid dormant since graduation, feelings they never knew they could experience, couldn't be held back any longer.

There was something so magical about that time, something so intoxicating that they couldn't stop displaying their love of Wilkes, even if they wanted to.

I admit I wasn't a true-blue fan of any particular sport during my school days at Wilkes, and was way too busy with my classwork to properly show my Wilkes pride. And like many of you I graduated, threw myself head first into my career, got married and moved away. The only connections I felt I had to Wilkes were the photo taken of me accepting my diploma, that same diploma (now framed and mounted) and the latest copy of the *Wilkes Universe* sitting on my coffee table.

I couldn't have been more wrong. Among the many lessons I took with me from this whole experience, I learned most importantly that it's never too late to find your way back to Wilkes. And when you do, Wilkes welcomes you with open arms.

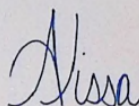
You see, it was more than occupying a seat in the Marts Center, more than hoping for a win. It was the feeling of belonging, of exchanging handshakes and hugs with old friends. It was a feeling that no matter what you do in the world, how far away you moved, or how long it's been since you've given Wilkes another visit, Wilkes will always be home.

But be careful. Once the spirit gets a hold of you, it won't let go. Since the madness took over campus, every event has been affected by this feeling. Attendance has reached new heights, and laughter and camaraderie are the universal themes.

Don't just take my word for it. Come out and see for yourself. You'll find a number of events being planned for the summer months in the Alumni Journal section of this publication.

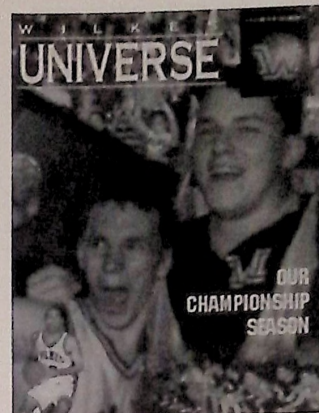
I only regret that I didn't let myself get caught up sooner.

Sincerely,

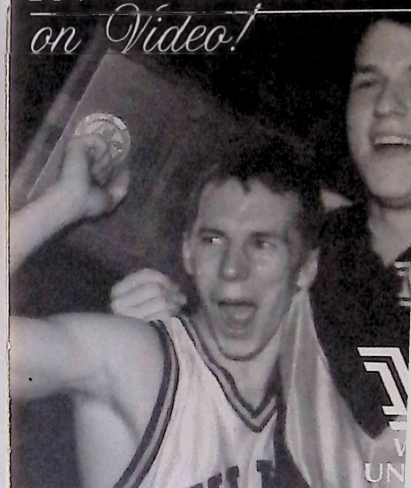


Alissa M. Antosh '91

Alissa (Klucitas) Antosh assumed the position of editor of the Wilkes Universe in February, 1998 after Vaughn A. Shinkus '91 was named Assistant Director of University Relations at Wilkes. She received a B.A. in English from Wilkes in 1991. She previously worked for the Citizens Voice newspaper and Morrison's Hospitality Group.



DOWN THE ROAD TO THE FIN
on Video!

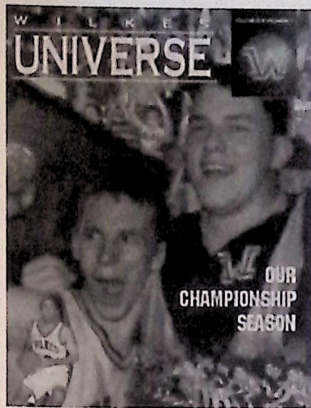


Alumni team up to show their Wilkes pride

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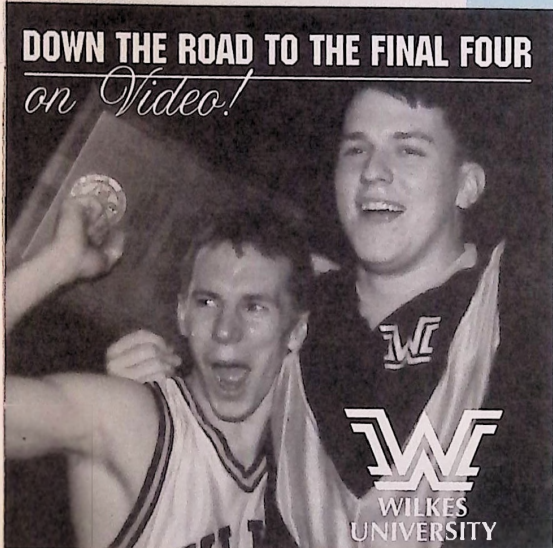


On the Cover

Three cheers for Wilkes University! You did it. Just like those young men who took Wilkes to its first-ever men's basketball Final Four appearance, alumni, friends and family teamed up to make this year a championship year for our University. Congratulations Wilkes!



Presidential Perspective



DOWN THE ROAD TO THE FINAL FOUR
on Video!

Alumni team tip to show their Wilkes pride

write this column on a lovely Sunday in May, I have just returned from celebrating 25th anniversary of the Nursing program at Wilkes. As Jane and I traveled home, via Adoni Art Gallery where the seniors' art show just opened, we were accompanied on the way by a student donning his "Final Four" hat.

of people," he observed, "have said that the weekend in Salem was the best one ever at Wilkes."

and that the party after the second game, even though our men's basketball team lost a consolation effort against Williams College, has been described as the best party ever at Wilkes. The reception was attended by more than 500 people and brought students, faculty, alumni, parents and the community together - united by Wilkes pride.

and to be in Salem, Virginia, to experience the depth of pride in Wilkes, which Coach Dickrode and his team engendered. The positive emotions which burst forth from our fans who traveled to Salem to support the Colonels, was electrifying.

Local newspapers, television and radio revealed the power of positive thinking for both Wilkes University and its neighboring Wyoming Valley community.

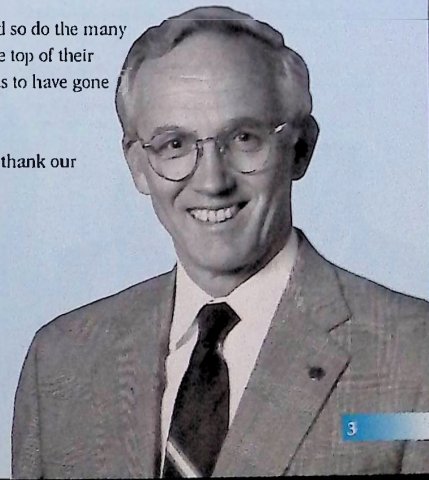
Clearly, the challenge to this University is to build upon this positive feeling and keep it coming. The groundbreaking for the handsome new Student Center and Dining Commons indicates the level of commitment by our Trustees to Wilkes.

The \$7.5 million structure will be the center of campus activity for students, staff and faculty - as well as returning alumni and parents.

I often speak of three qualities which strike me as the defining characteristics of Wilkes graduates: competence, confidence and humility (but with burning commitment).

Our men's basketball team showed this. And so do the many alumni I am privileged to meet, some at the top of their professions who are the first in their families to have gone to college.

There is much to be proud of at Wilkes. We thank our Final Four victors for reminding us.



Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth

Departments

- Inside Cover** **From the Editor** - *It's Nice To Be Home*
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Breaking New Ground For A \$7.5 Million Student Center

Groundbreaking is underway for construction of a new \$7.5 million Student Center/Dining Commons on West South Street in Wilkes-Barre. The 48,000 square-foot center, which will function as a gathering place for students, is the latest portion of the multi-million dollar campus expansion plan that began in 1993.

A committee of students, faculty, parents, administrators and trustees visited student centers at schools in several states to determine what features should be included in the new center. The best ideas were presented to the center's architectural firm, Highland Associates, who incorporated them into the layout.

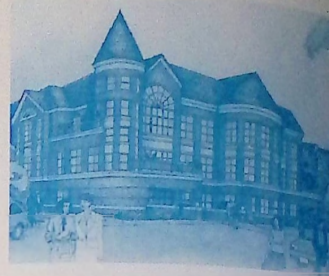
"This design is the result of thoughtful planning by our students, faculty, trustees, administrators and architects," said Wilkes president **Christopher N. Breiseth**. "This is an exciting time for Wilkes students. They will have most of their extra-curricular activities housed in one central state-of-the-art location."

Functionally, the all-inclusive building will feature 48 rooms, including a food court dining commons that will seat 400 students. In addition, it will contain a cafe, bookstore, student activities club, game

rooms, meeting rooms, mail facility, a large entertainment area, information office, and TV lounge.

Structurally, the three-story center will include a mall-like space on the first floor, a three-story atrium with skylight, two gas fireplaces and a patio with a balcony overlooking the Susquehanna River

As part of the University's plan to improve the availability of campus services, a full service branch of Pioneer American Bank will be located on the center's first floor, to provide both deposit and loan ser-



vices. The innovative and unique concept of combining academics, business training and campus banking will be quite beneficial.

"We wanted to make sure the student needs were met, as well as the University's need to build a center that compliments the architecture of our campus and our neighborhood," said **Paul A. O'Hop**, Vice President of Business Affairs and Auxiliary Enterprises and project supervisor.

Completion of the center is expected in mid-1999.

Gene Roth '57, Chairman of the Board of Trustees; senior Heather Taban; Student Government President C.J. Copley; and Wilkes president Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth break ground for the new Student Center/Dining Commons.

Dees Shares His Passion For Justice



"We, in some way, have to learn the value of each individual, regardless of the color of the skin, the texture of the hair, shape of the eyes, sexual orientation, gender, religion and politics. And that's not easy to do. It basically means we have to take a step beyond just gestures. We have to learn to love one another."

Internationally renowned civil rights attorney, **Morris Dees**, delivered this message to a Darte Center capacity crowd as guest speaker for the 17th annual Max Rosen Lecture Series in Law and Humanities on April 4.

Dees' lecture, titled "A Passion For Justice," focused on the need for increased tolerance, acceptance and appreciation of all groups represented in today's society. Dees blended his views on the state of race relations in America with examples of real-life battles he fought for the sake of equal rights.

During the civil rights movement, Dees aided minorities in court and helped transport marchers for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1971. Dees co-founded, and funded by direct mail appeals, the Southern Poverty

Law Center, a nonprofit group that maintains a pool of lawyers who specialize in lawsuits involving civil rights violations and racially motivated crimes. Today, the center receives approximately \$17 million a year from 450,000 donors to fund its projects. In 1980, the center founded "Klanwatch," a program that educates and alerts law enforcement officials to persons believed to be involved in organized racist activity. Klanwatch distributes an intelligence report that alerts them when such persons move into their communities.

"I am so worried today about this deep division we have along racial lines in this country and the potential it has for future violence," said Dees.

Dees and his team have successfully taken on white supremacy groups such as the Klu Klux Klan and the skinhead organization with results leading to imprisonment of group leaders and monetary damages totaling millions of dollars awarded on their client's behalf. As a result, his life and personal safety have been repeatedly threatened.

"I see a growing trend in white supremacy groups since our country's gone more conservative," Dees told a group of Wilkes students during a private afternoon session. "The leaders are extremely dangerous and have a long history of violence."

To combat these destructive views, Dees has devoted his time to developing ideas for "Teaching Tolerance," the center's well-regarded education project for teachers and students of K-12 schools nationwide.

"Tolerance is accepting each other, relishing in and benefitting from the differences that make our nation great," said Dees. "Our nation's great because of our diversity, not in spite of it."



Left to Right: Peter Paul Olszewski, Luzerne County District Attorney; Tom Bigler, Wilkes communications professor; Morris Dees; The Honorable Max Rosen

Michael Frantz



Wilkes Welcomes New Dean of Enrollment Services

Michael Frantz, director of admissions at Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Iowa, has been named dean of enrollment services at Wilkes, beginning June 1. Frantz replaces **Bernie Vinovski '69**, who recently accepted a position at California State-Fresno after serving as dean at Wilkes for the past four years.

"The admissions staff, under Bernie's leadership, has done an outstanding job of putting new systems into place," said president **Christopher N. Breiseth**. "Mike Frantz worked with similar systems at BVU and is excited by the quality of the staff and the opportunities he sees at Wilkes."

During his four years as director at BVU, the university has seen a 10.4 percent increase in enrollment, achieved a 10-year high in transfer students and recorded its second and fourth largest freshman classes in the school's history.

Frantz's responsibilities included leadership in management, budgeting and expenditures, financial aid planning, international recruitment and graduate program marketing coordination.



Wilkes held a private ceremony to officially dedicate Pearsall Hall, the newly-renovated nursing facility, in honor of **Marion K. and Richard Pearsall**, of Dallas, Pa.

"I am delighted that this building will stand two people who have done so much for their community and for Wilkes University," said Wilkes president **Christopher N. Breiseth**. "This beautiful building serves as a first-rate facility for the education of our young men and women in nursing."

Purdue Univer

When she registered at Wilkes, literally thousands of classes in 1993, **Karen Munroe** of Brainerd, Tenn., could hardly conceive that a five-year, bi-coastal department internship would launch her into an eight-member PhD program at Purdue University in Lafayette, Ind. But, that's exactly what happened.

"I told my mother on her cellular phone what I was going to do," said Munroe. "She was so ecstatic, she pulled over to the side of the road."

Munroe arrived on the Wilkes campus not knowing where to go or how to get there. That is until **Michael A. Steele**, associate professor of Biology, stepped into the role of advisor and mentor. Under his supervision, she began doing research on squirrel behavior dedicated to caching behavior in squirrels.

Munroe garnered such valuable research and teaching experience that even after her transfer to Arizona State to be near her family, she continued her internship with Steele. Her west coast semester was limited to data processing, through computer-aided analysis of progressive technology. When she returned to Wilkes the following summer and after graduation in 1999, she took a more hands-on approach. She worked full-time observing squirrel behavior such as feeding and nesting in local parks.

Munroe's commitment reaped substantial rewards. She has mentored one of less than a handful of students chosen



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Pearsall Hall Dedicated as New Nursing Center

Richard Pearsall unveils the plaque which adorns the entrance of Pearsall Hall as daughters Tamara Pearsall, Dr. Amy Carrie Pearsall, Yvonne Pearsall Eckman, and wife, Marion Pearsall look on.

Wilkes held a private ceremony to officially dedicate Pearsall Hall, the newly-renovated nursing facility, in honor of **Marion K. and Richard L. Pearsall**, of Dallas, Pa.

"I am delighted that this building will stand in honor of two people who have done so much for their community and for Wilkes University," said Wilkes president **Christopher N. Brei**seth. "This beautifully refurbished hall serves as a first-rate facility for the training of our young men and women in nursing."

Located at 109 South Franklin Street, Pearsall Hall underwent a \$425,000 renovation to establish a new center for the university's department of nursing. The facility includes classrooms, offices, computer laboratories, common areas and simulated hospital rooms for nursing training.

Richard Pearsall's wide range of contributions to Wilkes include his service as chairman of the university's endowment committee as well as member and former secretary of the Board of Trustees. The couple recently made a donation to the university in honor of their daughters, **Amy, '82; Tamara; and Yvonne.**

Merryman Builds A Bridge For His Students



Merryman and Saudi architect Dr. Sami Angawi from King Fahd University work together on a project during Merryman's stop in the city of Jeddah.

Having spent 16 days in Saudi Arabia participating in the Joseph J. Malone Fellows Program, associate professor **Dr. James L. Merryman** returned to Wilkes with an enhanced cultural insight that he will impart on his current and future students.

"The trip was very enlightening and inspiring," said Merryman. "I have a better understanding of the people, politics, and relationships in Saudi Arabia."

Joined by professors and administrators from varying disciplines, Merryman visited major universities in the capital city of Riyadh, Dammam, and the city of Jeddah for the final leg of the tour.

Merryman worked closely with Saudi professors, most of whom were educated in America. He found noticeable similarities in the teaching and technology between the Saudi universities and those in the United States. In his opinion, most of the schools have the same advanced technology as Wilkes. He is currently working on establishing a distance learning center where Saudi and American students could interact during class sessions.

One of the biggest differences Merryman noted were between the male and female Saudi citizens. Unlike American women, Saudi's female population is restricted from attending college, working, and driving a car. Although the United States' presence exists by way of restaurants and American television programming, segregation of the sexes continues.

"I feel really alive and amazed with new insights," said Merryman. "The experience allowed me to be an anthropologist studying quantitative and qualitative data."

Purdue University Woos Wilkes Intern

When she registered at Wilkes, literally the day before classes in 1993, **Karen Munroe** of Brewster, N.Y., could hardly conceive that a five-year, bi-coastal Biology department internship would launch her into an elite, eight-member PhD program at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind. But, that's exactly what happened.

"I told my mother on her cellular phone while she was driving," said Munroe. "She was so ecstatic, she had to pull over to the side of the road."

Munroe arrived on the Wilkes campus not knowing where to go or how to get there. That is until **Dr. Michael A. Steele**, associate professor of Biology at Wilkes, stepped into the role of advisor and mentor. Under his supervision, she began doing research for a paper dedicated to caching behavior in squirrels.

Munroe garnered such valuable research and data processing experience that even after her transfer in 1995 to Arizona State to be near her family, she continued her internship with Steele. Her west coast semester work was limited to data processing, through computers and other progressive technology. When she returned to Wilkes during the summers and after graduation in 1997, her work took a more hands-on approach. She worked four days a week observing squirrel behavior such as feeding, storing and nesting in local parks.

Munroe's commitment reaped substantial rewards. As one of less than a handful of students chosen

nationally, she'll enter the five-year PhD program majoring in ecology with a full academic scholarship and a stipend of \$15,000 a year plus benefits.

According to Munroe, "My internship at Wilkes not only increased my experience in the field, but was the one key element to getting into graduate school. Without it, I wouldn't have been chosen."

On her recent trip to Purdue, the University surprised her with a limousine escort from the airport and repeatedly wined and dined her in the hopes that she'll sign up for their program that begins August 12.

Munroe's ultimate goal is to become either a college biology professor or a researcher, and she knows achieving it means a greater commitment and even more dedication to her field of expertise.

"It'll be like starting all over again," said Munroe. "I'll have to prove myself on another level."



Karen Munroe

A Whole New World

By Jason L. McCaban

"New experiences allow students to develop a better understanding of who they really are and how they can perform in an unfamiliar surrounding."

Karen Gould, class of 1993.



Karen Gould '93 tours the Acropolis in Athens, Greece.

Foreign travel gives students an opportunity to explore new cultures, make new friends, and discover who they are. They tend to adapt the way they view other cultures and unfamiliar situations to their own lives. As a result, noticeable changes in their leadership qualities and self-assurance arise that can attract potential employers.

"Students who take advantage of study abroad programs tend to be more well-rounded individuals," says **James L. Merryman**, director of international studies at Wilkes. "They also tend to enhance their qualities of independence, confidence, communication and motivation while overseas."

According to Merryman, an average of six students from Wilkes travel abroad each year. "Although western European destinations like London, France, and Germany are more popular, Russia, China, Japan, and the Middle East are offering greater economic and career opportunities."

"While abroad, students are separated from their usual niche of friends and are surrounded by a new mix of people," says **Karen Gould '93**, who is a manager at the Council of International Education Exchange in Philadelphia. "New experiences allow students to develop a better understanding of who they really are and how they can perform in an unfamiliar surrounding."

Gould's international experiences directly influenced her career. "I made my travel arrangements through the Council of International Education Exchange (CIEE), fell in love with traveling and decided that working for a company that specializes in student exchanges would be perfect," says Gould, who majored in international studies with a minor in economics.

"The experience can really open your eyes to many opportunities," says **Carrie Bohenic**, a senior biochemistry major. During her trip to Scotland during the fall '97 semester, Bohenic says she also learned to interact with new people. "I lived in an apartment with eight others and met people from all around the world, which allowed me to enhance my communication skills."

"I think I also became more independent," says Bohenic. With the exception of language barriers, Bohenic believes that if she were offered a job anywhere in the world, she could not only do it, but do it well. "Before I went to Scotland, I always thought that I would settle for a job somewhere in Pennsylvania," recalls Bohenic. "Now I have the confidence to explore new places and meet new people."

"My experience allowed me to grow as a person," says **Blair Bowman**, a senior in international studies. "I realize an increase in my confidence level and I think I'm more self-sufficient."

"I didn't know anyone at first," recalls Bowman, who spent a semester in London, England. "An ocean separated me from my family, but through my classes and an internship at AT&T, I had the chance to interact with plenty of people, who in some ways, became my family away from home."

Bowman feels that he can now evaluate situations more thoroughly than he could before his trip. "I didn't have anyone to turn to for advice. I had to think everything through and weigh the pros and cons of each situation myself," he says. "I knew that the outcome would be a result of my own decisions and there was no one to blame if I made the wrong choice."

Theresa Kramer, recipient of the Peking Chef Scholarship for International Understanding, describes going overseas as "a crash course in independence." Once you get there, you realize everything you have is in your suitcase," says Kramer.

A senior international studies major, Kramer says the time she spent abroad in Heidelberg, Germany, taught her to be independent rather quickly. "At first, the Germans were not an easy group of people to meet socially," admits Kramer. Once classes started, Kramer made plenty of new friends, which she says will make her return to Germany this summer much easier.

During her first trip, she took a job as a bilingual customer service representative for WESTCom, an international communications provider, for some additional money. That job evolved into an internship with WESTCom's marketing department, and now it will become the start of her career.

"When I started the internship, I never imagined working in marketing," says Kramer. "I began to really enjoy what I was doing there and the company liked my American work ethic. It's an opportunity that I can't pass up. It will really test my independence."

Adding to both personal and character-building advancements, international experiences can also have some profitable academic advantages. As a senior majoring in international studies, **Cesar Vinces** spent eight months in Portugal and learned to speak the native language of Portuguese. "Academically I learned a third language, socially I met a lot of people, and culturally I learned how to interact and adjust to the many different customs," says Vinces.

A native of Peru, Vinces speaks fluent Spanish and learned to speak English when his parents moved to the United States in 1986.

"These students are international citizens," says Merryman. "Their international experiences give them a better sense of the political and economic connections in the world. These students can play a vital role in our integrating world economy."



Theresa Kramer takes a minute to enjoy the natural beauty of Heidelberg, Germany.

GIS Prepare For The Future

By K. Tracy Fabian

In January 1996, the Wilkes-Barre area closed to repeating the disastrous Agnes 1972. As water levels rose, area residents left city officials for comfort and direction. An extensive technological system put in place, Geographic Information System (GIS) Center at Wilkes University, officials will have all the necessary tools right at their fingertips to provide comfort and direction when an emergency occurs.

To accomplish this task, the GIS team of faculty and students work together using the latest technologies to develop large-scale systems for environmental analysis. Today, Wilkes has the capability of mapping the entire Wyoming Valley, which areas would be affected by floodwater. A database attached to the map shows emergency personnel which buildings would be affected, which occupies the buildings and if those occupants have special needs, should an evacuation be necessary.

"We believe we have one of the more competitive centers in Northeast Pennsylvania," says **James O'Karma**, executive assistant of planning and grants, School of Science and Engineering. "Everyone, including government, architect, maybe even business and industry will be using GIS. It's the wave of the future."

Bill Toothill, project manager for GIS and Remote Sensing Center says his team has already prepared a map of the downtown and riverfront areas of Nanticoke as a pilot program for the Luzerne County Engineer's Office.

"The map is very detailed, down to showing utility pole and manhole cover," explains Toothill.

Using the center's 30 computer systems, valued at approximately \$400,000, aerial photos, door-to-door surveys, computerized maps, and a wealth of geographic, topographic and environmental information can be used to predict floods and provide up-to-date information not yet available to city government and economic development officials.

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GIS Prepares For The Future

By K. Tracy Fabian



Members of the GIS department engage in field experiments utilizing the center's global positioning equipment

In January 1996, the Wilkes-Barre area came close to repeating the disastrous Agnes Flood of 1972. As water levels rose, area residents looked to city officials for comfort and direction. As part of an extensive technological system put in place by the Geographic Information System (GIS) Center of Wilkes University, officials will have all the necessary tools right at their fingertips to provide that comfort and direction when an emergency strikes.

To accomplish this task, the GIS team of faculty, staff and students work together using intricate technologies to develop large-scale systems for environmental analysis. Today, Wilkes has the capability of mapping the entire Wyoming Valley, showing which areas would be affected by floodwaters. A database attached to the map shows emergency personnel which buildings would be affected, who occupies the buildings and if those occupants have any special needs, should an evacuation be necessary.

"We believe we have one of the more comprehensive centers in Northeast Pennsylvania," says **James O'Karma**, executive assistant of projects and grants, School of Science and Engineering. "Everyone, including government, architects, and maybe even business and industry will be using GIS. It's the wave of the future."

Bill Toothill, project manager for GIS and the Remote Sensing Center says his team has already prepared a map of the downtown and riverfront areas of Nanticoke as a pilot program for the Luzerne County Engineer's Office.

"The map is very detailed, down to showing every utility pole and manhole cover," explains Toothill.

Using the center's 30 computer systems, valued at approximately \$400,000, aerial photos, door-to-door surveys, computerized maps, and a wealth of demographic, topographic and environmental information can be used to predict floods and provide up-to-date information not yet available to county government and economic development officials.

Using this prototype as an example of their capabilities, the center was recently awarded a \$1 million, 4-year grant to map all of Wayne County. Toothill explains that this map, when completed, will include a current and accurate road map that will be crucial in dispatching emergency response teams for the county's new 911 system.

The information will be gathered from three very distinct sources. Global positioning systems use Department of Defense satellites to obtain exact coordinates for every point on a map. Remote sensing processes the satellite images and photogrammetry processes aerial photos, removing distortion and produces maps in digital format.

"What separates GIS from just plain graphics," explains Toothill, "is the database information attached. With the computerized map generated by the center, all a person has to do is go to an individual building, street or property, click on the dot attached to that parcel, and all the information they need about that particular property will be pulled up by the computer."

One of the pivotal aspects of this hands-on project is the practical experience and preparation available to Wilkes students.

Proving that the teacher/apprentice relationship is alive and well at Wilkes, students gain first-hand knowledge of the technologies available at the GIS Center, preparing them for the job market.

"A lot of Wilkes graduates are now working in engineering, environmental science, county, state and municipal governments because they have the necessary skills," said O'Karma.



Dave Skoronski, a senior earth and environmental sciences major, with a minor in geology, feels the experience gained in both the classroom and as a work-study employee of the center, helped him become more marketable. He points out that there are many opportunities for Wilkes students to get hands-on, high technology training as part of their education, probably more than some students may realize.

"I took advantage of every opportunity that was available," said Skoronski. "This is definitely something I've put on my resume."

In fact, Skoronski, who graduates in May, was immediately hired as one of the center's permanent staff members. His future goal includes one day being a county GIS or 911 coordinator.

According to Toothill, the only certified trainer in Pennsylvania, the center supports the University's technology transfer program by completing projects for outside organizations, as well as providing professional training.

Toothill explains that many municipalities have recognized the advantages of overlaying data on geography for taxation, planning, real estate sales, snow removal, bus routes and utility planning. He adds that GIS can provide surveyors, developers and architects with more efficient designs and a wider variety of ways to view a project. The demographic data attached to the maps produced by the GIS center can assist marketers in promoting the area for economic development.

Since the formation of GIS in 1993, the center has completed projects for a wide range of organizations, including the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, the Wildlands Conservancy, Riverfront Parks, the National Resource Conservation Service, Pagnotti Enterprises, GR Fisher Surveying and many others.

"We have some really talented people here," said O'Karma. "We'd like our alumni to come see the center and use it for their businesses."

Alumni Find Their Place In Cyberspace

"In a recent national survey, the number one service requested by alumni was career networking"

Sandra Beynon Nicholas M '85, executive director of alumni.

You have been cleared for take-off. Prepare for launch. 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2... WAIT! Wilkes-Barre, we have a problem. Wilkes is leading its alumni into the next century, but they don't know it yet.

Hold on to your computers. You are about to embark on an exciting interactive journey through cyberspace, with Alumni Connections On-Line Community. This cutting-edge, virtual campus in cyberspace is a place where alumni can go to find old friends, network for jobs, continue their education and get the latest news about Wilkes, all from the comforts of home.

"Wilkes is addressing the needs of its alumni by providing this service through Harris Publishing of White Plains, N.Y.," said Sandra Beynon Nicholas M '85, executive director of alumni. "We hope everyone will take full advantage of this truly wonderful opportunity."

Alumni Connections On-Line Community takes the concept of the Internet to its next level - a highly-interactive gathering place that allows alumni to stay connected with each other and provides for the interchange of information, ideas, goods and services, support and guidance.

All Systems are go.

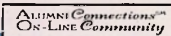
Up and Running...

On-Line Alumni Directory

Keeping in touch is more convenient than ever with the Wilkes On-Line Alumni Directory. An on-line version of the print edition, it features full biographical data including current name, name used while in school, class year, major, occupation, business information, e-mail address, marital status, home and family information and hobbies.

The directory is driven by a powerful search engine that quickly sorts data by name, geography, class or occupation. Locate fellow alumni or update your own biographical information so friends can keep up with you.

Access to the On-Line Directory is free to alumni who purchased the 1997 print edition, until the release of the next Wilkes Alumni Directory. Others can subscribe at six month intervals for only \$19.95.



From the main menu, select the On-Line Directory icon. Enter your User ID and password. Select Directory Search and enter the information you have. Press the Search button.

Career Center

Looking for a job? Seeking career advice? Have a job opening in your company that you would like to fill? Have you ever aspired to mentor younger graduates? If one or more of these situations apply to you, then visiting the Career Center is a must.

The free center is focused specifically on alumni career interests. It permits Wilkes graduates to find great jobs ahead of the general public. It's a great source of talent for those with jobs to fill, and it's an outlet for those with career and life experiences to share for the benefit of others. If that's not enough, the center also provides on-line career counseling services, including career assessment and guidance from selected companies.



From the main menu, select the Career Center icon. Enter your User ID and password. Choose from Job Postings, Career Sites, Career Counseling, Mentoring and Resume Postings.

Bulletin Boards

Bulletin Boards are electronic "message boards" that provide information on a variety of topics that interest alumni. They're a two-way forum for getting your messages to alumni and hearing back from them quickly and efficiently.

Stay current with Wilkes events and activities and provide feedback on the same events, free of charge.



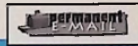
From the main menu, select the Bulletin Boards icon. Enter your User ID and password. Make your choice.

Permanent E-Mail

If you receive more electronic mail than postal mail, you need an easy to remember, permanent e-mail address that will never change, even if you change your home e-mail address or Internet Service Provider.

Tell the world you're proud to be a Wilkes graduate with your own permanent e-mail address - you@alumni.wilkes.edu

This free service will automatically forward your e-mail to an electronic mailbox you designate.



From the main menu, select the Permanent E-Mail Address. Enter your User ID and Password. Enter your current e-mail address and follow the instructions.

Yellow Pages

Yellow Pages are a low-cost way for alumni to promote products and services to other alumni and to find what they need quickly and easily.

All alumni get one free yellow page posting to promote a business or service. There is a charge for more than one.



From the main menu, select the Yellow Pages icon. Enter your User ID and password. Choose Yellow Pages and follow the directions.

Soon to Come...

Personal Home Page

An easy, step-by-step program will lead alumni through the process of developing a simple yet attractive home page in a matter of minutes, by utilizing simple graphics, photos and text.

The service will be available at year's end and is free for up to one MB of space.

Distance Learning Programs and Educational Forums

Alumni will be given the chance to continue their education and remain part of the Wilkes academic community. This feature provides the tools necessary to offer credit courses through a LISTSERV, that will deliver course materials and student interaction via e-mail.

Sign Up

To become part of Alumni Connections On-Line Community:

Visit the Wilkes web site at <http://www.wilkes.edu>. Click on the Alumni Section. Click on the Alumni Connections On-Line Community Link. Follow the directions to set up your password.

Mission Accomplished.

As the S

The wrestling team is in a team. The Colonels, who spent the year the Division I level, will be moving in III ranks for the 1999-2000 campaign season. The wrestlers battled through injuries to post a 3-17 record.

The baseball team is off to their best 1978, posting a 20-12 overall record.



Wilkes Inducted 10 Into Hall Of Fame

by John Seitzinger
Sports Editor

On Saturday, April 25, 1998, Wilkes inducted 10 new members into the Fame.

The Hall of Fame was established in 1940 to honor those players, coaches and administrators who made outstanding contributions to athletic programs at Bucknell Junior College, Wilkes College and Wilkes University.

Karen Johnson, '84, was a three-sport athlete, playing softball, field hockey and basketball. She was a Middle Atlantic Conference All-Star in softball in 1983. She set records in softball that season, runs in a career, runs batted in a career, runs in a career, runs batted in a career. In 1982, she became the first woman to win the MAC softball title and the first woman to win the MAC softball title for the first time in school history.

Bill Layden, '69, was a football star for Wilkes at a time when the Colonels were rebuilding. He was a three-time MAC All-Star, as well as a three-time Associated Press second team All-American performer. He was also selected to the I-AA American team in both 1967 and 1968. He was honored in 1977 when he received the College Centennial Award as one of the greats in Colonel football history.

Jeff Giberson, '79, played both baseball and football for the Colonels. In football he was a 1972 MAC All-Star. Giberson had four single-season passing records, four career passing records and two single-game records. In baseball, Giberson was a 1974 MAC All-Star after hitting .350 with three home runs and 15 RBIs.

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As the Season's Change...

The **wrestling team** is in a transition period. The Colonels, who spent the year wrestling at the Division I level, will be moving into the Division III ranks for the 1999-2000 campaign. This season, the wrestlers battled through a rash of injuries to post a 3-17 record.

The **baseball team** is off to their best start since 1978, posting a 20-12 overall record. With several

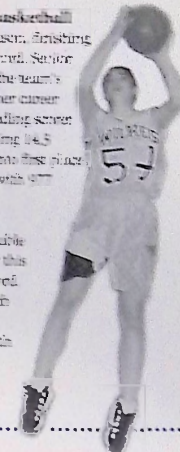


important games remaining, the Colonels are still in the hunt for a Middle Atlantic Conference, and possibly an ECAC post-season playoff berth.

With only two Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom League games remaining, the **women's softball team** knows just what they need to do - sweep. The Lady Colonels need to win both games against conference leader FDU-Madison to earn a berth in the four-team MAC Tournament. They have posted a 19-12 record overall and are 9-3 in league play.

First-year head coach John Seitzinger knew the 1998 **men's tennis team** would need time to grow. After all, the Colonels did not have a single senior dotting their roster this spring. When all was said and done, Seitzinger was pleased despite the team's 3-9 overall record and 2-5 mark in the Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom League.

The Lady Colonels **women's basketball team** had a bumpy ride this season, finishing their campaign with a 10-13 record. Senior Rebecca Baker was once again the team's leader offensively. She finished her career as the school's third all-time leading scorer with 1,447 career points, averaging 16.5 points per game. Baker moved into first place on the all-time rebounding list with 477 boards.



The **men's golf team** had trouble keeping their heads above water this season, finishing with a 4-5 record. The Colonels swept a quad match four days prior to the MAC Golf Championships, but finished 14th at the league tournament.

A two-sport star at Wilkes, **Charles Jackson, '51**, was a member of the basketball team, while also playing on the first two men's soccer squads in 1949 and 1950. Jackson helped the Colonels claim their first basketball tournament title at the Southern Tier Invitational in 1949. Jackson was selected to the All-Tournament team from 1948 to 1950. He ended his career as the school's leading scorer and rebounder.

Donna George, '69, was also a two-sport stand-out, both in field hockey and basketball. She earned the Most Outstanding Player Award for field hockey, in both the 1965-66 and 1966-67 seasons and was named the school's Woman Athlete of the Year. In basketball, she was the first woman athlete to ever earn the school's Scholar Athlete Award.

John Reese is the second winningest coach in NCAA wrestling history with a record of 515-171-10. He is just the second coach to ever top the 500-win mark, joining Oregon State's Dale Thomas as the only two members of the "500" club. Reese coached the Colonels to 38 straight winning seasons and five undefeated campaigns. He guided his 1973-1974 team to the NCAA Division III National Championship.

(Left to right) Hall of Fame Committee member Doris Saracino poses with inductee Dr. Donna George '69 as Dr. George E. Ralston introduces former Wilkes University wrestling coach John Reese as one of the newest members of the Hall of Fame. They are joined by Wilkes president Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth.

As pitcher, Gibson had a career record of 11-2 with a school record 0.98 ERA.

In all the years of golf at Wilkes, **Mark Jarolen, '77**, can easily be described as the best player to ever hit the links for the Colonels. He finished seventh as a senior at the MAC Championships as his team qualified for the 1976 NCAA Division III Championship Tournament.

Steve Leskiw, '76, starred in both baseball and football at Wilkes. On the baseball diamond, he was a first-team Small College All-American in 1975 after hitting .410 with five homers and 24 RBIs. In 1976, he was named a first team TOPPS NCAA District II All-American and first team All-MAC performer after helping Wilkes to a Division III College World Series berth. Leskiw was also a first team All-MAC performer in football in the linebacker position.

John Marfia, '70, posted a dual match record of 42-7-1 during his four-year career with the Wilkes wrestling team. He was a two-time MAC champion at 126 pounds, and was the MAC Championship's Most Outstanding Wrestler as a senior. At the national level, Marfia placed second at the NCAA Small College Championships as a senior. He was voted to the Wilkes Silver Anniversary Team as the Most Outstanding Wrestler at 126 pounds.

W. Brooke Yeager, '64, was a standout on the wrestling team in the early 1960's when the tradition was just building. With a career dual match record of 29-4, Yeager was a MAC champion as a sophomore and was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Wrestler.

Wilkes Inducts 10 Into Hall Of Fame

by John Seitzinger
Sports Editor

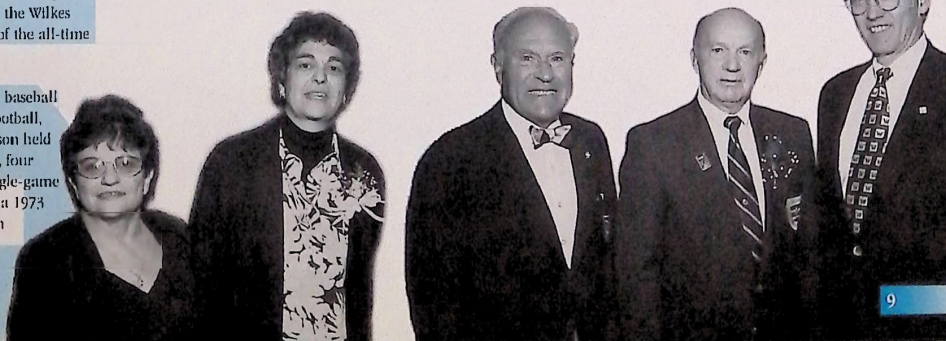
On Saturday, April 25, 1998, Wilkes University inducted 10 new members into their Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame was established in 1993 to honor those players, coaches and administrators who have made outstanding contributions to athletics at Bucknell Junior College, Wilkes College and Wilkes University.

Karen Johnson, '84, was a three-sport star at Wilkes, playing softball, field hockey and basketball, and was a Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) All-Star in softball in 1983. She set records for runs in a season, runs in a career, runs batted in, and highest career batting average. In 1982, she helped Wilkes to their only MAC softball title and an NCAA playoff berth for the first time in school history.

Bill Layden, '69, was a football standout for Wilkes at a time when the Colonels were running up a 32-game winning streak. A defensive tackle, Bill was a three-time MAC All-Star, as well as a three-time Associated Press second team all-state performer. He was also selected to the Little All-American team in both 1967 and 1968. Layden was honored in 1977 when he received the Wilkes College Centennial Award as one of the all-time greats in Colonel football history.

Jeff Gibson, '79, played both baseball and football for the Colonels. In football, he was a 1972 MAC All-Star. Gibson held four single-season passing records, four career passing records and two single-game records. In baseball, Gibson was a 1973 MAC All-Star after hitting .350 with three home runs and 15 RBIs.



Alumni Champion The Cause

By Steve Bennett, *Citizens' Voice* staff writer.



They came from different walks of life. Decades separate their graduation years. Some traveled near, some far.

What would make this seemingly diverse group of people come together in record numbers? What could possibly produce the urge to don the blue and gold once more?

Pride.

As the men's basketball team slowly inched their way toward their first-ever NCAA Division III Final Four appearance, alumni found themselves caught up in a wave of pride comparable only to a twister grabbing hold of everything in its path.

"From the Elite Eight round to the actual trip to Salem, Va. for the Final Four, I have never seen such an emotional Wilkes campus," said **Bill Goldsworthy '76**, president of the Alumni Association. "The campus was alive. It was exciting just to be there. You could feel the enthusiasm and excitement."

"It was the most exciting experience I've ever had in my times at Wilkes," said **Heather Tahhan '98**, captain of the cheerleading squad. "The whole school was just so spirited. There was a lot of apathy on campus. It seemed as if nobody wanted to support anything that was going on. Then, all of a sudden, we just came together."

When the players showed up for the season's first practice last October, they could never have foreseen their destiny and how their fate would turn around a campus, a community and a fan base that spreads throughout the United States.

But this year was no ordinary year.



Senior co-captain Mike Barrouk and his grandfather steal a private moment together as fans explode onto the court.

With each nail-biting win, anticipation grew, excitement reached an all-time high and nervousness became almost too much to take. Sure, all teams have their fair share of fans, but none like the group that clung to the Colonels in this, their finest season.

"They were our sixth man out there," said senior co-captain **Mike Barrouk '98**.

As attendance at the sectional playoff games reached over 3,000, alumni made their presence known, rocking the Mars Center with cheers of "We Are, Wilkes U." Many went home as bumped and bruised at the team, with hoarse voices, sore hands and exhausted from the tension of those last-second wins.

"The spirit was contagious because the entire Wyoming Valley got behind our team," said Goldsworthy. "Front page newspaper headlines and lead stories on the TV news solidified the Wilkes pride in all of us."

"I have been to a lot of Division II and III games and I don't know anybody who gets the support we do," said Wilkes coach **Jerry Rickrode**.

"Never before had I seen anything like this," said senior point guard **Jay Williams '98**, who has been a member of the basketball team for all four years. "The crowd support was tremendous all season."

"I've followed the team closely," said **Jerry Goldstein**, a member of the Wilkes Board of Trustees. "It's just an exciting aspect of the University. I think it's just a tribute to the school and what it's all about."

Goldstein, an investment banker on Wall Street, went to great lengths to show his support for Wilkes. He took a flight from Long Island, N.Y. to Wilkes Barre to attend the Friday night sectional game against Rowan University. He left early Saturday morning to attend a meeting in Boston, Mass., then hustled back for the Saturday night sectional game against Hunter College.

"Watching the team grow, and the interest it created in the community, as well as at Wilkes, was exciting," said women's soccer and softball coach **Kevin Vrabel**, who served as public address announcer throughout the season.

Fans were well armed with 750 blue and gold signs, over 700 plastic pom poms, some purchased by the Alumni Association and some donated by the University of Pittsburgh, and colorful "W" signs made and donated by the library.



Over 1,000 tickets were sold for the Final Four games in Salem, Va.

The Alumni Association took the phrase "Road to the Final Four" literally as they organized a comprehensive bus trip to Virginia for fans. Six buses and more than 200 people traveled a total of 14 hours on Martz buses to cheer on the Colonels.

"When you consider we went through a stretch where the team was lucky to win four games and then to go to the Final Four, it's just incredible," said **Joe Sekusky '77**, a bus captain who brought his 12-year-old son, Mike, on the voyage to Salem.

The effects March Madness had on alumni were truly incredible. Floods of calls poured into the Alumni House everyday with alumni looking for ways to get involved.

"The Alumni Association had pre-game and post-game parties for the Wilkes faithful, helping to bring alumni together in support of one common cause - Wilkes," said Goldsworthy.

"Our office received literally hundreds of calls a day," said **Jennifer Bullock**, assistant director for alumni. "When word got out that we were organizing a bus trip to Virginia to continue our show of school spirit, alumni pulled out their checkbooks without even blinking."

And that's not the only place alumni spent their hard earned money. Bookstore sales grew to outrageous heights.

"It was a pretty exciting time," recalled **Don Drasba**, manager of the bookstore. "Clothing and ticket sales were phenomenal." Indeed they were. Due to the support of the "sixth man," sales climbed from \$1,000 in March of 1997 to \$10,200 in March of 1998.

"I hope the excitement and pride will continue on campus," said Goldsworthy. "With this enthusiasm among the students, faculty

and staff, Wilkes will continue to be an exceptional university. Campus life is fun again - the way it should be!"

Steve covered the Road to the Final Four for the Colonels.

Media attention reached an all-time high for players and coaches. Television, radio and newspaper reporters got caught up in the madness.



Senior Tri-Captains End Careers on a Magical Ride

John Seitzinger, Sports Editor

The men's basketball team's ride to the NCAA Division III Final Four was certainly special for all involved. But, it had a deeper meaning for this season's tri-captains, seniors Mike Barrouk, Matt Conway and Jay Williams. After all, it was the final time these three individuals, who have played together since the eighth grade, would have the opportunity to take the floor together.

Barrouk, Conway and Williams all graduated in 1994 from nearby Bishop Hoban High School. The trio played together for five seasons at Bishop Hoban, before making their college choices. Both Conway and Williams chose Wilkes, while Barrouk opted for St. John Fisher College in New York. After two seasons there, Barrouk rejoined his high school teammates at Wilkes. It was a decision that Mike is very happy he made.

"I had an unbelievable two years at Wilkes," commented Barrouk, who averaged 16.6 points and 4.6 rebounds per game this season. "This season was just amazing. It truly exceeded all of my wildest dreams. The best part about making it to the Final Four was that I was able to share the experience with both Matt and Jay. I have a great deal of respect for each of them. Having them on the court with me made the trip that much more enjoyable."

"We were very happy that Mike decided to transfer to Wilkes," commented Williams, who joined Conway to lead Wilkes to a 99-18 record, four MAC Freedom League titles, two MAC overall crowns, and four



Jim Miller, assistant executive director of the Middle Atlantic Conference presents the MAC Championship plaque to senior tri-captains Mike Barrouk, Jay Williams and Matt Conway.

NCAA appearances during their tenure. "I think it was easy for him to fit into our program because many of us were familiar with him. We really didn't have to get all that much because of the familiarity with each other."

Williams, who contributed 7.9 points and 3.3 assists per game from his starting point guard spot, was happy to see all of the hard work that was put into the season end with the school's first-ever trip to the Final Four.

"There is no better way to end your career than with a trip to the Final Four," said Williams. "All of the players and coaches worked extremely hard this season. It was great to see all the hard work pay off."

Conway, who proved to be one of the team's most inspirational leaders this season, feels that the foundation has now been laid for future successes. "I am really proud to be able to say that I was part of this program. I think the cornerstone has been laid. Hopefully, the guys that are coming back and the players who play here in the future will be able to build on what we've done."

When asked whether or not he had ever thought about making it all the way to the Final Four, Conway wasn't quite sure. "I don't think that you think about it in a way that it preoccupies your thoughts. But it was certainly in the back of everybody's mind."

"When we began this season, we set some goals for ourselves, and one of them was to get back into the NCAA Tournament. Once we got into the tournament, we played each game with the mindset that this could be the last time we play together. So, I think we played a little bit harder each time we stepped on the floor because we didn't want to see our season end."

"We would be remiss if we didn't thank all of the people who supported us this season," said Williams. "It was great to have so much support from our families, alumni, fellow students, faculty and the local community. It just made the trip all the more special."

And for all of those people who follow Wilkes University basketball, these three individuals will forever remain in our memory.

Dr. John O. Turner Named 1998 Farley Award Winner

Dr. John O. Turner '61, director of the Kirby Memorial Health Center, Wilkes-Barre, was presented the 1998 Eugene S. Farley Memorial Alumni Award during May Commencement, Saturday, May 16.

"Dr. Turner exemplifies the best traditions of Wilkes University and is being recognized for his outstanding accomplishments since graduating from Wilkes," said **Sandra B. Nicholas M '85**, executive director for alumni.

After graduating from J.M. Coughlin High School in 1957, Turner entered Wilkes College where he acquired a bachelor of science degree in chemistry and was awarded the Leadership Scholarship Award.

Higher educational pursuits led him to Penn State University, where he was awarded a Research Fellowship en route to receiving a doctorate degree in chemistry in 1965. It was here that Turner got introduced to the intricacies of organic chemistry.

With over 30 years experience in his field, Turner expanded his graduate studies in the professional field as a research chemist for the GAF Corporation and a research scientist for Sun Oil Company.

As director of the Kirby Memorial Health Center, Wilkes-Barre, Turner was responsible for bringing a childhood lead poisoning program to the Wilkes-Barre area in 1975, at a time when lead poisoning was just starting to become a national concern.

"The Kirby Health Center became one of the premier lead testing facilities in the country and remains a reference laboratory for the Communicable Disease Center (CDC) in Atlanta, Ga.," said Turner. "Today, Kirby receives lead and other toxic heavy metal samples on a regular basis from all over the world."

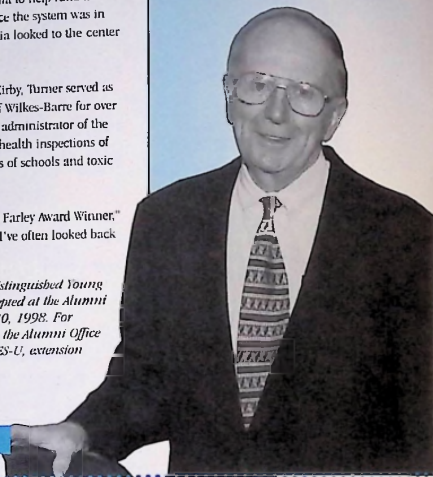
Turner's efforts produced substantial results. A federal grant was awarded to Northeast Pennsylvania to help fund the technical needs of the project and once the system was in place, cities from all over Pennsylvania looked to the center for training.

In addition to his role as director of Kirby, Turner served as Principal Health Officer for the city of Wilkes-Barre for over 20 years. In this position, he acted as administrator of the city's Health Department, overseeing health inspections of restaurants, water supplies, conditions of schools and toxic spills.

"It's an honor to be selected the 1998 Farley Award Winner," said Turner. "Throughout my career, I've often looked back fondly on my days at Wilkes."

Reminder - Nominations for the Distinguished Young Alumni Award are still being accepted at the Alumni Office. Deadline to submit is June 30, 1998. For application forms and criteria, call the Alumni Office at (717) 408-4130 or 1-800-WILKES-U, extension 4130.

"It's an honor to be selected the 1998 Farley Award Winner. Throughout my career, I've often looked back fondly on my days at Wilkes."



Dr. John O. Turner

Welcome Aboard!

The Alumni Association announces its new alumni board members.

Seated from left to right are: **Heather Shocker '94** (guest); **Angel Raymond '96** (guest); **Arlene Herron '76**; **Kelly Klein '96**; **G. Garfield Jones '72**

Standing from left to right are: **Bill Goldsworthy '76**; **Sandra Beynon Nicholas M '85**; **Thea Escarge '70**; **Chad Lojewski '95**; **Lee Namey '68**; **Marietta Minelli '76**; **Catherine McCormack Gourley '72**; **Bill Rowe '83**; **Jennifer Bullock**



Reunion Weekend Promises Fun for The Whole Family

Pick back and relax this summer at the 11th Annual Wilkes University Alumni Reunion Weekend, June 5, 6 and 7, 1998.

To honor the classes of '43, '48, '53, '58, '63, '68, '73, '78, '83, '88 & '93, the Alumni Association is planning educational and recreational activities to help reconnect alumni with each other and with Wilkes. And for the first time ever, child care services and children's activities are available Friday and Saturday. Registration begins Friday, June 5 and continues throughout Saturday.

Golf enthusiasts can spend a day on the greens Friday at the Four Seasons Golf Club in Exeter. Tee times are reserved from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

The class of '93 will gather at the Winner's Cafe of The Odyssey Fitness Center, 401 Coal Street, Wilkes-Barre, Friday night at 8 p.m. for their five-year class reunion party. Golf simulators, pool and foosball tables will be on hand for alumni to enjoy.

All other alumni will get the weekend started at the Blue and Gold Reception in the Ina Center for the Performing Arts on South and River Streets from 8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

The core of Reunion Weekend activities are planned for Saturday, beginning at 9 a.m. with a chance for alumni to recreate their days in the classroom. A

series of classes such as *Starting Your Own Business*, *Introduction to the Internet*, *Stress Makes Me Sick* and *Jesse James: Businessman with a Gun* will be offered until 11 a.m.

Class photos will be taken during pre-scheduled class meetings from 11 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday afternoon. Locations will be included in each reunion packet given out at registration.

From noon to 2 p.m. alumni will unite for an old-fashioned barbecue to be held on the Greenway of the Fenner Quadrangle behind Stark Learning Center for an All Class Family Picnic.

Then it's off to the park, Artillery Park that is, where the *even* years will battle the *odd* years in the reunion softball game from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

As the class of '78 celebrates their 20-year reunion in Pickering Hall from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., other class members will gather in their designated locations for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres before heading to the Henry Gymnasium in the Armad C. Marts Sports Center for the All Class Dinner. Alumni can dance the night away to the music selections of DJ **Rockin Rich Nordheim '80**.

Reunion weekend comes to a close Sunday, June 7 with the Reunion Memorial Service at the Burris Alumni Tower at 10 a.m., the Golden Colonel Brunch hosted by President and Mrs. Breiseth at 11 a.m., and the class of '58 Farewell Brunch also at 11 a.m.

For more information, contact the alumni association at 1-800-WILKES-U, extension 4130.

Saidman/Myers Honored at Winter Commencement

Friends and family saluted 68 graduates and two special honorees during Winter Commencement as principal speaker **Dr. John H. Larson**, president of Luzerne County Community College, addressed the assembly in the Edward Darling, Jr. Theatre of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts.

In his oration, Larson stressed the need for the graduates to exercise their individuality in the challenges that lie ahead. "The key issue is not to accept conventional wisdom about the road to success in business, education, or your personal lives, but to find your own road," said Larson.

Wilkes president **Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth** provided a touching moment as he tendered honorary degrees to two of the area's most admired and respected doctors who not only found their own road, they paved it for future generations.



Dr. Charles Myers

Charles E. Myers, M.D., and **Lester Saidman, M.D.**, received standing ovations as they were presented honorary Doctor of Science degrees, recognizing their numerous contributions to health care in the region.

In presenting the degrees, Breiseth lauded both men for their outstanding endowments, including founding the Wilkes-Hahnemann program, a fast-track curriculum designed to produce physicians to displace a disproportionately large group of aging doctors in the region. From 1972 to 1982, the program produced more than 150 medical doctors, more than half of whom are practicing in the region today.

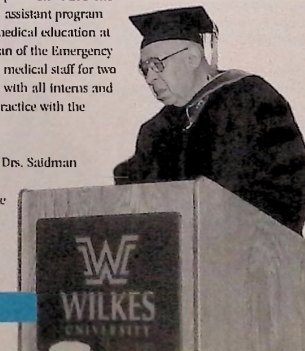
Myers, a native of Kingston, earned his medical degree at the University of Pennsylvania and completed his internship at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. While serving as a paratrooper in the war effort of 1942, Myers received the Legion of Merit award for his care of the psychiatric casualties in the Mediterranean Theatre.

Myers returned home to the Wyoming Valley, opened a private practice and in 1962 formed the Associated Internists of Wyoming Valley. Breiseth then highlighted Myers' extraordinary record of accomplishments as chief of the Department of Medicine, chief of staff of the hospital, founder-in-chief of the Anthroscopic Clinic (the first free clinic for disabled miners), president of the Luzerne County Tuberculosis Society and the Pennsylvania Thoracic Society, and recipient of the Pennsylvania Society of Internal Medicine's Distinguished Internist Award.

Saidman, a resident of Kingston and a graduate of Kingston High School, received his medical degree from Temple University. After completing an internship at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital and serving in World War II, he went on to an impressive medical career in Northeast Pa.

Saidman helped establish the Lake Noxen Clinic in 1954, two clinics in Shickshinny and Freeland, founded the Rural Health Corporation of Luzerne County, established the first physicians' assistant program in Pennsylvania, served as director of medical education at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, chairman of the Emergency Room Committee, and president of the medical staff for two years, participating in teaching rounds with all interns and residents, as well as running his own practice with the Linden Medical Group.

With family and friends close at hand, Drs. Saidman and Myers received an outpouring of respect and appreciation from the same people who have benefited from their experience and hard work over the years.



Dr. Lester Saidman

CHAPTER Chat

If you've ever thought you live too far away to remain an active part of the Wilkes community, take another look. Alumni throughout the East Coast found a way to continue the feeling of camaraderie they experienced as Wilkes students by forming chapters near their hometowns.

Groups from New York City, Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Luzerne County, Pa. and a Twin Tiers chapter in Oswego, N.Y., took part in a wide range of activities designed to enhance communication between alumni through fun, social events.



The alumni chapter in Philadelphia hosted a "Cheesesteak Party" on Boathouse Row last fall. Plans are under way for the spring and fall of 1998. President of the chapter is **Dave Yakaitis '78**.



The Twin Tiers chapter met for dinner last October, where they were presented their official chapter banner. President of the chapter is **Mario Silvestri '82**.



New York City's chapter sponsored a wine tasting party last fall. President of the chapter is **Rick Ruerman '91**.



Alumni from the Luzerne County chapter tapped into their first event at a five beer tasting and brewery tour at the Lion Brewery, Wilkes-Barre.

In addition, the Harrisburg chapter has remained active all year long, sponsoring dinners, meetings to discuss upcoming events, and a trip to the Allentown Playhouse Dinner Theatre in Boiling Springs, Pa., to see the comedy, "Papa is All."

The Washington, D.C. chapter is in its formative stage, meeting for the first time in May. For more information about D.C.-area alumni events, contact **All Qureshi '96** at (703) 264-1715 or **Kellie Klein '96** at (703) 491-6218.

Alumni Calendar

May 16, 1998
Commencement

May 22, 1998
President's Breakfast
Westmoreland Club
South Franklin Street
Speaker: *Jerry Rickrode*

June 5, 6, 7, 1998
Reunion Weekend

June 6, 1998
Alumni Association Board Meeting

July 18, 1998
Young Alumni Beach Bash
Belmar, NJ

September 3, 1998
Commencement

September, 1998
Alumni Association Board Meeting

October 30-Nov. 1, 1998
51st Annual Homecoming

November, 1998
Alumni Association Board of Directors & Annual Meeting

New Date



Alumni Get In Step At Scholarship Dinner Dance

If you happened to pass the Grand Ballroom of the Woodlands Inn and Resort the evening of Saturday, March 28, you might have felt the need to check your calendar. Wilkes alumni danced the night away as DJ Richard "Rockin' Rich" Nordheim, Wilkes class of 1980, helped create the feeling of a 1950's sock hop, a 70's disco, and a popular 80's and 90's dance club for the Alumni Association's Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance.

The Wilkes jazz quartet got the festivities underway by serenading former classmates, current students, faculty and administrators during the evening's cocktail hour.

Speakers *Sandra Beynon Nicholas M '85*, executive director of Alumni; *Bill Goldsworthy '76*, Alumni Association president; *Ruth Melberger '62*, chairperson; and *Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth*, Wilkes president, welcomed the guests and thanked them for their contributions to the Association's scholarship fund.

Following dinner, students and alumni gathered together on the dance floor to either teach or be taught such popular dances as "The Electric Slide" and "The Macarena." But it was Dr. and Mrs. Breiseth who stole the show with their ballroom dancing.

Proceeds from the event benefited the Alumni Association's scholarship fund, which gives financial aid to the children of Wilkes alumni who are currently enrolled at Wilkes. This year, more than 100 alumni participated in the dance.



Alumni and students turn the Grand Ballroom into an "Animal House" as they "shout" their favorite songs.

Homecoming Weekend Produces Golden Moments

by Amy Sosik '98



Members of Weckesser Reunion

Weekend. More than 700 friends and family returned to their alma mater to relive times past and to secure future memories.

Alumni celebrated the University's golden anniversary by participating in such popular events as the annual golf tournament at the Inem Temple Country Club, Friday Night Frolic, the "Return to the Hill" celebration, several reunions, sporting events and of course, the crowning of homecoming king *Michael Rosh '99* and homecoming queen *Kristen Cookus '98*.

Reunion Weekend was especially memorable for fifteen women who once resided in Weiss and Weckesser Halls as they renewed friendships with their former house-mates at two special reunions held in their honor.

The group from the Weiss Reunion met at Weiss Hall on South River Street to tour their former dorm. Those attending the Weckesser Reunion attended a formal dinner at the new Weckesser Hall, on South Franklin Street. The old Weckesser dorm, located on Northampton Street, was torn down to make room for a modern dormitory.

The women agreed that times at Wilkes have certainly changed since they lived here. *Ann Williams '74* laughingly remembered the rule regarding male visitors in the dorm: "There must be two feet on the floor and the lights left on at all times," she recalled.

The women also noticed differences in the interior of Weiss Hall. They commented on how the lounge, which was located to the right of the foyer, is now a dorm room and a piano replaces a table that had been used to sign in guests.

The smell of the house triggered vivid memories for *Joan Tyree '72*. Laughter filled the room as she recalled a time when an unattended candle sparked an accidental fire in the house. "We were unable to use candles for the rest of the year," recalled Tyree.

Although the Weckesser women weren't able to physically stroll through their old building, it didn't stop them from reminiscing about their time there.

The women laughed about how they disobeyed curfews and how they snuck boys in through the back door. *Lois DeGraw Huffman '50* remembers the house mother to be very strict. "Boys were not allowed on the second floor of Weckesser, and if you wanted to spend the night away from the dorm, you needed to get permission from home," said Huffman.

Although the groups were almost 25 years apart, one theme was consistent. Feelings of joy, laughter, friendship and sisterhood elated everyone so that they vowed to set aside future time for each other.



Women of Weiss Hall



BACHELOR'S

1944

John A. Horner held the 54th Aviation Cadet Reunion at Daniel Tobias's Estate in Havertown, Pa. He is a World War II 6th C.T.D. Aviation Cadet, USMAF

1948

Joseph J. Savitz received the third annual 1997 Community Leader of the Year Award given by Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation.

1949

Doris G. Bartuska, M.D., received an honorary doctor of science degree at the 50th Commencement of Wilkes University.

1950

George Brody received an honorary doctorate from the Stevens State School of Technology. George and his wife, Martina reside in Lancaster, Pa. They have two sons, Steve and Bruce, and eight grandchildren.

George E. Hudock, Jr., M.D., is the longest-serving corner in Luzerne County history. He resides in Courtdale, Pa.

John P. Nelson and wife Virginia are enjoying retirement in N.C., and have two children and 2 grandchildren.

1951

Stanley J. Kieszek retired from the Citizens' Voice newspaper after 60 years in the newspaper business. He is a native of Plymouth, Pa.

1953

Theodore L. Krohn was appointed senior law clerk to Luzerne County Judge Ann H. Lokuta. He resides in Dallas, Pa.

John H. Maylock, pathologist, retired from J.C. Blair Hospital, Huntington, Pa.

1955

Arthur R. Bontie is the president of the National Association of Accountants, Binghamton, N.Y., chairman of the audit division of the United Way and veteran of World War I.

1961

Patricia L. Rynn was certified as a home health nurse.

1962

Judy Butchko Gallagher is a member of the Viking Rowing Club and a South Jersey Regatta gold medalist.

David R. Kline married Kay Beecher. David retired as program manager from the Navy Space Project, Arlington, Va. They reside in Denton, Pa.

Ken Naparstek owns Hayman Associates, Inc., a computer consulting company in New York, where he resides with his wife, Patricia. Ken has four children.

Alumni Close-Up



Solomon Recognized for Life-Long Commitment to Education

The Leo E. Solomon Educational Complex/Plains Memorial K-8 School was dedicated to **Leo E. Solomon '53** for his life-long service to the district and his commitment to his children.

Having received his early education in the Wilkes-Barre area and eventually graduating from Elmer L. Meyers High School, Leo furthered his education at the college level.

He received a bachelor of science degree from Wilkes, a master of science degree from the University of Scranton, and a superintendent's certificate from Lehigh University. As a result of his hard work and dedication to education, Luzerne County Community College honored Leo with an honorary doctorate.

Throughout his career, Leo served as teacher, elementary principal, assistant director of elementary curriculum, assistant to the superintendent, and football and wrestling coach, until he was selected superintendent of the district in 1976.

As an active member in the community, Leo has represented the Red Cross, the Luzerne County Committee on Violence, the United Way of the Wyoming Valley and the Wilkes-Barre City Drug and Alcohol Committee, by serving as a board member.

In honor of all his charitable contributions, Leo has earned countless community awards including the PTA Life Membership Award, the Wilkes-Barre City Outstanding Public Service Award, and the Boy Scouts of America award for establishing the "Drugs Are A Deadly Game" program for students.

Leo and his wife Margaret have three children, Leo, Jr., George and Jacqueline.

1963

Gerard Zezza displayed his paintings at the Summit Bank in West Pittston, Pa.

1965

Jim Jenkins is an airline pilot for United Airlines. He is also the newsletter editor for the local chapter of the Airline Pilots Association. Jim and his wife Leslie reside in Avrona, Colo.

Leslie Tobias Jenkins is the circulation manager for the local chapter of the BMW Car Club of America's newsletter. She resides in Avrona, Colo., with her husband Jim.

1966

Stephen L. Flood was recognized by Wilkes University for establishing the Stephen L. Flood '66 Scholarship.

1967

Wayne H. Billings accepted a position as manager of environmental affairs at Taylor Packing, Inc. He resides in Cogan Station, Pa.

1968

Becky Aben showcased her artwork at the Tudor

Bookshop and Cafe Gallery, Kingston, Pa. Becky and her husband reside in Kingston with their son and daughter.

Jackson Berkey's new web site is (www.berkey.com) He resides in Omaha, Neb.

William P. Montague was presented the Eugene S. Farley Memorial Alumni Award from Wilkes University.

Linda A. Rabets was elected to the board of directors for The Hazleton Blind Association. Linda and her husband John J. have two children.

1970

Frank Michaels was elected Grand Knight for the 1997-98 fraternal year by Columbus Assumpta Council 3987. Frank and his wife, Dolores, reside in Forty Fort with their daughter, Kristi and son, Adam.

Charles Spano will head the Bureau of Community and Student Services.

1972

Robert Byrne was awarded the diplomate diploma in clinical psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology. He resides in Lacey, Wash., with wife Alice and two children, Elliot and Brendan.

Catherine Chandler-Oliveira was awarded grand prize in the 1997 National Library North American Open Poetry contest for her poem "Goustan Tommy."

Bruce E. Gover was hired as financial consultant by Merrill Lynch. He is a resident of Lehman, Pa.

Garfield Jones' paper, "The Use of Telesurgery in Minimally Invasive Surgery Training," was published in the Global Telemedicine Report. Garfield and his wife Hidy B. reside in Laffin, Pa., with son, Matthew.

Joan Ralston is the sixth grade teacher and also teaches science to grades 5 through 8 at St. Mary's, Avoca.

1973

Laraine Mancuso is the assistant vice president for training and development at Reliance National insurance company in New York.

Rick Wasatonic is a research associate in the astronomy and astrophysics department of Villanova University, Villanova, Pa. Rick resides in Coopersburg, Pa., with his wife Robin and their two sons, Eric and David.

1974

James B. Godlewski's co-authored paper, "Providing First-Grade Students with the Help of Peer Coaches and the Opportunity to Write Using Computers," was presented at the 14th annual International Conference on Technology and Education in Oslo, Norway. It is a Wilkes-Barre resident.

Brent Spencer received the Wallace Stegner Fellowship at Stanford University and the James Michener Award at the Iowa Writers' workshop, for his work in creative writing. He is director of creative writing at Creighton University, Omaha, Neb., and editor of the Creighton Press.

1975

Donald Nash presented a slide lecture titled, "Causing Wilderness Fear and Ncar From Eastern Siberia to the Susquehanna," as part of the Wilkes University Alumni Association President's Breakfast.

John Orlando is a project manager at Intel Corp. Austin, Texas. He resides with his wife Vanessa and daughters Jessica, Michelle and Stephanie, in Austin.

1976

Ken Humiston joined Century 21 Ruth K. Smith as a sales associate. He resides in Hanover Township with his wife, Mary.

Frederick A. Lohman was promoted to vice president and financial officer by the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry.

Marietta Minelli was named director of performance improvement for VNA/Management Services of Luzerne County.

Stephen Spock, Jr., is a district sales manager for Phillips-Van Heusen, Denton, Texas. He resides in Lewisville, Texas, with his wife Vicki and three children, Jennifer, Jeffrey and Julia.

1977

Thomas P. Wahl was named director of manufacturing technical support for Sensormatic Electronics Company.

Patty Ossont R.N., joined the staff of the Carbondale Nursing Home as director of nursing. She and her husband Mark reside in Jessup, Pa. with their four sons.

Mandy S. Williams married Larry E. Reimert. They reside in Houston, Texas.

1979

Betsy B. Condon was named to the Pennsylvania Bar Association Judicial Campaign Advertising Board. She lives in Kingston, Pa.

John M. Forte is a film/TV/video producer/director for Coastal Video Communications and New Dominion Pictures. He directed the series, "New Detectives" for the Discovery Channel. John resides in Virginia Beach, Va. with his wife Lucia and three children, Danny, Tony and Jenna.

Philip E. Orgen was appointed director of information services of PG Energy.

Paul P. Wengen was promoted to vice president and general manager of the Archibald operations of Lockheed Martin Tactical Defense Systems.

1980

Gregg H. Cook was appointed director of application development of Sunglasses Hut International.

Susan Theobald Eckmann is a controller for HIP Health Plan of New Jersey. She resides in Lebanon, N.J., with her husband Steven and two children, Thomas and Allison.

Joel P. Kane was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the United States marines. He resides in Emerald Isle, N.C.

Linda Knorr Millar accepted a position with the Broward County Schools-Atlantic Vocational Technical Center as a practical nursing instructor. She resides in Plantation, Fla., with her husband Fred and two children, Jessica and David.

Richard Bydzewski operates the Academy of Golf Center in Plains, Pa. Richard resides with wife, Donna, daughter, Jessica and son, Nicholas, in Plains, Pa.

Daniel W. Scott was promoted to vice president of the Hazleton Broad Street banking center. He is a Wilkes-Barre resident.

1981

Virginia Martin Crossin and husband Richard announce the birth of daughter Julia. They reside in Kingston, with their son Andrew.

Patricia Ann Morrow completed her master's degree in business administration and certification in health services management at Fuzpa School of Business, Duke University, Durham, N.C. She resides in Raleigh, N.C., with her husband Robert and son Matthew.

Frances A. Rogers, M.S.N., R.N. was awarded the American Heart Association's Award for Excellence in Acute Cardiovascular Care. She resides in Pittsford

Township with her husband Charles and children Erin and Charles.

Molly Delafanty Sidari is working as office manager and nurse for her husband, Dr. Jude F. Sidari. They reside in Sugarloaf, Pa., with their three children, Jude, Kristen and Michael.

William E. Stusnick announces the birth of his son, Henry William.

Louis and JoAnn Casey Zack announce the birth of daughter, Kira. They reside in Blue Bell, Pa.

1982

Donna Nitka Brunelli, D.O., and her husband Timothy announce the birth of daughter, Elizabeth Ann. They reside in Boswell, Pa.

Margie Eckroth married Barry Bucher. She is employed as assistant professor, teaching psychiatric and mental health nursing at Bloomsburg University, and is currently working on her doctorate at Widener University. They reside in Bloomsburg, Pa.

Joseph A. Gorko, Jr. was named a regularly-appearing, broadest-feature, guest personality of WBRE-TV 28 of Wilkes-Barre. He is a resident of Dallas, Pa.

Keith J. Keefer, M.D., joined the Community Medical Associates-Toms River, in the practice of family medicine.

Teresa Keenan is a senior research associate for AARP. She resides in Falls Church, Va. with husband Carlos Indacochea.

Joseph J. Knox changed the name of Knox Law

Offices, P.C. to Knox & Lychak, P.C. and has opened a second office with locations in Macungie and Bethlehem, Pa. He resides in Macungie, Pa.

Jerome Nachlis and wife Debra announce the birth of their son, Aaron Hillel. They reside in Wilmington, Del.

Amy Z. Stauffer and husband Don announce the birth of their son, Skylar.

Anthony E. Vlahovic opened Momentum Fitness in Princeton, N.J., where he serves as president/owner. Anthony and his wife Nina announce the birth of their son, Anthony Ross. They reside in Doylestown, Pa.

Michael Williams is pursuing a Ph.D. in music performance from New York University. He and his wife Christine reside in Neversink, N.Y. with their daughter, Brittany Marie.

1983

Diane Gombeda married Chris W. Fellin. They reside in Danville, Pa., with son, Jonathan David and daughter, Lauren Jennifer.

Anne Marie Lenahan was appointed director of Mercy Health Partner's new regional wound care center. She is a native of Wilkes-Barre.

Shoshana Troy Melman, M.D., is the director, St. Chris Care Child and Adolescent Practice, Center City, Philadelphia. She resides in Cherry Hill, N.J., with husband, Dr. Edward Harris Melman, O.D., and two children, Ari and Ezra.

James J. Sheard has been named director of energy management for PG Energy. James resides in Wilkes-Barre.

1984

Dale Englehart was appointed marketing director of the Quad Three Group Inc. firm in Wilkes-Barre. Dale resides in Shavertown, Pa., with his wife, Christine and two children, Hunter and Tanner.

Ned Sandercock joined Maple City Associates Real Estate. Ned, his wife, Libby, and their twin children, Alex and Lauren, reside in Honesdale, Pa.

Mark Swartz was selected 1997 honorary chairman for the 17th annual Hospice of the Good Shepherd Golf Tournament. He lives in Chambersburg with his wife, Sue.

Elaine C. Turcan joined C.E.C. Associates, Kingston, in the practice of family medicine.

1985

Suzanne Vassia Fletcher was admitted as a partner with Parente, Randolph, Orlando, Carey and Associates in Wilkes-Barre. She resides in Hanover Township with her husband John.

Barry J. Frauens, O.D., completed a residency program in primary care at the Eye Institute of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. Barry is also an adjunct professor member of Nova Southwestern University College of Optometry in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Margaret Davison Matisko has been named a consultation and education specialist for Northeast Counseling Services.

Myron W. Vencha, Jr., attained board certification in otolaryngology/head and neck surgery from the American Board of Otolaryngology. He lives in Yokosuka, Japan, with his wife Vanessa and daughter, Marie Colleen.

1986

Bert Decker and wife Christine announce the birth of their son, Mitchell Evan. They reside in Stratford, N.J., with their son Matthew.

Carmen Pancerella and husband Tim Straver announce the birth of daughter, Elizabeth Mary. They reside in West Newton, Mass.

Marino Santarelli was appointed to Wilkes University's Board of Trustees.

Sophia Swingle was named coordinator of the Excellence in Education program in northeastern Pennsylvania by First Union National Bank.

Michele Wagner and husband Jeff announce the birth of daughter, Elizabeth. They reside in Broomfield, Colo.

1987

Joseph S. Briskie was appointed to the medical staff at Uniontown Hospital in the department of medicine/internal medicine. Joseph and his wife, Kimberlee, and sons, Matthew and Christopher, reside in Uniontown.

Philip and Carol Cyriax announce the birth of their son Tyler. They reside in Whitehall, Pa., with their daughter Lauren.

Paul McAndrew accepted the position of CADD senior designer in the mechanical engineering department of The Hillier Group, Clarks Summit, Pa. He resides in Scranton, Pa.

Wendy Wadas Morris and husband John announce the birth of their daughter Morgan. They reside in Dallas, Pa.

Diane Gazoo Rizzetto and husband Perry announce the birth of daughter Rachel Ann. They live in Northampton, Pa., with their son Ryan.

Kimberly Seward married Ron Scott. They have a daughter and reside in Taylor, Pa. Kimberly is a medical technologist for Geisinger Regional Laboratories.

Kurt A. Searfoss was named company grade officer of the quarter for the 89th Logistics Group, Air Force.

Leslie Woods is an inventory control analyst with elector, Inc., in Exton, Pa.

Alumni Close-Up



Shidlovsky, center, and fellow U.S. Army soldiers step foot for the first time ever on the republic of Moldova.

Shidlovsky Represents U.S. Military in Moldova

Ivan Shidlovsky '82, defense attaché for the United States Army, completed a one-year tour to the Republic of Moldova where he opened the defense attaché office at the U.S. Embassy.

"Part of my assignment was to act as a key player in enhancing the military relationship between Moldova and the United States," said Shidlovsky.

Shidlovsky resides with his wife, Barbara, and two children, Alexander and Nicholas, in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany.

Alumni Close-Up

Hard Work Pays Off for Accounting Professors



Cynthia Chisarick Associate Professor Accounting

Cynthia Chisarick '73, CPA, was elected president of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) Northeast Chapter, during its 100th annual meeting in Amelia Island, Fla.

Dr. Marianne Rexer Assistant Professor Accounting



Marianne Slechtman Rexer '85 received a doctor of philosophy degree in accounting with a minor in statistics from Drexel University.

nursing from the University of Scranton. She is also honored as the outstanding graduate student in nursing. Helen and her husband Earl reside in Roaring Brook Township, and have two children, Paul and David.

1992

Lari Ann Farrell wed Scott Friedenberg. They reside in Rochester.

Debra Frenzilli married Jason Pirkle. She was appointed senior designer at ConDC Nast Publications, Inc., in New York City.

Kathy Kouch and husband Steve announce the birth of daughter Erica. Kathy completed a master's of science degree in rehabilitation counseling. They reside in Allentown, Pa.

Andrej Petroski received a master's of science degree in instructional technology from Bloomsburg University. He resides in Harrisburg, Pa., with wife Kelly.

John Pirich, Jr., is a senior credit analyst at American Credit Services, Columbia, Md. He resides in McSherrystown, Pa.

Matthew E. Reinert wed Tara C. Caruso. They reside in Wooming, Pa.

Karen Schlaf married Brian Ayers. She was promoted to marketing officer at Business Bank of California. They reside in Redlands, Calif.

Robert Stella and wife Marisa announce the birth of daughter Mara.

Frances Matso Lysiak was promoted to managing editor of the Northeast Pennsylvania Business Journal. She resides in Swagertown, Pa.

1993

Alex Coveski was hired by Lake Lehman High School to teach in the social studies department. He resides at Harvey's Lake, Pa.

Christopher Gallo directed the Wayne Chorales annual summer concerts. He is a native of Dumfries, Pa.

Fran (Masio) Iysiak was awarded second place in the statewide Keystone Press Awards program. She won for her work in the "Business/Consumer News" category. Fran and her husband Eric reside in Swyersville, Pa.

Joyce C. Morrash wed Jonathan Perloff '94. They reside in Blue Bell, Pa.

1994

Pamela Jones wed Gino Angelozzi. They reside in Bethlehem, Pa.

Cathy Long manages Aural's TV and Appliances in Honesdale, Pa.

Karen Pastula was awarded the Richard E. Collaruso, D.O., Memorial Scholarship by Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

1995

Lori C. Bantel is a reading specialist with the Hanover Area school district. She resides in Swyersville, Pa.

Leanne Chamberlin was admitted into the master's of physical therapy program at Western Carolina University in Cullawhee, N.C. where she also resides.

Marc K. Fontinell married Michele Fanti. They reside in Maryville, Tenn.

Mona S. Garrison accepted a job as a computer programmer/analyst at BioControl Technology, Inc. She resides in Indiana, Pa.

Rebecca L. Golden resides at 284 Kimbel Drive, Phoenixville, Pa. 19460

J.J. Grube works as a model for Hero Inc. in Miami Beach, Fla.

Doreen Klimek received a promotion at Kingdom Tours to market their global distribution system. She resides in Dupont, Pa.

Thaddeus Lacki completed a three-month term of international practical training at Sican GmbH of Hannover, Germany, in the area of analog and digital microelectronic design. He resides in Lancaster, Pa.

Anthony D. Mazzatesta received his master's degree in materials engineering from Johns Hopkins University. He resides in Sugar Notch, Pa.

Scott Mergle addressed the 10th annual symposium of the Wildlife Habitat Council. He is a resident of Shillington, Pa.

J. Lynne Ometer is director, food and nutrition services for Emory Hospitals in Atlanta, Ga. She resides in Swannee, Ga.

Sabeth Ryan received her master's degree in English from Bucknell University. She works as an editorial assistant at Golden Books Family Entertainment in New York City.

Jennifer Ryman married Glenn Davis. They reside in Swyersville, Pa.

Tammy Ann Spinoski wed David A. Corwin. They reside in Sugar Notch, Pa.

Megan Welliver married John Kelly. Megan is attending the physician assistant program at King's College. They reside in Pitston, Pa.

1996

Phillip J. Bosha participated in the Vello E. Barandis, M.D., Summer Extern Program at Mercy.

Juleann Ducanj was hired as a full time teacher for the 5A class at St. Jude School, Mountaintop, Pa.

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John Zazworskey was appointed branch sales manager of the Swede Square branch of Commonwealth Bank.

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Jerry R. Knafu was named committee chairman by the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pa.

Debra Prochko was named circulation director for New Woman magazine.

Nareesh G. Ramaratnam was appointed to the advisory board of Big Brothers Big Sisters. He resides in Wilkes-Barre.

Joseph R. Barberio is employed as law clerk to the Honorable Berhard J. Avellino, Criminal Trial Division, First Judicial District of Pennsylvania, Common Pleas Court of Philadelphia. Joseph and his wife, Colette M. Elick, reside in South Philadelphia.

Albert Williams is manager for the tenth branch location of First Federal Savings Bank.

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Thank you, Dean Whitby



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"His quintessential time was forty years," said Wilkes trustee **Esther Davidowitz**, a close friend of Whitby's. "His personal primary purpose was granting the gift of education to young students. John Whitby possessed the art of discernment, the ability to identify potential."

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A graduate of Edwinstown High School, Whitby graduated from Bloomsburg University in 1947 and received his master's degree in economics from Columbia University. He attained the rank of lieutenant commander at the Notre Dame Midshipman's School of the United States Navy and was a veteran of World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Hilda; sister, Mary Whitby Moore, daughter, Susan Shapiro; son, Charles M. Isaacs; three grandchildren and two nieces.

"He was a loving presence in their lives and years later in the lives of their spouses and children," said Davidowitz.

VIDEO ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number of video tapes ordered: _____ @ \$22.00 each = Total: _____

Mail to:
Wilkes University
Final Four Video
c/o Alumni Office
P.O. Box 111
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

He was employed by Pethick Construction Co., and was the owner and operator of Corcoran Printing. He was past president of the Plains Businessmen's Association.

Bernadine Urbanski was employed as a professional secretary with the Greater Wilkes-Barre Jaycees for more than 25 years.

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DOWN THE ROAD TO THE FINAL FOUR

Trace the Wilkes University Colonels' journey to the Division III Championship playoffs in Salem, Virginia.

This student-produced 30 minute video features post-season highlights and behind the scenes action from the men's basketball team's championship season. Relive Matts Madness, as the Colonels defeat their Scranton rivals in three consecutive games to advance to the MAC, Sweet Sixteen and Elite Eight games. Follow the action from campus, watching as the Colonels defeat two separate opponents during an unforgettable weekend on their home court. And experience the excitement as the Colonels head to Virginia on their first trip to the Final Four.

Down the Road to the Final Four is available by mail for only \$22. Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery. To order, return the attached card with your check or money order.

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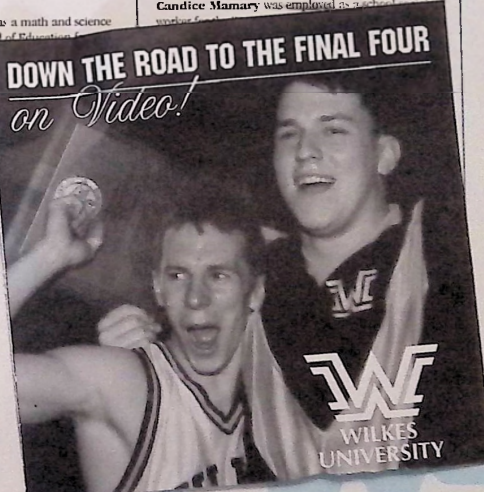
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Anthony D. Mazzatesta received his master's degree in materials engineering from Johns Hopkins University. He resides in Sugar Notch, Pa.

Scott Mengle addressed the 10th annual symposium of the Wildlife Habitat Council. He is a resident of Shillington, Pa.

J. Lynne Ometer is director, food and nutrition services for Emory Hospitals in Atlanta, Ga. She resides in Swartown, Ga.

Sabeth Ryan received her master's degree in English from Bucknell University. She works as an editorial assistant at Golden Books Family Entertainment in New York City.

Jennifer Ryan married Glenn Davis. They reside in Swyersville, Pa.

Tammy Ann Spinoski wed David A. Curwin. They reside in Sugar Notch, Pa.

Megan Welliver married John Kelly. Megan is attending the physician assistant program at King's College. They reside in Pitston, Pa.

1996

Philip J. Bosha participated in the Vello E. Barandis, M.D., Summer Extern Program at Mercy.

Juleann Ducaji was hired as a full-time teacher for the 5A class at St. Jude School, Mountaintop, Pa.

Joe Natress attended the American Water Works Association Water Quality Technology Conference in Denver, Colo. His presentation was titled, "Benchmarking Protozoan Inactivation by Chloramines."

Jason C. Parise received his funeral directors license.

1997

Cynthia G. Charnetski entered the doctor of optometry program at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, Philadelphia.

Dominick T. Gattuso passed the Delaware Bar Examination.

MASTER'S

1975

Agnes Toloczko Cardoni published a book titled, "Women's Ethical Coming-of-Age."

1979

Noreen Johnson was promoted to senior manager of marketing services for the north-central and eastern regions of the Penn State Geisinger Health System. She resides in Dallas, Pa., with her husband.

John Beberus was appointed to the board of directors for the Wyoming Valley Children's Association.

1981

James J. Grudzinski was honored for his outstanding job performance as a taxation auditing specialist at the state Department of Revenue.

1982

Biagio W. Sciacca was named chairman of the 75th annual Mother of the Rosary Procession from St. Rocco's Church, Pittston, Pa. He and his wife, Tammy, have two children, Salvatore and Biagio.

1983

Jessica Morgan was named account executive in the Continuing Education Department of Luzerne County Community College, Nanticoke, Pa. She is a Dallas, Pa. resident.

1985

Marete Wester was cited by Union County freeholders for her work as co-chairwoman of the 1997 National Arts Advocacy Day, sponsored by Americans for the Arts. She is the executive director of the Alliance for Arts Education in N.J. Marete and her husband, Peter Syak, reside in Fanwood, N.J.

1986

Donald Jones is the elementary principal for the Athens Area school district in Athens, Pa., where he resides with wife Cynthia and sons Nathan and Zachary.

1987

Daniel R. Nulton, business bank manager for PNC Bank, was given additional duties that include management of business banking in central and northeastern Pa.

1989

Deirdre Gallahue-Thorp is a family and consumer science teacher in the East Penn School District, Emmaus, Pa. She resides with her husband Todd and three children, Jordan, Shane, and Hannah in Mertztown, Pa.

1990

Linda M. Barnes is an associate professor occupational therapy assisting at Penn College, Williamsport, Pa.

Jeffrey Kotz was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Air Force at the Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Ala.

Susan Marie Kurlandski, R.N., accepted a full-time position in the Respiratory Care Unit of General Hospital, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Colleen McGarry was hired as a math teacher at the Pitston Area High School. Colleen will also serve as assistant girls basketball coach and Key Club advisor.

Amy Marie O'Boyle has entered the doctor of optometry program at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, Philadelphia, and was elected president of the class of 2001.

Sandra J. Sakrison, director of medical imaging and women's care at Hazleton-St. Joseph Medical Center, passed the quality management advanced certification exam. She resides in Drums, Pa.

Chris Taroli was honored for his outstanding support of local veterans. He is employed by Children's Service Center, where he works with autistic children.

John Zazworskey was appointed branch sales manager of the Swede Square branch of Commonwealth Bank.

1991

Jerry R. Knafo was named committee chairman by the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pa.

Debra Protchko was named circulation director for New Woman magazine.

Nareesh G. Ramanathanam was appointed to the advisory board of Big Brothers Big Sisters. He resides in Wilkes-Barre.

Joseph R. Barberio is employed as law clerk to the Honorable Bernard J. Avellino, Criminal Trial Division, First Judicial District of Pennsylvania, Common Pleas Court of Philadelphia. Joseph and his wife, Colette M. Elick, reside in South Philadelphia.

Albert Williams is manager for the tenth branch location of First Federal Savings Bank.

1994

George Halama was appointed chief financial officer at Elk County Regional Medical Center. George and his wife, Jo Ann, have three daughters, Melissa, Jill and Beth.

1995

Susan Malkemes, R.N., was named employee of the month by Penn State Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center. She resides in Mountaintop with her husband Michael and two children, Matthew and Becky.

Carl Smith was appointed district justice by the state Senate.

1996

Kathy M. Richards was named instructor of elementary and secondary education at Lock Haven University.

1997

Michael J. Enriquez was named supervisor of the medical laboratory at Sunbury Community Hospital.

Scott K. Murphy was admitted to associate status in the American College of Healthcare Executives. He resides in Nanticoke, Pa.

Sharon R. Seip was appointed assistant professor of nursing by Northampton Community College.

Sandra Stefanowicz has been named director of merchandising and special services for Pennsylvania Enterprises, Inc.

In Memoriam

GRADUATES

1947

Joseph John Dudek served with the U.S. Army Medical Corp during World War II. Prior to his retirement, he was a senior engineer with Unisys, Great Neck, N.Y. for 32 years.

1948

Joseph J. Alco, D.D.S., Ph.D., was a decorated combat veteran of World War II, serving with the Army infantry in Europe and the Philippines. He was professor and chairman of the pathology department at Temple University School of Dentistry. He was named associate dean of the advanced education and research department and the continuing education department of Temple University Health Sciences Center.

1957

Clement Jablonski worked as a math and science teacher for the Oceanport Board of Education for 37 years. He served with the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was a member and past president of the Oceanport Education Association.

1959

George H. Black was a teacher for the Quakerstown school district, the Kingston Borough School, and the Wyoming Valley West school district. He was head teacher at Main Street School, Kingston; Academy Street School, Courtdale; and Myers Russell School, Edwinstown.

John H. Gill was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War and served with Army Intelligence in Berlin, Germany. He worked as an insurance investigator for Equifax of Scranton for 31 years.

1963

Thomas E. Corcoran served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War with the 101st Airborne Division. He was employed by Pethick Construction Co., and was the owner and operator of Corcoran Printing. He was past president of the Plains Businessmen's Association.

Keep your classmates informed of your accomplishments: marriages, births, awards, recognitions, promotions, and new jobs. Include photos and supporting articles (newspaper clippings, written descriptions) whenever possible. Attach them to this form, and mail to:

Class Notes
Alumni Office
Wilkes University
P.O. Box 111
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766

Class notes appear in each edition of the Universe, which is published three times a year. We are unable to include notes about engagements, anticipated events or expected babies. Please share the good news with us after your special event has occurred.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Class Year: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Home Telephone: () _____
Social Security Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____

FAMILY INFORMATION

Spouse: _____ Wilkes Class year: _____

Rita Hiller was employed as an elementary school teacher by the Scranton School District. She was a former recording secretary for the Scranton Ski Club; building representative and executive board member of the Scranton Federation of Teachers; a member of the executive board of the Women's Teachers Organization and a partner with the Telephone Pioneers of America.

1972

Nicholas Babish was the general manager of the Key Condominium Association, San Francisco, Calif., where he lived for the past 20 years.

1976

Eileen McGlynn was employed as a teacher and guidance counselor by Stroudsburg Middle School, before retiring.

1991

Candice Mamary was employed as a school social worker for the Wyoming Valley West school district. She was also a member of many associations, councils, committees, boards and task forces. She was a certified municipal police officer instructor.

UNIVERSITY FRIENDS

Raymond M. Balwiczek ('53), was a retired major in the U.S. Army, served as a corporate pilot, was past president of the Valley Fly-In Association, was a volunteer with Lifenline Pilots, Young Eagles, and owned a warehousing and residential development business.

William A. Bonn ('53), was a sergeant during World War II, then owned and operated Star Products Co., Wilkes-Barre.

Mary A. Bunsiek was a member and board of directors representative of the Wilkes University Polish Room.

Bernadine Urbanski was employed as a professional secretary with the Greater Wilkes-Barre Jaycees for more than 25 years.

Children: (names and ages) _____

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Job Title: _____
Employer: _____
Business Telephone: () _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Length of time and brief description: _____

ACADEMIC/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Graduate Degree(s): _____ School: _____
Community Activities: _____

CLASS NOTE

Thank you, Dean Whitby



John Probert Whitby '75, former dean of admissions and economics instructor for Wilkes College, died in April.

"His quintessential time was forty years," said Wilkes trustee **Esther Davidowitz**, a close friend of Whitby's. "His personal primary purpose was granting the gift of education to young students. John Whitby possessed the art of discernment, the ability to identify potential."

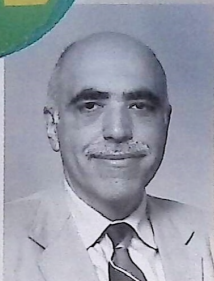
"He opened the doors to their destinies while encouraging and arranging the fates of these youngsters," said Davidowitz. "This was especially true as he transformed many he guided through the process to careers requiring graduate degrees in law, medicine and education."

"Dr. Farley had the utmost confidence in him as dean of Admissions," said Davidowitz. "They were part of a strong Wilkes team. His intelligence, personal dignity, loyalty and dedication were recognized and appreciated by the administration and by his associates."

A graduate of Edwinstown High School, Whitby graduated from Bloomsburg University in 1947 and received his master's degree in economics from Columbia University. He attained the rank of lieutenant commander at the Notre Dame Midshipman's School of the United States Navy and was a veteran of World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Hilda; sister, Mary Whitby Moore; daughter, Susan Shapiro; son, Charles M. Isaacs; three grandchildren and two nieces.

"He was a loving presence in their lives and years later in the lives of their spouses and children," said Davidowitz.



Driving Under The Influence Of Stupidity

Dr. Anthony L. Liuzzo

The next time you are driving your automobile, check your rearview mirror. The eyes that you see are mine. I am a road hog, a tailgater, an annoyance, a danger, your worst nightmare.

Trained to drive on the streets and highways of the Bronx, when I am behind you, I wish to drive five miles an hour faster than you; and when I am in front of you, I wish to drive five miles an hour slower.

I pass on the right and ignore all safety regulations. To me, a "stop" sign means yield and a "yield" sign means go. Yellow traffic signals have the identical meaning as do green ones and my right foot is always as far down as possible on either the accelerator or the brake.

At times, I use my directional signals as a decoy, so as to hide my true intentions from other motorists. At other times, I leave these flashing, seemingly in perpetuity, as if indicating a right turn around the planet. And I keep one hand on my horn, ready to blast if you delay even one nanosecond after the traffic light turns green. My other hand hangs loosely out the window and is used only to communicate my displeasure and impatience with your driving.

I am always in a rush, exceeding the speed limit, eyes darting to and fro, hither and yon, seeking the tell-tale signs of the hidden official vehicle equipped with siren and lights. I am acquainted with all of their hiding places, and my radar detection device

remains well-maintained. In the world of accidents, I am never a victim, only a carrier of the disease.

I ignore lanes, weaving from right to left in a seemingly random manner. I exploit the shoulders of the road if they serve to allow me to pass you. Of course, I never permit any other driver to pass me and will strain my engine to its maximum output in order to prevent this.

I have no qualms about cutting in front of fire engines, ambulances, and other emergency vehicles, but will tail these closely if I am in heavy traffic so that I can speed ahead of all the courteous motorists. I am never intimidated by the size or the heft of your vehicle, and am equally rude to oil rigs, large semis, and motor homes.

When I see a sign indicating a lane is closed ahead, I immediately move into this lane until the last possible moment, and will cut off the driver who has been so foolish as to be patient and wait his or her turn. Similarly, I show no mercy to others who need to make last minute lane changes, and will refuse to allow these vehicles to move in front of me even where they have with greatest respect requested such accommodation.

The weapons in my arsenal include my high beams, my horn, and an assortment of profane statements.

The next time you are driving your automobile, check your rearview mirror. Then pull off the road and wait for me to pass!

Dr. Anthony L. Liuzzo is Associate Professor of Business Administration and Economics. This article is not to be taken seriously, in that Dr. Liuzzo has never cut off an ambulance.



*The next time you
are driving your
automobile, check
your rearview
mirror. Then pull
off the road and
wait for me to pass!*

W I L K E S
UNIVERSE

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Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

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