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Gas prices are through the roof, Page 7



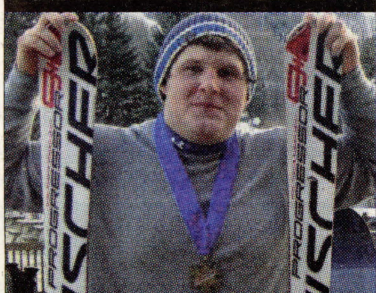
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The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Wilkes dining officials say the amount of food that comes back on the cafeteria conveyor belt is frightening. They believe the problem stems from the majority of student who fill their trays to the maximum but only eat a portion of the food.

Food waste at Wilkes has negative impacts

BY KIRSTIN COOK
Editor-in-Chief

Christina Martinez takes a bite of mashed potatoes in the Wilkes cafeteria and decides they taste bad.

So, she brings the almost untouched bowl to the conveyor belt and sends it away to the dish room.

"I throw out a lot, actually," the freshman biology major said.

And Martinez isn't the only one. Wilkes dining officials say the amount of food that comes back on the cafeteria conveyor belt des-

tined for the landfill can be downright frightening.

"If you spend a few hours in the dish room, the sheer amount of food that comes back there sometimes is really scary," Dining Services General Manager Ronald Williams said.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency states that in 2010 more than 33 million tons of food waste was thrown away, accounting for almost 14 percent of all garbage.

The stream of food waste from Wilkes alone is impacting the en-

vironment by adding to swelling landfills, as well as the Wilkes budget because of high costs associated with this garbage. The issue is fed by a lack of awareness, leading to excess food being tossed.

Williams said the problem stems from the majority of students who fill their trays to the maximum but only eat a portion of the food.

"A lot of people take something from every station and then end up throwing maybe a third of it away," Williams said.

He said a lot of people don't think about how much they're wasting,

and he'd like to make them more aware.

Williams explained there are costs throughout the food cycle – from bringing in the food and preparing it to transporting the waste to the landfill – putting a price tag on every plate of disposed food.

Luzerne County recycling coordinator Beth DeNardi said this cost is the bottom line of reducing food waste.

"I think once you start diverting the food from the waste stream,

SEE WASTE, PAGE 3

Wilkes trains leaders through annual service positions

BY PHAT NGUYEN
News Editor

Senior English major Jason Neare is looking at programs with the Duke Talent Identification Program where he would be in charge of teaching talented high school graduates upon graduation.

He is also considering doing a writing program with Duke in New Mexico about politics and law in China.

This is all possible because he was one of the Wilkes scholars selected for the Scholars in Service to Pennsylvania program.

Wilkes University is partnering with AmeriCorps for the sixth consecutive year.

The school has been awarded more than ten part-time AmeriCorps positions.

The program is centered on the student's personal interests allowing them to coordinate and plan their own service event said Megan Boone Valkenburg, the civic engagement and community service coordinator.

AmeriCorps, a program of the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency, supports more than 50,000 people each year who make significant service commitments.

Students will then plan and complete 300 hours of service in one year with an educational stipend of \$1175 from the Corporation for National and Community Service.

They also receive leadership training and help recruit additional volunteers.

Boone believes this will enable the school to work closely with nonprofit agencies in very meaningful ways.

"We have been able to pilot a community-centered research project with the Victims Resource Center through the hard work and dedication of our Scholars in Service to Pennsylvania students," Boone said. "This research will help inform educational and preventative programs on our campus."

Boone will be recruiting students for next year's program from now through the end of



The Beacon/Kirstin Cook

Senior Jason Neare, a Wilkes AmeriCorps scholar, takes part in Alternative Spring Break in Costa Rica. Neare is considering more service projects upon graduation.

the spring semester. She is looking for students with outstanding leadership qualities and will have trouble narrowing down to just ten people.

"It is hard," Boone said with a smile.

While there is an application process with essays and recommendations required, the competition will bring out the best in her

scholars, she said.

Neare, a current scholar, knew that he wanted to become a leader in the community and quickly took interest in helping people.

Some of the events on campus that he has been a part of include the Orange Ribbon Campaign for Domestic Violence Awareness Month and the Root Beer Social, which was

a water pong tournament to raise awareness of the use of narcotics/alcohol as a means of committing rape.

Students were provided with the statistics of date rape drugs during parties.

"The purpose of the projects are to raise awareness of the ways in which students live to make sure that they are safe outside of the classroom," Neare said. "SISPA allows students to do these tasks in order to break through the barrier of reaching the college community through peer advocacy."

These events lead to the Victim's Rights Rally, Take Back the Night, which is when Wilkes University and King's College recruit people to join an organized walk in support of stopping domestic violence/rape, Neare said.

Neare was able to apply his English background to Domestic Violence Service Center workshops by providing the women with an outlet to work on resumes, cover letters and creative writing.

"One of the most rewarding experiences of my time here at Wilkes was when one woman worked on a resume in the workshop," Neare said. "Two weeks later, the DVSC notified us and said that the same woman was able to attain the school job she wanted, purchase her own home and regain a custody fight for her children."

Neare was able to use his education to provide another individual with a better quality of living, thus fulfilling the SISPA goal.

Many of these SISPA scholars, such as Neare, have had leadership opportunities in the past, been involved with extracurriculars such as English honors society and are very good at communicating, Boone said.

"My kids are not afraid to ask why and how to get more involved. They're also not afraid to talk to other students," Boone said.

A lot of her past scholars are still at Wilkes as student teachers or working in nonprofit

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BEACON

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Serena Molyneux
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WASTE

Continued from the front page

you'll see a drop in what it is you put out for garbage," DeNardi said. "You'll see a drop in the cost of it as well."

Composting as a solution

DeNardi said there are useful outlets for food waste, such as composting the scraps to create nutritious soil or giving it to local farmers to feed livestock.

"You're taking something you could use down the line, that doesn't require a lot of work, and you're paying to throw it away," DeNardi said. "To me that doesn't make sense."

She called composting a win-win situation because it would generate benefits at the same time as reducing landfill that produces pollutants such as methane.

DeNardi does not know of any area colleges that have a composting program. She said it'd be a great idea for all of them to start one, but she suggested preliminary feasibility studies to determine effectiveness. The first step would require schools to determine a location for the project.

"Unfortunately a lot of the colleges in town don't have that type of space to work with," DeNardi said, though Environmental and Earth Sciences professor Jule McMonagle said Wilkes could partner with local municipalities and organizations for the project.

"It would require an investment of time on Wilkes' part, but if at the end of the day they can reduce their overall costs as well as have some nice partnering activities, that might be very attractive," McMonagle said.

DeNardi said the tangible benefits would be worth the effort.

"With a compost pile, you're not going to pay as much for garbage, you're doing something that's educational, plus you could use the end product," DeNardi said. "I don't see anything bad about that."

DeNardi stressed the most important part of reducing waste is education. This is something McMonagle also stresses in class. She said a composting project would be a powerful tool in this education process.

Developing a partnership project would be time-consuming, but she said the rich fertilizer from compost, cost-effectiveness and positive press for Wilkes are just a few of the rewards.

Simpler alternatives

EEES professor Mark Kaster added that educating the public on food waste is a part of Wilkes' role in the community.

"The university should be a leader in that area, because that's all about educating the community," Kaster said.

He said there seems to be a disconnect



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

The stream of uneaten food from the Wilkes cafeteria is affecting the environment by adding to landfills, as well as the Wilkes budget because of high costs associated with this garbage. This issue is fed by a lack of awareness, leading to excess food being tossed. Dining Services tries to keep leftovers at a minimum by making food in small batches.

between today's generations and the realization of how much work goes into producing food.

"Maybe that's partial explanation why it's so easy just to fill your plate up," Kaster said. "You're on a meal plan, so mound it, and eat half of it and the rest of it goes away."

Kaster said the solution to cutting food waste in the Wilkes cafeteria is simple: Take only as much as you're going to eat. But, he said, this requires consciousness toward sustainability.

"It's a value thing," Kaster said. "If you really care, or even care a little bit, you say 'OK, I'll only take what I want.' You can always go back and get more. You don't have to fill your plate massively."

He said producing compost would have local benefits because the soil quality in this area is very low.

Williams said Dining Services tries to keep leftovers at a minimum by making food in small batches. He said they will give food to the St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen in Wilkes-Barre when the cafeteria closes for breaks rather than letting it spoil.

Some schools are going tray-less to cut back on waste, he said, something the Wilkes

cafeteria does on Earth Day to spread awareness. He said there's the potential to eliminate trays completely, which he believes would be effective in decreasing waste. But he said this would have to be student-driven to be successful.

"It has to be student-driven almost, because at this point there's too much push-back from faculty, staff and students," Williams said. "If there was an initiative like that that was student-driven, it definitely wouldn't get a fight from us."

Despite the advantages of a compost program, Williams said there is the major downfall of the idea in who would take on the project.

He said there would almost have to be an employee on staff strictly to maintain that program. In the meantime, he said other routes to bring awareness — such as tray-less initiatives and food donations — are a step in the right direction.

"Anything we can do to reduce the amount of food and garbage that's taken off campus is a plus."



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LEADERS

Continued from page 2

organizations.

Boone also encourages students to reapply, as they can be a scholar up to four times as long as they meet criteria.

"When people see that you can give yourself up to help other people, think creatively and work with diverse people, it really makes you stand out," Boone said.

"It shows that you are able to see projects through a long period of time which employers are looking for."

Lisa Mulvey, career services and development coordinator, said professional volunteer experience always looks really good on a resume.

"AmeriCorps" is such a well-known, prestigious program," Mulvey said.

"To get accepted into a program like that is definitely going to catch onto employers especially if you can relate it to your major."



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SG: Lady Luck and \$12,000 in prizes for Casino Week

BY DEVONI NOVAK
Assistant News Editor

Casino Night: Lady Luck will be sporting a dress made of student activities fees — SG unanimously granted \$11,900 of student activities fees to cover the cost of this year's Casino Week.

Most of the money is projected to be spent on prizes such as the MacBook Pro, the iPad, a giant flatscreen TV, a skydiving trip, gift cards and jewelry, just to name a few. Included in the budget will be a feast of pizza and soda.

P1 pharmacy major and SG treasurer, Samantha Bickert presented the proposal and after re-joining the rest of SG, she was jokingly told that her fund request was denied. Bickert however, was not convinced and laughed off the joke as she accepted just under \$12,000 for the event.

When asked why SG was entitled to such a large chunk of the student activity fee pot without having to fundraise — a practice that all of SG suggests to every club that receives SG funding — sophomore political science major Ian Foley explained, "We don't need to

fundraise because we already have access to the student activities fees."

SUB renovations aim at giving the first floor of the SUB a more modern look — Buffer fund has projected the renovations on the first floor of the SUB to cost \$105,000.

To achieve a coveted modern style, \$15,000 of the budget will be used to buy new furniture and another \$15,000 will be set aside "just in case."

Taking students' feedback into consideration from the online survey, minor changes to the virtual model will be made and installed accordingly when re-modeling takes place this summer.

Instead of the tapered counter originally designed for the game room, a full counter is preferable among students to make it more functional and accessible.

The game room will also feature a half wall that will be set against the future booths of Rifkin Café. By dividing the space with a half wall, a more modern, open feel is attempted.

In the lounge, the stage will be removed and in its place will be a counter complete with movable chairs.

Nominees for 2012-2013 SG President — As the end of the school year approaches, it's once again time to pick SG president for next year.

So far the nominees include: junior nursing major, Sam Schuler; sophomore mathematics education major, Amber Konopka; and junior pharmacy major, Kris Rivers.

Nominees who declined include: junior accounting and business administration major, John Sweeny; sophomore political science major, Ian Foley; and sophomore pharmacy major, Julie Miller.

Further nominations will be announced at the next SG meeting, followed by campus voting and election.

Psi Chi's game show allows students to talk about Wilkes — After their own department denied them the funds to host their annual fundraiser, The National Honor Society of Psychology, Psi Chi, came to SG last week to request \$357.25 for a "Family Feud" event.

Senior psychology major Nick Zinskie presented on behalf of Psi Chi and explained that while this is the only fundraiser used by Psi Chi, their mock version of "Family Feud"

gives students a chance to "receive great prizes for participation in a campuswide event that brings all students together to talk about Wilkes."

After Zinskie's presentation was complete, SG deliberated on the matter and ultimately agreed with Zinskie. Psi Chi was granted the full \$357.25.

In preparation for the event, members of Psi Chi first conduct a series of surveys across campus and use the generated answers to create their own version of this classic game show.

After the top answers according to the surveys are recorded, Psi Chi must then await interest to spark at sign-ups.

This year, interested students can register at the table marked "Psi Chi" in the SUB on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. with a participation fee of \$2.

Psi Chi's "Family Feud" will take place on Tuesday, April 17, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the SUB Ballroom. Refreshments and prizes will be provided.



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A Spark of Clean Energy: Marcellus Shale Formation

Natural gas industry to create more jobs, develop local businesses

BY BRYAN CALABRO
Design Editor

From the current drilling trend, within the next 10 years the economic impact of the Marcellus shale formation -- which underlies 60 percent of Pennsylvania's total landmass -- will hit an all-time high throughout Pennsylvania. Job creation will be a result.

"NEPA has experienced significant job losses, higher unemployment, and net population loss over the last 40 years.

The natural gas industry has created jobs in its own industry, but also helped a number of small businesses grow and become suppliers and/or vendors to the industry," said Terry Oomes, executive director for The Institute for Public Policy and Economic Development.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection reports the number of natural gas drilled wells throughout the Marcellus Shale formation has been increasing rapidly.

In 2007, only 27 wells were drilled in Pennsylvania. Now, the number of wells drilled

exceeds 4,000.

"With over 4,000 natural gas wells drilled in Pennsylvania, drilling is more important than ever. The presence of Marcellus shale has provided Pennsylvanians with direct and indirect jobs, over 72,000," said Samuel Denisco, director of government affairs at the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry.

The U.S. Geological Survey issued an updated Marcellus Shale resource assessment in Pennsylvania, indicating that the "region contains some 84 trillion cubic feet of undiscovered, recoverable natural gas, far more than thought nearly a decade ago," as reported by the Associated Press.

Dr. Sid P Halsor, professor of Environmental Engineering and Earth Science at Wilkes University, agrees people will benefit directly from natural gas drilling in Pennsylvania.

"Job creation as a result of Marcellus shale gas development for people's development is probably the biggest dividend from the development of gas play," Halsor said.

He said drilling into the Marcellus Shale formation is not a fad, either.

"Natural gas is here to stay for quite some time," Halsor said. "We are looking at 40 to 50 years of natural gas development for the Marcellus Shale region."

He pointed out the economic impact drilling has already had in Pennsylvania. UGI Penn Natural Gas has already started reducing its rates for Pennsylvania customers. This shows the profound effect natural gas will have on future economic success, Halsor said.

And even after these 40 to 50 years are up, Halsor said if economics are right, much deeper shale formations like the Utica formation can be drilled into.

The Utica shale formation is much thicker than the Marcellus shale formation, geographically extensive and has already shown promise of a commercial impact in eastern Ohio.

Gene Andzulis, petroleum landman with Gary A. Monroe and Associates, knows exactly what kind of commercial impact the Utica shale formation can have.

Andzulis, a recent Penn State grad with a B.S. in petroleum and natural gas engineering, moved to Ohio because of a job opportunity to work on the Utica shale formation.

"Drilling operations have barely begun in northeastern Pennsylvania, once the pipelines have been placed and projects completed in Ohio, western Pennsylvania operations will move east," Andzulis said.

Andzulis said he understands the strong economic power natural gas has in rural regions.

"The economic impact natural gas drilling has is limitless. Creating new, high-paying jobs in a failing economy in a primarily rural area is not an easy task, a task now possible," Andzulis said.

The Bureau of Labor statistics mirrors what Andzulis says about the creation of jobs. Employment related to oil and natural gas extraction for January 2011 topped out at 186,000 jobs, a 1,000-job increase over December of that year.

But there are many concerns about whether these newly created jobs will be safe.

"With any work site comes hazards," said Andzulis. "Those present on a drilling rig come from a lot of overhead dangers such as well casings, drilling components, tripped pipe, etc."

Andzulis disagrees with the argument of many anti-drilling advocates that the hydraulic fracturing process creates methane.

One of these anti-drilling advocates, Robert W. Howarth, Cornell professor of ecology and environmental biology, writes how the fracturing process creates methane in his scholarly journal.

"Higher emissions from shale gas occur at the time wells are hydraulically fractured as

methane escapes from flow-back return fluids and during drill out following the fracturing," Howarth said.

Andzulis counters this by saying, "The hydraulic fracturing process does not create methane, methane gases are naturally present in the earth, however during fracking, it may be released and find its way to the surface."

Andzulis suggests natural gas is a form of modern-day coal mining. Instead of going deep into the mines, workers stay above the surface and operate large scale drilling equipment.

Technological innovation has superseded the out-of-date methods of humans garnering coal.

Now, he said, the same impact coal mining had on small towns, drilling has today.

The impact of natural gas extends past its economic benefit: it is claimed to be much cleaner to burn and better for the environment.

Naturalgas.org cites the main products of natural gas when lit are carbon dioxide and water vapor; both products humans exhale throughout the day.

Coal and oil, the leading fossil fuels up until natural gas, are composed of much more complex molecules, with higher carbon, nitrogen and sulfur contents.

"When combusted, coal and oil release higher levels of harmful emissions, including a higher ratio of carbon emissions, nitrogen oxides, and sulfur dioxide," according to the website NaturalGas.org.

"Coal and fuel oil also release ash particles into the environment, substances that do not burn but instead are carried into the atmosphere and contribute to pollution."

The creation of natural gas is quite an extensive process, a process that takes place over millions of years.

The Union of Concerned Scientists describes how natural gas is created: "Like oil, natural gas is a product of decomposed organic matter, typically from ancient marine microorganisms, deposited over the past 550 million years."

It continues by saying when this decomposed matter is sealed off and exposed to increasing amounts of heat and pressure from being nearly a mile underground, a thermal breakdown process converts this decomposed matter into a gaseous state.

The natural gas drilling industry employs thousands of jobs across the U.S., 72,000 in Pennsylvania alone over the past year.

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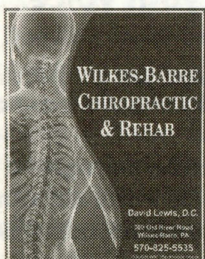
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Well-intended Kony 2012 campaign a dangerous ignorance for the U.S.

BY CARLY YAMRUS
Opinion Editor

Good intentions, poor execution. This is the most basic definition of the KONY 2012 movement.

Like most Americans, I had no idea what KONY 2012 was until I woke up one morning and saw that Facebook was spammed with videos and statuses for change. It was not until recently that I decided to watch the thirty minute documentary on the issue, produced by the non-profit organization Invisible Children.

KONY 2012 is a movement to find and arrest Joseph Kony, who is considered to be the world's worst war criminal. In 1987, Kony took over an existing rebel group and renamed it The Lord's Resistance Army. Kony's tactics for acquiring soldiers are horrifying. African children are abducted and forced into the LRA as soldiers or as sex slaves. They are then told to rape, mutilate and kill civilians, including their own parents.

The movement's main event called "Cover The Night" is set for April 20. When the rest of the world goes to sleep, KONY 2012 advocates will spam the country with KONY 2012 posters and the like. The point of this is to raise awareness and get the rest of the United States involved in this mission. I am actually a little excited to see how this turns out. It could really go either way, boom or bust.

Co-founder of Invisible Children, Jason Russell created the video to make Kony famous and raise awareness for his arrest in the year 2012. The video itself features Russell and his 3-year-old son. It was an inspirational film but I couldn't help but feel that it was also misleading and oversimplified. Surely the task of arresting this man is not as easy as the video makes it out to be.

While the whole idea of global change through the youth of America sounds enticing, Invisible Children may have gone about it the wrong way. What Invisible Children did here was both good and bad, but I'm leaning a little more toward the bad side.

It is true that a cause needs awareness and momentum. Maybe I'm being a little cyni-



Courtesy of YouTube

The recent KONY 2012 movement has recently spawned negative feedback from Africans who say that it showed too many white people and oversimplified the issue.

cal but I don't think the target audience has the attention span for such a big issue. After all, the hype died down incredibly fast -- 48 hours at most. The group effectively rallied the masses but it didn't quite follow through. It's easy to click a button on Facebook in support, but how many people are actually going to give it the financial support that it needs? And even if it does get financial support, how much of the money goes directly to the cause?

According to KONY2012.com, only 37 percent of the money raised goes toward Central Africa programs. The group claims to spend 80 percent of their profits on "the goal," with a great portion of this money going towards awareness programs and products. Sadly, most of the money would go towards marketing techniques and ignorant videos that fail to accurately represent the real victims. The video itself is really not sad enough for what it is trying to portray. I think more people would be inspired to do something had the video focused on African children. Instead, the video showed a lot of white people who were portrayed as the heroes -- the ones who, by spreading posters and bumper stickers, would set all the little African children free!

The Invisible Children KONY 2012 video

did get people talking, however, Ugandans responded negatively to the video. According to CBCnews, they were outraged that there was hardly any talk of their suffering over the years. They were puzzled as to why Americans were wearing Kony's face on T-shirts and buttons.

Now that we are aware of Joseph Kony and his army, it may be time to take a step back. On March 23, the African Union deployed 5,000 soldiers in search of Kony on top of our 100 soldiers. Everyone wants to do what they can to stop this cruel man, but we have to be mindful of the victims and stop taking so much responsibility for this cause. The KONY 2012 movement has upset a lot of people who now think we are ignorant to their hardships.

In the coming months, we will see how the rest of this movement plays out after the Cover The Night event. In the meantime, I highly suggest that supporters of KONY 2012 and Invisible Children educate themselves and donate directly to the African people instead of sending money back into the endless cycle of awareness. If you want to help, help the victims.



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BEACON POLL

The Beacon poll is unscientific and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on the Wilkes campus. These poll results are based on 11 responses.

Last week's question:

What do you think Rutgers student Dharun Ravi's verdict should have been in the suicide death of his roommate?

- 10 years in jail and deportation- 64%
- Only a few years of jail time - 9%
- Probation and community service - 9%
- Deportation - 9%
- He was innocent - 9%

This week The Beacon asks:

How do you feel about the upcoming Mac Miller spring concert?

- He was my top choice for a performer
- He was not my top choice, but I will still go
- I do not like his music
- I do not know who Mac Miller is

SPEAK UP!

The Beacon wants to hear your voice.

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

Animals suffer unnecessarily for product testing

BY KIRSTIN COOK
Editor-in-Chief

Most people wouldn't put shampoo in their cat's eyes before they use it themselves. They wouldn't put mascara in a rabbit's mouth to make sure it's not toxic before using it. They wouldn't rub floor cleaner on their dog's skin before putting it on their floor.

So why do consumers continue to support companies that do?

Many common household items, from toothpaste to dish detergent, are tested on animals. In the U.S. alone, PETA states more than 100 million animals are experimented on every year, including dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, monkeys, mice and birds.

The animals are treated the same way experimenters would treat a pair of latex gloves. Used throughout the experiment until they are worn out, and then disposed of.

The animals are confined to cages, waiting for the torture to begin. Then, they can often be restrained in devices for hours, and are exposed to horrors like having their skin burned off or inhaling toxic fumes. These cruel practices will often lead to the animal's death.

No animal deserves to die in a laboratory, at the hands of a human.

Major companies and brands like Dove, Chapstick, Johnson & Johnson, Maybelline, Neutrogena and Suave use these horrifying testing methods to test their products. This is no law that prohibits or enforces animal testing on these corporations — they decide to take part in the abuse.

Consumers need to boycott these inhumane companies. The resources are at our fingertips, as PETA has an online database of cruelty-free companies and products.

Yet, some justify their usage of cruel products with the idea that animal testing is necessary for human safety. If that was true, then the U.S. Food and Drug Administration would not outwardly state they do not require animal testing to ensure safety of any cosmetics. They go so far to say that if a company finds it essential to test their product, it is recommended they consider all alternatives to animal testing.

The human safety argument comes up to support animal testing for medical reasons, as well. There are claims that testing on animals has enabled medical breakthroughs.

The real breakthrough has been the conclusion that results on animals are rarely compatible with results on humans. Publications like the "British Medical Journal" and "Journal of the American Medical Association" have concluded that the immense biological differences between humans and animals lead to unreliable, incomparable and inaccurate results from animal testing.

You simply cannot test a drug on a rabbit and expect the effects to be the same on a human, and the same is true with any animal. Basically, these animals are suffering needlessly.

Finally, one company has stepped up to its ethical obligations. French cosmetic company L'Oreal announced last month they would partner with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to end animal testing in the cosmetics industry.



The Beacon / Austin Loukas

Despite companies efforts to end animal testing with new technologies, consumers are still purchasing their beauty products and supporting inhumane practices.

According to the San Francisco Chronicle, L'Oreal is donating \$1.2 million to fund a computer model that will test the toxicity of chemicals used in products. This new technology will allow consumers to ensure their new flavor of toothpaste is safe, and not at the expense of innocent animals.

More companies need to follow L'Oreal in their noble lead, and consumers need to support L'Oreal in their moral decision to support this project.

Celebrities have started to show their support for the cause, as well. Media giant Ricky Gervais, best known as the brains behind "The Office," recently released a video lauding the organization Cruelty Free International for their work in ending cosmetic testing on animals.

As more companies and stars make the ethical choice to reject animal testing, consumers need to join the movement. It takes a few minutes to check the back of a product for a logo or statement labeling that item as cruelty-free. Or, you can go to an organic section at places like Wegman's, where the cruelty-free products are vast.

And if you choose to continue supporting companies that torture animals, look into the eyes of your pet dog, cat or guinea pig the next time you're using that product. Think about the animals just like them that suffered to ensure that your beauty products won't irritate your skin.

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Rising gas prices the consequence of global supply and demand

BY LYNDIE YAMRUS
Assistant Opinion Editor

Passing gas stations nowadays is arguably one of the worst parts of driving. The prices seem to only know one direction, and it's not down. As of Wednesday, March 28, the lowest gas price in Wilkes-Barre could be obtained at US Gas on North Pennsylvania Avenue and Butler Street, and PSC on Main Street with a price of \$3.83, according to gasbuddy.com. Nearing \$4 a gallon, it is hard to believe that a decade ago, gas was below \$1.50 a gallon.

Despite popular belief, gas attendants do not simply wake up in the morning and mess with the numbers in a random fashion. As easy as it may be to put Obama or the oil companies at fault, gasoline prices are really just a function of crude oil prices and economic conditions, along with a few other aspects like weather, refinery closings, and tension in the Middle East.

Crude oil prices are affected by the sup-

ply levels in comparison to the current and expected demands for fuel: a simple supply and demand case. For example, the reason why fuel prices shoot up in the spring is in preparation for the summer, when more people travel and the demand for fuel increases.

Other countries like China and India are also depending more and more upon oil every day, and the overall supply is decreasing, even though the global supply of crude oil is expected to be an adequate source for at least 25 years, says the United States Energy Administration.

Weather also affects price, especially major storms that affect oil production. During the mid to late 2000s, gas prices spiked due to the hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico and floods in the Midwest. Such disasters caused pipeline and operation malfunctions, causing the refineries to shut down.

Taxes, competition between gas stations, and distance from the source may also affect the prices. Essentially anything that affects

oil production can cause an increase.

At the end of February 2012, three refineries closed: two in the Philadelphia area (ConocoPhillips Trainer and Sunoco's Marcus Hook refineries) and one major Caribbean export (HOVENSA's U.S. Virgin Islands refinery) that supplies much of the East coast, the United States Energy Information Administration released. The EIA warned that such refinery closings could potentially increase fuel prices if supply was endangered.

The only way to bring prices down is to diversify our energy options, which America is currently working on; however, a change like this certainly won't happen overnight.

So naturally, since Americans have such a problem with the gas prices, you would think they'd be more frugal with their money, right? Wrong. According to a New York Times article based off information from the U.S. Census Bureau, America spends about \$40 a week on gas. But surprisingly, rising gas prices had "no significant effect on

the consumption of movies, bowling and billiard(s), casino gambling and only insignificant declines for recreational camps, sightseeing, spectator sports and spectator amusements," states the article.

These personal spending habits were observed during a period of high fuel price. Clearly the prices have affected our lives in all sorts of detrimental ways.

Quit whining, America. Life isn't fair.

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The Beacon / Austin Loukas



Nuclear energy is not our bane

BY ANTHONY GORECZNY
Staff Writer

With rising gas prices, and dwindling fossil fuel resources, more people, companies and governments than ever before are looking to convert to current forms of alternative energy, or discover new ones. Of the myriad

possibilities for our future energy supply, one of the most hotly debated is nuclear fission. While very few would doubt the cleanliness of it, many people are concerned with what they see as inherent safety issues. Events like Chernobyl and Fukushima have caused many people to become wary of nuclear energy.

These rare phenomena that occur infrequently they have a comparatively negli-

gent effect when likened to other sources of power, but consequences are often drastically overstated and sensationalized by media outlets. This causes a disproportionate level of fear toward what is not only one of the cleanest, but also the singular safest form of viable energy production.

Since its inception, nuclear power has been supplying electricity continuously across the world for more than 60 years. The total number of nuclear fission plants has grown unceasingly, and even with the most recent incident in Japan, there are still over 200 plants in the construction or planning stages. During that time there have only been three major incidents. Of these three, only two were considered Level 7 events on the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale.

The first, and most infamous of these is the meltdown at Chernobyl. This is the one incident that all nuclear power opponents will reference. This is because it is the only one of any true consequence. Some sources claim nearly a million deaths resulted from the meltdown and residual radiation, but in reality the death toll was far lower. The official report, available on world-nuclear.org, lists the primary casualties as combined total of 59. These were the workers who died in the initial explosions, and the emergency responders who received lethal doses of radiation. Additionally, there were about 4,000 deaths attributed to the radiation spread across the region by the wind and flowing water. While this is not doubt a tragic loss of life, it is clearly no where near a million souls.

Another reason why Chernobyl is not the harbinger of doom that many people have been led to believe is that it is incredibly unlikely it happen again, ever. The safety protocols in place were incredibly inadequate, even by 1980s standards.

Now I am sure most of you are wondering if this is impossible, what happened at Fukushima? The other incident that INES classified as a Level 7 event does have much in common with Chernobyl, mainly some notable design flaws and the tabloid journalism applied to the event by mainstream media. While the design flaws are not a grievous as the ones that plagued the Chernobyl reactor, it seems that the engineers lacked common sense. According to an article on theconversation.edu.au, not only were the emergency backup generators placed in the basement when they were known for flooding, but the flood wall was only 5.5 meters high, despite the fact that the same area has been hit by two tsunamis weighing in at 30 meters before the plant was even built.

Approximately 20,000 people were killed when the earthquake and tsunami struck. While this is a horrific loss of life, and a truly sorrowful disaster of epic proportions, most people will be truly perplexed by how many

of these deaths were contributed to the power plant. A whopping five people were killed, and of these, an appalling zero died from radiation. One was crushed by a crane during the earthquake, two others were carried away by the tsunami, and another died of a heart attack. The last man's death will remain a mystery, as the company won't reveal any information except to confirm that it was not due to radiation.

This particular reactor was built in 1971, making it older than the Chernobyl reactor. Yet it was still able to survive an earthquake and a tsunami in quick succession, two of mother nature's most brutal and destructive whims, without claiming a single life on its own. Needless to say, the reactors that are in production now are far more advanced and contain far more safety regulation than were present in the Fukushima reactor.

The final incident took place at Three Mile Island, not far from here, and was considered a Level 5 event. In this case a partial meltdown started, and the safeties that were in place engaged exactly as they were supposed, completely shutting down the reactor. Little to no radiation was released from the plant and absolutely zero deaths were involved. The only reason this incident is even worth mentioning is because it is a perfect example of how well protected these systems are.

An Internet marketer named Seth Godin performed a study in 2008 on energy production methods and safety by comparing the deaths attributed to each and the energy it contributes, and made a surprising discovery. Out of all viable sources of energy, nuclear is, by no small margin, the least deadly. For every one person who is killed due to nuclear energy, 4,000 deaths are attributed to coal. That means that for each and every one of those 4,000 people who died at Chernobyl, coal has caused another 4,000 deaths each, or in other words, 4,000 Chernobyls.

In China, coal kills 500,000 people a year. To put it differently, in three days as many people will die in China from coal as have died in over 60 years across the entire world from nuclear energy. I find this both mind-boggling and disturbing. Coal isn't the only culprit either. Oil kills 900 times, and biofuel 300 times the number of people nuclear energy kills per terawatt hour.

Even the next safest form of alternative energy, hydro-electricity, still kills more than twice as many people as nuclear power does, and these calculations include the deaths caused by Chernobyl. If Chernobyl had never happened, as it never should have, the number of deaths per terawatt hour due to nuclear energy would be a decimal followed by so many zeros that even the most insane

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Women's and Gender Studies Conference goes global in 2012

BY CHRISTINE LEE
Life Editor

To fulfill the Wilkes general education requirement, all students must take a public speaking class or two oral presentation option classes and a senior capstone.

For students enrolled in Women's Studies 101, giving a presentation as a part of the annual Women's and Gender Studies Conference fulfills both of these requirements in a unique way.

"This year's Women's Studies 101 students are completing critical analysis of the roles women in various films such as 'All About Eve,' 'Woman of the Year' and 'Thelma and Louise,'" Women's and Gender Studies director Jennifer Thomas said.

This year's conference focuses on the theme of women across the globe, a theme Thomas said she chose to highlight the everyday actions of ordinary women.

"Although women represent approximately half of the world's population, their accomplishments often go unnoticed and they are often not afforded leadership positions," Thomas, assistant professor of psychology, said.

Although this year's events have a global focus but not all of the events have this focus. Women's and Gender Studies Intern Julia Cikota said this year's theme is nice because people can learn about women's issues at home and abroad.

"A lot of the events have a more global focus but the nice thing is not all of the events do," Cikota, junior psychology major, said. "So while that's the overall theme of the conference and one good reason to come to the conference is because you can experience things and learn about women from other cultures you can also learn about the conditions women here in the U.S."

The conference will also go beyond Wilkes' campus. This year's conference is a partnership between Wilkes and neighboring King's College, with presentations from both Wilkes and King's professors and students.

King's College Women's Studies director Robin Field had taken King's Women's Studies students to this conference in the past and Misericordia University's gender studies conference last year.

After attending these conferences over the years, it occurred to Field to combine the re-



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

Some of Wilkes' women from across the globe include from left to right, associate research professor of biology Linda Guitierrez from Venezuela, visiting scholar Rael Sospateri from Tanzania, and assistant director of international students Felixa Wingen from Germany.

sources of the Women's Studies program at King's and the Women's and Gender Studies program at Wilkes.

"It seemed like a good idea to combine our resources and try to work together so that's what happened with me speaking to Thomas and getting our administrations' support," Field, an English professor at King's, said.

Field hopes with the combined conference that Wilkes and King's students get an opportunity to interact in a unique way, particularly by going to each others' panels or combined panels of students from Wilkes and King's and exchanging ideas.

"Some of the panels have students from both colleges to present so they'll get to hear each others' work and then I hope they'll go to panels where there are students from only one college or university and be able to exchange ideas," Field said. "We are studying the same things and have important ideas to talk about dealing with women and gender."

All panel sessions will take place at Wilkes on the second floor of the Student Union

Building in the Ballroom, Miller Room and Savitz Lounge with the exception of the keynote speaker, which will take place at 7 p.m. at Burke Auditorium in McGowan Hall at King's College.

The keynote speaker this year is assistant professor of sociology at Boston University Ashley Mears, a former runway model who will speak about how the fashion industry puts labels on people to make them more valuable.

Another highlight of the conference will be a luncheon on Tuesday, April 17 featuring Esther Petrie, a nurse who has been collecting and sending used, outdated, leftover and retired medical equipment to needy parts of the world for more than 20 years. She is joined by Kathye Gentry, a physician's assistant who has participated in medical missions all over the world as a volunteer health care provider.

Those interested in attending the luncheon can contact Thomas at jennifer.thomas@wilkes.edu for an invitation. It will feature a

variety of international dishes.

Other highlights of the conference include a screening of the documentary "A Walk to Beautiful," a performance of "The Waiting Room" by the Acting II class, an evening of dance featuring modern, Indian and African dances, and a poetry reading by Wilkes and King's students and faculty.

Field hopes through this conference that students can see how interesting it is to present research at a conference and to pass along more ideas about women's studies, as it applies to all disciplines.

"The ideas discussed within a women's studies class or the minor itself are very important and applicable across various disciplines so someone who's majoring in biology should minor in women's studies just as well as somebody who's majoring in English could do so," Field said.

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IRHC Challenge goes larger than life for spring semester 2012



Inter-Residence Hall Council hosted its spring semester Cake Challenge on Monday, March 26, with the theme being big foods. For on-campus, the first place winner was Sturdevant Hall with the Swanson's Hungry Man TV dinner tray (bottom right, above) with second place going to Evans fourth floor with the pizza (bottom right, above). For off-campus, the winner was Commuter Council with the pancakes (top right, above) and senior p2 pharmacy major and Student Government President Willie Eggleston and Director of Residence Life Elizabeth Swantek with the strip of bacon (top left, above). Sturdevant received a \$30 gift card to use for hall activities.

The Beacon/Dan Lykens

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Unimportant Questions with Important People

NICHOLAS WIERMAN, OFF-CAMPUS COUNCIL PRESIDENT

BY CHRISTINE LEE
Life Editor

Year: Junior
Major: Earth and Environmental Science
Hometown: Middletown, Pa.
Duties: Representing off campus students, and serving on traffic council, student affairs committees and disciplinary committees.

What are some upcoming OCC events? Block party is April 21, right now we're in the process of closing off South Street because normally Block Party is held on the greenway but due to the construction of the science building it is being held on the remaining part of the greenway and South Street.

What are some of your hobbies? I really like bicycles so anything with bicycles. I like mountain biking, road cycling, building

bicycles, fixing bicycles. That really stems from a family thing, my family does a lot of that.

What is in your fridge? Indian food, I really like Indian food.

If you had a superpower, what would it be? If I could choose a superpower I would say reading minds.

What are some of your plans after graduation? I have a couple of options but nothing set in stone. I thought about joining the military after college actually or getting a job in computer science, geographic information systems aspect or working for an environmental protection agency whether that be the Environmental Protection Agency or a local community organization.

What is a secret talent of yours? I'm really good at origami. Particularly unit origami,



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

Off-Campus Council President Nicholas Wierman enjoys biking in his spare time.

where instead of folding one piece of paper into an object you fold a bunch of pieces of paper and make a bigger object. I haven't done it in a while but in high school I made a tower that was about 4 feet tall.

What is your favorite TV show and movie? I really like "The Daily Show," that's the only show I watch consistently, that and "Archer." I just saw "The Hunger Games." That was a book I read a long time ago and

I loved it.
What is the best place you have ever been to? The Dominican Republic (For Alternative Spring Break)

If you were an animal, what would you be and why? I would be a giraffe. Giraffes are awesome and really tall.

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Spring Fling a fabulous success



The Beacon/Christine Lee

Students danced the night away at Hollywood-themed Spring Fling, held at the Woodlands Inn on March 30. In addition to the new venue, students had their pictures taken at a set-up archway and take-home movie clapperboards as souvenirs of the night. Although the numbers weren't as high as Student Government had anticipated, SG corresponding secretary Kevin Hopper (above, right with sophomore class president Amber Konopka, left) considers this year's Fling a success. "When you make a change you never can really be sure how it's going to be taken by the student body," Hopper said. "But based on everyone's perceptions of the night, I think it went really well."

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SG to offer new Casino Week prizes, including skydiving trip

BY ALYSSA STENCAVAGE
Staff Writer

Students who enjoyed last semester's Casino Week don't have to look far for some more gaming fun. This semester's casino week will be running from Tuesday, April 10, to Friday, April 13, right after students return from Easter break.

The games are Texas Hold 'em, which will be at 6:30 p.m. in the Student Union Building Ballroom on Tuesday. Bingo will be from Wednesday from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Miller Room, Horse Racing will take place Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the SUB first floor lounge. Finally, Casino Night will be from 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Friday in the SUB Ballroom, with prizes announced at 9:30 p.m.

The top eight winners for Texas Hold 'em will receive Best Buy gift cards. For Bingo night, \$20 gift cards to Rifkin and Colonel Gambini cafés will be distributed.

IPad 2s will be given out for Thursday's Horse Racing and the door prizes for Friday's Casino Night will include a 47-inch

LCD/HD television set.

There will also be a new skydiving and mountain biking trip offered as a prize this year.

Student Government Corresponding Secretary Kevin Hopper said this year's two Casino Weeks have set a new record for a Student Government-hosted event.

"We usually get about 600 students to attend; that set a record. This is the most successful event Student Government hosts," Hopper, a senior business administration major, said.

Student Government Executive Board Treasurer Samantha Bickert evaluated the prizes for Casino week to see which prizes were most popular.

"I sent out a survey after spring break. It basically asked what prizes people like, what they want to see in the future, their favorite door prize, and any suggestions they had," Bickert, a junior P1 pharmacy major, said.

Bickert said she tried to incorporate the student suggestions into the prizes. For example, the iPads from last year's event were highly popular among students, so she's

added two of them as prizes this year. She also increased the number of door prizes per requests from students, along with other prize variations.

"Also, people wanted more gas cards, so I got more Sheetz gift cards, etc," Bickert said. "And then of course, I kept all the prizes that people voted for the most and got rid of the ones with the least amount of interest to make room for new prizes."

Like most Student Government events, pizza will be served, but Wilkes identification card is required to prove that those who attend are Wilkes students. This semester's Casino Week will be similar to last semester's, except for the differences in prizes.

Also for the first time this year, participants can donate one ticket to Wilkes Relay for Life, where one ticket will be the equivalent of \$1. When one cashes in their chips, they will get a ticket, but instead of donating a dollar to Relay for Life, they can donate the ticket. For every ticket, up to \$150 is donated to Wilkes Relay for Life from Student Government.

In addition, Hopper said more events will

be taking place during this Casino Week and more prizes will be available than at past casino events.

Casino Week will be the last Student Government event of the semester.

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The Beacon/Archives
Garrett Schrader, junior history major, dealing at last semester's Casino Week.

Health and Wellness Fair 2012



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

Health and Wellness Services hosted its annual Health and Wellness Fair in the Student Union Building Ballroom on March 27. Included were cholesterol and thyroid screenings, massages and chiropractic evaluations. Also included were educational topics on diabetes, nutrition, sex education and stress management.

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Shades of gray: The tragic duality of 'Amadeus'

Wilkes' theater department explores morality as good, evil take center stage

BY BILL THOMAS

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Don't be fooled. The title of the Wilkes University Theatre Department's latest production may be called "Amadeus," but the real driving force of this celebrated period piece isn't actually famed composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Rather, it's one of his contemporaries, a man many will be less familiar with: Antonio Salieri.

"The character of Salieri is never off-stage," Teresa Fallon, Wilkes' director of theater and the stage director for "Amadeus," explained. "This is basically a memory-play for him. It's Salieri's memories of Mozart, who he feels has destroyed his peace of mind."

Sophomore English and theater arts major Jamie Alderiso and junior theater arts major Luke Brady are taking on the roles of Salieri and Mozart, respectively.

Presenting a fictionalized version of Mozart's life, the Tony Award-winning play, written by Peter Shaffer, introduces us to a Mozart very different from the image most people may have in their heads. Instead of the stuffy, po-faced man of stone busts and painted portraits, the Mozart that Brady portrays is a jovial, obnoxious eccentric with limited social skills.

"The burden of genius is what Mozart has to deal with," Fallon said. "His abilities set him apart from everyone, which makes it hard for him to understand other people and for other people to understand him. He sees things in another way."

Mozart's rival, Salieri, is another composer whose own musical mediocrity leads him to spitefully sabotage Mozart's life. The relationship between the two characters is the crux of the play, which proves itself more complex than a simple black-and-white tale of bitter enemies.

"Their relationship is a professional relationship poisoned by envy on Salieri's part," Fallon said. "He's very crafty. With the mask of friendship, he lures Mozart to his own destruction."

"It's a complicated relationship, because at the same time, he's the only person who understands Mozart's music. So it's this strange love-hate relationship. Salieri loves

Mozart's music and is amazed at his talent, but hates him for having it."

Fallon described both Brady and Alderiso as "grabbing their parts with gusto," and remarked that Alderiso, in particular, has thrown himself into the character.

"There's no amount of overdoing it for him," she said. "He's always delving deeper and deeper."

For Alderiso, all that delving has helped him dig up nuggets of psychological and emotional gold. The more the actor has come to understand Salieri, the more he's come to realize just how relatable the character actually is.

"You hate him one minute and then the next minute you feel really bad for him," Alderiso said. "He gets what Mozart gets. He gets the art of music and why music is important to humanity, but he can't contribute the kind of masterpieces that Mozart can do just off the top of his head. That gnaws at Salieri forever. No matter how hard he tries, he just doesn't have that in him."

Preparing to play such a dark and multifaceted personality hasn't been easy for Alderiso, who called it the hardest role he's yet played. It's not just the layered characterization or the start-to-finish, nonstop stage-time that's pushing the actor to his limits, however. Salieri's penchant for breaking the fourth wall is also putting his skills to the test.

"As an actor, it's challenging because I have to know when to switch. I'll be in the middle of a conversation with Mozart then suddenly stop, turn to the audience and say 'Did he just say that to me?' Then I have to snap right back to Mozart," Alderiso said.

"A lot of Peter Shaffer's work is like this, where the main character is almost in a session with his or her shrink, and the audience is the shrink."

When it comes to the stage, it seems there's never any shortage of challenges. A bout of pharyngitis recently sidelined Alderiso for a few days and weakened his voice. For Fallon, though, that particular speed bump has barely registered a blip on the radar.

For her, a more pressing obstacle has been the fact that the "Amadeus" production period is trying to weave itself around the college's spring and Easter breaks.

"There's always something that happens

that you need to deal with. Theater is not the kind of occupation where what you expect to happen happens every day," she said. "As a matter of fact, it makes you stronger. You get a little creative spark when you have an obstacle that you have to overcome. The show goes on."

Taking such complications in stride, Fallon and Alderiso both believe that "Amadeus" has the potential to distinguish itself as a truly standout department production. The key to the story's power, Alderiso opined, is its fully fleshed-out principal characters, as well as the universal sense of duality they represent.

"Mozart and Salieri are the epitome of the exact opposites of each other. Mozart holds nothing back. He's a genius, but he's not very socially intelligent. We all have moments when we feel like we're doing something really great but the world doesn't understand us. Meanwhile, Salieri is the average guy. He works hard to get some recognition, but Mozart comes in and doesn't have to try at all," Alderiso explained.

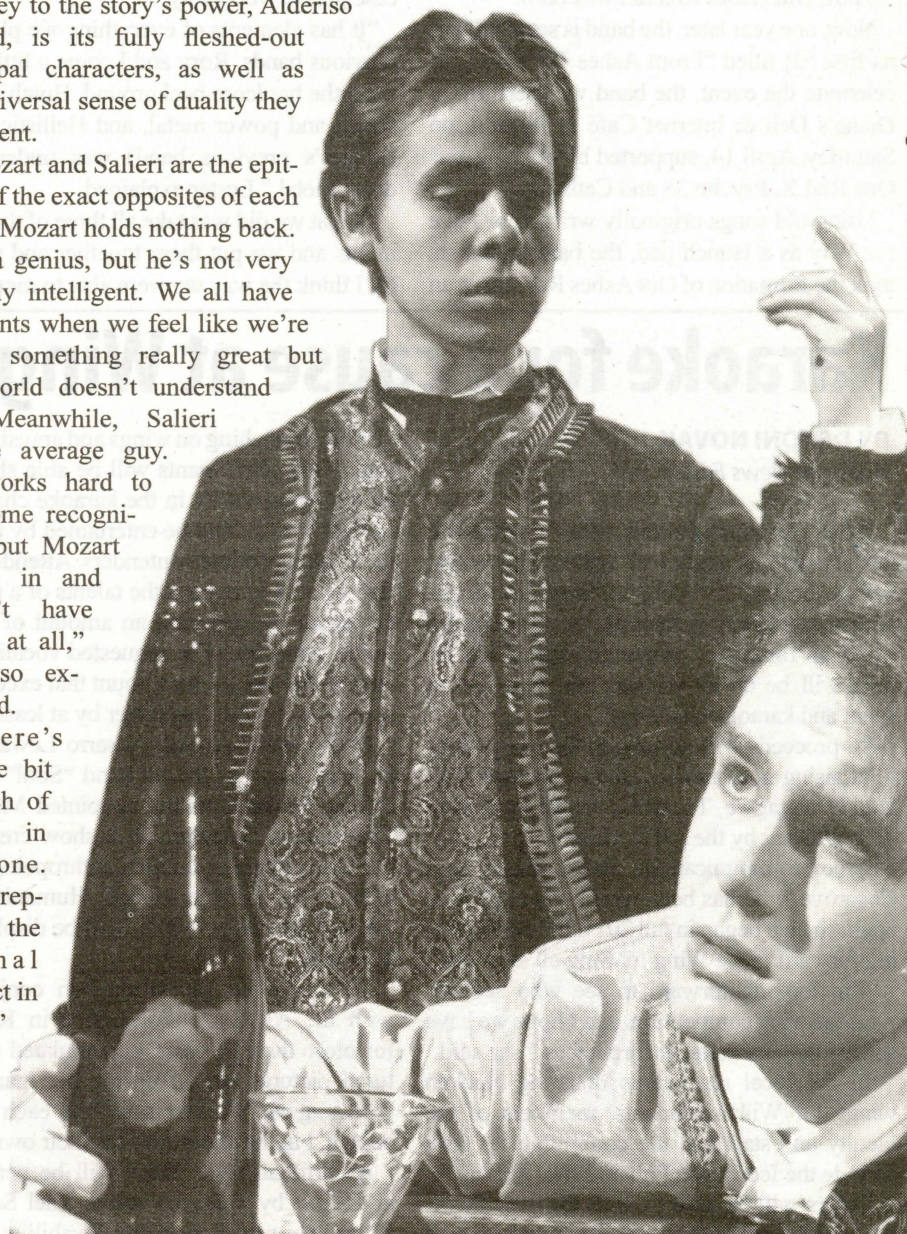
"There's a little bit of each of them in everyone. They represent the eternal conflict in us all."

"Amadeus" will run in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center, at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 12, 13 and 14, and 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 15. Tickets are \$15 general admission and \$5 students and senior citizens, but are free for those with a valid Wilkes ID.



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Courtesy of Teresa Fallon

Antonio Salieri, played by Jamie Alderiso (left), looms over his hated rival, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, played by Luke Brady (right), in "Amadeus."

Our Ashes Remain rises from ruin with new EP

BY BILL THOMAS

Arts & Entertainment Editor

It's hard to think of a more fitting name for Scranton-based metalcore act Our Ashes Remain. After their previous band, Pave the Way, went down in flames back in spring 2011, guitarist Butch Frable, bassist Rory Harper and drummer Bill Lester soldiered on, seeking a new vocalist to help them keep the fires of creation burning.

"We did some try-outs and we had some excellent singers come in. It was very hard to choose in the beginning," Lester said.

"We'd all known Jane (Moser) for quite some time, but when she came in and tried out, we were blown away. She nailed it. She actually had lyrics written for one of the songs we'd been working on, so we were like 'Wow.' That's the dedication we were looking for."

Thus, Our Ashes Remain was born.

Now, one year later, the band is set to release its first EP, titled "From Ashes We Rise." To celebrate the event, the band will perform at Diane's Deli & Internet Café in Pittston, on Saturday, April 14, supported by opening acts One Red X, Psycho 38 and Cathedra.

Using old songs originally written for Pave the Way as a launch pad, the band members took the formation of Our Ashes Remain as an



Courtesy of Bill Lester

With the dissolution of their previous band behind them, the members of Our Ashes Remain are ready to attack the NEPA music scene with a new EP out on April 14.

opportunity to explore other genres and showcase greater versatility.

"It has elements of everything we played in previous bands. Rory and I come a little more from the hardcore background, Butch is more thrash and power metal, and Hellistic Threat (Moser's previous band) was underground death metal," Lester explained.

"What we did was take all three of those elements and we put them together and made it fit. I think the way we were able to mesh them

not only shows the talent and experience of each individual involved, but also the passion for what we're doing."

Musical chops and a breadth of influences aren't the only things the members of Our Ashes have gained from their respective pasts. Lessons have also been learned.

With the disbanding of Pave the Way still fresh in the minds of Lester, Harper and Frable, it seems like Our Ashes Remain is determined to make up for lost time.

"We're out there two, sometimes three nights a week, rehearsing, playing shows," Lester said. "We love it. We love working on new music. We just wrote two new songs in the last month and we have another one we're almost done with."

For these workhorses, the constant cycle writing, honing and performing is not just something they savor for the fun of it. It's also what propels their claws-extended ascent.

"We take a lot of pride in our hard work. We take our little breaks when we need to, but I think it's important for us to maintain our edge, maintain our focus. It's been working for us very well."

Tickets for the Our Ashes Remain EP release concert at Diane's Deli & Internet Café are \$5. For more information, visit reverbnation.com/ourashesremain or find Our Ashes Remain on Facebook.

Listen to a track off Our Ashes Remain's "From Ashes We Rise" at www.thewilkesbeacon.com



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Karaoke for a cause at Wing 'n' Sing benefit

BY DEVONI NOVAK

Assistant News Editor

Zebra Communications, the student-run public relations agency at Wilkes University, will be hosting a "Wing 'n' Sing" to benefit orphans in Tanzania through the "Embrace a Child in Tanzania" campaign. The Wing 'n' Sing will be an all-you-can-eat wing-tasting event and karaoke challenge.

All proceeds will go toward the campaign's fundraising goal and be used to sponsor children in Karagwe, Tanzania, whose lives have been affected by the AIDS virus.

Senior communications studies major, Sara Cosgrove, who has been working on the campaign since it began in fall 2011, has been looking forward to the Wing 'n' Sing all semester.

"I'm looking forward to see who actually wins the wing competition, and I hope we have some funny karaoke performances," she said.

So far, local restaurants donating chicken wings for Wilkes students, members of the faculty and staff and the community to taste include the Ice House Pub and Bart & Urby's.

Tasters will be able to vote for their favorite, and the restaurant with the most popular wings will be granted the title, "Wing 'n' Sing Champion" and receive a plaque to recognize their victory.

While munching on wings and amusing their taste buds, participants will be able show off their singing ability in the karaoke challenge, or simply relax and be entertained by the musical stylings of the contenders. Attendees will also be able to request the talents of a particular person by donating an amount of money to the campaign. The requested vocalist must sing or else donate an amount that exceeds the sum given by the challenger by at least \$1.

At the event, Alyssa Fursarro Lewandowski, lead singer of the hit band "Soul" will be calling the shots as the appointed Master of Ceremonies. A feature slide show created by Dr. Linda Winkler, cultural anthropologist and dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at Wilkes will be displayed at 8:30 p.m.

Winkler, who has worked in conjunction with the AIDS Control Office in Karagwe for more than 10 years, accumulated the featured pictures herself during her many trips to Karagwe. Winkler said that each person depicted in the slideshow has their own story.

An African style dance will be performed at 10 p.m. by Tanzania native Rael Sospateri Kakulima, who is teaching Swahili at Wilkes this semester as a visiting professor. All Wing 'n' Sing attendees are encouraged to participate with Rael and student volunteers as they

tackle the uniquely choreographed hip-swinging performance.

The "Embrace a Child in Tanzania" campaign has been working through the fall semester to raise funds for orphans in Karagwe, Tanzania, who show superior academic potential and have been affected by the HIV/AIDS virus. Going to school in Tanzania is very competitive and many are not given the opportunity to receive an adequate education.

The children who are sponsored are supplied with a year's worth of food, clothing, school books and tuition. School admission not only provides students with an education but it also gives them sufficient housing and medical treatment as it is needed.

When asked why NEPA residents should show concern for the children in Tanzania, Communications Studies Professor and faculty adviser of Zebra Communications Jane Elmes-Crahall explained that instead of seeing race, she simply sees children.

"The children in Tanzania are children that will grow up and interact with our children," she said. "We are likely to cross paths with people around the world, all of whom are affected. I have real difficulty saying that one child is less worthy than another child."



Courtesy of Stock.Xchng

Last semester, the campaign raised \$1,400, resulting in the adoption of three boys. For the spring semester, the campaign hopes to raise \$2,400 so that five more orphans can receive aid and be given the chance to succeed.

The Wing 'n' Sing will take place Wednesday Apr. 11 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the SUB ballroom. Tickets are on sale now for \$5; to purchase tickets in advanced contact Zebra Communications at 570-408-4158 or sara.cosgrove@wilkes.edu.



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'Mirror, Mirror' on the screen, the classic as you've never seen

BY DOMINICK CONSTANTINO
Staff Writer

Disney portrayed Snow White as delicate and soft. In "Mirror, Mirror," Snow White still has a heart of gold, she can also defend herself. She holds her own in a fencing duel and even rescues her "Prince Charming" when he's in trouble.

Another interesting alteration is that the seven dwarves in this movie are all crooks who steal from anyone who ventures through their forest. Just like their Disney counterparts, though, the dwarves all love Snow White and protect her in any way they can.

It's strange to see Julia Roberts as the villainous Queen. She is usually the good character in most movies. Regardless, she does a great job. Her acting is believable and it's obvious that her character simply cannot stomach Snow White. The Queen's signature magic-mirror has also been given a face-lift. Once she says "mirror, mirror" in front of it, she is taken to a mystical cottage surrounded by water.

Lily Collins plays the lead role of Snow White and gives a wonderful, realistic performance throughout. Her fencing scenes are especially impressive, and the connection she shares with the Prince feels genuine. When their eyes met, one can easily see the love. The best scene displaying this is when Snow White has to break the Prince out of the Queen's spell by kissing him. The expressions on both actors' faces shows how much their characters love each other.

The costumes here are very elaborate, with the Queen's dresses being the biggest. When she sits in her

throne, her dresses take up the entire space. The outfits are colorful and puffy.

Comically, it's the Prince's shirtless state in two scenes that gets the Queen interested in him. At one point, she has to summon someone to get the prince a shirt because "she could not focus." This is certainly an element that was not in the Disney version.

Throughout the movie, I wondered when the infamous poison apple would come into play. In an intriguing twist on the story we all know so well, the Queen appears and offers Snow White the apple following her marriage to the Prince. Snow White cuts a piece and offers it to the Queen first. This symbolizes the end of the Queen's reign and a return to harmony for the kingdom as a whole.

This is the classic happy-ending fairy tale. The fencing and other fighting scenes add a bit of action to the movie that makes it more enjoyable. If you are a fan of the story of Snow White, you will enjoy this movie.

4/5

Ollie's Restaurant: An oldie but a goodie

BY ANNIE YOSKOSKI
Staff Writer

This week I went to Ollie's Restaurant, a family-friendly eatery at 89 S. Wyoming Ave. in Edwardsville, across the street from Planet Fitness in the Gateway Shopping Center.

The restaurant is older, but it's a great place to go, both for its food and its sense of history. If you are from the NEPA area you will find the memorabilia and murals on the walls charming. They illustrate the history of the Wyoming Valley with nostalgia and warmth.

The restaurant's slogan, "quality at a price you can afford," definitely rings true. I've eaten at Ollie's several times, and the greatest thing about the restaurant is the

variety. I can order anything from a simple grilled cheese and french fries to Pecan en-crusted tilapia or calf's liver with sauteed onions. The menu is huge.

Breakfast, lunch, dinner, dessert: it's all there, all great examples of homestyle cooking. Ollie's also caters and delivers, so you can have their food served wherever you are.

To have a good dinner here, I would recommend being able to pay a bill for about \$25 for two people having full meals. There is also a salad bar that has amazing Duchess Cheese soup and fresh baked bread. Unlimited, of course.

For this trip, I ordered the penne pasta with alfredo sauce, and added the salad bar for a few dollars more. My friend ordered the Ollie burger with fries and the

A darker shade of noir: Crime, existentialism in Sallis' 'Drive'

BY BILL THOMAS
Arts & Entertainment Editor

At a tightly coiled 158 pages, James Sallis' "Drive" is an effortless read as lean and mean as its protagonist. Don't let the size of the slim volume fool you, there's nothing light about "Drive." This is a darker shade of noir.

Many will no doubt recognize the story thanks to the Nicolas Winding Refn film adaptation released last year. The book on which it is based is a somewhat different animal.

Call it "the 'Die Hard' effect." Much as with "Die Hard" — based on the Roderick Thorp novel "Nothing Lasts Forever" — although the book and movie versions of "Drive" are drastically different in places, the spirit of

both remains the same. More importantly, and more rarely, neither version of "Drive" is better than the other, despite significant alterations. They're both good. Just different.

Essentially a character study, "Drive" tells the story of a man working as a Holly-

wood stunt driver by day and underworld getaway driver by night. A laconic loner living a Spartan existence, this guy's a blank slate. So blank is he, in fact, that he doesn't even have a name. He is referred to simply as "Driver." That's it. His identity adapts for whatever role he must fill at any given moment. He is defined solely by what he does.

When one of Driver's criminal exploits goes awry in a decidedly bloody and spectacular fashion, he finds himself on the run with a butt-load of mob money and a target on his back. Though the plot is basically the same as in the film, the sequence of events is different, as is the tone.

Sallis' book is darker but also has a dry, grizzled sense of wit and humor. More human, but less redemptive. More hopeful, but somehow less merciful.

The most notable change is in the character of Driver himself. Whereas in the film he was a strictly reactive personality, here he is more proactive. The focus is less on themes of repression and inevitability and more on unfortunate happenstance and the idea of violence as a means of self-reflection.

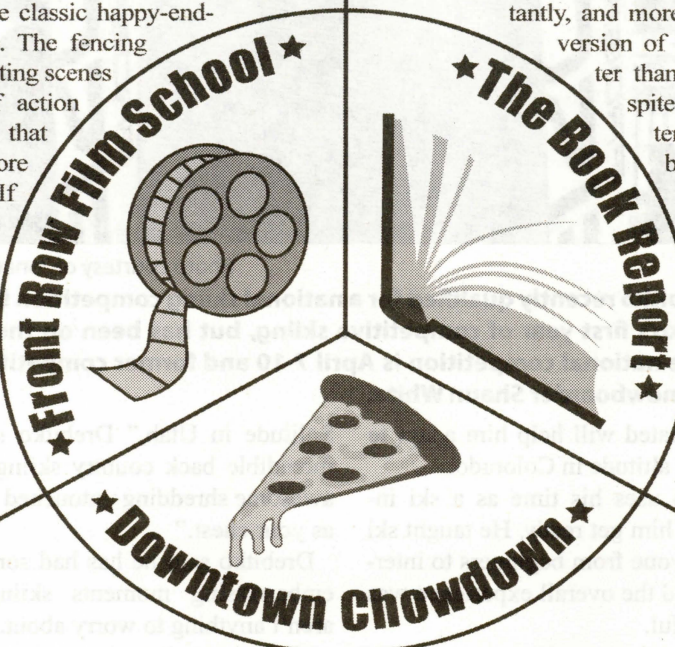
Sallis' prose is sparse, his matter-of-fact approach to bloodshed offering a glimpse into Driver's loneliness. Sallis' style is all blunt, unsmiling elegance, brutal and shocking without being graphic or exploitative.

Just as the "Drive" movie marked a neo-noir high point in modern cinema, Sallis' existentialist crime novel is a contemporary classic in the vein of Jim Thompson's "The Killer Inside." Not for the easily unsettled, but utterly hypnotic to those with a taste for the grim 'n' gritty.

something to love about Ollie's love. There wasn't a single person I saw during my visit who didn't look looked satisfied and happy at the end of their meals. What many people around me were raving about the most was the desert choice. Apparently Ollie's has absolutely amazing pie, which I will certainly have to try sometime.

The wait staff is attentive and pleasant. There was no rush to get people in and out, drinks were always refilled and the food was delicious. For college students, you may not be able to eat here every day, but when you are craving a good, home-cooked meal, go to Ollie's.

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4.5/5

APRIL 3, 2012



CONTACT EDITOR: justinfraniak@thewilkesbeacon.com

Drebitko qualifies for ski nationals

Senior business major, ski instructor to compete in Colorado

BY JUSTIN FRANIAK
Sports Editor

"When I'm going down a mountain I feel free," Jonathan Drebitko said. "There's no stresses or worries about anything else."

Drebitko's stress and worries will be nonexistent as the junior business major prepares to ski down the mountain at the USASA ski nationals in April in Colorado.

Drebitko has not been competing long, but skiing is in his blood.

"The first time I skied I was five," Drebitko said. "My dad influenced me because he used to race, and my whole family skis."

Drebitko only took one skiing lesson in his whole life, but picked up the activity relatively quickly. He loved to go fast as a kid.

Drebitko's competitive skiing started just last year. In his first competition, he claimed three gold medals and a silver. He went on to win the Mid-Atlantic region and will go into nationals ranked fifth in the nation. Drebitko competes in two types of skiing: skier cross and NASTAR, a type of ski racing.

Drebitko has always had the urge to compete, but didn't take the step until recently.

"I knew that my dad raced and I've been wanting to compete since junior high," Drebitko said. "But this year I finally took the steps to start. I've always thought I could be pretty good at skier cross."

Drebitko said there's usually around 100 competitors at a ski event, depending on the competition. The national competition will have 180. All skiers will inspect the course and be granted a few practice runs.

All skiers will then run qualifying runs and will be placed into heats of skiers. The top two of these heats move on, continuing until there is a final heat, where a champion is crowned.

Drebitko says the training for nationals is tough and grueling.

"It's hard to train for skier cross because not many mountains have courses," Drebitko said. "Any kind of racing or freeskiing is good."

Drebitko credits Coach Keith Klahold for helping him train for this big event. Drebitko said he has spent hours in the Marts Fitness Center preparing. He said the work-



Photo courtesy of Jonathan Drebitko

Jonathan Drebitko recently qualified for a national skiing competition in Colorado. This is Drebitko's first year of competitive skiing, but has been on the slopes his whole life. The national competition is April 7-10 and former competitors include professional snowboarder Shaun White.

out Klahold created will help him adapt to the 13,000-foot altitude in Colorado.

Drebitko also uses his time as a ski instructor to help him get ready. He taught ski lessons to everyone from beginners to intermediate. He said the overall experience was fun, yet insightful.

"I had a great time working as a ski instructor this year," Drebitko said. "I met a lot of great people and learned so much from the older more experienced racers."

Along with the rush of skiing, Drebitko said qualifying for nationals was a phenomenal experience.

"It felt great to qualify for nationals and win the region," Drebitko said. "I'm really excited for nationals because I will get to race against some of the best in the country."

At nationals there is lots of potential to get noticed, Drebitko said. He said that renown snowboarder Shaun White started competing at the USASA nationals. Drebitko said if he does well at nationals, he may get an invite to a professional tour next year.

Drebitko said his favorite place to ski is Utah. His favorite mountains are Solitude and Brighton for the challenge they present.

"The hardest mountain I ever skied was

Solitude in Utah," Drebitko said. "It was incredible back country skiing, and it was awesome shredding untouched snow as high as your chest."

Drebitko said he has had some spills and embarrassing moments skiing, but they aren't anything to worry about.

"This past winter I was training on Sno's weekend NASTAR course and caught an edge and did a complete yard sale and cart wheel and slid into the woods and hit a tree," Drebitko said.

He was not badly hurt, but noted that his coach and everyone watching had a good laugh afterward.

Drebitko's coach said he possesses some natural ability.

"There are some things with Skier Cross that you can't teach, and he has those," Radvanyi said.

Drebitko will take his talents to Colorado April 7-10 and said he will "go big or go home!"



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The Broad Street Breakdown: MLB Preview

BY BRYAN WISLOSKY
Columnist

The 2012 Major League Baseball season kicks off this week, so I would like to give my predictions for the teams that will be playing this October in the postseason.

Let's start in the National League, more specifically the National League East.

Call me biased, and maybe I am, but I'm picking the Philadelphia Phillies to win their sixth straight NL East division title.

I just feel as if the Atlanta Braves are going to take a step back this season, the New York Mets are still a last-place team, and even though the Washington Nationals and Florida Marlins will be better this year, I can't see either of them staying consistent all season.

I will admit the Phillies do not have anybody they can really count on at the plate, except for Hunter Pence, but their pitching staff is just too dominant to not at least be in contention for the division crown.

Next we have the NL Central. This division is tough because the two big guns from last season, the Milwaukee Brewers and St. Louis Cardinals, both lost their fire power in Prince Fielder and Albert Pujols. But the other teams in the division just don't seem that impressive.

For that reason, I'm picking the Brewers to win their second consecutive division title, based solely off their great pitching staff.

Now we have the NL West. None of the teams in this division made much of a splash in the offseason, so I'm picking the Arizona Diamondbacks to win it again since they ran away with the division last season.

This year marks the first expansion of the postseason since 1995, when the MLB decided to add another wild card team.

My NL wildcard teams are the Chicago Cubs and Florida Marlins, a first-round rematch of the controversial 2003 NLCS. So now it's time to move onto the American League.

Like the NL, let's start the AL in the East.

SEE MLB, PAGE 18

SCOREBOARD

Baseball

3/28 Scranton PPD

3/29 Keuka W 9-3

Softball

3/29 Lebanon Valley L 3-6
L 1-11

M-Tennis

3/25 Elizabethtown W 5-4

Lacrosse

3/31 Rosemont W 18-0

WEEK AHEAD

Baseball

4/3 Lebanon Valley

4/4 Misericordia

4/5 Misericordia

Softball

4/4 Baptist Bible

4/5 Misericordia

M-Tennis

4/4 Misericordia

4/10 Scranton

Lacrosse

4/5 Eastern

W-Tennis

4/4 Misericordia

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Joseph Pugliese

COLUMNIST



Baseball will soon be in full swing. Bats will crack, popcorn will pop, and hot dogs will get-boiled.

Along with all the nostalgia, the critics will begin their predictions.

The MLB awards are always interesting, especially with a pitcher taking the MVP and Cy Young award last year.

My AL MLB award picks were actually pretty hard to predict.

My rookie of the year will be Yu Darvish. Some may criticize me for it, but this kid has a lot of upside.

Although the history of Japanese pitchers in the bigs isn't too good, I have a good feeling about Darvish.

I love Matt Moore from the Rays. This year he will actually reach rookie status and could make a run for the rookie of the year award.

Yoenis Cespedes of the A's had a good two opening games, and has a huge upside, but I see Darvish taking it.

My Cy Young pick is Jered Weaver.

Based on last year's performance, Weaver should be the favorite and only has room to improve.

I believe with the addition of C.J. Wilson and Dan Haren on the staff, Weaver will push himself to the limit and capture the award.

In turn, Weaver will lead the Angels to a deep playoff run.

The usual suspects like Sabbathia and Verlander will give Weaver a run, but I think the Angels ace will excel.

My pick for Manager of the Year is Bobby Valentine.

Being a Mets fan, I love Bobby Valentine; he's my hero.

I believe his no funny business attitude and hard working mentality will take the Red Sox far in the playoffs.

If Valentine can control that locker room, he is a shoe-in for the award.

My MVP for the AL is Robinson Cano. Yankees fans will love me because Cano will finally win.

The second baseman will finally get the appreciation he deserves.

Albert Pujols made the jump to the AL this year, but I do not think he will win the award.

I would also not be surprised to see the Ray's Evan Longoria in the running for the honor.

Miguel Cabrera's move to third may affect his chances for the award, but if he keeps his hitting to the usual, he can definitely make a push to take most valuable player.

Baseball gets into full swing Thursday, and I cannot be more excited. Hopefully the Mets will surprise me this year. Hopefully.

Face Off



The Debate:

Who are our preseason pick for top performers in the MLB?

The Buzz:

With some pretty high profile rookies and major names changing places, the winds of power can change.

The Options:

Bryce Harper and Yu Darvish will make some noise. With Pujols and Cabrera in the same league, the MVP race will be exciting.

The Results:

Justin says Justin Upton will win the NL MVP. Joe says Robinson Cano will break through.

To read and join the full debate visit:

www.thewilkesbeacon.com

Justin Franiak

SPORTS EDITOR



With the MLB right around the corner, predictions will start to fly on who will be this year's top performers.

This year's competitions for MVP, Rookie of the Year, Cy Young and Manager of the year will be close no different from past years.

The easiest one to predict in the NL will be rookie of the year.

No one will be surprised when the Washington Nationals bring up the phenom Bryce Harper.

Harper will most likely be in the majors after the All-Star break but could be in Nationals red as early as May.

I predict Harper to put up solid numbers, but the hype around him could propel him to be voted as Rookie of the Year.

This year's Cy Young will contribute to a very interesting race.

Almost all of the Phillie's pitchers will be considered for this award, but I see Cliff Lee pulling ahead as the front runner.

I would not be surprised if Madison Bumgarner or Tim Lincecum give Lee a push.

Even Lee's teammates Roy Halladay and Cole Hamels will give Lee a little trouble.

But I foresee Lee winning the award on a team where Halladay is considered the head guy.

Clayton Kershaw will be in the mix also. A year after achieving the triple crown, the young gun will again put his name in the hat for the award.

My sleeper pick in Gio Gonzalez.

In arguably one of the best moves in the offseason, the Nationals picked up a guy who could potentially win multiple Cy Youngs, this just isn't his year though.

Manager of the Year will also be a tough race.

If Ozzie Guillen can guide the new look Marlins to a playoff spot, he is a shoe-in for the spot.

Davey Johnson could also make a push for the award. If the Nationals nab a wild-card spot, expect Johnson to be accepting the trophy.

My MVP pick was pretty hard to make.

I do not see a pitcher winning it in the NL this year, unlike the rare occurrence in the AL last year.

I do, however, see Justin Upton taking the award.

He's on a young Diamondbacks team which is young and not a joke. Arizona will continue its momentum from last year, make the playoffs and take a run. Upton will lead them to a nice playoff showing.

MLB

Continued from Page 16

As much as I hate them, I'm picking the New York Yankees to win this division.

While the Boston Red Sox have more raw talent, the Yankees are just a more complete team. Now we have the AL Central, which is easy.

The Detroit Tigers are going to run away with this division. Adding Prince Fielder to an already good line-up, and having Justin Verlander as their ace-yeah, this one's a no-brainer.

Finally we have the AL West, which again is an easy pick. The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim added arguably the most sought-after free agent in baseball history in Pujols; they also lured starting pitcher C.J. Wilson away from division rivals the Texas Rangers. Like the Tigers, the Angels will run away with their division.

My picks for the two wildcard spots in the American League are the Red Sox and the Tampa Bay Rays. Boston has too much pure talent to not make the playoffs again this season, and Tampa is a solid team, where nobody else in the AL jumps out and wows me.

As for the World Series itself, again call me biased, but there just seems to be a lack of talent in the NL this year, so I feel as if



the Phillies pitching staff can carry them to the Fall Classic.

However, as much as I want to pick them to win it all, I really don't think they can, unless they can find a couple of solid bats in the lineup.

My pick to win the 2012 World Series is the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. They were so close to making the playoffs last season, they've obviously improved the most in the offseason, and can really take control of L.A. with the Dodgers in the state they're in.

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Wilkes softball drops series Colonels lose doubleheader to Leb Val

BY SERENA MOLYNEUX
Assistant Sports Editor

Wilkes' women's softball team the hosted Lebanon Valley Dutchmen in a doubleheader Thursday, in a non-conference game.

The Colonels fell short twice against the Dutchman.

In the first game, Lebanon Valley took a 3-0 lead in the first inning. Visiting Dutchman Allie Hartman had a two-run homer. Lebanon Valley earned two more runs, making it a 5-0 lead in the third.

Wilkes' sophomore pharmacy major Kait Brown led off the inning with a single and made it home from an RBI double from sophomore pharmacy major Jordan Borger.

The Colonels made an attempt to come back against Lebanon Valley's 6-1 lead. Junior psychology major Jessalyn Paveletz had an RBI single, which scored the Lady Colonels two runs in the fifth inning.

Wilkes didn't score any runs in the last two innings, making the final score of game one 6-3, Lebanon Valley with the victory. Lebanon Valley continued to dominate the scoreboard in game two.



Paveletz

Brown

The Dutchman scored four runs in the first inning and added another four in the second, which kept the Dutchman in the lead 8-0 at the end of the third.

Visiting Dutchman Hartman had a second homerun of the night, adding three more runs to the scoreboard, while Lady Colonel Borger scored the lone run making the end of game two, 11-1 victory for the Dutchman.

The Wilkes Women Softball record is 4-8 overall for the season.

The Lady Colonels hit the road to play Manhattanville College in the Freedom Conference on Saturday.

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Getting to know... **Steven Wilson**

Freshman, Tennis

BY JUSTIN FRANIAK
Sports Editor

Meet Steven Wilson, a freshman tennis player from the Bronx. Wilson currently owns the No. 1 singles spot for the Colonels. Wilson loves beef patties and has crush on Meagan Good. Watch out for Wilson once he puts on his high Nike socks on and backhands his way through the MAC.

Year: Freshman

Major: Accounting

Hometown: Bronx, N.Y.

When did you know tennis was your sport? It was the first day I picked up a racquet when I was 8 years old. My parents and coaches realized a lot of potential in me. I stuck with it and it was the best decision I have made in my life so far.

Was it always a dream to play tennis in college? Yes it was because I always enjoyed the college atmosphere of people cheering me on and also cheering teammates on. It was like a competition to see which team could out do the other.

Why did you pick Wilkes over other schools to play tennis? I liked what the school had to offer, and I saw it as a great place to take my tennis. The school had already won four consecutive championships coming into my freshman year and I wanted to help make it five.

Any specific way your approach your tennis matches? I play with no fear. That is my most important mind set going into any match because in the past I used to let that aspect get the best of me, and it held me back from being the best player I could be.

Any superstitions before you play? I have to wear Nike socks. I need a shock absorber and the grip I'm using must have been previously used a little.

What piece of tennis gear can you not play without? I watch plenty of Roger Federer videos as motivation.

What are your goals for your tennis career? Bring another four consecutive championships to Wilkes, and where my game takes me from there I will pursue it.

What awards or accomplishments are you proud from in high school? I had a 40-1 singles record, was a two-time MVP for the team and won the school's first championship on my final attempt during senior year.

Being from New York, you have to have a favorite New York food ... What is it? Cinnamon Bread. It is not what you think it is though. It is from a Jamaican restaurant not too from my house.

Any pre-match meals or drinks you like to have? Beef patties and Gatorade.

Did you play any other sports in high school? Did you consider them to play after high school? I did not play any other sports for the school besides tennis. Although I was encouraged to run track and play basketball by my peers, I was devoted to tennis.

Your celebrity crush? Meagan Good

Favorite athlete? Roger Federer and LeBron James ... it's a tie

Favorite team? Miami Heat

Favorite saying? "It's just ridiculous!"

Favorite food? Ackie and Saltfish

Favorite movie? Training Day

If you could have one superpower, what would it be and why? Super speed. I would be the greatest tennis player ever.

If your life was made into a movie who would play you? What about your love interest? Kevin Hart would definitely play me. Jessica Biel would be my love interest.



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