



Disappointing turnout reveals problems at IT meeting

The Beacon/Laura Preby

Gloria Barlow, Wilkes University's chief information officer, presided over an Information Services Technology meeting that was held on Thursday, Nov. 3. The meeting, which was open to the public, sought to address the concerns and complaints of students and faculty regarding the the school's recent tech support and communication problems.

BY BILL THOMAS
Assistant News Editor

This semester, Wilkes University's Information Technology Services staff has been plagued by unexpected power outages, network failure and defective equipment. However, the biggest obstacle ITS faces may be its need to improve

its communication with students and faculty.

Evidence of that could be seen at a recent open meeting held by Wilkes ITS in the Miller Room in the Henry Student Center on Thursday, Nov. 3. Despite attempts to make the larger campus community aware of the event, few faculty members actually attended, and al-

most no students. Still, Gloria Barlow, the head of ITS, did her best to address the concerns of those present.

"We have had some unprecedented challenges this year," Barlow said, pointing to the flooding caused by Tropical Storm Lee in September as major factor. The flood, Barlow said, sent ITS scram-

bling in a mad dash to prepare the school's systems before the city of Wilkes-Barre evacuated its residents and shut off its electricity and gas lines, the latter unexpectedly affecting the school's emergency backup generator.

"There were many lessons learned from that experience," Barlow said. "I will say quite frankly

that we were not well prepared for this type of a complete emergency. ... I've been through a lot of emergencies and a lot of critical IT scenarios in my career, but never anything like this."

Recovering from that experience was complicated even further, Barlow said, by a rash of "really

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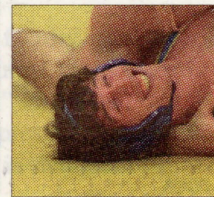
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CONTACT EDITOR: amandaleonard@thewilkesbeacon.com

Beacon Briefs

BY AMANDA LEONARD
News Editor

FLU SHOTS AVAILABLE - Wilkes University Health & Wellness Department is offering flu shots for \$20 payable by check made out to Wilkes University or cash. Vaccines will be given during regular office hours. A limited number of shots are available and will be offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. during the week and 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays at Passan Hall.

ELIE WIESEL PRIZE IN ETHICS ESSAY CONTEST 2012 - The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics Essay contest is now in its 23rd year. Students are encouraged to write thought-provoking personal essays that raise questions, single out issues and are rational arguments for ethical action. The contest is open to undergraduate, full time, juniors and seniors. Students must apply and submit essays online, and receive online verification from their faculty sponsor. Any professor may act as a faculty sponsor and endorse the quality and authenticity of the student's work. Students must also upload a letter from the registrar or National Student Clearinghouse verifying enrollment. The deadline for submission is at 5 p.m. on Dec. 5. For more information, see flyer outside of the Interfaith Office at 204 Henry Student Center, or Contact Caitlin Czeh at caitlin.czeh@wilkes.edu

WEIGHT WATCHERS AT WORK - The Health Services Office has had employee and student interest in continuing the Weight Watchers at Work Program for the spring semester. It will be held at the workplace at a convenient time. It would be a Weight Watchers meeting, with a weekly weigh in and a half hour meeting. The cost is

\$10 for each meeting. Weight Watchers has programs students can participate in for an eight week series and pay \$80 for a 10 week program paid in advance. If anyone would be interested in the program, call Health Services at Ext. 4730. to register for the Weight Watchers at Work program. A minimum of 15 participants is needed for the program.

GLOBALIZE YOUR THANKSGIVING - There are opportunities to invite one or two international students to your Thanksgiving dinner and to share an American holiday with someone from a foreign culture and learn about traditions and holidays from other countries. If interested, contact Georgia Costalas at the Center for Global Education and Diversity, at extension 7854 or e-mail Georgia.costalas@wilkes.edu.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS OF POLISH DESCENT - The Polish Room Committee Scholarship and The Judianne Stanitski Scholarship welcome applications from Luzerne County residents. To be considered, applicants must write a brief description of their Polish heritage and what that heritage means to him or her. This must be submitted, along with the applicant's name, WIN and contact information, to Melanie Mickelson, vice president for Enrollment Services. Applications can be e-mailed to melanie.mickelson@wilkes.edu. Include "Polish Heritage Scholarships" in the subject line of your e-mail.

STUDENTS GRADUATING IN MAY 2012 - Complete your diploma order and your cap and gown order forms for processing for May commencement. Forms are available at the student services center in UCOM, or online under the registrar forms area. Completed forms, signed by your advisor, are due back in the Student Services Center by Dec. 16. This paperwork is to be

returned to the students services center along with an updated copy of your degree audit

VOLUNTEER TO BE CONVERSATION PARTNER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT - The Intensive English Program (IEP) at Wilkes has created a conversation partner program. It's an opportunity for Wilkes University students to volunteer and be paired with an international student for the semester and to chat once a week. If interested in volunteering to be a conversation partner, email kimberly.niezgoda@wilkes.edu

TASTE OF WILKES - Wilkes will host its Annual Taste of Wilkes luncheon on Nov. 10 from 11 a.m. to p.m. to benefit the United Way of the Wyoming Valley. This year's event theme is "Flavors of Home." Many volunteer cooks are needed to make this event a success. The cooks can be students, staff or faculty who are willing to cook and donate a homemade dish. Cooks will compete for honors when attendees vote for their favorite dishes at the event. Proceeds benefit the United Way. The registration form can be found on the Wilkes portal. Admission is \$6 for faculty and staff and \$3 for students. Cooks will be admitted free. For more information, contact Megan Boone at extension 5905 to volunteer and for more information about participating.

CHILI COOK OFF - Chili will be available to sample from Wilkes students and faculty on Nov. 8th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Henry Student Center Lounge. After sampling the chili, participants can vote for their favorite. Chili lunches from Wendy's or Patty's Sports Bar are available for a \$1 donation to the Back Pack Project. This event is sponsored by APhA-ASP.

COMEDY NIGHT - Wilkes University's

Programming Board will present Comedy Night which will feature presents Dan Ah-doot, as well as Dave and Ethan's College Dating Advise! The event is 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 9 in the first floor lounge in the Henry Student Center. Pizza and drinks will be provided. For more information, check out WUPB's facebook page.

SEARCH Retreat - Wilkes is partnering with Lycoming College for their annual SEARCH Retreat in January. SEARCH is about your life as you look at some of the conflicts and struggles that you've endured and some of the "baggage" that each of us carries with us. It is about community as you share in the experience and join the community of thousands who have gone before you. The Search Retreat will be held Jan. 13-15, 2012 at St. Gabriel's Retreat Center in Clarks Summit. There is a \$10 fee. If interested, email caitlin.czeh@wilkes.edu.

SHARE A WAY WITH THE UNITED WAY - Students and faculty members can share their favorite recipe for the Taste of Wilkes Cookbook that will be sold as part of the annual luncheon benefiting United Way of the Wyoming Valley. This cookbook will include the recipes from this year's Taste of Wilkes recipes and any others contributed by students and faculty members. The deadline for submitting your favorite recipe is Monday, Nov. 7. Submit your recipe by email to Debra Archavage at debra.archavage@wilkes.edu. Each book will cost \$5 and all of the proceeds benefit the United Way. The Taste of Wilkes luncheon in the Ballroom of the Henry Student Center from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 10. Tickets will be \$6 for faculty and staff and \$3 for students.

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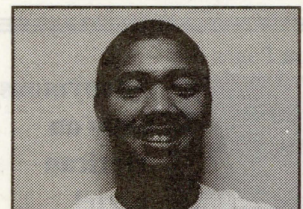
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Meet the Staff



Phat Nguyen
Sports Editor

Student Government sees increase in club requests, constitutional errors

BY KIRSTIN COOK
Editor-in-Chief

It appears that more students are looking to turn their favorite hobby into a Student Government official club on campus, judging by the prevalence of club recognition presentations at the weekly SG meetings. President Willie Eggleston noted that this was a trend this semester.

"I think we've had more clubs requested this semester than in the last two years combined," Eggleston said.

At the Nov. 2 SG meeting, the Society of Women Engineers, Hockey Club, Studio 20 and Long Boarding Club all proposed to become official clubs. However, the decisions for two of these four were tabled because of insufficient club constitutions.

Society of Women Engineers club decision tabled

The proposal to make the Society of Women Engineers an official SG club was tabled because of extensive constitutional changes that needed to be typed into a constitutional document for SG members to approve. Laura Easton presented the proposal and the intent of the club, which is to get women more involved and interested in engineering.

Eggleston explained that the constitutional issues originated from an old constitution which dates back to 1987, when the program was affiliated with a national organization. He said many of the contents did not correspond with modern SG club rules.

"There were a lot of issues where they tried to bring the national organization's constitution into their constitution," Eggleston said.

SG verbally went over the changes to the constitution, but decided to wait until next week to provide all SG members with a typed version and make a decision then.

Studio 20 club recognition stalled to next week due to missing constitution article

Production club Studio 20 is another club recognition that was delayed to next week because of missing constitutional elements. The club did not submit an article in their constitution outlining their amendment policy. Eggleston said that even though this article is not a requirement, it is a good policy to clarify on.

"Technically they don't need the article, but it's a good article to have," Eggleston said.

Melanie Thomas, graduate assistant and one of the advisers of Studio 20, said the club offers students the option to develop technical skills in areas of graphic design, website design, digital and print media and video shooting and editing.

"A lot of fun, creative stuff can be accomplished by joining studio 20," Thomas said. "If you really want to hone in on your artistic abilities and you need a way to express it, you could also learn these valuable tools."

Thomas also urged that the club attracts a broader membership than just Integrative Media students.

Hockey Club receives official club status despite concerns

SG was approved recognition of the Hockey Club with a pass of 32-2-9. Even though the club was approved, some SG members expressed concern over its sustainability and expense.

"I don't think it's a bad idea ... but I still just question the sustainability of this club," John Sweeney, president of the junior class, said.

Hayden Lerner, who presented for Hockey Club, said they hoped to join a non-contact, multi-gender league at Coal St. Recreation Center at a cost of about \$2000. He presented ideas of covering expenses by selling koozies and t-shirts and holding fundraising events partnered with restaurants.

Stacy Prelewicz, president of the senior class, felt the expenses would not affect the success of the club.

"People that are in the sport, they're all going to have their own equipment most likely, they're going to know how expensive it is," Prelewicz said. "So I don't think cost should be the biggest concern."

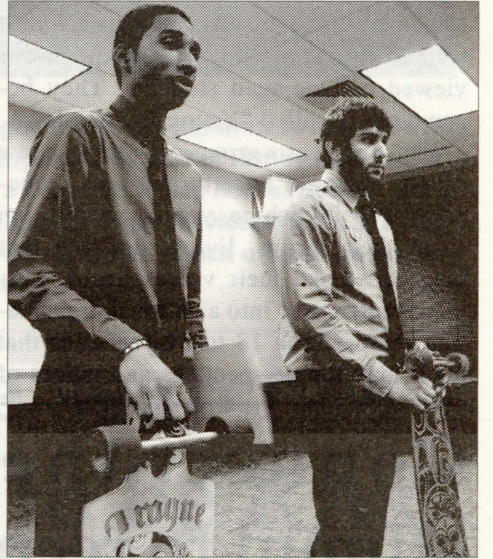
Long boarding club aims at becoming official

The long boarding club started their two-week process of requesting to become a club, continuing a movement of athletic activities to club status. Michael Tedeschi, computer information systems junior, presented to SG and emphasized the increasing popularity of long boarding at Wilkes.

"We've noticed that there's a really increasing number of people who long board on campus," Tedeschi said. "We've actually been approached by a bunch of them ... we noticed there's a really big interest in it."

He said the SG club funds would mostly be used to purchase safety equipment for members. A decision on club status will be made next week.

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The Beacon/Kirstin Cook
Tauri Phillip and Michael Tedeschi stand before Student Government to request funds for the long boarding club.

IT MEETING

Continued from Front Page

unusual network problems," including one noteworthy instance of major hardware failure. The source of these problems was ultimately traced back to defective network switches manufactured by Cisco Systems.

"Our network is composed of about 150 switches throughout all our buildings," Barlow said, explaining that, initially, only 20 of those switches were believed to be faulty. After replacing those 20 switches, however, ITS decided to send the serial numbers for all of the school's switches to Cisco, to make sure there weren't more problematic switches. What they found came as a shock.

"I found out that, after Cisco's review, they'd sent the order up to send us 100 new switches," Barlow said. "That's how many switches in our network infrastructure were known to be defective. In total, 120 of them."

The challenge now, Barlow said, is in de-

vising a workable schedule for when to replace the switches, an undertaking that will require shutting down the power of whole buildings throughout campus.

Currently, ITS is holding off on doing the bulk of these replacements until the upcoming break between the fall and spring semesters. It's a move that aims to reduce the amount of interference imposed upon students and faculty, at the admitted cost of forcing them to tolerate more network problems of a less extreme but equally inconvenient nature in the interim.

For some, though, the network problems that crop up on occasion may actually be less of a headache than the process of trying to get them fixed. For Wilkes faculty, one of the biggest issues of contention proved to be the outsourcing of technical support calls to an off-campus help desk in Florida, something that happens whenever the on-campus help desk is closed or overwhelmed with calls.

"If I get to Florida, I'm screwed," Wilkes computer science professor John A. Koch said, voicing his dissatisfaction with the

abilities of the off-campus help desk. "If I get to [the on-campus] help desk I maybe have a chance."

Koch also complained that, when placing a call to tech support in an instance where assistance is urgent, the process of navigating the ITS line's automated answering system often results in a needlessly laborious wait, one that may be just as detrimental to limited time teachers have with their students as the tech issue itself.

Though Barlow and Dominick DiBetta, who oversees the on-campus help desk, said there's little that can be done to expedite the process when faculty members call in during peak hours, Koch argued that more could be done to let the campus community know what those hours are, and what the probability that a call will even get through is.

"I'll bet if you asked faculty right now, half of them wouldn't know there even is an on-campus help desk," Koch said, highlighting an issue that all present agreed was one area where ITS was in definite need of improvement.

"Number one, we have to improve communication with the faculty and with the college as a whole," executive director of IT Cindy Greene said, stating that a key component in improving Wilkes' tech support issues is input from students and faculty. "We need to initiate more change. I've seen it just in the month since I've been here; it's been a little too much status quo. I don't want us getting left behind."

One way ITS plans to get that input is by reaching out more to the campus community with more open meetings in the future. Though this one was sparsely attended, Barlow said the feedback those present provided was invaluable and that she hopes to schedule similar events on a regular basis every semester, with "hopefully greater participation from students."

"I want people to know that this is what ITS is here for," Barlow said. "We want to be as responsive as we can to anyone's concerns."

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PA Health Care Access Network supports two new campaigns

BY AMANDA LEONARD
News Editor

Not too long ago, college-aged students went without health insurance and didn't think twice. It may have been that they could not afford it, they was no longer part of their parent's plan or merely felt that they simply did not need it.

The latter of the three sparked an idea in summer of 2009, an idea that young people's voices were not being heard during the health care reform debate. Co-founders Ari Matusiak and Aaron Smith wanted to change how people in power viewed college-aged students. They began a group called "Young Invincibles."

What began as a group-run idea in a law school cafeteria later turned into a one-page website where young people can share their stories, living the truth that they can make their voices heard. This then transformed into a national organization representing 18 to 34-year-olds that made sure the perspectives and voices of

younger people are heard when decisions about their future are being made.

"The term 'invincible' is an insurance industry term and they wanted an explanation as to why so many young people were uninsured," Smith said. "They were invincible and thought 'We're not sick, not going to get sick, so we don't need coverage.'"

Young Invincibles focuses on the 21 million uninsured adults that fall into the 18 to 34-year-old range. Now that the Affordable Health Care Act has been implemented, young people are able to stay on their parent's

plan until they turn 26, which is likely enough time to graduate college and seek a job which will reap its own insurance benefits.

"Since this act became a law, uninsured rate went down from 28% last fall to 24.4% this fall, which translates to a reduction of about a million and the only real explanation for this is because of the new plan that lets kids stay on their parents plan until they're 26," Smith said.

There will also be other benefits that stem from the Affordable Health Care Act, such as preventative care without co-pay. This will give women free access to birth control. These benefits are still being finalized.

Smith said that the college health plan,

which just under three million students currently enroll in, will also see significant improvements in coverage.

Another campaign that coincides with the recent health care act is "Friends with Benefits." It is a campaign that will travel to Pennsylvania college campuses with presentations and lectures.

Organizer for Pennsylvania's Health Access Network Athena Ford said, "This type of campaign is designed to tell college students how to tell their friends of the benefits they can receive from the new health care act."

The campaign is also encouraging students to apply for volunteer leadership through the program and help introduce it to other campuses. Students interested in applying for a seat on the council or to get involved with FWB can contact Athena Ford at afford@pa.access.org.

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The Health and Wellness Center, pictured here, will soon have new benefits for students.

Connect the Dots brings alumni to reconnect students

BY ABBY HALDEMAN
Staff Writer

For the past five years the office of alumni relations, student alumni association and the career service office have worked together to put together the "Connect the Dots" event. The event allows for student alumni networking.

Coordinators invite somewhere between 25-30 alumni with diverse degrees from various graduate years and ask them to casually talk to students at Wilkes about their careers and the opportunities they suggest the students take advantage of during their career at Wilkes. It gives students the opportunity to ask questions to those who have graduated in their field of interest, or even ones they have not given much thought too.

"Most alumni will say that one thing they wished they would have done more of was network while they were in school," Associate Director of alumni relations Bridget Giunta said.

The alumni relations office invites the alumni from their own information and also influences from professors of different fields. Students are encouraged to come out to the event by the advertisements —dots placed around the Student Union Build-

ing— as well as through faculty and staff.

In the past the alumni present have had degrees ranging from education to communications, accounting and business administration management. The possibilities to learn about different fields are endless. Students need to take this opportunity to allow themselves to open up to suggestion made by the alumni.

Mary Simmons, coordinator of alumni relations said, "it is important for students to know it is not an internship fair."

"Connect the Dots" is being held in the ballroom of the Student Union Building at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 9. The first 100 students to enter the event will be given a free t-shirt. Every student who enters gets a sheet of paper in which they are asked to have three alumni's sign. The students will then hand in their sheet of paper for a drawing with a Barnes and Noble gift card as the prize.

So come in your casual dress attire and get to know those who used to walk in your shoes. Get to know your field of study better, by talking to someone with personal field experience. It is available to all students, so go out and "connect the dots."

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International Night gives students a taste of culture

BY KAT DODSON
Staff Writer

"I came to this school very excited but not sure that I was going to find that Ghanaian culture or find any Ghanaians here," freshman biology major Adoma Yeboah said. "So when I found out about the West African Cultural Alliance, I decided to join early on. They told me that there was going to be an International Night, which I was very excited about."

Yeboah represented Ghana at this year's International Night, an event that allowed students of all nationalities to celebrate and share their heritage with others with homemade food, artifacts or performances, and which recently celebrated its second birthday on Saturday, Oct. 29.

"The original idea came from Amy Mbye and Evene Estwick," Assistant Director of International Students Felixa Wingen said. "They started talking about it about a year and a half ago. We sat down and planned it for last year and thought, 'We should do this every year.'"

Mbye, an administrative assistant in the engineering department, explained that the idea came from her daughter's school, which holds an annual International Dinner. "I went there a couple of times," she said, "and I thought, 'We can do the same thing on campus. If a smaller school like Wyoming Seminary can do it, Wilkes can do it.'"

Mbye said she spoke with Estwick, an associate professor of communication studies, and members of other departments, all of whom were supportive. They held the first International Night last year and were pleasantly surprised by a turnout of over 120 students attending and 28 countries represented. Wingen and Mbye said this initial success motivated them to continue.

At the event, students cover tables with items such as traditional homemade food, pictures of or artwork and crafts from the country they represent, national flags, currency, posters and pamphlets containing facts about the country, maps, and traditional jewelry. Many wear traditional garb to the event.

"Everybody signs up for a table, and with that table you can do whatever you want," Wingen said. "Some people go all out."

Additionally, this year's Saudi Arabian and Chinese tables offered to write students' names in the national languages of their countries. All the while, a playlist

crafted by participants plays authentic music from each country represented. Students occasionally become so enthused that they burst into spontaneous dancing.

Cofounders and participants alike feel that the multicultural awareness represented by International Night is important and deserves recognition by the campus community.

"I think it's great to take a moment to really celebrate all the diversity we have at Wilkes," Wingen said. "A lot of times people think that Wilkes is not very diverse. An event like this kind of highlights what's out there."

Mbye added, "We have a lot of people from different countries on campus. You don't really see it in the classroom. So the best way to bring everybody together is doing something like this that gives people a chance to mingle and talk to each other."

Culture is of high importance to Yeboah, who said she was delighted by the chance to share her heritage with others and cook one of Ghana's staple foods, jollof rice.

Although the event has already met with success two years in a row — both Wingen and Mbye were pleased with this year's turnout, considering the unexpected snowfall — the co-founders express plans to expand and improve the event even more.

"It would be nice to eventually have performances from a bunch of different people and give it more structure," Wingen said. "I hope that we continue to do this every year at Wilkes, more people participate and it grows, and eventually we have every single country represented that is at Wilkes."

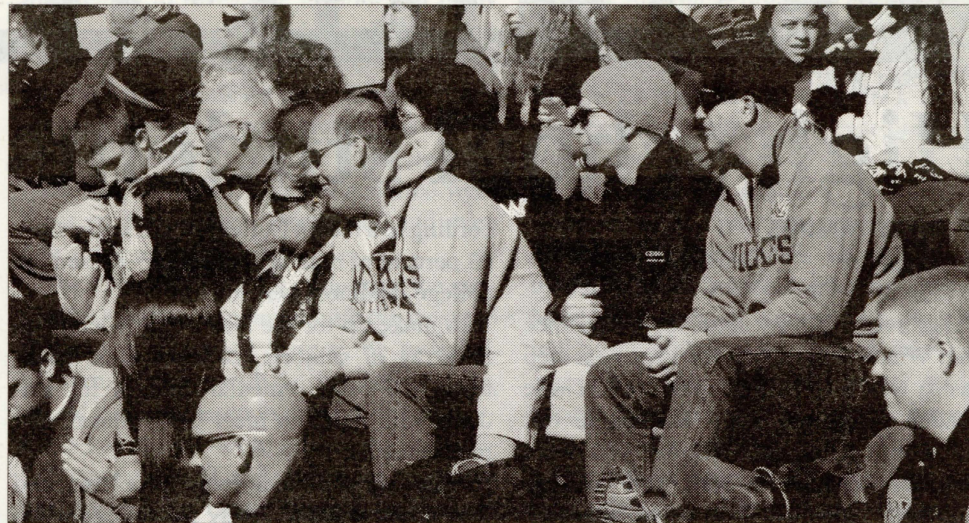
Mbye said she would like to see the event extend beyond the Wilkes campus and have the whole Wilkes-Barre community get involved. She also mentioned she'd like more faculty members to participate.

"There are a lot of faculty who are international. So it would be nice to see them get involved," she says. "That would be an encouragement for the students. I think the administration should get involved, too."

Countries represented at this year's International Night included the United States, Mexico, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Germany, India, Bangladesh, China, Barbados, Iran, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, St. Lucia, Senegal, Ghana, Nigeria and Gambia.

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Wilkes Family Day festivities



On Saturday, Nov. 5, Wilkes' Student Affairs gave students a chance to reunite with family members and give them a taste of campus life as part of Family Day. As part of the events, students were able to attend a Lebanon Valley home football game with their loved ones, in addition to brunch, a community service project, a family-friendly film screening and an autumn deserts reception which offered up hot cocoa, cider and pumpkin pie amongst other treats.

Resident life searches for students to be RAs

BY TODD ORAVIC
Staff Writer

Residence life fliers, posted all around the Wilkes campus, indicate that students will have the opportunity to "take a step in the right direction" and become a resident assistant for students living on campus.

An information session will be held on Nov. 15 at 5 p.m. in the Miller Conference Room of the Henry Student Center. The interest meeting will involve a discussion of the life of an RA, as well as the application process. Both resident students and commuters interested in filling out an application should attend, according to residence life Director Elizabeth Swantek.

"There is a misconception that only on-campus students can apply to be RAs, but some of our best RAs have been commuters," Swantek said. "What we look for are very involved commuters, meaning they practically live on campus already."

Applications become available online Jan. 3 and can be submitted electronically. The application deadline is Jan. 25.

"Students can take some time over their winter break and complete the application, but they are also required to have two recommendations or references from professors, previous RAs, anyone who re-

ally knows them the best," Swantek said.

The recommendation forms will also be available online.

Once students hand in applications, they are expected to attend a group interview session on Feb. 4 in the Marts Gym. Accommodations will be made for those who cannot attend the entire session, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., due to scheduling conflicts involving weekend athletic events.

On average there are around 60 applicants for 20 RA spots, according to Swantek. Though not everyone is selected to be an RA, residence life also selects alternate RAs. These students have met the requirements for an RA position.

"If an RA has to leave the staff for one reason or another, the alternate would then assume the role as an RA," Assistant Director Danielle Kern said. "As an alternate, you are involved in all of our training and our meetings so you are always up to date."

RAs are determined at noon on March 2 on the third floor of Passan Hall.

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High school students not ready for college

BY CARLY YAMRUS
Opinion Editor

After receiving my letter of acceptance from Wilkes University, the very next step was to take a math placement test. Those dreaded placement tests. The single test that would determine whether you were competent enough to start your college math at a "calculus" level or an "algebra" level. I was placed in the latter, not because I couldn't "do math", but because I had never learned the material that was on the placement test.

The fact that we need to take these tests in the first place points to the flaws in education. Students right out of high school are simply not prepared for college in not only math, but in several academic subjects. Ac-

cording to a recent CollegeBoard study, only 43 percent of high school seniors passed the college readiness benchmark.

To make up for the lack of knowledge on an array of subjects, colleges must back-track and offer remedial courses for students who failed to meet basic educational requirements.

What are the underlying problems and why aren't students ready for college when they graduate high school?

Since the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, standardized testing has become a primary focus for public schools across the nation. Curriculum is narrowed down to material that may or may not be seen on the test. However, the SAT and ACT tests only reflect a small portion of what students should be learning in school. Many neces-

sary "real-world" skills cannot be measured on a multiple choice test.

Besides the narrowing focus on tests that don't matter, ineffective teachers may also be to blame for unpreparedness in college. After sitting through 9 classes a day for 4 years, I can honestly say that there were quite a few teachers in a variety of subjects and grade levels who failed to demonstrate any expertise in the classroom.

I can recall a few that were just as unmotivated to teach as their students were unmotivated to learn.

I had a history teacher in high school that had the audacity to sit in the back of the room and spit chewing tobacco into the garbage can while he mindlessly clicked to advance the next PowerPoint slide. When I asked my pre-calculus teacher a question, she told me to "figure it out" and refused to help me. My computer teacher had the class write out the history of computers using an irrelevant JAVA textbook as an "April Fools" joke.

These are the people who responsible for preparing us for college?

While teachers may be at fault for lack of basic knowledge, they are not entirely to blame. Motivation and discipline may also be key factors in determining a student's success.

Many students are content with doing the bare minimum, whether it is homework, class participation or attendance. Extensions on homework and papers are given out like free pens at a teacher's convention. Many students fail to learn how to meet a deadline- a skill that is crucial not only in college, but in the workplace as well.

Students of all different learning levels are mish mashed into a single class, where it is obvious which students want to be there and which do not.

It's no wonder why students have such a difficult time transitioning into college. A combination of the wrong subject matter, ineffective teachers and lack of motivation in the classroom results in students playing a game of catch-up once they hit college.

College readiness does not always accompany a high school diploma. While report cards may say otherwise, high schools are failing our students for future education.

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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 ten responses.

Last week's question:

How often do you check your social media site?

- Every few hours 83%
- Once every few weeks 8%
- I don't have one 8%
- Once a day 0%
- Once a week 0%

This week The Beacon asks:

Did you vote in the local municipal election?

- Yes
- No

Cast your vote online at:
www.thewilkesbeacon.com

SPEAK UP!

The Beacon wants to hear your voice.

Send your name, major, year and opinion to:
carlyyamrus@thewilkesbeacon.com

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

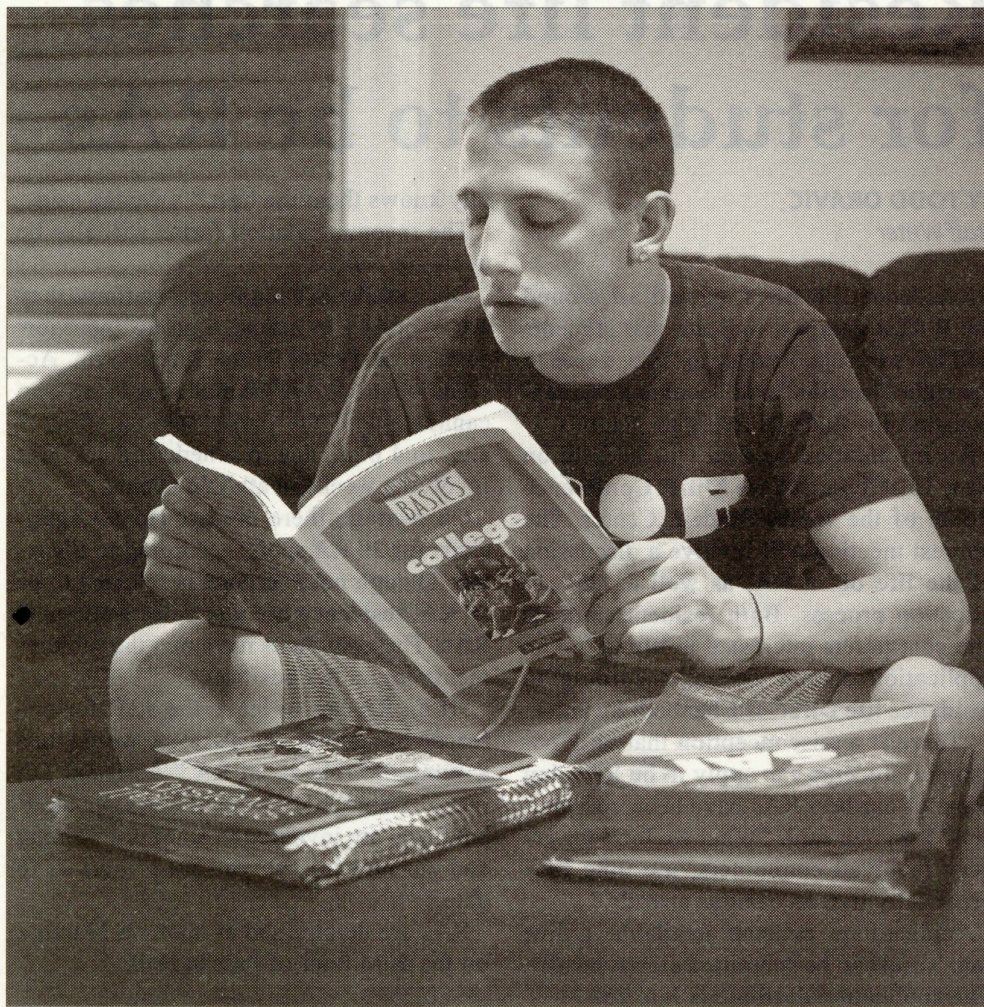


Photo illustration by/Tom Reilly

A CollegeBoard study said only 43 percent of high school seniors passed the college readiness benchmark. High schools are ineffective in their efforts to prepare students for higher educations.



Anonymous takes on Mexican drug cartel

BY ANTHONY GORECZNY
Assistant Opinion Editor

Recently my column has been focusing extensively on the Internet and how almost all aspects of life interact with it constantly. I have been very explicit on how almost anything is possible though the Internet. Consequently, I have recently learned of something that I personally had never considered. The Internet group of so called "hacktivists" known as Anonymous, which in the past has crashed the servers of Mastercard as a form of protest, is now targeting underground criminal organizations.

It is not just going after the drug dealers on the corner either. Last week Anonymous faced off against the Zetas Mexican drug cartel. The Zetas is reputedly the second

largest Mexican cartel and has been unceremoniously labeled as the most violent and deadly. The Zetas is an organization of international drug traffickers and habitually kidnap and assassinate anyone who rubs them the wrong way.

The remarkable fact is that, not only did Anonymous challenge one of the most deadly organizations in the world, but it won.

According to MSNBC, this entire affair began when an Anonymous member was kidnapped by The Zetas while he was participating in "Operation Paperstorm." The purpose of this operation was to inform the general public of Anonymous' primary platform of the free sharing of information to all by posting paper flyers around cities with logos or manifests that represent the movement.

Upon receiving word of the Anonymous member's capture, the group responded by threatening to reveal the identities of many people who have operated in collusion with The Zetas. As a means to acquire this information Anonymous set up a web app which allowed for people with knowledge of The Zetas to submit it without revealing their identities. Among the names acquired were those of taxi drivers, journalists, and even law enforcement officials.

The Zetas responded by releasing the captured Anonymous member with the message that if any of names were to be revealed, his family, along with 10 innocent people, would be slaughtered in retribution. Anonymous has agreed not to release the information stating that "The Anonymous collective has decided by consensus not to disclose the information that we have for now, as we understand that we cannot ignore threats involving innocent civilians that have nothing to do with our actions."

This is an unprecedented event, and I believe it marks the beginning of a new age of activism. In the past many activist movements were founded around a common unifying demographic, such as the Black Panthers. The only demographic that is nec-

essary to be an activist now is access to a computer. Anonymous is a highly decentralized anarchical organization that cannot be targeted because it has no definitive command structure. Members can be anyone from a 13-year-old girl with thick rimmed glasses and pig tails, to a 24-year-old professional sports star to an 87-year-old accomplished author and scholar.

Not only is it a powerful one, but it is also a world-wide phenomena. Though this particular incident involved primarily only the Mexican branch of Anonymous, its effect will be felt globally. People look for results, and with today's impersonalized modern society many people feel that they have become numbers without a voice. Anonymous presents these people with a means through which they may affect change. The group's recent success in Mexico has not only made it a serious and effective organization, but will also draw many new recruits who are ready and willing to contribute.

Anonymous will continue to grow, and proliferate its ideals of free access to information for all. Put simply, resistance is futile.

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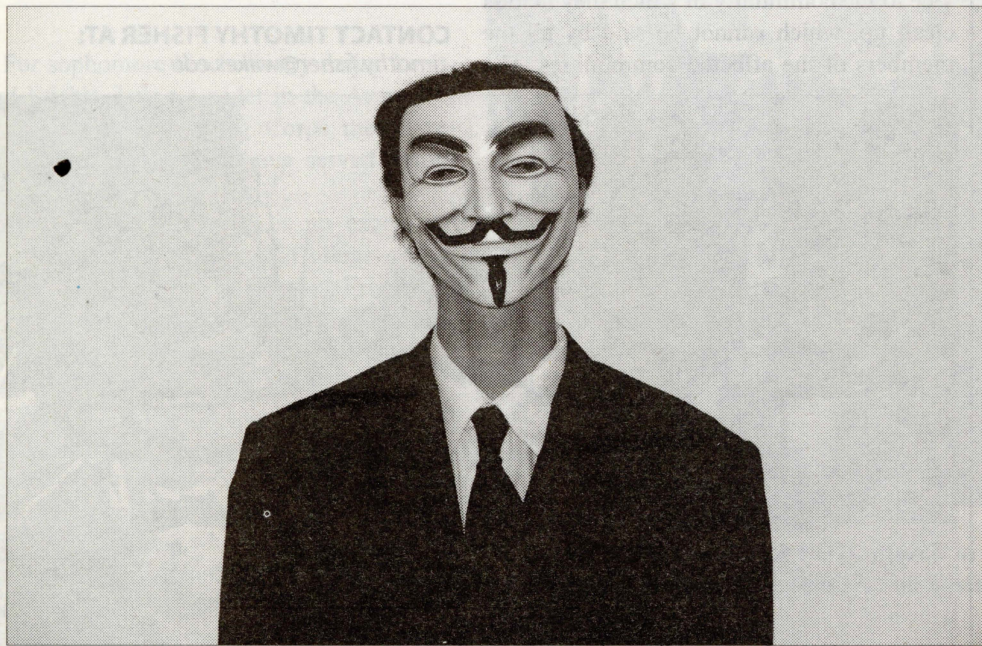


Photo illustration by Anthony Goreczny

The Guy Fawkes mask made famous by the movie "V for Vendetta" has become a symbol of the "hacktivist" group Anonymous.

OPINION
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A&E
LIFE

WILKES UNIVERSITY

thewilkesbeacon.com

Wilkes cuts bus times; students have no ride



The Beacon/Laura Preby

Students forced to walk from parking lot

BY CATHRYN FREAR
Staff Writer

The Wilkes shuttle is a free source of convenient transport for Wilkes students and employees. Its main uses are football players getting to and from practice and students getting to and from the Ralston parking lot. It also takes students to the bookstore as well as a few other places around campus. If you want to be let off somewhere that isn't a regular stop but is still along the way, the drivers will usually let you off wherever. As long as you ask nicely.

So while the shuttle is a fantastic resource for the campus community, this year it gained one major flaw: time. The schedule was changed so the shuttle comes one less time per hour than in previous years, coming every half hour instead of 20 minutes. In addition, a more pertinent issue is the time it stops running. Before, the shuttle ran until 10 p.m.; this year it runs until 6 p.m.

The only possible logical reasoning behind this is to cut costs. Which is understandable. Gas is expensive and running it less reduces maintenance fees, employee wages, etc. So yes, Wilkes is saving money by running the shuttle less. But at what cost to the people who rely on it?

Football players used to use the shuttle to get to and from football practice, but now they can only use it to get there. This means some of the football players who have cars are now driving to and from practice. Those who don't have cars need to either find rides after practice or they must walk the mile from the field to campus after dark. And we

all know Wilkes-Barre is super safe.

Let's address those driving over there. Those who are driving are using gas. Significantly more gas than they would if they piled onto the shuttle. Not only is this more expensive to the students, but it goes directly against Wilkes' initiative to become as "green" of a school as possible. It's lose-lose.

To those who are using the shuttle mainly to get to the parking lot, it's become less convenient to get their cars, especially if they have night classes. Since Public Safety stops ticketing at 4:30 p.m., it gives everyone an hour and a half to get their cars. Students with evening classes who park at Ralston used to be able to get their cars after most night classes.

God forbid someone forgets to get their car by 6 p.m. Then they get to make the walk over the bridge and pass Kirby Park at night. Again, definitely safe. Nothing could possibly go wrong. Especially if, say, you're a girl who may only be 5'2" with no martial arts training who has a tendency to be oblivious to the world around her.

Overall, this change is a really selfish one. The pros do not outweigh the cons. No matter how much money is being saved, the fact remains the shuttle is there for the people. Apparently the care about our convenience and well-being ends at 6 p.m.

Hope you brought your walking shoes, Wilkes University.

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Should county inmates be paid for their volunteer work?

BY TIMOTHY FISHER
Staff Writer

Inmates from the Luzerne County Correctional Facility helped clean up flood damage from the September flooding. The inmates got paid for their efforts by the Correctional Facility.

I agree one hundred percent with the payment merited to the inmates. Why? There was a mess that clearly needed to be cleaned up, and the inmates stepped up to the plate to help out. Cleaning up trash, mud and debris is not easy.

The September flooding left behind such a lingering stench that resulted from the mud and debris. I personally have a great deal of respect for anyone who had to work in those conditions for long periods of time. The inmates from the Luzerne County Correctional Facility are no exception to that rule. Honest pay should be given to those who conduct honest work.

Controller Walter L. Griffith Jr. was the only one of six board members from the Luzerne Facility to disagree with the payment. He said that fifty dollars a day to the inmates was too much.

You must understand that the inmates toiled in mud, muck, and poor respiratory conditions to help the flood-impacted areas recover. I understand that these inmates are not nice people. They committed crimes, and are doing time for those crimes.

However, these inmates have done a service to the community in which they helped clean up, which cannot be said by all the members of the affected communities. The

topic of prisoner labor projects yields mixed results from the community.

Some people see the work as beneficial, and that further projects would continue to make the communities around correctional facilities better.

Why not utilize that labor force instead of letting them just sit around? Yet, there are those who have seen the movie *The Shawshank Redemption*, in which prison labor can compete with local businesses and possibly put them out of business.

I feel that the current program that allows inmates from places like the Luzerne County Correctional Facility is doing a good job. While helping within the local community does not guarantee "brownie points" for the inmates, it does allow them to get out of the monotony of the prison lifestyle and make a difference. We should learn from this case, where Luzerne county inmates want to help clean up the community.

I don't know what will inspire others in the future to help out in their communities. Perhaps there might be a stronger need to aid disaster victims, to help those less fortunate.

Maybe later on down the road, it will be a better time to make a difference. I hope that prison work plans are continually allowed during those times. I hope that residents in the future take pride in where they live, so that they volunteer more often.

If a prisoner can get off of his or her criminal butt and pick up some trash, why can't you? Are you really that busy?

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The Beacon/Christine Lee

Inmates recieved compensation for their efforts in cleaning up mud, debris and trash from the recent flood.

Campus community opens up safe spaces for LGBTQ community

BY HOLLY BOYER
Assistant Life Editor

Everyone needs a place that they can feel secure, safe and respected no matter who they are. Now staff and students are taking the initiative get training and incorporate safe spaces on campus for the LGBTQ community.

"The goal of Wilkes Safe Space training is to educate interested members of the Wilkes community about LGBTQ issues and needs and to provide information about how to support our LGBTQ students," says assistant professor of English and adviser of the Gay -Straight Alliance Dr. Helen Davis.

The three hour long training sessions are voluntarily open to all faculty, staff and students interested. During the sessions participants are informed about terminology, such as slang words that are okay to use and which ones are not ok to use.

They also include exercises to build empathy and identification, and role-playing scenarios.

Upon completing the training members re-



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Campus Interfaith coordinator Caitlin Czeh is one of several staff certified as Safe Space resources, meaning students can come to them to talk and not feel judged.

ceive a sticker with the Safe Space logo on it that they can post up anywhere, such as their office or room, as an indicator that he or she has been trained and is approachable without any judgments or fear of no confidentiality.

The sticker that they receive is the logo of the Safe Spaces that is currently being final-

ized and will be revealed this coming spring.

"Students can speak to a faculty member without being judged or outted," sophomore English major and president of GSA John Carrol says.

Leading the trainings are Director of Residence Life Liz Swantek, Associate Director

of Diversity Affairs Erica Acost, and Davis. They were trained by Allison Subasic, Director of the LGBT Student Resource Center at Pennsylvania State University.

She has traveled to Wilkes campus twice to have training sessions to train faculty.

"Having Safe Spaces builds that resource, and it helps to cultivate understanding. It's building that second support network, or any support network for those who may not have one," Carrol says.

Davis says incorporating Safe Spaces around campus shows the importance of the matter as well as promoting confidentiality and trust with issues or difficulties about anything students may come across.

"Enhancing the knowledge of LGBTQ issues on campus and visibly increasing the support base on campus is good for all of our students regardless of whether they are a member of the GSA because it is in the best interest of the entire campus to create a positive, supportive environment for all of our community members," Davis says.

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ROTC units to march in Veterans Day parades

BY CHRISTINE LEE
Life Editor

For sophomore biochemistry major Leonard Frisbie, being a cadet in the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps means remembering those who have served before him.

And this Veterans Day is no exception. The Army ROTC at King's College, which several Wilkes students including Frisbie are part of, took part in the Scranton Veterans Day parade and rededication ceremony at the Main Square Veterans memorial.

"We see firsthand people who have served and most of us will be people who will serve so in 10 years this may be us," Frisbie said. "So (it's about) remembering our friends, our fellow soldiers who served."

Frisbie says Veterans Day for him will be a day of reflection on previous members of his family and friends that have served.

"It serves a very important purpose and it should be day of reflection and thanks



Courtesy of Lt. Marc Honrath

Members of the Air Force ROTC march in last year's Wilkes-Barre Veterans Day parade. They also take time to visit and assist veterans at the Wilkes-Barre VA Medical Center.

for those who have served our nation in the armed services," Frisbie said.

The Air Force Reserve Officers' Training

Corps here at Wilkes will also be participating in Veterans Day activities. The cadets marched in the Wilkes-Barre Veterans Day

parade that started in Kingston and went across the Market Street bridge into Public Square. The cadet corps were lead by the Air Force ROTC Honor Guard.

Recruiting Flight Commander Lt. Marc Honrath said cadets will also be assisting veterans at the Wilkes-Barre VA Medical Center.

"Veterans Day is a day to recognize all our veterans not only those from the past but also current vets, ones that come back from Iraq and Afghanistan," Honrath said. "(It's about) anything you do to remember them and just say thanks for their service."

Honrath says in order to honor veterans, even when it is not Veterans Day the ROTC tries to keep the cadets busy by going to the VA medical center.

"They enjoy meeting all the former veterans and hearing them talk about their time in the service in a positive light so it gives them motivation to do well in school and participate in the ROTC program," Honrath said.

SEE ROTC, Page 12

IRHC annual Cake Challenge to be a sweet success

Second year competition has community creating cakes resembling landmarks

BY ERIN HOHOL
Staff Writer

"Let them eat cake," said the Inter-Residence Hall Council in planning their upcoming cake challenge to be held on Nov. 14 in the first floor lounge of the student union building from 7 to 9 p.m.

This year's cake challenge will be open to the entire Wilkes community as a way of bringing both resident and off-campus students together for the creative and tasty event.

This year's theme is 'landmarks,' as voted by IRHC members.

There will be cakes submitted in residents and off-campus student categories. The entire Wilkes community is welcome to check out or taste the cakes on Nov. 14.

All students can contribute to the 'people's choice' winners by voting for one of each category. 'Celebrities' judging the cakes will include staff from Residence Life and Student Affairs. These prestigious judges will assess cakes on three measures: appearance, taste and relation to theme.

Residence halls that win the cake challenge with their entries will have funds allo-

cated to their residence hall's program fund, so as a result of their hard work and creation, RAs from the winning hall can plan future hall activities. As for the off-campus winner, and 'people's choice' winners, only

bragging rights are at stake.

This is IRHC's second year putting on Cake Challenge. Around 50 people were in attendance at the first cake challenge last fall in 2010.

"We were looking for alternative ways for residence halls to compete and interact, other than the banner contests and decoration contests we had held in the past," junior P1 pharmacy major and IRHC president Bethany Sharpless says.

Sharpless says the cake challenge is an interesting and fun way to bring interaction among the Wilkes community. It should be a great opportunity to check out some great cakes and get a sweet fix in.

Courtesy of Bethany Sharpless
The IRHC's annual cake challenge will take place Nov. 14 in the Student Union Building first floor lounge. Residence halls and other community groups compete based on appearance, taste and relation to theme. This year's theme landmarks. Pictured are cakes from last year's cake challenge.

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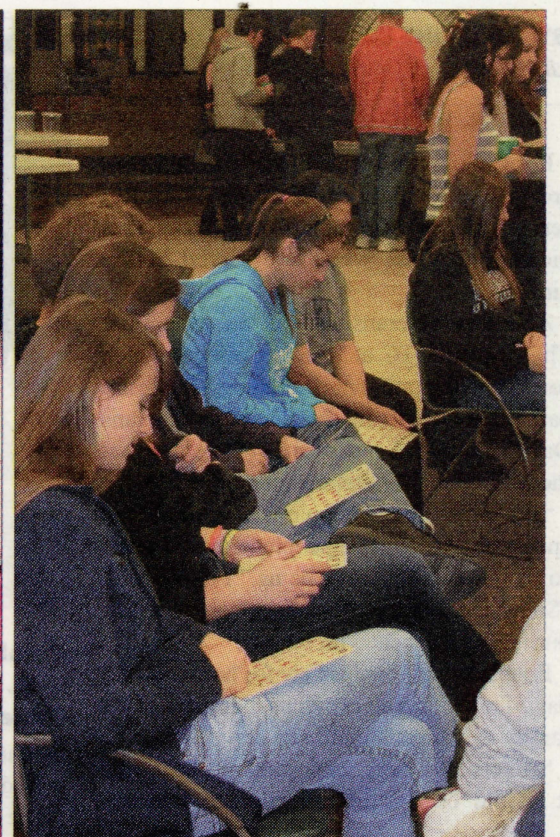


Students bet all or nothing playing games at Casino Week 2011



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

During the week of Nov. 1, Student Government hosted a week of casino games. The week started out on Tuesday Nov. 1, with Texas Hold 'Em poker. Wednesday Nov. 2, was Bingo night; Thursday Nov. 3, was a Night at the Races and Friday Nov. 4, was Casino Night. Students could win prizes such as jewelry, a flat-screen TV and Vera Bradley bags and apparel playing games. For a full article on Casino Week, visit thewilkesbeacon.com.



Wilkes professors inspired to never stop learning with careers

BY HOLLY BOYER
Assistant Life Editor

Students may think they're the only ones learning in courses and earning degrees, but some professors are also working toward learning in courses and earning degrees.

By being a faculty member at Wilkes, professors are able to take courses and earn degrees with no tuition fee. Professor of environmental engineering and earth and environmental sciences, Dr. Brian Redmond, is one of the professors that has taken advantage of this free learning.

Originally Redmond earned three degrees in geology; a Bachelor of Science, a Masters of Science and a Ph.D. But he did not stop there. While being a professor here at Wilkes he has earned several more degrees. He has earned a B.S in chemistry, a Bachelor of Arts in physics, a B.A in English and he is currently working on a B.A in history.

"It makes sense to follow in chemistry and physics because it supports geology," Redmond says, "although I've always considered myself more of a science generalist than a science specialist."

Redmond says he always enjoyed taking classes. Even in high school he would rather take classes to learn instead of going to study halls. Redmond has been a professor at Wil-

kes for 36 years, and he has been taking just one course a semester to earn all that he has accomplished.

"A little of something for a long time can add up big," Redmond says.

He said he would have liked to take biology but it didn't fit in with his teaching schedule. Having an interest in reading and being interested in English urged him to pursue a degree in English. That same idea applied to him pursuing a degree in history as well.

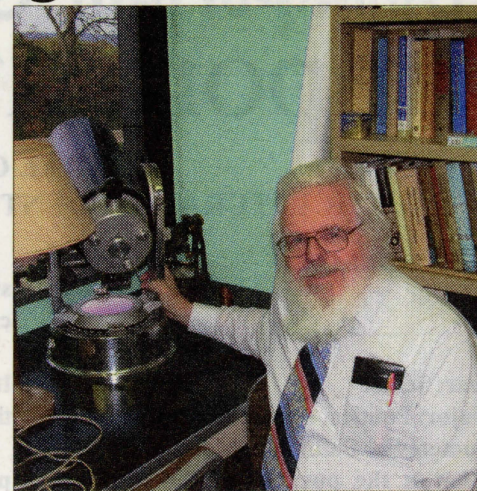
"I'm interested in a lot of things, so once I've finished a degree, I look to see what else I can do," Redmond says.

Redmond plans to continue to take more courses to gain more knowledge about other things. He hopes to take other courses that interest him such as foreign languages, philosophy and math.

Another professor that has sought lifelong learning is professor of anthropology and sociology, Dr. Jim Merryman. Originally Merryman earned a Bachelor of Arts in history, with a minor in philosophy. He then earned an Master of Arts and a Ph.D. in anthropology.

This being his 23rd year as a professor at Wilkes, Merryman has earned an M.A in creative writing and has taken a computer and art course along the way.

"There is no price of tuition, it's a great benefit to have access of these sources and teachers," Merryman says.



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Professor of anthropology and sociology Dr. Jim Merryman, left, and professor of environmental engineering and earth and environmental sciences Dr. Brian Redmond, right, have taken advantage of taking classes without paying tuition.

Merryman hopes to talk a jazz dance class and some environmental, geology, astronomy, music theory and integrative media courses.

"I think I would learn things (in integrative media) which would make for more interesting online courses that I teach," Merryman says.

Redmond says it is a great benefit to earn so many degrees in many different areas of study, but the biggest benefit of taking advantage of lifelong learning is gain a lot of knowledge in many different topics because

it is always a good thing to be educated in lots of curriculum.

"It's not as much about the degrees as it is the courses. It keeps the mind alive, it makes everything more interesting, and it gives you bigger, brighter pictures," Redmond says. "You see surprising associations to things that seem so different."

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Library scavenger hunt going mobile with smart phones

BY ALYSSA STENCAVAGE
Staff Writer

At first glance, the Farley Library is the last place one would find students using smart phones to accomplish something to win a prize. Now students are being given the opportunity to do exactly that through a mobile scavenger hunt initiated at the Farley Library in October.

This scavenger hunt has been going on since Oct. 15, 2011 and will end just before winter break. Depending on how many entries the library gets, a similar contest may take place again next year.

The only criteria for the hunt is that students need to own a smart phone. Students that enter are automatically eligible to win a Nook color by entering the hunt.

All it takes is a tour of Farley Library's resources using a quick response code reader on a smart phone.

Once students have completed the tour, they will be entered to win a Nook color from the Barnes and Noble bookstore. Students begin the scavenger hunt by scanning

the QR code with their phones.

Electronic Resources Librarian Kristin Pitt is responsible for initiating the mobile scavenger hunt. She says she started the scavenger hunt because QR codes are appearing everywhere, and many libraries are starting to use them as a means to advertise collections, link resources to video tutorials and provide information to supplement exhibits. She had been keeping an eye on this trend and looking for an opportunity to see if it could be implemented to engage students at Wilkes.

"I had a couple goals in mind when I created the scavenger hunt," Pitt says. "The first (goal) is to simply get the students into the



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Scan codes like the one pictured above can be found around the library for scanning with smart phones. Students start at the Reference Desk and scan for clues.

library and interacting with library resources."

The scavenger hunt is full of useful information on how to make the most of what the library has to offer for research and assignments.

The second goal Pitt has in mind is to gage students' response to this new technology as current research indicates that a significant number of students are using smart phones.

"I wanted to see if QR codes are some-

thing that students would use, and if they are something that librarians should be using to promote resources and possibly to make library instruction more interesting," Pitt says.

Pitt says more and more students have ac-

cess to smart phones and are going mobile for information.

This is a spin on the traditional library scavenger hunt because it requires a small amount of time commitment to complete and offers helpful library information and a chance to win a Nook color before the holidays.

So far, the response from students has been positive. Several students have been asking questions at the reference desk while working on the hunt, creating important dialog between the students and the reference librarians.

There have also been a lot of inquiries as to when the contest ends, and many students indicate that they intend to participate later in the semester.

The scavenger hunt will continue until Dec. 15, when the drawing for the Nook Color will take place. The winner will be announced on Dec. 16. Students can seek more information about the mobile scavenger hunt at the Library Reference Desk.

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Unimportant Questions with Important People

SHADAE GATES

MULTICULTURAL STUDENT COALITION PRESIDENT

BY CHRISTINE LEE

Life Editor

Year: Senior

Major: Political science and criminology

Hometown: Baltimore, Md.

What is the purpose of the Multicultural Student Coalition on campus? The purpose is just basically to spread diversity in multiple ways and everyone understands other cultures.

We try to showcase things like festivals they have in their home countries if they want to bring to campus and doing things like going on different trips.

What is an interesting fact about yourself you would be willing to share?

I have a lot of tattoos and piercings no one knows about.

What can we expect from this year's MSC Fashion Show?

This year since the whole executive board is seniors, we are leaving it to our younger board to decide what it is they want to do with it and let them experience it more.

It's going to more of an '80s theme; it's not going to be as cultured as it is going to be something everyone can relate to.

TV shows you follow?

"Pretty Little Liars" and "Jersey Shore."

What is something we should understand about MSC and diversity affairs on campus?

Diversity isn't always dependent on race. It can be depending on the different things that we do.

What are some of the things MSC is planning this year?

For this semester, we are doing the fashion show. We are doing a holiday party and we have one trip to New York City this semester and next semester it might be Baltimore.

What do you like to do in your down time?

Sleep, shop, eat and travel to Baltimore.

Best Wilkes memory?

Spring Fling last year because I think Kevin Hopper did a good job planning it and it had a really good turnout for Wilkes students and the music was awesome and it had me dancing the entire night away.

What is in your fridge now?

Waffles and pickles.

What is your favorite part about being MSC president?

I'm proud of the fact that every year we get to meet new people and we get to learn new things about people and ourselves.

And just to know that you can have an impact on people in ways that you never thought you could. And any student can

come to MSC and feel appreciated.

If you were in a band, what would the name be?

Ma Band You Listen!

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would be and why?

It would definitely be China. I took Chinese for four years in high school, and I know the language and the culture I'm definitely interested in. I would love to see the fast-paced society.

What is your favorite part about being at Wilkes?

The one-on-one connection with the teachers.

Favorite dining services food?

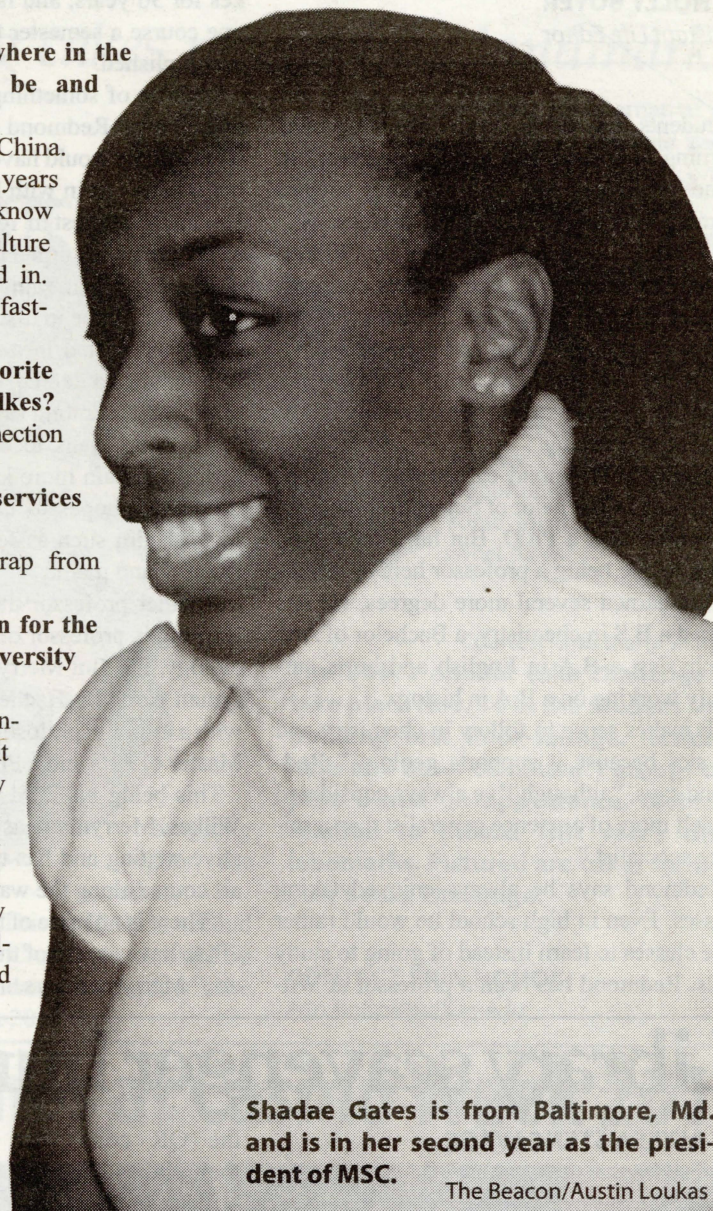
A buffalo chicken wrap from Rifkin Café.

What do you envision for the future of MSC and diversity on campus?

It will be a lot more involved with the student body as well as faculty and that we can actually reach out by getting high schools involved in diversity and actually making a name for Wilkes by getting involved in the community.

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Shadae Gates is from Baltimore, Md. and is in her second year as the president of MSC.

The Beacon/Austin Loukas

History Club to judge soups at cook-off

BY DOMINICK COSTANTINO

Staff Writer

The History Club will be hosting a Slumgullion soup cook-off on Thursday, Nov. 10 at 6 p.m. in the lounge of the Student Union Building.

Sophomore chemistry major and history club president Rachel Gill says "Slumgullion" is the term that Civil War soldiers used to call the soup they made at camp.

The cook-off will begin at 6 p.m. in the lounge of the Student Union Building, and students may taste the different soups by buying tickets. In addition to tasting soups, those attending the event will be treated to special music by local band, Just Blush with junior English and communications major Todd Oravic, sophomore psychology major Adam Bailey and others playing acoustic

songs throughout the event.

"We are hoping to raise money for our end of the year trip to the historical Boston and Salem, Mass.," Gill says. "Because of the distance and high price of gas, it is very important for us to have this fundraiser."

This fundraiser is something new to the Wilkes campus. History club vice president and junior education major Jennifer Earley came up with this event with a little inspiration from an event that used to be held at her high school. She thinks this will be a great fundraiser because it is something that no one has ever seen on campus.

"Students should come to this new and different fundraiser to eat amazing food, listen to Just Blush and chat with History Club members," Earley says.

Judging will begin at 6:15 p.m. The judges for this cook-off include assistant professor

of history and History Club adviser, Dr. Michael Davidson, a food services chief and an administrative member. The judges will pick one corporate winner and one non-corporate winner.

Anyone interested in entering a soup can do so by contacting Gill via email. The cost for submitting a soup is \$5. Set-up for those entering will be at 5:30 p.m. on Nov 10.

"The cook-off is a way for the History Club to reach out to the community, both the Wilkes University angle and the local residents of Wilkes-Barre," junior history major and History Club member Samantha Hunter says. "Students should come to eat amazing food, listen to the local band Just Blush, and chat with History Club members."

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ROTC

Continued from page 9

the service in a positive light so it gives them motivation to do well in school and participate in the ROTC program," Honrath said.

Honrath says Veteran's Day is important for cadets because they see that being in the military is something they want to do to serve their country and eventually become active duty members.

He add that even though Veteran's Day is only one day a year, it is important to keep veterans in mind most of the time.

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The Rouge tours while living 'in a van down by the river'

Band from Colorado is getting a chance to see America while promoting its album.

BY DEVONI NOVAK
A&E Editor

Colorado-based, rock band The Rouge has been touring the country in its van 'White Thunder' to share their music and love for genuine rock 'n' roll.

Playing songs from their album 'Heat and Light' the members hope to reach their audiences on an emotional level.

The band has been playing together for three years and currently resides in Nashville whenever they aren't on the road.

What genre of music do you consider 'The Rouge'?

We try to just be a rock band, American rock 'n' roll, honest rock or whatever you want to call it, honest Abe rock."

Who writes the songs?

We all do. Josh does all the lyrics and we sit in a room and stare at each other and come up with the foundations of songs. It's



Members of The Rouge, pictured from left, are Jack Egan, Steve Voss, Adam Call and Josh Vaught.

Photo courtesy of The Rouge

a family experience. We all write together.

How do you come up with the lyrics? Do you pull from personal experiences?

(Lead singer Josh): Yeah, generally. I've kind of ventured into trying to come up with something in my mind and fabri-

cate and then make lyrics out of that but it doesn't work nearly as well. So yeah, I usually just do it from my brain and whatever has happened to me.

How does the song writing process begin?

(Lead singer Josh) It depends, sometimes there's a chunk of lyrics, like there will be a certain line that I feel is able to be developed into a song or sometimes I'll have the melody and I'll kind of fit words with it. It's never been a "this is how it always works." It kind of just works in different ways.

How do you decide what the mood of a song will be?

There are definitely times when lyrics tell the song where to go. Sometimes you need to push a little bit if you think it needs to be a little more moody but generally it's the lyric that dictates.

So how long have you been on tour?

A month.

How many more places are you going?

One more, Richmond Va.

Is this your first tour?

No, we've been touring for a couple years now, although this would be our first time since the band started [touring] in November that we've been on the East Coast.

Is traveling in such a small space tough? How do you manage to get along?

We're like brothers so we fight and get over it, sometimes we hate each other, sometimes we get mad but you have to allow that.

How has this tour been different from others?

This tour has been really adventurous, more than any other tour. We've had a lot more stories.

Could you share some?

It was a Tuesday night in a small town, a place we've never been and 30 people showed up ready to party. That's probably the best part about touring, you have low expectations of a place and then you get there and it ends up being a total riot. It was basically a house party, everyone brought



Photo courtesy of The Rouge

Lead vocalist, Josh Vaught, belts out the lyrics for a heavier sound.

SEE THE ROUGE, Page 15

Wilkes alum drums up musical career with local bands

BY DEVONI NOVAK
A&E Editor

Wilkes alum, 24-year-old Matthew Rutkoski shows off his talents for drumming however he can.

Graduating last spring with a B.A. in Spanish reflects his knack for foreign language, but one may not expect that he is also an experienced musician. Although Rutkoski has a start in the music business he still has far to go before he reaches his career aspiration.

"My main goal is to tour the whole world and to play in front of every nationality and culture," Rutkoski said.

To reach out to the Wilkes-Barre community through his performances, Rutkoski currently plays with two different bands, The Artoos and Kriki. After playing with Scranton-based The Artoos for two months, Rutkoski feels the band's overall style is similar to his own with indie rock sounds. Although Rutkoski likes a variety of music he admits, "Anything is good; except

polkas and hard-core country."

Friends of Rutkoski, Breaking Benjamin and now Black Label Society drummer, Chad Szeliga and Szeliga's girlfriend, Heather Smith introduced him to The Artoos. After the band's lead singer, James Phillips, saw YouTube video of Rutkoski playing, he asked if he would join the band.

Two months later, Rutkoski is still playing with The Artoos and plans to be a part of the band's 12 song recordings that will be released on iTunes within the next year.

For six months, Rutkoski has been playing with the female dominated band, Kriki of Wilkes-Barre. Complete with their own flutist, Kriki fits into a southern bluegrass genre. Rutkoski met most of the band's members at church where they all learned of each other's developing musical careers. Eventually Rutkoski joined Kriki after jamming with them at the Jazz Café's open mic nights. Kriki has three albums out including one full length production to check out.

Despite playing with two bands, Rutkoski



Photo courtesy of Matt Rutkoski
Matthew Rutkoski on the drums.

can't seem to fulfill his obsession for the drums.

"It's something I'm really passionate about," he said.

Rutkoski began taking lessons when he was around 10 years of age after becoming

interested with the intricate drum sets he would see at the homes of his friends. Thriving off of his fascination with the instrument, he began playing on drum like objects such as pots and pans. Because he wasn't really sure what he was doing he paired up with an instructor and took lessons. Although he wasn't always as skilled as he is today Rutkoski continued forward in hot pursuit of his dream.

"Once I got the hang of it, it was really fun, I got into it," Rutkoski said.

Now Rutkoski writes his own beats and is looking to spread his love for the drums by offering lessons at \$25 an hour. He is willing to work with any musician at any skill level and encourages people everywhere to give whatever it is they wish to do a chance.

"I love to teach and share my skills with other people that want to or are drumming," said Rutkoski. "If you're really into it just give it a try and pursue it."

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'Like Crazy' shows young lovers in a realistic light

BY DEVONI NOVAK
A&E Editor

"Like Crazy" is a realistic portrayal of the melodramatic love that young couples tend to fall into.

The entire movie is centered on the relationship of two college students who fall deeply during their last semester of school.

The girl, Anna, who resides in England, ignores her visa limitations and stays over the summer to be with her boyfriend, Jacob, in L.A. After traveling to England to attend a wedding, she is denied entrance to the U.S. upon her return. The rest of the film tells the story of the strain this mistake has on their relationship as Anna is repeatedly rejected in her request for visa renewal.

To the audience, the way Anna and Jacob respond to each other may seem silly. However, to those who have experienced an emotionally heavy relationship, the issues are relatable and the script is very real in how every disagreement seems like the end of the world. In order to relate to the film, the audience must immerse themselves into the story of romance. Only then can the impractical reactions seem less hysterical and more authentic.

While the two are miles apart, they mutually agree to see other people, believing it will ease the heartache of missing each other. As Anna and Jacob are sporadically reunited

and continuously forced to be separated again, they use their knowledge of the others infidelity against them out of frustration. The audience, who sees the relationship from an outside perspective, can see these other encounters as meaningless. However, Anna and Jacob allow their reciprocated disloyalty to elevate the intensity of their long distance separation.



To me some parts of the movie seemed over-dramatic and childish. I found myself thinking they both obviously love each other; they need to stop creating their own aggravation. I also felt as if the script tried to portray this intensity of love that the characters' actions sometimes contradicted. For instance, why didn't Jacob move to England? In the movie his excuse was that his furniture company was located in L.A. but that reason is insignificant in terms of true love. After all furniture can be built and shipped anywhere, welcome to the 21st century!

The acting is excellent, the script was well done and the scene locations were nicely selected. Unlike many films presented today, "Like Crazy" is not done with traditional shots of continuity. Although jump cuts are primarily tagged as a major 'no no' is movie production, there use in this film builds the feelings portrayed by the characters in each scene. The entire piece was artfully crafted with thoughts that grew outside of the box.

Similar to the film "Blue Valentine," much of the dialogue between Anna and Jacob was improvised, according to IMDB.com. The use of improv created a conversational realism that would have seemed rehearsed with a concrete script and taken away from the leading aspect the movie has going, its realistic interaction of young lovers.

"Like Crazy" is a must-see for the romantic artist. With all the elements of a growing, maintained and dwindling romance, Anna and Jacob's story is similar to that of many real life lovers. They are unique from the usual cinema love story with the absence of outside elements such as, society, family, or death that kept them from being together. Instead, it is their relationship that puts strain on itself and their actions toward their problems that cause the romance to fail. The film brings proof to the theory that long distance relationships are a lost cause.

What is a movie without a perfect ending? The last shot of "Like Crazy" is not the traditional happily ever after, but something the critics can appreciate more. It is left open-ended for the audience to decide. My prediction is the viewer will believe that what came of Anna and Jacob is exactly what happened in their own personal romance that the movie reminded them of. The ending, will be different for everyone and like many great artworks open to interpretation.

Rating:



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Wilkes University Theater presents: 'The Who's Tommy'

BY DOMINICK COSTANTINO/
ONGELIQUE MCGUIRE
Correspondents

Wilkes University Theater brings "The Who's Tommy" to the Stage of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center this November as the fall musical theater production.

"The Who's Tommy" is based on The Who's original 1969 album about the amazing pinball wizard. The musical, written by Pete Townshend and Des McAnuffl, is about a young boy who witnesses a traumatizing event, which puts him in a state of catatonia where he cannot see, hear or speak, yet finds his calling in a game of pin ball. The rock-opera takes the audience through all of Tommy's life from age 4 to 20, and shows that no matter the circumstances, one can always be triumphant.

The musical is under the direction of Teresa Fallon, director of visual and performing arts at Wilkes, with musi-

cal direction by Ken McGraw, adjunct music instructor. The musical stars musical theater majors Jamie Alderiso as Tommy, Kelly Pleva as Mrs. Walker, Luke Brady as Cousin Kevin, Cassidy Conroy as Uncle Ernie and William Michael McGovern as Lover.



The Beacon/Laura Preby

Pleva, sophomore musical theatre major, plays Tommy's mother Mrs. Walker. Her role and the show itself are different from anything she has done in the past.

"Since the show spans over 40 years, it's a challenge to keep my character interesting as I age on stage," Pleva said. "It's a lot to think about at times, also Tommy is a high energy show that doesn't slow its pace through the entire performance."

Two noncollege students make an appearance in this production playing Tommy at ages 4 and 10. They work just as hard as the older cast members according to different members of the musical.

In addition to the show's high energy and variety of musical numbers, it also offers a valuable lesson.

"Tragedy does not have to define your entire life. I think this is a lesson that everyone can take away from this show" said Alderiso, sophomore theater major and lead in the show.

Ticket prices are \$15 for the general public and \$7 for students and senior citizens. Wilkes students, faculty and staff will receive free admission with their Wilkes University ID.

For more information about this production, call the Darte Center box office at 570-408-4540.

"Whether you come to see Tommy because you like musicals, or because you like The Who, you are bound to like the show and have a great time watching us," Pleva said.

Wilkes Theater Department:

What: 'The Who's Tommy' Rock Opera

Where: Dorothy Darte Dickson

When: Nov. 11-12, 18-19 8 p.m. Sundays at 2 p.m.

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'THE ROUGE'

Continued from page 9

their own beer. It was awesome.

What else has happened?

We were in New York City in this little bar watching the baseball game and this guy got super mad because the bartender wouldn't serve him. He went outside and just started kicking the window until it broke.

The cops came and he freaked out. He was in cuffs on his chest on the side of the street and he would not stop yelling naughty words and once he ran out of naughty words to scream he just started screaming 'yeah'. Like 'YEAAAH!'... New York City is insane."

Will 'The Rouge' be going on tour again?

We'll probably be out in December again. I bet we'll probably end up playing 280 dates next year as a guess. So I imagine we'll be [back] here [in Wilkes-Barre] a few times.

How do you guys come up with the funds to travel?

We try to get guarantees. Right now we're not funding, we're in the red right now for sure. But it's kind of what you have to do. We're still a young band, no

one really knows about us yet.

Do you like being on tour?

There's a fine balance. When we've been home for too long we start to get a little stir crazy and we're ready to get back on the road again, a lot of the time road feels like home. When we got home this last time we kept on carrying around our van bags just because it felt so uncomfortable not to have it."

Where do you do your laundry when your on the road?

Wherever we can. Were in a rock 'n' roll band so were supposed to be dirty a little bit. I think we've all been blessed not to have really bad body odor."

What do you hope to give to your fans and gain for yourself through rock and roll?

Everybody has a different answer. We just love rock 'n' roll and we want to inspire other people to love rock and roll and make them feel a part of something. We love music and it's our passion so as long as we can support ourselves by our passion we will."

The Rouge is now working on another album to be released this spring. Check out the band on facebook.com/therougeband.

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Editor: phatnguyen@thewilkesbeacon.com

Colonel wrestling opens season with tournament title

Dattolo, Wilson claim individual championships at Monarch Invitational at King's

BY JUSTIN FRANIAK
Assistant Sports Editor

The Wilkes University wrestling team is hitting the mats and hitting the books as the season begins. The nationally-ranked squad made its debut this past Saturday with a huge tournament title at the King's College Monarch invitational. Head Coach Jon Laudenslager believes in getting off on the right foot to get your season started.

"Well you always want to get off to a good start," Laudenslager said. "It becomes a great confidence booster in that the things we have done to prepare for the tournament are all worth it. For the young guys, it's a great time to get the nerves out and have some of your weaknesses exploited so we can work on fine tuning things for second semester."

The Colonels took home two individual titles with returning All-American and captain Anthony Dattolo taking home the trophy at 149 pounds, while teammate and fellow captain Ryan Wilson took the gold at 141 pounds. The Colonels also saw multiple runner-ups in Michael Fleck, Jeff Peterson, Tyler Lauchaire and Nathan White at 125, 141, 149 and 165 pounds respectively.

The Colonels are currently ranked 12th in the nation, and are looking to improve according to Laudenslager, but he said there is no added pressure within being ranked so high.

"We are giving 100 percent and will continue to do that," Laudenslager said. "Wrestling is fun, so why put pressure when all you can do is put all you have into it and really wanting success. This team may be perhaps the strongest I have coached in terms of work ethic."

Captain Benjamin Marich, a senior integrated media major, reiterated the mentality of working hard and how he instills that into the younger guys.

"I'm not a vocal leader, I kind of try and lead by example," Marich said. "I work hard and try to get a couple guy to follow me, then they get a couple guys, and sooner or later the whole team is working hard."

Senior captain Ryan Wilson, a Business major, also talked about leading by example.

"Even though we are named captains, we are not better than anyone person on the team, we just have the most experience," Wilson said. "Everyone on the team is treated equal, but we are looked upon to bring some leadership to the team, they look at us to guide them in the right direction."

Wilson also said he has his team and individual goals set high for this upcoming season.

"We are looking to be the team we expected to be the last two years," Wilson said. "By the end of the year we are going to the top ten team we've been wanting to be if we continue to work hard."

Laudenslager reinforced these goals for the season, for not only wrestling, but for earning a degree also.

"Our No. 1 goal each year is to keep everyone academically on track for graduation," Laudenslager said. "After that we want to break in the top ten rankings both athletically and academically after finishing 13th last year in both. Finally we want to have 100 percent commitment toward winning the Metro Title and sending multiple guys to nationals."

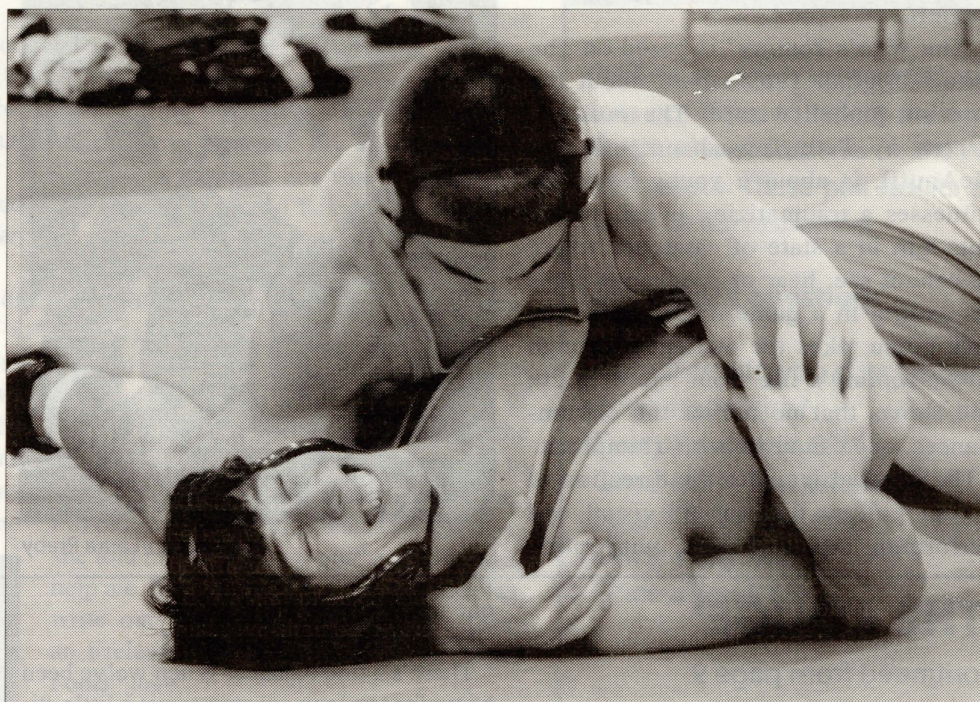
Wilkes won the Monarch invitational by a heavy margin. The Colonels posted a tournament high of 146.5 total points with York College following far behind with 117 total points. At the end of the day, 11 Colonels finished in the top five or better in this year's tournament.

Dattolo expects to keep the ball rolling this weekend at the annual John Reese Duals.

"I expect everyone we send out on the mat to wrestle hard for the full seven minutes," Dattolo said.

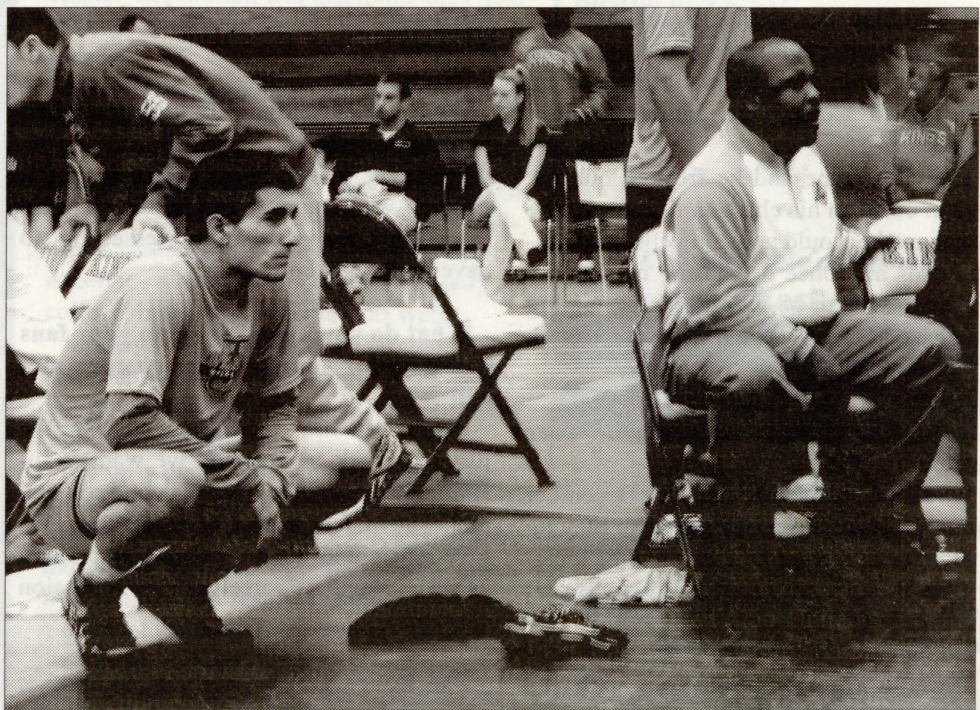
The Colonels finished last year with a record of 15-10-2 and are looking to improve that record this season. The Colonels will be in action next, this Saturday at the John Reese Duals at the Marts Gymnasium at 11 a.m.

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The Beacon/ Justin Franiak

Freshman Eric Bach works for the fall en route to a third place finish at the Monarch Invitational. Bach finished his impressive debut with a 5-3 decision over Vincent Buttice of SUNY Cortland in the consolation finals.



The Beacon/ Justin Franiak

Senior captain Anthony Dattolo prepares himself for his quarterfinal match at the Monarch Invitational. The returning All-American was impressive in capturing his first individual championship of the year. Dattolo won his championship bout by pinfall.

SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL

11/5 Lebanon Valley L 35-42

WOMEN'S SOCCER

10/30 Eastern L 0-3

11/2 Eastern L 1-3

MEN'S SOCCER

10/31 Eastern L 1-4

WRESTLING

11/5 Kings Invitational

1st Place Overall

1st place: Anthony Dattolo

Ryan Wilson

2nd place: Jeff Peterson

Tyler Lauchierre

Nathan White

3rd place: Michael Fleck

Matthew Ellery

Eric Bach

5th place: Dave Oberrender

Jon Slack

WEEK AHEAD

FOOTBALL

11/12 Stevenson

WRESTLING

11/12 John Reese Duals

MEN'S BASKETBALL

11/15 PSU-Hazleton

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

11/15 PSU-Hazleton

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Joseph Pugliese

CORRESPONDENT



Since Tebow was drafted last year by the Denver Broncos 25th overall in the first round, he has instantly become a fan favorite. Earlier this year Kyle Orton was benched, giving Tebow the nod to get his first start of the season in week 7 against the Miami Dolphins. With mostly the support from the fans Tebow was now the new starter, but outside of Denver criticism has been harsh.

First, the Tebow camps are split; some people think he is underrated and his intangibles make him good: others think he is overrated and believe he just cannot play.

I am in the overrated half of the group. I believe Tim Tebow cannot play the QB position in the NFL effectively and efficiently enough to win. He should not have been a first round pick. Personally, I would not have looked at him until the third or fourth round. Tebow cannot throw the ball, he barely throws a spiral. It's not tight at all, which gives receivers grief trying to catch the ducks he puts up. His arm is not particularly strong or accurate.

Yes, he has good running ability, great sense to extend the play and get out of trouble, and use his legs to make plays but that simply isn't enough. In his first two starts this year he has been sacked 13 times. Pro defenders are much faster than college ones and it will hurt him.

The other issue with Tebow is his supporters have started to cry that the firestorm of criticism in the last few weeks is created because the media are out to get Tebow. This is the farthest thing from the truth. Many people in the media love Tebow and hope that he succeeds, but the fact that he has not performed and the media have to do their job and discuss that fact.

The media are doing their job there is not one other first round pick that has not received adequate criticism when they have underperformed: Jamaricus Russell, Ryan Leaf, Tim Couch, Heath Schuler. The list goes on and on. Each has come, not lived up to the expectations of being a QB taken in the first round and gone.

Ryan Leaf is the poster child for this. Why is Tebow any different? The reason is there has never been a single college player to come into the pros who is loved and admired by people as Tim Tebow. The media aren't the bad guy in this case; they are simply doing their job.

The media aren't going after Cam Newton anymore. Why? Because he has proved he can play in the league. Until Tebow does that, he will be criticized.



Tebowing, or taking a knee in a random place and praying, is a new sensation similar to "planking" that was made famous by Tim Tebow in a touchdown celebration.

Is Tim Tebow criticized too harshly?

The Buzz:

The former Heisman winner and standout college star has received a great deal of attention upon being named a starter in the NFL

The Results:

Tebow has a 2-3 through his first five starts, but many analysts say he can't perform at an elite level.

To see and join the full debate visit:
thewilkesbeacon.com

Phat Nguyen

SPORTS EDITOR



Tim Tebow is being too harshly criticized for things out of his control. Tebow is starter for a terrible Denver Broncos team.

I think you can all agree with the fact that all new quarterbacks should be mobile and should have elite accuracy.

When Aaron Rodgers came into the league, what kind of team did he inherit? Ryan Grant, a pro-bowler and 1,200-yard rusher and two all-Pro wide receivers with over a thousand yards receiving in Greg Jennings and Donald Driver.

What did Tebow get? A running back committee featuring Knowshon Moreno, a 700-yard rusher and a goodbye to leading wideout Brandon Lloyd.

Rodgers had a team and a formula that was set up for him to succeed with a team that went 13-3 the year before with Brett Favre leading them close to a shot at the Super Bowl.

Tebow was drafted into a system by a coach who lost his job after losing control of his poorly managed team.

I'm not saying that every quarterback needs to be perfectly groomed as Rodgers was. Too often rookie quarterbacks are thrown to the lions by desperate teams who pray for anything to change the outlook of the season.

If you do another comparison to other quarterbacks that had a slow start to the season, you might see where I'm coming from. Eli Manning and Tim Tebow have similar numbers.

In their first five starts, the numbers seem equally subpar. Manning had a record of 0-5 with a 3-7 TD to interception ratio, a completion percentage of 44.4 and a passer rating of 44.8. Tebow has a record of 2-3 with a 7-4 TD to interception ratio, a completion percentage of 48.3 and a passer rating of 74.8.

An average quarterback has around a 60 percent completion percentage and probably around 75 passer rating.

Manning won a Super Bowl ring four years after that horrible five-game skid.

I want to leave you with a cut from his last year in Florida where he made a bold speech to the entire country.

"I promise you one thing, a lot of good will come out of this. You will never see any player in the entire country play as hard as I will play the rest of the season. You will never see someone push the rest of the team as hard as I will push everybody the rest of the season. You will never see a team play harder than we will the rest of the season. God Bless." - Tim Tebow

Wilkes falls to Lebanon Valley



The Beacon/Alex Zero

Auxence Wogou ran for 45 yards and had 57 receiving yards in a loss to Lebanon Valley 42-35. The Colonels put up 465 yards of total offense in the losing effort. The Colonels will play again this Saturday against Stevenson at home.

Colonels to close season at home



The Beacon/Alex Zero

The Colonels will close their season this Saturday against Stevenson at the Ralston Athletic Complex. The Colonels are currently 3-5 and are looking to close out the season with a win.

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Open competition brings intensity to veteran squad

BY PHAT NGUYEN
Sports Editor

The Colonel basketball team returns all five starters from last year's team that went 15-10 advancing to the Freedom Conference semifinals including last's years leading scorer, Chris DeRojas, who is now an assistant coach.

The point guard position formerly held by DeRojas is now what Coach Rickrode calls an open competition, but early front runners include but are not limited to freshman Jordan Wilson, Craig Thomas and Tyler Breznitsky.

"Point guard situation is pretty strong," Rickrode said. "I think there will be one to emerge, but you know. We haven't solidified one yet."

Senior Captain Kendall Hinze enjoys the open competition and notes how it's only going to make everyone better.

"We have so many guys competing for that one spot, and they all bring something different to the table," Hinze, the P-2 pharmacy student, said.

As far as starters go, Rickrode believes there are 14 guys competing for the five

starting spots of out his 22 man roster.

Rickrode has enthusiastically stated how great this open competition has been especially at practice. "In my twenty years coaching,

guard.

"He's got a ton of talent," Huch, the senior psychology major, said. "You could definitely see that at practice. College level is just so much faster pace. It's all about slowing things down and making good decisions, and I think he's been doing a good job so far."

Rickrode believes that they have quite a bit to do before the start of the season.

"We're trying to concentrate on the tempo being a lot faster up the floor. We think we will be able to pressure a lot better. We're also a little deeper, and we look to play more people this year."

That increased tempo is another adjustment the team improve on both sides of the ball. The team looks to run more full court presses and fast break points with their deep roster. Huch believes a lot of guys will get playing time with this new attitude.

"As soon as we get tired, we can bring them out and put another guy comes in," Huch said. "We want some more easy points instead of playing half court basketball all game."

Rickrode says first goal is to try to get off to a good start this year.

"I just want to get off to the better start than last year," he said. "It's a little bit of a different dynamic because we have more of a veteran leadership. The schedule has some tough games as it should, but we want to get off to a better start."

"Definitely helps by making us a lot deeper. We have so many guys with experience.

Chris DeRojas is back but he's coaching now, and I think that helps with team chemistry. It should help us out a lot," Hinze said.

"We didn't start playing well until the second semester last year," Huch said. "We're just trying to build off of that, and hopefully keep that going this entire year instead of going so late."

Huch and Hinze are trying to start the year off on the right foot by bringing more intensity to practice, stepping up as vocal leaders at practice in order to get to the next level.

Rickrode believes intensity at practice has been there now the teams just needs to execute.

"I think we just try to establish that every day at practice right now," Rickrode said. "I think that we've had really good ones so far. They're continuing to get better every day."

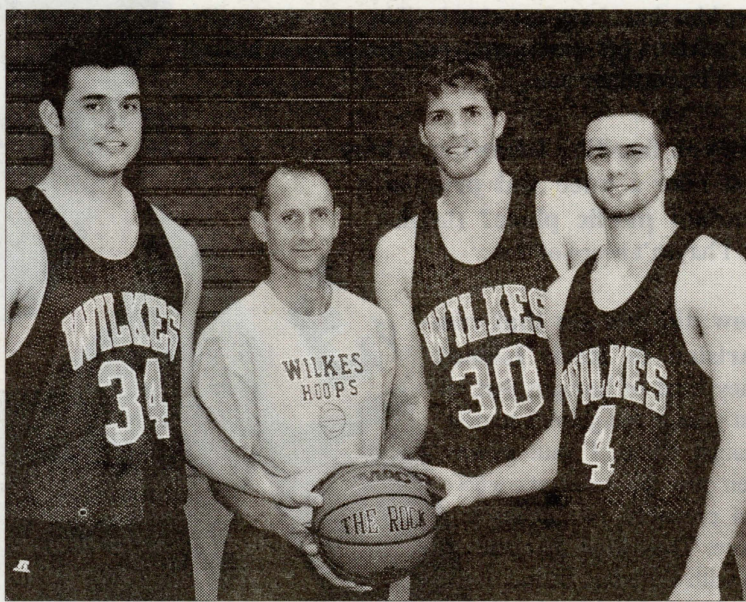
The bar for the Colonels is set high with the eventual hope to win a MAC championship.

"I've been thinking about that for years now," Hinze said. "Whenever I was even running in the off-season, it's the only thing I've been thinking about. I sit there in class sometimes and don't pay attention and just think of the game."

"I want to leave a mark in that gym. The best way to do that would be to leave a banner in that gym," Hinze said.

Wilkes will open the 2011-12 season at home against Penn State Hazleton Tuesday, Nov. 15 in the Marts Center at 7 p.m.

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The Beacon/Phat Nguyen
Coach Rickrode looks to senior leadership to open the new season.

this is as good as they've been as competitively and defensively as they been in a long time."

Rickrode said there's a good situation for freshmen since they don't have to make a huge impact as a group immediately. Jordan Wilson will make an impact as a freshman as well as Rodney Hill.

Senior co-captain Paul Huch has already seen good things out of the freshman point

It feels good to be up there with Tate. He's a hell of a player.

Sports information reported that your have two carries for two yards. How did you get that? That would be the announcer's problem, I guess. They must've mistaken me for Tivald. (laughs) I'll take it. That's Tivald's yards for sure. That's just a mess-up which happens, but I'll take the stats

Is there any reason that you wear #23? I was #11 all throughout high school for both basketball and football. My roommate and best friend, Matt Gunther was #11 in high school. We had arguments over it, but I let him have it. I just stuck with #23 because Michael Jordan with his mental aspect and drive was my favorite player.

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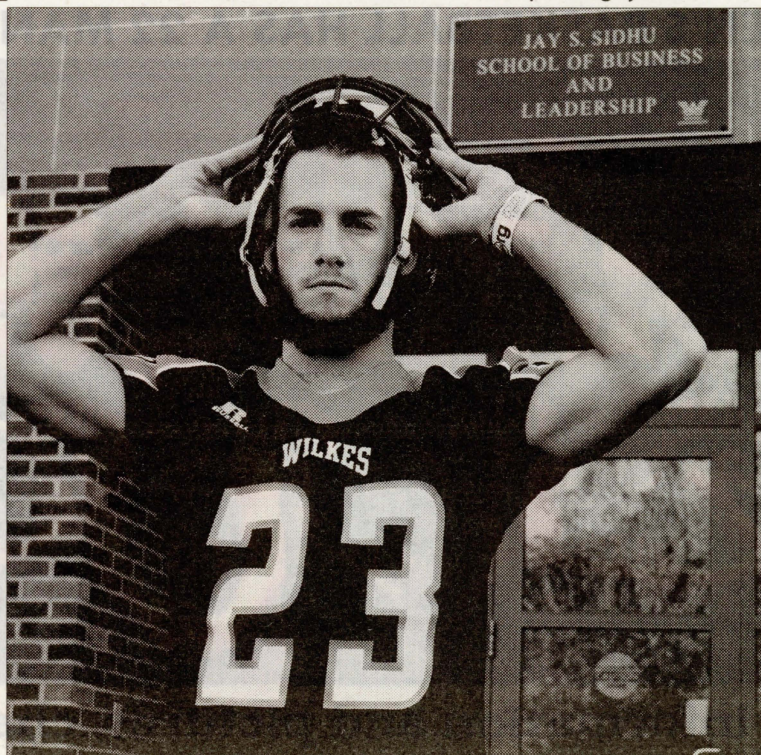
CHRISMER

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When you used to play corner with Matt Gunther as the other corner, did the team ever call you guys Revis and Cromartie? (laughs) Yeah, but I'm playing safety now. They've kept me there for the last two games.

Are you more like your mom or dad? My dad. I'm a lot like him. We have a lot of the same personality. The only thing I'm like the mom is that we're both talkative. I'm not afraid to talk to anybody.

What's it like being tied for third most tackles on the team? I didn't even know that. It beat my expectations.



Chrismer has made big contributions on the Colonel defense this year including his only interception of the year which came in a game when Wilkes needed it the most. The Colonels defeated cross town rivals 13-6.

The Beacon/Laura Preby

Getting to know...

Joe Chrismer

#23 Safety, Football

BY PHAT NGUYEN
Sports Editor

Meet Joe Chrismer, the senior safety of the football team. The hard hitting safety has been making big stops on defense all year including late game heroic interception to secure a win against cross town rival King's College during a blizzard.

Age: 22

Major: Business Administration

Hometown: Mountain Top, PA.

Which high school did you go to?
Crestwood.

What's it like playing football not too far from your hometown? It's nice you get a lot of the local guys to follow you. It's pretty nice to go back home and see how the teams doing. My family is at every game.

A couple of weeks ago, Alex George said that you're the hardest hitter on the team. Is that true? I thought he was probably about right. Not to toot my own horn, but I look to give out the big hits. Being a smaller guy, I think it's kind of a shocker for some of the receivers to get pinned up on their backs. Then they look up and see a 180 pound safety that hit them.

What was the biggest hit that you had

this year? Widenor's number one receiver and the game at Lycoming was probably my two biggest hits this season. They were both momentum shifters for us.

What was the pass deflection that you had this year? Biggest pass deflection was against Susquehanna. Their top receiver was an All-American. They went at me and it was my first start. Big get up for me.

What sports do you play other than football? Basketball four years, baseball until freshman year in high school ran track just kept busy

Who's one guy in the NFL that you would love to tackle? Probably would have to be Terrell Owens or Chad Ochocinco.

Wait, so you don't like those guys? (laughs) No, I would just like to see what their reactions would be. I like them as receivers. I think they're great receivers, but I love to see what their reactions would be.

Who would you want to be up against more? I would probably be Ochocinco since he would have a better reaction than TO.

Who's your NFL team?
Denver Broncos.

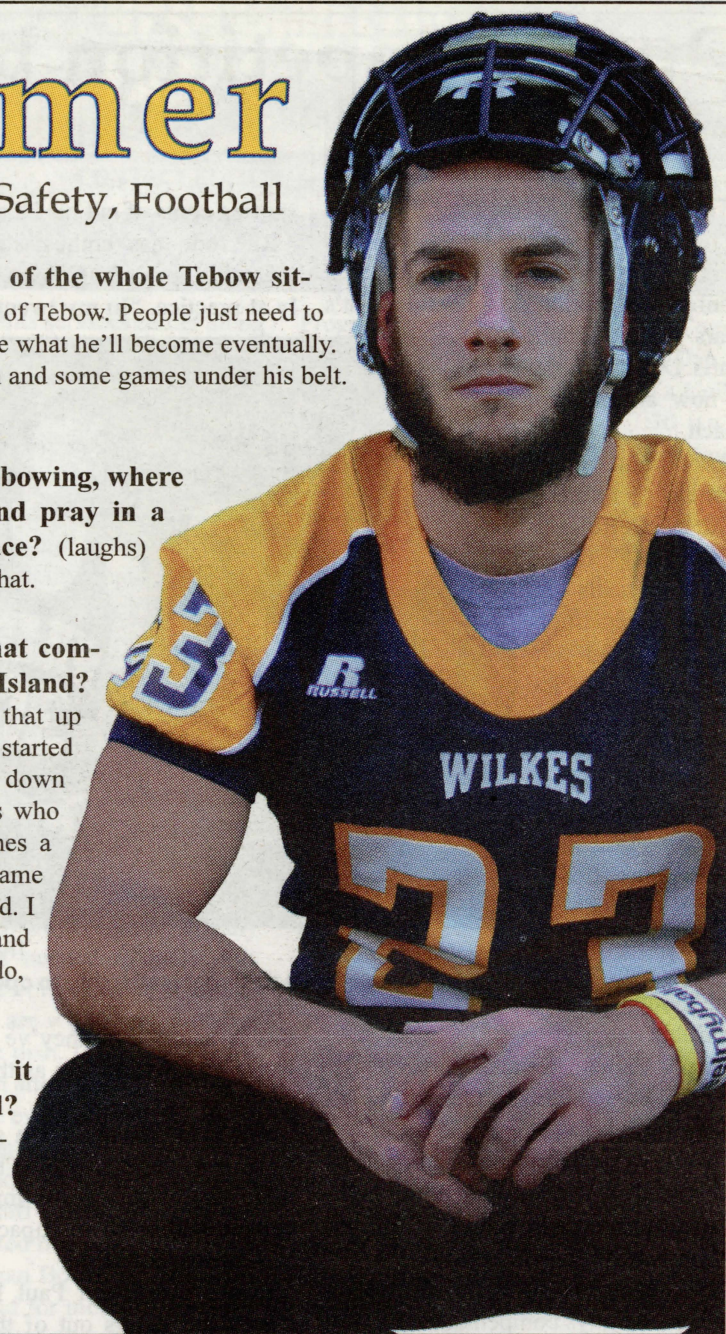
What do you think of the whole Tebow situation? I'm a fan of Tebow. People just need to give him time. I can see what he'll become eventually. He needs an off season and some games under his belt. He'll be perfectly fine.

Are you familiar Tebowing, where you take a knee and pray in a random public place? (laughs)
No I haven't heard of that.

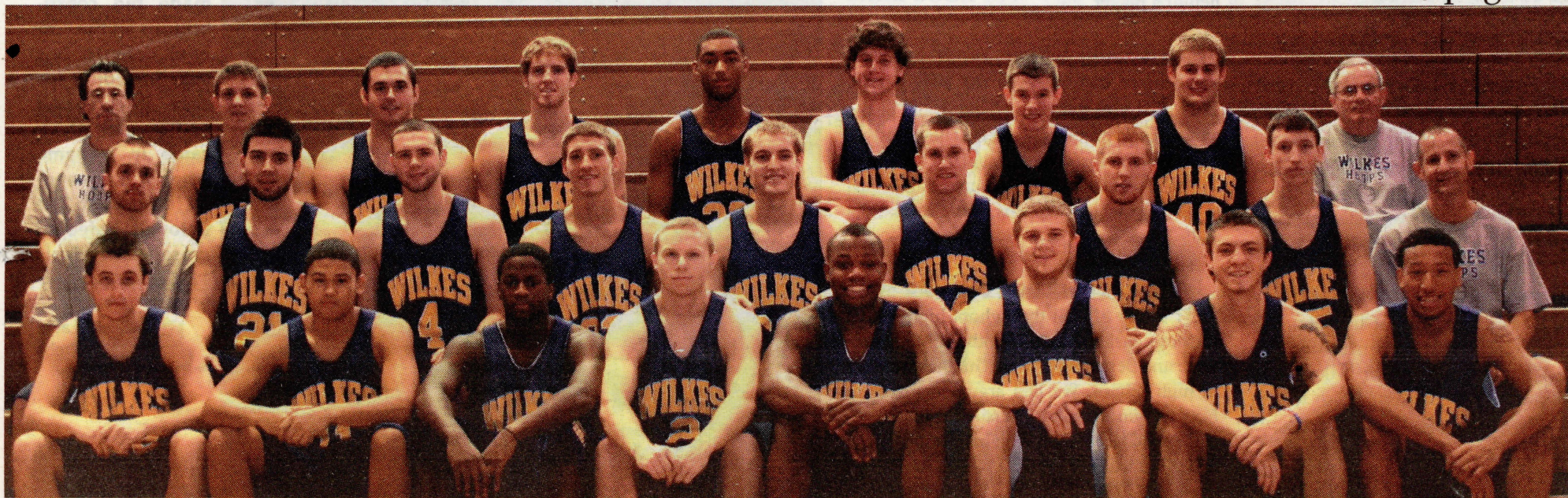
How did you get that comparison to Revis Island? They kind of brought that up last year in the game I started against Utica. I shut down their two top receivers who had probably 14 catches a piece. They kind of came up with Chrismer Island. I just kept a level head and did what I needed to do, more or less.

Do they still call it Chrismer Island? (laughs) No, not anymore.

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