

## Wilkes students eye cash prizes through cultural lens

**BY JANEL NARO**  
Assistant A&E Editor

The Center for Global Education and The Student International Club at Wilkes is offering students and faculty the opportunity to showcase their talent and experience of studying abroad through their photography.

"The program enables students and faculty to study abroad and interact and learn about different cultures," Dr. Godlove Fonjweng, director of Global Education said.

"The goal is to enable students to learn more about different parts of the world and be able to know what's happening in different parts of the world."

Fonjweng and Dr. Andrew Miller, professor of political science, provided Wilkes University students with a way to share their experience in an artistic and eye-opening way.

Twenty-four students and 10 faculty members who studied abroad

**SEE ABROAD, PAGE 13**

## 40 West fortifies new apartments in YMCA

**BY KIRSTIN COOK**  
Editor-in-Chief  
& **PHAT NGUYEN**  
News Editor

Students looking to live off-campus, but not too off-campus, will now have the option of living in new apartments being constructed on the upper floors of the Wilkes-Barre YMCA.

40 West is a new 21 apartment unit that is being built and will be completed in time for the fall 2012 leasing season. The unit is a renovation of the fourth, fifth and sixth floors of the YMCA, and will contain a variety of rooming options from single studios to quad rooms.

Tim Gigliotti, 40 West property manager, said these apartments will give Wilkes students another

option besides the usual housing choices.

"There is no new product in the Wilkes housing department," Gigliotti said.

For those who have been to the old YMCA apartments, the new unit will have no resemblance. Gigliotti explained that they completely gutted the fourth floor to create a more logical floor plan.

"The problem with the units before was it was very long and narrow," Gigliotti said. "You were restricted by that center hall by moving the hallway to the inside hall. We provide with more flowing environment. It's more compact and more logically laid out now."

Jacki Lukas, 40 West community

**SEE WEST, PAGE 4**

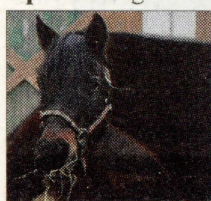
## EXHIBIT DISPLAYS CULTURE



Photo courtesy of Justin Balint

Justin Balint won the Study Abroad photo contest with this photograph, which captured a Haitian woman crossing the border to the Dominican Republic to buy necessities. It can be seen at the Study Abroad Photo Exhibit currently on display at the Barnes & Noble on 7 S. Main St. until Feb. 10.

Opinion Pages 6-8



**Horse meat: Hay or Nay?**

**PAGE 6**

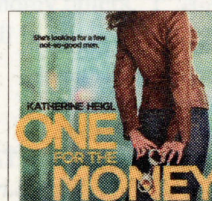
Life Pages 9-12



**The Social Networks**

**PAGE 10**

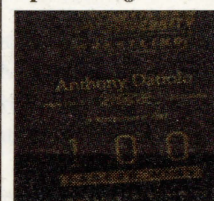
Arts & Entertainment Pages 13-15



**One for the Money, Two or for the no**

**PAGE 15**

Sports Pages 16-20



**Dattolo hits the century mark**

**PAGE 16**



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# Wilkes shows more appeal to prospective students

## Enrollment grows from 4,000 to more than 6,000 due to hands-on approach

BY DEVONI NOVAK  
Assistant News Editor

After Wilkes University ranked as one of the fastest growing institutions in The Chronicle of Higher Education this past August for the school's growth between 2004 and 2009, Tim Gilmour's departure has some wondering whether the university will continue to thrive.

When asked how his leaving may affect the school's growth, President Gilmour is unsure of the consequences himself.

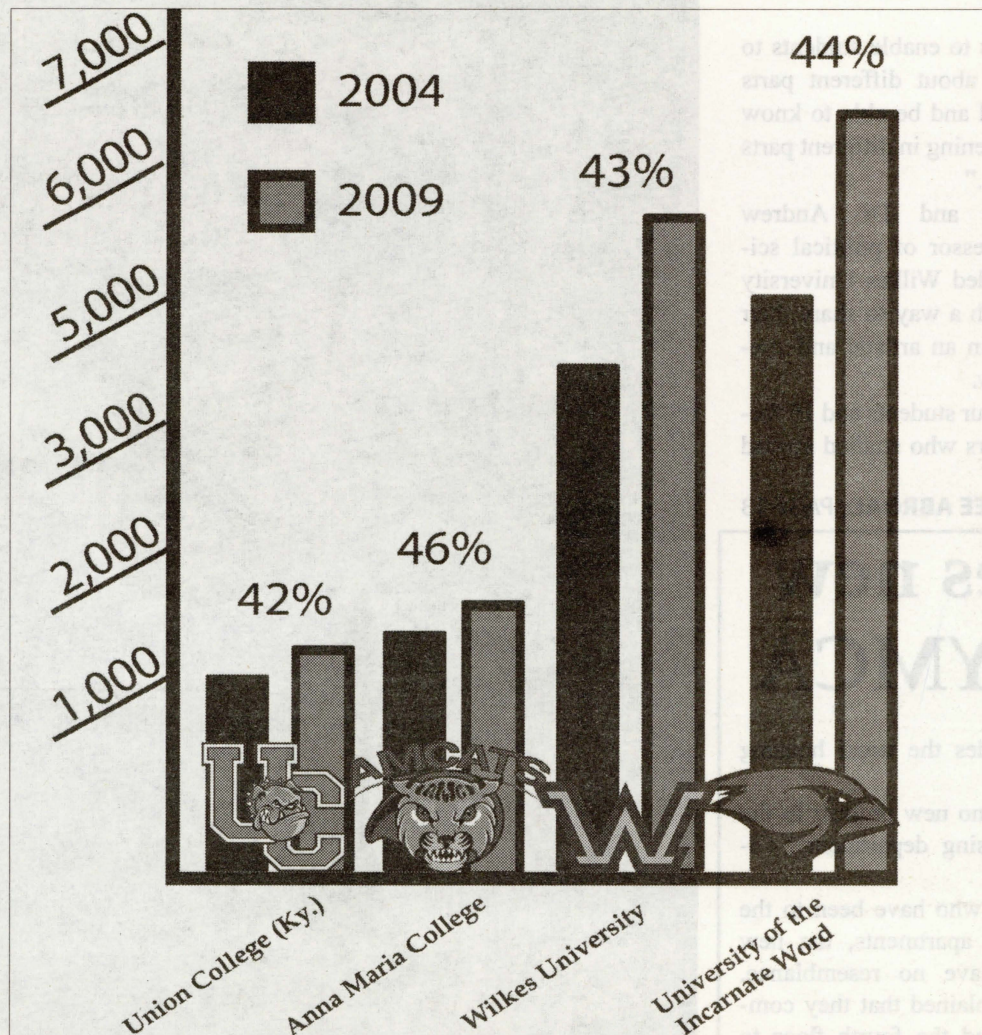
"Well, who knows," Gilmour said. "Obviously the new president will have some ideas in this area, I'm sure some things will change."

Gilmour hopes the new president will have ideas that will benefit students and employees. He feels that broadening the programs Wilkes offers will ensure the institutions long-term survival and success. Gilmour suggested that the approved strategic plan for 2015 offers a good starting point for the new president as they think about what they want to do for Wilkes.

Wilkes has been able to attract incoming students thus far because of the quality of its programs and faculty mentoring, according to university Provost Reynold Verret. Verret said that Wilkes offers an education that mimics hands-on apprenticeship and sets the university apart from others. He believes this style of learning is important because students actually learn how to do what they are studying instead of simply learning the theories behind the practice.

"In many ways that apprenticeship is a valuable thing," Verret said. "Practicing [the] discipline is something students are finding at Wilkes and I think that is a very attractive part of what we do."

As a member of the Wilkes administration, Verret makes it his personal goal to seek out



Wilkes' total enrollment grew from 4,364 in the fall of 2004 to 6,239 in the fall of 2009 for an increase of 43 percent. The graph pictured above is not drawn to scale.

Photo illustration/Michael Klimek

the best professionals to create exceptional faculty mentoring. Not only does Verret want to make an impact on the number of students that attend Wilkes, but he also aims to contribute to the success of each student.

Verret suggested that faculty has a role in the increase in students by being a key as-

pect in making Wilkes attractive to possible students.

"Putting in place a great faculty that is engaged and creative and willing to actually offer the best to students (is important)," said Verret. "Students don't come here to meet me or to meet the dean; they come

here for the faculty."

Other than maintaining a worthy faculty, the administration also targets a number of possible student groups to keep Wilkes thriving as an institution. The four primary target groups are: first-time freshman, transfer students, international students and graduate students.

About 550 first-time freshman enrolled this fall, which called for an increase in dorm space that needed to house these students. However, it has been predicted that the number of incoming freshman will decline over the next ten years. To compensate, the university hopes to attract more international students and increase that student population by 50 percent.

To date, the total university population is mainly made up of students who are studying at the graduate level. Gilmour said this is because the administration predicted that the need for this type of degree would be in higher demand and Wilkes has accommodated to meet the need of these projected students.

As Wilkes continues to grow, existing students have benefits to look forward to. Facilities will improve as more funding becomes available and in turn the institution will have greater capabilities and higher quality programs.

Gilmour suggested that as Wilkes continues to grow in student population, the university will become stronger.

"The main thing is that we as an institution are much stronger academically and financially," Gilmour said. "That's what growth really does for us; it gives us the capabilities to do things that we couldn't do otherwise."

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### Meet the Staff



Bill Thomas  
A&E Editor



## Political scientists at Wilkes foresee Mitt as GOP nominee

BY DEVONI NOVAK  
Assistant News Editor

At this point in the Republican candidacy race, Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum and Texas Rep. Ron Paul have become back runners as Mitt Romney and Newt Gingrich duke it out for the party's nomination. As the GOP debates continue, Wilkes University political scientists are predicting the election outcome of the Republican candidate.

Despite the recent rise in popularity of 58th speaker of the house, Newt Gingrich, few believe he will actually win the Republican seat and are instead putting their money on Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney.

"I think it's more likely that Romney will be the Republican nominee, more likely than Newt Gingrich,"

said associate political science professor Dr. Kyle Kreider. "I see (Gingrich's rise) as a result of people wanting someone other than Mitt Romney."

Although Kreider notes that some seek an alternative to Romney, he still believes Gingrich is an unlikely winner.

Because Romney has been known to take

contradicting stand points on political issues such as gay rights, abortion and health care, voters are looking to the other candidates hoping a stronger conservative will arise.

"I think the primary issue is because Mitt Romney has a lot of baggage" Kreider said. "People are concerned he won't be a true republican in the White House."

In Kreider's opinion, Romney will likely come out on top regardless because of his campaigns strong infrastructure. Romney's campaign has more money, which buys a lot in politics, such as advertisements that allow him to spread his message to voters.

Kreider also noted that Gingrich was unable to appear on the ballot in Virginia simply because of a lack in campaign funds.

Besides funding, Kreider believes Romney will win the Republican nomination be-

cause of his capability to look attractive to voters outside the Republican Party. Of all the Republican candidates, Kreider suggested people feel Romney is the best candidate to go up against Obama because of his ability to appeal to independent voters. Engaging unpredictable voters is a key aspect because members of both Republican and Democrat parties know that they will win the votes of hardcore party supporters.

Political science professor Dr. Thomas Baldino is surprised Gingrich has made it this far in the Republican debates. He predicted early on that at least three candidates would be left by the time the campaign reached Florida. However, Baldino did not expect the sudden popularity of Gingrich or that he would be this close to Romney in the polls.

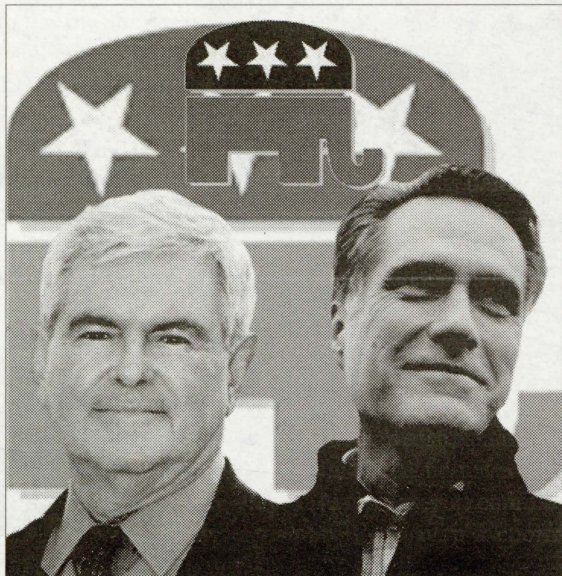
"Right now the latest polls tell us that Gingrich and Romney are running essentially in a tie," Baldino said. "Gingrich's performance in the first debate was his weakest of the bunch and it helped Romney because Romney looked better than he had in previous debates."

Since then Baldino has noticed that Gingrich has become more assertive and seems to prefer an audience

that responds to his one-line retorts. Although sometimes his short replies seem witty, Gingrich often says the wrong thing, which has voters second-guessing. Baldino believes Gingrich is a candidate who often has to put his foot in his mouth.

Agreeing with Kreider, Baldino believes Romney is the best opponent to go up against Obama in the race to the presidency. He suggests that what America wants will reflect the state of the economy. If the economy continues to improve, Baldino predicts it will be a close race. If the economy falters, Romney has a better chance. All in all, time will tell.

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Front runner candidates Mitt Romney and Newt Gingrich dominate the latest GOP polls.

## SG hopes to bring 'Wild and Crazy' Colonels to this Winter Weekend

BY PHAT NGUYEN  
News Editor

Wilkes Student Government announced '90s Nickelodeon Cartoons as this year's Winter Weekend theme last week. Nickelodeon Cartoons won the popular vote over Pokemon, Youtube Sensations, As Seen on TV Infomercials and Wildlife.

Junior P-1 Pharmacy major Kristofer Rivers, who is in charge of coordinating the festivities this year, said voting was not a close race.

"Nickelodeon blew all other competitors out of the water," Rivers said. "Within a day of voting, they were by far the majority."

Winter Weekend is an event where Wilkes students form teams to compete in various activities such as relay races, best banner, most spirit award, a photo scavenger hunt and ends with trivia. Since '90s Nickelodeon Cartoons was picked by the students, teams will then pick within that theme what kind of team they would want to form. The teams would then submit logos and a slogan to SG who supply each team with T-shirts.

Some of the cartoons chosen include "Rugrats," "Angry Beavers," "Ahh! Real Monsters," "Hey Arnold," "Wild Thornberry's," "Blue's Clues," "Rocket Power," "Doug" and "CatDog." The groups competing range from a variety of places like the Frisbee Team, Chemistry Club, History Club, Cheerleading, men's soccer, softball team, Evans Hall 4th Floor and University Towers 2nd Floor.

The first night of competition consists of a banner, team slogan and a mascot competition that based on the Nickelodeon cartoon. After scoring from the judges, the traditional photo scavenger hunt ensues across the Wilkes campus.

Rivers plans on keeping the first night traditional, but will incorporate athletic events back due to popular demand and even will use some classic Nickelodeon.

"We're bringing back more athletic events like volleyball and knockout," Rivers said. "With the Nickelodeon theme, we are trying to incorporate events and things we would've seen in on TV into that event. There's potential that we might be bringing slime into the events."

The second night consists of games on the Greenway or UCOM depending on the weather. Games range from sporting events, relay races and different "minute to win it" games.

Rivers emphasized that the addition of

athletic events would not provide an unfair advantage to more athletic groups.

"We have a cheerleader team which consists of all girls and teams like guy's soccer team," Rivers said. "Some of the events might be athletic based, but there will be strategic based ones as well."

From there, the teams will be moved to the ballroom for five rounds of Nickelodeon trivia with a "Final Jeopardy-esque" ending where the teams can wager their scores in a double-or-nothing scenario.

That scenario is exactly how last year's finish played out says Garrett Schrader, captain of the 2011 Winter Weekend Champion Team Cars.

"It came down to that and we bet enough for us to win," Scharader, a history and secondary education major, said. "I've been on the past two winning teams. We want to keep that tradition alive."

Rivers looks to bring back the community service aspect of the event with a canned food drives. The cans will serve a purpose in scoring as well as being used as a token.

"A certain number of cans will give your team 'X' number of points," Rivers said. "Cans will also be like life tokens. A can might be able to be substituted for a missed picture in the photo scavenger hunt."

Last year, 11 teams and 127 students participated. This year, Rivers hopes to eclipse that number with a goal of 15 teams by extending the deadline to the first week of February. To enter a team, send an email to Kristofer.Rivers@Wilkes.edu with a choice cartoon in mind.

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Jess Short prepares to lead off the Winter Weekend relay at last year's event.



## WEST

Continued from Front Page

coordinator and Wilkes alumnus, said the pricing would be comparable to the costs for on-campus housing. However, she said that's a lot to offer with new products and opportunities that aren't included in dorm living.

"Brand new cabinetry, brand new stoves, everything you would need to make it your home," Lukas said. "You could still walk down the hall and knock on your neighbors door and say, 'hey, what are you doing tonight?' then you could come down to me and say 'what's going on?'"

In addition to that, Lukas plans to hold community events for the 40 West residents such as move in parties and get together to

focus on their unique community and explore things beyond Wilkes.

A year lease at 40 West will include all utilities, Wi-Fi and access to a community room with television and a billiards table. The rooms will be fully furnished with furniture and appliances, including air conditioners and dishwashers.

All bedrooms within the apartments will be single. Plus, the leases are divided by bedroom, which Gigliotti said might help with payment issues.

"All leases are by bedroom not by apartment so if your roommate doesn't pay it's his fault and you won't have to cover for him," Gigliotti said. "That can sometimes be a problem for off-campus housing."

The reconstructed housing also boasts a separate swipe-in entrance for residents, a resident's only elevator plus a full YMCA

membership.

Lukas stressed the importance of safety and pointing out required card access for the elevator and entrance and the newly installed sprinkler systems along with being on the higher floors of the YMCA.

"The dorms are on the fourth floor and up, so no one will be crawling into your window," Lukas said. "Safety is a big deal, and we have outfitted the building to maximize it."

"It's something-for-everybody mentality. We have studios, one bedroom, two bedrooms, three bedrooms and four bedroom units. The unique and historical structure of the YMCA allows us to have a nice variety of product."

"We're offering these two story units in the racquetball courts," Lukas said. "You don't really see that ever."

The structure is best thought of by an inverted town house, where there are two bedrooms on lower levels and bathrooms up the stairs to kitchen with two additional bedrooms. These rooms have sky lights.

40 West plans on hosting a leasing kick-off on Feb. 22 and 23 at 4:40 p.m. with a 40 themed party with food, drinks and a DJ. To go 40 theme, a special offer is being made to students who sign up for leasing before March 15.

By registering your name, email and address at [40westapartments.com](http://40westapartments.com), \$40 off will be taken off your first month's rent.

Interested students should contact [jlukas@radnorproperty.com](mailto:jlukas@radnorproperty.com) or check out [40westapartments.com](http://40westapartments.com) for more information.

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The Beacon/Phat Nguyen

Wilkes alumnus Jaqueline Lukas and Tim Gigliotti hold mock renderings of the future dorm room of the YMCA located on the corner of Northampton and Franklin Streets. Their company 40 West is remodeling 21 apartment style units with 59 bedrooms that will provide a unique housing opportunity for university students.



# Act 101 budget cuts decrease aid for first-generation college students

BY QUYEN NGUYEN  
Correspondent

Future first-generation college students may no longer benefit from the Act 101 program due to a 70 percent state budget cut that has occurred within the last three years.

Act 101 has been a state-funded program since 1971. It is intended to benefit first-year and first-generation college students. Thomas J. Thomas, the executive director of student affairs, proudly articulated that the Wilkes University Act 101 program's goal is to increase the number of first-generation college graduates by providing them with the guidance necessary for them to reach their academic goals.

Wilkes University first started its Act 101 program in 1976, and Thomas has been involved with this program for the last 12 years in addition to his 18 years of experience in the Upward Bound program. The executive director explained that the Upward Bound program has the similar goal of helping high school students to be prepared for college while Act 101 essentially helps them get through college.

"Statistics showed that they (first-generation college students) graduate from college at a far lesser rate than other students," Thomas said. That is one of the reasons Wilkes University started the Act 101 program over 30 years ago.

Like any other program, there are requirements for students to be an Act 101 student and benefit from it. But with the state budget cuts, those requirements have become more rigid and there are less students benefiting.

Thomas spoke about how hard it was to cut back on the services that have been provided to students for a good amount of time. Karen Riley, the coordinator of the learning center, sat beside Thomas with the same concern when talking about the state budget cut.

The number of Act 101 students at Wilkes University has been reduced from 150 students down to 50 due to the budget cut.

Act 101 students are given the advantage of a variety of services. These include academically related services, such as the providing of a learning specialist to help students perform better in their classes and financial aid packages.

"We offer a full umbrella of services, and depending on what the (student's) concern is, we have a person that can meet with them (to help)," Riley said.

Before the state budget cut, Act 101 used to have a book loaning service which was very helpful to students who were financial-

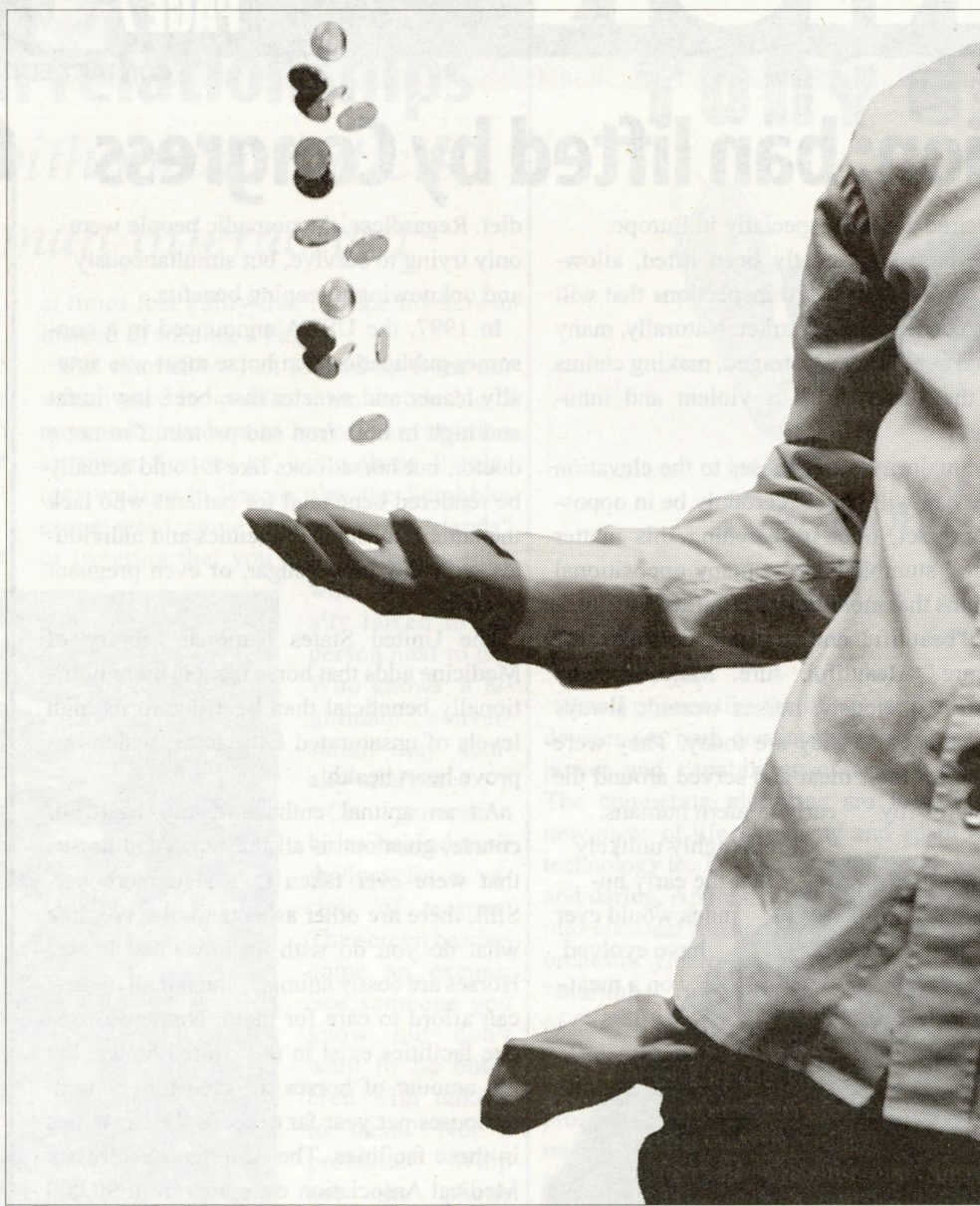


Photo Illustration/ Laura Preby

**The Farley Library continues to attract students with its growing repertoire of resources, including the new Web-based ENCORE catalog system.**

ly lacking.

"It is so sad to see students still coming back and asking for those services, but we don't have the budget to provide it anymore," Riley said.

According to Riley, due to the bad economy, the second biggest concern that students have is the financial aid problem. She helps them with the whole package, from how to organize them to how to keep the financial aid funding.

Besides helping students to achieve their goal, Act 101 advisers are willing to sit down and have one-on-one conversations with students on how to solve personal issues that might be affecting their academic performance. Riley – who was also an Act 101 student in her college years – understands very well the needs of those students.

While reminiscing about her college years,

Riley recalled that like any other first year college student, she sometimes struggled to find her way during the transition between high school and college, so she got help from Act 101.

"There was time along the way when I needed guidance. I was given that (by Act 101), or the resource of information," Riley said, empathizing with students she is working with in the program.

Like Thomas, it has been 15 years since Riley started working on this program – 12 years at Wilkes – and she has always been very passionate about her work.

"It is rewarding to see the change in students from when they first come to this school compared to how mature they become," Riley said with a content smile on her face.

Due to the welcoming and helpful environ-

ment that the Act 101 program's staff members provided, a student said it feels like she has a second set of parents who she can come to and talk about her problems regarding school or her personal life.

Jasmine Edwards, a Wilkes University junior majoring in business administration, was first introduced to Act 101 by Karen Riley. Riley was her first adviser at Wilkes since Edwards was undecided about her major. The Act 101 staff gives Edwards insight about things that her parents cannot because she is a first-generation college student.

"She is very hands-on," Edwards said.

They even keep in touch during the summer time to discuss the courses that Edwards is going to take as well as her future plans, such as talking about choosing a major. Riley lays out the options and gives Edwards advice on the pros and cons to each one so she can pick and choose.

"She gives me options, and that's what I need," Edwards said.

In Edwards' mind, other than being an advisor, Riley has also been a cheerleader and a second mother to her who would keep her posted on what she should be doing. The junior lost her financial aid at one time and Riley was the one who help Edwards to stand on her feet again and do well in the courses. And with the help of the Act 101 staff, Edwards earned a much higher GPA and got the financial aid back.

Edwards recalled that she and her friends go to Riley for more thorough and personal advice.

"Even if I don't see her, we still email back and forth," Edwards said, "She wants to make sure that you are fine as a person, not a dollar sign as others might look at students like us."

The better students are doing, the less they will have to meet with their Act 101 adviser. And Edwards sees that as a disadvantage.

"The more I process, the less I get to see Mrs. Riley," she said, a little upset about doing better because she does not get to see her advisor as often any more.

Edwards is not the only success story that Act 101 has created. There are many other students who graduate and still keep in touch with Act 101 advisers like Karen Riley.

But due to the budget cut, the supportive program is slowly being eliminated from state funding. Thomas said this may hurt first-year and first-generation college students in the long run because there will no longer be services available.

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# Horse consumption: ban lifted by Congress

BY LYNDIE YAMRUS  
Assistant Opinion Editor

In 2006, Congress said "neigh" and put a ban on the slaughtering of horses for human consumption by discontinuing the use of federal funds towards meat inspection services. The USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service requires that all meat be federally inspected before its distribution from the plant, and the absence of this money created an obstruction for the industry.

So at that point in time, anyone who claimed they were hungry enough to eat a horse clearly weren't doing so, at least not in the United States. Although the horse meat market is virtually nonexistent in America, it is more common-

ly desired abroad, especially in Europe.

The ban has recently been lifted, allowing the funding toward inspections that will resurrect the equine market. Naturally, many animal activists are outraged, making claims that the slaughtering is violent and inhumane.

The majority of responses to the elevation of the ban will almost certainly be in opposing. In fact, upon researching this matter online I stumbled across many oppositional opinions that more or less regarded the horse as a "beautiful and majestic domesticated creature." Beautiful, sure. Majestic, why not. But obviously, horses weren't always domesticated as they are today. They were hunted for their meat and served around the campfire by early modern humans.

It is highly unlikely that the early humans would ever have evolved on a meatless

diet. Regardless, the nomadic people were only trying to survive, but simultaneously and unknowingly reaping benefits.

In 1997, the USDA announced in a consumer publication that horse meat was actually leaner and sweeter than beef, low in fat and high in both iron and protein. I'm not a doctor, but horse looks like it could actually be rendered beneficial for patients who lack the latter two, such as anemics and individuals with low blood sugar, or even pregnant women.

The United States National Library of Medicine adds that horse meat is more nutritionally beneficial than beef due to its high levels of unsaturated fatty acids, which improve heart health.

As an animal enthusiast, my heart, of course, goes out to all the unwanted horses that were ever taken to a slaughterhouse. Still, there are other aspects to observe, like what do you do with an unwanted horse? Horses are costly animals, and not all owners can afford to care for them. Numerous rescue facilities exist in the United States, but the amount of horses directed into slaughterhouses per year far exceeds the capacities in these facilities. The American Veterinary Medical Association estimates from 90,000 to 100,000 horses every year.

Equine protection organization Habitat for Horses says that it costs anywhere from \$40 to \$200 to euthanize and remove a horse, whereas it pays from \$150 to \$800 to sell it for slaughter, a quick and profitable gain. It would certainly be nice to allow all horses a tranquil life until natural death, but the reality of it is that it just isn't possible. If anything, the ban would increase neglect and abandonment towards the animals. There are far too many in existence and not nearly enough individuals who are responsibly and financially competent to properly care for each one of these creatures.

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The Beacon/Laura Preby

## 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 32 responses.

### Last week's question:

Which candidate do you think should be the Republican nomination for the 2012 election?

- Ron Paul (44%, 14 Votes)
- Mitt Romney (19%, 6 Votes)
- Rick Santorum (16%, 5 Votes)
- Newt Gingrich (6%, 2 Votes)
- Other (6%, 2 Votes)
- Michele Bachmann (3%, 1 Vote)
- Rick Perry (3%, 1 Vote)
- Jon Huntsman (3%, 1 Vote)
- Herman Cain (0%, 0 Votes)

### This week The Beacon asks:

How do you feel about the SOPA/PIPA acts?

- They should be passed
- They should not be passed
- I don't care
- Not enough information

## 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.



# Love affair with technology interferes with relationships

*Society obsessed with media outlets, poses threat to human interaction*

BY CARLY YAMRUS  
Opinion Editor

As I sat down for my first class of the semester, I looked around the room at my fellow classmates. I glanced from person to person and quickly noticed that I was one of the only people that weren't transfixed by a screen.

Now I am definitely not behind the times and I thoroughly enjoy the devices I own, but I can't help but feel that our lives are being consumed by constant entertainment. I am just as guilty as the next person, but at least I am aware that this is a concern in our rapidly advancing society.

With all the different devices on the market, it is not hard to find an activity to occupy ones

time. But when those devices start interfering with human relationships, I think we might have a problem.

All too often I see people with their heads down texting, completely unaware of the world around them. Before classes, the cellphones come out in last attempts to message friends before the professor arrives.

Nowadays, we are able to keep connected just about everywhere we go with 3G and 4G networks and wireless technology. There are "apps" for just about everything - most of the most popular ones being mindless games and social networking sites.

Even books are on a screen now, and although I love my Amazon Kindle, I do

at times feel guilty that I swipe my screen instead of turning a page.

But what if we just looked up from our screen once in a while? I am wondering if anyone knows how to have a conversation anymore. Instead of using those 2 minutes waiting in line to play the Scrabble-esque word game "Words with Friends" or tweeting that you are standing in line,

what if we actually talked to the person next to us? Who knows, a legitimate conversation may actually take place.

Our generation hides behind their devices for a variety of reasons. The screen has become an excuse. See someone you know but don't want to be bothered with talking to them? Not a problem. Whip out the phone and pretend to be in the middle of a very important conversation.

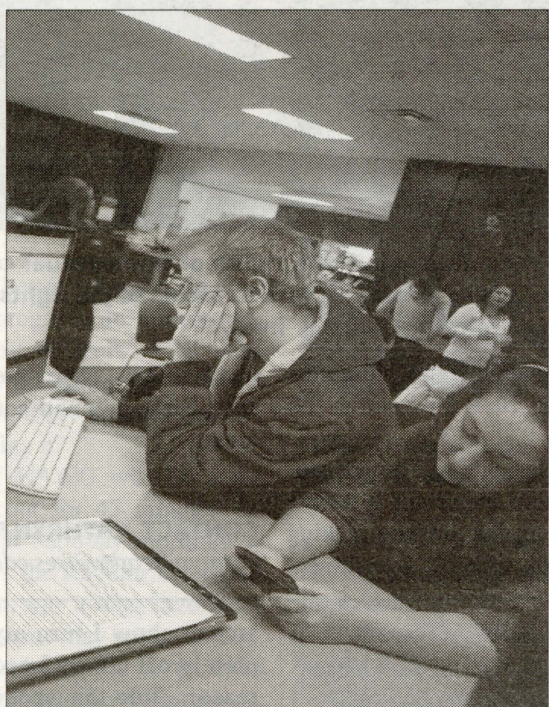
My personal favorite is getting

into an elevator and seeing everyone take that awkward moment of proximity as the best time to check Facebook and Twitter ... both in the same newsfeed, of course.

It is sad to think that our generation has a decreasing amount of social skills - all thanks to our tablets and cellphones that we would probably die without. It is sad how most of us would probably go through withdrawal if one of these devices were - wait for it - left at home for more than an hour.

Technology has become our generation's way of life, but there is so much more to life than pixels on a screen. So pick your head up once in a while, I promise you will see the world better that way.

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The Beacon/Laura Preby  
**Students Chelsea Fufaro and Mike Jayne pass time with technology.**



## Cellphones: a daily disruption

BY ANTHONY GORECZNY  
Staff Writer

Smart phones like the iPhone and Android devices are both continuing to increase the power and capabilities of their handsets. The competing platforms are looking for new areas of life to expand and adapt their technology to. In a recent display of bravado and daring, Apple made its first major foray into classical music when the Philharmonic orchestra yielded the stage to an iPhone's "Marimba" ringtone during a performance of Gustav Mahler's Ninth Symphony.

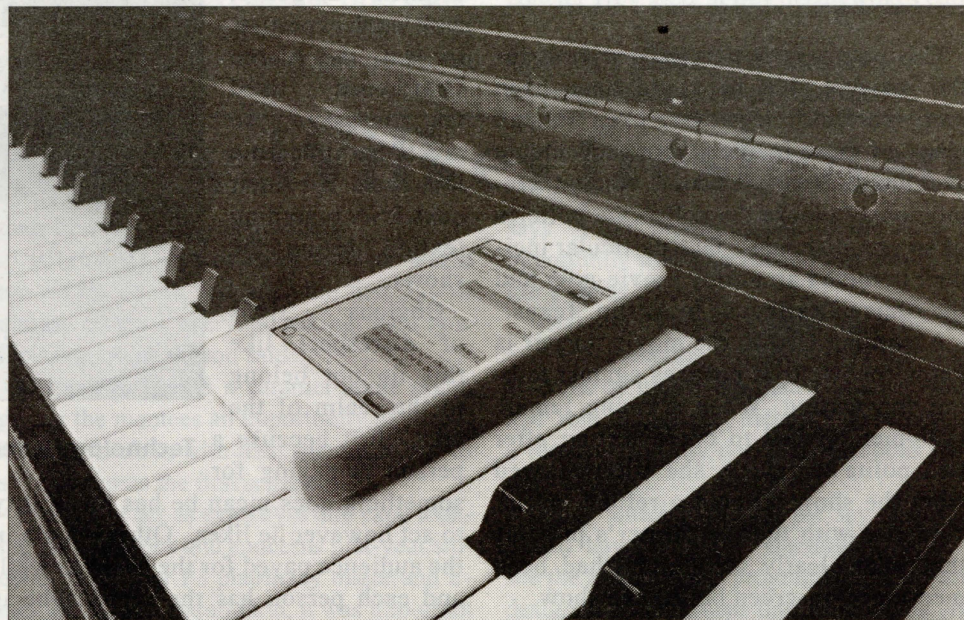
According to a CNN report, an audience member's iPhone rang continuously for approximately four minutes while the orchestra was performing. Conductor Alan Gilbert lowered his arms when he came to the last page of the final movement, which informed the musicians to stop playing. He politely

turned to the man whose iPhone was ringing and asked, "Are you finished?"

The man apparently didn't react, and Gilbert responded by setting down his baton and stating "Fine, we'll wait." The phone was quickly silenced and the conductor apologized to the crowd, to which the audience reply with raucous applause.

In a later report by CBS, it is revealed that the patron whose was to blame for the noise had switched from Blackberry to iPhone the day before and was unfamiliar with the functions. Though he silenced his phone before the performance, he was not aware that an accidentally-set alarm would not be silenced along with the ringtone. When contacted by the Philharmonic, the patron, who wishes to remain anonymous, asked to speak with Gilbert. He apologized for the incident and Gilbert accepted his apology.

**SEE PHONE, Page 8**



The Beacon/Brittany Battista  
**"ARE YOU FINISHED?" Conductor stops his orchestra performance to wait for an audience member to silence a phone.**



# Republican candidate Rick Santorum wants you ...to give up your rights to contraceptives, privacy and independent decisions

BY CATHRYN FREAR  
Staff Writer

Rick Santorum wants to control your life. And not just those of you who aren't straight—all of you.

Many of you probably remember Santorum as the former senator born in Virginia who came to Pennsylvania to make us all look like hillbillies and bigots. For twelve years. Now that Pennsylvania doesn't want him, logic is telling him the entire nation will.

Who knows Santorum's stance on gay anything? He's against it. But guess what else he's against? He's against anyone using contraception. Including married couples. He has openly spoken out against the *Griswold v. Connecticut* U.S. Supreme Court case which overturned a law banning contraceptives in Connecticut.

According to USNews.com, he has stood firmly against contraception on many occasions stating things like, "It's not okay. It's a license to do things in a sexual realm that is counter to how things are supposed to be."

Basically, he wants to control your sex life. You may wonder why he thinks it's his business at all. The answer is: because he doesn't believe in a right to privacy. This brings us back to *Griswold v. Connecticut*. At the time of this case, there was no precedent set guaranteeing privacy. This case

set the precedent as use of contraceptives was ruled an issue of marital privacy. The United States Constitution doesn't specifically address it. But, much like the Bible Santorum often cites, some parts of the Constitution are up for interpretation.

In a 7-2 vote, the Supreme Court declared, in accordance with the interpretation of the Ninth Amendment, the people of the United States have an inalienable right to privacy. He is so steadfastly stuck to this opinion of privacy he literally thinks the American people cannot lead their own lives. He has made this quite clear through his such declarations as, "They [republicans] have this idea that people should be left alone, be able to do whatever they want to do...Well, that is not how traditional conservatives view the world and I think most conservatives understand that individuals can't go it alone."

I'm sorry, what was that last part? "...conservatives understand that individuals can't go it alone." Yes, that's what I thought you said. Does that even need to be elaborated on, or do we all see the problem here?

His views on gays is they shouldn't have the same rights as everyone else, because the rights they aren't guaranteed by federal law—marriage, adoption, etc.—he doesn't consider "rights" at all. He considers them privileges. Mind you, none of the candidates are pro-gay, except for Fred Karger, who is not only openly Jewish, but also

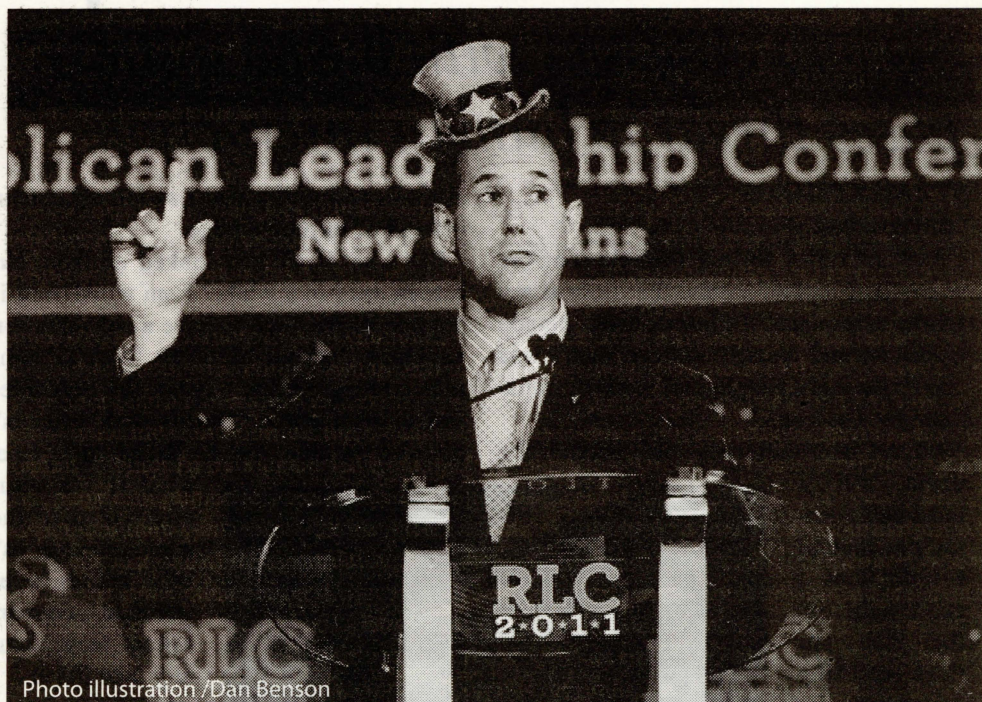


Photo illustration / Dan Benson

**Rick Santorum is not only against the rights of homosexual couples, he is also against the rights of straight couples, such as access to the rights of contraceptives and other decisions regarding their sex lives.**

openly gay. But everyone has forgotten about him altogether. He is the Snuffaluffagus of the GOP.

Regardless of Santorum's anti-homosexual stance, what's more important is understanding he is also against anyone making their own decisions without government

involvement. If you are pro-autonomy and pro-liberty, you will not vote for Rick Santorum.

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## PHONE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

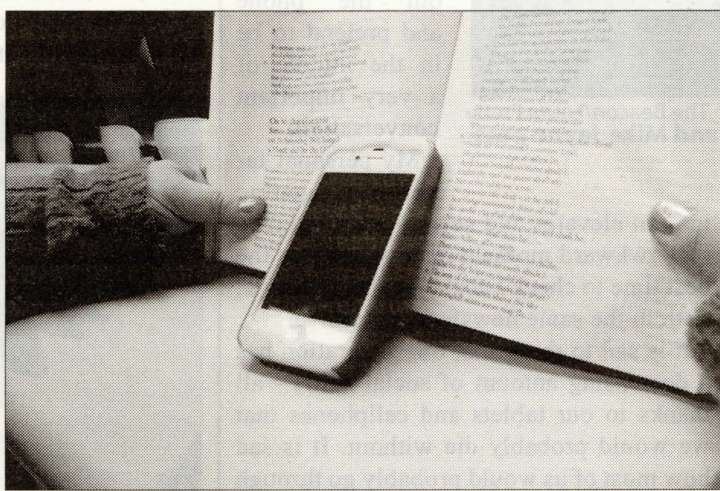
This patron is not entirely at fault for the incident, but he could have been more careful. However, even though many of these incidents are preventable accidents, there are people who uncereemoniously ignore the cellphone policies of an establishment. One particular incident involved an unruly movie-goer and the Alamo Drafthouse in Austin, Texas.

According to CNET, the movie theater is known for its strict policies against talking and texting. When a young female customer refused to cease texting after two polite warnings, she was removed from the show without a refund, in accordance with the theater's policies that were clearly visible and had been mentioned onscreen before the show.

The inconsiderate patron then proceeded to leave an enlightening voice mail at the movie theater that demonstrated her

expansive vocabulary, grasp of the English language, and legal expertise. In fact, the Alamo Drafthouse liked the message so much that it became the basis for their next PSA regarding texting during the shows.

Obvious signs of disrespect like this do not belong in the realm of the arts. Just because a person is paying for something does mean he has the ability to act however he likes. Other people in the audience payed for the event as well, and each person has the same right as any other to enjoy it. When the Alamo Drafthouse ejected the stubborn texter, they were doing a service to every other



The Beacon/Laura Preby

**Technology lovers should show more respect to others.**

person in that theatre.

While I understand that there may be emergency situations, there is little excuse for a cellphone interrupting a beautiful symphony or blatantly disregarding a clearly defined rule.

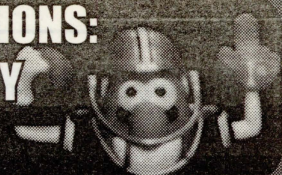
Personally, when I enter a movie the-

ater or show I turn my cell phone completely off unless I need it for a singular reason. I do this specifically to both escape the constant stream of modern life that comes rushing through my phone, and also to avoid the embarrassment of finding myself in a situation like that of the man at the symphony.

In the end, all the texter accomplished was paying for a movie she didn't watch and embarrassing herself with an uncouth voicemail turned against her. This person and many others need to evaluate the level of respect they have for others. Many people are far too inconsiderate and find fault with everyone but themselves. I do not despise them, but I do pity them. They complain about all the problems in their lives, yet most of their problems are created by themselves out of ignorance, incompetence, or impudence.

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JANUARY 31, 2012

CONTACT EDITOR: christinelee@thewilkesbeacon.com

## HAWC members are crazy for new Insanity Asylum Challenge

BY REBECCA BOLUS  
Assistant Life Editor

By the end of January, many people have already discarded their New Year's resolutions to get fit and eat healthy. For the Health and Wellness Club, their fitness goals just got jump-started as they began an intense new challenge to start off the semester.

The group members started the Asylum Challenge on Monday, Jan. 23, and while some people might consider them crazy for getting up at 6 a.m. every day to do an intense cardio workout, they are already reaping the benefits.

"Insanity: The Asylum" is a 30-day program that involves extreme sports cross training. HAWC coordinator Trey Tietz said that this workout program is an ideal way to get active.

"The Asylum challenge is one of the most popular work-out programs in the country, and one of the most difficult," Tietz said. "It's one of the new breakthroughs in health and fitness and a lot of pro athletes and college athletes are doing it."

The members of HAWC will be doing this vigorous workout for 45 minutes every Monday through Saturday mornings at 6 a.m. Not only is the Asylum Challenge a hardcore workout, but it also involves a meal plan, one that some may not be used to.

The meal plan requires six to seven small meals a day, eating about every three hours, and tapering calories throughout the day.

The meal plan is easy to follow and able to be completed in the Wilkes cafeteria. Tietz,



The Beacon/Kirstin Cook  
HAWC members get a "jump" start on the "Insanity: Asylum Challenge" in the SUB Ballroom. Members meet at 6 a.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. Saturdays for workouts.

a senior P2 pharmacy major, said the balance of eating right and working out is very important.

"You can't workout and not eat right, you need a little bit of both."

After workouts, group members get breakfast together to encourage each other to follow the meal plan. Tietz says that there is a lot of support and motivation with this challenge.

"It's a lot easier when you have 30 other friends who are doing it with you, instead of trying it by yourself," Tietz said.

Members of HAWC exchanged contact information and they text each other for motivation to continue the program. HAWC treasurer Samantha Bickert said there is a lot of enthusiasm and drive to keep going with the Asylum.

"Everytime I get up I think, 'All these people are expecting to see me there, I can't not show up today,'" Bickert, pharmacy P1, says.

HAWC members are seeing benefits from doing this program, although the beginning is challenging.

"After the first couple of days you're definitely sore, but once you get through that it's definitely worth it," Bickert said. "It's a good start to the day."

Tietz has been doing this program for a year now, making this a habitual routine.

"I enjoy it, and it makes me feel better throughout the day. Like, if I don't do it I feel completely off," he said.

HAWC has been holding these workouts every morning since Tietz created the group in September. In the past, the group took part in a hybrid schedule combining the P90X, Insanity and Asylum workouts and will go back to this mix after the Asylum Challenge.

Last semester an average of eight or nine people came to exercise every day, but with the Asylum Challenge the group has grown to over 30 participants.

Besides personal goals of improving ones workout routines and diet, the HAWC club wants to promote itself and continue to gain more members. To reach this goal, HAWC will be selling t-shirts and water bottles during club hours.

If anyone is interested in getting involved with HAWC and the Asylum Challenge, contact Trey Tietz at [trey.tietz@wilkes.edu](mailto:trey.tietz@wilkes.edu).

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## E-Mentors: the heroes of every Wilkes freshman

BY IAN FOLEY  
Correspondent

After her first day of class, Bethany Gilson received an email about her first day—not from a parent, sibling or high school friend, but from her E-mentor.

E-mentors are upperclassmen that help first-year students ease the transition to college and build relationships between first-year students and mentors.

Gilson, a freshman pre-pharmacy major, said she learned common knowledge about Wilkes and tips for classes from her mentor, P3 pharmacy major Christina D'Ippolito.

"I thought it was neat that they put some-

one at our level that went through what we were going through," Gilson said.

According to Internship and E-mentoring coordinator Sharon Castano, the E-mentoring program began in fall 2006. Prior to that, Wilkes had orientation leaders, but there were no relationships between incoming students.

"Studies have shown that students stay at colleges where they build relationships," Castano said. "We feel building relationships is a good foundation for students' success."

E-mentors act as orientation leaders during each session as well as at Welcome Weekend and connect with first-year students during

their first semester electronically.

"(Christina) kept in touch with us, added me on Facebook and after the first day of classes emailed everyone asking them how their day was," Gilson said.

D'Ippolito hosted a caramel apple night, giving the mentees an opportunity to socialize and check in with their mentor at one of several events the first semester.

E-mentors act as extra eyes and ears, looking for questions and concerns first-year students have. For P3 pharmacy major and E-mentor, Ruslan Barabolkin, it was important to give them the best opportunities possible.

"I had a horrible first year experience when I first attended college," Barabolkin

says. "I told myself that if I could have an opportunity to help someone that was in my same shoes I would."

Barabolkin believes events help the social and academic well-beings of first-year students by improving their communication and reinforcing the mentor's presence as a resource for any needs or questions they may have.

"Many times I hear people say 'I wish I would have known,'" Barabolkin said. "I see the E-mentoring program as the vehicle designed to eliminate this in students and

SEE E-MENTORS, Page 12



# Students 'like' what they see on Wilkes' social media sites

BY CHRISTINE LEE  
Life Editor

With the rise in social media use, people are finding ways to get to know one another online before meeting in person.

This makes the transition to college easier for first year students. A Facebook group for the class of 2015 gives current freshmen the chance to bond before arriving on campus.

"They are able to meet friends and meet up when they get here," says sophomore middle school math and science education and sophomore class president Amber Konopka, who is an administrator for the class of 2015 Facebook group.

Konopka says there is more bonding done amongst freshmen through the Facebook group. Freshman members could make friends before they arrived on campus, were more acquainted with one another and have developed stronger friendships.

"They still speak to one another through the Facebook page if they don't see each other around campus," Konopka says.

Electronic Communication coordinator Chris Barrows and Web Services director Craig Thomas have taken an interest in social media. Both are administrators for the Wilkes official Facebook and Twitter pages and are in the process of developing a social media strategy for Wilkes.

Thomas says they are beginning to identify different audiences using the homepages.

"Because there's so many different roles involved with one Facebook or Twitter page, to have just one set goal would be hard to do," Thomas says.

Thomas hopes to filter messages on the official university Facebook and Twitter pages by creating an admissions page on Facebook and Twitter. These pages would have different goals that would be for recruitment and other admissions purposes.

"The admissions page would be to give them much needed information that they need in their role as perspective students," Thomas says.

Some of the information that would be posted on the proposed admissions page would include financial aid deadlines, open houses and direct communication with Admissions. He says adapting messages to different audiences is the key and this would transition perspective students to other university pages.

"We hope once we have (perspective students) at the admissions page we would get them to migrate from that page to go to our official pages," Thomas says.

Thomas says the official university Facebook and Twitter pages function for admis-



**The Wilkes homepage gives links to several Wilkes social media pages including Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and blogs. Electronic Communication coordinators Chris Barrows and Craig Thomas are hoping to utilize social media to make university information more readily available. The flood last September saw social media usage on Wilkes sites increase drastically.**

sions purposes and there is no admissions social media page. He also hopes the transition to different social media pages will continue once students graduate.

"What we would want to do for the Wilkes University official pages is to have (students) be a fan for life or four years and then transition them from our alumni Facebook page," Thomas says. "We would want to transition people through their different roles they become at Wilkes."

Thomas and Barrows are also keeping a close eye on the impressions and shares of a message that is delivered through the university Facebook and Twitter pages. He says this is important because the more impressions and shares delivered the more people are looking at the pages. The impressions then give the pages more likes and followers.

"People will start seeing the information that we're sending and want to join or follow to get the same information," Thomas says.

Part of benefit social media has provided to the university is real-time communication. It allows one to send out messages regarding events and urgent issues.

"You're allowed to send out messages regarding events and urgent issues such as the flood and eventually snow cancellations," Thomas says.

The university first explored social media with a unique page for accepted students to interact called Hello Wilkes. This social-networking website was pre-Facebook and received national attention. It was discontinued in 2010 when Facebook and Twitter became more popular ways for people to interact.

In addition to Marketing Communications tapping into social media, Student Development, the Alumni Association and the Colonel have made Facebook and Twitter pages. Student Development graduate assistant Brian Switay says social media allows students to be more aware of things on campus.

"Students are more aware of what is going on campus and they can check it regularly," says Switay, who is an administrator for the Student Development Facebook and Twitter pages.

Switay says the Student Development Twitter page was started this year and is designed to target alumni and people in the outside community to let them know what is going on campus.

"It's another way for us to get what we want to do out there," Switay says.

Switay says Twitter has helped out more with alumni who want to see what Student Development is doing for students. The Twitter page follows the other clubs and the university on Twitter.

*Editor's Note: Watch for next week's issue to see part two of this story.*

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# Unimportant Questions with Important People

PHIL RUTHKOSKY, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

BY ALYSSA STENCAVAGE  
Staff Writer

## What does your job entail?

It is multifaceted. I oversee student development and all the planning and activities that go along with that. I work with the Office of Student Affairs and a variety of issues dealing with student life.

I am also adviser to Student Development, and de facto adviser to all campus clubs and organizations, primarily for extra support.

## What is your main goal being in this position?

To work with staff and colleagues and find the right balance of programs to enhance student life and give students the chance to maximize and enhance their growth and learning while at Wilkes.

## What is No. 1 on your bucket list?

I have a weird fascination with sharks. So I would have to say to cage dive with a great white shark, but it would have to be a really strong cage.

## What is your favorite hobby?

I like to exercise -- as in walking -- riding my bike and jogging. I also enjoy trout fishing.

## What is your favorite part about Wilkes?

Building relationships with students and colleagues who are selfless in their approach, who want to help the students and watch them grow as well. I like the people.

## What is your favorite book or movie?

A movie that I've seen numerous times would be "Braveheart." I enjoy classic books, such as Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein."

## What is your favorite and least favorite part about your job?

One of my most favorable aspects of my job is my involvement in student life. I really get to know the students as individuals and watch them grow over the years.

There really is not a specific aspect that I do not like.

## How old were you when you got your first job and what was it?

I was 14. I worked on a horse farm, loading hay, feeding cows, cutting grass and whatever the owner of the ranch wanted me to do.

## As dean of Student Development, can you give any information about any upcoming events or activities?

We publish the entire schedule at the Info Desk and online. This Sunday, Jan. 29, there was a trip to Great Wolfe Lodge.

On Feb. 4 there will be a snow tubing trip at Sno Mountain Ski Resort. Winter Weekend will be taking place Feb. 24-25, and on March 31, there will be a trip to see Michael Jackson Cirque de Soleil.

## What do you find is the best way for you to relax after a long day at work?

It would be just enjoying a nice, quiet dinner with my wife.

## Is this the career you always saw yourself in?

As an undergraduate with a business degree, I probably saw myself as a manager at a public corporation. I sort of stumbled upon this position in higher education.

## Where is your favorite vacationing spot?

Aruba. I love Aruba. It is a very beautiful island.

## What has been your greatest or worst experience at Wilkes so far?

Having the opportunity to travel with students all over. More specifically, skydiving was a great experience that really took me out of my comfort zone.

## What is your favorite television show?

I am intrigued by the National Geographic Channel, so anything on that channel. I enjoy nature and wildlife.

## What advice can you give to the students here at Wilkes?

As you get ready to get on that path toward your ultimate career, try to find a balance between school and work, and family and friends, and don't neglect one or the other.

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The Beacon/Dan Lykens  
Associate Dean of Student Development Phil Ruthkosky is a fan of the Dallas Cowboys, as evidenced by Mr. Potato Head in foreground and is fascinated by sharks.

## ASB Spaghetti Dinner



The Beacon/Dan Lykens  
Alex Madaya, junior history major, is shown left volunteering at the Alternative Spring Break fundraiser to raise money for her service trip to Costa Rica. The dinner took place Thurs. Jan. 26 in the Ballroom and brought students, faculty and community members to feast on pasta, salad, desserts and more. The event raised money through ticket sales and raffled items. All proceeds will go toward student volunteer trips to Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Kentucky and Louisiana.



# Big things happening to small campus business club, its members

BY CHRISTINE LEE  
Life Editor

Like her fellow business majors, Olivia Waszkiewicz is learning leadership skills that prepare her for life outside of college.

But through her work as vice president of the Wilkes chapter of Students in Free Enterprise and their connection with the Wal-Mart Corp., she was able to literally take these skills outside of Wilkes. Waszkiewicz interned at Sam's Club headquarters in Arkansas last summer.

Waszkiewicz, a junior business administration major, says her work with SIFE helped prepare her for the internship as it taught her hands-on experience in running her own projects.

"You have the opportunity in SIFE to create projects," she says. "With it being a community service-based club through the power of business, we have the opportunity to start our own projects and really take ownership of something."

Waszkiewicz says SIFE helped her to learn

how to run her own business project and lead a group. Her responsibilities were working with buyers for the food categories. Her work involved working with Home Meal Solutions and the Sam Club's Café buyers and meeting with the buyers on a daily basis. A big part of the internship was working hands-on with suppliers.

"We got to look at the sales for (the food) at all the Sam's Clubs across the nation and monitor the products," Waszkiewicz says. "By the end of the summer they allowed the interns to have a supplier meeting and I worked with the supplier for Eddy's Ice Cream."

Waszkiewicz is one of several members of Wilkes SIFE that have been given a career boost because of their work with the team. Corporations such as Wal-Mart and Campbell Soup Co. are partnered with the national SIFE organization. Corporate sponsors meet with students who compete in SIFE competitions and host job and internship fairs, allowing students to connect.

This year the Wilkes SIFE team was in minimum 2.50 GPA, a written reference from a faculty member, strong written and verbal communications skills and a complete application.

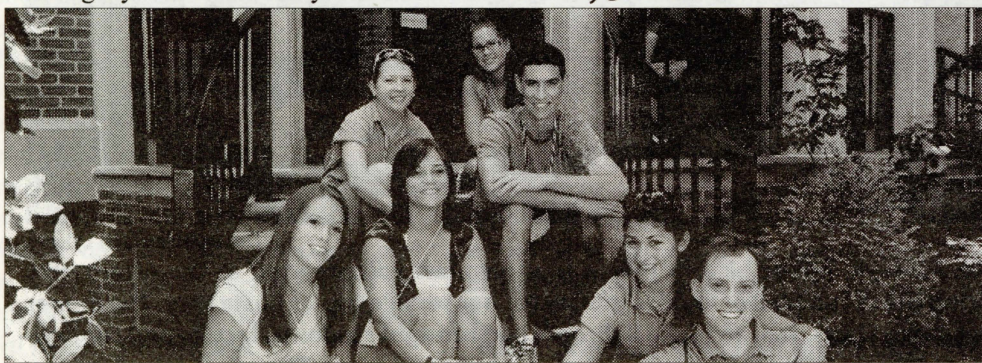
The E-mentor process consists of three parts. The first part is the application process, where interested students sign up and send in their applications to the Student Development office. Students are then selected and interviewed by Student Development staff members who are involved in orientation.

The most worthy applicants are hired and begin training alongside experienced mentors, where they go over all aspects of the position.

Gilson is pleased with the help she has gotten from her E-mentor and the program.

"The program is a very good idea," Gilson says. "They helped me with the things that I needed to know."

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The Beacon/Christine Lee  
Mentors Sam Bickert, top, Christina D'Ippolitto, left and Paul Boylan, right with mentees.

vited to attend a partner summit in December where past member Alison Drake and Waszkiewicz were able to attend in Arkansas. SIFE president and senior business administration major Raina Connor says this summit was helpful for members searching for jobs.

"They were able to network with some corporate sponsors and this led to a job offer for Alison with Wal-Mart that she accepted," Connor says.

Recently, SIFE was awarded several grants for projects. They are a \$250 Campbell's Let's Can Hunger grant, a \$1,500 Step up for Small Business grant from Sam's Club and a \$1,500 grant from the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corp.

The goal of the Let's Can Hunger grant is to raise 5,000 pounds of food, to educate the community on hunger and provide lasting hunger relief to certain groups in the area. This year SIFE is focusing the education on children in the Wyoming area school district and lasting hunger relief on working with homeless women at Ruth's Place. If they succeed they get additional funding.

The Step Up for Small Business grant is designed to help a local business become more environmentally sustainable. SIFE is working with Euro Bistro to come up with eco-friendly ways to grow and produce herbs and vegetables.

The HSBC grant is used to help a small business become more financially literate. With this one, they are working with Euro Bistro to help them implement either an Excel or QuickBooks accounting system.

Connor says the grants are important to SIFE as they have received limited funding from Student Government, donations and fundraising.

"The grants really enable us to execute projects that will have a larger impact in the community," Connor says. "They really help us make a difference in our community and for some local businesses and individuals."

**SIFE**

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## E-MENTORS

Continued from page 9

give them the ability to say 'I know.'"

According to junior elementary education major and orientation coordinator Cora Gibson, E-mentoring is a unique personal interaction tool at the university level. They are the first line of defense in assisting first-year students with beginning their college experience.

"Many first-year students are nervous and unprepared to face college life by themselves," Gibson says. "E-mentors are the guide that first-year students need to help them adjust to their new lives."

First-year students and parents have told Gibson how grateful they are for the program because it made them more comfortable in their transition to college.

To become an E-mentor, one must be an undergraduate with sophomore or higher standing by fall 2012. They must have a

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JANUARY 31, 2012

## Student photography exhibition offers snapshot of life in foreign cultures

### ABROAD

Continued from Front Page

in the past year were invited to participate in a photo contest featuring photographs that best captured their study-abroad environment.

"The goal of the contest was to enable other people to learn what studying abroad teaches and maybe one day go abroad as well," Fonjweng said.

Of the thirty-four participants, five winners were selected, all receiving certificates. The top three earned cash prizes of \$150, \$100 and \$50 respectively.

Those who were involved agree they did it for the experience rather than the money.

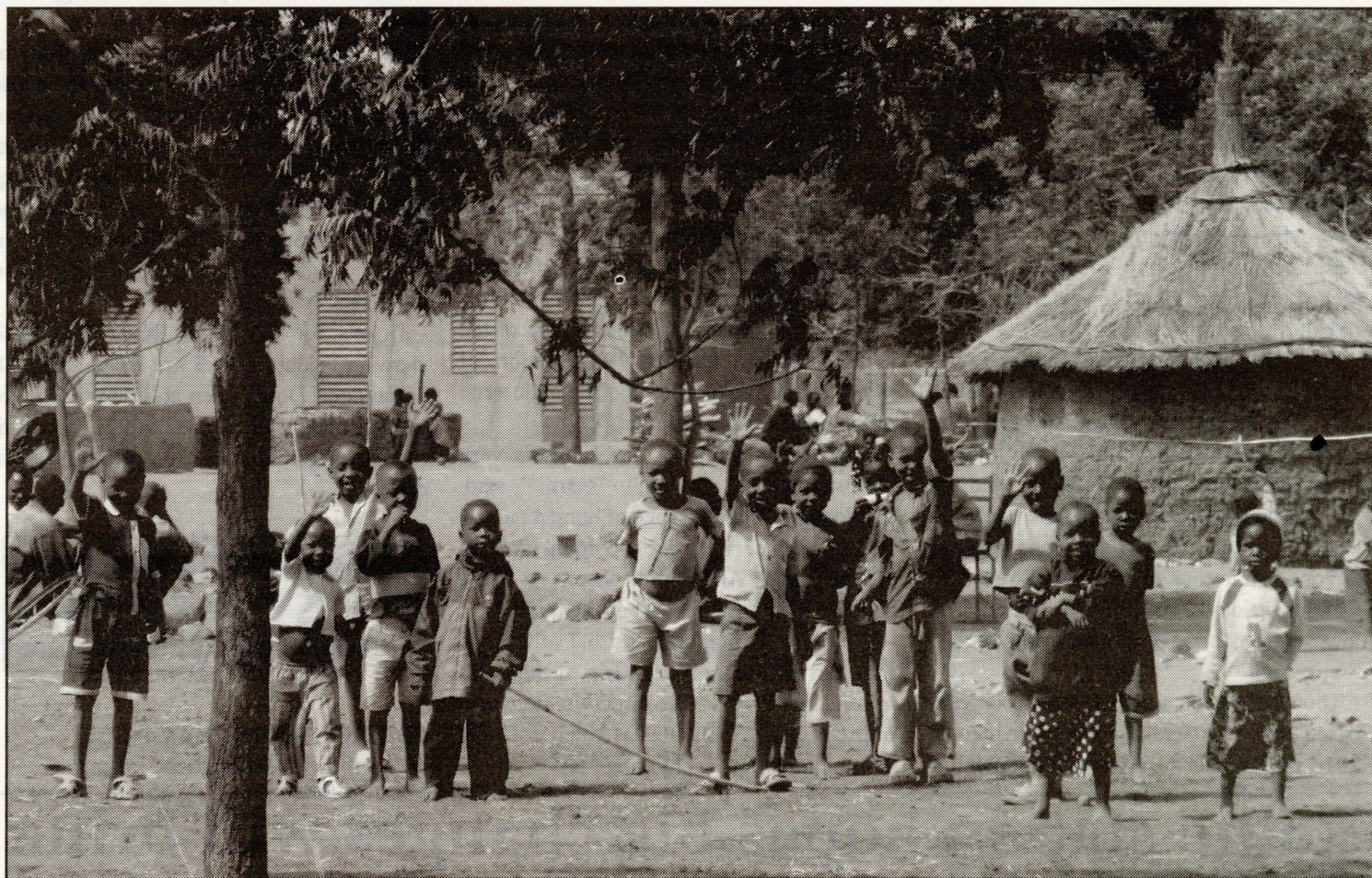
Photo contest winner Justin Balint, p4 pharmacy student with a double major in Spanish, has had his fair share of abroad experiences, including two study abroad summers in Spain, two Alternative Spring Break service trips to the Dominican Republic and Belize, and two medical missions to Guatemala with Dean Bernard Graham of the Wilkes pharmacy school.

"I became interested in study abroad and service trips because I had a hunger to see the world around me and saw studying abroad and volunteering abroad as a great way to see the world, make a difference, and open my mind to other cultures and ways of life," Balint said.

The picture Balint chose for the photo contest was from his Alternative Spring Break trip to the Dominican Republic with Orphanage Outreach, now called Outreach 360, in the town of Monti Cristi where he taught English in public schools and volunteered in an orphanage.

There, Balint visited the Haiti-Dominican Republic border where, for a few hours a week, the border was unrestricted so visitors from Haiti could cross to buy necessities for their families.

"The picture I took reflects the strife and hard life that many Haitians encounter," Balint said.



Courtesy of Pamela Pogash

**Featured in the exhibit, Wilkes graduate Pam Pogash's photo showcases a children in the village of Kaya in Burkina Faso. Living in one of the poorest countries in the world, Pogash said the children greeted her study group with open arms.**

Balint wasn't the only one who jumped at the opportunity to be involved with the program. 2011 Doctor of Pharmacy graduate Pam Pogash chose studying abroad

Pogash traveled to Burkina Faso, one of the poorest countries in the world, for a medical mission trip. There, in a village named Kaya, they set up a pharmacy in a bible school building. Since the only two languages spoken there are Moore and French, translators communicated with the patients and explained how the medication worked and should be taken.

"It was a complete culture shock," Pogash recalled. "When we were there, it was the coldest week of the year for them (80 - 90 degrees). People who could afford it were wearing thick coats and wore earmuffs. They thought it was freezing at that temperature."

Pogash said that the children were the highlight of her trip. "They were so full of life and happy," she said. Each day the students handed out candy, and Po-

gash said the children were ecstatic. They handed out flip flops and clothes to the children as well.

The photo Pogash selected for the contest is of a group of kids waving at them when their group first arrived in Kaya. Pogash, like many of the other participants, described her abroad experiences as life-changing.

"More days than not, I think about this trip and what I saw," she said. "I am less materialistic now. I can't really sum up how much this trip has truly changed me."

Photographs taken by Balint and Pogash, along with the other thirty-two student and faculty members involved, can be seen at the Study Abroad Photo Exhibit currently on display at the Barnes & Noble on 7 S. Main St. until February 10.

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**"I had a hunger to see the world around me and saw studying abroad and volunteering abroad as a great way to see the world, make a difference, and open my mind to other cultures and ways of life."**

**- Justin Balint**

to fulfill one of her six pharmacy rotation requirements prior to graduating.

"I am not sure why, but as soon as I heard about this opportunity, I felt it was something I had to do," Pogash said. "It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."



# Grip of the Gods returns to NEPA as 'future of rock'

BY BILL THOMAS

Arts & Entertainment Editor

For many bands, finding a sound they can uniquely call their own is the ultimate artistic goal. But for the members of Grip of the Gods, it has been both a blessing and a curse.

"We all grew up with very, very diverse musical backgrounds, which is great for our writing," singer-guitarist Rich Barni said. "I think it gives us a unique sound. I always used to look at that as a positive thing, but now, when we're trying to reach our target audience, we're trying to carve out our niche here and it's hard to say 'Hey, if you like these guys, listen to us.'"

Marketing problems aside, Barni remains proud of the idiosyncratic style he's crafted alongside bassist Alex Deck and drummer Corey Deck. Listing influences ranging from Radiohead and Muse to Marilyn Manson and David Bowie, Barni said he's excited to bring Grip of the Gods' eclectic flavor of indie rock to the River Street Jazz Café on Friday, Feb. 3, for a concert with local acts Astorian Stigmata and A Social State.

Though the band members were originally based out of the Scranton/Dunmore area, in 2010 they opted to move to Philadelphia,

where they recorded the 3-song EP "Walking in Monologues." The band followed that up with a 5-song EP called "Destination of Man" in 2011.

The difference between the two albums, Barni feels, is significant.

"Walking in Monologues" was just an attempt to find out what in the hell we were trying to do," he said with a laugh. "Like I said, we all came from pretty unique backgrounds, musically, and I've always had the view of not trying to think of a certain style when I'm coming up with riffs. ... I think 'Destination of Man' is a little bit more affirmatively saying 'This is the kind of sound we're going for.'"

In addition to helping cement Grip of the Gods' auditory identity, "Destination of Man" further developed the thematic crux of the band's lyrical content.

"Every single one of our songs is very philosophically driven," Barni said. "Philosophy is the essence of human nature. Where are we? What are we doing? Where are we going? And I think there is a bit of concern over the direction of mankind."

What awaits humanity on the other side of tomorrow isn't all that Grip of the Gods is concerned with. The direction their own music is taking them in is as much a subject of contemplation as anything.

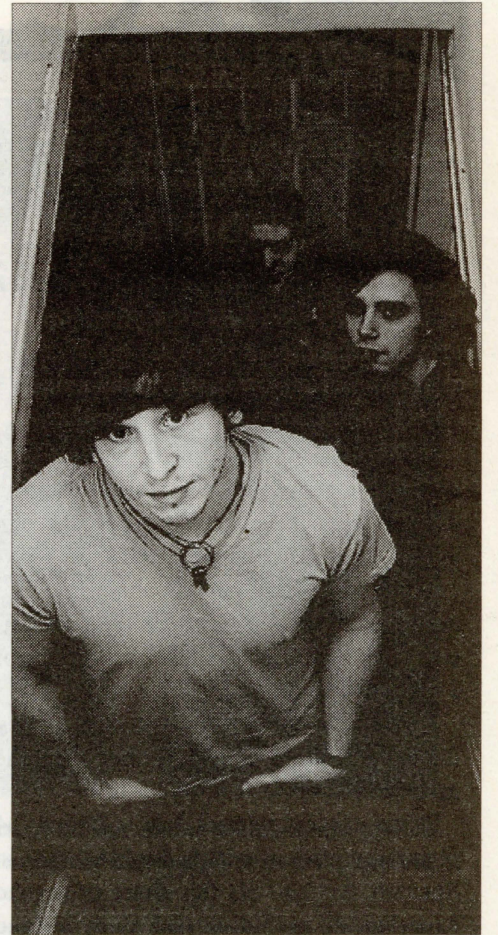
Currently working on new material, with plans to have a new record out sometime this year, the band members aren't yet certain whether their next release will be a full-length album or another EP. What they are certain of, and upfront in sharing, is the heights of their ambition.

"We really strive to be a driving force in rock 'n' roll," Barni said. "Trying to be that next thing, that future sound, I really believe in my heart that that's what it's all about. That's what we've always tried to do, seeing how far we can go with it and pushing the limits. We hope to be the future of rock 'n' roll. In my opinion, there's nothing more important than that."

Tickets for the River Street Jazz Café show in Friday, Feb. 3 are \$5 pre-sale, \$8 at the door. Doors open at 8 p.m. For more information, call 570-822-2992, or visit [riverstreetjazzcafe.com](http://riverstreetjazzcafe.com) or [gripofthegods.com](http://gripofthegods.com).

**Listen to three tracks off Grip of the Gods' "Destination of Man" at [www.thewilkesbeacon.com](http://www.thewilkesbeacon.com)**

**CONTACT BILL THOMAS AT:**  
[billthomas@thewilkesbeacon.com](mailto:billthomas@thewilkesbeacon.com)



Courtesy of Ben Davids  
Clockwise from top: drummer Corey Dec, bassist Alex Deck and singer-guitarist Rich Barni

## Radio station hopes big changes will bring in new blood

BY MATT GAINES

Correspondent

The student disc-jockeys of the radio station, 90.7 WCLH, do their best to keep the old workplace up and running as a full-time medium for their own music and talk shows.

Located on the third floor of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center on South River St., the fully functioning station is easily passed by. On top of that, it's old and makes use of technology that the big-time corporate stations would have hauled to the dumpster decades ago.

Though not obsolete, station E-Staff member Corey Martin describes the technologies as "outdated in the sense that used as a learning tool, we aren't getting the right knowledge using old equipment."

"I think that something needs to be done about the look of the station," host Andrew Grandinetti explains. "I feel like we need to repaint the studio and just make some changes to make the entire place a bit more appealing and friendly."



Austin Loukas / The Beacon

**Trevor Kurtz's radio show "Vital Vinyl" uses station turntables to play classic records.**

More than anything, though, the Wilkes radio station is meant to be a learning station, so it would only make sense that the communications department has gotten updated control boards for the students to use, to be made available this semester.

Currently in the process of being installed

in both the on-air control room and audio production room, these new, state-of-the-art control boards are among the most substantial new equipment components recently acquired by the station. Station manager Renee Loftus estimates the cost of acquiring and installing the new equipment

to be \$30,000.

The DJs are excited about the new control boards coming in. Trevor Kurtz hosts a show every Wednesday from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. called "Vital Vinyl." The show features the use of the studio's turntables to play classic rock on vinyl records, expresses his hopes for the new technology, hoping to use it to make his own show run more efficiently.

"With the new board, hopefully we will be able to hook the turntables up so when the turntable is turned on the board, it will start the physical turntable," Kurtz said.

With the new systems being set up, the students behind the station expect the overall efficiency of the WCLH station to improve with the start of the new semester.

The radio staff is always looking for new members to join. Any students who are interested can stop by to the 3rd floor of the Dorothy Dickson Darte center and talk to station manager Renee Loftus, or call 570-408-5909.

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## New rom-com not bad, but this 'one' isn't worth your 'money'

BY BILL THOMAS

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Katharine Heigl gained a lot of cinematic street-cred for 2007's "Knocked Up." Unfortunately, the all-too-easy-to-love actress has since squandered much of that goodwill in middling popcorn fare like "Killers" and "New Year's Eve." Her career now largely survives on the back of her non-threatening relatability (for the ladies) and her girl-next-door sex appeal (for the dudes).

With "One for the Money," the "Grey's Anatomy" alum once again exploits both of those qualities, somehow managing to deliver her most entertaining outing in years. Considering what those years have held however, that isn't saying much.

Starting out a bit flat (well, not "flat" ... uh, you know what I mean), Heigl eventually wins audiences over as Stephanie Plum, a cute-as-a-button junk-food junkie and down-on-her-luck everygal desperately searching for a new job and a new man.

Serendipitously, bail bondsman cousin Vinnie is looking for a bounty hunter, and former flame Joe Morelli has skipped his million-dollar bail while trying to beat a murder rap. Armed with a pistol and pepper spray, Plum fumbles through the high-risk world of bounty hunting, eventually shifting her priorities toward helping Morelli unravel the mystery of the criminal conspiracy surrounding him.

Of course, the mystery here is secondary. Audience members who can't predict the identity of the unseen villain before the end of the first act should probably have their heads examined.

And despite

attempts to ratchet up the tension and drama near the end of the second act, "One for the Money" never earns its attempted gravitas.

More a romantic-comedy than a crime-thriller, the focus here is on the characters. In that sense, the film impresses, providing superior characterization than many movies of its ilk. Somewhere along the lines, though, something got lost in the translation.

The result is a wildly uneven film that is in turns quirky, plodding, grating, sterile and charming. With the camp factor turned way up, "One for the Money" could've been a blast. As it is, though, the film is a superfluous slice of pop entertainmen. Harmless but valueless. Serviceable but inconsequential.

Part "Midnight Run," part "The Bounty Hunter," this flick is a lot like one of Plum's treasured Tastykakes: sweet, fluffy and easy to digest, but completely lacking in nutritional value.

Maybe the book was better.

## Evanovich impresses with first in best selling 'Plum' series

BY ANNIE YOSKOSKI

Staff Writer

Stephanie Plum is your typical Jersey girl. In need of a job after being fired as a lingerie buyer, she takes the opportunity to work for her cousin Vinny, a bonding agent.

With her new career as a bounty hunter Stephanie needs to work with mysterious ex-military man Ranger and former prostitute Lula to track down the attractive bail-jumper Joe Morelli, whom Stephanie has had an on-again off-again relationship with for years.

Janet Evanovich's book "One for the Money" is riddled with laughs and situations that people could put themselves in.

The book does have its serious moments, like cars blowing up and criminals threatening to permanently un-employ Stephanie. The hilarious moments are the relatable ones, however.

When Evanovich introduces the spunky Grandma Mazur in a dinner scene by having her shoot the roast chicken in front of the entire family, no reader can hold back laughter. Every family has that crazy relative that makes dinner so much more entertaining.

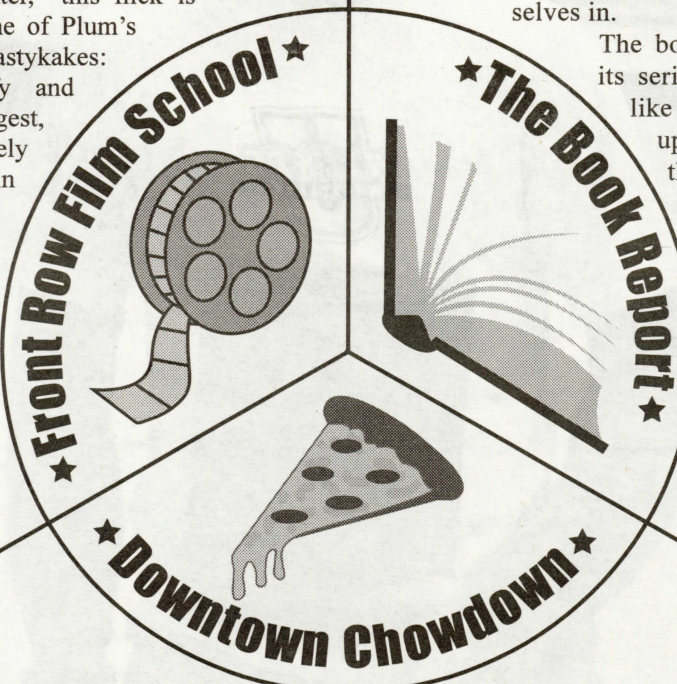
Everyone has moments of anxiety about their home being broken into, but what makes Stephanie unique is that she isn't worried about her valuables, just her hamster Rex.

The writing style is very tight in this book, leaving no stone unturned. Even if the reader does not realize it, everything that happens, every small detail that may seem insignificant, has a purpose and will help solve the case.

For a mystery novel, the ending is still somewhat a surprise. The element of surprise is a pivotal tool in Evanovich's writing, keeping the suspense level high until the final pages of the novel. The story finishes and wraps up, but the writing style lends itself to sequels.

Currently, Janet Evanovich is working on her nineteenth Stephanie Plum novel. "One for the Money" and the rest of the Stephanie Plum books have all been top New York Times Best Sellers.

There is honestly not a lot to criticize in this novel. The writing is clear, tight, funny and detailed, all the while keeping the reader's attention and making it painful to put the book down. The intriguing story line leaves the reader wanting to pick up the next novel, "Two for the Dough."



## Carol's Deli offers good food, bad service

BY DOMINICK  
CONSTANTINO  
Staff Writer

Most of us look for a bargain when we go out to eat. We like to still have money left after leaving a restaurant. If money is tight and you want to eat somewhere, this is the place for you.

Located at 40 South Main St. in Wilkes-Barre, Carol's Deli & Bakery has a wide variety of options on the menu. There are many different types of sandwiches and hoagies. Side orders include french fries and mini potato pancakes, and they have a daily soup and also hot dogs as well. They also have the normal breakfast items served until 10:30 a.m., and desserts range from cupcakes to zucchini muffins.

I didn't see anything on the menu over

\$10. The average sandwich or hoagie ranges between \$4 and \$5 and comes with a bag of chips.

I'm a huge grilled cheese lover so I decided to order that. The bag of Middleswarth chips came out first, and I ate them as my appetizer. I was loving this place already because of the chips. My grilled cheese sandwich came out relatively fast. The sandwich was nice and buttery with hot, gooey cheese in the middle. The bread — I believe it was sour dough — had a nice texture.

Overall, the sandwich was just as good as that served in our Wilkes University cafeteria. It's kind of hard to mess up a grilled cheese sandwich, though.

A customer sitting behind me tried the

mini potato pancakes. I asked her what she thought of them and she said she really enjoyed them.

"They reminded me of the potato pancakes I get at a summer bazaar," she said.

As for the food and price, I would rate this place very high. However, if I were to rate it on service and atmosphere, it would be a whole different story.

My waitress didn't even come to my table to take my order. She stood behind the counter and asked me what I wanted. She did at least bring the food over to the table and asked how my meal was.

The décor on the walls is nice, but all the employees seemed grumpy. Not one of them had a smile on their face. I understand we all have

bad days, but their attitude totally ruined the atmosphere in this restaurant.

The end of my meal was frustrating because I didn't have any cash on me. The only thing I had was my check card. Not anywhere in the restaurant was there a sign that said they only accept cash. When I got to the register, an employee told me their machine was down. I had to walk to the back of Provincial Towers and go all the way over to the Martz bus station to use their ATM. Because it was a private ATM, I had to pay a fee to get money out.

I haven't been at this restaurant in over a month, so hopefully they got their card machine fixed. But bring cash just in case.

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## Anthony Dattolo honored for 100th win

### Senior captain recognized as Colonels cruise at meet

BY JUSTIN FRANIAK  
Sports Editor

Christmas break usually consists of students relaxing and enjoying their time off. For the Wilkes wrestling team, break was just another month to improve. The 19th ranked Colonels used their off time wisely, but none more than senior captain Anthony Dattolo.

The business administration major hit a milestone that few will ever see. In fact, only five wrestlers from Wilkes have ever reach it. This milestone is reaching 100 collegiate wrestling wins.

"It felt great," Dattolo said "I had no idea that only five people have had 100 wins at Wilkes."

Dattolo reached his 100th win by defeating Messiah grappler Ty Kanouff. The win took place over the holiday break at Ursinus College.

Dattolo still remains humble about reaching this plateau. In high school, Dattolo accomplished a lot. He had 88 total wins and placed in the New Jersey state championships. He is very quick to give credit where it is due.

"I have to attribute my wins to my past teammates," Dattolo said. "When I was young they always pushed me to do my best."

Dattolo was well aware that his 100th win was close, but still went into his matches the same way he usually does.

"I treated it like any other match," Dattolo said. "I just want to go in there and win either way. I don't want to lose."

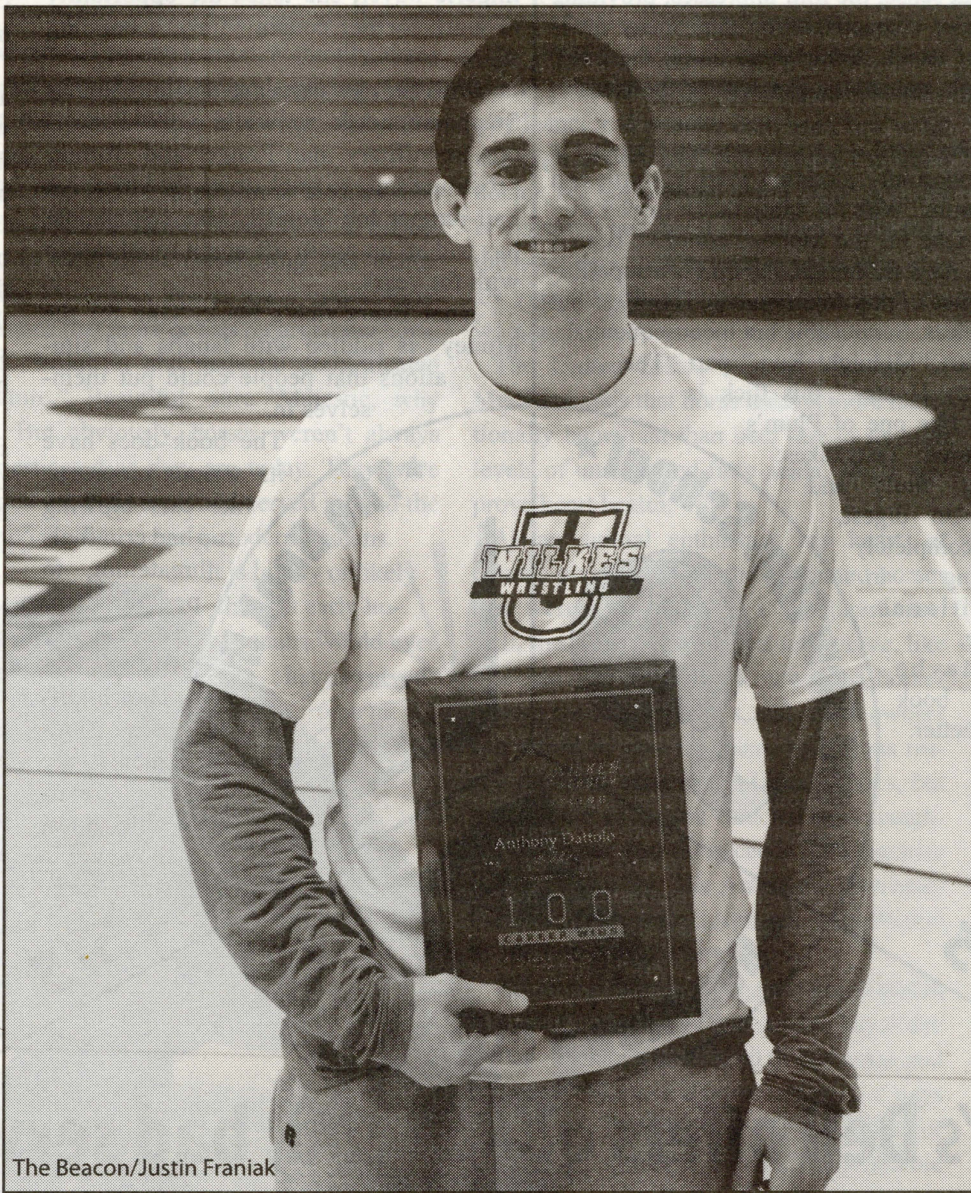
Being part of this elite club has not phased the senior. He still feels as though the pressure on him has remained the same.

"I feel like I've always had a target on my back," Dattolo said. "This many wins has just added to my past accomplishments."

Dattolo is undefeated on the season and is looking to break to the school wins record which is 111 wins.

Dattolo carried his teammates to a 3-0 record this past weekend in a quad-meet in the Marts Gymnasium.

The Colonels beat Gettysburg by 11 points, Trinity by 37 points and RIT by 25



The Beacon/Justin Franiak

**Senior captain Anthony Dattolo poses with his award for recording 100 career wins. He is only the fifth wrestler in Wilkes history to reach this milestone.**

points, all in convincing fashions.

Dattolo and senior Ryan Wilson both lead the way for the Colonels. Both received one forfeit while Wilson tacked on two more career pins, and Dattolo recorded a pin and technical fall. Matt Elery, Dustin Stough and Buddy Gouger all recorded pinfalls, while junior Nathan White finished up the day with a record of 2-1

Freshman Michael Fleck kept his stellar rookie season going as he also finished 2-1 on the day, including a technical fall

against RIT.

Sophomore David Oberrender finished Saturday's competition with a record of 2-0. Both of his wins were major decisions, as he outscored his opponents 26-8.

The Colonels will be in action again this Friday in Ewing, N.J., where they will take on the Lions of The College of New Jersey.

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## The Broad Street Breakdown

BY BRYAN WISLOSKY  
Correspondant

The future looks bright in South Philly, not only as we look ahead to the Stanley Cup Finals coming up in June, but for many, many seasons. Even with the Philadelphia Flyers playing musical goaltenders and having obvious holes in their defensive core thanks to Chris Pronger's season ending injury and Braydon Coburn being awful, the Broad Street Bullies remain strong contenders to raise Lord Stanley's Cup this summer.

The Flyers are currently in a heated battle with the New York Rangers and Boston Bruins for the best record not only in the Eastern Conference, but the entire National Hockey League. We have reached the NHL's All-Star weekend with Philadelphia having 63 points through 48 games, close behind the division and conference leading Rangers who have 66 points through 47 games.

The Fly Guys are also looking up at the defending champion Bruins, who have 64 points through 47 games.

The key to the Flyers success this season has been the amazing contribution given by their youth. With youngsters such as Sean Couturier (19), Matt Read (25), Claude Giroux (24), James van Riemsdyk (22), Wayne Simmonds (23) and Sergei Bobrovsky (23) combining with the wily veterans Scott Hartnell and Danny Briere, the Philadelphia Flyers will be a forced to be reckoned with in the NHL for the next decade and beyond.

Just short of 50 games played for the season, the Flyers lead the NHL in points scored by rookies. Philly rookies have already piled up more than 70 points on the year.

The two most abundant first year scorers are Matt Read, who after spending last season with the Phantoms after being drafted by the Flyers leads the NHL in goals by a rookie with 15 and is third in points by a rookie with 31, and Sean Couturier, taken eighth overall in last June's entry draft, who is making an immediate impact with his 10 goals and 9 helpers at just 19 years of age.

Of the non-rookies who are making great impacts, we have who I believe is the future of the NHL, Claude Giroux. The future captain is second in the NHL with 55 points, and

**SEE FLYERS, PAGE 19**



# SCOREBOARD

## Wrestling

1/28 Gettysburg W 26-15  
RIT W 32-9  
Trinity W 46-9

## Men's B-Ball

1/25 Eastern L 68-55  
1/28 Del Val L OT 85-95

## Women's B-Ball

1/25 Eastern L 52-72  
1/28 Del Val L 66-77

# WEEK AHEAD

## Wrestling

2/3 @ TCNJ

## Men's B-Ball

2/1 @ Misericordia  
2/3 Manhattanville

## Women's B-Ball

2/1 @ Misericordia  
2/3 Manhattanville

HOME	GUEST
00:00	00:00
QUARTER 3	
BONUS	POSS
FOULS	SHOT CLOCK
01	10
FOULS	05

Tweet us pictures of  
the scoreboards  
@wilkesbeacon



## Joseph Pugliese

COLUMNIST



At this time during the NFL off-season we are usually talking about the future of Brett Favre and the possible spots he could end up in the new season. This year, it is all about Peyton.

Manning missed the entire year due to a neck injury, which sent the Colts into a tail-spin that led them to a 2-14 record and the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft. Normally this would not be a problem but this year the No. 1 quarterback prospect since Manning himself, Andrew Luck, is coming out of the draft.

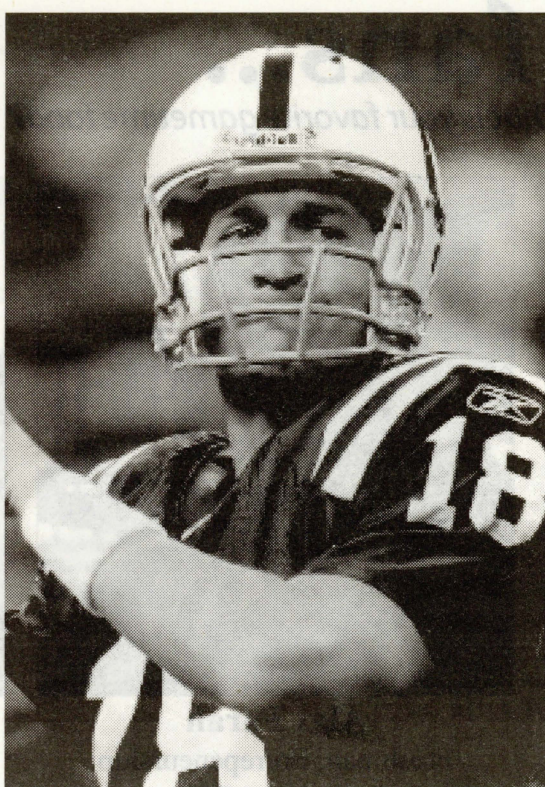
Reports say the Colts will be taking Luck with the top pick in the draft, which means a hefty pay day for the young QB. Manning is due a \$28 million roster bonus March 8th; this would mean if the colts were to keep Manning, over \$50 million will be spent on two players at the same position. Not a good team building strategy.

It is most likely that Manning's fate will be decided before March 8, simply because once he earns that \$28 million it will be very hard to trade him to a contender with enough cap space to accommodate Manning. Most likely that he will be cut or traded before the March 8 deadline, that way someone can re-structure that deal.

So where does he go? The options are very few: Denver, Washington, Miami, New York Jets and maybe a sleeper team we don't know about. Manning will presumably have a great deal of control where he goes whether it is a trade or free agency.

Denver is unlikely because the situation is Manning is coming off an injury so why would he go to a place like Mile High where he has to play in the cold and high altitude I don't see that working. A big option has been the Jets and we know their owner Woody Johnson loves stars and a high powered offense. However the cap space will be tough and would Manning really go to the Jets and take the spotlight away from his little brother? No, I think the options are Washington and Miami, to me Miami makes the most sense. He plays in a history rich team, in a warm environment where his injury will not bother him. Miami will have the cap space, no QB, a great weapon in Brandon Marshall and a defense that is better than any Colts one in the past 10 years. Why not Washington? Simply put, Manning and Shanahan cannot coexist. Manning runs his own system and Shanahan likes control, they would do nothing but butt heads.

Manning will join LeBron James, Chris Bosh and Jose Reyes this year in Miami.



## The Debate: Will Peyton leave Indy? Where to?

## The Buzz: With the Colts say- ing they will pick Andrew Luck, Peyton seems to be on his way out.

## Results: The race for Peyton is on.

To see and join the full  
debate visit:  
[thewilkesbeacon.com](http://thewilkesbeacon.com)

## Justin Franiak

SPORTS EDITOR



I never thought I would see the day where everyone would be questioning if Peyton Manning should stay in Indy.

I am still in disbelief that is happening, alas here we are.

The Colts are definitely picking Andrew Luck with the first overall selection in this year's draft and its almost inevitable that Peyton Manning will not be under center for the Colts.

The question is where will he go?

Will he get cut or traded?

The obvious options are teams with money and draft picks.

He will not be going to the Jets. That place is a circus and Peyton will not want to touch that. Plus, the Jets shouldn't break apart a defense that performed well this year.

The Colts are going to want a young defensive player and draft picks, and I don't know if the Jets are willing to give that up.

Cleveland is a good option for Manning. The Browns have a ton of draft picks and a good amount of cap space, considering there is not huge contracts there. I would not be surprised if the Browns come away with Peyton.

Another option would be Miami. The Dolphins have not had a good quarterback since Marino and they are thirsty for some wins.

I believe that Peyton Manning will wind up in Washington.

The Redskins love huge contracts, and a signing or trade for Peyton would bring interest back into a storied franchise.

I would love to watch Peyton twice a year, but I'm torn because my beloved Eagles would have to play him.

The Redskins have a decent defense, with a good young player in Brian Orapko. The Skins would need to get some offensive line help in order to protect Manning.

The Colts were exposed this year. Finishing with the worst record in the league clearly shows that Peyton Manning is extremely valuable.

I would even consider giving the MVP award to him, and he didn't even play a down this year.

I hope Peyton winds up in a good spot because I love watching him play. Peyton has started to become exiled from Indy. I am upset with how the organization is handling the situation.

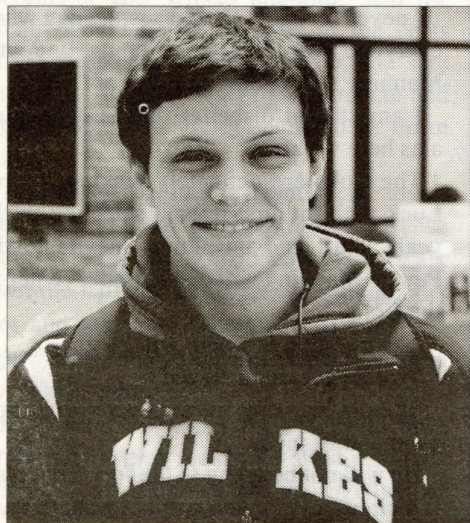
Peyton deserves the respect of the players and coaches. He may eventually go down as the greatest quarterback ever.

Whoever lands him will do well. Hopefully Indy will gain a little "Luck" in the end.

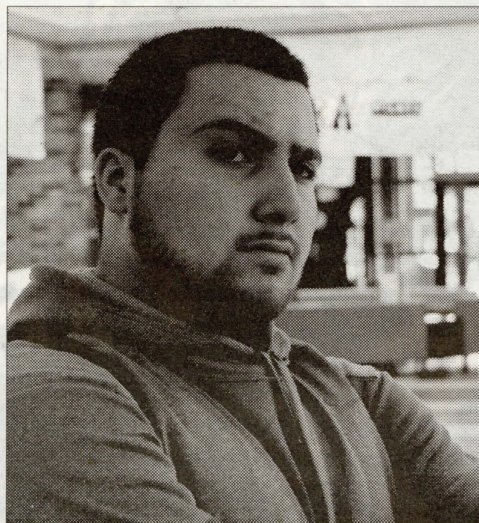


# Ask the fans...

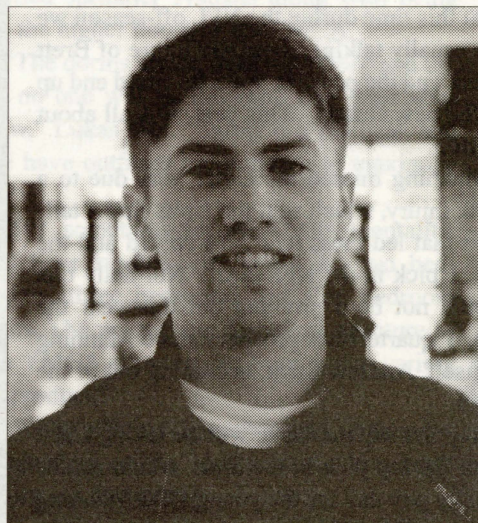
Who is your Superbowl pick? What is your favorite gametime food?



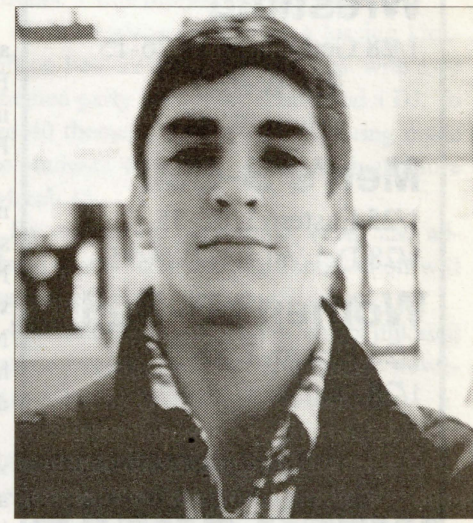
**Matt Gaines**  
Junior, Communication Studies  
**Superbowl Pick:**  
Monkey Riding a Dog  
**Gametime Snack:**  
Cheesey Bread



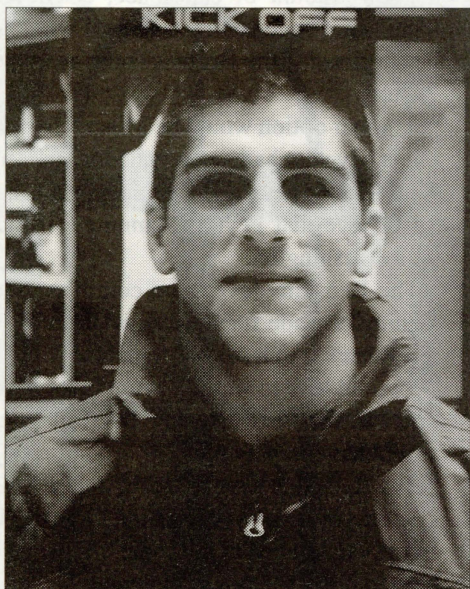
**Alex Farah**  
Freshman, Entrepreneurship  
**Superbowl Pick:**  
Giants  
**Gametime Snack:**  
Wings



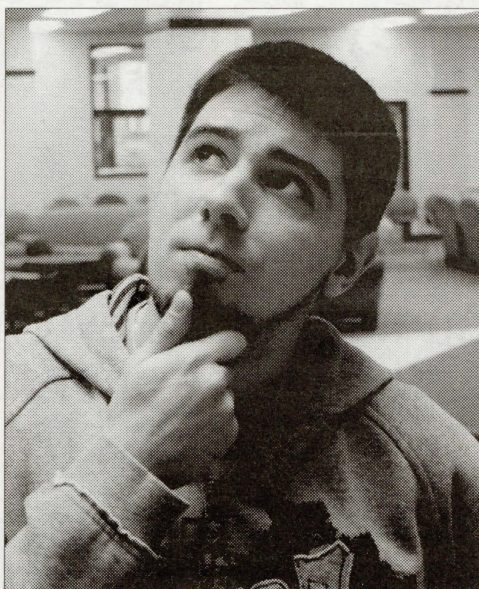
**Ryan McKeown**  
Sophomore, Criminology  
**Superbowl Pick:**  
Giants  
**Gametime Snack:**  
Wings



**Nathan White**  
Junior, Psychology  
**Superbowl Pick:**  
Patriots  
**Gametime Snack:**  
Crab Dip



**Matt Ellery**  
Senior, Business Administration  
**Superbowl Pick:**  
Patriots  
**Gametime Snack:**  
Wings and Beer



**Garret Schrader**  
Senior, History  
**Superbowl Pick:**  
Giants  
**Gametime Snack:**  
Buffalo Chicken Dip

Tweet us your Superbowl picks and favorite foods!

@wilkesbeacon

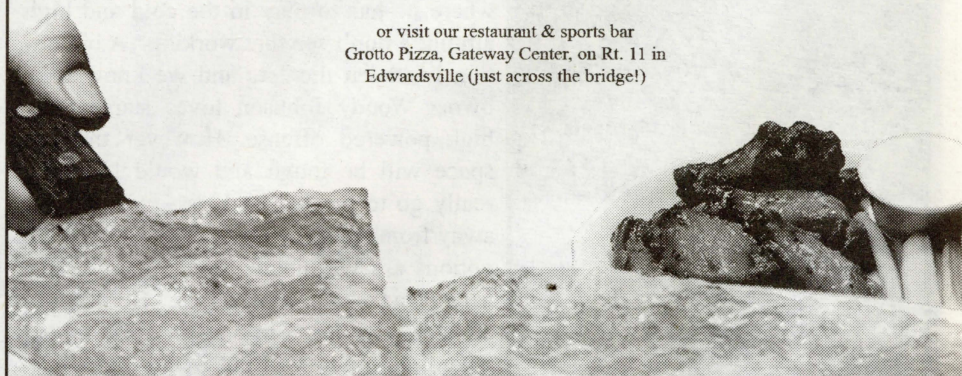


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## FLYERS

Continued from Page 16

makes everyone around him better. His line mate, Scott Hartnell, currently has 25 goals with 34 games remaining, where his career high for goals in a season is 30.

Now Giroux is in a bit of a goal drought, but lately teams have been double teaming him, which has let his teammates pile up the goals.

Another great contributor is third year player Wayne Simmonds with his 13 goals and 14 assists.

Simmonds was a great pick-up in the off season when former captain Mike Richards and current coach Peter Laviolette couldn't see eye to eye and Richards was shipped to the LA Kings for Wayne and draft picks.

The Flyers have nine players with at least 10 goals on the season, which no other team in the league can say.

They can score any time on any line, which is a great luxury. Of these nine players, seven of them are under the age of 30, the exceptions being Briere and Jaromir Jagr.



Philly is the only team in the entire NHL that can match Boston's explosiveness.

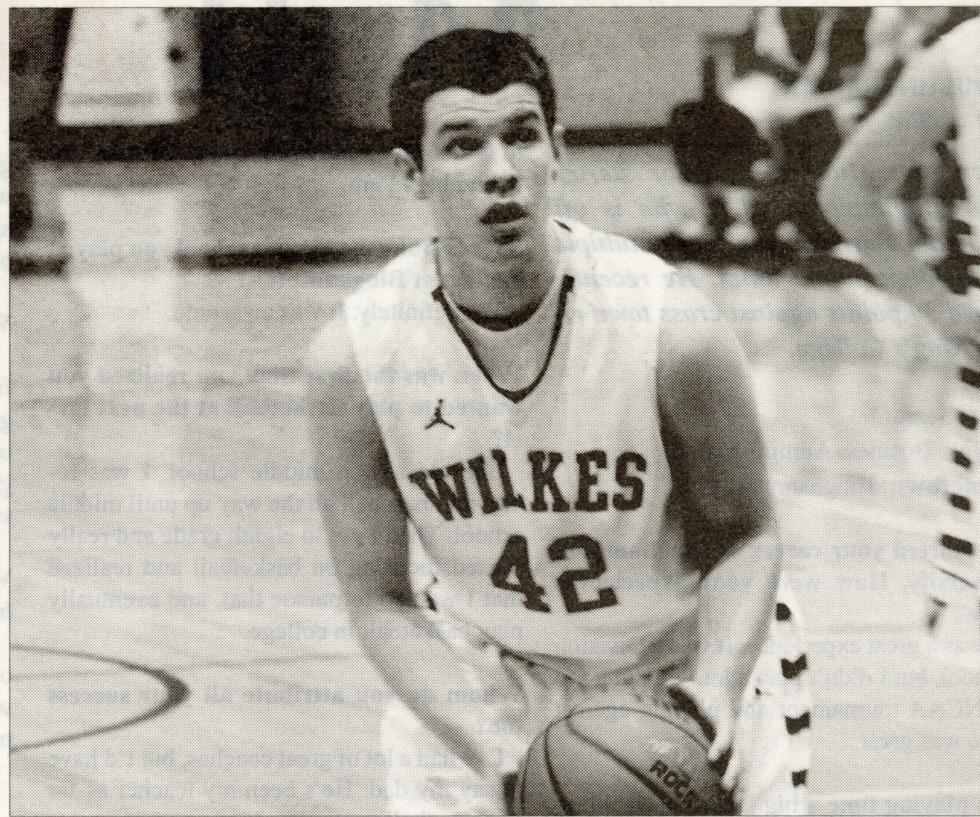
When it appeared free agent goalie Ilya Bryzgalov may be a bust, Bob stepped up with his admirable 2.42 goals against average, now Bryz seems to be coming into his own as well.

The Bullies just need to keep this core group of youngsters together -- and healthy -- and within five years, we'll be talking dynasty.

*Are you a Flyers fan? Add your comments about the team at <http://www.thewilkesbeacon.com>.*

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## Wilkes suffers first conference loss



The Beacon/Justin Franiak  
Sophomore Brendan Sheldon concentrates before taking a foul shot. Sheldon had 4 points in the loss to Eastern University. As of Jan. 29 the Colonels sat at 6-2 in the conference. The Colonels are set to face conference foe Misericordia on Feb. 1.

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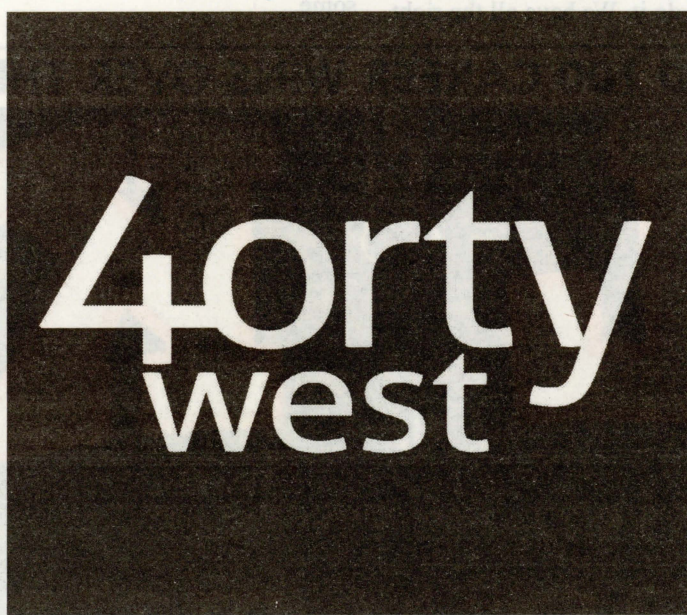
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Getting to know...

# Matt Mullins

Senior, Basketball

BY JUSTIN FRANIAK  
Sports Editor

*Meet Matt Mullins, a senior starter from Binghampton, N.Y., who is off to the hot start this year with multiple double-digit point games. He recently scored 30 points against cross town rivals King's College.*

**Year:** Senior

**Major:** Business Administration

**Hometown:** Binghampton, N.Y.

**You started your career at Binghampton University. How were your experiences there?**

It was a great experience. It was a Division I school, but I didn't play a lot. We did go to the NCAA tournament and playing against Duke was great.

**Was playing time a big factor in deciding to transfer to Wilkes?**

Yes it was. I figured you only get four years to play, so why not take full advantage of it and actually play instead of sitting on the bench.

**How has Wilkes treated you so far?**

Wilkes is awesome, I love it here. Coach Rickrode originally recruited me out of high school. I was going to come here right out of high school, but Binghampton came along and offered me a spot on the team, so I decided to try that route out first. After that I went to a junior college and starting talking

to Coach Rickrode again and came on a visit, and here I am.

**So was Duke the biggest school you played against at Binghampton?**

Yes definitely. It was awesome.

**When was the first time you realized you wanted to play basketball at the next level?**

I would say in middle school. I was really into baseball all the way up until middle school. Then I got to eighth grade and really started focusing on basketball and realized that I wanted to pursue that, and eventually play basketball in college.

**Whom do you attribute all your success too?**

I've had a lot of great coaches, but I'd have to say my dad. He's been my teacher as far as basketball ever since I was younger.

**In the game against King's you dropped 30 points. How did that feel?**

It felt great. I really caught fire against King's. It felt awesome to do that against our rival, it felt even better to beat them though.

**The team is currently 6-1, as of Jan. 26, in the conference and sitting in first place. What are the teams goals to finish out the season?**

Our teams goals are to definitely win a MAC championship. We feel as though we have the team to do it. We have all the right

guys. Besides the loss last night too Eastern, we just need to keep playing like we have, and we can definitely make our goals happen.

**Why do you wear the number four?**

To be honest, I really don't know. My freshman year of high school, the freshman got to pick their jersey numbers last, and no one wanted number four. I was basically given number four, and I was like why not stick with it?

**What was your best high school basketball memory?**

We went to the New York State final four one year. We started the season off 2-5. We wound up winning 12 games in a row, and made a run for the New York state final four.

**How do you feel about the Wilkes cheering section, the "Blue Army?"**

The "Blue Army" is definitely a home court advantage. With the screaming and yelling and everything. We are the only team in the conference that has something like that. Its really been good.

**How do you feel about the giant Coach Rickrode head the "Blue Army" holds up?**

(Laughs) The head is great. I won't say who made it, but I really think that's awesome.

**Favorite athlete?**

Kobe Bryant.

**Favorite team?**

The Lakers.

**Favorite food?**

Chicken wings.

**Gatorade or water during a game?**

Water.

**If you could defend any player ever, who would it be? Why?**

Probably Michael Jordan just to say that he crossed me up.

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**SEE WHAT WRESTLER REACHED 100 CAREER WINS OVER THE BREAK, PAGE 16**



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