



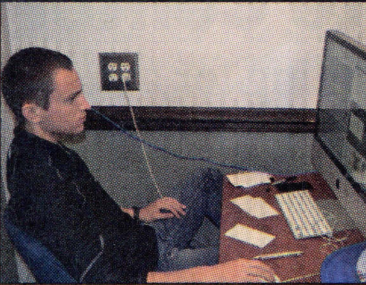
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April 16, 2013

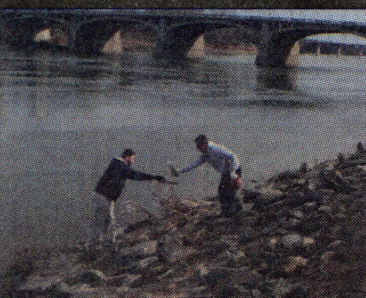
The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

Volume 66 Issue 19



Faster Internet

IT increases campus
bandwidth, Page 3



Lending a helping hand

Wilkes' many community
service opportunities, Page 8



'Relay'-ing for cancer

Preview of the upcoming
walk to raise money to fight
cancer, Page 13

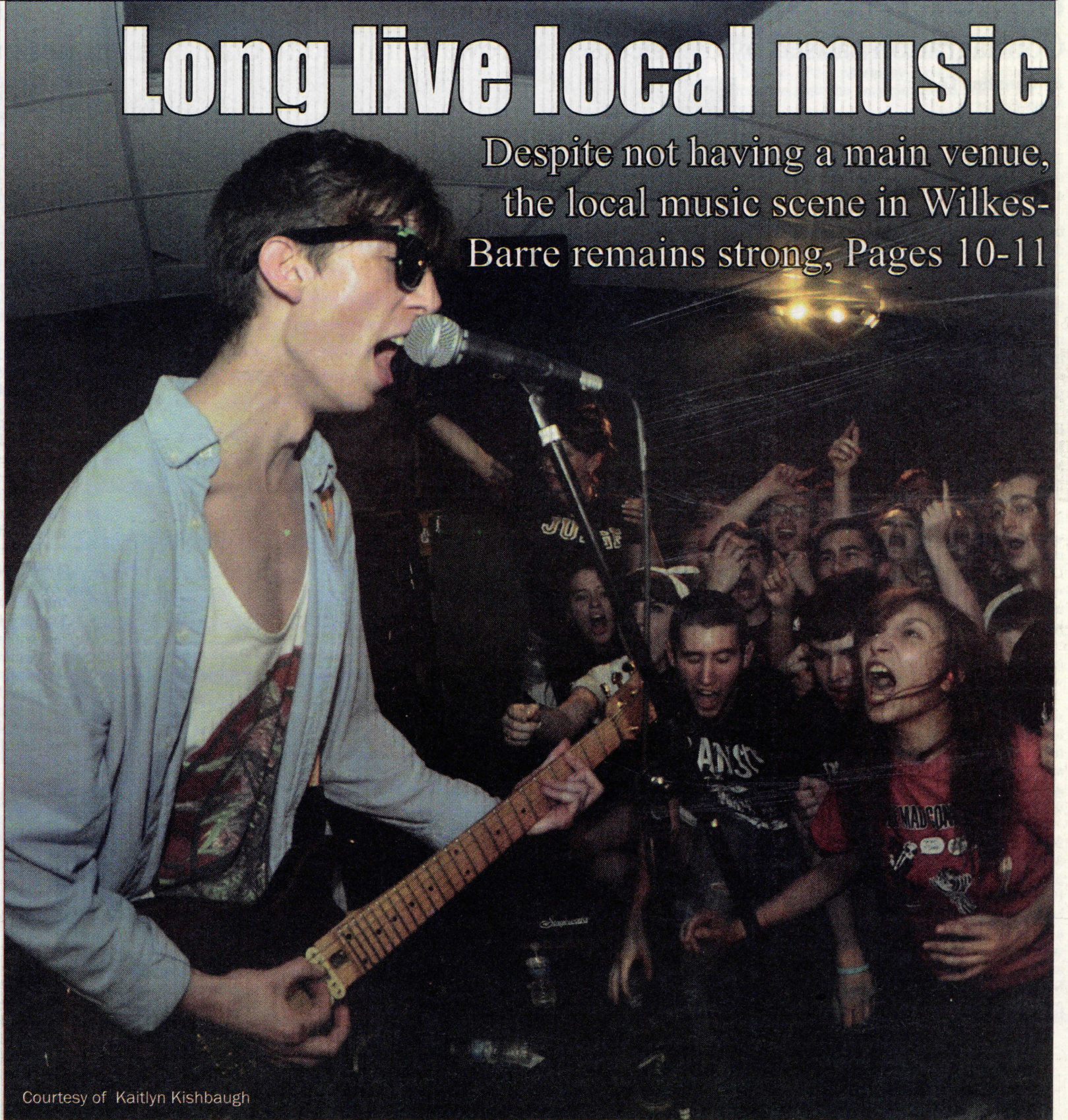


Ladies sporting stick

Women's lacrosse season off
to a good start, Page 19

Long live local music

Despite not having a main venue,
the local music scene in Wilkes-
Barre remains strong, Pages 10-11



Courtesy of Kaitlyn Kishbaugh



Next week's paper will be exclusively online!

check it out at: thewilkesbeacon.com



April 16, 2013

Contact editor: christine.lee@wilkes.edu

Minor fire breaks out in vending room in Darte Center

Conflagration caused by overheated microwave limited to one room; closes building for a night

By Christine Lee
News Editor

A small fire occurred on the first floor of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center in a vending room next to the ticket counter last Tuesday at 6:33 p.m.

According to the official report filed, the fire was caused accidentally by a microwave in the room becoming overheated when the microwave was inadvertently turned on and left on for an extended period of time with a glass bowl full of spaghetti sauce inside.

The fire was contained to that room and ignited some nearby furniture. "Gemini" director Joe Dawson reported that the spaghetti sauce was made to be used for a scene in the play.

Freshman musical theater majors Kassy Richmond and Courtney Littlefield were the first to notice the fire when they went to grab some props for that night's run-through of the latest theater department play, "Gemini."

"We were all called for rehearsal at 6:30 for a rehearsal and I'm a props running crew and I was like, 'well, I should start setting the props now to get it done early.' So me and Courtney Littlefield were going to set the props and we went into the hallway to get to the prop closet to set props and all we saw in the hallway was just smoke," Richmond said.

Richmond didn't think the smoke was dangerous until she approached it and could smell what she determined was a fire.

"I went toward (the smoke) 'cause I wasn't sure if it was a fog machine that they were testing or something and all I could smell was fire so I was like 'oh, OK,' and I went out and I warned Dave Yezefski who heroically grabbed the fire extinguisher and controlled it," she said.

The report stated when the fire personnel arrived on the scene, they found that in addition to being met by Public Safety officers, the building was evacuated and a good portion of the fire was contained by Yezefski and freshman theater major Shaun Pierre with fire extinguishers.

"I went out and I warned Dave Yezefski who heroically grabbed the fire extinguisher and controlled it,"

- Kassy Richmond,
Freshman musical theater major



The Beacon/Christine Lee

The cast of the play "Gemini" was rehearsing at the time the fire was detected and evacuated the building when it was noticed. The fire burned several pieces of furniture in the vicinity.

"Looked in the hallway, smoke billowing down the hallway, grabbed some extinguishers and went in there and whacked the (expletive)," Yezefski said. "I think if we had got in there about a minute later, it would have been out of control cause it was starting to go into the ceiling."

Fire Chief Jay Delaney said if it had not been for the actions by Yezefski and Pierre, the fire could have spread to dangerous

conditions.

"This could have been a very, very bad fire," Delaney said. "It was literally within minutes of getting to be something very bad, could have been far worse if had not been for the actions of (Yezefski and Pierre) along with the rapid response from the Wilkes-Barre Fire Department."

Delaney explained that although the walls and ceiling are fire-resistant, they will still aid in the spread of the fire and once the fire gets to the ceiling, it can travel in any direction. However, thanks to the quick action on the part of Yezefski and Pierre, the fire didn't spread to the ceiling.

"(Yezefski and Pierre) used some common sense: they shot the fire extinguishers, they used them properly and then they exited the building and they let the fire department come in and do their job," he said.

Delaney also noted that in addition to the quick action on the part of those in the Darte center, no one was injured, there was no major property loss and the evacuation of the building was smooth.

"In terms of the evacuation, sometimes people panic, it didn't appear that that happened, and people get hurt when they panic," he said. "So in this case almost everything went right, except for the accident that started the fire."

Delaney commended the fact that those in the Darte center at the time of the fire were able to evacuate to begin with.

"Many times we go to fire alarms and people are just complacent and really don't pay attention but in this instance, the fire department found the building be evacuated, and that was a very good thing," he said.

Both Delaney and Fire Inspection Officer Capt. Alan Klapat emphasized that food should not be left unattended in a microwave.

"I would think 99 percent of the student body would think, 'microwaves don't burn, fires start on stoves when you're cooking something or when there's gas and there's flames,' but here's a perfect example of a microwave that will burn," he said.

"Gemini" Director Joe Dawson reported that the spaghetti sauce was made to be used for a scene in the play.

He said the fire wouldn't affect the opening of the play. Although the fire was only contained to the vending room, it caused a lot of smoke to be distributed throughout the first floor.

The building was closed down to be aired out and resumed its normal operations the following day at 8 a.m.



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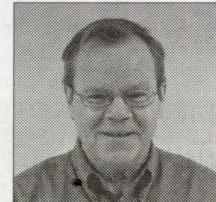
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Meet the Staff



Loran Lewis
Adviser

IT increases campus bandwidth at no cost to students

By Christine Lee
News Editor

Due to the increase of activity online, Information Technology has increased the bandwidth connection of the university from 110mbps to 260mbps this spring, meaning a faster Internet connection for the campus.

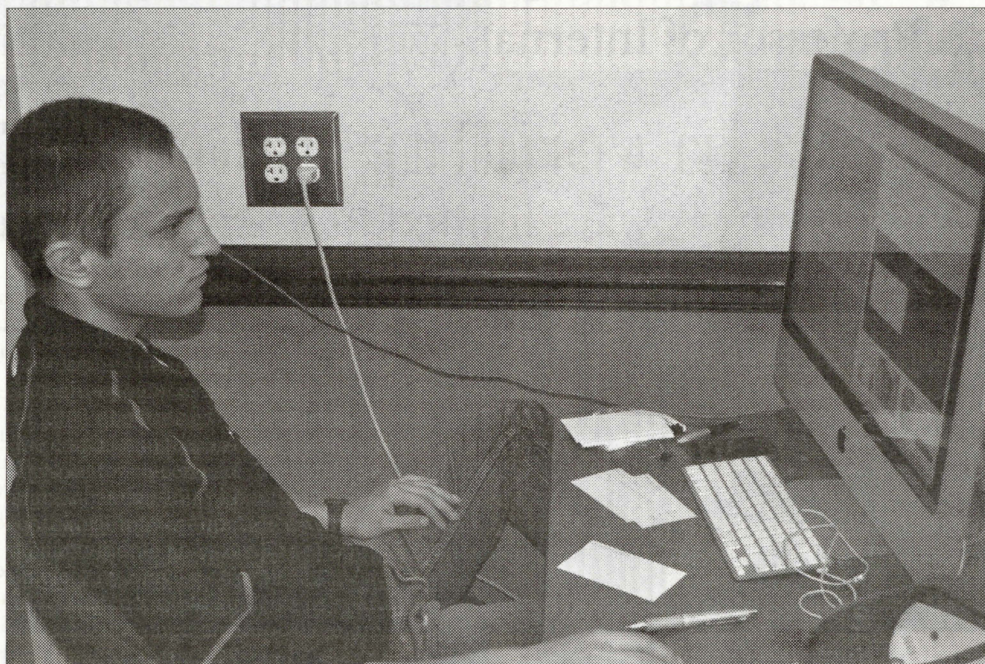
In an email to the campus community sent March 25, Chief Information Officer Gloria Barlow said the campus use of Internet bandwidth had exceeded its current connection of 110mbps due to the increased use of smartphones, greater use of streaming video, the transition to the Google cloud email system and other hosted services, particularly at the peak hours between 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"We were really hitting the ceiling on every bit of our bandwidth and we knew that we had to increase that," she said. "Students, faculty and staff were feeling frustrated because we were still able to do our work but (the Internet) was becoming slower."

Barlow explained that in her four years at Wilkes, the bandwidth connection has been increased 40 percent and this year, the bandwidth became strained due to the amount of activity occurring online on campus, which Barlow explained in the email the campus use of which will only continue to increase.

Despite the misconceptions, she said students are not paying for the increased bandwidth. The operating cost of \$360 is being paid entirely by the IT budget.

In the email, Barlow explains that Wilkes is



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Sophomore nursing major Tim Jurkowski surfs the Internet in the lower level of the Farley Library. The increased bandwidth will mean faster Internet speed for the campus.

a member of The Northeast Pennsylvania Education Consortium, a non-profit corporation composed of Wilkes, King's College, Misericordia University, Marywood University and the University of Scranton, which provides cost savings, services enhancements and effi-

ciencies to members.

Barlow said in the email that the combined purchasing power of the member schools in NEPEC, enabled the organization to solicit proposals and obtain bandwidth costing \$16 per megabit, which in total costs IT \$360 per

year, which Barlow said is a small amount in the IT budget.

Students are pleased with the notion of not having to pay for the increased bandwidth and are happy about the upgrade.

"I think it's awesome," sophomore physics major Richard La Manna said. "I don't have to pay for any extra gigabytes being used or go over my monthly bill."

Senior P2 pharmacy major Bethany Sharpless said she was pleased to hear of the changes.

"I'm happy to hear about it, I think it's time that we increase it, considering the number of electronic devices each student uses," Sharpless said. "I think it's gonna be useful."

Barlow explained that the contract for the increased bandwidth would go out this week and after it is signed, the increased bandwidth will go into effect on campus within 24 to 36 hours. She expects the increased bandwidth to go into effect completely by finals week in May.

"It will be really helpful to students as we're going into finals, that they will not have any of that sluggishness on the Internet as they're doing their final coursework this semester," Barlow said.

She hopes the increase in bandwidth will be beneficial to the campus and is open to feedback from the campus community.

"To me the real value here is that we're able to do such a great increase at such a nominal price," Barlow said.

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Student Affairs announces commencement speaker, further details Wilkes alum and Expert Global Solutions CEO to speak to grads, receive honorary degree

By Shawn Carey
Assistant News Editor

With the semester coming to a close, the university is making the final preparations to the spring commencement ceremony with the announcement of this year's speaker.

This spring commencement speaker will be Ronald Rittenmeyer, the chief executive officer of Expert Global Solutions Inc. Although there will be separate ceremonies for undergraduate and graduate students, Rittenmeyer will be addressing both ceremonies.

"He is a very impressive man; he has many years of accomplishments," Dean of Students Mark Allen said. "He is a very inspirational sort of person and will deliver a great message to our students."

Rittenmeyer, a Kingston, Pa., native now living in Plano, Texas, graduated from Wilkes in 1972 with a degree in commerce and economics. He will receive a Doctorate of Humane Letters at the honoring him for his leadership and distinguished contributions to the fields of business and industry.

Expert Global Solutions is a leading global provider of business process outsourcing services, primarily focused on accounts receivables management and customer relationship management.

Prior to his service at Expert Global, Rittenmeyer served in a variety of executive positions with Electronic Data Systems Corp.,



Rittenmeyer

including chairman, president and CEO.

"Whether they are delivered by politicians, business folks or accomplished business folks or business folks, I think the message is that there are opportunities out there for graduates to apply what they spent so many years doing," Allen said.

Wilkes will also award an honorary degree to Pauline Montgomery at the morning graduate commencement ceremony. Montgomery is the owner of Montgomery Pharmacy in Hughesville, Pa.

She began pharmacy practice in her hometown of Hughesville in 1959 and has been

practicing ever since. Montgomery served on the Board of Pharmacy of the Commonwealth for several years and currently serves as the State Board of Pharmacy's Officer for Probable Cause Screening Committee.

This year graduation will return to campus with two separate ceremonies for both graduate and undergraduate students.

With graduation returning to campus, administrators said that it will add a personal element to the day.

"For the first time it is exclusively an undergraduate and graduate ceremony," Allen said. "There may be nuances to Mr. Rittenmeyer's speech that tailors to each ceremony."

Associate Dean of Student Affairs Barbara King said that with the ceremony returning to campus, it would not be possible without the help of the Wilkes maintenance staff and Judi Wienckoski, assistant for student affairs.

"I am thrilled that we are back on campus," King said. "They put in a lot of extra hours and are absolutely vital to this ceremony."

Both ceremonies will be held at the Marts Gym. The first ceremony for graduate students begins at 10 a.m. and the second ceremony for undergraduate students begins at 2 p.m. Doors for each ceremony will open one hour before the start time.

"He is a very inspirational sort of person and will deliver a great message to our students."

- Mark Allen,
Dean of Students

Commencement details:

This year, commencement will take place Saturday, May 18, in two separate ceremonies. one for undergraduate students and another for graduate students. Both ceremonies will take place in the Arnaud C. Marts Center.

Undergraduate commencement:

-Doors open at 1 p.m.
-Ceremony starts at 2 p.m.

Graduate commencement:

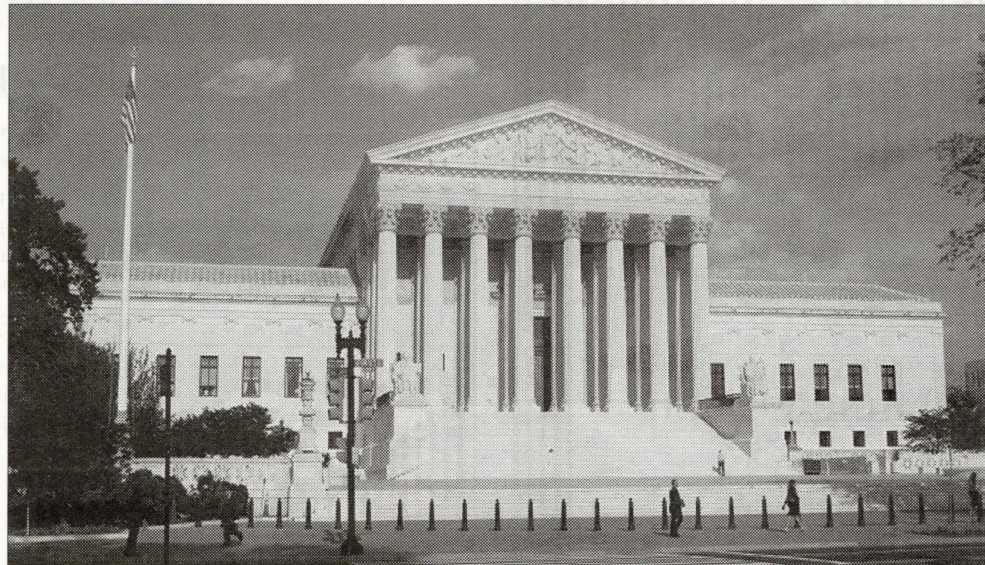
-Doors open at 9 a.m.
-Ceremony starts at 10 a.m.

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Supreme Court expert to speak at Max Rosenn Lecture

Harvard University Bemis Professor of International Law Noah Feldman to deliver address

By Julianna Salvato
Correspondent



Noah Feldman, the speaker for this year's Max Rosenn Lecture Series in Law and Humanities, is an expert in the areas of international affairs and what he calls "the intersection of ideas and real world politics."

Feldman's lecture topic at Wilkes University is "Supreme Court 2013: What's Happening Now and What the Future Holds."

"The speaker is chosen by a committee from suggestions that are submitted," Director of Special Events Rebecca VanJura said.

Feldman's expertise ranges from the U.S. Supreme Court to international affairs, U.S.-China relations, the future of Islam and democracy in the Middle East, according to VanJura.

Feldman is the Bemis Professor of international law at Harvard University as well as a senior fellow in the Society of Fellows. He also writes for "The New York Times Magazine" and "Bloomberg View."

He is the author of five books, speaks five languages and is an expert on Islamic philosophy and law, the separation of church and state and the U.S. Supreme Court.

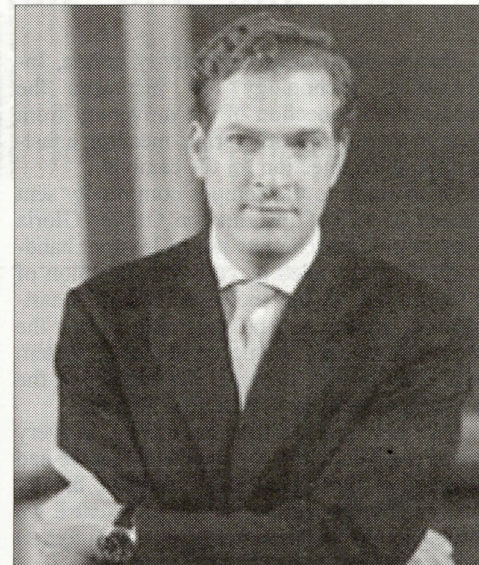
Feldman has served as senior constitutional adviser to the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq and advised members of the Iraqi Governing Council on drafting the interim constitution.

"Esquire" magazine named him one of the "75 most influential people of the 21st century" and Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan

calls him "one of the stars of his generation."

The annual Max Rosenn Lecture Series in Law and Humanities is named for Judge Max Rosenn, in recognition of his exceptional contributions to law. Rosenn served on the United States Court of Appeals since 1970.

Noah Feldman is scheduled to join the ranks of speakers who have honored Rosenn with



Courtesy of Marketing and Communications

their lectures 7:30 p.m. on April 28, at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center. This lecture is free and open to the public.

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SG Notes: Capital Projects committee purchase proposals finalized

Propositions include new equipment for functions including new vans, walkway, grill, ladder

By Christine Lee
News Editor

The meeting April 10 was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

All College: \$8,108.44
Conferences: \$1,640
General Funds: \$2,409.92
Leadership:--
Spirit: \$347.77

Student Government Total: \$12,506.13

Lambda Kappa Sigma Fund Request (Week 1 of 2)

•Requesting \$1,800 to cover half of the registration fee for nine participants to attend the conference

•Will be using SG vans for transportation; hotel and food are paid out of pocket

•\$600 attained from Pharmacy Senate for conference registration fees; cannot accept any more

•Conference focuses on women in pharmacy

Ham Radio Club Recognition (Week 1 of 2)

•Can communicate all over the world; must be licensed through a test from the FCC

•Will provide education and funding for the licensing test

Enactus Fund Request (Week 1 of 2)

•Requesting \$5,636.81 to cover lodging, airfare, and transportation expenses for the National Competition for eight students plus

one advisor

•Fundraiser: Super Smash Bros tournament, library coffee shop, apparel sale

•Reached out to Students in Free Enterprise Alumni with an online link to donate.

American Society of Mechanical Engineers Fund Request (Week 1 of 2)

•Requesting \$3,000.00 for the annual Customs, Classics, and Cruisers Car Show

•Funding will be used for T-shirts, trophies, Dino, giveaways, sponsor gifts, tent, plaques, and signs

•Half of proceeds from entrance fees will be going toward the Wounded Warrior Foundation

Recycle Metrics Fund Request (Week 2 of 2)

•Requesting \$500 for event functions; \$350 on food, \$150 on shirts

•Recycling Competition between Wilkes and King's College that lasts for one month

•April 22: Wilkes and King's team travel around city of Wilkes-Barre and collect recycling, meet and see who collected more

•Winner will receive a trophy made of recyclable materials and donation to cause of their choice

•White office paper only because it is worth the most to recycle

•15 barrels will be at Wilkes, 15 at Kings

•WNEP will be covering the events

•About 80 people attended the party on Friday night; spent more than \$200 on food and drinks

•Joe Pugliese motions to allocate \$500.00 to Recycle Metrics; Peter Tuzzo seconds the mo-

tion.

■Motion Does Not Pass: 7-25-10.

•Samantha Bickert motions to allocate \$150 for T-shirts to Recycle Metrics; Samantha Earley seconds the motion

■Motion Passes: 29-3-10.

History Club Fund Request (Week 2 of 2)

•Requesting \$530 to match the \$20 out of pocket hotel room cost per member and gas for transportation to and from Washington, D.C. for 17 people

•Taylor Moyer motions to allocate \$530 to match the \$20 out of pocket hotel room cost per member and gas for transportation to/from Washington, D.C. to History Club; Christian Giovannini seconds the motion.

■Motion Passes: 29-2-11

2013-2014 Budget Approval (Week 1 of 2)

•Budget was presented; Suggestions listed below for how to adjust budget

•Pull \$3,000 from Adventure Ed and add to Programming Board

•Pull \$1,000 from SG, MSC, and SG Vans and add to Programming Board

•Breakdown MSC, OCC, CC costs: all breakdowns

•Pull \$3,000 from SG to add to Programming Board

•Pull \$3,000 from ASB to add to Programming Board

Capital Projects Request (Week 1 of 2)

•New ladder to hang banners, lightweight, adjustable, easy to store

•Collapsible cart that is larger and holds more weight

•Calendar to display school events (2x3 feet)

•6 new folding tables for small events

•New grill for events

•OCC walkway project: cost of more sand, pavers, and grass seed

•2 new SG vehicles (trade in): Chevy Traverse-will bring comparison between vehicles for next week

Programming Board Constitutional

Revision (Week 2 of 2)

•Changes to constitution regarding parts that should have already been there

•Condensed voting and general membership

•Kyle Wolfe motions to pass the constitutional revisions; Anthony Cooper seconds the motion

■Motion Passes with a hand vote

Inactive Club: Earth and Environmental Science Club (Week 2 of 2)

•Have not been active in two years

•Nick Wierman motions to disband the Earth and Environmental Science Club; Kyle Wolfe seconds the motion.

■Motion Passes with a hand vote.

Student Government Presidential

Nominations (Week 2 of 2)

•Catelyn Sofio nominates Peter Tuzzo; Joe Pugliese seconds; Peter declines

•Kassi Bugg nominates Samantha Blincoe; Ian Foley seconds; Samantha declines

•John Sweeney moves to close discussion on nominations; Peter Tuzzo seconds; Discussion

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meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.
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**Wilkes students, surr
community join toget
service**

Alyssa Stencavage, Life Editor
April 9, 2013

One day a year Wilkes Univers-
faculty and staff gather with the
community to give back and he
of volunteers. "This... READ ME

t h e w i l k e s b e a c o n . c o m

April 16, 2013

Contact editor: carly.yamrus@wilkes.edu

Quick to judge, slow to understand

Learn to think twice before passing judgment on others for differences

By Alyssa Stencavage
Assistant Life Editor

Have you ever heard the saying "treat others the way you want to be treated?" or "don't judge a book by its cover?" They have been pounded in our heads for years along with a million other things, and still continue to be. The question is, how often do we follow them?

As a society, we judge others too often and too quickly, and we are well aware of it. The second we cross paths with someone else, we are analyzing them and making our own assumptions. You're probably thinking, well, it's a part of human nature, and you're right. However, that doesn't make it right.

Take these situations for example, which is something I saw on Facebook and really made me stop and think: A 15 year-old girl holds hands with her 1-year-old son. People call her a slut, but no one knows she was raped at 13.

People call another guy fat. No one knows he has a serious disease causing him to be overweight.

People call an old man ugly. No one knew he had a serious injury to his face while fighting for our country in the war.

People call a woman bald but they don't know she has cancer.

I didn't just stop and look at this in pass-

ing, I even reposted it because I felt others needed to see it. Many of us are at fault here, and sometimes we don't even realize we are doing it.

But there are no excuses. The bottom line is, we are too quick to judge.

As someone who works at a grocery store and deals with the public, I can tell you that making judgments about others, even just based on their appearance is something that happens constantly.

I see it all of the time, and it doesn't just happen in grocery stores. It happens literally everywhere you go, and we are being judged in return. I will admit I am just as guilty as the next person for doing it.

The reasons for which people judge others are so numerous, they could probably fill a small book. We tend to judge those who are different than us, including those who have disabilities, speech impediments, a different sexual orientation, look different or don't seem intelligent ... and the list goes on and on. Even criticizing the way people dress or how they do their hair or makeup can make them feel bad about themselves.

Yet we still do it.

Obviously we do this because we feel others are different, but maybe we also do it because we don't think they measure up to our standards or think like us.

Maybe we just have nothing better to do than place judgment on others, because it seems easier to follow the crowd than be the bigger person and be nice.

The worst part is that we evaluate others without actually knowing the circumstances or the fact that the person could be a very good person and have a lot to give.

The truth is you don't know what other people have been through or what they are going through. Therefore, you don't have the right to make judgments.

Not everyone is willing to talk openly about their personal life or things they cannot control. We shouldn't jump to conclusions based on things we don't know.

This is not just about judging others, but it is also about making them feel unwanted or unaccepted which is perhaps one of the worst feelings a person can have.

I have always felt bad for those I see sitting alone at a lunch table in school or sitting alone anywhere, particularly kids and elderly people. It always makes my heart melt a little.

We often do not think about the ways in which our negative attitudes and actions make others feel. Not only should we consider this before we decide to think or act negatively, but we should also think about how we are going to feel about ourselves afterward, and likely regret our hurtful words or actions.

We also don't want to be the reason behind someone's feelings getting hurt.

Obviously this isn't right, and I've personally been putting much thought into this recently, which has made me realize how much room I have to improve and become a better person. There is always room to be better. I've certainly been looking at things differently.

Everything we go through in life is a learning experience, and so this is as well. We should always strive to change our ways, maybe some we are no so proud of, because it can and will backfire if we are not careful.

People will always be judgmental, but we can always strive to be better. If you take anything from this article, let it be a lesson to always be kind to others, and that means in both words and actions.

The next time you are about to cast judgment on someone, remember the golden rule and how you would feel it you were in that position. You might think twice about making that judgment.



The Beacon/Laura Preby

Most of us often judge others too quickly. By putting our judgements for others aside, we make room to improve ourselves and become better individuals.

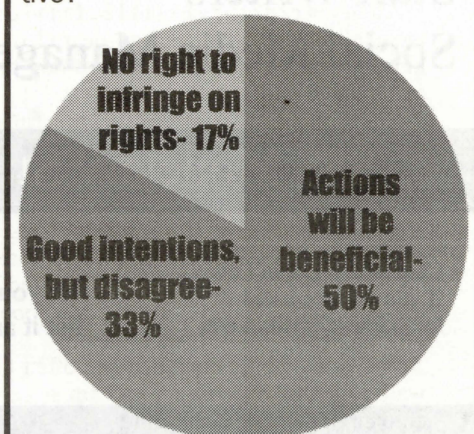
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BEACON POLL

The Beacon poll is unscientific and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on the Wilkes campus. Poll results are based on 6 responses.

Last week's question:

What is your opinion on New York Mayor Bloomberg's health initiative?



This week's question:

What is your favorite way to exercise?

- Running
- Elliptical
- Lifting Weights
- Insanity
- Other
- What is exercise?

Cast your vote online at:
www.thewilkesbeacon.com

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The Beacon wants
to hear your voice.

Send your name, major, year and opinion to:

carly.yamrus@wilkes.edu

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

Trash, littering problem at River Common an easy fix

By Lyndsie Yamrus
Assistant Opinion Editor

Two weeks ago, Wilkes University hosted The Big Event, a universitywide community service opportunity where students, staff, alumni and faculty were welcomed to assist in projects around the community and on campus.

I was assigned to Team B and set out with about 50 or so other students toward the river common with trash bags and work gloves.

Team B's job was to pick up trash along the river from the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center to the courthouse. My sister and I started working near the Market Street bridge entrance.

All of your basic trash could be found down there: plastic drink bottles, half-degraded napkins, various wrappers, baggies of dog poop, and more.

But there are two trash categories in particular that if removed, would eliminate literally half of the litter problem along the river: broken glass and cigarette butts.

While cleaning up, a woman walking her dog stopped to ask us if we were volunteers, and what exactly we were doing. We told her, and she immediately jumped on the opportunity to chat about the trash problem.

The woman explained that she often takes walks by the river and picks up a certain amount of garbage every time.

She said she has seen kids deliberately throw bottles from the wall down onto the walkway for no reason at all—maybe because the bottles make a cool sound as they smash onto the concrete, she suggested.

She continued to explain that despite her efforts to pick up garbage, she often has to steer her little dog away from broken glass on the

walkway because the dog doesn't see it and could potentially hurt its feet.

I hadn't even thought about that. Some of those pieces, the brown ones in particular, could also potentially look like dog treats, and not all dogs are smart. One could easily be ingested.

This is additionally a hazard for anyone not wearing shoes, and with the nice weather coming, it isn't uncommon for people to start taking them off.

Resolving this glass issue isn't easy because it's more of a respect-for-other-people's-properties type of thing. Kids will be kids, and even some college students aren't mature enough to discard their drink bottles in a respectful manner. But city officials could easily penalize kids for littering, and most of us don't have large sums of money to waste on fines.

Perhaps a more feasible problem to undertake, however, are the cigarette butts. These are the real issue. They're everywhere. The world is everyone's ashtray. It's disgusting.

My sister and I picked up most of them range we were in. Then, we exited the river area and began walking down the sidewalk.

I started picking up more cigarette butts but soon found that the job was almost impossible. I wanted to pick up all of them, but there were far too many on the side of the road that I was forced to abandon them and only allowed myself to pick up larger trash objects.

I decided that an achievable solution to this problem is for the city to invest in a few of those plastic outdoor cigarette receptacles and disperse them around the river common.

The cigarette butts were generally concentrated in different areas, such as at the ends of the concrete stairs where people can sit. Since disposal into trash cans runs the risk of igniting garbage, placing the receptacles in these spots would definitely make a difference.

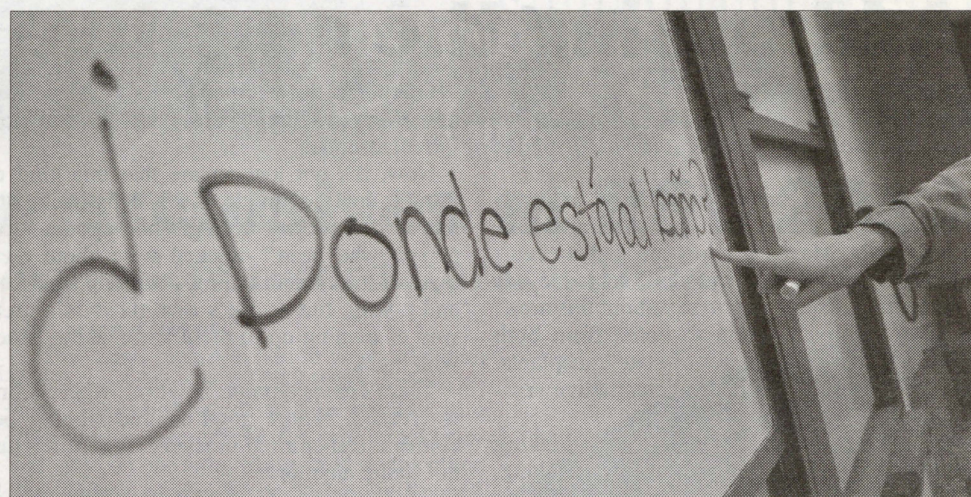
People would feel more obligated to dispose of their cigarettes properly, in a safe container, rather than throw them on the ground.

Another simple action that could be taken is replacing the doggie waste container near the left side of the bridge. Since the container is almost fully dented inward, dog owners were unable to throw away their waste baggies and simply discarded them onto the ground.

While they're at it, recycling containers would be a huge benefit as well.

Two days later, I returned to the river to enjoy the nice weather and found two red and white striped Crown Fried boxes, chicken wings and French fries strewn across the common. Unbelievable!

I feel that for a relatively small price, the city could easily solve or at least improve some of the trash problems occurring down by the river. Reality shows us that not all individuals are considerate enough to walk to a trash can, but small undertakings such as littering fines, cigarette receptacles and new waste containers may steer more people to do the right thing.



The Beacon/Laura Preby

The number of Spanish speakers is expected to grow exponentially. Learning the language at an earlier age could better prepare us for this change.

Double take: Bilingual students to excel in ever-changing culture

By Carly Yamrus
Opinion Editor

For as long as I can remember, quite a few efforts have been made in my educational career to force me to understand the Spanish language.

In elementary school we had the puppet videos. Middle school we had some arts and crafts here and there ... by high school we had started really getting into the hard stuff: colors. And then again in college where we combined all three levels of learning and wrapped it up into a crash course into a liberal arts mandatory requirement.

Here we are, 15 years after I was first introduced to the language and I still can only count to 10, I can name the colors on a good day, and I know how to ask for bacon.

As I recently went through a job shadow in sales, I realized more than ever how necessary it is that we learn and know Spanish.

The customers were Hispanic. We spoke English. What good is it to be a salesperson if you cannot even begin to explain who you are and why you are standing in front of them?

This language barrier deters all possible conversations as well as transactions. What you get are two people standing next to each other repeating the same message over and over again, dumbing down the messages into short, broken phrases or even single words.

Not so surprisingly, there are many people in this country who believe that we are not obligated to learn Spanish, because after all, this is America and we speak English.

Those who have that obstinate viewpoint are in for a rude awakening.

By 2050, the United States is estimated to be the largest Spanish speaking country in the world. Like it or not, Spanish is America's second language and the numbers of Spanish-speakers will only increase in coming years.

We need to embrace this.

Learning Spanish is quite difficult, especially when we only speak English and are attempting to learn at an older age.

We had the right idea in elementary schools where we would teach young students whose minds are amendable and who had a positive attitude about learning another language.

The older we get, the less willing we are to start learning a language, mainly because it's hard. It takes a lot of practice. A lot of us just don't have the time for that.

If we started early and really focused on the language with a long-term goal in mind, I suppose we would have a better turn out by the time those children reach secondary education. I'm sure the puppets were fun but I really got nothing out of Spanish in elementary school. It was treated as a "special" class, only taken once a week.

Even in college, Spanish is not "mandatory." Here, you can take philosophy instead of a language. What good is that?

Knowing a second language will eventually be extremely beneficial. Because bilingualists are in such high demand, they will without a doubt be offered a job over someone who only speaks English. These language skills will be necessary in almost all fields of work, including business, medicine and education.

At the time, I did not realize the importance of learning another language. I didn't care at all. I used the time during class to do other homework or put on makeup. A big part of this was the lack of diversity in this area.

A lot of us come from small, rural towns throughout the tri-state area that sheltered us from diversity entirely. Instilled in us was this selfish attitude of "why do I have to learn this?"

I sure hope that my kids will be learning Spanish more efficiently than I did so they are prepared for the future. I hope they are more understanding and willing to learn than we were.

Necesitamos Español! (That's all I got.)



The Beacon/Trevor Gilliam

A student volunteered at The Big Event to clean the River Commons.



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Addressing the negative criticism in Wilkes-Barre

By Bill Thomas
A&E Editor

Wilkes-Barre has an inferiority complex. Northeastern Pennsylvania in general is like that, really. Maybe it's just me, but it seems like every time I turn around, someone has something disparaging to say about this area.

The comments seem to come from both lifelong residents and out-of-state transplants, and they rarely qualify as constructive criticism.

What's most wounding is the unthinking casualness with which such insults are slung. Off-handed and matter-of-fact, as if Wilkes-Barre's wretchedness was common knowledge.



The Beacon/Laura Preby
While it is home to many, the city of Wilkes-Barre is frequently criticized.

Of course, not everyone feels that way. And not everyone appreciates the too-cool-for-school attitude.

Now, it's not lost on me that this kind of thing is common mode of self-deprecating humor. I don't know a single non-egomaniacal person who hasn't cracked wise about their own all-too-human failings. Nobody's perfect, and poking fun at one's own flaws is a great way of owning up to them and making peace with them.

There comes a point, however, where a line is crossed. Where good-natured ribbing becomes mean-spirited mockery. Where it's just not funny anymore.

For those new to the area, it's understandable. This isn't where you grew up. This isn't what you know and love. I get that. I also get the frustration of people who have grown up here feeling like they want something more. Familiarity breeds contempt, right?

To those people more than anyone else, though, I have only this to say: This is your home.

Act like it.

A person's home — both the house they live in and the larger geographical area around it — is as much a part of who they are as their mom and dad.

Your home is your third parent. It helped raise you, instilled within you certain values, created the filter through which we see and define the entire world. In many ways, it is part of the reason you are who you are, in both the good ways and the bad ways.

Sadly, this whole "we live in a toilet" mentality is not only widespread, it's also unsurprising. It's to be expected in an economically

depressed area such as NEPA. Everyone and everything suffers when there's not enough to go around and that creates feelings of inadequacy.

Inadequacy leads to self-loathing, self-loathing leads to resentment and resentment (as Yoda might say) leads to "the dark side."

We live squished in between New York City, Washington D.C. and Philadelphia, world-famous, super-urban, cosmopolitan meccas of diversity and renown. It's hard for a beaten-up blue-collar burg like Wilkes-Barre (or even its big sister, Scranton) to compete.

But why should we? It's apples and oranges. You can't compare them. Each one should be measured on the basis of its own merits, not the merits of another.

So what merits does NEPA have?

1. History

From coal mining to railroads, Pennsylvania in general is a hotbed of historical significance. NEPA especially has a long, fascinating and powerful coal-mining legacy.

Remember that the next time you start complaining about the hardscrabble nature of the area. The reason it's like that is precisely because of that history.

2. Blue-collar attitude

Speaking of NEPA being hardscrabble, it also completely lacks pretension. There's no pomposity here. Yuppies and hipsters talk about being in touch with the common folk.

We are the common folk. Ain't nothing wrong with that. Common folk is real folk, and NEPA folk is really, really real. We know how to enjoy the simple things in life: Frosty cold

beer, gooey hot pizza and the great outdoors.

3. The great outdoors

I know I literally just mentioned this, but, dagnabbit, NEPA's nature deserves recognition all on its own. We're an area dominated by hunters and fishers and all kinds of flannel-clad mountain-men types.

Can you blame those bearded trailblazers, though? Spring, summer, winter, fall — there's always an undeniable beauty to the tree-covered mountainsides that line the valley. Early in the morning, when there's fog on the peaks and sunlight just barely inching over the horizon, it's a work of art.

4. The arts scene

It tends to get overlooked, but Pennsylvania has an extremely strong art and music scene. The audience is small, which is unfortunate (and likely a side-effect of all this anti-NEPA cynicism). But the talent is huge. There's so much incredible art and music in the Pennsylvania underground just waiting to be discovered, so many people trying so hard to help this area claw itself out from the weight that's been holding it down.

Look to them for inspiration if you're trying to figure out why you should give a crap about NEPA. You can be like them, you can help. Or you can sit, snarling snide sarcasm, contributing nothing. Who are you to criticize when you provide nothing of value yourself?

Look at it this way: At least you don't live in New Jersey.

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Community service opportunities abundant at Wilkes University

By The Beacon Editorial Staff

Community service is an activity that involves giving your free time to voluntarily help another group or local area or business.

These activities can range from cleaning highways, beaches, and local parks to helping businesses and others in a variety of ways.

Community service activities are meant to better and strengthen a community and improve the overall development of an area. What better place for community service than our own city of Wilkes Barre?

The 2012-13 year has been a large stride for Wilkes University's involvement with community service. First, there was student government's requirement that all clubs on campus must contribute community service hours and have those hours recorded on givegab.com.

Givegab.com is a website that tracks an organization's community service hours and allows us to see the total number of community services hours accumulated over the year. It also tracks each club individually, and allows you to "compete" for who has the most community service hours between clubs.

Just looking at the website now, one can see that Wilkes University has contributed over 13,000 hours of community service. That

number will continue to grow as the years go by.

Then there was also The Big Event, which occurred on April 7. The Big Event was another successful attempt by the university to have as many of its various clubs come out and have one day dedicated to community service and helping out around the city of Wilkes-Barre.

Of course, this is all part of a bigger picture. Wilkes University is working towards winning the Carnegie award for community service. We have already made it on the president's national honor roll for community service.

Some of you may look at this and think a little cynically, "We're only doing this community service so we can win some award!" but you really need to look at the bigger picture.

Wilkes has always been a big part of the community in Wilkes-Barre in various ways. We affect this city through not only community service but through economy as well. We help give the city life.

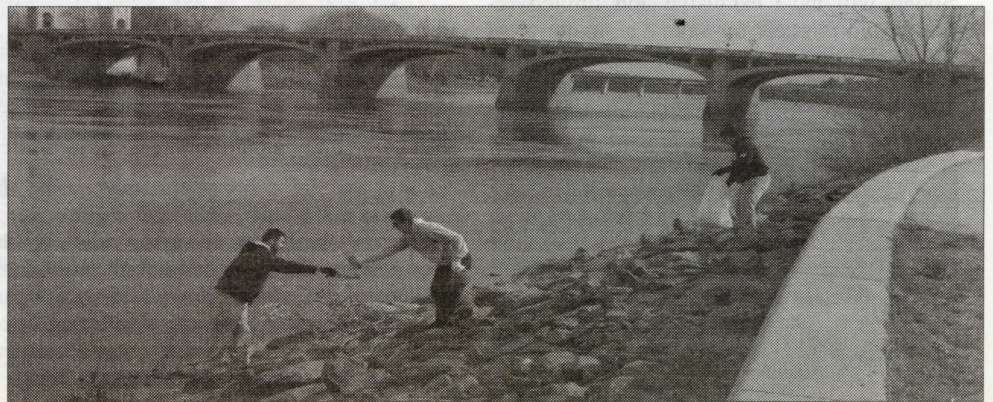
But having a goal to achieve makes people want to work harder because it gives them something to achieve. We are already on the president's honor roll, so what is stopping us from winning the final prize and bringing home something we as students at this school could all be proud of?

Even if the award never existed, it wouldn't stop Wilkes from contributing countless hours

of service to its city. And it is rather impressive to think that our little university could contribute so much when you think of the other, larger universities out there.

It should make you proud to be a student here at Wilkes and make you want to get involved more. Winning the award might even motivate others to want to contribute to the standard of community service that award shows.

The award isn't just a goal, or something designed to make the university look better, it's a symbol. A symbol that adds to the meaning of what it means to "Be Colonel."



The Beacon/Trevor Gilliam
Students assist in River Commons cleanup during The Big Event. The event was one of the biggest community service opportunities at Wilkes University.

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Live music, limited-edition exclusives at RSD 2013

Local businesses, national artists celebrate independent record stores with all-day event

By Nicole Zukowski
Staff Writer

Music lovers, penny-pinchers, small business advocates and limited-edition collectors all have cause to celebrate this weekend, with Saturday, April 20 marking Record Store Day 2013.

Two local independent record stores in spitting distance of Wilkes University, Musical Energi, located at 59 North Main St., and Gallery of Sound, at 24 South Main St., will be participate in this the unofficial national holiday with exclusive new releases, reissues, limited edition vinyl releases, limited edition CD releases, free music and other surprises.

Musical Energi has been around since 1986 and claims to have the largest selection of quality used records, CDs, cassette tapes, and DVDs in Northeastern PA.

"Record Store Day is like Christmas for us," Jay Nartotamaso, owner of Musical Energi, said, "It is our busiest day of the year. It's great because big chain stores do not participate in it so the focus is on getting people into mom-and-pop shops again."

"Christmas for music geeks" indeed; Musical Energi has quite a few presents in store for its customers on Saturday. The store will have extended hours, opening at 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. All day long they will have sales throughout the store on just about everything from CDs to record players, not to mention free promotional items, T-shirt raffles, posters and two local bands performing. In the afternoon dream-folk bohemians Mock Sun and indie-goth rockers Astorian Stigmata are set to play live right in the store.

Elsewhere in Wilkes-Barre, the Gallery of Sound will have exclusive and limited releases and reissues for sale. The majority of the celebration for Gallery of Sound will take place at one of the business other locations in Wilkes-Barre, though. The Gallery of Sound on 186 Mundy St. has a day of live music

planned, along with all the special Record Store Day exclusive releases. The days starts off at 9 a.m. with various vinyl DJs spinning, until noon when owner Joe Nardone, Jr. himself DJs a history of Record Store Day vinyl rarities.

The rest of the day has a lineup of live local bands that includes George Wesley, Leroy Justice, Farley, Cherokee Red, Grey Zine, These Elk Forever and Petal.

Record Store Day was created to celebrate music as an art form back in 2007 and is always celebrated on the third Saturday in April.

The day's purpose is to bridge together artist, fans and independent record stores.

Every year there is "The List," which is comprised of the exclusive and limited edition releases bands contribute to help stimulate support of independent record stores. The List has grown in length every year since the first Record Store Day in 2007.

This year, there are more than 43 limited editions scheduled to be released or reissued. Some of

these include The Gaslight Anthem's "Handwritten" deluxe DVD and book set, Bon Jovi's "Bon Jovi Live" 12" picture disc and Avenged Sevenfold's "Carry On" 12" picture disc.

One of the many benefits of Record Store Day that is expected to draw crowds into stores this year is the vinyl collection. On the new List are Pink Floyd's "See Emily Play Pink Vinyl" 7-inch vinyl, The Notorious B.I.G.'s "Ready to Die" 12-inch white vinyl, David Bowie's "The Stars (Are Out Tonight)" 7-inch white vinyl, All That Remains' "Fall of Ideals" 12-inch vinyl, The Joy Formidable's "A Minute's Silence" (12-inch vinyl) and Willie Nelson's "Roll Me Up and Smoke Me When I Die" 7-inch green vinyl single, to name a few.

"There's an interest in vinyl records again," Jim Cruthers, an employee at Gallery of Sound on Main Street said.

"The younger generation are getting their parents' and grandparents' passed-down turn tables and having fun with them. They could try different records that they never heard of before and just have fun with it, growing their very own collections. Record Store Day is a great day to go out and be exposed to limited-

edition vinyl records."

One vinyl record to add to your collection this Record Store Day is the White Stripes album "Elephant" which will be reissued in a 10th anniversary edition LP, with black-and-red vinyl on one side, white vinyl on the other. Jack White of the White Stripes is Record Store Day 2013's official ambassador, representing the passion for independent record stores that musicians all across America, both famous and not-so-famous, share.

For music fans, Record Store Day promises a unique way to get out, discover new music, score those must-have rarities and have fun doing it.

"Record Store Day is not just for the stores. It is for the artist, the labels, the customers, for music in general," Nartotamaso explained.

"Musical Energi tries to relay a fun atmosphere to come in to. To see, physical lysee all the music open to you is awesome and even nostalgic in a way."

For more information about Record Store Day, including participating stores around the country and the full contents of The List 2013, visit RecordStoreDay.com.

For information about Musical Energi, including business hours and a full stock list, visit MusicalEnergi.com.

For more information about Gallery of Sound's various locations throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania, visit GalleryofSound.com.



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VISIT THEWILKESBEACON.COM FOR A SPECIAL ALL-ONLINE ISSUE NEXT WEEK



WILKES VS. KING'S
Intercollegiate talent show pits rival schools against each other



END OF THE ANIME CLUB?
Campus fans of Japanese animation unsure about future



DUELING VIOLINS
Student musicians prepare for challenging performance piece

REQUIEM FOR A SCREAM:

DESPITE DEATH OF LAND MARK VENUES UNDERGROUND MUSIC STILL THRIVES IN NEPA

By James Jaskolka-Butler
Staff Writer

"This valley has an amazing tendency to spawn incredible bands," Derek Jolley, vocalist for NEPA-based hardcore band Summer Holds the Earth says.

Jolley, a Kingston native, does not seem to be the only one who thinks this. Within the last few years, Wilkes-Barre and the surrounding areas have been a focal point in the punk, hardcore and alternative music communities due to the increasing success of bands like Motionless in White and Title Fight, bands who got started playing right in the area.

For the most part, these bands arguably owe their success to Café Metropolis, the near-legendary punk club that ruled over South Main Street for more than a decade. In addition to regularly hosting larger shows (world-famous acts Fall Out Boy, Coheed and Cambria and New Found Glory all played at there at one time or another), this was also the place that many of the Wyoming Valley's most important musicians would attend—and play—their first shows. Although Metropolis closed in September 2010, the need for a new venue drove some of the local scene's most prominent figures to open Redwood Art Space, including members of Title Fight, in April 2011.

Over the course of the next year and a half, the new venue would host close to 100 shows featuring both local and national bands, including Anti-Flag, Big D & the Kids Table and The Front Bottoms. Greg Grover, one of the men responsible for a lot of the work done at Redwood, remembers the venue fondly.

"It was perfect at the time," he recalls. "I have so many awesome memories of that space, and even though it was only around for 16 months, it feels like it was definitely important to a lot of people, and certainly needed."

When Redwood announced in May of 2012 that the venue would be changing its location, it seemed more of an inconvenience than anything. But now, almost a year later, the scene is still without a permanent venue. Although shows are still being held, they do not come nearly as often. In addition, local legends like Title Fight and the Menzingers are now busy headlining countrywide tours, and no longer have the ability to put together shows in the area with the frequency they once did.

Without a central hub venue and without those shows spearheading the scene, to those within it, it almost feels as if NEPA's hold on musical significance is slipping away.

"Places to play are quickly diminishing," Tim Husty, who sings for the alternative rock band Three Imaginary Boys, admits. "It seems like now there are just a lot of bars. The area has definitely cut down since I started." Three Imaginary Boys have been performing together for more than six years, and the longevity of the band only makes Husty's points more valid.

But is this really the case? Does the closing of Redwood mark the end of the NEPA music scene?

"The talent's definitely there, the bands are there and there are a lot of people who care about the local scene," Husty says. "It could absolutely swing around."

Fortunately, his positivity is shared by many others in the community. In fact, since Redwood's closing, it seems as if those involved are trying even harder to keep the scene going—perhaps out of fear, perhaps out of passion. Whatever the case may be, there are many people who still believe the scene is fully alive and functional.

Dana Takacs, who fronts the hardcore outfit United Youth, is one of the true believers.

"It's a real bummer Redwood had to close so soon. When Redwood opened, that's when I really started helping out with shows. Things have slowed down since it closed, but booker/promoter Matt Wren (also associated with Redwood) still books awesome shows maybe once or twice a month in the area. In my opinion, things are still going great, kids are still starting new bands and the hunt for a new venue is still happening."

"The scene will turn around," Jolley opines in agreement. "It's like a fine curve. Metro closed, and so they opened Redwood. Now Redwood closed, and they'll find a new place. It might be slow now, but there are still shows."

Without the convenience of a permanent venue, bookers have been hosting shows in record stores, community centers, and even hookah lounges. A fire hall 10 minutes from campus was rented out for Title Fight's record release show in October, which more than 600 people attended. At the end of March, Tigers Jaw played a show in an arts center on Northampton Street. Hostage Calm played a park in Nanti-

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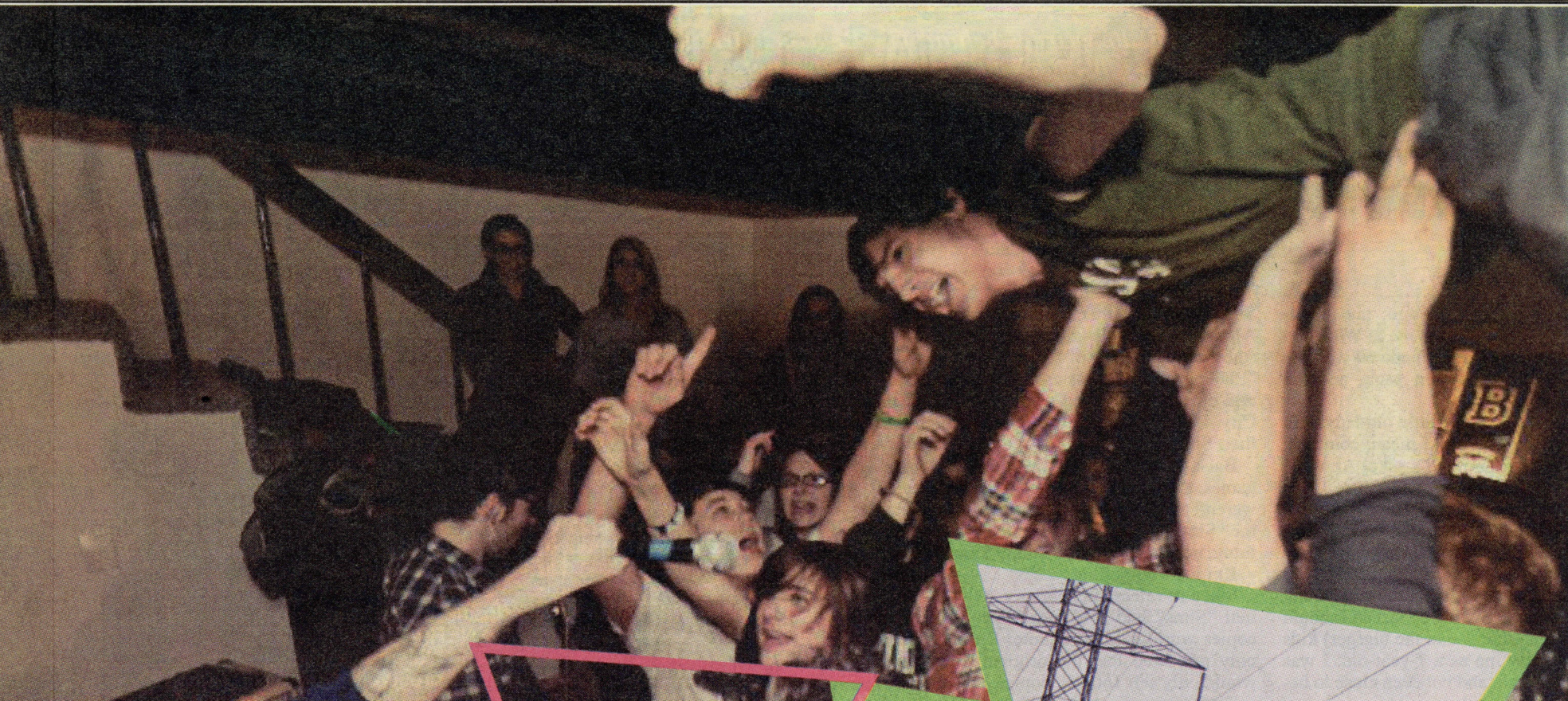
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coke the first week of April, followed by an all-hardcore fest held in a legion hall only a week later. In other words, shows continue to happen in the Wyoming Valley.

On top of that, neighboring scenes in Allentown, Stroudsburg and the Poconos also exist. This allows smaller bands from the Wilkes-Barre area to still play locally. Not wanting these small-time bands to go unnoticed, Wren released "Stuck in the Valley" last fall. "Valley" is a 21-track compilation featuring some of the most underground, unrecognized bands in Wilkes-Barre. Ranging from acoustic lo-fi to beatdown hardcore, the record seeks to prove just how much the area scene still has offer.

Where do we go from here? According to Grover, area music fans can expect a lot in the next year, including he says, "a new venue, some new bands, some new kids (and) some new energy. As long as everyone keeps a positive attitude there is no reason to believe that anything but good things will happen in Wilkes-Barre."

"Everyone is responsible for whether or not a community survives," her continues. "It's up to you to continue to buy your friend's records, and to pay to get into your friend's shows. Everyone should feel included. That's the only way it will work."

Or, as Jolley says, "a scene without a venue is like a family without a house."

"It's still a family."



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Clockwise from top: Loyal Keystone State music fans show their dedication and passion while moshing at a DIY house show, the members of NEPA-based hardcore band Summer Holds the Earth, the members of alt-rock act Three Imaginary Boys.

Opposite page: Tigers Jaw plays at now in-limbo venue Redwood Art Space.



Tigers Jaw photo courtesy of Kaitlyn Kishbaugh. Summer Holds the Earth photo courtesy of Summer Holds the Earth. Three Imaginary Boys photo courtesy of Three Imaginary Boys. House show photo courtesy of Dan Bassini.

THE 101

Every issue, the weirdos behind The Beacon's Arts & Entertainment section indulge their vanity and give a thoroughly biased crash-course in whatever madness happens to be dwelling in their warped minds. Their views do not reflect those of The Beacon, its staff or Wilkes University. Blah blah blah. This week, Anthony Bartoli is living vicariously through pixelated peons while...

Playing God

By Anthony Bartoli
Assistant A&E Editor

I remember a long time ago, my grandmother (who's now 74) took me to Wal-Mart to buy me two things: a Nintendo 64 with the "Pokémon Snap" expansion pack, and the original "Sims" game.

My grandmother is this little old lady with the mind of a 21-year-old. I mean, come on, she wants a giraffe for God's sake! Anyway, without my parents knowing (because I was so young), she bought me "The Sims." We got home, and you could cut the tension with a knife. My parents have to be psychic. They just knew what was in my shopping bag. My grandmother told them that at the ripe young age of 7, that I was growing up fast and should be allowed to do things that the big(ger) kids did. (If you knew me as a 7-year-old, I was scrawny as all heck, and not even close to being a medium-sized kid.)

Well, eventually, my parents let up, and I got to install "The Sims." Within the first two hours of figuring it out and playing, I was hooked. I sat at my computer for hours upon hours.



I loved the fact that you could control people's lives.

That's the one thing I love about "The Sims", you can either make or break someone. All without actually doing any harm. Maxis (the first developer of "The Sims") called it "Playing God" and has used the phrase in several other Sims-related games (such as "Sim City 4"). One could live vicariously through their Sims.

Back in the days of the original "Sims" games, the spaces and people that you created weren't that customizable. However, now in the "Sims 3" era, you could customize everything, even the size of a female Sims' breasts. I'm not even joking.

Since its release in February 2000, the original "Sims" had sold more than 16 million copies worldwide. Side note: EA and Maxis only projected that the original Sims game would only sell 160,000 copies. Oh, snap!

Then came the "Sims 2" era, which took players into a whole new 3-D world. It "takes place" over 25 years after the original game, where some of the original families are now elderly folk, and some notable original Sims have "gone missing."

It was released in September of 2004. Now, you could create your Sims at all different ages. Sims could roam through an open neighborhood. Because "The Sims 2" was not compatible with the original "Sims", however, some objects and features had to be remade. Sims could now have life aspirations, fears, desires and a customizable personality. "The Sims 2" has eight expansion packs and nine "stuff" packs, along with a Sims 2 Store, which featured more than 400 items that you could place into your Sims' world.

Now, we're in the "Sims 3" era, which has nine expansion packs and nine "stuff" packs. The "Sims" trilogy (as of now) is the best-selling P.C. game of all time according to Guinness World Records. It was one of the non-cloud based P.C. games to be available for digital download. The Sims 3 was set 25 years prior to the original game and features an open neighborhood where Sims can go on car drives, visit their neighbors or go to the beach (along with many other activities). In my opinion, it's truly one of the most interactive video games ever created.

This series has nine expansion packs including (in order of release) "World Adventures," "Ambitions," "Late Night," "Generations," "Pets," "Showtime," "Supernatural," "Seasons" and "University Life." EA and The Sims Studios are expecting to launch the final expansion packs in the summer and fall of this year, giving players newer, better ways to exercise their omnipotence from behind the keyboard.



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CHEAT SHEET

"Sim"-ple English (Get it?)

PlumbBob

This is the usually-green diamond-like figure (however, it's actually a hexahedral bipyramid with 12 isosceles triangles, 18 edges, and eight vertices; get it straight, sucka!). I say usually green because the color reflects the active Sim's mood. It can be green (great/just good mood) brownish yellow (not very good mood) and red (unhappy-to-horrible mood).

Simlish

This is the language that Sims speak. I can't understand it for the life of me, but if you can, hit me up. Music artists including All Time Low, Aly & AJ, The Pussycat Dolls, Katy Perry and Lady Antebellum have all re-recorded some of their songs in Simlish for the series.

Simoleon

A Simoleon is the form of Sim currency. A Simoleon is depicted by a "\$" symbol, and the bills are red, orange and white. Some people make their Sims work for a living to earn money, but most use the cheat "motherlode" which will get a Sim family \$50,000 for each use.

NPCs

Non-Playable Characters. They cannot be played by the player, and come in many different forms. There are Service NPCs (maids, gardeners, etc.), Emergency NPCs (cops, Firemen and women), Visiting NPCs (Grim Reaper, Paper Delivery people, and Burglars), Wandering NPCs (Tourists, Explorers, Paparazzi), Community Lot NPCs (Bartender, Tattoo Artist, Bouncer, etc.) and Other NPCs (Carpool/Taxi/School Bus driver, Mummy).

WooHoo/Try for Baby

I really don't think I have to explain these, but, when two Sims WooHoo, the girl doesn't get pregnant. However, when two Sims love each other very, very much, and mutually decide that they want children (because, you know, that can never be a one-sided decision) they "try for a baby." Bow chicka wow wow!

TestingCheatsEnabled True

This cheat allows so many options to become available. For example, if you use this cheat and then shift-click the mailbox, you can make your Sim know everybody, or set their career and career level. You can shift-click a Sim that is not in your household and select "Add to Household."

Sunset Valley

This was the original Sims 3 neighborhood. It's really quite big compared to other neighborhoods in the previous games. It has 92 lots, 86 of those being pre-made. All lots are customizable, though.

The Sims Resource

The oldest and largest Sims website online. The site has over 839,000 downloadable objects, Sims, lots, and homes for any Sims game. You can either get a subscription (\$15.95 for two months or \$39.72 for 6 months), or just use the site for free. However, if you don't subscribe, you can't get access to subscriber-only downloads which are usually the best downloads.

Fresh Prince Creations

I use this site to get all of my cars for my games. I've downloaded the Range Rover, a Bentley, a couple two-tree Mercedes,

April 16, 2013

Contact editor: anne.yoskoski@wilkes.edu

Keeping cancer away, celebrating and remembering

By Alyssa Stencavage
Life Editor

It's that time of year again where cancer survivors and their families join together in celebration of defeating the disease, and remember those who have lost that battle.

Yes, it's the annual Relay for Life, which is only about a week and a half away from noon until 6 a.m. on Saturday, April 20 to Sunday, April 21.

It will begin on the greenway, and then following the luminaria ceremony at approximately 9 p.m., will move to the Marts gym where it will remain until 6 a.m. If any inclement weather should strike, the event will be relocated to the gym.

This year's theme for Wilkes University is Childhood Dreams, which is part of the national collegiate Relay theme "Dream Big, Hope Big, Relay Big." Teams are being inspired by what they wanted to be when they grew up, like firefighters, rock stars, brain surgeons and ballerinas.

Those who have participated in the Relay for Life know the basic rules, including that one person from each team should walk all night because "cancer never sleeps, so neither do we." In addition, each participant is asked to pay a \$10 minimum commitment fee to take part in the event, and is encouraged to fundraise as much as possible. But, Relay is about much more than that. Teams as a whole are encouraged to have a goal of \$100 per person.

This year brings a bit of a change for Relay as well. Everyone is being asked to try and raise at least \$50, which will be rewarded with complimentary snacks throughout the Relay if the person's team raises a total that is averaged to over \$50 per person. Every team is also encouraged to bring an on-site fundraiser for the day of Relay. Face painting, photo booths, balloon animals and many other things will be on sale, and home cooked food will be available.

"It is a community event that brings everyone together for one specific cause," sophomore pre-pharmacy major Rebecca Gordon said.

Senior pharmacy major and Relay chair Bethany Sharpless said the relay itself is an advocacy event where people with shared interests and ideas come together.

Sharpless said the funding for the relay has two main purposes. First, it affects patients and families dealing with cancer. These funds



Courtesy of Bethany Sharpless

Fourteen hair donations of over 8 inches each were collected at Cuts for Cancer in support of the Relay for Life.

also help make research possible.

That's not all. Support programs within Luzerne County also get involved and lend a helping hand. One such program provided by the ACS is the Hope Lodge, which is a facility where families who have to receive treatment out of town are provided with food a place to sleep. There are other programs that are more for children, but Hope Lodge is open to anyone. These facilities are across the country.

Road to Recovery is another service available with the help of Relay funds. Here, free rides are given to treatments so that the patient's caregiver can stay at work and continue to have a more normal income and schedule.

This year, which is the seventh year of the Relay for Life at Wilkes, is also the year with the most teams and participants. To be more specific, there are 32 teams and 360 participants, and for a small college with only ap-

proximately 2,400 students, that is a lot more participants than other schools.

"We do really well for our size in comparison to other schools who are or have been in the same phase of Relay," senior environmental engineering major Katie Cirone said.

Cirone and Sharpless agree that Wilkes is in the top of the field for a small school.

There have been several fundraising efforts going on for the Relay for Life, some of the most recent being the Prom Dress Sale and Cuts for Cancer.

For the Prom Dress Sale, which was something Cirone's team was involved with, prom dress donations were collected from students and the community. This fundraiser reached out to high school students, but was basically for whoever was willing to give.

"We took anything and everything," Cirone said.



The Prom Dress Sale, which was on March 16 in the SUB, altogether brought in more than \$1,800, combined from \$1,700 on the day of the event and more than \$100 after going to a high school.

Supported by Jolie Beauty Academy, Cuts for Cancer, which was held from 3-7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9, offered discounted haircuts through a hair drive. Students from the academy came in and did all the work for free. The drive, which accepted cash donations and donations of hair for wigs, resulted in more than \$700 and 100 inches of hair.

"It takes at least six donations of hair to create a wig so these donations were truly appreciated," Sharpless said.

The fundraising isn't over yet, though. On April 19, some relay committee members will be going to an elementary school for a Relay Recess, a relay aimed at elementary students to teach them about healthy lifestyles. So far, this event has raised more than \$1,000 and is continuing.

Another fundraiser that is yet to come will be at Friendly's on April 18, which committee members are seeking help for. All you have to do for Friendly's FUNraising, is bring the certificate and 20 percent of the proceeds will be donated to Wilkes University Relay for Life Funday. These fliers are available at the information desk in the SUB and also at the Relay T-shirt table from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. every day. T-shirts are \$10 each.

These three committee members believe that taking part in the relay is just as much beneficial to those who come to support and celebrate with cancer survivors and families as the survivors and families themselves.

"It is a great event that brings people together and allows you to see how many different people are affected and see everyone fight back as a community," Gordon said.

"I think it's amazing to see the power of such a small group of people and what we can accomplish together," Cirone said.

"You can participate as much or as little as you'd like, but every dollar and hour spent counts," Sharpless said. "Even if you don't register, stop by and support other students and their fundraising."

Anyone interested in participating can register up until the day of the relay. Contact Sharpless at bethany.sharpless@wilkes.edu for questions or more information.



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April is National...

Humor Month, founded in 1976 by author and humorist Larry Wilde, the original idea was to heighten public awareness therapeutic and restorative values of joy and laughter. Many studies have shown that laughter can actually improve our health. In fact, the mere act of smiling can alter your mood almost immediately. Laughter changes us physiologically, boosting the heart rate and increasing blood flow. Laughter is the "best medicine," and could definitely take the stress out of our minds.

Pinterest: A How-To Guide

Admit it, everyone is on Pinterest. It's chock-full of amazing ideas and simple crafts that cause everyone to take one look at the picture with the "it's so easy!" description and declare, "I could do that." After some severe craft fails (and successes), I, **Anne Yoskoski**, decided it was time to share these experiences with everyone, hopefully saving at least one oven, set of eyebrows, trip to the doctor for stitches and a carpet in the process.

Natural Lip Balm

This was a great craft to give as presents, but make sure you have a boiler and that you aren't allergic to any of the essential oils.

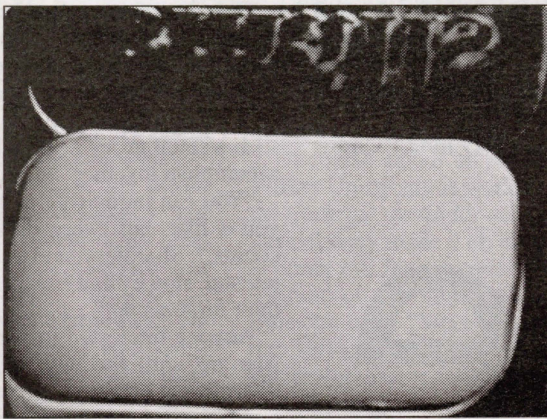
Supplies:

1. 3 teaspoons grated unbleached beeswax
2. 5 teaspoons carrier oil (sunflower, castor, or jojoba)
3. 6 or 7 drops essential oil
4. 1 teaspoon honey, for flavor

Procedure:

1. Melt the beeswax and carrier oil together and stir.
2. Add honey and oils.
3. Pour the mixture into containers; let sit 20 minutes before covering or moving.

This made the perfect gift for spring birthdays and showers. Identical tins (without the Altoid logo) can be found in craft stores for less than 25 cents per piece. This mixture can also be put in traditional twist-up bottle.



The Beacon/Anne Yoskoski

For glossier lip balm, use 2 teaspoons wax and 8 teaspoons carrier oil.

A



The Beacon/Laura Preby

The 13th annual Tom Bigler Journalism Conference brought schools from around the county to Wilkes for sessions on radio, television, and broadcast. Joe Butkiewicz of The Times Leader talks to students in a session on reporting.

THE WORD AT WILKES:

What was your favorite vacation you ever took?



Rebecca Filipski:

Freshman
Communications
Major

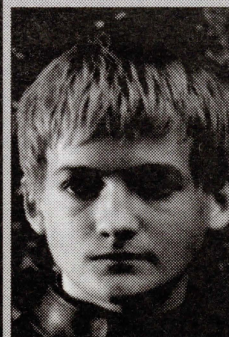
"Going to the beach in Bar Harbor, Maine. It was the first time I went to the beach."



Dave Combell:

Freshman
Engineering
Major

"My parents and I went to northern California. I learned to snowboard."



Jeffry Baratheon:

Junior Business
Major

"I went to Winterfell one summer with my whole extended family. I made so many new friends."



Julie Everist:

Freshman
Undecided

"Every vacation I have I just relax at home with my family; it's really relaxing."

Springtime activities: hiking, biking, picnics, Rita's

By Anne Yoskoski
Assistant Life Editor

Now that April is here and the snow has finally melted, everyone is anxious to get out and enjoy some classic spring activities.

While everyone was cooped up in their rooms, some flowers have bloomed, the ice has thawed, and Wilkes-Barre no longer seems like a snow covered wasteland.

For those wondering what to do about this springtime fever, there are a couple suggestions for activities in the area.

First, go get some Rita's Italian Ice. Now. As a Luzerne County native, Rita's positivity screams 'springtime' to me. The frozen treat may be just enough to hit the spot when hankering for ice cream. If that's not enough for you, check out Curly Creme.

You can now rent bikes in Wilkes-Barre. The Wilkes-Barre Bike Share, located in Genetti's hotel, only requires a valid drivers license and guaranteed return of the bike the same day it was rented. While on your rented bike, stop by Kirby Park. While the park has a track and tennis courts, it's also a great place to see the cherry blossoms when they bloom or have a picnic.

Even though the squirrels at Kirby Park may

entertain you for longer than you are willing to admit, heading down to Dallas to The Lands at Hillside Farms is a great experience in animal watching, as well. The cows, alpacas, chickens, ducks, and goats are out now and the ice cream is waiting. Currently, Wilkes' Enactus program is working with Hillside to create a new irrigation system.

Take a free, guided tour of Wilkes-Barre. While you may think you know the city, there are many historic sights that you are probably unaware of. It's also a great time to take a relaxing walk around the town.

Intramural softball has started up, which brings an onslaught of spring sports. For those who haven't played any sports, dive in and see what you like. Try softball, Frisbee, tennis, running, or dance. Many local yoga studios even offer stress-busting classes that will help work away the pressure of upcoming finals. Usually, the first class is free.

Hiking and biking are relatively easy to do in this area. Some suggested trails and spots are the Back Mountain trail, the Seven Tubs nature area and the Susquehanna Warrior trail.

If you don't want to participate in sports, but enjoy watching them, get tickets to a local Penguin's or Railriders game. You can also check out Chako's bowling.

For those looking for more indoor activities,

take a visit to the Wyoming Valley Historical Society to see the Titanic and Planters Peanut's exhibits. The museum is free to visit, and the amount of information contained in each exhibit is enough to keep you engaged for a few hours. The Houdini Museum is in Scranton, but it is worth the drive. While there, see the Steamtown National Historic Site along with the Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour. Eckley's miners village and the Penn State Wilkes-Barre telescope/observatory let patrons see life from a different point of view.

While Wilkes offers certain day trips and activities, the city itself has more to offer than many people think. The various hiking trails, parks, and lakes of the outlying towns are great places to get in shape and have some fun with friends.

Whether it's sports, food, or the general outdoors you are interested in there are numerous free or inexpensive activities to help blow off that finals stress and cure that cabin fever. Don't feel stuck in your dorm. Get out and experience what the area has to offer before you go home for the summer.



The Beacon/Anne Yoskoski

The snow is finally thawing around campus and students are done hibernating for the winter. Tours, walks and hiking trails are some great things to see around Wilkes-Barre.

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Beauty Beat: visiting the International Makeup Artist Tradeshow

By Ashley Evert
Staff Writer

I'm willing to bet that if I told you I went to the International Makeup Artist Trade Show, you would have no idea what I'm talking about. As a part of this industry, I feel like more people should be aware of the coolest parts of what we do.

Among the perks of being a makeup artist is attending IMATS in the big city closest to you, whether it's New York City, Los Angeles, London, Sydney, Toronto or Vancouver. Attending IMATS for the first time is an overwhelming experience. It's all a big tidal wave of products, fellow makeup artists, industry professionals and demonstrations. It's difficult to figure out what to do first.

The 2013 keynote speakers for IMATS New York this year were Howard Berger and Tami Lane (more on this fabulous women next week!). Howard Berger and Peter Montagna began the day by taking questions from the audience while applying the Wicked Witch of the West makeup from Berger's most recent move, "Oz the Great and Powerful," to the actress's stunt-double, Mia Serafino.

Tami Lane ended the day with an informal Q&A session with the creator of Makeup Artist Magazine and IMATS, Michael Key. She spoke about her prosthetic work in "The Lord of the Rings" and "The Hobbit" movies and about what she looks for in employees and how we can all learn from each other as artists.

The whole experience was so inspiring that I could barely squeak out a, "Pleasure to meet you, I'm such a huge fan!" when I met both Lane and Berger. Meeting two of my idols

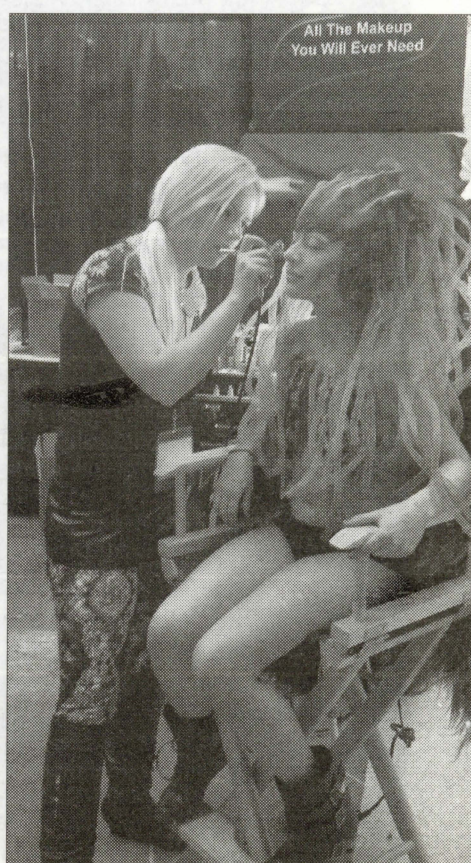
was the highlight of this experience for me. But we can't forget about the shopping!

Throughout the day, various exhibitors attracted attention to their booths with impressive demonstrations using airbrush makeup and prosthetics. Some of the people demonstrating were actually past contestants from the popular special effects makeup show, "Face Off." Because of this, I had the pleasure of meeting last season's winner, Anthony Kosar (biggest sweetheart in the world).

Among the products that are anywhere from 30 percent to 60 percent off regular retail price are false lashes, makeup brushes, disposable tools like mascara applicators, and of course all types of cosmetics from foundation and primers to lipsticks and cosmetic glitter.

Everywhere you look, there's some form of eye candy. The museum the folks at IMATS put together is no exception. While perusing the sculptures, prosthetics and photos from famous movies donated to the display, I met the lead of the wig department at Saturday Night Live. She had the coolest stories and it was amazing to pick her brain for the 20 minutes we spoke.

That's the greatest things about IMATS in my opinion; you never know who you'll meet that can get your foot in the door. It's a great place to stock up on makeup essentials as and soak up as much knowledge as you can from industry professionals. It's no wonder why my IMATS ticket is my birthday present every year.



The Beacon/Ashley Evert

Makeup can transform normal people into the magnificent Wicked Witch of the West or aliens from another planet. Some of these techniques are shown on the hit TV show "Face Off."

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April 16, 2013

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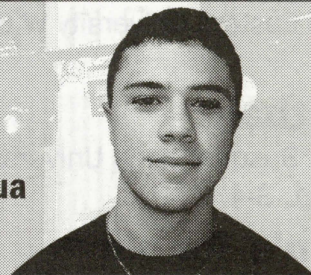
Frank's Big Board: NFL Mock Draft 1.0

	Luke Joeckel- OT, Texas A&M Andy Reid loves taking lineman in the draft. With Alex Smith as the new QB in town, he'll need some protection up front.		Barkevious Mingo- OLB, LSU The Steelers are an old team, face it. That defense isn't getting any younger, so Mingo might be a good fit with his skill-set.
	Dion Jordan- DE, Oregon This guy is a monster. His athleticism is a rare thing to come by and can instantly help turn this defense in the right direction.		Jonathan Cooper- G/C, North Carolina With Romo's new contract, I think some protection will be necessary. At this point, most of the big names will be taken.
	Sharif Floyd- DT, Florida The Raiders were 31st in the league with sacks. Floyd can be a force on the defensive line and stir some pressure.		Bjoern Werner- DE, Florida State The Giants lost a lot of d-lineman this offseason. I'm not too familiar with Werner, but he is the next-best at his position.
	Geno Smith- QB, West Virginia Geno Smith is everything Coach Chip Kelly looks for in his offensive scheme. Could be a good fit.		Alec Ogletree- OLB, Georgia Urlacher is out, so a new guy must fill the void. I think this is a no-brainer.
	Ezekiel Ansah- DE, BYU The Lions lost two defensive lineman this offseason, so why not add a guy like this whose stock has been on the rise.		DJ Fluker- OT, Alabama A safe pick for the Bengals who were on the rise last year. Dalton is really coming into his own, so giving him an OT is always beneficial.
	Xavier Rhodes- CB, Florida State The Browns had a lot of CBs visit this offseason for free agency, but they all signed elsewhere.		Kenny Vaccaro- FS, Texas This is a long-shot, but if Vaccaro is still available, then the Rams will have had a solid first-round. Definitely an improvement.
	Chance Warmack- G, Alabama The Cardinals are yet another team in need of some help on the offensive line. It may not be a flashy pick, but it'll pay off.		Manti Te'o- ILB, Notre Dame Te'o was projected top-five during the season, but then all that stuff happened and a terrible combine drops him down to the Vikings at 23.
	Tavon Austin- WR, West Virginia There needs to be some spark in the Bills offenses and having Austin across from Stevie Johnson would provide that.		Datone Jones- DE, UCLA The Colts were pretty sound offensively in 2012, so adding a pass-rusher would make the team more rounded.
	Star Lotulelei- NT, Utah Star's heart condition dropped his stock down from a top-three to a middle-to-late selection. Leave it to the Jets to take a risk.		Kennan Allen- WR, California I'll say adding a big WR here with their second pick to help make up for the loss of Harvin will be a good start.
	Dee Milliner- CB, Alabama If Milliner falls this low, then the Titans will be all smiles ear-to-ear. Their defense would benefit from the young player.		Matt Elam- SS, Florida Packers might go TE here, but I think with the loss of Woodson they go for a safety. They also need a WR...who knows.
	Eric Fisher- OT, Central Michigan After a dull year for the Chargers, it's no secret they need to protect Rivers more.		Robert Woods- WR, Southern California Woods took all the attention at the USC Pro Day, so giving Schaub an extra option with Johnson would be a good idea.
	Lane Johnson- OT, Oklahoma The Dolphins lost Jake Long. Whether it be Johnson or whoever, they will sign a OT/G.		Johnathan Hankins- DT, Ohio State Since Elvis Dumervil is out of Denver, I guess they might want to find a quick replacement.
	Tyler Eifert- TE, Notre Dame Eifert certainly has top TE- potential and could be a great addition for Josh Freeman.		Desmond Trufant- CB, Washington The Patriots need the help at corner, and Trufant is a flashy player that I can definitely see in that jersey.
	Sheldon Richardson- DT, Missouri Carolina has a big hole on that defensive line. Even Steve Smith told the media he wants Richardson on the team.		Eddie Lacy- RB, Alabama The first RB taken off the board may just be to the Falcons. Lacy is easily a second-round pick, but they need that position filled.
	Jarvis Jones- OLB, Georgia Jones is a top prospect that didn't perform at the combine, but would make sense as a great pass-rusher. BIG RISK ALERT.		Eric Reid- FS, LSU Goldson is out of San Fran, and Reid seems like a good fit. The 49ers just need to get lucky for him to slip.
	Cordarrelle Patterson- WR, Tennessee After losing Amendola, the Rams need some targets for Bradford.		Kevin Minter- ILB, LSU The Ravens will be unrecognizable next season. Linebackers are empty in Baltimore, so welcome any and all.

Frank's Pre-Draft Rankings

The top five prospects at each position

Frank Passalacqua
Co-editor



Top Quarterbacks

1. Geno Smith
2. Tyler Wilson
3. Mike Glennon
4. Matt Barkley
5. Zac Dysert

Top Running backs

1. Eddie Lacy
2. Giovani Bernard
3. Randle Joseph
4. Andre Ellington
5. Montee Ball

Top Wide Receivers

1. Tavon Austin
2. Cordarrelle Patterson
3. Keenan Allen
4. DeAndre Hopkins
5. Robert Woods

Top Tight Ends

1. Tyler Eifert
2. Zach Ertz
3. Jordan Reed
4. Gavin Escobar
5. Travis Kelce

Top Offensive Lineman

1. Luke Joeckel
2. Chance Warmack
3. Eric Fisher
4. Lane Johnson
5. Larry Warford

Top Defensive Lineman

1. Dion Jordan
2. Sharif Floyd
3. Ziggy Ansah
4. Star Lotuleleli
5. Sheldon Richardson

Top Linebackers

1. Jarvis Jones
2. Alec Ogletree
3. Manti Te'o
4. Arthur Brown
5. Kevin Minter

Top Cornerbacks

1. Dee Milliner
2. Xavier Rhodes
3. Desmond Trufant
4. Jamar Taylor
5. Johnthan Banks

Top Safeties

1. Kenny Vaccaro
2. Eric Reid
3. Matt Elam
4. John Cyprien
5. DJ Swearinger

Top Specialists

1. Dustin Hopkins
2. Quinn Sharp
3. Caleb Sturgis
4. Jackson Rice
5. Dan Conroy

Trades WILL stir this sub-par first round, history shows us

The draft is one of my favorite things in sports. While I may not be a professional scout, I do spend a fair amount of time watching the combine and analyzing these players. If your favorite team is in dire need of a top-player at a certain position, hope the team picking before does not pick him off the board.

Everyone enjoys making their own mock draft every year. However, there is something not even the guys getting paid to do this on ESPN can anticipate or predict: trades.

Every year, multiple teams use the draft as a place to trade for players or trade up/down selections so they can benefit later on. It is almost impossible to predict, but it is more than likely to happen to at least 40 percent of the teams.

Last year, the first round saw 19 total trades. Why so many? Maybe a team at pick No. 11 doesn't have their eye on anyone in particular, but a team at 16 does. In an effort to draft the player before it's too late, the two teams will strike up a trade for the 11 and 16 swap, and the trading team will typically throw in other picks for later in the draft as an incentive.

This year, I see the Patriots, Jets, Dolphins, Rams and Browns having their phones ringing off the hooks for trades. Odds are, those teams as well as 10 others will be involved before the end of the night.

So grab your drinks, skip that night class and wear your favorite jersey because there is nothing more exciting than watching all the upcoming professionals start a new journey in their lives. Radio City Music Hall will be filled with life the night of April 25 and hearing Roger Goodell kick it off makes the spring feel that much better.

By the way, most players tend to rise and shine from the third to fifth round. Keep an eye out for those underrated gems that emerge in training camp. Don't forget, undrafted players can make an impact too.

SCOREBOARD LAST WEEK

Baseball

4/7 King's College W 11-7,
10-9

4/13 Eastern University W 6-5,
L 2-7

Softball

4/11 Susquehanna University
L 1-11, 3-4

Men's Tennis

4/7 Marywood University W 7-2

4/9 Fairleigh Dickinson W 6-0

4/13 Arcadia University W 9-0

Women's Tennis

4/10 Fairleigh-Dickinson W 7-0

4/13 Arcadia University W 9-0

Women's Lacrosse

4/8 Suny Maritime W 19-7

4/13 Arcadia University L 7-10

Golf

4/3 King's College L 374-355

4/3 Misericordia University L 374-
334

THIS WEEK

Baseball

4/16 Penn State Berks

4/19 Delaware Valley College

Softball

4/15 Eastern University

4/16 Penn State Hazleton

Men's Tennis

4/17 Misericordia University

4/19 Kings College

Women's Tennis

4/16 King College

Women's Lacrosse

4/17 Misericordia University

Golf

4/17 University of Scranton

4/17 William Patterson University

Jake Cochran
Co-editor



Basically the World Cup qualifying system is a necessary evil.

There really isn't another way to go about fixing the problem without making people either choose to compete for their national team or not. Typically, the players aren't making nearly as much money in World Cup as they would in any other league.

In a profession that is very time sensitive it seems only logical that players would want to make as much money as possible and have the best chance to stay as healthy as they can during this time.

This is one of the main reason that the World Cup qualifiers will suffer so much. People really won't need to have the urgency of being eliminated because no matter how much they win or lose by, they still have to play all the games on the schedule.

And on this schedule, the games are really spaced out because the qualifiers are not the only thing that these socceristas are doing at that time. They have other leagues and involvements.

So when it comes time for one team to play another, there's a good chance at least one of the players on that team has a league commitment that's far more important than some half-loaded exhibition game.

As a result, the whole qualifying system has this long, spaced-out process. If the people on the national team want to make more money -- which I can't imagine why they wouldn't -- they compete in other leagues as well as the World Cup qualifiers.

This is one of the main underlying problems with soccer, the awkward crossover periods between one league's schedule conflicts with another season. Competing in the off-season is when people get hurt; it just gets messy.

Then throw in competing for your country which granted, is the most prestigious title to a common fan. I don't think many people are too impressed by winning an MLS cup outside of the die-hard soccer community. Even among that community, the MLS is still somewhat of a ... well, it's the MLS.

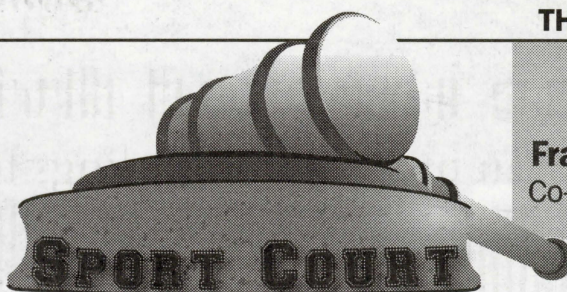
But while in theory switching could make the process more exciting and enjoyable, it would be a much more difficult venture, especially because the three-year period gives the national team time to develop and work together and decide who will be good enough to stay on the teams.

Plus, it helps the teams in the event of an injury so, if someone does get dropped they have to replace them. Within three years there isn't much of an injury that a top-level athlete can't come back from, aside from nerve damage.

So in the end the qualifier may not be the most exciting way to do things, but it's the best they can think of for right now...



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Can the World Cup be better?

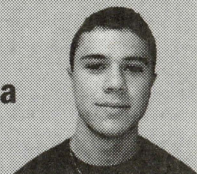
Every four years soccer, or futbol, pulls out all the stops and has its own international competition to see which country will reign supreme and take home soccer's most coveted prize, the World Cup.

But what we want to know is that if there is a better way to do the qualifications for the big dance.

Jake will take on the idea that the way we are handling things now is the best way available, while Frank will propose his ideas to spice things by adding an exciting twist in what he sees as a long, drawn-out process.

If you have an opinion about how to make the World Cup better send us a tweet @WilkesBeacon and maybe case will be on the docket for the next SPORT COURT.

Frank Passalacqua
Co-editor



The majority of fans in the United States do not follow soccer until the four-year cycle rolls around. Summer 2014 is the next scheduled World Cup, and USA will be looking to make it to one of the greatest sporting events.

However, I'm not a fan of the qualifying process that it takes to make it to the World Cup. I feel other playoff processes are much more efficient and would make more sense.

Here is how it works: The 198 teams that started the qualification process are divided into six "confederations" by FIFA.

The teams in their division play each other over a three-year span and only a certain amount of teams make it, depending on how many points they have. The entire process is way too confusing to describe in this short column, so I'll describe why I don't like it.

First off, a lot can change in three years.

The same team that won a few matches in the first year can be completely different come that fourth year. Even though they qualified, the team can consist of new players who are clearly not as good due to players getting traded or retired.

Also, the whole points thing is just too complicated. Why not use the traditional playoff-style like football, basketball, baseball and so on does?

Here is my "plan."

Once the World Cup ends, the top 16 teams get an automatic bid for the next event in four years. The remaining 16 teams play a simple knock-out tournament the summer before, and depending on the result, they too get ranked then from 17-32.

Bam, there's a little mixture of the current and traditional playoff process.

Knockout-style games are always more interesting anyway. That way, teams put it all on the line, knowing what is at stake.

In a tournament swayed by point totals, you can still lose a few games, depending on the other opponents' records. Granted it makes it easier to advance, teams should always aim for the victory and not settle for a tie or a loss.

Most professional sports, actually just excluding football, have playoff series. Even here, I don't think it would be effective. Playing the same team in a series out of three really wouldn't prove much and result in an ranking system accurate enough to rank these 32 teams.

Yes, I may be the only person who doesn't agree with the FIFA qualifiers and yes, my "fix" may seem completely useless to most.

Personally, I just think dragging out qualifications over three years isn't the best thing. A knockout tournament the year before will put all teams at their best level, making the World Cup even more exciting.



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Girl's lacrosse shocked division but not themselves

After being ranked last in preseason standings team makes waves with big win over Eastern



By Jake Cochran
Co-Editor

To say the Wilkes University women's lacrosse team is a force to be reckoned with would be a ridiculous statement in the past few years, but with the invigoration of the new freshman class, astounding team chemistry and leadership of the upperclassmen, the team is geared to make a run at the Freedom Conference title.

Just to give a little more background on the lacrosse team's situation, in the preseason conference polls they were voted to finish last among the conference after a lackluster performance last year where they did not win a single game within conference play.

Interim Head Coach Danielle Hawkins said that one of the main reasons for the team's success this year is because of their goal setting agendas.

"It's great to see the girls believing in themselves and working so hard as a team to complete those goals and tasks that are given to them."

Goal-setting isn't the main motivator of the team from talking to multiple sources on the team one common ideal that was echoed was the idea of hard work, or putting in work.

Junior accounting major Gabby Ford made it clear to the incoming freshman that while some offseason workouts weren't mandatory, it didn't take much convincing as the team had turned out in full force very often.

With the work ethic instilled early on in the season the chemistry came on stronger over spring break, Ford pointed to the time the team spent bonding on an empty campus.

"Since practice is two hours, then we'd have the rest of the day, so we were here four days earlier, it was just us the entire time," Ford said.

Spring break helped solidify the team in the early spring, Ford stressed that the chemistry hasn't been something they had to work on as much as it has come naturally.

Freshman Tori Kerr, one of the leading scorers on the team, noted the idea that the team has bonded together very well this season, she noted the idea that team has competitions during practice to bring them together.

"The other day we actually had a contest, and it was pretty much like the egg toss game, where you catch it, you back up, you back up, you back up. We got pretty far actually."

Kerr continued saying that, "actually Jess and I won. She was past midfield about. We didn't win by much, it was very close, everyone was close."

Even with the chemistry and the success the team still has one goal they are trying to reach that they cannot achieve on their own, and that's to get more fans.

"We have like no fans," Kerr said, "I feel like people will now see that we are doing so well and be like, wow I want to go check the girls out. Like if we do really well in conference people will be like I really want to see them play. So maybe then they'll come."

The team is 1-1 in conference play, with a big win over the highly touted Eastern University. At one point in the game the team was actually up by 10 points, which enacts the mercy rule, meaning the clock will run continuously.

Hawkins said that the mercy rule isn't a goal that they try to achieve, that it is a nice achievement to reach, but Ford, the captain, seemed to see the mercy rule as more of a message to the conference.

But what the team did agree on was the idea that winning the conference is a very tangible goal.

"I think we have the potential to win the conference," Hawkins said. "I know teams are a little shocked that we beat Eastern."

"I think Eastern was taking us a little lightly at the beginning and was like 'Wow where did Wilkes come from?' Because last year we lost by 10, we got 10-goaled by almost every team in conference and for us to come back and 10-goal them was a big deal."

Another sentiment that ran deep throughout the team was a superstitious belief of, "not jinxing anything." Right after the above interview, the team lost to Arcadia, which was expected to be a tough test because Arcadia was ranked highly in preseason conference rankings.

The team looks to get back on the winning track Wednesday at Misericordia University.



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Jake Cochran/The Beacon



Jake Cochran/The Beacon

Gabby Ford on breaking goal record

During the first game of the season junior Gabby Ford broke the all-time career scoring record for women's lacrosse at Wilkes University.

"I mean it's a great feeling, but not for nothing," Ford said. "I couldn't have done it without my teammates, you know? I think they will go unnoticed with that, but I mean when it goes to assisting me and being with some of these girls that have been here with me, since freshman year to get me to that. Without them I couldn't, I'm thankful for them."

After breaking the record in the first game, Ford continues to raise the bar. Since making the record 106 with seven goals, Ford has added 25 goals so far this season, which leaves the all-time career goal record at 131. She also holds the record in face-off wins in a single game.

In this week's edition of Athlete of the Week we sit down with

SENIOR OUTFIELDER SCOTT SKAMMER

And discuss his ability to give opposing pitchers

SOMETHING TO FEAR

Jake Cochran/The Beacon

BY MATT GAINES
Contributing Writer

Scott Skammer is a senior management major with a minor in accounting. He plays outfield for the Wilkes University baseball team. He took the time to sit down and talk to The Beacon about the season and hopes for making the playoffs.

What is the feeling you get from baseball that no other sport gives you?

Probably winning, when you get the last out, and just getting a hit is a great feeling.

What is the moment in the sport that will stand out forever for you?

Probably our last series against King's and Manhattanville, we played great as a team and we ended up sweeping King's, which puts us in a great position for playoffs, if we

play well the next couple of weeks, so that was a great weekend for us.

Tell me a little bit about what you like to do outside of baseball.

I did a couple triathlons last summer, I bike over a thousand miles a summer. I have a race in June, July and August this year, so I'm getting ready for that. It keeps the summer going by fast. I'd take my cycling over running any day though, running kind of hurts the knees after a while.

What's your favorite band?

I like modern rock, Rise Against is my favorite; Breaking Benjamin, Red Light King I like a lot.

What's going through your head when you're playing baseball?

On-deck is pretty much easy, you want to get your pitch in your spot and make sure you don't miss it. But in the field, you're just saying "who's on base, how many outs are there, who am I going to throw it to if it's hit to me?" Just basic baseball knowledge.

What's the farthest you've ever thrown?

I've never actually measured that. Center-field to home is pretty far, it's probably 75 to

80 yards.

What is your mentality when you're out there playing?

I guess always be ready for anything, not just be sitting out there daydreaming. You've got to watch every pitch, get ready for every pitch. You don't want to miss anything, because a ball in a high sky, a blue sky, it's tough to see. If you don't see it off the bat it's tough to pick it up.

What do you think about when you think of baseball? What would you say is the defining act?

It's definitely a team sport. Everybody has to work together to win. You need to have all nine guys working together, and that's how you win ball games.

What does the team do to build unity?

We always try to do stuff together. When we went away for our spring trip, we ate together, we always left together, people would room together, you learn different ways people act on the team. Everybody has a different personality, but we all get together in the same way. Everybody treats each other with respect.

What would you say is the inside joke of

the baseball team this year?

I'd say it's our inability to put the tarp on the field in an effective time. It takes us a while, most of the times we have to roll it up and unroll it about four or five times to get it right.

Is there anything you want to get across to all your fans?

I just want to say our new baseball coach is doing a great job. I think he'll do a great job in the future if he stays here at Wilkes University. Team chemistry this year has been great. Teamwork's been great, if everybody works really hard, and hopefully we'll have a great end of the season and make the playoffs.

Do you have any one goal in mind?

I definitely want to make the playoffs, our team as a whole hasn't made the playoffs the last three years that I've been here. Hopefully, for my senior year we can make the playoffs and maybe even win the MAC Conference.



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