

WILKES

SUMMER 2009



WISHING UPON A CAR | MONUMENTS, MUSEUMS AND MORE
NATURE IN GLASS | NEW COUNTRY, NEW LIFE

Why Mentoring Matters to Me

BY THE TIME THIS MAGAZINE REACHES YOU, JOHN Brooks Slaughter will have delivered Wilkes University's 62nd spring commencement address. This speaker's words ring especially close to my heart because back in 1980, Dr. Slaughter recognized something in me that helped me become the person I am today.

Dr. Slaughter is one of the most noted African Americans working in academia. He served as the first African American director of the National Science Foundation. His dedication to mentoring students, faculty and academic leaders, along with his significant contributions to science, earned him designation as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the National Academy of Engineering.

John was my mentor and helped me gain confidence in my abilities and develop a passion about academic leadership.

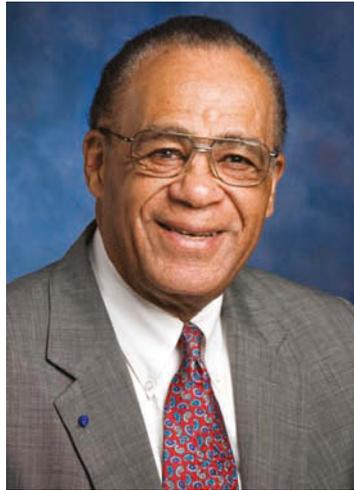
I met John when he was provost at Washington State University and I worked on academic affairs issues at an office that represented public universities in the Washington State capital. We hit it off immediately. In 1982, I joined him at the University of Maryland to serve as his executive assistant.

John worked as all good mentors do: by example. He convinced me to join him by ensuring me "we'll have fun." And we did.

One difficult moment came right after the death of basketball player Len Bias from a drug overdose. In the firestorm of criticism from the press, John named me crisis manager, saying: "We did not get here to try to survive this. We're here for a larger purpose. Let's do the right thing in all we do from this point forward."

I think his convictions came from growing up in segregated Topeka, Kan. The U.S. Supreme Court handed down its landmark segregation decision *Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka* in the year Dr. Slaughter graduated from that high school.

John cares deeply about the human dimension, excellence in all that we accomplished, and the idea that whatever you do, you should have some fun associated with your hard work. He is an extraordinary man who likes to say he was "the first electrical engineer I ever met."



John Brooks Slaughter

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Gilmour". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dr. Tim Gilmour
Wilkes University President

WILKES MAGAZINE

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Wilkes University is an independent institution of higher education dedicated to academic and intellectual excellence in the liberal arts, sciences and professional programs. The university provides its students with the experience and education necessary for career and intellectual development as well as for personal growth, engenders a sense of values and civic responsibility, and encourages its students to welcome the opportunities and challenges of a diverse and continually changing world. The university enhances the tradition of strong student-faculty interactions in all its programs, attracts and retains outstanding people in every segment of the university, and fosters a spirit of cooperation, community involvement, and individual respect within the entire university.

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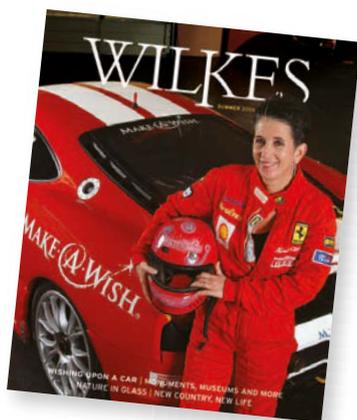
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Mandy Williams '77 has raised more than \$1 million for the Make-A-Wish Foundation racing her Ferrari on the amateur circuit.
PHOTO BY DENNIS STRINI

Have a story idea to share?

Contact us at wilkesmagazine@wilkes.edu or *Wilkes Magazine*, 84 W. South St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766.



Wilkes Partners With New Medical College in Pipeline Program

The Commonwealth Medical College has entered into memorandums of understanding with Wilkes University and Luzerne County Community College to develop the region's first pipeline to careers in medicine program. Initially, the program will target rural, disadvantaged, women, minority and first-generation students in Luzerne County, Pa.—specifically in Wilkes-Barre and Hazleton.

“Creating the region's only health-related pipeline program will have multiple and key benefits throughout our communities, as well as on a national level. This initiative will pave the way for us to grow the pipeline so it eventually reaches students at the middle and high school levels,” says Robert D'Alessandri, president and dean of TCMC.



The Pipeline to Medical Colleges Initiative is a pilot project designed to engage community colleges, four-year colleges and universities and medical schools in a coordinated effort to identify



Officials from Wilkes, The Commonwealth Medical College and Luzerne County Community College announced a new pipeline program in a news conference at Wilkes. From left are: Robert D'Alessandri, president and dean of TCMC; Maria Suarez, special assistant to the president for diversity and community affairs at Wilkes; Tim Gilmour, Wilkes president; Ida L. Castro, vice president of social justice and diversity for TCMC; Thomas P. Leary, president of LCCC; Dana Clark, vice president of academic affairs at LCCC; and Ronald Williams, a vice president of the College Board.

and support community college students from rural areas, along with students underrepresented in medicine who are likely to practice in those regions, and who show an early interest in the field. The pilot was created in response to a request from the College Board, a not-for-profit membership association whose mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity.

Robert Wright, chairman of TCMC's board of directors, says, “Our region is obviously facing a major problem in terms of its need for more highly educated individuals to fill the void of scientists, physicians and other health care professionals. Economic growth related to TCMC's creation and

“
Creating the region's
ONLY health-related
PIPELINE PROGRAM
will have multiple and key
BENEFITS throughout
our communities...”
– Robert D'Alessandri,
president and dean of TCMC

development can escape the region's residents unless we are adequately prepared to increase student science proficiencies, develop a highly skilled workforce to support economic development and improve the quality of life for an increasingly diverse community.”

Ida L. Castro, vice president of social justice and diversity for TCMC, is leading the efforts. Her work includes addressing three important regional needs:

- the demand for more primary care doctors, especially those who will practice in urban and rural areas of the United States,
- the necessity of training more individuals from groups that are underrepresented in medicine, such as students from low-income backgrounds and specific ethnic minority groups,
- the need to find financially viable strategies to support students during the course of their undergraduate and medical education.

Wilkes President Tim Gilmour says, “This initiative supports Wilkes' effort to guide students from all areas and demographics along a path of lifelong learning. This exciting partnership complements the grant we've received from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute to redesign our science curriculum and expand programs for middle-school and Latino girls. Through this collaboration between our new Center for Global Education and Diversity and the TCMC's Office of Social Justice and Diversity, our institutions will work together in support of efforts to help the region grow.”

Wilkes Launches One+OneMBA: India Program

Patiala

Graduate students in India can now earn a Wilkes University MBA through a unique new program that allows them to complete one year in their home country and one at Wilkes.

One+OneMBA:India offers MBA candidates a more affordable way to earn a U.S. degree than attending a program requiring two years abroad. Rather than open a campus in India, Wilkes collaborates with Punjab School of Management Studies at Punjabi University to provide the India portion of the program.

Thirty-four first-year Wilkes students began studying business administration on Punjabi University's campus in Patiala, India, in fall 2008. This fall, those students will come to the Wilkes campus for their second year of study. While other U.S. universities are offering programs in India, Wilkes' One+One program is unique in offering a year in each country.

The city of Patiala lies in northwest India. Jay S. Sidhu MBA '73, president of the Wilkes board of trustees, is a native of Patiala and encouraged the collaboration. The Reading, Pa., businessman's generosity launched the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership at Wilkes University in 2004. Punjab School of Management Studies faculty teach courses for Wilkes. While Punjab School of Management offers its own MBA, many Indian students desire the prestige of a U.S. degree, says Paul Browne, dean of Wilkes University's Sidhu School of Business and Leadership. "The U.S. MBA improves career prospects among Indians interested in working for international firms or for Indian firms that aspire to do business internationally. Completing one year in their home country significantly lowers their costs while providing a yearlong experience in American society, culture and business practices."

Wilkes' American MBA students gain the option to study in Patiala, as well. "The program works both ways," notes Anthony L. Liuzzo, director of the Wilkes MBA program and a professor of business and economics. "The opportunity for cross-cultural learning will enrich the experience of both American and Indian students. It should also make them more marketable in a global economy."

TEACH ONLINE WITH A NEW MASTER'S DEGREE

Wilkes University School of Education launches a new online master's degree program in online teaching.

Educators and other professionals who aspire to use technology for training and instruction over the Internet can learn the latest technology and best practices for providing effective online instruction. Coursework is suitable for the private or public sectors of academia, the corporate world or government. Wilkes offers the program in partnership with Performance Learning Systems Inc., an educational services company with whom the

university has offered graduate education courses for 25 years.

"Demand for online instruction continues to grow as people look for more cost-effective and convenient ways to access and provide high-quality training," says Michael Speziale, dean of the College of Graduate and Professional Studies. "This program will develop experts with the skills needed to facilitate real learning in an online environment."

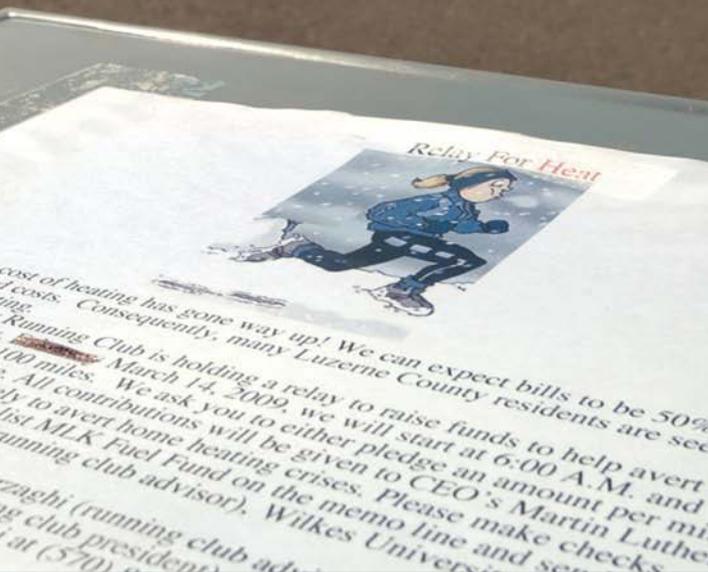
The online teaching degree is a 30-credit program that can be completed in less than two years. It applies the latest research to prepare graduates in instructional design, assessment, research, advanced technology and building collaboration into e-learning courses.

For more information about the degree program, call the Graduate Education office at **(800) WILKES-U Ext. 4671**, or visit www.wilkes.edu/GradEd.



Silvia Elias, laboratory manager in the Department of Biology, runs a leg of the fifth annual Relay for Heat. Runners covered 100 miles between 6 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 14. Eight Wilkes students, three faculty and staff members, five members of the community and four Wilkes alumni raised nearly \$2,000. Alumni were Emily Bilbow '05, Fred Gedrich '73, Eric Luther '04 and Jared Shayka '06.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL TOUEY



Nobel Peace Prize Winner to Present Outstanding Leaders Forum Lecture

Elie Wiesel, Nobel Peace Prize winner and humanitarian, will present the sixth annual Outstanding Leaders Forum lecture on Tuesday, Nov. 17.

Wiesel's personal experience as a Holocaust survivor led him to use his talents as an author, teacher and storyteller to defend human rights and peace throughout the world.

An ardent supporter of Israel, Wiesel was among the first to defend the causes of Soviet Jews, Nicaragua's Miskito Indians, Argentina's "Disappeared," Cambodia's refugees, the Kurds, South African apartheid victims, famine victims in Africa, prisoners in the former Yugoslavia and most recently victims of genocide in Darfur.

Soon after receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986, Wiesel and wife Marion established The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity. Its mission is to combat indifference, intolerance and injustice through international dialogue and youth-focused programs that promote acceptance, understanding and equality. The foundation runs programs domestically and internationally.

Wiesel's memoir, *Night*, has been translated into more than 30 languages and has sold more than 5 million copies worldwide. A native of Romania, he was 15 when his family was deported to Auschwitz, where his mother and younger sister perished. He and his father were transported to Buchenwald; his father died shortly before the camp was liberated in 1945.

He was founding chairman of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, which created the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Wiesel has served as Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities at Boston University since 1976.

For more information on the Outstanding Leaders Forum, watch The Colonel Connection or contact Rebecca Van Jura at (800) WILKES-U Ext. 4306 or rebecca.vanjura@wilkes.edu.



Elie Wiesel

Beacon Editor Named National Student Journalist of the Year

The Society for Collegiate Journalists named Wilkes rising senior Andrew Seaman as its 2009 Arthur H. Barlow National Student Journalist of the Year.

According to the SCJ Web site, the award honors a student chapter member who has represented the spirit of the First Amendment by making an outstanding contribution to student journalism. It includes a \$500 scholarship.

Seaman, of Forest City, Pa., led *The Beacon* as editor in chief for the 2008-09 academic year and served as a producer for Wilkes World, a news magazine television production. He has also interned at WBRE-TV, *The Washington Times* and *USA Today*.



Beacon advisor Andrea Frantz, left, and Editor Andrew Seaman discuss the newspaper's Web site.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT POPULATION CONTINUES TO GROW

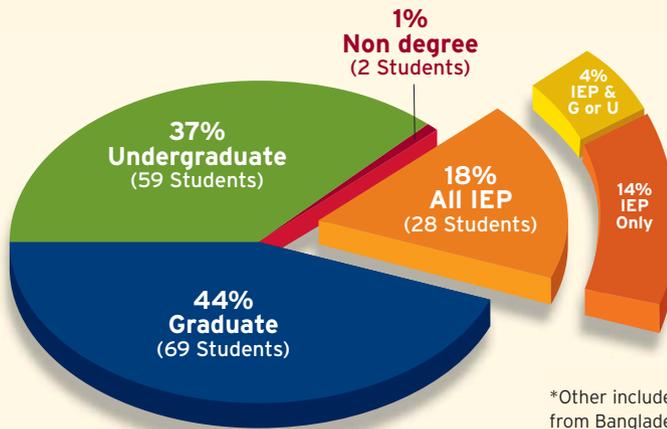
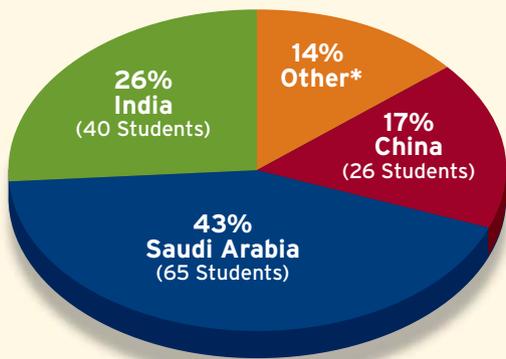
The number of international students at Wilkes University continues to grow, totaling 158 in fall 2008. Engineering attracts the most students, followed by business and education.

Maria Suarez, special assistant to the president for global education and diversity, says the University's Intensive English Program accounts for some growth. The program prepares international students for study in the United States. Some of those students stay at Wilkes to complete an undergraduate or graduate degree.

International students bring a diversity of perspectives to their studies, notes Georgia Costalas, associate director of international student initiatives. "That adds something very necessary to today's education."

And it gives both domestic and international students a better understanding of the world.

HOME COUNTRIES OF WILKES INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, FALL 2008



DEGREE PROGRAMS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, FALL 2008

*Other includes one student each from Bangladesh, Benin, British Virgin Islands, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Jordan, Kenya, Niger, Kuwait, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam; two students from Nepal; and five from Rwanda.

Wilkes Garners Legislative Honors for 75th Anniversary

Both the U.S. Congress and Pennsylvania House of Representatives honored Wilkes University in celebration of its 75th anniversary.

Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski '67 sponsored the House resolution. Clayton '49 and Theresa Karambelas, Carl Santana '09, Jamie Gwynn '09 and David Sborz '09 were seated on the House floor as the resolution was read into the Legislative Record in January.

The University also received a Certificate of Special Recognition from U.S. Rep. Paul E. Kanjorski.

Gathered for the reading of a House resolution honoring Wilkes were David Sborz '09, Clayton '49 and Theresa Karambelas, Speaker of the House Keith R. McCall, Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski '67, Carl Santana '09 and Jamie Gwynn '09.



A dynamic photograph of a red Ferrari sports car racing on a track. The car is in the lower right corner, moving towards the left. The background is a blurred racetrack with a checkered flag pattern in the upper left corner. The overall scene conveys speed and excitement.

Wishing UPON A Car

WILKES ALUMNA RACES HER FERRARI
TO BENEFIT CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION
By Helen Kaiser



PHOTO COURTESY OF
FERRARI NORTH AMERICA

For Mandy S. Williams '77, racing her Ferrari 430 at speeds up to 175 mph on road tracks is “the ultimate adrenaline rush.” She gets a quieter thrill from knowing that her passion has helped to raise more than \$1 million during the past 10 years for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

AT HER DAY JOB, WILLIAMS IS A SUCCESSFUL management consultant in Houston. Her expertise in business development, strategic planning, operations and finance stems from more than 30 years in the oil, gas and finance industries. She earned her bachelor's degree in economics with a minor in business administration from Wilkes and an MBA in finance and international business from New York University/London Graduate School of Business Administration.

With her consulting practice, The CEA Group Inc., Williams says she has an ideal situation because she can pick and choose to work with companies that she knows or that interest her.

During the racing season, however, she spends 10 to 15 percent of her life completely focused on cars. She and other competitors meet twice a weekend for seven weekends from March through October. It's all for fun, as no prize money is awarded.

"The nice thing about racing as a hobby is that it's a total escape from everything," she says. "At work, you take issues home with you, and the in-box is always there. Racing is finite. When the race is over, the race is over."

Right: Williams exited quickly when what she thought was smoke enveloped her car. It turned out to be steam from a ruptured hose.
PHOTO COURTESY OF FERRARI NORTH AMERICA

Below: Seat time is critical to preparing for a race, Williams says.
PHOTO BY DENNIS STRINI

Williams likens her pastime to a high-speed chess game, requiring extreme concentration and constant adjustments. While it is exciting, she also finds it relaxing because of the total focus required.

She tends to be on edge the day of a race, but she's calm right before the green flag drops. She knows that she has trained and has practiced.

"Seat time is most critical," Williams says. "Your reactions have to be automatic. When you have to look ahead to set up for corners, yet are in traffic, it's too late to think about what you're going to do."

Every track is different. Williams has participated in Italy at the Ferrari international finals and in Canada for the Ferrari North America Challenge. Road America in Elkhart Lake, Wis., is memorable for a dramatic corner on the backside known as "the kink," she says.



The track at Road Atlanta is intimidating, she says, with all its twists and turns and elevation changes: “There is a steep drop into the front straight. Imagine cresting a blind hill at high speed, under a bridge no less, and then feeling like you are plunging straight down. The elevation changes so dramatically you have a hard time with the concept.

“You have to keep your foot on the throttle to balance the rear end of the car while turning to avoid hitting a wall. Lots of fun!”

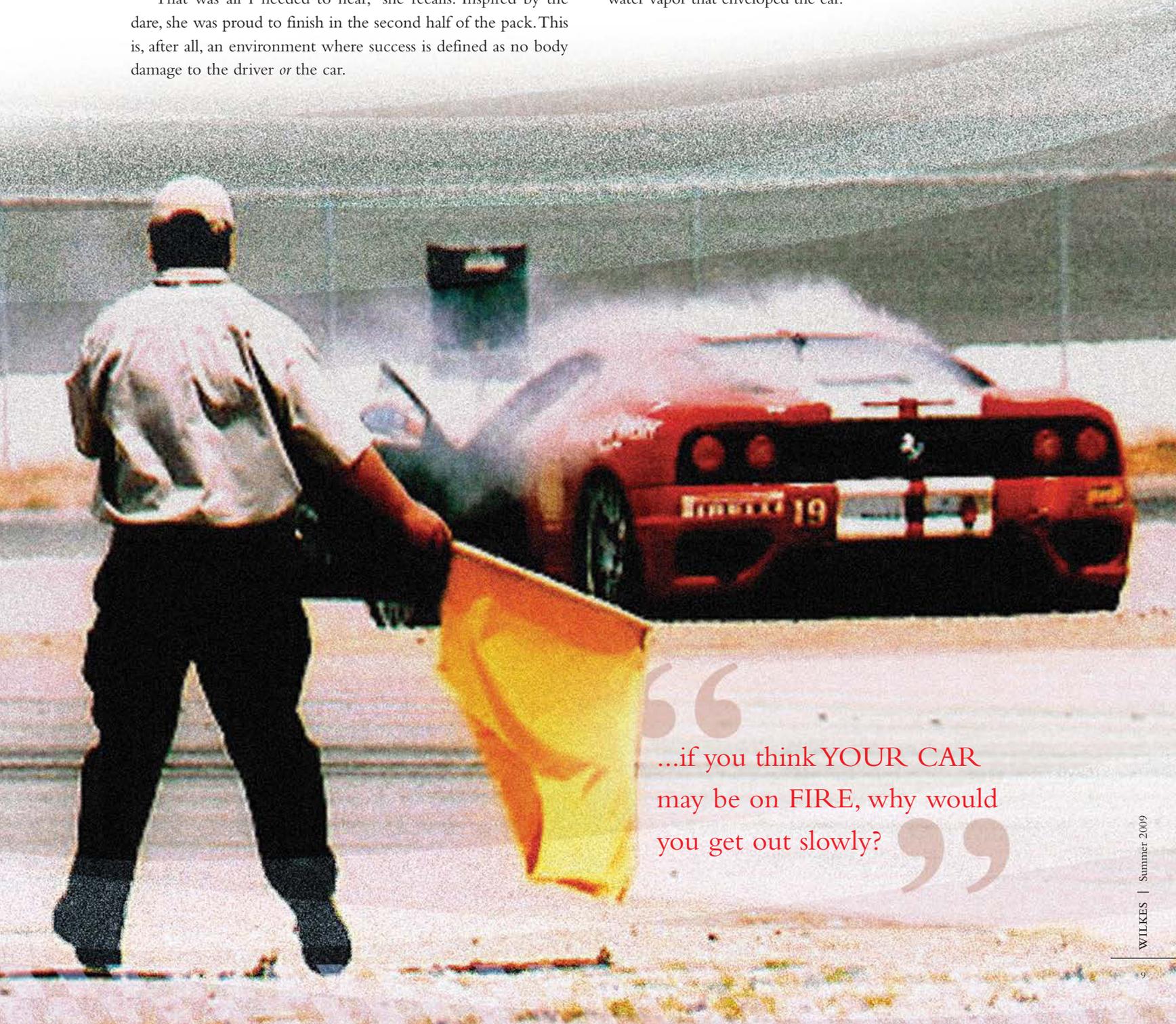
This venue was actually only the second race in which Williams ever competed, back in 1999 in her Porsche 996. Her friends figured it would be too much of a challenge for her.

“That was all I needed to hear,” she recalls. Inspired by the dare, she was proud to finish in the second half of the pack. This is, after all, an environment where success is defined as no body damage to the driver *or* the car.

There have been close calls. Once, at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway during the next to last lap of a 45-minute race, a water hose in her vehicle ruptured.

“I was on the straightaway, but couldn’t see a thing because of what looked like all this smoke. I wanted to pull off somewhere safe so the race could continue without my being in the way, so . . . I drove off the track and hit the button that sets off the fire extinguishing system and exited the car.

“People watching said they never saw anyone get out of a car so quickly—if you think your car may be on fire, why would you get out slowly?” It was later determined to be steam clouds from the water vapor that enveloped the car.



“
...if you think YOUR CAR
may be on FIRE, why would
you get out slowly?
”



Williams' driver's seat was custom-made for her female frame.
PHOTOS COURTESY OF FERRARI NORTH AMERICA

Another incident occurred, not during a race, but at a special event at No Problem Raceway near New Orleans. "I lost power, looked in my rear-view mirror to see a flash fire and heard a loud bang," she recalled. "The engine had blown up, and there was a flash fire from the oil escaping until there was nothing left to burn."

Scott Gresham, crew chief for the Ferrari of Houston race team, describes Williams as "pretty calm for the most part" in situations like this. "That's important, because panic won't help if it's a true fire situation," he says, admitting it's easier for him to remain calm because he's not in the car.

"Racing can be scary," Williams says, "because we're all amateurs. I've seen some pretty bad wrecks. But mostly what's damaged is the driver's pride and wallet. You realize how well-built the cars are and what they can sustain."

A self-described "motor head," Williams laughs that her car payments were once more than her mortgage. She drives a blue Ferrari street car — a 430 Spider convertible — for daily use, but prefers her Mercedes G Wagon when she goes anywhere at night. She also still owns her first sports car, a 993 Porsche convertible, and a vintage 1957 Porsche 356 racecar. Her current red racing Ferrari 430 sports two white stripes and the names of Make-A-Wish benefactors.

It looks similar to the street car but has been modified with racing seats, harnesses, a fire safety system and cages on the driver and passenger sides in case of rolls or side impacts. Oh, and there's no stereo system.

Her driver's seat was custom-made for her female frame, so she doesn't "flop around like a fish" as she whizzes along the course. In this high-profile, competitive environment Williams is usually the only woman around.

She says in order to succeed she needs to have the physical strength to control the vehicle as well as the endurance to make it to the race's end. That's why she does a lot of running and weight training as part of her fitness regime.

"Racing is very physical and exhausting. You need your arms to control the car and your legs to brace yourself from being thrown right and left on the corners," Williams explains. The vehicle's vibrations tend to bother her back, which she injured at the age of 15 in gymnastics.

Crew chief Gresham says Williams' slight physical frame (between 111 and 115 pounds) and excellent physical condition are bonuses on the track. "She's able to stay pretty consistent throughout the race and doesn't fade toward the end like some drivers who may not be in as good shape," he said.

Certainly, this is not your typical hobby, Williams admits. "There's this motivation to prove to yourself that you can do it — the challenge side of it."

As a side benefit, she has become a role model to her two young nieces, Natasha and Sawyer, to let them know girls can do anything — even race cars.

Williams became involved in racing after buying the 993 Porsche convertible in 1997. The local dealer advised there were "track days" where owners can learn the feel and the potential of their vehicles on a race track.

"I just loved it. It was such a thrill," she recalls. She soon acquired a 996 hardtop Porsche and had a roll cage welded in it to take on the track. She also decided to attend the Bondurant School of High Performance Driving in Phoenix.

The rest, as they say, is history—including the successful relationship with Make-A-Wish. Early on, Williams noticed that many drivers displayed names of sponsors on their cars.

"I decided I would not display any product or company names on my car unless they made a contribution to the Make-A-Wish Foundation," Williams notes. "I am very happy to say that I was able to complete 11 races my rookie season, but I am more proud of the fact that I was able to



“
It made me realize . . . that
whatever PROBLEMS I thought
I had were truly insignificant in
the REAL SCHEME
of things.”

raise almost \$25,000 (that year) for the Make-A-Wish Foundation through corporate sponsorship,” she says.

“For a few seasons I actually raced two cars, the '57 Porsche and a Ferrari. I went from no-tech to high-tech,” she laughs. “The Porsche is so much fun to throw around the track, as it is small and light — versus the Ferrari, which is a much more serious racecar.”

Williams currently serves as advisor to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Texas Gulf Coast and Louisiana, after having served the maximum term on the organization’s board of directors. She is founder and president of the organization’s Endowment Foundation.

Her involvement with the nonprofit, which grants wishes to children under age 18 who have life-threatening medical conditions, was sparked by hearing the words of a “wish child” at a charity fundraiser she had attended many years ago. “It made me realize . . . that whatever problems I thought I had were truly insignificant in the real scheme of things,” she says.

Teresa E. Andrepont, president and CEO of the Make-A-Wish chapter, says Williams has “a superior business mind, combined with a soft heart and a determined spirit.”

It was during her undergraduate studies at Wilkes University that Williams stoked her business skills. “I’ve always been interested in business, and my first love was advertising,” she says. “I had an uncle who worked on Madison Avenue, and I worked in New York City for a time, as well.”

She fondly remembers Wilkes faculty members Scott Burnside, an executive at The Boston Store who taught her retailing, and Theodore Engel, who still teaches economics.

Now, years later, she uses her business education both professionally and philanthropically. Make-A-Wish’s Andrepont says that due to Williams’ efforts, the agency has been able to set aside an endowment for unforeseen needs. Additionally, Williams helped raise funds to purchase a refurbished house in Houston’s museum district to serve as headquarters for Make-A-Wish, which had been bouncing around from one donated office space to another.

Another project helped make a dream come true for a sick child who had always wanted to go to Italy. With Williams’ leadership and more than \$10,000 in support from fellow members in her local Ferrari Club, he and his immediate family were able to make the trip.

Despite her impressive fundraising total, Williams believes she’s getting the better part of the deal. “Being involved with wish children and their families — seeing their optimistic outlook on life, sharing their dreams, sharing their heartache — makes me appreciate all that I have.”

Mandy S. Williams, Houston, Texas

B.A., Economics 1977

MBA, Finance and International Business, New York University/London Graduate School of Business Administration 1979

Career: After more than 30 years in oil, gas and finance industries, runs her own management consulting firm.

Notable: Driven to make a difference by raising more than \$1 million for Make-A-Wish Foundation racing her Ferrari on the amateur circuit.

Favorite Wilkes Place: The women’s dormitory buildings, located in historic houses with rich architectural details.





MONUMENTS, MUSEUMS AND MORE

WILKES ALUMNUS PROMOTES
POSITIVE IMAGE OF WASHINGTON,
D.C., TO WORLDWIDE AUDIENCE

By Helen Kaiser

WHEN MORE THAN 1.8 million people from all walks of life flocked to Washington, D.C., for President Barack Obama's inauguration in January, it was a spectacle unsurpassed in our nation's history.

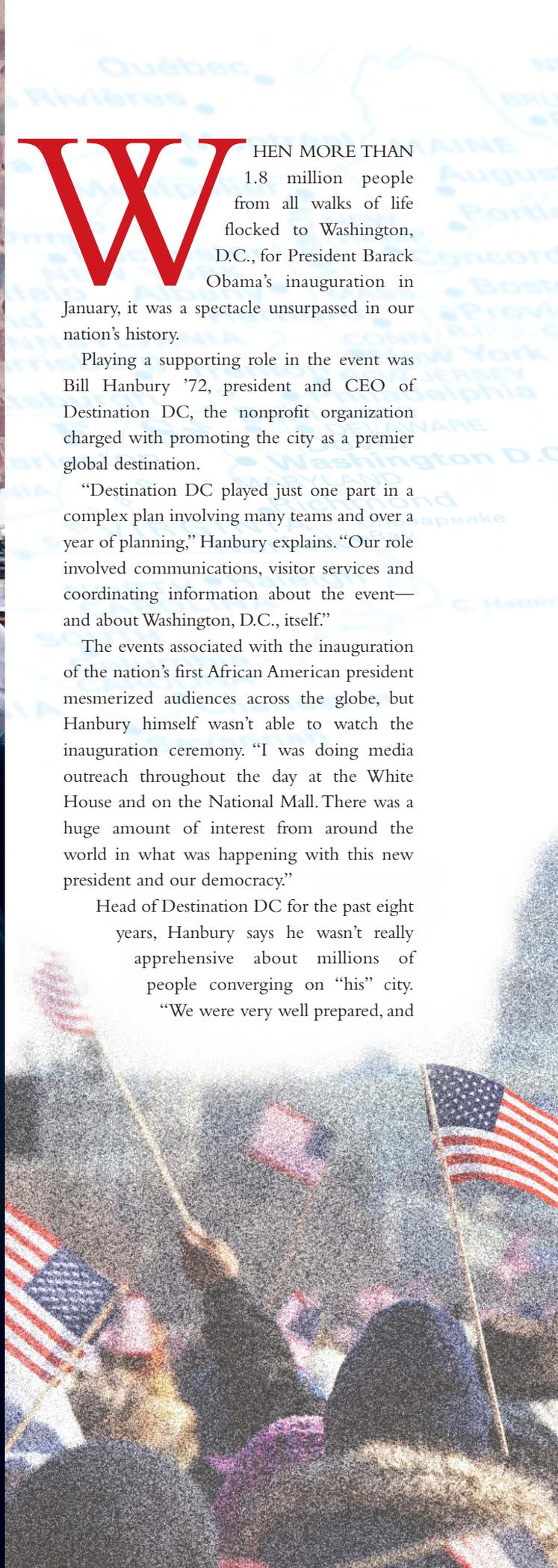
Playing a supporting role in the event was Bill Hanbury '72, president and CEO of Destination DC, the nonprofit organization charged with promoting the city as a premier global destination.

"Destination DC played just one part in a complex plan involving many teams and over a year of planning," Hanbury explains. "Our role involved communications, visitor services and coordinating information about the event—and about Washington, D.C., itself."

The events associated with the inauguration of the nation's first African American president mesmerized audiences across the globe, but Hanbury himself wasn't able to watch the inauguration ceremony. "I was doing media outreach throughout the day at the White House and on the National Mall. There was a huge amount of interest from around the world in what was happening with this new president and our democracy."

Head of Destination DC for the past eight years, Hanbury says he wasn't really apprehensive about millions of people converging on "his" city.

"We were very well prepared, and



I was confident we had the experience, expertise and planning savvy to pull it off.”

The pomp and pageantry over the four-day period was not without its glitches. For instance, some ticket holders complained that crowd management logistics were confusing and the sheer number of people involved prevented them from getting to their designated locations to view the ceremony.

“There were some unhappy people, but, by most people’s estimation, it was an outstanding success that played to a huge global audience,” Hanbury says, characterizing it as perhaps the most watched event in history.

“ (The inauguration) was an OUTSTANDING success that played to a huge GLOBAL AUDIENCE ”

He says Washington has been able to capitalize on a unique moment in time. Worldwide, people are looking to a charismatic new president for solutions; and this heightens interest in Washington, D.C., itself. The timing is perfect, because the city has experienced a renaissance over the past 10 to 15 years.

The nation’s capital has always been known for the memorials, monuments and museums seen as backdrops on newscasts, the tourism

executive says. Now, however, there is more.

“We have re-created downtown, and there is a gentrification due to people moving back into the district. It’s a hip, trendy, cosmopolitan city now — on a global par with London, Rome, Berlin, Paris and Tokyo,” he asserts.

Richard Spigler, president of the Carlyle Suites and Savoy Suites hotels, serves as chairman of the 96-member Hotel Association of Washington, D.C., and on the board of Destination DC. He says many in the local tourism industry had long-time dreams of the city becoming a world-class destination, and Hanbury was instrumental in making it happen.

“He believed in it from the first day he came here,” Spigler says. Just after the 9/11 tragedy, Hanbury “seized

William A. Hanbury, Washington, D.C.

B.A., History 1972

Master’s Degree in Public Administration, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 1989

Career: Spent much of his life promoting cities such as Syracuse, Buffalo and Milwaukee before becoming president and CEO of Destination DC.

Notable: Helped the nation’s capital host millions of visitors for the historic inauguration of President Barack Obama.

Favorite Wilkes Memory: Being associated with an extraordinary group of athletes and men (the Golden Horde) who won 32 football games in a row.

leadership of the city’s marketing efforts and created partnerships that had not happened before; and then it was full-steam ahead.”

With 55 full-time and an additional 175 part-time employees, Destination DC has a \$15 million annual budget to market the district as a premier special events destination. In 2007, about 16.2 million visitors stayed overnight, spending \$5.5 billion and generating \$954 million in federal and municipal tax revenues.

Looking back, Hanbury says he obtained a great education from professors at his alma mater — and from his mentor, football coach Rollie Schmidt. Hanbury was a member of the Golden Horde, the collective Wilkes football teams that were undefeated from 1965-69.

“There was a lot of inspiration to do your best and to be the best. I still carry that with me today,” he says.

Hanbury played offensive guard for the Colonels and after graduation played a few exhibition seasons for the pros — the Buffalo Bills and the World Football League’s Memphis Southmen. He then taught history and coached high school football in his native Syracuse, N.Y.

His career path forked when he accepted a job with the Syracuse Chamber of Commerce. This led to other positions with tourism offices in Hilton Head, S.C.; Buffalo, N.Y.; Flint, Mich.; and Milwaukee, Wis. Hanbury will leave Destination DC to become president and CEO of the United Way of the Capital Area effective July 1.

It’s fun being at “the epicenter of communities,” he says. “You have a chance to really make an impact on an area’s economic development.”

Vacationing this summer?

Within a day’s drive for more than 25 percent of the nation’s population, D.C. is a doable destination.

Visit www.washington.org for more information.

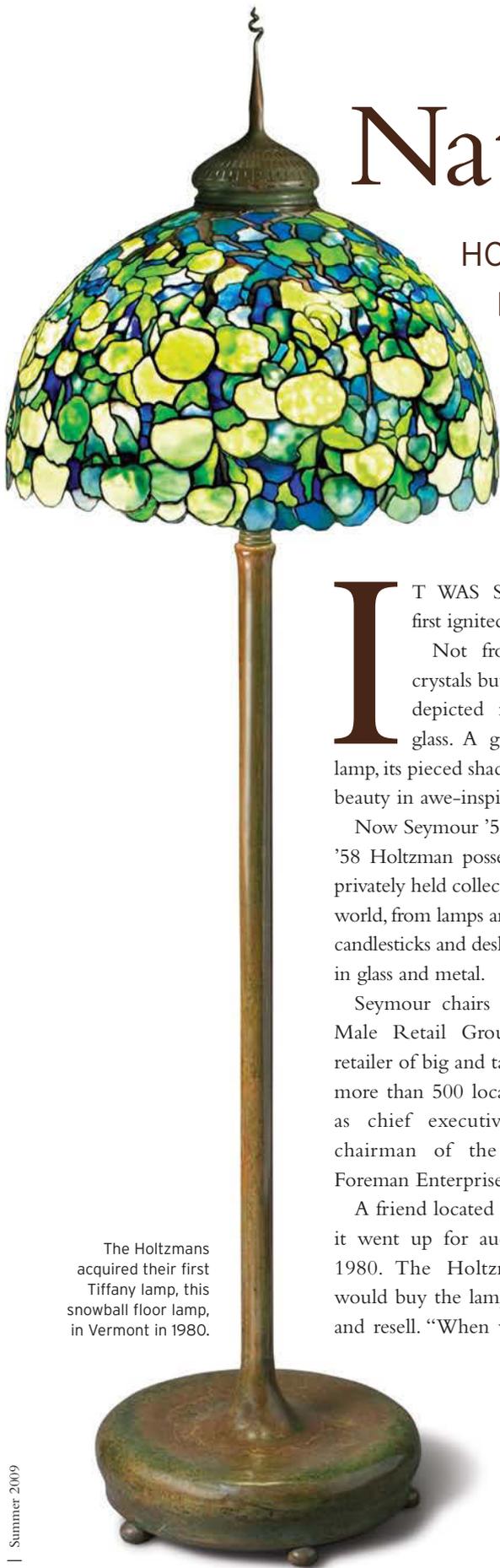
Bill Hanbury’s don’t-miss recommendation: the National Mall and Memorial Parks with the hallowed World War II Memorial and other sights meaningful to Americans and citizens around the world. “You’ve got to come here to touch it, see it, and feel the inspiration.”

Opposite page: Hanbury oversees a budget of \$15 million annually to promote D.C. as a premier special events destination.

Nature in Glass

HOLTZMANS' TIFFANY
PURCHASE EVOLVED
FROM INVESTMENT TO PASSION

By Kim Bower-Spence



The Holtzmans acquired their first Tiffany lamp, this snowball floor lamp, in Vermont in 1980.

IT WAS SNOWBALLS THAT first ignited the obsession.

Not frozen spheres of ice crystals but puffs of white petals depicted in luminous, leaded glass. A genuine Tiffany floor lamp, its pieced shade celebrating nature's beauty in awe-inspiring, man-made art.

Now Seymour '57 and Evelyn (Krohn) '58 Holtzman possess one of the largest privately held collections of Tiffany in the world, from lamps and favrile glassware, to candlesticks and desk sets and other works in glass and metal.

Seymour chairs the board of Casual Male Retail Group Inc., a specialty retailer of big and tall men's apparel with more than 500 locations. He also serves as chief executive officer and co-chairman of the board of George Foreman Enterprises Inc.

A friend located their first lamp when it went up for auction in Vermont in 1980. The Holtzmans thought they would buy the lamp, hold it a few years and resell. "When we got it, we just so

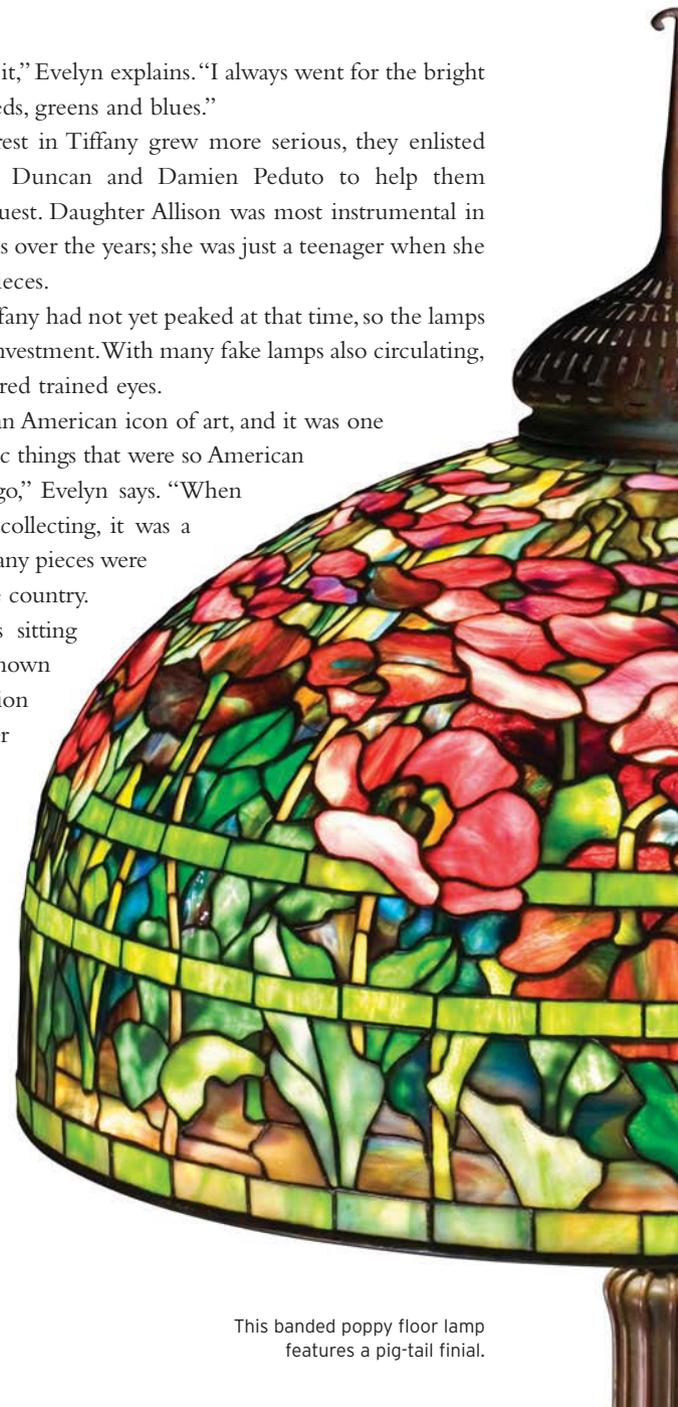
fell in love with it," Evelyn explains. "I always went for the bright colors. I liked reds, greens and blues."

As their interest in Tiffany grew more serious, they enlisted experts Alastair Duncan and Damien Peduto to help them navigate their quest. Daughter Allison was most instrumental in their acquisitions over the years; she was just a teenager when she began buying pieces.

Interest in Tiffany had not yet peaked at that time, so the lamps proved a good investment. With many fake lamps also circulating, the search required trained eyes.

"It was such an American icon of art, and it was one of the few artistic things that were so American from so long ago," Evelyn says. "When we first started collecting, it was a bargain." And many pieces were going out of the country.

Evelyn recalls sitting behind a well-known buyer at an auction house. It was her



This banded poppy floor lamp features a pig-tail finial.



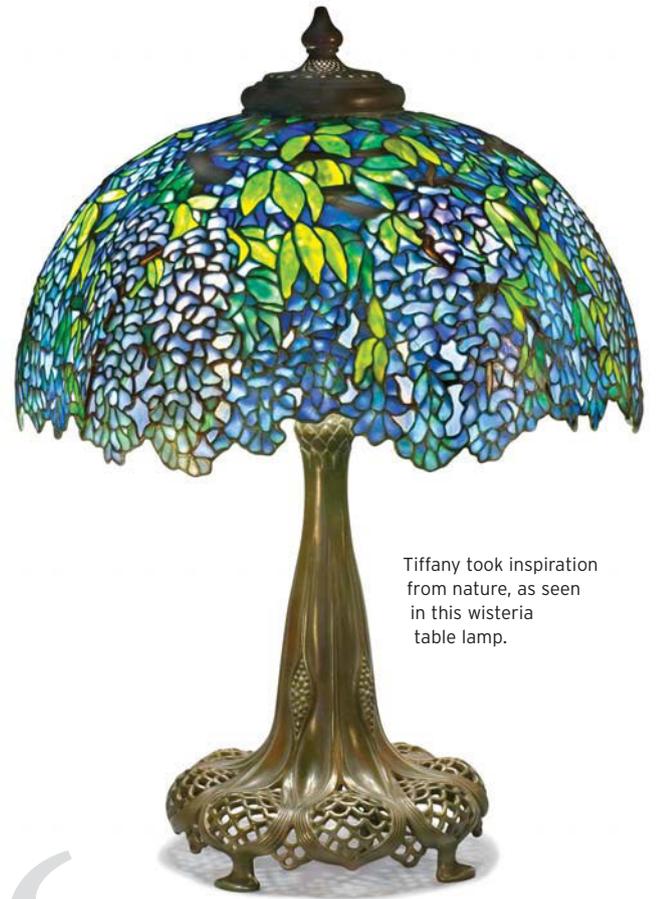
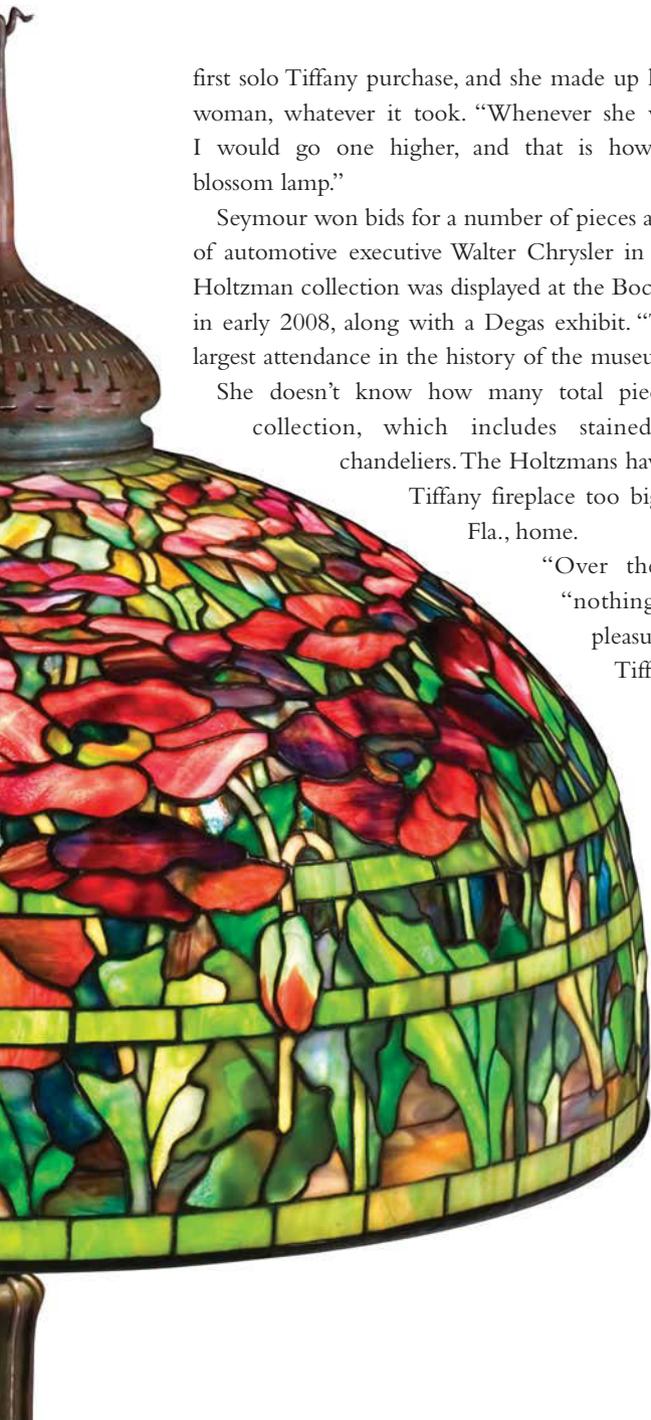
Numerous Tiffany lamps decorate the living room of the Holtzmanns' Palm Beach, Fla., home.

first solo Tiffany purchase, and she made up her mind to out-bid the woman, whatever it took. "Whenever she would raise her paddle, I would go one higher, and that is how I acquired our apple blossom lamp."

Seymour won bids for a number of pieces auctioned from the estate of automotive executive Walter Chrysler in 1989. A portion of the Holtzman collection was displayed at the Boca Raton Museum of Art in early 2008, along with a Degas exhibit. "The exhibit boasted the largest attendance in the history of the museum," Evelyn notes.

She doesn't know how many total pieces they have in their collection, which includes stained glass windows and chandeliers. The Holtzmanns have sold only one piece: a Tiffany fireplace too big for their Palm Beach, Fla., home.

"Over the years," Evelyn says, "nothing has given us more pleasure than living with our Tiffany lamps."



Tiffany took inspiration from nature, as seen in this wisteria table lamp.

“ It was such an American ICON OF ART, and it was one of the few ARTISTIC things that were so AMERICAN from so long ago. ”

The Holtzman family includes, from left: Evelyn, Marc, Allison, Steven and Seymour. ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE HOLTZMAN FAMILY





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DR. EUGENE SHEDDEN FARLEY

NEW COUNTRY, NEW LIFE

ONE OF WILKES' FIRST INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
WENT ON TO DISTINGUISHED MEDICAL CAREER

By Kim Bower-Spence

Upon stepping off an airplane in Wilkes-Barre in September 1951, a 17-year-old Greek boy was greeted warmly by a tall, distinguished-looking stranger with graying hair. “Welcome to Wilkes. We are very glad you are here,” Wilkes President

Eugene Farley told the young man, who had received a full scholarship to Wilkes as part of a Greek-American organization’s effort to help promising graduates of war-ravaged Greek high schools study abroad. Moments later, Farley would turn to his young scholar and ask, “By the way, how do you say your name?”

“Constantinos Arvanitogeorgos!” proudly replied the dark-haired boy who had left his island home in Corfu, Greece, several days earlier with a goal of becoming a physician. “Well, enough of that,” Farley said kindly. “Not only will we have difficulty pronouncing it, there aren’t enough spaces on our official forms to fit it in. From now on your name will be Dean Arvan.”

And so Dean Arvan ’55 became one of the first – if not *the* first – international students at Wilkes. He hadn’t chosen Wilkes. “This was where I was placed. I was simply sent there,” he notes.

Though his limited knowledge of English hampered his studies of humanities and English literature a bit, Arvan excelled in the sciences and mathematics. He credits classmates, roommates, coworkers in the college dining room and fellow members of the soccer team with accepting him and immersing him in American culture.

“For me, Ashley Hall was like being in a palace,” notes Arvan, who spent his teen years in a partially walled city during World War II and a bloody civil war. Roommates would drag him along to local taverns to watch Friday night fights on television.

On the academic side, he says, Charles Reif and George Ralston provided ongoing encouragement and mentoring. Al Groh gets a special thank-you. “I suspect he made special allowances for my tendency to

torture the English language and to utter linguistic ‘faux pas’ at regular intervals.” And President Farley and his family, as well as John Chwalek, provided personal support.

Arvan was expected to work to cover his other expenses. So he became a soda jerk for the family of Clayton Karambelas ’49, among other summer jobs. The Karambelases’ Greek origins helped ease Arvan’s transition. “It provided some degree of continuity for Greek customs.”

“If I had to give my FULL NAME every time I was introduced, it would have been a DIFFICULT THING.”



Dean Arvan, left, was photographed for the yearbook with Younsu Koo '56 of South Korea, Coach Bob Partridge, Ahmed Kazimi '58 of Trans-Jordan, and assistant coach “Flip” Jones. PHOTO FROM WILKES ARCHIVES

He recalls the name change as a welcome relief. “If I had to give my full name every time I was introduced, it would have been a difficult thing.”

A part-time job as a laboratory technician while at Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, steered him to pathology. Arvan completed his residency in the specialty at University of Pennsylvania in 1964 and became an associate professor there in 1969. He joined the faculty at University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 1977, eventually serving as senior associate dean for academic affairs and associate chair and interim chair of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.

He is board-certified in both anatomic pathology and laboratory medicine. His extensive research included assessing diagnostic tests. He counts among his numerous achievements an early initiative that led to a comprehensive interdisciplinary program for prenatal diagnosis of neural tube defects and other fetal anomalies.

Arvan served as U.S. editor in chief of *Clinica Chimica Acta*, an international scientific journal for clinical biochemistry. He has led several professional organizations, including serving as president of the Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists.

He and wife Joan live in Fairport, N.Y., and are the parents of three sons: Stephen, David and Ted.

Dean Arvan, Fairport, N.Y.

B.S., Biology 1955

Career: Pathologist and administrator at University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Notable: One of first international students at Wilkes, edited an international scientific journal for clinical biochemistry and diagnostic procedures.

Favorite Wilkes memory: During Arvan’s junior year, professor Charles Reif took him to a suit sale. Reif bought one for himself and, for one dollar more, one for Arvan. “My first suit! He probably knew that I would need one for my upcoming medical school interviews.”

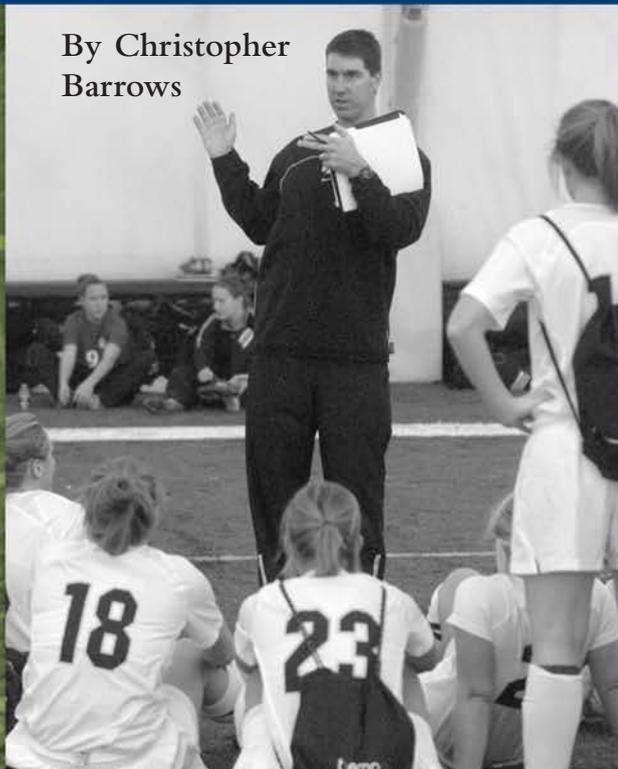
Opposite page: Arvan retired as professor and interim chair of pathology, laboratory medicine and pediatrics at University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 2004. PHOTO BY STEVE BOERNER



GOAL TENDER

RAINEY COACHES U OF IOWA'S WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM FOR SUCCESS BOTH ON AND OFF THE FIELD

By Christopher Barrows



Rainey took the reins of the Iowa Hawkeyes women's soccer team in 2006. PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

RON RAINEY '91 COMES FROM A LONG LINE of athletes. The son and namesake of a former Wilkes basketball coach, he grew up the youngest of four boys. This taught him a competitive edge from a young age.

This drive and will to win propelled him to success in the world of collegiate women's soccer, where he serves as head coach of the Iowa Hawkeyes.

A transfer from Virginia Tech, Rainey spent 1989 to 1991 playing soccer for Wilkes University. Some of the strongest teams in Wilkes men's soccer history, those teams still hold records, including most goals in a season (52), most total team points (145), and most wins in program history (16).

Phil Wingert, head coach at Wilkes for 26 years, credits Rainey as a big part of the team's success.

"He had an infectious personality. He made his teammates want to work and play harder. It was like having another coach out there." Wingert also considered himself lucky to have two of the greatest players he's coached play together: Rainey and Paul Jellen '93.

Jellen, the leading scorer in Wilkes' history, credits some of his personal success on the field to Rainey. "Those records are in large part due to Ron Rainey. He was a quintessential teammate, the hardest worker on and off the field," Jellen says. "He made you want to work harder yourself." Jellen says Rainey always gave his all and never gave up.

Rainey excelled off the soccer field too. He made the dean's list all six semesters and earned a 3.89 grade point average. He also held the position of sports director for the Wilkes radio station, wrote for *The Beacon* and was active in the Wilkes Education Club.

After earning a bachelor's degree in English and mathematics, Rainey went on to attain a master's in sports administration at Trenton State. There he took an apprenticeship with the women's soccer program.

"I would assume if I didn't get that opportunity at the college level while at Trenton State, I'd probably be teaching and coaching at the high school level," he reasons.

After Trenton State, he became head coach at University of Wisconsin-Parkside, then moved on to University of Cincinnati and Towson. He

served as an assistant during the first two seasons of women's soccer at Iowa before moving on to Ball State. He returned to Iowa to take the reins of the Hawkeyes in 2006.

Rainey guided the team to a berth in the Big Ten Tournament each of the last two seasons. The Hawkeyes have shown consistent improvement under his leadership, finishing 8-8-4 in 2007 – their best



Rainey, number 19 in white, teams with fellow players to outmaneuver opponents. PHOTO FROM WILKES ARCHIVES

record since 2001. In 2008, they posted nine wins with 11 of their starters either freshmen or sophomores. Number of goals scored rose each year, culminating with 28 last season. Iowa also posted an eight-match unbeaten streak last fall, a school record.

Rainey utilizes a coaching style very much based on mentoring. He developed some of his technique from his experiences with Wingert.

"He always did a great job of allowing us to prepare ourselves as players," Rainey says. "He wasn't afraid to let us fail but gave us the ability to think for ourselves on the field. These are the kind of mentoring methods I still incorporate today."

Growing up watching his father coach gave him an appreciation for the long hours and heart the job requires. Rainey and his wife, Margaret, a former collegiate soccer player, are the proud parents of three children. He intends to instill in his children the same values of leadership and personal responsibility that he has learned.

He believes these same values should be applied to his players. While success on the field is important, he understands the importance of a good education and wants to see his players succeed in life, not just in athletics.

"I hope to see my players see more than just success on the field. I want them to take the lessons on the field and apply themselves in the academic world," Rainey explains. "I'm excited where I am right now. It's a great place and a great school."

“He was a
QUINTESSENTIAL
teammate, the
HARDEST WORKER
on and off the field...

– Paul Jellen

”

Alumni Gather Throughout Florida

Florida alumni met in Boca Raton, Orlando and Naples in February. In Boca, Carolyn '58 and Jack Basler hosted a dinner for alumni in the area. Wilkes President Tim Gilmour updated everyone on the latest happenings at Wilkes.

On Saturday, Feb. 21, 30 alumni and friends met at the Rainforest Café in Orlando for the inaugural activity of the Central Florida regional group.

This was the first time in a number of years that an event was held in the Orlando area, and alumni enjoyed getting together and catching up with each other. Photos are available on The Colonel Connection at <http://community.wilkes.edu/>. Charlie Robinson '57 chairs the central Florida group and is working with other alumni to plan future events. To find out more about the regional group, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@wilkes.edu.

Alumni and friends in the Naples area attended the fourth annual event at the Bay Colony Beach Club, hosted by Wilkes' community partner M&T Bank. President Gilmour updated attendees on plans for the law school and a science, health and engineering building. Plans for both continue to move forward, albeit more slowly due to the current economic climate. He stressed the importance of continued support for Wilkes, as this allows the University to provide financial aid to students.

Special thanks to Don Wilkinson '58 for this wonderful venue.

Below: Alumni gather at the Rainforest Café, Orlando, Fla.
Inset: Grace, Scott and Karen Cowan '96 take in Downtown Disney.
PHOTOS BY SUE JOLLEY



ALUMNI HELP RECRUIT NEW COLONELS

Who can better articulate the benefits of a Wilkes education than the alumni? That's why the Alumni Association has become more involved with admissions efforts this spring.

For years, the annual Alumni Scholarship Dinner has rewarded a current legacy student—a student whose grandparent or parent attended Wilkes. Now the Alumni Association is actively working with the admissions office on a variety of projects.

This spring, some successful Wilkes alumni wrote letters to admitted students to share their experiences and explain the benefits of a Wilkes education. At VIP Day, an open house for accepted students, an alumni panel gave prospective Colonels and their parents insights into their time on campus and their success, much of which can be attributed to Wilkes. A similar panel is planned for upcoming open houses.

The Alumni Association also hosted a Legacy Reception at VIP Day for admitted legacy students. Alumni and their children enjoyed meeting each other and reconnecting to the Wilkes of today.

The Alumni Association looks forward to welcoming these important prospective students as alumni in a few years. For more information on these programs, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@wilkes.edu or check **The Colonel Connection**.



Brian Toll '02, Beth (Rosenberg) Nicholson '02, and Fred Gedrich '73 catch up with each other in D.C. PHOTO BY MIRKO WIDENHORN

D.C./Baltimore Regional Group Starts Up

If you now call the Washington, D.C., or Baltimore, Md., areas home, you can enjoy regular get-togethers with fellow Wilkes alumni. A new regional group has met twice so far this year.

In January, about 20 alumni gathered at James Hoban's Irish Restaurant & Bar in Dupont Circle. They had a chance to meet and catch up with each other and also reconnect with Paul Adams '77, vice president of student affairs, and with Addy Malatesta, director of athletics. This was the first activity of the D.C. regional group, a group of alumni who are helping to plan events for the more than 700 alumni in the greater D.C./Baltimore area. The group will plan informal get-togethers, more formal activities, and family-friendly events. Ron Miller '93 chairs this regional group.

Alumni gathered March 23 in Baltimore with a reception at the James Joyce Irish Pub & Restaurant. This was another opportunity to reconnect and get to know some of the other Wilkes alumni in the Washington or Baltimore area. If you are interested in more information on the D.C./Baltimore regional group, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@wilkes.edu.

Scholarship Luncheon Proves Meaningful to Recipients and Donors

More than 200 student scholarship recipients and scholarship donors gathered March 26 at a special luncheon to meet each other – sometimes for the first time.

Each year, this scholarship luncheon gives students a chance to personally thank the supporters of the scholarships and give the donors a chance to hear about the recipients' successes. This year, Wilkes offered 167 endowed scholarships and 20 annual scholarships.

Without financial assistance, many students wouldn't be able to attend Wilkes,

as they depend on this financing. Affordability is a team process. It takes students and parents willing to stretch themselves, but it also takes generous donors willing to make Wilkes students their primary philanthropic choice.

If you are interested in more information on funding or contributing to a scholarship, please phone (800) WILKES-U Ext. 4309 or visit The Colonel Connection at <http://community.wilkes.edu>.

1959

Reunion Oct. 9-11 

Janice Longo is author and illustrator of *There's a Mouse in the House*, a self-published children's book. The book was published under her grandmother's maiden name, Lucia Tuttle. She resides in Madison, N.J.

Charles A. Sorber is interim president of University of Texas-Pan American. Sorber is professor emeritus in the Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering at UT Austin's Cockrell School of Engineering. He earned a master's degree from Pennsylvania State University and a doctorate from University of Texas at Austin. He is a member of the American Academy of

Environmental Engineers, has been active in the American Association for Engineering Education, and is a former president of the Water Environment Federation. He resides in Austin, Texas.

1966

Philip Cheifetz, Ph.D., professor of mathematics, computer science and information technology at Nassau Community College, has been granted the honor of "Distinguished Service Professor" by the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees. The award is conferred upon individuals who have achieved national or international prominence and have earned a distinguished reputation within his or her chosen field. Cheifetz was one of only 13

professors among the 64 SUNY campuses statewide to attain this honor last year.

1967

Leona Sokash Dufour retired from teaching high school English in Carmel, N.Y. She resides with her husband in Georgetown, Maine. Retirement activities include membership in a writing group, quilting group and book club.

1977

Guy Barbato retired from his position as associate professor of poultry science at Penn State University to launch biotechnology company Gallimed Sciences Inc. He resides in Long Beach Township, N.J.

1983

David Carey was recently promoted to vice president of systems engineering for Instrumentation Engineering, located in Oakland, N.J. Carey lives in Wilkes-Barre with his wife, **Jennifer (Ogurkis) '83**; children **Lauren '08** and **John**, a rising senior at Wilkes; and beagles Bruce, Jack and Ozwald.

1988

Ronald Ulitchney, CPA, was promoted to partner status at the Kingston, Pa., accounting firm Kronick Kalada Berdy & Co. He resides in Trucksville, Pa.

1991

Alissa Marie Antosh married Scott Bryan Dana on Aug. 30, 2008. She is employed by Medical Oncology Associates and is a senior editor of *The Independent* magazine. The couple reside in Kingston, Pa.

1995

Lars Augustin, P.E., has received the New York Water Environment Association Young Professionals Service Award. He is a project manager with Gannett Fleming, an international planning, design and construction management firm in Locust Valley, N.Y.

Thomas J. McWilliams is a partner at Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP's Intellectual Property Practice Group. He works in the Philadelphia



Former Colonel football players gathered at the Florida home of Gary Popovich '64. From left are: Pepper Merrill '69, Phil Besler '76, Ted Yeager '72, Tony Couto '78, Popovich, Ron Grohowski '64, Coach Rollie Schmidt, Joe Wiendl '69 and Joe Yanovitch '55. PHOTO BY SUE JOLLEY

Puma Develops Training for Overcoming Motion Sickness

When Sam Puma '58 joined the U.S. Air Force in his junior year at Hahnemann Medical School, he dreamed of joining the space program.

As a flight surgeon for NASA with a private pilot's license and his own airplane, Puma didn't expect problems with motion sickness. And he didn't — until he found himself in a T-33 training jet while the pilot took the plane through a series of intense maneuvers.

"He turned that airplane inside out," Puma recalls. "I got so sick and was without an airsickness bag. I had to relieve myself into my glove."

This event was not only embarrassing but heartbreaking. Aviators can't take drugs for motion sickness. "They interfere with performance," says Puma, who majored in biology and minored in chemistry at Wilkes.

Not ready to give up, he set out to combat his motion sickness. "I had heard of sailors getting their 'sea legs' by building up a tolerance to the motions of a ship, so I thought maybe I could develop some maneuvers I could do that would allow me to build up tolerance to motion sickness."

These maneuvers became the Puma Method, a patented series of exercises that build a person's resistance to motion sickness over a one- to two-week period. Puma says the program, explained in a DVD he sells online, is based on the idea of habituation and has helped hundreds of people cure their motion sickness.



Puma markets his patented method in a DVD he sells online.
PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM PUMA

He decided to patent the Puma Method after successfully helping friends and relatives. The biggest challenge is reaching individuals who could benefit from it. "Type in 'motion sickness' into Google and you'll get more than 2 million responses," Puma says. He launched a Web site: www.pumamethod.com.

Puma is still involved in aviation and is currently building a research aircraft. He resides in Winchester, Calif., with his wife, Susan.

- By Shannon Curtin '07

branch of the national firm and is a frequent author and speaker on U.S. and international intellectual property issues.

1996

Maj. Kristine (Ferrell) Hackett was recently promoted to flight commander of the Women's

Health Clinic at Langley Air Force Base. She is a women's health nurse practitioner and resides in Hampton, Va., with husband Jim and children Christian and Bethanie.

1998

Karen Mazuka married Erik Hartman on Sept. 6, 2008. She received a master of science

degree in software engineering from George Mason University in 2003. She is employed by PricewaterhouseCoopers in Washington, D.C. The couple reside in Washington, D.C.

2000

Megan Sara Daniels married **Jason Lee Kauwell '00** on

June 28, 2008. Megan is employed by Street Delivery as a photographer. Jason is employed by U.S. Investigative Services as a special investigator. They reside in Dallas, Pa.

Holly Filion married Kerry Bretzius on Nov. 23, 2007. They reside in Birdsboro, Pa.

Qureshi in the House

Ali Qureshi '96 isn't a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, but he works behind the scenes to keep the House running.

After graduating from Wilkes with an environmental engineering degree, he became a management consultant for a private company working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. A job in communications and technology eventually led to a position as web systems branch manager for the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer in the House. At the same time, he



was completing his executive master's degree from the Wharton School of Business.

In 2006, Qureshi became director for establishing a new organization: a center of excellence for financial and business support applications. He led a 60-plus-member team responsible for business applications supporting over \$1 billion of financial transactions.

Qureshi stepped into his current role in 2008. As deputy chief administrative officer and a senior advisor to chief administrative officer Dan Beard, Qureshi is responsible for House operations and supervises about a dozen departments, including House Information Resources and Administrative and Financial Services, and oversees a staff of 650 employees and 800 consultants.

His responsibilities include helping to establish the CAO's strategic priorities and incorporating a "Green the Capitol" program to adopt sustainable business practices that are not only environmentally sound but also cost-effective. He enjoys coaching staff and managing employees. "Good leadership is being able to do your part to motivate individuals, set the goals for the team, and then provide autonomy to your staff so they can excel at their jobs," Qureshi says.

Wilkes provided "confidence and encouragement from students, faculty and administrators," he says. He remembers fondly how "the entire school environment was very welcoming, and we were cared for like a family."

Qureshi and his wife, Sarah, reside in Ashburn, Va., with sons Daniyal, 7, and Ryaan, 4.

- By Shannon Curtin '07

Ali Qureshi '96



Wisconsin men's basketball coach Bo Ryan '69, Middleton, Wis., visits with former Golden Horde end and assistant football coach Joe Skvarla '69, Plymouth, Pa., and former Golden Horde guard Les Loveland '70, Oceanport, N.J. PHOTO BY SUE JOLLEY

Nathan Robert Lipton was awarded the certified fraud examiner designation by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners on Nov. 24, 2008. He is employed by the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General as a special investigator.

2001

Kristy (Tkach) Dawe and her husband, Greg Dawe, are proud to announce the birth of a daughter, Macey Olivia, on Nov. 24, 2008. The family resides in Pen Argyl, Pa.

Greg Johansen was promoted to petty officer second class in the U.S. Navy.

Erin Kathleen Walsh, Pharm.D. '02, married Gregory Cherkauskas on Dec. 14, 2007. She is employed by Rite Aid Corporation. They reside in Pittston, Pa.

2002

Matthew John Koch married **Jami Lynn Shuleski '06** on

Sept. 27, 2008. She is employed as a software developer at Keystone Automotive Operations, Exeter, Pa. Matthew is employed by Sungard Higher Education at Wilkes University as an instructional designer. They reside in Forty Fort, Pa.

Tammy Ash and **Greg Hink** were united in marriage on Nov. 15, 2008. She is employed by Robin's Nest as a social worker. They reside in Paulsboro, N.J.

2003

John (BJ) Kosich married **Amanda (Watson) Kosich '05** on Nov. 24, 2007. They reside in Florida.

George C. Morrison is employed by White and Williams LLP's Allentown, Pa., office as a new associate in the commercial litigation department. He resides in Allentown, Pa.

2005

Michael Benulis married **Sabrina Naples** on Sept. 27, 2008. He works as a mechanical engineer for PPL at the Montour power plant in Washingtonville, Pa. The couple reside in Lightstreet, Pa.

2006

Erin Elizabeth Rovinsky married **Michael Patrick Barlow Jr.** on Oct. 25, 2008. She is employed by Genesis Health Care. They reside in Dallas, Pa.

Nathan Fenstermacher married **Shannon (Carr) Fenstermacher, Pharm.D. '08**, on Sept. 6, 2008. Shannon is employed as a clinical staff pharmacist at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, Pa. Nathan is employed as a physician assistant for Lehigh Neurology, Allentown, Pa. The couple reside in Allentown, Pa.

Brooke Zuercher married **William Coleman** on Sept. 20, 2008, in Allentown, Pa. She is an international account manager for LaFrance Corp., Glen Mills, Pa., and is responsible for the European development division. They reside in Exton, Pa.

Graduate Degrees 2000

Carolyn Ann Cooper, MS, married **Kevin Hummer** on Nov. 25, 2008. She is a fourth-grade teacher at Dallas Elementary in the Dallas School District.

The bride and groom are drummers in the Wyoming Valley Pipe and Drum Band. They reside in Kingston, Pa.

Suzanne Jennifer Owens, MS, married **Joshua Harter Kile** on Nov. 29, 2008. She is a sixth-grade teacher in the Hazleton Area School District. They reside in Nescopeck, Pa.

2005

Frank M. Sorokach, MBA, is employed by State Farm Insurance as insurance agent in Tunkhannock, Pa. He is also an adjunct instructor at Keystone College.

2006

Jennifer Lee Bernick, MS, married **Jeffrie Edward Welby** on June 28, 2008. She is in her final year of coursework in pursuit of her doctorate in educational leadership and is employed as a fourth-grade teacher at the Lake-Lehman School District. They reside in Dallas, Pa.

Kevin Matthew West, MS, married **Danielle Leigh Zarembo** on Aug. 9, 2008. He is employed at Dallas High School.

2009

Holly Marie Moran, MS, married **Robert Zbyszeski** on Sept. 27, 2008. She is employed by the Pittston Area School District as a fifth-grade teacher.

In Memoriam

1948

J. Glenn Gooch of Kingston, Pa., died Jan. 28, 2009. He received a bachelor's degree in commerce and finance from Bucknell University and an MBA from Wilkes College. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II.

Gooch worked at Pennsylvania Gas and Water Company, serving as CEO from 1978 until 1987. He was also vice president of PA Enterprises Inc., Wilkes-Barre.

Surviving are his wife of 64 years, the former Belle Miller; and son Brad Gooch, New York City.

1949

June Persing McGuire of Cartersville, Ga., died March 4, 2008.

She was employed by Brown & Co. jewelers in Roswell, Ga., as a jewelry and gift buyer prior to her retirement in 1985. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, **Delbert McGuire '52**; five children, including **Richard '73**; and nine grandchildren.

James J. Slamon of Wrightsville, Pa., died Dec. 23, 2008. He was an accountant for Slamon and Co. and a U.S. Army veteran of World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy H. (Huff) Slamon of Wrightsville; a son, James Slamon, Medford, N.J.; two daughters, Janie Slamon,

Emmaus, Pa., and Nancy Urey, Wrightsville; and three grandchildren.

1950

George Brody of Lancaster, Pa., died Jan. 6, 2009. Brody served in the Second Infantry Division in World War II and in the Army Air Force in Hondo, Texas, before resuming his education. He received a master's degree from Temple University and taught English and journalism at Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology before assuming the role of the director of the Office of Admissions. He was awarded an honorary doctorate in 1997. After retirement he worked as a substitute teacher in the Manheim Township and Lancaster City school districts.

He is survived by wife Martha (Allan) Brody, to whom he was married 66 years; a son, Bruce, Springfield, Va.; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

1954

George Joseph Elias of Mechanicsburg, Pa., died Dec. 20, 2008. He earned a master of science degree in secondary administration at Bucknell University and was employed as a teacher by Wyoming Seminary before working as a managing partner for General Roofing Co., an estimator for Suburban Roofing Co. and a supervisor with Houck Roofing Co.

He is survived by his daughter, Janilyn; and two adopted daughters.

Esther S. Wilson of Wyoming, Pa., died Jan. 3, 2009. She was a graduate of Nesbitt Hospital School of Nursing, class of 1939. She was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps in 1941. In 1942, she was one of 52 nurses assigned to the 77th Evacuation Hospital and served as the head surgical nurse caring for the wounded from the African, Sicilian, English, French and German fronts.

Wilson was discharged with the rank of captain and, through the GI Bill, received her bachelor's degree in nursing education from Wilkes College. She taught LPN students at Nesbitt Hospital.

She is survived by her children, Robert Jr., Plymouth Meeting, Pa., David, Tunkhannock, Pa., Dr. Janis Wilson Seeley, Shavertown, Pa.; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

1955

George Grabousky of Edwardsville, Pa., died Jan. 7, 2009. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was awarded the Purple Heart. He was a draftsman for Modern Design, Vestal, N.Y.

1957

Albert A. Broody, of Wilkes-Barre, died March 1, 2009.

Broody was a veteran of the Korean War, serving in the Marine Corps stationed in Europe. He was employed for many years by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources as a water-quality manager.

George Siles, Ph.D., formerly known as Jacob George Silewski, of Nanticoke, Pa., died Jan. 28, 2009. He taught at several colleges and universities. He is survived by children Erica Peterson and Kiera, Samantha and Zakariah Siles.

1958

Phyllis Judge Saldarriaga of Coral Gables, Fla., died Jan. 22, 2009. Surviving are her husband, Jaime Saldarriaga; her son, Luis Saldarriaga; daughter Mariluz Azan, Coral Gables, Fla.; and three grandchildren.

1959

Joan T. Oliver of Hudson, Fla., died Oct. 18, 2008. She was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Nursing School, Wilkes College and Trenton State and was a retired school nurse from Willingboro, N.J. She moved to Florida in 1989. Oliver is survived by husband Joseph; sons Thom, Lake Worth, Fla., and Tim, Suwanee, Ga.; and daughter Jody, Clover, S.C.; and brother Thomas Tierney, South Natick, Mass.

University Family Mourns Loss of Professor Matthew Zukoski '86

Matthew J. Zukoski '86, associate professor in Wilkes University's Department of Mathematics and Computer Science since 2002, died Jan. 31, 2009.

Zukoski's students recall his friendliness and willingness to go above and beyond to help and guide them. "He would do anything for his students," says Jason Wagner '09. "I remember times when we would be working through dinner on projects in the computer lab, and he'd knock on the door holding a loaf of bread and cheese and ask us if we wanted toasted cheese sandwiches."

He put others first, a quality that his students and advisees took to heart. "Go to his office on a random weeknight, and you'd find him helping a student with a math class that he didn't teach, or helping a local non-profit setup a Web site, or meeting with an advisee to change

his schedule—again. I'm not sure he experienced real spare time for years," says John Mishanski '07.

And Zukoski's willingness to help his students did not end when they left Wilkes. "After graduating from college, I decided to move to California to take a job," Mishanski explains. "I had spent a few months there previously, but it was still one of the scariest things I'd do in my entire life. Coincidentally, Dr. Zukoski was in San Francisco for a conference for a few days. He went out of his way to skip some conference sessions to spend time with me, taking my mind off of my worries."

Students remember Zukoski's joyful and positive outlook. "In three and a half years, I never saw him without a giant smile on his face," says Wagner. "And he



Matthew Zukoski '86

always gave the impression that there was nothing worth getting upset over, that there was nothing that we couldn't fix."

Zukoski, of Kingston, Pa., graduated from Hanover Area High School in 1982. He earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Wilkes, a master's degree in computer science from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and a doctorate in computer engineering from Lehigh University. He had been affiliated with Wilkes University in various capacities since he was a student. Zukoski also worked nearly eight years as a researcher in the Department of Radiology at the Hershey Medical Center.

Zukoski was a lifetime member of Holy Family Church, Sugar Notch, and was actively involved in many church societies. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus Holy Family Sugar Notch Council. An avid cyclist, he often participated in the "Five Boro New York City Tour," as well as other cycling events. He

was a *Seinfeld* trivia aficionado and devout New York Mets fan, with an annual hope that *this* was the year they would win the World Series.

In addition to his mother, Patricia, he is survived by brothers Paul, Olympia, Wash.; John Jr., Hanover Township, Pa.; Theodore, Slatington, Pa.; Dominic, Blairstown, N.J.; Christopher, Bethesda, Md.; and Joseph, Los Angeles, Calif.; and by sisters Mary Jo Zukoski '88, Fredericksburg, Va.; and Amy Maldonado, Potomac Falls, Va.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wilkes University for a scholarship in the name of Dr. Matthew J. Zukoski. Donations may be mailed to the attention of Evelyne Topfer, Wilkes University, 84 W. South St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766.

1971

John A. Nossal died Dec. 6, 2008. He was employed by the NEIU #19, teaching both remedial and talented math for 31 years. He lived in Clarks Summit, Pa., until his retirement in 2005 and loved attending Wilkes University football games. He is survived by his wife, the former Eileen Taylor, Corning, N.Y.

1972

Robert Carmen Amico of Pittston, Pa., died Jan. 6, 2009. He was employed at the Wilkes-Barre Area Vocational-Technical School as a business manager, retiring in 1997. He served in the U.S. Army as a SP5 from 1964 to 1967.

1974

Randolph S. "Randy" Yanoshak of Hanover Township, Pa., died March 6, 2009.

He was employed by Conair Corporation, having previously worked for Hanover Beauty Supply and Zotos Inc., and also bartended at Alexis Tavern, Hanover Township.

He was a member of the Hanover Township Board of Commissioners from 1982-1989 and served as president of the board. He was a member of the Mickey Noonan Chapter of the PIAA football officials, retiring in 2000 after 25 years of service.

His is survived by his wife of 36 years, the former Connie Soltis; sons Randy Jr., Wrentham, Mass., Ryan, West Point, N.Y., and Corey, Dover, Del.; and two grandchildren.

1982

Stephen M. Lokuta of Dupont, Pa., died Feb. 3, 2009. He had owned and operated the Stephen M. Lokuta Funeral Home, Dupont.

Dianne Marie Kolesar, CPA, MBA '84 of West Wyoming, Pa., died Feb. 5, 2008.

She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting and served as controller of Vector Security, Wilkes-Barre. She is survived by her mother, Victoria, West Wyoming; sister Victoria; and brothers George, Daniel and Michael.

Faculty/Staff

Hilma R. Belenski died on Jan. 17, 2009. She was employed by the food service department of Wilkes University.

She is survived by a daughter, Rose Mullally, Kingston, Pa.; a son, Thomas Belenski, Plano, Texas; and four grandchildren.

Friends

Mindi Thalenfeld of Dallas, Pa., died Feb. 24, 2008.

She was a graduate of the School of Visual Arts, New York City. She was well-known in the arts community, and her artwork was shown in numerous galleries in New York City, as well as many local venues. She was a member of the board of directors of the Sordoni Art Gallery at Wilkes University.

She is survived by her mother, Delores Smith Amerman, Kingston, Pa.; daughter Rebecca, Santa Fe, N.M.; son Adam, at home; and half-sisters Rona and Marsha.



Submitting Class Notes

Share personal or career news in any of three ways:

- E-mail it to wilkesmagazine@wilkes.edu.
- Post it at **The Colonel Connection** Web site at community.wilkes.edu.
- Or mail it to: **Class Notes
Wilkes Magazine
84 W. South St.
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766**



Freshmen arriving on campus years ago were subjected to a variety of indignities. Recognize any of these new Wilkes arrivals?

POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE

Brenda Kutz Burkholder '82 identified this photo as the class of 1982 graduation. She says the third person in from the right in the second row is Kathy Manning. In the front row, the sixth person in from the right is Brenda Kutz, seventh is Lorraine Edwards, and next to her is Gary Deeb.



PHOTOS FROM WILKES ARCHIVES



Today's freshmen spend a portion of their orientation volunteering in the community.

Share names or reminisce at The Colonel Connection message boards, found at community.wilkes.edu.

Or send responses to *Wilkes magazine*, 84 W. South St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766.

You can also e-mail wilkesmagazine@wilkes.edu.

calendar of events

June

- 6-7 Alumni trip to Washington, D.C.,
from Wilkes-Barre
- 16 Career Management in Uncertain
Times, Henry Student Center
- 22 John Chwalek Golf Tournament,
Wyoming Valley Country Club

July

- 11 Beach Bash, Lake Como, N.J.
- 19 Wilkes visits Finger Lakes
Wine Festival

October

- 9-11 Homecoming
(NOTE CHANGE!)

November

- 17 Outstanding Leaders Forum,
humanitarian Elie Wiesel



For details on times and locations,
check www.wilkes.edu and
The Colonel Connection!
Or phone **(800) WILKES-U.**