

Study Abroad Photo Contest gives community view of studying abroad



Photo courtesy of Dr. Godlove Fonjweng

Study Abroad programs can be varied to meet an individual student's needs and interests. One such place that students have traveled to is China. Here a student poses with fellow classmates from a Chinese university in Tiananmen Square in Beijing, China. The picture was taken during a weekend that consisted of a trip to the Great Wall of China.

BY MORGAN EVANS
Correspondent

Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Wales, Spain, Dominican Republic and South Africa are just a few countries students have visited, assistant professor of political science Dr.

Andrew Miller said. The best way to find out if you would be interested in Study Abroad is through peers, and looking at the photo memories that students have accumulated from their trips.

Director of Global Education Dr. Godlove Fonjweng and Miller,

coordinator of the international studies program, have announced that they are planning to release the "Wilkes Study Abroad Photo Book," which will be accessible in the E. S. Farley Library as a resource for students planning to study abroad. They turned to stu-

dents and faculty to help in the creation of this resource by sponsoring the first Colonels Abroad photo extravaganza.

The participants were asked to send personal photos taken from any type of study abroad trip while at Wilkes that will be judged along

with a description of why a submission represents the globalization process at Wilkes, or why a student should follow in their footsteps.

Only students were eligible to submit photos for a prize.

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Blood drives on campus

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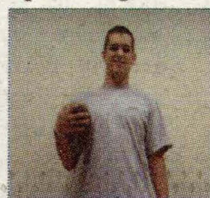
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Getting to know Alex George

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Beacon Briefs

BY AMANDA LEONARD
News Editor

PARTY IN PINK, ZUMBATHON FOR CANCER – The second annual Party in Pink charity event will be held from noon to 3 p.m. Oct. 8 at Memorable Occasions, located at 268 Main St., Duryea. The cost is \$10. Zumba dancing, raffles and guest instructors are scheduled.

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

LACKAWANNA COAL MINE TOUR AND ELECTRIC CITY MUSEUM TRIP – The Office of Diversity Initiatives is sponsoring the trip. The bus will leave at 8:45 a.m. Oct. 8 from Max Roth Center. The trip is free, however, seating is limited to 23 students. For more information or to reserve a seat, contact Erica Acosta, associate director of diversity initiatives, Center for Global Education and Diversity at the Max Roth Center, or email her at erica.acosta@wilkes.edu.

VOLUNTEER TO BE CONVERSATION PARTNER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT – The Intensive English Program (IEP) at Wilkes has created a conversation partner program. It's an opportunity for Wilkes University students to volunteer and be paired with an international student for the semester. They will meet once a week to chat, giving the American student a chance to learn about a new culture while helping an international student adjust to life in Wilkes-Barre, and giving the international student a chance to practice their English and make some new friends. The IEP has 47 international students from China, Korea and Saudi Arabia in need of conversation partners. If interested in volunteering to be a conversation partner, email kimberly.niezgoda@wilkes.edu

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

WEIGHT WATCHERS AT WORK – The Health Services Office has had employee and student interest in continuing the Weight Watchers at Work Program for the spring semester. It will be held at the workplace at a convenient time. It would be a Weight Watchers meeting, with a weekly weigh in and a half hour meeting. The cost is \$10 for each meeting. Weight Watchers has programs students can participate in for an eight week series and pay \$80 for a 10 week program paid in advance. If anyone would be interested in the program, call Health Services at Ext. 4730. to register for the Weight Watchers at Work program. A minimum of

15 participants is needed for the program.

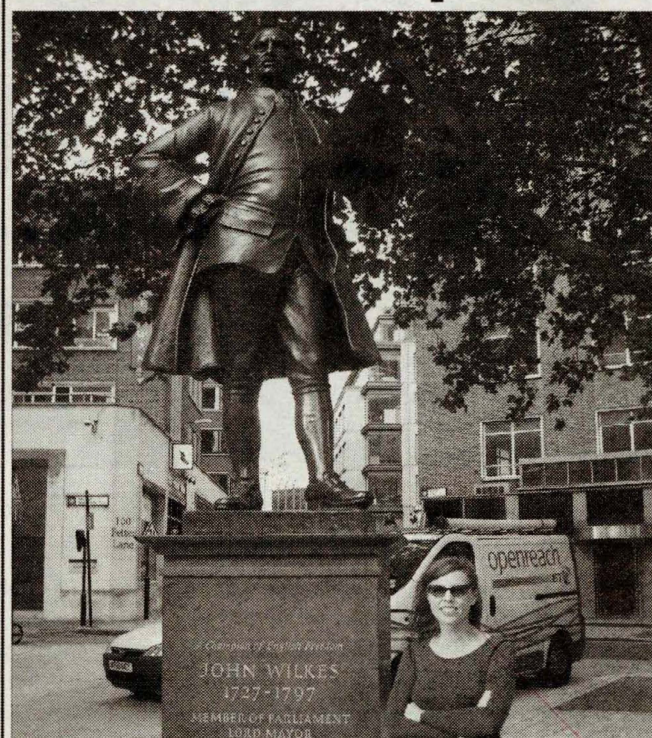
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS OF POLISH DESCENT – The Polish Room Committee Scholarship and The Judianne Stanitski Scholarship welcome applications from Luzerne County residents. To be considered, applicants must write a brief description of their Polish heritage and what that heritage means to him or her.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

CONTACT AMANDA LEONARD AT:
amandaleonard@thewilkesbeacon.com

CORRECTION:

In our Sept. 7 issue, *The Beacon* published that there is a job fair sponsored by Career Services on Nov. 9. However, On Nov. 9th at 6 to 8 p.m. Career Services is working with Wilkes Alumni Relations on a career education event for students called "Connecting the Dots - From Student to Professional." Alumni will be at information tables in the ballroom and students can stop in to find out how alumni have achieved success in their majors and careers. Alumni will not be soliciting resumes for employment, but want to help students to clarify their career goals and offer suggestions and connections to assist them in their career development. *The Beacon* apologizes for this error.

John Wilkes spotted in London



English professor Mischelle Anthony spotted a John Wilkes statue at Lincoln's Inns Fields in London, while on Sabbatical. John Wilkes was born in London and was first elected Member of Parliament in 1757. In 1774 he was elected Lord Mayor of London. He was found guilty of seditious libel and later joined the campaign for the freedom of the press, according to www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk.

Courtesy of Mischelle Anthony

BEACON

130 S. River St.
First Floor, Conyngham Hall
Wilkes University
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

PHONE: (570) 408-5903

WEBSITE: www.thewilkesbeacon.com

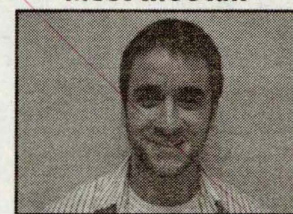
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UNDEF Executive Head Roland Rich presents lecture on democratization

Presentation kicks off year-long United Nations Lecture series at Wilkes

BY BILL THOMAS
Staff Writer

A radio station in Liberia run exclusively by women. A youth parliament in Lebanon giving teenagers a chance to better understand their government. A support network in Somalia for repressed journalists.

These are just a few of the projects instituted by the United Nations Democracy Fund to promote democratization around the world. UNDEF Executive Head Roland Rich described these and other projects during his recent Wilkes University visit, which had him speaking to both students and the general public throughout the day.

The visit entailed informal meetings with three different groups of First-Year Foundations students and a 3 p.m. lecture in Gies Hall at the Dorothy Dickson Dart Center.

"We want our students to have a global context for what they're learning here at Wilkes," said Wilkes' FYF Coordinator Ellen Flint, explaining the idea behind Rich's visit.

Rich's speech served as the inaugural offering of the United Nations Lecture Series. The series will bring speakers to the Wilkes

campus throughout the course of the 2011-12 academic year to discuss a variety of topics organized around the theme of "Human Security in the 21st Century: Challenges and Solutions." The series is being presented by Wilkes in partnership with the Higher Education Alliance for the United Nations.

Though Rich's speech was advertised to Wilkes students as dealing with the topic "Elections — Road to Democracy around the World," Rich freely admitted to shifting the focus of his lecture.

"I'm sorry, Mr. President, but I won't be talking much about elections," said Rich, following a brief introduction from Wil-

kes President Joseph Gilmour. "I don't want to talk about democracy, which is an enormous subject that really belongs more to the philosophy department. I want to talk about a real political science issue, democratization — how countries become a democracy."

Students who attended the lecture didn't seem disappointed by the altered direction. Junior history major Alex Madaya said she did not realize Rich's speech had been promoted as dealing with an election theme. Sophomore political science major Nour Elbattah argued that Rich's lecture was a valuable experience, regardless of his topic.

"It's not often you

get an opportunity to sit in on a speaker from the U.N.," Elbattah said. "The fact that Wilkes was able to give students that opportunity is something I think more people should take advantage of."

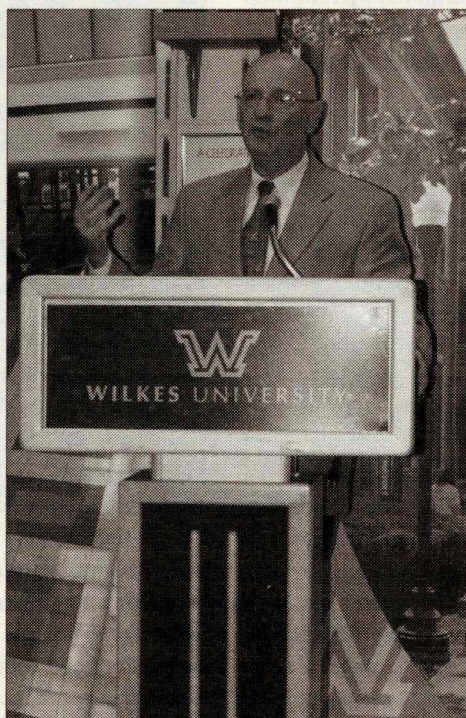
Following an explanation of the academic theories behind democratization, Rich exhibited a PowerPoint presentation which illustrated UNDEF's many efforts to put theory into practice, bolstering democratization in countries throughout Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America.

During the concluding Q-and-A session, Rich was quick to point out that one of UNDEF's primary goals is to give people around the world an opportunity to both explore and expand their freedoms within their homelands. However, he claimed, UNDEF isn't interested in telling people what they should do with those freedoms.

"We fund voice," Rich said. "We don't tell that voice what to say."

For more information about the UN Lecture Series, call 570-408-4306 or visit www.wilkes.edu.

CONTACT BILL THOMAS AT:
william.thomas4@wilkes.edu



The Beacon./Quyen Nguyen

Summer commencement canceled due to flood

BY ABBEY HALDEMAN
Staff Writer

Not only did the recent flooding cause trauma to homeowners Northeastern Pennsylvania, but it also put a stop to the summer commencement ceremonies scheduled to occur on Sept. 11 at Wilkes University.

The summer commencement for 2011 summer graduates has been cancelled and will not be rescheduled. Graduates are invited and encouraged to participate in the upcoming May graduation ceremony.

Dr. Paul Adams, vice president of Student Affairs, said "the flooding threat posed by the Susquehanna River and the mandatory evacuation in place in Wilkes-Barre," were the factors in canceling the ceremonies.

The decision was made by the University's President's Cabinet after the evacuation was put into effect on Sept. 4.

The entire Wilkes campus was evacuated for safety reasons and events scheduled on the weekend were postponed and some, such as the commencement, were canceled completely.

Just over 600 graduates had completed

their degrees at the end of summer and the 140 who had planned on attending were given the news that there would no longer be a ceremony via the university's emergency Web page.

When the university decided not to reschedule it was said to be because of short notice and only time they would be able to make it up would be in November.

It is questioned as to why the University would not reschedule the ceremonies for the following weekend or for the near future.

"In fairness to the participants and their families, we would never give such a short notice for a rescheduled ceremony," Dr. Adams said.

However, many graduates who

have worked hard to be able to attend a ceremonial gathering are disappointed that Wilkes canceled the ceremony and is not planning to reschedule it.

Laura Boone, 2011 summer graduate, was among the majority of students who expressed discontent in Wilkes' decision.

"I feel like canceling commencement was a slap in the face to the summer graduates," she said. "We worked just as hard as any other

graduates and instead of have a ceremony, ours was cancelled and we had to get our diplomas from the mailbox."

Graduates who had ordered their cap and gown to wear at graduation were instructed to keep them if they wish to participate in the upcoming May graduation.

Adams said most of the complaints or questions asked by the graduates were not about whether or not the ceremonies would be rescheduled, but as to when their diplomas would be mailed to them.

"I understood their initial reasoning for postponing it as they obviously had no choice with the flooding, but to not reschedule it at all was definitely upsetting to say the least," Boone said.

Originally, State Representative Eddie Day Pashinski was scheduled to speak at the commencement, but now Wilkes is not sure if or when he will be able to give a speech to the campus. Wilkes is considering asking him to do so for next summer's ceremony, holding out hope that the same situation does not happen again.

More information regarding the cancellation is available at <http://www.wilkes.edu/Include/MessagetooourSeptemberGraduates.pdf>.

CONTACT ABBEY HALDEMAN AT:
abbey.haldeman@wilkes.edu



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

Above is a photo from Wilkes' 2011 spring commencement. 2011 summer graduates can participate in this year's spring graduation in May.

Student Government approve money for Guitar Hero fundraising event

BY TODD ORAVIC
Assistant News Editor

Student Government passed a motion at the Sept. 28 meeting to donate \$400 to a Guitar Hero event hosted by a Relay for Life team that aims to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

Aaron Nikles, senior mechanical engineering major and captain of the relay team, presented the donation request.

"I've been a team member and founder of the team for the relay here at Wilkes, and this will be my fourth year," Nikles said. "Since it's my senior year, I want to go out with a bang, so I want to try to raise more than I've raised combined these past three years."

The Guitar Hero event will take place over two days. Tentatively scheduled dates are Saturday Oct. 22 and Sunday Oct. 23 in the Student Union Building.

Events on Saturday will include a Pay-to-Play event. Costs will be \$1 for five songs, \$5 for three hours of play, and \$10 for all-day game play. There will also be challeng-

es in guitar, bass, female vocal, male vocal and drums. On Sunday, a tournament with a buy-in cost of \$5 will be held. Tournament levels will range from easy to expert.

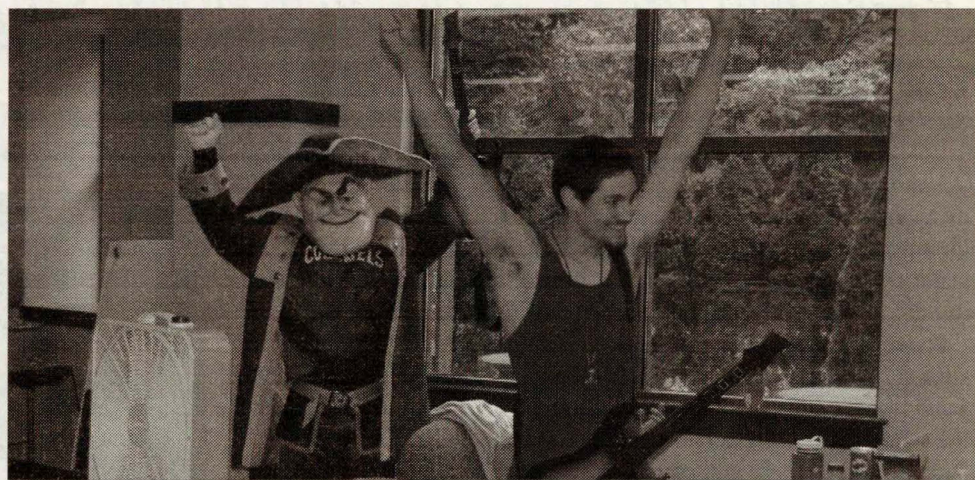
Prizes will be in the form of cash or gift cards. Projected prize amounts include \$20 per challenge winner, \$40 for an easy level tournament, \$55 for a medium, \$80 for a hard, and \$95 for an expert.

Corresponding Secretary Kevin Hopper discussed the importance of having these prizes to entice students to participate, providing his support for the donation request after the presentation.

"As far as the prize money goes, I think [Nikles] does need to offer some cool prizes because it's a weekend to start with - we come from a pretty apathetic university, kids go home on the weekends," Hopper said. "And as far as the interest, if he always has 150 people signed up for it, and they're all paying \$5, I'm sure he'll definitely beat his record last year for the amount he raised, so I think it's an awesome event."

All proceeds from the event will go to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

According to the Facebook page for the



The Beacon archives

Aaron Nikles celebrates after exceeding the Guinness World Record for consecutive Guitar Hero play. Nikles just received a donation for \$400 from Student Government to fund his third Guitar Hero event

event, sign-ups for the event will be held in the Henry Student Center during club hours and on the first day of the event.

Other business covered at the Student Government meeting included a community flood relief update. Regular Wilkes shuttles have stopped going to flood relief sites.

However, any clubs or groups interested in setting volunteer times would be able to arrange for transportation.

CONTACT TODD ORAVIC AT:
toddoravic@thewilkesbeacon.com

Wilkes University Internship Fair

Their next intern should be a COLONEL!

Oct. 20th, 11-1

Henry Student Center Ballroom

Target

Osterhaut Free Library

Unison (GE Corporation)

Sanofi Pasteur

The Institute of Human Resources & Services

TMG Heath Inc.

First Quality

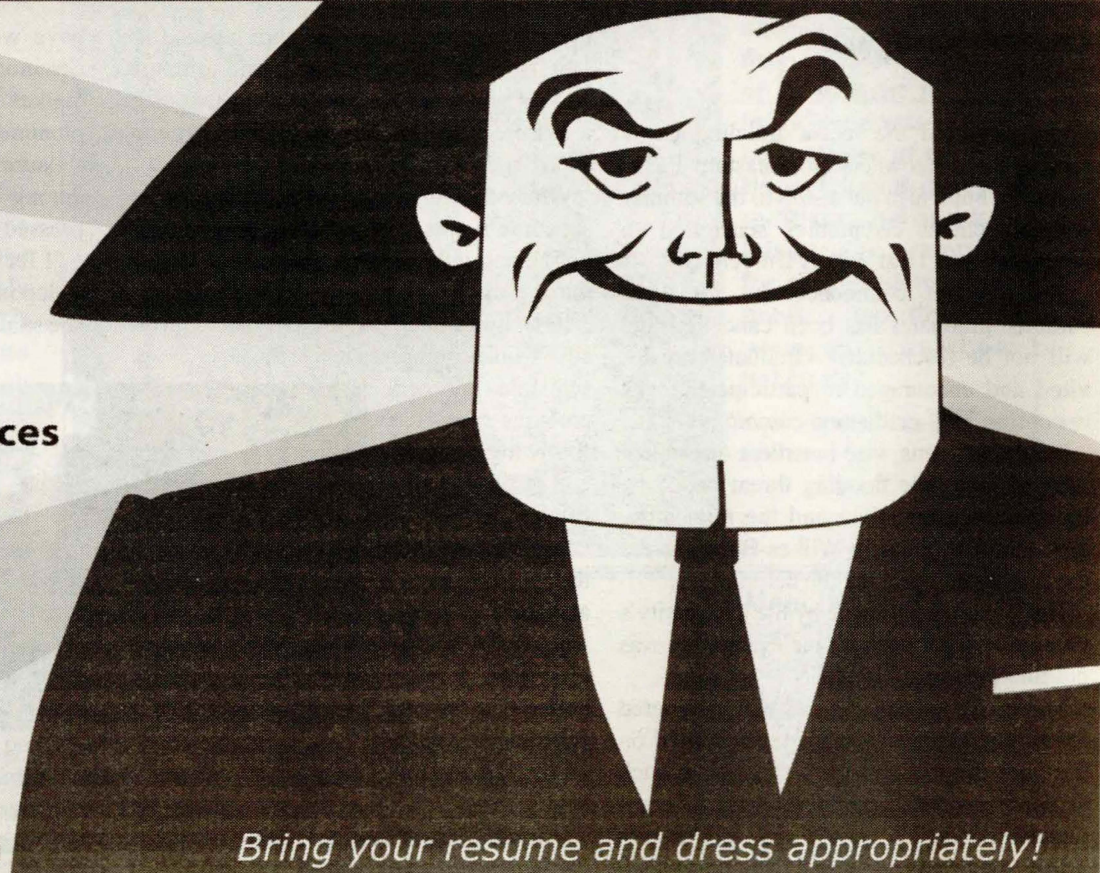
American Cancer Society

FOX56

and more!

Contact Sharon Castano:

(570) 408-2950 or sharon.castano@wilkes.edu



Bring your resume and dress appropriately!

Ten Wilkes faculty awarded tenure this August

BY KAT DODSON
Correspondent

This August, 10 faculty members earned a permanent home in the Wilkes family after completing the tenure process which, though long and tedious, provides multiple benefits for both the faculty receiving it and the broader university community.

Looking back on the lengthy and nerve-racking process, newly tenured associate professor of communications Evene Estwick said, "I'm relieved and happy it's over because it's quite an undertaking."

However, once the process is complete, the benefits of tenure far exceed the job security, pay raise and promotion experienced by those on the receiving end. Dean of Humanities Linda A. Winkler explains tenure as being "a commitment to the faculty member, but also important to the stability of faculty."

One factor that adds to faculty stability is academic freedom, which, explains Winkler, provides "a better setting for scholarly pursuit."

Jane Elmes-Crahall, a member of the Communication Studies department's personnel committee, said, "The intent originally was to make sure that I (the tenured) have a feeling of security, knowing that if what I'm teaching is correct and true, and is ethical and I can back it up, and I teach

well and do all these other things, I can't be fired because someone in the administration disagrees with me," she said. "It began as a freedom of speech issue and later evolved into job security."

Winkler, Crahall and Estwick all believe that when a university provides security for faculty it also secures quality of faculty

university is committed to keeping good people."

In addition to tenured faculties response, Winkler said, "Faculty can build upon their career when in a permanent position and faculty careers are also Wilkes careers and their scholarship benefits our students."

Crahall, too, thinks benefits for the tenured

are important to this department and university and how we see ourselves changing in the future."

She also feels that after spending six years with the university and being assured permanence, faculty will be more comfortable starting their own projects and classes.

"So the university really does benefit not only in terms of having more seasoned and proven teachers and mentors, but also from a curriculum point of view" Crahall said. "They will develop new programs that probably would not have been developed before they were tenured."

Newly tenured members of the Wilkes faculty, in addition to Estwick, include Associate Professors of pharmacy Scott Bolesta and Jonathan Ference, Associate Professors of nursing Susan Malkemes and Cherie Anne Soprano, Associate Professor of biology Lisa Kadlec, Associate Professor of mathematics Fanhui Kong, Associate Professor of business Justin Matus, Associate Professor of music Philip Simon and Associate Professor of English Chad Stanley.



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

Pictured above are: Chad Stanley, Cherie Anne Soprano, Evene Estwick, Fanhui Kong, Jonathan Ference, Justin Matus, Lisa Kadlec, Philip Simon, Scott Bolesta and Susan Malkemes.

by giving talented men and women in the teaching profession an incentive to teach there.

"There are a lot of schools moving away from tenure, so tenure makes Wilkes very attractive," Estwick said. "It shows that the

and benefits for the larger Wilkes community are inevitably intertwined.

"Tenure does provide job security, but it has more to do with how much they contribute and what we would lose if they're not here," Crahall said. "That's saying that you

CONTACT KAT DODSON AT:
katherine.dodson@wilkes.edu

Wilkes experiences power outages and Internet challenges

BY ALYSSA STENCAVAGE
Correspondent

Wilkes University has recently encountered several power outages and network challenges on campus. There have been numerous e-mails from the ITS department stating that there is a power outage in one building and Internet failure in another. While Wilkes hoped to start the academic year off strong in the IT department, the recent flooding has impeded this goal.

Wilkes faces a situation that involves students, faculty and professors, as they all rely on Wilkes' Internet and web portals each day. This lack of power causes frustration among those who depend on using the computers. This seems to be an ongoing issue and many are wondering: What is the reason for these technical difficulties?

Gloria Barlow, chief of Information Technology Services, sent out numerous emails

to the campus, notifying the community that the ITS department is "aware of the issues at hand and are working hard to fix each issue."

The recent flooding and evacuation has impacted Wilkes' ITS department. Within the past month, the campus has experienced interruption in telephone service caused by regional circuit failures with our telephone provider during Hurricane Irene. A quick shut down of Wilkes' systems also occurred in the face of a flooding threat caused by Tropical Storm Lee and hardware failures occurred and network systems were forced to be restarted.

"Restoring our network following the storms and hardware failure provide us with the opportunity to repair some of these past technical challenges and will allow for better reliability and sufficient use in our systems and campus infrastructure," Barlow said.

Because the entire campus constantly con-

nects to the Internet to access e-mail, contacts, photos, videos, coursework and other services at Wilkes, the interruptions that occur are not favorable.

"Wilkes' system is complex and all information and resources are stored on servers, computers and equipment throughout campus buildings and other locations," Barlow said. "However, no data has been lost on the University's academic or administrative buildings."

Dr. Paul Adams, vice president of Student Affairs said that it is a community effort to restore Wilkes' networks to its full capacity.

"Despite the many hardships our campus has recently been dealing with, working together with the campus community, vendors and service providers, additional network enhancements are being planned for quicker service continuity, easier access, and improved dependability as efficiently as possible," he said.

Technicians, contractors and service providers are making the necessary repairs and adjustments to each of these networks and systems.

"We are making progress, but we are working carefully and incrementally since networks and systems have interdependent components," Barlow said.

While progress is being made to alleviate the issues at hand, Adams is confident Wilkes will work through it.

"Please know that we understand and share your frustrations with these outages," he said. "We are committed to a satisfactory outcome for the short and long term."

The ITS department will send emails if any other issues arise.

CONTACT ALYSSA STENCAVAGE AT:
alyssa.stencavage@wilkes.edu



October 4, 2011

CONTACT EDITOR: anthonygoreczny@thewilkesbeacon.com

Wall Street protesters keeping democracy alive

BY KIRSTIN COOK
 Editor-In-Chief

If our founding fathers knew the kind of apathy that now afflicts America, they would be climbing out of their graves to shred the U.S. Constitution.

Our economy and overall standard of living have plummeted thanks, in part, to a few greedy bankers who are aided by a lack of regulation and the frequent conflict of interest within the government. For decades, U.S. citizens have regarded this deception with indifference. However, some people are no longer willing to sit idly by while they are robbed as they sleep. A new movement has emerged.

Occupy Wall Street is a movement to protest the corporate greed and political corruption that dominates America. According to occupywallst.org, the protesters are made up of any person or organization that "has an interest in returning the U.S. back into the hands of its individual citizens."

These protesters have been camping in Manhattan's financial district since Sept. 17, as reported by the Huffington Post. Their tactics have included a march across the Brooklyn Bridge on Oct. 1, spreading vocal messages and even distributing a newspaper, The Occupied Wall Street Journal.

These protesters are armed with signs and messages addressing many major issues that have been ignored by Americans for too long: the costly war, the corporate influence on political policies, negligence of the environment and the increasing wealth gap. Many are rightfully angry that bank CEOs were not punished for their causal relationship to the debt crisis.

These people are showcasing what democracy should look like and are speaking for the 99 percent of people who are given the leftovers of the wealthy, because apparently no one else is willing to. Research conducted by the Institute for Policy Studies shows that the top 1 percent of Americans possesses nearly 40 percent of the wealth in this country. This 1 percent has seen increases in wealth and income even during an economic crisis.

Business Insider reports the incomes of the top 0.01 of Americans averages 976 times greater than the bottom 90 percent. The remaining 99 percent of Americans have experienced a downward slope in income and

wealth, even while the cost of living rises. These citizens are being oppressed by the wealthy, yet many are hesitant to pursue their equality. This hesitancy is demonstrated by the relatively small group of protesters. CBS News reported that the group has peaked at a few thousand.

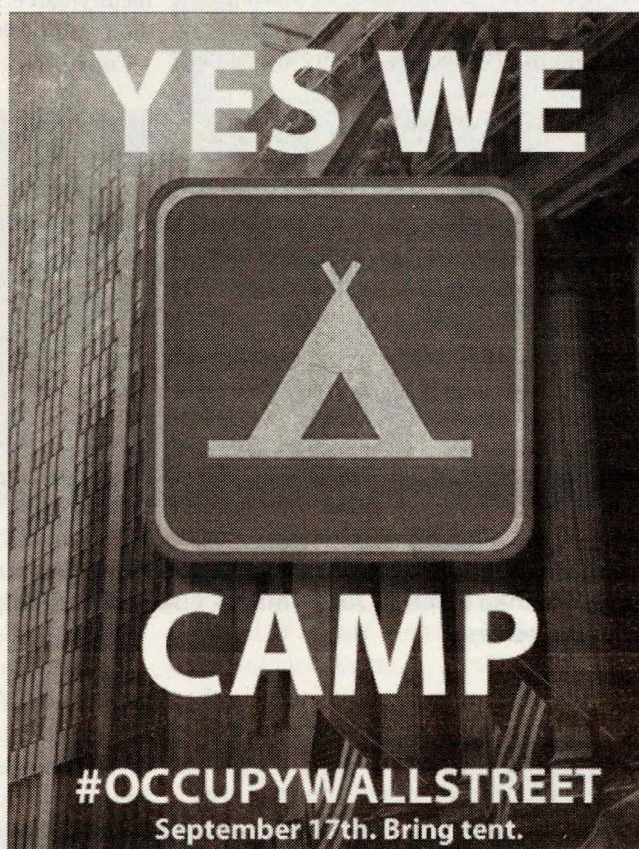
There are many unethical corporations that proliferate this socioeconomic inequality, and it appears that the only ones who care are the devoted individuals on the streets of New York City right now. The protesters have been highlighting the corrupt and unethical behaviors taking place in many major corporations, which have accelerated the decline of the economy.

A Rolling Stone article described some of these actions on the part of one specific corporation; the massive banking firm Goldman Sachs Group Inc. The magazine cites Goldman Sachs involvement in the crash of the housing industry, the spike of loan debt among Americans and the inflation of oil prices.

According to the article, Goldman Sachs manipulated consumers by falsely representing the quality of investments and monopolizing on defaulted mortgages and loans. To get away with such manipulation, they arranged for politicians with ties to the bank to become involved in the government. These politicians then relaxed the standards that had previously protected consumers from defaulting.

Of course, the big corporations profit when Americans cannot afford to pay them back, and consequently they hope to lend to the less fortunate. This is where having those conflicts of interest within the government really comes in handy for them.

That is just a taste of the highly documented corruption among corporations. For decades, Americans have wordlessly watched it happen. Finally, someone has decided to speak up for what is right. Occupy Wall Street is a movement to take the power away from the corporations and put it back into



Courtesy of Facebook

Posters such as the one above have been distributed throughout their Facebook page, which has nearly 60,000 'likes' as of Sunday, Oct. 2.

the hands of the people. These protesters are tired of being treated as mere profits.

Unfortunately, it appears that New York City police officers are trying to mute these advocates. CBS News reported that around 800 arrests have been made throughout the Occupy Wall Street movement. Police are claiming disorderly conduct to justify restraining the First Amendment rights of the protesters. Despite the police officers' attempts to silence the democracy that is being exemplified, protesters continue to find means to ensure their voices are heard and the sound of freedom prevails.

So if you hear the cry from Wall Street, know that it is the sound of democracy ringing. Know that you have a right and even a patriotic obligation to peacefully join the outcry against corporate tyranny. As Thomas Jefferson once stated, "All tyranny needs to gain a foothold is for people of good conscience to remain silent."

CONTACT KIRSTIN COOK AT:
 kirstincook@thewilkesbeacon.com

BEACON POLL

The Beacon poll is unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on the Wilkes campus. These poll results are based on 13 responses.

Last week's question:

Which homecoming events did you attend, if any?

- 54% I did not attend any events
- 31% Football Game
- 31% Dance
- 15% Alumni events
- 8% Community Service

This week The Beacon asks:

Have you contributed to the flood clean-up volunteer efforts?

- Yes
- No, but I plan to
- No, and I do not plan to

Cast your vote online at:
www.thewilkesbeacon.com

SPEAK UP!

The Beacon wants to hear your voice.

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

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

Students are looking for convenience in groceries

BY TIMOTHY FISHER

Staff Writer

As I established in last week's issue of The Beacon, Wilkes places seemingly dull eateries in convenient locations. Expanding on this underlying theme of the campus, I came upon a brilliant idea the other day. I had just pressed the elevator button at the University Towers building, when I looked to my left. In that space is a lounge that nobody uses.

Why is that? I strayed from the elevators and wandered into the lounge. An old television, microwave and a soda machine are all that are in the room. At one time, you could use the exit door within the lounge as another way to get out of the building, but not anymore. Observing the room, I concluded that something can surely be done with the derelict area.

Listening to my fellow students and peers, I noticed a recurring problem; there is no twenty-four hour convenience store on the campus. The follow-up reply usually was "yeah that would be great," or "man, that place would make money." Standing in that empty lounge and remembering these statements, I had an epiphany. A small twenty-four hour convenience store would be the perfect entity to fill the first floor lounge space in the University Towers building.

I, for one, most certainly do not go to bed at 9, 10 or even 11 p.m. I stay up until 1, 2, or 3 a.m. Most often, I am with friends or on my own doing school work. I get the munchies too, so much so that I can't stop thinking about eating. Sure, I buy food from Wal-Mart to offset my need to eat at 1 a.m., but sometimes I run out.

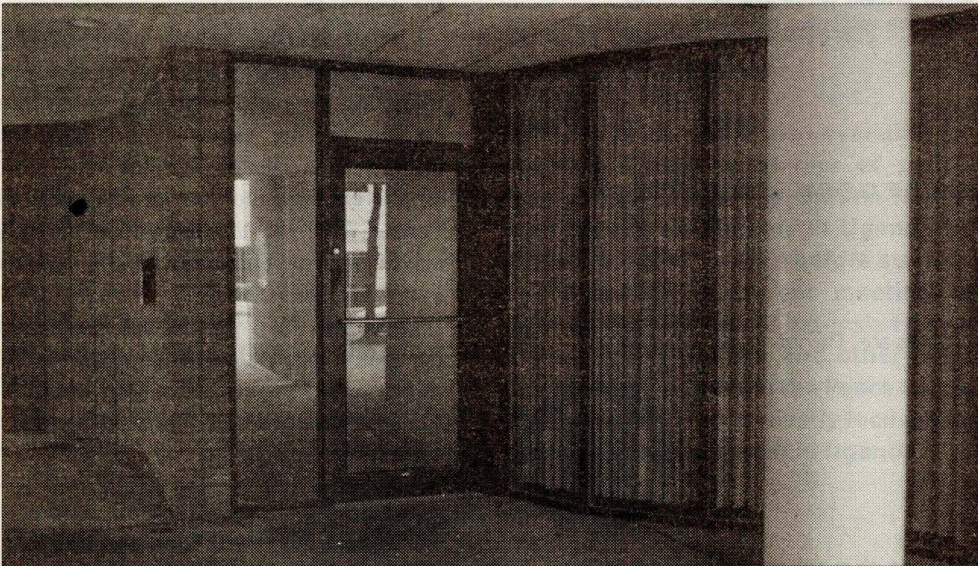
There is never enough food in my cabinet during the week, so I end up ordering Domino's. In the late night food industry, Domino's Pizza is king. However, I feel the school can cut in on this action and make some money. How? Put a convenience store in the first floor lounge of Towers. When I get hungry I could just mosey down the hall, ride the elevator, and walk into the new convenience store.

What would they have? Well, a couple of refrigerator coolers would be a start. One for beverages: soda, juice, water and energy drinks. The second cooler would contain a frozen section: pizza rolls, bagel bites, Eggo waffles and ice cream. Now for the few shelves they've got: pop tarts, cereal, cookies and protein powder.

The possible food items can be the same as any convenience store. What is the difference between a Rite-Aid and the "Wilkes Mart"? The Wilkes-located store can be more easily operated by the university, and it is located safely on the Wilkes campus, right next to the public safety office.

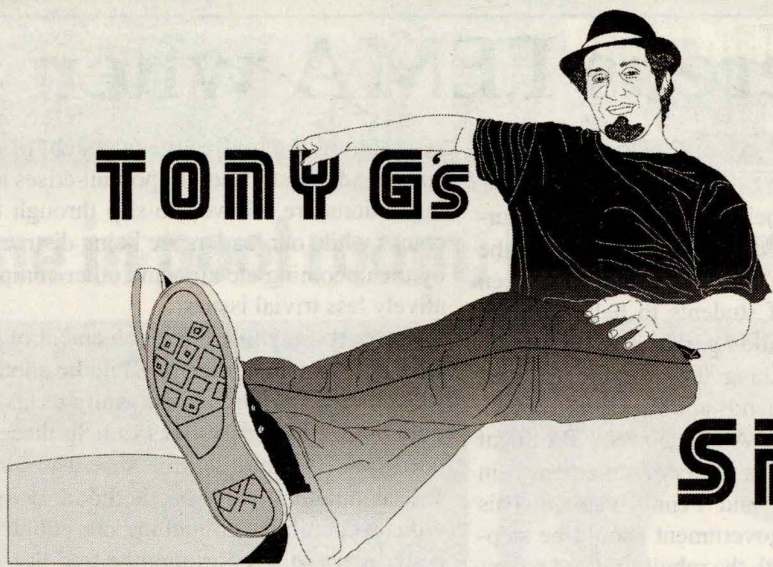
My conclusion is simple. Clear the Towers lounge, build a small convenience store there, and keep it open twenty-four hours. From these three stipulations emerges an idea with two principles in mind; ingenuity and common sense. I pose this question to you, the reader. Does Wilkes University have the common sense to see such a good idea? We'll see.

CONTACT TIMOTHY FISHER AT:
timothy.fisher@wilkes.edu



The Beacon/Laura Preby

TONY G'S



SPOT

The Facebook Update Fiasco

BY ANTHONY GORECZNY

Opinion Editor

As most people are well aware, Facebook recently released a new update for the design of the entire site. This is not the first of these updates, nor will it be the last. Yet every time one is released, the new layout is a trending topic in dorm rooms, classrooms and girls' bathrooms. There are two common similarities in each episode of "New Facebook Layout Anxiety."

The first is that no one ever sees it coming. The lack of foresight comes primarily from the fact that large numbers of people who use Facebook are not that involved in or concerned with its development. The average user is more concerned with their Words with Friends account or his or her best friend's newest photo album. There are many development forums where users talk about the updates and new features.

If Facebook users were truly so concerned about new updates and releases they would check the forums much more often. In reality, very few users check the forums regularly, or are even aware of them. This shows that few users truly care what the page layout is. If these people did care, they would check the forums and would know about the next update for at least a couple days beforehand. Few people seem to care about the layout enough to do anything about it, but many enjoy complaining about it.

The second similarity is that once the update is released, the vast majority of users have a very strong dislike for the new layout or feature. Multitudes of people are posting about how much they liked the old layout better and how they wish Facebook would bring it back.

I thoroughly enjoy watching this play out after every update because it is clear one of three things is happening: People are mas-

sive hypocrites and lie constantly, people enjoy talking about just about anything and don't always pay attention to what they say, or Facebook secretly resets everyone's mind every time they send out a new update.

Though my favorite is the mind rebooting theory, I unfortunately have to admit that the most likely explanation is the lack of attention to conversation. For example, I have seen my good friend Augustine Xavier Robins update his status in a similar matter after the two most recent updates. Both times he proclaimed his dislike for the new layout, and how much he preferred the old one. Many other people have shown similar patterns of behavior and this shows that people are, for the most part, indifferent to the actual functional layout of Facebook, and care more about how many people they can get to like their status.

One other possible conclusion is that each subsequent update has been worse than all the previous ones. That would indefinitely lead to an overall decrease in the number of users. According to the timeline available on Facebook, the site just recently reached over 750 million users. This is undeniable proof that the updates are not getting worse.

I personally enjoy the new layout. It is very streamlined and gives users quick access to the information that is most important to them. Pictures are larger in the news feed and the real-time feed on the side of the page is very useful. I am also pleased to see that they fixed one of the few problems I did have with the site. In the previous update the chat system received a makeover that I always found quite bothersome. That change has been undone and the old chat has been returned.

The Facebook team is a large group of highly intelligent people who seem to have

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Where is FEMA when the community needs it?

BY THE BEACON

In an effort to help those people in the surrounding areas that were devastated by the recent flooding, Andrew Miller has been taking groups of students to help with the cleanup and rebuilding effort. Many people have lost everything they own, and some have even lost friends and family members.

According to ABC News, President Obama declared a state of emergency in both New York and Pennsylvania. This means that the government should be stepping into help with the rebuilding and recovery of the flooded area. *The Beacon* wants to know why, despite this mandate and the clear damage, government involvement appears to be almost entirely absent.

The vast majority of support for the victims of the flood has been coming from the citizens and students around the area. Miller stated, "I have seen only one government official in the three weeks that I have been there, and it was an official from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. What I have seen a lot of is churches, students, and people who just call up asking what they can do to help."

This is both appalling and heartening news. *The Beacon* is surprised at the lack of government involvement. The complete absence of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the devastated areas is a

symptom of the ineffective oversight of the current administration. Important crises and institutions are allowed to slip through the cracks while our leaders are being distracted by the upcoming election and other comparatively less trivial issues.

However, to ignore the involvement of the local students and citizens would be another gross oversight. The people who are taking time out of their busy lives to help those in need are demonstrating true American spirit. We, as a nation, are a brotherhood of individuals committed to making our country a better place to live through the tradition of individual achievement, and there are few achievements that fill you with the same sense of pride and good fortune as helping a fellow American who has come upon difficult times.

The American government is supposedly "of the people, by the people, for the people." *The Beacon* wants to know where are the people? Are they in sitting in plush offices in Washington, D.C., drinking coffee and chatting about the next election? No. They are in NEPA and they are quite literally shoveling piles of garbage out of their houses. Students who wish to get involved and help out the community should email Dr. Miller at andrew.miller1@wilkes.edu.

CONTACT ANTHONY GORECZNY AT:
anthony.goreczny@thewilkesbeacon.com



The Beacon/Caitlin Czeh

Student Government President Wille Eggleston and Samantha Bickert help clean up damage from the flooding.

UPDATING

Continued from page 7

a pretty good grasp on how to run the site. Most of the drama over the site stems from the users, and if they really wanted to stop the drama, they could.

I understand that people need something to talk about, but at least try to avoid contradicting yourself or posting crazy things on your profile. Other people notice these things. Best friends, crushes and possible employers log onto your profile every day. People have the tendency to make themselves appear unintelligent through their Facebook use.

Try not to fall into this trap and remember that your profile is often one of the first things a person sees when they are getting to know you, and first impressions count for a lot.

CONTACT ANTHONY GORECZNY AT:
anthony.goreczny@thewilkesbeacon.com

JUST
SAY
NO

TO
FACEBOOK'S
NEW CHANGES

Like

JOIN PETITION

Jim

The new layout sucks bunghole. The old version was better as it allowed you to see what you missed over the past few hours or days. Change it back, bunghole suckers!!!

Like · Comment · September 27 at 9:58am

Shatha

hey facebook where is my privacy when everyone of my friends see wt i like wt i comment STOP this we will leave u and move to google plus

September 24 at 6:03am · Like · Comment

Jared

PROTEST TO MARK ZUCKERBERG: WE WANT THE OLD FACEBOOK PROFILE! WE WANT THE OLD FACEBOOK PROFILE!

Like · Comment · Friday at 9:23pm

Damon

Who are facebook to tell me what MY top stories are. I'm not stupid, I can work these things out for myself.

Like · Comment · Friday at 4:19pm

Joanie

Zuckerberg's an ass

Like · Comment · Friday at 9:02pm



A collage of Facebook status updates and group and likepage profile pictures assembled to show the opinions of several Facebook users.

Commuters like spending free time in pool room, lounge in SUB

BY HOLLY BOYER
Assistant Life Editor

For students who live on campus or close to it, going back to your dorm or apartment is easy to do between your classes.

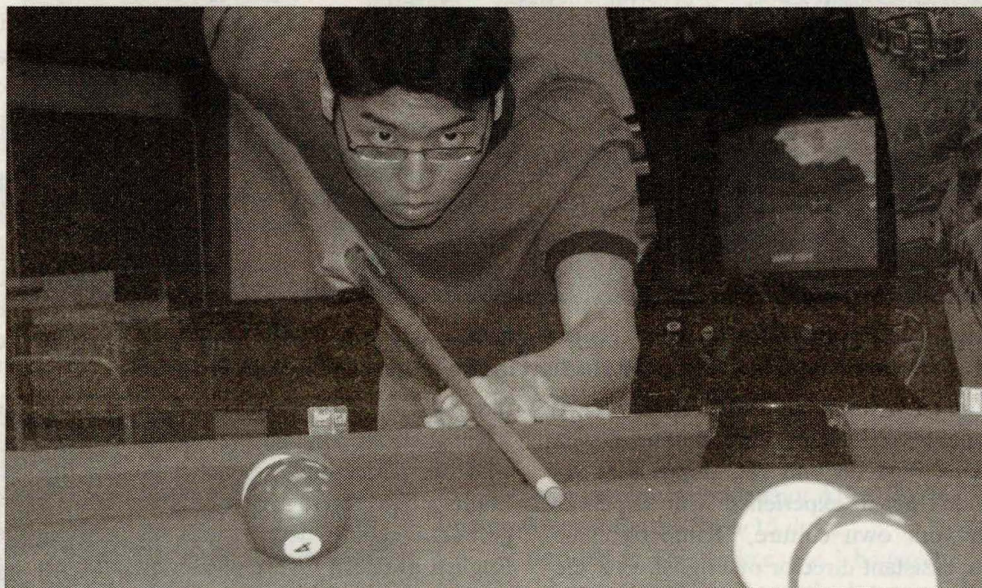
But for commuters, it would not be convenient to drive back and forth to their homes between classes. Fortunately, the university has provided commuters with multiple areas that they can utilize in between the times that they have to be on campus for classes.

Two of the more popular places on campus that commuters enjoy spending their free time in are the lounge and poolroom located on the first floor of the Student Union Building. Junior psychology and English major Ashley Bringmann is one commuter that spends some of her time in the SUB lounges.

"I enjoy spending time in the (lounge), it gives me a place to go and relax and hang out with people," Bringmann said. "It's a way to feel more involved and a part of campus."

Often commuters spend about five to six hours a day in between classes congregating in these lounges. In the lounge, students have multiple couches and tables to hang out, socialize or to sit down and do school work in their spare time. In the poolroom there are various gaming opportunities, from the pool table to arcade games.

Sophomore criminology major Ashley Rash is another commuter that regularly spends her time in the poolroom. Rash says



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Junior computer information systems major Tim Cheung, a commuter, plays pool in the poolroom. Commuters like to congregate in the poolroom and lounge on the first floor of the Student Center because of its central location on campus.

they also sometimes play cards or watch YouTube videos to pass the time.

The SUB lounge room always has students relaxing in it. Junior elementary education major Amanda Coombs is one commuter who likes to meet with her friends there.

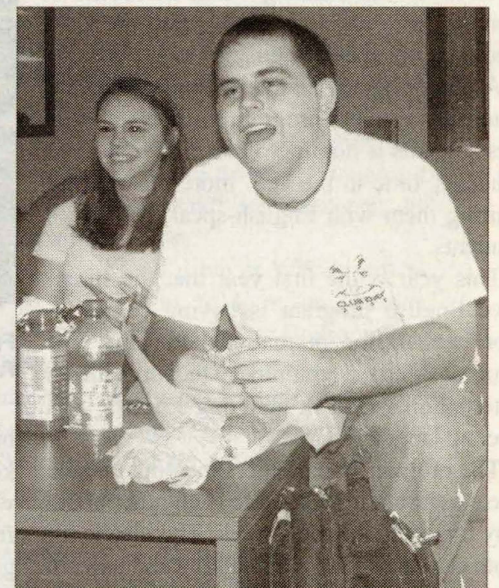
"Our group likes to sit in a circle and just talk. We have a lot of fun and it gives us a chance to unwind from the stresses of the semester," Coombs said.

Other places that commuters can spend

their free time in are the library and the commuter lounge in the basement of Conyngham Hall. Study areas and the writing center in the library are great places that students can get a lot of schoolwork done. Unfortunately, due to the location of the commuter lounge, many stray away from it.

"The commuter lounge is creepy. I don't like the idea of going to a basement to hang out," Rash said.

Bringmann adds that the commuter lounge



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Two commuters enjoy lunch in the SUB first floor lounge. This lounge is popular with commuters to hang out.

is in an odd location, which contributes to why students are never there.

"It would be nice to move the commuter lounge to somewhere more convenient and accessible for commuters," Bringmann said. "Conyngham Hall is out of the way and closer to the dorms than the parking lot, I have no reason to go over there."

On the other hand, the pool room and the SUB lounge are easily accessible and better

SEE COMMUTERS,
Page 11

STUDY ABROAD

Continued from FRONT PAGE

Even though faculty and staff were not eligible, they were encouraged to participate up to three photos each for submission into the on campus photo exhibition and to be published in the resource guide.

First prize will receive \$150, second prize will receive \$100, third prize will receive \$50.

The prize award ceremony will be held Tuesday, Oct. 11, in the Student Union Building lounge 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For those interested in the future, you still have a chance share with the Wilkes community your story, Miller plans on continuing this contest in future years.

CONTACT MORGAN EVANS AT:
morgan.evans@wilkes.edu

Left: Study abroad is also available for professors. Here, professor of sociology and anthropology Dr. Jim Merryman speaks to villagers in Uganda by speaking fluent Swahili before starting a community assesment meeting in Uganda. Merryman has extensive travel experience in Uganda and other parts of Africa, starting off in the Peace Corps. His work in Africa has mostly focused on the impact of wells built in Uganda.



Courtesy of Dr. Godlove Fonjweng

Language Partners help International students learn English

BY CHRISTINE LEE
Life Editor

Going away to college for the first time is often intimidating for students, but it can be even more intimidating when a student is coming from another country into the U.S. and does not speak English.

A new program that pairs students in the Intensive English program with other Wilkes students is hoping to make international students' time in the U.S. more pleasant by pairing them with English-speaking Wilkes students.

This year is the first year that the Intensive English program is having conversation partners for international students. The program pairs a volunteer student with an international student studying English as a second language.

The program has partners meeting outside the classroom by talking to each other about any topic about once a week. The idea is for both students to have fun talking and to learn new things about each other and each other's cultures.



The Beacon/Christine Lee
Freshman international studies major Kayla Rooney chats with language partner Abdullah Zamil, who is a first year student in the Intensive English Program.

"You get to ask what it's like in Saudi Arabia, have you visited other countries, what kind of food do you eat, things that you wouldn't get to experience with somebody from your own culture," Kimberly Niezgoda, assistant director of English as a second language services, said. "It's becoming friends with somebody from another cul-

ture."

Niezgoda says the program gives students who are taking ESL a chance to practice English. The international students are not part of university life but are in the Intensive English program taking classes five days a week in intense English.

"They want a chance to just hang out with

an American and someone who's not studying English with them and practice their skills," Niezgoda said. "It's up to each individual what they talk about."

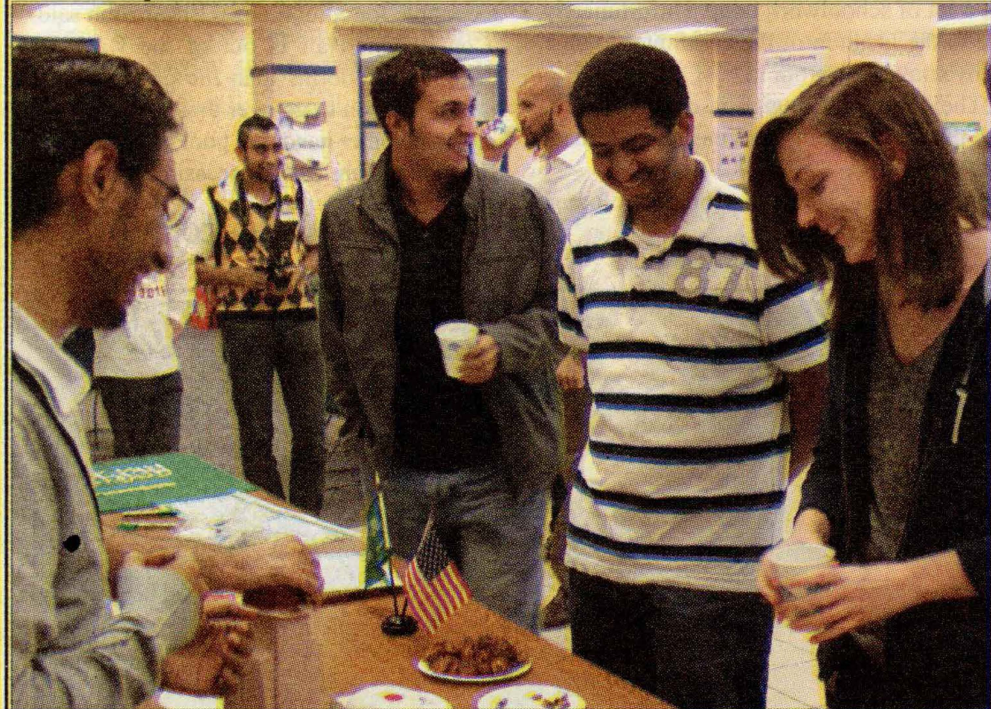
Niezgoda said a lot of companies are looking to hire someone with global experience and being a conversation partner can increase one's own global awareness and get places with their careers.

"I'm looking forward to learning about his culture and learning new things about different countries," freshman accounting major Molly Hinkel said. "(And) just being able to comprehend other cultures and appreciate diversity in America and appreciate other cultures."

Hinkel said that it is worth it to be a language partner because you never know what you'll learn about your partner. Sophomore business administration major Michael Carone says he talked on Skype with high school students from Vietnam and wanted the chance to speak face-to-face with an international student.

SEE PARTNERS,
Page 11

Saudi Arabian National Day Celebration



The Beacon/Michael Klimek

On Friday, Sept. 30 the Center for Global Education and Diversity hosted Saudi Arabian National Day in the Henry Student Center. The event celebrated Saudi Arabian culture and included samples of native foods, flags, and traditional Saudi Arabian attire for students to try on. Observed on September 23, National Day celebrates the unification of the kingdoms of Nejd and Hejaz in 1932. The celebration took place in part because of the large number of students from Saudi Arabia.

OPINION
SPORTS
NEWS
A&E
LIFE

WILKES UNIVERSITY

thewilkesbeacon.com

Giving the gift of life with Red Cross blood drives

BY DOMINICK COSTANTINO
Staff Writer

Each year, millions of people are in need of blood and each year many voluntarily give their own blood out of the goodness of their hearts.

Wilkes University happens to hold blood drives throughout the school year to help the American Red Cross.

The most recent blood drive was held in the Henry Student Center Ballroom on Sept. 15. The goal for this blood drive was to have 55 donors.

The goal was exceeded with about 79 people showing up. Out of the participants, they got 67 productive units of blood.



"The canceling of Club Day helped out the September blood drive because normally most students would be at club day and not giving blood," community service coordina-

"The neat part of being a blood donor is that you can save up to three lives,"
-Megan Boone.

tor Megan Boone said.

Boone said that donating blood actually makes a difference in saving lives, which is a good incentive to participate.

"The neat part of being a blood donor is that you can save up to three lives," Boone said.

Junior communications major Allie Naumann donated for the Sept. 15 drive.

"I decided to donate because I haven't had the chance to donate in a while. It was a good experience, and I plan to donate at the next drive," Naumann said.

Blood drives are held at Wilkes University every 56 days. Most of the blood drives are held in the ballroom. The typical blood drive runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The day of the week varies, but they are usually held on Tuesdays or Thursdays during club hours.

Once a blood drive is announced, individuals can register with Boone through email, or they can register on the American Red Cross website.

First time donors will need to bring a driver's license. Regular donors can bring their donor card. Also, Food Services at Wilkes provides food items for those concerned with low blood sugar.

"We have a mix of students, faculty and staff who donate at our drives," Boone said. "Many faculty and staff are consistent donors for all our drives."

The next blood drive at Wilkes will be held on from 10a.m. to 4p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 29 in the Student Center Ballroom.

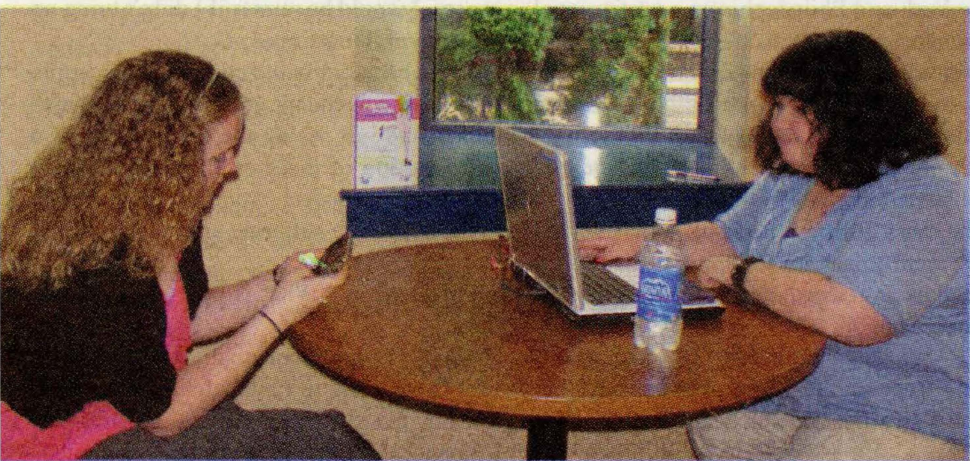
Boone said those interested in coming should stay healthy, get enough sleep, drink a lot of water and increase iron consumption.

"During the winter months, we get a lot of defers because of health reasons," Boone said.

According to the American Red Cross website, the flooding on Sept. 8 forced the cancellation of more than 29 blood drives, which is causing a shortage.

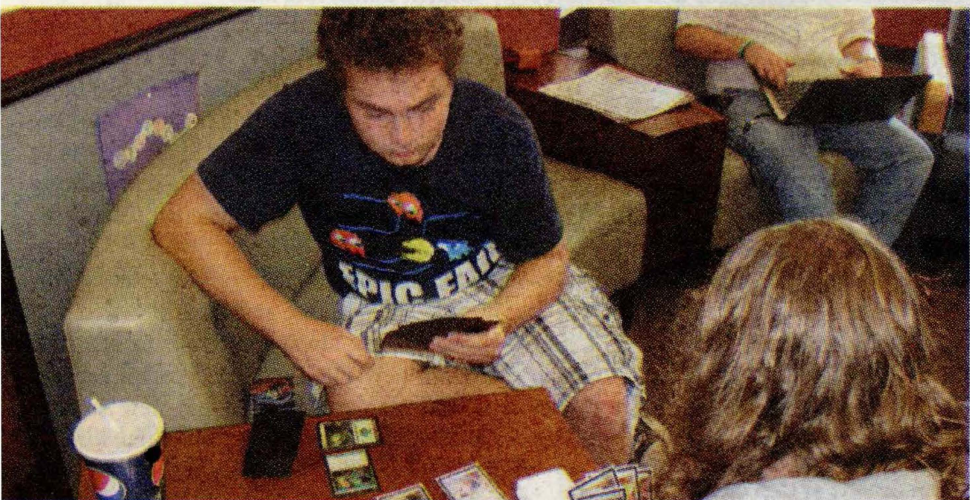
"Anyone eligible to donate, please try," Boone said.

CONTACT DOMINICK COSTANTINO AT:
dominick.costantino@wilkes.edu



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Junior elementary education major Amanda Coombs and junior history major Samantha Hunter, both commuters, check devices in the Student Center lounge.



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Two commuters play a card game in the SUB poolroom. The pool room is a popular spot for commuters to relax, play games and socialize with friends.

COMMUTERS

Continued from page 9

campus life, which is why many commuters spend their down times playing games and socializing with their friends there.

They enjoy using the SUB lounges during

the day, although they would love for the addition of a television as well as more soda machine options.

CONTACT HOLLY BOYER AT:
hollyboyer@thewilkesbeacon.com

PARTNERS

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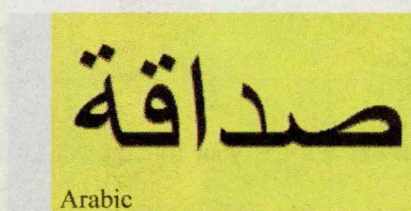
"It was the same thing except it was over the computer and I thought it would be fun to do it in person," Carone said. "I'll be able to help him with his conversational English skills and we'll learn about each others' cultures."

Students in Intensive English program are excited to have language partners as it gives them a chance to practice their English skills and to learn more about American culture and to have a good time.

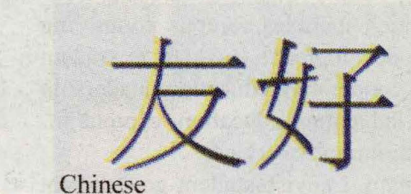
"To have an English partner, you improve your cultural awareness and (get) new information you didn't have before," Intensive English student Bader Alsalamah, who is from Saudi Arabia, said, "I'd like to talk about his culture because I don't have a lot of information about American culture is and to have a fun time with him."

ESL students also find that having a language partner will help them to get better at their English language skills and want to talk to students.

"It's my aim to improve my English



Arabic



Chinese

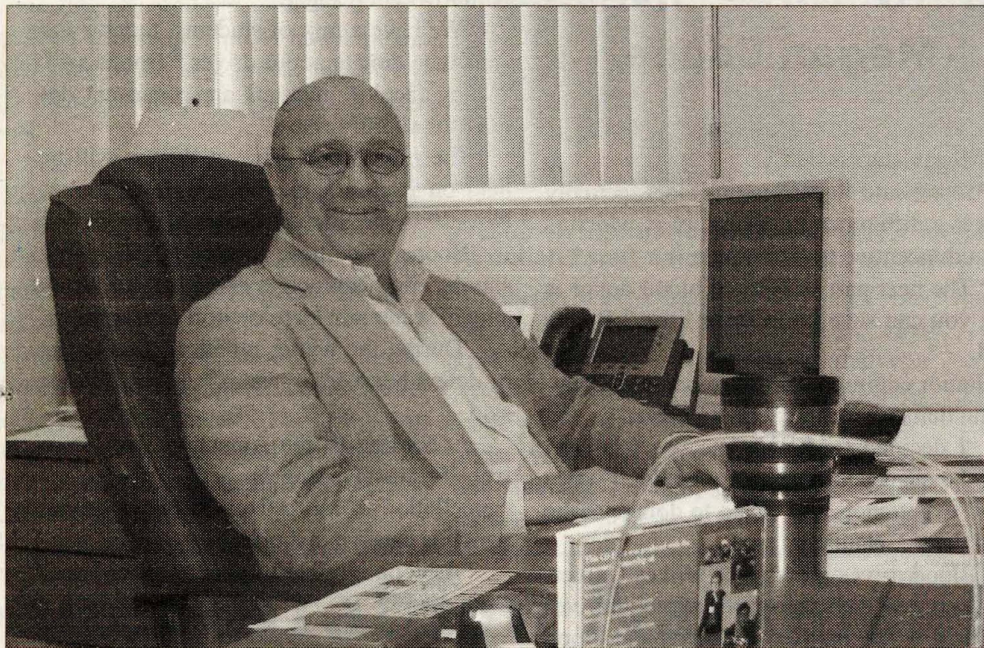
- "Friendship"

language for that reason I want help from (Molly)," Faisal Alghamdi, another Intensive English student from Saudi Arabia, said, "It's a very good way to learn a new language."

CONTACT CHRISTINE LEE AT:
christine.lee@wilkes.edu

Unimportant Questions with Important People

MARK ALLEN
DEAN OF STUDENT AFFAIRS,
ADVISER OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Dean Mark Allen pictured in his office, which is located on the second floor of Pas-san Hall. Allen says he is surrounded with successful, intelligent people working in the multitude of departments he works with.

BY KIRSTIN COOK
Editor-in-Chief

The Beacon: What is your role on campus?

Allen: As dean of students, I have responsibility for residence life, health and wellness – which includes campus counseling – student development – which is student activities, cooperative education, leadership programs, adventure education, campus interfaith, community service.

Additionally I advise student government ... and I also facilitate the judicial council on campus which is the final appellate group for students who have been found guilty of infractions of university policy. And then I help coordinate large scale projects like commencement and new student orientation and those sorts of activities.

I do teach, and I'm very passionate about that, I teach two first-year foundation courses, one in leadership studies, the other in American culture and values, which is a class that includes all of our first year international students as well as about domestic

students, so I thoroughly enjoy that.

And I teach topics classes in sociology in the spring, so that's a part of my life outside of student affairs where I get to see students at a totally different level, as a student-teacher relationship.

The Beacon: What is the best part about your role?

Allen: Clearly, working with students, and I don't mean to sound cliché, as dean of students. There's this old exterior (to me), but on the inside I stay young just by working – in my job, I'm very fortunate that I meet 500-600 new people a year, and I get to watch them as first year students that grow and fulfill their hopes and dreams and graduate, and of course as alumni – and having had the benefit of being here over 25 years.

I observe doctors and lawyers and teachers, all sorts of folks who have graduated come back, and talk to me. For me to feel that I've had some small part of their success is extremely gratifying.

The Beacon: What is the most difficult part of your position?

Allen: There's always challenges whenever you're dealing with human behavior, and we have wonderful students for the most part.

There will always be those challenges, whether it be dealing with issues of mental health or behavioral sorts of issues – those can be very challenging, very time-consuming, because you're trying to balance what's in the best interest of the student in crisis versus what's in the best interest of the campus at large, so that can add some stresses to the job.

The Beacon: Is there something people would be surprised to know about you?

Allen: I have two children who are both very musically oriented. My son is a musician in Philadelphia and teaches at the University of the Arts but also plays in several bands, does studio work and goes between New York and Philadelphia as a professional musician.

And my daughter is in her first year of college to be an opera singer. So both are very musically inclined, and I credit that to having brought them up in a house of listening to all different types of music.

The other quirky little thing is that I originally went to school to be a weatherman. I started as a meteorology major but changed as time went on.

The Beacon: Did you ever consider becoming an artist or a musician like your children?

Allen: I have very little talent. Frankly I played the accordion for about two weeks. It's remarkable that my son is a master of woodwind instruments and my daughter has a beautiful soprano voice, but I have none of those talents.

The Beacon: What is in your refrigerator right now?

Allen: I think whatever I can put ketchup on. If people eat lunch with me they will have seen ketchup go on just about everything.

I was in a Parisian restaurant and the waiter brought me a plate, and I made the mistake of asking for a little ketchup for it, and that was particularly offensive to him. I consider it a food group.

The Beacon: If you were an animal, what type of animal would you be?

Allen: It would probably be from the cat family I would think, because I picture a cat or a tiger or a lion as an animal that doesn't relax often, and given the nature of my work and even in home life I am continually busy with some things.

The Beacon: Are there any television

shows that you are currently watching?

Allen: For the most part it would be either watching the occasional football game – I'm an avid New England Patriots fan, and a Boston Red Sox fan – a little bit of the History Channel.

I enjoy history, and the only show I would watch fairly faithfully is "The Office," I find it very funny, even as they change people out of it, it still continues to be fresh, that would be my favorite.

The Beacon: If you were to win a million dollars, what is the first thing you would do with it?

Allen: I would like to be totally philanthropic and give it to a variety of causes, but there's a piece of me that would want to make sure the mortgage and kid's loans and all of that were covered, but I certainly would want to put a large portion to worthy causes. I would be remiss if I didn't bring up the current flood situation.

I have been out in the community a couple of times with student groups, clearing basements, and just seeing the devastation -- a large portion of that million dollars, which would only be a dent, would go immediately to those that are suffering around us.

The Beacon: What is your favorite pastime?

Allen: I play racquetball. And then a lot of it is traveling to Philadelphia, New York, Washington to either see plays, musical performances or something culturally oriented.

The Beacon: So you're very into culture – theater, things like that?

Allen: Yeah, I derive energy out of that creative arts experience. Music is kind of a driving force in my life, and I also like other areas of the arts, including painting, movies, plays; it's just an area I tend to gravitate to as a form of stress relief and also a rejuvenating energy that comes from the creative arts.

The Beacon: What are you looking forward to in the future at Wilkes?

Allen: It's always exciting to see new growth, new building going on on campus ... and taking a look at the new science building, that's exciting, I think that kind of a project breeds enthusiasm among the community, whether you're a biology major or an English major, you see that growth and you feel like you're part of something exciting.

CONTACT KIRSTIN COOK AT:
kirstincook@thewilkesbeacon.com

Local bands perform to aid flood victims in their time of strife

NEPA venues hope to heal through entertainment and fundraising

BY BILL THOMAS
Staff Writer

The flood of Irene wrought a scene of devastation that many NEPA residents had never seen before. For Kingston native reggae artist George Wesley, it was a tragic flashback.

"I witnessed and actually worked in Agnes in '72, when I was 18," he explained. "I remember it very well. These are the kinds of things that are only supposed to happen once in a lifetime."

Now, Wesley is hoping to do his part once again. He is among several local musicians who contribute to the relief effort by performing benefit concerts. On Sunday, Oct. 9, Wesley will join an eclectic line-up of six acts playing at the River Street Jazz Café in Plains; proceeds will be donated to the Wyoming Valley chapter of the American Red Cross.

In recent weeks, similar events have been held at the Genetti Conference Center, Liam's Place and Redwood Art Space in Wilkes-Barre. Area artists are eager to provide whatever consolation they can to the many flood victims, through both music and fundraising.

"I've been affected by flooding before," said Rob Rosencrans, singer for Skin-n-Bones, a Scranton rock band that will be playing a separate flood relief concert at Diane's Deli & Internet Café in Pittston on Saturday, Oct. 22.

"The river I live by is only about a third of the Susquehanna, but I know the destruction [it] can do and it sucks to see people's lives wiped away. So if we can help in any way, that's what we're going to do," Rosencrans said.

The line-up for the concert at Diane's is just as diverse as the one for the River Street show and twice as large, with a total of 13 bands starting in the early afternoon and playing through the night. The proceeds will again go to the American Red Cross, and bands are asking their fans to contribute anything else they can spare, whether it's cash donation, supplies or manpower.

"Every little bit, no matter how small, helps," Bill Lister, drummer for Scranton metal band Our Ashes Remain, said, whose

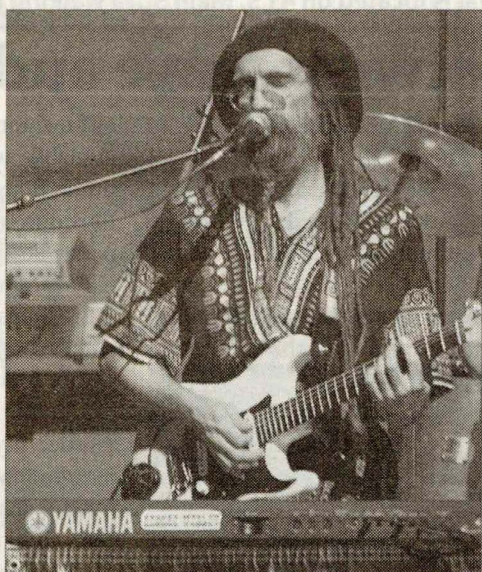
vocalist Jane Moser is also one of the event organizers. "Every cent we're making is going right to this cause. Nobody's taking a dime. Everyone is donating their time, their equipment. We're doing ok. It's these other people who need that money."

"You can't say no to that," agreed Drew Kelly, a folk singer from Scranton on the bill for the River Street show. "You put yourself in those people's shoes and you know that it's got to be tough, almost like your floating away with the river yourself."

Tickets for the Oct. 9 concert at River Street Jazz Café are \$10. Ages 21+ only, the show starts at 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.riverstreetjazzcafe.com

Tickets for the Oct. 22 concert at Diane's Deli & Internet Café are \$5. Ages 18+ only, the show starts at 2 p.m. For more information, call 570-602-5700.

CONTACT BILL THOMAS AT:
william.thomas4@wilkes.edu



Area artists come together for a good cause: (clockwise from top) Scranton-based metal band Our Ashes Remain, Scranton-based folk rocker Drew Kelly, Scranton-based classic rock group Skin-n-Bones and Kingston-based one-man reggae band George Wesley. All images are courtesy of band members.

Thai Thai brings authentic Thai cuisine to downtown Wilkes-Barre

Local restaurant attracts those seeking authentic Thai foods in the area

BY JORDAN RAMIREZ
Staff Writer

It took me several years to finally take the two minute trip from campus to Thai Thai. After a three course meal, for just over \$20, the restaurant is unquestionably worth the short walk, and frankly, a considerably longer one.

This elegant restaurant serves authentic Thai cuisine at a reasonable price. It is located just off the square on 41 S. Main St.

Upon entering, I noticed the cleanliness and organization of the establishment. The hostess and at least three other employees kindly greeted me and my friends before we even reached our table. The waiter was on his game and filled our water glasses after each sip was taken.

The menu is detailed, and noticeably authentic. Foreign dishes such as Lad Nar and Plah Goong are thoroughly explained on the menu and more specifically via the knowledgeable employees. The menu offers much variety with Thai spins on traditional American dishes such as Buffalo wings and a full vegetarian menu.

A large variety of sauces, the majority of them being spicy, were the highlight of the dinner. The Thai buffalo wings were a

shared appetizer that were drenched in a nostalgic yet altered version of a typical wing sauce. The waiter recommended pineapple fried rice, which sounded strangely appetizing, and the dish exceeded my expectations.

The meal was topped off with fried ice cream. The waiter "poured" a blue flame over the desert making it finely caramelized. As this was undoubtedly the most unique presentation, every course was beautifully arranged on white angular plates.

I have a difficult time finding anything wrong with Thai Thai. The menu is expansive but provides something for everyone. The employees were friendly and well-trained and the food was prepared and displayed impeccably. Thai Thai is a fantastic, clean, and visually appealing restaurant and it may be the best and most unique place to eat in downtown Wilkes-Barre.

CONTACT JORDAN RAMIREZ AT:
jordan.ramirez@wilkes.edu



The Beacon/Jonathan Bowman

Thai Thai is located on 41 S. Main St., a walking distance from campus.

Movie Review: 'Dream House' plot twists leave audiences stumped

BY BILL THOMAS
Staff Writer

It's an old story. No, I'm not talking about the story of "Dream House." I'm talking about the story behind it.

It's a of a meddling studio, an angry director and a damaged film. Amidst minor controversy over Universal Pictures' choice to not screen "Dream House" for critics prior to its release—a move many consider an ominous indication of a film's quality, or lack thereof—as well as accusations from frustrated film buffs that the movie's trailer blatantly gives away key plot twists, rumors have swirled in cineaste circles that director Jim Sheridan was miffed over supposed studio interference, causing him to largely disown the film.

Surprisingly, "Dream House" is hardly as bad as the negative buzz implies. Oh, it's bad all right, but not appallingly so.

"Dream House" gives us Will (Daniel Craig) and Libby (Rachel Weisz), a happily married couple leaving behind the hustle 'n' bustle of the city for a quiet life in snow-kissed suburbia. Their new home seems like the perfect place to raise their two young daughters, except for the horrific massacre that occurred there five years earlier.

Aside from bringing down the property value, the house's blood-soaked history attaches an aura of mystery and menace to its new inhabitants, causing the locals to treat them

with hesitancy and hostility. Neighbor Ann (Naomi Watts) knows why, but her lips are sealed.

Will, determined to uncover the secrets of the house's former owner, reveals his own deeply buried connections to the building's grim past, ultimately bringing his whole world down.

As egregious a sin as "Dream House's" spoiler-spittin' trailer was, Universal's decision to market the film as an

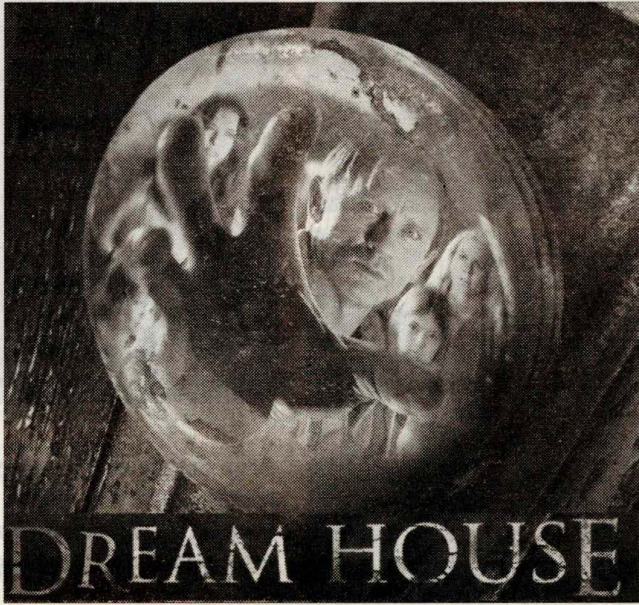
old-fashioned ghost story, when it's nothing of the sort, is arguably worse. More a psychological thriller, the film's titular house is haunted not by spirits, but by memories and illusions. Will's search for answers quickly becomes a desperate struggle to reclaim reality itself.

Unfortunately, "Dream House" suffers from something of a Frankenstein complex. It feels like two different movies stitched together awkwardly, leaving behind a malformed oddity unsure of what it's even supposed to be. Audiences are likely to feel thrown when what started as a languid murder mystery abruptly morphs into a shaky, surrealist psychodrama.

As much as I appreciate the honest, unconventional efforts to explore new territory, the results are hardly memorable. On the contrary, they tend to be surprisingly predictable and even cliché. Worse, the movie is plagued by lingering questions, absurd contrivances, gaping plot holes and undercooked characters. The acting is solid and the direction top-notch, but the rest of the bare essentials are left to languish. How can one hope to build a sturdy structure without the basic materials?

Sometimes poignant, sometimes laughable, the film is a flawed, uneven experiment of wasted potential. Simply put, this "Dream House" is a fixer-upper.

CONTACT BILL THOMAS AT:
william.thomas4@thewilkesbeacon.com



Crimson Lion an area success with exotic hookah, live performances

While other businesses in Wilkes-Barre fall, lounge-coffee shop thrives

BY MICHAEL WINTERMUTE
Staff Writer

While college students all around the Wilkes-Barre area have been watching businesses and shops close down, the Crimson Lion remains a steady place for them to relax.

Though many local business owners have been forced to adapt their business plans or make cutbacks to accommodate the demanding economy of the W-B area, the Crimson Lion has been a story of improvement.

Owner Mike Pasquini, who started the business in 2010, believes that even when a business is successful, there is room for improvement.

Whether it is better-tasting coffee or exotic new hookah tobacco (known as shisha), constant progress is large part of Pasquini's business plan.

Starting Monday, Oct. 2, the Crimson Lion will begin opening at 10 a.m. and offering baked Danishes and cookies from a local

company, Sweet Little Things. The lounge will also be serving toasted bagels with cream cheese.

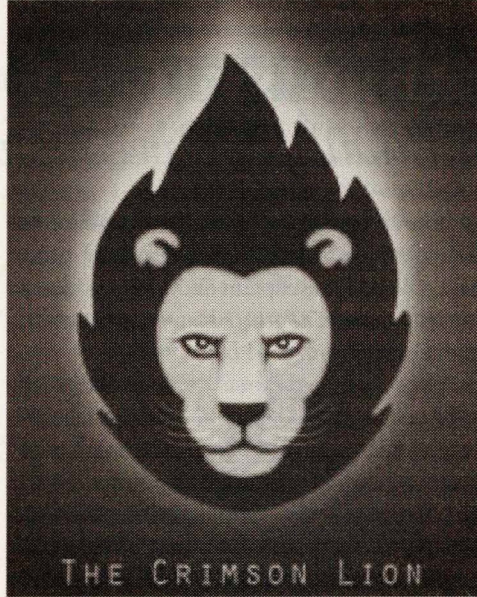
"We hope to offer higher quality coffee and snacks for people that have breaks and class early in the morning as well as getting some more business from the local offices," said Pasquini.

Recently, employees of the Crimson Lion invented new shisha flavors named "Ginger Spice," which is a mixture pumpkin pie, vanilla and snicker doodle shishas.

They also created a mixture of "Pirate's Cave" and "Apple Jax" called "Hayes Cave." According to Pasquini, both are very popular.

Apart from these innovative techniques geared toward the business' large college demographic, Pasquini also utilizes more basic business strategies, including social networking.

"Initially I was excited to use (Facebook) for the business but then they would not let me advertise anymore because my we're to-



bacco related," Pasquini said. "I got a lot of fans with my first round of advertising that went through and have built upon that. It's a bit frustrating not be able to buy ads anymore."

Pasquini also believes the Crimson Lion has had success with live entertainment, which is limited to Thursday night "Open Mic" events and live performances by full bands once or twice a month. According to Pasquini, having live entertainment has created returning customers.

The Crimson Lion is an example of a local business refusing to slow down with the economy. Apart from the aforementioned techniques and modernization, Pasquini hopes to upgrade the Lion even more.

"I'm definitely satisfied but there's always more improvements and innovations," Pasquini said.

"The next project will be something to make the place more relaxed when there's a big crowd of people in there. Something like decorated sheets spanning the ceiling and lighting better suited to the mood of the (Crimson Lion)."

CONTACT MICHAEL WINTERMUTE AT:
michael.wintermute@wilkes.edu

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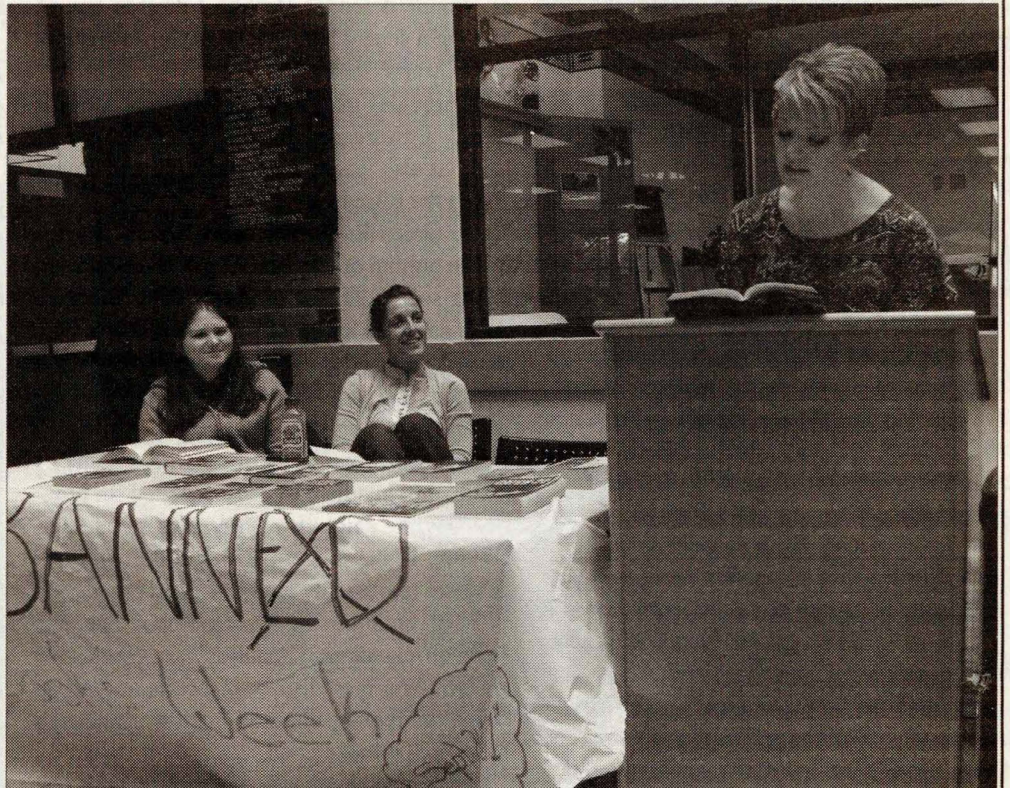
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Banned books celebrated



The Beacon/Kirstin Cook

English honor society Sigma Tau Delta did a live reading of several books that have been banned in the past, such as "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," the Harry Potter series and "The Lorax" by Dr. Suess. The presentation took place during club hours in the Student Union Building to honor National Banned Books Week, which takes place Sept. 24 through Oct. 1 annually.

October 4, 2011

Editor: phatnguyen@thewilkesbeacon.com

Green Room is infamous area for athletes to hone their skills

Coach Keith Klahold continually evolves his workouts to improve student-athletes

BY JUSTIN FRANIAK
Assistant Sports Editor

The basement of the Marts Center holds the secret weapon for all of Wilkes Athletics. It's not some kind of magical machine or super supplement; it's good old-fashioned hard work. The keeper of this secret weapon is Keith Klahold, the strength and conditioning coach for Wilkes Athletics. In his ninth year at Wilkes, Klahold has developed a reputation as a stickler for perfection and as a great motivator.

Klahold, an athletic training graduate from Slippery Rock University, decided to switch his career paths because of his experiences in his brother's gym. Another part of his motivation was his intense dislike of seeing athletes that he was working with get injured. Injury prevention by proper strengthening and conditioning is now the backbone of his workouts.

"I wanted to improve athletes and prevent injuries in the first place," Klahold said, "instead of having to treat them later."

After getting his bachelor's degree at Slippery Rock in 1997, Klahold went on to earn his master's degree at California University of Pennsylvania in 2006. Since then he has working as the strength and conditioning coach at Conrad Weiser High School, and held the same position at Florida Atlantic University for four years before making the move to Wilkes.

Klahold draws inspirations for his workouts from many different outlets. Klahold has created workouts using ideas from his interns and other colleagues, and sometimes uses rehab exercises to strengthen certain parts of the athletes' bodies.

He also credits NBC's show "The Biggest Loser" for showing him a few more elements to put into his workouts. He recently added a rope pull exercise that was on one of the latest episodes.

Klahold said he uses elements from Crossfit training to create shorter but intense workouts. These short and intense workouts have been dubbed "Fun Fridays." Klahold thought of this idea in order for off-season athletes to enjoy their weekends, but also get a full workout in about 20 minutes.

There may be some misconceptions floating around about what goes on in this place that Wilkes athletes refer to as the "Green Room." But Klahold quickly pointed out that athletes

just need to realize the Green Room workouts make them fundamentally better at their craft.

Ryan Wilson, the captain of the Wilkes wrestling team, also reinforced the mental aspect of tough Green Room workouts.

"Green room workouts get us in shape for the season," Wilson, a senior business administration major, said. "It's all about mind over matter and developing a winning attitude."

Klahold's workouts are adapted for multiple sports. Sophomore receiver Tim Bousson likes how the workouts combine cardio and weightlifting into one session.

"It's a good total body workout," Bousson said. "I've definitely seen a noticeable change in my speed and agility on the field."

The Green Room also provides areas for baseball, soccer and softball athletes to improve their skills. Along with pull-up bars, ropes and tire flips, the Green Room has areas to take batting practice and throw a few pitches. Junior defender Brooke Edwards enjoys kicking a soccer ball around in the downstairs of the Marts Center.

"It provides us with a place to practice if it rains," Edwards, math and education major, said. "It also lets us tone our skills year round and in the offseason."

The Green Room also provides an alternative to normal practices for the wrestling team. Being such a large area, there is lots of space for a game of handball or even kickball. Nathan White, a junior psychology major and wrestler, likes how the Green Room allows the team to mix it up at practice.

"Sometimes we'll warm up with a game of kickball or handball to get us excited for practice," White said. "It also creates some team bonding in the process. These different kinds of warm ups usually lead to a great practice."

When entering the Green Room one can see sign exclaiming "caution" or "work area ahead." You may also hear moans and groan or the infamous yelling of "hard work doesn't feel good, it looks good."

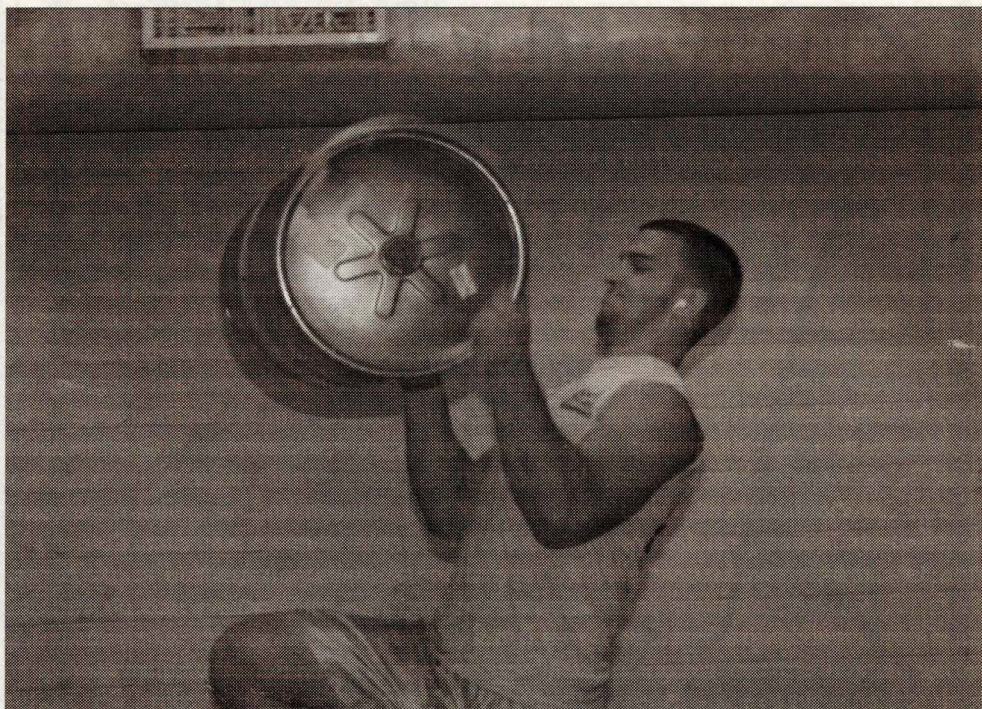
For someone who is unfamiliar with the Green Room it may be awkward, but for those accustomed to leaving it all on the turf, it's just another day on the job. This is the stuff champions are made of.

CONTACT JUSTIN FRANIAK AT:
justin.franiak@wilkes.edu



The Beacon/ Justin Franiak

Amanda Pawlowski tries an exercise inspired by "The Biggest Loser." The new exercise involves pulling a long rope with a weight attached to the other end, while staying in a plank position.



The Beacon/ Justin Franiak

Kris Krawchuck performs one of the many innovative exercises in the Green Room. This exercise involves lifting a half-full keg above the head, strengthening multiple muscles.

Getting to know... ALEX GEORGE

Quarterback, Football

BY PHAT NGUYEN

Sports Editor

Meet Alex George, sophomore business administration major of the football team. The sophomore quarterback is leading a potent rushing attack that has put up back-to-back 300 yard performances. George who has been named the MAC offense player of the week for his 5th performance against Widenor also considers himself a quiet humble leader, but has no problem speaking up when he needs to.

Age: 19

Major: Business Administration

Hometown: York, PA. It's about two hours away. It's just below Harrisburg

Wasn't LeSean McCoy from the 717 too? He went to Bishop McDevitt. Yeah Mechanicsburg is pretty close. Tate [Moore-Jacobs] is from that area too.

Is there anyone professional or college player that you like to compare your game play to? I think my favorite QB is Luck. His mental standpoint and preparation is the most similar. I run it more than him though. I definitely look at him the most.

How were you able to have so much success against Widenor and FDU with over 500 yards total offense each game? Our wide receivers downfield blocking was phenomenal. I think it carried over to not only me, but also to [Zach] Tivald and Auxence [Wogou]. Because we were able to get a Pass protection was awesome. It was a coming together as a group.

How important was it to establish a good run game? We thought that we could run the ball very well. Plus I mean over the last two weeks, we've been running the ball more than passing even though you didn't see it in the stats. A lot of teams come into trying to shut down [Todd] Eagles. We really wanted to establish the run early and use that to set up the pass.

Do you want to give a shout out to your o-line? As a group they all did phenomenal. Obviously we have [Ben] Webb as the center. He's like a rock; you know what you're going to get out of him every week. Our guards [Jake] Jardel, Simon [Tkach], and [Brendon] Myer. We have a solid group on the inside we have [Joe] Buffa in there too. On the outside tackles we have [Anthony] Swain, [Christopher] Grube and [Joshua] Haag. We have five starting linemen, but we have so much depth we can switch anyone in.

It seems like you and Todd Eagles have been on the same page all year. How have you guys worked to get that chemistry

down? Through camp and spring ball, we just worked out the timing. It's easy to time with him as far as I can throw the ball he can run up to it. His speed is phenomenal. He'll go get it if it's up there. If anything we have more trust now. If I throw it he'll go get it. I think we have it down. He helps my completion percentage. Even if I miss a little bit or if my accuracy is not there, he's always going to get to the ball.

I don't want to jinx you, but I've noticed you have thrown 88 passes without an interception. How were you able to have so much success so far? I mean just go thru the reads that's just how the offense is set up. When I talked to coach Shep and Tivald it was our goal to complete more than 60 percent of our passes and we don't want to turn the ball over. It's all set up to succeed. I don't want to make it sound easy, but that's the way our offense is set up. You should complete a lot of pass and not a lot of picks.

You and Tate Moore-Jacobs were both named offensive and defensive players of the week respectively for the 2nd time. What's it feel like to receive that honor again? Whenever you get players from your team in recognition, I think it definitely brings attention to the program. I think it's funny too because we were roommates last year, and we live together now.

What's a bigger honor, being named the MAC Offensive Player of the Week, or Beacon Student of the week? (laughs) Probably the Beacon. I mean a lot of students won't know the MAC other than the team. So I guess a lot more people will see the paper and website.

I've noticed that you like to post Bible readings on your Twitter. How important is your faith to you? It's something very important to me. I mean I go to church every Sunday. I try to bring it into my football as well.

Do you guys lead in team prayer? We don't do one, but I'm really superstitious and like to do it before games myself. When Coach Shep comes in and tells us we have two minutes before the game, I'll usually get one in then.

Do you have any other pregame rituals? Definitely, I have a lot of superstitions. I have a plain black T-shirt that I wear underneath my sweatshirt. Same socks, same tape job, eye black. Game days, I like to get into a groove and keep everything exactly the same at the same times every week.

What was it like leading the team as a freshman last year and as sophomore

now? How were you able to win the respect of the team especially the older guys? Well I mean you just have to earn their respect. I didn't go in there as a freshman demanding respect. I went in there as a quiet leader because I knew there was a lot more people who did a lot more than I did before I got there. Guys like Nielson and Gerhart lead the team last year and I learn a lot from them.

There's time as a quarterback where you need to step up into the offense line. I would never call out the offense line but if I need to bring them back, they always listen.

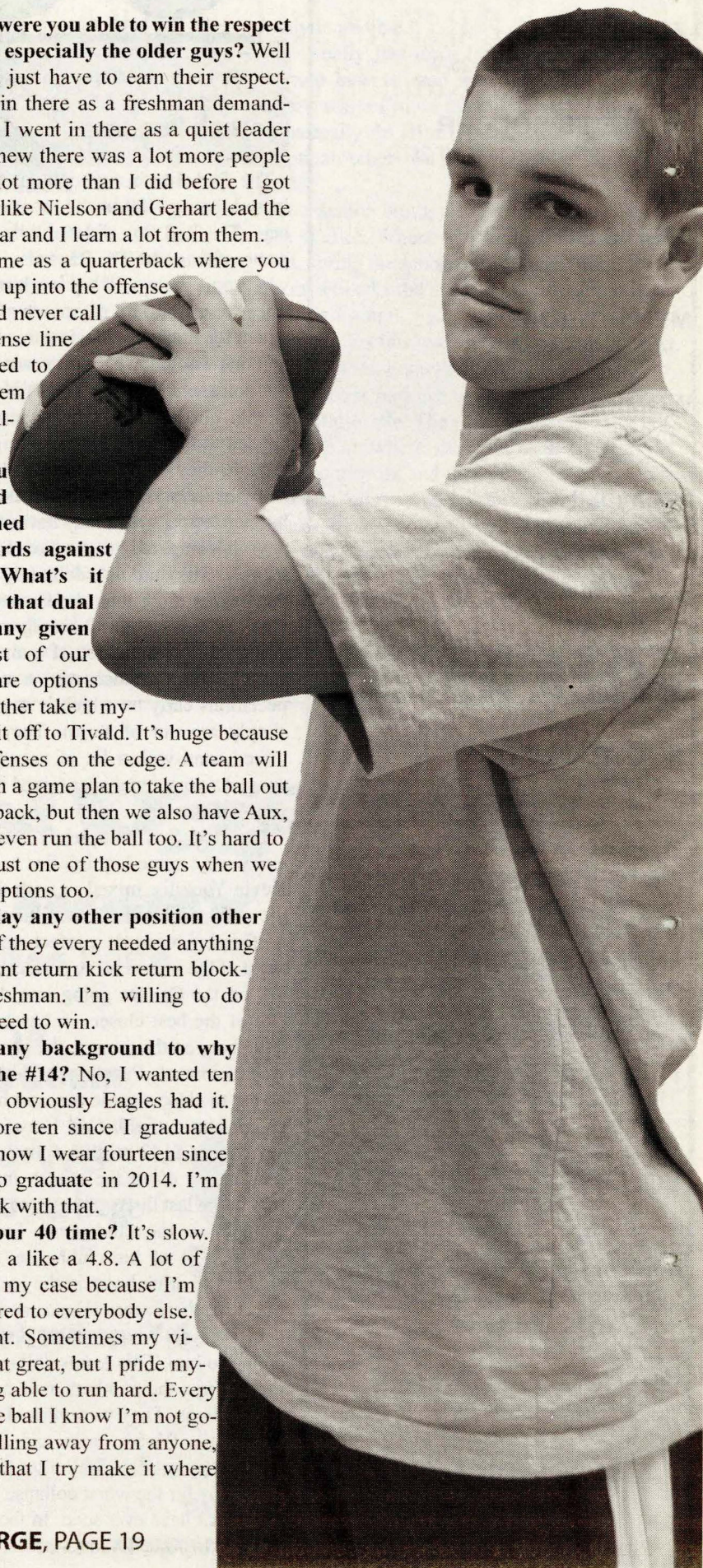
So you and Tivald both rushed for 100 yards against Widenor. What's it like having that dual threat at any given snap? Most of our run plays are options so I could either take it myself or dish it off to Tivald. It's huge because it keeps defenses on the edge. A team will come in with a game plan to take the ball out of our lead back, but then we also have Aux, and I could even run the ball too. It's hard to take away just one of those guys when we have other options too.

Do you play any other position other than QB? If they every needed anything else, like punt return kick return blocking as a freshman. I'm willing to do anything I need to win.

Is there any background to why you wear the #14? No, I wanted ten actually but obviously Eagles had it. I always wore ten since I graduated in 2010, so now I wear fourteen since I'm going to graduate in 2014. I'm going to stick with that.

What's your 40 time? It's slow. (laughs) It's a like a 4.8. A lot of guys get on my case because I'm slow compared to everybody else. I run straight. Sometimes my vision isn't that great, but I pride myself on being able to run hard. Every time I get the ball I know I'm not going to be pulling away from anyone, but it's just that I try make it where

SEE GEORGE, PAGE 19



SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL

10/1 FDU-Florham 45-25 W

WOMEN'S SOCCER

10/1 @ Misericordia 0-0 T 2OT

MEN'S SOCCER

10/1 @ Misericordia 0-3 L

MEN'S TENNIS

10/1 Lycoming 8-1 W

WOMEN'S TENNIS

10/1 Lycoming 8-0 W

Volleyball

10/1 Alvernia 0-3 L

10/1 Albright 1-3 L

WEEK AHEAD

FOOTBALL

10/8 Delaware Valley

WOMEN'S SOCCER

10/4 @ Elizabethtown

10/8 @ FDU-Florham

MEN'S SOCCER

10/5 Arcadia

10/8 FDU-Florham

FIELD HOCKEY

10/4 @ Cabrini

10/7 Delaware Valley

VOLLEYBALL

10/4 Desales

MEN'S TENNIS

10/8 MAC Tournament

10/9 MAC Tournament

GOLF

10/6 Elizabethtown Invit.

CO PSE

Joseph Pugliese

CORRESPONDENT



The Red Sox in my opinion flat out collapsed, going 7-20 in the month of September. The Red Sox did not win consecutive games all month. The Rays also did not have what someone would say is a historic month. They went 18-10 for the month of September, which for a playoff team is the average month that one would have, but it was not special to the point where they couldn't be beat. They simply got hot and won games when they needed too. The Rays must be given credit though, they were left for dead after Pena, Crawford, Garza, Soriano and the rest of their bullpen left last year, they have a \$41 million payroll compared to the Sox \$210 million payroll. The Cardinals definitely took it from the Braves more than the Braves collapsed; the Cardinals had an all-time great comeback going 23-8 in their last 31 games down the stretch. The Cardinals were a team with expectations early on which is key, the Braves simply ran out of steam. They are a very mixed team with a lot of very young players and a young manager mixed in with some very old veterans.

The Red Sox completely lost control in every way; some key injuries to players like Kevin Youkilis, mixed in with the divide in the clubhouse and \$150 million players not performing made the perfect storm. The last night of the season is the perfect example. Up 3-2 on the Orioles going into the 9th; with one of the best closers in baseball Jonathan Papelbon, on the mound, the game should be well in control. Papelbon is paid \$12 million a year to close a game out, and he fails to do so. In the outfield, Carl Crawford signed a seven year \$142 million contract before the season and down the stretch made four errors in the last three games, two would single handily lose them the game. Terry Francona lost control of his clubhouse. He allowed pitchers to drink beers in the locker room on off days; there were cliques and divides between players who probably just stopped listening to him. This teams collapse wasn't so much about the numbers as it was about the expectations. They were picked by everyone to win the World Series and automatically the best team in baseball after the offseason. This is by far the worst collapse in MLB history that I have ever seen. In fact, we should refer to this as a Boston Massacre 2.0.

The Sport Court debates who had the bigger regular season collapse, the Sox or the Braves?

Boston Red Sox

VS.

Altanta Braves

The Buzz:

Both teams held their leads for most the 2011 MLB season.

Both lost their Wild Card leads on the final day of the regular season.

The Results:

The Tampa Bay Rays and the St. Louis Cardinals both won the AL and NL Wild Cards respectively.

To see the full debate, and add your own side into it, check out:

www.thewilkesbeacon.com

Justin Franiak

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

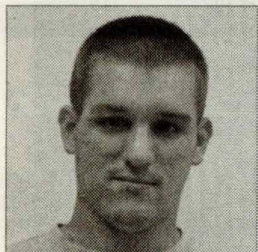


The Atlanta Braves got Tomahawked, and suffered one of the worst downfalls in recent MLB history. On Sept. 1st the now golfing Braves were 8.5 games up in the Wild Card, and yet still didn't make the playoffs. Being a Phillies fan it was very sweet to eliminate a team who has caused me much heartbreak in my short 20 years. That being said, the Braves capped off one of the most abysmal endings to a season. Dan Uggla had a very impressive hitting streak throughout the middle of the season, and I commend him for that, but the Braves depended on this streak way too much. Uggla raised his hitting average from .173 to .231 during his 33 game streak, but faded soon after. The pressure was then put on rookie Freddie Freeman. Freeman had a decent year hitting .277, but to depend on a rookie as your offense is a mistake in itself. Atlanta did receive amazing play from their bullpen with Johnny Venters and Craig Kimbrel, who will also most likely be rookie of the year. The closer had a 2.10 ERA and compiled 46 saves over this past season. Kimbrel was having a 2008 Brad Lidge season, until his collapse against the Phillies on "The Greatest Night in Baseball." Overall the Braves hit .243, which ranked them 13th in the National League. When looking at the Braves other statistics, one of the only top five finishes they had was a fourth place hold on strikeouts. So not only were the Braves hitting way below the league average, but they were striking out almost eight times per game. With the Phillies having a stronghold on the division for what seems like the entire season, the Braves knew they had to work extra hard to obtain the wildcard. Up until Sept. 1, Atlanta looked like the odds on favorite to win the last playoff spot. The Braves then opened up a season ending series with the Phillies.

The worst part about the Braves collapse was who they faced on the last game of the season. The Phillies started Joe Blanton, who had been on the disabled list the whole season, and every pitcher after him that entered the game had played a majority of their season in the minor leagues. So not only did the Braves lose that game, but they essentially lost to the Phillies Triple-A affiliate the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs.

GEORGE

Continued from Page 17



where more than one person needs to tackle me.

What was your biggest run this year? Widenor, it was fourth and four. I ran for five.

I think that was the biggest run so far.

Who is the fastest player on the team? Tivald.

What about Eagles? He's right up there. It would be close. I think in it would be a really close race, but Tivald might edge him out.

Who's the slowest then? Definitely me. (laughs) I mean some of the backs are faster than me. I hate to admit it. I think by far.

Slower than offensive lineman? I mean I'm faster than offensive linemen but even Dan Curry our tight end he could probably beat me in a race. (laughs)

Who do you think tackles the hardest? It's probably got to be Chrimer. I've seen Joe make some big tackles.

What about Tate? He makes every tack-

le. It's like the perfect form tackle every time.

Who's the least likely to show up on time? We have a huge punishment for showing up late. Everyone is always on time, but Aux is usually the last one to come in.

Who's the first? I always try to be. It's usually one of the qbs. The quarterbacks as a group always try to be the first one in and last one out.

What is one thing about you that a lot of people don't know? I wrestled in high school. I know Tate knows but

Is there any chance that you might try out for the Wilkes team? (laughs) No chance. I mean they have a really good team. They are doing a really good job over there.

Describe yourself in five words: Tough, smart, team-player, leader and quiet.

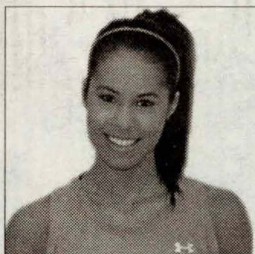
Who's your NFL team? Redskins. If they start at 1:00 p.m. I'll be watching from 11:00 a.m. just getting ready.

What are your goals for the season? I have to complete more than 60% of my passes. I just want to win every game one at a time. I want to get that MAC conference championship ring.

CONTACT PHAT NGUYEN AT:
phat.nguyen@wilkes.edu

YAROS

Continued from Page 20



She went on to describe how demanding photographers are and how they don't stop shooting as the model must continually workout until

then the perfect shot is taken.

"You actually have to be able to do what you can do," Yaros said. "If you can't, it kind of drags on even longer till things are perfect. You can almost never get the right shot on the first move, so you'll be doing that move like a billion times until you get the perfect picture."

While school is her main priority now, Yaros still makes time to work out every day. She has perfected the art of multitasking according to senior biology major Katie Jescavage who has seen her work out on an elliptical while studying from her iPad simultaneously.

"She has her machine cranked up all the way while she's looking at her bio notes on her iPad," Jescavage said. "It's abso-

"I've learned how to read my notes and type up emails while I'm on the elliptical."

- Danielle Yaros

lutely incredible."

"I usually just do a lot of cardio, and I've learned how to read my notes, and type up emails while I'm on the elliptical," Yaros said. "I basically do all my work while I'm on the elliptical, otherwise it's like a waste of time, I guess."

The senior biology major has things down to a science. Whenever she commutes to New York during the school year, she has to get up at 4 a.m. and take the 5:30 a.m. bus to get to New York by 9 a.m.

She prefers bus over driving to allow time to study and do homework while not having to worry about parking when she finally arrives in the Big Apple. The photo shoots usually last until 5 p.m. where she goes back home to do more homework and then go to sleep.

To see more pictures and video of Yaros check online at www.thewilkesbeacon.com.

To view Danielle's electronic modeling portfolio check out her page at <http://www.modelmayhem.com/danielleyaros>.

CONTACT PHAT NGUYEN AT:
phat.nguyen@wilkes.edu



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Model student picks pre-med over pre-game

W-B native gives up D-1 scholarship to seek dreams of orthopedic surgery

BY PHAT NGUYEN

Sports Editor

Collegiate student-athletes are unique breed. While NCAA Division-I athletes are allowed to receive a certain amount of compensation for their athletic endeavor, Division-III athletes are not reimbursed at all. While most get a chance to continue to compete in a sport that they love in college, almost all of them will go professional in something other than sports upon graduation.

For Wilkes-Barre native Danielle Yaros, those aspirations of one day becoming an orthopedic surgeon were greater than her desire to compete as a gymnast at the University of Chicago. While competing as a Division-I Big Ten athlete, she faced fierce talent from Colorado, LSU and Florida. Now as a senior pre-med biology major at Wilkes University, she seeks to better understand chipmunks and their feeding habits; whether they are scatter hoarders or larder hoarders.

"I still like the sport, but it's just not worth it to sacrifice my grades for a sport that I was going to be done within four years," Yaros said. "I love gymnastics, but there's not much I could do with it unless I was going to go to the Olympics or do anything professional with it."

As a side from her primary focus on school and the fact that she was spending 40-50 hours per week doing gymnastics, Yaros decided she wanted to come home to Wilkes-Barre to attend school at Wilkes after her sophomore year.

"I just did it for fun and happened to be really good at it," Yaros said. "I just competed because I loved the sport. I never really took the sport too seriously though."

The Wilkes biology department was the perfect fit for where her interests were. Yaros was taking classes very similar to what was being offered at Wilkes.

"I was originally a biochemistry major, but when I looked at the classes here at Wilkes my biochemistry classes out there were more like the upper level biology classes here like Dr. Steele's Animal Behavior class. I'm not really as interested in chemistry."

When she was still in high school, she

actually considered going to Wilkes for the pharmacy program but later went on to find it wasn't for her.

"I actually thought I wanted to be a pharmacist for a while, but then I volunteered in a pharmacy for six years and really didn't love it too much," Yaros said. "It wasn't for me, I needed more action."

She missed her parents and friends and just liked the ability to go to school and workout casually. When she did come back, opportunity struck her almost immediately as Wilhelmina Modeling agency showed interest almost immediately. Since she was no longer an NCAA athlete, she signed on as a model.

"They contacted me and things worked out. I just love working out, but its hard because its like a 3-hour drive from here to New York. And it's a full day's work meeting clients or doing photo shoots. During the summer it was great. I got to go four times a week if I needed to. Now with school its toned down because I don't want to miss class."

Ideally Yaros plans to attend either medical school or graduate school in New York with hopes of continuing models for Wilhelmina.

"I'm not sure if I'll go to a medical school in New York, but get accepted somewhere else in the country. I'm not sure if I'll take that or just go to grad school in New York so I could keep working for them," Yaros said.

Most of her clientele is based in New York, but companies such as Under Armour, who are based in Baltimore MD, will meet her in her New York headquarters. Under Armour will meet in New York.

"The jobs are really fun," Yaros said. "I like to work out a lot and most of the jobs I do you have to really be able to do the work they want you to do."

When she was working for Runner's World she was doing their exercises for four hours and was doing recording for up to six hours.

"I also did two [photo] shoots for Self [magazine] which were about eight hours each," Yaros said.

Contrary to popular opinion, Yaros stated that the workouts are actually fairly intense and require more effort than they seem.

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Photo courtesy of Danielle Yaros