



The BEACON



SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

THE NEWS OF TODAY REPORTED BY THE JOURNALISTS OF TOMORROW

Volume 62 Issue 1

University institutes H1N1 policy on campus

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS
Beacon News Editor

The H1N1 virus, more commonly known as the swine flu, returned to national consciousness this month as students all across the country headed back to school. In an effort to prevent the spread of the virus, Wilkes University has instituted its own policy regarding pandemic influenza.

If a student has flu-like symptoms, he or she is strongly urged to leave the campus and return home. Students who believe they are experiencing flu-like symptoms should notify Diane O'Brien, director of Health and Wellness Services, so that they can be tested for the H1N1 virus. Students returning to campus after flu-like symptoms are also asked to contact Health and Wellness Services. Professors will also be notified on the status of the student's health via communication with Health and Wellness Services.

If a student cannot make arrangements to go home, the university has reserved Ross

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The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Hand sanitizers will be installed around campus on September 16 to encourage hand washing. Lisa Zelinski, a Wilkes graduate student, uses one of the newly-installed hand sanitizers in the Health and Wellness Service Center.



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Health and Wellness Services is on the first floor of Passan Hall. Students can go to Health and Wellness Services to get tested for H1N1. Wilkes should receive the vaccine for the H1N1 virus in mid-October.

'Selectively-held' positions now open

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS
Beacon News Editor

Last year's hiring freeze on all non-essential staff positions has been lifted as a result of the University's current financial stability.

Petra Carver, vice president of finance, explained that once the President's cabinet became aware of the budget situation last year, the University selectively held back on filling certain non-essential positions. This was decided on a case-by-case basis. There was no freeze, however, on hiring for faculty positions.

"Last year, we selectively held some positions open, but all will be filled this year," said President Tim Gilmour.

At present, thirteen positions are open and will not close until the positions are filled. Of these positions, two are faculty and eleven are staff.

"It's hard for me to say that a hiring freeze was lifted, because in my mind, we always used the same process to evaluate whether or not to fill a position. If it was deemed by the hiring manager and ultimately through the President's Cabinet that it was necessary to back fill that position, we did," said Joseph Housenick, director of human resources.

Carver also stated that it is easy to become confused with the terms because there are many ways to explain the hiring freeze on

Students gain additional two weeks to drop classes

BY NICOLE FRAIL
Beacon Editor-in-Chief

Last spring, faculty members at Wilkes University voted in favor of extending the period of time in which students are able to drop classes for academic reasons. This fall, students have ten rather than eight weeks to withdraw from courses.

According to Dr. Thomas Hamill, chair of the Academic Standards Committee (ASC), this topic has been one of discussion for

many years. Last school year, University College asked the ASC to formally consider making this alteration.

"On the committee, we've identified the fact that [midterm] grades are often posted at the very end of the seventh week. Students aren't necessarily getting their midterm grades, or at least they aren't accessing them, until earlier into the eighth week. There is a very short turn around time for students who are doing poorly in their midterm grade reports to make a thoughtful and critically informed academic decision about

continuing or not in a given course..." Hamill said.

He added, "A three day window isn't sufficient for a student to make that decision."

After speaking with representatives from University College and Financial Aid, the ASC presented the topic to the entire faculty this past May. Faculty members voted in favor of the extension.

"Lengthening the withdraw period from

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SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

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H1N1 from FRONT PAGE

Hall for any student that has flu-like symptoms. Students will be provided with food and drink, as well as medical and public safety's attention. Students that have the H1N1 virus will be discouraged from going to public places on campus.

"The H1N1 flu is most prevalent in the Midwest and Southeast, but I don't think there's any doubt that it's heading in our direction," said Paul Adams, vice president of Student Affairs.

Wilkes University has not seen any cases of the H1N1 virus. As of Friday, September 11, there are 41 confirmed cases of Swine Flu in Luzerne County. In Pennsylvania, there have been 2,128 confirmed cases, 50 probable cases and 10 deaths due to the H1N1 virus according to the PA Department of Health's running tally.

According to recommendations from the Federal Government, should the University experience

a 20% rate of absenteeism as a result of the the virus, a preemptive shut-down of the University will be considered, said Adams.

"The flu is just so much different than a cold," said Diane O'Brien.

In order to decrease the chances of getting the H1N1 virus, students should be very cautious about sharing drinks or cigarettes, and students also should wash their hands frequently. H1N1 is spread through droplets that cause the flu to go from one person to another explained O'Brien. Hand sanitizers will be placed around campus on September 16.

O'Brien said that college-aged people, as well as those with chronic illnesses and children, are the groups that are most at risk for the H1N1 virus.

The H1N1 vaccine is being distributed from the Pennsylvania Department of Health. The PA Department of Health governs when the vaccine arrives and how much of the vaccine is delivered to Wilkes University. The vaccine, which is administered in a two-

shot series spread three weeks apart, is expected to arrive mid-to-late October. The PA Department of Health has not made mention of the cost of the vaccine. O'Brien assumed that the vaccine will be free to students, staff, and faculty.

The vaccine for the H1N1 virus is strongly recommended by Adams and O'Brien.

"I think getting the vaccine is very important because the population that mostly inhabits this campus is about 18 to 24 years old and that's been designated as one of the groups more vulnerable for the H1N1 virus," said Adams.

Christina Decker, senior nursing major, said she believes the city of Wilkes-Barre also has a great plan of action.

"Well, I am [definitely] a bit nervous about the swine flu. But I know the Wilkes-Barre City Health Department is also working with Wilkes in the event that this thing turns ugly," she said. "The Wilkes-Barre City Health Department is going to have local nursing programs, such as Wilkes, Luzerne County Community College, Misericordia, etc., to come and help out, too."

Long term effects of H1N1 are specific to the person. "The virus typically runs its course, without complication, just like the seasonal flu, but there have been deaths and some really significant problems with organ damage from the H1N1 virus," said O'Brien.

In addition to educating students on how to deal with flu-like symptoms, mailings were sent home to parents with information on H1N1 on September 9 and 10.

The seasonal flu vaccine costs \$15 and is now available at the Health and Wellness Service Center.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT NOTES 09-09-09

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS
Beacon News Editor

Treasurer's Report

All College: \$24,000
Conferences: \$10,900
General: \$11,000
Leadership: \$3,000
Spirit: \$2,750
Start-Up: \$1,500
Total: \$52,050

Club Reports

Programming Board: Demetri Martin ticket sales are going as planned. Movie tickets on sale for \$3 at the HSC information desk.

New Business

New hire introductions – Jamie Miller: Activities Assistant of Student Development, Mansfield University Graduate.

IRHC Fund Request (Week 2 of 2): Requested \$396 for a Movie License for a "Movie on the Greenway" on September 24 at 9 p.m. IRHC is expecting about 500 students to attend. There was a motion to deny IRHC the \$396. Motion passed 18-2-0.

Student Government Office Door Lock: The lock on the SG office was not sufficient, according to members. Student government discussed two options: (1) get a lock and key system replaced for free or (2) get on the Wilkes



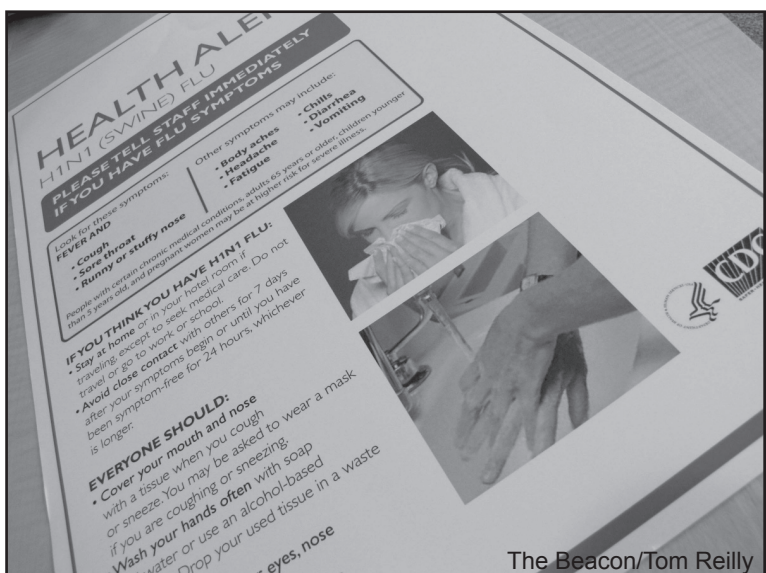
University's card-swipe system for \$2,000. Student Government opted for the card-swipe system for \$2,000. **Motion passed 16-6-0.**

Events

Open House: September 12
Downtown Collegetown Party on the Square: September 16
Hand Sanitizers: Installed around campus on September 16
Club Day: moved to September 17

*At 7:00 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn the SG meeting. The motion was approved.

SG Meetings are open to all students. They are held every Wednesday in the Miller Conference Room on the second floor of HSC.



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

An example of H1N1 literature being provided for students.

The BEACON

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Daniel Kautz
Managing Editor

University of Scranton enacts armed police force

BY RUTH WHISPELL

Beacon Asst. Lifestyles Editor

It is well known to those working at the Wilkes University Public Safety Office that the public safety officers (PSO) at the University of Scranton may soon be part of a full-fledged, armed police department.

According to The Times-Tribune.com, crime at the university has been escalating, but there are few, if any, restricted trends in the crimes on and around the University of Scranton's campus.

As for Wilkes University becoming a fully armed police department, Gerald Rebo, the manager of public safety at Wilkes said, "No, we will not be getting an armed police force here at Wilkes. The University of Scranton has a lot more problems and crime than we do. Plus, our campus is two blocks away from the Wilkes-Barre police station."

While some may believe that the close support of the Wilkes-Barre police is enough to make them feel safe on campus, other students admit that they would feel safer if they knew the PSOs on campus were armed.

"Armed public safety officers might not be a bad idea. I get scared when I'm walking at night and usually only see like one public safety officer. I'm thinking about getting pepper spray," says Maura Bemosky, a

sophomore nursing major. Bemosky added that she likes the fact that if she's walking home at night she can call public safety and request an escort back to her car.

Michele Sabol-Jones and Holly Stull, both PSO at Wilkes, agree that carrying weapons would be a good idea.

Stull says she sees a lot of crazy activity working in the Wilkes-Barre area.

According to The Lethal Weapons Training Academy Website, PA Act 235 is certification mandatory for all privately employed persons who utilize any type of a lethal weapon in the performance of their work.

Although opinions across campus may vary on the topic, Wilkes will not be following in the University of Scranton's footsteps anytime soon. Wilkes PSOs will remain unarmed.

*Check out
"A day in the life of Wilkes'
Public Safety Officers"
in Lifestyles, page 11.*

if they can get themselves back on track. Maybe they can try harder on the next test and get a better grade."

Junior psychology major Pete Polyak agreed. While Polyak noted that he's never waited the entire eight weeks to drop a course, he understands that the extra time now available to make that decision can be beneficial.

Despite the extension to the drop policy, the financial return schedule still remains the same. Students can receive partial refunds for dropped credits up to the seventh week of the semester. If a student drops a course during the eighth week or later, they will not receive a refund.

"Students must be thoughtful of their financial situation when making their decision to withdraw from a course," Hamill said.

More information about withdrawing from courses can be found in the 2009-10 handbook.

DROP CLASS from FRONT PAGE

eight to ten weeks gives students an opportunity for more evaluative feedback. Often times a student may have been making a decision to withdraw after only one test grade. The additional two weeks gives students the potential for greater breadth in terms of evaluative material. It also allows students more of an opportunity to gain important feedback from their advisors before making a final decision," said Mark Allen, dean of students.

In addition to speaking with advisors, Hamill added that students also have more time to speak to instructors and family members who may influence the decision.

"The more time, the better," said Stephanie Durk, senior criminology major. "In two weeks, a student may be able to figure out

STUDY ABROAD INFO SESSION TODAY – The Center for Global Education and Diversity will hold a Study Abroad Information Session Tuesday in the Henry Student Center from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. The information session will be hosted by the Global Student Experience or GSE and Global Links Learn Abroad. For more information regarding these programs, visit their websites or contact Dr. Godlove Fonjweng at 408-2065 or via e-mail.

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND & FIJI TRIP SLATED – Next summer, Dr. James Merryman, professor of anthropology, will take students on a 22-day expedition to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji from July 1-22, 2010. Students can expect to learn about the cultures and traditions of these three destinations. Wilkes students have the option to take the class for credit.

"I typically take my students to places they wouldn't necessarily go on their own," said Merryman.

The rates for this trip are \$7,495 for single occupancy, \$5,995 per person for double occupancy, and \$5,945 per person for triple occupancy. Students who are interested signing up for the trip can either attend the information session on Monday, September 21 at 7 p.m. in the Miller Conference Room in the Henry Student Center or contact Merryman via email or at (570)-408-4043.

TUSCANY TRIP SCHEDULED – During the 2010 spring break, students, faculty and staff from Wilkes University and King's College will travel to Tuscany. The group will be staying in the Tuscan hill town of Siena. On the agenda are guided tours of several Italian cities and landmarks, including the Milan Cathedral, as well as wine tasting and sightseeing in Rome. The trip will be educational, with experienced local guides who will discuss the history and culture of the region. This trip cannot be taken for academic credit.

For further information, contact Dr. Louise Berard at louise.berard@wilkes.edu or 408-4835.

WILKES PURCHASES SPECTROMETER WITH GRANT– The National Science Foundation awarded a \$200,000 grant to Wilkes University for the purchase of a 400 MHz Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectrometer. Dr. Amy Bradley, Chemistry Department, collaborated with Luzerne County Community College to draft the grant proposal. The spectrometer cost \$270,000; Wilkes invested \$70,000 to make up the difference. This new equipment will be utilized in all chemistry courses at Wilkes to enhance the curriculum.

Second year LCCC students will also utilize the machine.

PEER TUTORING NOW AVAILABLE – Peer Tutoring Services began on Tuesday, September 8. All peer services are free of charge and take place in Conyngham Hall 113. Please make an appointment at <http://tutortrac.wilkes.edu>. Any questions, please contact Mr. Alberto Prado, at alberto.prado@wilkes.edu.

FREE MORTGAGE SEMINAR ON 9/22 – A free Mortgage Seminar will be held on Tuesday, September 22 at 6 p.m. in the Henry Student Center. The seminar is sponsored by Wilkes University Money Matters Club and the Choice One Community Credit Union. Topics will include shopping for a house, evaluating mortgage options, first-time home buyer and home buyer assistance programs, stimulus tax grant for home buyers and foreclosure issues. Presenters in the seminar include John Giordano, Director of Mortgage Bank and Development, First Heritage Financial LLC, Natile Nilon, Housing Commissioner, Commission of Economic Opportunity (CEO) and Carol Phillips, Manager, Housing Development Corporation. Register by September 18 at www.wilkes.edu/eventregistration or by calling 408-3489.

KIRBY LECTURE – Lawrence Reed, President of the Foundation for Economic Education will be speaking in the Kirby Lecture series on October 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center. The topic of his speech will be "Character, Liberty and Free Society" which focuses on values that underlay a healthy society and economy, according to Dr. Jeffery Alves, professor and director of the Allen P. Kirby Center for free enterprise and entrepreneurship. Other points will include honesty, respect, the 'golden rule' and integrity.

"Somehow, as we fight to get ahead we violate our own values," said Alves about the speech topics.

CAPARELLA TO SPEAK AT WILKES – Kitty Caparella, reporter for Philadelphia Daily News, will speak on September 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Henry Student Center ballroom. Caparella has been in the journalism business for thirty-seven years and has watched the newspaper industry evolve. Most recently, Caparella has covered the Philadelphia area, writing on topics including the mob, the mafia, public corruption, terrorists, radical Muslim groups, drug trafficking and white supremacy. Caparella said she has even been on a few "hit lists."

See **BRIEFS** page 5

Architects progress on design-phase of SHE Building

An update on future campus development

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS

Beacon News Editor

Architects were recently approved for the new Science, Health Sciences and Engineering Building, also known as the "SHE" Building. Petra Carver, vice president for finance, said that the SHE building is in the design-phase, which is very important.

"We have completed the search for the design firm and we have hired an architect. The name [of the company] is Saylor Gregg [Architects]," said Carver.

Saylor Gregg Architects designed buildings at many different universities including Cornell, Duke, Lehigh, Pennsylvania State and Princeton. The firm has also received various national, state, and local awards including a Progressive Architecture design citation and Pennsylvania Society of Architect's Silver Medal.

Saylor Gregg is already working on the design. The university can begin construction on the SHE building after design is complete,

but only after there is significant funding received from possible sponsors. There is currently no timeline for this project without funding.

The Stark Learning Center, which needs improvement, will be renovated into the SHE building.

"In order to take [this project] any further, we will have to ascertain funding first, which we don't have at this point," said Carver.

The design phase is important because it will further the funding process.

"[The design phase] will allow us to wrap up our fundraising efforts because we'll have actual pictures to show to potential donors. It's very significant," said Carver.

The SHE building will be "green," or environmentally friendly, and a long-awaited addition to the Wilkes University campus. Saylor Gregg Architects is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council, which is a non-profit organization working towards

more green buildings. Long-term benefits of green buildings include lower operating costs, the conservation of natural resources, and minimizing strain on local infrastructure, according to the U.S. Green Building Council's website, usbgc.org.

Last semester, Michael Wood, vice president for advancement, explained that the fundraising aspect of the project has been impacted by the economy, which could slow the building plans.

The planning committee for the SHE building has been in existence for about three years. The committee was reconstructed two years ago when Dr. Reynold Verret became the new Provost. The committee reviews the proposals and provides input to Carver, Verret and Thomas Messinger, the head of capital projects.

Saylorgregg.com has a list of projects that are currently in design and under construction.

Check out these websites relating to the SHE building:

Saylorgregg.com

to see the projects they've created and completed in the past

usbgc.org

to see what a consistutes a green building



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New faces in Student Development, Residence Life

BY APRIL BIELINSKI

Beacon Correspondent

& JACQUELINE LUKAS

Beacon News Editor

As students returned to residence halls and student organizations this fall, they may have seen some new faces heading up Student Development and Residence Life. Over the summer, some of the staff at Wilkes University shifted positions and departments.

Gabrielle Lamb recently accepted a position as Coordinator in the Marketing Communications department. Lamb worked in Student Development, but said her new position offers her more opportunity for growth. One of her job duties is coordinating the marketing efforts of the College of Graduate and Professional Studies.

"I had a great experience in Student Development and although I won't be working with students on a daily basis, I am very pleased to remain in the Wilkes family," said Lamb.

Margy Sromovski, formerly the Office Assistant in Student Development, is now replaced by Jamie Miller, a recent Mansfield graduate. Sromovski is currently the Office Assistant to the Experiential Director in Pharmacy Practice.

Some members of Student Government will miss Sromovski around the office, including junior business administration and

accounting major Katie Munchel.

Munchel said that she was sad to see Sromovski leave, but that her current position is a more suitable one that will allow her time for herself. Munchel added that Miller is more than qualified, and she is confident that he will excel in his new role here at Wilkes.

"I miss Margy a lot. She did a great job. However, Jamie is doing well; he just needs to become adjusted," added junior biology and international studies major June Lor.

In Residence Life, Elizabeth Roveda was promoted from Assistant Director to Director. Roveda, '05, MBA, '07, worked as a graduate assistant for Residence Life in the 2005-2006 academic year and was an RA during her tenure as an undergraduate at Wilkes. With all of this experience under her belt, Roveda said she was more than ready to dive into this new position.

Roveda added that as Director she has great opportunities not only to take what she has learned working with other directors and make it her own, but also to collaborate with the new staff of Resident Assistants whose strengths are invaluable. Roveda said it is important for her not always to see herself as the leader, but as a member of a team working towards the same goal: providing a safe and friendly environment for all students.

POSITIONS from FRONT PAGE

all non-essential positions. But at present, the University is committed to filling all empty positions.

"While spending on equipment, capital, and operating costs was scaled back in the last fiscal year to avoid a budget deficit, we finished the year with a \$17,000 surplus because of the support of all University units in holding expenses down. This year, enrollments are healthy and we expect to operate on a balanced budget with little strain. The fiscal strength of the university continues to be excellent," said Gilmour.

Carver agrees that the financial stability of the university is changing for the better.

"It's still early in the year, but we know that undergraduate enrollment is on track. We are still waiting for some results on the graduate side, but so far everything is pretty much stable and on track. We are under normal operation procedures again," said Carver.

In a letter addressed to the

members of the campus community, Gilmour praised all members of the campus community for holding costs down last fiscal year. He added, "It goes without saying that the willingness of everyone to accept this year's salary freeze is greatly appreciated."

In addition to the salary freeze, House-nick added, "I know people are very, very focused on spending the university's money in a very, very smart way; making sure that we're not wasteful."



The Beacon/April Bielinski

Liz Roveda with Student Government representatives.

BRIEFS from PAGE 3

Caparella will speak on a number of topics including social media its affect the newspaper business as well how the newspaper business has changed.

"There is a fascination with new media... People still need to learn how to be journalists... They need to learn how to dig up information, if you want to be a real journalist," said Caparella.

The Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) organized this event. Caparella's speech is part of a four-part series held at other local colleges. Other speeches in this lecture include Ju-Don Marshall Roberts, exective editor and senior vice president of Beliefnet.com, will speak at the University of Scranton on October 22 and Howard Owens, publisher of TheBatavian.com, will speak at Bloomsburg University on November 19.



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Gabrielle Lamb moved from Student Development to the Coordinator of Marketing Communications.

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Kulick: Desperate and pleading for help

BY GINO TROIANI

Beacon Staff Writer

With ties to the infamous “kids for cash,” scandal that swept Luzerne County last spring, a once powerful local businessman, now scared, is pleading for a reduced sentence.

Robert Kulick, a prominent businessman from Bear Creek Township, is facing 46 to 57 months in prison based on federal sentencing guidelines, according to a pre-sentence memorandum filed by Kulick’s attorney, Michael Schwartz.

The reason? Kulick has been tied to corruption in and around Luzerne County for years, which paints a long dark history of dirty dealing and mafia ties; however, the straw that broke this camel’s back was the one most would least expect.

In 2006, a consented-to search of Kulick’s Bear Creek Township home turned up four handguns and two rifles. This is a problem because in 1988, Kulick served time in

prison for income tax evasion. According to the Gun Control Act of 1968, (G.C.A.) convicted felons are barred of their right to possess/own firearms.

Upon the findings, Schwartz released a statement saying that the guns found during the 2006 search belonged to Kulick’s wife, Michelle. However, the weapons were located where Kulick had access to them, putting him in violation of the G.C.A.

As a result, Kulick pleaded guilty to a felon in possession of firearms, earning him a possibility of 46 to 57 months in prison.

This is where it gets interesting. In 2006, *The Citizens’ Voice*, lost a \$3.5 million lawsuit against local businessman Thomas Joseph in a defamation case. The judge assigned to the non-jury trial was Mark A. Ciavarella, who, with his partner-in-crime, Michael T. Conahan, has been the main focus of an F.B.I investigation probe for their “kids for cash” scheme which landed them over \$2 million in kickbacks.

Acting as a good Samaritan in an effort to save his own behind, Kulick gave a sworn

declaration to attorneys last February alleging that he, reputed mob boss William D’Elia and Conahan met regularly to discuss pending court cases for nearly eight years. Kulick said Conahan aided him on his request to give a “fair shake” to plaintiffs Kulick supported in cases handled by Conahan and other unnamed judges.

In addition, Kulick alleged that D’Elia claimed to have met with Conahan and discussed the newspaper’s defamation case. According to Kulick, Conahan assured D’Elia he had spoken to Ciavarella and that there would be a “positive outcome,” for D’Elia’s acquaintance, Thomas A. Joseph.

Kulick was free on bail, and is scheduled to appear in court at the federal courthouse in Scranton today, September 15, at 11 a.m.

Because of Kulick’s role in *The Citizens’ Voice*’s defamation case and the fact that he helped to pin more evidence on the corrupt judges, he along with *The Citizens’ Voice*’s lawyer, W. Thomas McGough, are advocating for a reduced sentence in Kulick’s upcoming trial.

For some reason that I cannot fathom, McGough put his own name on the line and wrote a letter to U.S. District Judge James Munley (the judge in Kulick’s case) on Kulick’s behalf stressing the extraordinary, voluntary and substantial assistance that Kulick provided in his client’s case.

So let’s clear things up. Kulick is a long-time convicted felon who openly admitted to having outstanding relationships with both suspected Mafiosi and corrupt judges, and now, for providing a snippet of information regarding a recent court case, he wants a break? I don’t think so.

This is one of the most despicable cries for help from an old man afraid of doing time in the slammer towards the end of his life.

If Kulick gets so much as one day off of his recommended minimum 46 month sentence, it will be a disgrace to both the United States judicial system and the people of Luzerne County.

Wilkes Labyrinth goes from “green” to overgrown



The Wilkes Labyrinth is now a centerpiece of the campus greenway. Paid for by donations from William Richard Miller, class of 1981, the stone walkway serves as a recreational retreat modeled after one found in the Chartres Cathedral in Paris, France. The labyrinth was built as a symbol of the university’s attempt to “go green.” Part of that attempt included stopping the use of fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides on campus. As a result of this, the labyrinth has unfortunately become overgrown by weeds, detracting from the appearance of the campus for those unaware.

Media's memorializing changes perception of dead celebs

BY SARA COSGROVE

Beacon Asst. Opinion Editor

Unless you've been living under a rock, you've probably noticed that some of Hollywood's finest have been dropping like flies. And the media is all over it.

First we had Ed McMahon. Then Farrah Fawcett and Michael Jackson. Usually, bad things happen in threes, but the deaths kept coming. Shortly after Jackson went Billy Mays, and most recently, Senator Ted Kennedy.

You might wonder whether the consecutive deaths of these icons is all just a huge coincidence, or the Hollywood stars alighting. But the better question is: are these celebrities truly iconic? Did we have the same perception of these celebrities in life as we do in death? And why does the media so often attack these celebrities in life, only to praise them in death?

Let's take Michael Jackson, for example. Sure, he is the "King of Pop," but before his death, that fact was lost on many and often dramatically overshadowed in the media by the accusations of child molestation and ridicule for his ever-changing skin color

and appearance. As for what I know about Michael Jackson, it is his hit song "Thriller" followed by all of the controversy that overshadowed his prosperous career. This image that I have of Michael--and I am sure this image is shared by others in my generation--was all created by the media. But now after his death, all I hear about on TV and in the news is what a wonderful father he was and how iconic he was to the music industry. These two contrasting images I now hold, one of a loving father and the other of a alleged child molester, are difficult to digest.

Senator Ted Kennedy's recent death provides another example to demonstrate how the media changes perception on celebrities after death. When Senator Kennedy was added to the list of dying iconic celebrities, he too was put on a pedestal for all of his accomplishments, including being a great political mind and for being the longest living Kennedy brother.

Because of his longevity, he was able to have the prosperous career out of which his brothers were cheated. The media went on to mention how he pushed for health care

reform and supported education and rights for the oppressed. Again, the media mostly showcased the positive aspects of his political career.

However, they often left out or barely mentioned the death of Mary Jo Kopechne, who was a Wilkes-Barre native and a member of Kennedy's campaign staff in the late 1960s. The two were leaving a campaign party held on Chappaquiddick Island. The car Kennedy was driving went off a bridge into deep water below. Kennedy, who managed to escape from the vehicle, left Kopechne inside, where she later drowned. Kennedy also failed to report the incident or call for help until it was too late. If he had called for help, Kopechne may have lived. As a result of this incident, Kennedy lost all hopes of becoming President.

But there has been hardly any mention of Chappaquiddick during the coverage of Kennedy's death. Instead, Kennedy has been praised and remembered as a hero. And, in many ways, he was. But he was also human, and made a serious mistake. The media cannot change the story now that he has passed.

The big question at hand here is why do the media only focus on the good just because these celebrities have died? I know it is respectful and necessary to point out the positives of a person's life, but that does not mean you can change what they have done in the past.

Is there any logic or good reason for this insane bipolar media coverage? When a celebrity dies, we as the public need to know about it because they were a celebrity and in some way or another a part of our lives. But the countless hours of TV time devoted to coverage of these deaths is over the top. In their attempts to memorialize, they are, in fact, changing the public's memory of the lives these celebrities lived. The media should not try to change the public's view of these celebrities simply because they have passed on. For those of us young enough not to remember their transgressions, the media is doing us a disservice by leaving out part of the story. Memorialize, yes. But don't try to change our minds or leave out important parts of these celebrities' stories.

The Observatory: Reality is more important than reality television

Why do we love it so much when it pertains to nothing?

BY MATTHEW GOGAS

Beacon Op-Ed Editor

So, there is something that catches my attention every time I am standing in line at Wal-Mart waiting to pay for whatever various odds and ends I am buying at the time. I know all of you can relate to this situation. Out of sheer boredom and impatience, I look at my surroundings--the people paying for their things in other lines, the cashiers, any cute girls, and of course, the tabloids. They are right there, as always, next to the candy bars and multiple flavors of gum. What do I see? It is yet another cover story about Jon and Kate Plus 8. For those of you who are unfamiliar (how could you be?), Jon and Kate Plus 8 is a ridiculously stupid reality television show that airs on TLC. Not that I was terribly interested, but the cover story and the show itself arouses discussion.

First of all, we all know that reality television is an illusion. It is just as scripted as our favorite primetime sitcoms. These reality television writers (yes, they have writers) set up a series of situations that

they put the "characters" in just to see how they react and then they film it. MTV's The Real World has been doing this since its inception. Professional wrestling does it, too. (Go rent "The Wrestler" if you don't believe me.) If you truly think that a bunch of guys in tights with white trash hairdos are really storming around an arena looking for people to beat up, you are

"10.6 million viewers tuned in to the episode of Jon and Kate Plus 8... 10.6 million too many, in my opinion."

incredibly oblivious. Also, if you think that you are watching the everyday encounters of young, cultured people just like you, you are sadly mistaken. Your best friend is not living in a house with seven strangers, one of whom must fit the role of being gay or a minority or both. He is sitting alone at home looking at naked pictures of Angelina Jolie.

However, I am almost sure that none of you think reality television is real.

Anyway, the tabloid headline read something like: "Jon and Kate trying to work out their differences.... blah, blah, blah." Not that I care about this couple's highly publicized, failed marriage and their scrappy kids, but like I said, it got me interested. I stopped and thought to myself, "Why do people get so involved in this crap?" Every-

where you look you see the tabloid headlines. Every time you put E! Entertainment on the television you see a story about it. Some reality television star is mixed up in some kind of controversy. It may be a sex tape, a drug scandal, drama between people on the show, etc. And people obviously watch these reality shows because they are still on the air.

According to tvguide.com, 10.6 million

viewers tuned in to the episode of Jon and Kate Plus 8 where the two announced plans to separate. That is, quite frankly, too many people tuning in (10.6 million too many, in my opinion). Is this really what we have been reduced to? While all of you were sitting on the couch watching that episode, I was at the store buying food so I would not die of starvation and while I was there, I glanced at one of the tabloids that you probably bought earlier that day to catch up on all the reality television star gossip you love so much.

In all honesty, I feel as though reality television is making viewers stupid and turning them all into drama queens. They bring all this drama with them to their job and they fight with their family to glamorize their lives, too. Please heed this advice people: there are so many other important things in the world that require more attention, like jobs, family, friends, or school. Pay more attention to these things. Television is always going to be there at the end of the day. Some of these other things may not be.

Federal and State Budget Cuts Impacting College Students

BY THE BEACON

Editorial Board

With the phrase "everyone has to tighten their belts these days" spreading like wildfire in the United States, the average college student has definitely felt the belt constriction. The economic recession that we are currently faced with has many students asking themselves whether or not they can afford to keep attending college, while the number of students enrolling in college each year is increasing.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, enrollment in four-year colleges is expected to increase 12% while enrollment in two-year colleges is expected to increase 13% through 2018.

So what does this mean for college students? Well, prospectively there will be more college students on campuses and less federal aid to help pay their tuition.

The United States Government recognizes the need for higher education in this country, but plans to increase funding for college education will not take effect until next year. The 2010 budget summary plans to increase the maximum award for the Pell Grant program to \$5,550 and guarantees that the amount will increase by one percent each year with inflation. The budget summary also proposes a \$2.5 billion investment in Federal-State-local partnership to improve college success and completion as part of the College Access and Completion Fund.

In essence, the United States is working diligently to help make college more affordable for students in the near future, but right now we are all suffering. Students are

taking out more private loans and creating more credit card debt than ever before. According to College Board, between 2007-2008 lenders provided nearly \$17 billion in private loans, which is a 592% increase from a decade earlier and the average credit card debt for an undergraduate student is \$3,173, which is the highest it has ever been according to a study conducted by Sallie Mae. These numbers keep increasing as well. Students are creating more debt for themselves because of this economic recession and the job market looks grim for seniors graduating this year.

However, lack of federal aid is not our biggest problem here. Counterproductively, funding cuts for higher education are taking place with proposed state budgets each year; some states are even cutting education funding mid-year or even quarterly.

According to *The Washington Post*, Virginia and Maryland were the latest to cut higher education funding. Over the next year, Virginia will cut their higher education funding by 20-30 percent and Maryland will cut their funding by 10 percent--\$30 million last month alone--not to mention the fact that states are increasing tuition at an alarming rate. California, Florida, New York, and many other states have reportedly increased their tuition by 15 percent or more this year, according to the American Council on Education.

If there is at least one positive aspect of the 10 week budget stand-off in our own state, it is that we are not rushing into a budget plan without thinking through how best to spend tax-payers' money. Governor Ed Rendell has publicly stated that the budget must meet his conditions of increased funding for education and healthcare or he will not

sign off on it. After more than two months, it appears as though legislators have finally come to a tentative agreement on the 2010 state budget. Whether Rendell will allow it to pass is still up in the air. The proposed \$27.94 billion budget will increase funding for education by \$300 million. This funding is allocated in state universities, the State System of Higher Education, and PHEAA.

What does this mean for Wilkes students? Almost nothing. This increase in education funding is geared more towards students that attend public universities and community colleges. While the increase in PHEAA grant money is helpful for Pennsylvania resident students, it is still not as helpful as it would be if Wilkes University was a public institution and not a private one. So, Governor Rendell sees a need for higher education in Pennsylvania, but only if you attend a public institution? That makes no sense. The state and federal government should be putting more money into education--both public and private--now more than ever. For many students, attending college next year is still a big question mark, even for some of us at *The Beacon*. College students need to graduate because obviously college graduates are the future of the job market. Who will fill jobs in the future if not us?

The Beacon urges you to write to your state legislators asking them to hold off signing the state budget until a better plan for education has been made that we can all agree on. Governor Ed Rendell needs to ensure that this money will go towards education. Our voices need to be heard because after all, we are the ones that have to pay for it.

Wilkes-Barre needs more DUI checkpoints

BY DAVID LEWIS

Beacon Correspondent

Wilkes-Barre's public square comes alive on Friday and Saturday evenings as people hop in and out of local bars, exercising their right to party. But the reality behind all of this fun is that 2,007 Pennsylvanians died in car accidents involving intoxicated drivers in the year 2008 alone, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Because of the abundance of nightlife activities in and around Public Square, there is an increased risk for drunk driving, especially on weekends. According to pennlive.com, there were 16,156 D.U.I. arrests in the state of Pennsylvania last year alone. And yet, there are few D.U.I. checkpoints in and

around the city on any given weekend.

The city's checkpoints need to occur more often. Having D.U.I. checkpoints within a half mile radius in any of the four directions of Public Square in Wilkes-Barre would serve as a deterrent from driving under the influence. Drunk driving checkpoints are usually set up near and around every popular holiday. Checkpoints shouldn't only happen during holidays, though. Anytime the bars are hopping on a downtown Wilkes-Barre weekend, there should be sobriety checkpoints performed within its vicinity.

On September 5, two days before Labor Day, *The Times Leader* reported that a man damaged three separate vehicles while driving his truck and fled from a fender bender on the corner of South Main and West South

Streets in front of the UCOM building. Luckily, no persons were fatally injured in the D.U.I. hit and run. Next time, however, the parties involved may not be so lucky. I expect that anyone who would like to experience Wilkes-Barre's nightlife and live to tell about it would be in support of additional checkpoints.

The National Center for Injury Prevention and Control calculated that D.U.I./Sobriety checkpoints reduce the possibility of an alcohol related crash by 20 percent. Instead of just having them as a reality check for every holiday, D.U.I. checkpoints should be set up every weekend here in Wilkes-Barre.

Beacon Poll

Do you plan on attending *Party on the Square*?

- Yes, it sounds like fun
- No, it does not interest me
- I have other things to do
- I'm still not sure

Visit www.wilkesbeacon.com to cast your vote. Results will be published online at wilkesbeacon.com

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Safety around campus

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SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

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College Days: Barbara King Recalls a Flood, a Final, and a Feister

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS

Beacon Lifestyles Editor

Editor's note: This is the first article in a series connecting the members of the Wilkes University community to one another through shared experiences of college life.

It's September 1972. Agnes has torn through the area and ravaged the entire first floor of most of Wilkes' buildings. Every floor is concrete, because the carpet has been ruined and stripped from the classrooms, administrative buildings, and offices. The freshman class of '72 trickled into classes, grabbing boards and folding chairs instead of desks.

A young, semi-eager Barbara King comes to campus with the idea that floating through high school can lead to floating through college. After almost six years of dreaming of attending Muhlenburg College, King made the personal decision to attend Wilkes after some financial guilt.

"Once I calculated how much it would cost for me to go to Muhlenburg versus Wilkes, I realized I would be saving over \$1,000. Our family was not well-off by any means, but my father and mother did okay for themselves. I still felt guilty for spending more for living on campus at Muhlenburg than living at home and going to Wilkes. It took me almost thirty years to tell my parents the reason I switched my decision from Muhlenburg to Wilkes. When they found out, they were flabbergasted!"

said King, dean of Student Affairs at Wilkes University.

King's transition into the Wilkes environment is one to which many students can relate. As a high school student, King described herself as someone who put the book on the kitchen table at night and did not need to pick it back up until she was going out the door the next morning.

"I did well in high school with little effort. The same was not true in college, as I would find out," recalled King.

Looking back at her college experience,

"I did well in high school with little effort. The same was not true in college..."

-Barbara King

which spanned from September 1972 until May 1980, King reflects with retrospection and a face that lights up at the memories of spending downtime in the residence halls with her friends.

King began at Wilkes University as an English major. Within her first two years at Wilkes, she had changed from English to sociology, and then declared a psychology major. When returning to school in 1978, King finally became a business major. According to King, as long as one held a degree there was a job waiting for them.

After two years in school, King left to "make [her] fortune." How she was going

to do that, she did not know. "There was a boy involved, and the plan was that he was going to go to school and I was going to work. Let me tell you, plans change," stated King.

King's unique perspective of Wilkes then and Wilkes now has given her the opportunity to reflect on both the physical changes and social changes at Wilkes in the last 37 years.

From the then-non-existent greenway to the addition and deletion of buildings, King notes that many buildings on campus

changed and shifted throughout the years.

"The Marts gym was one large room, one large playing floor. There were times when the basketball team would practice in the middle of the floor while the wrestling team practiced near the sidelines," reflected King, who was a Wilkes cheerleader.

While the physical plant of Wilkes has changed over the course of time, according to King, the attitudes of students in general have changed over the past several decades. The more relaxed style and attitude as a whole was not a familiar feeling to King or her peers in the early to mid 70's.

"To this day, I would not refer to any of

the professors by their first name. It was always 'Mr.' or 'Ms.' or 'Mrs.," stated King.

King even reflected on the difference in partying styles of the 1980 graduating class to today's college students.

"When Wilkes won the national wrestling championship in the early 70s, not only did the kids live it up, but our parents and even the president of the university at the time came!" reflected King, with a slight grin.

While many physical changes have occurred at Wilkes over the past several decades, many parts of Wilkes have remained the same. King notes that the faculty and staff of Wilkes University, while ever-changing, have always held a caliber that

far exceeds many other schools.

"I tell kids 'you may be going to Wilkes and not Harvard, but you are getting one hell of an education,'" said King.

King's personal Wilkes education has given her the tools to remain a part of the Wilkes family for almost forty years. Beginning with Admissions and moving all the way up to Associate Dean of Student Affairs, King has taken away more than just formulas or writing styles from Wilkes-she has gained a family.

"Dean Adams, my supervisor and good friend, has always told me that being a part of Wilkes is a lifestyle, not a job," said King.

King's reflection on her time at Wilkes continues each day on the second floor of Passan Hall.

“ In her own words, King remembers a bad decision:

English 152. Dr. Feister. At the time it was World Literature II. Everyone had to take it. Now you need to know that attendance policies were a little 'iffy,' to say the least, back then. You are coming right off the 60's...things are a bit freer. I took English 152 with a friend of mine. We had it on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This friend and I took every Tuesday and went to Hottles for lunch. We, therefore, would never show up for the course on Tuesdays. I carried a 3.0 in the course at the time. At the end of the semester it came time for finals. I still had my 3.0, even though I'd only been there half the class. I got the flu for finals. I was really, really sick. I had to take make-up finals. I called Dr. Feister and I said, 'I have the flu, and I'm really sick'. He told me to call him when I was better to take the make-up final. About a week later, I went into Bedford Hall (where Dr. Feister's office was at the time), and took the make-up final. Now, as we all know, make-up finals are different than the regular final that everyone else takes. Dr. Feister says to me, 'Well, Miss King, if you can pass the test, I'll give you the B that you've earned so far.' It was one question. Let's just say I probably couldn't have passed that test if I wrote a doctoral dissertation.

”

Greenway to get makeover with Club Day activity

BY CHRISTOPHER HOPKINS

Beacon Correspondent

LEEANN SEARFOSS

Beacon Lifestyles Editor

The greenway, a central point on campus, has been home to afternoon study sessions, games of touch football and frisbee, and the occasional rest between classes. The greenway acts as a transport for students, staff, and faculty, carrying them from one classroom building to another.

Students rarely spend extended periods of time gallivanting on the greenway. All that will change for at least two hours on Thursday, September 17, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. when the greenway will be transformed into a loud, boisterous, fun environment.

Postponed from Thursday, September 10 because of forecasted rain, Club Day, held annually at the start of each new school year, is a time set aside for all the clubs and organizations in and around campus to solicit themselves to the students of Wilkes. New Wilkes students and all members of the Wilkes community will have the opportunity to scour the greenway from table to

table.

Phil Ruthkosky, the associate dean of Student Development, explained that when Club Day first started, there were maybe twenty to thirty tables set up on the greenway.

"Now it has evolved greatly. We're expecting around ninety tables this year, plus food and music going on," said Ruthkosky.

The grass will be flooded by a sea of brightly colored posters, signs, banners, and the occasional treats for passersby.

Wilkes clubs aren't the only ones to get their voice out during this event. Ruthkosky added that the Wilkes Alumni office and the school bookstore will have a table set up for students to better acclimate themselves with organizations around campus, as well.

Katie White, the corresponding secretary for student government, made clear that Club Day is more than just tables and information.

"This year, the alumni will be providing t-shirts for the students," White said. "Also, there is going to be food available. Everyone will be able to have lunch on the greenway."

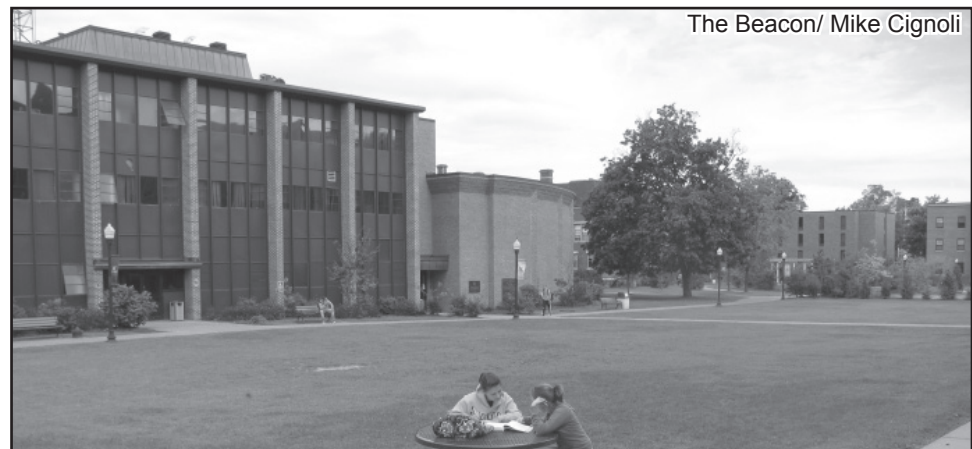
Music will also be playing throughout the day, played by DJ Rockin' Rich, who has worked other Wilkes events including last year's Block Party.

Ruthkosky went on to explain how Club Day attracts the entirety of Wilkes' campus.

"It's an opportunity for existing clubs to attract new members, but also to showcase all of their accomplishments," he explained.

According to White, there are four to six new clubs to be showcased this year that were not at Club Day before. Most clubs from previous years continue to participate in order to draw gain new members.

As students walk through campus on Thursday, they may not recognize the greenway. In fact, it may not look very green at all.



The Beacon/ Mike Cignoli

Students sit on the greenway to study, but on Thursday, September 17, the greenway will be covered with tables, food, and music.



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A day in the life of Wilkes's Public Safety Officers

BY RUTH WHISPELL

Assistant Lifestyles Editor

Every day we see Wilkes University's Public Safety Officers (PSO) riding their bikes around campus. They give tickets for illegal parking and they help people when asked, but there is much more to a PSOs job than sticking a ticket under a windshield wiper.

According to Gerald Rebo, who has been the manager of Public Safety at Wilkes for seven years, there are 13 Public Safety officers on staff. Twelve of them are full-time, one is part-time, and there are at least two officers on patrol at any time, day or night.

A typical day for PSOs involves arriving on campus at 6:45 a.m., said Michele Sabol-Jones, and getting their radio, keys, helmet, and bicycle ready for the day. He/she then checks the Coordinated Events Calendar for any events that may be occurring on campus that day. Next, the officer would check the log for crimes around campus; these could be crimes either involving a student, a citizen, or a place in Wilkes-Barre that they may need to watch out for throughout the day. Around 7:15 a.m. they sign out a pad of parking tickets and begin their patrol of campus.

Throughout the day, PSOs may answer a number of calls for various things. If there is a sick student on campus, the officer may arrive on the scene before anyone else and, depending on the situation, they may either call Campus Health Services or, if need be, an ambulance.

When an incident occurs on campus, PSOs must fill out an incident report; sometimes Wilkes-Barre police may be involved, and

in that case they also receive an incident report from them. If an officer finds lost property whether it is a book, computer, Ipod, or money, which gets counted, it gets signed into a log and then locked into a safe.

PSO Michele Sabol-Jones, who has been with the Wilkes Public Safety Office for five years and works day shift said, "Dur-

lic Safety Office and recorded, said Rebo. PSOs also scan the campus for people who look as if they don't belong such as people who may be attempting to get into dorms or other campus buildings. In the event that officers finds a suspicious person, they then ask for ID. The two buildings on campus open to the general public are the Farley Li-

out the night and early morning. The PSOs also check the city log for students involved with the police; the involvement can be as small as a fender bender to a more serious crime, such as assault.

PSOs also escort students who need them, for things such as having multiple bags of luggage or walking back to their apartments late at night. Officers also frequently assist faculty and staff, offering their services for events such as rides to the airport. Sometimes, Rebo admitted, the requests for escorts are a bit strange.

"You wouldn't believe the people who call and request an escort because they don't want to walk from the UCOM to a dorm, for example Evans, because it's raining," he said.

When the sun sets, PSOs are not done for the day. Many officers continue to patrol campus and provide escorts to students who aren't comfortable walking to their dorms or cars after dark. An officer will walk or drive a student wherever he or she needs to go.

Many officers do more than just patrol and write tickets all day; however. PSOs Phil Miller and Jo Anne Zawatski, for example, have given talks on campus about safety and ways to be safe. This occurs at least once each semester.

Although PSOs have many responsibilities throughout the day and night, exciting events rarely occur on campus. For some, "a typical day's routine is giving out tickets," claims PSO Holly Stull, who has been with Wilkes for almost three years.



The Beacon/LeeAnn Searfoss

Patrolling on bicycles is just one part of the daily routine of a Wilkes Public safety Officer. They also respond to calls from students, staff, and faculty.

ing the days, we hit everything, especially parking lots. Nights are more dorm patrol and floor checks."

Every day officers are required to perform floor checks on every building, whether occupied or unoccupied. Whenever a check is made it must be called in to the Pub-

library and the cafeteria.

Around 11 a.m., according to Sabol-Jones, a vehicle is sent to Ralston field to check on the field and the field house. During the evening a vehicle checks both areas again at 7 p.m. and usually two or three times through-

Center for Global Education and Diversity Mix-



The Beacon/Melanie Thomas

Katie Barnes, Junior Psychology Major, Joe Laforney, Junior Accounting Major at Bloomsburg University, and Dean Mark Allen enjoyed the festivities at the Center for Global Education and Diversity mixer held in the Max Roth building.

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Sixth Annual *Party on the Square* This Wednesday

1,500 college students from area schools expected to pack Public Square

BY BRIE FRIEDMAN
Beacon A&E Editor

It's the time of year again when students have settled back into the college life and are ready to party— on the square, that is. The downtown Collegetown *Party on the Square* will take place this Wednesday, September 16, from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. The square will once again be flooded with students from five local colleges: King's College, Luzerne County Community College, Misericordia University, Penn State Wilkes-Barre and Wilkes University.

Students can expect a variety of food, games, activities and a chance to network with roughly 70 businesses from the Greater Wilkes-Barre area. Activities include the second annual Collegetown Cup Competition, which offers challenges against other schools through a series of contests. The event includes a Domino's Pizza pizza-eating contest, pre-event banner designer contest, and prizes for the school that has the most students attending. There will also be a mechanical bull riding contest. There will also be fun booths featuring Nintendo Wii, raffles, photos, and more, as well as live music. Elevation, a band from Atlanta, Georgia, will be headlining.

Bridget Giunta, the Administrator Co-ordinator for the City of Wilkes-Barre and 2005 Wilkes University graduate, has been a part of the project ever since its inception back in 2003. A series of meetings between local community leaders and college students came together to determine a way to make downtown Wilkes-Barre a better environment for college students. It wasn't until September 2004 that the first *Party on the Square* was held, bringing in about 50 attendees. Now, five years later, they expect 1,500 students to attend.

"The event provides a valuable opportunity for businesses to promote themselves to the college demographic, network with future professionals and show support of Luzerne County's vibrant college community," said Giunta.

Party on the Square is a work in progress from the beginning of late spring until the



A *Party on the Square* attendee is seen here riding the popular mechanical bull in last years event. This was one of the many contests in last year's first annual Collegetown Cup, which had 1,400 attendees.

actual day of the event. Giunta and her team always take into consideration what worked from previous years and what they could do to improve for future years. *Party on the Square* is also a great internship opportunity. Giunta said her interns are great sources for ideas when it comes to student expectations for the event.

"We have outstanding relationships with our college partners, and *Party on the Square* gives everyone an opportunity to come together to celebrate this accomplishment," said Wilkes-Barre mayor Tom Leighton, a big supporter of the event.

The event is something Leighton looks forward to because it allows both businesses and students to network. It also serves as

a way to showcase improvements that have taken place in the downtown.

Students won't leave empty handed, as there will be plenty of opportunities to win raffle prizes, purchase food or take business cards. Each student will receive a free Student Discount Card, which offers over 25 deals that will last through to the end of May 2010. For any college student looking to save some cash, the discount card is convenient to have handy in a wallet or purse.

This year's theme will be in coordination with the Diamond City Partnership's "My Downtown Wilkes-Barre," which will feature students from each of the five schools and will put those selected students on ads and posters.

Giunta said she would love to hear feedback from students on what they could do better, or differently, for next year. They are always looking for ways to grow and expand.

The event will be held rain or shine. All the students need to bring is their student ID, their willingness to have fun, and an empty stomach.

If you have ideas for next year's *Party on the Square* that you are dying to share, contact the City of Wilkes-Barre and ask for Bridget Giunta.

Review: Sonic hops into local fast-food competition

Restaurant provides new dining option for students from local colleges

BY: KRISTEN KARPINSKI

Asst. A&E Editor

Just in time for the new school year, Wilkes-Barre answered the call for more late-night, fast food options for local college students. Sonic, America's Drive-In, is the latest off-campus option for good food on the go.

I recently visited the new Sonic to see if it was worth the drive off-campus. Sonic is located near the Wyoming Valley Mall right behind the Pine Mall area. There are roughly 20 spots where people can park their cars, order and eat outside. This fast-food restaurant also has tables with umbrellas where patrons can eat on the patio as well as a convenient drive-thru for those who are really on the go. A downside is that this fast-food restaurant offers no indoor seating for customers; you either eat in the car or outside on the patio.

When I pulled up to Sonic, the lot was busy with about seven or eight cars occupying the parking space order boards. There were also five or six cars using the drive-thru. Sonic has one of the very few 24/7 drive-thrus in the area which is perfect for those of us pulling an all-nighter and in need of some nourishment.

I parked next to the order board and was immediately overwhelmed by the large, brightly colored menus that displayed the items and prices. It was a little intimidating, but I had plenty of time to decide what to order, since Sonic has an "order" button to press when you're ready. The menu has a variety of foods from burgers to fish to chicken. There are at least seven varieties of limeades, shakes, Coca Cola products, juices, and water. Sonic really has something for everyone.

I ordered a Sonic Burger--which was larger than one I could have gotten from McDonalds or Burger King--tater tots, and a large soda all for a little over \$5. The food arrived within five minutes, which I felt was record timing. My burger--topped with ketchup, mayo, pickles and onions--was delicious. The tater tots were not the least bit greasy. This meal was better than most offered by Sonic's fast-food competitors.

My "hop"--the server who delivered my food--was a college-aged woman who didn't seem too enthused about her job, but wasn't terribly rude either. I was highly amused by the two male "hops" who were skating around with a condiment tray from car to car. They were both skating really fast, doing tricks and

singing to the music playing over the speakers. It seemed as though they were really into their job, which made the atmosphere of Sonic more fun and inviting. But, overall I expected to see more employees on skates entertaining the customers.

It was clear that Sonic caters to their customers' needs and strives for perfection. There were no errors with my order whatsoever; I was even asked if I needed extra napkins! It was great to have a fast-food restaurant actually care about the customer.

Overall, Sonic is a good place to go to when you want a different variety of food that tastes good for cheap. And, it's ready in mere minutes. Now that's what I call fast-food!

Rating: 4.7 out of 5

A&E POLL

What do YOU think of Sonic?

*Sonic is awesome! Best fast-food around.

*It's okay. Nothing to write home about.

*Yuck! 'Nough said.



Vote online at

www.wilkesbeacon.com



The Beacon/Thomas Reilly

A "hop" at Sonic takes the orders of college students eager to try out something new. Wilkes-Barre's Sonic is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Visit www.wilkesbeacon.com for a video of my trip to Sonic.

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Wilkes faculty member publishes memoir



The Beacon/ Thomas Reilly

Kaylie Jones, Wilkes University faculty member in the Creative Writing department read from her new book, a memoir titled *Lies My Mother Never Told Me*, on September 13 at Barnes and Nobles. She is daughter of well-known novelist, James Jones.

THE DEEVOQUIP!

BY DAVID LEWIS
Beacon Correspondent

Use the clue provided in order to decipher the meaning of the puzzle. The clue represents a letter that can be used to guess what other letters within each word are. Through the process of elimination and knowledge of vocabulary, solving the puzzle depends upon how well you can deduce the possibility of one letter equaling another. Once you assign a letter to equal another, the letter cannot be changed for the remaining letters in the puzzle. Good Luck!

This week's clues: Y = O, G= T

ZE B KYRYMVR RYJVJ XZJ KYR ZG'J JBEV GY JBL GXBG

GXV KYRYMVR QYQQVU!

Check next week's issue of *The Beacon* for the answer!

The Beacon wants you!

The Beacon is looking for any student who would like to create

crossword puzzles,
cryptoquotes,
word seeks,
sudokus,
mad libs,

or any other type of original puzzle you can come up with.

Practicum COM credits can be earned through publishing on puzzle per week.

Contact A&E editor
Brie Friedman at
brie.friedman@wilkes.edu
if you are interested in helping us out!

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Sunday and Evening Hours

What's New at Movies 14...

Sorority Row

R - 1 hr. 40 min. / 2:10 - 4:30 - 7:15 - 9:30

Tyler Perry's I Can Do Bad All By Myself

PG-13 - 1 hr. 53 min. / 2:20 - 4:50 - 7:30 - 10:15

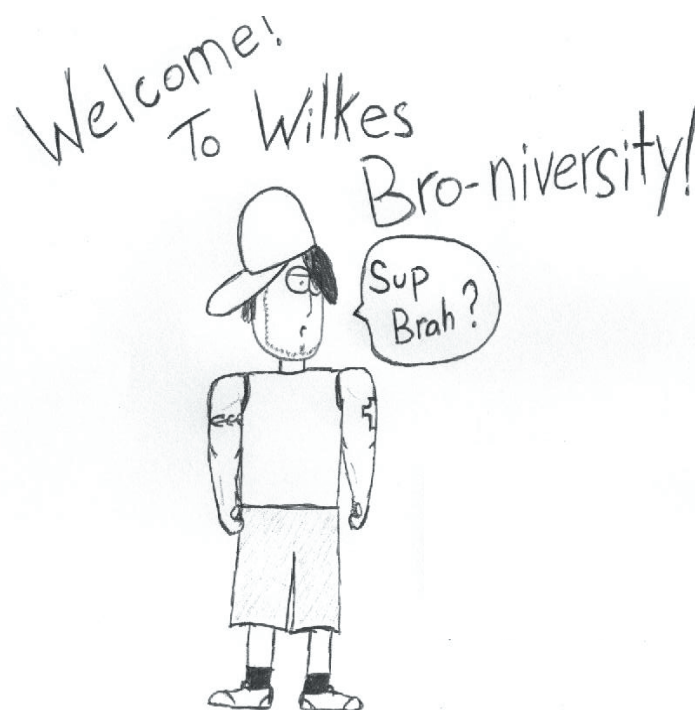
Whiteout

R - 1 hr. 41 min. / 2:30 - 4:50 - 7:05 - 9:45

9

PG-13 - 1 hr. 19 min. / 2:35 - 5:25 - 7:40 - 9:55

Don't forget to purchase your \$3 movie tickets at the Henry Student Center on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday!! Quantities are limited!



Courtesy of Patrick Zeigler

What's Happening This Weekend

BY: KRISTEN KARPINSKI & BRIE FRIEDMAN

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

*Party on the Square – Rain or Shine! – featuring live entertainment by BeatTeks, Faded Fortune, and Elevation – Mechanical Bull Riding & the Domino's Pizza Eating Contest!! 5:00PM – 9:00PM

Thursday, September 17, 2009

*** Don't forget to check out Club Day 11-1 on the Greenway! ***

All Weekend Long

* "The Glass Menagerie" @ JJ Ferrara Center, Hazleton - Cost: \$24 (Dinner/Show) or \$12 (Show only) Thurs., Fri., Sat. - Starts at 7PM Sun. - Starts at 3PM

* "Rent" @ Little Theatre of Wilkes-Barre - Fri. and Sat. - Starts at 8PM Sun. - Starts at 3PM

Friday, September 18, 2009

*A New Shade of This w/ Stillglow @ Club JAM, Pittston- Cost: \$5 -- Starts at 9PM

* The Life to Come, Patterns, Abraxas @ Café Metropolis, Wilkes-Barre - Cost: \$7 -- Starts at 8PM

Saturday, September 19, 2009

* Author Signing with Jay Luke @ Barnes and Noble- 12:00PM – 2:00PM

*Faithful Aggression @ Club JAM, Pittston - Cost: \$5 -- Starts at 9PM

* Detournement & Torchbearer @ Café Metropolis, Wilkes-Barre- Cost: \$8 -- Starts at 8PM

* Charles Havira and Donovan Roberts @ The Bog, Scranton

- Cost: \$3 -- Starts at 10PM

* Battle of the Bands Concert Series (10 Bands Compete!) @ Jenkins Twp. Hose Company, Pittston- All ages; smoke and alcohol free.

Cost: \$10 -- Starts at 3PM

Sunday, September 20, 2009

* Bell Tower Jam featuring Joseph Arthur, George Wesley, Cabinet, Ronnie Williams, Fired From Rifles and Plus 3 @ Arts Youniverse - Starts at 12PM (All proceeds benefit The Holly Petro Fund)

*"Insomniac Salad: A Kitchen Table Collaboration" @ Old Brick Theatre, Scranton - Cost: \$10 – Starts at 4PM

Monday, September 21, 2009

* Alice Cooper @ Scranton Cultural Center - Cost: \$35-\$50 – Starts at 8PM

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

*Open Mic Night for Acoustic Music and Poetry @ Barnes and Noble- 6:30PM – 8:30PM

*Dave Matthews Band @ Toyota Pavilion at Montage Mountain - Cost: \$39.50-\$70 -- Starts at 7PM

Coming up next week...

* Demetri Martin @ Wilkes University – Sept. 25th \$15 for students, 2 tickets per ID

*Up and Coming Comedy @ Scranton Cultural Center – Sept. 26th \$11.75

* Wang Chung @ Hardware Bar – Sept. 27th NO COVER!

*Bloomsburg Fair Concert Series: Josh Turner, Miranda Lambert, David Cook, Trace Adkins, Freestyle Motocross, Sugarland, Seether, Tractor and Truck Pull - ...and more!

Don't Forget....!

* Bowling – Stanton Lanes, 2 games/rental - \$0 (with ID). 1 pass per week. Pick up pass at Student Center Info Desk.

* Ice-Skating, The Ice Box - \$0 (with ID). 1 pass per week. Pick up pass at Student Center Info Desk.

* Restaurant Gift Card Drawings: \$25.00 value One drawing per week: Enter name at Student Center info desk

* Students can show their ID at the door to see any performance offered at the Little Theater of Wilkes-Barre for free. The first performance is the Broadway Musical "Rent", which will be shown on Sept, 18, 19, 20, 25 and 27th.

Women's Tennis wants fourth consecutive conference crown

Aces Bybel, Zhang, and Knight back, joined by talented freshmen class

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA

Beacon Sports Editor

When Wilkes University tennis head coach Christopher Leicht took over a struggling women's program seven years ago, he wanted to turn the team into a championship contender year in and year out, and do so quickly.

Three straight Freedom Conference titles and NCAA national playoff appearances later, Wilkes is still the team others circle on their schedules. Only now it's not for the easy win at homecoming; it's the game opponents get their chance to take out the conference powerhouse.

"It's been exciting. We've had a lot of good girls who have worked very hard, so its been nice to see the success come with that and to go from the worst to first," Leicht said. "We surprised people by winning our first title, now we have the target on our backs, so it's a little bit harder because everyone is aiming to take you down, but we enjoy being the hunted."

The hunted is an understatement.

Over the last four years, the Lady Colonels have been the toast of the Freedom Conference, amassing an unprecedented 65 wins with only eight losses on their way to three straight conference titles and countless players garnering all-conference honors.

"We look amazing. It's the best team I've ever played on."

— Michelle Knight

Last season, the lady Colonels cruised through the regular season and Freedom Conference tournament reaching a perfect 17-0 and collecting coach Leicht's fourth consecutive Freedom Conference Coach of the Year honor.

The stellar regular season and torrid run through the tournament earned them a #5 seed in the NCAA Division-III Championships, but the Colonels bowed out in the first round to Ithaca College, ending their season with a school record-tying 18 wins.

"Last year was incredible," said Junior Michelle Knight. "But we all want to make it past the first round in nationals."

Gone from the court are two of their most vital weapons from the past few years in four time all conference and three-year captains Kristin Wilt and Ali McDonald. But their presence is still felt as they are back as graduate assistant coaches.

"They're not easy to replace, both on and off the court," said Leicht. "They did a lot for the program, but we have good upper-classman that have taken leadership roles and taken the freshmen under their wings."

So are the ladies rebuilding? Or are they reloading for another run at the championship?

"Definitely reloading," Knight said, who is a returning second team all-conference pick. "We look amazing. It's the best team I've ever played on."

Knight, who posted a 13-1 mark in singles play and a remarkable 15-0 record in doubles, has good reason for her confidence. She will be joined by two of the best individuals in the conference in Senior Xiaqiao Zhang and last years Freedom Conference MVP, Junior Victoria Bybel.

Bybel, who was also named MVP of the Freedom Conference Tournament, returns to her number one spot after a season in which she led the Colonels with a 13-2 record in singles play and a perfect 13-0 mark in doubles.

And before the opponents get a chance for a breather, Zhang will pick up right where Bybel left off. Zhang, who is also a former conference MVP as well as three-time first-

team all-conference selection, returns after another phenomenal season where she sported a pristine 12-0 singles record to go along with a 10-4 doubles record.

"Both are excellent players," Leicht said. "They've proven they can win and be the best in the conference."

Add to that sophomores Rebekah Shanaman, who went 8-0 in singles play and 15-0 with Knight in doubles action, Courtney Malast and Anna Mitchell, as well as what Leicht calls his "best recruiting class ever



The Beacon Archives / Jenna Stephens

Sophomore Rebekah Shanaman awaits the return of teammate junior Michelle Knight's serve. The pair teamed up last year to go a perfect 15-0 in doubles action. Both return in hopes of leading Wilkes to a fourth consecutive Freedom Conference title.

by far in overall talent and depth," and there is no question that this team is undoubtedly the favorites to run away with the conference yet again.

"We'll have freshman that start from day one," said Leicht. "All the freshman will be competing for spots. How quickly they adapt to the college game will be key for how our team performs this year."

"The strongest competition isn't even against other teams in our conference," says Knight. "Some of the best competition all year is between us and our teammates."

To ensure that the lady Colonels continue to be challenged, Leicht has scheduled a grueling out of conference slate, which includes tournaments with the likes of Division-I programs such as Bucknell, Lafayette, and the University of Maryland-Baltimore County, as well as a trip to the US Open courts in Flushing Meadows, New York for a tilt with New York University.

The lady Colonels will also participate in the annual bout with Division-II Bloomsburg as well as many regionally ranked Division-III schools, and this team will be proving its worth week in and week out.

"We can't take our previous success for granted because there is always room for improvement, but coach (Leicht) shows so much confidence in us and does a great job of scheduling matches that challenge us," said Bybel.

All the Colonels have to do is get over that first round hump in the NCAA playoffs that has been the Achilles heel for them the past few years.

"We have to go farther at the NCAA Tournament," stressed Bybel. "We've gotten to that point the last few years and lost in the first round, taking that next step and winning an NCAA match will be amazing."

The road to the NCAA's begins Saturday as Manhattanville comes to town.

Will 2009-2010 end with Wilkes hoisting the Freedom Conference Championship trophy for a mind-boggling fourth consecutive year?

"That stuff will take care of itself," said Leicht. "Everyone has the expectation that we have the ability to win the championship, but there's a lot that can happen between now and then, well just play hard and take it match by match."

Athlete Spotlight: Joe Brennan, Men's soccer midfielder

BY DAN KAUTZ

Beacon Managing Editor

Meet Joe Brennan, a left midfielder on the men's soccer team from Oakdale, Connecticut. A freshman majoring in mechanical engineering, Brennan got a taste of success in his first college game after scoring the game-winning goal against Marywood University in a 1-0 overtime victory on September 1, 2009.

"It took a couple of seconds to hit me [after I scored]," said Brennan, who connected for the goal after receiving a cross from senior Troy Gibson. "After that it was just a pure adrenaline rush; I just remember running down the field with my teammates and having a 'that just happened' moment. It felt great."

The goal gave the Colonels the win and a 1-0 start to their season, as well as the confidence that they can not only keep their poise in close games, but come through in the clutch of late-game situations. Since their game against Marywood they have gone 1-3. The Colonels have a tough sched-



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

ule this year, which will serve as a measuring stick for how they stack up against the best of the best. Included in that schedule is a tilt with Muhlenberg, to whom they have lost to twice in the last three seasons.

"There's a big jump in the technical skill

that the players have at this level," said Brennan. "In high school there was always the issue of players not finishing plays, whereas here you can't mess up [without getting scored on]."

In an effort to rise to the competition,

LEFT - Brennan (right) and his teammates celebrate his game winning goal versus Marywood.

Brennan has made it a goal of his to hit the weight room to add muscle and increase his endurance. "I'm the smallest guy out there on the field," said Brennan with a chuckle. "I definitely need to step it up in there."

Despite their somewhat slow start, Brennan is confident in the team that posted an 11-8-3 record last season and has many experienced upper-classmen returning.

"We seem to have eleven fit soccer players out there [on the field during games] at all times," said Brennan. "We don't have that one guy who's out there just to be out there; everyone is working hard and it shows in our effort."

They will have an opportunity to show off their hard work tomorrow, September 16, as they take on Lebanon Valley (ranked second in the preseason Commonwealth Conference poll) in what promises to be a tough road test for the Colonels.

QUICK HITS

VOLLEYBALL SERVING OPPONENTS

The Lady Colonels have started this season on fire, winning nine of their first ten contests. It is the team's best start in school history. In the midst of this great beginning, Wilkes won both the Scranton Invitational and the Kings College Tournament. The women take the court again tomorrow at 7 p.m. to take on FDU-Florham.

CATCHING UP WITH CROSS COUNTRY

The men's team took fourth at the Kings College NEPA Classic while both the women and the men took 5th place in the Lebanon Valley Invitational. Michelle Wakely has led the women, taking 14th place in the NEPA Classic, and 7th place overall in the Lebanon Valley Invitational with times of 16:16 and 21:10, respectively. For the men, Bob Park has taken the top spot in both events, including the fastest 8K time since the rebirth of the Wilkes cross country program with a time of 30:02 at Lebanon Valley.

REED ON A ROLL FOR WOMEN

At press time, the women's soccer team was off to a 2-2 start. They defeated Marywood and UW-Oshkosh, while their two losses have come at the hands of Scranton and Arcadia. Senior Julissa Reed has been red-hot this season, leading the team in both goals (three) and assists (two). The Lady Colonels return to action today, hosting Lebanon Valley at 4 p.m. When these two teams met last year, they played to a 1-1 draw in overtime.

MEN'S SOCCER BACK TO .500

The Colonels boasted a 2-2 record at press time Sunday. The men were victorious in their first two contests of the year, taking out Marywood and Gwynedd Mercy. Unfortunately for Wilkes, they dropped their next two contests against Neumann and Muhlenberg. The Colonels next match-up comes tomorrow when they travel to Dickinson to take on the unbeaten Red Devils.

WHAT'S THE WORD AT WILKES?

Each week, *The Beacon* asks students how they feel about important issues in the world of sports. This week, we asked how they felt about Eagles quarterback Michael Vick being reinstated into the NFL after serving time in prison. You can view their responses online.

for more information check out...

wilkesbeacon.com

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SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL

9/5 vs. Muhlenberg 14-12 W
9/12 vs. Montclair State 37-10 W

MEN'S SOCCER

9/1 vs. Marywood 1-0 W (OT)
9/4 @ Gwynedd Mercy 2-0 W
9/6 vs. Neumann 2-1 L
9/10 vs. Muhlenberg 4-0 L

WOMEN'S SOCCER

9/5 vs. UW-Oshkosh 2-0 W
9/6 vs. Arcadia 2-1 L
9/9 vs. Scranton 4-2 L

VOLLEYBALL

9/2 vs. Lycoming 3-1 W
9/4 vs. Misericordia 3-2 W
9/4 vs. Marywood 3-1 W
9/5 vs. Mount St. Mary's (NY) 3-0 W
9/5 vs. King's 3-1 W
9/8 @ Alvernia 3-0 W
9/11 vs. SUNY-IT 3-1 W
9/12 vs. Keystone 3-0 W
9/12 vs. Scranton 3-2 L
9/12 vs. Marywood 3-2 W

FIELD HOCKEY

9/1 vs. Scranton 5-2 W
9/5 @ Moravian 4-1 W
9/9 vs. Cabrini 6-2 W
9/12 @ Gwynedd Mercy 3-2 W

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

9/1 vs. Misericordia 50-15 L
9/4 King's College Classic 4th Place
9/12 Leb. Valley Invitational 5th Place

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

9/1 vs. Misericordia 48-17 L
9/4 King's College Classic 6th Place
9/12 Leb. Valley Invitational 5th Place



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For up to the minute reports on your favorite Colonels teams throughout the week, follow *The Beacon Sports* on Twitter at www.twitter.com/BeaconSports

Deemie is Iron Woman, places fifth in age group

Senior completes 140.6 mile triathlon in under 12 hours

BY MICHAEL CIGNOLI

Beacon Asst. Sports Editor

Ashley Deemie, a senior business administration and accounting major, said that she signed up for the Louisville Ironman triathlon for the experience.

Even she had no idea just what an experience she was in for.

During an Ironman competition, participants have 17 hours to swim 2.4 miles, change clothes, pedal a bicycle for 112 miles, change clothes again, and then run a 26.2 mile marathon. There are no breaks between the legs, and time spent changing clothes counts toward an athlete's final time.

Deemie, who just started competing in triathlons last year, finished the race and blew her competition away in the process. She placed fifth amongst women between the ages of 18 and 24, clocking out with a time of 11 hours, 45 minutes, and 24 seconds.

The Apalachin, NY, native was presented with a commemorative plaque for her fifth-place finish. That award came in addition to a medal, hat and t-shirt that each of the finishers received. But Deemie didn't realize that she had placed until she received a text message from one of her friends at the competition.

"She told me I was getting an award," Deemie recalled. "I texted her, 'I am?' I

didn't even check the results; I never even imagined that I would get fifth."

Deemie, whose interest in triathlons was sparked by watching friends compete in an Ironman held last summer in Lake Placid, NY, competed in two half-Ironmans over the summer in preparation for the Louisville competition. When she learned what her times were in those competitions, Deemie set a goal time that she wanted to beat during the full-length, 140.6-mile Ironman.

"I was shooting for 12 hours. I thought that was a pretty good goal time for me," she said. "My marathon time was a lot better than I expected. I came out and I ran really, really well; I felt great. I think that's what brought my time down under 12 hours."

Apart from a practice run earlier in the week, Deemie had never seen the course that she would be competing on prior to the race. But she wasn't worried about the course; her primary concern was the potential for scorching temperatures.

"Last year in Louisville the temperature was well over 90 degrees. For this year, my main concern was the temperature," Deemie said. "I'm not used to training in the heat like that, but the heat was perfect — high 70s, low 80s all day — so it was perfect weather."

While Deemie and the other combatants experienced good weather on race day, they also enjoyed some pleasant scenery during the marathon. The course wound past the University of Louisville campus, its 42,000-seat Division-I football stadium, and Churchill Downs, home of the world famous Kentucky Derby.

With her fifth-place finish under her belt, Deemie returned to Wilkes and immediately resumed her many campus activities. She serves as president of Money Matters Personal Finance Club, treasurer of Students In Free Enterprise and is an E-Mentor and Resident Assistant.

The race date coincided with Wilkes University's Welcome Weekend, during which E-Mentors like Deemie meet with first-year students and help them transition from high school to college. Sharon Castano, who oversees the E-Mentoring program, said she didn't have to think twice about excusing Deemie from the weekend's activities.

Castano added that completing the race speaks volumes about Deemie's character.

"Ashley is a competitor," Castano said. "She competes with herself daily in all aspects of her life, always challenging herself to perform better than she did previously, whether it be academically or when it comes to athletics."



Courtesy of Ashley Deemie

Ashley Deemie poses with her medal, which she received for finishing the triathlon. Deemie clocked out with a time of 11 hours, 45 minutes, and 24 seconds.

HER TIMES BY EVENT:

SWIM:	1:22:21
BIKE:	6:05:42
RUN:	4:08:30
TOTAL*:	11:45:24

*Includes times for transition periods

As busy as Deemie might get during the school year, she will never forget the experience that she had preparing for and participating in the Ironman.

"If I could put it in a couple words, I'd have to say it was the journey of a lifetime, between starting training and the ending product," said Deemie. "The day goes by really fast."



Courtesy of Ashley Deemie

Ashley Deemie placed fifth in her age group during the Louisville Ironman triathlon, held on August 31. Deemie is seen here during the marathon leg of the competition, which also included swimming and cycling.

Keegan leads the way for Lady Colonels in 6-2 triumph

BY RACHEL CANNULI
Beacon Correspondent

The Wilkes University field hockey team dominated Cabrini College on Wednesday, September 9, scoring five goals in the first half en-route to a 6-2 victory. Jen Keegan scored twice for the Lady Colonels, who improved their record to 3-0 on the season with the win. Gina Elmy, Jenna DiSabatino, Amanda Tilley and Lindsey Raleigh also recorded goals for Wilkes.

The majority of the goals were scored within the first 20 minutes of the game, and Wilkes held a 5-1 lead at half time. The five strikes were more than enough to seal the victory, as goalkeeper Lindsey Davenport made eight stops between the pipes to earn the win.

Head Coach Sara Myers was thrilled with her team's successful start to the contest.

"We had a very strong first half; the first 15 minutes of the game was the best I have ever seen Wilkes play," Myers said. "We just need to work on keeping the momentum and maintaining the same level of intensity for the entire 70 minutes."

The six goals scored by Wilkes were the most that the team has scored in a single game this season. Myers added that DiSabatino and Keegan played exceptionally well in Wednesday's victory.

"Jenna Disabatino had an outstanding game; she created a lot of scoring opportunities and Jen Keegan also stood out offensively," the coach said. "Keegan has really stepped up as a leader on our offensive line and she has been a mainstay in our scoring in the last three games."

Keegan, a senior business administration major, leads the Lady Colonels with seven goals this season, adding a tally in Wilkes's 3-2 victory over Gwynedd Mercy on Saturday that improved the team's record to 4-0. Keegan has taken just 11 total shots this campaign, making her shooting percentage an astronomical 63.6%.

All told, seven other players scored at least once for the Lady Colonels this year. Keegan is happy that the scoring is coming from many different players.

"The offense has had a great past few games," Keegan said. "It's always nice to see diversity among goal scorers. We just need to keep the momentum of these wins and carry it into the rest of the season."

Myers added that the team's depth has played a big role in her team's early season success.

"We have 19 players on our team who are game ready, any one of them can step on the field at any time and there is not a change on our level of play," the coach said. "I am very happy with this group and I am excited to see what they can accomplish this year."

Wilkes will play their next home game on Thursday, September 17, when they entertain non-conference rival Keystone College at 4 p.m. Wilkes also hosts Marywood on Saturday, September 19, at noon.



The Beacon / Allison Roth

Members of the Wilkes University field hockey team line up to watch Amanda Tilley take a penalty shot during Wednesday's game against Cabrini College. Tilley scored on the play, making her one of four Lady Colonels to tally in the matinee contest.

FOOTBALL

From PAGE 20



The Beacon / Kerri Frail

The Colonels' "Big Three" is comprised of Darnell Corbin (left), Corey Gilroy (center) and Kevin Gerhart (right). Here, Corbin and Gilroy block for Gerhart during his interception return in the season opener vs. Muhlenberg. Wilkes won 14-12.

the big plays proved to be the deciding factor for Wilkes. Corbin intercepted Fischer on their very next possession.

The fourth quarter was dominated by the Colonels both offensively and defensively. Zach Tivald reached the end zone from two yards out to give the Colonels a commanding 37-3 lead. The Red Hawks would put up a late touchdown with 7:47 left to play to make the score 37-10, which is where it

would stay.

The Colonels will be able to relax for a week as they currently have a bye. Their next chapter comes in two weeks when they travel to Newport News, Virginia, to take on the Captains from Christopher Newport University. The Colonels will be looking to avenge a 21-20 defeat from last year.

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We Deliver

Colonels leave Mules, Red Hawks in dust, open year 2-0

Picked to finish sixth in conference, Colonels are proving the critics wrong

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It was the leadership of "The Big Three" and a total team effort that got the Wilkes football team off to a 2-0 start this season.

Defensive backs senior Cory Gilroy, and juniors Darnell Corbin and Kevin Gerhart, the three most experienced defensive players, dubbed themselves "The Big Three." Not lacking any confidence, the trio also hailed themselves as the "best defensive players in the MAC [Middle Atlantic Conference]," setting the tone for the defense.

In their home opener against Muhlenberg on September 3, the Colonels used some key plays by some big time-players to come out victorious, giving them their first non-conference victory since 2006. A late touchdown reception by Gennaro Zangardi and the playmaking ability of the Colonels fueled the victory.

Gilroy, leader of "The Big Three," came up huge, blocking the Mules' 21-yard field goal attempt before half time.

"The blocked field goal really seemed to spark the team and get us motivated again," Gilroy said.

The motivation was apparent as the second half proved to be all Wilkes. Senior quarterback Rob Johnson led them down the field and finished the drive himself on a 37-yard scamper for the Colonels' first score of the day, cutting the Mules' lead to three.

Corbin and Gerhard, the other two members of "The Big Three," followed Gilroy's lead and came up with big plays of their own in the second half, but not before Gilroy intercepted Muhlenberg quarterback Justin Kreamer's pass at the start of the fourth quarter. After a few unsuccessful drives by both teams, Kevin Gerhart, who was named MAC Defensive Player of the Week after his dominant showing, came up with a momentum-changing interception, returning it 28 yards to set up first-and-10 from the Mules 15-yard line.

After three plays, Johnson found Zangardi in the back corner of the end zone with 5:38 left in the game to take the lead for the first time in the afternoon. Just as the Mules looked as though they may recapture the lead, Corbin intercepted Kreamer on their own 8-yard line, Kreamer's third pick of the day.

After three straight runs to wear down the clock, Colonels punter Nick Genuardi took an intentional safety with five seconds left on the clock to make the score 14-12 in favor of Wilkes.



Courtesy of Jason Prushinski

Sophomore wide receiver Aireil Adams sprints past Montclair State's Chad Faulcone on his way to the end zone in Saturday's 37-10 victory. Adams finished with three catches for 105 yards, including this 78-yard touchdown grab in the third quarter.

After multiple laterals on the ensuing kickoff, the Mules fumbled away one last shot which was recovered by the Colonels as time ran out, cementing the late game comeback win for Wilkes.

The Colonels took on the Red Hawks from Montclair State in their second home game of the season last Saturday. The respected Red Hawks came into Ralston Field ranked 18th in the nation, but that did not intimidate the Colonels at all.

"We definitely wanted to keep this rolling and get win number two against Montclair," Corbin said before the game.

Both teams started out slowly, but the Colonels drew first blood when Chris Horn connected on a 20-yard field goal try to put the Colonels up by a score of 3-0 with 6:54 left in the first quarter.

The defensive struggle continued until Wilkes' Sean O'Neill recovered a Scott Kurbak fumble, and returned it 34 yards for a touchdown, extending their lead to nine.

"It was just reading and reacting to the play. [Greg] Nielsen made the tackle and there was no one else around so I picked it up and ran it in," recalled O'Neill.

The extra point attempt was blocked and the scored stayed at 9-0. After a few scoreless possessions, Johnson and his offense regained momentum and used a long pass to Jordan D'Emilio to set themselves up first and goal. Harry Reese then bullied his way into the end zone from two yards out.

The Red Hawks finally got onto the board shortly before the half with a 31-yard-field goal making the score 16-3 as the teams exited for halftime.

It didn't take much time for Wilkes to continue its string of big plays. On their first possession of the second half, Johnson completed a 78-yard touchdown pass to Aireil Adams, who left his defender in the dust while giving the Colonels a 23-3 edge.

"I came into this game fired up because their defense didn't give us any respect, and I really wanted to make a big play," Adams said.

The big plays kept coming when Gilroy intercepted Fischer's pass and returned it 88 yards for the touchdown. The turnovers and

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BY THE NUMBERS

37

Points scored by Wilkes in the victory over Montclair State. Between 2007 and 2008, the Colonels scored a combined 13 points in losses to Montclair State.

30

Games since the Colonels have beaten a ranked opponent. Montclair was the #18 team in Division-III prior to losing to Wilkes.

5

Number of interceptions the Colonels have so far this season. They had 12 picks during their ten game schedule in the 2008 season.

0

Number of wins against non-conference opponents during the past two years. They have two this season. Zero is also the number of turnovers the Colonels committed.

