

WILKES

SPRING 2009



SENSEI | PIVOTAL PIROUETTES | PITCHING PRESERVATION | BLACK DESERTS

A Life Well-Lived Savors the Arts

WILKES UNIVERSITY MAINTAINS A STRONG commitment to the arts, which is driven by the following premises: preparation of all of our undergraduates for a life well and fully lived must include an appreciation of the arts; interested students must be given the opportunity to develop their artistic talents; a key element to improving the Wyoming Valley's quality of life is a vibrant arts community and full calendar of art events. To the extent that Wilkes can facilitate and contribute to a vibrant arts community, it also

provides a more fulfilling undergraduate experience for the students and a genuine public service for the community that redounds to the University's benefit.

Historically, Wilkes has been a regional leader in the arts and continues, through a vital Department of Visual and Performing Arts and its wide variety of theatre and music programs, the Sordoni Museum, and the Music Conservatory, to contribute robustly to the arts on campus and in the Wyoming Valley.

In recent years, undergraduate student interest in the arts has increased. More and more students pursue some facet of the arts during their studies, and we want to encourage more participation in the arts in class and in extracurricular activities.

Beginning on page 14, you can read about our popular dance classes.

More than 200 Wilkes students take dance classes each semester.
PHOTO BY CURTIS SALONICK

As we look ahead, we see an even more vital role for the arts at Wilkes. In the community, we will develop a greater awareness of what we already do and extend our programs into the downtown to ensure a genuine and sustained renaissance there. On campus, it will involve even greater opportunities for deep immersion for talented students in some facet of the arts and for broader development of arts appreciation as an essential element of a life well-lived for all.



Dr. Tim Gilmour
Wilkes University President

WILKES MAGAZINE

University President
Dr. Tim Gilmour

Vice President for Advancement
Michael Wood

Editor
Kim Bower-Spence

Executive Editor
Jack Chielli

Associate Director, Marketing Communications
Christine Tondrick '98

Creative Services
Lisa Reynolds

Web Services
Craig Thomas

Electronic Communications
Christopher Barrows

Graduate Assistant
Shannon Curtin '07

Layout/Design
Quest Fore Inc.

Printing
Payne Printery Inc.

EDITORIAL ADVISORY GROUP

Anne Batory '68
Brandie Meng M'08
Bill Miller '81
George Pawlush '69 M'76
Donna Sedor '85

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Colleen Gries Gallagher '81

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

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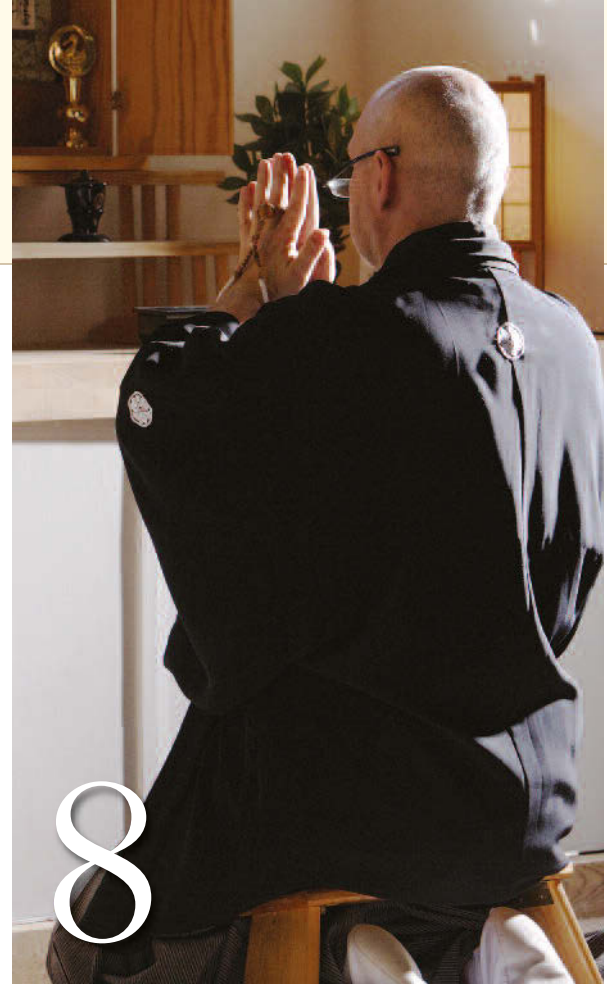
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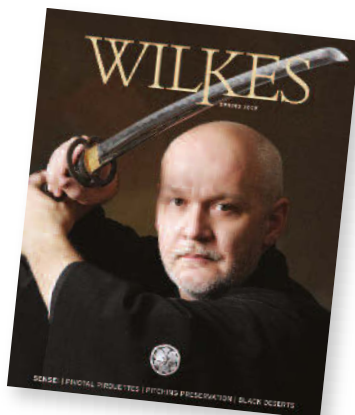


Have a story idea to share?

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

Correction:

A class note in the summer 2007 issue incorrectly stated that Meghan (LaVigna) Suhocki '97 MS '01 and her husband adopted two boys. In fact, Suhocki and husband Chris gave birth to sons Alex Luca and Jonah William in December 2005 and December 2006, respectively. The staff of *Wilkes* magazine regrets the error.



On the cover: Music education major Carl Long traded trumpet for samurai sword. Now the world-class martial artist travels the world to promote the ancient practice. Read more, beginning on page 8. PHOTO BY EARL AND SEDOR



Sidhu School Names First Executive-in-Residence

Daniel J. Cardell '79 became the Sidhu School of Business and Leadership's first executive-in-residence last fall.

Paul Browne, Sidhu School dean, says the program will bring accomplished business leaders to campus to interact with students and other members of the university community. "Learning from and talking to an experienced senior



Daniel J. Cardell '79

executive provides great career motivation. Students get to visualize the types of roles for which they are preparing and hear stories of how a successful career unfolds. They also have the opportunity to discuss how specific concepts apply to real-life situations. In the normal course of instruction, students learn through theory and case studies about the roles and responsibilities of senior leaders and the capabilities and skills required in their work. It all comes to life when such leaders come to campus to talk with students about what they do."

Cardell is president and chief investment officer of Wayne Hummer Asset Management. He formerly served as director of equities at Weiss, Peck & Greer and as senior vice president at the Bank of America. During his residency, Cardell served as a guest lecturer in classes on business strategy, entrepreneurship, strategic management, financial management, investments, portfolio management and financial markets. He also shared his views with Sidhu School faculty and staff on the importance of their role in guiding students in the pursuit of careers in business and accounting, and participated in a lunch with a select group of students, leaders from the business community and faculty members from political science and economics.

Cardell, a member of the University's board of trustees, holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and earned an MBA in finance at the University of Pittsburgh in 1980.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION LAUNCHES MASTER'S DEGREES IN TEACHING ONLINE AND ESL

Changing technology and demographics are creating new opportunities for educators. Responding to this demand, Wilkes' School of Education launched two new 30-credit master's degree programs for spring: online teaching and teaching English as a second language.

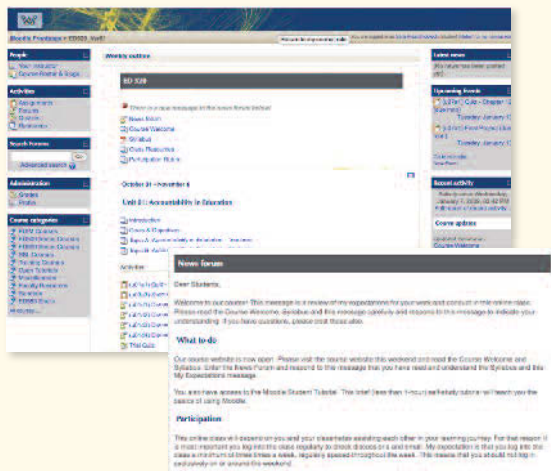
The online teaching program will prepare educators to use technology for training and instruction, whether in the private or public sectors of academia, the corporate world or government. The program is offered totally online in collaboration with Performance Learning Systems.

Teaching English as a second language includes two majors:

- English as a Second Language, for public school teachers who want to instruct children whose first language is not English.
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, for instructors who can teach English to learners of all ages. You need not be a teacher to apply for this option.

By completing the program's first four courses, students can earn a letter of endorsement or the ESL Specialist designation from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Classes take place in a blended, or hybrid, format that includes on-campus meetings, as well as online instruction and interaction.

For more information on either program, visit www.wilkes.edu/GradEd or phone (800) WILKES-U Ext. 4671.



“ I have followed very closely the FOREIGN REACTION to (Barack Obama’s) election. It is absolutely STUNNING. People from all over the world are thinking that America has in fact presented a whole new historic figure. People are applauding America for having elected the FIRST BLACK AMERICAN PRESIDENT. ”

- Madeleine K. Albright,
on world reaction to President Barack Obama’s election



Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright addressed the annual Outstanding Leaders Forum, sponsored by the Sidhu School of Business and Leadership. Proceeds from the forum build a scholarship endowment for the school's undergraduate program.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL P. TOUEY



Students in adolescent psychology worked with local high school students to beautify the Lands at Hillside Farms.

PHOTO BY CURTIS SALONICK

Hands-On Learning at Hillside Farms

Jennifer Thomas’ adolescent psychology class partnered with students from Lake Lehman High School on a service learning project during the fall 2008 semester.

The class partnered with 10 high school students in September and began planning service projects to benefit the nearby Lands at Hillside Farms. During the planning process, psychology students observed the teens’ problem-solving skills and growing awareness of civic and social responsibility.

The project culminated on a December Saturday when the student groups built a walking bridge, constructed a compost bin and helped beautify nature trails. The service learning initiative gave the psychology students a better understanding of adolescent development by applying the theories and concepts learned in class to a real-life situation.

WEATHERING THE ECONOMIC STORM

Recent economic turmoil has not spared Wilkes University. But conservative investment policies and dependence on tuition for income have kept the institution on sound footing so far.

“Overall, the financial condition of Wilkes is stable, and we are positioned well for the future,” reports University President Tim Gilmour. “That is not to say there won’t be challenges and sacrifices ahead. But the basic directions of our strategic plan, the strong financial stewardship of our Board of Trustees, and the generous giving of our alumni have provided us with the ability to weather bad times and take advantage of good times ahead.”

Some moves that help:

- Two years ago, trustees refinanced Wilkes’ debt to a fixed rate.
- Value of the Wilkes endowment declined but at a rate less than what the overall market has experienced. “Because our endowment is relatively small, the stock market decline has less effect on our budget than at some other institutions,” Gilmour says. “Ironically, this might be a time when it is good to be a tuition-dependent institution.”
- The strategic plan, Vision 2010, addressed a coming decline in college-bound high school students and the growing need for adult education.
- Despite the serious deterioration of our nation’s economy, the number of donors to Wilkes’ Annual Fund has increased. And with the continued support of our alumni, the University has an opportunity to meet goals this year.

This year’s budget will be tight and next year’s even tighter as the University reigns in costs, accommodates challenges from financial markets, and builds in larger contingencies should the economy deteriorate further. “If you have not already done so, I urge you to contribute to our Annual Fund at whatever amount is comfortable for your budget,” Gilmour says. “Your giving will make us stronger and will help struggling students and their families to enjoy the benefits that you know a Wilkes education provides.”

As of late January, applications received from prospective students continued to be on par with those of the previous year, and Gilmour remains optimistic about the future. “We recognize that the financial situation is fluid and can change rapidly,” Gilmour says. “We are monitoring the situation closely and will proceed prudently.”

To donate to the Annual Fund, contact Michele Zabriski at michele.zabriski@wilkes.edu or **(800) WILKES-U**. For additional information on the University’s financial situation, contact the Office of Alumni Relations, also at **(800) WILKES-U**.



Students Valerie Martinez, left, and Xiaoqiao Zhang were volunteer bell ringers for the Salvation Army’s Need Knows No Season campaign. Zebra Communications has helped to raise more than \$6,000 for the organization since it became a client in 2004. PHOTO BY SHANNON CURTIN

Earning Their Stripes

Zebra Communications should soon exceed the \$10,000 mark for money raised, thanks to its creative fundraising and awareness campaigns.

The University’s student-run public relations firm has a history of developing unique fundraising campaigns for local organizations. Long-time Zebra clients Candy’s Place, a non-profit support organization for cancer patients and their families, and the Salvation Army received checks totaling more than \$5,000 from fundraising events this holiday season.

Zebra planned a benefit concert, dodgeball tournament, Red Kettle Drive for the Salvation Army’s “Need Knows No Season” campaign, and partnered with national franchise restaurants to raise money for their clients while also gaining hands-on professional experience. Since 2005, Zebra Communications has raised nearly \$10,000 for the two organizations.

And the Band Plays On

Calling all Civic Band members — past and present!

Wilkes Band Weekend will be held April 26 and 27. It features former directors Terry Zipay and Raymond Nutaitis '62 and '64. If you participated in the Wilkes Civic Band at any time during its glorious 60-year history, come join the fun.

The 57-member ensemble performs a repertoire of outstanding modern concert band pieces and features a variety of performers. “This is an exciting project that has the potential to connect with many of the music school and band alumni as far back as the 1950s,” says Philip Simon, director of music education and instrumental studies at Wilkes.

Any alumni of the band program wishing to receive information about this special weekend can contact Simon at philip.simon@wilkes.edu.

The Civic Band comprises both student and community musicians. PHOTO BY MICHAEL P. TOUEY

“

This is an exciting project that has the potential to **CONNECT** with many of the **MUSIC SCHOOL** and **BAND ALUMNI** as far back as the 1950s.

”

– Philip Simon



Investigative Article on Race Earns National Recognition

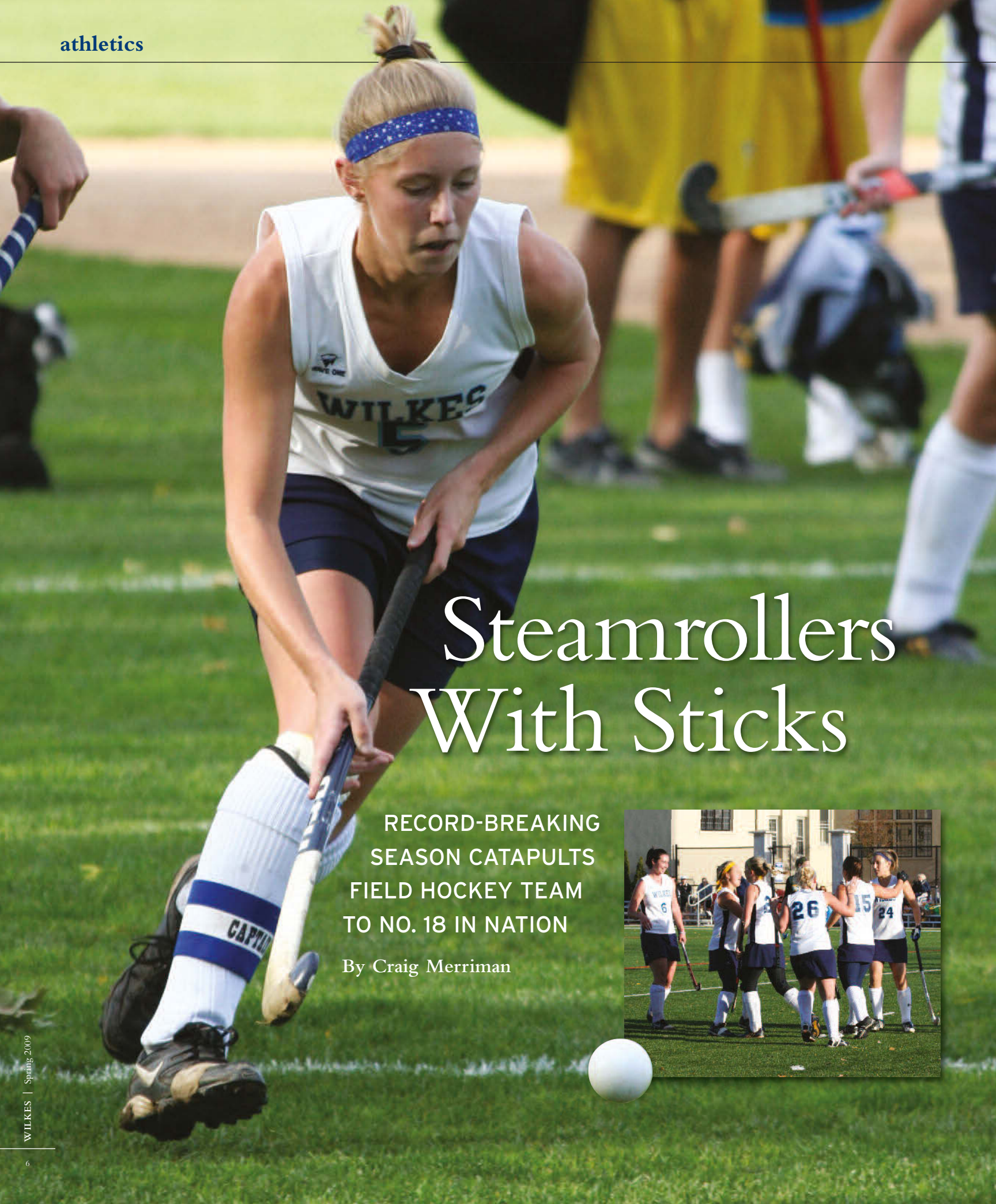
An investigative article on race and business practices in Wilkes-Barre earned five student writers from Wilkes University’s campus newspaper an honorable mention from the Associated Collegiate Press.

The Beacon recently received honorable mention in the Story of the Year competition at the Associated Collegiate Press “Best of Show” awards. Carlton Holmes, Newark, N.J.; Andrew Seaman, Forest City, Pa.; Marissa Phillips, Effort, Pa.; Andee Scarantino, Old Forge, Pa.; and Nicole Frail, Wilkes-Barre, collaborated on the article.

The national Associated Collegiate Press competition does not categorize competitors based on size of publication or school in the Story of the Year categories. *The Beacon* competed in the diversity category, following Duke University, University of Southern California and Kansas State University, respectively.



The *Beacon* news team that earned an honorable mention for a series on race in Wilkes-Barre included, seated from left: Marissa Phillips, advisor Andrea Frantz and Nicole Frail; and standing, from left: Carlton Holmes and Andrew Seaman. Andee Scarantino was absent from the photo. PHOTO BY SHANNON CURTIN



Steamrollers With Sticks

RECORD-BREAKING
SEASON CATAPULTS
FIELD HOCKEY TEAM
TO NO. 18 IN NATION

By Craig Merriman



SCHOOL RECORDS WERE SQUASHED AS THE 2008 field hockey team steamrolled its way through conference play last fall. The Lady Colonels' 18 season wins set a record, as did their 10 consecutive wins. And along the way, they climbed to a No. 18 national ranking.

It was Aug. 17 when Wilkes field hockey head coach Sara Myers had a chance to meet with her team for the first time. Like all coaches, she set goals for individuals as well as the team as to what she expected in the upcoming season.

Kerry Battersby, Alyssa Koncelik, Devon McKay, Kristina Naveira and Diana Wright, the five seniors on the squad, were given the task of mentoring 10 freshmen, as well as two sophomores and six juniors. With a young team, the seniors shouldered a great deal of responsibility and demanded the best from their teammates from day one.

"This year's senior class was the first class that I started with four years ago," Myers notes. "Over the years, they have grown and developed into talented players and the kind of seniors the team wanted to play for. I have enjoyed coaching them, and I am very grateful for all they have given to the field hockey program at Wilkes. They have developed a winning tradition, which we hope to continue."

On Aug. 30, the 2008 field hockey team started on the road to accomplishing something no other hockey team in school history had. On that day they hosted Moravian in one of their closest and most exciting games of the year. The Lady Colonels eventually won 4-3 in penalty strokes after both teams finished regulation and two overtime periods deadlocked at 3-3. Wilkes would prevail 3-0 in the strokes with the game-winning goal credited to Devon McKay. It would be the first of 10 straight victories, marking the most consecutive wins to start the season.

The Lady Colonels finally lost their first contest against No. 13 Elizabethtown by a 3-1 margin, but it didn't take long for Wilkes to bounce back as it took a 3-1 convincing win over No. 18 Montclair State just a week later. The win would start another streak, this time five straight that would put the Lady Colonels on top of the Freedom Conference standings.

Wilkes finished the regular season with a 7-1 record and garnered the top seed in the Freedom Conference Championship. During their journey, the Lady Colonels knocked off two-time defending conference champions and cross-town rival King's College 4-3 in an overtime thriller in the final regular-season game to clinch the top spot.

Earning the No. 1 title gave Wilkes a first-round bye in the playoffs. Three days after they took the Lady Monarchs down, the Lady Colonels would do it again, this time in the semifinal round of the league tournament where Wilkes came out on top 1-0 in a defensive struggle. They would then play for the conference title against Eastern, a team they defeated earlier in the year.

The stress of three games in less than a week caught up to the Lady Colonels as they fell 2-1 in the conference championship. Finishing with a stellar 17-3 record, the Lady Colonels were invited to play in the ECAC South Championship.

Wilkes hosted Washington & Jefferson University in the opening round, where they would take a 2-1 win before falling to Kean University 4-3 in the ECAC Championship to close out the season.

For their efforts, four players were named to the All-Freedom Conference First Team, and Myers was named Coach of the Year. Freshman goal keeper Lindsey Davenport was named the Rookie of the Year after posting eight shutout wins. Earning spots on the all-conference first team were senior attack Alyssa Koncelik, junior midfielder Brittany Sines, senior defender Kerry Battersby and Davenport.

Opposite page: Center midfielder Brittney Sines, a junior captain, proved herself a playmaker and most consistent player. PHOTO BY CRAIG MERRIMAN

Inset: The team celebrates following a goal against Delaware Valley. The women went on to win 4-2. PHOTO BY KATHY DALTON

Below: Freshman goal keeper Lindsey Davenport posted eight shut-out wins to earn Rookie of the Year honors. PHOTO BY KATHY DALTON





Sensei Long practices Buddhist meditation in his Kingston, Pa., martial arts school. ALL PHOTOS BY EARL & SEDOR

先生

[sensei]

RANKED AMONG
THE WORLD'S TOP
MARTIAL ARTISTS,
CARL LONG SUSTAINS
SAMURAI TRADITION

By Kim Bower-Spence

A BASTION OF ANCIENT JAPANESE SAMURAI tradition lies just across the river from Wilkes University in Kingston, Pa.

There, in a martial arts school called Sakura Budokan, a globe-trotting Wilkes music education graduate and one of the world's leading practitioners of samurai sword fighting trains not only locals but students from around the world to wield a 3-foot steel blade – or a wooden stick for the less advanced – in the same way samurai warriors did centuries ago.

Carl Long '78 is the senior-most student of grand master Masayuki Shimabukuro and the highest-ranked member of their type of samurai swordsmanship in the world. He holds a fourth-degree black belt in jodo (JOH doh), which uses a short staff; a sixth-degree black belt in iaido (ee EYE doh), or sword fighting; and an eighth-degree black belt in karate. Together Long and Shimabukuro provide martial arts training and workshops to instructors throughout the U.S., Canada, South America and Europe.

Long and Shimabukuro are international appointees for iaido by the Dai Nippon Butoku Kai International (DNBK), the headquarters for traditional martial arts in Japan under supervision of the grand masters in each art and presided over by a Japanese prince.

“Sensei Long is extremely important in the world of martial arts – yet he is very modest and down-to-earth,” explains Dale Bruns, Long’s student and dean of Wilkes’ College of Science and Engineering.

From Rural Musician

Long began formally studying karate at age 12. A native of rural Huntingdon Mills, Pa., he also learned to play trumpet and majored in music education at Wilkes College.

Upon graduating, he married, taught elementary music in the Northwest Area School District and started a martial arts school. He opened Sakura Budokan in 1979 in a small Kingston storefront for which he paid \$80 per month. At the time, it was a novelty.

As his family grew to include two sons, he took a job managing a manufacturing facility and continued to teach martial arts. Interest in martial arts exploded in the mid-1980s with release of movies like *The Karate Kid*. “The martial arts school continued to grow and grow and grow, and I had to make a decision which way I was going to go.”

In 1989, he devoted himself to martial arts full-time. Long’s organization bought a former wholesale flower warehouse in 1994 and converted it to a *dojo* (DOH joh) — a place for experiencing one’s self.

Sensei Long demonstrates aikido with his student Jeff Kozel.



Sakura Budokan, with classes in karate, aikido (eye KEE doh) and sword, has had up to 225 students. Currently, about 160 people practice there. About 20 percent are under 18 years old. The oldest student is 68. Long estimates that he's taught hundreds of Wilkes alumni over the years.

In the dojo, Long is referred to as *sensei* (SEN say). The term means "one who has gone before" and refers to teachers. In 2004, the Japanese royal family gave Long the title *renshi* (REN shee) an old Japanese nobility title meaning a pure and uncovetous person — a rank similar to knighthood. Today the title is a teaching credential.

“It is not enough just to have good technique. One must also understand the HISTORY and PHILOSOPHY of one's martial art in order to properly apply it to life.

– Del Lucent '03

“In the modern approach to martial arts, these titles/ranks are much more difficult to achieve than the conventional *dan* (black belt) grades and are not automatically assigned with rank or seniority,” explains Bruns. “The holder of these titles must also have made significant contributions to the martial arts community at large.”

The average student attends two times a week, with some traveling from New York or Maryland to train weekly. In November, Sakura Budokan hosted a seminar for 35 international instructors.

Worldwide, Long counts 5,200 to 5,300 students. As an accredited representative of DNBK, he trains trainers throughout the world, so their students are counted as his.

Japan's imperial family oversees training and licensing of martial arts. Each spring the DNBK hosts a 10-day festival in Kyoto, Japan, in the country's oldest martial arts hall, which goes back 800 years. A Japanese prince oversees the celebration, which includes four days of demonstrations and training.

“Representatives of our style have to go there and perform for the imperial family to show that we're carrying on the tradition,” Long says. In 2008, Long's team, which included Bruns, took the first-place award overall. Long himself was awarded *Yushu Sho* (yoo shoo SHOH), recognizing overall outstanding performance out of 1,100 participants, from Prince Higashi Fushimi, a member of the Japanese royal family and chairman of DNBK.

Karate to Swords

Long started in karate and then discovered aikido, which means “way of harmony.” Beyond self-defense, he explains, aikido seeks conflict resolution through seeing situations from the opponent's perspective. Rather than resist an opponent, an aikido master moves in the same direction as the attacker. Once you've “blended” with the adversary's motion, the master can move to immobilize or subdue an attacker. “It had tremendous application to everyday life,” Long says, from sales to family relationships to raising children.

As Long delved into aikido, his interest grew in the ancient “empty hand arts” practiced by the samurai warriors more than 200 years ago and then to swords. Karate and aikido, while based on samurai arts, are considered modern martial arts. Those who practice and keep alive the ancient martial arts of the samurai are considered national living treasures in Japan, he says. The master sword teacher, now 88 years old, is the 20th generation to teach a style of sword fighting that is 475 years old.

Iaido is performed with a real sword. Individual performances include choreographed movements that look like dance; more than 340 routines mimic situations in which a swordsman might find himself. Long also performs two-man sparring drills and target cutting with a live blade. Error can

mean a nasty cut, he notes.

Repetition leads to mastery, Long asserts. In the martial arts, mastery comes only from a lifetime of practicing one's art. “I don't think perfection ever comes.”

Self-Examination and Self-Actualization

Long likens the sword to words, which used as a weapon cut deep and can't be taken back. Iaido “teaches people to be more respectful, more empathetic toward other people's feelings, understanding that for every action there will be a cause and effect,” he says.

Self-examination leads to self-actualization as the practitioner understands the reason he does things. “People need to take more responsibility,” he asserts. Once they take responsibility, they must take more control of their actions. He adds, “Our society has lost an awful lot of cultural etiquette, and I think that's where we can have one of the greatest effects with the young people we work with.”

The philosophical lessons stuck with Del Lucent '03, who started studying karate with Long when he was 5 years old and moved on to study samurai arts. A doctoral student in biophysics at Stanford University, Lucent keeps his swords and staffs near his desk in the lab so he can practice late at night when everyone else leaves the building.



Long's office reflects the Japanese culture of his teachers.

As a teacher, Long knows when to be kind and when to be firm, Lucent says. “Whenever Sensei was hard on me, it was usually obvious that he was trying to help me succeed,” he says. “Also, Long Sensei would always emphasize martial arts from a holistic perspective. It is not enough just to have good technique. One must also understand the history and philosophy of one’s martial art in order to properly apply it to life.”

Lucent appreciates Long’s references to the dojo as “life’s laboratory.” “He always said that in the dojo and in martial arts we learn that the most important opponent we face is our self.”

Lisa Kadlec, assistant professor of biology at Wilkes, has studied with Long about three years. “Among the many things I value about Sensei Long are his extensive knowledge of the martial arts and his true passion for what he does. He is

extremely skilled, and I feel like I learn something every time I’m on the floor with him.”

Bruns and his oldest daughter began studying aikido with Long in 1996. Though his daughter has moved on, Bruns continues to train with Long in aikido and jodo. “Aikido techniques are based on relaxation and being centered – both physically and mentally – so this was of interest to me from a philosophical perspective.”

Inside the Dojo

Visitors to Long’s school enter another culture. “I wanted to create an environment here that was very similar to the environment of my teachers in Japan,” he says.

Tucked along a side street, a wooden fence shields a compact Japanese garden out front. Inside the gate, an oriental garden

complete with gurgling fountain and pond leads to the door of the one-story brick building.

Award certificates adorned with Japanese calligraphy decorate the light wood-paneled walls of Long's office. Sliding rice-paper panels cover the windows along one wall, while Long's father's pipe collection decorates a shelf.

A spacious, bright room with beige carpet, mirrors and a rack of wooden swords is where students practice. A Shinto altar consisting of a shadowbox of artifacts hangs from one wall. It represents the enshrinement of knowledge passed from teacher to student.

A scroll of Japanese calligraphy declares *jikishin kore dojo* (jee kee shin KOR ay DOH joh), or "true learning takes place in a pure heart." The alcove where it hangs also holds a vase of cut flowers. Though fresh, Long explains, the flowers are in a state of dying. That reminds students that they must appreciate life.

When new students come in looking to learn a martial art, Long tries to discern what they want from the experience. "I encourage them to try several classes of each art so they can decide which they'd best like to do," he says.

Those interested in learning conflict resolution while getting physical exercise would steer toward aikido. Karate attracts younger students, those looking to learn self-defense techniques or interested in sport. Sword work offers a more philosophical art and a cultural connection.

Once they enter the dojo, students leave the outside world behind. As they dress alike and work in unison, they transcend social and economic boundaries along with racial and sexual biases, Long says. "It's a level playing field."

That playing field includes some with physical limitations. Long has worked successfully with amputees and wheelchair users, as well as students with Asberger's Syndrome or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, who benefit from the training's emphasis on focus.

International Influence

Long teaches around the world, from Central and South America to Asia and Europe. He goes to Japan about twice a year. "My passport's pretty well-stamped," grins Long, who reads and speaks Japanese. Two years ago, he traveled 42 of 52 weekends. Last year he was gone only about two weekends a month. He credits his liberal arts education and the exposure to cultural diversity at Wilkes College with helping teach a young man from rural Pennsylvania how to relate to people from all over the world.

Long also works with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration to train its agents, embassy security, local drug enforcement agents and Interpol agents. He teaches arrest, control and disarming techniques for police and paramilitary personnel.

His efforts also include humanitarian work, including an educational foundation in Central America. A two-day martial arts demonstration in Costa Rica raised \$8,000 for a drug rehabilitation group to build a new facility. "I've seen severe poverty, I've seen what education can do," he says.

Long is now turning his attention to writing about martial arts. He writes a column, "The Cutting Edge," for *Black Belt* magazine. In 2007, he and Shimabukuro co-authored a book titled *Living Karate*. The pair have also produced books and videos marketed worldwide. And Long has been asked to write about the sword art for westerners.

Neither of his two grown sons, Christopher and Nicholas, took an interest in martial arts, but he notes that he now teaches some of the children and grandchildren of his first students. Wife Marguerite has been doing martial arts since 1979.

"I now have a responsibility. Five hundred years of generations of people have preserved this for me and have taken the time to pass it along to me, and I'm now a steward of that," Long says. He calls martial arts "a living, breathing entity. When you stop doing it, it no longer exists. It's got to be passed along, my teacher says, 'heart to heart.'"



“ FIVE HUNDRED YEARS of generations of people have preserved this for me and have taken the time to pass it along to me, and I'M NOW A STEWARD of that.

– Carl Long

PIVOTAL | PIROUETTES

DANCE MINOR ROUNDS OUT STUDENTS' ACADEMIC STUDIES

By Sherrie Flick



Opposite page: Wilkes dance students participate in a presentation of *The Nutcracker* each December. PHOTO BY MARK GOLASZEWSKI

KAREN WESOLOWSKI HOUCK '07 may not be a professional dancer. But her dance minor shaped her career and life in other ways.

"Dance gave me a sense of stress relief, kept me in shape, and helped prepare me for teaching children," says Houck, who majored in elementary education and now teaches sixth grade near Reading, Pa.

Wilkes began offering dance classes in 1991, approaching professional dancers Kristin Degnan and her late husband Peter to enhance the music and theatre departments by incorporating dance into the curriculum. By 1993, the dance minor was a reality. From the start it offered ballet, modern, jazz and tap.

Wilkes junior Dan Pascoe, a theatre major, agrees. "Taking dance at Wilkes has made me more comfortable with my body," he says. "A minor in dance has made me a better actor and performer."

Students love that they can still perform *The Nutcracker*, Degnan notes. They appreciate that graduating from high school doesn't have to mean giving up dance.

That's what appealed to junior English major Caroline Jones. Dance was already a lifelong passion, but not to the exclusion of an academic degree. "I sat in on one of Kristin's classes before coming to Wilkes, and I immediately knew that doing both was the right fit for me."

“ The arts...help
SHAPE US as
human beings. They
civilize us. MAKE
US HUMAN.

— Kristin Degnan



A spring dance recital showcases students' skills. PHOTO BY CURTIS SALONICK

Degnan says education, nursing and psychology majors, among others, also see the benefit of learning dance in their chosen professions. The enrollment of men has risen in the last several years. Dance 100 has grown to a 60/40 split, with many football players, wrestlers and cross country runners signing up.

The program is small and individualized. Currently, 30 to 40 students pursue the 18-credit dance minor, with more than 200 students signing up for dance courses each semester. Many try dance for the first time.

"In those first-timer classes, we have a lot of fun," says Degnan. Beginners are graded on progress and attitude.

Each spring the dance program offers a mixed repertory program with works choreographed by both faculty and students. Each December, they perform *The Nutcracker*.

A Wilkes-Barre native, Degnan began her training at Wilkes-Barre Ballet Theater at 5 years old. By 16, she had graduated from high school and was performing professionally in Louisville, Ky. This passion led to a bachelor's degree

in dance. She also met husband Peter, who was also a professional dancer.

The Degnans were touring throughout the U.S. and abroad when a dance school in Wilkes-Barre came up for sale. In 1983, the couple purchased it and opened Ballet Northeast, now in its 25th season.

After the untimely death of Degnan's husband in January 1999, the University offered her an artist-in-residence position. She now holds the title director of dance and has added three adjunct staff to the dance faculty: Sean Harris, Kris Cross and Lynne Mariani. In addition, Kimberly Hurt leads classes in dance therapy.

Degnan educates her students about the traditions and history behind dance to help them develop a foundation of knowledge. She feels that even if they don't become lifelong dancers, they can become lifelong supporters of the arts.

"The arts are for everyone," says Degnan. "They help shape us as human beings. They civilize us. Make us human."

Degnan says students often say things like, "I was nervous about my test when I woke up, but after your class I feel focused, relaxed, and I know I can do it." That's when she knows she's done her job.

Pitching Preservation

ALUMNUS TRADES SUCCESSFUL SALES CAREER TO HELP SAFEGUARD TEXAS SHORELINE

By Helen Kaiser



Editor's Note: We originally planned to feature Jerry Mohn in the winter 2008 environmental issue, but Hurricane Ike forced his evacuation from Galveston just as arrangements were made. Despite the destruction, protection efforts lessened impact of the storm surge, and Mohn's efforts to protect the island's beautiful beaches continue.

WHEN IT COMES TO MAN versus Mother Nature, Jerry Mohn '63 has adopted the strength-in-numbers approach. For 10 years, the Galveston, Texas, resident has been building coalitions in the Texas coastal region to promote beachfront preservation. His work as an environmental organizer has helped raise more than \$20 million to defend the area he calls "paradise" against the ravages of nature.

When Hurricane Ike roared through the region last September, Mohn's efforts — and resolve — withstood a supreme test. The third-costliest disaster in United States history, Ike was a Category 2 hurricane with sustained winds of 110 miles an hour when it reached the shores of Galveston. The massive storm produced destructive surges throughout the upper Texas and southwest Louisiana coasts — and an estimated \$22 billion in damages.

Mohn and wife Winkie — Rowena Simms '63 — had fled inland to celebrate their grandson's 5th birthday. The couple have two children and five grandsons in Austin.

It was two weeks before they were able to return to Galveston. They existed without water or electricity for about two more weeks. Fortunately, damages to their home, built to Federal Emergency Management Agency standards, were only moderate.

"We did have about a foot of sand in our yard where the grass used to be," Mohn said.

Elsewhere in the city, there were more devastating reminders of nature's force: Five deaths had occurred, as well as millions of dollars of damage to residential and business areas flooded by the 14-foot storm surge.

Sand socks like this one help protect Jerry Mohn's beloved Galveston shoreline. ALL PHOTOS BY DANIEL CARTER

On a slightly positive note, previous preservation efforts championed by Mohn had an impact. As president of the West Galveston Island Property Owners Association, he had helped establish support for various shore restoration projects, some of which included placement of more than 8,000 linear feet of sand-filled, 15-foot-diameter geotextile tubes in the bay to simulate barrier reefs and reduce erosion.

Ultimately, the tubes — referred to as sand socks or “sausages” — reduced the strength of the hurricane’s storm surge where they were used. “Some of them deflated or rolled over, but they achieved their main purpose,” Mohn says.

The landowners’ preservation efforts date back to Tropical Storm Frances in 1998. After a lifelong career in chemical sales that included forming his own corporation, Mohn was ready for something different. His wife volunteered him for a dune restoration project, and his environmental mission began.

Mohn suggested his subdivision’s group join with others to form the Galveston Beach Erosion Task Force. Eventually, this alliance merged with 18 coastal cities to form the Texas Coastal chapter of the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association.

“Rather than compete with each other for funding, we felt we could do more as a group,” he says. Efforts involved seeking technical assistance and funding from state and federal regulatory agencies, environmental foundations and corporations.

Gina Spagnola, president of the Galveston Chamber of Commerce, says Mohn has a “phenomenal” gift for getting people to work together. “When he’s at the table, results happen.”

After a lifetime of making sales, Mohn is still pitching; but the product now is preservation. “He has a real passion for Galveston and for its people,” says Spagnola.

Like many, Mohn and his wife wondered after the hurricane whether they should stay in the area.

When the evacuation order was lifted, “We asked ourselves, do

we really want to go back?” he recalls. “But we knew that whenever we see and hear the gulf, there’s magic there. The sunrises are beautiful, and the sunsets are miraculously outstanding.”

Some geologists have warned that Galveston will continue to be prone to high rates of coastal erosion. Mohn points to manmade projects that have affected natural sand migration. These include the Houston Ship Channel, which benefits the entire region with millions of dollars in commerce, and a sea wall, built after the Great Storm of 1900. It is crucial, he believes, that technology and tax dollars continue to support vital needs of the area.

These days, Mohn works on the next task: a massive sand nourishment project scheduled for October. Along with everyone else on the coast, he also keeps a wary eye on Mother Nature during hurricane season.

Jerry Mohn, Galveston, Texas

B.A., Math 1963

Career: He and his wife started their own chemical importing business. Merged with another “mom and pop” operation to form Chem One Ltd., in Houston.

Notable: Has been a driving force behind more than \$20 million of beach preservation and marsh restoration along the Texas Gulf Coast.

Favorite Wilkes Memory: College sweetheart (and later wife) Winkie as homecoming queen, riding atop a convertible onto the football field, where he was co-captain of the team.



Rebuilding efforts along the once pristine Texas shoreline (above) are under way following the devastation caused by Hurricane Ike (shown below).





Exeter
ALL PHOTOS BY RAY KLIMEK

MOUNTAINS OF BLACK COAL waste formed the landscape for many Wilkes alumni growing up in northeastern Pennsylvania. Such was the case for Ray Klimek '78, an English major who grew up in Exeter.

“There was a fairly large culm bank right behind my house which was the site of various activities from my childhood and adolescence — a combination of playground and classroom where history and fantasy intersected,” he recalls. That intersection became the subject of an artistic adventure that spanned the Atlantic Ocean. His photo collection “Black Deserts/Welsh Tips” explores the coal fields of both northeast Pennsylvania and South Wales.

BLACK DESERTS

PHOTOGRAPHER COMBINES LITERARY AND VISUAL ARTS IN EXPLORING COALFIELDS



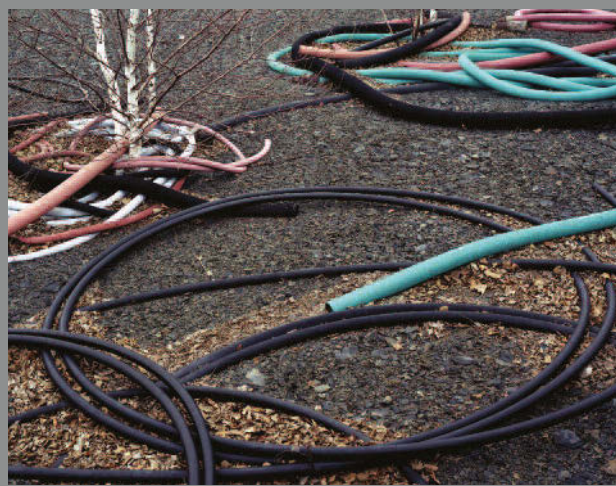
CWM BARGOED



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CWM BARGOED



Hughestown



Hughestown

WELSH TIPS

Klimek merged his scholarly interest in literature and the visual arts by studying poet William Carlos Williams and then photography. “As a champion of the local, Williams had insisted that the stuff of poetry could be found in our own backyards,” says Klimek, now an assistant professor at Ohio University. “So I took that as a kind of inspiration and challenge.”

The project began in 2002 and culminated in two trips to Wales in 2005. Klimek credits poet Judson Evans '77, director of liberal arts at The Boston Conservatory, with telling him about the historical and geological connections between Pennsylvania and South Wales.



Bargoed



Swoyersville

Alumni Connect With Students to Offer Career Advice

More than 80 alumni and students participated in the second annual Connecting the Dots event on Nov. 13.

Students spoke to alumni about potential careers, the current job market, and the transition from Wilkes into the working world. Alumni attendees included Andy Mehalshick '83, anchor for WBRE-TV; Jeff Moisey '99, vice president of strategy and client relations at JumpFrog Marketing; and Bill Slavoski '79, a special agent with the U.S. Secret Service. A complete list of participants can be viewed at <http://community.wilkes.edu/CTD2008>.



Andy Mehalshick '83 of WBRE-TV discusses his career with students. PHOTO BY MIRKO WIDENHORN



Rosemary LaFratte '93 MBA '97, left, answers questions about her work experience and offers tips to current students. PHOTO BY MIRKO WIDENHORN

“The Alumni Association’s Connecting the Dots event provides a valuable networking opportunity for current Wilkes students,” says Bridget Giunta '05, secretary of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and chair of the Undergraduate Relations Committee – the alumni committee responsible for organizing this event. “In this informal setting, students can comfortably ask questions and receive advice from our talented alumni, who represent a wide variety of professional perspectives and experiences. Both the quality of the conversations on the night of the event and the feedback from participating alumni was outstanding, and we look forward to hosting the next Connecting the Dots event.”

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SETS NEW PRIORITIES

The Alumni Association Board of Directors used its September meeting to conduct a planning exercise to set its activities for the coming year. As a result of this planning process, the board focused on four areas that need to be addressed in the coming years:

- identifying and establishing a mentoring vehicle for alumni, including alumni-to-alumni and alumni-to-student mentoring;
- fostering identity with Wilkes based on affinity group/department/major, with a concentration on alumni one to 10 years “out”;
- developing and strengthening regional clubs in support of area alumni;
- conducting an alumni survey to determine how best to serve our alumni.

Each of the alumni committees of the board has adopted one or more of these items as focus areas, and new events and initiatives will be forthcoming. Stay tuned and check the latest news and progress on **The Colonel Connection** (<http://community.wilkes.edu>).

Alumni Web Site Sports New Look and Features

Have you seen the redesigned alumni online community yet? Its streamlined look highlights features of The Colonel Connection, including the online directory, photo albums and the latest Wilkes news. If you use Facebook, you can use The Colonel Connection to log in. Share the Wilkes events you're attending, your online class notes and much more with your Facebook friends.

The Colonel Connection now also has networks. You'll see your current networks, as well as suggested networks for you to join. Take advantage of this feature to extend your networks, whether professional, Wilkes-related or just fun. You'll see your friend's/classmate's updates, new photos, and class notes; plus, you'll be able to post on their white boards.

Be part of the new Colonel Connection at community.wilkes.edu! The makeover is part of a redesign of the entire Wilkes Web site.



Alumni Scholarship Banquet to Honor Helen Ralston '52



Helen Ralston will be honored for her heart of blue and gold.

Save the date Saturday, April 25, to honor Helen Ralston '52. She is our 2009 Alumni Scholarship honoree.

A force in her own right, Ralston still brings the Wilkes family together. Regularly called upon to lead or perform the alma mater and National Anthem at University functions, she rallies the Ralston crew for family and Wilkes gatherings.

Mark your calendar now to celebrate her contributions and accomplishments.

For details and reservations, go to <http://community.wilkes.edu/2009Scholarship>. Or call (570) 408-RSVP (7787).

Catching up in Boston

Alumni in the Greater Boston area met for the second time this year at the Algonquin Club on Oct. 30. Alumni representing classes from the late 1960s to 2004 enjoyed excellent food and fellowship. They also heard about the latest campus happenings, including Homecoming, the Golden Horde Reunion, as well as the Alumni Association priorities for the coming year.

Gathering in Boston were, front row from left: Gerald Missal '68, Sarah Karlavage Roccio '99, Deborah Landry '02, John Kerr '72; back row from left: Nick Taylor, David Seely, Janet Seely '70, Sarah Brandt '04, JJ Fadden '99 and Tony Cardinale '72.

PHOTO BY MIRKO WIDENHORN



1959**Reunion Oct. 2-4** 

Stephen Poleskie released a new book, *The Third Candidate*. He can be reached at www.StephenPoleskie.com.

1970

Richard Bigelow is presently working as a contracts manager for Shaw Engineering and Construction in Charlotte, N.C. He is also continuing to operate a patent law business.

Mary A. Kaiser, Ph.D., will receive the 2009 Delaware Section Award from the American Chemical Society. The award, established in 1978, recognizes “conspicuous scientific achievement and contributions in chemistry by a member of the Delaware Section.” Kaiser is the second woman to receive the award and the first spouse of a previous awardee (her husband, Cecil Dybowski, won the 2008 award). A senior research fellow at the DuPont Company in Wilmington, Del., she has published more than 50

technical papers and co-authored one book. She is past chair of the American Chemical Society’s Division of Analytical Chemistry and past president of the Eastern Analytical Symposium.

1974**Reunion Oct. 2-4** 

Robert (Bob) Dzugan’s company buyCASTINGS.com Inc. has recently been named the 240th fastest growing U.S. privately held small business by *Inc.* magazine. Dzugan is president and founder of the value-added engineering services company located in Dayton, Ohio. He and his wife of 25 years, Jacquelyn, reside in Cincinnati, Ohio.

1975

John P. Kelley has been elected to the board of directors of Acorda Therapeutics Inc. Kelley has been president and chief operating officer of The Medicines Company, a leading developer of acute care hospital pharmaceutical products, since December

2004. Kelley earned an M.B.A. from Rockhurst University.

1976

Billy Winter has been inducted into the New Jersey Lacrosse Hall of Fame. Winter played lacrosse at Wilkes University for four years and led all NCAA Division III lacrosse players in scoring in 1974 and 1976, and was selected the Middle Atlantic Conference Player of the Year in 1976. From 1976 through 1990, Winter was the all-time leading scorer in the history of collegiate lacrosse, all divisions. Winter is also a member of the Wilkes Hall of Fame. For the past 12 years, he has been a coach in the Mountain Lakes, N.J., junior program, where he helped teach the game to his sons as well as many current Mountain Lakes players.

1978

Clark Speicher retired from the U.S. Air Force in June 2008 with the rank of colonel after 30 years of service in the active-duty Air Force and active-duty Air National Guard. From 1979 to 1994, he had a variety of assignments in the United States and Canada. From 1995 to 2008, he was assigned to the Northeast Air Defense Sector (NEADS) at Griffiss Business and Technology Park, Rome N.Y., before serving as commander of NEADS. He is currently employed as a program manager with Alion Science and Technology in Rome, N.Y.

Tina (Falcone) Stehle has been named senior vice president and general manager of Alpharetta, Ga.-based Hospitality Solutions Group of the IT solutions company Agilysys Inc. Stehle, previously HSG senior vice president, joined Agilysys in 2004 through the acquisition of Inter-American Data Inc., where she served as vice president of software services.

1982

Chuck Allabaugh Jr. celebrated his 20-year anniversary at Zodiac Printing Corp., Mountain Top, Pa. Allabaugh is employed as a sales manager for the printing division and acts as a senior account manager for the company’s full-service ad agency, Mojave Creative.

1983

Gary Malia MBA’91, Hanover Township, Pa., has been hired as administrator of the nursing and rehabilitation center operated by AGE of Pennsylvania LLC.

1989**Reunion Oct. 2-4** 

Stephen Primatic of Savannah, Ga., is principal percussionist for Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra and was featured soloist in a fall 2008 performance of Ney Rosauero’s *Concerto for Marimba and String Orchestra*. Primatic is an associate professor of music at Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah. He holds a master of music degree from Florida’s University of



Wilkes alumni Robin (Youpa) Barnett '86, Lisa (Mirin) Lokuta '88 and Linda (Fritz) Melnik '86 participated in the Philadelphia Breast Cancer Three-Day on Oct. 16, 17 and 18. They raised more than \$7,000. PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDA MELNIK

DeAngelis, Shoval Named Distinguished Daughters of Pennsylvania

Two members of the Wilkes family joined the ranks of Distinguished Daughters of Pennsylvania in October.

Alumna Catherine D. DeAngelis, M.D., M.P.H., '65 and Trustee Susan Weiss Shoval were honored by Gov. Edward G. and First Lady Judge Marjorie O. Rendell during a luncheon at the Governor's Residence.

DeAngelis, of Chicago, Ill., majored in biology and chemistry at Wilkes. She was the first woman to serve as editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association, where she currently serves as editor in chief, and is one of the leading figures in calling attention to conflicts of interest in medicine.

After building what she touts as a "great foundation" at Wilkes, DeAngelis went on to graduate from the



Catherine DeAngelis, M.D. '65

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. She became a nationally recognized leader in pediatrics and women's health and advancement, having published 11 books and 200 articles, eventually earning a master's of public health degree from Harvard University. DeAngelis later worked at John Hopkins University, where she held a

Miami and a doctor of musical arts from the University of Georgia. He performs with jazz, theater and classical groups in the Savannah and Hilton Head areas, and is the drummer for

the Darius Rucker (of Hootie and the Blowfish) Big Band.

Robert Wachowski and wife Meghan announce the birth of son William Thomas Wachowski, born on July 21, 2008.

Trustee Susan Shoval, left, receives her award from Pennsylvania First Lady Marjorie Rendell, center, and Susan Catherwood, 2008-09 president of the Distinguished Daughters.



variety of titles before receiving the rank of full professor in 1984, making her the 12th woman named full professor in the institution's 94-year history.

DeAngelis has been recognized by the National Library of Medicine as a woman who has changed the face of medicine. DeAngelis says her biggest career success is ensuring the provision of the "best care" no matter if she's functioning as a "clinician providing direct care for sick children and young adults, as a clinical researcher providing new information on how to better care for them, as an educator of clinicians teaching them how to provide good care, or as a high-profile medical journal editor in chief publishing cutting edge papers of high integrity to promote best practice care."

Shoval, of Kingston, Pa., has received significant and varied public recognition that has emphasized both her success in business and with her community. She co-founded GUARD Insurance Group, a regional insurance company sold to a public company in 2007. Under Shoval's leadership, GUARD has encouraged its staff toward philanthropy and civic involvement.

Pennsylvania has honored influential women of Pennsylvania for their leadership, distinguished service, and contributions to the state through their professional and volunteer service since 1949. To be selected as a Distinguished Daughter, women must be nominated by organizations for achievements of statewide or national importance.

- By Shannon Curtin '06

1990

Tracy Goryeb Zarola is a realtor with Lewith and Freeman Real Estate in Shavertown, Pa. She resides in Shavertown with her husband, Joe, and sons Patrick and Adam.

1993

Ronald Miller and his family announce the birth of a son, Corey Donovan, born June 9, 2008. This is the third boy for the Miller family.

Glunk Presides Over Pa. Medical Society

Daniel J. Glunk, M.D., '84 was sworn in as the 159th president of the Pennsylvania Medical Society in October 2008.

It marks the first time in more than 100 years that a Lycoming County physician has held the position. Glunk attended Wilkes as a Hahnemann scholar. After completing internships and residencies at the University of Pittsburgh and a chief residency at Shadyside Hospital in Pittsburgh, Glunk started his general internal medicine practice in Williamsport in 1989.

Glunk is certified by the National Board of Medical Examiners and the American Board of Internal Medicine. He is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and has served on several committees at Susquehanna Health in Williamsport, where he has been chief quality officer since January 2007.

Glunk's position in the Pennsylvania Medical Society followed a 20-year membership in the society, where he served in various positions, including chairman of the board of trustees from 2003-06, chairman of the society's executive, finance and patient safety committees and vice president of the society in 2006.

"I received a great education from Wilkes," says Glunk. "The rigors of the program required discipline, and that served me well in medical school."



Daniel J. Glunk, M.D., '84 receives applause upon becoming president of the Pennsylvania Medical Society. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MEDICAL SOCIETY

As for the society, Glunk intends to develop a mentoring program between Pennsylvania Medical Society physicians and high school and college students interested in the health care field. "Pennsylvania has difficulty recruiting and retaining physicians. We know from our studies that if someone is a resident of Pennsylvania and goes to a Pennsylvania medical school and completes their residency in Pennsylvania, then they are much more likely to stay in Pennsylvania to practice. We feel it is important to encourage Pennsylvanians to go into health care if that's something that truly interests them."

Glunk resides in Williamsport with his wife, Margrit Shoemaker, M.D., and their two children, Brigitta and Andrew.

- By Shannon Curtin '06

1995

Christina Ortiz Juguilon married J. Noel Juguilon in April 2008. **Kerry (O'Neil) Miscavage '95** was a bridesmaid. Juguilon works at the Department of Veterans Affairs New Jersey Health Care System, where she is a clinical social worker/family psychoeducation therapist for the Family Psychoeducation

Program. She practices as a part-time psychotherapist at an outpatient group practice in New Jersey. She also received board-certified diplomate status in July 2008 from the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work.

1996

Timothy J. Legg, Ph.D., of Wilkes-Barre is co-author of

Disaster Nursing: A Handbook for Practice, which was released in October 2008 by Jones & Bartlett Publishers.

1997

Meghan (LaVigna) Suhocki MS'01 and her husband, Chris, welcomed their second child, Jonah William, born at 9:34 a.m. Dec. 28, 2006, 6 lbs. 13 oz., 20 inches. He joins big

brother Alex Luca, born at 8:49 p.m. Dec. 1, 2005, 7 lbs. 3 oz., 19.5 inches.

Valerie (Love) Badowski, MBA '98 and husband Peter welcomed their first child, Jacob Peter, on Nov. 8, 2008. They reside in White Haven, Pa.

1999**Reunion Oct. 2-4** 

Robert Pace Jr. MS'02 and **Lauren Elizabeth Boccardo** were united in marriage on Oct. 3, 2008. He is employed by Pace Transportation. The couple reside in Exeter.

2000

Megan Sara Daniels and **Jason Lee Kauwell** were

united in marriage on June 28, 2008. The bride is employed by Street Delivery as a photographer. The groom is employed by U.S. Investigative Services as a special investigator. They reside in Dallas, Pa.

Matthew Kuntz and wife **Erika Strawn-Kuntz** welcomed twins, **Cohen** and **Mackenzie**, on Sept. 12, 2008.

Lisa Marconi married **Mark Ceaser** on Oct. 11, 2008. She is administrative manager for the U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration office in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. The couple reside in Dorrance, Pa.

2003

Kelly DelGuercio married **Andrew Cordell** on Sept. 27, 2008. They reside in Lehigh, Pa.

Timothy I. Millard is a producer for Central Florida News 13, a cable news station, in Orlando, Fla.

2004**Reunion Oct. 2-4** 

Brian P. Moore is currently residing in Modesto, Calif, and working with the Colorado Rockies farm team.

MBA Graduate Named One of 25 Most Powerful Women in Banking

Lisa (Zazworsky) Binder MBA '86 got her start in banking when she took a summer job as a teller after graduating from high school. Last fall, *U.S. Banker* magazine named her one of the 25 most powerful women in the industry.

In January 2007, Binder became president and chief operating officer of Associated Banc-Corp, a diversified bank holding company that holds total assets of \$22 billion and has about 300 banking offices and 5,200 employees serving more than 180 communities in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois. She oversees the company's retail, commercial and corporate banking; corporate real estate, wealth management, and insurance services; and information technology systems, marketing and communications functions and operations.

Previously, she served as group executive vice president and director of retail and business banking for the Mid-Atlantic and Midwest regions of Citizens Financial Group. She also held various senior executive positions at Citizens and Mellon Financial.



Lisa Zazworsky Binder MBA '86

Binder credits her MBA as a "real differentiator" in both her career and her own development. The finance course taken during her MBA education helped Binder develop an in-depth understanding about micro and macro economics, financial markets, managerial accounting and finance.

"The course helped me put the business I was doing into a broader context," Binder says. "I could understand how my job function contributed to the larger scope of the company. It was a real core course that I go back to frequently because it helped me think differently."

With the economy in an official state of recession, the banking industry faces a number of challenges. "The state of the financial market is the most critical crisis the industry has faced," she says. "Communicating and educating the public about the distinction between

investment banks, multi-money management banks, and their respective functions, clearly is the most challenging aspect of my current position."

Binder resides in Milwaukee, Wis., with her husband and children.

- By Shannon Curtin '06

Erick Arden Bourassa completed his doctorate in pharmaceutical sciences/pharmacology in August 2008. He is an assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Mo.

2005

Cynthia Clarke and John Matosky Jr. were united in marriage on July 5, 2008. She is an events planner for Beyond the Wall, Stroudsburg. They reside in Flanders, N.J.

Graduate Degrees 2001

Linda Lee Zulkoski, MS, and **Ryan Michael Cywinski** were united in marriage Aug. 8, 2008. She is a fifth-grade teacher for the Hanover Area School District.

2005

Kristina Mullay, Pharm.D., married John Wakeley on Sept. 29, 2007. They reside in Quakertown, Pa.

2007

Michelle Brooks, MS, married Philip Rogers Jr. on Oct. 13, 2007. She is employed by the Crestwood School District as a kindergarten teacher. The couple resides in Wilkes-Barre.

2008

Kathleen Ann Evarts, MS, and **David Thomas Wychock Jr.** were united in marriage on June 14, 2008. She is employed by Northwest Area School District as a teacher. The couple reside in Glen Lyon, Pa.

In Memoriam

1937

Joseph V. Gallagher, 91, formerly of Arlington, Va., died Nov. 5, 2008. He received his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania. After receiving his law degree, he joined the U.S. Navy and served during World War II in the South Pacific.

He practiced law in Wilkes-Barre prior to moving to the Washington, D.C., area, where he retired from the antitrust division of the Department of Justice.

1950

Edgar C. Plummer, 82, of Binghamton, N.Y., died Oct. 27, 2008. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Air Force in Burma and Thailand. He moved to Binghamton, N.Y., in 1952 and became auditor of the Arlington Hotel, and then auditor and comptroller of Broome County for 24 years. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Jean; daughters Karen Sawyer, Wallingford, Pa., and Barbara Springer, Lockport, N.Y.; three grandchildren; and a brother and sister.

1958

Joseph C. Macaravage, 76, of Jenkins Township, Pa., died Nov. 20, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army in its Army Security Agency in Baumholder, Germany. He later worked as a civilian for the U.S. Air Force and the Department of the Interior, and he retired from the U.S.

Department of the Treasury.

Macaravage was a devoted fan of Wilkes University sporting events, attending hundreds of games for different sports. He and his wife, the former Josephine M. Snarski, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 28, 2008.

Other survivors include son Mark R., Randolph, N.J., and sister Germaine Gemzik, Fayetteville, Pa.

The Rev. Charles R.

Steinhauer, 74, of Langhorne, Pa., died Nov. 15. He received his master of divinity degree from Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, and served as a pastor. After retirement, he was employed by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

He is survived by wife Estelle, to whom he was married for 50 years, and daughter Donna Kennedy, Turnersville, N.J.

1961

James S. Skesavage, of Wall Township, N.J., died Nov. 14, 2008. Skesavage served as a sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps at the El Toro Base in Santa Ana, Calif.

He began a career in accounting with Haskin and Sells in New York City. He later worked for American Cyanamid and CYRO Industries in Wayne, N.J. He owned his own accounting firm, and in 1981, he started his business, JMS Plastics Supply Inc., in which he served as president until his death.

He is survived by his wife of

50 years, Mary Lou; sons James Jr., Marietta, Ga., Mark, Allenhurst, N.J., and Stephen, Howell, N.J.; and four grandchildren.

1969

Kerry Balchun, 61, of East Hampton, N.Y., died Aug. 16, 2008. Balchun owned Balchun Real Estate in East Hampton until his retirement. Surviving are brothers George J. Balchun Jr. and Barry D. Balchun.

1970

Reba Heidel Yarnal, 60, of Shavertown, Pa., died Aug. 24, 2008.

Yarnal was a graduate of Wilkes College with a bachelor's degree in psychology and was formerly employed by Catholic Social Services as a social worker. Surviving are her mother, Marie Ontko Heidel; daughter Jennifer, Edwardsville, Pa.; sons Adam, Cherry Hill, N.J., and Jesse, Pittsburgh; and three grandchildren.

1980

John J. Simons, 52, of Killingworth, Conn., passed away Nov. 7, 2008. Simons began his career at Commonwealth Telephone Company. He later moved to Connecticut to Times Fiber Communications. He was currently employed by Motorola as an account director.

John is survived by his wife, JoEllen, and their two daughters, Madison, 9, and Rylee, 6, Connecticut; his father, John Simons Sr., and

Devadoss Studies HIV/AIDS in India as Fogarty Scholar

Rajitha Devadoss '05 was on a train to Chennai, India, when a tsunami hit the shores of South Asia in 2004, leaving massive devastation and killing more than 200,000 people. The event sparked her desire to make a difference in the world by "providing equitable, quality health care beyond the comfortable borders of my home and community in the U.S.," she says.

And as Devadoss works through her time as a 2008 U.S. National Institutes of Health Fogarty International Clinical Research Scholar, she is on her way to doing just that. Ninety-six scholars and fellows were selected and underwent orientation and training at the National Institutes of Health before departing to 25 sites in 18 countries.

Devadoss took a year off from State University of New York Upstate Medical University to participate in the prestigious research program. Devadoss works at the YR Gaitonde Centre for AIDS Research and Education in Chennai in partnership with The Miriam Hospital, Brown University. Her primary work is a retrospective study of Type 2 diabetes patients diagnosed with HIV.

"Basically, I am trying to look for any differences in adverse events, hospitalizations and outcomes between the diabetic and non-diabetic HIV patients," Devadoss says. She is also working on review projects,



Devadoss, right, attends inpatient rounds and outpatient clinic as part of her experience.

collaborating with a not-for-profit eye hospital, and developing a health literacy questionnaire designed to improve treatment adherence and outcomes for the South Indian HIV/AIDS population.

As a second-generation American who frequently travels to Chennai, Devadoss says, she had an easier time adjusting to the cultural differences than some companions. Her knowledge of a few native languages allows her to experience more of India, taking classes in yoga, advanced language, traditional Indian painting and dancing and spending time with extended family. "One of the highlights of my year has been the chance to spend time with my extended relatives in celebrating holidays, birthdays and religious events."

Devadoss has had to navigate challenges. "It's been a huge learning curve trying to learn all the basics to the latest HIV research," she says.

She had not done specific research in HIV/AIDS. But she credits Wilkes University for providing her with a "research background in a variety of fields (that) set the foundation for critical, systematic reasoning and problem solving."

Her most rewarding experience is simply spending time with her patients. "Each morning, I attend inpatient rounds and outpatient clinic with the HIV physicians at YRG CARE. The patients here are definitely the reason why I go to work. The clinical experience has been phenomenal."

- By Shannon Curtin '06



Devadoss, left, graduated from Wilkes summa cum laude with a biology degree.

his wife, Maryann, Florida; and sisters Susan Simons-Williams, Forty Fort, Pa., and Gail Wyberski, Dallas, Pa.

1994

James J. Stadulis, 65, died Nov. 4, 2008. Stadulis earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Wilkes, a master's degree in public administration from Marywood University, and degrees in criminal justice and general studies from Luzerne County Community College.

Stadulis had a 32-year military career. He served with the Army Expeditionary Forces in the Dominican Republic and was a veteran of the Persian Gulf War. He served as special agent criminal investigator in Washington, D.C., where he provided protective security for the secretary of defense and chairman of the Joint Chiefs.

In addition, he worked as a criminologist and as a licensed private investigator and owner of Magnum Investigations Detective Agency in Plains Township, Pa. Stadulis was last employed as a mobile therapist by Children's Service Center, Wilkes-Barre, and former senior residential adviser by Management and Training Corp. at Red Rock Job Corps, Lopez, Pa.

Surviving are his wife, the former Mary Ann Petrick; son Michael, Wilkes-Barre; daughters Trish Iannone, Moscow, Pa., and Shauna, Orlando, Fla.; and four grandchildren.

2007

Arthur George Redmond, 24, died Nov. 17, 2008. He was recently employed by Thomas' Market, Shavertown, Pa., while awaiting deployment to the Peace Corps in summer 2009. He was a son of Lois and Brian Redmond, professor of environmental engineering and earth science.

Surviving, in addition to his parents, are sisters Maggie, Franklin, Tenn., and Abbey, Wilkes-Barre; brother Peter, Tamaqua, Pa.; and grandmother Gladys Redmond of Kingston, Pa.

Faculty/Staff

James P. Berg, of Mountain Top, Pa., professor emeritus of history, died Nov. 17, 2008. Berg attended Harvard College on a Pepsi Cola scholarship, then pursued graduate work in theology and Byzantine history at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania.

His early teaching career included positions at Temple University's Technical Institute and High School, Temple University, and Millikin University, in Illinois. He came to Wilkes in 1964, retiring in 2002.

While at Wilkes University, in addition to teaching ancient and medieval history, Berg designed and built the Wilkes FM radio station. He also provided audiovisual services for the university. His love of radio led him to start a home business, Berg Audio.

Berg leaves behind his wife of 38 years, Frances Jacobs Berg, Mountain Top; daughter Sigrid E. Berg, M.D., Bangor, Maine; daughter Birgit A. Berg, Ph.D., Washington, D.C.; a granddaughter; and a brother and sister.

Vesta Jane (Robinson) Breakstone, 79, of Port Orange, Fla., formerly of Trucksville, Pa., passed away Nov. 13, 2008. She had been employed in the Alumni Office of Wilkes University.


In 1980, she moved to Florida and worked at Embry Riddle University.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Royal Albert Breakstone. Surviving are daughters Charlotte Mason and Debbie Breakstone, both of Orlando, Fla.; son Michael Breakstone, Hanover Township, Pa.; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Friends of Wilkes

Irene M. Stawicki, 92, of Nanticoke, Pa., died Nov. 15, 2008. Stawicki was employed by RCA, Harrison, N.J., in the Engineering Development Department.

She and husband Stanley E. Stawicki established the Stanley E. and Helen Stawicki Memorial Scholarship in memory of his parents. She was preceded in death by Stanley in 2006.



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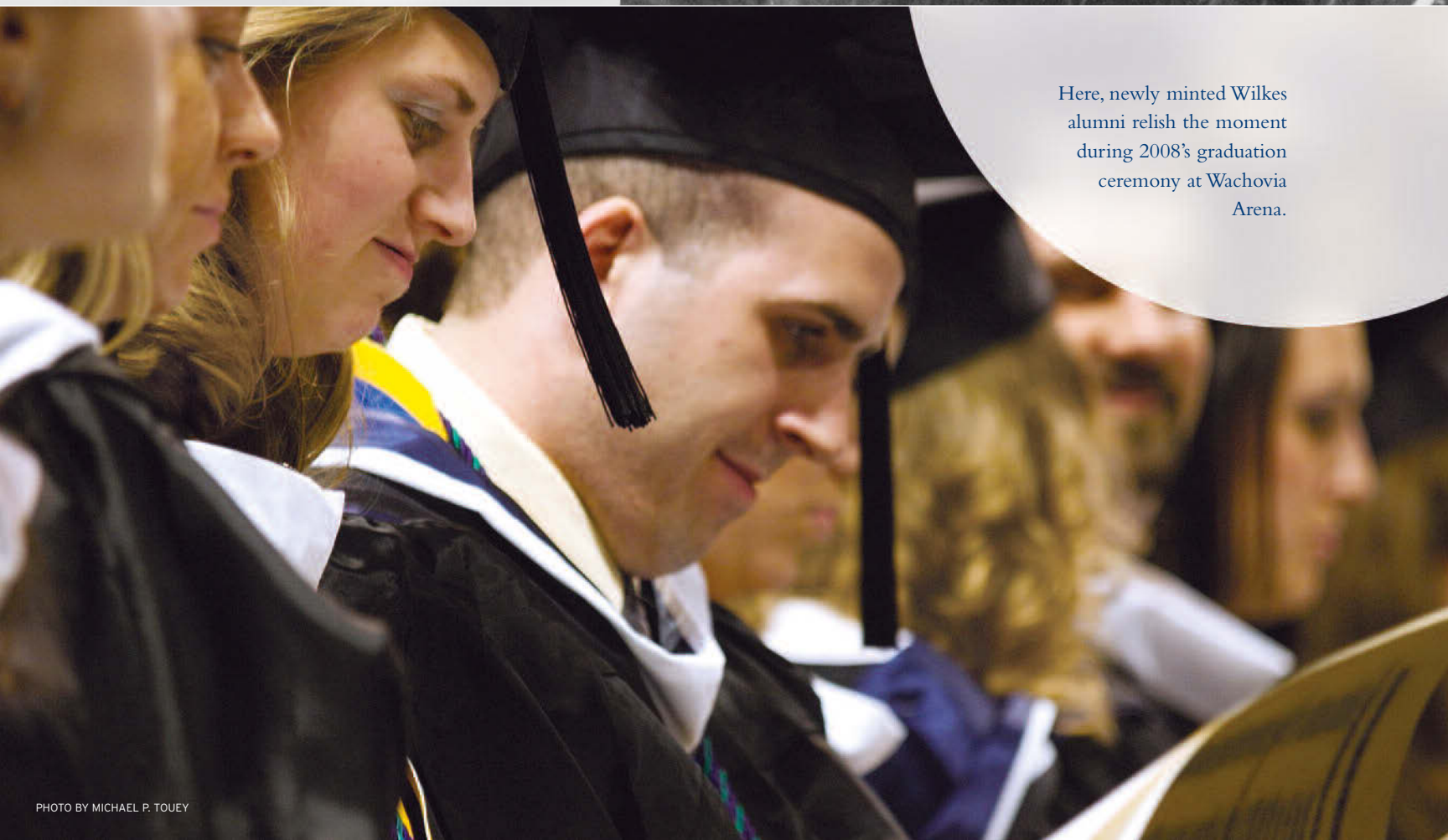
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with all its pomp and circumstance.
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PHOTO FROM WILKES ARCHIVES



Here, newly minted Wilkes
alumni relish the moment
during 2008's graduation
ceremony at Wachovia
Arena.

calendar of events

March

- 14 Football Reunion at the home of Gary Popovich '65, Ormond Beach, Fla., with guests of honor Coach and Marge Schmidt
- Through 15 “Painting the Beautiful: American Impressionist Paintings from the Michener Art Museum Collection,” Sordoni Art Gallery
- 22 Wilkes Chamber Singers Concert with the Robert Dale Chorale, St. Matthew’s Church, Scranton, part of the Bach Festival’s *St. John Passion*
- 29 “Jean-Michel Basquiat: An Intimate Portrait,” Sordoni Art Gallery through May 16

April

- 2, 3, 4, 5 Theatre production, *Pride and Prejudice*, Dart Center Main Stage
- 19 Wilkes Chorus and Chamber Singers Concert, “Folk Songs From Around the World,” St. Stephen’s Church, Wilkes-Barre
- 25 ASME Car Show, Henry Student Center Parking Lot
- 25 Dance Concert, Dart Center Main Stage
- 25 Alumni Scholarship Dinner honoring Helen Bitler Ralston '52
- 25-26 Wilkes Band Weekend
- 28 Jazz Orchestra, Dart Center Main Stage

May

- 16 Spring Commencement



PHOTO FROM WILKES ARCHIVES

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