

WILKES COLLEGE
SPORTS AND CONFERENCE CENTER
GROUNDBREAKING

March 4, 1988



WILKES COLLEGE

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONIES FOR THE SPORTS AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Friday, March 4, 1988
10:00 a.m.

PROGRAM

Welcome and Recognitions	Frank M. Henry Chairman, Board of Trustees
Greetings	Christopher N. Breiseth President
Remarks	The Hon. Lee A. Namey '68 Mayor, City of Wilkes-Barre
Groundbreaking	[See list below]
Adjournment	President Breiseth

GROUNDBREAKING PARTICIPANTS

Peter Bohlin	Architect
Christopher N. Breiseth, Ph.D.	President, Wilkes College
Patricia S. Davies	Past Chair., Board of Trustees
Bruce Gover '72, G '77	Pres., Wilkes College Alumni Assoc.
Frank M. Henry	Chair., Board of Trustees
David C. Hall	Chair., Physical Facilities Committee
John Homza	Sordoni Construction Services, Inc.
Stella Miner Moat	The Miner Family
The Hon. Lee A. Namey '68	Mayor, City of Wilkes-Barre
John G. Reese	Director of Athletics
Mary B. Rhodes G '77	Chair., Student Affairs Committee
John Rosania '89	President, Student Government
Eugene Roth, Esq. '57	Chair., WILKES TOMORROW Campaign
Philip L. Wingert	Chair., Physical Education

[Guests are invited to enjoy coffee, tea and doughnuts in the gym lobby
before and after the groundbreaking.]

MAR 5 88

CITIZENS' VOICE
WILKES-BARRE, PA
AM—50,000

Groundbreaking held for new Wilkes gym

By TOM HOUSENICK

Citizens' Voice Intern

The old Wilkes College gym is officially history.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Wilkes College Sports and Conference Center took place yesterday morning amidst the freezing rain on South Franklin Street.

Mayor Lee Namey, Christopher Breiseth, president of Wilkes College, and Frank M. Henry, chairman of the college's board of trustees, and some 100 guests said goodbye to the structure which has stood since 1950.

Henry said this project will not be the last renovation at Wilkes in the coming years. "This marks the

first of many movements in the Wilkes Tomorrow Campaign," offered Henry.

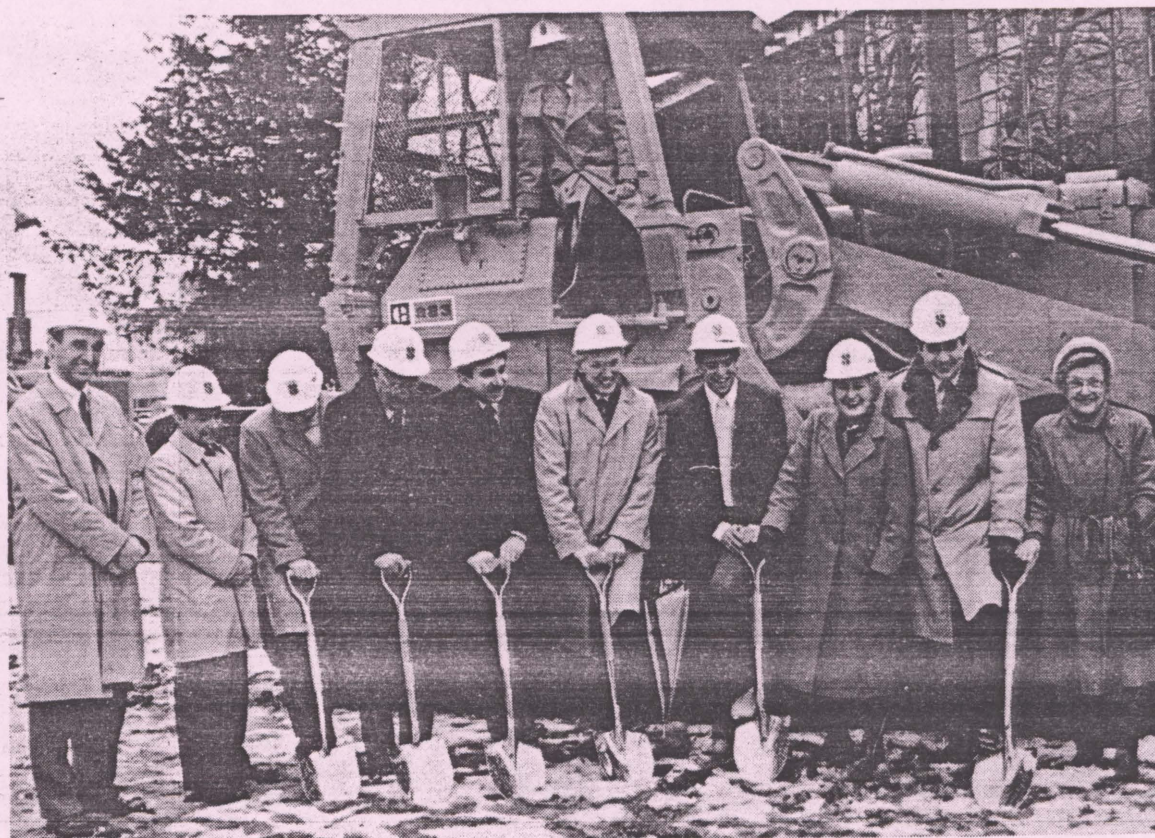
Henry announced the new three-story, 75,000 square-foot building will contain additional classrooms, a full floor of offices, conference rooms, a multi-purpose recreation room, and a training center.

Demolition of the old building will begin Monday morning and continue through the rest of this month. The basic structure will be in place by September of this year and the facility should be completed by Dec. 29. The Sports and Conference Center will be open for use on Jan. 1, 1989, while finishing touches will continue through the spring.

Breiseth felt there was a tremendous need for a new facility. "The use of the old building for recreation activities and intramurals was very limited," Breiseth said. "The new facility will be much better equipped."

Mayor Namey felt the new Wilkes complex will have a big impact on the city's economy. "This new building will have a tremendous impact on this area," Namey said. "It will allow for outside industries to come in to see that this and other local colleges have a tremendous amount of expertise."

The project, which cost \$5.5 million, still needs to raise \$3 million in order to complete the renovation.



New facility to replace one built in 1950

Also, a special plaque will be placed in the new building in honor of the Miner family for their effort and dedication in helping build Wilkes College to what is today.

Wilkes College, which began as Bucknell Junior College back in 1933 with 750 students, now has 3,600 full and part-time students

seeking degrees along with 300 faculty members.

Shown, from left, are members of the groundbreaking committee: Peter Bohlin, architect; John Homza, Sordoni Construction Services, Inc.; Philip L. Wingert, physical education chairman; David C. Hall, chairman, physical

facilities committee; Mayor Lee Namey; Christopher Breiseth, president, Wilkes College; John Rosania, president, Wilkes student government; Patricia Davies, past chairman, board of trustees; Eugene Roth, chairman, Wilkes Tomorrow Committee; Stella Miner Moat, plaque recipient.

Wilkes College

News

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS • WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18766
TELEPHONE: (717) 822-8413



contact: Ken Swisher
Assistant Director
Public Relation

WILKES BREAKS GROUND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW SPORTS AND CONFERENCE CENTER

WILKES-BARRE--Wilkes College held a groundbreaking ceremony this morning in preparation for the construction of the new Sports and Conference Center, which will replace the college's existing gym located on South Franklin Street.

Among the 14 participating in the ceremony were: Lee A. Namey, '68, Mayor, City of Wilkes-Barre; Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, President, Wilkes College; Patricia S. Davies, Past Chair, Board of Trustees, Bruce Gover, '72, '77, President, Wilkes Alumni Association; Frank Henry, Chair, Board of Trustees; John G. Reese, Director of Athletics; Andrew J. Sordoni, III; and Eugene Roth, Esq., '57, Chair, WILKES TOMORROW Campaign.

Demolition of the building is to be completed by the end of March, with the basic structure in place by September, and the \$4.9 million building should be ready for occupancy by the January of 1989.

The existing gym was built in 1950 to serve a student body of 50. However, the facility became overwhelmed by the requirements of 3,000 full-time, part-time, graduate and undergraduate

-more-

1ST AD/WILKES BREAKS GROUND FOR SPORTS AND CONFERENCE CENTER

students at Wilkes.

To be included in the three-story, 75,000 square-foot SCC are additional classrooms and a full floor of offices, as well as conference rooms, a multi-purpose recreation room, and a training center.

WILKES BREAKS GROUND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW SPORTS AND CONFERENCE CENTER

-30-

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-NOTE-

file

THE SPORTS & CONFERENCE CENTER

Construction is underway for the new Wilkes Sports & Conference Center.

The multi purpose 3-story building encompassing 70,000 square feet of space will be used for recreation, fitness activities, academic conferences, lectures and seminars. It will also give much needed space for Wilkes' many intercollegiate sports and its intramurals program.

A completion date is anticipated for January 1989.

To Jack Meyers 3-14-88

MEMORANDUM

<u>Other invitees (audience)</u>	<u>By whom</u>	<u>Prepared by</u>
Board of Trustees	CNB Letter	RFC Office
City Council	CNB Letter	OFGM
County Commissioners	CNB Letter	OFGM
Legislative Delegation (Pa & U.S.)	CNB Letter	OFGM
Media	Public Relations	PR Office
College Family	Intercom	PR Office
Banks (all three)	CNB Letter	Campaign Office

WILKES COLLEGE

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONIES FOR THE SPORTS AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Friday, March 4, 1988
10:00 a.m.

From: Richard P. Charles
Vice President, College Advancement

Subject: Welcome and Recognitions	Frank M. Henry Chairman, Board of Trustees
Greetings	Christopher N. Breiseth President
Remarks	The Hon. Lee A. Namey '68 Mayor, City of Wilkes-Barre
Groundbreaking	[See list below]
Adjournment	President Breiseth

[Coffee, tea and doughnuts available in gym lobby at 9:45 a.m.]

Groundbreaking Participants

Peter Bohlin	Architect
Christopher N. Breiseth, Ph.D.	President, Wilkes College
Patricia S. Davies	Past Chair, Board of Trustees
Bruce Gover '72, MBA '77	Pres., Wilkes College Alumni Assoc.
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Andrew J. Sordoni III	Sordoni Construction Enterprises, Inc.
Eugene Roth, Esq. '57	Chair, WILKES TOMORROW Campaign
Philip L. Wingert	Chair, Physical Education

Note: In case of inclement weather, we plan to use the lobby of the gym for the brief formal proceedings, moving out of doors only for the actual breaking of ground.

City Council
County Commissioners
Legislative Delegation (Pa & N.J.)
Media
College Family
Banks (all three)

City Letter
City Letter
City Letter
Public Relations
Intern
City Letter
Office
Office
Office
PA Office
PA Office
Campaign Office

P.S. Welcome Back!
Did you get a copy?
5/1/88

TL 12/19/88 P. 2A

Multi-purpose center nears completion

Board members see Marts Center at Wilkes College

WILKES-BARRE — Members of the Wilkes College Board of Trustees recently toured the Arnaud C. Marts Center, which is nearing completion on South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre.

The 3-story, 75,000 square foot Marts Center will house Wilkes new gymnasium, several multi-purpose conference rooms, and a wellness center.

"As the construction of the Arnaud C. Marts Center nears completion, the enthusiasm mounts. All those who have supported the project so vigorously will very soon be rewarded by seeing how their efforts have helped to establish a useful facility and a valuable asset to the college and the community," said Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, President of Wilkes.

The center is named in honor of Dr. Arnaud C. Marts (1888-1970), the man recognized as most responsible for

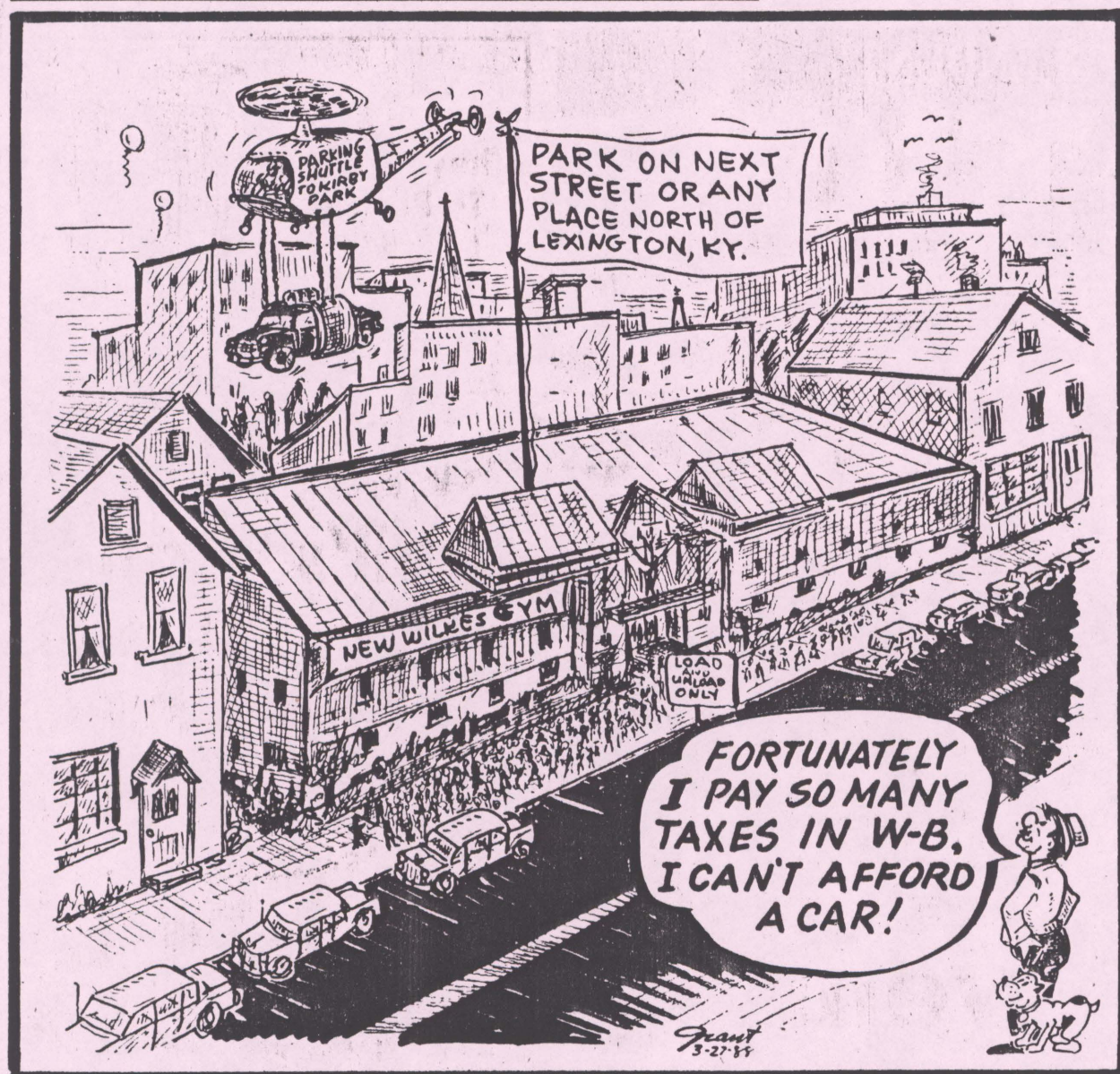


NEARLY COMPLETE — Members of the Wilkes Board of Trustees recently toured the new Arnaud C. Marts Center, which is nearing completion. Shown above during the tour, from left, Charles Miner, trustee emeritus; Joseph Wiendl, trustee; Frank Henry, chairman of the board; Anthony Shipula, director of alumni relations; Bruce Gover, trustee; Thomas Hadzor, vice president for development; and Allan Kirby, Jr., trustee.

the founding of Wilkes College.

Marts, president and founder of Marts and Lundy, the nation's first professional fund-raising firm, had several

successful careers during his lifetime. He was a business executive, financier, author, military leader and government adviser.



Heffernan . . .

By
TOM
HEFFERNAN



Last week in this space we wrote about the new gymnasium now being built by Wilkes College in the third block of South Franklin Street. In rather frank terms we voiced the same opinion we voiced when plans for the new gym were announced a year or so back.

The old one, which is now torn down even though it was a perfectly fine building and relatively new as buildings at Wilkes are concerned, the old one never should have been where it was.

To compound this mistake now a new one is going up in the very same spot, complete with absolutely no parking in an area already hurting for parking. We asked, in laymen's terms, how did Wilkes get away with it?

The answer we got came as a real surprise to me, and not a pleasant surprise. Many people who wrote, and even more people we talked to during the week all had the same opinion of the new Wilkes gym.

"It ain't what you know, it's WHO you know."
And you know something? There is no way in this gym argument that you can deny that that appears to be exactly the case.

* * *

It is very similar to the Federal Building which is on North Pennsylvania Avenue, right directly across the street from the Sunday Independent building. There is a classic example of who somebody knew as this building gets heavy pedestrian traffic. It's full of federal offices.

It is so poorly marked that we get people in our front reception area every day wondering where the Fed building is. We just point out the window and say "Thar she be."

The next question? Where do you park? The answer is very simple. "We have no idea." That building, poorly marked and drawing hundreds of people monthly who don't know Wilkes-Barre to begin with, has no place to park.

Sure, some of the employees park on the ground level. And even their spaces to park are insufficient. As for the parking public who want to pay their taxes or some such other noble deed, they can go fly a kite as far as the planners and OKers of the Fed building were concerned.

We have never gotten an answer as to how that building was ever permitted as plans never called for any parking spaces for the public.

* * *

But getting back to Wilkes, we were surprised to find a really substantial under-the-surface animosity toward the college. Over the years while it has become one of Wilkes-Barre and Wyoming Valley's greatest assets, it has also become an institution that people feel can get away with anything simply because it is for "Wilkes."

That mental state is not totally undeserved by Wilkes. And the new gym, parking and public-b damned attitude that surrounded its announcement and now its construction is reinforcing the belief that if you differ with the Wilkes College Trustees and

The answer we got came as a real surprise to me, and not a pleasant surprise. Many people who wrote, and even more people we talked to during the week all had the same opinion of the new Wilkes gym.

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We have never gotten an answer as to how that building was ever permitted as plans never called for any parking spaces for the public.

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That mental state is not totally undeserved by Wilkes. And the new gym, parking and public-b damned attitude that surrounded its announcement and now its construction is reinforcing the belief that if you differ with the Wilkes College Trustees and Boards, well it is almost as bad as picking a fight with a church.

And Wilkes very definitely over the years has taken advantage of that feeling that the press and general public isn't really going to sound off against Wilkes plans even if some plans are dead wrong as far as the rest of the world is concerned.

For example credibility has not been a strong suit for Wilkes. Years back those who founded it and ran it said they knew it was a city college and would build up, not out.

They did just the opposite and grabbed house after house, block after block. Some sports guys even question the annual Wilkes wrestling tournament which every year is promoted as be the whatever annual tourney . . . and that "whatever" number of years is higher than Wilkes is old. Wilkes just counted the old YMCA Open years as its own . . . sounded better to have an older tourney. It isn't correct, but it sounds better.

And the cultural center was hurriedly put up as we were told RCA wouldn't come to Mountain Top unless we had such a center. Up it went . . . right smack where the entrance of a then much-needed bridge across the River was planned by the state. End of bridge and again, no planned parking.

You can't always put blind faith in the reasons Wilkes tells us are behind its actions. And that underlying current of distrust is a lot deeper than I ever suspected, and deeper than I suspect the Wilkes trustees are even mildly aware of.

Wilkes College

News

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS • WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18766
TELEPHONE: (717) 822-8413



To: City Desk Editor
From: The Public Relations Office
Re: New Completion Date for Marts Center

This is to update your copy from your recent editon stating that the completion date for the Marts Center is December 29.

The most recent information indicates that the completion date is now January 6, 1989.

Thanks for helping us keep campus up to date on these matters.

cc: Bob Heaman
Paul O'Hop
Beacon

Mat Matter

By John Parmore

With New Gym Opening This Week, Wilkes Mat Coach Reese Ecstatic

It's like a kid with a new toy he or she received for Christmas. That's how coach John Reese of the Wilkes College Colonels feels about the spanking, new Wilkes College Marts Athletic and Conference Center which will be hosting its first athletic event this coming Thursday, Friday and Saturday (Jan. 5-6-7).

The highly-successful Wilkes wrestling mentor and his team won't know how to act. After all, there will be no more Wilkes cagers coming at them during wrestling practice and no more loose basketballs to contend with.

No more Wrestle-Ball for coach Reese and his grapplers. Because when the new Marts Athletic and Conference Center is opened Thursday for registrations for the 1989 Wilkes Open or Rose Bowl of Wrestling, the wrestling team will have a new practice area all by itself. Gone will be sharing the old Wilkes College gymnasium.

"The new facility is unbelievable," said coach Reese, who, incidentally, is the third winningest Division I wrestling coach in the country with 425 wins in 36 years of coaching.

"It'll be one of the finest rooms in the country. I've been all over the country and have seen a lot of wrestling rooms. Maybe the only one better is Iowa's."

Coach Reese's new wrestling room is approximately the same size of the old gymnasium. In addition to that large practice area, which will be big enough to hold two and one-half mats, there will be an exercise area which will be a little smaller than the wrestling room.

There also will be a weight room where the athletes will be able to workout with the finest of equipment.

Reese, who is also the college's athletic director, said the new gym will not only benefit the athletes but the entire student body.

"Our students will go crazy when they see the facilities," stated Reese. "For the new building and facilities also will be utilized for intramurals. It's just one beautiful complex. Architect Peter Bohlin and his associates really outdid themselves and should receive an award for the new complex. Wait 'til you see it."

Amazingly, the wrestling teams of Wilkes have been mighty successful under Reese's guidance despite having atrocious conditions to work with over the years.

"Our old gym was smaller than the one our wrestlers were accustomed to while in high school," offered Reese.

"But we were very fortunate here. We had to sell our program and our school. We always told our recruits they would receive a quality education if they came to Wilkes. Good kids attract good kids. High school coaches also helped us during our recruiting.

"We always were honest with the young men. We never lied to them or promised them anything. We were lucky in that we had a winning tradition at Wilkes."

Wilkes also is fortunate to have a man like coach Reese at the wrestling helm. He's one of the finest around and his record speaks for itself. Reese is currently third on the list as far as winningest Division I wrestling coaches. Oregon State's Dale Thomas has 500 wins with Harold Nichols, retired Iowa State mentor, is second with more than 450 victories.

The old gym was really suited for wrestling, said Reese. He added that it was a perfect setting because the fans were so close to the action and this created an air of excitement.

"With the size of our new wrestling room I won't know where everybody is. I won't be able to see the other end of the practice area. There will be no more fastbreaks. No more basketballs. I better be good or I'll be in trouble. Seriously, the new facility should make my job a lot easier."

Frank Zane, who is a Wilkes graduate and former Mr. America, designed the weight room for the team. There's also a sauna to go with all of the other new facilities.

The gym, itself, will seat 3,000 spectators for sporting events.

The Wilkes wrestling mentor feels that this year's Wilkes Open will draw between 350 and 400 contestants. He said that's because the event is being held after the holidays and there will be no other wrestling competition to contend with since Maryland dropped its open tournament.

Highest number of wrestlers the local open mat ever drew was 411.

"We'll be able to show off our new place," said a happy Reese. "The athletes are going to love it. So will the fans."

Former King's College basketball coach Ed Donohue said the old gym was a good place to take a date because of its poor lighting and sweltering heat.

"I'm going to have to take Ed on a tour of our new facility and see what he says about it," Reese kidded.

"I'd like to get 500 wins some day. I'll quit coaching when I don't enjoy it any more. The old gym conjures up many fond memories and it's been good to us. But we're certainly excited about our new building."

SI 1/1/88 p. 6-7

Wilkes College

News

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS • WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18766
TELEPHONE: (717) 822-8413



contact: Ken Swisher
Assistant Director
Public Relations

WILKES BOARD MEMBERS TOUR MARTS CENTER AS IT NEARS COMPLETION

WILKES-BARRE--Members of the Wilkes College Board of Trustees recently toured the Arnaud C. Marts Center, which is nearing completion on South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre. The three-story, 75,000 square-foot Marts Center will house Wilkes new gymnasium, several multi-purpose conference rooms, and a wellness center.

"As the construction of the Arnaud C. Marts Center nears completion, the enthusiasm mounts. All those who have supported the project so vigorously will very soon be rewarded by seeing how their efforts have helped establish a useful facility and a valuable asset to the college and the community," said Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, President of Wilkes.

The center is named in honor of Dr. Arnaud C. Marts (1888-1970), the man recognized as most responsible for the founding of Wilkes College. Marts, president and founder of Marts & Lundy, the nation's first professional fund-raising firm, had several

-MORE-

1ST AD/WILKES BOARD TOURS MARTS CENTER

successful careers during his lifetime. He was a business executive, financier, author, military leader and government advisor.

PHOTO--Shown during the tour are some members of Wilkes Board and administration. From left, Charles Miner, trustee emeritus; Joseph Wiendl, trustee; Frank Henry, chairman of the board; Anthony Shipula, director of alumni relations; Bruce Gover, trustee; Thomas Hadzor, vice president for development; and Allan Kirby, Jr., trustee.

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-MORE-

MUTUAL
PRESS CLIPPING SERVICE INC.
JULY 14 88

The Times Herald
NORRISTOWN, PA
PM—31,608



FRAMEWORK — A construction worker sits on a beam yesterday while working on the frame of the Wilkes College gymnasium in Wilkes-Barre. The gym is scheduled for completion next January.

AP Photo



Matt Engel

Right angles

Righter happy at Clarion

A HEAD COACH AGAIN: Ron Righter, newly appointed head basketball coach at Clarion University, couldn't be any happier these days.

Righter, who captained the 1974-75 St. Joseph's Hawks of coach Jack McKinney, says the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference, in which the Golden Eagles participate as a member of the West Division, is a "fast-paced, growing conference."

"Clarion's a well-respected Division II school," Righter said by telephone Monday. "We'll recruit heavily in Pittsburgh, Wilkes-Barre, Philadelphia, Allentown, Harrisburg and Ohio."

Righter, 34, replaced Dr. Richard Taylor, former assistant with the New York Knicks under Willis Reed. Taylor resigned following last year's 11-15 overall record. Clarion was a dismal 2-10 in the PSAC-West.

"Clarion is a beautiful school with an excellent athletic tradition," Righter said. "Their wrestling, football, swimming and tennis programs are nationally renown."

Righter said it'll be quite different recruiting as he spent the last seven years as assistant to George Raveling at Washington State, Iowa and USC. In the past two seasons, he was the Trojans' associate head coach and recruiting coordinator.

"I'll be putting a lot of miles on the car," he said. "I'll be riding in a car instead of a plane listening to motivational cassettes."

The Golden Eagles return just six players. Righter's recruiting priorities include a backcourt man and rebounder. Clarion faces a rugged start in 1988-89, playing its first seven games on the road. Included early in the season are three contests against Division I foes and matchups with Division II powers Gannon and Textile.

"I'm really excited to get back to Pennsylvania," said Righter, a former Central Bucks West basketball and baseball standout. "It'll be a fun year."

Righter said he's received great cooperation from Clarion athletic director Frank Lignelli. "He's an institution, a solid guy," Righter noted.

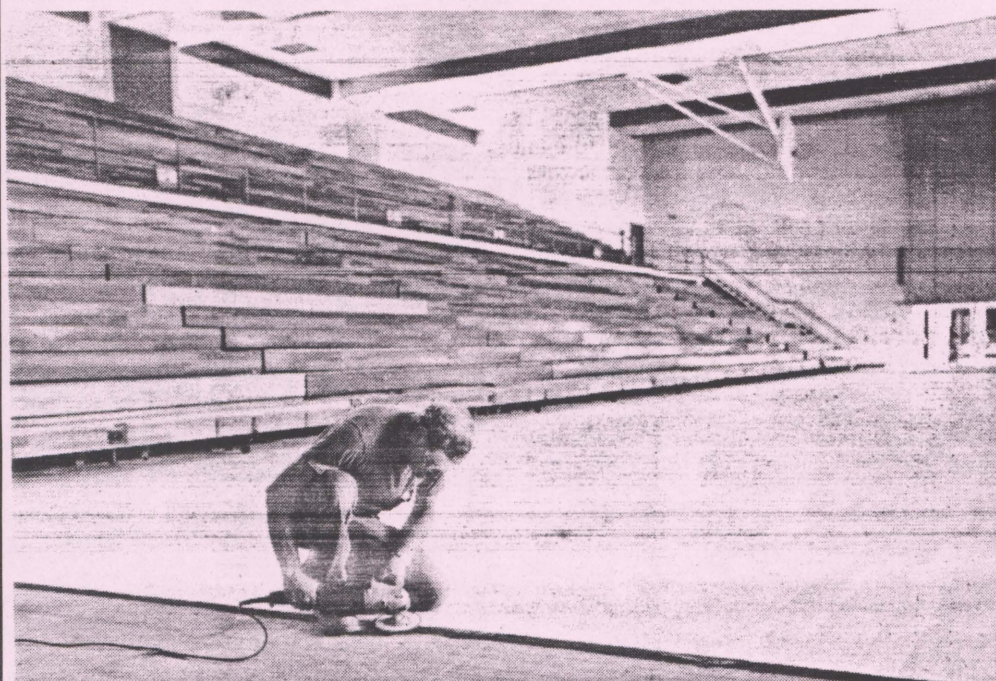
SOME PARTING SHOTS: One of the first persons to congratulate Righter on his Clarion appointment was Selinsgrove High coach Jim Beddall. . . . Just can't understand how new Phillies vice president for player personnel Lee Thomas awarded manager Lee Elia with a contract extension. Phils need a major overhaul and some motivation. . . . One of the hottest teams in baseball is the San Francisco Giants. They are breathing down the necks of the Los Angeles Dodgers in the NL West. . . . Over in the AL East, Sparky Anderson's Detroit Tigers are on fire.

FOLLOWING THROUGH: That Suncoast Dome, slated for completion in summer, 1989 may sit and become a white elephant if St. Petersburg, Fla. doesn't get an expansion baseball team. It appeared the Chicago White Sox would move to St. Pete but a new stadium proposal came through in the Windy City.

Speaking of new arenas, the new Wilkes Gym, pictured in Wednesday's *Citizens' Voice*, is mentioned in a special report on indoor arenas in the July 11 issue of *Sportsinc*, the sports business weekly.

CV 7/15/88 Pg 75

At King's and Wilkes, the work is gym-dandy



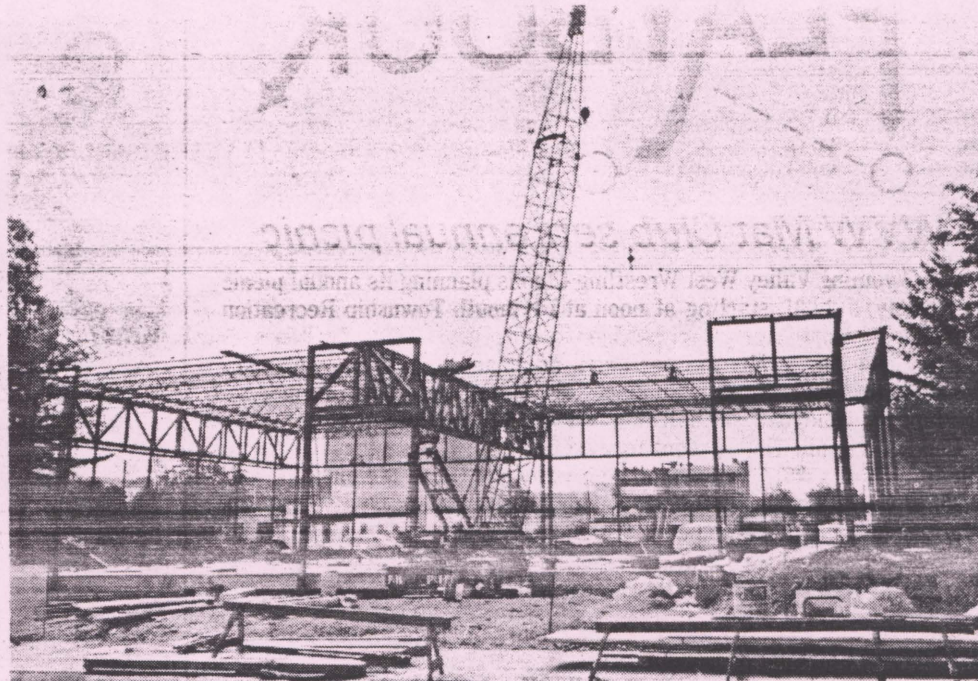
A new floor...

Local colleges King's and Wilkes will sport new images, so to speak, come late fall.

Construction of the new Wilkes gym continues on South Franklin Street on the site of the old

gym. The new facility was designed by the city architectural firm of Bohlin-Powell-Larkin-Cywinski.

Uptown on North Main Street, workers con-



...and a new building

tinue to install a hardwood surface at the Scandlon Gym at King's. An artificial surface was installed following the '72 flood and athletes are looking forward to playing on wood again.

Citizens' Voice/Jack Kelley



TIMES LEADER/TIMOTHY BUTLER

THUMBS UP — Al Nametko of Exeter gives the thumbs up to studies the plans for the new gymnasium being built for Wilkes the crane operator recently as John Barziloski, Tunkhannock College.

TLS 7/10/88 16A



TIMES LEADER/TIMOTHY J. BUTLER

Supervising

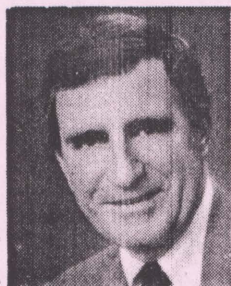
Carl Youngblood, from Wilkes-Barre, watches the progress of construction work on the Wilkes College Gym Tuesday as it rises on South Franklin Street.

TL 7/6/88 15

The Pocono Record
STROUDSBURG, PA.
AM-10,511

First Eastern's Runner named to BCMA panel

WILKES-BARRE — William A. Runner Jr., vice president, Public Finance, in First Eastern's Capital Markets Group, has been named to serve on the Bank Capital Markets Association (BCMA) Public Finance Seminar Planning Committee.



William Runner Jr.

The BCMA, founded in 1972, is a 178-member non-profit organization of commercial banks which, through "dealer" divisions or departments, underwrite, trade or deal in a variety of public securities including federal, state and local government securities, money market instruments and foreign exchange.

The association helps to develop its members' skills and to enhance their participation in the public securities industry.

The BCMA fosters professionalism among its member banks through a number of meetings, seminars and other training forums. Professional interaction among government officials, senior bank management and the capital markets personnel in-

involved in compliance, trading, operations and underwriting of marketable financial instruments is the purpose for the association's education activities.

The BCMA annual Public Finance Conference, which is attended by bank representatives, prominent figures from Capitol Hill and federal agencies, is the association's premier forum for discussing banking issues, as well as for exploring key legislative and regulatory actions.

Runner attended this year's annual conference and introduced and moderated the panel members for the Municipal Disclosure and Registration segment of the seminar.

The Public Finance seminar, which was held in Atlanta, Ga., provided both public finance professionals and managers with business development tools and a forum to exchange ideas with colleagues on recent and future opportunities in the business.

First Eastern's Capital Markets Group has actively participated in the underwriting of municipal bonds since 1980. In 1987 alone, the group participated in underwritings totaling \$363 million. Two of the most prominent bond issues were for the Wilkes College sport and conference center and Luzerne County Community College technology center.

MAR 20 88

Sunday Independent
WILKES BARRE, PA.
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Parking Problem Surrounds Wilkes Gym

By MARK MORAN
Sunday Independent Staff

Twenty-three years ago when the King's College administration decided to construct a fieldhouse, Scandlon Gymnasium, on North Main Street, it was required by Wilkes-Barre Council to go to the extra expense of providing parking facilities.

The administration constructed a "parking garage" adjacent to the gym.

But, apparently, the same stipulations do not prevail for Wilkes College officials.

Wilkes is in the process of demolishing its old gym on South Franklin Street and erecting a new fieldhouse on this site. The project has already passed the demolition phase under a contract awarded to the Sordoni Construction Company, Wilkes-Barre.

According to the prevailing schedule, construction is due to be completed by the end of this year or in early 1989. Unlike King's, however, Wilkes officials have not been required to make provisions to accommodate parking.

This is an issue which has arisen of late because the fieldhouse is situated in what essentially is a residential neighborhood. Parking has long been a problem in this locale.

But at this point, Wilkes' officials are not in a state of panic; in fact they give the impression the issue will be resolved simultaneous with the erection of the gym.

Although it wasn't stated specifically, college officials gave the impression that additional property will be purchased in order to accommodate parking.

Paul O'Hop, Vice President in Charge of Business Affairs and Auxiliary Enterprises at Wilkes, admitted, "There are no plans at present for the construction of a parkade. But, I do not anticipate a parking problem. I am optimistic that a solution will be found before the completion of the facility."

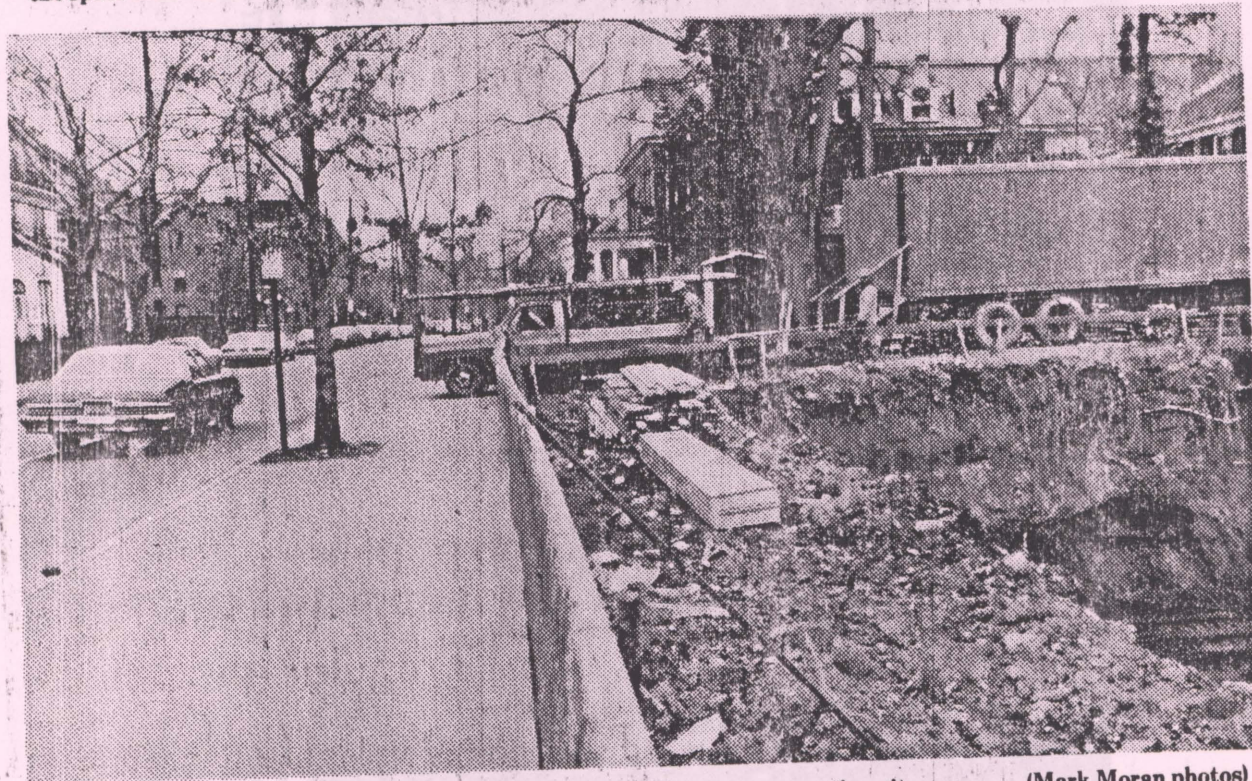
O'Hop also interjected, "We have increased parking on campus by 70 spaces. In the evening, the parking lots on campus will be available for people attending affairs at the college."

He also proposed, "... Overflow crowds can park (their cars) at the (city operated) Park and Lock South on South Main Street."

O'Hop did note that college personnel are communicating with people who reside in the area of the gym in order to "keep them informed so that there are no surprises."



EARTH MOVING — Pictured is the overall view of the space that the new Wilkes College gym will occupy. In the background is South Main Street. Work is scheduled to be completed by the end of 1988 or 1989.



BUILDING SUPPLIES — Workmen for Sordoni Construction, unload wood supplies near the northern end of the construction site.

(Mark Moran photos)

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Parking Problems

By MARK MORAN

Sunday Independent Staff

Twenty-three years ago when the King's College administration decided to reconstruct a century-old Scudder Gymnasium on North Main Street, it was joined by William Hare Capital to go to the entire extent of providing parking facilities.

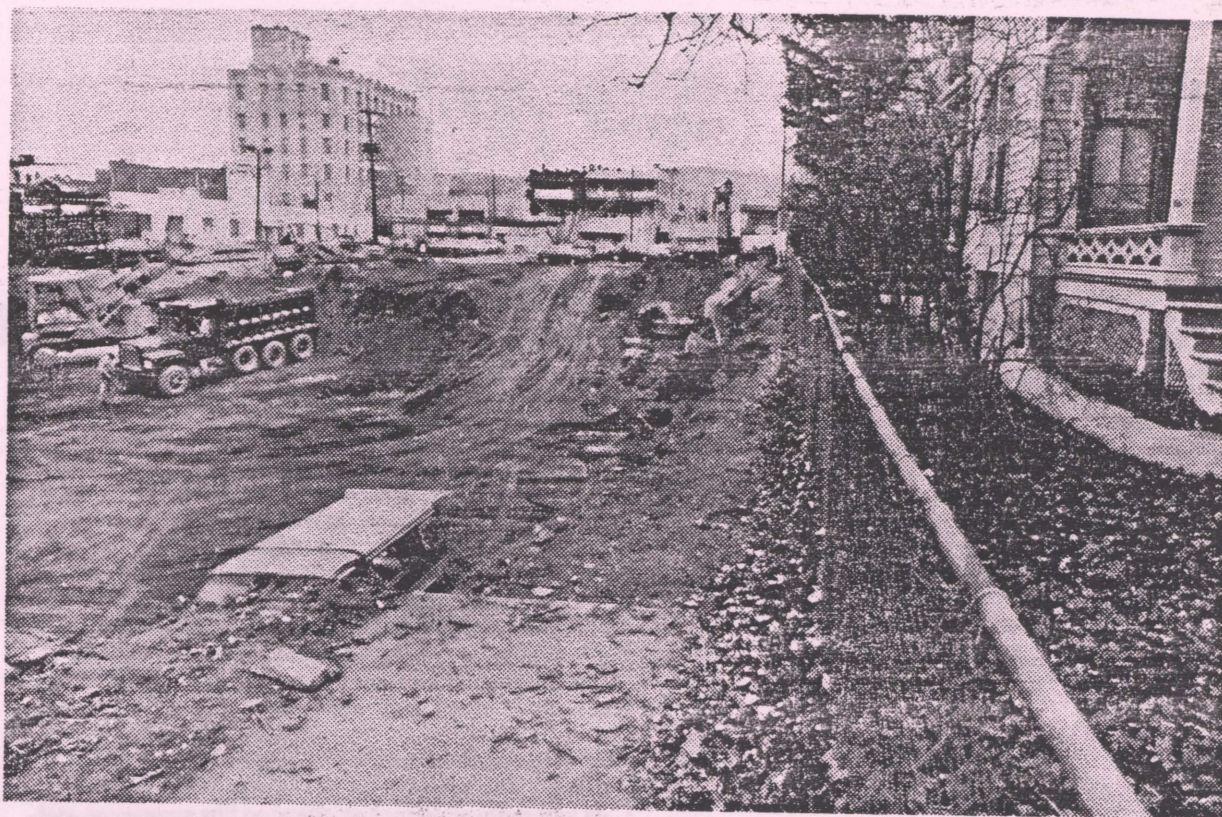
The administration constructed a "parking garage" adjacent to the gym.

But, apparently, the same stipulations do not prevail for William Hare Capital officials.

William is in the process of demolishing the old gym on South Franklin Street and erecting a new building on the site. The project has already passed the demolition phase under a contract awarded to the National Construction Company, William Hare.

According to the prevailing schedule, construction will be completed by the end of this year or in early 1991. The King's, however, William officials have not even required to make provisions to accommodate existing parking.

It is an area which has grown at least because the gymnasium is situated in what essentially is a residential neighborhood. Parking has long been a problem in this area.



FINE LINE — Construction crews dig out the old foundation as preparations are underway for the new gym. There is literally no room between the new gym

and existing houses on Franklin Street which will make for parking problems when events take place.

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CITIZENS' VOICE
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Bohlin architectural firm featured in Japan magazine

Local architecture firm Bohlin Powell Larkin Cywinski is featured in a recent issue of "Architecture and Urbanism," the prestigious international design magazine published in Japan. The magazine profiles the firm's major works of the past 23 years in a 30-page article.

The article focuses attention on a number of Bohlin Powell Larkin Cywinski's local projects, including the Public Square/South Main Street urban improvements, Luzerne County Community College Conference Center in Nanticoke, the InterMetro Industries

Corporation headquarters building on North Washington Street, Coal Street Park and the Hanover National Bank in Kingston. The magazine plans to devote more attention to these and other Bohlin Powell Larkin Cywinski projects in upcoming issues.

Distinguished architectural historian and critic Gerald Allen writes of the firm's work in the article's introduction, "I admire the way their buildings reveal themselves, sequentially, to people as they move through them—reassuringly suggesting, of course, that it was these people that the building was made for, not the architectural photographer." Allen praises the "...modest but sound qualities of architectural composition, materiality, and human perspective, qualities which seem to me to make the work of Bohlin Powell Larkin Cywinski distinctive..."

The firm's work also appears in the latest edition of "Global Architecture Houses," a respected international monograph series published in Japan. The publication features two recent projects, the Weitzman Residence in Annapolis, Md. and, of local interest, the residence for Mr. and Mrs. Charles Feldman in Shavertown.

Bohlin Powell Larkin Cywinski, which also has offices in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, has received more than 75 regional and national design awards for an impressive range of work commissioned by institutional, corporate and governmental clients. The firm's current local projects now under construction include the Sports and Conference Center for Wilkes College on South Franklin Street, the North Street Residence Hall for King's College, and the Domestic Relations Office Building for Luzerne County, scheduled for completion in August.

Walls will soon tumble to make way for new Wilkes gym

By DAVID BENDER

Times Leader Staff Writer

WILKES-BARRE — The walls will soon come tumbling down at the Wilkes College Gymnasium on South Franklin Street.

In three weeks, the college plans to begin a 10-month project to replace its gymnasium with a sports and conference center that will be twice as big.

"It is on schedule," Jane Mangarella, director of public relations, said Monday.

Demolition of the gym is slated to begin March 7, and the new \$5.5 million facility is scheduled to be ready for use on Dec. 29, said Athletic Director John Reese.

The new building will offer the college more space for winter sports teams to practice, conference rooms for meetings and classes, and an expanded weight and health room for students.

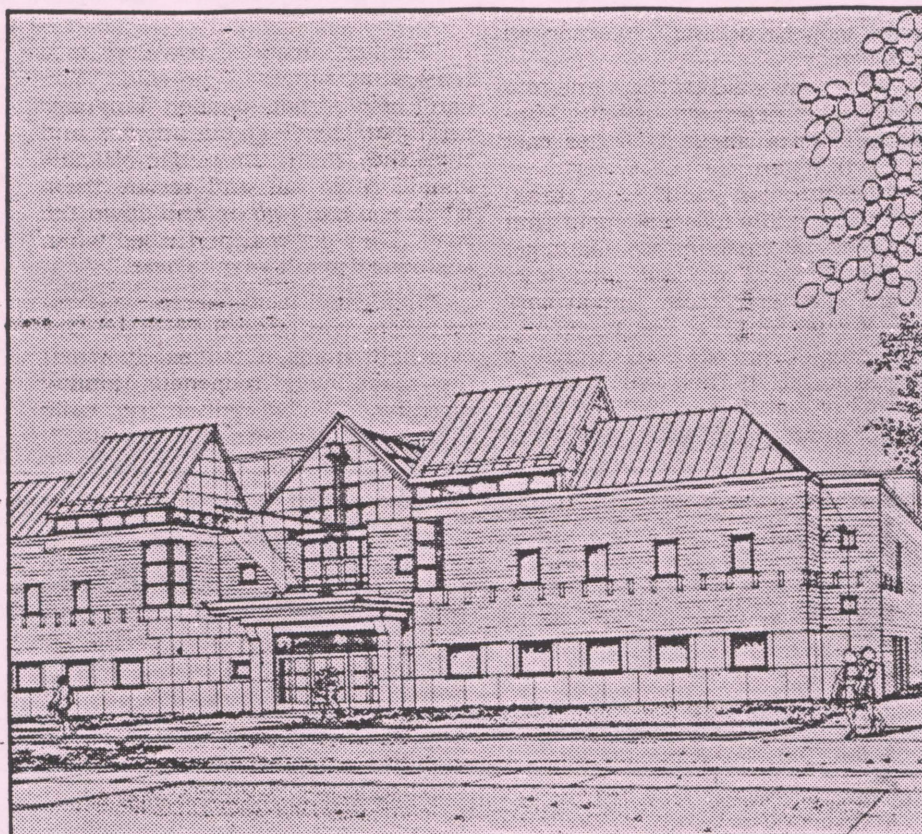
The new building will fill the lot occupied by the current gym and an adjacent vacant lot immediately to the north.

The new gym will have 3,000 seats, Reese said. The current gym has 1,500.

College officials hope the new building will help attract students to the college and give the community another quality sports arena, said Paul A. O'Hop, vice president for business affairs and auxiliary enterprises.

"It's going to benefit the institution by having a modern, up-to-date facility," O'Hop said.

The gym was built in 1950 for a



THE NEW DESIGN — This is an architect's drawing of what the new Wilkes College gymnasium will look like when completed at the end of this year. The new building will be twice as large as the present structure.

student body of 750. Current enrollment is 3,000.

The initial starting date was March 1, but that was pushed back six days so the college could hold its last wrestling match and a "Farewell to the Gym" celebration on Feb. 27 and still have time to empty the

building of equipment, he said.

The delay still gives the contractor, Sordoni Construction Co., of Forty Fort, time to finish the new building before the 1988-1989 sports seasons are too far under way.

The wrestling team and the men's and women's basketball teams start

their seasons Dec. 1. The first home meets are the only ones that would be hampered because the new arena won't be complete, but those will be rescheduled as away meets, Reese said.

Away meets at those schools later in the season will be rescheduled as home meets, after the gym is completed.

The building is to be paid for with some of the proceeds from an \$18 million fund-raising drive that was launched late in 1985. The drive will continue through 1990.

So far, \$11.4 million has been pledged, said Tom Hodzor, executive director of development and director of the capital campaign.

Although corporations and foundations are being solicited, the bulk of the money raised in the "Wilkes Tomorrow" campaign is expected to be donated by individuals, Hodzor said.

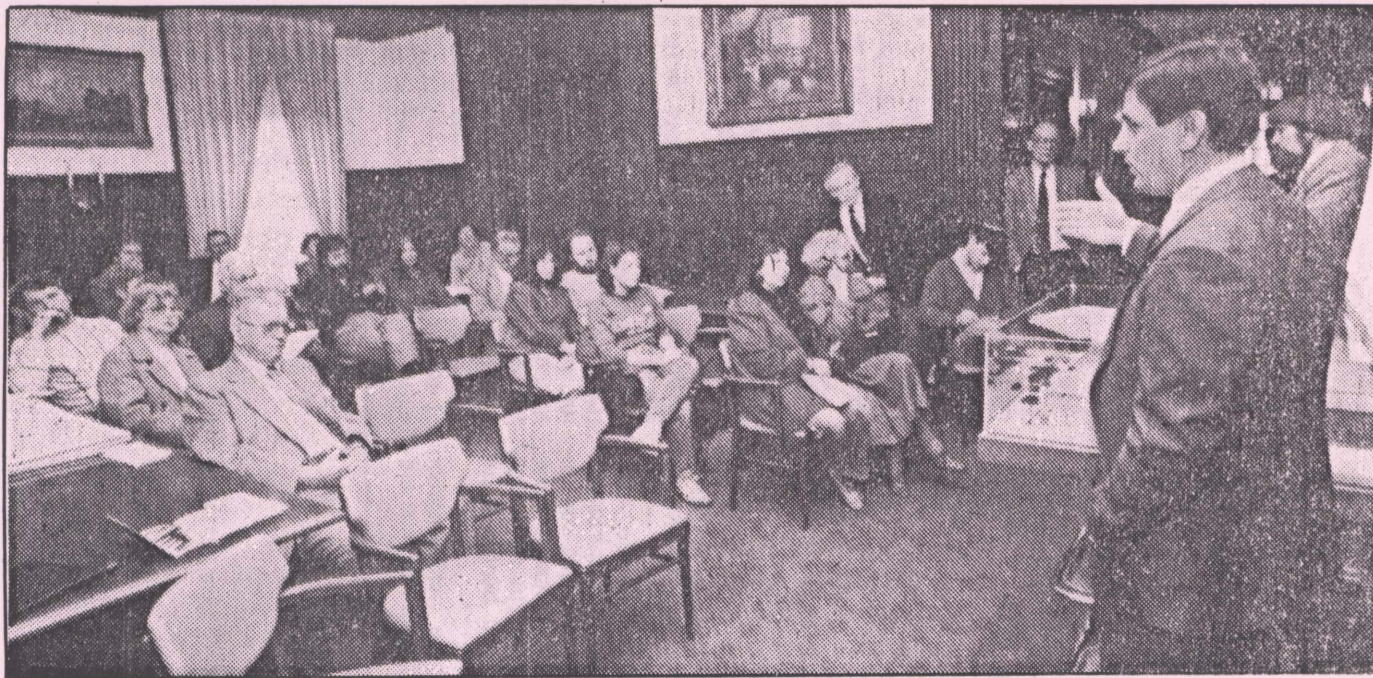
"A lot of people, companies and foundations have been very supportive of what we're trying to do," Hodzor said.

But, he added, "The easy half is done. Always the front end (of a campaign) is easier than the back half."

That is normally the case because the college approaches recognized contributors first. And their response was overwhelming, he said.

The college's 32 trustees, for example, pledged four times more than they did in past fundraising drives.

The remainder of the \$18 million in contributions is to be used for ongoing operating expenses and faculty development.



GATHERING — About 30 people attended a meeting at Wilkes College Sunday to learn about the effects the school's project to build a new gym will have on the neighborhood. At left, Regina Allen listens intently to the speakers.



Parking worries neighbors of new Wilkes gym

By JACOB SULLUM

Times Leader Staff Writer

WILKES-BARRE — City residents expressed concern Sunday about possible parking problems arising from the construction of a new Wilkes College gymnasium on South Franklin Street.

The college, which plans to demolish the current structure next month to make room for a new, larger athletic facility, called a neighborhood gathering Sunday

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Gym

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evening in Wilkes-Barre to discuss the project.
Tom Bohlen, an architect working on plans for the new gymnasium, presented a blueprint of the new gymnasium to a group of about 30 people at the meeting. The college's board of trustees is expected to vote on the plans by the end of March. The college is planning to demolish the current structure by the end of September. The new gymnasium is expected to be completed by Jan. 1. The first term of classes is scheduled to begin in August 1983, however.

Gym

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(Continued from Page 3A)
evening in Weckesser Hall to discuss the project.

Tom Bohlin, one of the architects working on the building, presented a blueprint and model of the new gymnasium to an audience of about 25. Ed Onzik, of Sordoni Construction, outlined the construction schedule.

Demolition is to be completed by the end of March, followed by shoring, excavating, and the pouring of concrete in the spring. The college plans to have the basic structure in place by the end of September, and the building should be ready for occupation by Jan. 1.

The final touches are not scheduled to be completed until April 1989, however.

Onzik said most of the disruption caused by the project will take place during the next six months. He said that although his firm will make every effort to minimize problems, neighbors will have to put up with some inconveniences, including obstruction of the street by trucks unloading building materials.

Christopher Breiseth, president of Wilkes College, said the project will inevitably aggravate already chronic downtown parking problems, with anywhere from 10 to more than 100 workers on site at any given time.

"We are painfully aware that this is a problem," he said.

But parking difficulties should not persist after the building is completed, Breiseth said. Over the long term, the

new gymnasium should not significantly add to neighborhood traffic, he said.

In general, the people using the facility will be the same students as before, Breiseth said. Special events attracting additional traffic — tournaments, games, conventions and commencement ceremonies — will usually occur at times when the number of cars in the neighborhood tends otherwise to be low — on weekends, in the summer and during holidays.

But John Sokolowski, who lives across the street from the construction site, said he is still worried that the gymnasium, which will seat 3,000 people, will compound parking problems.

"It's a long-term problem

with no easy solution," he said. "I don't think it's resolved yet."

Breiseth said the college owns about 450 parking spaces and leases an additional 200. He predicted a need for multi-tier parking facilities, to which he said the college might contribute.

Sokolowski said he was reassured, however, about the short-term problems connected with the project.

Construction is to begin at 7 a.m. and end about 6 p.m.

"At least we'll be getting some sleep," he said.

Marie Black, who also lives near the gymnasium, said she is also willing to put up with the noise, dirt and extra traffic.

"That's progress, so you have to put up with it," she said. "It's going to be beautiful."