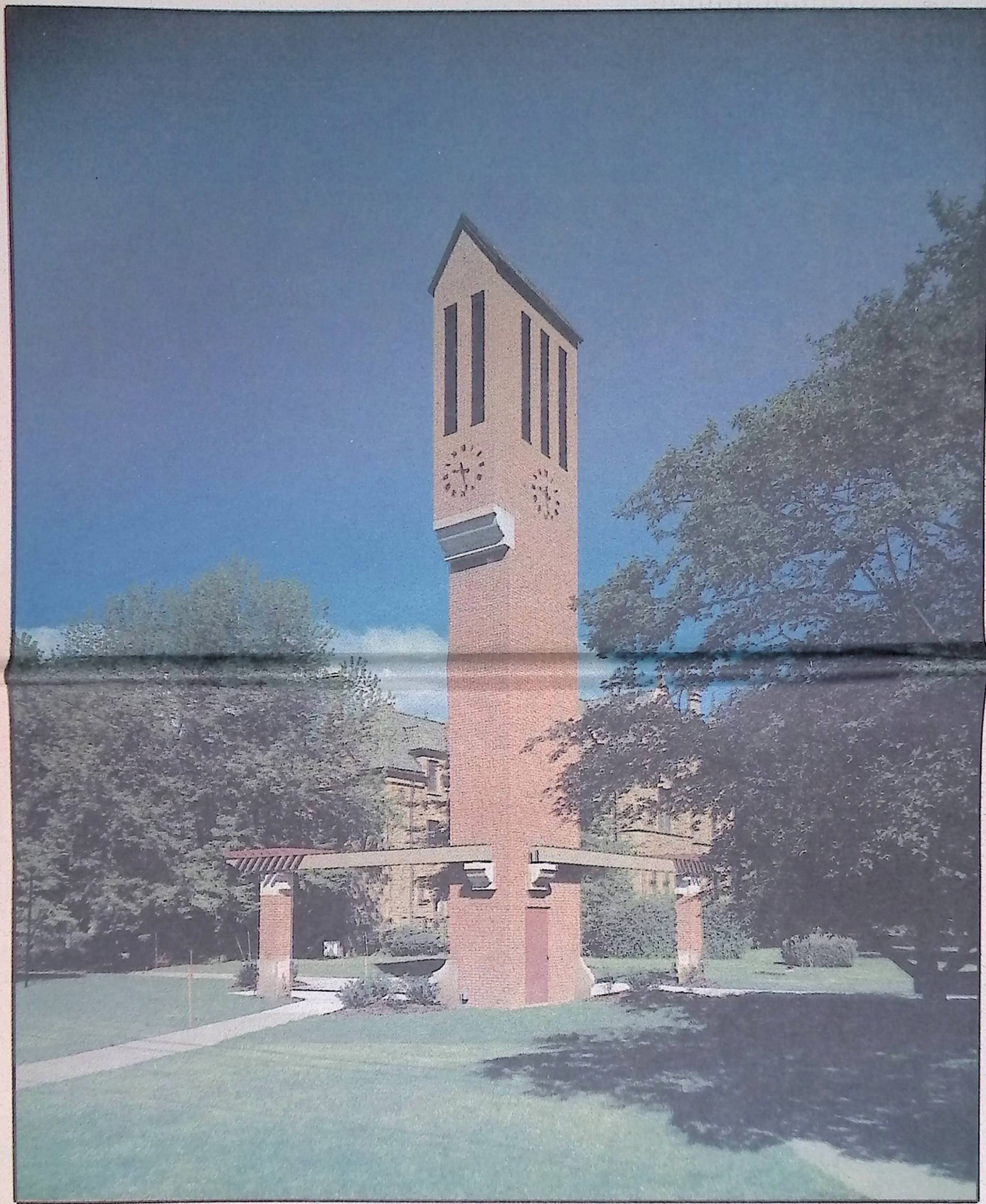


# Wilkes University



Special section, Citizens' Voice, February 15, 1990



# Index



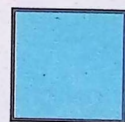
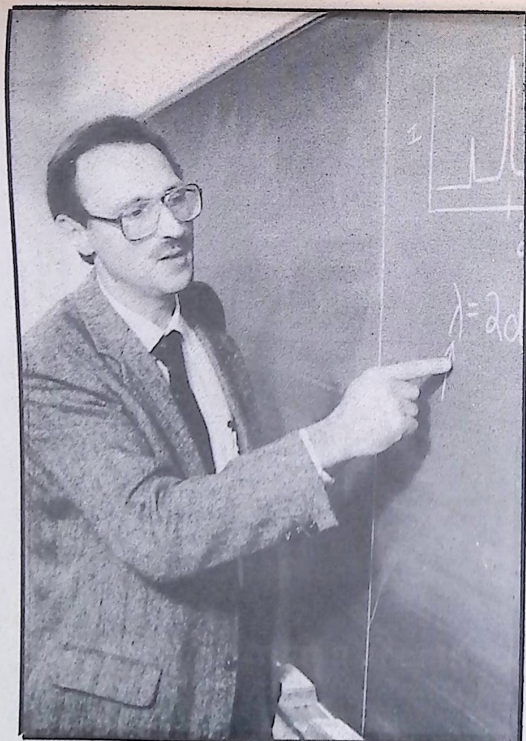
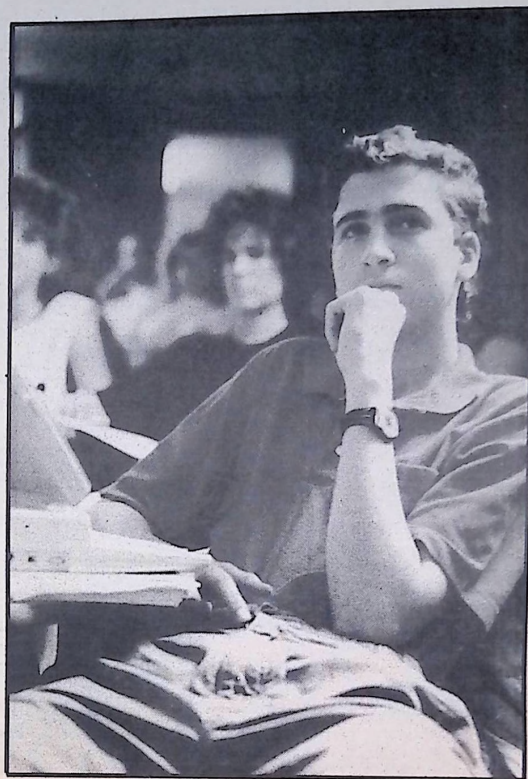
## A Message

*Page 3*



## The Early Years

*Page 4*



## The Charter Years

*Page 7*



## Now, a University

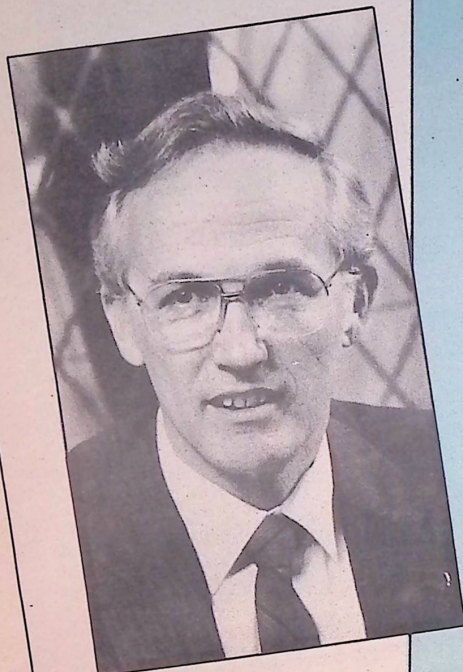
*Page 11*



February 15, 1990

**WF Wilkes University**

3



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Wilkes College has evolved into a regional center for educational excellence. Designation as Wilkes University recognizes the progress we have made as an institution of higher education over nearly six decades. It also symbolizes the remarkable recovery of economic strength and public confidence of the Wyoming Valley. Becoming Wilkes University can further inspire us in our work on campus and in the community to better serve our students and this region.

The designation as a university does not change what we are. Rather, it describes more accurately what we have become. Perceived expectations of Wilkes both on campus and in the community may change. We welcome the challenge of heightened expectations that will make Wilkes an even stronger institution.

We will continue to offer high quality education which stresses the personal involvement of teachers with their students. We hope to extend even further the talents of our faculty and students to help apply knowledge to the solution of problems, not only in this region but in the nation and in the world.

We will continue to work closely with our sister institutions to build alliances between schools and colleges in order to improve the entire educational system in our area.

The end, in this instance, is truly the beginning of a new era for both Wilkes and the community in which it flourished.

Sincerely,

*Christopher N. Breiseth*

Christopher N. Breiseth  
President, Wilkes University





Trustees, Bucknell University Junior College

## The Early Years

The year was 1933 when Bucknell University's President Dr. Homer Rainey first introduced the idea of establishing a junior college in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Rainey made the proposal to the board and to the faculty at Bucknell in response to requests from prominent citizens in Wilkes-Barre who felt that hundreds of young men and women in Wyoming Valley wanted and deserved a place that would allow them to continue their education.

The nation was in the depths of the worst depression that their generation (and successive generations) had ever known. Because their parents were unemployed, these young men and women were not able to go outside the valley to continue their education and there were not sufficient facilities in Wyoming Valley to achieve their educational goals.

The response from the board and the faculty was immediate and they voted to establish Bucknell University Junior College in Wilkes-Barre. They realized there would be enormous obstacles to overcome but no one could ignore the educational needs of the young men and women who so wanted their own college. The dedication of the faculty was exemplary. Many professors traveled from Lewisburg to Wilkes-Barre three and four times a week to teach classes of students in Northampton Hall.

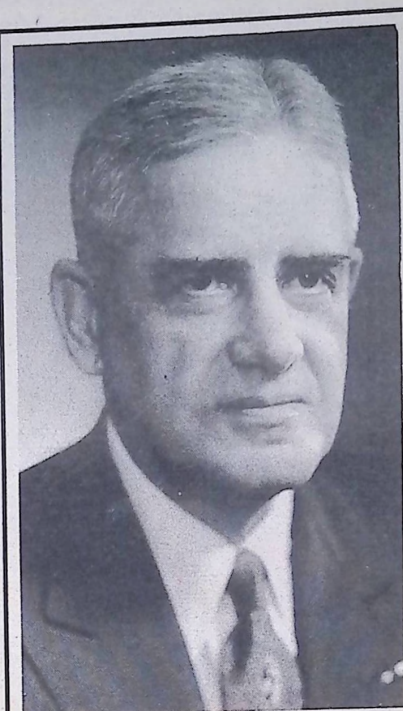
There was an overwhelming response from students. Classes were filled to capacity as soon as they were announced and 165 freshmen entered Bucknell University Junior College that first September in 1933.

Students flocked to register year after year and although there were students in abundance there was a definite lack of funds necessary to continue to serve the ever-increasing student population.

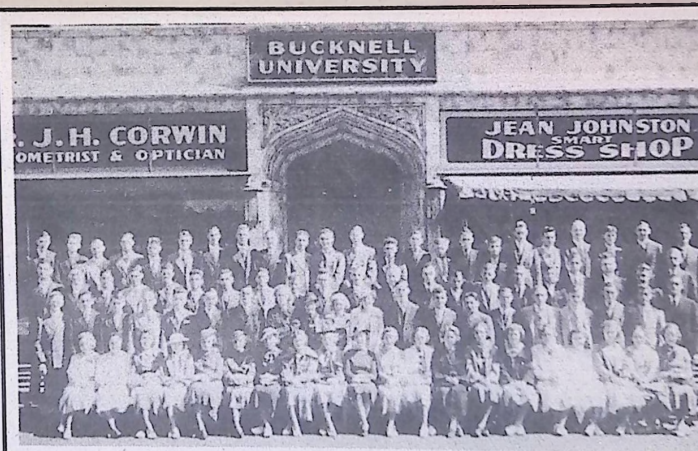
By 1936, the economic outlook was bleak. Bucknell itself was experiencing a decline in enrollment because of the depression. Administrators there were beginning to question the advisability of keeping a satellite open in light of the extra economic burden it brought to the university itself.

Arnaud C. Marts had replaced Dr. Rainey as president of Bucknell and it was his courageous decision that kept Bucknell University Junior College a functioning institution in those difficult years. Marts said, "We have started something here that we must either finish properly or bring bitter disappointment to hundreds of ambitious and fine boys and girls of Wyoming Valley."

Once the decision was made and Dr. Marts had pledged his uncompromising support to the fledgling college, something began



Dr. Arnaud C. Marts



The first graduates

to happen within the community. Every segment of the community — parents, legislators, civic organizations, business leaders — joined together to support what had become their institution. Support came in every form but especially in the area of facilities for permanent quarters for Bucknell University Junior College. Mrs. John Conyngham gave the college the magnificent 43-room Conyngham mansion on South River Street and the same week Admiral Harold Stark donated the Chase Home to be used as an educational facility.

There were also citizens committees who conducted fund raising drives to build financial support for Bucknell University Junior College.



The community wanted its college. The college dedicated itself to serving its community. This relationship has remained constant.

In 1936, a new president was appointed to head Bucknell University Junior College. Dr. Eugene Sheldon Farley would lead the institution through a phenomenal period of growth and spend the next 36 years of his life in true service to the college as president and then as chancellor until his death in 1972.

In September of 1937, in his welcome to freshman, Dr. Farley spoke of the activities waiting for them outside the classroom, which are definitely, he reminded them, a part of college life. "Year by year students come and go, but always friendships remain to enrich the lives of all of us who work together at Bucknell. . . perhaps because we are a new and growing college, an added zest comes to our endeavors. We are none of us striving for ourselves alone, but all of us are helping to build an atmosphere and tradition that will mean much to those who follow us."

On January 13, 1938, a meeting was opened by President Arnaud Marts and action was taken to institute a 15-member Board of Trustees for Bucknell University Junior College. Gilbert McClintock was elected chairman and Charles Miner was elected secretary; thus a first step was made in recognizing the Junior College as a separate entity.

On February 16, 1938, the Board of Trustees faced the problem of financing the embryonic institution. Discussion ensued about the necessity of having a campaign, a move which became habit-forming. In June of 1938 Dr. Farley reported that during the first four years of its existence the Junior College had a deficit of \$29,672.83; however, the financial picture looked better. The campaign of June, 1938, raised \$27,924 and that improved the situation. In September Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Weckesser presented a home on Northampton Street to the college with the

stipulation that the house be used as residence for the director, and the Farley family moved into 78 West Northampton. At about the same time, the carriage house behind Chase Hall was converted into a playhouse (seating about 125) and for years the weekly convocations of the students and faculty, as well as many fine theatrical productions, were held in Chase Theater.

On the sixteenth of December, 1938, President Marts reported that BUJC had been accredited by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. However, Dr. Farley reported that recognition by the Middle States Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges might be withheld if the holdings of the Junior College library were not increased. Upon hearing that report, trustee Daniel Roberts wrote out a check for \$2,500 for the purchase of the thousand needed volumes. By June of 1939 Dr. Farley was able to announce to the trustees that during the six years since its inception the enrollment of the college had increased from 193 to 401. During the fall of 1939 a pilot training program, part of the federal effort to prepare more fliers for World War II, was instituted by BUJC, although the actual flying was initiated at the Forty Fort Airport. Two hundred and eleven students enrolled during the first year of the program.

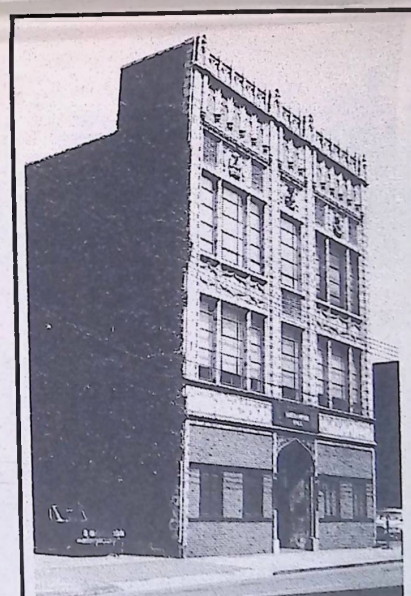
In October of 1939 Dr. Farley was able to announce that for the first time he had managed to balance the college's budget. More emphasis was placed on evening classes, which began in 1933, in addition to the daytime curriculum; a number of dedicated high school teachers joined with the full-time faculty to expand the evening school, which in 1936 enrolled 175 part-time students. Dr. Farley was able to report to the trustees that of the 400 students in those days who went off to college from the Wyoming Valley, about one quarter of them started their collegiate studies at BUJC; thus the Junior College was beginning to make a constructive impact locally.



**Dr. Eugene S. Farley**



**Conyngham Mansion**



**Northampton Hall**





Chase Hall

**'President Marts began to talk in terms of a four-year institution...'**



Old Chase Theatre, and players

With the growth of the college the trustees began to cast designing glances at the Kirby home on the corner of South River Street and South Street. Mr. Weckesser was appointed to visit Allan P. Kirby to talk about the possibility of the Kirby home becoming a part of the college's property. Mr. Kirby made the gift in 1941, adding the stately mansion to the campus scene.

President Marts began to talk in terms of a four-year institution, and consideration was given to offering two-year terminal courses in Commerce & Finance, Music, and Home Economics. Somehow the debt to Bucknell University was paid off in June of 1941, and a small group of friends joined with Mr. Kirby to provide \$55,480 for alterations and endowment of Kirby Hall and prepare the building for occupancy by students and faculty of BUJC. The library, which had been in Conyngham Hall, was moved to the second floor of Kirby Hall. A grand piano was placed in the small front room so that Paul Gies could give piano lessons. The main living rooms were the scene of many dances, with music supplied by phonograph.

In spite of the fact that the number of male students drafted into the armed services was starting to make inroads into the enrollment, the college continued and even instituted a course in medical technology.

Growth came in unexpected ways. Late in the spring of 1941 the Air Force came to BUJC and this was the beginning of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Program at the school. It was a windfall of guaranteed income and very welcome.

A campaign to raise \$150,000 was started in 1944. Weckesser Hall was converted into a dormitory. The trustees again faced the issue of becoming a four year institution and finally on June 14, 1945, they passed a motion that such action be taken.

Discussions were held to consider the planning and use of the city block on which the campus was then entirely located. A first move was made to purchase the lot formerly occupied by the Baptist Church at the corner of South Franklin Street and South Street. The acquisition of that lot some months later was the college's first action to enlarge by purchase the extent of the campus. And again attention was focused on raising \$350,000 to be designated as endowment for the growing college. Bucknell University forgave the debt in the sum of \$8,352 still owed the university by the Junior College. BU's generosity gave impetus to the campaign.





Gilbert McClintock accepts the charter

## The Charter Years

Early in January 1946 the Junior College trustees purchased the Payne House and established a men's dormitory. A proposal was made that the cafeteria, located for years in the former kitchen of Chase Hall and certainly inadequate, be moved to the garage of Conyngham Hall, but that move was not made and in 1947 the Conyngham garage was refitted to become Wayman Hall, the home of the Biology Department.

Next in acquisition was the Stoddard house, near the corner of Franklin and South Streets, later known as Gies Hall. An expanding music department was happy to be housed in this new facility. The former Stoddard garage was made into a cafeteria, and the kitchen staff were moved from the back room of Chase Hall, but when Stoddard was soon found to be too small Kirby garage and Stoddard garage were remodeled into one spacious dining facility and christened "The Commons."

By the twenty-second of April, 1946, the new college was almost within reach and the trustees were considering the selection of a name. Among those mentioned in the minutes of that meeting were Wilkes-Barre, Anthracite, Riverside (which survived, at least in the name of the yearbook, "Amnicola"), Wyoming, Wyoming Valley, Luzerne, and Westmoreland. The name of John Wilkes emerged later.

In June of 1946 the order was issued for full speed ahead on plans for a four-year institution. The college's benefactors in the community were becoming more numerous. The campaign for the endowment was a success;

with \$500,000 in hand the graduation of Bucknell University Junior College to Wilkes College was assured. In May of 1947, an application for a charter as an "independent, four-year, liberal arts college" was presented to the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas.

On June 4, the charter was granted by the court and on June 26, 1947, at ceremonies on the lawn behind Chase Hall, Gilbert McClintock, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Junior College, accepted the Charter of Pennsylvania for Wilkes College.

Dr. Arnaud C. Marts, fulfilling the promise made by Bucknell University, turned the capital assets of more than \$2,000,000 over to the new college.

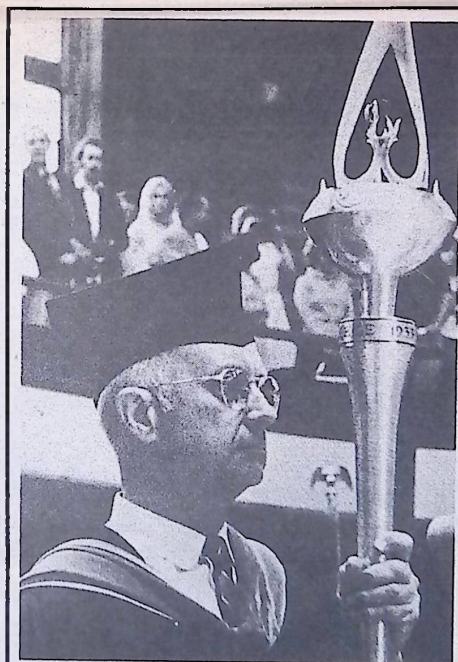
The relationship between the Junior College and the community that had grown ever more interactive through the years continued and intensified as the new Wilkes College began to develop. Wilkes worked always to initiate programs, cultural events and academic curricula that would benefit the community.

The community worked always to support and sustain the endeavors of the college.

The early and middle years of Wilkes College abounded in the formation of co-curricular organizations. Faculty and community involvement that established the character and traditions at Wilkes became top priorities. The shared efforts between the Wilkes College family and the community resulted in educational and cultural programs that enriched the quality of life in Wyoming Valley and in Northeastern Pennsylvania.



South River Street



Dr. Charles Reif carries Mace





Groundbreaking for gym, 1949, and the old gym

The music department under Dr. Paul Gies flourished and offered recitals, concerts, choral festivals, and the annual Bach Festival. No less busy was Alfred S. Groh, successor to Norma Sangiuliano Tyburski, who directed the Cue and Curtain Club in countless plays performed in the Chase Theater. One could count on standing room only crowds as the community responded to the lively and appreciated new theater in Wilkes-Barre.

The enthusiasm with which the performing arts in music and theater were received made it clear that a new facility would be essential in the not too distant future.

Another dimension for community and student involvement was in sports. A full slate of men's and women's teams had become a big part of the Wilkes College community profile. John Reese's wrestling team, and the famed tournament known as the Wilkes Rose Bowl of Wrestling brought thousands of people to Wilkes each year. That team and the football team coached by Rollie Schmidt and known as the Golden Horde brought Wilkes national media coverage and extraordinary visibility.

The decade of the 1960s was in reality a period of rapid change and growth. Wilkes had gained a reputation as a persuasive force in higher education. Its curriculum and its educational facilities continued to broaden to include all that students needed to compete in a competitive marketplace.

Alumni were attaining national recognition as leaders in business in law, in medicine, in art and in government. New academic facilities were designed and built in response to need and to a changing society. The campus

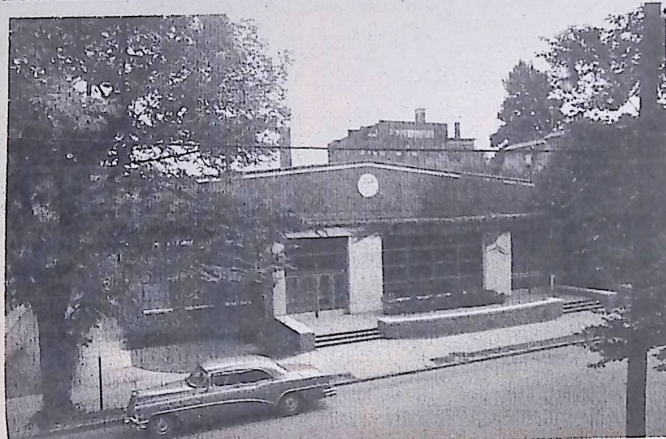


**'The Golden Horde brought Wilkes national media coverage and extraordinary visibility.'**



Kirby Hall





Groundbreaking for gym, 1949, and the old gym

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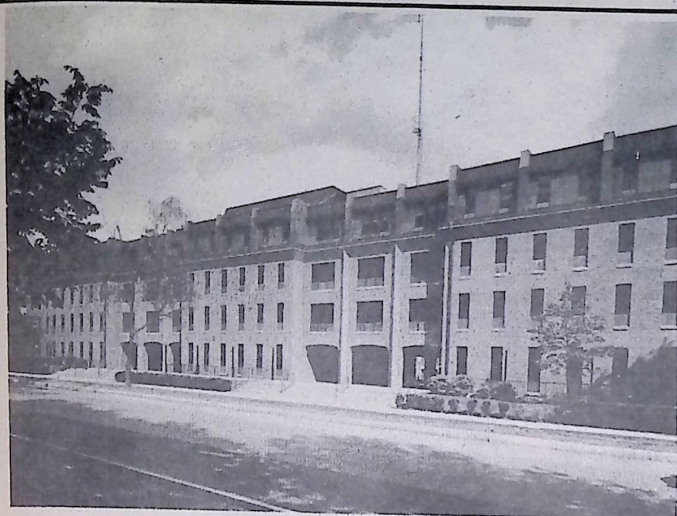


**'The Golden Horde brought Wilkes national media coverage and extraordinary visibility.'**



Kirby Hall





Stark Learning Center



Darte Center for the Performing Arts

that had been entirely contained in one city block now covered 23 acres. Its buildings included the Stark Hall Research Center, the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts, the Eugene Shedden Farley Library, new dormitories and a new dining hall.

After 36 years, Dr. Farley decided to initiate the move to have a successor appointed as second president of Wilkes College. Dr. Farley was recognized everywhere as "the driving force and single-minded champion in pursuit of the welfare of Wilkes College and the youth of the community." He had built a college and a life on truth and integrity. (Dr. Farley died on September 17, 1973).

In 1970, Dr. Farley moved to become chancellor of Wilkes College and Dr. Francis J. Micheline, who was Dean of Academic Affairs and a professor of biology, became the college's second president. His primary goal as president was "the continued pursuit of quality by both faculty and students. This," he said, "has been the strength of Wilkes in

the past and must continue to be in the future."

Dr. Micheline brought innovative thinking to curriculum development at the College and as a research scientist himself saw and understood the great technological changes that would confront America and its students within the next decade.

However, one of the greatest challenges of his presidency came as a result of the most devastating flood ever to hit Northeastern Pennsylvania. Hurricane Agnes, in June of 1972, caused the Susquehanna River to overflow its banks and inundate Wyoming Valley from mountain to mountain. Wilkes College sustained \$14,000,000 in damages.

Under Dr. Micheline's leadership, several hundred friends and staff worked 16-hour days to bring the college back into operation. Despite curfews, power shortages, intense summer heat and the enormous tasks that confronted them, Wilkes College resumed classes in the Fall of 1972 just one week late. Dr. Micheline did continue to his goals

"toward excellence" until 1975 when he was appointed president of the Commission for Independent Colleges and Universities, a position he currently holds.

During its comparatively short life Wilkes College had been built and rebuilt by the sustained efforts and sheer will power of a community and administrative leadership that would not let it die. It continued to grow and to change in response to need and to the demands of a changing society.

In 1975 Robert S. Capin was appointed president of Wilkes College. He brought a unique perspective to the office because he had earned his degree from Wilkes, was a member of the faculty at Wilkes and then a

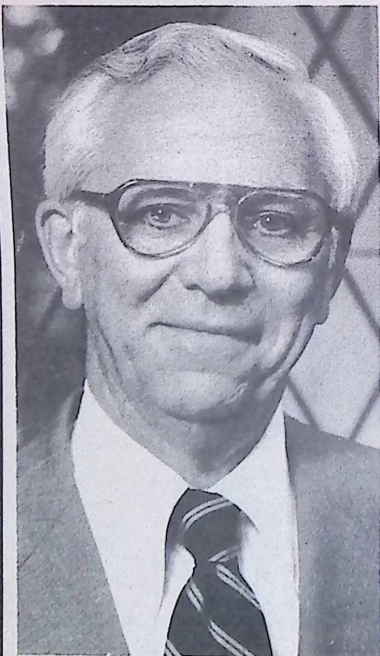


Staff cleans after flood of 1972



Dr. Francis J. Micheline



**Wailer Hall****Dr. Robert Capin**

member of the administration in several capacities before becoming president.

Under his leadership the College refined and expanded the curriculum, enhanced its fund-raising ability and renovated much of the physical plant, including the reconstruction of Conyngham Hall, the refurbishing of Kirby Hall. And a new residence for students, Evans Hall, was designed and built, enabling Wilkes to move students who had lived off campus into the new 205-bed residence hall.

Capin presided over the dedication of Stark Learning Center and was president during the 50th year anniversary of Wilkes College. Dr. Capin was designated president emeritus in 1985 and he accepted a partnership with Parente, Randolph Orlando and Carey.

In 1989 he returned to Wilkes and to "his real vocation," teaching. He is currently a member of the faculty in the School of Business, Society and Public Policy. The Robert S. Capin Chair in Accounting has been endowed by former students and friends of Dr. Capin.

**A model of Evans Hall**



# Now, a University

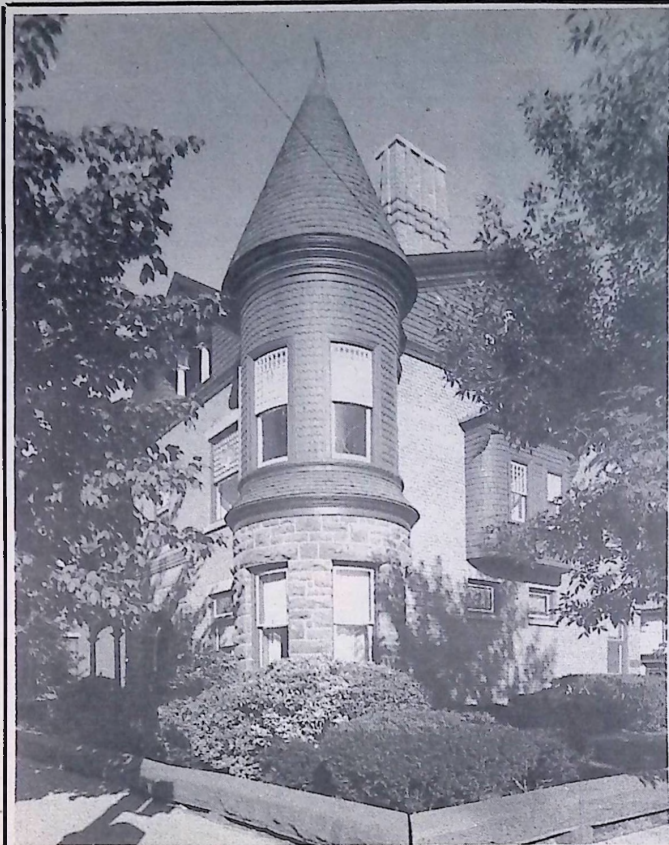
In the future, when researchers go back into the archives to review the transition from Wilkes College to Wilkes University, all of the official documents will begin "The Wilkes College Board of Trustees first met to discuss university status in September of 1985." And as so often happens with history, the story behind the story will be left to speculation.

That all-important meeting of the Board was actually a culmination of 12 months of intense activity and self analysis within the institution to decide whether or not to seek university status.

It is the story of an institution and its people coming together with courage and commitment to examine its weaknesses as well as its strengths and to chart its future. No easy task, especially given the strengths and diversity of a faculty who by inclination and necessity built departments that operated largely on their own and separate from each other. But this was also a faculty who had traditionally worked together to provide students the excellent education that is synonymous with Wilkes. Spurred on by challenges confronting higher education in the next decade and under the leadership of a new president, Wilkes College would begin to assess what it would mean to make the historic decision before them.

The new president, Christopher N. Breiseth, came to office in June of 1984. He saw Wilkes from a different perspective than most, and his fresh perspective brought with it an enthusiasm and clarity of mission. Dr. Breiseth felt that the college had grown beyond its own description of a "small liberal arts college in Northeastern Pennsylvania." He saw instead a solid tradition of liberal arts, a firmly established science and research center and viable business and graduate programs.

While Dr. Breiseth never urged the college to pursue the university designation, he did begin to share the newcomer's perception of the institution with faculty, students, alumni and the community at large. He did encourage the Wilkes family and the community to clear away the self-imposed limitations that held them back from exploring the new horizons, that would be essential to growth and stability for higher education in the 1990's.



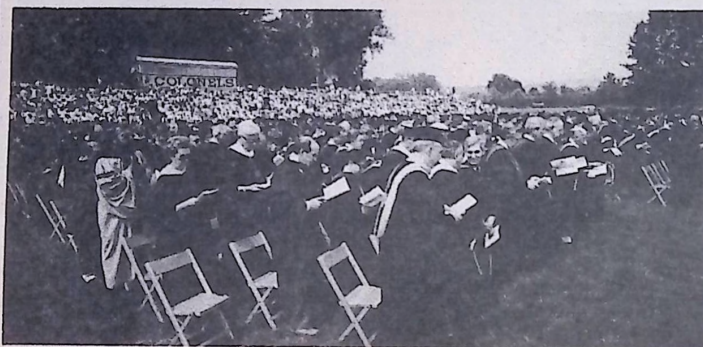
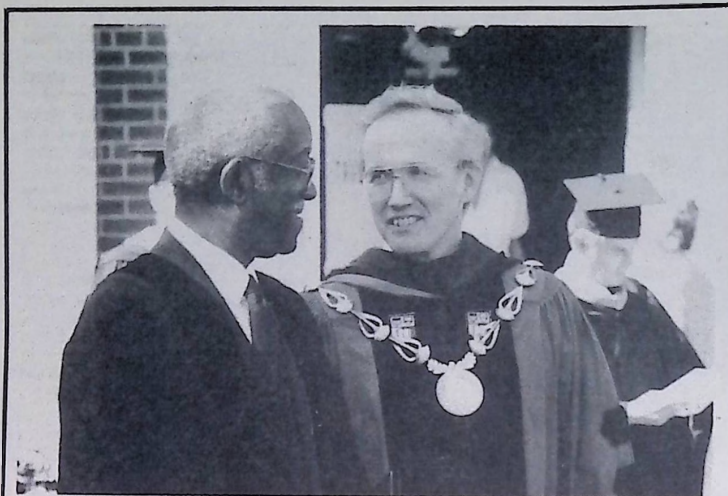
Weiss Hall



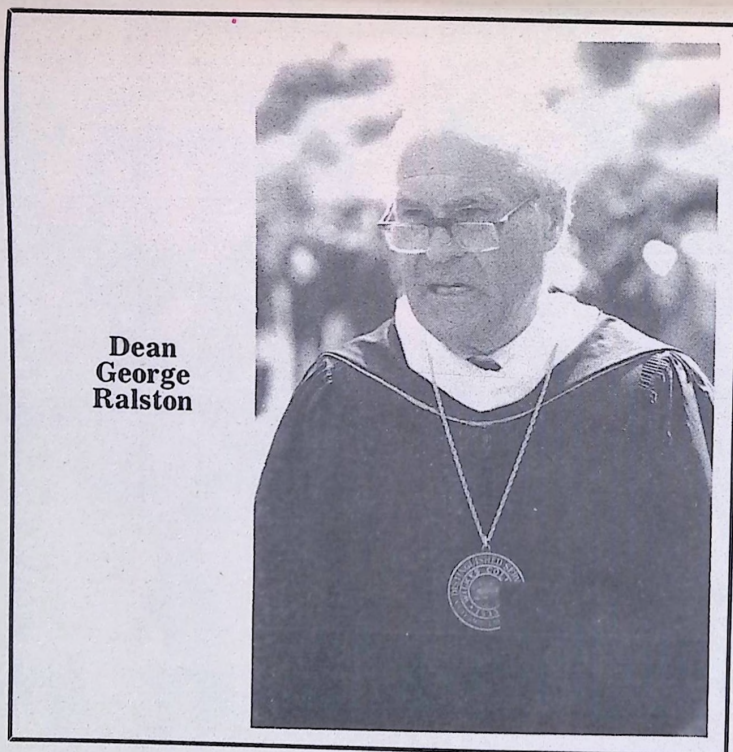
Eugene Shedden Farley Library

**'(Dr. Breiseth) did encourage the Wilkes family to clear away the self-imposed limitations...'**





A commencement

Dean  
George  
Ralston

Soon committees were established to rewrite the mission statement, to develop a faculty development plan, to design a new core curriculum that would offer interdisciplinary programs and break through the confines of individual disciplines, and finally to move to an historic academic restructuring that would include:

- The School of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.
- The School of Business, Society and Public Policy.
- The School of Science and Engineering.

And so the meeting of the board in September of 1985 was a culmination and a critical step in the evolution process. But without the preparation that took place within those 12 prior months, there would probably have been no meeting to discuss university status.

Happily, the board did indeed decide that Wilkes College was ready to petition the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Department of Education to become the region's newest university.

The rest of the story is clearly recorded in official documents and in news stories.

That meeting of the board was only the beginning of the long and serious journey toward the official designation Wilkes University.

One of the first things that Dr. Breiseth insisted on was that an all-inclusive survey be done among faculty, students, and alumni to measure feelings about becoming a university. The survey showed that the move was considered a positive and necessary one.

Faculty, students, and alumni were acutely aware of the challenges that faced higher education, and there was consensus for change. Most agreed, too, that the university designation more accurately described what Wilkes had become. With 3,800 degree-seeking students, with the ever-expanding graduate programs built on the excellent undergraduate programs, and with the leadership provided in scientific research and economic development to the region, Wilkes was already more university than college.

President Breiseth recommended to the college academic officers that the move to university should be thoroughly explored and discussed among faculty, since the issue would be put to vote before the academic year ended. In May both the Long Range Planning Committee and the faculty voted in favor of seeking university status.

**'And so the meeting of the board in September of 1985 was a culmination and a critical step in the evolution process.'**



The Board of Trustees gave its final approval and in June of 1988, the formal process began. Dr. Warren D. Evans, Chief, Division of Postsecondary Education Services-Pennsylvania Department of Education visited the Wilkes campus to provide college administrators an overview of the application procedure.

The application was prepared by Dr. George W. Waldner, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and sent to Dr. Evans in December.

The application was followed by a visit in April of 1989, from an evaluation team consisting of Richard W. Cost, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Moravian College; Robert J. Bruce, President, Widener University; W. David Eckard III, Vice President for Finance Administration, Widener University; Cerise Oberman, Director of Libraries, State University of New York at Plattsburgh; The Rev. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A., Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Villanova University; Richard E. Woodring, Dean, College of Engineering, Drexel University; Joseph M. Moricz, Professor of Management and Dean, School of Business, Graduate School, Robert Morris College, and Warren D. Evans, Chief, Division of Postsecondary Education Services, Pennsylvania Department of Education.

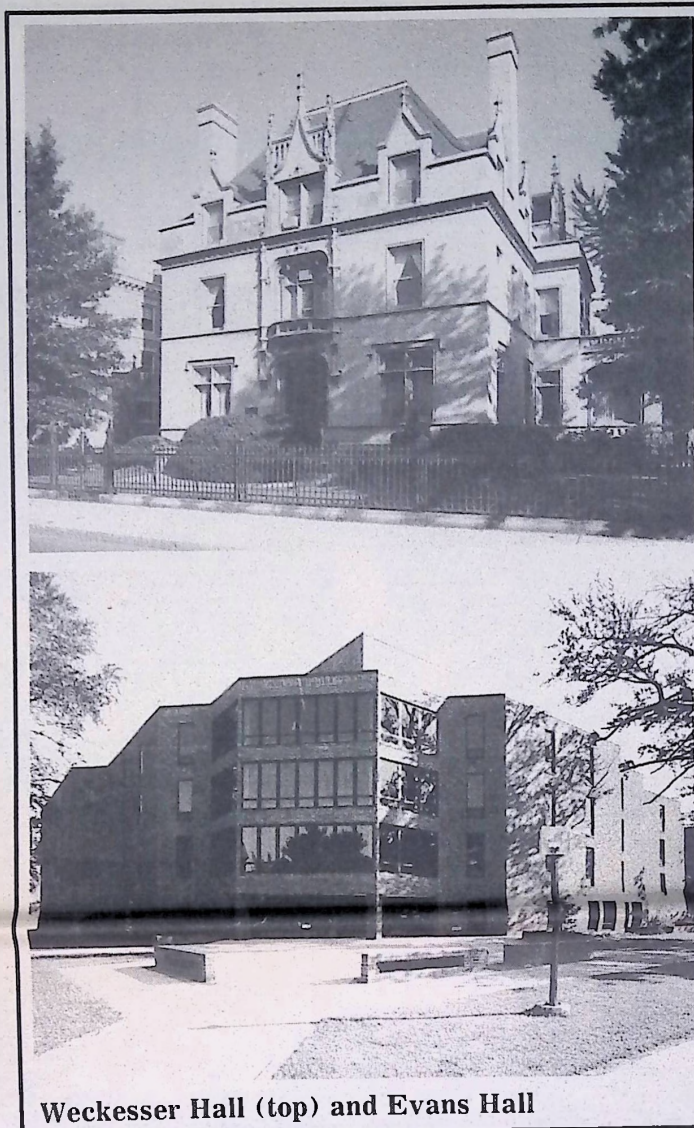
The team reviewed all aspects of Wilkes academic structure and curriculum and in July of 1989 a positive report of those findings came to the college.

On October 23, 1989, President Breiseth stood on the stage of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts and announced to the Wilkes community, and later that same day, to the region at a press conference the following:

"I have asked you to join Board Chairman Frank Henry and me to hear a communique received from Donald M. Carroll, Jr., Secretary of Education for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. By the authority vested in me under the Non-profit Corporation Law, Act of May 5, 1933, P.L. 289, as amended and based upon the recommendation of staff, I am pleased to grant to Wilkes College approval of the right to assume the nomenclature of University."

Dr. Breiseth, during his remarks at the assembly and at the press conference, spent a good deal of time thanking those individuals and groups who had worked side by side during the long process to move the college to its new designation and stature.

Those individuals and groups rose from their seats to give the President a standing ovation in recognition of the leadership that he provided to make it all possible.

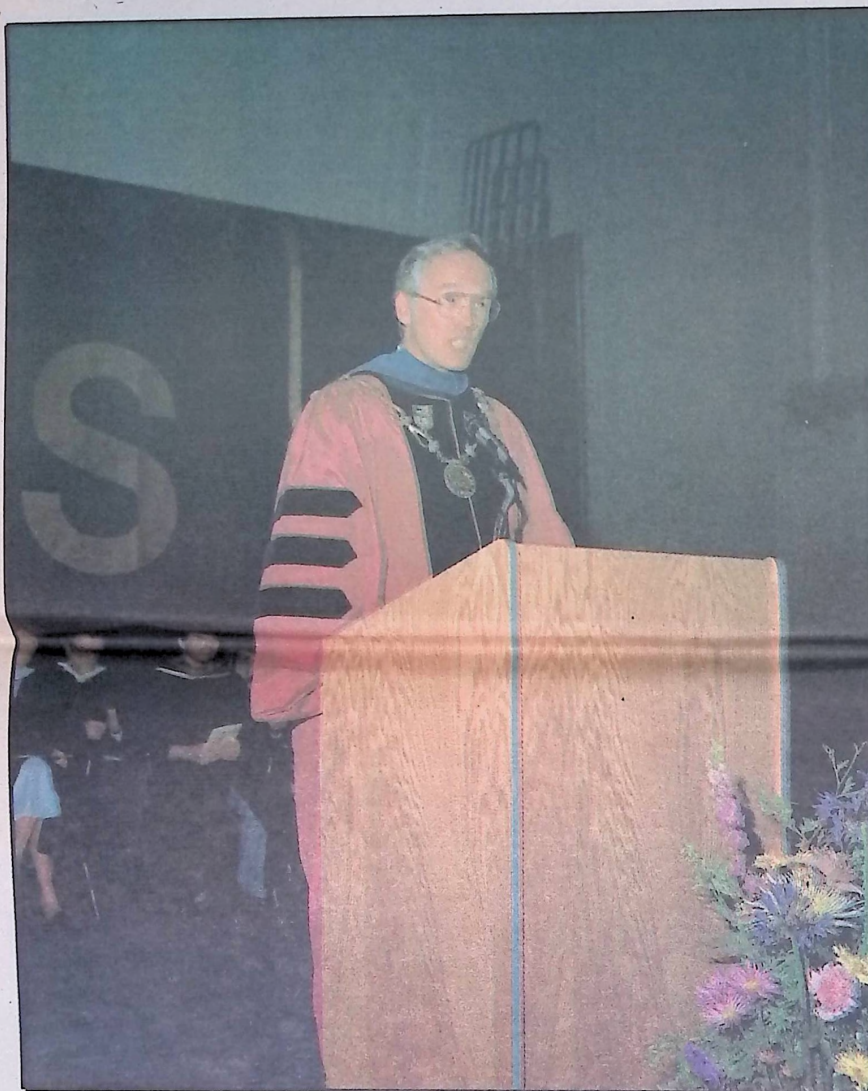


Weckesser Hall (top) and Evans Hall



The Sordoni Art Gallery





President Christopher Breiseth

## The Road to Wilkes University

• **SEPTEMBER, 1985** — Wilkes College board of trustees meets and the first discussions are held concerning university status.

• **JUNE, 1986** — Wilkes College is academically reorganized. The college now consists of two professional schools and a College of Arts and Sciences.

• **JANUARY, 1988** — President Christopher Breiseth and vice president for Academic Affairs, George Waldner recommend to the college academic officers university status should be explored.

• **MAY, 1988** — The Wilkes College faculty votes in favor of seeking the designation as a university.

• **MAY, 1988** — The Wilkes College long range planning committee recommends university status be sought.

• **MAY, 1988** — The Wilkes College board of trustees gives formal approval for application to the Pennsylvania Department of Education to designate Wilkes as a university.

• **JUNE, 1988** — Dr. Warren D. Evans, chief, division of Postsecondary Education Services, Pennsylvania Department of Education, visits Wilkes College, and gives college administrators an overview of the university application process.

• **DECEMBER, 1988** — President Christopher Breiseth sends the formal letter of application to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

• **APRIL, 1989** — An evaluation team from the Department of Education visits the Wilkes Campus. The team examines the college structure, academic programs, and plans for the future.

• **JULY, 1989** — The evaluation team report is received.

• **AUGUST, 1989** — Wilkes College responds to the evaluation report and awaits the decision on university status.

• **OCTOBER, 1989** — The Pennsylvania Department of Education grants Wilkes authorization to become a university.

• **JAN. 1, 1990** — Wilkes University becomes a reality.

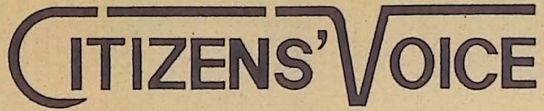




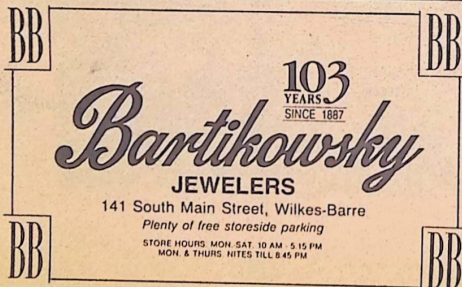
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SF 6.24.90

## Miss Breiseth Is Tapped For 1990 Peace Corps Work

A Wilkes-Barre young woman has been selected as a participant in a program "The New York Times" has said "could become a powerful force for education reform."

Abigail Breiseth, daughter of Christopher and Jane Breiseth of West River Street, is one of the first 480 teachers participating in "Teach for America." Starting in September, the program will inject new teachers and new energy into schools across the country.

A 1968 graduate of Meyers High School in Wilkes-Barre, Ms. Breiseth graduated with honors in June from the University of Chicago with a bachelor of arts degree in general studies in the humanities. Her father is Dr. Christopher Breiseth, president of Wilkes University.

The idea behind "Teach for America" is to enlist bright college graduates to teach in public schools for a minimum of two years. In exchange, the teachers are permitted to defer their Federal student loan payments, as the government allows for those who work in school districts suffering teacher shortages.

Student representatives and a team of trained recruiters searched the country for prospects at 100 top colleges and universities. More than 2,600 people applied and 480 have been accepted for the first class.

Ms. Breiseth will attend an eight-week summer institute at the University of Southern California and then receive practical teaching experience as a



ABIGAIL BREISETH

student teacher in Los Angeles, which operates year-round schools. She will teach in a Los Angeles elementary school, with the other participants assigned to Los Angeles, New York, New Orleans, Baton Rouge and rural districts in North Carolina and Georgia.

The idea is the brainchild of Wendy Kopp, a 22 year-old who graduated from Princeton last June. At the beginning of her senior year she attended a conference on how to improve education. A short time later she came up with the idea of a Peace Corps for teachers.



# Technological society is challenge to colleges

By PAT TROSKY  
Citizens' Voice Staff Writer

Two area college presidents see preparing students to meet the rapidly changing needs of a computer-oriented, technological society as the number one challenge of the 1990s.

Dr. Christopher Breiseth, president of Wilkes University sees educators facing a tremendous challenge in preparing students for a society filled with terminals and disk drives, a society faced with growing environmental concerns and a society that is making new and innovative discoveries every day.

Down the street a bit, Rev. James Lackenmier, president of King's College, see the same challenges Breiseth sees for the future but adds that maintaining the basics of writing and math skills and including critical thinking and ethical values in education will be just as important as technological instruction.

Both presidents have seen a change in education coming for some time and have made provisions in their own schools to meet the challenges ahead of them.



Dr. Breiseth



Father Lackenmier

Wilkes has improved both its computer and environmental sciences departments while King's reorganized its programs to be stronger in liberal arts and sciences. In addition, King's is

presently embarking on construction of the William McGowan School of Business that will offer students a wide range of skills to succeed in the business world.

Breiseth said the region is on the

threshold of building an all-important relationship between teachers from kindergarten right through to university level to work together for a better tomorrow.

"We as adults have to realize that it is our job, our duty to raise our children to best of our ability," Breiseth said.

And Lackenmier said that responsibility of raising the best educated and truly moral children begins at home.

"Parents have the first task of preparing children for the world but it is just as important for teachers, throughout the years, to provide an education to meet the needs of an advancing society — an education that is combined with strong ethical values," Lackenmier said.

Breiseth said America can't afford to lose any more of its children because of a dysfunctional home or a learning disability. He said educators are going to have to meet more individual needs.

The Wilkes president said self-esteem is down among teachers and the opportunity is now right to work together and face the new challenges of education to meet the needs of a changing society.

"The missing link has been not having a working relationship between the colleges and schools districts. We are now calling on all teachers to reach out to their counterparts and work together to deal with the problems at hand," Breiseth said.

Lackenmier said a good education is going to be more important than ever before in the next decade.

"In addition to technical skills, people will have to analyze, sort out and decide what is being pushed at them from the media, from their peers, from everywhere," the King's College president said.

The two college presidents feel the Wyoming Valley may have an edge on other parts of the nation in that local educators anticipated the change and already have begun to work toward adjusting to what is ahead for the area.

"We know that children are capable of doing a lot and all we have to do is get together and re-

adjust our educational curriculum to the needs that exist," Breiseth said.

Breiseth said educators are going to have prove they are capable of changing and it may take four or five years before state or federal funds are given to support the change.

"The changes will have to be made without vast new funds but with a cooperative effort on the part of educators, businesses and the community," Breiseth said.

Lackenmier said it will also be incumbent on educators to be attentive to human values.

"Prejudice, bigotry, justice, human kindness all have to be addressed now and in the future," Lackenmier said.

For both Breiseth and Lackenmier, the future will be one of excitement and change. It will be a time when educators will pool their resources and meet the challenges of a new decade and a new century.



## **Abigail Breiseth Receives Degree From Chicago U.**

Abigail Breiseth, the daughter of Jane and Christopher Breiseth, 30 West River St., Wilkes-Barre, has been awarded a bachelor's degree from the College of the Chicago University.

Breiseth received her degree in convocation ceremonies held in Rockefeller Memorial Chapel on the Chicago University campus.

A general studies major and four-year Dean's List student, Breiseth is a 1986 graduate of Meyers High School. She wrote her thesis on the treatment of Native Americans in school textbooks. While at the college, Breiseth organized the Teach Sign Language for the Deaf group and tutored adults for literacy. She has been accepted by the Teach for American program and plans to teach elementary school in Los Angeles in September 1990.

Chicago University is a private, non-denominational, co-educational institution of higher learning and research, with a total enrollment of 10,000. Fifty-eight Nobel Prize winners have been associated with the University as students or faculty. The College of the University, with 3,300 students, is a small, four-year liberal arts college within a major research university. It offers 41 programs leading to a bachelor's degree.

SE 8.5.90



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*Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth*, president  
of Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, was  
elected to the board of directors of the  
**GREATER WILKES-BARRE**  
Continued on next page

NE PA Bus  
Journalist  
Oct 19

Continued from previous page  
**PARTNERSHIP** and the Committee for  
Economic Growth (CEG).

— □ — □ —



## Breiseth gets diploma from Un. of Chicago

Abigail Breiseth, daughter of Dr. Christopher and Mrs. Jane Breiseth, 30 W. River St., Wilkes-Barre, has been awarded a bachelor's degree from the College of the University of Chicago.

Miss Breiseth received her degree in convocation ceremonies held recently in the Rockefeller Memorial Chapel on the University of Chicago campus.

A general studies major and four-year Dean's List student, Miss Breiseth is a 1986 graduate of Elmer L. Meyers High School. She wrote her thesis on the treatment of Native Americans in school textbooks.

While at the College, Miss Breiseth organized the Teach Sign Language for the Deaf group and tutored adults in literacy. She has been accepted by the Teach for America Program and plans to teach elementary school in Los Angeles in September.

CV 7.31.90



TL 10-9-90

## Wilkes President Breiseth urges 'yes' vote to study commission

### Editor:

The voters of Luzerne County have an unusual opportunity to review the structure of their county government. Coming at a time when participatory democracy is spreading into regions of the world where tyranny and totalitarianism have long reigned, this opportunity is an example of that periodic revitalization of government which Americans have experienced for more than two centuries.

Having returned recently from Bulgaria whose people are now struggling to adopt democratic self-government, I am struck by the inadequacy of the current public discussion here over the proposal for a study of the structure of the Luzerne County government.

While personalities and politics always are intertwined — which is both inevitable and healthy — the suggestion that a review of our government structure and processes is merely an attack on existing incumbents in the county government, or that it is personally self-serving for those who have taken the initiative to get the study question on the ballot, is an impoverished response.

In just one area — that of protecting our environment — it is clear that local governments are increasingly dependent on the county for policies, procedures, and investments. The state continues to add to the county's re-

sponsibilities as new standards are established to protect that environment. This pressure alone would justify a reevaluation of our current county government structures.

Another critical issue for such a study commission is the balance between professional management of county government and the political role of elected representatives serving as county commissioners. It is an issue that faces every political jurisdiction in the United States. It is, in fact, the testing issue in Bulgaria as its people draft a new Constitution for their country.

What should be the proper balance between professional administration and political commitments? This professional-political balance deserves review and careful consideration. However, the vote for creation of a study commission is not a vote on the incumbents. Rather, it concerns whether the kind of government provided them is adequate to serve the public interests in the 21st Century.

To argue — as some do — that it is somehow cynical for a group of citizens to propose such a study of county government, is deeply disturbing. Not to understand the importance of this periodic reevaluation of how our system is working is not to understand a significant dimension of citizens participation in American self-government.

I hope that in the weeks remaining before the November election the citizens of Luzerne County will agree that it is timely to review the structure and purposes of our county government and will elect to the Study Commission people who are genuinely open to this important task. The 11 citizens we elect will have a major responsibility for determining the quality of government in Luzerne County as we approach the new century.

To assume, without review, that the existing structure is adequate, strikes me as a dangerously narrow perspective on our nation which, like the world around us, is going through profound changes.

We need our county government to be studied in terms of those changes so that we have the very best kind of government that we, the citizens, can elect.

A good beginning for the commission is to take the new Luzerne 2020 plan and ask whether our present structure of county government is best designed to help us meet the objectives of the plan. First, however, we must act by voting "yes" on the commission.

Christopher N. Breiseth

**President**  
Wilkes University  
Wilkes-Barre





**Abigail Breiseth**

## Breiseth joins 'Peace Corps' for teachers

A Wilkes-Barre woman has been selected to participate in a program The New York Times has said "could become a powerful force for education reform."

Abigail Breiseth, daughter of Christopher and Jane Breiseth of West River Street is one of the first 480 teachers participating in "Teach for America."

Starting in September, the program will inject new teachers and new energy into schools across the country.

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Student representatives and a team of trained recruiters searched the country for prospects at 100 top colleges and universities. More than 2,600 potential teachers applied.

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The idea is the brainchild of Wendy Kopp, a 22-year-old who graduated from Princeton last June. At the beginning of her senior year she attended a conference on how to improve education. A short time later she came up with the idea of a Peace Corps for teachers.



# **Wilkes president elected to board**

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president of Wilkes  
University, was recently  
elected to the Board of



Christopher Breiseth

Directors of  
the Greater  
Wilkes-Barre  
Partnership  
and the  
Committee  
for Economic  
Growth.

A graduate  
of the  
University of  
California  
with a  
bachelor's

degree in  
history, Breiseth received the B.  
Lit in Modern British History  
from Oxford University and  
holds a doctorate degree in  
Modern European Intellectual  
History from Cornell University.  
Also, in 1970 and 1971, he was  
a post-doctoral Danforth Fellow  
in Black Studies at the  
University of Chicago.

Previously Breiseth served as  
president and dean of Deep  
Springs College in California  
and had worked in the Office of  
Economic Opportunity in  
Washington, D.C., as Chief of  
the Policy Guidance Branch of  
the Community Action  
Program.

He was also a member of the  
faculty at both Sangamon State  
University in Springfield, Ill.,  
and Williams College.

7. L. Sept. 11, 1990



# Wilkes to help raise 'curtain'

By DIANE SEO

Times Leader Staff Writer

**WILKES-BARRE** — As recently as a year ago it would have been unthinkable.

Who could have imagined the president of a local university and the head of its business school journeying behind the Iron Curtain to give lessons on, of all things, capitalism?

But in the swirl of dramatic changes that has swept Eastern Europe, the impossible has become possible.

And it's that kind of atmosphere that's cleared the way for Wilkes University President Christopher Breiseth and Theodore Engel, dean of Wilkes' School of Business and Economics, to travel to the Bulgarian Ministry of Culture in Sofia for two weeks at the end of June.

Once there, they'll conduct workshops on effective business management and lecture on American politics.

Although the pair haven't yet come up with an

agenda, they know they'll be teaching senior management officials about the workings of a market economy. In other words, they'll be teaching communists about capitalism, a challenging, if not altogether complicated, proposition.

"We're devoted to an overview of effective management techniques that would be appropriate for a manager who is concerned with developing modern Western management, particularly productivity for customer service," Engel said.

Breiseth said that about 25 people are expected to take part, with most of the participants engineers.

"We will focus on those skills that would complement talents and backgrounds of professional engineers," he said.

The trip, which is being paid for by the Bulgarian government, was an exclusive arrangement between Wilkes University and Bulgarian officials.

"Bulgaria has had great interaction with the West," Breiseth said. "It is one of the more intel-



Christopher Breiseth



Theodore Engel

lectual Eastern European countries. They are looking at a whole range of Western institutions." Bulgaria recently overthrew its old-guard lead-

■ See WILKES, page 14A

## Wilkes

(Continued from Page 3A)

ership, and Breiseth said having the opportunity to teach there is an "example of how the dramatic events taking place in Eastern Europe have opened up new opportunities."

"I feel privileged to be one of the fairly early pioneers in building Western and Eastern alliances," he said.

"We will explore the possibility of future cooperation with the

Bulgarian people. I can imagine setting up a student exchange or a faculty exchange."

Wilkes 1957 alumnus Ronald Rescigno, who received an honorary doctor of human letters degree from his alma mater last May, helped arrange the trip.

Currently the district superintendent of schools in Port Huemene, Calif., Rescigno earned international acclaim for his leadership in implementing com-

puters in the classroom in Port Huemene.

He received an honorary degree from Wilkes the day after he returned from Bulgaria, where he had been teaching Bulgarians how to expand their computer sophistication.

"He has maintained his relationship with the country, and we have stayed in touch with him," Breiseth said.

When Rescigno informed

Wilkes officials that the Bulgarian government was looking for professors to teach organizational theories and techniques of a market economy, Breiseth and Engel expressed an interest.

Neither Breiseth nor Engel has been to Bulgaria, but both have experience teaching in foreign countries.

Engel taught an executive program in Taiwan and was a visiting professor at the univer-

sities of Liverpool and Manchester in England.

Breiseth studied at Oxford University in England for two years and also has experience teaching in India.

Breiseth was named Wilkes' fourth president in 1984. Prior to coming to Wilkes, he served on the faculty at Williams College and Sangamon State University in Springfield, Ill.

He also served for two years

in the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington, D.C., and served as president of Deep Springs College in California.

He received a doctorate in modern European intellectual history from Cornell University.

Engel earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's degree in economic theory from the University of Miami.

TL 1-28



# Wilkes President: Vote 'Yes' on Study

Editor:

The voters of Luzerne County have an unusual opportunity to review the structure of their county government. Coming at a time when participatory democracy is spreading into regions of the world where tyranny and totalitarianism have long reigned, this opportunity is an example of that periodic revitalization of government which Americans have experienced for more than two centuries.

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In just one area — that of protecting our environment — it is clear that local governments are increasingly dependent on the county for policies, procedures, and investments. The state continues to add to the county's responsibilities as new standards are established to improve or protect that environment. This pressure alone would justify a reevaluation of our current county government structures.

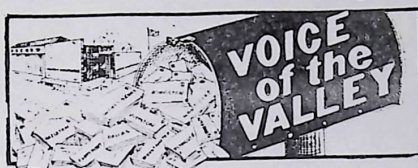
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See VOICE Page 6, Section 3



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Sincerely,

Christopher N. Breiseth  
President



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## Mail Bag

TL 9-28-90

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### 'Openness and toleration' said to characterize life at Wilkes

**Editor:**

I am writing to clarify the facts of the incident of anti-Semitic graffiti referred to in stories in both the Wilkes student newspaper, The Beacon, and The Times Leader on Sept. 24.

On Sept. 25, The Times Leader followed these stories with a column by Steve Corbett and a lead editorial.

First, let me say that I am pleased that Marnin Michaels brought the incident to the attention of university authorities, who acted promptly to address the problem. One must never keep silent about such intolerable behavior.

I also commend The Beacon editors for their strong editorial condemning any action which would seek to abuse another because of race, religion, or gender. Their views echoed those of

the Wilkes community on these issues. We must be eternally vigilant to counter bigotry whenever it occurs, and we at Wilkes urge all members of our community to do the same.

The graffiti referred to in the articles and editorials was discovered on five tables in the student lounge of the Stark Learning Center lobby, among other graffiti on those tables. As soon as it was discovered, the Student Affairs staff made photographs of it and had the tables cleaned. An investigation of the incident is in progress.

The atmosphere on the Wilkes campus is characterized by openness and toleration for diversity of religion, race, and creed. No religious demands are made of students. Any who seek to intimidate others or to make groups of persons feel unwelcome at Wilkes are

dealt with through established disciplinary procedures.

We regret deeply that some misguided person or persons drew such outrageous graffiti on tables in the student lounge and we are pursuing the case vigorously. We also regret, however, that the tone and tenor of some of the coverage of this incident lead the unwary reader to a false impression of the realities of campus life at Wilkes University.

Truth and toleration are bywords of the Wilkes tradition, stretching back to the pioneering positions taken by Eugene Farley on the value of diversity. We revere and uphold that tradition and are quick to come to its defense.

**Christopher N. Breiseth**  
President of Wilkes University



# Breiseth: First-Year Teacher in L.A.

By JOE COOPER  
Staff Writer

What is it like to be a first year teacher in the inner city of Los Angeles, Cal., and to get around in the sprawling metropolis without a car?

Twenty-two-year-old Abigail Breiseth, daughter of Wilkes University President and Mrs. Christopher Breiseth, knows firsthand the reality of those conditions.

"It's really not as bad as I expected; however, I'm teaching in a visual performing arts center school and the children are most interesting," she said.

Breiseth has been working in the Los Angeles School District since early summer and has a two-year commitment under the auspices of Teach for America based in New York City.

"The program was begun by a

Princeton graduate who did her thesis on teaching in inner cities and rural areas of the nation and it took off from there," Breiseth said.

She teaches third grade classes made up of a mix of minorities who have some special talent which is channeled into the school tabbed as a "magnet school" by the school district.

"The magnet schools are set up to keep the children with a gift to develop on the school system rather than having them attend a private school," she said.

Her school has classes from kindergarten through ninth grade and Breiseth "teaches them everything."

Has she been touched by the crime of the inner city?

"Our school, and even my classroom, was broken into over a weekend and VCR's and other equipment were stolen," she said.

The teachers in the Teach for America project are paid regular first year teacher's salaries and they must provide their own housing.

Breiseth is a graduate of Meyers High School and the University of Chicago where she earned her degree in general studies and the humanities.

Her future is undecided since she does not know if she will stay in teaching. Breiseth has worked for the environment at Cape Cod National Park and is somewhat attracted to a career in that field.

School bells will ring out in Los Angeles on Jan. 7 and she plans to be back on the City of the Angels a few days earlier in preparation for the new term.

At home here in Wilkes-Barre, her father and mother, Jane, and sisters, Erika, 20, and Lydia, 10, are wat-



ABIGAIL BREISETH

ching with interest her foray into what is a pioneering aspect of education in America.



# Breiseth Elected to Board Of Wilkes-Barre Partnership

Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership and the Committee for Economic Growth (CEG).

According to Stephen M. Barouk, president of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership, Inc., "We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Breiseth to our Board of Directors. His leadership abilities and interest in the continued development of the community and the region will play an important role in guiding both organizations to meet the challenges of the '90's."

During his tenure at Wilkes, Breiseth has held numerous leadership positions in both civic organizations and the business community of Wilkes-Barre which have aided in the continued development and economic growth of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Additionally, he has played a key role in initializing the transition of Wilkes to University status while continually striving for academic excellence and performance.

A graduate of the University of California with a B.A. degree in history, Breiseth received the B. Litt in Modern British History from Oxford University and holds a Ph.D. in Modern European Intellectual History from Cornell University. Also, in 1970 and 1971, he was a post-doctoral Danforth Fellow in Black Studies at the University of Chicago.

Prior to his current position as President of Wilkes University, Breiseth served as President and Dean of Deep Springs College in California and had worked in the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington, D.C. as Chief of the Policy Guidance Branch of the Community Action Program. He was also a member of the faculty at



BREISETH

both Sangamon State University in Springfield, Illinois and Williams College, where he also served as Liaison Officer for Fulbright, Marshall and Rhodes Scholarships.

The Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership, Inc., and its affiliates — the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, the Committee of Economic Growth (CEG) and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Industrial Fund — work toward economic development and continued improvement in the quality of life for the region.



## Wilkes University president to serve on humanities council

11-8-90  
TL -  
WILKES-BARRE — Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, has been elected chair of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, according to executive director Craig Eisen-drath.

His one-year term continues until Oct. 31, 1991. He is beginning his second term on the council, having previously served from 1985-89.

The Pennsylvania Humanities Council is a private, non-profit organization that is an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

In addition to Breiseth, the council's officers include Harry

Ausprich, president of Bloomsburg University and Sister Margaret Gannon, undergraduate dean of Marywood College in Scranton, who assume the positions of vice-chair and secretary/treasurer respectively.

The president of Wilkes since 1984, Breiseth has been a leader in many civic organizations, including the Osterhout Library, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, United Way of Wyoming Valley and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership.

The Pennsylvania Humanities Council is located at 320 Walnut Street in Philadelphia.



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College presidents don colors of their schools

More important than almost anything else in the Wyoming Valley's future is its educational base and the post secondary institutions based in the greater Wyoming Valley are working together to insure the next decade and the next century will be a productive one.

Meeting to talk about how the colleges can work together with school districts and the business community are, kneeling, from the left, Dr. Donald Bronsard, president of Luzerne County Community College and Dr. Steven Putzel, activities director and Dean of

Academic Affairs at Penn State's Wilkes-Barre campus in Lehman; standing, Rev. James Lackenmeir, president of King's College; Dr. Christopher Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, and Dr. Pasquale DiPasquale, president of College Misericordia.

## Partners

### Area colleges work to forge a better tomorrow...

By PAT TROSKY

Editorial Voice Staff Writer

The future of the Wyoming Valley — its business, its industry, its culture, its resources, and most importantly, its children — depends on the success of partnerships. Into this last decade of the 20th century it is evident more than ever that without partnerships, whether it is between business and education or parent and child, growth will become stagnant on an individual as well as community level.

No one will disagree that progress into the 21st century means a commitment to education today. The children of today will be the workforce of tomorrow and it is now becoming clear that education has to be restructured to meet the needs of an ever-demanding future.

"We face a critical challenge," Dr. Christopher Breiseth, president of Wilkes University said recently adding, "and that challenge is to forge a better partnership with education from Kindergarten through 12th grade and then into post secondary studies."

Breiseth, along with the presidents of the four other colleges in Luzerne County, have met regularly over the last year to discuss ways to meet the demand of education in the future. This gathering of minds has extended into meetings with superintendents from the school districts and also with the business and industry represented by the Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership.

"We need to be concerned about the quality of education and the preparation of teachers. Educational facilities have to find a more effective way to take what they know and apply it in a way in which it will improve the economy as well as continue to discover new knowledge for future growth," Breiseth said.

Rev. James Lackenmeir, president of King's College, said in the future, there will be a real need for innovative and imaginative ways to present education. As co-chair-

man of the Council of Workforce Preparation, an ad hoc committee sponsored by the Wilkes-Barre Partnership, Lackenmeir has worked closely with business and educational leaders in trying to identify specific needs of the community.

"The meetings have been very productive and we have gathered a lot of information to present to the schools about what the local work force will need in the immediate future," the King's president said.

**"We face a critical challenge...and that challenge is to forge a better partnership with education from Kindergarten through 12th grade and then into post secondary studies."**

Dr. Pasquale DiPasquale, president of College Misericordia, said schools should make themselves available to the people they serve.

"In education you have to have a number of delivery systems. For a region of people to grow and learn you have to be available to them with evening classes, telecommunication courses and programs that meet their specific needs," DiPasquale said.

College Misericordia has worked closely with the Chamber of Commerce to see how it can continually meet the economic and educational needs of the community especially in the health care field.

"Our bachelor's degree in nursing is one of the best in the state and it's our flagship program. We also offer degrees in occupational therapy, radiology and medical technology. Health care positions are in great demand and

there expects to be a continued need for well-trained professionals in these fields for a long time," DiPasquale said.

Dr. Donald Bronsard, the new president of Luzerne County Community College, and Dr. Steven Putzel, activities director and Dean of Academic Affairs at Penn State's Lehman campus, both agree with DiPasquale about making sure education is accessible to the public.

"We are seeing more non-traditional students than ever before. These are students who may need further training for their jobs or who want to return to school for other reasons," Putzel said.

Bronsard, who has the luxury of being in charge of a community college that has the flexibility to change with the demands of region, feels now more than ever that LCCC is an integral part of the future growth of the Wyoming Valley.

"We pay close attention to marketing studies and what business and industry need and we can develop programs very quickly to assist wherever necessary," Bronsard said noting LCCC's cost, flexibility and wide variety of course offerings, serves several markets such as minority students, those with learning differences and those who want just enrichment.

With five institutions of higher education situated in a region that has been faced with change around every corner, the next 10 years will be ones of transition for both education and business and the success of the transition will depend greatly on the success of education and partnerships.

As Putzel explained it, "We cannot put a lot of money into a quick fix for education. That's a Band-Aid approach. We have recognized a decline in math and reading skills and we see students with developmental problems. Many students have the skills but do not know how to use them. We have to start at the lower levels of education to produce

(See COLLEGES, page 22)



## Colleges

from page B1

more prepared students."

Partnerships like the one that Penn State has with the Wilkes-Barre School District are one way that higher education has started to prepare for the future as well as cooperative educational curriculum like LCCC has with businesses that look to the school's advanced technology center for skilled workers.

"There has been a 20-year devaluation of the teaching profession and now that has begun to

turn around. There will have to be painful but necessary changes in teaching and we will continually need to be concerned about the quality and preparation of teachers. Education will have to change to meet more individual needs of the future," Breiseth said.

The demands and the challenges of the future will be on education and with the partnership between business and education now being formed, the future should be a bright one for the Wyoming Valley.



# Breiseth: It's up to police to nab rowdies

By CAROL CRANE  
Citizen's Voice Staff Writer

The president of Wilkes University has issued a formal statement Friday charging enforcement of any laws pertaining to underage drinking, loud parties and van-

dalism by Wilkes students living off-campus lies solely with the Wilkes-Barre police department and other city officials.

"Because the students in question live in housing not owned by the university, Wilkes must rely on city officials to enforce munic-

pal and commonwealth laws," said Wilkes President Christopher N. Breiseth.

Breiseth's statement comes on the heels of Thursday's session of city council where several residents of South Franklin Street complained to city officials that Wilkes students living in four apartments at 354 S. Franklin St. were wreaking havoc in the neighborhood at all hours.

Mary Lawler, who lives at 356 S. Franklin St., recounted to council that alleged drunken males students from one apartment at 354 S. Franklin St. frequently urinate out their second story window into her bedroom window. James Shields, who owns an apartment building at 351 S. Franklin St., reported to council that he has lost one tenant and several prospective tenants because of the students' loud parties and fighting late at night.

As a result of the residents' complaints, council unanimously passed a motion to request the police department not only beef up patrols in the neighborhood with an unmarked car but also, as of Sept. 1, to station a policeman on foot near the building for a 60-day

trial period. The motion also called for any findings or arrest by police to be reported back to council.

Additionally, it was suggested that officials from the city fire, plumbing, electrical, housing and health departments hold a surprise inspection on the student apartment building.

"We are most sympathetic with the problems of our neighbors on South Franklin Street and critical of those who are causing our neighbors these problems," Breiseth said.

Breiseth said the college was first alerted to the problems with the students living at 354 S. Franklin St. in April. The building is owned by Jerry Brown who reportedly lives on Charles Street.

Since that time, he said, Wilkes University Dean of Student Affairs Jane Lampe-Groh has met with the neighbors, landlords and property owners in the area. A meeting was also held with Police Chief Joe Coyne to discuss the situation.

Regarding those meetings, Breiseth reported, "Intensive discussions and efforts over the last few years with the property owner, Jerry Brown, have not been successful. Attempts have also been made to have the Wilkes-Barre Police Department

work directly with Mr. Brown since the students allegedly causing the problem are tenants of Mr. Brown. But these efforts have been unsuccessful."

"Since last August, the Wilkes-Barre Police have had the information necessary to contact Wilkes Student Affairs officials on a 24-hour basis to help deal with any problems which might occur. However, there has been no contact when incidents involving disruptive behavior arises," Breiseth continued.

Chief Coyne last week defended the police department, saying police have responded to the area every time they are called. However, as soon as the students spy the police cruiser coming down the street, they scatter or immediately cease any illegal actions he said.

Mayor Lee Namey conceded Friday that police may not have taken advantage of notifying the school every time a complaint is registered. "That may be one of our faults," he said.

In addition to more aggressive police enforcement, the mayor said he will investigate if any legal action can be taken against the landlords of the student housing.



NEW AGE-EXAMINER

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FRIDAY  
APR 12 1991

546 BURRELLE'S ZD

## Wilkes president to speak

*PLS*  
Wilkes University President Christopher N. Breiseth has been named as the keynote speaker for the Northeastern Pennsylvania Association of Arab Americans Installation of Officers and Scholarship Awards Banquet on Saturday, April 13.

His speech is titled "Rethinking America's World Position." The affair at Genetti's in Wilkes-Barre begins with cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. and the program at 8 p.m.

"We are very proud to have Dr. Breiseth as the keynote speaker for the association's event of the year," said Dr. Wagiha Taylor, president of the Arab American Association.

The president of Wilkes since 1984, Breiseth has had an enormous impact on both the university and the community. He is an integral part of the community and a constant advocate for the strong alliance that exists between the two.

One of the many highlights of his presidency was his recent trip to Bulgaria as part of a team of Wilkes University educators. The team presented a two-week management seminar to Bulgarian business and government leaders.

He has been a leader in many civic organizations which include the Osterhout Library, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, United Way of Wyoming Valley, and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership. Within the business community Breiseth has worked to foster development and economic growth in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

He has also been instrumental in developing ways in which educational institutions in the Wyoming Valley can work together to pool resources for the benefit of all students. His leadership is credited with the achievement that moved Wilkes to university status earlier this year.



# OPINION

## Bush's Points of Light Foundation glows in Wilkes-Barre

By CHRISTOPHER BREISETH

**Editor's note:** Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth is president of Wilkes University and a member of the Points of Light Foundation. His article is in response to our request that he elaborate on the foundation's mission and goals.

My name appeared recently in a full-page ad in the New York Times sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation, an organization developed as a result of President Bush's call for 1,000 points of light, the services of citizens



Christopher Breiseth

working to help each other. I was given the opportunity to join with this distinguished group of Americans in endorsing the commitment to volunteer service by the Points of Light Foundation because of my role with Campus Compact.

Campus Compact is an organization formed initially among college and university presidents dedicated to providing leadership on their campuses to encourage ever greater community service by our students.

Originally, there were 58 presidents who joined together to form Campus Compact; that number now has grown to approximately 250. Pennsylvania took the lead in forming the first statewide Campus Compact and there are now 37 colleges and universities in Pennsylvania with programs to stimulate student involvement in a host of projects from literacy training for adults to improving housing for the elderly, working with at-risk young people, and through networking to find homes for the homeless.

promote is our recent day-long commemoration of Earth Day at Wilkes University. It was designed around student participants from both high schools and colleges throughout northeastern Pennsylvania. Adult specialists in several fields relating to our environment came together for sessions designed primarily for the student audience. For the summing up,

we had student reporters from each of the eight sessions articulate the issues they had heard presented throughout the day. Several expressed their own strong personal thoughts and feelings about the urgency of problems affecting their future. I link the Earth Day activities with Campus Compact to underscore the vital importance of find-

ing ways to involve young people in meeting the needs of our society. A national service bill is likely to become law in the coming year. It will make available, if not require, some period of national service from young Americans. While I generally support this effort, I think we need not wait for the federal government to encour-

age students to be involved and to provide opportunities in our organizations and businesses creatively to engage them in apprenticeship-type activities related to problem areas in our society. This entire effort that led me to sign my name to the Points of Light statement is all about creating citizens for the future. As we contemplate the challenges in

front of us, those of us who consider ourselves adults need to be spending extra time figuring out how to involve our young people in the activities that will make them thoughtful, experienced, and motivated citizens to improve our society. The byword of our Earth Day celebration suggests an appropriate perspective: think global and act local.



FRIDAY  
APR 12 1991

496

BURRELLE'S

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# Datebook

Send items to Datebook, The Times, Box 3311, Scranton, Pa. 18505. Include your name and a phone number where you can be reached during the day.

p4817

## Today 12

### SPECIAL EVENTS

✓ The Greater Scranton YMCA is now accepting registrations for a basic photography course to begin May 1. The course will be conducted Wednesdays in May from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Call 342-8115 for registration.

✓ Abington Heights Civic League will conduct an art show and auction at 7 p.m. at the Country Club of Scranton. Tickets are available by calling 586-9706.

✓ Holy Rosary School Alumni and Home-School Association will sponsor a "Poets" dance from 8:30 p.m. to midnight in Holy Rosary Center.

✓ The Scranton Prep Players will present "Hello Dolly!" today through Sunday and April 19, 20, and 21 at 8 p.m. at South Scranton Intermediate School.

✓ A Governor's Veterans Outreach and Assistance Center Representative will be at the Greater Scranton Job Center, 135 Franklin Ave., from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Proof of veteran status is required.

### MEETINGS

✓ Scranton Christian Women's Club monthly luncheon meeting, April 18, 11:30 a.m., at the Grand Plaza Hotel, Scranton Carbondale Highway. Reservation deadline is today.

✓ Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., Serenity Way Club House, East Locust Street.

✓ Narcotics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., at St. John's Church, Pittston and Fig streets.

✓ Pocono Singles Club, 9 p.m., at the Best Western, Stroudsburg.

clation of Arab Americans installation of officers and scholarship awards banquet will be conducted at 6 p.m. at Genetti's, Wilkes-Barre. Wilkes University president Christopher N. Breiseth will be keynote speaker.

✓ A music scholarship benefit concert will be conducted at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center at Marywood College.

✓ Pennsylvania Eastern Regional Council of Parents Without Partners will sponsor a singles benefit dance from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Best Western Inn, 700 Main St., East Stroudsburg. Call 383-0867 for reservations.

✓ A junior and senior high school student drug prevention workshop will be conducted from 1 to 5 p.m. at Allied Services, George Walters Auditorium, 475 Morgan Highway.

### MEETINGS

✓ Narcotics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., at Bethel Church, 716 N. Washington Ave.

✓ Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., Covenant Church, Madison Avenue.

## Saturday 13



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## Briefs

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### Wilkes will host author on banking

Wilkes University will host Herve de Carmoy, author of



Herve de Carmoy

"Global Banking Strategy: Financial Markets and Industrial Decay, at a breakfast lecture and discussion on

international banking and industrial development 8 a.m. Nov. 15 at the Ramada Hotel, Wilkes-Barre.

de Carmoy is a guest of Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University.

"de Carmoy is a major figure in European business," Breiseth explained, "and will provide a unique perspective on the relationship of the U.S. economy to that of the emerging European community."

de Carmoy's was formerly chief executive officer of the Chase Manhattan Bank in Paris, of Global Banking at Midland Bank in England, of the Thomas Cook Group, and, most recently, of the Societe Generale de Belgique.

Reservations for the \$9 breakfast can be made by calling the school at 824-4651, ext. 4000.



## Wilkes U. president takes part in Ohio River barge program



Wilkes University President Christopher N. Breiseth recently participated in opening ceremonies for the "Always a River" Ohio River Barge Exhibition held at the Allegheny River Wharf in Point State Park.

Breiseth, serving a one-year term as chairman of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council (PHC), offered remarks at ribbon-cutting ceremonies for the floating exhibition which will be on display at various Ohio River ports through early September.

IN PHOTO, from left, are Dr. Breiseth, Craig Eisendrath, executive director, PHC; Sophie Masloff, Mayor, City of Pittsburgh; Ken Gladish, executive

director, Indiana Humanities Council, and Rita Kohn, project coordinator, Indiana Humanities Council.

The "Always A River" exhibit includes 11 galleries devoted to illuminating and exploring the historic, cultural, and commercial epic surrounding a river flowing through the heart of the nation. The specially fabricated barge will stop at 21 sites in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

The Project is sponsored by The National Endowment for the Humanities and the humanities councils of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and Illinois.





### **Arab Americans honored** *TL 6-24-91*

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Association of Arab Americans (NPAAA) recently recognized Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, with a plaque in recognition and appreciation of his leadership in education and his community service. Dr. Wagiha Taylor, president of the Association, presented the award and praised Dr. Breiseth for his dedication and commitment to the local community. Dr. Breiseth is the only non-member honored by the Association since its inception in 1973. The Northeastern Pennsylvania Association of Arab Americans is an organization which honors civic-minded people, awards scholarships to deserving young people, supports charitable organizations and promotes the education and enlightenment of both its members and the community by sponsoring appropriate speakers. Shown making the presentation are from left: Allan Allan, NPAAA vice president; Dr. Wagiha Taylor, NPAAA president; Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, Wilkes president and George Saba, NPAAA past president.



## Financial author to speak at Ramada

Wilkes University will host Herve de Carmoy, author of "Global Banking Strategy: Financial Markets and Industrial Decay" at a breakfast lecture and discussion on international banking and industrial development Friday at 8 a.m. at the Ramada Hotel in Wilkes-Barre.



**Herve de Carmoy**

DeCarmoy will be a guest of Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University. Fellow students at Cornell University, they met while Dr. Breiseth was working on his PhD in modern European intellectual history.

"Mr. deCarmoy is a major figure in European business," Dr. Breiseth explained, "and will provide a unique perspective on the relationship of the U.S. economy to that of the emerging economy of the European community."

Recently published in English, de Carmoy's book is a critique of American and British banking judged by the standards of banks developing in Western Europe and in Japan.

He is a former chief executive officer of the Chase Manhattan

Bank in Paris, Global Banking at Midland Bank in England, Thomas Cook Group and most recently, the Societe Generale de Belgique.

Individuals wishing to attend the breakfast should contact Dr. Breiseth's office at 824-4651, ext. 4000 for reservations.

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STANDARD-SPEAKER

HAZLETON, PA  
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WEDNESDAY  
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184

**BURRELLE'S**

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Attending the anthracite regional history meeting were seated, from left: Dr. Robert A. Janosov, Luzerne County Community College professor of history; Mary Ann Landis, director of the state's Anthracite Museum Complex; and Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University. Standing are: Dr. James Rodechko, dean of arts and sciences, Wilkes University; Dr. Craig Phelan, assistant professor of history, Kings College; Dr. James Sperry, professor of history, Bloomsburg University; Dr. Harold Aurand, professor of history, Penn State Hazleton Campus; and Dr. Donald Bronsard, LCCC president.

## Area history LCCC meeting topic

<sup>p4817</sup>  
The history of Pennsylvania's anthracite region was discussed recently in a meeting at Luzerne County Community College's education conference center.

The meeting was held to organize a collaborative effort to relate the region's history to the Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal National Heritage Corridor.

Representatives from area colleges joined officials of Eckley Miner's Village and the Anthracite Heritage Museum and local historians at the meeting.

Robert A. Janosov, LCCC professor of history, coordinated the meeting, and Dr. Donald R. Bronsard, LCCC president, greeted the group.

"This meeting had great significance since it is the first time academic historians, local history authors, representatives of historical organizations, and state and federal agencies have met to promote the history of our region," Janosov said.

The meeting also represented

the first step in organizing a citizen's advisory council from the region to make recommendations to the Delaware and Lehigh Corridor Commission. A report of the meeting will be presented to the commission during a meeting at Eckley Miner's Village.

Preliminary plans were made to organize a Northeastern Pennsylvania History Association and to hold a cooperative conference on northeastern Pennsylvania in the fall of 1992.



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**CHAIRS COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS** — Dr. Donald R. Bronsard, seated at right, of Mountain-top, the president of Luzerne County Community College, was named chairman of the Council of Presidents for the 1991-92 academic year at a recent council meeting. The council consists of the leaders of four local colleges and one university and meets periodically during the academic year. Pictured with Bronsard are Dr. Pasquale DiPasquale, seated at left, president of College Misericordia, and standing, from left: Dr. Christopher, president of Wilkes University; Dr. William Pearman, campus executive officer at Penn State Wilkes-Barre Campus and the Rev. James Lackenmier, president of King's College. ✓ *P4817*



# More state financial help needed for higher education, Casey told

By GENE SKORDINSKI

Citizens Voice Staff Writer

Dr. Pasquale DiPasquale, Jr., president of College Misericordia, Tuesday urged Gov. Robert Casey and the General Assembly to adopt an adequate program of tax increases to provide for higher education in the commonwealth.

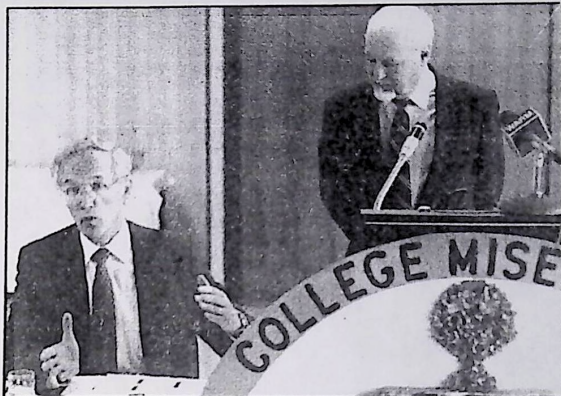
DiPasquale, chairman of region III, Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Universities (PACU), made the request at a new conference held at College Misericordia to announce the results of a study on the economic impact on higher education in Pennsylvania. The study was done by the Pennsylvania Economy League (PEL) for PACU.

"Higher education is an important industry. We are important to the state economy. We deal with the state's most important resource — the minds of our students. It goes beyond economics. Americans believe in higher education. We are getting more adult students coming to us for higher education. The number of students keep going up. As we get increased numbers we need increased funding from the state. We need to be heard," said DiPasquale.

Dr. Rodney Kelchner, president of Mansfield University, pointed out no matter what increase schools may receive they still face problems.

"Normally it has been 5 percent. No matter what the increase. It could be 2 or 3 percent. If it were 20 percent, higher education would still be facing problems," he said.

Dr. Christopher Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, pointed out nearly 40 percent of Pennsylvania's students attend private institutions. "Pennsylvania state aid to higher education is in the lower third of aid to higher education. In private institutions the student tuitions have gone up due to budget cuts by the federal government. We are trying to come



## Additional funding sought

Dr. Pasquale DiPasquale, Jr., president of College Misericordia at podium, and Dr. Christopher Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, discuss the need for additional state funding for higher education.

up with more financial aid for the lower and middle income students to attend our universities. We are working across the board to provide data and analysis for the state to deal with the budget," said Breiseth.

Wilkes University with an enrollment of 3,600 students employs more than 300 persons

with a total budget of \$30 million. The annual payroll is \$12 million and expenditures in the local economy are \$8.9 million, he said.

Dr. Donald Bronsard, president of Luzerne County Community College, said more than 85 percent of the community college's graduates reside in the state's boundaries.



CV 4-9-91

# Arab Americans slate dinner

Wilkes University President Christopher N. Breiseth has been named as the keynote speaker for the Northeastern Pennsylvania Association of Arab Americans' installation of officers and scholarship awards dinner on Saturday, April 13. Dr. Breiseth will speak on "Rethinking America's World Position."

The affair at Genetti's in Wilkes-Barre begins with cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. and the program at 8 p.m.

"We are very proud to have Dr. Breiseth as the keynote speaker for the association's event of the year," said Dr. Wagiha Taylor, president of the Arab American Association.

The president of Wilkes since 1984, Dr. Breiseth received his baccalaureate degree in history with highest honors from the University of California at Los Angeles (1958) where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He received the B.Litt in Moder-

British History from Oxford University (1962), and the Ph.D in Modern European Intellectual History from Cornell University (1964).

One of the many highlights of his presidency was his recent trip to Bulgaria (July 1990) as part of a team of Wilkes University educators. The team presented a two-week management seminar to Bulgarian business and government leaders.

He has been a leader in many civic organizations which include the Osterhout Library; Leadership Wilkes-Barre; United Way of Wyoming Valley (Chair Education Division-1990), and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership. Within the business community Dr. Breiseth has worked to foster development and economic growth in Northeastern Pennsylvania.



**Dr. Breiseth**





## Wilkes to resume Social Crisis Lecture Series

Social Crisis Lecture Series, sponsored by Wilkes University, will resume on Oct. 1 with, "Toward A Platform For Reform: Hope and Creativity."

The course will focus on the education, multiculturalism, health care, the family unit, elections and economics, and environmental issues.

The social crisis series began in 1984 as a World Religions class and evolved into a forum for discussions on culture, economics, religion, politics, global environment and personal enrichment.

The teaching team includes: Dr. Jule Ayers, course coordinator; Dr. Christopher Breiseth, Wilkes University president; Tom Bigler, Wilkes

University communication department; Dr. Mahmoud H. Fahmy, Sister Constance Kozel, Interfaith Resource Center for Peace and Justice; Dr. Gri Mitra, King's College; Rabbi J. Michaels, Temple Israel; Vera Cornish, Martin Luther King Committee; Dr. Sienna Finley, College Misericordia; and Dr. Phillip Muntzel, King's College.

For registration information, contact Wilkes University at 831-4235 or 831-4467.

Members of the teacher team, seated from left, are: Kozel, Cornish, Ayers, Breiseth, Fahmy; standing, Bigler, Mitra, Finley, Muntzel, Michaels.

CV 8/7/92



*Service Scene 1/92*

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**Wilkes University Students to Offer  
Free Tax Help  
(Christopher N. Breiseth, President)**

Wilkes University students are again offering free income tax assistance as part of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

University accounting majors who have completed the Tax Course will be able to offer their help in preparing income tax returns for the elderly and low-income individuals.

VITA offers the free assistance for people who file Form 1040EZ, Form 1040A or a basic Form 1040 Federal tax return. The Wilkes students can also alert taxpayers to special credits and deductions for which they may be eligible.

Taxpayers who visit the Wilkes University VITA program are asked to bring this year's tax package, wage and earnings statements (Form W-2) from all employers, interest statements from banks (Form 1099), a copy of last year's tax return if available, and other relevant information about income and expenses.

The student VITA volunteers have completed an IRS training course in basic income tax return preparation.

For more information about student community service at Wilkes University, contact Mary Martino at 717-824-4651.



# Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth To Be Honored by Boy Scouts

Frank M. Henry, chairman of the 1992 Friends of Scouting Dinner announced that Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes College, has been chosen as the 1992 Distinguished Citizen honoree.

The dinner, sponsored by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, Boy Scouts of America, will be held March 3 at the Genetti Hotel and Convention Center in Wilkes-Barre. The council annually recognizes a community leader who best exemplifies the qualities of a good citizen to serve as a role model for the council's 10,500 Scouts and leaders.

Featured speaker for the dinner will be Los Angeles Dodgers Manager Tommy Lasorda. Lasorda has been a member of the Dodgers organization for more than 40 years, dating back to the days when the Dodgers played in Brooklyn, N.Y. He led the Dodgers to three World Series playoffs and has been named coach of the year by numerous sports organizations.

Lasorda is also well known for his Ultra Slimfast diet drink television commercials. He is a nationally known dinner speaker combining humor, wit, and motivational techniques.

Henry announced that in selecting Breiseth, the committee recognized the tremendous contribution he has

made to the quality of life in Northeastern Pennsylvania over the past seven years.

Dr. Breiseth came to the Wyoming Valley in 1984 after serving as president of Deep Springs College, Deep Springs, Calif., and administrative faculty and teaching positions in Illinois, Washington D.C., and Williamstown, Mass.

Since becoming president of Wilkes College in 1984, his leadership has brought the former Bucknell Junior College to its current university status in 1989. He recently gave leadership to the university's most successful building campaign ever with more than \$18 million raised to date. The new Marts Sports complex has been the cornerstone of the new building campaign which has prepared the university for service into the 20th century.

Dr. Breiseth is a board member of the Osterhout Free Library, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, the United Way of Wyoming Valley, the Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership, Committee for Economic Growth, and chairman of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council. He serves on the executive committee of the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, and the commission for Independent Col-

leges and Universities.

Tickets are \$125 each and can be purchased by calling the Scout Service center or from any member of the committee. Steering Committee members are Dr. Wallace Stettler, first vice chairman; Richard Pearsall, past chairman; and vice chairman Bernard C. Banks, Jr.; Ian Richardson; Dr. Richard Somma; Harold Rose, and Glenn Y. Forney.



CV 1/24/98



## Wilkes taking part in Campus Leadership Development project

Wilkes University students, faculty, administration and support staff will have a new opportunity to participate in projects and seminars to enhance their leadership skills as part of Campus Leadership Development, a national program initiated by the Association of American Colleges.

Participating institutions have been grouped with other schools of similar size to further develop plans for this initiative. Wilkes is working with committees from Gettysburg College and Hood College in Frederick, Md.

The CLD project is funded by

the Kellogg Foundation. The Wilkes committee has developed a customized proposal for the university. Each year, 12 members of the campus community will be offered the opportunity to hone their leadership skills through formal training and by developing a project aimed at advancing the mission of the institution.

Additionally, the group will serve as a steering committee, working with the Human Resources Management Office, to provide workshops for the entire campus community.

Dr. Robert J. Heaman, executive assistant to the president and acting president for academic af-

fairs, recently attended a conference of the Association of American Colleges in Washington, D.C., to deliver a report on the progress and success of the Wilkes University Leadership Committee.

Seated, Dr. Anne H. Batory, associate professor of business administration, and James DeCosmo, associate professor of math and computer science. Standing, from the left, Mark Allen, associate dean of student affairs; Dr. Heaman, Robert Schoenberg, Association of American Colleges; Scott Bodfish, director of institutional research and planning support, and Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, Wilkes president.



BURRELLE'S

# Schools close early Wed. for teacher sessions

By CHUCK GLOMAN  
Standard-Speaker Asst. Editor

Schools in the Hazleton Area School District will close shortly before noon Wednesday to enable 600 teachers and administrators to hear a top state educator explain Hargisburg's role in local school improvement efforts.

Junior and senior high schools will dismiss their students at 11:02 a.m. and elementary students will go home at 11:50 a.m.

State Commissioner of Basic Education Joseph Bard will explain the key part the Department of Education will play in the district's planned restructuring of its educational program during a 1 p.m. session in the Hazleton High School auditorium.

Bard's presentation and other staff meetings throughout the afternoon were arranged through the "Act 80" program, which the state provides to enable school districts to train their staffs by shortening the instructional day.

Teachers from the kindergarten and

first and second grade levels will attend sessions at HHS from 1 to 3 p.m.

The teachers will learn about reading materials being piloted in the district and will meet with Dr. Deb Carr, supervisor of reading/language arts, to discuss new trends in reading instruction.

At the same time, Conyngham, Sugarloaf and Nuremberg elementary school faculties will assemble at the new Valley Elementary School to tour the building and continue their planning for September when the school opens.

Working with the district to improve the learning of all its students will be representatives from the state Department of Education, the Pennsylvania State Education Association, Wilkes and Bloomsburg universities, Dickinson College and the Luzerne Intermediate Unit.

"The theme of the day will be our restructuring effort," said John J. Rabets, the district's supervisor of staff development and special projects.

Leading the Valley school group will

be Daniel Cassarella, director of elementary education, and Harold Getz, the current principal of Conyngham, Sugarloaf and Nuremberg elementaries. Getz will become principal of the new Valley school when the three older schools close.

Heights-Terrace and Hazle Elementary teachers will meet at HHS along with kindergarten, first and second grade pilot reading teachers and special area teachers to hear Dr. Rosemary Williams of Wilkes University discuss cooperative learning.

For all other teachers in grades three to six, Dr. William Gaskins of PSEA will conduct a session at HHS on teaming, a concept that district officials said is crucial to the restructuring effort.

James Sheffer of the state Department of Education will meet with the district's Chapter 1 staff and elementary curriculum and instruction subcommittee to program formats and federal guidelines.

In addition:

■ Superintendent Eugene B. Gatty's study committee will meet with Bard to

discuss restructuring.

■ Vocational-technical and industrial arts teachers will hear Dave McCloskey of the Department of Education's Vocational Education Division discuss the latest trends in vo-tech education and the blending of vocational and academic areas.

■ Senior high social studies and junior high mathematics teachers will hear the Department of Education's Jean di Sabatino talk on Sizer's principles of effective schools.

■ Junior-high English faculty members will hear Ruth Kudlick, HHS English Department chairwoman, discuss process writing.

■ Secondary reading and junior-high social studies teachers and librarians will hear Dr. Jesse Moore of East Stroudsburg University discuss the Pennsylvania Comprehensive Reading Plan.

■ Guidance counselors at the elementary and secondary levels along with the student support services subcommittee (chaired by Dr. Geraldine Shepperson,

supervisor of school health services) and the testing committee (chaired by Rocco Formica, HHS science department chairman) will hear Dr. Carl Guerrero of Dickinson College discuss evaluation and testing.

■ Foreign-language teachers, nurses and elementary teachers of gifted students will meet with Dr. Christopher Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, to hear a presentation on societal trends that affect education.

■ Junior and senior high science and business teachers will hear Dr. William Price of the LIU speak about future trends in education.

■ Home economics, art, music and physical education teachers will hear Vern Register of the Department of Education.

■ Special education teachers will meet with Paul Nobile.

■ For those in senior high curriculum and instruction, Dr. Howard Macauley of Bloomsburg university will continue his work with the group.



CV 9-23-92



### United Way volunteers finalize fund-raising plans

Volunteers serving on United Way of Wyoming Valley's Education Division Coordinating Committee met recently to finalize their fund raising plans for the 1992 campaign. Rev. Laurence Olszewski, vice president for external affairs at King's College, is serving as division chairman.

Members of the Education Division Steering Committee, seated from the left, are Dr. Donald Bronsard, Luzerne County Community College; Rev. Olszewski, Nancy Davis, Lake-Lehman School District; Dr. Christopher Breiseth, Wilkes University; standing, Phyllis Belk, Penn State University (representing Dr. William

Pearman); John Shafer, Wyoming Seminary; H. Jeremy Packard, Wyoming Seminary; Ed Corcoran, King's College; Anthony F. Kane, Jr., Wyoming Valley West Education Association, PSEA; and Walter Klepaski, United Way of Wyoming Valley.

Rev. Olszewski stated that through the generosity of individual employees at local colleges, universities, public school districts, private and parochial schools, nearly \$216,000 was pledged last year.

This year the Education Division has a goal of \$224,000 toward United Way's community-wide goal of \$4,100,000.



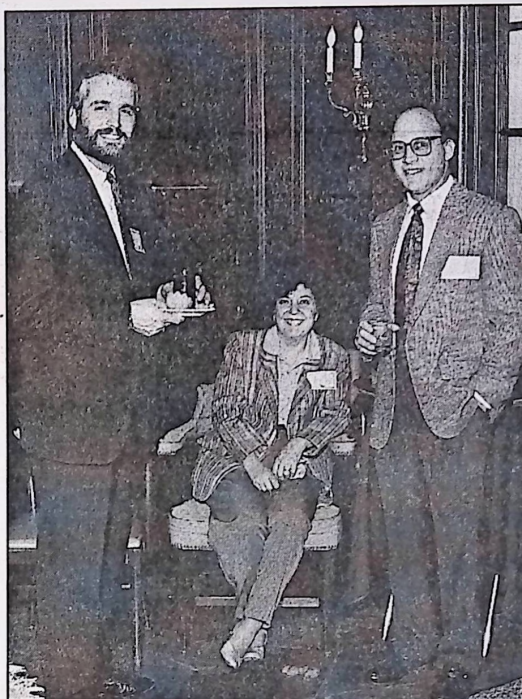
# Weckesser Hall is scene of Wilkes University reception



■ Nancy Ennis, Wilkes president Christopher N. Breiseth and Howard 'Skinny' Ennis, '55, of Wilmington, Del.



■ John, '57 and Nancy Lychos of Forty Fort



■ Thomas B. Hadzor, vice president for development, Maryann Pantelakos and Deno Pantelakos of Wilkes-Barre.

## Gathering honors Farley Club

Wilkes University paid tribute to members of the Eugene Farley Club during a recent reception at Weckesser Hall, held to celebrate their fund-raising achievements.

Bernadette Fornicola, director of annual giving for the university, said "We're taking this opportunity to recognize the members of the Eugene Farley Club and the important contributions they make to the success of the university's fund-raising efforts."

The club was named in honor of the

first president of Wilkes, Eugene S. Farley. Club members contribute gifts of \$100 to \$999 to help Wilkes enhance its programs.

Membership in the Farley Club is open each year to alumni, parents and other friends of the university.

Following the reception many of the Farley Club members attended a reading by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Norman Mailer at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts.

TL 11/29





#### **NORTHEASTERN BANK HONORED —**

The Sordoni Art Gallery at Wilkes University recently held a reception to honor Northeastern Bank for their support of the current exhibit, *Virgin Landscapes, Native Cultures: The Artist-Explorer in North America*. Held in recognition of the Columbus Quincentenary through November 29th, this important loan exhibition presents works by painters who discovered, for themselves, the un-Europeanized New World. Executives from Northeastern Bank met with guest curator, Dr. William H. Sterling, associate professor of art at Wilkes, for a special tour of the exhibit. Sordoni Gallery Director, Judith O'Toole, presented Northeastern Bank President, Joseph C. Cuyaux, with a framed poster from the exhibit. Part of Northeastern Bank's gift to the Sordoni was used for the production of a 64 page, fully illustrated, col-

or and black and white catalog of the pieces exhibited during the show. The exhibit is also supported, in part, by funds from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. The Gallery is open to the public daily from noon until 5 p.m. and Thursday evenings until 9 p.m. The Gallery Office is open at 8:30 a.m., and special tours can be arranged at any time with prior notice. Call the Sordoni Art Gallery for more information on the special events scheduled in conjunction with the exhibition. From left: Wilkes University President Christopher N. Brelseth, Joseph G. Guyaux, president of Northeastern Bank of Pennsylvania; Judith O'Toole, director of the Sordoni Art Gallery; and Dr. William H. Sterling, associate professor of art at Wilkes and guest curator for the *Virgin Landscapes, Native Cultures* exhibit.

SI 11/15/92



NOV 18, 1992

DALLAS POST  
DALLAS, PA

PM - 4.310

MUTUAL  
PRESS CLIPPING SERVICE

NOV 15, 1992

THE SUNDAY DISPATCH  
PITTSBURGH, PA

SUN - 54.000

### Black Knights band plays at Wilkes game

The Lake-Lehman Marching Band was recently featured during halftime at the Wilkes University football game held at the Lackawanna County Stadium.

Wilkes University Vice President of Development, Thomas B. Hadzor presented Robbie Trescavage, a senior from Shavertown, and Band Director, Edward Richards with a plaque in appreciation of Lake-Lehman's participation.

Richards and his wife, Maureen, are 1978 graduates of Wilkes University. The Wilkes University Colonels beat the Upsala Vikings 31-20.

### WA Marching Band At Wilkes Football Game



The Wyoming Area Marching Band was recently featured during the Wilkes University football game held at Lackawanna County Stadium. Band Director Don Butz and Drum Major Tonya Wilbur received a plaque from Wilkes President Christopher N. Breiseth after their performance.

The Wilkes Colonels beat the Upsala Vikings 31-20.





Principals at the Wilkes University Scholarship Donors' luncheon: Left to right, left photo: Dr. Charles Burns, Sr., M.D. '35, and Wilkes University President Christopher N. Breiseth visit before the luncheon program begins.



Center photo: Denise Antelik, director of public relations at Boscov's, Helen Newton '93 of Wilkes-Barre, and Thomas B. Hadzor, vice-president for development. Newton is the recipient of the Boscov's and Alexander W. Dick Foundation Scholarship.



Right photo: Janet Glatzel, Holli Root '95, Glatzel Scholar, and Donald Glatzel have an opportunity to meet during the Wilkes University Scholarship Donors luncheon.

## Wilkes Honors Scholarship Donors and Recipients at Luncheon

More than 200 Wilkes University students and scholarship donors attended a luncheon at the Arnaud C. Marts Sports and Conference Center. The annual event is held to show the university's appreciation to the more

than 80 individuals and organizations who have generously endowed scholarships for Wilkes students.

For the scholarship donors, the luncheon is an opportunity to meet the students they are assisting. The

students appreciate the opportunity to personally express their gratitude for the opportunity to pursue higher education.

"Without our scholarships, we would have to spend more time ear-

ning tuition money," said Diadra Bau of Nanticoke, a senior chemistry student at Wilkes. "We will be thanking our benefactors for the rest of our lives because these scholarships allow us to shape our future."

Bau is the recipient of the Genevieve Todd Brennan Memorial Scholarship, established by Mrs. Brennan's children in recognition of her service to Wilkes as cafeteria manager from 1938 to 1956.

A 1935 graduate of Bucknell University Junior College, now Wilkes University, Dr. Charles Burns, Sr., M.D. also brought words of encouragement to the students. "The pundits who classified us as a producer generation insist that the present generation are consumers. The challenge has been issued to the scholarship recipient to out-produce the producer generation."

With his inspirational message, Dr. Burns also brought a gift from the estate of his former BUJC roommate, Joseph Duddy. Nearly 50 patents, developed by Duddy as an electrical engineer, have been turned over to the University.

John Comerford of Pompton Lakes, N.J., the Arnaud C. Marts Scholar, also offered remarks.

Several thousand friends and alumni annually contribute to Wilkes University, some creating scholarships which bear the names of the

donor or people they honor.

More than 75 percent of the full-time undergraduate students at Wilkes University receive some form of financial aid. Wilkes has increased its student aid commitment to more than \$3,000,000 due to cutbacks in federal aid. Scholarships from friends and alumni are vital in that increased commitment.

New scholarships have recently been named for Elen Lucretia Cornaro, Cathy Lynn Glatzel '86 and Francis A. and Maryann V. Kopen.

The Elena Lucretia Cornaro Scholarship was established by Norma Sanguiliano Tyburski, the former Dean of Women at Wilkes College, in recognition of the first woman to receive a doctorate. The degree of Doctor of Philosophy was conferred on Cornaro at the University of Padua on June 25, 1678. The scholarship bearing her name is given to a

woman in her junior or senior year who exemplifies the qualities of scholarship established by Cornaro.

The Glatzel Nursing Scholarship was created by Donald and Janet Glatzel in memory of their daughter Cathy Lynn, a summa cum laude nursing graduate who gave her life while helping others. The award is granted to a freshman nursing student.

Established by their son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Dan '70 and Kathy Kopen, the Kopen scholarship honors Francis A. and Maryann V. Kopen, life-long residents of the Wyoming Valley, who have held firm commitments of excellence in education and respect for the environment. The Scholarship is awarded to the son or daughter of a Wyoming Valley native who plans a career in teaching or the sciences.

Dr. Kopen is a member of the Wilkes University Board of Trustees.



## Penn Millers Hosts Leadership Kickoff Series



Seventeen newcomers representing nine companies and organizations to the Wilkes-Barre area met Thursday evening for the kickoff of Leadership Wilkes-Barre's Executive Series. Hosted by Penn Millers Insurance Company, executives and professionals and their spouses who have recently moved to this area heard presentations on the history of Wyoming Valley by Dr. Christopher Breiseth, president of Wilkes University and on economic development by Gary Boam, vice president of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership. Dinner, catered by Celestino's Restaurant, was served in the atrium of the building. Music during dinner was performed by violinist Damien Kridlo, a senior at Wyoming Seminary.

Seated: Kathy E. Steinmetz, Romeo Natividad, Dr. Nita Natividad (Geisinger Medical Center), Donna Lennon, Dr. J. Michael Lennon (Wilkes University), Dawn Kirk and Joseph Kelly (Neshitt Memorial Hospital).

Standing: George Steinmetz (Ertley Motorworld), William Cofield (Procter and Gamble Paper Products Company), Kristine A. Cofield, Charles A. O'Neill (Pope and Talbot, Inc.), Frederick Deal (First Eastern Bank), Lynne Deal, Paul J. Hanna, II (First Eastern Bank), Robert Bond Kirk (Leggett and Platt), Denise Cesare (HMO of Northeastern PA) and Laurie W. Kelly.





## Mike McGlynn

### Cabbage Patch

## The script remains the same

A lone horseman rode into Wilkes-Barre at dusk. His horse's hooves clacked gently on the pavement of South Main Street; the glint of the setting sun bounced off his spurs.

Coolly, he assessed the situation. His fingers closed tightly around the handle of his Colt .45.

Slowly, he turned the horse, gently extracted the revolver from its holster, smacked the animal on the buttocks and rode like hell back toward the hills.

OK — it's not that bad — yet.

It's not that bad if you decline to exercise your right to walk the area which extends roughly from South to Ross and South Main to South River streets after sundown, as several Wilkes University students have discovered in the last couple of weeks.

We have the beginnings (only the beginnings, we hope) of a major problem in this town and, in fairness to the authorities, it's next to impossible to police it because, while the script remains the same, the cast of characters changes with acute regularity.

The same element which haunts that stricken portion of downtown/South Wilkes-Barre can be found in any number of towns around eastern Pennsylvania. They're here one month, then in Scranton, Easton, or wherever the next stop on the itinerant takes them. They come here, get on the dole, are set up in a place to live and then, until the heat gets turned up, they go about their business — drugs, prostitution and, in many if not most cases, both.

What's more difficult to accept is that in many cases these people are welcomed with open arms (some would say recruited) by supposedly well-meaning social agencies. And, given that many of these people are members of minority groups, any concerted effort to contain their antics inevitably results in the hysterical cry of "racism."

Now, we have come to a turn of events which sees Wilkes University students having to resort to self-preservation tactics which, in a worst-case scenario, could culminate in a protracted hostility between college students and "townies."

In any college town, students and permanent residents live side-by-side in an uneasy peace which occasionally tends to approach open warfare, especially late on Saturday nights. Most people who reside permanently near Wilkes or King's probably would agree with the proposition that students at both schools generally are mannerly and well-behaved, save for occasional outbursts of high-spiritedness, as in after final exams.

What we have here, however, is not the traditional empty beer bottle in Mrs. Neighborhood's front yard or a dispute over loud music. We have the downtown element spilling over into the area of the college campus, where students can be particularly vulnerable on Saturday nights after they've ODed on Diet Coke or Snapple.

The problem for police is that, once one arm of the element is cut off, a new one grows in its place. As long as rotating refugees from God knows where can find a comfortable situation from which to operate in Wilkes-Barre (or anywhere else), the script will remain the same even as the cast of characters changes.

If Wilkes-Barre at night is a mile rough now, imagine how it will be if understandably frightened students at Wilkes — some 3,500 strong — and their natural allies at King's decide to indulge in some vigilante activity. Don't rule it out — it's happened in other college towns where students have clashed with hard-core, downtown elements.

If college students aren't safe on the streets at night, it hardly needs to be said that virtually no one is safe.

The fault is not with police, generally speaking.

The fault is with a system which without fear or favor opens the doors of the community to an element which has since its first appearance, perhaps five years ago, turned a four-to-six-square-block area of the city into a virtual combat zone. The fault is built in.

Witness the spate of murders here over the last several years — how many have turned on drugs which somebody imported from New York City?

As long as "somebody" is out there, nobody is safe.

Mike McGlynn is the Citizens' Voice political writer.



TRIBUNE

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Gov. Robert P. Casey discusses the region's technological potential Monday during the Northeastern Pennsylvania Technology Conference at the University of Scranton. Looking on are, from left: the Rev. J.A. Panuska, S.J., U of S president, and Dr. Christopher Breiseth, president of Wilkes University. (Staff Photo by Johnson Bachman)

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SI 4/5/92



**PRE-LAW DAY** — The Honorable Patrick J. Toole Jr., president judge of the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas, delivered the keynote address to prospective pre-law students at the Wilkes University Pre-Law Day recently. Speakers from Pre-Law Day included, from left: John J. Chwalek, assistant dean of admission;

Dr. J. Michael Lennon, vice president for academic affairs; Toole; Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University; Dr. Thomas Baldino, chairman of the Wilkes University Political Science Department; and Randa Fahmy, Esq., Wilkes University graduate and practicing attorney in the Washington, D.C. area.





## Wilkes ice cream social

Wilkes University president Christopher N. Breiseth and his wife, Jane, recently hosted an ice cream social at Weckesser Hall to open the academic year and welcome faculty back to campus. Above at left, Dr. Breiseth, vice president for academic affairs Dr. J. Michael Lennon and history professor Dr.



James Rodechko admire the festive neckwear sported by Dr. Douglas Lynch, chairman of the education department.

Above at right, visiting assistant professor of English Alicia Lindgren visits with Jane Breiseth.

9/20/92 TL



## Mail Bag

TC 9/18/92

### President of Wilkes University calls headline 'inflammatory'

**Editor:**

I strongly object to the headline in The Times Leader of Thursday, September 17, 1992: "Attacks Panic Wilkes Students."

Mitch Morrison's story was a responsible piece of reporting on a difficult situation. He reported on the several security systems that Wilkes University has had in place for several years to protect the students and staff on our campus and in the surrounding neighborhood of downtown Wilkes-Barre. These include the escort system to accompany people from a point on campus to their

car or home; Operation Alert, the warning alarms issued to Wilkes students and staff to alert others to danger, and the counsel from the Dean of Students to walk on campus after dark in group of three or more.

Nothing in the story suggested there is "panic" on the Wilkes campus. I resent that characterization of our students and staff who on this, as on other challenging occasions, have shown common sense, prudence, and poise. We are a safe campus because we work together and have a spirit of teamwork.

I urge the Times Leader to inhibit the temptation to sensationalize problems in our community through inflammatory headlines. Keep up the good reporting and, on the case at hand, join the city officials, the university, and others in our neighborhood to apprehend the lawless young men in our midst and return our community to its usually safe condition. You are critically important to the teamwork.

**Christopher N. Brelseth**  
President  
Wilkes University



# Wilkes students discuss assault incidents

By MIKE McGLYNN

Citizens' Voice Staff Writer

Wilkes University students, university officials and Sgt. Thomas Merlie of the Wilkes-Barre Police Department met in two sessions Thursday on the university campus to discuss efforts to apprehend the persons who assaulted Wilkes students in three incidents during the past two weeks.

University officials also discussed various means by which students can best avoid being the victims of such incidents.

In the second session, held at 6:30 p.m. in the main lecture hall of the Stark Learning Center, Dean Jane Lampe-Groh and Gerald Cookus, director of security at the university, advised students to avoid such confrontations, while Sgt. Merlie assured some 250 students gathered that police are aware of their concerns and are in the process of both tracking down leads and seeking to prevent any recurrence.

On Sept. 4, a student was assaulted by three men before midnight at the corner of Terrace and West River streets and was taken to a local hospital for treatment; on Sept. 10, a student in the company of two friends was accosted by three to six men near the Marts Center on South Franklin Street. In the latter confrontation, one of the assailants asked the student for cigarettes, then punched the student in the back of the head. Finally, a student was assaulted by three persons at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12, on South River Street near the Wilkes Alumni House.

In all three incidents, all assailants were reported by the victims to have been black males in their 20s, prompting one Wilkes student to ask Thursday whether it had been ascertained that all the assailants were black and why such information was included in the police reports and in the uni-



Gerald Cookus

versity statements concerning them.

"Could they have been white?" Mike King, 24, of Philadelphia, asked.

Dean Lampe-Groh replied, "I used the descriptions that were given to me by the victims."

Additionally, she said her statements in regard to the incidents have been consistent with newspaper and police reporting policies and, in all three incidents, the victims positively identified their assailants as black.

Asked by King if she fears the possibility that racial tensions will result, Lampe-Groh said, "There is no question that it's going to create tension. I cannot deny that."

King, a junior at Wilkes, said following the meeting that he was trying to prevent racial tensions rather than foment them.

"That's what we don't want," he said, "but as long as we say that (all the assailants were black), that's what it seems like."

Mona Blake of Wilkes-Barre, also a junior at Wilkes, said she fears that the reports of the incidents will unfairly stigmatize

black students at Wilkes.

"My concern is that (black students) don't get wrongfully accused," Blake said. She said she is certain that the assailants are not Wilkes students.

Both Lampe-Groh and Cookus recommended that students be judicious in the choice of defensive weapons, such as mace or key chains, because "the weapon you use may be used against you," as Lampe-Groh said.

"It boils down to common sense," Cookus told students. "Use the escort service (provided by campus security). Use the group system — anywhere from three to five — or more."

The university has created what it is terming "Operation Alert," the distribution of personal alarm devices which produce a high-pitch alarm in the event of personal attack.

"The bottom line is cooperation, for Operation Alert to work. We need your help," Cookus said. "You've got to understand — safety is in numbers."

Sgt. Merlie told students the city police department plans to be "pro-active" in eliminating the problem.

"Patrols have been increased in the area of the incidents," he said, noting that the police are working closely with campus security.

To a student who claimed she had reported an incident only to be "harassed" when a responding city detective realized she was a college student — even though the victim of the incident was a non-student — Sgt. Merlie told the students, "Don't hesitate to call" in the event they encounter such treatment at the hands of police.

"We're here to serve you. We're here to serve the city of Wilkes-Barre," he said.

The university also is seeking to have lighting improved in certain areas of the campus and has arranged for a karate school to offer students self-defense courses free of charge.



# Students deal with their fear

■ *Some black Wilkes University students fear being mistakenly identified as the assailants who've assaulted students*

By **MITCH MORRISON**

Times Leader Staff Writer

**WILKES-BARRE** — One female student plans to take up self-defense.

Another carries mace in her purse.

They're fearful of becoming the next statistic in a recent spate of assaults that seems to target Wilkes University students.

On Thursday, university officials met with students in two open sessions, offering safety tips and updates on the police investigation concerning three recent assaults near the campus. More than 150 students, collectively, attended the meetings.

University security chief Gerald Cookus urged students to use common sense when walking the streets at nightfall; walk in groups, avoid shortcuts, and use the security escort service.

The message worked.

In just hours, more than 35 students obtained "Operation Alert," a high-pitched beeper aimed at frightening off assailants.

"This is a metropolitan area ... crime does exist in Wilkes-Barre," Cookus said, also encouraging men to use the university escort service.

Other speakers included Wilkes-Barre Police Sgt. Thomas Merlie and university Dean of Student Affairs Jane Lampe-Groh.

Since Sept. 4, three male students have been accosted in separate incidents within one-half mile of the campus. In each incident, the victims reported they were assaulted by at least three black male assailants in their late teens or early 20s. The suspects are not considered to be university students, Merlie said.

Assembled at the Stark Learning Center Thursday, female students outnumbered their male counterparts by more than two-to-one.

Both sessions, in part, echoed one another — students insisting

12A The Times Leader, Wilkes-Barre, PA, Friday, September 18, 1992

## Forum

(Continued from Page 1A)

But the second session tackled the issue of race.

Several black students complained that notices released by the administration describing the assaults contained racial overtones.

Lampe-Groh conceded the identification of race could trigger racial tensions, but said the university's notices followed reporting styles similar to newspapers and police reports.

"There is no question this is going to create tension. I can't deny that," she said. But, had the assailants been white, the university would have reported so, she added.

Wilkes Junior Mike King feared that because the notice lacked physical descriptions of the assailants, innocent black males could mistakenly be identified as the culprits.

"When I read the notices, I thought it was us," said King, referring to himself and two friends who are black.

"As soon as you put the word 'black' in it, you made it a racial issue," he said.



TIMES LEADER/DON CAREY

**TAKING QUESTIONS** — Wilkes University Dean of Student Affairs Jane Lampe-Groh answers students' questions regarding the three assaults near the campus. Lampe-Groh addressed the concerns Thursday evening at Stark Learning Center. The university sponsored two forums that collectively attracted about 150 students.



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## MULTI-CULTURAL PROGRAMS

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# Higher education needs curriculum as diverse as world, say school officials

*■ Colleges in Wyoming Valley are trying to be part of the solution in lessening tension among the races by increasing what they see as the multi-cultural role of their mission*

**By CHARLES H. BOGINO**

*Times Leader Staff Writer*

**WILKES-BARRE** — The story makes the rounds among administrators at King's College. A local alumnus of the Roman Catholic college heads to Philadelphia only to quit his job there in frustration when he can't deal with a situation at work.

His boss was a black woman.

"He said 'You never prepared me for that,'" said Mildred Lawson, recounting the now often told tale.

Lawson, an assistant professor of English, heads a committee at King's that is attempting to broaden the curriculum at the college to help students make

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**"What we are doing here is not a fad. We want to do something that is everlasting."**

**Mahmoud H. Fahmy**

*Special assistant to Wilkes University president*

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their way in the real world — a world that isn't simply white of European descent.

The course changes are part of a wider program at King's to promote a better understanding among different races and cultures. Similar changes are underway across Market Street at private, independent Wilkes University.

■ See EDUCATION, Page 10A



## Education

(Continued from Page 1A)

What educators are calling "multi-cultural diversity" programs are not new. They've been around on some college campuses for several years and have been the subject of divisive battles at some institutions.

Some of their detractors have criticized the programs as "political correctness" of the intellectual left wing or as patronizing toward the black, Asian and Hispanic cultures. Critics say the views academics seek to incorporate into the curricula could harm traditional disciplines that have European roots.

But much of that criticism is dismissed by people who have supported such changes.

"There is a fear of change," said John Wilson Jr., a fellow at

the Joint Center for Political Studies, a Washington think tank that studies primarily racial issues. "Also the fear of what a multi-cultural curriculum will do. That it will make it an anti-white curriculum."

Local proponents of accommodating diverse thinking dismiss the critics as drawing conclusions without all the information.

"Multi-culturalism has been misunderstood," said Mahmoud H. Fahmy, special assistant to Wilkes University President Christopher N. Breiseth. "You don't impose it on something artificially. You will find that that will become a fad. What we are doing here is not a fad. We want to do something that is everlasting."

College professors and administrators in the Wyoming Valley say they see the need to teach about different cultures, even if their campuses currently are not particularly racially diverse.

Traditional minority students, U.S. citizens who are black or of Asian or Hispanic descent, make up just 3 percent of the 3,500 Wilkes University students. At King's, 12 out of 420 entering freshmen last year were members of minority groups. King's has about 1,700 students.

"It's not a very diverse community. It reflects the community in which we live," said the Rev. James Lackenmiller, King's College president. "But the students are going to be living in a diverse world, and they should become familiar with it."

And in an environment that can be as intellectually arrogant as a college campus, some people are pleasantly surprised by the cooperation.

"We need to re-think the curriculum," Lawson said. "A lot of people on this faculty are actually rethinking their courses, and that's exciting."

At King's, 18 members of the student body, faculty and staff comprised an ad hoc committee that drew up 38 recommendations for Lackenmiller. Based on input from other members of the King's community, the group suggested such ideas as recruitment of more African-American students and adding books and periodicals to the library that will aid students in their study of minority cultures.

"This is an honest document," Lackenmiller said, pointing to the 14-page report. "This document says we have challenges ahead of us, and we're going to try to address them."

Since the recommendations were made in March, the board of trustees added two black members and Lackenmiller has hired a staff member to administer programs for minority and foreign students. The administrator, Kraig Pannell, also will serve as a

minority recruiter.

Two years ago, Wilkes launched a program with an eye toward minority recruitment. It allows community college students from Philadelphia, the chance to make the transition to a four-year school through a special summer program.

Wilkes also has sponsored a multi-cultural awareness week in February. And it has sought to increase the amount of participation of minority groups through the use of guest lecturers and special events.

Other area campuses are taking a hard look at how they can increase diversity on their campuses as well.

For example, at the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus, a video produced by a staff member there, John Barnes, is being used to help white students and staff members examine their thoughts

about racial issues. The video has been adopted for use at all Penn State campuses as well as the University of Michigan, Wesleyan College, Marquette University and several others.

The administrators working on diversity issues at each campus stress that these are not simply intellectual exercises. They insist that curriculum changes to accommodate diversity should not be seen as the result of political pressure from various special interest groups, but rather as the natural education process of an institution in a democracy. "The right thing to do" is the way one of them put it.

Said Wilkes' Dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, Robert J. Heaman: "Especially in a democratic society we have to be inclusive. The more inclusive we are, the more voices we hear."



## Breiseth Earns BA Degree From Williams College

Erika Breiseth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Breiseth of Wilkes-Barre, graduated from Williams College with a degree of bachelor of arts at the college's 203rd Commencement exercises on Sunday, June 7. John Hope Franklin, distinguished historian of the history of the South and of Blacks in the United States, was the Commencement speaker.

Founded in 1793, Williams was the highest ranking national liberal arts college in the most recent survey conducted by U.S. News & World Report.

In graduating from Williams, Breiseth joins the oldest Society of Alumni in the world.



ERIKA BREISETH



# Challenge #3: Education & Work Force Preparedness

Continued from previous page  
post-flood facilities and an array of new programs.

Dr. Wallace F. Stettler was the President of Wyoming Seminary in the five years prior to the flood. He sees the disaster as having had a major positive effect on his institution. "The flood was a catalyst. It forced us to get out and look for new ways to recover," Wyoming Seminary had considered major renovations to the buildings and facilities on the campus. Stettler observes, "Agnes accelerated our timetable."

A unique avenue enabled the local colleges and this prep school to recover — the federal government. Until the flood, the federal government had never given direct aid to private institutions like Wilkes, King's and Wyoming Seminary. A local native and alumnus of Seminary

confronts our area with great opportunities." Business Consultant Ed Schechter sees the challenge as one of "poking our heads above the rest of the world in education so people can say 'this is an educated work force.'"

How is the Wyoming Valley equipped to provide quality education? Five colleges — Wilkes, King's, College Misericordia, the Wilkes-Barre campus of Penn State University, and Luzerne County Community College serve well over 10,000 undergraduate students and many more part-time evening and weekend students. All of these institutions have programs for non-traditional students such as adults who return for training and have full-time jobs.

Breiseth notes, "Our public, parochial, and independent schools are generally strong, with little of the disintegration we

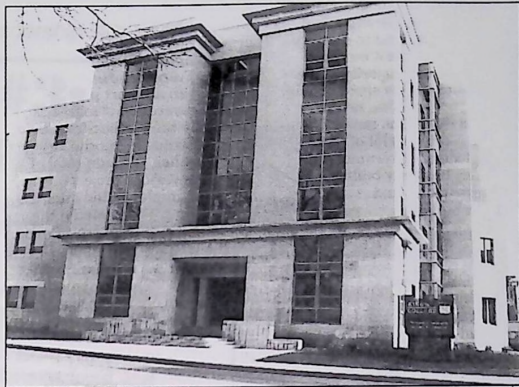


Photo courtesy of King's College

King's College's William G. McGowan School of Business

According to Breiseth, "Perhaps the biggest development in public education is the consolidation of smaller schools into larger ones. There is still a sense of nostalgia...but my opinion is that this has been a healthy development. There is a larger view which comes with the jointures. A move toward a kind of cosmopolitanism was brought out."

In an attempt to increase the preparedness of the future work force of the area, a number of

new programs have been implemented. Partnerships like the one between Penn State and G.A.R. Memorial High School in Wilkes-Barre bring together the resources of the university with the "student-power" of the secondary schools. Businesses like Nabisco show a greater interest in education and provide time, resources, and support for the schools. Other key initiatives in this direction are coming from groups like: the Council for Workforce Preparation; Careers Partnership — a Program of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce; the Council of Presidents; and the Educational Leadership Council.

Despite progressive trends, the area is not without major challenges in education. Stettler notes that education "...must face up to the real world of multiculturalism." Although some of the changes in society are slower in reaching the Wyoming Valley, the ethnic, racial, and linguistic composition of the population is changing. "This aspect must be faced if our graduates are to be the leaders we expect them to be," Stettler adds.

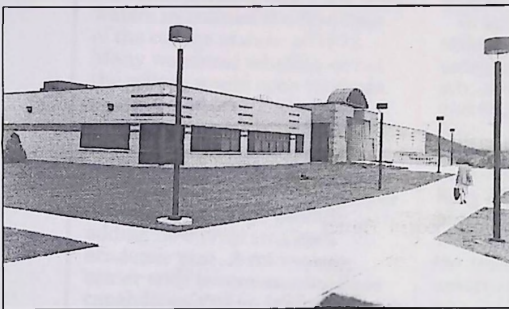


Photo courtesy of Luzerne County Community College

Luzerne County Community College's Advanced Technology Center

played a major role in facilitating aid to the area and its institutions. Frank Carlucci was in the Office of Management and Budget in Washington at the time of the flood and worked closely with President Richard Nixon in the flood recovery.

In the twenty years since 1972, the demands on education have changed as dramatically as the campuses and facilities of the area's schools and colleges. The business sector has become more interested in the "product" of the schools, and numerous comparison studies have labeled much of American education inadequate. Dr. Christopher Breiseth, President of Wilkes, believes that "Education is a key. The national call for reform of our schools and colleges, and for the reprofessionalization of teaching to guide this reform,

have seen in the school systems of larger cities and the rapidly growing population centers of the Sunbelt. I know of no region better equipped than our own consciously to prepare for this emerging national and international economy, while holding on to virtues of social cohesiveness remarkably rare for America."

Currently, ten public school districts with a total enrollment of over 30,000 serve the Greater Wilkes-Barre Area and share the technical, support, consulting, and educational services of Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18. Furthermore, two modern vocational/technical facilities are available and provide training in thirty-two specialized trades with three parochial high schools and twenty-two parochial elementary schools also being in operation.

## GREATER WILKES-BARRE

A WORK IN PROGRESS

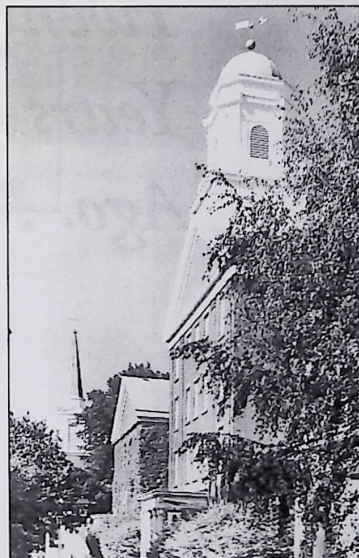


Photo courtesy of Wyoming Seminary

Wyoming Seminary



## Challenge #3:

### Education & Work Force Preparedness

**A** fledgling institution, literally in harm's way as the rampaging Susquehanna charged across North River Street in Wilkes-Barre, would come to exemplify the recovery and development of educational institutions in the Wyoming Valley. Luzerne County Community College (LCCC) was five years old and barely established in one academic building when the flood waters inundated the first floor of the college in June of 1972. Many wondered whether or not the college would open its doors again, but those questions have been soundly put to rest in the twenty years since Agnes.

The college today occupies a twelve building, 122 acre campus in Nanticoke and is literally adding new programs each academic year. A conference center with telecommunications capabilities and an impressive 85,000 square foot Advanced Technology Center complete with facilities for computer-assisted design, laser/electro-optics applications, and robotics enable

the college to prepare students for a workplace which changes constantly, providing the highly specialized skills needed to enter advanced technology fields.

According to Andrew J. Sordoni, III, Chairman of the Board of C-TEC Corporation, "Our work force is loyal and cohesive but must also be smart and well trained... Fortunately, we've been blessed with our universities."

In addition to LCCC, two local colleges and the region's only independent college preparatory school had nearly every campus building touched by water. All three institutions have more than recovered; they have exploded with development. King's College boasts the new McGowan School of Business, Wilkes successfully underwent the transition from college to university while adding several new facilities (including the Marts Center), and Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School approaches its 150th anniversary with three major

**Challenge #3** continues on next page



Fortunately, in the last half century much of this has been wiped out. People have learned to live with each other without making judgments based on religion, race, creed, or the color of one's skin.

And that's as it should be. And it's worth making social, cultural, educational and legal demands to protect that practice.

Once again, as has been the case so often in the past when we have been looking for solutions to seemingly unsolvable problems, it is necessary for the people of this region to gain collective protection against diversity by seeking to strengthen our unity against any threat to the way of life we have known so long.

The rights of individuals — no matter what race, creed, or color — must be preached from the pulpits ... taught in the classroom from kindergarten through university ... and practiced in the home where many careless or thoughtless comment is picked up by young people and misunderstood as a direction to a way of life.

Is it not almost impossible to find in this country another region such as this one where there are so many ethnic groups that have lived in peace, neighborliness, and love for so long?

And it must be preserved with new and stronger — more visible — methods if we can believe, or even suspect, that we are seeing the signs of an intrusion by forces alien to our kind of people who would have us turn against each other because of human differences.

\* \* \*

The Rev. Jule Ayers has long been a highly visible public advocate of bringing diverse groups together and encouraging them to work together for the common good of the community and all of its parts. Rabbi James Michaels and the late Rabbi Abraham Barras, along with Monsignor Andrew McGowan have worked with one of our most diligent Black residents, Audrey Spencer, often accompanied by NAACP President Bobby Crawford. They have often worked side by side in a spirit of unity that exists without any thought of differences.

And our leaders in education — such as Leo Solomon, Wilkes-Barre City School superintendent; Wilkes University President Christopher Breiseth, King's President James Lackenmier, and so many others, who have control of the importance of the teaching and learning can mean to unity and a strong defense against hatred and bigotry, join the group. There is no limit to what all of those named will do to keep our area free of destruction by those who would seek to upset our way of life.

We must continue to be the "Valley with a Heart" — and filled with tolerance for all."

SI  
5/3/92



Tom  
MORAN

## Area Must Not Allow Bigotry

"L.A. Law" became more than just a slowly dying television show during the week when rioting and cold-blooded murder followed the acquittal of four white policemen in the videotaped beating of a black motorist.

I do not choose to attempt to cover — or recover — that story against the thousands of words written pro and con and from every angle by those with far greater resources and access to hard facts.

What did concern me, though, was a story about a talk given at the Community College of Luzerne County by FBI Special Agent Lou Vizi, a member of the bureau's violent crime squad in Philadelphia.

The veteran FBI agent's speaking engagement was electrified with confirmation that hate groups are emerging throughout the nation. And the message invited the reminder of signs that influences not in keeping with our way of life in Wyoming Valley are also attempting to stir up trouble.

We aren't Los Angeles. Nor, are we any of many cities or parts of the old deep South, where rioting and killings — or, at the very least, terror in the night — were for so many years the things that brought horror to the minds of innocent people who became the targets of extremists.

\* \* \*

This region has probably been guilty of doing a lot of things wrong — especially allowing its growth and its environmental structure to be a playtoy and playland for politicians and the goofy elements of government. And we not only paid a stiff price for it, but we are destined to continue to pay until a new era dawns.

But there is one thing that this area has had only a small amount of — bigotry. There was a time when hatred among religious groups was present in this region. Some might even say that a small amount of it continues to exist and they'd even be right in stating that there exists



## L.A. awakens from nightmare

Area native  
holed up  
in apartment  
during chaos

■ A teacher with local ties describes the chaos in Los Angeles

By VALERIE F. GEIST

Times Leader Staff Writer

Abigail Breiseth sat inside her Los Angeles apartment for two days watching television reports of shocking violence and desecrated areas just blocks from her home before venturing out in her car Saturday to help with the cleanup.

"The smell of smoke coming through the windows, and the sound of the helicopters whirling overhead was so loud and so constant and the sirens, lots and lots of sirens," said Breiseth, the daughter of Wilkes University President Christopher Breiseth. "The TV became a link to reality. I had to have it on to find out how close the fires were getting. There was looting going on everywhere and people were being pulled out of their cars and assaulted. It seemed like a stupid thing to be out on the streets. I stayed in those two days and this morning I was going crazy being inside."

Breiseth, 23, and her roommate live in the easternmost part of Koreatown, near the area hardest hit by this week's violence Los Angeles.

She's a teacher for the "Teach For America" program that recruits people to teach in inner city and rural areas where there are teacher shortages. Breiseth presides over a third-grade class in the Los Angeles Unified School

### Lives

(Continued from Page 1A)

District, in South Central Los Angeles, where terror and riots erupted Wednesday after the Rodney King verdict.

"It's such a surreal experience to be watching the news and seeing all these shocking things as they are happening near me and in all these parts of South Central that I know really well. There were things happening on corners that I've spent lots of time on."

Her school was among the first closed Thursday, and it remained closed Friday.

The first night, Breiseth said she watched television to see how close the fires were to her students.

"The second night the fires started moving west from downtown and north towards me," she said. "I heard a lot of sounds. They could have been gunshots. They could have been firecrackers. They could have been firecrackers."

There were a lot of Korean merchants staking out their stores and on their roofs with a lot of weapons."

But Breiseth said she decided to remain in the city because there were few reports of residential areas being hit. Most of the fires, she said, were set in stores and shopping malls.

Nor were any schools burned.

Breiseth said she believes a rumor making the rounds in Los Angeles that the riots and fires were meticulously planned by rival gangs in Los Angeles, who united and plotted to destroy the city if the Rodney King jury acquitted the police officers who beat him.

"I've been trying to figure it out. On the one hand, we're so used to watching TV and seeing real life emergencies. Because we're used to it we can usually

turn off the TV and we're away from it. But turning off the TV with this didn't remove it all."

Saturday, Breiseth drove around her neighborhood.

"There were burned out stores all up and down. Some places were still smoldering," she said.

As she drove down Western Avenue, fifteen blocks from her home she saw an organized group of people cleaning up a ravaged market. She said she stopped to help and spent the day there.

Jane Breiseth, Abigail's mother, expressed concern for her daughter's safety, but pride in her commitment.

"Naturally we're concerned but also very proud of her. We're pleased she's made some small effort to alleviate the problem. That's what Teach For America is about."



CV 11/4/92



### Foundation for Independent Colleges meets at Wilkes

Wilkes University recently hosted one of eight regional fall campaign kickoff events for the Foundation for Independent Colleges Inc. of Pennsylvania (FIC) of Mechanicsburg. Representatives of College Misericordia, Marywood College, the University of Scranton, Wilkes University and FIC were in attendance.

FIC, which marked its 40th anniversary in June, represents 51 independent colleges and universities throughout the Commonwealth. It seeks to improve corporate-collegiate relations and to raise funds for its members. In 1991-92, FIC raised nearly one million dollars. A goal of \$1.275 million dollars has been set for the fiscal year ending May 31, 1993.

Wilkes University is among the largest institutions affiliated with FIC.

Among those in attendance, front row, seated, from left, are Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, Wilkes University president; Sister Mary Reap, IHM, Marywood College president; Sister Nancy Surma, OSF, assistant to the president of Marywood College, and Sandra Beynon, executive assistant to the Vice President for Development, Wilkes University.

Back row: Dr. Carol Jobe, president of College Misericordia; Robert J. Sylvester, Vice President for Development and Public Relations at the University of Scranton; John P. Lammera, Director of Development, Marywood College; James Caplinger, president of FIC; Ed Engel, Dean of Institutional advancement, College Misericordia, and Gerald Zaboski, assistant to the president, University of Scranton.



## Scout council tabs Breiseth for '92 award

Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, will be honored at the 1992 Friends of Scouting dinner, according to Frank M. Henry, dinner chairman.

Breiseth has been chosen as the 1992 Distinguished Citizen honoree. The dinner, sponsored by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, Boy Scouts of America, will be held March 3 at the Genetti Hotel and Convention Center in Wilkes-Barre.



The council annually recognizes a community leader who best exemplifies the qualities of a good citizen to serve as a role model for the council's 10,500 Scouts and leaders.

Dinner speaker will be Manager Tommy Lasorda of the Los Angeles Dodgers. Lasorda has been a member of the Dodgers' organization for more than 40 years, dating back to the days when the Dodgers played in Brooklyn. He led the Dodgers to three World Series playoffs and has been named manager of the year by numerous sports organizations.

Dr. Breiseth came to the Wyoming Valley in 1984 after serving as president of Deeps Springs College, Deep Springs, Calif., and administrative faculty and teaching positions in Illinois, Washington, D.C., and Williamstown, Mass.

Breiseth led Wilkes to university status in 1989. He recently gave leadership to the university's most successful building campaign ever; more than \$18 million has been raised to date. The new Marts Sports complex has been the cornerstone of the new building campaign which has prepared the university for service into the 20th century.

Dr. Breiseth is a board member of the Osterhout Free Library, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, the United Way of Wyoming Valley, the Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership, Committee for Economic Growth, and Chairman of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council. He serves on the executive committee of the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, and the commission for Independent Colleges and Universities.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the Scout Service center at 653-5135 or from any member of the committee. Steering Committee members are Dr. Wallace Stettler, first vice chairman; Richard Pearsall, past chairman; and Vice Chairmen Bernard C. Banks, Jr., Ian Richardson, Dr. Richard Somma, Harold Rose, and Glenn Y. Forney.





**SOCIAL CRISIS SERIES** — The Social Crisis Lecture Series, sponsored by the Wilkes University Division of Graduate Affairs and Continuing Education will resume with the 10th lecture topic, "Rethinking the Past: Revisioning the Future," Feb. 13 through April 9 from 7:15 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Room 214 of the Arnaud C. Marts Sports and Conference Center. The course focuses on the importance of hope, faith and positive involvement while facing the changes of the times. Stimulating and educated debates are the hallmark of the series. Classroom presentation will allow for interactive dialogue between instructors and participants. The teaching team for Social Crisis X include: Dr. Jule Ayers, Monsignor T. Banick, Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, Pro-

fessor Tom Bigler, Father James Doyle, Dr. Mahmoud H. Fahmy, Dr. Constance Kozel, Dr. Mildred Lawson, Dr. John Markarian, Dr. G. Mitra, Rabbi J. Michaels, Dr. Philip A. Muntzel and Father Thomas O'Hara. For registration information, contact Wilkes University. Members of the Wilkes Social Crisis X teaching team are seated, from left: Dr. Mahmoud H. Fahmy, dean of graduate affairs and continuing education, Wilkes University; Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University; Dr. Jule Ayers, Sister Constance Kozel. Standing: Dr. John Markarian, Professor Tom Bigler, communications, Wilkes University; Rabbi J. Michaels, Father James Doyle.



# Northeast Scouting Council cites Breiseth

By AL CHOMAN

Citizens' Voice Correspondent

Celebrating the 82nd anniversary of Scouting, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council held their annual Friends of Scouting Dinner Tuesday evening at the Genetti Hotel and Convention Center in Wilkes-Barre.

The program was highlighted by the presentation of the Distinguished Citizen Award to Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth and the keynote address by National Football League Hall of Famer, Terry Bradshaw.

Dr. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, was presented with the distinguished honor by Frank N. Henry who chaired the evening's program.

In accepting the award Breiseth noted scouting's outstanding contribution to the community and its important role with today's youth.

"Scouting represents experience that fosters ethics, bravery and courage," Breiseth stated. "Scouting promotes preparation for responsible adulthood," said the Wilkes president.

Breiseth further stated that

"Our hopes rest on teachers, parents and organizations like Scouting to prepare our young people for the world ahead."

Breiseth closed by saying he was deeply honored for the honor bestowed upon him by the council.

Terry Bradshaw, regarded by many as one of professional football's finest quarterbacks of all time, spoke to the audience about "having fun, enjoying life and being responsible."

Bradshaw was introduced by Monsignor Andrew J. McGowan, who served as master of ceremonies for the evening's program.

Bradshaw's talk was very grass roots at its essence. Bradshaw pulled no punches and spoke to the audience in a way which reached young and old alike.

Attired in a double breasted suit with a vibrant tie and suspenders, Bradshaw told the audience to "Be what you are. . .endure. And signs, always look for the signs in life to help guide you. They're very important," Bradshaw said.

Shortly into his speech Bradshaw shed his suitcoat to reveal a powder blue dress shirt drenched in sweat. He was really into high gear now. His body language, his gestures all helped with his delivery. His down home southern drawl helped drive every point

home most convincingly. And the crowd loved it.

"Know what you do well and master it," Bradshaw asserted. "And acknowledge what you don't do well and work on it!" he stated.

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# Media giant Tom Bigler is honored

■ TV pioneer, Wilkes professor is the embodiment of 'humanity,' says one tribute at a dinner for the journalist and teacher

By CHARLES H. BOGINO

Times Leader Staff Writer

WILKES-BARRE — Tom Bigler wasn't sure he was up to the task.

When he was asked to join the Wilkes University faculty in 1966, Bigler balked. His lack of a degree could be a hindrance to his ability to teach, he told Christopher Breiseth, Wilkes' president.

It wasn't.

But now, Bigler, a professor of communications at Wilkes and a television journalism pioneer in the Wyoming Valley, can back up his ability with a sheepskin.

At a dinner given in his honor Tuesday night at Genetti's, Bigler was given a transcript of his work and was told he's going to receive his bachelor's degree at a faculty honors program at the end of the month.

"We didn't have all the faculty vote because we were afraid that then we wouldn't have been able to keep it a secret," said Breiseth in presenting Bigler with a framed official transcript of his course work and credits that were given for his work experience.

"But I can assure you that a good percentage of your faculty colleagues were in on it."

Breiseth said the "good percentage" was about 100 members of the Wilkes faculty who spent a couple months poring over Bigler's 45-year old Ithaca College transcript and the journalist's resume.



That resume is long. In the beginning, Bigler's rise was rapid.

Within several months, he went from waffling drama major, unsure if he wanted to return to his studies at Ithaca College, to news director at a radio station in western Pennsylvania.

"I just wasn't sure what I wanted to do," Bigler said after the dinner, walking across South Washington Street with a stack of testimonials stuffed between his left arm and side.

He never meant to abandon his studies completely, but World War II broke out, Bigler joined up. He never finished his degree.

But as Wyoming Seminary President Emeritus Wallace F. Stettler put it, Bigler's lack of a

degree never hindered his abilities as a rhetorician and scholar.

"He's an example that you don't have to have a long list of degrees to convey a powerful message," Stettler told the gathering of more than 400 people who turned out to honor Bigler.

In addition to his current teaching job, Bigler spent 13 years as news director at WNEP-TV's forerunner, WILK-TV, and held the same job for another 20 years at WBRE-TV. He honed the television news editorial format and practiced it with commitment. Even now, Bigler's opinions are still being aired — in twice weekly columns in The Times Leader.

But more than his record as a professional journalist, it is Big-

ler's compassion and commitment to people that brought out colleagues, former students and business and civic leaders who waited in a long line after the dinner to shake his hand.

"His is concern about what is fair and just for the common good," Stettler said.

Breiseth read statements from Bigler's colleagues and teachers attesting to his skill as an educator and his compassion as a man.

"I think if you were to look up the word 'humanity,' you would probably see a picture of Mr. Bigler there," read one.

Of his colleague, one professor wrote that Bigler's teaching style is somewhere between gentle agitation and Socratic harassment.

He practically interrogates his students on their thoughts in order to stimulate a lively discussion, several others said.

One of the comments read that Bigler, despite his only now getting a degree, is "one of the best scholars on the faculty."

Bigler, described throughout the night as self-deprecating, was true to the description. He spent much of his speech thanking those present.

"If I had an ounce of integrity, I'd accept this evening as a farewell and evaporate," he said. "But there's too much work to be done."

Bigler then added that he had accepted another year's contract at Wilkes and was planning for the 1995-1996 academic year.



TL 5/5/93.

TIMES LEADER/LEWIS GEYER

Tom Bigler was recognized by a crowd of more than 400 people that turned out Tuesday night at Genetti's in Wilkes-Barre to honor him for achievements during his 40 years of work as a journalist and educator in the Wyoming Valley



# Wyoming Valley West senior selected Youth Leader

Students from 16 area high schools participated in the 1993 Youth Salute.

By AMY NEY  
Citizens' Voice Staff Writer

A young man from Larksville will be heading to St. Louis, Mo., in a couple weeks to represent the greater Wyoming Valley as this year's top youth leader.

John Gavenonis, a senior at Wyoming Valley West High School, was chosen "Youth Leader of the Year" yesterday at Seton Catholic High School, Pittston, during the 10th Annual Wyoming Valley Youth Salute program.

"I'm very surprised and excited," said the son of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Gavenonis, who is Wyoming Valley West's second top leader in a row. Last year, Joseph Korbiatt, a WVW student, was named Youth Leader.

Even the first runner-up is a WVW student, Daniel Freedman of Kingston. Melissa Lazarski, John S. Fine, is second runner-up, Lynn Patricia Makaliesky, Bishop O'Reilly, third runner-up; Richard M. Rusnok Jr., Pittston Area, fourth runner-up and Alton Devers, Wyoming Area, fifth runner-up.

Chosen first in a field of more than 100 Youth Salute nominees, John is already setting his sights on higher education — looking at several prestigious universities, including the Massachusetts In-



Dr. Christopher Breiseth

stitute of Technology, where he plans to study science or engineering.

At WVW, he is associate editor of the school newspaper, a member of the National Honor Society, marching and stage bands, orchestra and yearbook staff. Seventeenth in a class of 295, John is a member of Church of Christ Uniting and is active in various church activities.

In the immediate future, John will attend the National Youth Conference in St. Louis, Oct. 17 to 19 where he will exchange and compete with other youth leaders for the national title. John Rygiel, Youth Salute coordinator, said each of the last nine Wyoming Valley Youth Leaders has placed in the national top ten.



John Gavenonis

Many of the ideals fostered during the national event are akin to those addressed by yesterday's keynote speaker, Wilkes University President Dr. Christopher Breiseth.

Speaking to friends and family, but primarily to the nominees themselves, Breiseth talked of the global village today's youth must cultivate and how that priority has evolved since he was a high school senior.

As student body president of his high school nearly 40 years ago, a young Breiseth addressed the student body of Hamilton High School with two concerns — ther-  
mo nuclear war and the Brown vs. Supreme Court decision which declared segregated schools unconstitutional.

"You have been freed from the worry of an Armageddon-like situation between the Soviet Union and the western world so that you may get down to the nitty-gritty of working with people," said Breiseth citing homelessness and the destruction of the environment as two societal problems youth leaders will be asked to solve.

The Wilkes president thanked and challenged each parent to continue to guide their children.

"I encourage you to encourage your young people. What we encourage them to be, what we encourage them to see, is the legacy we leave them."

Breiseth told the audience of his two daughters currently teaching abroad, one in Japan and the other in Hungary. He relayed their lessons of the importance of multi-culturalism.

"In a genuinely multi-culturalist society, each person is viewed for herself or himself and the genuineness of character."

"We have a sense of how messy the world is, and frankly it's always been that messy... but you have an opportunity to work with it. We know from our past experience that you will lead us," said Breiseth.

Breiseth was introduced by Citizens' Voice General Manager Robert Manganiello who also addressed nominees.

"Everyday in the newspaper, we have to print a lot of negative

news... we have to do that, it's our job to inform the reader. Youth Salute gives us the opportunity to print some positive, uplifting news about the future of our community through the youth leaders here today," said Manganiello.

The Citizens' Voice was recognized for its 10-year contribution as a sponsor of the Youth Salute.

**"You have been freed from the worry of an Armageddon-like situation between the Soviet Union and the western world so you may get down to the nitty-gritty of working with people."**

program and Manganiello accepted a plaque from Rygiel in honor of the paper's commitment to the project.

Additional addresses were presented by Rygiel, Seton Catholic Principal James Hedington and James Vosviak, Rygiel Studios photographer and yesterday's master of ceremonies.

Youth Nominee Christy Dreiblitt of Wyoming Area High School delivered yesterday's invocation.



## Youth Salute '93

# Youth Leader will be announced

The 10th annual Youth Salute Awards Day will be held at Seton Catholic High School, Pittston, on Sunday, Sept. 19, and the Youth Leader of the Year will be announced.

Main speaker will be Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University.

Youth Salute Coordinator John Rygiel said the program begins at 2 p.m. Master of Ceremonies will be Jay Yozviak, photographer at the Rygiel Studio. Invocation will be given by Christy Dreabit and the piano accompanist is Stephenie Denisco. James Redington, principal of Seton Catholic, will wel-

come everyone. Remarks will be given by Paul Golias, managing editor of the Citizens' Voice. Robert Manganiello, general manager of the Citizens' Voice, will present the awards.

Marijo Varaly is refreshment committee chairperson. Home-made items will be served in the adjoining cafeteria following the program. The entire Youth Salute exhibit will be on display at the school.

Rygiel said 1,393 high school students from 18 schools will have been recognized and honored in Youth Salute. Each year, the local

Youth Leader of the Year is sent to St. Louis to compete for the National Title. Every year a local student has been in the top 10 in the nation. For three years, there have been a first runner-up and a second runner-up. In 1985 Kimberly McClymont from Tunkhannock was the National Youth Leader of the Year.

Dr. Breiseth was born in Minneapolis, Minn. He earned degrees in history from the University of California: Modern British History from Oxford University and his doctorate in Modern Intellectual History from Cornell University. He has had numerous adminis-

trative experiences in Massachusetts, Washington, D.C. and Illinois. He was president and dean at Deep Springs College in California before coming to Wilkes-Barre in 1984. His awards include a Senior Dissertation Fellowship from Cornell University; Danforth Postdoctoral Fellowship from University of Chicago; Who's Who in America and an Honorary Doctor of Public Service from Luzerne County Community College. He has authored over 15 writings and publications.

Dr. Breiseth is married to Jane Morhouse and they have three children: Abigail 25, Erika, 23 and Lydia 13.



**Dr. Breiseth**





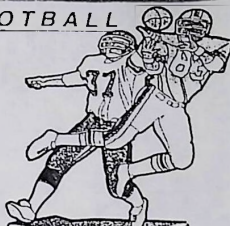
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# The Times Leader

Berwick 27  
Scranton Prep 12  
West Scranton 20  
Wyoming Valley West 7  
Coughlin 35  
Nanticoke 3  
Dunmore 21  
GAR 6

5C



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1993

WILKES-BARRE, PA.

## Public gives pre-paid college an 'A'

**A new program will enable parents to finance tomorrow's educations at today's prices**

By ANNE KAROLYI

Times Leader Staff Writer

WILKES-BARRE — Ten-year-old Aaron Helwig of Wilkes-Barre wants to be a football player, or maybe a policeman.

The fourth-grader also really likes the University of Pittsburgh, where his aunts go to school. That's fine with his mother, although she cringes at one, overwhelming thought: Tuition.

"By the time he goes to college, it will cost over \$20,000, \$30,000," a worried Susan Boerger said. "I just don't have that kind of money."

Such financial fears prompted Boerger, like thousands of other people statewide, to try a new source of help for college funding: The state tuition account.

On Sept. 9, state Treasurer Catherine Baker

Knoll announced the birth of the Pennsylvania Tuition Account Program. The plan allows people to pay for college credits and even full tuition years before the student steps onto campus.

Now, parents still buying diapers can pay for their child's college education at any community, state or state-related college in Pennsylvania or the nation.

"The most important thing is families and children and education," Knoll said Friday. "This recognizes that."

Knoll also was the program's first customer. She set up accounts for her two grandsons, she said. Plenty more customers followed.

Operators have been manning program telephone lines in Harrisburg from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays since Knoll's announcement, and about 400 calls an hour poured in each day, said Michael Anney, general counsel for the treasurer's office.

More than 3,000 of them have been from Luzerne County — people like Jody and Linda Stephanik of Hanover Township, who want to send

their daughters Tracy, 12, and Kerne, 10, to college.

Their mother knows from experience how expensive college can be. She and her husband, a second-generation college student, she worked part-time through a two-year nursing degree at Lehigh Community College. Her parents couldn't afford to help, said Stephanik, who once wanted to be a teacher.

"I hope it is easier for them," Stephanik said. "This could make it easier. It's great as far as the cost goes."

The program is a safer than regular investing because college credits are guaranteed, Knoll said. For example, if a parent pays \$2,462.20 toward a semester at Penn State University's Wilkes-Barre or Hazleton campuses, that semester is paid for no matter how much the college may charge per semester 10 or 20 years from now.

All Pennsylvania community colleges are eligible.

■ See TUITION, Page 6A



Sue Boerger called about the Tuition Account Program, which may save her money when it sends her son, Aaron Helwig, to college.

## Tuition

(Continued from Page 1A)

universities are involved in the program. So are the state-related universities — Temple, Lincoln and the University of Pittsburgh. Purchasers can pick a school, or pay a state-estimated average. This year, for in-state students, that's \$228.31 for state-related schools, \$125.60 per credit for state universities and \$61.49 for community colleges.

The program is open year-round for investments, and the state set no required amounts for payments. All the money goes into a separate fund in the state Treasury Investment Center, managed by state-employed professional investors. People can open an account for a little as \$5, which buys about 1/20th of a college credit.

"It's not buying you a whole bunch of stuff, but it's getting you into the program," said Edward Ackerman, director of Luzerne County Community College's journalism program. Ackerman served on an advisory board which helped develop the program, as did the Rev. James Lackenmier, president of King's College.

"This is the kind of thing, when you get involved, it gets easier. The program is there, they manage the money," Ackerman said. "You can't be tempted to take money out. If you buy credits, they're there."

Private schools are getting into the pre-paid concept as well. Wilkes University is estimating how much people should invest in the state program if they someday want to attend the university, said President Christopher Ore-



TIMES LEADER/PETE Q. WILCOX  
State Treasurer Catherine Baker Knoll explains the state's new tuition account program. Knoll visited The Times Leader on Friday.

iseth.

"Eventually, such efforts could help level tuition. If a college knows a steady supply of students are available," he said.

"It's exciting," Treiseth said. "It means people are planning ahead for education."

In a state where one in five students drop out of high school, Knoll said she hopes the pre-paid credits, whether for a semester or four years, will give students incentive to get a degree. And a state with more college graduates is more attractive to business and industry, which could, someday, bring more jobs, she said.

Boerger attended three years of college and dropped out to raise her son. When she receives her program application, it might not be just for him, she said.

### Tuition plan Q & A

Tomorrow's education all to day's prices? It's not a parent's dream — it's the new state-run Pennsylvania Tuition Account Program. Now, people can pay for college tuition years in advance, at current costs.

**Q: Who can buy?**

**A:** Anyone — parents, grandparents, friends — can open an account for a child or an adult. Either the sponsor or the future student must live in Pennsylvania.

**Q: What schools are involved?**

**A:** All community, state and state-related colleges. Students who choose to attend a private or trade school, or go to college out of state, can still get their invested money, although it may not cover those tuition costs.

**Q: What is the minimum purchase?**

**A:** For \$5, you can buy a unit, or about 1/20th of a college credit. The state suggests buying 24 credits per year of college or 96 tuition credits for four years.

Credit prices depend on the college you choose, or you can buy credits at a state-estimated average. Money must remain in the program for at least four years. All investments are tax-free and used only in the program.

**Q: How do I apply?**

**A:** Call 1-800-440-4000 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. weekdays or write to the Pennsylvania Tuition Account Program, P.O. Box 3636, Harrisburg, Pa., 17105-3636.

"I'm thinking about opening two accounts, one for him and one for me," Boerger said. "When he's ready to go, I'll go with him."



## PA Tuition Program works at all colleges, universities

Editor:

I read with great interest the article in Friday's paper concerning the new Tuition Account Program (TAP) that has been made available to the people of Pennsylvania. TAP is a long-term savings plan for higher education which I applaud as a major step forward for higher education in Pennsylvania.

While the article examined TAP at length, I feel I must clarify one point which has been a source of confusion since the program was announced. Any funds placed in TAP are portable and can be applied to tuition at any accredited college or university in the nation, not just the state-sponsored or state-related colleges.

TAP officials have told the Commission of Independent Colleges and Universities, one of the most frequently asked questions thus far has been, "Can my child use TAP funds to go to other colleges?" The answer is yes. Participants in TAP can save for a college education at the institution of their choice. While TAP is a wonderful program in Pennsylvania, it must be understood that it applies to all colleges and universities to fully appreciate its value as a tool for the future financing of higher education.

Thank you for allowing me to clarify this important new program.

Christopher N. Breiseth, Ph.D.  
President  
Wilkes University

CV 9/21/93



SEP 5, 1993

SUNDAY DISPATCH  
PITTSBURGH, PA

SUN - 54,000

## Dr. Breiseth To Speak — Youth Salute Set For Seton

The Tenth Annual Youth Salute Awards Day will be held at Seton Catholic High School, Pittston on Sunday, Sept. 19.

The Youth Salute is honored this year to have as its main speaker, Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University. 726ff

Dr. Breiseth was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He earned degrees in history from University of California; Modern British History from Oxford University and his doctorate in Modern European Intellectual History from Cornell University.

He has numerous administrative experiences in Massachusetts, Washington, D.C., and Illinois. He was president and dean of Deep Springs College in California before coming to Wilkes-Barre in 1984. His awards are many and include a Senior Dissertation Fellowship from Cornell University; Danforth Postdoctoral Fellowship from

University of Chicago; Who's Who in America and an Honorary Doctor of Public Service from LCCC. He has authored over 15 writings and publications.

Dr. Breiseth is married to Jane Morhouse and they have three children: Abigail, Erika and Lydia.

Youth Salute Coordinator John Rygiel said the program will start promptly at 2 p.m. There should be adequate parking in two parking lots also on William, Church and Broad Streets. Master of ceremonies will be Jay Yozviak, photographer at the Rygiel Studio.

Invocation will be given by Christy Dreabit and piano accompanist is Stephenie Denisco. James Redington, principal at Seton Catholic, will welcome everyone. Remarks will be given by Paul Golias, managing editor of the Citizens' Voice, and Robert Manganiello, general manager of the Citizens' Voice will present

the awards.

The refreshment committee with Marijo Varaly as chairperson invite everyone to enjoy home-made goodies in the adjoining cafeteria following the program. The entire Youth Salute exhibit will be on display at the school.

Mr. Rygiel stated that this year will mark the 10th year in which 1393 high school students from 18 schools will have been recognized and honored in Youth Salute. Each year the local Youth Leader of the Year is sent to St. Louis to compete for the national title. Each year a local student has been in the top ten in the nation; and for three years, there has been a first runner-up and one second runner-up.



# Dr. Breiseth will be '93 Youth Salute speaker

The 1993 annual Youth Salute Awards Day will be held at Seaton Catholic High School, Pittston, on Sunday, Sept. 19.

Main speaker will be Dr. Christopher S. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University.

Dr. Breiseth was born in Minneapolis, Minn. He earned degrees in history from the University of California, Modern British History from Indiana University and his doctorate in Modern Intellectual History from Cornell University.

He has had numerous administrative experiences in Massachusetts, Washington, D.C. and Illinois. He was president and dean at Deep Springs College in California before coming to Wilkes. Here in 1981, his awards include a Senior Dissertation Fellowship from Cornell University, Darrin Postdoctoral Fellowship from University of Chicago, Who's Who in America and an Honorary Doctor of Public Service from Luzerne County Community College. He has authored over 15 writings and publications.

Dr. Breiseth is married to Jane Morrison and they have three children: Abigail 25, Emily, 22 and Lydia 13.

Youth Salute Coordinator John Rygiel said the program will begin at 2 p.m. Parking is available in lots also on Wilkes, Chasen and Broad Streets. Master of Ceremonies will be Jay Yarnack, photo grapher at the Rygiel Studio. Introduction will be given by Christy Dreyer and the game accompaniment is Siegfried Desires. James Hensington, principal of Seaton Catholic, will welcome everyone. Bernata will be given by Paul Geiss, managing editor of the Citizens' Voice. Robert Marganovitch, general manager of the Citizens' Voice, will present the awards.

Maryo Varay is a retirement committee chairperson. Homemade treats will be served in the adjoining cafeteria following the program. The entire Youth Salute exhibit will be on display at the school.

Rygiel said 1,200 high school students from 18 schools will have been recognized and honored in Youth Salute. Each year, the local Youth Leader of the Year is sent to St. Louis to compete for the National Title. Every year a local student has been in the top 10 in the nation. For three years, there have been a first runner up and a second runner up. In 1983 Kimberly McClymont from Dunbarbrook was the National Youth Leader of the Year.

1993 Youth Salute nominees listed by school:

Coughlin - Dustin Clouse, Christopher Coart, Angelica Danaher, Beth Gurdock, Linda Joseph, Theresa Kruyer, Louise Kopcho, Kristen Kreege, Kim



Dr. Breiseth

Korzanek, Christina Michael, Katherine Slabinski, Benjamin Smith, Donald Stark, Jesus Vera, Krystine Abrams, Rebecca Austin, Megan Kathleen Berwick, Shannon Drake, Steven David Glascock, Sean Evans, Tina Evans, Tina Louise Franks, Jason Jarabewicz, Heather Kolosinski, Sharen Lawrencik, Michelle Lukas, Marissa P. McGourty, Philip James Myers, Cynthia O'Malia, Paul Petrowski Jr., Rich

and Patricia, Christin Smith, Kathleen Walsh, Jennifer Waskiewicz, Derek Zaleski, Tara Zimmerman.

Crimwood - Sean Shunk, GALT - Lane Adew, Jeanne Hultink.

Busby O'Reilly - Gina Marie Starn, Laura Austin, Nicole Senti, chak, Timothy Strawn, Jane Smedley, Lynn Patricia

Makalski, Carolyn Evans, Elizabeth Purdy, Rachel Ploczynski, Kim Tommaselli, Karlyn Teudel

Wyoming Area - Michelle Bosco, Lisa Chappelwa, Edward O'Mara, David Pika, Michael

Chump, Jay Vail, Sandra In-salaco, William Thornton, Mary Erika Buehler, Christopher Celala, Stephanie Denies, Alison Devers, Christy Dreyer, Juli Fawcett, Christine Lemsi, Sue Sisti, Sharon

Whipple.

Ermer Area - Kimberly Prielman, Sarah Lynn Griffith, Jaime Olleran, Amy Knauer, Amy

Lynn Durak, Amy Corwin, Rebecca Margaret Saba, Jennifer Gita.

John's Pine - William Walliver, Kelly Kelland, Heidi Ann Owen, Stacie Anne Kutra, Melina Lauzack, Stephanie Buchinski, Nicole Silasney, Jane

Jesus, Holly Salinas, Dena Opalski, Angela Kolblyan, Carme Wilkes, Tullary Mary Krysposki, Megan Clark, Gary Bau, Maria Mahr, April Wrobel.

Dallas Area - Kenneth Michael Chappie, Lynn Ann Murphy, Nicole Marie Stolz, Abby Foston, Gregory Nizdon, Cynthia Ann

Mayer, Jeff Kenehy, Jessica Kerr, Catherine Elise Grossman, Jeanette Fagan, Molly Blum, Andrew Bishop, Kelly James

Delinsky, Jacob Owen Fletcher, West Side Tech - Christina Thompson, Ted Montgony, Lisa

Trinity.

Lake Lebanon - William Wersuche, Michael Petrowski, Julie Desmirewicz, Anne Gruchowski, J. C. Lind, David V. Lukawski, Natalie Karpovich, Jared

Razanowski, Kimberly Daniels, Nicholas Slush, Karen Komulsky, Heather Evansch.

Seaton Catholic - America Holly, Sarah Prew, Amy Marie Vahlovski, Mary Weaschens, Adam Jones, Nicole Zarnicki, DePhillips, Michael Romanko, Jennifer Gimsad.

Bishop Hoban - Laura Ter williger, Danielle Ring, Matthew Lada, Janet Rachel Peggels, Matthew Skordanski, Harry Jaro, Verena Cybulski, Kelly Christina

Muskat, Barbara Mroczek, David Bererich, Laura Gottam, Malika Mokore, Angela Gombak, Tara Chasack, Kelly Marie Waskins, Laetitia Raynski, Heather Fitz

mauer, Kristin Cawson, Edwies



## Osterhout Society kicks off major gifts campaign

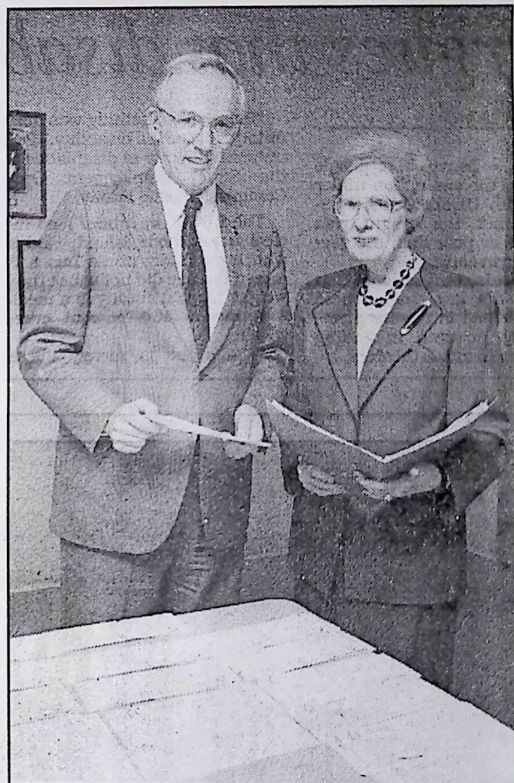
The major gifts phase of the Osterhout Society Campaign started Friday with a luncheon at the Arnaud C. Marts Center, Wilkes University.

Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, Wilkes president, is campaign chairman. He is also a member of the Osterhout board of directors. Co-chairmen are Stephen Sordoni and David Kowalek.

The goal for the 1994 campaign is \$175,000. The money from the campaign goes directly into the library's operating budget which totaled \$1,230,470

this year. The 1993 campaign, headed by Gus Genetti Jr., raised \$152,000. The major gifts phase of the campaign should be complete by the end of this year. The general fund drive is set to begin in January.

Participating in this year's campaign, from the left, are Michael Glod, Osterhout development director; Joan M. Costello, Osterhout librarian; Dr. Breiseth, Neil M. Seidel, Osterhout board's first vice president, and Sordoni.



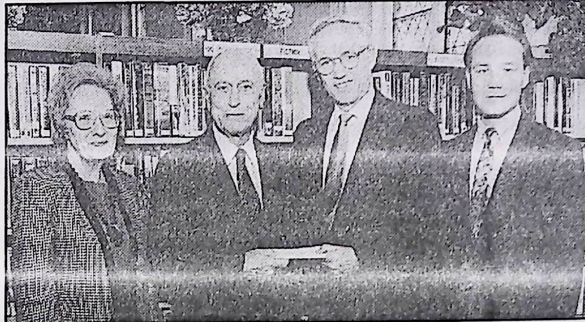
TIMES LEADER/RICHARD SABATURA

## Library opens campaign

Christopher N. Breiseth, Wilkes University president, and Joan M. Costello, Osterhout Free Library head librarian, presided Friday over a luncheon at the Arnaud C. Marts Center at Wilkes University. The luncheon began the Major Gifts Phase of the 1994 Osterhout Society Campaign. The goal is to raise \$175,000 for the library's operating budget. Breiseth is chairman of the Major Gifts Phase. His co-chairmen are Stephen Sordoni and David Kowalek.

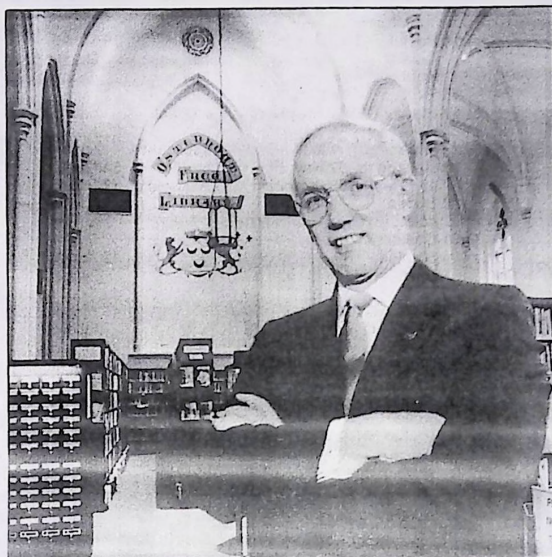


TL 11/11/93



**JUDGE PRESENTS GIFT TO OSTERHOUT LIBRARY CAMPAIGN**

— Judge Max Rosenn has presented Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth with the first gift for the 1994 Osterhout Society Campaign. Dr. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, is serving as chairperson for the 1994 Campaign. From left are: Joan M. Costello, librarian; Judge Rosenn; Dr. Breiseth, and Michael Glod, development director of the Library.



CV 10/25/93

## Dr. Breiseth to head 1993 Osterhout Society

Wesley B. Simmers, president of the Board of Directors of the Osterhout Free Library, announces that Christopher N. Breiseth, Ph.D., president of Wilkes University, will serve as chairman of the 1993 Osterhout Society.

Dr. Breiseth is a board member of the Osterhout Free Library, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership, and the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, as well as being chair of the Earth Conservancy and Chair Emeritus of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council.

Dr. Breiseth had announced his 1994 Osterhout Society Cabinet. Members include Tom Bigler, Jack L. Burke, Mark W. Chamberlain, Marlene Coyle, David C. Kowalik, Rabbi James R. Michaels, Neil M. Seidel, Stephen Sardoni, Wesley B. Simmers, Marjorie Trethaway.

Rabbi James R. Michaels is serving as first vice chair for the 1994 Society, and will serve as chair of the 1995 campaign. Jack L. Burke is serving as second vice chair of the 1996 campaign.

The 1993 Society, chaired by August H. Genetti Jr., has pledges of \$150,000. The goal for the 1994 Society campaign is \$175,000.



TL 10-17-93

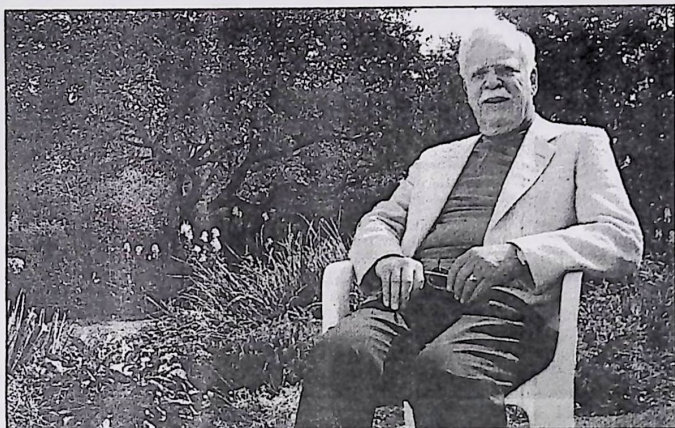


**WILKES PRESIDENT HOSTS ICE CREAM SOCIAL** — Wilkes University President Christopher N. Breiseth and his wife Jane recently hosted an ice cream social at Weckesser Hall to open the new academic year and welcome faculty back to campus. The entire University community and their families were treated to an afternoon of ice cream and good conversation. Shown, from left: Betsy Condron, special assistant for community relations; Tom Bigler, communications professor; Dr. J. Michael Lennon, vice president for academic affairs; and Dr. Robert Herman, dean of school of liberal arts and human sciences.



**WILKES FACULTY AND STAFF CHILDREN ENJOY ICE CREAM** — Children of Wilkes University's faculty and staff enjoyed the Ice Cream Social too! David Catron, Elise Fields, and Jason Catron are shown above with some frosty treats.

*"The Indians, the fights. I got to be very excited about it as a boy."*



TIMES LEADER/CARA MENICHELLI

Dr. Charles E. Myers, author of a book about local colonial history, in his yard in Larksville

## Tales of Truth to Tell

By JOE BUTKIEWICZ

Times Leader Staff Writer

**A**s a child growing up in Kingston, Charles E. Myers heard the stories of family history from his father, Philip.

"The Indians, the fights. I got to be very excited about it as a boy," said Myers, 80, a noted area physician. He recently recalled that "about the time I stopped believing in Santa Claus, I began doubting my father's stories."

Years later, when those stories of childhood became an avocation of retirement, Myers discovered they were mostly true.

His research and story telling have resulted in the book, "A Connecticut Yankee in Penn's Woods: The Life and Times of Thomas Bennet." Published by Wilkes University Press, the book uses the story of Bennet — an 18th century Connecticut settler in Wyoming Valley and relative of Myers — as a common thread through the development of this area and the United States.

The book, which costs \$14.95, is available at the Tudor Book stores, the Book and Record Mart and the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society.

Myers will be signing copies at the Tudor on Wyoming Ave. in Kingston on Saturday, Oct. 30 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Other signings will be scheduled as well.

At first blush, a history seems an unlikely project for a physician retired from a distinguished career. But

■ See TALE, Page 9B

**"Thomas Bennet and his wife** were fearful that their eldest son, Solomon, had been killed or taken prisoner. As of early morning, July 4, he had not returned. As morning passed into afternoon, a weary and exhausted Solomon suddenly appeared at the gate of the fort. Having been on the right flank of the little army with Captain Biddick's company, he had fled to the nearby river with savages in hot pursuit. At one point he was nearly captured by a pursuing Indian. He had but a single lead ball left in his pouch, and he quickly loaded his gun. With deadly aim, he felled his pursuer, made a dash for the river. Here he encountered Mathias Hollenback, who had lost his clothing in the melee. He loaned half of his own to Mathias (which half we will never know) and together they proceeded down river to Wilkes-Barre fort. After resting there overnight, Solomon crossed the river again and walked back to Forty Fort."

An incident following the Battle of Wyoming in 1778, as described in "A Connecticut Yankee in Penn's Woods: The Life and Times of Thomas Bennet" by Charles E. Myers.



# Tale

(Continued from Page 1B)

just as Myers found time during a busy medical career to paint landscapes and make furniture, his "retirement" has been busy with tennis, reading, a home bounded by 20 fruit trees, rows of berries and grapes, perennials, shrubs and water gardens, and becoming an author.

"I've enjoyed my career but I've enjoyed this as well," said Myers. "It's like a post-retirement exercise."

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Myers served in the Army during World War II, was for a time Chief of Medical Services and Chief of Staff at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, and founded Associated Internists in Kingston, where he kept a practice until 1984 when the possibility of a stroke prompted him to retire.

He traces his interest in history — aside from his father's stories — to 1976, the year of the bicentennial celebration of the United States. Myers said he devoted a year of reading and note-taking to the many new publications about American history.

That gradually led to increased research that included his own genealogy. Myers is a fifth generation descendant of Bennet — one of "the forty" that settled in Wyoming Valley in 1768. His research took him to libraries and historical societies, here, and in Stroudsburg, Milford, Port Jervis, Newburgh and Goshen.

"It's not a genealogy. It's not

hero worship," he said of his book. "Story telling was a priority."

"I wanted to look back and see how it was to live at that time," said Myers while seated in Larks Nest, the name he and his wife Virginia have given to their Larksville home.

Nevertheless, his intimacy with his family's story contributes to the story.

"They were remarkable in their accuracy," Myers said of his father's tales. "Here and there it came out with a little stretch of the imagination. Apparently there was a channel of verbal history."

Myers said his father was close to Myers' great-grandmother, Harriet Myers, who was the granddaughter of Thomas Bennet. That closeness, spanning generations, may have contributed to more accurate accounts.

In the process of collecting research and writing, Myers received the encouragement of Christopher Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, and the assistance of area author Linda Stallone. She referred Myers to artist Joan P. Schooley, who illustrated the cover of the book.

And through his research, Myers became engrossed in a related subject, taking the time to write a pamphlet, "The History of Shad Fishing on the Susquehanna River and Current Efforts to Restore the Species."

Myers said that in his research he was surprised about the general fitness and well-being of colonial families.

"I've been very impressed (that) in those days of those early, large families, how they got delivered from their pregnancies. There were so few miscarriages and stillbirths."

There's a story in these notes, said Myers. "That's (a book) I'm going to try and do."

## ■ Wilkes president named to Who's Who

Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, has been inducted as a member of the International Who's Who.

Dr. Breiseth's outstanding achievements have lead him to be recognized as one of America's leading successful professionals. The president of Wilkes University since 1984, Dr. Breiseth received his baccalaureate degree in history with highest honors from the University of California at Los Angeles (1958) where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He received the B. Litt in Modern British History from Oxford University (1962), and the Ph.D. in Modern European Intellectual History from Cornell University (1964).

A Woodrow Wilson Graduate Fellow at Cornell University from 1958-60, Dr. Breiseth was also awarded the Telluride Association/Lincoln College Exchange Scholarship at Oxford University from 1960-62.

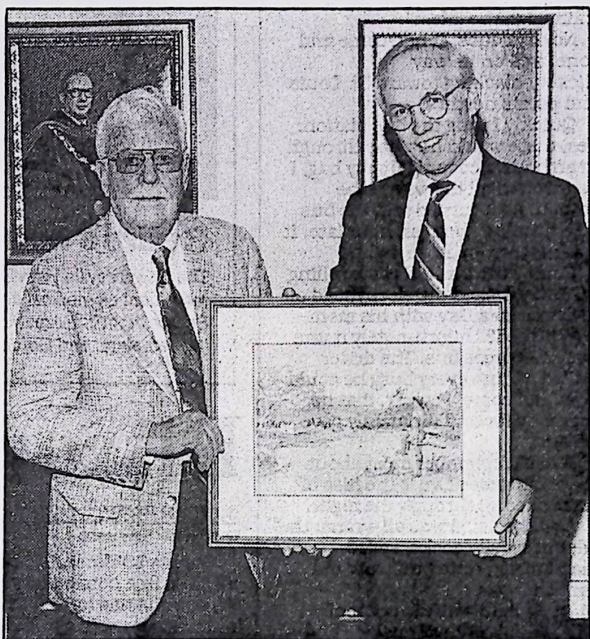
Dr. Breiseth also served as Chief of the Policy Guidance Branch on Community Action in the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington D.C. In 1970, he was a post-doctoral Danforth Fellow in Black Studies at the University of Chicago. After completing his research in Black Studies, Dr. Breiseth joined the history faculty at Sangamon State University in Springfield, Illinois.

Dr. Breiseth is chairman of the Earth Conservancy, a community initiative to reclaim the Blue Coal lands.

As chairman, Dr. Breiseth leads the effort to purchase the 15,000 acres of mine scarred land and turn them into a laboratory for research and technology.

TL 11/15/93





TL 12-28-93

**WILKES HOLDS RECEPTION AND BOOK SIGNING FOR AUTHOR** — Wilkes University recently hosted a book-signing and reception to honor Dr. Charles Myers, author of "A Connecticut Yankee in Penn's Woods: The life and times of Thomas Bennett." Published in the Wilkes University Press, the story documents the Bennett family history around the struggle to settle the land of the Wyoming Valley. Shown, from left: Dr. Charles Myers and Dr. Christopher N. Brelseth, president of Wilkes University. Brelseth presented Myers with the original artwork from the cover of his book.

## Schools & Colleges

# President of Wilkes University named to "International Who's Who"

Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, was recently inducted as a member of "International Who's Who."

"This inclusion is indicative of outstanding professional achievement in one's particular sphere of influence," said Scott Adams, editor-in-chief of "International Who's Who."

Dr. Breiseth's outstanding achievements have led him to be recognized as one of America's leading successful professionals.

The President of Wilkes University since 1984, Dr. Breiseth received his baccalaureate degree in history with highest honors from the University of California at Los Angeles (1958) where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He received the B.Litt in Modern British History from Oxford Uni-



versity, (1962) and the PhD in Modern European Intellectual History from Cornell University (1964).

A Woodrow Wilson Graduate Fellow at Cornell University from 1958-60, Dr. Breiseth was also awarded the Telluride Association/Lincoln College Exchange Scholarship at Oxford University from 1960-62. He joined the faculty at Williams College in 1963 and served as the Liaison Officer for Fulbright, Marshall, and Rhodes Scholarships.

Dr. Breiseth also served as Chief of the Policy Guidance Branch on Community Action in the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington D.C. In 1970, he was a postdoctoral Danforth Fellow in Black Studies at the University of Chicago. After completing his research in Black Studies, Dr. Breiseth joined the history faculty at Sangamon State University in Springfield, Illinois.

In 1980, Dr. Breiseth accepted the Presidency of Deep Springs

College in California and served for three years as its President and Dean before returning to Sangamon State University where he taught until his appointment as President of Wilkes University.

As chairman of the Earth Conservancy, Dr. Breiseth is head of a bold community initiative to reclaim the Blue Coal lands. In this capacity, Dr. Breiseth leads the effort to purchase the 15,000 acres of mine-scarred land and turn them into a laboratory for research and technology which will place this region among the leaders into the 21st century.

He has been a leader in many civic organizations which include the Osterhout Free Library; Leadership Wilkes-Barre; United Way of Wyoming Valley (chairman, Education Division-1990), and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership.

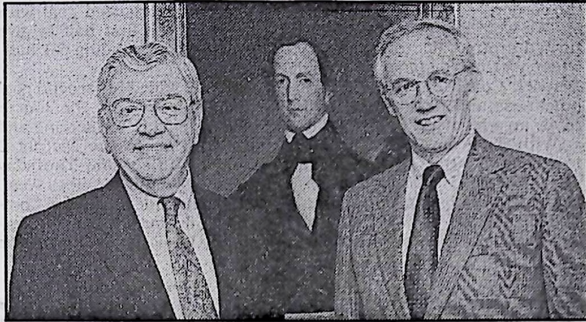
Within the business community, Dr. Breiseth has worked to foster development and economic growth

in Northeastern Pennsylvania. He has also been instrumental in developing ways in which educational institutions in the Wyoming Valley can work together to pool

resources for the benefit of all students.

His leadership is credited with the achievement that moved Wilkes to University status in 1990.





**BREISETH NAMED AS CHAIRMAN OF OSTERHOUT SOCIETY —** Christopher N. Breiseth, Ph.D., president of Wilkes University, will serve as chairman of the 1994 Osterhout Society. Dr. Breiseth is a board member of the Osterhout Free Library, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership, and the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, as well as being chair of the Earth Conservancy and Chair Emeritus of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council. Rabbi James R. Michaels will serve as first vice-chair for the 1994 Society, and will serve as chair of the 1995 campaign. Jack L. Burke will serve as second vice-chair for the 1994 Society and will serve as chair of the 1996 campaign. The 1993 Society chaired by August H. Genetti Jr., has pledged of \$150,000. The goal for the 1994 Society Campaign is \$175,000. From left are: Wesley B. Simmers and Christopher N. Breiseth, Ph.D.

TL 11/3/93

## Briefly...

### Breiseth will speak at commencement

Wilkes University President Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth will be speaker at the university's annual summer Commencement/Convocation exercises on Thursday, Aug. 27 at 11:15 in the Arnaud C. Marts Sports and Conference Center. The ceremony will honor the university's newest graduates and open the 1992-93 academic year.

The president of Wilkes since 1984, Dr. Breiseth received his baccalaureate degree in history with highest honors from UCLA, 1958, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He received the B.Litt in Modern British History from Oxford University, 1962, and the Ph.D. in Modern European Intellectual History from Cornell University, 1964.

Dr. Breiseth was recently named chairman of the Earth Conservancy, a bold community initiative to reclaim the Blue Coal lands.

He has been a leader in many civic organizations which include the Osterhout Library, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, United Way of Wyoming Valley, and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership.





8/16/82

## President of university to address Wilkes grads

Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president of Wilkes University, will be the principal speaker at the university's annual summer commencement/convocation exercises to be held at 11:15 a.m. Aug. 27.

The event will be held in the Arnaud C. Marts Sports and Conference Center and will honor the university's newest graduates and serve as the official opening of the 1992-93 academic year.

President of Wilkes since 1984, Breiseth received his baccalaureate degree in history with highest honors from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1958 where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

He received the B.Litt in modern British history from Oxford University in 1962 and the Ph.D. in modern European intellectual history from Cornell University in 1964.