

No Radical Problems Are Seen At Wilkes

"We have no radical problem in the post war period—"we are at the college . . . There have been no hard problems of a radical nature. If we can maintain a meaningful relationship among all concerned, we can avoid them," said Wilkes College Dean George Ralston as he addressed a gathering at the college yesterday.

The meeting was held to hear a second report on the annual college appeal for scholarship support. Arthur Podesta, appeal chairman, reported slightly more than 40 percent of \$51,119 of the \$125,000 goal has been reached.

Dean Ralston expressed confidence in "this new breed of students" who seek only an avenue of communication between faculty and administration and themselves.

The dean pointed out that students come in for more than a fair share of criticism, but the criticism applies to only a small segment of the seven million students in the country. He pointed out that tensions on the college campuses throughout the country are caused by three main factors: a gradual decline of informal student contact with faculty inside and outside the classroom; social acceptance of peaceful demonstration that influences students to adopt this procedure to get what they want, and young people are sensitive to campus resistance because of increased amount of freedom at home; lack of family and community restraints have evolved

either too prescriptive or too permissive," he said.

Dean Ralston classified students as — the backbone group which is future-oriented; the rebels who want to change the system by action, and the idealists who do not wish to tear down the system but to better it.

Problems today are as many as yesterday, but seem to be different. Students today do not know a whole lot more, they are not more intelligent, he said, but they have different information.

At Wilkes, the Student Government, Student Life Committee, and the Educational Committee all serve, not only as a sounding board, but as a constructive means to engender complete rapport.

Wilkes honors George Ralston at alumni event

C.V. 4-21-01

Wilkes University will pay tribute to Dean George F. Ralston, "the father of Wilkes athletics," at the Annual Alumni Scholarship Dinner Dance on Saturday, April 28 in the Student Union Ballroom, 84 West South Street.

A member of the Wilkes community since 1946, Ralston, now 83 years-old, currently serves as special assistant for Alumni Relations.

Throughout the development of Bucknell University Junior College and Wilkes College (precursors to Wilkes University), Ralston has held the titles of dean of men, dean of student affairs, director of athletics, instructor, benefactor, and administrator.

Ralston, a native of Harrisonburg, Va.,



Ralston

graduated from Susquehanna Township High School and North Carolina University, and received an honorary doctorate from Wilkes in 1997.

An Army veteran of World War II, (Major) Ralston served in Africa and the South Pacific and was awarded two Purple Hearts. When he returned home to Forty Fort, Pa., he accepted the position of counselor to veterans returning to Bucknell University Junior College.

Deeply committed to community service, Ralston has been affiliated with the Wilkes-Barre YMCA, the Rotary Club, Salvation

Army, American Red Cross, Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, and the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches. He is also a deacon, elder, and trustee of the Wilkes-Barre First Presbyterian Church. For his efforts,

Ralston received the Silver Beaver Award from the Boy Scouts of America and the Citation of Distinction from the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council.

Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres begin at 6:30 p.m., dinner is at 7:30 p.m., and three hours of dancing to the music of disc jockey Rick O'Shea begin at 9 p.m.

There is a cost per person. Proceeds benefit the Alumni Scholarship Fund. RSVP to the Wilkes Alumni Relations Office at 408-4130.



STUDENTS OF MONTH — The Kingston-Fort Fort Lions Club recently held its 16th Annual Student of the Month Program Banquet at the Sheraton Crossgates. Honored were outstanding students from Wyoming Valley West, Bishop O'Reilly and Wyoming Seminary. Receiving Student of the Year Awards were: Larry M. Newman, Wyoming Valley West High School; Andrew Martin, Bishop O'Reilly High School, and Allison S. Nelson, Wyoming Seminary. Featured speaker was Mr.

George F. Ralston, Dean of Student Affairs, Wilkes College. Left to right are: Dr. Robert D. Blase, banquet chairman; James Ferris, principal, Wyoming Valley West High School; Larry M. Newman; Rev. Michael J. Piccola, principal, Bishop O'Reilly High School; Andrew Martin; George F. Ralston; Allison S. Nelson; David L. Davies, Dean of Students, Wyoming Seminary; David J. Fagula, president, Kingston-Fort Fort Lions Club.

RECREATION PLANS OKAYED

New City Board Told Of Summer Agenda

Plans for the summer playground program in Wilkes-Barre were outlined yesterday afternoon at a meeting of the newly created Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board. Program calls for special planning of dramatics, athletics and crafts.

Board approved the programs and the selecting of three supervisors for the activities. Selection for the positions, on a part-time basis, will be made February 13. Applications may be obtained at the Recreation Board, Room 30, Bennett Building, North Main street.

Activities of the Playground and Recreation Association were explained by John B. Zerbe, executive director, and Miss Sally Jervis, supervisor of playgrounds and community centers. It was stated that leadership position applications are being received in substantial numbers.

Board approved the installation and use of vending machines for participants of the center programs. Local vending companies may contact the Recreation Board for information on installing the machines.

George Ralston presided at the meeting. Others attending were W. Robert Toomb, acting treasurer; Walter W. Lisman, acting assistant treasurer, and Raymond

U. Tubridy acting secretary

Ralston to Head Group

Recreation Unit Discusses Hiring

Newly created Recreation Commission at an organizational meeting last night in offices of Playground and Recreation Association selected temporary officers, discussed employment of summer playground leaders, and established opening and closing dates for summer employment applications.

George Ralston will serve as temporary president. Other officers who will serve until permanent officers are chosen are W. Robert Toomb, secretary, and Walter Lisman, assistant secretary. Other commission members are Charles Weissman and Raymond Tubridy.

Recreation Commission will process all applications for part-time employment, will interview all applicants and will select all employees, it was announced following the meeting.

Commission announced it will receive applications for summer playground leaders from January 1 through March 17. Application forms will be sent upon request made to the commission office 30 Bennett Building, North Main Street. Commission will notify area colleges and city high schools that applications will be received during that period.

It was noted employment is confined to city residents as the program is a city program.

Members of the new commission met the staff of Playground and Recreation Association who will temporarily administer and execute the policies which the Recreation Commission will establish. John B. Zerbe, executive director of the association, presented Sally Jervis, supervisor of playgrounds and community centers; Joseph Kane, director of program, and Maryanne Gardella, office manager.

Members studied the financial structure of the city recreation program. They were informed by Zerbe of the forthcoming annual Pennsylvania Recreation Conference to be held in Wilkes-Barre in May. It has been designated as the Governor's Conference on Recreation for Pennsylvania, Zerbe reported. Commission members will serve as host group for the conference.

A meeting schedule was adopted. Commission will meet the second and fourth Monday at 4 p. m. in Room 30, Bennett Build.

To Speak at Millville HS

George F. Ralston, Dean of Men, Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre, will be the Commencement speaker at the Millville Joint High School exercises to be held in the high school gymnasium next Tuesday evening at eight o'clock.

Ralston, who has served on the Wilkes faculty since 1946,



GEORGE F. RALSTON

has been most active in college and civic affairs in the Wilkes-Barre area.

He has served Wilkes for eighteen years in his present office of Dean of Men and has held the Director of Athletics post for the last thirteen years. Just after World War II, when he served in the anti-aircraft artillery from a private to a ma-

(Continued on Page Sixteen)

Recreation Board

Briefed On Duties

Members of the newly created Recreation Board in Wilkes-Barre yesterday were informed what their duties will be, heard reading of the ordinance establishing the board and joined in a general discussion of objectives. Prior to the discussion at City Hall, Mayor Frank Slattery swore in the following members: Walter Lisman, George Ralston, W. Robert Toomb, Jr., and Ray-

mond Lubridy. Fifth member of the board is Charles Weissman who was reported as ill.

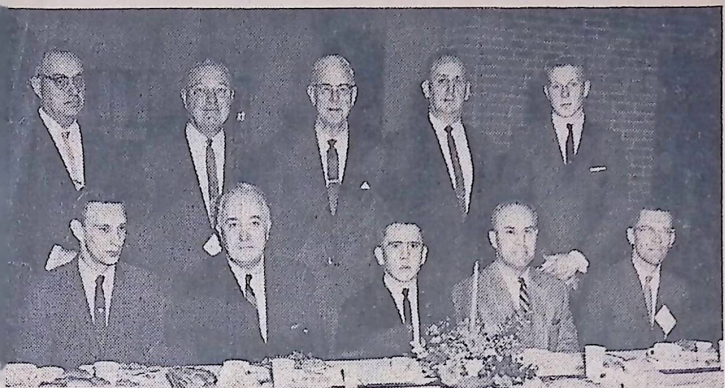
Others in attendance were A DeWitt Smith, president of Wyoming Valley Playground and Recreation Association, and John B. Zerbe, executive director of the association.

Board will meet Tuesday night at 7:30 in the Playground office, Bennett Building to discuss finances, Zerbe said last night. Officers may be elected at this meeting or at a subsequent meeting.

According to Zerbe, duties of the Recreation Board are as follows: to determine and establish general policies for recreation; to maintain high standards of leadership; to approve a budget and secure necessary funds; to appoint all recreation personnel and define their functions and duties; to interpret the community recreation program to city officials; to report all activities of the recreation department to the community, and to consider outside recommendations.

Operation under the Recreation Board is a step in the right direction for an improved city recreation program, the executive

Older Boys Meeting Opens



(Photo by Paul Barclay)

Pictured at the dinner which marked the opening of the 1963 Eastern Pennsylvania Older Boys Conference at the Wilkes-Barre YMCA last night are, seated from left: Ronald Czajkowski, youth chairman; Mayor Frank Slattery, Jack Carr, conference chairman; George Ralston, principal speaker for the conference and Gerald Nelson.

Standing from left are: Mel Elpern, Donald Hilbert, Carlton Chapin, Eric Planitzer and Larry Jones.

The 1963 Older Boys conference opened last night with registration in the YM-YWCA Youth Division.

Delegates registered from 15 different regions of Pennsylvania. Areas represented are: Scranton, Easton, Philadelphia, Ardmore, Norristown, Fairless Hills, Chester, Bethlehem, Reading, Rome, Leraysville, Boyertown, Pamaqua, Schuylkill Haven, and Wyoming Valley.

Opening session was conducted in the Howe Room of the Y. Ronald Czajkowski, youth chairman, presided. Opening devotions were given by the Plymouth Hi-Y Club president Richard Post. Donald Hilbert, cochairman, gave the welcome.

Conference dinner was held in the YM-YWCA auditorium.

Jack Carr, North East Bradford Hi-Y, presided. Larry Jones, Northeast Bradford, gave the invocation.

Hilbert introduced Mayor Frank Slattery who gave the official welcome to the City of Wilkes-Barre. Mayor Slattery described some of the historical significance of Wilkes-Barre and Wyoming Valley. Carlton Chapin, president of the Wilkes-Barre YMCA, welcomed the boys to Wilkes-Barre and hoped they would enjoy their week end here. Eric Planitzer general secretary, also addressed the boys.

Mothers club and the Forty Fort Hi-Y served the dinner. Mrs. Carlton Chapin played piano selections. George Ralston, Dean of Men at Wilkes College, spoke on "Teen-agers Place in Modern

Society." Dean Ralston also will address the boys tonight at the conference dinner.

Next session will be held this morning when the boys will attend discussion groups. Discussion topics and leaders are "Communism or Democracy," Congressman Daniel J. Flood, "Teen-agers Morals," David Phillips; "After High School?" George McCutcheon; "Understanding Free Enterprise," John A. McCole and Abram Bernstein; "Race Relations," Norman Watts; "Teen-age Driving," Cpl. John Loftus; and "Christian Leadership," Harold Pittman. Discussion groups will be held in the First Presbyterian Church.

Transportation chairman of the conference is Edward Evans.

Fiesta Wins National Group Recognition

Award Given To Founder

Outstanding contributions made by Fine Arts Fiesta and Annette Evans, fiesta founder, to the recreation movement have been recognized by National Recreation Association and became known locally last night at the closing segment of this year's event.

Certificates of appreciation of the national association were presented to the fiesta and to Miss Evans, who received also as part of her citation, an honorary membership in National Recreation Association.

Presentations were made by George F. Ralston, chairman of Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board, which nominated Miss Evans and the fiesta for the award.

Certificates are signed by James H. Evans, chairman of the board, and Joseph Pendergast, executive director.

In accepting the citations for the fiesta and for herself Miss Evans did so, she said, in behalf of the hundreds and thousands of persons who participated in the event. Her closing words were a line in a play in which she had a part as a girl, and which she was prevented from delivering at that time because of the premature closing of the curtain: "And all the way that thou dost go, my blessings follow thee."

This year's fiesta, the eighth since its inception, was described by officers as the most successful and witnessed by the largest turnout of residents and non-residents.

Congressman Daniel J. Flood, who was on hand to speak at the closing ceremony, commented that the economic value of the endeavor equalled its esthetic value. It has given Wilkes-Barre publicity in all big newspapers in the east, he reported, and has attracted many visitors to the city. He also paid personal tribute to Miss Evans.

Much of the trappings of the fiesta were taken down last night after the closing program which featured Stogmaier Gold Medal Band and the Atterbeary Chorus in excerpts from "John Brown's Body." Remaining booths and stage will be dismantled today.

Nominations for the 1953 IRA citations were prepared by ally A. Jervis, director of recreation in Wilkes-Barre. Presentation locally is to advance

of the observance of June as individuals and groups in coming or have given outstanding national recreation month. Citations were instituted to honor

munities throughout the county who, as volunteers, are given service to recreation.

Nomination of Miss Evans was

based on her founding of Fine Arts Fiesta and other activities such as her active membership in the former Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley, her leadership and enthusiasm for all forms of art; theater, orchestra, painting, choral groups and hobby clubs. She was a member of the group which founded the Area Little Theatre and of another group which started the Philharmonic Orchestra. She is a member of the board of Wyoming Valley Art League and Wilkes College. In 1958 Miss Evans was named a "Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania" by Former Governor George Leader for distinguished public service in the arts and history. "Her interest in and enthusiasm for all art has been a guiding light for our area's original conception of and constant progress in cultural development," it is stated in the nomination.

It is brought out in the nomination for the Fine Arts Fiesta that it began as a part of Wilkes-Barre sesquicentennial celebration and was intended to show arts performed and practiced in Wyoming Valley. "Area's enthusiasm for the event has been so great that virtually every performing and visual art group of the Valley has joined the fiesta," nomination states. It adds the annually thousands of spectators representing all races, all age and all religions enjoy this production which represents the labors and talents of the entire Valley.

Other members of the Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board are Mrs. Charles Weissman, W. Robert Toomb, Walter Lisman and Ray

round Thursday



(Photo by Ace Hoffman Studio)

Annette Evans, founder of Fine Arts Fiesta, receives from George Ralston, chairman of Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board, a citation from National Recreation Association, at the closing ceremonies of this year's fiesta, last night on Public Square. Observing the presentation, which was a surprise to the recipient, is Congressman Daniel J. Flood.

Ralston Will Talk On Industrial Drive

George F. Ralston, dean of men of Wilkes College, will speak at the monthly dinner meeting of the Men's Club of First Methodist Church, North Franklin Street, Tuesday evening at 6:15.

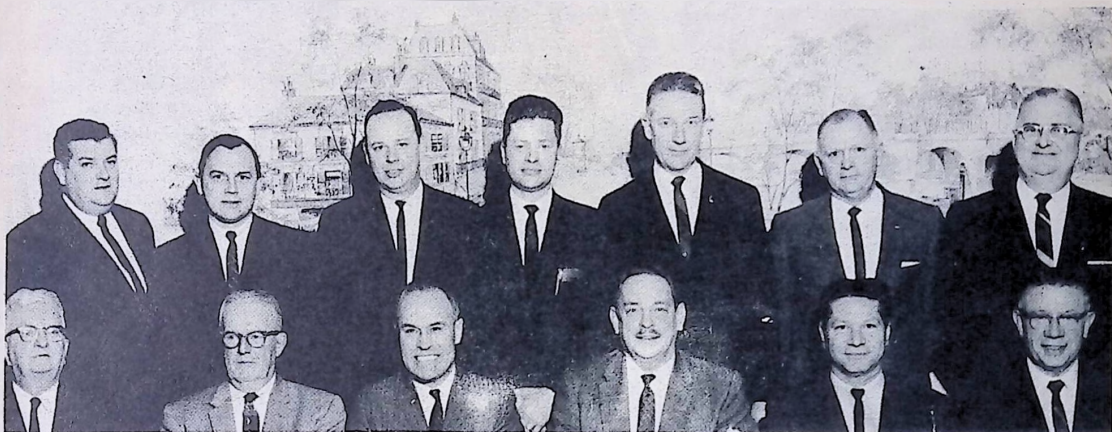
Subject of Dean Ralston's address will be: "The Greater Wilkes-Barre Industrial Development Fund." This meeting also marks the group's first business session of 1961.

Charles Clark will provide

West Side News

1/30/64

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Kingston Business and Professional Men's Association January dinner meeting was held recently at O'Connell's Kingston House. R. Laning Ransom, Chairman of the Board of Directors, presened the above officers and directors for the year 1964. Seated, left to right: Bala S. Neary, Treasurer; Louis Leger, Secretary; Guest speaker of the evening, George F. Ralston, Dean of Men at Wilkes College; R. Laning Ransom, Chairman of Board of Directors; Lee Vincent, President, and Bert Husband, Mayor of Kingston. New Directors are standing: Frank O'Connell, Henry Schultz, Richard Steinhauer, Dr. D. Craig Aicher, George W. Sowerby, Thomas Roberts and J. Russell Samuel.

Plymouth Rotary To Seat Staff



GEORGE F. RALSTON

Annual installation dinner for incoming officers of Plymouth Rotary Club will be held Saturday at 6:30 p. m. at Twin Grill Europa Lounge, South Main street, Wilkes-Barre.

Ernest Paulis and Don Romanowski, co-chairmen, have secured George F. Ralston, Dean of Men at Wilkes-College as the speaker. Frank Loch, president of the Wilkes-Barre Rotary Club, will serve as master of ceremonies.



The 'dean' of deans ... S-10



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Wilkes University News

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Wilkes to Honor George Ralston and Donald Burke at January 16 Commencement

Wilkes-Barre -- Wilkes University will hold its annual Winter Commencement Exercises

on Thursday, January 16, at 11:15 a.m., in the Darling Theatre of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts, South and River Streets.

During the ceremony, an Honorary Doctor of Science degree will be awarded to George Ralston, a longtime supporter and former dean at the University, and an Honorary Doctor of Science degree will be presented to Donald Burke, Director, Discreet Power Product Development, at Harris Semiconductor, Inc.

A member of the Wilkes community since 1946, Ralston has more than 50 years of dedicated service to the University. Throughout the development of the University, Ralston has held the positions of dean of men, dean of students, director of athletics, counselor, instructor, administrator and friend to many Wilkes graduates.

A strong supporter of Wilkes athletics, Ralston is the founder of the University's football program and was the first to coach the team, serving in this capacity from 1946 through 1954. In addition he coached the men's baseball and basketball teams.

Ralston received his bachelor of arts degree in Biology from the University of Carolina and served in the United States Army, achieving the rank of major. He also completed some graduate study at Harvard and Columbia Universities.

-MORE-

1ST ADD - Wilkes to Honor George Ralston and Donald Burke at January 16 Commencement

Ralston is a deacon, elder and trustee of the First Presbyterian Church, Wilkes-Barre. He and his wife, Helen, reside in Wilkes-Barre. They are the parents of four sons.

The Wilkes University Alumni Association will host a reception to honor George Ralston as an Honorary Doctorate Degree recipient on Wednesday, January 15, from 6 to 8 p.m., in the University's Weckesser Hall, on South Franklin Street. For more information on the reception call the Wilkes Alumni Office at (717) 831-4132

Burke received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from the Technical University of Nova Scotia in 1954 and joined the Heavy Apparatus Division of Canadian General Electric, in Switchgear and Control Equipment Design. He then moved into Systems Application Engineering, specializing in electronic power conversion systems for aluminum refining and electrochemical processes and for large variable speed drives in the steel industry.

Burke joined RCA, in Mountaintop in 1963 as an Application Engineering Leader for Thyristors and Rectifiers and moved with that group to New Jersey in 1967 to become Engineering Manager for those products. In 1976, he returned to the RCA plant to begin a quick turn design group.

In 1980, Burke assumed responsibility for all Power Semiconductor Engineering, moving all associated functions to the Mountaintop plant. Advanced development of Power MOS transistors was begun, and a new wafer processing facility was installed for these products. Assembly and test operations were converted to full-automation.

Following the purchase of RCA, the Product Design activities of General Electric Power Semiconductors were assimilated into Mountaintop under Burke's leadership. He has continued his role in New Product Development under Harris Semiconductor.

Burke has lived in Forty Fort, and currently resides in Mountaintop with his wife, Terry. They are the parents of five children, two of whom are graduates of Wilkes University. The Burke's also have eight grandchildren.



First row, seated from the left, Ben Bona, Mountaintop; Wade Hayhurst, Kilmamock, Virginia; Patricia Boyd Brady, Hanover; Vester Vercoe, Newark, Oh.; Second row, George Ralston, Wilkes-Barre; Wilkes University President, Dr.

Joseph E. (Tim) Gilmour, Wilkes-Barre; Dr. Joseph Pelmoter, Falls Church, Virginia; Angelo Campanella, Columbus, Ohio; J. Paul Thomas, Hanover Township; Dr. Christopher Breiseth, Wilkes-Barre.

Wilkes' Golden Colonel Club inducts members

Wilkes University recently inducted eight members of the class of 1951 into the Golden Colonels Club. The club was started in 1985 to honor Wilkes graduates of 50 years or beyond. Inductees were treated to a brunch that was held in the ballroom of the Student Union Building on the Wilkes campus.

Former Wilkes University President Dr. Christopher Breiseth and wife, Jane, addressed the new members and thanked them for their loyalty to the University. Each Colonel was awarded a pin and certificate, as well as several special privileges that come along with being a member of the Golden Colonels.

Ralston honored by Wilkes

W-B.T.L. 7-5-01

George Ralston, "The Father of Wilkes Athletics", was recently honored at Wilkes University's Annual Alumni Scholarship Dinner Dance.

Proceeds from the event provide scholarships to Wilkes students.

Ralston, 83, serves as special assistant for alumni relations. A member of the Wilkes family since 1946, Ralston is a native of Harrisonburg, Va.

He resided in Forty Fort before and immediately following World War II. He lives in Wilkes-Barre with his wife, Helen.

More than 80 of Ralston's friends, family, former coworkers and students turned out to pay tribute to one of the university's most beloved family members. Offering their memories of Ralston were speakers: Jane Lampe-Groh, former dean of stu-



From left: Gary Williams, Shavertown, Wilkes class of 1972 and master's class of 1982; Jones, Laffin; Goldsworthy, West Pittston; and Ralston.

dents; Garfield Jones, class of 1972; Charlie Jackson, class of 1951; Bill Goldsworthy, alumni association president and class of 1976; and attorney Sam Lowe.

SUNDAY DISPATCH

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George Ralston honored at Wilkes Alumni Scholarship Dinner Dance

George Ralston, "The Father of Wilkes Athletics," was recently honored at Wilkes' Annual Alumni Scholarship Dinner Dance. Proceeds from the event provide scholarships to current Wilkes students.

At 83 years old, Dean Ralston currently serves as special assistant for alumni relations. A member of the Wilkes family since 1946, Ralston is a native of Harrisonburg, Va., and resided in Forty Fort before and immediately following World War II. He currently lives in Wilkes-Barre with his wife, Helen.

More than 80 friends, family and former co-workers and students turned out to pay tribute to one of the university's most beloved family members. Offering their memories of Dean Ralston were speakers: Jane Lampe-Groh, former dean of students; Garfield Jones, class of 1972; Charlie Jackson, class of 1951; Bill Goldsworthy, alumni association president and class of 1976, and Attorney Sam Lowe.

From left are, Gary Williams, Shavertown, Wilkes class of 1972, master's class of 1982; Garfield Jones, Laffin, class of 1972; Bill Goldsworthy, West Pittston, alumni association president, class of 1976 and Dean George Ralston, Wilkes-Barre.

Wilkes to honor Dean Ralston at dinner dance



Ralston

Wilkes University will pay tribute to Dean George F. Ralston April 28 at the Annual Alumni Scholarship Dinner Dance in the Student Union Ballroom, 84 W.

South St., Wilkes-Barre.

A member of the Wilkes community since 1946, Ralston, 83, serves as special assistant for Alumni Relations. Throughout the development of Bucknell University Junior College and Wilkes College (precursors to Wilkes University), Ralston has held the titles of dean of men, dean of student affairs, director of athletics, instructor, benefactor, and administrator.

Ralston, a native of Harrisonburg, Va., graduated from North Carolina University and received

an honorary doctorate from Wilkes in 1997. An Army veteran of World War II, Ralston served in Africa and the South Pacific and was awarded two Purple Hearts. When he returned home to Forty Fort, he accepted the position of counselor to veterans returning to Bucknell University Junior College.

Ralston has been affiliated with the Wilkes-Barre YMCA, the Rotary Club, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, and the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches.

He also is a deacon, elder, and trustee of the Wilkes-Barre First Presbyterian Church.

Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres begin at 6:30 p.m.; dinner is at 7:30 p.m., and three hours of dancing begin at 9 p.m. Cost is \$75 per person. Proceeds benefit the Alumni Scholarship Fund. Reservations can be made by calling 408-4130.

TH 4-20-01

011 5-15-99

Helping People

City of Wilkes-Barre will honor four with Distinguished Service Awards

The City of Wilkes-Barre will honor four individuals this year at the annual Distinguished Service Awards ceremony to be held on Wednesday, May 26 at noon at Genetti's.

Dr. Stephen H. Schoenholtz, George F. Ralston, Monsignor Andrew J. McGowan will be honored for their outstanding achievements and Constance Wynn will be honored for her outstanding service to the community at the luncheon.

Schoenholtz, the son of Irving and Shirley Schoenholtz, Kingston, is associate professor of forestry at the Mississippi State University's Department of Forestry. He is a graduate of Wyoming Valley West School District, Pennsylvania State University and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Dr. Schoenholtz has been recognized for his research on mine reclamation and forestry in addition to groundbreaking research on protection and restoration of forested wetlands, evaluation of forest harvesting impacts on soil and water quality and development and assessment of sustainable forestry practices both in the



Wynn



Ralston

United States and New Zealand.

George F. Ralston, dean emeritus of student affairs at Wilkes University and special assistant for alumni affairs, will be honored for his many years of dedicated service to young people from the Greater Wyoming Valley.

Ralston, a native of Harrisburg, began his career in education at Forty Fort High School, taking a break to serve in the Army in World War II. Following his tour of duty, Ralston returned to teaching at Bucknell University Junior College, later Wilkes University, adding to his achievements as an educator as the years rolled by. By 1997, Ralston had devoted 50 years to education and students.

Monsignor McGowan serves as director of community affairs and bishop's representative for hospi-

itals and colleges for the Diocese of Scranton.

He serves vice chair of Allied Services Hospital Foundation, and chairman for Commission on Economic Opportunity, Heinz Institute, Hospital Association of Pennsylvania, and a number of other organizations.

Constance Wynn will receive this year's Distinguished Service Award presented to an outstanding graduate of a Wilkes-Barre city school who has dedicated time and efforts to the community.

Wynn, a graduate of Meyers High School, has served as president of the NAACP, and is founder and CEO/director of the R.A.C.E. Team, a multicultural organization based on ancestry and education.

She is a member of the CYC, the District Attorney's Committee on Youth and Violence, Northeast Pennsylvania Veterans of the Vietnam War, College Misericordia's Diversity Institute and is a volun-

teer presenter with the Citizens' Voice Newspaper in Education program.

The recipients will receive a plaque acknowledging their achievements.

Also honored at this luncheon will be outstanding students from city schools.

To make reservations for the luncheon, call Lisa SanFilipo at 826-8259.



Members of the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council met to plan the annual luncheon which will honor George Ralston of Wilkes University. From left: Pauly Friedman, Sister Maureen Harrison, the Rev. Robert Zanicky, Monsignor Thomas Banick, Shawn Murphy, Mary Quinn.

Ralston to receive Interfaith award

George Ralston, special assistant to alumni affairs at Wilkes University, will receive the Citation of Distinction from the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council at its annual luncheon. The affair will be held at noon on Nov. 23 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, Public Square, Wilkes-Barre.

The award is presented annually to a person who has embodied the virtues of tolerance, problem-solving and community-building.

During Ralston's tenure of more than 50 years, he has held many offices including

athletic director, dean of men, dean of student affairs, and coach of the varsity football team.

His community affiliations include the YMCA in Wilkes-Barre, Rotary Club, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, and Wyoming Valley Council of Churches.

Ralston and his wife, Helen, are parents of four sons, all of whom are graduates of Wilkes University. To receive an invitation to the luncheon, call Temple B'nai B'rith, 287-9606.

T.L. 11-14-98

George Ralston
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

From primitive programs to perennial powers, George Ralston has watched Wilkes University athletics grow.



Oh, he might not have been on the sidelines directing the recent glory days of Wilkes. But the man who founded football and basketball at Wilkes regularly stops by his old school to check on the progress of the athletic programs.

Back in 1946, Ralston (then athletic director at Wilkes) started a football team. With Ralston leading the way, it went 39-25-4 over its first 10 seasons.

He also began a basketball program in that same 1946 season, which put up a 76-109 record over a nine-year period.

Since he left, the Colonels have become a league and national powerhouse.

The Wilkes football team enjoyed a berth in the Division III NCAA Playoffs in 1993, then made three consecutive appearances in the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference postseason championships.

The basketball team made its third trip in four seasons to the NCAA Sweet 16 Division III tournament this season.

And as his alma mater continues to build on that success into the next century, George Ralston couldn't be prouder.

— Staff Writer Paul Sokoloski

T.L. 4-25-98 Profile

Wilkes University News

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Alumnus Stephen L. Flood Donates \$5,000 Toward Scholarship Fund at Wilkes University

Wilkes-Barre -- In tribute to Wilkes University Dean Emeritus, Dr. George F. Ralston, alumnus Stephen L. Flood, of Wilkes-Barre, President and C.E.O. of AAG International and Prospect Harbor Trading Co., Prospect Harbor, Maine, recently donated \$5,000 toward his self-titled scholarship fund at Wilkes.

The Stephen L. Flood '66 Scholarship Fund, established in 1997, honors the leadership, guidance, and personal encouragement provided by Dr. Ralston to Flood and the Wilkes alumni who resided in Ashley Hall. Flood's recent donation raised the value of the endowment to \$15,000.

A graduate of Devon Preparatory School, in Devon, Pa., Flood attended Wilkes and Villanova University, majoring in economics, with banking and finance. He worked as controller and chief financial officer of Wilkes Pool Corporation; commercial loan officer at Kingston National Bank; truck route manager of Jewel Tea Company, and was honorably discharged as a Sergeant with the U.S. Army, 402nd Military Police Prisoner-of-War Camp.

-MORE-

1st Add: Stephen L. Flood Donates \$5,000 Toward Scholarship at Wilkes University

Flood has served as a Wilkes Council Member for the past five years; past president of Devon Prep and Nanticoke Kiwanis; and former assistant chairman of the Hanover Township Democratic Party.

An active community member, Flood is a member of American Legion Post 463, Plymouth, Pa.; the Pennsylvania Auctioneers Association; Nature Conservancy; National Trust for Historic Preservation; Sierra Club; National Arbor Day Foundation U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum; National and Greater Wyoming Valley Audubon Society; NASH Car Club of America; the Maine Lobster Owner's Association and New Jersey Fairness in Taxes Board.

Incorporated in 1972, AAG International is the largest auction house and provider of Militaria collectibles (from the 1700s to the Vietnam War Era) in the world. Clients include Hollywood movie and TV production companies, national museums in America, Britain, Russia, Poland, France, and collectors. Prospect Harbor Trading Corporation is one of the largest independent wholesalers of Maine lobsters in the United States.

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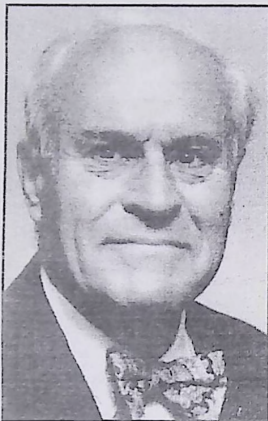
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Photo:

Left to Right - Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president, Wilkes University; Dr. George F. Ralston, dean emeritus, Wilkes; and Stephen L. Flood, president, C.E.O., AAG International, Wilkes-Barre, and Prospect Harbor Trading Company, Prospect Harbor, Maine



Wilkes to honor George Ralston and Donald Burke at Jan. 16 commencement



George Ralston



Donald Burke

Wilkes University will hold its annual Winter Commencement Exercises on Thursday, Jan. 16, a 11:15 a.m., in the Darling Theatre of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts, at South and River Streets, Wilkes-Barre.

During the ceremony, Honorary Doctor of Science degrees will be awarded to George Ralston, a longtime supporter and former dean at the university, and Donald Burke, director, Discreet Power Product Development, at Harris Semiconductor Inc.

Ralston, a member of the Wilkes

community since 1946, has more than 50 years of dedicated service to the university. Throughout the development of the university, he has held the positions of dean of men, dean of students, director of athletics, counselor, instructor, administrator and friend to many Wilkes graduates.

A strong supporter of Wilkes athletics, Ralston is the founder of the university's football program and was the first to coach the team, serving in this capacity from 1946 through 1954. In addition, he coached the men's baseball and basketball teams.

Ralston received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from the University of Carolina and served in the U.S. Army, achieving the rank of major. He also completed some graduate study at Harvard and Columbia Universities.

Ralston is a deacon, elder and trustee of the First Presbyterian Church, Wilkes-Barre. He and his wife, Helen, Wilkes-Barre resident, are parents of four sons.

The Wilkes University Alumni association will host a reception to honor Ralston as an Honorary Doctorate Degree recipient on Wednesday, Jan. 15, from 6 to 8 p.m., in the university's Weckesser Hall, on South Franklin Street. For more information on the reception, call the Wilkes Alumni Office at (717) 831-4132.

Burke received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the Technical University of Nova Scotia in 1954 and joined the Heavy Apparatus Division of Canadian General Electric, in Switchgear and Control Equipment Design.

He then moved into Systems Application Engineering, specializing in electronic power conversion systems for aluminum refining and electrochemical processes and for large variable speed drives in the steel industry.

Burke joined RCA, in Mountaintop, in 1963 as an Application Engineering Leader for Thyristors and Rectifiers and moved with

that group to New Jersey in 1967 to become Engineering Manager for those products. In 1976, he returned to the RCA plant to begin a quick turn design group.

In 1989, Burke assumed responsibility for all Power Semiconductor Engineering, moving all associated functions to the Mountaintop plant. Advanced development of Power MOS transistors was begun, and a new wafer processing facility installed for these products. Assembly and test operations were converted to full automation.

Following the purchase of RCA, the Product Design activities of General Electric Power Semicon-

ductors were assimilated into Mountaintop under Burke's leadership. He has continued his role in New Product Development under Harris Semiconductor.

Burke has lived in Forty Fort and currently resides in Mountaintop with his wife, Terry. They are the parents of five children, two of whom are graduates of Wilkes University. The Burkes also have eight grandchildren.

Wilkes University

News

Stephanie Simmons
Assistant Director of University Relations
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18766
(717) 831-4772

GEORGE RALSTON TO PRESENT SECOND LECTURE IN WILKES UNIVERSITY'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR SERIES JANUARY 25

WILKES-BARRE -- George Ralston, dean of students emeritus at Wilkes, will present the second lecture in the University's 60th Anniversary Series on Tuesday, January 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts. Ralston will be joined by former Director of Admissions, John Whitby and Engineering Professor Emeritus, Cromwell Thomas for a panel discussion following his presentation.

Admission is free.

The series of five seminars presents the early history of Bucknell University Junior College and Wilkes College through the recollections, anecdotes, and written histories of former and current faculty, staff, trustees and students. Professor Emeritus, Dr. Charles Reif, presented the first lecture in December.

A member of the Wilkes community since 1946, Ralston has served as dean of men, dean of students, counselor, instructor and administrator. He currently serves as a special assistant to Anthony J. Shipula II '78, director of Alumni Relations, working as a liason between the University and its 20,000 alumni. Ralston also founded the University's football program, and served as coach from 1946 through 1954.

Cromwell Thomas began his career at Wilkes College in 1937, when it was known

MORE

1ST ADD WILKES UNIVERSITY'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY LECTURE SERIES

as Bucknell University Junior College. Through his leadership of the War Services Training Program, the the first engineering education program in the region was established at Wilkes. Retired in 1975, Thomas remains widely known and respected for his contribution to engineering education, his services to the Society for Professional Engineers, and to his State and Country.

A native of Edwardsville, John Whitby joined the Navy which resulted in his graduation from the Notre Dame Midshipman's School. He received a Master's Degree from Columbia University and began his career at Wilkes College in 1947 as an economics instructor. Whitby later joined the admissions staff and was named Dean of Admissions in the early '60s. His service to the University during its formative years is remembered ~~the~~ in the legacy of fine students, now alumni, which he recruited.

Future seminars will include Professor Emeritus Joseph Salsburg who was a student at Bucknell University Junior College as well as a faculty member at Wilkes, a member of the Board of Trustees, and a discussion with the current and past presidents of Wilkes. Admission is free. The public is invited to attend and learn how Wilkes University began and grew to its present status.



Interfaith Council will honor George Ralston Nov. 23

George Ralston will receive the citation of distinction from the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council at its annual luncheon on Monday, Nov. 23, at noon at the Ramada Hotel, Public Square, Wilkes-Barre.

Ralston is special assistant for alumni affairs at Wilkes University.

He started at Wilkes more than 50 years ago when it was still known as Bucknell Junior College, holding many offices, including athletic director, dean of men, dean of student affairs and coach of the varsity football team.

A native of Harrisburg, he joined the faculty of the

Forty Fort High School after graduation from North Carolina University. During World War II, he served in Africa and the South Pacific, receiving two Purple Hearts and rising to the rank of major.

He and his wife are the parents of four sons.

Those wishing to receive an invitation to the Interfaith Council Luncheon should call the Temple B'nai B'rith office at 287-9606.

From the left are: Mrs. Pauly Friedman, Sister Maureen Harrison, the Rev. Robert Zanicky, Monsignor Thomas Banick, Shawn Murphy and Mary Quinn.

CV 11-17-98

W-B honors 4 for long-time service

By JOE HEALEY

Times Leader Staff Writer

WILKES-BARRE — Four people were honored Wednesday at the City of Wilkes-Barre's annual Distinguished Service awards ceremony.

The awards recognize present and former Wilkes-Barre residents and former students of the city schools who have brought favorable attention to the community, said Leo Solomon, a member of the awards committee.

Constance Wynn was honored for outstanding community service and Dr. Stephen H. Schoenholtz, George Francis Ralston and Monsignor Andrew J. McGowan were honored for outstanding achievement. All were honored at a ceremony at the Genetti Hotel & Convention Center. Also honored



Constance Wynn

were the students from city schools. Wynn, of Wilkes-Barre, is a former head of the local NAACP chapter and co-founder and chief executive officer of RACE — Rediscovering Ancestry through Culture and Education. A graduate of Meyers High School, Wynn is a member of the CYC, the District Attorney's Committee on Youth and Violence and is a co-chairwoman of minority affairs at Luzerne County Community College.

"I do my community service out of love," Wynn said. "When I was growing up, I watched my

mother networking in the community, taking care of the elderly. I saw the joy she got out of it and I carried on her tradition."

Ralston is dean emeritus of student affairs at Wilkes University and special assistant for alumni affairs. Ralston has devoted more than 50 years to education and students in the Wyoming Valley. He taught at Forty Fort High School and Wilkes University, where he also served as football, baseball and basketball coach and athletic director.

"I feel very honored and humbled that they gave me this award," Ralston said. McGowan is the director of community affairs and bishop's representative for hospitals and colleges for the Diocese of Scranton. He is the vice chairman of Al-



Three men received Wilkes-Barre's Distinguished Service Award at a banquet Wednesday afternoon. The recipients, left to right, are Monsignor Andrew McGowan, George Francis Ralston and Stephen Schoenholtz.

lied Services Hospital Foundation in Scranton and chairman of the Commission on Economic Opportunity in Luzerne County.

Schoenholtz is an associate professor of forestry at Missis-

sippi State University's Department of forestry. He graduated from Wyoming Valley West, Penn State University and the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

For The Times Leader/JIM GAVENUS

Wilkes Dean Will Address PTA Council

Annual Founders Day dinner of Wilkes-Barre Area Council of PTAs, will be held Thursday night in Coughlin High School Cafeteria. Guests are invited to come at 6 p. m. for a punch party to be provided by Wilkes-Barre Board of Education. Dinner will begin at 6:45 p. m.

Principal speaker will be George Ralston, dean of students at Wilkes College. His topic will be "The Genuinely Educated Person."

Dean Ralston, was born in Harrisonburg, Va., was educated in the public schools of Harrisonburg. He received an AB degree from the University of North Carolina and did graduate study at Harvard and Columbia Universities.

Dean Ralston has been a member of Wilkes College faculty since 1946. He has served as dean of men for 20 years and is now dean of students.

Dean Ralston serves on the board of directors of the General Hospital, Salvation Army and the Red Cross and is president of the YMCA.

Welcome will be given by Mrs. Richard W. Thomas, Founders Day chairman. Frank Koons, assistant superintendent of elementary school administration, will be toastmaster. Rev. Dr. Jule Ayers of the First Presbyterian Church will offer benediction. Special presentations will be made by Mrs. George B. Ritohle, president of the Wilkes-Barre Area Council.

Brief remarks will be made by Walter C. Wood, superintendent of Wilkes-Barre City Schools, and Dr. David W. Kistler, president of the Wilkes-Barre School Board.

The dinner will mark the 70th anniversary of the PTA movement. Purpose of the Founders' Day activities is to honor the PTA founders and past leaders, increase understanding of the purpose and scope of PTA work, and to raise funds for expanding and strengthening PTA work.

Reservations, which are open to the public, may be made with Mrs. Joseph Stone, 117 Kidder Street.

Ralston will be Wilkes lecturer

CV 1-20-94
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Ralston

Ralston will be joined by former Director of Admissions, John Whitby, and engineering professor emeritus, Cromwell Thomas, for a panel discussion following his presentation on how Wilkes University began and grew to its present status.

The series of five seminars presents the early history of Bucknell University Junior College and Wilkes College through the recollections, anecdotes and written histories of former and current faculty, staff, trustees and students.

A member of the Wilkes community since 1946, Ralston has served as dean of men, dean of students, counselor, instructor and administrator.

He serves as a special assistant to Anthony J. Shipula II, '78, director of alumni relations, working as a liaison between the University and its 20,000 alumni. Ralston also founded the university's football program and served as coach from 1946-54.

Wilkes Dinner to Fete Ralston

Wilkes College will hold its 39th Annual Homecoming Celebration on Friday, October 17 through Sunday, October 19. As part of the Homecoming festivities,



GEORGE RALSTON

Wilkes College will host a special dinner in honor of George F. Ralston, Dean of Students Emeritus and special assistant to Alumni Relations. The dinner will be held on Friday, Oct. 17, beginning at 6 p.m., at The Woodlands in Wilkes-Barre.

A member of the Wilkes community since 1946, Ralston has served officially as dean of men, dean of students, counselor, coach, instructor, and administrator. In May, 1986, he received the title Dean of Students Emeritus, and currently assists Anthony J. Shipula II '78, director of Alumni Relations, as a

special liaison between the college and its 15,000 alumni.

Ralston is active in the community as a member and elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, a director of the Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board, a director of the YM-CA, and a board member of Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. He and his wife, Helen, are the parents of four sons, and reside in Wilkes-Barre.

The event, organized by committee members Paul Adams '77, associate dean of Student Affairs; Jane Lampe Groh, associate dean of Student Affairs; and Art Hoover,

'65, dean of Student Affairs, will commence at 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m., after which a special program on Ralston will be presented. Following the presentation, a dance will be held from 9 p.m. to midnight, featuring music by the Lee Vincent Combo.

Reservations are currently being accepted for "A Tribute to George Ralston," and are limited to the first 460 respondents. Advanced registration and payment is required by October 1. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Wilkes College Office of

Student Affairs
Alumni Relations

Wilkes College

News

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS • WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18768
TELEPHONE: (717) 822-8413



Department File

contact: Melissa Meyers
Assistant Director
Public Relations

EXCLUSIVE TO THE SUNDAY INDEPENDENT
WILKES COLLEGE HOMECOMING DINNER TO HONOR GEORGE F. RALSTON

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Ralston is active in the community as a member and elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, a director of the Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board, a director of the YMCA, and a board member of Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. He and his wife, Helen, are the parents of four sons, and reside in Wilkes-Barre.

In commenting on the significance of this year's Homecoming dinner, Shipula noted, "Dean Ralston has been recognized repeatedly by the community for his contributions, and is always remembered by our alumni as a positive influence during their college careers. With this in mind, it is only fitting that the 39th Annual

(more)

Homecoming dinner be recognized as 'A Tribute to George Ralston.'"

The event, organized by committee members Paul Adams '77, Associate Dean of Student Affairs; Jane Lampe Groh, Associate Dean of Student Affairs; and Art Hoover '55, Dean of Student Affairs, will commence at 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m., after which a special program on Ralston will be presented. Following the presentation, a dance will be held from 9 p.m. to midnight, featuring music by the Lee Vincent Combo.

Reservations are currently being accepted for "A Tribute to George Ralston," and are limited to the first 460 respondents. Advanced registration and payment is required by October 1. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Wilkes College Office of Alumni Relations at 824-4651, ext. 325.



Counselors Association holds annual workshop

Luzerne County Counselors Association recently held their annual workshop meeting at the Wyoming Valley Country Club.

George Ralston was honored as "Citizen of the Year" for his many years of dedicated service to students as dean at Wilkes College. Gerald Ostroskie, treasurer of LCCA and a former student of Dean Ralston, made the presentation.

Also honored was Ruth Donohue for her service to the Association, and Helene Kretchick, former counselor, who retired from Wyoming Area High School.

Charles Gallagher, a former president of LCCA, was also honored posthumously for his many years of service to students and the Association. His son, Marty, and Mrs. Charles (Catherine) Gallagher accepted

the award on his behalf.

Gerald Wuori, former Dean of Admissions at Wilkes College, was also recognized for his support of the local counselors.

Vito Florenza of Northeast Intermediate Unit, spoke on the characteristics of a quality school.

Michael Shevock, a counselor at Dallas High School and vice president of the Association, was program coordinator.

Honored guests and program participants, first row, seated, from left: Ruth Donohue, Mrs. Catherine Gallagher, George Ralston, Vito Florenza and Gerald Ostroskie; standing Marty Gallagher, Gerald Wuori, John Scibilia, Michael Shevock, Sam Sculleat, Helene Kretchick and Bob Zaavada.

C.V. 6/21/86

Flood donates to Wilkes scholarship fund

W-B.T.L.
7-1-99

In tribute to Wilkes University Dean Emeritus, Dr. George F. Ralston, alumnus Stephen L. Flood, of Wilkes-Barre, president and C.E.O. of AAG International and Prospect Harbor Trading Co., Prospect Harbor, Maine, recently donated \$5,000 toward his self-titled scholarship fund at Wilkes.

The Stephen L. Flood '66 Scholarship Fund, established in 1997, honors the leadership, guidance and personal encouragement provided by Dr. Ralston to Flood and the Wilkes alumni who resided in Ashley Hall. Flood's recent donation raised the value of the endowment to \$15,000.

A graduate of Devon Preparatory School, in Devon, Pa., Flood attended Wilkes and Villanova University, majoring in econom-



Stephen L. Flood

ics, with banking and finance. He worked as controller and chief financial officer of Wilkes Pool Corporation; commercial loan officer at Kingston National Bank; truck route manager of Jewel Tea Company, and was honorably discharged as a Sergeant with the U.S. Army, 402nd Military Police Prisoner-of-War Camp.

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Flood is a member of American Legion Post 463, Plymouth; the Pennsylvania Auctioneers Association; Nature Conservancy; National Trust for Historic Preservation; Sierra Club; National Arbor Day Foundation U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum; National and Greater Wyoming Valley Audubon Society; NASH Car Club of America; the Maine Lobster Owner's Association and New Jersey Fairness in Taxes Board.

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Clients include Hollywood movie and TV production companies, national museums in America, Britain, Russia, Poland, France, and collectors. Prospect Harbor Trading Corporation is one of the largest independent wholesalers of Maine lobsters in the United States.



Constance Wynn, left, receives award from Debby Higgins, right; center is Leo Solomon, former W-B Area superintendent

City presents Distinguished Service Awards

Students representing Wilkes-Barre schools and four adults representing Luzerne County were honored at the eighth annual City of Wilkes-Barre Distinguished Service Awards Wednesday.

Students in Bishop Hoban, Boyd Dodson, GAR, E.L. Meyers, Leo Solomon/Plains Memorial Junior High and Regis Academy were presented awards for outstanding volunteerism. A total of 31 students were acknowledged for 50 or more hours spent volunteering at various locations throughout Greater Wyoming Valley.

Class Valedictorians, National Merit Scholars and Leo Solomon Awards were presented.

The Distinguished Service Award for a graduate of any Wilkes-Barre city school was presented to Meyers alumna Constance Wynn for her many years of outstanding service to area youth and her community.

Wynn, a Wilkes-Barre native, was presented with a specially-designed coal carving commemorating her honor. She also was presented with a savings bond. Ms. Wynn was nominated by The Citizens' Voice.

Receiving plaques in recognition of their outstanding achievements were Wyoming Valley West graduate Dr. Stephen H. Schoenholtz, George F. Ralston, dean emeritus, Wilkes University, and Monsignor Andrew J. McGowan, a graduate Hanover Area High School.

Schoenholtz is the son of Irving and Shirley Schoenholtz, Kingston, and is associate professor of forestry at the University of Mississippi. He is an internationally recognized authority on mine reclamation and forestry.

Ralston has served Wilkes University and young persons from the area for many years. He was honored for assisting youth reach their greatest potential over a 50-year span.

Monsignor McGowan serves the greater community as a member of several boards of hospitals and institutions of higher learning. He also is chairman of the Commission on Economic Opportunity in addition to representing the Diocese of Scranton on boards and organizations throughout the area.

The awards were the brainchild of former Wilkes-Barre City Mayor or Lee Namey, who established

them eight years ago. They are continued through the efforts of an all-volunteer committee and the City of Wilkes-Barre.

Two major sponsors are The Citizens' Voice and Dr. Richard Alley. And, the school winners are:

Seth Kundrot, Lauren Cardoni, Tara Alesczyk, Jonelle Malta, Jennifer Marshall, Stephen Mikolajczyk, Angela Piekutowski, Michele Rakshys, Ann Marie Rudick, Jason Zoeller, Allison Beck and Justine Ebert.

Other winners include: Brooke Burden, Anastasia (Stacey) George, Erica Leo, Catherine Camp, Ariel Grodon, Robert Kluback, Jill Liebman, Jeffrey Mills, Shelley Procopio, Bradley Satkowski and Craig Williams.

And, Jennifer Angelo, Katie Bieryla, Emily Ciliberto, Kelley Dougherty, Tina Marie Evans, Renee Egan, Aimee Hontz, Michelle Marchetti, Jennifer Menendez, Dipali Patel, Jenny Yuhas, Gina Zdanowcz, Rebecca St. Pierre, Justin Rollins-Ruffin, Kristin Baranoski, Sarah Borland, Robinne Okrainski, Colleen Owens, Kristy Reilly, Phillip Loscombe and Kyle Zulkowski.



Members of the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council met to plan the annual luncheon which will honor George Ralston of Wilkes University. From left: Pauly Friedman, Sister Maureen Harrison, the Rev. Robert Zanicky, Monsignor Thomas Banick, Shawn Murphy, Mary Quinn.

Ralston to receive Interfaith award

George Ralston, special assistant for alumni affairs at Wilkes University, will receive the Citation of Distinction from the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council at its annual luncheon. The affair will be held at noon on Nov. 23 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, Public Square, Wilkes-Barre.

The award is presented annually to a person who has embodied the virtues of tolerance, problem-solving and community-building.

During Ralston's tenure of more than 50 years, he has held many offices including

athletic director, dean of men, dean of student affairs, and coach of the varsity football team.

His community affiliations include the YMCA in Wilkes-Barre, Rotary Club, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, and Wyoming Valley Council of Churches.

Ralston and his wife, Helen, are parents of four sons, all of whom are graduates of Wilkes University. To receive an invitation to the luncheon, call Temple B'nai B'rith, 287-9606.

HAZ T.L. 11-14-98

Aides Briefed

Committees Are Advisory in Nature

Members of the newly appointed committees of Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board learned the functions of their committees at their first meeting with the five-member recreation board held in Weissman recreation rooms.

Dean George Ralston, board chairman, presided at the meeting attended also by Mayor Frank Slattery, City Parks Commissioner Edward J. White Superintendent of Schools Walter C. Wood and Sally Jervls, slated to become director of the board July 1.

It was clear the committees are advisory in nature; members are to conduct studies and investigations and make recommendations to the recreation board through committee chairmen. Final decision in all cases will rest with the board.

Committee members will be given name tags to identify them to playground personnel.

At a meeting of the five-member board which preceded the general meeting the question of baseball permits for city diamonds was discussed. It was agreed league schedules set for this summer will remain unchanged and a policy on permits and fields will be formed at the end of the summer.

In attendance as members of the properties committee headed by Raymond W. Tubridy were Mrs. Mildred Richards, Mrs. George Ritchie, John Reese, Stanley Barnes.

Program and personnel committee headed by Walter Litman, Mrs. Robert Kerr, Al Goldbert, William Weinbrecht, Kenneth Gray.

Planning Committee, George Ralston, chairman; George Jones, John Reese.

Wilkes University News

Stephanie Simmons
Assistant Director of University Relations
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18766
(717) 831-4772

GEORGE RALSTON TO PRESENT SECOND LECTURE IN WILKES UNIVERSITY'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR SERIES JANUARY 25

WILKES-BARRE -- George Ralston, dean of students emeritus at Wilkes, will present the second lecture in the University's 60th Anniversary Series on Tuesday, January 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby of the Dorothy Dickson Dart Center for the Performing Arts. Ralston will be joined by former Director of Admissions, John Whitby and Engineering Professor Emeritus, Cromwell Thomas for a panel discussion following his presentation. Admission is free.

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1ST ADD WILKES UNIVERSITY'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY LECTURE SERIES

as Bucknell University Junior College. Through his leadership of the War Services Training Program, the the first engineering education program in the region was established at Wilkes. Retired in 1975, Thomas remains widely known and respected for his contribution to engineering education, his services to the Society for Professional Engineers, and to his State and Country.

A native of Edwardsville, John Whitby joined the Navy which resulted in his graduation from the Notre Dame Midshipman's School. He received a Master's Degree from Columbia University and began his career at Wilkes College in 1947 as an economics instructor. Whitby later joined the admissions staff and was named Dean of Admissions in the early '60s. His service to the University during its formative years is remembered ~~of~~ in the legacy of fine students, now alumni, which he recruited.

Future seminars will include Professor Emeritus Joseph Salsburg who was a student at Bucknell University Junior College as well as a faculty member at Wilkes, a member of the Board of Trustees, and a discussion with the current and past presidents of Wilkes. Admission is free. The public is invited to attend and learn how Wilkes University began and grew to its present status.



HONORED BY CIRCLE K — The Wilkes College Circle K Club recently held a covered dish dinner for Dean George Ralston and Peggy Jones of the College's Student Affairs Department. The two received plaques honoring them for the help that they have given to Circle K.

The club's president, Debbie Pavlico, said, "Dean Ralston and Miss Jones have been highly supportive of our club. I am sorry to see the Dean leave his present post, but I am also happy that he will continue to have ties with the College and its students." Ralston will serve as special assistant to Alumni Relations and as Dean of Student Affairs Emeritus. Pavlico also noted that Ralston's support was instrumental in the success of the Red Cross blood drives conducted on campus, the annual wrestling tournaments, and numerous other events throughout the years.

Shown from left, seated, Ralston, Pavlico, Laura View, Joe Andes. Standing, Jones, Paul Nardone, Steve Morris, Philip Tuhy.

Clergy Given Salvation Army Report



Members of the clergy of Wyoming Valley were invited to attend a special meeting at the Wilkes-Barre Corps Citadel of The Salvation Army on Wednesday.

The purpose of the meeting was to fully acquaint members of the various faiths with the full scale social services of the Salvation Army, to discuss its specialized spiritual ministry, with emphasis on serving the poor and deprived, primarily and its utilization of its religious activities for the continuing help and improvement of people.

Plans for erecting a new citadel and community center in Wilkes-Barre to further this work were also revealed and all present were asked to serve on a special citizens committee to help implement this objective and to help enlist the aid of others.

George Ralston, dean of students at Wilkes College, a member of the Salvation Army advisory board and vice president of the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches presided. He reported, from the 1966 Salvation Army annual report that the four corps and one outpost and men's social service center of Wyoming Valley had served 12,487 persons

with 127,337 units of service through 35 different types of services.

"Ninety percent of the people we served are in no way connected with the Salvation Army, as a religious organization," he said. "Further, of the 129 persons who sought special spiritual help during the year, only one became affiliated with the Army as a member or soldier. The rest were encouraged to return to the churches in which they had previously held membership," Dean Ralston explained.

Several programs of service to the poor and deprived were discussed and the group recommended that the Salvation Army might be helpful in certain of them.

Pictured at the meeting, with Dean Ralston, as he explained the annual report are, left to right, Rev. William A. Seaman, St. Luke's and Miners Charge Unit of the United Church of Christ, Wilkes-Barre and Plains; Rev. Howard G. Hartzell, executive secretary of the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches; and Rev. Robert J. Lukens, pastor of the Kingston Methodist Church and newly-elected president of the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches.

Speaker



GEORGE RALSTON

Speaker at the kick-off dinner of Wyoming Valley Chapter American Institute of Banking Wednesday night at 6:30 at the Gus Genetti Hotel will be George F. Ralston, dean of students at Wilkes College.

Mr. Ralston, born in Harrisburg, holds an AB degree from the University of North Carolina and has done graduate study at Harvard and Columbia University. He has been a member of the Wilkes College faculty since 1946. He was director of athletics and dean of men 20 years.

He is past president of Wilkes-Barre Rotary, member of First Presbyterian Church, director of Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, YMCA, Red Cross, Boy Scouts of America, and the Salvation Army. Mr. Ralston is married to the former Helen Bitler, a singer and they have four sons.

Paul Nicholson, president of the local chapter, announced a large number of members is expected to attend.

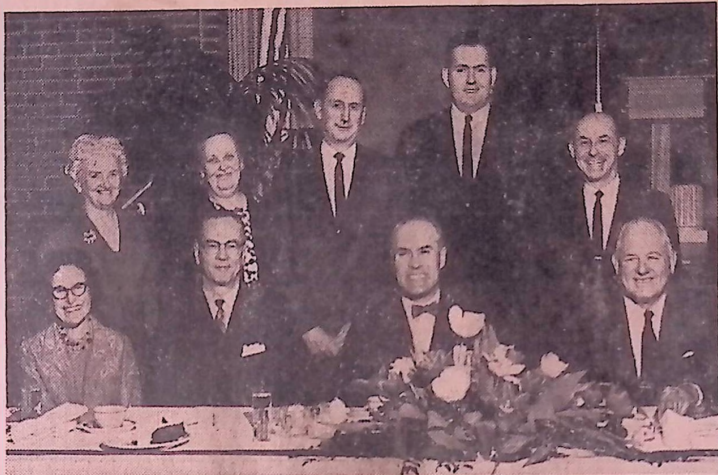


Ralston Honored by YMCA Group

AT TESTIMONIAL—Physical committee of the Central YMCA of Wilkes-Barre honored Dean George Ralston of Wilkes College at a testimonial dinner last week at Aldino's Restaurant. Dean Ralston has been chairman of the physical committee of the YMCA for the past several years during which time many improvements have been made in the physical

plant. Principals at the affair included seated, left to right—Stanley Barnes, Dean George Ralston, George Brandt, general chairman of the dinner; Ken Young, physical director. Standing—Shep Pawling, Atty. Ray Sobota, Tony Thomas, Quentin R. Walters, Robert Anthony and Henry W. Schultz, committee members.

103rd Y Dinner Held



(Photo by Ace Hoffman Studios)

Principals at 103rd annual dinner of Wilkes-Barre YMCA are shown at head table. Seated, left to right: Mrs. Eric Planitzer, Everett Gilmore, State Y official; George Ralston, YMCA president; Dr. T. K. Cureton, guest speaker. Standing: Mrs. Harry L. Hickman, Mrs. George Krauss, executive director, Eric R. Planitzer, general secretary; Rev. Thomas MacAdam, Harry L. Hickman.

150 Told Heart Ills 'Loafer's Disease'

Approximately 150 persons attending 103rd annual meeting of Wilkes-Barre YMCA last night heard a talk on the value of exercise in health. Board members were elected and financial reports made.

Frank Martz Henry was elected to a three-year term on the board. These men were reelected for three-year terms: Herbert L. Austin, J. Houston Day, John Mattern, Charles Maxwell, Robert Mebane, W. Gordon Williams and F. E. Parkhurst, 3rd. Elected to five-year terms were F. Ellsworth Parkhurst and Frederick Eck. Slate was presented by J. Traver Nobel, chairman of nominating committee which consisted of Atty. John Morris, John M. Moore and Wilbur A. Myers.

George F. Ralston, president, welcomed guests and conducted the annual business meeting. Eric R. Planitzer, general secretary, presented highlights of the year and the financial report.

Dr. T. K. Cureton, physical education professor, University of Illinois, speaker, said the nation is plagued with "unfitness" because middle age today seems to begin at the age of 26 when most persons start to take it easy and fail to exercise.

Dr. Cureton said it is the lack of exercise and physical fitness to lead to high blood pressure, heart and related diseases. He defined physical fitness as the endurance to ward off stress.

To be physically fit, the

speaker explained, the mind and body must work together for it is the mind which leads the body.

Being physically fit at youth, Dr. Cureton explained, and following through but not so much at later age helps a person fight off stress and emotion.

Dr. Cureton explained vigor must be cultivated and everyone must establish a rhythm of life at all ages to be free from heart ailments which he calls "loafer's diseases."

Dr. Cureton gave examples how people of all ages can exercise and cited YMCA programs as the finest.

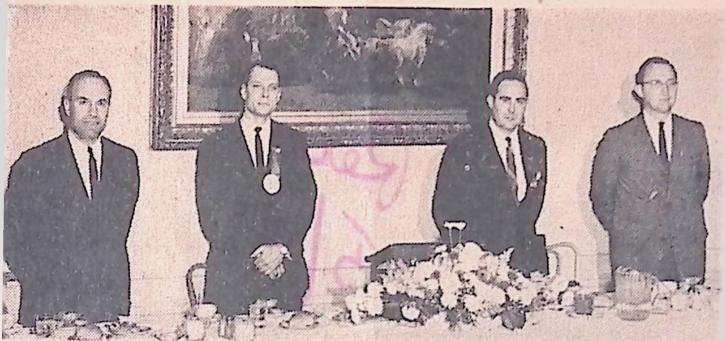
Rev. Thomas MacAdam, pastor, First Welsh Presbyterian Church, gave invocation and benediction. Harry Hickman was toastmaster. Piano selections were presented by Anita Humer and Robert Smurlo, Wilkes College students.

W. Charles Maxwell was dinner chairman. Assisting were Hickman, Ralston, Planitzer, Mattern, Edwin Lichtig.

Recognized were R. E. Barnum, 82-year-old YMCA staff worker, and R. H. Mitchell, a YMCA member 75 years.

A buffet preceded the meeting and lecture.

Recreation Conference Principals



Shown at the dinner meeting on the opening day of the recreation conference being held in Hotel Sterling are, left to right, Dean George Ralston, chairman of Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board; John B. Zerbe, executive director, Wyoming

recreation Association; Frank W. Dressler, executive director of Water Resources Association of Delaware River Basin, principal speaker; A. DeWitt Smith, president of the area recreation association. About 150 attended the first day's sessions of the three-day conference of

Pennsylvania Recreation Society being held as the Governor's Conference on Recreation. This marks the first time in 12 years for the conference to be held away from the Pennsylvania State University.

Honoring the father

Five decades after his arrival on campus, George Ralston, the "Father of Wilkes Athletics," is honored by the university

By RANDY YANOSHAK
Citizens' Voice Sports Writer

"I'll tell you the story," George Ralston says, settling back into his favorite living room chair. "It's been told a thousand times."

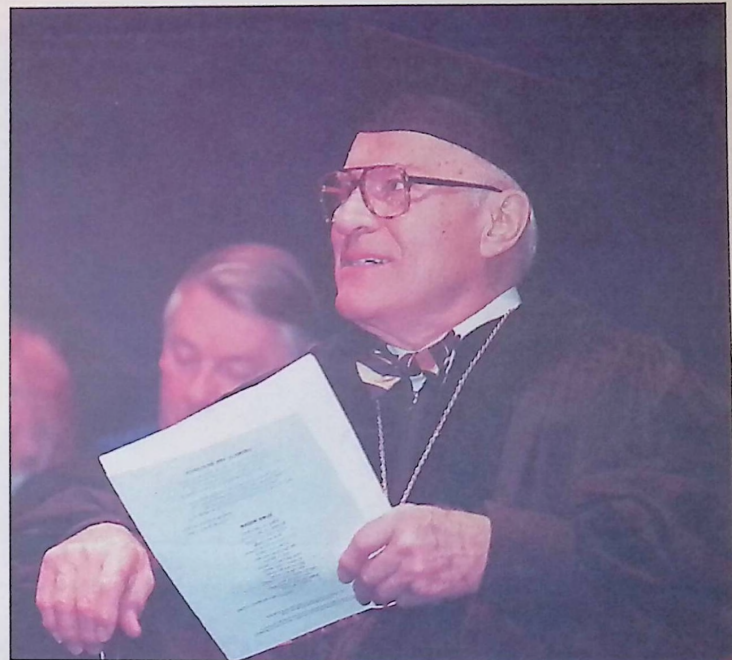
But the story Ralston tells — how he went from being the youngest son of a dairy farmer to a two-sport athlete at the University of North Carolina to a teacher at Forty Fort High to the first athletic director and football, basketball and baseball coach at what now is Wilkes University — isn't the whole story.

The story that should be told is the story Ralston, in all his modesty, will not tell, but

the weather is warm — still rides his bike around town, still goes to work in his office at Wilkes' Alumni House and still is as vibrant, dynamic and entertaining as he was when he left Forty Fort High in 1946 to join BJC as a counselor for World War II veterans looking to attend college.

Fifty unexpected years later — "I didn't think I'd be there a year. I thought I'd save money and then go back to school," he says — Ralston was honored for his considerable contributions to Wilkes.

"One gentleman," Helen recalls, "said (Wednesday) night, 'It's hard to imagine



The Sunday Voice/Warren Rudo

George Ralston smiles as Wilkes University president Dr. Chris Breiseth reads a citation honoring Ralston's 50 years of service to the school

player was offered scholarships by Georgia, Syracuse and Rhode Island, but was persuaded by a Wilkes alum to visit Wilkes during the spring of 1954, when he was to meet the incoming football coach

hadn't guided me, if you hadn't shown me the way, if you hadn't loaned me the money for next semester," which he did numerous times for students. Then, eventually, whenever they could, they'd pay us back. That's

cannot wait to tell.

The story that should be told is the one about how George Francis Ralston, Dean Emeritus, the "Father of Athletics at Wilkes," changed lives, influenced futures and molded students.

"George is with me every day of my life," says Dr. Ron Rescigno, a New York City native who turned down football scholarship offers to come play at Wilkes and who later became a California schools superintendant and a world-renown proponent of computers in education.

"That's the impression he had on me. He was my mentor, my coach and my father. He saw things in me that I didn't see in myself. Almost every day of my life, whatever I do, I'm impacted by the association I had with George Ralston."

Just like the Wilkes community was impacted by Ralston's 50-year association with what used to be Bucknell Junior College.

To commemorate Ralston's five decades of service — as athletic director, coach, Dean of Men, Dean of Student Affairs, Dean Emeritus and, now, Special Assistant for Alumni Affairs — Wilkes University awarded Ralston with an honorary Doctor of Science degree Thursday, giving the man dubbed "Mr. Wilkes" the right to be called "Dr. Wilkes."

"Everyone you talk to about Dr. Ralston comments on how thoroughly devoted he was to the students," says Wilkes University president Dr. Chris Breiseth. "There's no one who knows as many alumni as Dean Ralston. He remembers them with vivid detail and the kind of care and concern typical of Wilkes. That's typical of Wilkes because George Ralston is the one who established that tradition."

Neck and heart surgery over the past few years haven't sapped any of the vitality from the 79-year-old Ralston, who — when

have made such a lasting impression on so many people that they just rally around George."

"If they're in from out of town, they call. It is a very unusual thing because it isn't anything he did to get all of this love and affection. It's just him. It's just the way he is. That strikes a chord with people. People don't like fakery and they never found it in George as a coach or a dean."

"I could tell," says former Wilkes football and wrestling star Marv Antinnes, who played on Ralston's last football team, "right from the first time I met him face to face that he was somebody who, if you needed help or guidance or direction, you could very easily go to him and feel very at ease by talking with him. He normally gave you the right guidance most of the time. I can't say enough about him. He was a big influence on my life."

As he was on most people's.

Rescigno, for instance: Born in Manhattan but raised in the Bronx, the All-City football

"George told me I had to meet him at 8 in the morning at Butler Hall," Rescigno says. "I thought to myself, 'How in Sam Hill am I going to get there at 8 in the morning?' I didn't know where Pennsylvania was. I took a Martz Line bus and arrived at the square in Wilkes-Barre at 7, then I found Butler Hall. I walked into his office and he had his shorts on, with his socks and his garters for his socks. That's all. That's how I met George Ralston. That was the beginning of a very productive and fruitful relationship."



Courtesy of Wilkes University

George Ralston leading his Wilkes cheer

the kind of person that those students were dealing with and they knew they could come to him with anything and he would help."

In the years before NCAA sanctions and everpresent scholarship money, Ralston's charity toward his players was both accepted graciously and needed.

"Everybody and anybody who ever needed it, George was there for them," says Al Nicholas, a 1955 Wilkes grad who played four years of football under Ralston and recently retired back to Kingston. "It just happened. You had a few people who didn't have any money, but they wanted to play ball. George took care of them and gave them cash if they needed. He always did. Talk about scholarships? He gave a lot of scholarships, but he paid for them out of his own pocket."

"It was almost impossible (to pay for school), but George was there," Rescigno says. "I had every job the university could offer. I did everything I could. He was the glue that kept me there. ...Finally, we made it through. God only knows how we did it, but we made it through."

After coming to Wilkes, Rescigno lived in Butler Hall next to Ralston, who at the time was Dean of Men. Next door was his football coach, but Rescigno took advantage of other benefits.

"I had the same clothes size as his," Rescigno recalls. "If I wanted a pair of shoes, I'd go into his room and get a pair of his. If I wanted a shirt, I'd go get his. Or a suit or a tie — I'd go get one of his. God, there were so many good times."

"When we were going to Wilkes," Nicholas says, "he had a convertible and we used to steal it and take it for a ride, but he knew it. He never told us, but he knew we'd steal it."

If generosity and benevolence were Ralston's hallmarks, his bicycle was his trademark.

This week was a week for old friends, cherished memories and fond stories as ex-players, students and acquaintances met to celebrate Ralston's honorary degree.

"So many people said the other night, 'I never would have been at Wilkes if it hadn't been for him.' " says Ralston's wife of 32 years, Helen. "Others said, 'I never would have graduated from Wilkes if it hadn't been for you, if you

Ralston rode his bikes — "I've only ever had four of them," he says — just about everywhere he went from his home in a neat residential neighborhood in South Wilkes-Barre. To meetings, practices, work — wherever more often than not Ralston would be getting there on his bike.

"I don't ride it hard," Ralston says. "That's my transportation because it's cheap. You don't have to put any gasoline in those. I don't do it for exercise. It's transportation."

It also became a symbol that the Wilkes students recognized and identified as something genuinely Ralston's.

"George used to play Santa Claus every Christmas for a big party in the gym," Helen remembers. "One year, he parked his bike up at Weckesser Hall in a place where he always parked his bike. He went out to get it one day to ride it over to Rotary or something, and it was gone."

"Horror! Such a thing!" Helen says, a smile spreading across her face. "How could this happen to George Ralston? Everybody knows that's his bike. It was determined that it wasn't a Wilkes student who took his bicycle. It was out and out stolen by some kid who saw it there and off the bike went. So when George played Santa Claus that Christmas, after he presented his gifts, the student body presented him a new bicycle."

A charitable gesture, to be sure — the Wilkes student body actually bought Ralston another bike later — but it's one that he returned exponentially.

"I don't think there's anybody who ever went to Wilkes," says former Wilkes wrestling coach John Reese, who succeeded Ralston as AD, "who can't look back and



burg, where they worked a dairy farm. He went to North Carolina, where he starred as a center on the football team and a pitcher on the baseball team, and graduated in 1940 with a degree in biology.

Two days after graduating from college, he came to Forty Fort High as an English teacher and a football and basketball coach, but after the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor he enlisted in the Army. He spent four decorated years, spending most of his time in Africa and then in the South Pacific, during which he earned two purple hearts and ascended to the rank of major.

Ralston returned to Forty Fort in 1946, then went to Wilkes in June when Dr. Eugene S. Farley asked him to come to BJC to counsel returning veterans. The next year, Farley approached Ralston with plans to start athletic teams and Wilkes, and Ralston's storied Wilkes athletic career began.

The father of four sons, all Wilkes graduates — David, 49; John, 39; Tom, 38; and James, 31 — Ralston served on the executive boards of 15 different organizations, including General Hospital, the Wilkes-Barre YMCA, Salvation Army and Red Cross. He also is religiously devout — "Any place I can go to say a good word for Jesus Christ, well, I'll do it," he says — and is a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre.

Helen is an Ashley High and 1952 Wilkes grad who taught music at Wilkes from 1952-56 before leaving to concentrate on giving private lessons.

But just like Helen admits she knew the first time she met George that she wanted to spend her life around him, so did most everyone else.

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Especially his old players.

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Listening is half the fun:

"My favorite George Ralston story is about him as a coach," Breiseth remembers. "I was in Los Angeles meeting with a group of alumni and I told them a story about when one of his players was knocked out and he was lying there on the ground and Coach Ralston came out and said, 'You're embarrassing us. Get up and get back in there and play.' Ron Rescigno says, 'That was me.'"

"I remember the time we were in the locker room at the park and I took his shoes from him," Rescigno says. "He had a speaking engagement at the Rotary or the Kiwanis or the YMCA or something, and I took his shoes, but he wouldn't commit to saying that someone took his shoes. He got dressed in his suit and tie, put his cleats back on, walked out and never looked back."

"He once was bragging that he could put a belt on his chest and tighten it up," Antinnes remembers, "then expand his

George Ralston with his trademark bicycle

chest and break the belt. And he did it. He was small, but a strong little guy. He was a center at North Carolina, so he had to be pretty tough."

Ralston tries to downplay the influence he has had on people.

"I wanted to say to them several times, 'How can you folks come back and be so loyal when I was pretty much a scamp in a lot of ways?' " Ralston says. "I was tough on them in athletics. I don't think any of the people today work as hard as we did back then. They were hard-nosed people. They paid the price."

But they did it willingly for a man they feared, respected and loved.

"When he was coaching me, I was amazed because if he told you to run four laps, he ran all four with the team," Antinnes said. "If he said to do 50 push-ups, up he did 50 push-ups. He led all the calisthenics and he could do them all. That always amazed me. I could never do them when I was coaching, but he did. He's what you'd call a real, good old-fashioned football coach who didn't ask you to do anything he wouldn't or couldn't do, and he could prove it, too."

"We were playing football at St. Francis College and I broke my nose," Nicholas says. "I came out of the game bleeding, and he straightened it out and said, 'Get back in there, now.' I went back in."

The moments leap from the mental pages of history when Ralston starts thinking about his coaching past:

There's Ralston's first football team — the 1947 squad — which went 6-0 behind what came to be known as the famed "Sev-

en Blocks of Anthracite." He can't forget the 1948 Wilkes-Rider game at the old Huber Stadium in Plymouth: "Many people will tell you the greatest football game they've ever seen in the Wyoming Valley was Wilkes versus Rider College in that Huber Stadium. They beat us 41-35."

There was the 1949 team — "With all due respect, I don't think any team would match up with our 1949 team," Ralston says after considering the other championship Wilkes squads through the years. The 39-0 win Wilkes posted over what was an undefeated Ursinus team in 1957.

In between were 11 years of Ralston's football coaching career, when he led the Colonels to a 41-32-4 mark, 10 years of basketball coaching (76-109) and five years of baseball (24-16). A proponent of the old single-wing offense, Ralston still has the index cards with his offensive and defensive plays in the history-rich office he built in his home.

Just like in the classroom, Ralston never accepted anything less than total effort on the athletic fields, but winning wasn't always the goal.

"Winning or losing wasn't everything at Wilkes," Rescigno says. "The whole idea of how you played the game, what respect you brought to the game, that's what he provided. That was the philosophy of life he committed you to. When you play the game of life, it wasn't about whether you win or lose, it's not what what you take out, it's what you give back. That philosophy was his, and it became Wilkes'."

Born in Harrisonburg, Va., Ralston moved with his family to suburban Harris-

Hueneine School District in suburban Los Angeles to be president and CEO of EduLink, a company designed to promote the use of computers in classrooms around the world.

"I came because of George. As you get older, there's not many things that matter in life. Money, rank, position — that doesn't matter. What matters is the personal relationships that you develop over the years. Although I've been gone from Wilkes many, many years and I haven't been as diligent as I should have in terms of keeping in touch with George, the relationship I developed in my mind and my heart has stayed with me. That's what's important. That's what life is all about."

College — particularly Wilkes University — is about personal relationships between student and faculty, Ralston says, the kind of personal relationships that he had with his students and the kind that he hopes the university will continue having.

"I hope they will continue to reach and have relationships with the individual," Ralston says. "To me, that's the essence of the whole thing, the whole simple, plain idea that at one end of the log is a teacher and at the other is a student. That's what college is about."

The name George Ralston strikes many a sentimental chord among Wilkes alumni, faculty and students, even now, 11 years after he retired as Dean of Students. But while he has been forced to leave the everyday Wilkes workings, he still is a vital part of the community as an alumni representative.

No one who ever dealt with Dr. Wilkes ever will forget his touches.

"George was the Spring," Rescigno says. "He was the wind that blew in from the west, by God. He was the spirit of Wilkes."

Courtesy of Wilkes University

Tone

(Continued from Page 1A)

Meals on Wheels recipients. When they arrived at a woman's house to deliver a meal, they saw the cards on top of her TV. "I enjoy my life, because I am doing things that fulfill me and give me pleasure," Smith said.

Ralston molded men into champion football players on the Wilkes University field that now bears his name.

But Ralston, who retired in 1986 after 40 years as the institution's dean of student affairs, said, "the thing that I'm proudest of is my work with students. Guiding their personal lives and career goals."

It wasn't his career ambition. He wanted to play professional sports, but he said he wasn't good enough. Instead, Ralston used his skills on the baseball diamond and the gridiron at the University of North Carolina to earn a bachelor's degree in biology in 1940. He planned to become a doctor.

World War II intervened. After the years of fighting, he took a job at Wilkes, then known as Bucknell Junior College, counseling his fellow veterans on what courses they should take.

Some students wanted to form a football team and asked him to coach. At 28, Ralston was still living in a dormitory himself but led them to an undefeated first season.

He was offered the job of dean a few months later. Ralston also coached baseball and basketball and was the university's first athletic director. He met his wife, Helen, while she was studying at the university to become a soloist singer. Each of the couple's four sons graduated from Wilkes.

Ralston finally became a doctor last year, when he was awarded an honorary doctorate from the university.

Setting a tone for generations to come

By JERRY BERRIOS and DAVID J. RALIS

Times Leader Staff Writers

T.L. 12-30-98
From Page 1

Louise Smith's legacy to her grandchildren is a life-time of community service.

George Ralston abandoned a professional sports career to spend 40 years shaping the careers of college students.

And retired nurse Evelyn Eck's children went on to become a doctor, a biology teacher, a nurse and an industrial scientist.

These are just a few examples of the way today's seniors have influenced our destiny in the decades to come.

Smith, 68, serves as the volunteer coordinator of the Greater Pittston Meals on Wheels, is a 30-year board member of the West Pittston library and is active in her church and other social clubs.

"I hope I have set a good example for them to give of themselves," said Smith, of West Pittston.

Her eight grandchildren appear to have taken the cue. Smith said they have helped Meals on Wheels and assisted the library.

Smith recalls a time when they made Easter cards for

See TONE, Page 5A



The Times Leader/CLARK VAN ORDEN
Louise Smith, the volunteer coordinator for the Greater Pittston Meals on Wheels, said she wants to set a good example for her eight grandchildren.



The Times Leader File Photo/CLARK VAN ORDEN

George Ralston of Wilkes-Barre was the first football coach at Wilkes University, and the team went undefeated its first year. Ralston believes his real legacy is the students he helped during his 40 years as dean of student affairs.

Jobs and Appointed District Directors

Wilkes-Barre Recreation Commission at a meeting yesterday afternoon named playground personnel to direct activities of Wilkes-Barre City playgrounds this summer. It was noted after the meeting the appointments were made on the basis of experience, aptitude and recommendations and followed interviews that began the first of the year and ended March 17, the last day for applications and interview.

Eleven young men and seven young women were appointed to Leader 1 positions paying \$2 an hour. These appointees were required to have two years of college and a year's successful experience as a playground leader. Named Leader 1 were Carol Davenport, Gerald Stinson, Bernard Prevuznak, Jean Marie Neff, Carol Rhines, Carol Wetzel, Betsey Tubridy, Barbara Acacic, Ruth Newman, John Nagle, Robert Januszko, Robert Betzler, Michael Habib, Charles Craze, Leonard Stavish, Glenn Johnson, Bernard Chandler and Michael Moses.

Named Leader 2, to receive \$1.50 an hour, were 11 young women and seven young men. Joseph Hurley, Kay Messersmith, Mary Iwicki, Mary Lou Pauly, Sandra Fritzing, Mary Denise Kane, Marilyn C. Davis, Edward Endler, Sandra Rossi, Charles Romanec, Thomas Rushton, Rachel B. Davis, Edmund O'Neill, Judith K. Huey, Barbara Altman, Thomas R. Wynn, Susan Hoeffner, Stephen Goodsir.

To qualify for Leader 2 position, applicants must have had a high-school diploma, experience in volunteer leadership of group and experience in recreation activities.

In addition to leaders, the commission named four district directors to supervise activities of three leaders for Playland on Public Square, and a maintenance supervisor. Named district directors were Bernard Cobb, James Dunn, James Igoe and William Kelly. Evelyn Schmit was appointed director of Playland, to be assisted by Margaret M. Balz and Marilyn Wilcox.

Kenneth Smith was named maintenance supervisor for the summer playground season. Last week Parks Commissioner Edward J. White offered the use of a truck and a crew of three to four men to assist Smith in the maintenance program of playground areas in the city.

George Ralston presided at yesterday's meeting, which followed a four-hour conference held last week in Weissman Recreation Room at which more than 100 applications were

QUICKI-NOTE

DATE 3-25-66 19

TO Dean George F. Ralston

Please use the enclosed envelope to send me a glossy
print of yourself for use in connection with Conference
Publicity.

Many thanks.

Joe
JOSEPH G. TOMASCIK, Governor
DISTRICT 741, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
15 SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET
WILKES-BARRE, PA. 18701

*mailed
mat + Bio
2/30/66
Pf*



SNAP-A-PART
47-232

FROM _____

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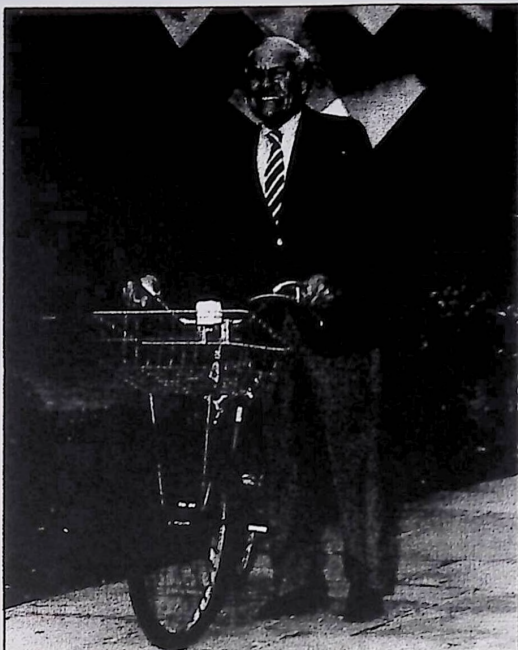
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Courtesy of Wilkes University

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"I wanted to say to them several times, 'How can you folks come back and be so loyal when I was pretty much a scamp in a lot of ways?'" Ralston says. "I was tough on them in athletics. I don't think any of the people today work as hard as we did back then. They were hard-nosed people. They paid the price."

But they did it willingly for a man they feared, respected and loved.

"When he was coaching me, I was amazed because if he told you to run four laps, he ran all four with the team," Antinnes said. "If he said to do 50 push-ups, he did 50 push-ups. He led all the calisthenics and he could do them all. That always amazed me. I could never do them when I was coaching, but he did. He's what you'd call a real, good old-fashioned football coach who didn't ask you to do anything he wouldn't or couldn't do, and he could prove it, too."

"We were playing football at St. Francis College and I broke my nose," Nicholas says. "I came out of the game bleeding, and he straightened it out and said, 'Get back in there, now.' I went back in."

The moments leap from the mental pages of history when Ralston starts thinking about his coaching past:

There's Ralston's first football team — the 1947 squad — which went 6-0 behind what came to be known as the famed "Sev-

en Blocks of Anthracite." He can't forget the 1948 Wilkes Rider game at the old Huber Stadium in Plymouth: "Many people will tell you the greatest football game they've ever seen in the Wyoming Valley was Wilkes versus Rider College in that Huber Stadium. They beat us 41-35."

There was the 1949 team — "With all due respect, I don't think any team would match up with our 1949 team," Ralston says after considering the other championship Wilkes squads through the years. The 39-0 win Wilkes posted over what was an undefeated Ursinus team in 1957.

In between were 11 years of Ralston's football coaching career, when he led the Colonels to a 41-32-4 mark, 10 years of basketball coaching (76-109) and five years of baseball (24-16). A proponent of the old single-wing offense, Ralston still has the index cards with his offensive and defensive plays in the history-rich office he built in his home.

Just like in the classroom, Ralston never accepted anything less than total effort on the athletic fields, but winning wasn't always the goal.

"Winning or losing wasn't everything at Wilkes," Rescigno says. "The whole idea of how you played the game, what respect you brought to the game, that's what he provided. That was the philosophy of life he committed you to. When you play the game of life, it wasn't about whether you win or lose, it's not what you take out, it's what you give back. That philosophy was his, and it became Wilkes."

Born in Harrisonburg, Va., Ralston moved with his family to suburban Harris-

burg, where they worked a dairy farm. He went to North Carolina, where he starred as a center on the football team and a pitcher on the baseball team, and graduated in 1946 with a degree in biology.

Two days after graduating from college, he came to Forty Fort High as an English teacher and a football and basketball coach, but after the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor he enlisted in the Army. He spent four decorated years, spending most of his time in Africa and then in the South Pacific, during which he earned two purple hearts and ascended to the rank of major.

Ralston returned to Forty Fort in 1946, then went to Wilkes in June when Dr. Eugene S. Farley asked him to come to BJO to counsel returning veterans. The next year, Farley approached Ralston with plans to start athletic teams and Wilkes, and Ralston's storied Wilkes athletic career began.

The father of four sons, all Wilkes graduates — David, 49; John, 39; Tom, 38; and James, 31 — Ralston served on the executive boards of 15 different organizations including General Hospital, the Wilkes-Barre YMCA, Salvation Army and Red Cross. He also is religiously devout — "Any place I can go to say a good word for Jesus Christ, well, I'll do it," he says — and is a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre.

Helen is an Ashley High and 1952 Wilkes grad who taught music at Wilkes from 1952-56 before leaving to concentrate on giving private lessons.

But just like Helen admits she knew the first time she met George that she wanted to spend her life around him, so did most everyone else.

"You must think I was nuts to come to Wilkes," says Rescigno, who recently retired as Superintendent of Schools in Huemene School District in suburban Los Angeles to be president and CEO of Edulink, a company designed to promote the use of computers in classrooms around the world.

"I came because of George. As you get older, there's not many things that matter in life. Money, rank, position — that doesn't matter. What matters is the personal relationships that you develop over the years. Although I've been gone from Wilkes many, many years and I haven't been as diligent as I should have in terms of keeping in touch with George, the relationship I developed in my mind and my heart has stayed with me. That's what's important. That's what life is all about."

College — particularly Wilkes University — is about personal relationships between student and faculty, Ralston says, the kind of personal relationships that he had with his students and the kind that he hopes the university will continue having.

"I hope they will continue to reach and have relationships with the individual," Ralston says. "To me, that's the essence of the whole thing, the whole simple, plain idea that at one end of the log is a teacher and at the other is a student. That's what college is about."

The name George Ralston strikes many a sentimental chord among Wilkes alumni, faculty and students, even now, 11 years after he retired as Dean of Students. But while he has been forced to leave the everyday Wilkes workings, he still is a vital part of the community as an alumni representative.

No one who ever dealt with Dr. Wilkes ever will forget his touches.

"George was the Spring," Rescigno says. "He was the wind that blew in from the west, by God. He was the spirit of Wilkes."

Honoring the father

Five decades after his arrival on campus, George Ralston, the "Father of Wilkes Athletics," is honored by the university

By RANDY YANOSHAH
Citizens'Voice Sports Writer

"I'll tell you the story," George Ralston says, settling back into his favorite living room chair. "It's been told a thousand times."

But the story Ralston tells — how he went from being the youngest son of a dairy farmer to a two-sport athlete at the University of North Carolina to a teacher at Forty Fort High to the first athletic director and football, basketball and baseball coach at what now is Wilkes University — isn't the whole story.

The story that should be told is the story Ralston, in all his modesty, will not tell, but the one that the people who have known him cannot wait to tell.

The story that should be told is the one about how George Francis Ralston, Dean Emeritus, the "Father of Athletics at Wilkes," changed lives, influenced futures and molded students.

"George is with me every day of my life," says Dr. Ron Rescigno, a New York City native who turned down football scholarship offers to come play at Wilkes and who later became a California schools superintendent and a world-renowned proponent of computers in education.

"That's the impression he had on me. He was my mentor, my coach and my father. He saw things in me that I didn't see in myself. Almost every day of my life, whatever I do, I'm impacted by the association I had with George Ralston."

Just like the Wilkes community was impacted by Ralston's 50-year association with what used to be Bucknell Junior College.

To commemorate Ralston's five decades of service — as athletic director, coach, Dean of Men, Dean of Student Affairs, Dean Emeritus and, now, Special Assistant for Alumni Affairs — Wilkes University awarded Ralston with an honorary Doctor of Science degree Thursday, giving the man dubbed "Mr. Wilkes" the right to be called "Dr. Wilkes."

"Everyone you talk to about Dr. Ralston comments on how thoroughly devoted he was to the students," says Wilkes University president Dr. Chris Breiseth. "There's no one who knows as many alumni as Dean Ralston. He remembers them with vivid detail and the kind of care and concern typical of Wilkes. That's typical of Wilkes because George Ralston is the one who established that tradition."

Neck and heart surgery over the past few years haven't sapped any of the vitality from the 79-year-old Ralston, who — when

the weather is warm — still rides his bike around town, still goes to work in his office at Wilkes' Alumni House and still is as vibrant, dynamic and entertaining as he was when he left Forty Fort High in 1916 to join BJC as a counselor for World War I veterans looking to attend college.

Fifty unexpected years later — "I didn't think I'd be there a year. I thought I'd save money and then go back to school," he says — Ralston was honored for his considerable contributions to Wilkes.

"One gentleman," Helen recalls, "said (Wednesday) night, 'It's hard to imagine how a man so quiet and so humble could have made such a lasting impression on so many people that they just rally around George.'"

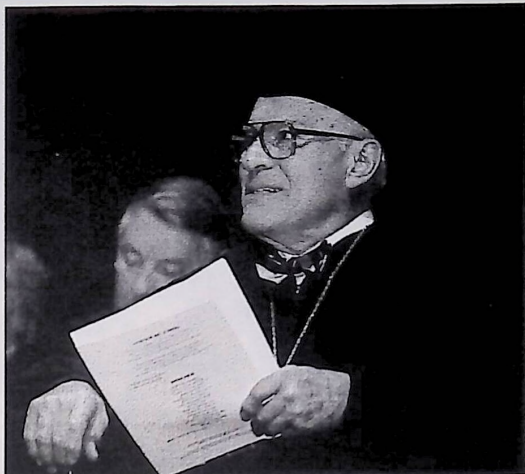
"If they're in from out of town, they call. It is a very unusual thing because it isn't anything he did to get all of this love and affection. It's just him. It's just the way he is. That strikes a chord with people. People don't like fakery and they never find it in George as a coach or a dean."

"I could tell," says former Wilkes football and wrestling star Marv Antinnes, who

played on Ralston's last football team, "right from the first time I met him face to face that he was somebody who, if you needed help or guidance or direction, you could very easily go to him and feel very at ease by talking with him. He normally gave you the right guidance most of the time. I can't say enough about him. He was a big influence on my life."

As he was on most people's.

Rescigno, for instance: Born in Manhattan but raised in the Bronx, the All-City football



The Sunday Voice/Warren Rudo

George Ralston smiles as Wilkes University president Dr. Chris Breiseth reads a citation honoring Ralston's 50 years of service to the school

player was offered scholarships by Georgia, Syracuse and Rhode Island, but was persuaded by a Wilkes alum to visit Wilkes during the spring of 1954, when he was to meet the engaging football coach.

"George told me I had to meet him at 8 in the morning at Butler Hall," Rescigno says. "I thought to myself, 'How in Sam Hill am I going to get there at 8 in the morning?' I didn't know where Pennsylvania was. I took a Martz Line bus and arrived at the square in Wilkes-Barre at 7, then I found Butler Hall. I walked into his office and he had his shorts on, with his socks and his garters for his socks. That's all. That's how I met George Ralston. That was the beginning of a very productive and fruitful relationship."

This week was a week for old friends, cherished memories, branches and fond stories as ex-players, students and acquaintances met to celebrate Ralston's honorary degree.

"So many people said the other night, 'I never would have been at Wilkes if it hadn't been for him,'" says Ralston's wife of 32 years, Helen. "Others said, 'I never would have graduated from Wilkes if it hadn't been for you, if you

hadn't guided me, if you hadn't shown me the way, if you hadn't loaned me the money for next semester,' which he did numerous times for students. Then, eventually, whenever they could, they'd pay us back. That's the kind of person that those students were dealing with and they knew they could come to him with anything and he would help."

In the years before NCAA sanctions and overpriced scholarship money, Ralston's charity toward his players was both accepted graciously and needed.

"Everybody and anybody who ever needed it, George was there for them," says Al Nicholas, a 1955 Wilkes grad who played four years of football under Ralston and recently retired back to Kingston. "It just happened. You had a few people who didn't have any money, but they wanted to play ball. George took care of them and gave them cash if they needed. He always did. Talk about scholarships? He gave a lot of scholarships, but he paid for them out of his own pocket."

"It was almost impossible (to pay for school), but George was there," Rescigno says. "I had every job the university could offer. I did everything I could. He was the glue that kept me there. ...Finally, we made it through. God only knows how we did it, but we made it through."

After coming to Wilkes, Rescigno lived in Butler Hall next to Ralston, who at the time was Dean of Men. Next door was his football coach, but Rescigno took advantage of other benefits.

"I had the same clothes size as his," Rescigno recalls. "If I wanted a pair of shoes, I'd go into his room and get a pair of his. If I wanted a shirt, I'd go get his. Or a suit or a tie — I'd go get one of his. God, there were so many good times."

"When we were going to Wilkes," Nicholas says, "he had a convertible and we used to steal it and take it for a ride, but he knew it. He never told us, but he knew we'd steal it."

If generosity and benevolence were Ralston's hallmarks, his bicycle was his trademark.



Courtesy of Wilkes University

George Ralston leading his Wilkes cheer



Lions lauds students with banquet

The Kingston-Forty Fort Lions Club recently held its 16th annual Student of the Month Program Banquet in the Sheraton-Crossgates. Honored were outstanding students from Wyoming Valley West, Bishop O'Reilly and Wyoming Seminary. Receiving student of the year awards were Larry M. Newman, WVW; Andrew Martin, Bishop O'Reilly, and Allison S. Nelson, Seminary. Speak-

er was George F. Ralston, dean of student affairs, Wilkes College. Shown are, from left, Dr. Robert D. Blase, banquet chairman; James Ferris, principal, WVW High School; Newman; the Rev. Michael J. Piccola, principal, O'Reilly; Martin; Ralston; Ms. Nelson; David L. Davies, dean of students, Wyoming Seminary; David J. Fagula, president, Kingston-Forty Fort Lions. *TL 6/17/80*

Ralston to Preach At UN Church

George F. Ralston, dean at Wilkes College, will be the guest speaker in Dorranceton United Methodist Church, at the 10 a. m. worship service Sunday. Senior and Youth Choirs will sing under the direction of Mrs. Burton W. Hankey. Organist is William C. Johnson.

Church School will convene at 11:15 a. m., with the adult classes combining in the church parlor. Carlton J. Chapin will teach the adult class.

*10 am past
weekend*

Wilkes Dean Will Talk to Men's Club

Dean George F. Ralston of Wilkes College will be guest speaker at the monthly dinner meeting of Men's Club of First Methodist Church, North Franklin Street, tomorrow night at 6:15, in the Fellowship Hall.

Atty. Charles D. Legmond, Jr., will present the devotional message. Haydn M. Davies will preside. Program chairman is Thomas Jones.

Members of First Methodist Church WSCS will prepare and serve the dinner.

Mt. Zion Church To Hear Ralston

Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 105 Hill street, city, will have a guest speaker at the Sunday morning service at 10:45. The speaker will be George Ralston, dean of men at Wilkes College. Rev. Whaley J. Atterberry is pastor of the church.

Methodists Will Attend Baccalaureate Service

The Methodist Student Day Program at Shoemaker Chapel, West Wyoming, and Wyoming Methodist Church will be held at identical services this morning at 9 and 10:45. Young people will take part in the service in Scripture readings, prayer and responses. Pastor David Morgan will speak on the subject "One Life to Live."

A special gift will be made for National Scholarship Fund and the Wyoming Conference Ministerial Loan Fund. Youth taking part are David Gross, Helene Saunders, Allen Atherholt, Thomas Bastis, Fred Bohn III, and Malcolm Moss. Graduates are cordially invited to attend this service.

Parents are asked to enroll children for Vacation Church School which begins Monday, June 19. The school will be held at Wyoming Institute, under the auspices of the Wyoming Interchurch Council. The Rev. David Johnston is dean.

Members of Wyoming Methodist Church will attend the Ecumenical Baccalaureate Service for graduates of Wyoming Area School this evening at 7:30 in West Pittston Stadium. George F. Ralston of Wilkes College, will be the speaker. The united choirs of Wyoming Catholic and Protestant Churches will lead in the singing.



GEORGE F. RALSTON

Methodist Men are preparing a flag fund to be used for the Redecoration Project. Those who wish to help may contribute by contacting George Troy, Elwood Carpenter, Fred Bohn Jr. or Theodore Keen.



TIMES LEADER/CLARE VAN ORDEN

Ground broken for apartment

Representatives of Heritage House Inc. pored at a groundbreaking ceremony Thursday for a \$1.5 million plan to build a 32-unit apartment house next to the nursing home facility at 80 E. Northampton St., Wilkes-Barre. From left, architect Nicholas Pyros; attorney Michael J. Hudacek; Thomas J. Dougherty, Executive Director Marga-

ret R. Spencer; board member George Ralston, and board president Thomas P. Saxton. Mrs. Spencer said the building, which will be for people 62 or older, will be attached to the Heritage House building by a glass walkway. The building is expected to be completed next spring or summer.



Grooms' Voice / Jack Reilly

Groundbreaking conducted for Heritage \$1.5 million complex

Ground breaking ceremonies were conducted Thursday for the \$1.5 million Heritage House Apartment complex which will consist of 32 luxury apartments to be constructed on South Pennsylvania Avenue in Wilkes-Barre.

The Heritage House Apartments will be located in the rear of Heritage House, a residential and nursing care facility for persons 62 years of age and older.

Each of the 32 apartments will contain 600 square feet of living space and are available to persons and/or couples who are in good health and 62 years of age and older.

The apartments will have a livingroom, kitchen, bedroom, dressing room and bath.

Upon completion, the Heritage House Apartments will be connected to Heritage House, 80 E. Northampton St., by a glass enclosed walkway.

The apartment complex for the elderly is being constructed by S.G. Mastriani Co. of Scranton and was designed by the architectural firm of Pyros and Sanderson.

Heritage House and the Heritage House Apartments are a division of the Wilkes-Barre General Health Corp.

Ground-breaking participants, from left, are Nick Pyros, architect; Attorney Michael Hudacek; Thomas J. Dougherty, secretary-treasurer of the Heritage House board of directors; Mrs. Margaret R. Spencer, Heritage House executive director; George Ralston, board member, and Thomas Saxton, chairman of the board of Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. Other participants were Ralph Mancuso, executive vice president, Mastriani Construction; Don Sanderson, architect, and Joseph Krehly, project architect.

CV 9/19/86



YMCA opens fund drive

CV 12/15/90

Wilkes-Barre Family YMCA kicked off its annual fund drive Monday night at the YMCA. Principals, from left are, George Ralston, George Brandt, Bernie Mengerhousen, Dr. Andrew Shaw, Melanie Lumia, Frank Henry, Bernie Hargadon, executive director, and Paul Lumia.

SUNDAY DISPATCH

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Wilkes Alumni To Host Golf Tourney At Irem



The Wilkes University Alumni Association will host its annual Homecoming golf tournament on Friday, Oct. 7 at the Irem Temple Country Club, Dallas.

Registration for the captain and crew format match will begin at 10 a.m., with shotgun start scheduled for 11 am. Hole prizes will be offered, including a hole-in-one chance for a Florida vacation from Tenenbaum's travel. Refreshments and dinner will follow the tournament at 5:30 p.m.

A \$75 entry fee includes greens fee, cart rental, refreshments, dinner and prizes.

William Rowe, of West Pittston, and Joseph Rubino, of Wyoming, are co-chairs for the event. A 1983 graduate of Wilkes, Rowe is a stock broker with Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc., Wilkes-Barre. Rubino, of Wyoming, is a retired accountant.

The golf tournament kicks off 50th Annual Homecoming weekend at Wilkes. Alumni from throughout the country will gather on campus for numerous activities, including a "Return to the Hill" prior to the Wilkes vs. King's College football game at Ralston Field at 1 p.m. Saturday.

The golf tournament is open to the public. For more information or to register, contact the Wilkes University Alumni Office at (717) 408-4130.

Pictured from left are the tournament organizers: George Ralston, Wilkes-Barre, Wilkes University dean emeritus and special assistant for alumni affairs; Sandra Beynon Nicholas, Forty Fort, Wilkes University executive director of alumni; William Rowe, West Pittston and Joseph Rubino, Wyoming, tournament co-chairs; William Goldsworthy, West Pittston, Wilkes University Alumni Association president.



George Ralston Will Speak at Service

Sunday morning Worship Service of the First Baptist Church of Wilkes-Barre will be conducted by George Ralston, dean of men at Wilkes College, guest speaker.

Dean Ralston has been on the faculty since 1946, having served both as dean of men and director of athletics.

He is an elder of First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre; a past president of Wilkes-Barre Rotary Club; past president of the YMCA and has a host of other community offices.

Dean Ralston is a graduate of the University of North Carolina, and did graduate study at Harvard and Columbia Universities.

Nursery will be provided for children.



1967 MH/MR Center Notes 15th Anniversary

The Luzerne-Wyoming County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center recently held its 15th anniversary dinner-meeting at The Woodlands, Plains Township. The affair was attended by more than 175 staff, board members, agency personnel and friends who gathered to celebrate the center's 15th year of delivering specialized psychiatric services to the community.

Members of the center's board of directors who received awards for 15 years of service are, from left: Attorney Charles Bufalino Jr., Dean George Ralston, Ruth Levey, Rev. James Doyle and Gottfried Csala.

Dean George F. Ralston of Wilkes College

served as master of ceremonies and joined board president Thomas O'Neill in presenting awards to staff and board members who have served the mental health center since it opened its doors in July 1969. Five and 10-year service awards were also presented to staff and board members.

During the course of the dinner meeting, guests reminisced about the events that had influenced the center during the past 15 years. It was recognized that the center survived the severe federal cutbacks and continues to meet the varying and growing needs of its community by offering specialized services in innovative ways. Ex-

ecutive Director John Creek also charted the course of the future of the center with remarks about the agency's long-range strategic planning process.

Nominations for board of director's executive committee were also presented and approved as follows: Thomas O'Neill, president; Rev. James J. Doyle, vice president; Louise Wasserott, secretary, and Atty. Charles J. Bufalino Jr., treasurer.

The agency is a private, non-profit organization that provides comprehensive counseling services 24 hours a day and is a United Way member agency.



New members join Kingston Rotary

Shown are three new members who were inducted into the Kingston Rotary Club, from left, seated: Tom Tobin, Ray Podskoch and Mark Kelly; standing: Ed Chapin, membership co-chairman;

George Ralston, speaker; Tom Muldowney, first vice president; Tom Roan, membership co-chairman, and Les Hockman, second vice president.

T 12-31-84

Ralston Will Speak At Worship Services

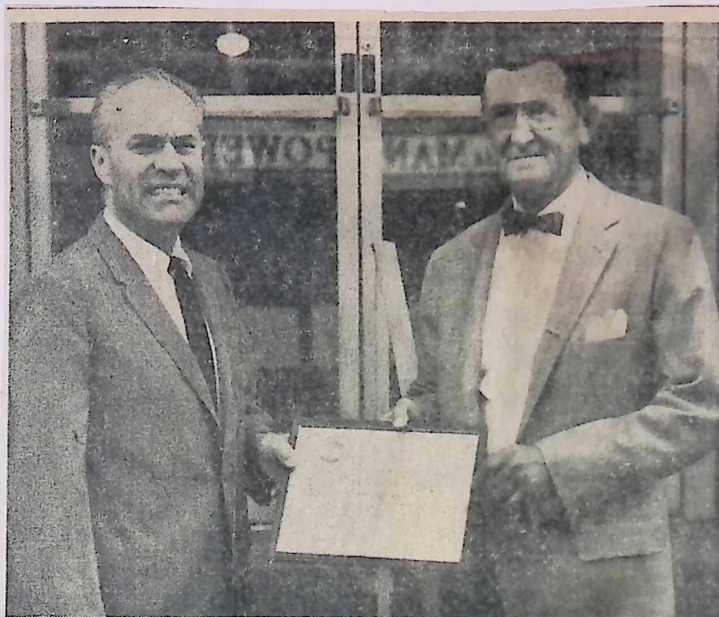
Officers of the Presbyterian Church announce the guest speaker at the worship services Sunday morning at 10:45 will be George Ralston, dean of men at Wilkes College.

It was also announced men of the church planning to attend the annual fall meeting of Lackawanna Council of United Presbyterian Men Sunday afternoon at 2:30 in First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre can obtain dinner tickets today from Albert West.

Wilkes Dean To Address BPW Club

Dr. Francis J. Michelini, dean of academic affairs at Wilkes College, will be guest speaker at a dinner meeting of Wilkes-Barre Business and Professional Women's Club Monday night at 6:30 at the Gus Genetti Hotel.

The club's annual scholarship will be presented to a Wilkes College student at this meeting.



Heffernan Earns Recreation Honor

FOR KIDS' LEAGUES—Thomas E. Heffernan, right, accepts National Recreation Month citation from George Ralston, president of the Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board, in City Hall ceremony last week. Mr. Heffernan, editor and publisher of the Sunday Independent and conductor of the Sporting Snapshots column—a regular feature of this

paper's sports section—was cited for his work in organizing and perpetuating the Wyoming Valley Kids' Leagues. The leagues are sponsored by the Sunday Independent and supervised by Recreation Board personnel. Some 300 area youngsters, who would not otherwise have a chance to play baseball, participate in the program annually.—
(Photo by Ace Hoffman)

Wilkes Dean Will Address PTA Council

Annual Founders Day dinner of Wilkes-Barre Area Council of PTAs, will be held Thursday night in Coughlin High School Cafeteria. Guests are invited to come at 6 p. m. for a punch party to be provided by Wilkes-Barre Board of Education. Dinner will begin at 6:45 p. m.

Principal speaker will be George Rakston, dean of students at Wilkes College. His topic will be "The Genuinely Educated Person."

Dean Rakston, was born in Harrisonburg, Va., was educated in the public schools of Harrisonburg. He received an AB degree from the University of North Carolina and did graduate study at Harvard and Columbia Universities.

Dean Rakston has been a member of Wilkes College faculty since 1946. He has served as dean of men for 20 years and is now dean of students.

Dean Rakston serves on the board of directors of the General Hospital, Salvation Army and the Red Cross and is president of the YMCA.

Welcome will be given by Mrs. Richard W. Thomas, Founders Day chairman. Frank Koons, assistant superintendent of elementary school administration, will be toastmaster. Rev. Dr. Jule Ayers of the First Presbyterian Church will offer benediction. Special presentations will be made by Mrs. George E. Ritchie, president of the Wilkes-Barre Area Council.

Brief remarks will be made by Waller C. Wood, superintendent of Wilkes-Barre City Schools, and Dr. David W. Kistler, president of the Wilkes-Barre School Board.

The dinner will mark the 70th anniversary of the PTA movement. Purpose of the Founders Day activities is to honor the PTA founders and past leaders, increase understanding of the purpose and scope of PTA work, and to raise funds for expanding and strengthening PTA work.

Reservations, which are open to the public, may be made with Mrs. Joseph Stone, 117 Kidder Street.

Play Board Aides Briefed

Committees Are Advisory in Nature

Members of the newly appointed committees of Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board learned the functions of their committees at their first meeting with the five-member recreation board held in Weissman recreation rooms.

Dean George Ralston, board chairman, presided at the meeting attended also by Mayor Frank Slattery, City Parks Commissioner Edward J. White, Superintendent of Schools Walter C. Wood and Sally Jervis, slated to become director of the board July 1.

It was clear the committees are advisory in nature; members are to conduct studies and investigations and make recommendations to the recreation board through committee chairmen. Final decision in all cases will rest with the board.

Committee members will be given name tags to identify them to playground personnel.

At a meeting of the five-member board which preceded the general meeting the question of baseball permits for city diamonds was discussed. It was agreed league schedules set for this summer will remain unchanged and a policy on permits and fields will be formed at the end of the summer.

In attendance as members of the properties committee headed by Raymond W. Tubridy were Mrs. Mildred Richards, Mrs. George Ritchie, John Reese, Stanley Barnes.

Program and personnel committee headed by Walter Lisman, Mrs. Robert Kerr, Al Goldbert, William Weinbrecht, Kenneth Gray.

Planning Committee, George Ralston, chairman; George Jones, John Reese



Flood scholarship established

Wilkes University recently recognized Stephen L. Flood for establishing the Stephen L. Flood '66 Scholarship. The scholarship was established in 1997 by Stephen L. Flood, president and CEO of AAG International, Wilkes-Barre, in honor of Dr. George F. Ralston, dean emeritus of Wilkes University. The scholarship is a tribute to the leadership, guidance and personal encouragement provided by Ralston to Flood and other alumni who resided in Ashley Hall. Pictured, from left, are: George F. Ralston, dean emeritus, Wilkes; Christopher N. Breiseth, president, Wilkes; Sandra Nicholas, executive director of Alumni, Wilkes; and Stephen T. Flood, president and CEO of AAG International, Wilkes-Barre.

HA 2. T.L. 10-26-97

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Wilkes alumni pays tribute to a concerned dean

Wilkes University recently recognized Stephen L. Flood for establishing the Stephen L. Flood 1966 Scholarship.

The scholarship was established by Flood, president and CEO of AAG International, Wilkes-Barre, in honor of Dr. George F. Ralston, dean emeritus of Wilkes University.

The scholarship is a tribute to the leadership, guidance and personal encouragement provided by Dr. Ralston to Flood and other alumni who resided in Ashley Hall.

Through his donation, Flood hopes other alumni of Ashley Hall will also consider giving to Wilkes.

"I am proud and inspired by the purpose the scholarship serves," said Dr. Ralston. "The scholarship will perpetuate the education for students for years to come."

From the left, posing with the "Ashley Hall/Wilkes College" plaque, are Dr. Ralston, Christopher N. Breiseth, Wilkes University president; Sandra Nicholas, Executive Director of Alumni at Wilkes, and Flood, the scholarship donor.



Wilkes alumni honor dean

Wilkes University recognizes Stephen L. Flood for establishing the Stephen L. Flood '66 Scholarship. Established in 1997 by Flood, president and CEO of AAG International, Wilkes-Barre, it honors Dr. George F. Ralston, dean emeritus of Wilkes University. The scholarship is a tribute to the leadership, guidance and personal encouragement provided by Ralston to Flood and other alumni who resided in Ashley Hall.

Those posing for a photo with the Ashley Hall plaque from left are: George Ralston, dean emeritus, Wilkes University; Christopher Breiseth, president, Wilkes University; Sandra Nicholas, executive director of Alumni, Wilkes University; and Stephen Flood, president and CEO of AAG International, Wilkes-Barre.

The W-B Leader 10-16-97

Dean Shows Confidence In Students

3 Types Compose Student Body, With Rebels as Minority

In a brief talk by Wilkes College Dean George F. Ralston, he said, "We have no radical problem at Wilkes."

Arthur Podesta, chairman of the annual Wilkes appeal for scholarship support, reported \$51,119 has been pledged toward the \$125,000 goal. Meeting in Hotel Sterling was the second meeting of the campaign which ends April 9.

Dean Ralston, who is dean of men and dean of student affairs, expressed confidence in "this new breed of students" who seek only an avenue of communication between faculty and administration and themselves.

He told the group there are 7,000,000 college students in America and that they are "hot copy" today. Nevertheless, the dean feels "they come in for more than a fair share of criticism," and actually, this criticism applies to but a small segment of these students.

Ralston feels that today's student changes with the times and changes much more rapidly than do his elders; that the students' non-conformity is really conformity; that they represent the popular college; the seek an understanding about matters about which there is much confusion.

Three main factors have contributed to today's tension on the campus: (1) a gradual decline of informal student contact with faculty outside the classroom and in the classroom; (2) social acceptance of peaceful demonstration that influences students to adopt this procedure to get what they want. This became popular through the civil rights movement. (3) Young people are sensitive to campus resistance because of the increased amount of freedom at home; lack of family and community restraints have evolved in the post war period: "we are either prescriptive or too permissive," he said.

Students want freedom to act, to fail, to grow."

Dean Ralston classified groups on the campus as follows: a backbone group. These students are future-oriented. They are looking forward to a good job and to make a contribution. Girls are a bit different in this respect. They are not quite so vocationally oriented. They have a "high nurture component; they are interested in house-keeping and doing things on the campus, in the community. They leave Vietnam and that stuff to the Secretary of State and the President of the United States . . . They are not the parade type."

The rebels on campus constitute a small group but "highly volatile." They are out to change the system. "They are vigorous, hostile, suspicious, adventurous and are committed to action on anything, and they are the ones who get the headlines." They are out to impress people and are actually dedicated one way or another. They are impressed with their youth and are out to save the world which their parents have almost lost.

Another group which the dean referred to as the "idealists" who, while they do not like the "system," do not wish to tear it down, but to better it.

The final group, referred to as the "anything" group who adopt a laissez faire attitude to most everything.

Basically, dean Ralston said while we have just as many problems today as we did some years ago, the problems are different problems. "So far as the students today are concerned, I do not think they know a whole lot more; they are not more intelligent, but they have different information."

At Wilkes, there have been no hard problems of a radical nature. "If we can maintain a meaningful relationship among all concerned, we can avoid them."

At Wilkes, the Student Government, Student Life Committee, and the Educational Committee all serve, not only as a sounding board, but as a constructive means to engender complete rapport.

Board Appoints 44 To City Playground Jobs

Leaders, District Directors And Maintenance Supervisors Named

Forty-four appointments were made by the Wilkes-Barre Recreation Commission yesterday afternoon in preparation for summer activities on city playgrounds. The appointments include 39 leaders, four district directors and one maintenance supervisor.

Eleven young men and seven young women were appointed to Leader 1 positions paying \$2 an hour. These appointees were required to have two years of college and a year's successful experience as a playground leader. Named Leader 1 were Carol Davenport, Gerald Stinson, Bernard Prevuznak, Jean Marie Neff, Carol Rhines, Carol Wetzel, Betty Tubridy, Barbara Acacio, Ruth Newman, John Nagle, Robert Januszko, Robert Betzler, Michael Habib, Charles Craze, Leonard Stavish, Glenn Johnson, Bernard Chandler and Michael Moses.

Named Leader 2, to receive \$1.50 an hour, were 11 young women and seven young men: Joseph Hurley, Kay Messersmith, Mary Iwicki, Mary Lou Pauly, Sandra Fritzinger, Mary Denise Kane, Marilyn C. Davis, Edward Endler, Sandra Rossi, Charles Romane, Thomas Rushton, Rachel B. Davis, Edmund O'Neill, Judith K. Huey, Barbara Altman, Thomas R. Wynn, Susan Hoeffner, Stephen Goodsir.

To qualify for Leader 2 position, applicants must have had a high-school diploma, experience in volunteer leadership of groups and experience in recreation activities.

4 District Directors

In addition to leaders, the com-

mission named four district directors to supervise activities: three leaders for Playland on Public Square, and a maintenance supervisor. Named district directors were Bernard Cobb, James Dunn, James Igoe and William Kelly. Evelyn Schmitt was appointed director of Playland, to be assisted by Margaret M. Balz and Marilyn Wilcox.

Kenneth Smith was named maintenance supervisor for the summer playground season. Last week Parks Commissioner Edward J. White offered the use of a truck and a crew of three to four men to assist Smith in the maintenance program of playground areas in the city.

George Ralston presided at yesterday's meeting, which followed a four-hour conference held last week in Weissman Recreation Room at which more than 100 applications were screened.

At yesterday's meeting members of the commission also took action to augment the five-member commission with persons from the community at large. Five committees were established, each to be headed by a member of the commission who will select his committee aides. Charles Weissman was named chairman of the policy and public relations committee; George Ralston, planning committee; Walter Lisman, program and personnel; Robert Toomb, finance; Raymond Tubridy, property.

It is planned to have the appointments made by April 10 when a meeting will be set up to discuss the overall recreation program in Wilkes-Barre.

Besides the new committee appointees, others to be invited will include City Parks Commissioner Edward J. White, Mayor Frank Slattery and Walter C. Wood, city superintendent of schools.

Presbyterian Men Of Lackawanna To Meet Sunday

The 10th annual meeting of Lackawanna Presbytery Council of United Presbyterian Men will be held next Sunday, at Tunkhannock Elementary School, it was announced by Paul L. Williams, president.

Rev. William J. Frazer of Moosic, will lead the call to worship at 2:30 p. m. and George F. Ralston, dean of men at Wilkes College, will deliver the opening address.

A feature of the program will be a discussion period patterned after the New York area meeting held in February. Each man will be assigned to one of nine discussion groups. The groups will be led by two laymen and a minister and the theme for discussion will be "God So Loved: He Gave."

Rev. P. K. (Ambi) Geevarghese of Kerala, India, will speak following the discussion period and the men's chorus of the Presbytery will sing under the direction of Orville L. Wike.

At the business meeting, the report of the nominating committee will be given by Walter Hartz of Wilkes Barre. Officers will be installed by Guy F. Smith, vice moderator of the Presbytery.

A supper will be served in the school cafeteria at 6:30 and reservations should be made with Dr. Arthur J. Davenport of Tunkhannock by Wednesday.

Rev. Mark R. Thompson of Scranton will give the closing address.

YMCA Honoring Sechrist, Davenport

Two Tunkhannock area men who have made significant contributions to young people will receive "Service to Youth" plaques at the 33rd annual meeting of the Northeast District of the Pennsylvania State YMCA on Tuesday, March 21.

David L. Sechrist and Arthur B. Davenport, M.D., will be the recipients of this coveted award following a 6:30 banquet in the Tunkhannock Elementary School. George Ralston, dean of men at Wilkes College, will be the speaker, and state and district YMCA officials will participate.

Mr. Sechrist, a native of York, joined the faculty of Tunkhannock High School in 1943 and currently is head of the school's outstanding science department. At various times he served as THS coach of football, varsity and junior varsity basketball and volleyball, and was track coach for a period of 14 years. For some time he was also faculty manager of athletics. A graduate of Albright College, Mr. Sechrist taught in the Factoryville schools for 19 years, eight years of which he was principal.

In addition to his regular classroom duties, Mr. Sechrist was one of the organizers of the "Austere

Area Science Fair, of which he was director during its first year. Since 1934, his work with young people has carried over into the summer months, as a counsellor at Kamp Kewance, LaPlume.

Mr. Sechrist has been a Hi-Y advisor for 15 years. An outstanding musician, he has played with the Scranton Philharmonic Orchestra since 1939 and is choir leader of the Tunkhannock Methodist Church. In addition he is general church school superintendent.

He is married to the former Ruth Owens, and they have four sons and one grandchild.

Dr. Davenport was born in West Pittston, and graduated from the high school there before taking his pre-medical degree at Pennsylvania State College. Following graduation from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1929, he interned at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Establishing a practice in Tunkhannock in 1930, Dr. Davenport was married that same year to Jessie Fassett, of this community. The couple has two sons, Malcolm and John.

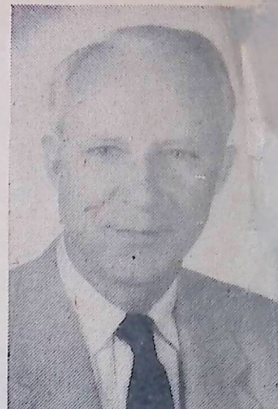
Dr. Davenport recently was

cited by the Pennsylvania Society of Crippled Children and Adults for his years of service as chairman of that agency's work in Wyoming County. He was a founding physician of Tyler Memorial Hospital and has spent much of his own time and money in the development of that institution.

He is an elder of the Tunkhannock Presbyterian Church and a member of the National Council of Presbyterian Men. Dr. Davenport was one of the founders of the Tunkhannock Scholarship Loan Fund and serves as its treasurer. He is president of the Tunkhannock Joint School Board Executive Committee and a past president of Rotary.

For many years, Dr. Davenport has been a staunch supporter of YMCA work.

While a number of invitations have been mailed for the March 21 dinner, anyone interested in youth and the YMCA, or those wishing to join in paying tribute to these two outstanding men also will be welcome. Reservations should be made immediately with Clifford R. Roslund, supervising principal of Tunkhannock Joint Schools.



LONG DUE HONORS will be bestowed upon David L. Sechrist, left and Arthur B. Davenport, M.D., at the annual meeting of the northeast district of the state YMCA Tuesday evening, March 21, in the Tunkhannock Elementary School. Both men will receive "Service to Youth" plaques.

MEN'S CLASS HEARS TALK BY RALSTON

Transue Acts As Master Of Ceremonies At First EUB Church

Dean George A. Ralston, Wilkes College, was guest speaker last night at the annual Christmas party of Dr. D. S. Kistler Men's Class of First Evangelical United Brethren Church, city.

Class President William Glawe introduced Roy A. Transue, master of ceremonies. Fifty guests were entertained by group singing, male quartet selections, remarks and greetings from special guests and Dean Ralston's address.

Rev. Lyle O. Snyder, chaplain of Veterans' Hospital, pronounced invocation. Wayne Price led in traditional carol singing, accompanied by Fred Sweigert. A male quartet from Dana Street Church sang. Singing in the quartet were Roy Price, Rev. Leonard Suxton, Wayne Price and Larry Brand.

The teacher of Men's Sunday School class, A. Leon Gilbert spoke. Fraternal greetings were brought by the pastor of the sister EUB congregation, Salem Church Rev. James L. Harring. Edward Transue spoke on behalf of Kiwanis and the Dial-A-Prayer program sponsored by his service organization. Rev. Mr. Harring pronounced the benediction.

The general co-chairmen for the affair were Joseph VanHorn and John Lockman, Sr. In charge of the decorating committee were Paul Bowersox, Thomas Clarke, and Russell Benjamin, Jr.

President of the men's group is William Glawe. Other officers: Vice president, John Lockman, Sr.; acting secretary, Fred Sweigert, and treasurer, William

Recreation Program Set

Dramatics, Athletics Crafts to Be Included

Dramatics, athletics and craft will be an integral part of the summer playground program in Wilkes-Barre as a result of action taken at a regular meeting of the newly created Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board. Board approved inclusion of the three programs and also gave approval for three positions for supervision of these activities. It was announced following the meeting the Recreation Board will select three leadership supervisors for these activities on February 12. Positions will be on a part-time basis in conjunction with the summer playground program. Any resident who has had successful experience as a city playground leader during the last two years is eligible for application. Application may be made by communicating with the Recreation Board, Room 30, Bennett Building, North Main Street. George Ralston, acting president, presided at the meeting attended also by W. Robert Toomb, acting treasurer; Walter W. Lisman, acting assistant treasurer; Raymond W. Tubridy, Sally A. Jervis, supervisor of playgrounds and community centers, and John B. Zerbe, executive director of Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley, Inc.

Board unanimously elected Tubridy as acting secretary.

Summer personnel, winter center programs and various special activities were explained in detail.

Board members were informed by Miss Jervis and Zerbe that applications for playground leadership positions are beginning to come in to the office in substantial number.

Personal interviews for applicants will be scheduled during business hours at the applicant's convenience.

Board approved a request for the installation and use of Coke and candy vending machines for the convenience of center program participants. In conjunction with this board approval was given for the use of these machines in all center programs if desired. Vending companies may contact the Recreation Board for additional information. Board will notify by telephone and letter, local vending companies of this action.

Ralston Will

Address Group

George F. Ralston, dean of men of Wilkes College, will be guest speaker at the monthly dinner meeting of the Men's Club of First Methodist Church, North Franklin Street, Tuesday evening at 6:15.

Subject of Dean Ralston's address will be: "The Greater Wilkes-Barre Industrial Development Fund." This meeting also marks the group's first business session in 1961.

Charles Clark will provide

■ WILKES-BARRE

**Wilkes University
will bestow honors**

Wilkes University will award two honorary doctorate degrees during its winter commencement exercises Thursday.



Donald Burke

The ceremony begins at 11:15 a.m. in the Darling Theatre of the Dorothy

Dickson Dart Center for the Performing Arts, West South and South River streets.

Honorary doctor of science degrees will be awarded to George



George Ralston

Ralston, a longtime supporter and former dean at Wilkes, and to Donald Burke, the director of discrete power product development at Harris

Semiconductor Inc.

Ralston has more than 50 years of service to the university. Throughout the development of the university, Ralston has held the positions of dean of men, dean of students, director of athletics, counselor, instructor and administrator.

Ralston is the founder of the university's football program and was its first football coach, serving from 1946-54. He also coached the men's baseball and basketball teams.

Burke joined RCA in Wright Township in 1963, and in 1980

assumed responsibility for all power semiconductor engineering.

After the purchase of RCA, the product design activities of General Electric Power Semiconductors were assimilated into the local plant under Burke's leadership. He has continued his role in new product development at Harris Semiconductor.

**Help for homeless
will be explained**

The Concerned Citizens of Wilkes-Barre will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at South Main and East South streets.

Vince Kabacinski, executive director of VISION, will discuss the agency's outreach services to area homeless.

■ FREELAND

**Snow parking ban
goes into effect today**

Borough police have announced a snow parking ban effective 8 a.m. today while crews clear away snow.

The ban affects Adams, Cedar, Fern, Ridge, Schwabe, Vine and Washington streets.

There is no parking on the odd-numbered side of those streets from 8 a.m. to noon today. From noon to 3 p.m., no parking is allowed on the even-numbered side of those streets.

■ JENKINS TWP.

Trees to be picked up

Residents are reminded that Christmas trees will be collected Wednesday through Friday next week.

GREATER PITSTON GAZETTE

PITSTON, PA
WEEKLY 4,000

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Greater Pittston Rotary to celebrate 75th anniversary with dinner

On Saturday, April 1, the Rotary Club of Greater Pittston will celebrate 75 years of service to the community. To commemorate their anniversary, the Rotarians will be having an anniversary dinner on May 13, at the Victorian Inns in Pittston Township. Local dignitaries will be on hand to help mark this

momentous occasion. Dr. George Ralston from Wilkes University will be the featured speaker.

Another way the Rotary is observing their anniversary is through promoting the "Teach 911 Program" which can help save lives in an emergency. "Service Above Self" the Rotary motto, is a tradition of the Rotary Club of Greater Pittston. Past accomplishments include, support of Meals on Wheels, Pittston and West Pittston Library, The Salvation Army, and Y.M.C.A. The Rotary also sponsors a Fall Blood Screening program at Wyoming Area High School. Our popular speed ball can be seen at the annual Pittston Tomato Festival. The Rotary Club of Greater Pittston is one of nearly 27,000 clubs around the world that provides humanitarian service.

GI Bill opened doors for ambitious veterans

By CHARLES H. BOGINO

Times Leader Staff Writer

WILKES-BARRE — Joseph J. Savitz's prospects weren't good.

With six brothers and a sister, money was tight in their household in Wilkes-Barre's Heights section.

"We couldn't afford to send anybody to college," Savitz said Thursday.

For Savitz and millions of others, a war changed all that.

As the 50th anniversary of the GI Bill came and went this week, Savitz and several other Wyoming Valley veterans of World War II recalled how the legislation changed their lives.

These were men who otherwise would have gone without, or at least would have had to struggle to get their educations. All said they could have forgotten about getting degrees, had circumstances been different. But because of the bill, they were able to earn them.

"Take my own case, for instance," said George F. Ralston, former dean of students at Wilkes University. "If it hadn't been for the GI legislation, I wouldn't even be here."

With a bachelor's degree already in hand, Ralston entered the service in 1942. When he took off his Army officer's uniform four years later, Ralston had skills Bucknell Junior College — now Wilkes University — was looking for.

He became a veterans' counselor under a federally funded program.

"We tested them and advised them as to how they could advance their potential, whether it was in trade school or here," said Ralston, still employed by the university as an assistant to the alumni director.

The GI Bill funded his graduate school education at Columbia University in New York and, for a short time, at Harvard University in Massachusetts.

Back at Wilkes as dean of men, biology instructor and coach, Ralston found most of his male stu-

dents were fellow veterans and not much younger.

"Most of them were only a year or two younger than me," said Ralston, now 76.

One of those students was Savitz.

He entered Bucknell Junior College in the fall of 1946.

A little more than a year earlier, Savitz, then 21, celebrated with fellow GIs in the streets of Paris after the German surrender.

Back in Wilkes-Barre and anxious, Savitz pushed to finish college quickly. Most of his fellow students were doing the same.

After graduation, Savitz moved on to law school at the University of Pennsylvania. Most of the other law students had also been in the service.

"They were all on the GI Bill," said Savitz, a senior partner in the Wilkes-Barre law firm of Rosenn Jenkins & Greenwald. "We lived on \$75 a month, spent a buck a day on food, lived in boarding houses. Everybody was in the same boat."

That money came in handy for Thomas Tobin as well.

Discharged in July 1946, Tobin had interrupted his studies at Columbia University to enlist in the Army Air Corps three years earlier. The Larksville native intended to go back to Columbia, but the military had misplaced his records.

By the time Tobin had them back in hand, it was too late for him to reapply to Columbia. In September 1947, Tobin signed up for classes at newly opened King's College in Wilkes-Barre.

King's, like Wilkes, benefited from the number of returning veterans whose tuition was paid courtesy of Uncle Sam.

"It was just about everybody in our classes," said Tobin, who received his bachelor's degree in 1951. "Tuition was only about \$200 per semester. But \$200 was a lot of money then."

After graduate school at Boston College, Tobin returned to King's to teach biology. At 68, Tobin is now the senior faculty member at the college.

MAR 2, 1994

SUBURBAN NEWS
HUNLOCK CREEK, PA

WKLY - 10,549

Nanticoke Lodge Honors Master



Lawrence A.
Clewell

22588
Lawrence A. Clewell, retiring Worshipful Master of Nanticoke Lodge No. 541 F. & A.M., will be honored at the Lodge Testimonial Dinner to be held March 5, at Madey's Restaurant, 119 East Kirmar Avenue, Alden.

Clewell has served in various offices of the lodge prior to being chosen for the highest office in the organization. His other Masonic affiliations include Caldwell Consistory in the Valley of Bloomsburg, and Irem Temple Shrine of Wilkes-Barre. He is also a member of The First United Methodist Church of West Nanticoke.

Speaker of the evening will be George Ralston, retired Dean of Wilkes College, and a member of Lodge No. 62, F. & A. M. of Wilkes-Barre.

Toastmaster will be Donald C. Kivler, of Nanticoke lodge No. 541.

Please make reservations with Robert G. Balla, secretary to the committee, any committee member, or any officer of the lodge.

TL 1-24-94

WILKES-BARRE

Ralston to present lecture

George Ralston, dean of students emeritus at Wilkes, will present the second lecture in the University's 60th Anniversary Series on Tuesday, Jan. 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts.



George Ralston

Ralston will be joined by former Director of Admissions, John Whitby, and Engineering Professor Emeritus, Cromwell Thomas for a panel discussion following his presentation. Admission is free.

The series of five seminars presents the early history of Bucknell University Junior College and Wilkes College through the recollections, anecdotes, and written histories of former and current faculty, staff, trustees and students.

A member of the Wilkes community since 1946, Ralston has served as dean of men, dean of students, counselor, instructor and administrator. He currently serves as a special assistant to Anthony J. Shipula II '78, director of Alumni Relations, working as a liaison between the University and its 20,000 alumni. Ralston also founded the University's football program, and served as coach from 1946 through 1954.

Future seminars will include Professor Emeritus Joseph Salsburg, who was a student at Bucknell University Junior College as well as a faculty member at Wilkes and a member of the Board of Trustees. A discussion with the current and past presidents of Wilkes will be held.

Admission is free. The public is invited to attend and learn how Wilkes University began and grew to its present status.



RALSTON NAMED ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR — The Wilkes-Barre Rotary Club presented George Ralston with the Rotarian of the Year Award. Ralston, a dean emeritus with Wilkes University, joined the Wilkes-Barre Rotary in 1948. Shown from left: Alvin Rothstein, Rob Coburn, Ralston, Harry Rothstein, and Rick Williams, president.



Laypersons gather to honor latest recipient

Recently past winners of the Wilkes-Barre Layperson of the Year met to honor 1992 winner Mary Jean Schultz. The Layperson of the Year award is given annually to a YMCA member for their volunteer service to the community. The award is presented by the YMCA Adult Program Committee. Laypersons pictured from left, seated

are: George Brandt, 1968; Jay Amory, 1988; Al Johnson, 1987; Mary Jean Schultz, 1992; Joe Kester, 1990; and Mike Amory, 1989. Standing: Stanley Barnes, 1949; Bernie Popson, 1991; George Ralston, 1967; Henry Schultz, 1964; Bob Lewis, 1970; and Joe O'Hara, 1986.



ANNUAL CAMPAIGN — The Wilkes-Barre Family YMCA recently launched its annual Sustaining Campaign and Century Fund Program which benefits an array of youth and young adult programs which include resident and summer camping, team sports, pre-school and kindergarten programs and tutoring services. At a recent campaign organizational session are, from the left, seated: George Raiston and Joe O'Hara. Standing: Frank M. Henry, Scott Henry, Chief Joseph Coyne and George Brandt. The campaign will continue through the first quarter of 1993.

SI 10/13/91



DINNER TUESDAY — A gala reception and banquet on Tuesday will climax Wilkes-Barre Rotary's year-long 75th Anniversary, celebrating the chartering of the club in May of 1916, as the 217th club in the national roster. The dinner will be held at Genetti's Best Western Hotel on East Market Street in Wilkes-Barre. A cocktail reception will begin at 6:30 p.m., with dinner to follow. Sanburn Sutherland, District Governor of Rotary District 7410, will attend. Msgr. Andrew McGowan, an honorary member of the Wilkes-Barre Club, will preside as toastmaster. Sanford J. Ungar, Dean of the School of Communications at American University, of Washington, D.C., will be the principal speaker. A Wilkes-Barre

native, he also has a special relationship with Wilkes-Barre Rotary which sponsored him for a Rotary Fellowship at the London School of Economics and Political Science early in his career. Members of the committee, seated left to right: George Ralston, Harry Rothstein, Isadore Goldberg, Frank Loch, general chairman; Leo Mohen, Past District Governor; Thomas C. Thomas Jr., banquet chairman; and Geoffrey Dent. Standing: Morton Schlowitz, Robert Rinehimer, Gus Genetti Jr., Robert Coburn, current Club President; Bruce Gover, Alvin Rothstein, Robert Lawrence, Donald Smith and Samuel Bannan.

The New Age-Examiner
TUNKHANNOCK, PA
W-6,700

Wilkes College lists homecoming weekend schedule

Wilkes College will conduct its 39th Annual Homecoming Weekend celebration on Friday, Oct. 17, through Sunday, Oct. 19.

Hundreds of Wilkes students, faculty, friends and alumni will visit the campus for the event. Highlights of the weekend include the homecoming dinner on Friday, Oct. 17, which will honor George Ralston, dean of students emeritus and special assistant to Alumni Relations; the judging of homecoming displays on

Friday afternoon; the Golden Colonel Luncheon on Saturday, celebrating the Bucknell Junior College Class of 1936; and the Saturday pre-game ceremony recognizing the 1966 Football Colonels, winners of the Lambert Bowl, Division III East.

Wilkes will play Juniata in the homecoming football game on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. The complete homecoming schedule is as follows:

Friday, Oct. 17

10 a.m., alumni are invited to the Wyoming Valley County Club, Hanover

Township, for the alumni golf tournament and awards ceremony.

4:30 p.m., homecoming displays built by student organizations and residence halls will be judged and a walking tour of the campus is planned.

6 p.m., "A Tribute to George Ralston," featuring a cocktail hour, dinner, dance and a special program on Ralston himself will be held at The Woodlands Inn and Resort, Plains Township. The event continues until midnight.

Saturday, Oct. 18

9 a.m., the annual homecoming run begins at Ralston Field. The course, five miles in length, will continue through Kirby Park and the River Common, to South Wilkes-Barre, and back to Ralston Field.

11 a.m., a pre-game tailgate party will be held at the McBride Field House, Ralston Field.

11:15 a.m., the Golden Colonels, Class of 1936, will be honored at a luncheon in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center.

1 p.m., the pre-game ceremony commemorat-

ing the 1966 Football Colonels, winners of the Lambert Bowl, will take place in Ralston Field.

1:30 p.m., the Wilkes Colonels play Juniata in the homecoming football game, Ralston Field. The homecoming queen and court will be crowned at half time.

8 p.m., a Saturday Night Soiree in the Annette Evans Alumni House will feature cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

Sunday, Oct. 19

9:30 a.m. to noon, a Sunday breakfast buffet will

be served in the Annette Evans Alumni House as homecoming draws to a close.

1 p.m., the national executive committee of the Wilkes College Alumni Association will meet in Stark Learning Center's Schaeffer Lecture Hall. All Wilkes alumni are invited to attend this annual meeting.

For further information on any of the 39th annual homecoming activities, contact the Wilkes College Office of Alumni Relations at 824-4651, Extension 325.

Annual celebration set for Oct. 17-19

Wilkes College will hold its 39th Annual Homecoming Celebration Friday, Oct. 17, through Sunday, Oct. 19, as part of the homecoming festivities.

A dinner will honor George F. Ralston, dean of students emeritus and special assistant to alumni relations, at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17, at the Woodlands.

A member of the Wilkes community since 1948, Ralston has served as dean of men, dean of students, counselor, coach, instructor and administrator. In May, he received his present title and currently assists Anthony J. Shlipula II '78, director of alumni relations, as a liaison between the college and its 15,000 alumni.

Ralston is a member and elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, a director of the Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board, a director of the YMCA, and a board member of Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. He and his wife, Helen, are the parents of four sons, and reside in Wilkes-Barre.

Reservations are being accepted and are limited to the first 480 respondents. Advance registration and payment is required by Wednesday. For information contact the Wilkes College Office of Alumni Relations at 824-4651, ext. 325.

CV 9130/86



George Ralston receives award

George Ralston, left, dean, coach and professor at Wilkes University, recently received the annual Citation of Distinction awarded by the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council. At right is Rabbi Michael Joseph, president of the Interfaith Council.

C.V. 1-10-99



Ralston receives 'Citation of Distinction'

George Ralston, longtime dean, coach and professor at Wilkes University, received the annual "Citation of Distinction" awarded by the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council. Shown, from left: Helen Ralston, Ralston, Rabbi Michael Joseph, president of the Interfaith Council; Jane Breiseth, council member.

T.L. 1-24-99



H.A.Z. T.L. 1-24-99

Ralston receives 'Citation of Distinction'

George Ralston, longtime dean, coach and professor at Wilkes University, received the annual "Citation of Distinction" awarded by the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council. Shown, from left: Helen Ralston, Ralston, Rabbi Michael Joseph, president of the Interfaith Council; Jane Breiseth, council member.

Wilkes University News

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Alumnus Stephen L. Flood Donates \$5,000 Toward Scholarship Fund at Wilkes University

Wilkes-Barre -- In tribute to Wilkes University Dean Emeritus, Dr. George F. Ralston, alumnus Stephen L. Flood, of Wilkes-Barre, President and C.E.O. of AAG International and Prospect Harbor Trading Co., Prospect Harbor, Maine, recently donated \$5,000 toward his self-titled scholarship fund at Wilkes.

The Stephen L. Flood '66 Scholarship Fund, established in 1997, honors the leadership, guidance, and personal encouragement provided by Dr. Ralston to Flood and the Wilkes alumni who resided in Ashley Hall. Flood's recent donation raised the value of the endowment to \$15,000.

A graduate of Devon Preparatory School, in Devon, Pa., Flood attended Wilkes and Villanova University, majoring in economics, with banking and finance. He worked as controller and chief financial officer of Wilkes Pool Corporation; commercial loan officer at Kingston National Bank; truck route manager of Jewel Tea Company, and was honorably discharged as a Sergeant with the U.S. Army, 402nd Military Police Prisoner-of-War Camp.

-MORE-

1st Add: Stephen L. Flood Donates \$5,000 Toward Scholarship at Wilkes University

Flood has served as a Wilkes Council Member for the past five years; past president of Devon Prep and Nanticoke Kiwanis; and former assistant chairman of the Hanover Township Democratic Party.

An active community member, Flood is a member of American Legion Post 463, Plymouth, Pa.; the Pennsylvania Auctioneers Association; Nature Conservancy; National Trust for Historic Preservation; Sierra Club; National Arbor Day Foundation U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum; National and Greater Wyoming Valley Audubon Society; NASH Car Club of America; the Maine Lobster Owner's Association and New Jersey Fairness in Taxes Board.

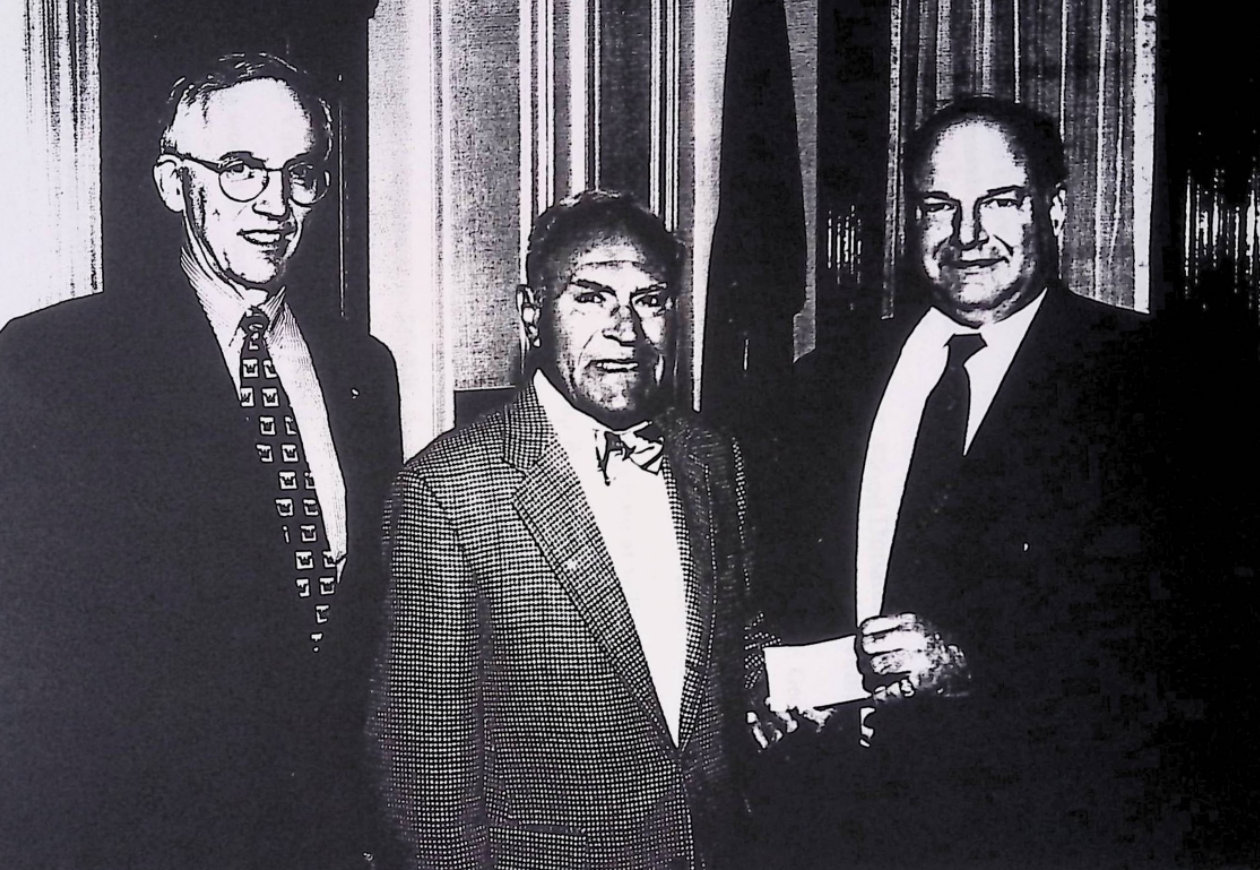
Incorporated in 1972, AAG International is the largest auction house and provider of Militaria collectibles (from the 1700s to the Vietnam War Era) in the world. Clients include Hollywood movie and TV production companies, national museums in America, Britain, Russia, Poland, France, and collectors. Prospect Harbor Trading Corporation is one of the largest independent wholesalers of Maine lobsters in the United States.

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Photo:

Left to Right - Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, president, Wilkes University; Dr. George F. Ralston, dean emeritus, Wilkes; and Stephen L. Flood, president, C.E.O., AAG International, Wilkes-Barre, and Prospect Harbor Trading Company, Prospect Harbor, Maine



WILKES-BARRE

◆ Service awards to be presented Wednesday

Wilkes-Barre will honor four individuals at its annual Distinguished Service Awards ceremony set for noon, Wednesday at Genetti Hotel & Convention Center, Wilkes-Barre.

Constance Wynn of Wilkes-Barre will be honored for contribution and service to the community.

Monsignor Andrew McGowan, George F. Raston and Dr. Stephen H. Schoenholtz will be honored for outstanding achievements.

During the luncheon, award recipients will be presented with a plaque. Outstanding students from city schools will also be recognized.

For reservations, call Lisa San-Filipo at 826-8259. Feb 24 '91

Ralston Tells Of Rotary's 'Golden Rule'

George Ralston, a past president of Wilkes-Barre Rotary Club, addressed the club yesterday afternoon and substituted for Leon S. Case, Jr., executive director, Wilkes-Barre Redevelopment Authority, who was scheduled to speak, but was ill.

During the business meeting, Frank Loch, president, presented a check for \$1,200 to Justin Bergman, chairman of club's crippled children's committee, for Wyoming Valley Crippled Children's Association.

Ralston explained the four-way test of Rotary International is Rotary's version of the "Golden Rule." He urged the membership to make the four-way test a habit in their personal lives.

The four-way test is: Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendship? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Mort Schiowitz, student exchange chairman, introduced Elena Sylvestre of Argentinian, who has been an exchange student here the last year. She presented the local club with a flag of the Rotary Club of her home town.

President Loch was given a certificate by John Matern, past president and Rotary Foundation Committee chairman, for the club achieving status as a 500 per cent club in the foundation. This was based on contributions of \$7,750 to Rotary Foundation program over the last several years and rates the Wilkes-Barre club as highest in District 741.

District Governor Walter R. Mohr presented General Corey E. Patton, a past district governor, with a silver bowl in recognition of his service as district governor in 1956-57. The presentation was in line with the district's plan to honor all past district governors.

Profile

After five decades on campus, the man known as "Mr. Wilkes" is named "Dr. Wilkes"

"I'll tell you a story," George Ralston says, settling back into his favorite living room chair. "It's been told a thousand times."

But the story Ralston tells—how he went from being the youngest son of a dairy farmer to a two-sport athlete at the University of North Carolina to a teacher at Fort Fort High to the first athletic director and football, basketball and baseball coach at what is now Wilkes University—isn't the whole story.

The story that should be told is the story Ralston, in all his modesty, will not tell, but one that the people who have known him cannot wait to tell: how George Francis Ralston, dean emeritus, the "Father of Athletics at Wilkes," changed lives, influenced futures and molded students.

"George is with me every day of my life," says Ron Rescigno Ph.D. '58, hon. '89, a New York City native who turned down football scholarship offers to come play at Wilkes and who later became California schools superintendent and a world-renown proponent of computers in education. "That's the impression he had on me. He was my mentor, my coach and my father. He saw things in me that I didn't see in myself."

To commemorate his five decades of service—as athletic director, coach, dean of men, dean of Student Affairs, dean emeritus and, now, special assistant for Alumni Affairs—Ralston was awarded an honorary doctor of science degree at January Commencement exercises, giving the man dubbed "Mr. Wilkes" the right to be called "Dr. Wilkes."

"Everyone you talk to about Dr. Ralston comments on how thoroughly devoted he was to the students," says Wilkes president Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth. "There's no one who knows as many alumni as Dean Ralston. He remembers them with vivid detail and the kind of care and concern typical of Wilkes. It's typical of Wilkes because George Ralston is the one who established the tradition."

Neck and heart surgery over the past few years haven't sapped any of the vitality from the 79-year-old Ralston, who still rides his bike around town, still goes to work in his office in the Annette Evans Alumni House and still is as vibrant and entertaining as he was when he left Fort Fort in 1946 to join B.U.J.C. as a counselor for World War II veterans looking to attend college.

Fifty unexpected years later—"I didn't think I'd be there a year. I thought I'd save money and then go back to school," he says—Ralston was honored for his considerable contributions at a reception the night before January Commencement which was attended by many of his former players and students.

"One gentleman," recalls Helen, Ralston's wife of 32 years, "said (that night), 'It's hard to imagine how a man so quiet so humble could have made such a lasting impression on so many people that they just rally around George.'"

"I could tell," says former Wilkes football and wrestling star Marv Antinnes '61, who played on Ralston's last football team, "right from the first time I met him face to face that he was somebody who, if you needed help or guidance or direction, you could very easily go to him and



C. LARSEN



The Ralston Cheer ▲

George and Helen pose with Ralston's lettermen present at his January reception. Row one: Bill Morgan '53, Helen Ralston, George Ralston, Nick Heineman '51, Leo E. Solomon '53, Al Nicholas '55. Row two: George Elias '54, Dan Pinkowski '54, Tom Trosko '65, Ted Travis '65, Norm Cruss '51, Joe Krupiewicz '53, J. Paul Thomas '51, Fran Pinkowski '50, Eddie Davis '54, Paul Purta '67. Row three: Frank Radziewski '53, Gerard Washco '54, Charlie Jackson '51, Bob Hall '51.

Honoring George

By Randy Yanoshak, The Citizens' Voice

feel very at ease by talking with him. I can't say enough about him. He was a big influence on my life."

As he was on most people's.

"Everybody and anybody who ever needed it, George was always there for them," says Al Nicholas '55, who played four years of football under Ralston and recently retired back to Kingston. "It just happened. You had a few people who didn't have any money, but they wanted to play ball. George took care of them and gave them cash if they needed. He gave a lot of scholarships, but he paid for them out of his own pocket."

Ralston tries to downplay the influence he has had on people.

"I wanted to say to them several times, 'How can you folks come back and be so loyal when I was pretty much a scamp in a lot of ways?'" Ralston says. "I was tough on them in athletics. I don't think any of the people today work as hard as we did back then. They were hard-nosed people. They paid the price."

But they did it willingly for a man they feared, respected and loved.

"When he was coaching me, I was amazed because if he told you to run four laps, he ran all four with the team," Antinnes said. "If he said to do 50 pushups, he did 50 pushups. He led all the calisthenics and he could do them all."

College—particularly Wilkes University—is about personal relationships between students and faculty, Ralston says, the kind of personal relationships that he had with

his students and the kind he hopes the university will continue having.

"I hope they will continue to reach and have relationships with the individual," Ralston says. "To me, that's the essence of the whole thing, the whole simple, plain idea that at one end of the log is a teacher and at the other end is a student. That's what college is all about."

The name George Ralston strikes many a sentimental chord among Wilkes alumni, faculty and students, even now, 11 years after he retired as dean of students. But while he has left the everyday Wilkes workings, he still is a vital part of the community as an alumni representative.

And no one who ever dealt with Dr. Wilkes will ever forget his touches.

"George was the Spring," Rescigno says. "He was the wind that blew in from the west, by God. He was the spirit of Wilkes." +

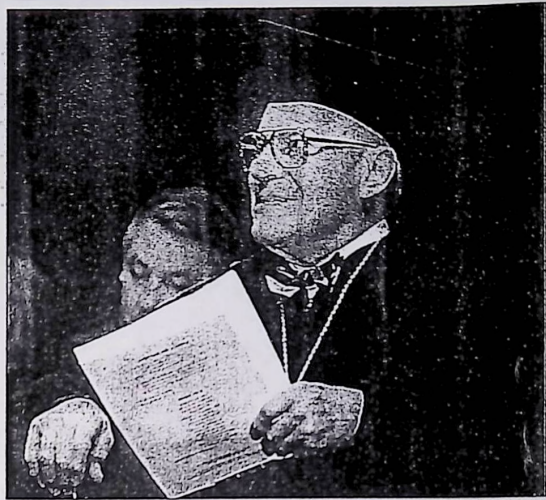
Excerpted with permission from The Citizens' Voice, January 19 edition. To read the entire article, visit the Wilkes Alumni Webpage at <http://www.wilkes.edu/WilkesDocs/UnivRel/Alumni/AlumHome.html>



Honoring the father

Five decades after his arrival on campus, George Ralston, the "Father of Wilkes Athletics," is honored by the university

By RANDY YANOSHAK
Citizens Voice Sports Writer



The Sunday Voice/Warren Radu

George Ralston smiles as Wilkes University president Dr. Chris Breiseth reads a citation honoring Ralston's 50 years of service to the school

player was offered scholarships by Georgia, Syracuse and Rhode Island, but was persuaded by a Wilkes alum to visit Wilkes during the spring of 1951, when he was to meet the engaging football coach.

"George told me I had to meet him at 4 in the morning at Butler Hall," Rescigno says. "I thought to myself, 'This is Sam Hill am I going to get there at 4 in the morning?' I didn't know where Pennsylvania was. I took a Marty Line bus and arrived at the square in Wilkes Barre at 7. Then I found Butler Hall. I walked into his office and he had his shorts on, with his socks and his garters for his socks. That's all. That's how I met George Ralston. That was the beginning of a very productive and fruitful relationship."

This week was a week for old friends, cherished memories and fond stories as ex-players, students and acquaintances met to celebrate Ralston's 50th anniversary.

"So many people said the other night, 'I never would have been at Wilkes if it hadn't been for him,'" says Ralston's wife of 32 years, Helen. "Others said, 'I never would have graduated from Wilkes if it hadn't been for you, if you

hadn't guided me, if you hadn't shown me the way, if you hadn't loaned me the money for next semester,' which he did numerous times for students. Then, eventually, when over they could, they'd pay us back. That's the kind of person that those students were dealing with and they knew they could come to him with anything and he would help."

In the years before NCAA sanctions and overpayment scholarship money, Ralston's charity toward his players was both accepted graciously and needed. "Everybody and anybody who ever needed it, George was there for them," says Nicholas, a 1955 Wilkes grad who played four years of football under Ralston and recently retired back to Kingston. "It just happened. You had a few people who didn't have any money, but they wanted to play ball. George took care of them and gave them cash if they needed. He always did. Talk about scholarships? He gave a lot of scholarships, but he paid for them out of his own pocket."

"It was almost impossible to pay for school, but George was there," Rescigno says. "I had every job the university could offer. I did everything I could. He was the glue that kept me there. Finally, we made it through. God only knows how we did it, but we made it through."

After coming to Wilkes, Rescigno lived in Butler Hall next to Ralston, who at the time was Dean of Men. Next door was his football coach, but Rescigno took advantage of other benefits.

"I had the same clothes size as his," Rescigno recalls. "If I wanted a pair of shoes, I'd go into his room and get a pair of his. If I wanted a shirt, I'd go get his. Or a suit or a tie — I'd go get one of his. God there were so many good times."

"When we were going to Wilkes," Nicholas says, "he had a convertible and we used to steal it and take it for a ride, but he knew it. He never told us, but he knew we'd steal it."

If generosity and benevolence were Ralston's hallmarks, his bicycle was his trademark.

"I'll tell you the story," George Ralston says, settling back into his favorite living room chair. "It's been told a thousand times."

But the story Ralston tells — how he went from being the youngest son of a dairy farmer to a two-sport athlete at the University of North Carolina to a teacher at Forty Fort High to the first athletic director and football, basketball and baseball coach at what now is Wilkes University — isn't the whole story.

The story that should be told is the story Ralston, in all his modesty, will not tell, but the one that the people who have known him cannot wait to tell.

The story that should be told is the one about how George Francis Ralston, Dean Emeritus, the "Father of Athletics at Wilkes," changed lives, influenced futures and molded students.

"George is with me every day of my life," says Dr. Tom Rescigno, a New York City native who turned down football scholarship offers to come play at Wilkes and who later became a California schools superintendent and a world-renowned proponent of computers in education.

"That's the impression he had on me. He was my mentor, my coach and my father. He saw things in me that I didn't see in myself. Almost every day of my life, whatever I do, I'm impacted by the association I had with George Ralston."

Just like the Wilkes community was impacted by Ralston's 50-year association with what used to be Bucknell Junior College.

To commemorate Ralston's five decades of service — as athletic director, coach, Dean of Men, Dean of Student Affairs, Dean Emeritus and, now, Special Assistant for Alumni Affairs — Wilkes University awarded Ralston with an honorary Doctor of Science degree Thursday, giving the man dubbed "Mr. Wilkes" the right to be called "Dr. Wilkes."

"Everyone you talk to about Dr. Ralston comments on how thoroughly devoted he was to the students," says Wilkes University president Dr. Chris Breiseth. "There's no one who knows as many alumni as Dean Ralston. He remembers them with vivid detail and the kind of care and concern typical of Wilkes. That's typical of Wilkes because George Ralston is the one who established that tradition."

Neck and heart surgery over the past few years haven't sapped any of the vitality from the 79-year-old Ralston, who — when

the weather is warm — still rides his bike around town, still goes to work in his office at Wilkes' Alumni House and still is as vibrant, dynamic and entertaining as he was when he left Forty Fort High in 1916 to join BJC as a counselor for World War II veterans looking to attend college.

Fifty unexpected years later — "I didn't think I'd be here a year. I thought I'd save money and then go back to school," he says — Ralston was honored for his considerable contributions to Wilkes.

"One gentleman," Helen recalls, "said (Wednesday) night, 'It's hard to imagine how a man so quiet and so humble could have made such a lasting impression on so many people that they just rally around George.'"

"If they're in from out of town, they call it is a very unusual thing because it isn't anything he did to get all of this love and affection. It's just him. It's just the way he is. That strikes a chord with people. People don't like fakery and they never found it in George as a coach or a dean."

"I could tell," says former Wilkes football and wrestling star Mark Antunes, who played on Ralston's last football team.

"Right from the first time I met him face to face that he was somebody who, if you needed help or guidance or direction, you could very easily go to him and feel very at ease by talking with him. He normally gave you the right guidance most of the time. I can't say enough about him. He was a big influence on my life."

As he was on most people's.

Rescigno, for instance: Born in Manhattan but raised in the Bronx, the All-City football



Courtesy of Wilkes University

George Ralston leading his Wilkes cheer

Ralston rode his bikes — "I've only ever had four of them," he says — just about everywhere he went from his home in a neat residential neighborhood in South Wilkes-Barre. To meetings, practices, work — wherever — more often than not Ralston would be getting there on his bike.

"I don't ride it hard," Ralston says. "That's my transportation because it's cheap. You don't have to put any gasoline in those. I don't do it for exercise. It's transportation."

It also became a symbol that the Wilkes students recognized and identified as something genuinely Ralston's.

"George used to play Santa Claus every Christmas for a big party in the gym," Helen remembers. "One year, he parked his bike up at Weckesser Hall in a place where he always parked his bike. He went out to get it one day to ride it over to Rotary or something, and it was gone."

"Horror! Such a thing!" Helen says, a smile spreading across her face. "How could this happen to George Ralston? Everybody knows that's his bike. It was determined that it wasn't a Wilkes student who took his bicycle. It was out and out stolen by some kid who saw it there and off the bike went. So when George played Santa Claus that Christmas, after he presented his gifts, the student body presented him a new bicycle."

A charitable gesture, to be sure — the Wilkes student body actually bought Ralston another bike later — but it's one that he returned exponentially.

"I don't think there's anybody who ever went to Wilkes," says former Wilkes wrestling coach John Itesee, who succeeded Ralston as AD, "who can't look back and tell something about him, some way he influenced their life, some memory or story about him. Everyone ever associated with the college always remembers him."

Especially his old players.

"He told one story about when he was a young boy on the farm," Antinnes remembers. "He said he was up on a ladder painting the roof and peak of their barn and his father needed the ladder. So he yelled to his father, 'Send me up a hammer and a big spike.' His father sent up a hammer and a spike, then he nailed the spike into the barn, his father took away the ladder and he finished painting while he was hanging onto the nail. They're sledge dog stories, but they're funny."

"He had these old, folksy stories that were hard to believe," Rescigno says, remembering the same story, "but he had a sense of humor it. You had to listen to him. Listening is half the fun."

"My favorite George Ralston story is about him as a coach," Breiseth remembers. "I was in Los Angeles meeting with a group of alumni and I told them a story about when one of his players was knocked out and he was lying there on the ground and Coach Ralston came out and said, 'You're embarrassing us. Get up and get back in there and play.' Ron Rescigno says, 'That was me.'"

"I remember the time we were in the locker room at the park and I took his shoes from him," Rescigno says. "He had a speaking engagement at the Rotary or the Kiwanis or the YMCA or something, and I took his shoes, but he wouldn't commit to saying that someone took his shoes. He got dressed in his suit and tie, put his cleats back on, walked out and never looked back."

"He once was bragging that he could put a belt on his chest and tighten it up," Antinnes remembers. "Then expand his



George Ralston with his trademark bicycle

Courtesy of Wilkes University

chest and break the belt. And he did it. He was small, but a strong little guy. He was a center at North Carolina, so he had to be pretty tough."

Ralston tries to downplay the influence he has had on people.

"I wanted to say to them several times, 'How can you folks come back and be so loyal when I was pretty much a scamp in a lot of ways?'" Ralston says. "I was tough on them in athletics. I don't think any of the people today work as hard as we did back then. They were hard-nosed people. They paid the price."

But they did it willingly for a man they loved, respected and loved.

"When he was coaching me, I was amazed because if he told you to run four laps, he ran all four with the team," Antinnes said. "If he said to do 30 push-ups, up he did 30 push-ups. He led all the callisthenics and he could do them all. That always amazed me. I could never do them when I was coaching, but he did. He's what you'd call a real, good old-fashioned football coach who didn't ask you to do anything he wouldn't or couldn't do, and he could prove it, too."

"We were playing football at St. Francis College and I broke my nose," Nicholas says. "I came out of the game bleeding, and he straightened it out and said, 'Get back in there, now. I went back in.'"

The moments later from the mental pages of history when Ralston starts thinking about his coaching past:

There's Ralston's first football team — the 1917 squad — which went 6-0 behind what came to be known as the famed "Se-

ven Blocks of Anthracite." He can't forget the 1918 Wilkes-Hider game at the old Huber Stadium in Plymouth. "Many people will tell you the greatest football game they've ever seen in the Wyoming Valley was Wilkes versus Hider College in that Huber Stadium. They beat us 11-35."

There was the 1919 team. "With all due respect, I don't think any team would match up with our 1919 team," Ralston says after considering the other championship Wilkes squads through the years. The 29-0 team Wilkes posted over what was an undefeated Ursinus team in 1957.

In between were 11 years of Ralston's football coaching career, when he led the Colonels to a 11-32-4 mark, 10 years of baseball (21-16), 16 years of basketball (56-107) and five years of basketball (21-16). A proponent of the old single-wing offense, Ralston still has the mule cards with his offensive and defensive plays in the history-rich office he built in his home.

Just like in the classroom, Ralston never accepted anything less than total effort on the athletic fields, but winning wasn't always the goal.

"Winning or losing wasn't everything at Wilkes," Rescigno says. "The whole idea of how you played the game, what respect you brought to the game, that's what he provided. That was the philosophy of life he committed you to. When you play the game of life, it wasn't about whether you win or lose, it's not what you take out, it's what you give back. That philosophy was his, and it became Wilkes."

Born in Harrisburg, Pa., Ralston moved with his family to suburban Harris-

burg, where they worked a dairy farm. He went to North Carolina, where he starred as a center on the football team and a pitcher on the baseball team, and graduated in 1910 with a degree in biology.

Two days after graduating from college, he came to Forty Fort High as an English teacher and a football and basketball coach, but after the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor he enlisted in the Army. He spent four decorated years, spending most of his time in Africa and then in the South Pacific, during which he earned two purple hearts and ascended to the rank of major.

Ralston returned to Forty Fort in 1916, then went to Wilkes in June when Dr. Eugene S. Farley asked him to come to Wilkes to counsel returning veterans. The next year, Farley approached Ralston with plans to start athletic teams and Wilkes, and Ralston's started Wilkes athletic career began.

The father of four sons, all Wilkes graduates — David, 39; John, 39; Tom, 39; and James, 31 — Ralston served on the executive boards of 15 different organizations, including General Hospital, the Wilkes-Barre YMCA, Salvation Army and Red Cross. He also is religiously devout. "Any place I can go to say a good word for Jesus Christ, well, I'll do it," he says — and is a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre.

Helen is an Ashley High and 1952 Wilkes grad who taught music at Wilkes from 1952-56 before leaving to concentrate on giving private lessons.

But just like Helen admits she knew the first time she met George that she wanted to spend her life around him, so did most everyone else.

"You must think I was nuts to come to Wilkes," says Rescigno, who recently retired as Superintendent of Schools in Florence School District in suburban Los Angeles. He is president and CEO of EdLink, a company designed to promote the use of computers in classrooms around the world.

"I came because of George. As you get older, there's not many things that matter in life: Money, rank, position — that doesn't matter. What matters is the personal relationships that you develop over the years. Although I've been gone from Wilkes many, many years and I haven't been as diligent as I should have in terms of keeping in touch with George, the relationship I developed in my mind and my heart has stayed with me. That's what's important. That's what life is all about."

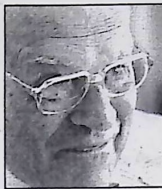
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No one who ever dealt with Dr. Wilkes ever will forget his bounces.

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George Ralston
On being appointed to the YMCA's board of trustees

Noting a life of service

George Ralston being honored by area YMCA

By GENELLE HOBAN
For Times Leader

Most might know George "Dean" Ralston for his affiliation with Wilkes University as a guidance counselor, dean of students or coach of several sports teams. What many might not know is he's dedicated more than 60 years of service to the Wilkes-Barre YMCA.

Ralston, 88, said his involvement with the Y began in the late 1940s after the president of what was then Bucknell Junior College, now Wilkes University, asked that he replace him on the board there.

Through the years, Ralston held such volunteer positions as chairman of the physical committee and now serves on the board of trustee.

The Wilkes-Barre YMCA will honor Ralston with its 2006 Leadership Award at its Leadership Dinner on Thursday at the Ramada Inn on Public Square.

"When they first called me about it I was a little hesitant," he said from the parlor of his Wilkes-Barre home. "I thought they should pass it over to someone else. I've only helped out as a lay person for all of these years."

Each year the award goes to an individual who demonstrates exemplary efforts in furthering the YMCA mission and enhancing the quality of life in the community.

In addition to the individual award, the YMCA, a United Way agency, also will honor a local corporation for the first time. This year's honoree is Commonwealth Telephone Enterprises Inc. The YMCA also will present the Frank M. Henry Layperson of the Year Award to Bob Hawkins.

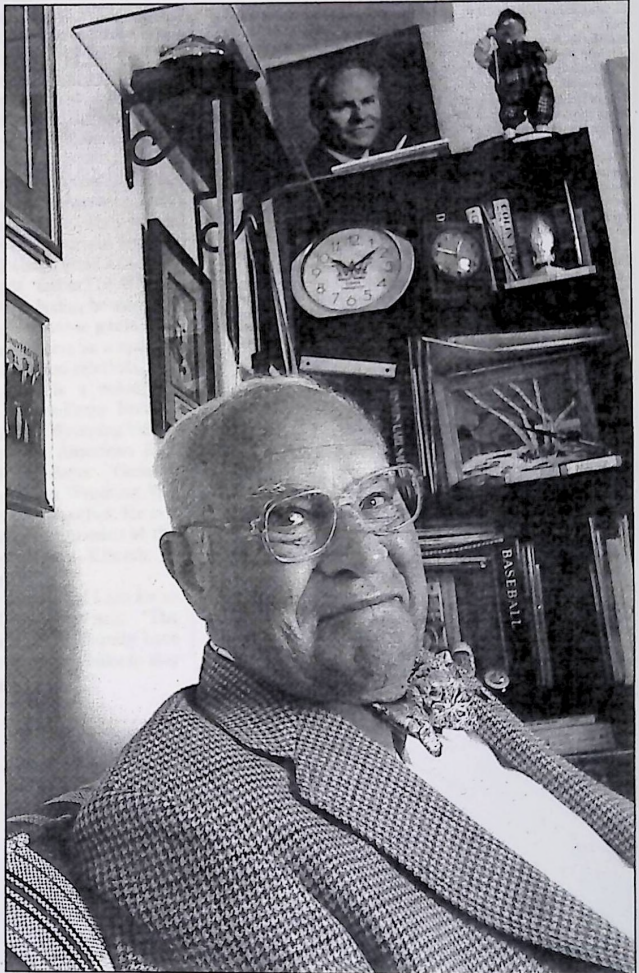
Ralston, one of nine children, said he inherited his commitment to service from his family.

"My father was a farmer and a very service-minded person," he said.

The Virginia native is a graduate of The University of North Carolina and played football and baseball in college.

"I had no future in professional baseball," he said. "I wanted to go to medical school, but I didn't have enough money. I had a B.A. in biology, and I wound up finding a teaching job in the Wyoming Valley which I had never heard of."

After a year of teaching English at Forty Fort High School, Ralston was drafted into the U.S. Army. After discharge in 1946 he returned to his teaching post in Forty Fort and



George "Dean" Ralston, 88, of Wilkes-Barre is known to most for his affiliation with Wilkes University as both a guidance counselor and a sports coach. He's also led a life of volunteerism involving several organizations, such as the Wilkes-Barre YMCA.

IF YOU GO

What: The Wilkes-Barre YMCA's Leadership Dinner

When: 6 p.m. Thursday

Where: The Ramada Inn on Public Square, Wilkes-Barre

More Info: Tickets for the dinner are \$75 and available by calling Gretchen Sevison at the YMCA at 823-2791, ext. 127.

RALSTON

Continued from Page 1E

wound up a guidance counselor at Wilkes University, where he met his wife of nearly 50 years, Helen. They now have four sons and five grandchildren. And all four of Ralston's children graduated from Wilkes.

"The students at Wilkes are my fondest memories," he said. "I have a lot of vivid memories that I can write volumes on."

While at Wilkes, Ralston founded the football program, which he coached from 1946 to 1954.

"We started from nothing," he said. "We had no equipment, and I had no assistants. They were the primitive but glorious years."

In 1965, Ralston Field was dedicated to this "father" of Wilkes athletics. To this day, he said, he never misses a home game. He also still volunteers as a special assistant to alumni relations.

Ralston also is a volunteer with the Wilkes-Barre Rotary, Salvation Army, Wyoming Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross, Wilkes-Barre General Hospital and the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches. He is a deacon, elder and trustee at the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre.

"I want to do what I can for as long as I can," he said. "The world and the community have given a lot to me so I like to stay with giving back."



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On being appointed to the YMCA's board of trustees

Noting a life of service

George Ralston being honored by area YMCA

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TL 4-30-06

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Through the years, Ralston held such volunteer positions as chairman of the physical committee and now serves on the board of trustee s.

The Wilkes-Barre YMCA will honor Ralston with its 2006 Leadership Award at its Leadership Dinner on Thursday at the Ramada Inn on Public Square.

"When they first called me about it I was a little hesitant," he said from the parlor of his Wilkes-Barre home. "I thought they should pass it over to someone else. I've only helped out as a lay person for all of these years."

Each year the award goes to an individual who demonstrates exemplary efforts in furthering the YMCA mission and enhancing the quality of life in the community.

In addition to the individual award, the YMCA, a United Way agency, also will honor a local corporation for the first time. This year's honoree is Commonwealth Telephone Enterprises Inc. The YMCA also will present the Frank M. Henry Layperson of the Year Award to Bob Hawkins.

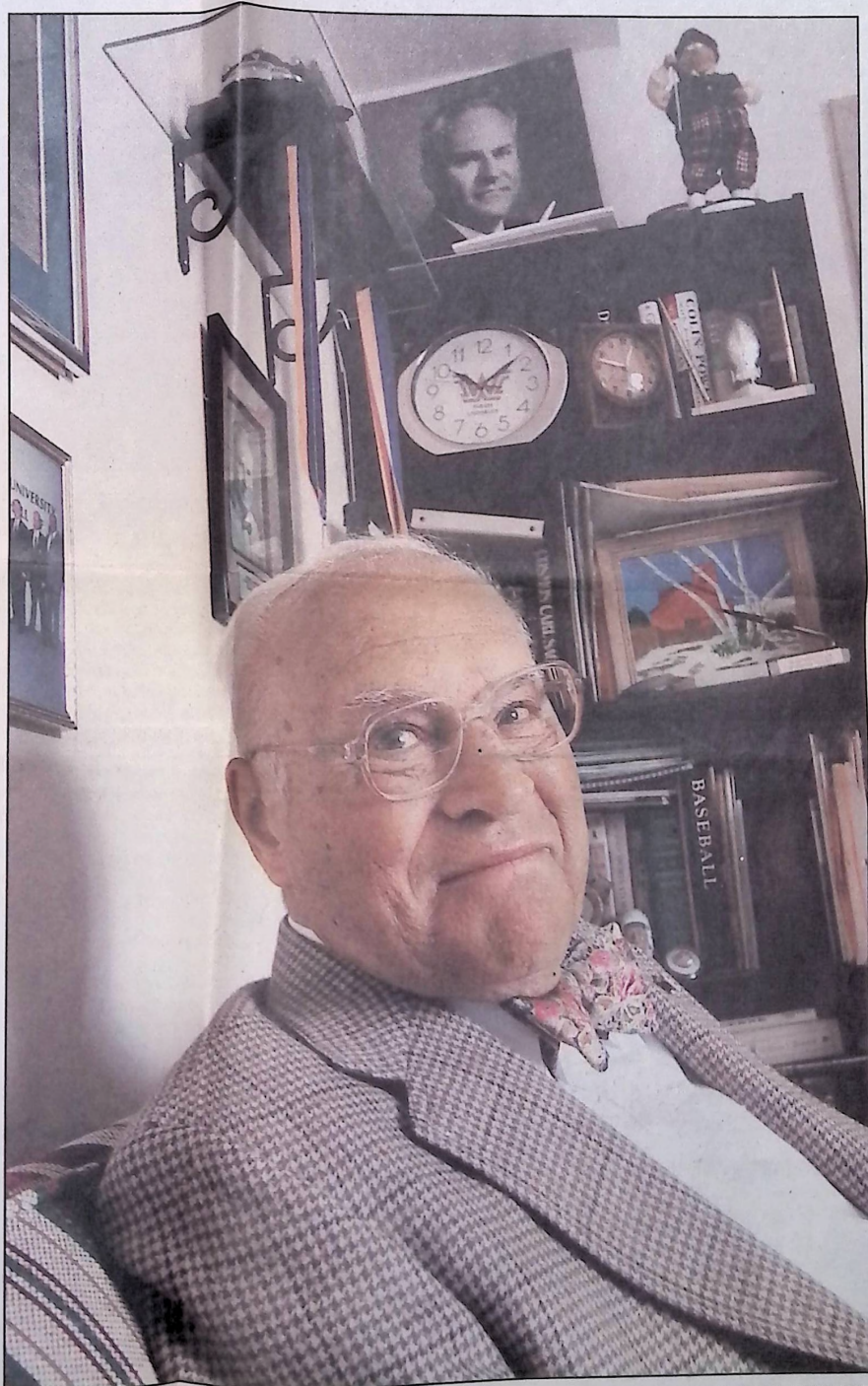
Ralston, one of nine children, said he inherited his commitment to service from his family.

"My father was a farmer and a very service-minded person," he said.

The Virginia native is a graduate of The University of North Carolina and played football and baseball in college.

"I had no future in professional baseball," he said. "I wanted to go to medical school, but I didn't have enough money. I had a B.A. in biology, and I wound up finding a teaching job in the Wyoming Valley which I had never heard of."

After a year of teaching English at Forty Fort High School, Ralston was drafted into the U.S. Army. After discharge in 1946 he returned to his teaching post in Forty Fort and



TIMES LEADER STAFF PHOTOS/CLARK VAN ORDEN

George 'Dean' Ralston, 88, of Wilkes-Barre is known to most for his affiliation with Wilkes University as both a guidance counselor and a sports coach. He's also led a life of volunteerism involving several organizations, such as the Wilkes-Barre YMCA.

IF YOU GO

What: The Wilkes-Barre YMCA's Leadership Dinner

When: 6 p.m. Thursday

Where: The Ramada Inn on Public Square, Wilkes-Barre

More Info: Tickets for the dinner are \$75 and available by calling Gretchen Sevison at the YMCA at 823-2191, ext. 127.

RALSTON

Continued from Page 1E

wound up a guidance counselor at Wilkes University, where he met his wife of nearly 50 years, Helen. They now have four sons and five grandchildren. And all four of Ralston's children graduated from Wilkes.

"The students at Wilkes are my fondest memories," he said. "I have a lot of vivid memories that I can write volumes on."

While at Wilkes, Ralston founded the football program, which he coached from 1946 to 1954.

"We started from nothing," he said. "We had no equipment, and I had no assistants. They were the primitive but glorious years."

In 1965, Ralston Field was dedicated to this "father" of Wilkes athletics. To this day, he said, he never misses a home game. He also still volunteers as a special assistant to alumni relations.

Ralston also is a volunteer with the Wilkes-Barre Rotary, Salvation Army, Wyoming Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross, Wilkes-Barre General Hospital and the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches. He is a deacon, elder and trustee at the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre.

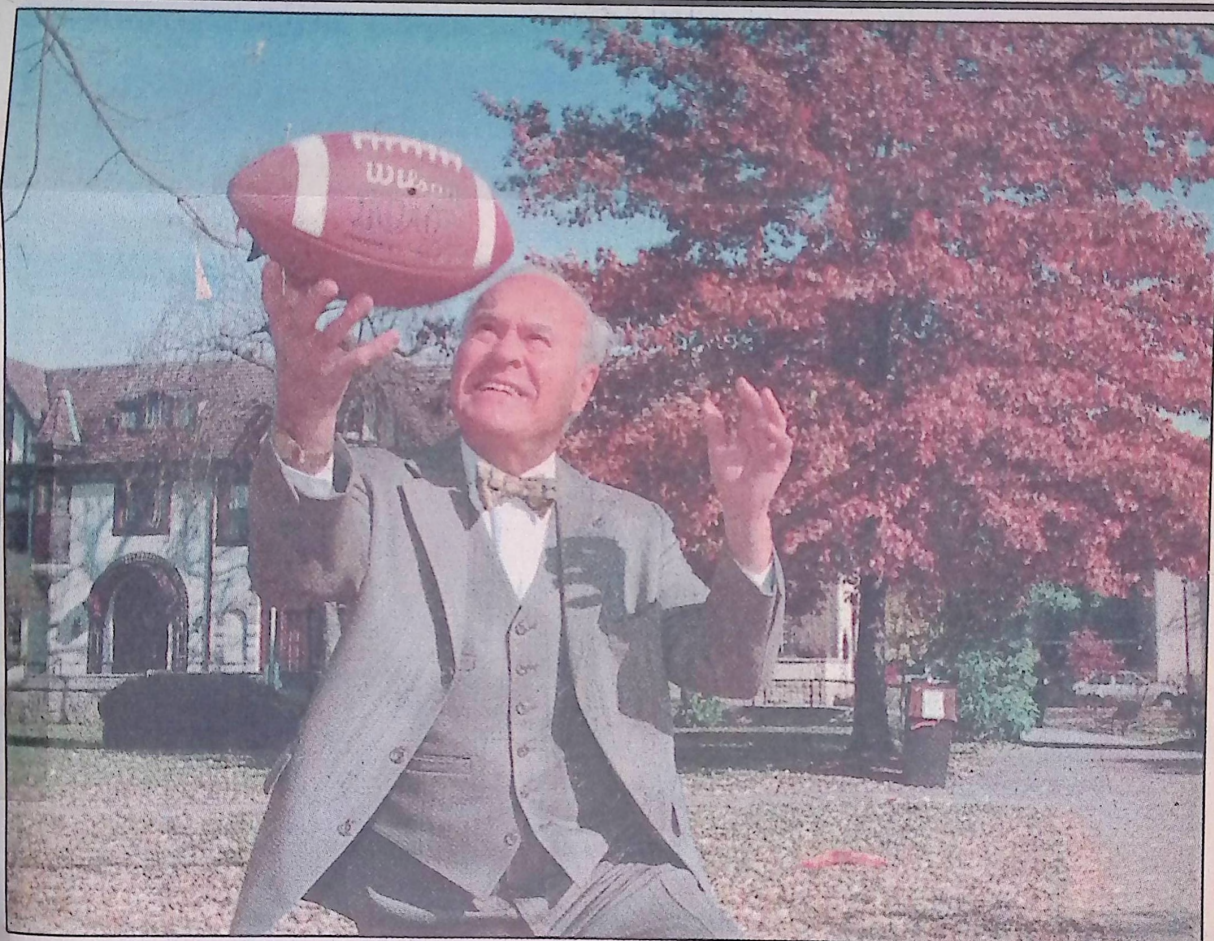
"I want to do what I can for as long as I can," he said. "The world and the community have given a lot to me so I like to stay with giving back."

SPORTS

See page 2 for pump

SECTION C

*Tuesday, November 9, 1993



TIMES LEADER/CLARK VAN ORDEN

George Ralston catches a football on the Wilkes' campus. Ralston was the first football coach at Wilkes and helped start the intense King's-Wilkes rivalry, which will be resumed after a 41-year absence this Saturday.

Forty-one years in the waiting

King's-Wilkes revival recalls era when veterans squared off

By STEVE SEMBRAT
Times Leader Sports Writer

Four years of fierce warfare had ended and it was time to come home.

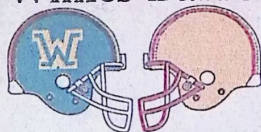
Time to learn and time to play, too.

Many World War II veterans returning to the Wyoming Valley enrolled in college to complete their education. One choice in Wilkes-Barre was newly founded King's College. The other was Wilkes College, a school that started as Bucknell Junior College in 1933 and eventually became Wilkes University in 1990.

Some of these battle-hardened veterans who were now students still needed a way to blow off steam. And that, basically, is how and why the King's-Wilkes football rivalry got started.

"There was a war going on, the greatest war we've ever known.

The Battle of Wilkes-Barre



1p.m., Saturday, Monarch Fields

People didn't have a chance to do anything but produce for war. All our energies went into war," said George Ralston, founder of the football program at Wilkes and its coach from 1946-54.

"Well, man likes to play. It's one of our instincts. For five, six years, nobody could play. There was all this pent-up energy and

enthusiasm."

And some of it at King's and Wilkes went into football.

Each school started a varsity program in 1946, and the teams played a spirited series that lasted until 1952. The matchup was discontinued by an agreement between the two schools after vandalism on each campus and in the community became an alarming problem.

King's dropped varsity football in 1963 but brought it back this fall. Thus, the two schools are ready to give the football rivalry another try.

The series will be renewed Saturday when Wilkes and King's meet for the first time in 41 years. Kickoff is 1 p.m. at Monarch Fields in Wilkes-Barre Township. Ralston, once the Dean of Students at Wilkes and now a special adviser in the alumni office,

hopes it will be an educational experience for the student-athletes at both King's and Wilkes.

"That's the reason I got into athletics and stayed in athletics," Ralston said. "It's the greatest laboratory they have in an institution, athletics. We ought to be able to teach English better on the athletic field than you can in the classroom. And you can. I can prove it."

Wilkes named its football field after Ralston, who arrived on campus in the spring of 1946 at age 27 after a five-year stint in the Army. He went from the rank of private to major and commanded a 90mm anti-aircraft gun outfit during Operation Torch (the invasion of Africa) and later in the Philippines. His rise at Wilkes was just as meteoric.

■ See WILKES, Page 2C

Ralston is father figure at Wilkes University

Has had profound effect on the school and its people for a half century

BY JOE COOPER

FOR GOOD TIMES

Many prestigious schools of higher learning have a sort of father figure whose name cannot be mentioned without bringing to mind the institution with which he is associated. At Wilkes University that person is George Ralston.

From the days when Wilkes was known as Bucknell Junior College through its 50-year growth as a university, Mr. Ralston has had a profound effect on the lives of students, faculty and alumni.

Now special assistant for alumni affairs, Mr. Ralston still rides his trademark bicycle to work from his home on Mallory Place in Wilkes-Barre.

He retains fond memories of the years when he coached the Colonels' football teams and believes his 1919 team was the school's best ever.

"With all due respect for the other great teams, I feel that the '49 team was the best ever here at Wilkes. We went undefeated and untied."

Mr. Ralston also served as athletic director, dean of men, dean of student affairs and dean emeritus and was recently the recipient of an honorary doctor of science degree from the university.

"He is something special," said Margaret (Peggy) Jones of Kingston, who was Mr. Ralston's secretary for 30 years. "He did a lot for students and always had their best interests at heart."

NATIVE OF VIRGINIA

A native of Harrisonburg, Va., Mr. Ralston graduated from Susquehanna Twp. High School near Harrisburg and then graduated from North Carolina University, where he played varsity football. Right after graduating from college, he joined the faculty at Forty Fort High School, where he taught English and coached football. World War II found Mr. Ralston in Africa and the South Pacific with the U.S. Army. Wounded twice, he was awarded two Purple Hearts and rose to the rank of major.

Shortly after returning to Forty Fort in 1946, he was appointed to counsel returning veterans at Bucknell Junior College and began an athletic program there at the request of Dr. Eugene Farley, the school's president.

COACHED FOR 11 YEARS

Mr. Ralston coached football at Wilkes for 11 years with a record of 42-32-4. Under his tutelage, the basketball team had a 76-109 record. His basketball teams won 23 out of the 40 games they played.

Although he was considered a taskmaster as coach, men who lettered at Wilkes under Mr. Ralston have only fond memories of him, recalling that he never asked them to do anything he wouldn't do himself—whether it be push-ups or running laps around the field.

"George Ralston's philosophy of life epitomizes the basic values that make him a memorable person," said George Pawluch of Cheshire, Conn., former director of public relations at Wilkes. "I have flashbacks of my four years as a Wilkes student and 11 years working at the college and

...his achievements rest mainly in the memory of those students whose paths crossed his during a few of the most influential years of their life.



Engrossed in his latest project for Wilkes University, George Ralston looks over a large photograph of a mural that hangs in Stark Hall. The mural, completed by artist Cathal O Toole is a panorama of Wilkes University and downtown Wilkes-Barre in which the artist painted the figures of persons prominent in the development of Wilkes.

Wilkes with the Class of 1998, is director of public relations at Greenwich Hospital in Connecticut.

FOUR SONS WILKES GRADS

Mr. Ralston and his wife, Helen, are parents of four sons: David, John, Thomas and James, all Wilkes graduates. They have three grandchildren. Helen enrolled at Wilkes, following graduation from Ashley High School. She later taught music at the college.

Now 80, Mr. Ralston did graduate studies at Harvard and Columbia universities and served as president of the Wilkes-Barre YM-YWCA board of directors and as president of the local Rotary Club. His community affiliations include being active with the Salvation Army, Wilkes-Barre General Hospital board and the American Red Cross. A devout Christian, Mr. Ralston is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, where he has served as a deacon. He also chaired the Council of Churches Stewardship Drive.

He is an avid reader and likes to build and repair

trunk of his auto, drive over to Kingston and repair the porch.

"Why not?" Mr. Ralston asked. "The lathe, sander, saw, grinder and router I work with were all birthday or Christmas presents from Peggy Jones."

OFFICE FULL OF HISTORY

Quartered in one of the fine old historic buildings on the Wilkes campus, Mr. Ralston's alumni office reflects the five decades he has been an educator and coach at Wilkes.

Pointing to an ornate clock on a bookcase, Mr. Ralston observes that the timepiece belonged to Admiral Harold Stark, who carried it on board ship during his command years in the South Pacific.

"These Wilkes yearbooks," Mr. Ralston said, pointing to the rows of volumes it contains, "comprise the only complete set from the early 1950's to today."

Mr. Ralston's defining role in the school's sports program was recognized some years ago when the Colonels' football facility near Kirby Park was named Ralston Field in his honor. But as any Wilkes alum can tell you, his achievement rests mainly in the memory of those students whose paths crossed his during a few of the most influential years of their life.

in his 80's

Spring 1998 - 16 to 50

Wilkes University



News

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Director, Communications and Marketing
(570) 408-4770 fax: (570) 408-7813
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Wilkes University Alumni Scholarship Dinner Dance to Pay Tribute to Dean George Ralston April 28

Wilkes-Barre – Wilkes University will pay tribute to Dean George F. Ralston, “the father of Wilkes athletics,” at the *Annual Alumni Scholarship Dinner Dance* on Saturday, April 28 in the Student Union Ballroom, 84 West South Street.

A member of the Wilkes community since 1946, Ralston, now 83 years old, currently serves as special assistant for Alumni Relations. Throughout the development of Bucknell University Junior College and Wilkes College (precursors to Wilkes University), Ralston has held the titles of dean of men, dean of student affairs, director of athletics, instructor, benefactor, and administrator.

Ralston, a native of Harrisonburg, Va., graduated from Susquehanna Township High School and North Carolina University, and received an honorary doctorate from Wilkes in 1997. An Army veteran of World War II, (Major) Ralston served in Africa and the South Pacific and was awarded two Purple Hearts. When he returned home to Forty Fort, Pa., he accepted the position of counselor to veterans returning to Bucknell University Junior College.

(more)

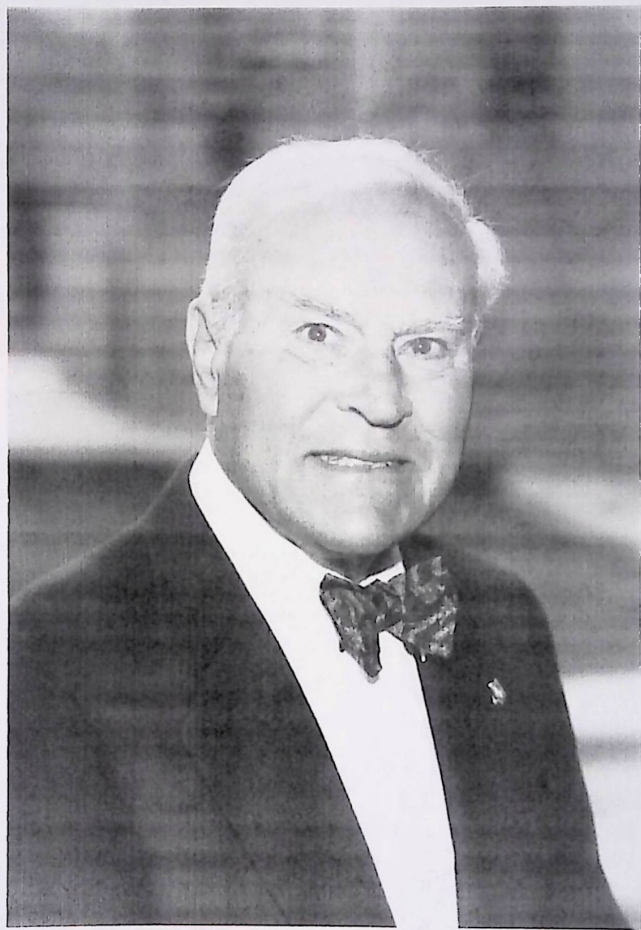
Deeply committed to community service, Ralston has been affiliated with the Wilkes-Barre YMCA, the Rotary Club, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, and the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches. He is also a deacon, elder, and trustee of the Wilkes-Barre First Presbyterian Church. For his efforts, Ralston received the Silver Beaver Award from the Boy Scouts of America and the Citation of Distinction from the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council.

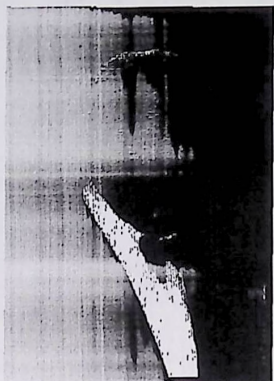
Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres begin at 6:30 p.m., dinner is at 7:30 p.m., and three hours of dancing to the music of disc jockey Rick O'Shea begin at 9 p.m. Cost is \$75 per person. Proceeds benefit the Alumni Scholarship Fund. R.S.V.P. to the Wilkes Alumni Relations Office at 408-4130.

Photo:

Wilkes University will honor Dean George Ralston at the *Annual Alumni Scholarship Dinner Dance* on Saturday, April 28.

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Ancestral Colonels To Honor George Ralston Today

For the past 57 years George Ralston has given to the students at Wilkes University. Now, a group of former student-athletes have decided to give something back to a man that has meant so much to them.

The Ancestral Colonels, a group of student-athletes who attended Wilkes between 1946 and 1960, will return to Wilkes today as part of Homecoming Weekend to unveil a plaque that will bear Ralston's name. The plaque, which will be permanently displayed at the field that bears Ralston's name, will be presented during a pre-game ceremony prior to the kickoff of today's game between Wilkes and Widener.

Ralston is a native of Harrisburg, PA., and graduated from Susquehanna Township High School and the University of North Carolina, where he was a member of the Tar Heels football team. An Army veteran of World War II, (Major) Ralston served in Africa and the South Pacific and was awarded two Purple Hearts. When he returned home to Forty Fort, PA., he accepted the position of counselor to veterans returning to Bucknell University Junior College, precursor to Wilkes College and Wilkes University.

Ralston was dubbed the "Father of Wilkes Athletics" after beginning the athletic program in 1946. He coached the Wilkes football team for ten seasons from 1946 to 1954, and again in 1957, and registered a record of 41 wins, 32 losses and four ties. Ralston also spent ten seasons as the basketball coach at Wilkes and five years as the head baseball coach. He also served a stint as the Director of Athletics.

Ralston has also served in several other capacities throughout his career at Wilkes. He spent ten years as the Dean of Men, and also enjoyed time as the Dean of Students. Ralston, who is Dean Emeritus of Student Affairs, continues to serve as Special Assistant to the Alumni Relations Office.

The plaque being presented today will bear the following inscription:

George F. Ralston

"Father of Athletics at Wilkes University"

In recognition of his profound influence on the athletic program
and his inspirational support to all coaches and athletes,
the Ancestral Colonels of Wilkes University extend their gratitude
to the man who most emulates the spirit and camaraderie of Wilkes Athletics

Homecoming 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

9/26/03

WILKES TO HONOR GEORGE RALSTON DURING HOMECOMING PRE-GAME CEREMONY

(Wilkes-Barre, PA)- For the past 57 years George Ralston has given to the students at Wilkes University. Now, a group of former student-athletes have decided to give something back to a man that has meant so much to them.

The Ancestral Colonels, a group of student-athletes who attended Wilkes between 1946 and 1960, will return to Wilkes on October 4th as part of Homecoming Weekend to unveil a plaque that will bear Ralston's name. The plaque, which will be permanently displayed at the field that bears Ralston's name, will be presented during a pre-game ceremony prior to the Colonels football game against Widener University which is slated for a 1:00 p.m. kickoff.

Ralston is a native of Harrisburg, PA., and graduated from Susquehanna Township High School and the University of North Carolina, where he was a member of the Tar Heels football team. An Army veteran of World War II, (Major) Ralston served in Africa and the South Pacific and was awarded two Purple Hearts. When he returned home to Forty Fort, PA., he accepted the position of counselor to veterans returning to Bucknell University Junior College, precursor to Wilkes College and Wilkes University.

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Plymouth Kiwanis host speaker, conduct a book drive

PL 3-16-04

George F. Ralston, a retired Wilkes University staff member whose educational career has included teaching, counseling, athletics and coaching, recently addressed the Plymouth Kiwanis Club on good citizenship. Kiwanis President John A. Gavenonis presented Ralston, who was introduced by Dr. Joseph H. Smith, with a Shawnee Indian statuette and a certificate of appreciation. The club will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Happy Pizza, West Main Street, Plymouth. To learn more about the community work of the Kiwanis, the public is invited.

The Plymouth Kiwanis Club is also collecting new and used children's books as part of the "Early Literacy — A Kiwanis Priority" project of the Pennsylvania District of Kiwanis International. The books will be used by children in pre-school through eighth grade. Collection boxes are at the Matus Newsstand, 39 East Main St., Plymouth, and the Eckerd Drug Store, Blackman Street, Wilkes-Barre. Used books must be in good condition. Gavenonis said the donated books will be given to children's service providers and will be used with the club's "Early Literacy Program" at the Plymouth Head Start Center. Davenport and his wife, Ellen, have conducted readings at the center. Dr. Frank J. Gazda is project chairman, assisted by co-chairs Harry B. Davenport and Frank Fabian.



The Plymouth Kiwanis Club is collecting new and used children's books as part of the "Early Literacy — A Kiwanis Priority" project of the Pennsylvania District of Kiwanis International. From left: Gazda, Suzy McCue of the Matus Newsstand and Fabian.



George F. Ralston recently addressed the Plymouth Kiwanis Club on good citizenship. From left: Harry B. Davenport, Bernard Poremba, Ralston, Stanley J. Kieszek and Gavenonis.

CV 3-6-04



Kiwanians hear former Wilkes University dean

Characteristics of a genuinely educated person were described to members of the Plymouth Kiwanis Club at their meeting at Happy Pizza, Plymouth. Guest speaker was Dr. George F. Ralston of Wilkes-Barre, a retired Wilkes University dean, whose education career has included athletics, coaching, counseling and teaching.

Kiwanis President John A. Gavenonis presented the guest speaker with a Shawnee Indianhead sculpture and a certificate of appreciation for his appearance. From left are Harry B. Davenport, Bernard Poremba, Dr. George F. Ralston, Stanley J. Kieszek and Kiwanis President John A. Gavenonis.

Wilkes University News

Krista Gromalski
Communications Assistant
University Relations
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Wilkes to Honor George Ralston and Donald Burke at January 16 Commencement

Wilkes-Barre -- Wilkes University will hold its annual Winter Commencement Exercises

on Thursday, January 16, at 11:15 a.m., in the Darling Theatre of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts, South and River Streets.

During the ceremony, an Honorary Doctor of Science degree will be awarded to George Ralston, a longtime supporter and former dean at the University, and an Honorary Doctor of Science degree will be presented to Donald Burke, Director, Discreet Power Product Development, at Harris Semiconductor, Inc.

A member of the Wilkes community since 1946, Ralston has more than 50 years of dedicated service to the University. Throughout the development of the University, Ralston has held the positions of dean of men, dean of students, director of athletics, counselor, instructor, administrator and friend to many Wilkes graduates.

A strong supporter of Wilkes athletics, Ralston is the founder of the University's football program and was the first to coach the team, serving in this capacity from 1946 through 1954. In addition he coached the men's baseball and basketball teams.

Ralston received his bachelor of arts degree in Biology from the University of North Carolina and served in the United States Army, achieving the rank of major. He also completed some graduate study at Harvard and Columbia Universities.

-MORE-

over.

1ST ADD - Wilkes to Honor George Ralston and Donald Burke at January 16 Commencement

Ralston is a deacon, elder and trustee of the First Presbyterian Church, Wilkes-Barre. He and his wife, Helen, reside in Wilkes-Barre. They are the parents of four sons.

The Wilkes University Alumni Association will host a reception to honor George Ralston as an Honorary Doctorate Degree recipient on Wednesday, January 15, from 6 to 8 p.m., in the University's Weckesser Hall, on South Franklin Street. For more information on the reception call the Wilkes Alumni Office at (717) 831-4132

Burke received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from the Technical University of Nova Scotia in 1954 and joined the Heavy Apparatus Division of Canadian General Electric, in Switchgear and Control Equipment Design. He then moved into Systems Application Engineering, specializing in electronic power conversion systems for aluminum refining and electrochemical processes and for large variable speed drives in the steel industry.

Burke joined RCA, in Mountaintop in 1963 as an Application Engineering Leader for Thyristors and Rectifiers and moved with that group to New Jersey in 1967 to become Engineering Manager for those products. In 1976, he returned to the RCA plant to begin a quick turn design group.

In 1980, Burke assumed responsibility for all Power Semiconductor Engineering, moving all associated functions to the Mountaintop plant. Advanced development of Power MOS transistors was begun, and a new wafer processing facility was installed for these products. Assembly and test operations were converted to full-automation.

Following the purchase of RCA, the Product Design activities of General Electric Power Semiconductors were assimilated into Mountaintop under Burke's leadership. He has continued his role in New Product Development under Harris Semiconductor.

Burke has lived in Forty Fort, and currently resides in Mountaintop with his wife, Terry. They are the parents of five children, two of whom are graduates of Wilkes University. The Burke's also have eight grandchildren.

PRESS RELEASE

Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council

c/o Temple B'nai B'rith
408 Wyoming Avenue
Kingston, PA 18704

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Rabbi Michael Joseph
Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council
287-9606 Fax: 287-9805

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

George Ralston to Receive Interfaith Council Award for 1998

July 1998—

*He also received the Silver Beaver
Award from the Boy Scouts.*

Mr. George Ralston, long an outstanding and beloved figure at Wilkes University, will receive the Citation of Distinction from the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council at its Annual Luncheon on Monday, November 23 at 12:00 pm at the Ramada Hotel on Public Square.

Rabbi Michael Joseph, current president of the Interfaith Council, explained that

“This award is presented annually to a person who has embodied the virtues of tolerance, problem-solving, and community-building. It has been our privilege over the years to recognize and applaud the achievement of some very wonderful people.

We are very proud to honor George Ralston this year. His integrity, his love and compassionate care for young people, his dedication to helping train leaders for our community – all these qualities make him a most fitting person to uphold the

criterion of excellence that has been established by the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council. In Mr. George Ralston, we continue the tradition of the Interfaith Council in acknowledging citizens whom in their private and professional lives work tirelessly for the benefit of others."

Mr. George Ralston currently serves Wilkes University as special assistant for alumni affairs, but during his tenure of over fifty years with the University (starting when it was still known as Bucknell Junior College), he has held many offices, among them athletic director, dean of men, dean of student affairs, and coach of the varsity football team. To countless Wilkes alumni, George Ralston personifies all best qualities of Wilkes University and the Wyoming Valley.

In addition to his activities that centered around Wilkes University, George Ralston has held many significant community affiliations, including those with the Wilkes-Barre YMCA, the Rotary Club, the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, and the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches.

George Ralston is a native of ^{Harrisonburg, Virginia} ~~Harrisburg, Pennsylvania~~ who joined the faculty of the Forty Fort High School after graduation from North Carolina University. During World War II he served in Africa and the South Pacific, receiving two Purple Hearts

and rising to the rank of major. Following the War he was appointed to counsel veterans returning to Bucknell Junior College. He also was charged to develop an athletic program for the college by Dr. Eugene Farley.

Mr. Ralston and his wife, Helen, are parents of four sons, all of whom are graduates of Wilkes University.

If you would like to receive an invitation to the Interfaith Council Luncheon honoring Mr. George Ralston, please call the Temple B'nai B'rith office at 287-9606.

Wilkes University News

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A black and white portrait of Andita Parker-Lloyd '96, a woman with short, curly hair, wearing glasses and a pearl necklace. She is smiling and resting her chin on her hand.

Supporting
WILKES
UNIVERSITY

**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
VOLUNTEER**

Andita Parker-Lloyd '96

**MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS,
BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY**

I was a first-semester transfer student at Wilkes when my mother passed away leaving me to raise two of my brothers. I was only nineteen; they were twelve and seven. Instead of walking away, the faculty, staff, and students at Wilkes did everything they could to help me. It was a wonderful experience that even my brothers remember. I give a lot more time than money right now, but I'd love to name a building someday! I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for Wilkes. To me, Wilkes means family.

Supporting
WILKES
UNIVERSITY

WILKES FUND
CONTRIBUTOR



Jean Pall

PARENT

I've watched as my daughter has become a self-assured young woman ready for a bright future. I want that for other people's children too. That's why I give to Wilkes University and why I'm going to keep giving even after Karyn graduates. When parents show they care by giving to Wilkes, they are investing in their own children, and also in all the bright new students who will follow. At Wilkes, people really care about our sons and daughters. That's why I'm sure Karyn will give to Wilkes someday, too.

A black and white portrait of C.J. Copley, a man with short dark hair and glasses, smiling. He is wearing a light-colored collared shirt. The background is dark and out of focus.

Supporting
WILKES
UNIVERSITY

WILKES FUND
CONTRIBUTOR

C.J. Copley '98, '00

ALUMNUS, STUDENT LEADER

For me, Wilkes University is about chance and opportunity. I wasn't sure I had the requirements to be accepted to Wilkes. But they took a chance on me and because of that I worked hard and I got involved. In the process, I found out what I was made of. It almost brings tears to my eyes when I think about some of the people who believed in me. I have a successful career now because of Wilkes University. I will always give back to Wilkes because of what Wilkes gave to me.



George Ralston

"FATHER" OF ATHLETIC PROGRAM

The students at Wilkes University are my reason for being. Wilkes is the only place I've ever worked and for fifty years I have tried to give a part of myself to the students, to get to know them, talk to them. People at Wilkes University deal with students as individuals, that's what makes Wilkes special. I still visit when I can and help out with alumni. My wife, Helen, and I offer financial support because we believe in the students at Wilkes. They are the future of America, of our world.

Supporting
WILKES
UNIVERSITY

25 CONSECUTIVE
YEARS OF GIVING



Sandra Piccone '77

ALUMNA

Wilkes enriched my life while I was a student and it has been a joy for me over the years to continue to use its resources—the library, continuing education classes. As an alumna, I believe the value of my diploma is only as good as the current reputation of my alma mater. As a community member, I believe Wilkes is the region's strength and makes the community a better place to live. Volunteering my time and providing financial support are two ways of showing how strongly I believe in Wilkes University.

Francesca Montelione

NURSING MAJOR,
PHONATHON CALLER

I had no idea when I came to Wilkes just how helpful everyone would be. The mentors in the ACT 101 program helped me find financial aid, my RA and my advisor are always there when I need someone to talk to, and the faculty really care about getting me ready for a successful nursing career. I want future students to have what I have now. I'm definitely going to give back to Wilkes after I graduate, even if all I can do is make phone calls to other alumni.

A black and white portrait of an elderly man with white hair and round glasses, wearing a suit and tie. The portrait is the central focus of the page.

Supporting
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UNIVERSITY

TRUSTEE

Bill Perlmutt '51

ATTORNEY, STROOCK, STROOCK
& LAVAN — NEW YORK CITY

Wilkes gave me an excellent education that prepared me to excel at Columbia Law School and in my career in a Wall Street law firm. I feel a real affinity for Wilkes and because of that joined the Board in 1973. I have remained on the Board so I can be instrumental in supporting Wilkes and in bringing support to Wilkes through foundations and grants. It's an excellent small school; students really benefit from having a caring administration and faculty. All of my success began with Wilkes.

Supporting
WILKES
UNIVERSITY

ESTABLISHED
SCHOLARSHIP



John H. Ellis IV, MD, '79

CARDIOLOGIST

I believe that once you reach a certain point in your career, life is more about giving than about taking. It's about appreciating those who were instrumental in helping you and about giving someone else the chance to have the opportunities you had. I was a local student who received an outstanding education at Wilkes as part of the Hahnemann Scholarship program. That's why, once I was able, I established a scholarship to help full-time local students attend Wilkes. It's my way of giving back, my way of sharing my success.

PRESS RELEASE

Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council

c/o Temple B'nai B'rith
408 Wyoming Avenue
Kingston, PA 18704

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Rabbi Michael Joseph
Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council
287-9606 Fax: 287-9805

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

George Ralston to Receive Interfaith Council Award for 1998

July 1998—

Mr. George Ralston, long an outstanding and beloved figure at Wilkes University, will receive the Citation of Distinction from the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council at its Annual Luncheon on Monday, November 23 at 12:00 pm at the Ramada Hotel on Public Square.

Rabbi Michael Joseph, current president of the Interfaith Council, explained that "This award is presented annually to a person who has embodied the virtues of tolerance, problem-solving, and community-building. It has been our privilege over the years to recognize and applaud the achievement of some very wonderful people. We are very proud to honor George Ralston this year. His integrity, his love and compassionate care for young people, his dedication to helping train leaders for our community – all these qualities make him a most fitting person to uphold the

criterion of excellence that has been established by the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council. In Mr. George Ralston, we continue the tradition of the Interfaith Council in acknowledging citizens whom in their private and professional lives work tirelessly for the benefit of others.”

Mr. George Ralston currently serves Wilkes University as special assistant for alumni affairs, but during his tenure of over fifty years with the University (starting when it was still known as Bucknell Junior College) he has held many offices, among them athletic director, dean of men, dean of student affairs, and coach of the varsity football team. To countless Wilkes alumni, George Ralston personifies all best qualities of Wilkes University and the Wyoming Valley.

In addition to his activities that centered around Wilkes University, George Ralston has held many significant community affiliations, including those with the Wilkes-Barre YMCA, the Rotary Club, the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, and the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches.

George Ralston is a native of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania who joined the faculty of the Forty Fort High School after graduation from North Carolina University. During World War II he served in Africa and the South Pacific, receiving two Purple Hearts

and rising to the rank of major. Following the War he was appointed to counsel veterans returning to Bucknell Junior College. He also was charged to develop an athletic program for the college by Dr. Eugene Farley.

Mr. Ralston and his wife, Helen, are parents of four sons, all of whom are graduates of Wilkes University.

If you would like to receive an invitation to the Interfaith Council Luncheon honoring Mr. George Ralston, please call the Temple B'nai B'rith office at 287-9606.

Wilkes University



News

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George Ralston Honored at Wilkes University's Annual Alumni Scholarship Dinner Dance

Wilkes-Barre – George Ralston, “The Father of Wilkes Athletics,” was recently honored at Wilkes University’s *Annual Alumni Scholarship Dinner Dance*.

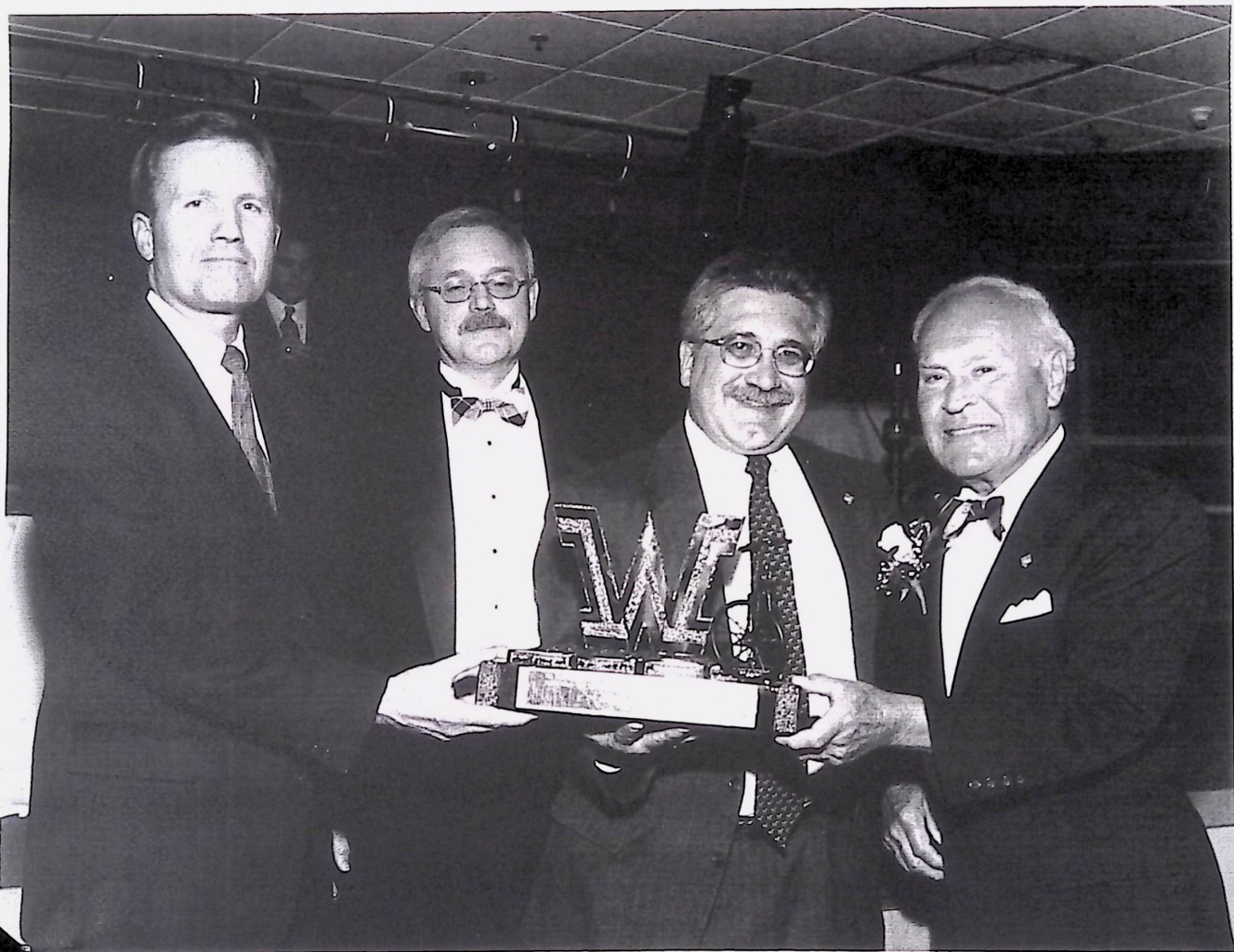
Proceeds from the event provide scholarships to current Wilkes students.

At 83 years old, Dean Ralston currently serves as Special Assistant for Alumni Relations. A member of the Wilkes family since 1946, Ralston is a native of Harrisonburg, Va., and resided in Forty Fort before and immediately following World War II. He currently lives in Wilkes-Barre with his wife, Helen.

More than 80 of Dean Ralston’s friends, family, and former co-workers and students turned out to pay tribute to one of the University’s most beloved family members. Offering their memories of Dean Ralston were speakers: Jane Lampe-Groh, former dean of students, Garfield Jones, class of 1972, Charlie Jackson, class of 1951, Bill Goldsworthy (Alumni Association president and class of 1976), and Attorney Sam Lowe.

Photo: from left to right are: Gary Williams, from Shavertown, Wilkes class of 1972, master’s class of 1982; Garfield Jones, of Laflin, class of 1972; Bill Goldsworthy, of West Pittston, Alumni Association president, class of 1976; Dean George Ralston, of Wilkes-Barre

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GEORGE RALSTON RETURNS FROM COLUMBIA - MARR

EDITORIALS

Editor's Open Letter to Freshmen

Recently you found yourself in the midst of a collegiate campus for the first time in your lives. You were unfamiliar with the area and the people were strangers.

By this time, however, most of you know how to find the gym, and the cafeteria. Several places have become recognizable. Perhaps your friendships have begun.

In this hectic week you have been learning a good deal about how to get around on campus and what is to be expected of you. Your Freshman Handbook and speeches have told you all.

Soon, classes will convene, and with them will come hazing. Usually the period of hazing makes Orientation Week seem routine. "Confusion and mixed emotions" are the order of the day. Every year the group administering the hazing has promised to do all they can to make it constructive and worth while. However, each time the result has not been all that it could be.

It is improving. So please bear with it. The frosh have been very good sports in the past and the upperclassmen, we hope, will go about the hazing with a mature, progressive viewpoint.

Hazing should be a constructive time of acquaintanceship with your classmates and the upperclassmen. It can be all enter it with the proper spirit.

Year of Progress

The year 1956 marks the period of the greatest expansion in the 23-year history of the College. During the last year campus improvements are the construction now in progress on the Admiral Stark Science Building, the acquisition of the Wadham building and its lot for faculty parking and the Wright Street property which will be a fitting tribute to one of Wilkes Barre's most world-famous citizens, will provide the College with modern facilities for the instruction of the sciences, as well as providing facilities for research.

The Wadham building will be used to expand dormitory facilities, a long-needed improvement. It will also be used to alleviate the present need for classroom space, caused by the construction of the Science Building.

The two new parking lots, one for each student and one for the faculty, are located at the southern end of the campus. The faculty lot is entered from South Franklin Street and the students will enter their lot from Wright Street.

The former faculty lot was on the present construction site and the students' lot is the space south of the cafeteria, which has been transformed into a grass plot.

Progress doesn't come easy. Sometimes a price must be paid. Our price is inconvenience, though temporary. The work now being done has caused the loss of two large classrooms, the art room, and allows only limited use of the lecture hall. We trust that everyone will see the need of this and cooperate until the completion of the Science Hall.

Homecoming Queen

In the past, the Homecoming Queen has been selected by the staff of the BEACON, which sponsors the half-time ceremonies at the homecoming game. There has been criticism of this system in the past, the general consensus being that it wasn't democratic.

This year something different will be tried. In order to give more people a voice in the selection, students can nominate any female student (day or night school) by writing a "Letter to the Editor" stating the name of the candidate. Letters may be mailed or left at the newspaper's office. All letters must be signed.

If fewer than six nominations are received by the closing date, October 8, the staff of the BEACON reserves the right to nominate a winner to bring the total to at least six.

After the nomination, the Queen will be selected by the editorial board, on the basis of beauty.

There are plenty of pretty women on the campus, so we expect to be deluged with letters in the next few weeks.

Register and Vote

One of the more important duties of American citizenship is voting. Our democracy is based upon rule by the consent of the governed. Your vote is your way of saying what you really think. Failure to carry out this duty means the loss of your voice in your government.

In Pennsylvania, as in most states, you are required to register before you can voice your opinion at the polls. The deadline for registration is next Monday, September 17. If you are not on the roll, you will not be eligible to participate in the important presidential election coming up on November 6. Remember! Your vote counts.

NEW LOUNGE AT HARDING HALL TO ACCOMMODATE MEN, WOMEN

A new lounge has been provided for the students at Harding Hall on South Franklin Street. The lounge will be used for the expansion program at Wilkes, will serve a dual purpose in creating a newer and more modern lounge for both men and women students, and providing additional living quarters on the first floor of Butler Hall, men's dorm, which was the original location of the lounge.

Among the many changes, the new lounge will provide a study hall, and for the less studious or those who simply want to relax there is a television set and a coffee and hot chocolate dispenser. On the walls are several original paintings, and the furniture is supplied from both the original lounge at Butler Hall and from former Chase Hall lounge.

Mr. Whitty, Registrar, now has his office in the old lounge at Chase Hall which has been completely redecorated with new office furniture and much more window space.

The student lounge now occupies former classrooms which have been moved to a new acquisition at 275 South Franklin Street, just across the street from the 23 residence.

Hazing Begins Sept. 24; Daily Tribunal Meetings And Projects Planned

by Janice Schuster

A familiar scene will reappear on the college campus Monday when the men's frosh come to classes carrying banners and wearing dikes. However, no upperclassmen will have the pleasure of hazing the frosh this week since the newcomers to campus have been given one week free to become adjusted.

One week from Monday, however, the entire student body is urged to participate in the initiation of the campus founders. According to hazing chairman John Sabo, the frosh had better heed their superiors since hazing will be given, if necessary, for insubordination.

To insure obedience, Sabo stated that daily tribunal meetings will be held behind Chase Hall. On Thursdays, the campus court of justice will convene at the gymnasium. It is also imperative that the frosh know the school cheers since they will be heard on Chase lawn with punishments for those who do not participate.

Among some of the activities planned for the frosh will be both a community and a campus project. The former is to be a clothing drive to help the poor and the latter project will benefit the school when the frosh scrub Chase Hall with their tribe brushes.

The newcomers will be honored next Friday when the sophomores sponsor their "Fall Frolic." All Schuster and his orchestra will provide the dancing music from nine until twelve.

Sabo, who is also dance chairman, announced that prizes will be awarded to winners of dancing contests. Included among the gifts will be leather stuffed ponies and two sets of football pants.

— WILKES COLLEGE —

Beacon

A newspaper published each week of the regular school year by and for the students of Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Subscription: \$1.80 per semester.

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Dean of "Psych" Dr. Hofstra Wed to Music 't Four

Wilkes Dean of Music Dr. Hofstra returns to his alma mater Columbia University after a year's absence to study at Columbia two years ago. And he will be back, having married the late Mrs. Helen Butler Hawkinse Inter-

nationalism, not last summer. A member of the new Rockwell movement staff, Mrs. Hofstra is instructress on the "W" for a number of years. He is married to the dean, "Forty-Four" Hofstra. The Hofstras have taken for their residence, independent fund, long trusteeship of it since where Ralston lived until his departure for his year at New York.

Seeking a doctorate in Hofstra psychology, Ralston put a victory residence at Columbia, on working on his dissertation on Long view of several of the culture of the nation.

For many years he has been a writer, Ralston will be in his own right as college director. He will, but will relinquish built his native position of co-ordinator. The move was made in the exigencies of the Deaf's Mass-

increase with the streamlining, Ralston was temporarily played a during last year's absence. He is now Dean George W. Ellis, and year returns to his hometown, as assistant professor from long the department of education.

Al Manar-
Colonel
Colonel
Colonel

NEW STUDENT COUNCIL HOLDS FIRST MEETING

Last Friday the Student Council met for the first time in the year. President Don Reynold, Boy-

phed. The council decided to have the first meeting at 8:00 p.m. of the year, which if for "Come and Meet Us" partylike Refreshment.

There will be dancing from 9:00 p.m. Everything will be free, as a top-down.

The following were given chairman of the council: Ed Kotula, Jr., "Bandit Mary" Matty, chairman of the Virginia Breen, chairperson, Hazing committee chairperson.

Sabo presented the list of group and was given a certificate of gestures by the council member.

At the suggestion of Ed and tor, the council president, a committee on school spirit sport job of this committee will boost high ways and means of life in and preserving school spirit.

Vann is chairman. foot-

Quotable Quotes

Mr. Tenner: "Body press — another name for a dance."

Dr. Rosenberger: "The best dressed woman wears the least and pays the most for it."

Dr. Mayfield (PS 101): "Take the constitution, laws, and cases out of this course and what have you got left?"

Voice from the rear: "Joe Zick!"

NOTICE!

There will be a Beacon meeting Monday at noon on the third floor (front) at 159 South Franklin St.

WC SCHOOL SPIRIT COMMITTEE INTRODUCES COLONEL WILKES

In an effort to increase student interest in campus activities, and particularly "band spirit," the Student Council president Don Reynolds has appointed young man president Dave Vann to head a new, first-formed school spirit committee.

The nine-member committee has already entered upon a number of projects to increase interest in the "sport" program, most notable of which is the naming of committee man John Stahl to take the part of Colonel Wilkes at all home football games.

Stahl's Colonel costume is scheduled to feature blue and gold decorated cutaway with tails plus gold pants and plug hat, representing the school's colors as well as its emblem.

Stahl has volunteered to work in co-operation with the college staff in his spirit-raising project. Tentative plans by the committee already contemplate his early introduction to the campus as the

college Colonel at the first of proposed series of student band Committee members have been strenuous in their efforts to bring the college's first game, slated for October 22 at the Lehigh Valley Ball.

In line with the spirit move the junior class has scheduled for the night before last game which, haven't it, they have entitled the "Big Cotton Pickin' and the end

The affair is slated as a "band and music dance" at the Valley's top cal. Hanks and Harry Wilkie, chairman, a main feature of the dance will be a pep rally.

Coach Stahl and his expected to be present. Members of the spirit crew in addition to Stahl, include Weinberger, Jack Schuster, Gil Gregory, Sam Cliff Brothers, Ron Tremas Puma.

BOOKSTORE HOURS

Thursday 9:12-1:55; 6-8
Friday 9:12-1:55; 6-8
Saturday 9:12-1:55
Week of September 17
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9:12-1:55; 6-8
Thursday, Friday 9:12-1:55
Saturday 9:12-1:55

According to Dr. James S. Coleman, president of Bowdoin College, "The small liberal arts college may be the only place where a student who really knows who is next to be elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and who is next to funk out, and why."

Gridders Drill For Charity Game



READYING FOR HOFSTRA — Part of Coach Russ Pieten's squad are seen running through dummy drills in preparation for next week's game with Hofstra. The team has been working hard under Russ' watchful eye and expects to give the

Datemen quite a tussle. On the line, from left to right, are: Ron Ercolani, Bill Hicken, Jerry Lewen, Bob Masonic, Bob Yakavoson, co-captain Bill Farish, Joe Reese. The backfield: Al Manarski, Sam Puma, Art Tambur, co-captain Ron Rescigno.

Wilkes Host to Hofstra Next Saturday: Four Home Games Scheduled

With their opening game two weeks earlier than that of last year, the Wilkes College football team will commence its intercollegiate competition next Saturday, September 22 at Kingston Stadium, hosting Hofstra's Flying Dutchmen in a charity tilt sponsored by the Forty-Four-Kingston Kiwanis Club for their underprivileged children's fund. Hofstra holds a 140 edge over Wilkes in its football series with the Colonies, as Coach Russ Pieten's charges will be doubly anxious to win their first from Hofstra as well as notching a victory toward a winning season.

This year's reports from Long Island say that the Dutchmen lack depth, but Coach Howdy Myers can always be counted on to field a team which will hold its own in small college competition.

Coach Russ Pieten has built his team around 12 lettermen. The line includes solid and has plenty of experience with Bob "Mo" Masonic, Bill Farish, Jerry Lewen, Bob Yakavoson, and Joe Reese. Bill Dadurka back from last year's squad. Bill Rinken, who played a year of football at Penn State, is also slated for the defense, as is end Ron Ercolani from Allentown.

Bonnie Rescigno, running from the tailback slot, will direct a single-wing attack with Al Manarski, Art Tambur, Dick Wozniak and Sam Puma all back from last year.

Those noted on the Colonies' team on Monday with the addition of four new candidates. The four, all with plenty of experience, are: center Mike Tormoski, back Boyd "Porky" Hoats, guard Jim Stephens, and end Frank Rescigno. Mike Tormoski is a native of Kingston High and also played for Wyoming Seminary, plus a hitch with the South Carolina Gamecocks club while in the service in Germany. Hoats being a top-notch center and line-backer, he is also a fine punter and will give Sam Puma a run for that job.

"Porky" Hoats was a standout at Myers last year, both on the grid scene and on the diamond, where he pitched several no-hit games.

Jim Stephens is a graduate of Plymouth High and the 185-pound guard will be giving Farish and Masonic a fight for a starting berth.

Frank Rossi was a three-sport man at South Huntington High School in New York, starring in football, wrestling and baseball.

After hosting Hofstra, the football team will journey to Annville the following Saturday, September 22, to engage in its first bowl game, the Holcomb Bowl, against Lebanon Valley College.

The griders are dated for a nine-game schedule: four of these games are home contests, as compared with only two home events last year. The college football fans will thus get to see some fine small-college football.

THE WAY THE BALL BOUNCES

by Ed McCafferty, Sports Editor

From now until the end of the school year, yours truly will be bouncing around here on page three trying to figure out and let you know just which way the ball does bounce.

LOOK WHO'S BACK. A welcome back to all you fellow students, and to you athletes, to George Halston, who after a year's absence, is back as Dean of Men and Director of Athletics, and to Jim Ferris, who after four star-studded years as a Wilkes athlete, has returned to the College sports scene as assistant soccer coach.

WHAT'S UP, DOC? With the first football game only a little over a week away, lots of action is due to pop around campus. Due to all the hustle-bustle of registration and because it is so early in the school year, not all the details have been ironed out but we can let you know what we know.

The junior class, like all of us Wilkes well-wishers, anxious to see first chance of school spirit, has so far taken the lead in setting the fire. The juniors are planning a bonfire rally and pep session in Park prior to the Wilkes-Hofstra clash and intend to have a night parade with the band, cheerleaders, majorettes, and of course, those whooping it up.

Another mammoth rally will be the junior-sponsored Kerrel Cotton "Win" Pep Rally to be held at the College gym on the eve of the 25th in preparation for the grid Colonies' battle against Lebanon Valley in the twenty-ninth of September. This big contest, the Holcomb Bowl, marks the first time that a Wilkes College athletic team will ever have played in a bowl game.

A car caravan, such as in the planning stages, may be used as a means of conveyance to Annville if student interest in a caravan is heavy enough. Students slipping down to Annville in a caravan of cars carrying blue and gold streamers may have a good time looking things up to let people know that Wilkes is in town. If you would like to see a car caravan, or if you would like to see your car in a car caravan, get in touch with either Dave Vann or me.

While yours truly is not the publicity director for the junior class, one more small item should be recalled. As was mentioned before, all the final arrangements have not been made. As soon as we have the final thing is settled, the details will be published in the Beacon.

Right now, however, is a good time to plan to support the Colonies. This looks like a big year. The football team, drilling hard for their first encounter, may very well come up with a winning season; and their dice counterparts, Coach Reese's booters, are seeking their fourth straight soccer title. And Wilkes fans have an opportunity to see the squads play a total of 10 out of nineteen games at home. No...

FALK CHOSEN TO HEAD P.R.O. IN N.J. SCHOOL

Jenni Falk, genial sports publicity director for the past year, is now telling as an instructor and public relations director for the "I Ban," New Jersey, School District.

While at Wilkes, Jenni was own all around the campus for all many activities. A baseball and football player of some repute (in his day), the Kingston veteran was interested in all types of sports.

Among his accomplishments were: assistant editor of the Beacon, one of the founders and first president of the College Press Club, sports editor of the Beacon, and of course, sports publicity director for the College.

Jenni, or Ivan as his parents named him, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Falk of 388 Chestnut St., Kingston.

BOOTERS REBUILDING FOR COMING SEASON

Nineteen soccer candidates completed their first week of practice yesterday. After four days of conditioning drills, the booters have done their chin pads and knee socks for intrasquad scrimmages.

Coach John Reese, faced with the prospect of rebuilding his top-notch squad after losing ten men through graduation, continued beefing his charges into shape for their first tilt, which is still three weeks away.

The soccer squad will not be at full strength until shortly after registration when additional candidates including four returning lettermen will reinforce the team.

Letterman Alford Kazimi, Ed Masonic, Dave Pulley, and Tony Blanton will join Jim Stocker and Nick Giordano. These last two practiced already with a week of practice under their belts — to form the nucleus of this year's winning squad.

FERRIS APPOINTED TO ASSIST REESE WITH '56 SOCCER SQUAD

Jim Ferris, one of the finest all-around athletes ever to graduate from Wilkes, and one of the spark plugs of coach John Reese's top-notch 1955 soccer squad, has returned to Wilkes this fall to serve Reese again—this time as assistant soccer coach.

A native of Kingston, Ferris completed an enviable record while wearing the Wilkes Blue and Gold. A three-sport letterman, he excelled in soccer, basketball and baseball. In his junior year, he was awarded the Beacon "Athlete of the Year" trophy and the Howie Davis Memorial trophy.

Last year he was the first Colonist to be named for the new Out-standing Basketball Player award. Ferris is currently teaching at another of his alma maters, Kingston High School, where he is assistant coach coach.

Suberland Lost Swimming Letterman on Campus

Probably unknown to most people on the campus, Wilkes at one time had a swimming team which competed on an intercollegiate level. Using the YMCA pool, the Tankers had a record for seven years before passing into oblivion several years ago.

One letterman who saved his award swimming still exists on the campus. He is service-oriented. Bob Suberland.

Two Former Gridders Named "Decade's Best" In Wilkes P.R.O. Poll

At Nicholas, "Outstanding Back of the Decade," and Gerard Washburn, "Outstanding Lineman of the Decade," will be presented with trophies on Alumni Homecoming Day, October 12, for being named the top Wilkes griders of the decade by ex-Wilkes football players in a recent poll conducted by the Wilkes College public relations office.

Nicholas, a native of New York, first entered Wilkes in 1925 and became an immediate sensation. Exceptionally elusive and known for his long runs, Nicholas, scored twenty-four touchdowns while running out of the single-wing tailback slot.

Washburn, who lives with his wife and children in Nantuxie, was the bolshawk in the Wilkes line that came to be known as "The Seven Blocks of Anthracite." A member of the first Wilkes team in 1916, he played tackle for four years, winning up his brilliant career with the 1922 Colonies who led the state in scoring.

The selection of the two former griders gives them automatic nomination to the Wilkes Hall of Fame, which the public relations office hopes to place in the gymnasium upon completion of the current building program at Wilkes.

FOOTBALL

Coach: Russell R. Pieten	Home Field: Kirby Park
Home: P. 8 PM	Away: P. 2 PM
22-Hofstra	Away: P. 2 PM
22-Lebanon Valley	Away: P. 2 PM
October:	
6-Ithaca	Home: P. 2 PM
13-Moran	Home: P. 2 PM
20-Lycoming	Away: P. 2 PM
27-Susquehanna	Away: P. 2 PM
November:	
3-Pa. Military Coll.	Home: 2 P.M.
10-Bridgport	Away: 2 P.M.
17-Moran	Away: 1:30 P.M.
24-Bucks	Home: 2 P.M.
27-Albany	Home: 2 P.M.

SOCCER

Coach: John Reese	Home Field: Kirby Park
October:	
4-Lafayette	Away: 4 P.M.
6-Hofstra	Away: 4 P.M.
12-Bucks	Home: 11 A.M.
18-Temple	Home: 2 P.M.
20-Cornell	Home: 2 P.M.
24-Bucks	Home: 2 P.M.
27-Elmhurst	Home: 2 P.M.
November:	
3-East Stroudsburg	Away: 2 P.M.
10-Philos. Tenille	Away: 2 P.M.
17-Moran	Home: 2 P.M.
24-Albany	Home: 2 P.M.
27-Albany	Home: 2 P.M.

Chuck Robbins

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Colonels Open Against Hofstra Tomorrow Night



First row, left to right: Julius Yurchak, Wilkes-Barre; Josef Reese, Kingston; Jim Stephens, Plymouth; Boyd Hosts, Wilkes-Barre; Jim Walsh, Bronx, N. Y.; Frank Rossi, Huntington, N. Y.; and Art Tambur, Harding.
Second row: Coach Russ Pacion; Bill Rinken, Harveys Lake; Al Manarski, Plains; Neil Dadurka, Los Angeles, Calif.; Bob Masons, Kingston; Bill Farish, co-captain, Huntington; Ron Rescigno, co-captain, Cambria Heights, L. I.; Mike Dydo, Askam; Bob Teavants, Hanover Township; Dick Wozniak, Nanticoke; Bill Evans, Student Manager.
Third row: Sam Puma, Wyoming; Jerry Loewen, Wilkes-Barre; Tom Doly, Wyoming; Fred Williams, Wilkes-Barre; Bob Gayeski, Glen Lyon; Mike Ternawski, Kingston; Joe Molski, Glen Lyon; Carl Zooloski, Kingston; Ray Yanchus, Wilkes-Barre; Ron Ezeanol, Allentown.

SEE FOOTBALL STORY ON PAGE 3

WILKES COLLEGE
Serving the Valley
for 22 Years



— WILKES COLLEGE —

Beacon



THE BEACON
Serving the College
since 1914

Vol. XXI, No. 2

WILKES COLLEGE, WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1956

2 Added to Faculty

George Elliot Reclaims Position as Teacher; Graduates Take Jobs

Last year, at this time, he had the problems of more than half of the student body to worry about and this year he has to think only about the problems of those few students whom he advises. For you see Mr. George F. Elliot, who last year was acting Dean of Men, is back at his former position as a professor of Economics.

When Mr. George F. Ralston, the Dean of Men, returned to Wilkes for completing study for his degree at Columbia University, Mr. Elliot left Chase Hall and returned to his office in Holsbach Hall. Mr. Elliot commented that it was "a relief" to be back teaching at Wilkes after his year as acting Dean of Men.

Mr. Elliot reported that classes were running smoothly, and that he was getting back into the routine of classes, lectures, and exams. "A return to Paradise," the former dean stated about his return to the classrooms.

His students are glad to welcome such a likable professor back teaching again.

Mr. Robert J. Miller

Mr. Robert J. Miller, an alumnus of Wilkes and a Wilkes-Barre native, is now a member of the English Department. He received his A.B. in English in 1948, the first graduating class of the four-year college.

He entered Columbia University

FRESH ENROLLMENT SETS NEW RECORD

Evidence of the growth of Wilkes College is found in the size of this year's record Freshman class. The enrollment of 350 new students exceeds that of last year by approximately 40. Transfer students, 20 in number, are included in these totals.

Another key factor in the College's expansion is the increase in resident students. The recent acquisition of the Wadham building at 225 So. Franklin St. will make possible another increase in dorm space, which would allow a greater number of these students to be admitted. The building will be adopted as a dorm sometime in the future.

Mr. Whitely, Registrar, states that the Fresh are fairly evenly divided in their selection of courses. This well-balanced proportion does not hold true in all respects however. The exception should gladden the hearts of our coaches, because the males outnumber the females by a whopping 2 to 1 margin. Good odds in all respects.

and in 1949 received his M.A. He remained at Columbia until 1951 as a member of the Bureau of Publications.

He went to Europe in 1951 and taught English in Genoa, Italy under the auspices of the U.S.S.R. Later he taught English in Lausanne, Switzerland at the Ecole Nouvelle.

Mr. Miller enjoyed his work at (continued on page 2)

SOPHS' 'FALL FROLIC' TONIGHT AT WC GYM

Wilkes College Student Highlights Program of Philharmonic Concert

by Bob Lutes

"My Valley," a beautiful and entirely new song was heard for the first time publicly on Monday evening of this week. Wayne Walters, a Music major at Wilkes, sang the solo to highlight the Wilkes-Barre Philharmonic Orchestra Concert presented at the Wilkes College Gymnasium.

Mr. Ferdinand Live, a music professor at Wilkes, wrote the music to "My Valley," and Mr. Alfred Groh, Wilkes drama coach, wrote the lyrics.

After opening the first half of the program with "The Star Spangled Banner," Mr. Live directed the orchestra through "The Light Cavalry Overture" by von Suppe, followed by Schubert's Symphony No. 8 in B minor and four excerpts from "Carmen."

After the intermission, the audience of 1200 heard "Dance of the Hours" by Ponchielli, "Caucasian Sketches" by Lyadov, and a musical panorama from "Kiss Me, Kate" by Porter and Bennett. As an encore, the Orchestra rendered "Semper Parvula" a march by Sousa.

Gene Marchetti's Septet will Perform At Initial Sophomore Dance Tonite; Ushering in Home Football Weekend

The sophomore class holds its Fall Frolic dance tonight to kick off the first big weekend at Wilkes — the weekend of the first home game.

Tomorrow night opens the Colonel gridiron season at Kingston Field, and tonight opens the first Colonel football weekend.

PRES. MOSER HOLDS FIRST IDC MEETING

by Jerome Stein

The Inter-Dormitory Council held its first meeting of the year last Wednesday in the Cafeteria Lounge. President Moser called the meeting to order at 5 P.M. and promptly discussed the plans for the forthcoming year. Last year's achievements were mentioned in brief and this year's council would strive to live up to its fine record.

The Inter-Dormitory Council was formally organized last year in an effort to alleviate dormitory problems by the use of student government. It consists of two representatives from each of the men's dormitories and three representatives from each of the women's dormitories.

Gene Marchetti's orchestra is slated to play for the dance tonight, which will be held in the college gymnasium on the lower campus, South Franklin Street. Titled the Fall Frolic by the energetic sophomores, who begin their part in the freshman hazing program next Monday with the first regular tribunal meeting, the affair tonight will be the first dance sponsored by a particular Wilkes organization.

Last weekend's "Come and Meet Us" party, an annual feature of registration week, was sponsored by the Student Council, which, rather than representing any particular group on campus, is supposed to represent the student body in general.

Marchetti's seven-piece combo, the first orchestra on campus this Fall, will provide music from the starting time at 9 o'clock until midnight.

JOIN THE COLONELS' CARAVAN

What... Where... When...

"Fall Frolic"
Wilkes vs. Hofstra
Coe v. Curtin
Welcome Fresh Party
Band Rehearsal
Band Rehearsal
Junior Class Council
Male Chorus Rehearsal
Male Chorus Rehearsal
Male Chorus Rehearsal
Press Club Meeting
"Kernels" Cotton Pickin'
Pop Party
Mixed Chorus Rehearsal
Mixed Chorus Rehearsal
Bologna Bowl

College Gym
Kingston Stadium
Chase Theater
Chase Theater
College Gym
College Gym
Warner Hall
Gies Hall 101
Gies Hall 101
Gies Hall 101
Harrie 102

Fri., Sept. 21, 9:42 p.m.
Sat., Sept. 22, 8:00 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 24, 7:00 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 24, 8:00 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 24, 4:00 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 27, 11:00 a.m.
Mon., Sept. 24, 12:20 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 24, 12:20 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 27, 11:00 a.m.

STUDENTS ASSEMBLE 5 PRESENTED AWARDS

The first assembly of the fall term was officially opened last Tuesday in the gym with nearly one thousand in attendance. High points of the program included the presentation of awards, and a speech by Mr. George F. Ralston, returning Dean of the college.

The first award, the James McNamee Award, was given to the boy and girl who achieved the highest grades during their freshman year. Dr. Farley presented the award to Margaret Stevens and Francis Galia.

The Linda Morris Award, presented to the girl who achieved the highest grades during her junior year, went to Patsy Reese, Mr. Herbert Morris, former registrar at the college, and father of the late Linda Morris, made the presentation.

Finally, the Women of Wilkes Award was given by Mrs. Deane to Antonia Stefan, the girl who made the highest grades during her freshman year.

NOTICE

Cars parked in the college's parking lots, without new stickers for the 1935-36 term, will be towed away starting Monday, September 24.

BAND AWARD FOR 3 GAMES

In the words of Bob Moran, leader of the Wilkes College Band, "things look pretty good" as far as the Band is concerned this year. They will play at every football game played at home, and away at the Susquehanna, Levensing, and Lebanon Valley (Bologna Bowl) contests.

Plans are already underway for the Big Band Blast on October 12. This is an annual affair, and is the only College dance during which there are no breaks for the band; there are four hours of continuous dancing. The big "blast" is on the eve of the Wilkes Alumni Homecoming.

Joe Stentak is manager of the Band this year. He also holds the office of president, with Marilyn Carl as secretary; the Band's librarian's will be Janet Jones and Carl Ernst.

— WILKES COLLEGE —

Beacon

A newspaper published each week of the regular school year by and for the students of Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Subscription: \$1.50 per semester.

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GEORGE ELLIOT RECLAIMS

continued from page 1
Ecole Nouvelle, where he had many interesting experiences. The school contained elementary through college preparatory grades, and the students there were from all the major countries of the world.

Mr. Elliot continued his education at three Siamese boys to whom he taught business English. Mr. Elliot continued his education at three Siamese boys to whom he taught business English. Mr. Elliot continued his education at three Siamese boys to whom he taught business English.

Dr. Bronis Kaslas
Another recent addition to the full-time faculty staff of Wilkes is Dr. Bronis Kaslas.

Dr. Kaslas, who returned to Wilkes after a year's absence, first came to Wilkes in 1929 as a member of the history and political science staffs. He studied at the University of Kaunas in Lithuania and did his post-graduate work at Strasbourg in France from 1929 to 1931.

During World War II, Dr. Kaslas served as a war correspondent for the British, French and American forces. He also participated in the Nazi war trials as a French correspondent. Afterwards, he returned to Kaunas and Strasbourg to teach.

He came to the U. S. in 1936 and taught at a prep school in Connecticut and later at the University of Detroit.

Dr. Kaslas, who resides with his wife in Pittston, is a member of the Rotary and Political Science Association of International Law. He has spoken many times throughout the U. S. on international affairs.

Mrs. Alice Schappert

This year there will be a new face at the front desk in the Wilkes Librarian. For you students who have yet to enter the library this semester, she is still a Mystery. Those who have met Mrs. Alice Deane Schappert have found her both patient and understanding.

Mrs. Schappert is a graduate of Wilkes College, class of 1919, and from Carnegie Library School, a part of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, in 1920, with a degree in Library Science. She is no stranger to the Valley, since, for the last three years, she has been in the employ of the Oysterbrook Free Library in Wilkes-Barre.

Our new librarian is married to Gilbert Schappert, a member of the G. A. R. High School faculty, and is the mother of two children. The Schapperts reside at 31 Birch St. in Wilkes-Barre.

Mrs. Schappert took over the Circulation and Reference Department early this month when Mr. George F. Ermel, the former Circulation and Reference Librarian moved to the cataloguing department. Mr. Ermel received his new position when Mr. Warren F. French left Wilkes College to take another position.

The French extends best wishes to both librarians on their new positions here at Wilkes.

HAZING PERIOD OPENS ON MONDAY

Enlarged Male Chorus 'GHOSTS' FEATURED Ready for Banner Year. Plan Varied Concerts

by Bob Lutes

The Male Chorus, now under the direction of Sam Lowe, promises to be better than ever this year. Lowe has been swamped by freshmen trying out for spots with the well-known singing group.

Tryouts were held Monday and Tuesday of this week, and new members were chosen on the basis of sight-reading ability and past group-singing experience.

In the past, rehearsals for the Male Chorus will be held at room in Room 101 of Gies Hall A—and bring your lunch, frosh. Lowe provides nothing but the sheet music.

Filling the shoes of Ruth Boney, former accompanist, will be the able Fred Walke. This will be the first time that the Chorus has had a male accompanist.

Director Lowe announced that such activity is planned for the fall. This year, both at Wilkes and at various high schools and before civic groups throughout the Valley.

MEETING NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the BEACON staff at noon to day in the paper's office.

Anyone who wishes to write for the paper, with or without experience, is welcome to attend.

Assignments for next week will be given.
The office is on the third floor of 159 South Franklin Street.

'GHOSTS' FEATURED IN SORORITY HAZING

by Marion Klawson

Over fifty freshmen were accepted by Theta Delta Rho in its biggest and most unusual initiation in the sorority's history. The initiation was held in McClinton Hall Tuesday night.

Frosh were greeted by mysterious "ghosts" with candles, who escorted them into a dark room to wait for the unknown.

While upperclassmen laughed and joked, the candidates for entrance to the sorority were led into the darkened living room to the throne of president Patsy Reese. After signing in, the frosh faced their superiors and greeted names, house town, major, and the name of their "big sister" to the assembled upperclassmen.

Several of the candidates were then called to the front to answer the questions of the "honorable members." The frosh then gave a short skit from "The King and I" prepared by Mary West and Peggy Stevens. The highlight of the evening was a satire on Eddie Presley's "Hound Dog" by the background.

Refreshments were served after the initiation while frosh and upperclassmen mingled and became acquainted.

"Ghost" for the initiation were: Miss Thompson, Janice Schuster, Marion Klawson, Elaine Williams, Ellen Kemp and Carol Hallas.

Trees are sure on Death. It's clear. But taxes are much More Severe!

Gym Scene of Trials; Tribunal Warns Frosh To Obey Regulations

by Marion Klawson

The annual welcome to the frosh, making them feel entirely unwelcome, officially begins Monday morning at 8. The Alma Mater will ring off duty, probably across the campus amidst cries of "Square that dink," "Blotton, Frosh," and other similar remarks directed at the obliging freshmen.

John Saba, chairman of the hazing for this year, stated that tribunal will be held every noon in back of Chase Hall. These meetings will be held for the purpose of acquainting the new students with the shores of Wilkes.

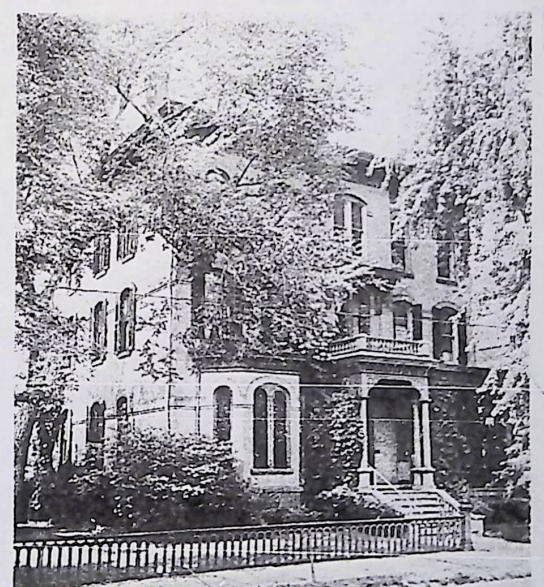
It is the hope of the hazing committee that these meetings will build school spirit among the frosh.

The Tribunal will make its first full dress appearance at tomorrow's dance and will hold regular "trial" every Thursday noon in the gym. It is important that every frosh attend all tribunal meetings. Unexcused absences are a major sin and will be punished with paddles and other unmerciful activities. Attendance at all school activities is also obligatory. A special section will be reserved for the frosh at Saturday's first home football game with Hofstra.

Several projects have been set up for the frosh to fill in their "spare time." Among these are a clothing drive and the scrubbing of Chase Hall with toothbrushes.

The hazing program is intended to help the frosh become acquainted with the students at Wilkes. It also gives the newcomers a chance to make the frosh look as foolish as they themselves looked last year.

FORMER WADHAM HOME — MOST RECENT ADDITION TO COLLEGE CAMPUS



This big home at 253 South Franklin Street is fast becoming a familiar sight to Wilkes students. It is the site of many classes. Many persons, who were on the campus, have never noticed it until this summer when the College purchased it. It is planned to utilize the building as a dorm eventually, but at present it houses only classroom facilities.

The home was purchased from the Wadham estate and is the 20th building maintained by the College.

On the right is a drive which leads to the rear of the building. A new faculty parking lot has been created there; a path also connects with the new student parking facilities on Wright Street.

PEOPLE

THE TIMES LEADER

timesleader.com

Campus Queen



Helen Ralston, soon to be honored by the Wilkes University Alumni Association, has long been well known for her love of music.

AIMEE DILGER/THE TIMES LEADER

Wilkes pays tribute to Helen Bitler Ralston, class of '52

By MARY THERESE BIEBEL | mbiebel@timesleader.com

When Charlie Jackson was working his way through Wilkes College back in 1949, students on the maintenance crew were eager to clean Gies Hall, all because of a certain perk.

"We used to fight like heck when Helen was in there," said Jackson, a Swoyersville native now retired after 45 years in education. "We all wanted to clean that building, just to hear her practicing."

Helen Bitler, as she used to be known, had a beautiful voice, Jackson said, and, when the maintenance guys saw the woman who went with the voice, they were even more impressed.

"One day, we were laying flagstone and (founder of Wilkes athletic programs) George Ralston came up," Jackson remembered. "We were

shooting the breeze, and along comes Helen, from a distance.

"I said, 'Coach Ralston, see that lady? Hank and John and I elected her 'campus queen.'"

Other members of the Wilkes University Alumni Association would likely agree with that sentiment. During its annual dinner on April 25, the asso-

ciation will pay tribute to Helen Bitler Ralston, class of 1952, in honor of her contributions to the school.

But let's return to what Jackson told Coach Ralston in 1949 about that lady who was crossing campus.

"First of all, she's beautiful. Second, she's very talented," Jackson remembers he pointed out. "Thirdly,

she's a gracious person. Fourth, she represents the epitome of female pulchritude."

Jackson doesn't know if he planted a seed that day, or if Ralston would have noticed Helen Bitler on his own. But a few years later George and He-

See TRIBUTE, Page 14B

TRIBUTE

Continued from Page 1B

len Ralston were married. They celebrated their golden wedding anniversary before his death in 2007.

"I miss him so very much," said Helen, who remembers she was introduced to the dashing coach in 1952 during her senior dinner dance in the Crystal Ballroom of the Hotel Sterling.

"He said hello in his beautiful, soft, melodious voice," Helen said. "He was a Southern gentleman, the kind who always tipped his hat."

Helen and George danced together all evening. "He waited a few weeks after that to call me," she said — and in 1956 they married.

Over the decades George Ralston served as dean of men, dean of student affairs, professor and football/baseball coach at Wilkes —

watching it develop from Bucknell University Junior College to Wilkes College in 1947 and then to Wilkes University in 1990.

Helen kept busy raising four sons — David, John, Thomas and James — while mentoring students and teaching voice lessons. "I was teaching like mad at home," she said. She also played lead roles in Wilkes stage productions, such as Mother Abbess in "The Sound of Music."

"I don't want to slight anyone else," former Wilkes alumni director Tony Shipula said. "But together they were a kind of 'first couple' of Wilkes. They were just a good family. They were faith-based and had their priorities in order."

Occasionally, the oddest thing could become a priority, retired Wilkes administrator Jane Lampe-Groh said, remembering with a chuckle that Dean Ralston once told her to confiscate a guinea pig from a dormitory.

What would become of the little

creature, whose presence on campus was against the rules? Would it go to the SPCA, possibly to be euthanized?

The Ralstons ended up sheltering the animal at their house — and when they evacuated during the flood of 1972, it was one of the few things they managed to rescue.

"Tran for my purse where my wallet was," Helen said. "John took his golf clubs. Our youngest son grabbed Squeaky in its cage."

Nowadays, Helen concedes, her ideal pet is a cat.

But her longtime vocation as a singer and vocal coach remains constant.

As a girl growing up in Ashley, daughter of a railroad man, Helen remembers, she begged for singing lessons. Her parents agreed but insisted she study piano first.

She took lessons at Bucknell University Junior College — Wilkes' forerunner — and by age 17 was sing-

IF YOU GO

What: 'A Tribute to Helen Ralston' at the Alumni Scholarship Fund Dinner. Proceeds benefit The Alumni Scholarship Fund.

When: April 25, with cocktails at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7

Where: Henry Student Center Ballroom, second floor, 84 West South St., Wilkes-Barre

Tickets: \$75

RSVP: 800-945-5378 ext 7787 by Wednesday

ing professionally, taking a streetcar from Wilkes-Barre to Kingston Corners to solo for \$5 at the former Kingston Methodist Church.

At 83, she's still a soloist, now for First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre.

"She's been quite a leader in the choir," the Rev. Robert Zanicky said. "She's certainly a wonderful personality, very caring and friend-



Helen Ralston, third from left, sang an inspirational 'Climb Every Mountain' as the Mother Abbess in a Wilkes College production of 'The Sound of Music.'

ly, very much a lady. On more than one occasion, when she's sung a solo or duet it's moved me emotionally, almost to tears."

For other people who enjoy hearing Helen Ralston sing, there's no "almost" about it.

Retired college professor Al Groh and his wife, Lampe-Groh,

proved that on a recent afternoon at their Kingston home, when they played a recording of Helen singing "Climb Every Mountain" and let the tears flow.

"It's so beautiful," Lampe-Groh said.

"Magnificent," her husband added.