Near the end of the 19th century Emerson wrote, "Around every circle another can be drawn; that there is no end in nature, but every end is a beginning." On December 2, 2007, the Wesley Community celebrated the achievements of Dr. Scott D. Miller’s ten years as our president with a reception at the Schwartz Center for the Arts. Scott Miller changed this institution in significant ways, and we are very much indebted to him. We now prepare to welcome William N. Johnston as Wesley College’s 16th president. A highly successful administrator at a number of private colleges, Dr. Johnston will bring a rich background in both student life programming and institutional advancement, which will serve Wesley well in the years ahead.

We are in the midst of a self study for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. A team comprised of 45 individuals representing all constituencies (trustees, alumni, faculty, staff, administrators, and students) is at work examining all we do. Regional accreditation (peer review) is designed to strengthen and sustain higher education, making it worthy of public confidence and lessening external control. The Commission’s accreditation standards were developed by consensus among member institutions. These standards identify a college’s mission, goals, and objectives as the focus for all aspects of the accreditation protocol. The mission provides a lens through which all within the college community and the Commission’s evaluation team view each of the 14 standards and apply them to the institution. This is a critical time for private higher education; I believe the process of self-examination can be the best way to provide future direction for the College.

Our Founder’s Day Committee planned events for March 13 to commemorate the College’s 135th anniversary. Wesley’s most distinguished alum, Annie Jump Cannon, provided campus tours that day. Profiles of faculty and staff members who joined Wesley during the 1970s were featured in the Gallery. I was asked to provide the wool plaid sport coat photographed in several yearbooks.

Scholar’s Day was celebrated on April 2. Initiated last year, this event provided an important opportunity for students and faculty from all disciplines of the College to showcase their academic work. The day concluded with a concert by both of our choirs under the leadership of one of our newest (and youngest) faculty members, Jonathan Emmons.

Athletics has long been an important part of campus life, and we continue to celebrate the success of our teams and the opportunities they bring to our students. For the third consecutive year, our football team won the Atlantic Central Football Conference Championship. Recently the team received the Lambert Cup as the top team in Division III East, and for the second year in a row, Coach Drass was named John C. Whitehead Division III Coach of the Year. Spring sports have now begun and all of our coaches are actively recruiting for next year.

Dr. Julie Boozer, who for many years led our nursing department, has accepted our invitation to be the Commencement speaker this spring. Commencement will be held on May 3 at 11:00 a.m. in the Dashiell Amphitheatre.

Much is happening at Wesley; I invite you to visit us!

J. Thomas Sturgis
Interim President, Vice President for Academic Affairs
WE SLEY
A MAGAZINE FOR WESLEY COLLEGE ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Volume XXXVI, No. II

FEATURES

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Three couples found more than just a college education while attending Wesley.

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For Bill ’66 and Skip Willis ’70 working together side by side for 36 years has been a dream come true.

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SAVE-THE-DATE!

ON THE COVER: Campus beauty is springing up all over, as photographed by Leigh Ann Little.

Wesley magazine is looking for talented local alumni writers. This is a great opportunity to share your talent with fellow alumni and friends of Wesley College. It’s also a good way to stay involved with your alma mater and give back. If you live near Dover and would like the chance to have your writing published, please contact Leigh Ann Little, Director of Publications.
John Wesley (1703-1791) is the “Wesley” in Wesley College. His mother Susanna Wesley (1670-1742) was a great influence upon him spiritually and he also shared her reserved, disciplined temperament. Apparently he laid it on a little thick as a young man when he had written her. Her reply was motherly: “... the conclusion of your letter is very kind. That you were ever dutiful I very well know, but I know myself enough to rest satisfied with a moderate share of your affection. Indeed it would be unjust of me to desire the love of anyone. Your prayers I want and wish; nor shall I cease while I live to beseech Almighty God to bless you!...” The mother knew the son very well that she had so carefully raised.

The Wesley College Mission
Wesley College seeks to be a premier institution for helping students gain the knowledge, skills, and moral and ethical attitudes necessary to achieve their personal goals and contribute to the welfare of their communities in the global society. The College endeavors to impart a desire for lifelong learning and an enhanced capacity for critical and creative thinking so that students can reap the rewards of intellectual growth and professional effectiveness.

As a College in a covenant relationship with the United Methodist Church, and founded upon Christian principles, Wesley strives to realize a holistic campus environment of common purpose, caring, tolerance, inclusiveness, responsibility, and service that is the heart of the concept of community.

Wesley, founded in 1873, is a private, co-educational, student-centered college. Located in Dover, Delaware, Wesley is affiliated with the United Methodist Church. More than 5,000 students are enrolled in the College (3,210 annual headcount) and the Wesley Collegiate Institute (1,700 in pre-collegiate programs).
Wesley’s 16th President chosen

DR. WILLIAM N. JOHNSTON, president of Iowa Wesleyan College, Mount Pleasant, IA, since 2002, has been chosen to lead Wesley College as its 16th president. His appointment is effective June 1, 2008.

Dr. J. Thomas Sturgis, Vice President for Academic Affairs, is serving as interim president until Dr. Johnston’s arrival.

Dr. Johnston has guided Iowa Wesleyan to a host of accomplishments academically, financially and through increased enrollment. He brings to Wesley College 34 years of experience as a senior administrator from five private church-related liberal arts colleges in West Virginia, Iowa and Ohio.

On his current campus, he secured a $15 million gift challenge as part of a seven-year institutional strategic plan. This allowed Iowa Wesleyan to move into a $35 million campaign, it increased enrollment 33% and diversified the student body. The percentage of faculty with terminal degrees also increased from 45% to 66%.

“Wesley College is in an outstanding position to address the future needs of higher education and I am thoroughly invested, eager and enthusiastic to work with dedicated alumni, faculty, students, staff, Board members and community partners to propel the College to the next echelon of achievement and academic reputation,” Dr. Johnston said.

Johnston will complete the last two years of the master plan — Wesley College: From Here to 2010 — initiated in 2000 while overseeing community partnerships including the Campus Community Charter School, Barratt’s Chapel and Museum and the College’s co-ownership of the Schwartz Center for the Arts in downtown Dover.

Dr. Johnston succeeds Dr. Scott D. Miller, who has assumed the presidency of Bethany College, Bethany, WV, after a decade of transformation (1997-2007) that saw Wesley’s enrollment triple, over $40 million invested in physical improvements, and an expanded reach in the surrounding community. Johnston’s comprehensive experience in fund raising, enrollment management and student services is a positive portent for Wesley.

The West Virginia Chapter of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives (NSFRE) recognized Dr. Johnston as “Outstanding Executive Fund Raiser” in 1994. Other acknowledgments include membership in Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honorary, Phi Delta Kappa Education honorary, and Phi Beta Lambda, national business leadership fraternity. He also served as assistant dean of students and other student life posts at Ashland University, Ashland, OH (1973-1979).

Johnston earned a Doctor of Education from West Virginia University in 1986, Master of Arts from Bowling Green University of Ohio in 1973 and Bachelor of Arts in psychology from Westminster College in Pennsylvania in 1972. He has completed additional study at Harvard University’s Institute for Educational Management in 1999 and at the Oxford Round Table, St. Anthony’s College, Oxford, England in 2002.

Broadly experienced in higher education nationally, he has served as a peer reviewer for The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities, as a board member of the Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and of the National Association of Schools and Colleges of the United Methodist Church. Current and past professional memberships include the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC), Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU). Johnston is active as a charter and board member of the Southeast Iowa Economic Development Partnership, Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International and former campaign chair for United Way of northern West Virginia.

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Johnston is currently a member of the United Methodist Church of Mount Pleasant, IA. Johnston and his wife, Susan, a former art educator who is active as a professional, are the parents of two grown children, both graduates of private liberal arts colleges.
Wesley College celebrated a milestone birthday this year—135 years to be exact. This special occasion, observed on Founder’s Day March 13, provided an opportunity for the campus community to recognize and celebrate the rich heritage of Wesley College and its progression over time.

Founder’s Day has become a recent tradition on Wesley’s campus. Following a three year cycle of highlighting various decades in Wesley’s past, the 2008 Founder’s Day committee, chaired by Chaplain Dr. Mark Pruett-Barnett, themed this year’s event “Days of Hope: Wesley College, 1974-Present.” The campus committee, made up of faculty, staff and one student representative, showcased the College’s history since the early 1970s and brought together students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members for a lineup of varied activities.

Educating the current students, faculty and staff about Wesley’s past has traditionally been an important ingredient of Founder’s Day. Student interns from the History department contributed to this effort by crafting a timeline of events and visual displays of photos and memorabilia depicting the last 30+ years at Wesley. The exhibit featured archival photos reflecting academic and student life on campus, as well as a variety of student activities. Another display traced the careers of long-time Wesley faculty members, including Dr. Peter Angstadt, Dr. Sue Fox and Professor Lon Fluman, among others, and provided an insightful and amusing look at how much people and styles change (or don’t!) over time. Having had its own share of transformation over the years, Wesley’s mascot was another featured subject. The evolution of the Wesley Wolverine was illustrated with photos spanning from the mid 1970s to today.

Another Founder’s Day activity highlighting Wesley’s past was a historical tour led by a Wesley student actress portraying one of the College’s most famous alumna—Annie Jump Cannon. “Annie” came alive through the impersonation and shared fascinating tidbits about Wesley’s history and areas around campus, including her former home (now the residence of the Wesley President) with fellow students, alumni, and other members of the community on the tour.

“Founder’s Day is a wonderful way for all of the people who are part of the College—students, staff, faculty and alums—to connect to the past and future of the College through the present.”

By Amanda H. Downes ‘06
Since academic excellence has always been at the core of Wesley tradition, the day would not have been complete without the Annual Spring Academic Convocation. During the ceremony at the Schwartz Center, the various College departments recognized outstanding student achievers. An array of scholarships, including several memorial awards made possible by the generosity of alumni and friends, were presented to deserving students, and the Alumni Association named the recipients of its annual scholarship program. Following the ceremony, members of the campus community, alumni and friends of the College gathered for a reception to celebrate the success of all the honorees and commemorate the College’s milestone year with a Wesley birthday cake.

A retro-inspired evening bash marked the capstone of Founder’s Day. With a nod to the 70s, 80s and 90s decades featured at this year’s celebration, “Retro Night” attracted a multi-generational audience of students, faculty, staff and alumni with live music, a graffiti wall and an assortment of other activities. A local band, “Dr. Gibson’s Double Negatives,” comprised of a Wesley faculty member, Wesley faculty spouse and two Wesley students, entertained the crowd with a song list ranging from Creedence Clearwater Revival to The Cure. In between sets, a DJ spun modern tunes to round out the musical entertainment.

Participants also enjoyed playing games at the arcade station, such as pinball and driving machines, and the newest sensation – Guitar Hero.

Summing up the significance of the event, committee chair and College Chaplain Dr. Mark Pruett-Barnett remarked, “Founder’s Day is a wonderful way for all of the people who are part of the College – students, staff, faculty and alums – to connect to the past and future of the College through the present.”

It appears that this campus tradition, building on the success of previous celebrations each year and like the College’s history itself, will successfully endure the test of time.
In the fall of 2003, Wesley accepted a new set of students to its already flourishing student body. These students were not typical; they were part of the new Charlton/Wesley Transition Partnership Program (TPP) between the Caesar Rodney School District and Wesley College. At its inception, the program’s participants were 11 Charlton students. The TPP was designed to allow 18-21 year old students with developmental delays to learn in a setting typical for their age group, providing access to the college environment.

The TPP enables cognitively challenged students with Autism and/or mental retardation (MR) to experience as much of the college life as possible, including friendships, classes, and work. Currently, the program has 13 students, two teachers, and three paraprofessionals. They are located on the basement floor of Carpenter Hall, in a classroom complete with a kitchen and living room.

At its inception, the program’s participants were 11 Charlton students. The TPP was designed to allow 18-21 year old students with developmental delays to learn in a setting typical for their age group, providing access to the college environment.

Wesley alumna Lynn Knable ’67 is the Autism teacher for the TPP. “The biggest and most important discoveries students need to make is how to effectively relate to others,” says Knable. She describes some of the common issues with autistic students as being emotional detachment, little or no verbal communication, and moderate to severe mental retardation. “The TPP is the last stop before students go into the real world. We are trying to help them have all the pieces in place they’ll need in order to navigate systems that are in place for them,” she continues, “we want them to have marketable skills that enable them to be employed competitively.”

To achieve this goal, the program consists of a daily curriculum, including volunteering to gain job experience either in the morning or afternoon, and engaging in activities prescribed by students’ Individualized Education Program (IEP), which are prepared by their teachers, family, school administrators, support staff, and social service agents. Along with working together at job sites, the students take at least one trip per week into the community. Whether it is to the Dover Public Library, Spence’s Bazaar, or Wal-Mart, they use these trips to exercise their social and independent skills.

Jeanne Zimmerman, the MR teacher for the TPP, says, “Independence is the thing we are trying to achieve the most.” She describes how some students, because of their time in this program, were able to get a job, live on their own, and be independent from others. Along with independence, Zimmerman says it is important that the students learn self-determination and have the ability to ask for help if they need it, regardless of where they are. Like Knable’s students, Zimmerman’s students work at job sites, take trips into the community and learn social skills within the program, enabling them to prepare for life.
Both teachers agree that one of the best aspects of the program’s location at Wesley is that it allows for a “Buddy” program with Wesley students. Beginning in 2003, this arrangement provides an opportunity for Wesley’s education students to work with the Charlton students on functional academic goals, while physical education “Buddies” help the Charlton students meet their fitness and sports-related goals.

“Very few Wesley students have been directly involved with mentally handicapped students, and this is a good opportunity for them to get experience and become more open and receptive to our students,” Knable says.

“A lot of Wesley students are nervous at first; they have never been exposed to these [cognitively challenged] students. It’s neat to see the transition once they begin to understand our students,” says Zimmerman.

She continues, “Now with inclusion in all school levels, the Wesley students [when becoming teachers] will remember their experience instead of having a negative outlook if they have students with mental handicaps in their classrooms.”

As role models and friends, Wesley students help the Charlton students by improving social skills. Zimmerman recalls that some students from 2003 still stop by to see their old “Buddy” and check on how they are doing. “The program allows my students to develop a sense of companionship with peers at the College,” Zimmerman says.

The program is moving into its fifth year at Wesley, and both teachers feel that it will continue to progress. “We want to build strength to give them the best possible chance for success,” Knable says.

“In the end, we want them to be independent, have the ability to make good decisions on their own and follow through with them,” Zimmerman says.

Both teachers feel grateful to Wesley for the opportunity to give their students the type of training and learning environment they need to become independent citizens. They agree that Wesley has provided a home to their program which will hopefully allow more and more of their students to be able to fulfill their dreams.
“Your years at Wesley have bridged your successful journey from adolescence to adulthood,” Wesley President Emeritus Scott D. Miller told 130 winter graduates of the College at the December 2007 Commencement ceremony.

Noting that some 4,000 men and women have walked across the stage at Wesley Commencement exercises since he assumed the presidency in 1997, Dr. Miller added, “While all Wesley Commencements have been special to me, this will be among the most meaningful, because it will be my last as president of the College.” He assumed the presidency of Bethany College of West Virginia in January of this year.

Principal speaker David G. Bakerian, a leader in the statewide banking community, then addressed the graduates, families, faculty and friends. Bakerian, who has been president, chief executive officer and treasurer of the Delaware Bankers Association since 2003, also enjoys long-time ties to Wesley College—serving as assistant academic dean and director of continuing education at Wesley from 1981-1983. In addition, he has served on the American Bankers Association Professional Development Council, the Stonier Graduate School Board of Directors and a variety of other professional educational boards since 1976.

Bakerian delivered a lighthearted speech to the graduates, injecting humor along with some sound advice. Citing statistics from the National Bureau of Labor that bachelor’s and master’s degree graduates earn, on average, $50,394 and $60,514, respectively (about 3 times more than a person without a high school diploma), he pointed out that educated individuals not only earn more, but also are found to maintain better health, make better personal financial decisions and are better equipped to function in our diverse society. Bakerian joked, “That’s why your parents, grandparents, and children have been pushing you – a higher degree means more money and yes, better Christmas presents for them!”

Bakerian encouraged graduates to invest in lifelong learning, stating that it is the only way to compete in society today. He imparted wisdom from his own experience as a non-traditional student, when he attended the University of Pennsylvania at night for 10 years, but never completed his dissertation because of a growing family and job demands. He noted, “Although some may say I failed to accomplish the goal of getting my PhD, I say my goal was to educate myself, and I did. As Winston Churchill once said, ‘Success is the ability to go from one failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm.’ So, don’t let failure slow you down. Persevere and face it enthusiastically!”

President Emeritus Miller concluded by congratulating graduates and presenting a charge: “Today, we are sending out the very best. We are proud of you. We will continue to take pride in you, for you are forever a part of Wesley College, a lifetime experience.”
“Today, we are sending out the very best. We are proud of you. We will continue to take pride in you, for you are forever a part of Wesley College, a lifetime experience.”
Phantastic!
Special Appearance by New President Johnston

Back by popular demand, the alumni event at the Philadelphia Phantoms ice-hockey game on March 16 drew a large crowd of enthusiastic Wesley graduates for the second year in a row. This year’s event was made particularly special with an impromptu visit by incoming Wesley President Dr. William N. Johnston. Officially beginning his presidency at the College on June 1, Dr. Johnston was eager for the opportunity to get a jump start on meeting his new constituents and getting to know some Wesley alumni from the Wilmington/Philadelphia region.

Filling a large luxury suite at Wachovia Spectrum, Wesley alumni, along with Dr. Johnston and several College staff members, socialized and enjoyed snacks and pre-game fare. With a perfect view of the rink from club box seating, the group took in the exciting action on the ice, with the Phantoms beating out the Portland Pirates 2 – 1.

In addition to the Phantoms win, the Wesley event was full of excitement. The game coincided with the 12th birthday celebration of team mascot, “Phlex,” so Philadelphia’s youngest fans were treated to special surprises and appearances by other famous mascots. Also, Phantom goodies were given out to all who attended the Wesley event. Above all, alumni were excited to meet the College’s 16th president.

Attendee Anne Buckler ’62, a member of Wesley’s Alumni Board of Directors, remarked, “We were delighted to have the opportunity to meet Dr. Johnston and we look forward to meeting Mrs. Johnston as well. Dr. Johnston was very easy to chat with, very personable and down to earth. We told him we were happy to be of help in supporting his vision and goals to advance Wesley College.”

As Dr. Johnston’s appearance at the alumni event could be considered a harbinger of things to come, he expects to be actively involved in activities with Wesley’s alumni and hopes to meet more and more graduates at future events. Describing the role that alumni play at the College, Dr. Johnston said, “Alumni are the thread to our institutional heritage and to the future of Wesley College. I look forward to meeting and working with all alumni as we continue to enhance and strengthen this worthy institution.”

To learn about upcoming alumni events and activities and stay connected with Wesley and your fellow alumni, please visit the We Are Wesley online community at www.weare.wesley.edu. Additional photos from the Phantoms game event can be found on the online photo album at www.weare.wesley.edu/phantomsphotos
Faculty Accomplishments

Dr. Mike Nielsen, chair of the Media Arts department, has recently completed Auctioning the Future, a video documentary on the financial plight of residents living in manufactured housing in Delaware.

Representatives of the Delaware Manufactured Home Owners Association (DMHOA) contacted Dr. Nielsen in October 2007 to create a persuasive video advocating new state laws regarding manufactured housing communities. Residents of these communities own their homes but do not own the land on which they are located. Ground rents have been escalating well beyond the cost of living index, particularly in Sussex County.

“I have made a lot of videos in the past twenty years here in Delaware, but this project was by far the most satisfying,” notes Dr. Nielsen. “The people I worked with were actively engaged in community organizing and collective action. They were, politically, all over the red/blue map. It was heartening to work with citizens of different backgrounds united for a common cause.”

DMHOA intends to share this video with members of the Delaware legislature to help the state representatives understand the issues surrounding the sale of these communities and the effects of ground rent increases on people living on fixed income. In the end, DMHOA hopes to have new laws passed that will strengthen the rights of the residents living in these manufactured home communities.

An article written by Dr. Jack Barnhardt, assistant professor of Psychology, has recently been accepted for publication in the journal Neuropsychologia. Entitled “Perceptual Load Affects Spatial and Nonspatial Visual Selection Processes: An Event-Related Brain Potential Study,” the article is a research report of a study conducted by Dr. Barnhardt, along with collaborators Dr. Walter Ritter from The Nathan S. Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research and Dr. Hilary Gomes from The City College of New York, CUNY.

Internationally known, Neuropsychologia is an interdisciplinary journal dedicated to studies that explore the links between neural activity in the brain and cognitive functionality and behavior.

Dr. Lucille Gambardella, chair of the Nursing department, served as a keynote speaker at the National League of Nursing (NLN) conference on Leadership in Nursing Education in January at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. The topic of the presentation was “Navigating the World of Academe: Follow the Yellow Brick Road.” The conference was attended by nursing faculty from across the United States.

The NLN currently has over 20,000 individual members and 1,100 institutional members. It offers faculty development programs, networking opportunities, testing and assessment, nursing research grants and public policy initiatives to its members.

Gambardella also has been named to the advisory board of Chamberlain College of Nursing. Chamberlain College has multiple campus sites across the country and offers associate and baccalaureate programs in nursing, both on site and online.

“The people I worked with were actively engaged in community organizing and collective action. They were, politically, all over the red/blue map. It was heartening to work with citizens of different backgrounds united for a common cause.”
HIGHLIGHTS

STUDYING ABROAD

Justin Goodarz in Australia

It’s 6 a.m. on Wednesday and I am up and packing to go surfing. I leave my 4 bedroom apartment where I live with three roommates – two from Australia and one from Egypt. Our apartment is conveniently located to campus (a 10 minute walk) and the beach (a 10 minute drive), easily allowing for surfing trips before classes.

My friend Troy is a local here on the Sunshine Coast and has offered to take me and my two other friends around the local breaks to score some good waves. We arrive at a place called Platforms where the waves are firing. It is 4-foot Australian, which equals 7-foot back in the states. Offshore winds are creating epic conditions. Platforms is a rock reef that breaks 100-feet out from massive rocks in only 4-feet of water. It is a very critical wave to catch because falling here means inevitably hitting the rocks, which are covered in barnacles and can easily cut. Troy and I paddle out, where we score some epic barrels and a couple nice dings in our boards.

We leave around 10:30 a.m. to get ready for our 12 o’clock class. On the way, we see a family of kangaroos only about 20 feet away. Although fascinating animals, they are so common here that the thrill of seeing them has already worn off slightly. In fact, I ate kangaroo steak the night before. Interestingly enough, Australians do not eat kangaroo; but I loved it!

During my time here, I have observed the differences and similarities between life in Australia and the United States. Australians drive on the opposite side of the road. Their food is different; for instance, they eat bacon in everything! One major difference between the cultures is that it is a necessity for Australians to vote when they turn eighteen. Politics is a frequent conversational topic and all Australians are very knowledgeable about their government as well as ours.

Despite the vast geographical distance between countries, the Australian lifestyle is not as different from the American lifestyle as I expected. Aussies are very down-to-earth and very relaxed people and they seem to enjoy their leisure time, particularly two favorite activities - surfing and rugby. I have found the Aussies to be very approachable and it has been easy for me to meet people here.

The campus where I attend school is about double the size of Wesley’s, but very modern in appearance. I have enjoyed my experiences in the classroom and all the professors are very caring and enthusiastic about teaching and helping us learn. Surprisingly, I have one professor from New Jersey - only 30 minutes from my hometown.

After finishing my classes for the day, I arrive around 4:15 p.m. back to my apartment. After a 5 on 5 beach volleyball game with some friends, we discuss our surf trip this weekend and our upcoming spring break, during which we will drive all the way down the coast, hitting surf spots along the way. My Aussie friend Troy and a couple of his friends know of a secret surf spot about 2 hours south, which is only accessible by driving off the road and on the beach. Once we are there, we plan to camp out for two nights and enjoy the outdoors.

I feel very fortunate to have had this opportunity in Australia, and I look forward to the rest of my time here and more experiences to come.

Christie O’Brien in Rome, Italy

Every morning when waking up, I am overwhelmed with the excitement that I’m actually here. As I get myself ready for the day, I can only imagine that great things are to come. Before leaving for class, I open the windows to bring in the laundry off the clothesline. As I open the window, a delicious aroma of baked croissants rushes into the room. My Italian neighbors wave from across the courtyard yelling, “buon giorno” or “good morning” in Italian.

As I leave my cozy apartment in Testaccio, a small section of Rome, I turn on my iPod to give my journey some theme music. The walk to the John Cabot University campus is anything but ordinary. While walking along the Tiber River, I see the beautiful St. Peter’s Basilica in the distance. It is amazing to know that I live just minutes away from Pope Benedict XVI. As I pass by dozens of charming cafés, ancient ruins, and gorgeous churches, I try to stay alert to where I am walking. Miniature smart cars and mopeds constantly zoom by on the cobblestone roads.

Before heading into class, I stop at Settimiano Café for some breakfast. As I enter, I am always greeted with a warm “ciao bella” from the clerk Alessandro. After correcting my pronunciation of the word orange juice, he serves me a croissant, juice, and cappuccino. The foam of the cappuccino always has a heart shaped on top.

After finishing my breakfast, I head up the street to class. My professors are from Italy, London, and Ireland. My classmates are also from around the world. I love the opportunity to be exposed to so many different cultures at once, especially in the classroom. Here, we share different backgrounds, stories, and opinions on various topics.

After class, I meet up with some friends for lunch at Zio Ciro’s Café. Just up the street from JCU in the heart of Trastevere, this charming little restaurant serves delicious authentic Italian dishes.
When it’s sunny, we usually get a table outside on the sidewalk. As we raise our glasses, our adorable waiter/aspiring model, Dario, comes over to tell us the day’s meal specials. With a charming Italian accent, he does his best to explain them to us in English. While enjoying our savory meals, we discuss weekend plans to visit Paris, day trips around Italy, as well as spring break in Barcelona.

After lunch, my two Texan roommates and I stroll around the magnificent city of Rome, taking advantage of all it has to offer. We usually stop in some of the various boutiques, people watch on the Spanish steps, and eat a cone of Nutella flavored gelato. As the day goes on, we take dozens of pictures, record videos, and never stop laughing.

On the way back to our apartment, we usually ride the city bus. We pile into the packed vehicle with the rest of the Romans, and hold on for our dear lives as the bus travels through the hectic city streets. When arriving back at our apartment, we try our hand at cooking an Italian dinner. This usually includes a bottle of white wine, bruschetta, salad, and chicken over pesto pasta.

After dinner, it is time to get dolled up and ready for the Roman nightlife. We usually meet up at a friend’s apartment before heading to the club, or as the Italians call them-discotecas. Walking in high heels on the cobblestone streets to the disco is a very dangerous task for the females, especially a klutz like me. One of our favorite spots is Art Café.

As we leave the disco in the early morning, the sun is just about to rise. The taxi ride back to our apartment is possibly the most exciting part of the night. With a pink and orange sunrise in the background, we drive by the breathtaking Coliseum and Arc of Constantine. Even though I live just blocks away from these captivating sites and see them quite often, they still seem to amaze me every time.

Choosing to study abroad in Italy may have been one of the best decisions that I have ever made. Every day I am exposed to different people, cultures, languages, and opportunities. I get the chance to learn more about the world around me and also more about myself. My short stay in this wonderful place has also helped me to grow as an individual. My desire to travel the world is stronger than ever before. Leaving this romantic city in May is not going to be easy. I will never forget this gratifying experience, and forever, my heart will be in Rome.

Rebecca Warrington in Belfast, Ireland
Living in Belfast, Ireland has been an eye-opener thus far. People in Northern Ireland enjoy their day in a laid back fashion compared to the hustle and bustle life that Americans carry out. Schools, offices, and shops begin their day at 9 a.m. Office workers put in eight hours and are finished by 5, and large restaurants, pubs, and clubs are the only places you can find open after 8 p.m. People living in Northern Ireland are unconscious of time and are carefree if they are five minutes late to an appointment or meeting. It is also not unusual to stop two or three times a day for a tea break. As an American who has lived the hustle and bustle life, I have learned to slow down and enjoy the day and life in front of me.

There are many other unique elements of the Irish way of life that I have experienced during my stay here. Everyone I have met so far from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland is truly genuine. No one hesitates to extend some form of hospitality or offer assistance. Settling into a new place and new lifestyle was very easy with the atmosphere here. One particularly unusual aspect of the environment is the weather. People here say that you can see all four seasons in one day and I have seen that come true on many occasions. It rains almost daily and can be windy at times. The air is moist and chilly. However, the poor weather does not prevent people from walking to and from places. Walking is a prevalent means of transportation here, but there is a bus system and several taxi companies that also are used heavily. Petrol is expensive so many Irish choose not to drive, and those who do, drive economical cars. Conserving and protecting the environment is stressed greatly. Grocery bags are charged with the intent that they will be reused. Recycle bins can be found up and down the streets and many products purchased are made out of recycled materials. Lights in the buildings have sensors; they remain off until someone walks down the hall.

The purpose of my stay in Ireland is to complete my student teaching at Corpus Christi College, a Catholic all-boys secondary school in Belfast, where I teach four different math classes. Students are classified by years in school instead of grades. Standardized tests have great importance here; one of my math classes is preparing to take the GCSE tests in March, and it has put a great deal of stress on the classroom teacher and students. This test determines what level school the students will attend after Year 12, and scores are also a critical factor for employers when hiring.

In addition to my teaching duties, I also am studying at Stranmillis University College, a teacher-training college of Queen’s University. The student population at Stranmillis is similar to Wesley but the campus is large and spread out. All rooms are singles and I live on a flat with nine other girls, all first year Stranmillis students. Studying at Stranmillis with me this semester are a number of other international students from a variety of countries, such as Hong Kong, Sweden, Spain, Turkey and Uganda. Not only am I learning about the culture of Ireland and the United Kingdom, but I have learned a great deal from the other international students as well.

Studying in Belfast has truly been an experience for which I am grateful. I have made friends that I will keep for a lifetime. In addition, the education I have received is one that I will value and share with others.
Three couples found more than just a college education while attending Wesley. 

Wesley is for Sweetharts

By Elise Marie Knable '09
“A POSITIVE COLLEGE ATMOSPHERE AND A GOOD MENTOR ARE ESSENTIAL TO BALANCING COLLEGE LIFE AND ROMANCE.”

SHERRY ARNDT ’90 first thought CHANDLER GREENE ’92 was very obnoxious and had a bad temper after seeing him lose a game of tennis in their gym class. Between class and often seeing each other on and off campus, Chandler eventually decided to ask Sherry out in 1987, and their relationship blossomed from there.

Chandler was President of Phi Kappa Sigma, which gave the couple the opportunity to participate in a lot of social activities through his fraternity. They each had their own apartments and worked at Smither’s, a restaurant and tavern in downtown Dover, which they often frequented as customers when they weren’t working. Chandler also ran a sound system for a band, so Sherry would travel with him when he was on the road.

The couple found a mentor in Dr. Tom Sturgis, a professor at the time. “Finding a mentor like Dr. Sturgis helps to keep you on track and create a positive atmosphere in school.” They credit his influence for helping to keep them focused academically.

Although a couple at Wesley, Sherry stressed the importance of still having personal lives of their own. “Be individuals, and do your own thing. Sometimes you get caught up with each other and end up fighting and that can ruin the college experience.” They both had separate circles of friends with whom they socialized. They each juggled school and work, and still managed to leave time to spend with each other.

During Sherry’s senior year, they split up for a semester, but eventually got back together before she graduated. After graduating, Sherry moved home, but then returned to Delaware when Chandler proposed to her during his senior year. They were married the following summer at Christ Church in Dover. Maintaining their strong work ethics, Chandler and Sherry worked two or three jobs after they were married to build a foundation. They advise, “Wait and get yourselves organized before starting a family.”

Staying in Delaware after college, the couple had no family nearby, but they remained close with Dr. Sturgis and he became a second family to them. Sherry also has kept in touch with her childhood friend and fellow Wesley alumna Michelle Albed ’90, with whom she grew up in Devon, PA.

The couple waits eleven years before starting their own family, and now they have a five year old son, Landon Baker Greene. When Chandler is not traveling with his job, the family enjoys quality time together and likes to travel to Florida and the Caribbean when they can.

Sherry is a stay at home mom and Chandler works for a consulting company and partners with a builder in Rehoboth Beach, DE where they reside. Chandler was a founding partner of an automotive consulting firm of which he currently remains Vice President of Sales and Marketing. He also is involved in the development of residential property at the beach, has new ties with a company that builds custom scale replicas of yachts from around the world and serves as a trustee for the Children’s Beach House with Tom Sturgis, who is Board President. He ardently credits his entrepreneurial spirit to one of his business professors at Wesley – Dick Murchison.

In addition to their advice to find a mentor while in school, the Greenes also urge current students to recognize the balancing act that college life requires. Sherry points out, “You are there to have fun, but you are there for school too.” ♡
Little did freshman Barbara CornoG ‘52 know, as her mother and younger sister helped unload her things at Wesley College in 1950, that she would meet her lifetime companion. Barbara laughs as she recalls, “My mother pointed at a very large boy coming from the dorm as we were unpacking and said, ‘look at that fat guy coming out!’” Barbara noted to her mother that it would be her luck to get stuck with him.

Robert “Bob” Smyth ‘52, the “fat guy” who was the unfortunate butt of their joke, now 100 lbs lighter, agrees that he was heavy in school, but also turned out to be the lucky guy who “got stuck” with her.

Reminiscing, the couple notes that Wesley was a small school, with only about 80 students at the time, which created a cohesive atmosphere where everyone knew everyone. Students were only allowed to go home on weekends once a month, and that was only if they had permission from their parents. This allowed for many activities that Barbara and Bob participated in together.

They both had work scholarships in the cafeteria, and sang in two choirs together, one with Professor Lewis Wells, and one with Professor Margaret Story. Since the school athletic teams were small, the young couple got to spend time together on the “rickety old athletics bus,” Barbara says. Another chance for them to interact was through the Student Christian Association, an organization which dominated on the small campus.

Bob said, “None of the things that were on campus when we were here are here now.” They reminisce about a bunker wall that used to stand where the circle on Fulton Street begins, and how it was the gathering place for the small student body. The only other places were the two dorms, one for men and one for women.

The Smyths laugh at their memories of the Dean of Students at that time, Anne Stewart, who would wait at the bottom of the men’s dorm at exactly 9:30 p.m. to tell the couples who were saying their last goodbyes of the night, “Gentlemen, I believe it’s time to leave” The students’ curfew at the time was 10:00 p.m., which they agree was reasonable for that decade.

They remember walking down to Spence’s Bazaar to get pretzels and cheese. The couple describes saving their money to dine at the Dinner Bell, a nice restaurant off of Loockerman Street where couples would often go. One important aspect of Wesley that they recall is the togetherness of the student body. When there was a dance, everyone helped set up, and then ran back to the dorms to get ready and go back for the dance. “Because it was such a small school, everyone was intermingling wherever they were,” Bob recalls, “Mostly everyone got along.”

The Smyths didn’t stay together once they headed off to separate schools to complete their education. Barbara went to Towson State, and Bob attended West Virginia Wesleyan. Fate was in store for them down the road when Bob called up Barbara to “just see a movie,” and from then on they were together.

After reuniting, the Smyths started a family and had three children. Now, they have twelve grandchildren, with all of the family living within eighteen miles of each other in New Jersey. Although retired, the Smyths have found many things to keep them busy. They travel extensively, and have been active in mission work through their church. Mission trips have included traveling to Oklahoma to work with the Cherokee Indians, a trip to Alaska where they helped construct a new Methodist Church, and yearly visits to Maine over the past decade, during which they have helped prepare a Methodist camp by building stores, cabins and a church. They have also visited England, Germany, India and Holland, among other countries overseas. In addition, the Smyths still sing in two choirs together, and enjoy keeping in touch with a few of their friends from Wesley.

Parting on a note to fellow readers, the Smyths advise, “Stay interested in the College; read the magazine to help you stay connected with the school and friends.” Bob added, “If you have occasion to come to an alumni day [event], it’s the most educational thing you can do,” allowing alumni to stay up to date with their old alma mater, as the Smyths have done.
While playing volleyball in the gym one Saturday night, **JOHN MCNEMAR ’69** reflexively smacked **DONNA PARRIS ’70** on the behind and told her “good serve” after she hit a serve over the net for their team. Relieved that Donna didn’t hit the ball into the net, John was unaware that Donna would later describe that as “the moment.”

At a dance in April 1969, John was sitting on the bleachers talking to a group of girls, one of whom was Donna. His attention was on a different girl, in hopes that he would have the chance to ask her to dance. After sitting there for a while, it ended up that John and Donna were left talking and getting to know each other.

Although having “nothing in common at Wesley, not even the same religion,” Donna notes that they went on their first date to the Capitol Theater to see West Side Story. They also enjoyed taking walks around Silver Lake in Dover. John bought a Wesley pin for Donna, and was told by his friend Jackie Baylor ’69 that this pin meant they were pre-engaged. “At first I thought ‘uh-oh, what did I do?’” John’s mind quickly changed, and he said it turned out to be the best thing ever. “We were engaged February 14, 1970 and married on August 7, 1971.”

While at Wesley, John participated in sports as the team manager for Jim Wentworth’s basketball team, witnessing their win at the Tri-State conference tournament, among other achievements. He feels that without that opportunity as manager, he wouldn’t have been able to experience all the great things he saw while a part of the team, and passes that onto Wesley students now as a piece of advice.

Along with other Wesley students, John and Donna often spent free time at the snack bar, which was, as they say, “definitely the place to hang out,” along with the steps in front of Budd and Dulany Hall. While much of their time at Wesley was spent with one another, they comment, “Enjoy your time together but remember you’re there for the education. That should come first.” John said that as a student, one should take a lot of pictures because they are fun to share with your classmates 40 years later.

The couple keeps in touch with many alumni from their days at Wesley. John says his involvement in sports allowed him to form many lifetime friendships. “It’s great to remain friends with guys like Dave Maxwell ’69, Jerry Kobasa ’69, Rich Bradley ’70, Bob Dutch ’69, Coach Jim Wentworth, Coach Bob Andrus, and Coach Jack Fisher and listen to the stories they tell.” Donna keeps in touch with fellow alumna and former roommate Lynn Tomanio Meeker ’70.

“Enjoy your time together but remember you’re there for the education. That should come first.”

The couple currently resides in Lewes, DE, where John is the controller at Beebe Medical Center. Donna enjoys genealogy research. She also buys and sells antiques and volunteers at Beebe Treasure Chest. They have three grown children, one of which has the middle name of Wesley due to strong ties to their alma mater. “We both feel we were led to Wesley for a reason; it was part of our life’s plan.” In addition to their three children, the McNemars have three grandchildren, all living within the tri-state area.
Bill ‘66 and Skip Willis ‘70 started working as nine-year-olds washing cars at their father’s Smyrna, DE, automobile dealership during summer vacations. Today, that single dealership has grown to three in Smyrna and Middletown, and the family business is in its third generation.

“We’ve been truly blessed to be working as brothers, side by side, for 36 years,” Skip says.

Now a member of the Wesley Board of Trustees Executive Committee and chair of its Finance Committee, Skip has served on the Board for the past eight years during the College’s successful capital campaign.

Nearly 42 years after Bill’s graduation from Wesley, the two also continue to partner on individual and corporate support for their shared alma mater, Wesley College. Thanks to their generosity, Wolverine basketball teams enjoy a restored floor in Wentworth Gymnasium. The brothers, both of whom earned associate degrees in business from Wesley College and went on to earn baccalaureate degrees from West Virginia Wesleyan, are also avid supporters of the annual golf tournament — both as sponsors and as players — and of numerous scholarship funds.

“We’ve been truly blessed to be working as brothers, side by side, for 36 years.”

“The Wesley years were good, formative years,” Skip adds.

The eldest of three brothers (the youngest, Rich, owns car dealerships in Des Moines, IA), Bill paved the way for Skip at Wesley, playing 3rd base both years as well as at West Virginia Wesleyan and participating in the drama/glee club. Skip played 2nd base in his sophomore year at Wesley.

“Originally, I had not planned to attend college, but my Dad said that if I paid for the first semester, he would reimburse me so I could attend the next, and so on,” Bill recalls. Using the money he had planned to use for the purchase of a 1964 Corvette, he enrolled at the Dover campus. Skip later received and accepted the same offer, though, he notes, “I’m not sure I ever got paid for that last semester.”

Although students were not permitted to bring cars to campus in those days, Bill remembers that he did receive permission from the dean to drive a Ford station wagon to the grounds to promote an upcoming student play “The Silver Whistle,” provided that it was not moved once in place. Students painted the car silver, mounting a cardboard whistle on top. However, a fellow student “borrowed” the car without Bill’s knowledge one Saturday night, returning it to him in the same spot on Sunday morning. Out of town that weekend, Bill never even realized that it had been moved from its original spot. Noting the car parked in front of a local restaurant on Saturday night, however, the dean called Bill to his office but “let me off with a reprimand.”

“Skip would never have gotten caught,” he jokes.

After graduating from West Virginia Wesleyan in 1972, Skip went immediately into the family business, while Bill joined in 1970 after completing a two-year stint in the Army. Together, they purchased the dealership from their father. Today, Bill’s son Isaac manages the Willis Chevrolet, Buick and Pontiac dealership in Smyrna, while son Lincoln is general manager of Willis Chevrolet in Middletown, DE. Together, the three dealerships employ 140.

“We just try to stay out of the way,” they chuckle.

“Wesley College today is awesome. With its new facilities, academic programs and community partnerships, it is a vital, healthy campus,” they agree.

Although Bill did not buy the Corvette, he is happy he made the Wesley choice instead. “Dad said that Wesley would help me grow up, and he was right.”
1957
Marion F. Kent wrote in after seeing the ‘57 Chevy Convertible from Wesley College’s 2007 Homecoming pictures and said “it brought back some great memories.” This is the same car he owned while attending Wesley in the 1950s. Marion retired from The Jones Company of Waycross Georgia in 1998 as District Supervisor of Convenience Stores in Florida and Georgia. He has survived eight heart attacks and one quadruple bypass surgery. Marion's wife Wanda is doing well, as are his three sons who work as timeshare salesmen.

1960
Ted Simpler and wife Marilyn (Hopen) Simpler hosted a small reunion of classmates at their Fenwick Island, DE home. In attendance were Bruce McNally and wife Virginia “Ginni” (Grabinski) McNally and William “Bill” McNamee and his wife Barbara (Swenk) McNamee. The group, all from the class of 1960, spent a few days together at the Simplers’ home and had a great time.

1966
Mary Beth (Potcner) DiEleonora and Diane (Virtue) Morton finally got together for lunch at Mary Beth’s home after 32 years. They had a wonderful time together and realized how much they still have in common! Mary Beth and Diane plan to get together again soon, but are wondering where are Carol, Donna, Beth, Mary Lou, and Sukie? Please go to www.weare.wesley.edu and get in touch with them so the next time all the girls can get together again!

1976
Martha (Guender) Dalton and Karen (Kearns) Simpson brought in the New Year together at JB Dawson’s restaurant in Plymouth Meeting, PA. Martha and Karen had not seen each other in almost 20 years, and enjoyed talking about the “good old days at Wesley and Carpenter Hall.” Martha is living with her husband Frank in Blue Bell, PA and working for an IT Consulting Services Company - Strategic Staffing Solutions - as the Philadelphia Branch Manager. Martha can be reached at FND-MAD@comcast.net. Karen is retired and living with her husband, Bill, in Destin, FL and can be reached at bksimpson@cox.net

1977
Mary Beth (Close) Reardon, Sally (Maietta) Goeb, and Janice (Santaniello) Deakyne, all from the Class of 1977, recently got together at Sally’s home in New Egypt, NJ to reminisce about the “good old days at Wesley.”

1991
William “Bill” Neafsey and his wife, Lisa, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Molly Catherine, on August 16, 2007. Molly joins big brother Brendan, age 3. Bill is a homicide prosecutor with the Essex County Prosecutor’s Office in Newark, NJ.

1992
Dr. Rochelle (Davis) Delain and her husband, Ronald, are proud to announce the birth of their son, Isaiah Nathaniel Delain. He was born April 17, 2007 and was 7 lbs., 12 oz. Rochelle is a Doctor of Chiropractic and resides in Inman, SC. She can be contacted at delainrj7@att.net
1993

Melissa "Missy" Wagner and husband Chris are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Cameron Wagner, born August 18, 2007. Cameron has a big sister, Lily, who is 4 years old. Missy is still residing in the Dover area and can be reached at missy@burke-equipment.com

1994

In August 2007, six Wesley science graduates and their families gathered in the Outer Banks of North Carolina for a week of summer fun, catching up on old times, and lots of laughter! In attendance were graduates Neil Chandler, Jen (Wooleyhan) Goff, Bill Gares ’96, Deirdre “Dee” (Burke) Rothery, Patricia “Patty” (Buckley) Murray ’96, and Kevin Yingling ’96.

2000

Jeremy Seilheimer recently got married to Stacey Leigh Welch of Felton, DE in a Father’s Day ceremony at the Dover Methodist Church. His best man was his college roommate and Wolverine football teammate, Shawn Dunn. The couple resides in Dover. Jeremy is employed as a physical education teacher at the W.T. Chipman Middle School in the Lake Forest School District and wife Stacey is an elementary school reading specialist in the same district. Jeremy is also the head coach of the 7th and 8th grade football team at W.T. Chipman. The Spartans completed the 2007 season with an undefeated record of 7-0. The team posted four shutouts and outscored opponents by an average of 36 points per game. Jeremy Robinson ’05 and John Leach ’02 serve as assistant coaches alongside Jeremy for the W.T. Chipman Spartans. Details about the team’s season can be found at www.chipmanfootball.com

Robert Gebhardt ’00 and Kelli Geary ’02 announce their recent engagement. Kelli is from Livingston, NJ and majored in Education and Robert is from Jefferson Twp, NJ and majored in Sports Training. They reside together in Parsippany, NJ and are planning a June 2008 wedding.

1995

Christina “Chrissy” (Slusser) Wetzel and husband Allen welcomed their third son, Trent Franklin, on April 3, 2007. Trent joins two big brothers - Tanner (4) and Tyler (2). The Wetzel family will be relocating to Hughesville, PA in the near future where Allen is a family physician. They can be reached by email at thewetzfam@comcast.net

2001

Paige (Lozoskie) Hughes ’01 and husband Justin Hughes ’02 proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Eleanor Elaine Hughes. Ellie was born on May 4, 2007. She was 7 lbs., 4 oz and 203/4 inches long.

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Eleanor Elaine Hughes

2001

Paige (Lozoskie) Hughes ’01 and husband Justin Hughes ’02 proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Eleanor Elaine Hughes. Ellie was born on May 4, 2007. She was 7 lbs., 4 oz and 203/4 inches long.
Nicole Carroll and Alexander Wixted

Nicole Carroll recently married Alexander Wixted at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Camden, NJ with a reception at the Ballroom at the Ben in Philadelphia, PA. The bridal party included Wesley friends Lisa (Ferraro) Thomas, Jamie (Benefield) Tucker, Jackelyn Cohen ’03, Holly (Rhodes) Willey ’00, Shanna (Maderich) Hoffman ’98, Anne (Polulak) Stasik and Jennifer (Larkin) Daniels. In attendance were Professor Flora Hessling and many Wesley alumni: Tara (Lomicky) Cullen, Nicole (Rogers) Liebhaber, Brian Thomas, Jon Tucker, Andrew Hoffman ’00, Krystal Shearer, Melissa Hagerty ’04, Tina Rogers, Erin Mohr ’03, Jessica LaRocca ’03, Gerald Butts, Carrie Floyd ’03, Nicole Pagano ’04, Courtney Stewart ’04, and Jennifer O’Mara ’03. Alex is a graduate of the University of Delaware. Both Nicole and Alex received the degree of Juris Doctor from the Rutgers School of Law in Camden, NJ in 2005, and were admitted to the bar of Pennsylvania and New Jersey the same year. Alex practices real estate, land use, and corporate law with the law firm of Fox Rothschild LLP in the firm’s Princeton, NJ office. Nicole is employed by McCormick & Priore, P.C., also in Princeton, as a litigation associate. After a 2-week honeymoon in the Hawaiian islands, the couple returned to their home in Burlington County, New Jersey. Nicole can be contacted at carrollwixted@comcast.net

Amanda Berger graduated with her Master of Science in Professional Psychological Counseling from Monmouth University in May 2006. She is practicing as a therapist with her LAC in the state of New Jersey. Amanda was married to Thomas Semko in August 2006. Attending the wedding was dear friend Sara Ferris ’04. Amanda and Thomas live happily in their home in Freehold, NJ. Amanda can be reached at berger.amanda@gmail.com

Bill Brennan ’05 and Erin Oliver ’06 were united in marriage on June 23, 2007 at the Laurel Church of the Nazarene in Laurel, DE. Erin’s bridesmaids included Kaitlin Callaway ’06, Melanie Oliver ’06, Christina Auzmendi, and Stacy Frantz. Bill’s groomsmen were Bob Beron ’03/’06, Jeff Oliver, Chris Carlton, and Dennis Russell. Catherine “Caty” Bivins ’05 was their wedding coordinator. Following the ceremony, guests attended a reception at Sussex Pines Country Club in Georgetown, DE. The couple went to Excellence, Punta Cana for their honeymoon. Erin now teaches 2nd/3rd grade and Bill is a Delaware State Trooper. The couple currently resides in Felton, DE.

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO? Send or email your engagements, marriages, births, promotions, or other news to be published in Wesley magazine to:

CLASS NOTES
Office of Alumni Affairs
Wesley College
120 North State Street
Dover, DE 19901
downesam@wesley.edu

All submissions must include name, maiden name, class year and daytime phone number. Due to limited space, submissions may not be printed in their entirety. Printing and/or editing of submissions is at the discretion of the Director of Publications.

PHOTOS WELCOME! Deadline for inclusion in the next issue of Wesley magazine is June 1.

LOG ON to the We Are Wesley online community to post your news and photos on the site, read more class notes and connect directly with old classmates.

http://www.weare.wesley.edu/classnotes
Third Straight Year for Postseason Play
The 2007 Wesley College football had high expectations after the 2005 and 2006 teams raised the bar by advancing all the way to the Division III semifinals.

This year's Wolverines delivered. Wesley piled up records and accolades on their way to an 11-2 record, third straight Atlantic Central Football Conference Championship and a trip to the NCAA Quarterfinals. The season ran Wesley's four-year record to an impressive 44-7. The Wolverines earned their highest ever ranking in the final polls, ending the year ranked fifth by both D3football.com and the American Football Coaches Association. Wesley was also awarded the Lambert-Meadowlands Trophy and chosen as the ECAC Division III Team of the Year.

Records Fall
A number of team and individual marks were established in 2007. On the team side, Wesley used a foursome of talented running backs to rush for a school record 3,237 yards. That total, combined with a potent passing game, led the Wolverines to a total offense record of 6,192 yards.

Rushing and total yardage marks fell not only at the end of the year, but seemingly on a week-by-week basis. The team set school records for total yardage and rushing yards (411) on Homecoming Weekend against Frostburg State, then shattered the total yardage mark with a conference record 710 against Morristown State. Wesley also scored a school record eight rushing touchdowns in the win over the Mustangs.

Records came crashing down in the individual record book as well. Bryan Robinson stretched his career record for tackles for loss to 92.5 by season's end and broke the school record for sacks in a career with 47. The senior set that record in style, with sacks on back-to-back plays in a win at Apprentice.

Receiver Michael Clarke led a talented receiving corps that saw the senior hold off a pair of teammates on the career charts. Clarke finished his career with 28 career touchdown receptions and 2,471 receiving yards. Teammates Larry Beavers and Jon Lanouette both stand in top 10 in both categories.

Beavers evolved into a dangerous kick return threat as a junior, running back four kickoffs for touchdowns and setting season and career records at Wesley in the process. Defensive back Chet Turner tied a school season record with six interceptions in 2007.
Robinson's Final Season
Defensive end Bryan Robinson finished a stellar career in 2007. The Harrington, Delaware native was part of a senior class that went 44-7 over four years and advanced to the NCAA Playoffs three times.

Along the way, Robinson set season (28.5 in 2006) and career records (92.5) in tackles for loss. His name can be found all over the Wesley record book. He also holds the career sack (47) record, and season (7) and career (12) records for forced fumbles. Robinson is also in Wesley's career top ten in tackles (seventh, 349), pass breakups (tied for fourth, 26) and blocked kicks (tied for third, 7).

In 2007, he finished seventh in NCAA Division III with 28.0 tackles for loss and also registered 88 tackles and 11.5 sacks. After the season, he was named to three All-America teams: D3football.com, the American Football Coaches Association and the Associated Press Little All-America team. He was also named the D3football.com South Region, ECAC Southwest and ACFC Defensive Player of the Year and played for Team USA in the Aztec Bowl.

Accolades Pile Up
Over the course of the 2007 season, Wesley won 16 ACFC Player of the Week honors, and had 14 more selections to the conference honor roll. After the season, Wesley had 18 players named to the all-conference squad, tallied 19 all-region selections from various sources and a total of eight All-America honors – including a school record six named to the D3football.com squad. Robinson, Dave Erdman (OG), Mike Pennewell (RB), Lanouette (TE), Turner and Beavers were all named to the D3football.com squad.

The Season
Wesley won 10-plus games for the third straight year – a school record. The Wolverines started the year with two nail-biting victories by a combined six points. Wesley held off a fourth quarter comeback for a three-point win over a North Carolina Wesleyan squad that later advanced to the NCAA second round, 34-31. In the second game of the season, Wesley trailed 21-7 entering the final period, before scoring 17 unanswered points for a 24-21 win over Delaware Valley, a week after the Aggies lost to Iona of the Division Championship Subdivision (I-AA) by just two points, 14-12.

Wesley then headed north for a 31-17 win over NCAA qualifier Widener. The following week, the Wolverines came out on the short end of a nail biting 27-26 final against nationally ranked Montclair State. The loss ended a 24-game home win streak for Wesley.

The Wolverines rebounded from that loss with dominating wins over Frostburg State, Huntingdon (AL) and Newport News Apprentice, outscoring the three opponents by a combined 123-7 including shutouts against Frostburg and Huntingdon. Regular season ending wins over nationally ranked Salisbury in the Route 13 rivalry and on the road at Morrisville State sent the Wolverines to the playoffs for the third straight season.

The offense continued to roll in the first two rounds of the playoffs, averaging 43 points per game in wins over Hampden-Sydney and Muhlenberg, before eventually bowing to fourth-ranked Mary Hardin-Baylor in the national quarterfinals.
Most of his former teammates are basically doing what one might expect. Those that graduated with and before him are employed at schools and businesses. The student-athletes still at Wesley are going to class and lacrosse practice every day. But things are a little different for 2007 team captain Adam Starrett.

Starrett has moved from midfielder to Lance Corporal. Stationed in Al Asad in the Anbar Province, northwest of Baghdad, Iraq, he is part of the Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS) 473 attached to the Sixth Engineering and Support Battalion.

To show their support, the 2008 men's lacrosse team adopted his unit via America Supporting Americans (www.asa-usa.org), a non-profit organization that facilitates links between military units and civilian communities as a means to build morale in the armed forces. On March 5, Head Coach Christian Zwickert and his team gathered in The Underground at Wesley to fill care packages with cereal, power bars, tuna fish, beef jerky, Gold Bond, candy, potato chips, and crackers - all common everyday items that are not so common for those far from home.

"Basically, junk food," Zwickert noted. "We asked them if they wanted anything else, and they said, 'just anything with cheese – Cheese Its, Doritos – and beef jerky.'"

Also included in the packages were 40 Wesley College men's lacrosse t-shirts.

Zwickert is not at all surprised by the path Starrett chose. "Adam completely embodies the whole mission of the Marines," he noted. "He loves his country, and was excited to protect not only the freedom we have, but also that of the Iraqi people."

"He wasn't scared at all," Zwickert continued. "He was maybe a little nervous, not knowing what to expect. I saw him at a barbeque the day before he left. He couldn't wait to start doing what he had been trained to do."

During a four year career with the Wolverines, Starrett exhibited the ideal characteristics of a teammate - most of which carry over to being part of a military unit.

"He was a tremendous leader," the coach observed of the former midfielder. "He's fully committed. He had a full character. I've never met anyone more honest."

Starrett played in 55 games on the lacrosse field. He started 13, most of which were during his freshman season. He finished his career with 16 goals, 13 assists, 29 points, and 54 ground balls. Not every player could go from starting extensively as a freshman to contributing as a reserve for the next three years, but it never bothered Starrett.

"He realizes that the individual is not greater than the team as a whole. He's carried that over to the Marines, the unit and the Corps."

"He completely embodies what makes a good teammate," said Zwickert. "He realizes that the individual is not greater than the team as a whole. He's carried that over to the Marines, the unit and the Corps."

In addition to sending the care packages, the Wolverines represent MWSS 473 by wearing the unit's symbol on their helmets and carrying the Marine Corps flag onto the field before every game. In addition, the pre-game announcement has been altered to show support for Adam, MWSS 473, and all of the troops at home and abroad before the playing of the national anthem.
The Wesley College men’s basketball team proved to be contenders in its first season in the competitive Capital Athletic Conference (CAC). The team posted a 14-12 record through the completion of the conference tournament, including victories against three of the conference’s top four teams.

Leading the way for the Wolverines once again was Rashawn Johnson. The junior moved into second place all-time at Wesley with 1,747 points after finishing second in the conference with 22.5 points per game. The junior also led the conference in offensive rebounding and finished among the CAC leaders in total rebounds (tenth, 6.3 rpg), steals (third, 1.92 spg) and three pointers (seventh, 2.50 per game). He also moved into the school’s top ten all-time in rebounding (sixth, 471) and steals (ninth, 122).

In addition to Johnson’s efforts on the glass, forward Cody White moved up the school’s career charts in rebounding (fourth, 559).

Fellow guard James Stratton, a sophomore, emerged as a threat and an equally dangerous scorer. Over the final seven games, Stratton poured in over 21 points per game, including a career-high 35 in a thrilling, four-overtime win over Hood.

After beginning the year in the starting lineup, guard Evan Martin moved comfortably into the role of sixth man and tied Stratton for second on the team in scoring.

Winter weather made the late season schedule a four-game, eight-day experience against four of the conference’s teams. The week turned out to be one of the most exciting stretches of basketball in school history as the Wolverines jockeyed against CAC rivals for playoff position and three of the games came down to the final possession.

The stretch started with the four-overtime thriller at Hood. Stratton poured in his career-high, but it was Johnson – who played all 60 minutes in the contest – who finally sealed the game with free throws in the final seconds. Against Mary Washington, forward Alphonzo Wright sank his only three of the season to give Wesley the lead for good in the final minutes, but only after holding off a last second shot by the Eagles for a 78-76 win. The regular season finale saw Wesley fall at the buzzer on a three from St. Mary’s (MD).

Earlier in the season, the Wolverines knocked off the conference’s regular season champions from York, 89-86, in front of a packed Wentworth Gymnasium.

Wesley finished its CAC season with a 9-7 record, tied for third with Hood and St. Mary’s. The team will have its sights set at an even better season in 2008-09, as Head Coach Jerry Kobasa returns every player from this year’s team.

As of print time, the Wolverines were awaiting word on a potential bid to the ECAC Championship. To find out if Wesley’s season continued into the postseason, please visit us on the web at www.athletics.wesley.edu.
The 2007-08 Wesley College women’s basketball team turned in five more wins than its predecessor and finished with an 8-8 record in its first season in the competitive CAC (Capital Athletic Conference). The team accomplished the feat with a roster that had only two players who were not freshman – and those two were only sophomores themselves.

Colleen Thomas, second on the team in scoring last season as a freshman, returned for her sophomore season and led the team in scoring once again (12.8 ppg). After somewhat of a slow start to the season, Thomas turned it on and averaged over 17 points per game over the final nine games of the regular season. The Howell, New Jersey native turned up her game in conference play as well, shooting nearly 50 percent from the field and 41 percent from beyond the arc against CAC rivals.

The only other returning player on the roster, Michele Mules, entered the starting lineup and helped Thomas lead a perimeter attack and led the CAC in three pointers per game.

The eight freshmen on the roster also contributed heavily, with as many as four starting regularly. Cory Boyd finished the season tied for the conference lead in assists at 5.6 per contest. Angie Owens joined the team for the spring semester and provided a much needed interior presence to the squad. She led the team in rebounding (7.1 rpg) and finished second in scoring (10.3 ppg). Had she played enough games to qualify for the conference leader boards, she would have placed fourth in the CAC in blocked shots (1.47 bpg).

Herbie Rayne, second on the team in rebounds, and Latasha Torres, third in scoring, each spent extensive time in the starting lineup and played crucial roles off the bench all season. Stephanie Bailey, a dangerous outside shooter, and Meredith Demetor also saw extensive action.

The young team played well, losing only once – in the season’s second game – to a team that finished the year with a losing record. Tying for fifth in the CAC, they swept the season series against the four teams with equal or lesser conference marks, suffering setbacks against only the circuit’s elite.

In the end, the team finished 12-14 overall, but returns all 10 players for the 2008-09 season.
“She always understood that there would be no goals or records without the players around her. This is what made Kyle Savidge a special player.”
Goal. Record. Assist. Record. Goal. Record. Goal. Record. That's how it went for Kyle Savidge in the opening 18 minutes of Wesley's win over Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) foe Gallaudet on September 20, 2007. As the Wolverines women's soccer team jumped out to a commanding lead on the Bison, the senior etched her name into Wesley College's record book.

On the game's first goal, Savidge set a new Wesley record for career goals with her 42nd career tally. The forward assisted on the second goal, to tie the Wolverine career points mark with 99. The tie only lasted 1:38 seconds though, as Savidge scored career goal number 43 to become the College's all-time scoring leader and the first woman in school history to top 100 career points. Then, just 17:38 into the contest, Savidge hit on her third goal of the game. More importantly, it was her 44th career goal, the most ever by a Wesley College soccer player, regardless of gender.

In addition to her exploits on the field, Savidge has scored equally well in the classroom. A psychology major, the senior has twice made the Pennsylvania Athletic Conference (PAC) All-Academic team. The CAC does not announce its all-academic squads until May, when Savidge will shoot for her third honor. At the start of her Wesley soccer career, the Clarksboro, New Jersey native didn't waste any time making her mark, scoring three goals against The College of Notre Dame in her first game. As a freshman, she set Wesley's single season goal record (men's and women's) with 18 and was named the team's M.V.P. The record-setting 18th goal came in the PAC Championship game. Wesley tied that match 1-1, with Misericordia advancing on penalty kicks.

Savidge would again lead the team to the PAC title game as a junior, when she scored 10 goals, but Misericordia once again ended the Wolverines' title hopes.

Her senior campaign saw Wesley move into the more competitive Capital Athletic Conference, but the Kingsway High School graduate, who had now developed into a team captain, led the Wolverines back to the conference semifinals. With 12 goals, she finished second in the conference in goals scored—to teammate Jessie Nino—and tied for second in the CAC with 30 points.

Savidge was named all-conference in each of her four seasons at Wesley, including PAC Rookie of the Year honors as a freshman in 2004.

While all the accolades are nice, after graduation Savidge will look back most on other moments. "The athletic and academic awards are great honors," she said. "But my lasting memories will always be with my teammates and the time spent with them."

"I'm so proud of Kyle and all the special memories she has brought to the program," noted Muntz. "Kyle brought much more to our program than scoring goals and breaking records. She had a strong commitment to the program and her teammates. She always understood that there would be no goals or records without the players around her. This is what made Kyle Savidge a special player."

It was back in the fall seasons of 1991 and 1992 when two of the non-gender Wesley records Savidge would break were set. The face of the player who set those records is a very familiar one for Savidge – that of current Wolverine Head Coach Ed Muntz. Muntz tallied 17 goals as a junior in 1991 and finished his career the following year with 43 career goals. No Wesley player – male or female – touched either mark until Savidge bettered them both.

Muntz was also the only member of the Wesley soccer family to top 100 career points before Savidge came along. Coach can rest easy; his mark of 117 points is still safe.

"We actually had to hold Kyle out of two matches coming off an injury," Coach Muntz noted of Kyle's senior season. "Otherwise, she probably would have set that record too."
Old Friends, New Memories
Wesley College Homecoming ’08: October 17-19

Mark your calendars and plan to come back to campus with your families, friends and classmates to experience “Something Old, Something New…” at Wesley’s Homecoming this fall.

Accommodations:
Please book your lodging now, as area hotels will fill up quickly for that weekend. Blocked rooms have been reserved at two area hotels. Recommended accommodations are listed below:

*Comfort Suites
302-736-1204

*Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott
302-677-0900

State Street Inn B & B
302-734-2294

Sheraton Dover Hotel
302-678-8500

Hampton Inn
302-736-3500

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
866-270-5110 or 302-734-0909

Reunions:
While all alumni are invited to reunite at Homecoming, the weekend will feature special reunions for the following:
Class of 1958 - 50th Reunion
Class of 1963 - 45th Reunion
Class of 1968 - 40th Reunion
Class of 1998 - 10th Reunion

Reunion class contacts are needed to encourage a great turnout from your class. To get involved, please complete the Homecoming form or contact the Office of Alumni Affairs.

Would your fraternity/sorority, club or group like to have a mini-reunion during Homecoming Weekend? If so, we can help! Contact the Office of Alumni Affairs for more information.

Office of Alumni Affairs
302-736-2318
downesam@wesley.edu

Visit the Homecoming webpage at www.weare.wesley.edu/homecoming08
More information and schedule details will be coming soon!

Make your plans now to meet up with your Wesley friends at Homecoming, and let everyone know you plan to be there by adding your name to the online list at www.weare.wesley.edu/homecoming08

Or, fill out the form below and send it back with the envelope enclosed in this magazine and we’ll post your name and class year.

Will you be coming back for Homecoming ’08?

☐ Yes, I plan to be there ☐ Maybe ☐ No, I can’t make it this year

Full Name: ____________________________________________ Class year: ____________________

☐ Please keep me updated on the details. Email address: ________________________________

☐ I am interested in being a class contact for my class reunion. Daytime Phone #: __________________________

☐ I’d like to host a mini-reunion for my Wesley group, club, etc. Daytime Phone #: __________________________
As the new Director of the Annual Wesley Fund, I would like to extend my warm thanks to our alumni, friends, Board, faculty, and staff who have financially supported Wesley throughout this fiscal year. As we strive to meet our goals in the next few months, continued and new support is imperative.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!
As our fiscal year reaches an end on June 30, I encourage you to donate. Every gift helps! The tradition of generous alumni and friends directly benefits our current students. Your gift provides resources where funding is most needed, including:

- Scholarship support for students
- Development for our current faculty
- Expansion of our Wesley College Cultural Arts Series which provides free, live music entertainment and education for students and the surrounding community
- Campus global efforts with study abroad courses and thriving cultural exchange programs
- Excellence among our first-class athletic teams and recruitment
- Student activities such as “Alternative to Alcohol” programs and leadership conferences
- Enhancement and construction of facilities, specifically a 22,000 square foot academic building for our Nursing Education department
- Much more...

Please make your gift to the Wesley Fund today!

Gifts can be made online at [www.weare.wesley.edu](http://www.weare.wesley.edu) or by using the enclosed envelope. Thank you for your consideration and support. I look forward to being a liaison between you and Wesley College. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. You truly make a difference!

Cordially,

Jennifer Telles
Director, Annual Wesley Fund

P.S. If you own a business or work for a company, we have business sponsorship opportunities with enticing benefits and a matching gift program. Contact me today at (302)736-2317 or tellesje@wesley.edu!
Thank You!

We express our sincere gratitude to those whose generous gifts have contributed to the welfare and advancement of Wesley College.

The Wesley Honor Roll of Donors is available at www.wesley.edu
Will Power.

WHAT YOUR WILL CAN DO FOR YOU, AND FOR WESLEY COLLEGE

Your will can accomplish much more than the distribution of your property. With a will, you can also:

• Designate who you want to care for your children if they are still minors.
• Provide for management of property after your lifetime.
• Waive requirements for filing complex accountings and other reports.
• Make provisions for charitable organizations or institutions close to your heart, like Wesley College.

The Office of Institutional Advancement is available to help you and your advisors with gift opportunities.

For more information about including Wesley College in your will or other long-range estate plans, call Jennifer Telles at (302) 736-2317.