“Using the talents of alumni, friends, faculty, staff and students, we will work as a community to strengthen Wesley.”

—Dr. William N. Johnston
Wesley College’s 16th President
Past, Present and Future

It is a tremendous pleasure to serve as the sixteenth president of Wesley College. Susan and I are very pleased to be residents of Dover. In the early weeks of my tenure and in speaking with faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the College, I have found that Wesley:

• has a very strong academic reputation with an excellent living/learning environment
• provides students with life-changing opportunities that combine a caring, personalized educational experience along with outstanding partnerships and professional affiliations that propel students into graduate schools and professions throughout the United States and beyond
• enjoys an outstanding athletic program
• employs faculty and staff who have a passion in their respective areas of expertise AND are actively engaged in the lives and advancement of students
• is proudly located in the beautiful, historic state capital, where students are fully linked to service and learning opportunities and the College enjoys an exceptional relationship with people/businesses in the area
• is rich in multicultural/global experiences and student diversity
• is located in the heart of the east coast with the vast cultural richness of Washington D.C., Philadelphia, Baltimore and New York City as the backdrop to campus
• has a strong association with The United Methodist Church, from which the College derives its principles and ideals

“As president, I pledge my full energies to assist Wesley in continuing to discover its full potential as a premier church related liberal arts college.”

While Wesley College has experienced outstanding success, overwhelmingly, people agree that the future of the College is ripe for continued advancement. As president, I pledge my full energies to assist Wesley in continuing to discover its full potential as a premier church-related liberal arts college. This will be accomplished with the support and commitment of all groups associated with the College. Indeed, it is an exciting time to be associated with Wesley College.

Susan and I look forward to greeting you, whether it be on campus, in the home of the president, at college gatherings or other locations. Thank you for your support of this most deserving College.

Sincerely,

Dr. William N. Johnston
President
WESLEY
A MAGAZINE FOR WESLEY COLLEGE ALUMNI & FRIENDS

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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.

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ON THE COVER: Wesley’s sixteenth president, Dr. William N. Johnston, as photographed by Elise Marie Knable.
JOHN WESLEY (1703-1791)

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).
On May 5, 2008, 15 students from Wesley College boarded a plane to complete their coursework on Baroque art, architecture and music. After arriving, the students and their instructor, Professor Jonathan Emmons, headed to Harlaxton College, the British campus of the University of Evansville, Ind.

“This travel experience was a collaborative effort between Wesley College and Harlaxton College...Wesley recently established a partnership with the University of Evansville, and this May term course was the College’s first formal venture into the newly founded relationship,” Emmons said.

Students spent seven of their 10 nights at Harlaxton Manor, a beautiful mansion on the campus. The manor itself was a subject of study because of its Baroque architectural detail.

Students also took trips to Cambridge, Lincoln and Nottingham from there. Their last three days were spent in London. There, students toured St. Paul’s Cathedral, attended Evensong at Westminster Abbey and saw a concert of the English Chamber Orchestra.

Although students spent much of their time taking group tours and trips, Emmons said, “It was important that the students be given opportunities to explore on their own and seek out places and activities that particularly interested them.” At most of the places they visited, London in particular, students were allowed time to see the sights on their own.

Emmons explained, “The course was designed so that the material we covered in class sessions was largely an extension of our traveling and vice versa.” In order to complete the course, students turned in assignments dealing directly with the places they visited, artists they viewed and other aspects of their trip.

Commenting on this experience, Wesley sophomore and biology major Jason Norris said, “The trip was great and should be a continuing part of Wesley College’s curriculum.”

“The experience was extremely positive, and the students represented Wesley College exceptionally well,” Emmons said. “Experiences like this have the power to open doors and minds in ways that nothing else can.”

After returning from the trip, Stephanie Sawyer, a freshman in the Elementary Education program at Wesley, said, “It was such a great experience and I am so glad that I went...England is beautiful and I can’t wait to go back there again!”

After students returned and finished their course work, Emmons could not have been happier with the overall result. “Trips like this one allowed students a glimpse of the possibilities with a relatively small commitment of time and resources. I think the trip has left many of the students longing for more,” said Emmons.

Shanina Martinez, a sophomore psychology major remarked, “I would strongly encourage other students to travel abroad. It will help them grow and gain a larger perception of the world. I believe that experiencing other cultures around the world is one of the richest and most rewarding educational experiences one can have.”
Success a Second Time

NOW IN ITS 135TH YEAR, Wesley College continues to reach high to achieve its goals for academic excellence. With that in mind, the 2nd Annual Scholars’ Day was a successful example that could not go unnoticed. Scholars’ Day was established to recognize coursework and research representing the various disciplines at Wesley College. This day-long event allows faculty, staff members, students and the community to observe the quality academic work of the Wesley College student body through oral presentations and poster displays. At the same time, students gain a full understanding of the academic and professional value of their liberal arts degrees. Three new disciplines — Mathematics, Nursing and Music — were represented at this year’s event.

Highlights of the day included performances by the Wesley College Choir, under the direction of JONATHAN EMMONS, and the Wesley College Jazz Band, under the direction of DR. DAVID LAGANELLA. Since many students and faculty do not often get the opportunity to see these musical ensembles perform, their presentations provided great exposure for the department and the programs that they provide.

More sessions followed, during which students presented research about major topics addressed in their studies. First time presenter JENNIFER SCHULTE discussed the issues of women enslavement, providing an argument that women often enslave other women — racially, socioeconomically and religiously. She stated, “The complexity of the female character is illustrated by the differences in female experience across cultures. Women, regardless of cultural definitions, have undergone a common struggle to overcome, or ignorantly exist in, enslavement…the female identity is fundamentally shaped by women’s experience of oppression and women’s ultimate decision to either escape or accept oppression.”

Schulte recalled, “It is a much more challenging task to write or edit a paper in order to read it aloud for an audience. Because I wanted to maintain the audience’s attention and make sure my topic was relevant and interesting, word choice, sentence structure and flow was extremely important, and my essay went through at least eight rewrites before I presented.”
MATTHEW PANUNTO presented a poster entitled “Using the Agricultural Policy Environmental eXtender (APEX) Model to Simulate the Long-Term Impact on BMPs on the Off-site Transport of Sediment and Phosphorus in the Chesapeake Farms Watershed.” He illustrated the difficulties retrieving field data required by environmental managers to make environmental decisions, and stressed the importance of computer modeling in the environmental field. He pointed out that lack of time, resources and funding are common problems during efforts to do required field research.

“The professionalism that was required for Scholars’ Day presented me with an excellent opportunity to gain experience in not only the presentation itself, but also with the understanding of the degree of preparation that is required to make such a presentation,” said Panunto. “This experience is very valuable to me as it will be required in my career in the field of science.”

DR. H. EARL ROBERTS, professor of Business and Scholars’ Day committee member, explained the value of Scholars’ Day in providing his business students with the chance to present in a professional atmosphere.

“Students I have mentored have raised expectations of themselves and developed considerably their self-esteem as developing professionals,” said Roberts.

The event received rave reviews from attendees. One parent stated, “In my opinion, Scholars’ Day was an overwhelming success at Wesley College. Well done to both the faculty and the students that participated.”

According to DR. JEFFREY GIBSON, assistant professor of English and Scholars’ Day committee chair, the goal of this event is to “help bring cohesion of the college community in general.” The challenge each year is encouraging as many students as possible to get involved. Gibson and the committee would like to see more students from a range of programs share their research in this professional setting. Looking to the future, Gibson’s ultimate goal is to have so many presenters that “Scholars’ Day becomes Scholars’ Conference.”

“Scholars’ Day was established to recognize coursework and research representing the various disciplines at Wesley College.”
Leader of the Pack

WESLEY COLLEGE has welcomed new Dean of Students MARY-ALICE OZECHOSKI to help begin the new school year. Ozechoski comes to the College from West Chester University, where she was the assistant dean of student development & involvement for four years.

“I hope to bring a new energy in the student life area,” Ozechoski said. “It’s exciting to work with people who want change. It’s great to work for a President who was a former dean of students; he understands that it’s about the students.”

Ozechoski comes from a rich background of student programming and feels that students “should have a voice,” especially at a small college like Wesley. While at West Chester, Ozechoski not only supervised numerous student oriented programs, but also coordinated leadership development programs and supervised the Office of Greek Life, student clubs and organizations, the publication of the Parent Handbook and the updating of the Student Handbook, among other responsibilities.

Her job history aptly demonstrates her extensive experience in higher education and the valuable perspective Ozechoski will bring to Wesley. In addition to West Chester University, she has been employed by Teikyo Post University as the associate vice president of student life, the assistant dean of students and director of student activities; Kent State University as the coordinator of student activities and admissions counselor; and Gannon University as a counselor. Throughout her career, she has supported student development and involvement while maintaining a personal interest in the well-being of the students themselves.

One of the first initiatives that Ozechoski plans to carry out at Wesley is to implement a survey during orientation week. “Every student who goes to orientation will fill out a survey that lists every organization, club and group on campus,” she explained. “This will allow students to know what activities are available on campus within their first week here, and also allow the coaches, group leaders, etc. to get in touch with students who are interested.”

Wesley welcomes Ozechoski’s valuable expertise and positive attitude, and looks forward to the excitement she will bring to the Office of Student Life.

This fall, returning Wesley students can expect several new faces in the Office of Student Life. With Ozechoski leading the team, she intends to keep the best interests of the students in mind while strengthening opportunities for student development and involvement at the College. Ozechoski understands students’ needs and what lies at the root of their college careers.
Wesley’s Office of Institutional Advancement set sail for summer fun with a full lineup of events, starting with a dinner cruise along the Choptank River in Maryland on June 13. With a new spin on the event this year, the College hosted the riverboat cruise and crab feast at half-price admission as a special donor appreciation event. President William Johnston and his wife Susan were eager to meet and greet College constituents, with this being one of Johnston’s first official appearances among alumni since he began his presidency at Wesley on June 1.

Attendees enthusiastically greeted the Johnstons and welcomed them to the Wesley family. Alumnus Harvey Kenton ’64 remarked, “We had a fantastic time and were able to sit at a table with President Johnston and his wife Susan and get to know them. We really enjoyed breaking bread with them and old friends like the Atkins, and renewing friendships with fellow alumni. I would encourage all alumni to consider going to a Wesley event like this in the future.” He added, “It was great weather, great food and great company.” Against the scenic backdrop of Maryland’s Eastern Shore, guests enjoyed all-you-can-eat crabs and a variety of savory side dishes, along with the company of friends and fellow alumni.

The following month on July 18, a Wesley group including alumni, faculty, staff and friends enjoyed a baseball outing at Cal Ripken Stadium, home of the Aberdeen Ironbirds, a Class A affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles. With a bird’s eye view of the field from one of the ballpark’s private club-level skyboxes, attendees were treated to a full dinner buffet in the VIP suite as well as snacks throughout the game.

Graduates of Wesley New Castle were invited to dine with President Johnston and his wife Susan at a special alumni dinner reception on August 1 at the Iron Hill Brewery and Restaurant in Wilmington, Del. Always a family favorite, the Shorebirds baseball outing at Perdue Stadium in Salisbury, Md. took place on Saturday, August 16 and was open to all alumni and friends. This year’s gathering was held in the Hardball Café in the main concourse behind home plate and featured a two-hour all-you-can-eat spread of ballpark favorites and fireworks after the game.

Join Us
If you missed out on the fun, please join us for an upcoming Wesley event. The College strives to offer new and exciting activities, providing event admission and social functions at special discounted prices for alumni. We invite you to take advantage of these opportunities. While event notification by mail is sent only to alumni within close proximity of the event location, due to rising postage costs, upcoming activities are continually posted on the We Are Wesley online community at www.weare.wesley.edu Most activities are open to all Wesley graduates regardless of region (unless otherwise noted) so please check the site frequently and plan to attend an upcoming event!
**Partnership = Results**

**Aramark Staff Awarded Homes**

GEORGE KING, JT Stevens and Earline Tolson, three employees of Aramark Facility Services at Wesley College, recently became first time homeowners through a new College partnership. The Dover Community Partnership, a non-profit organization created through the Senator Thomas R. Carper/City of Dover Homeownership Initiative, is working to increase homeownership and advance community pride in the area west of the Wesley College campus. Wesley’s President, DR. WILLIAM JOHNSTON, serves as a member of the Carper/City of Dover Homeownership Initiative, along with representatives of the City of Dover, Delaware State and Dover Housing Authority, Fannie Mae, NCALL Research and the Office of U.S. Senator Carper.

Tolson, affectionately known as “Ms. Earline” on campus, recently moved into a house on Fulton Street. Stevens and King are happy to be new homeowners in the neighborhood on South Queen Street. For each of the three, home ownership is a first-time experience and the shear excitement of owning their own homes is evident. “I am just so excited to be in my new house, it’s just great,” Tolson said. King added, “It is like a dream come true.”

Each of the three went through an application process with the Dover Housing Authority. They completed an application and were assigned counselors from the NCALL program, an agency that seeks to provide affordable housing for individuals throughout the Delmarva Peninsula. After meeting with their counselors, each attended five weeks of classes focusing on how to get a mortgage, home loan workshops and money management seminars. Upon completion of their classes, the Dover Housing Authority assisted each one in finding an existing home or having one built for them. As part of the Live Near Your Work program, each of their houses is located in the twenty block area west of Wesley’s campus.

“The process was easy,” said Stevens. “I realized there are things out there for you if you work for it. It is truly a community thing and I credit this to everyone around that helped me.”

The homeownership initiative began in 2003 and has seen great results. The year 2007 ended with the Partnership purchasing eleven properties and two vacant lots, as well as several families completing the necessary counseling programs. In addition, the Partnership was the recipient of the Blueprint Communities Award. The Blueprint Communities, a program through the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh, emphasizes a team approach to community development by fostering strong local leadership and planning and building local programs to sustain community growth. “The Dover Community Partnership is the culmination of years of hard work by vested community partners. We are very proud of the achievements of Earline, JT and George and know they will be the type of leaders we need to help continue to grow the Dover community,” said Senator Carper.

This may just be the beginning of a homeownership trend for Aramark staff at Wesley. The ability to own a home means a great deal to them and they wish to share the benefits of the program with others.

“I have recommended it to my friends,” said Stevens. He continued, “My inspiration was my mom and dad. They owned their own home and I wanted to do the same thing. They worked for what they have and instilled those values in me.”
International Ambassador

Singh’s Global Impact on the Wesley Campus

While faculty and staff of Wesley await the return of students, in the International House, ASHANA SINGH ’09 remains as if the campus were still buzzing with activity. The cultural experiences and devotion of this exceptional student have been an integral aspect to several organizations on campus.

When initially enrolling at Wesley, Singh pursued a degree in accounting, but eventually switched her major to International Business. One of her most memorable experiences was when she enrolled in DR. SUSAN COOPER’S Gender Depiction in Young Adult Literature course in the fall of 2006. “As I was coming out of my shy shell, I was helping others break down stereotypes of other cultures,” Singh reminisced. In the same semester, she enjoyed a Spanish Literature class with DR. ELIZABETH ESPADAS. With the new exposure to English and Spanish, Singh realized she had an unwavering passion for both subjects. Observing her talent, Cooper and Espadas encouraged her to switch majors once again, to liberal arts.

Singh was drawn to Wesley because of the experiences of her uncle RAMSARRAN SINGH ’88 and cousin RESHMA (RAGHUNANDAN) MAHARAJ ’06. Her relatives not only impacted her decision to attend Wesley, but also to join specific organizations. “My cousin recruited me for the SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) team and I gained responsibility and slowly grew as a person. I joined ISA (International Student Association) because I like to learn about other cultures and learn other languages,” stated Singh. As a member of the SIFE team, she received the Presidential Service Award due to her contribution of over 100 hours of service. She also held the position of chief communication and project manager for SIFE.

In addition to her involvement in these organizations, the Global Initiatives program has benefited the

Singh’s involvement has been instrumental to the success of recent campus programming. In April 2007, when Global Initiatives hosted Tibetan Monks to present at the Schwartz Center for the Arts, they encountered a slight obstacle when the translator did not arrive on time. Thanks to her fluency in the Hindi language, Singh was able to step in and translate for the head llama, thus enabling the committee to provide a smooth welcome and create a great impression of Wesley College.

This summer, Singh has had her hands full in preparing for and welcoming 55 Japanese students participating in the English as a Second Language Program on Wesley’s campus.

Outside of her coursework and job responsibilities at Wesley, Ashana partnered with a fellow student to establish an adult center in southern Delaware for Hispanic adults who are struggling with English as a second language. Cooper said of Singh, “She gave up several evenings a week for an academic year to enable the participants in the program to function with an American society.”

Singh’s impact on the Wesley College campus and beyond has not only been felt by international students and community members alike, but her efforts also have aided in the College’s globalization goals. Wesley is very fortunate to have students such as Singh invested in growing campus programs and expanding the reach of the College community.

After graduation, Singh plans to pursue a master’s degree in English as a Second Language (ESL). She hails from Camden, Del., just under 10 miles from the Wesley campus.
April 30, 2008 saw a first for Wesley College and the State of Delaware. KEVIN SHUMAN ’09 and ARNOLD OMONDI ’08 were competitively selected from across the nation to participate in the 12th Annual Posters on the Hill event sponsored by the Council on Undergraduate Research in Washington, D.C. This was the first time that students from a Delaware college or university were invited to participate in this prestigious event.

Posters on the Hill is held in Washington, D.C. to offer members of Congress an insight into the vast accomplishments in undergraduate research. Each year, the Council on Undergraduate Research invites just sixty students from across the United States to showcase their research activities. The students are able to share these outcomes as poster presentations during a reception for members of Congress and their staff. This year’s reception was attended by Chairman of the U.S. House Science and Technology Committee Congressman Bart Gordon of Tennessee, Senator Lamar Alexander of Tennessee and Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman, among others.

Shuman and Omondi, accompanied by Professor of Chemistry DR. MALCOLM J. D’SOUZA, Vice President for Academic Affairs DR. J. THOMAS STURGIS, Special Assistant to the President CHAD ROBINSON and Assistant Director of the Delaware Biotechnology Institute (DBI) JEANETTE L. MILLER, were given an opportunity to personally visit with the Delaware and Pennsylvania congressional delegation to share their project outcomes and awards. The group discussed with the legislators the nation’s need for continued undergraduate research funding. Shuman and Omondi expressed the great benefits of participating in such undergraduate research, including the advantages of the College’s partnership with the Delaware Biotechnology Institute, and the positive impact on their college experience.

Shuman and Omondi completed their research at Wesley and DBI under the direction of D’Souza. The duo worked with a chemical compound that is sometimes added to pharmaceuticals, such as the breast cancer drug Taxol, to increase their solubility in water. This compound was previously utilized in World War I as a war gas, and has been found to have a number of uses in modern medicine. Their poster presentation, titled “Method to Evaluate Mechanism of Reaction of a Former War Gas that Has Found Applications in Medicine,” is among a body of research gaining increased importance, since many pharmaceutical formulations, such as cancer drugs, are not soluble in water and therefore require higher doses.

“We hope this research will show that our studies can contribute to a better understanding of the pathways involved for pharmaceuticals in the human body, to increase their water solubility,” D’Souza said.

Sturgis was quick to praise Shuman and Omondi. He stated, “We are incredibly proud of the accomplishments of Kevin and Arnold. This opportunity has prepared them well for future careers in science and medicine.” He also recognized the value of the Delaware Biotechnology Institute, adding, “Our partnership with them provides an outstanding experience for faculty and students at Wesley. It gives them an opportunity to do real research at a small teaching institution like ours.”
The Delaware Biotechnology Institute provided the leadership for the State of Delaware obtaining a federal grant through the National Institute of Health (NIH), the nation’s premier human health research agency. The Delaware-Idea Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) is a program created by NIH to foster a collaborative environment between the institutions of higher education and the hospital systems within the state, in order to strengthen biomedical research capability and further increase undergraduate research participation in the biomedical field. This partnership consists of four higher education institutions — Wesley College, University of Delaware, Delaware State University and Delaware Technical and Community College — and two hospital systems in Delaware — Christiana Care and A.I. DuPont Children’s Hospital. Wesley’s participation resulted in 19 publications in peer-reviewed journals, four national American Chemical Society recognition certificates for student poster presentations, 10-week summer research internships (in which Shuman and Omondi participated twice), paid student research-assistantships, access to instrumentation and libraries at partner institutions and travel sponsorship for students to present their research at the national and regional level.

Miller, of the Delaware Biotechnology Institute said, “We are proud to be a partner with Wesley College and were happy to support Kevin and Arnold to present their research in Washington.” Shuman and Omondi see this as the beginning of their careers in science. Shuman stated, “This has been an opportunity for us to fine tune our laboratory skills, achieve publications and grow our resumes as we work to increase our chances of getting into a good graduate school.”

Omondi is currently completing his senior clinical experience at the Washington Hospital Center at George Washington University and earned a Bachelor of Science in medical technology from Wesley. Shuman, who holds a GPA of 3.81, is hoping to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) for graduate school and is leaning towards a doctoral degree in microbiology. For now, Shuman is happy to be continuing his research with D’Souza, tutoring science in the Academic Resource Center and being involved in the Alpha Chi Honor Fraternity. He is also involved in the Honors Program, is working on his senior thesis and completing a National Science Foundation (NSF) summer research internship analyzing bacteria found in chicken litter with Dr. Keka Biswas, assistant professor of Biology and Environmental Studies at Wesley.

Shuman summarized the experience on Capitol Hill. “It was great for us to have an opportunity to present in Washington, D.C. and to be recognized nationally. We are proud of what we have accomplished while at Wesley.”
The Grad Finale

The seniors were instantly greeted by Wesley College graduates and members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors — JANE (KEARNEY) MACDONALD ’60 and LYNN SCHMID KNABLE ’67. Each student received a We Are Wesley drawstring bag that contained a congratulatory message from the Alumni Association as well as a Class of 2008 t-shirt.

Vendors from the community also participated in the event, providing information on their services. Representing Wachovia Bank, Sean Valentine said the event brought his experience serving Wesley College full circle.

“I remember helping some of these students set up their student checking accounts four years ago,” said Valentine, unable to believe how fast their college careers had gone by.

In addition to outside service providers, several campus departments were on hand to assist the graduates. MIKE HALL from the Office of Financial Planning supplied guidance and advice on paying back student loans. Assistant Director of Academic Support CHRISTINE (MCGRATH) MCDERMOTT ’98 shared handouts on employment-related skills such as resume building, as well as flyers and pamphlets outlining area job opportunities. Director of Graduate Admissions G.R. MYERS distributed information on Wesley’s four graduate programs to those interested in staying to pursue an advanced degree.

Staff members from the Office of Institutional Advancement designed this event with the intent to educate graduating students on the products and services their office provides Wesley alumni and the benefits of being a member of the Wesley Alumni Association. Several stations promoted alumni programming and events, Wesley magazine, the Annual Wesley Fund and the We Are Wesley online community.

Students that attended were given a complimentary mouse pad with their login ID for We Are Wesley, and staff members demonstrated how to navigate the site. Alumni can use the site to keep in contact with their alma mater and one another, and also to stay informed about alumni news and events. Demonstrations included how to search for classmates, register for upcoming events, post class notes and shop for alumni gear at the online eStore.

“Hopefully this event made the graduates realize that we care about them and want them to maintain their connection as Wesley alumni. Although they may be leaving the campus, we don’t see this as an end, but as a beginning — we are welcoming them into the alumni family,” said Director of Alumni Affairs and Parent Relations AMANDA DOWNES ’06.

With a great turnout and very positive feedback from the attendees, the Office of Institutional Advancement considered this first time event a huge success. The department looks to use this initial experience as a model for hosting similar events in the years to come and to further strengthen outreach efforts with current and future Wesley alumni.
A Winning Enterprise

Due to the current state of our economy and unethical practices of corporations such as Enron, the connotation of the word business has changed drastically in recent years. For the Wesley campus, Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) reconstitutes the meaning of ethical business and advocates for community involvement from its members.

SIFE may seem fairly new to the Wesley campus. Truth be told, it was actually founded in 2003. SIFE Global appointed Dr. H. Earl Roberts of the Wesley College Business Department as the Wesley College Sam Walton Free Enterprise Fellow.

“One of the reasons I came to Wesley was to start a successful SIFE team,” Roberts recalled.

The mission of the organization is “to learn, teach and then demonstrate how individuals can be successful in a free enterprise system.” The SIFE team provides Wesley students with an opportunity to develop the professional skills essential to real world business practices. Students apply their classroom knowledge by planning and organizing business-based projects, which are then presented as educational programs to the community. Through these “real life” education projects, students work in teams to research topics, prepare a project proposal and develop a teaching plan to make the lessons applicable to various community audiences, including school children.

The SIFE team recently presented “Wired To Be Hired: Resume Writing” to over 200 students at St. George’s Technical High School near Middletown, Del. as part of the school’s Career Day program. Feedback after the presentations indicated that the students felt better prepared to draft resumes and write cover letters having participated in the program.

“SIFE team members have promoted a positive College image with many teachers in the area because of these presentations,” said Roberts.

At the conclusion of the school year, the team compiles and presents an annual report that is judged against teams from other colleges and universities nationwide. For the last five years, the Wesley College SIFE team has won awards on both regional and national levels.

Working as a team is not only integral to the standards of SIFE, but also something in which the Wesley team takes great pride. Central to the team, SIFE Chief Executive Officer Dennis Jefferson and SIFE Chief Operations Officer Bernard Sharp have invested endless hours encouraged team camaraderie while coordinating presentation schedules and preparing the annual print report and presentation. “I admire the willingness and hard work that they [Jefferson and Sharp] committed to producing another Wesley College SIFE award winning team,” Roberts remarked.

SIFE is open to any student with a minimum GPA of 2.0. “Most students self-select themselves onto the team because they realize the SIFE team requires a significant commitment of time and effort,” said Roberts. This was evidenced by the work ethic the team members demonstrated through 1400 hours of community service completed during the 2007-2008 fiscal year. This year’s team took organization to a new level of participation, moving from six to thirty-six members.

For current college students that participate in SIFE across America, the future looks bright. According to corporate human resource managers, SIFE students tend to get automatic interviews when they submit job applications. Wesley SIFE members have a valuable advantage in accessing future opportunities.

“Wesley College graduates who were members of the SIFE team have frequently commented on how the SIFE experience enabled them to obtain employment and successfully launch their career,” said Roberts.

SIFE exemplifies the College’s mission in preparing students who will make a difference in their communities, shedding positive light and breaking down some of the negative stereotypes surrounding the business world.
Spring has Sprung

Wesley Congratulates Its Newest Graduates

Commencement weekend 2008 began on May 4 with a Baccalaureate service held in the Wesley chapel. Chaplain DR. MARK PRUETT-BARNETT led the service, delivering a fitting sermon to the graduates and families that attended.

An inspiring student address was given by ARNOLD OMONDI, a native of Kenya. Omondi, who is now headed to his internship at Washington Hospital Center at George Washington University, noted in his speech that, “Until we are honest with ourselves, we will never be happy with whatever life has to offer.” Omondi was recently honored with the Award for Excellence in Medical Technology, a proclamation from the New Castle County Executive Director for impressive academic achievements and a plaque from the Mayor of Wilmington acknowledging his hard work and academic achievements, including research presentations to the Delaware State Senate.

Later that evening, the nurses pinning ceremony was held at the Schwartz Center for the Arts. The auditorium was overflowing with friends and family of the graduating nurses. Heartfelt comments were made by Nursing Department Chair DR. LUCILLE GAMBARDELLA, followed by a greeting from Vice President for Academic Affairs DR. J. THOMAS STURGIS. During the awards presentation, CHRISTINE BARBOUR was named the Keeper of the Light and AMBER KALBOUGH was awarded the Spirit of Nursing award. JEANETTE PANUNTO, student nursing association president, gave a tearful farewell speech to her peers, reminding them of their memories shared at Wesley.

The ceremony closed with a reception at the Schwartz Center for graduates, their families and friends.

On May 5, 251 graduates filled the center of the Charles R. Dashiell, Jr. Amphitheatre. Pruett-Barnett gave the invocation, followed by a welcome from Sturgis, serving as interim president.

Sturgis then introduced U.S. Senator Tom Carper, who advised the graduates that in order to be a good leader, they have to be committed to what they do, treat others with respect and never give up.

Following Carper was Commencement speaker DR. JULIE BOOZER, professor emeritus. She reminded the graduates that although they had completed their degrees, they should not forget to keep learning.

“Now that you have completed your degree here at Wesley, it might be prudent to reflect upon all of the
education that you have received, not only in your major, but in the breadth of your liberal arts education,” said Boozer. “I think as you continue down life’s path, you’ll find that the broad range of lessons you learned are valuable in that they prepare you not simply for your career, but for life itself.”

Boozer was then awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Wesley College for her continued work in the field of nursing.

Student speaker **TIARA HARRIS** reminded her fellow graduates that there are numerous ways to give back to others now that they were entering the real world, and urged them to seek out different ways to help out in their communities. After her speech, Harris presented Sturgis with the 2008 class gift, a set of mirrors with inscribed inspirational messages to be hung in the Henry Belin duPont College Center.

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Vice President of the Alumni Association **LYNN SCHMID KNABLE ’67** greeted the graduates and welcomed them as new members of the Alumni Association. “The class of ’67 was a family. You, the class of 2008, are a family. You are united by your hopes and dreams, and all the things you experienced together in the many hours you spent here. Now…you are part of a legacy family. You are our family,” said Knable.

Knable concluded her speech by reminding the students of their duty as Wesley alumni. “And as the passage of time changes all things, it will become your duty, your legacy to bridge the generation between you, the alumni of today and the newest Wesley family members of tomorrow.”

Lastly, awards were presented to two of Wesley’s outstanding students. **FUMIE KOYOSHI** received the Wesley College Exemplary Student Award. **DR. PAUL THORNTON**, dean of adult studies, presented **LINDA WILLIAMS** with the first ever Wesley College New Castle Exemplary Student Award.

After a standing ovation from the crowd, graduates proceeded out of the amphitheatre as family waited to congratulate the newest alumni of Wesley College.
Wesley Chaplain **DR. MARK PRUETT-BARNETT** was selected to receive the Francis Asbury Award. This award is based on Bishop Asbury's advocacy for education. One of Methodism’s first bishops, Asbury called on Methodists to erect a school in the vicinity of every church. The award recognizes a member of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference that has made a significant contribution to fostering the church’s ministries in higher education at the local, district or annual conference level. The recipient is recommended through the Conference Leadership Development Resource Team and is awarded by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church. The award was presented to Pruett-Barnett on June 14 at the annual conference.

**DR. LUCILLE GAMBARDELLA**, professor and chair of the Department of Nursing, presented her research, entitled “Role exit theory and marital discord following extended military deployment,” at the International Society of Psychiatric Mental Health Nurses conference in Louisville, Ky. in April. This research also has been accepted for publication in the July issue of *Perspectives in Psychiatric Care*, a journal for advanced practice nurses.

**DR. BRUCE ALLISON**, professor of Environmental Studies, has completed the first phase of a statewide grant funded by the National Science Foundation. In the second phase, a significant part of the grant will be devoted to developing an Environmental Informatics Laboratory to utilize geospatial techniques to detect environmental change and integrate earth observation networks within Delaware. This grant will provide new opportunities for Environmental Studies program development, internships and undergraduate research.

Plans have been made to use the lab facility to branch out to Wesley College departments of Business, Nursing and Political Science, and to use the lab for community-based...
training in environmental planning. In order to facilitate cross-disciplinary activities and community collaborations, Allison completed two geospatial workshops, titled Spatial Analyst and Business Analyst. Two Environmental Studies students, Eric Buehl and Matthew Panunto, have taken advantage of the new laboratory, and will present their results at an international conference in Houston, Texas in October.

**DR. KRAIWINEE (NOK) BUNYARATAVEJ**, assistant professor of Business Administration, has focused her research on offshore outsourcing of services, which is a relatively recent topic and one of the fastest growing subjects in the international business field. Her latest publication was included in the *Journal of World Business, Volume 43, Issue 2*, a well-regarded journal in the field. Entitled “Multinational investment and host country development: Location efficiencies for services offshoring,” this paper empirically investigates the attractiveness of host countries for offshoring of services. Since not every service offshoring activity yields positive outcomes, decisions regarding where to locate offshoring projects are very important. Using data envelopment analysis, the paper examines which countries use their resources most efficiently. China, India, Ireland, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Slovakia, Spain and the U.K. were found to be particularly attractive locations for services offshoring. The paper was co-authored by Dr. Eugene Hahn from Salisbury University and Dr. Jonathan Doh from Villanova University.

In addition, Bunyaratavej has a forthcoming offshoring paper in *MIS Quarterly*, the highest rated journal in the field of business. Another one of her offshoring papers appears in *Journal of International Management* in the special issue on “International Outsourcing of Services: Expanding the Research Agenda.” Other publications have been included in *Journal of Developing Areas* and *ASEAN Economic Bulletin.*

**DR. KATHLEEN C. JACOBS**, professor of Business Management, presented her research findings on credit card debt, mortgage debt and car loan debt at the 65th Annual Convention for the American Association of University Women at The Terrace at Greenhill in Wilmington, Del. on April 26. Entitled “Financially Fit for Life,” the workshop focused on compound interest and the downside of carrying long-term debt. It demonstrated calculated data over a period of years and showed participants what the true cost is to them when they commit themselves to different types of long-term debt and how compound interest works in favor of financial institutions. In addition, her research data showed how inflation and interest rates tend to “balloon” true costs for the participants as consumers who take out long-term loans.

Jacobs also was recently reappointed by the Governor of Delaware to serve as a Commissioner on the Delaware Commission for Women for a three-year term, expiring in the year 2011. The Delaware Commission for Women is an agency within the Governor’s administration under the auspices of the Secretary of State’s office. As a Commissioner, she serves on the Finance Committee.

Jacobs is celebrating her 20th year at Wesley College. She came to the College as a full-time faculty member in the fall of 1988 and served as Division Chair from 1991-1997.

Since joining Wesley in 2000, **DR. MALCOLM D’SOUZA**, professor of Chemistry, has provided an opportunity for undergraduates to begin original research in chemistry within a Directed Research program.
early in their careers. This research program was developed to involve undergraduates in a laboratory setting, working towards using novel approaches to solve chemical problems. These projects remain of basic importance in organic chemistry because they study the bond-making and bond-breaking processes of many reactions that are building blocks in the synthesis of arthritis, cancer, antiviral and antifungal drugs.

Currently, D’Souza’s department is involved in an in silico drug evaluation project which combines web-accessible FDA files along with the KnowItAll® platform (from BioRad Laboratories) to teach science majors emerging information technology tools that are typical in the drug discovery process. Undergraduates involved in this Directed Research program are afforded an opportunity to publish and present data at scientific conferences through the NIH NCRR INBRE grant 2P20 RR016472-07, obtained through an established partnership with the Delaware Biotechnology Institute at the University of Delaware in Newark.

During the past seven years, Wesley’s involvement in this Delaware-INBRE program has resulted in 19 peer-reviewed scientific journal articles with thirteen undergraduates listed as co-authors and over 90 international, national and regional conference presentations. Last year, four Wesley College Biology majors who mentored in D’Souza’s laboratory presented three posters at the 234th American Chemical Society National Meeting March 24-29 in Chicago. All three posters were awarded an American Chemical Society’s Experiential Programs in Chemistry recognition certificate. This year, one poster received the recognition certificate at the 235th American Chemical Society National Meeting April 6-10 in New Orleans. Additionally, one was competitively chosen from across the nation for presentation to Congress this year at the Posters on the Hill event April 30 at the U.S. Capitol.

**DR. JESSICA JAMES**, assistant professor of History and American Studies, had three articles accepted for publication during the 2008-2009 academic year. Her article entitled “What Neighborhood Poverty Studies and African American Studies Can Learn from One Another” will be published next month in the peer-reviewed journal, *Journal of Pan African Studies, Volume 2, no.4*. The article is directed at sociologists, psychologists and urban planners studying urban poverty in African American neighborhoods whose research focuses primarily on the detrimental effects of growing up in a poor neighborhood and paints a negative picture of poor people, in general, and African Americans, in particular. James argues that while the consequences of growing up in poverty cannot be ignored, African American Studies scholars can offer an alternative perspective by augmenting poverty studies with urban poverty residents’ — who are disproportionately African American — own perceptions about their environments, which identify sources of strength and resiliency in low-income urban African American communities.

Two of James’s articles were also accepted for the *Encyclopedia of Race and Crime*, Sage Publications, and will be forthcoming in 2009. Her piece, entitled “Emmet Till,” details the horrific 1955 murder of the fourteen year-old African American boy and the subsequent trial and acquittal of his murderers in Mississippi. Another article, entitled “Slave Patrols,” describes the 18th and 19th century practice of slave-holding states to monitor and restrict the movements of enslaved Africans through both voluntary and compulsory night patrols. After the Civil War, the Ku Klux Klan and later, Southern police officers, adopted methods used by slave patrollers such as enforcing
curfews and vagrancy laws targeted at African Americans. These practices endured well into the 20th century, and terms used during slave patrols, such as “walking the beat” and “patrolling,” have become commonplace in American parlance.

During the past academic year, Dr. David Laganella, assistant professor of Music and composer, received two commissions for large-scale chamber music compositions by new leading music organizations. Each commission will be funded by monies granted by the Philadelphia Music Project (a subsidiary of the Pew Charitable Trust). Both new works will be premiered during the 2008–09 concert season in Philadelphia.

The first commission will be premiered by “Network for New Music” at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. This new composition will take its inspiration from works of visual art in the Academy’s permanent collection. “Ensemble CMN” will premier the second commission in collaboration with Eastern State Penitentiary. This new vocal work will utilize the stories and myths of the supernatural associated with the historic prison as the basis for music. In 2007, Laganella was selected by the American Composers Orchestra to take part in a new Music Workshop opened to “Philadelphia’s most promising young composers.” These important new commissions solidify Laganella’s reputation as a leading composer in the Delaware Valley region and one of the most promising of his generation.

On April 11, Dr. Jeffery Mask, professor of Religion, Philosophy and American Studies, gave a presentation on religion in the United States to a group of 18 students and three teachers from Bosnia. The group visited Delaware under a program directed by the University of Delaware Cooperative Extension. Wesley Chaplain Dr. Mark Pruett-Barnett also gave the group a tour of the College’s Chapel.

In addition, Mask was a part of a panel discussion on WHYY’s broadcast on April 18 to discuss religion in the U.S. in light of the Pope’s visit and a recent visit by the Dalai Lama. Mask provided historical perspective in the discussion.

Engagement in the curriculum writing process has enabled long-time Campus Community School teachers to create and work from their own units of instruction. These units of instruction successfully translate the mission of their school into classroom practices that achieve the school’s learning goals. Now, this original model for staff development, created by Dr. Patricia Patterson, professor and chair of the Department of Education, and her colleagues is being tested at a school in Rhode Island.

In the fall of 2007, after Patterson worked closely with instructional teams on site, teachers at the Compass School in Kingston, R.I. used the same process taught to teachers at the Campus Community School on the Wesley campus to create and publish their first comprehensive school-wide curriculum. The teachers now feel competent to articulate the connection between their school’s mission and its curriculum because they created it. Next year, teachers will work with Patterson to evaluate and more closely align the instructional practices described in their curriculum with their school’s learning goals.

Patterson and her faculty colleagues have presented their staff development model in a variety of national and international professional settings. Working with the teachers of the Compass School represents the first step in disseminating the model to another school, which will enable Patterson and other Education faculty to gather data about the broader applicability of their staff development model.
Dr. William Johnston has been chosen to lead Wesley College as its 16th president. For this great honor, he wanted to give everyone a heartfelt bow.
During a normal summer, the faculty and staff members at Wesley College take advantage of the quiet campus by gearing up for the next academic year. This summer, a new energy is evident due to the arrival of the College’s 16th president, Dr. William N. Johnston. The College community is eager to know its new leader and ready to partake in the new momentum about to ensue.

“Bill” Johnston has already proven to be the best fit as the next leader of Wesley College. His background in education at church-related liberal arts colleges is vast due to countless career accomplishments as well as his upbringing. He is a man who can understand each aspect of the institution because he was at one time there himself.

The College is no doubt excited to welcome a leader so committed to empowering his employees and so dedicated to bringing together the entire campus community in support of its students.

Wesley sat down with Dr. Johnston to learn more about him and his vision for Wesley College.

Why did you choose a career in higher education? Higher education was a natural choice for me. With my father’s side being very much involved with church work and my mother’s side being in education, I would have to say church-related higher education just seemed natural.

Why Wesley? What drew you to this institution as a presidential candidate? Wesley has many characteristics that I liked...church-related liberal arts college in a historic setting, in a town that was not too large yet sits in the population basin of the eastern United States. Academically, I’ve found that the forward movement of the institution was very appealing. There was a tremendous fit in many ways.

What, if any, are the similarities you see between Iowa Wesleyan and Wesley College? Are there any initiatives or tactics that were successful at your previous institution that could benefit Wesley? Both continue to emerge as excellent institutions of higher learning. I was very comfortable with the organization of Wesley, very similar to Iowa Wesleyan. My operational style…I really have a goal of being inclusive, involving students, faculty, staff, alumni and townspeople in helping us move Wesley forward...empowering people.

How have your past experiences influenced you? Those past experiences have been invaluable in helping me fully appreciate the very important skills that faculty provide within the institution. Also, that great appreciation for the different roles within the institution and how it all fits together, from admissions to student life to alumni relations, to each position on campus. My past experiences have helped me immeasurably in being sensitive to all constituents and all employees on campus. I feel good about that.
What do you feel are the ideal qualities in a college president? Knowledge of higher education, knowledge of the corporate world and the qualities that build trust and integrity with all people involved with the president. To have enthusiasm in identifying the mission of the institution but also enthusiasm to move forward in that mission and have a passion in the mission. Empowering people, trusting others and letting people use their skills to the utmost.

How do you feel the campus community, faculty and staff can come together in strengthening the College’s mission? First of all, we have to understand the reason we are here is to support and develop our students. We all have to be here for that reason. I do believe that everyone employed at Wesley needs to be an educator and has an opportunity to help in the education process for our students. Faculty have primary opportunity in and out of the classroom, but our student life staff, admissions staff, maintenance and food service staff all have opportunities to be mentors and educators. That’s one thing I feel strongly about.

What do you feel is Wesley’s biggest challenge moving forward? What opportunities are you most excited about at Wesley? One is to stabilize and enhance enrollment, make certain we are attracting students that can succeed and retaining them. We need to continue to make certain we are investing in facilities that enable us to provide the best learning environment possible. Another opportunity we have is to grow our endowment and financial stability.

What type of relationship do you hope to develop with the student body at Wesley, and how do you plan to initiate that relationship? I would hope that the students see the President as someone they have the opportunity to know and have exchanges with while they are here. I would anticipate supporting students by getting to know them through their activities, and by attending and supporting their events. Mrs. Johnston and I certainly want to invite student groups to our home. We feel that is extremely important because they become part of who we are and we become part of their lives as well.

What new fundraising initiatives are you interested in implementing at Wesley College? We seek to find ways to encourage and invite more people to invest in Wesley. I anticipate we will review our giving societies and opportunities, with the possibility of altering them. Seeking opportunities for people to support initiatives, whether it be buildings or programs. We will continue to identify those in order to get people involved.

Are there any programs existing at Wesley that you feel should be expanded upon? Are there any new programs you plan on implementing? As far as new academic programs, we are in the early stages of reviewing and exploring new potential programs. Given the number of people moving into nursing, one of the things we feel the need to do is to continue to raise funds for the nursing expansion.
Like any institution, Wesley relies on its alumni participation, whether it is volunteer work or financial contributions. What are your expectations of Wesley’s alumni involvement and support of the College? I hope that alumni would attend events, assist with making contacts for the institution and support the institution financially. I hope they will take leadership roles within the institution and volunteer. That may be programmatically by providing internship opportunities. I want them to continue to be involved in the life of Wesley on a day-to-day basis.

One of our biggest goals is to remain actively involved with our surrounding community. Why is this a major priority for the institution? One of the things I feel is extremely important and we will continue to explore is being excellent neighbors and partners in not only growing Wesley, but also Dover and Delaware. Wesley College needs to be a player for our students, the town and the state. I am a firm believer that “a rising tide raises all ships” and if we can support different programs in town and in different neighborhoods then we can be good neighbors ourselves. Then, as a whole, we continue to grow and prosper.

There is a buzz around campus about the need for a stronger arts presence at Wesley. Do you have plans for expanding the arts at the College and if so, what do you envision? The arts are a very important aspect of a higher education environment. I would hope we would be open to continuing to develop the arts on our campus. That could take the form of visual or performing arts. I think when we talk about the well-rounded educational experience, the arts need to be a part of that experience.

What are your expectations of Wesley College as an institution affiliated with The United Methodist Church? What are your plans for maintaining that relationship? Some of the ways we need to continue to maintain and strengthen the bond with The United Methodist Church is by being involved with our regional clergy. Certainly I would personally like to get to know the Bishop better. We also need to make sure we have a presence in churches and congregations. Wesley College is a place that parents will hopefully encourage their sons and daughters to consider and visit. I would like our United Methodist Church to feel a sense of pride and strong connection with Wesley.

With the struggle of small private colleges to attract highly qualified high school graduates, how can Wesley College set itself apart as a unique educational experience, different from other institutions? Wesley is a student-centered institution, but we need to do that better than anyone else out there and in doing so, we will attract and retain students. That will make us extremely competitive with other institutions.

Five years from now, what changes might alumni hopefully see in Wesley College? In five years, I’d like to continue to increase the profile and reputation of Wesley College. I would like us to perhaps move forward with new facilities, new academic programs and a new strategic plan. Certainly continuing to find individuals and resources that will help us fully fund the initiatives that we are identifying.

What are your and Mrs. Johnston’s impressions of Delaware so far? Susan and I are extremely delighted with the living environment, the proximity to other areas and with the people we have met. We are exceedingly pleased to be part of the community.

“In five years, I’d like to continue to increase the profile and reputation of Wesley College. I would like us to perhaps move forward with new facilities, new academic programs and a new strategic plan.”
From landscape artist to fashion designer to children’s book author to professor, one could easily say that versatility has been the hallmark of Joyce Glasser Howell’s prolific career. A naturally gifted artist from a very young age, Howell ’62 allowed her lifelong passion and talents to guide her professional pursuits. Only once did she flirt with the idea of pursuing a different path altogether — in microbiology — when working briefly at Children’s Hospital in Boston. However, the fact that she found herself most interested in the drawings she would make after looking through the microscope reconfirmed her innate artistic instincts.
Had she not found herself as a single mother trying to make a living and support her children after an unfortunate divorce, Howell might never have acted upon her interests in home décor and fashion design. Living in Marblehead, Mass. at the time, where most of her neighbors were busy maintaining and refurbishing their colonial homes, she recognized the niche that existed for fabrics and furnishings to match the early American style architecture that homeowners in New England and surrounding areas were so zealous about preserving.

Coincidentally, being in “a crafty stage” at that point in her life and having some samples on hand, Howell went to New York City and was able to land interviews with several prominent fabric and design manufacturers. The strength and distinctive quality of her artistic designs, coupled with some good fortune and timing in the market, helped to seal her fate in the design industry. Howell received an offer from Filene’s in Boston to develop a special logo to be used for a series of gift boutiques for eight stores in three different states.

Howell’s custom-designed whale logo was then licensed to 35 different manufacturers and soon seen everywhere — on ties, handbags, dresses, children’s apparel, wallpaper and table linens. Howell’s designs were such a hit that the boutiques sold out of all the merchandise! The president of Filene’s flew Howell to the corporate headquarters of Federated Department stores in New York City and within weeks she was given her own designer label. Her ready-to-wear clothing and home furnishings appeared in every major department store as well as specialty shops across the nation.

Looking back on the fortuity of it all, Howell noted the importance of making connections, being persistent yet flexible and — in order to break into an industry — doing the research to fully understand the background, trends and needs of that industry’s market. She also emphasizes the significance of knowing one’s own strengths. “What I do well and how I do it differently than the next person,” Howell summarized.

Through her varied career experiences, Howell learned to round out her left-brain persona by developing the necessary skills to survive in the business world. “Two skills that one absolutely must have are to write well and to be able to collect your ideas and get to the point,” she said. She learned quickly that calling very early in the morning is the best way to actually get top executives on the phone, before their day is filled with meetings. In addition, being able to introduce herself and the purpose of her call in three sentences or less was invaluable in capturing the attention of individuals in high-level positions who helped catapult her in her career.

“If you can do that, 9 times out of 10 you can get an appointment.” Howell added, “Keep the appointment, since it may be your one window of opportunity.”

Howell remembered the thrill when she first saw her bedding designs on display in Bloomingdale’s, positioned between the Bill Blass and Yves Saint Laurent lines. She admits there were many times, in the height of her corporate success, when she felt like an outsider watching it all happen. “It [the success] was always a wonder to me. It still is. I think I have had a really wonderful life…I marvel the way it all went,” Howell said.
Quiet and unassuming in her nature, Howell initially shied away from the fast-paced, big city life. In fact, at the end of her high school days, she received (without even applying) a full scholarship to attend college at the Philadelphia Museum School of Art, but turned it down because the thought of having to rent an apartment on her own and go to school in the inner city intimidated her. The intimate, small town setting offered by Wesley Junior College, discovered at the recommendation of her guidance counselor, proved to be a comfortable fit. Howell fondly recalled some of the memorable experiences that she had, such as being chosen to ride on the back of a convertible in a parade honoring Governor Rockefeller and winning the Art Award at graduation. Howell still treasures some of the strong friendships she made at Wesley.

After leaving Wesley to go on to study at the Boston Museum School of Fine Art, the small class size and personal instruction she received put her at ease, despite being surrounded by the larger Boston city life. It was her natural poise that allowed her to successfully manage some of the growing pains she experienced as a young adult.

“I didn’t come into my own until I was much older,” Howell recalled, adding that she did most of her “growing” as a person between the ages of 40 to 50. Howell attributes frequent travel abroad, for work and leisure, to “opening up her world.”

Howell’s determination and ability to play to her strengths were most evident when she made the transition in her career from fashion and home furnishings designer to children’s book author. After a great 10-year run developing her line in department stores and boutiques in the U.S. and London, Howell started to feel the effects of the stock market crash in the late 1980s, and the changing nature of manufacturing, when the bulk of production moved overseas. The market decline was spreading and had finally caught up with her after her move to London, so she returned to the U.S. and reconnected with former contacts at Bloomingdale’s and Lord & Taylor. After learning that children’s lines were now the most promising market and thoroughly researching this industry segment, Howell dove right in, took what she knew and began creating a children’s character around her famous whale logo.

Howell traced her inspiration back to the Marblehead-Halifax yacht race in 1980. She vividly recalled two playful whales that affectionately and continuously swam right up to their boat. “I was so impressed that I dreamt about them that night and then immediately the next day sketched and colored a whale with three hearts floating above,” Howell said. “Winslow Whale” was born. This sighting had served as the inspiration for the custom logo for Filene’s and many designs in Howell’s own label which immediately followed. In addition, at the urging of a Bloomingdale’s executive and to the delight of young audiences everywhere, the whale image came to life as an animated children’s book character and plush toy a decade later.

Looking for an opportunity to promote “Winslow Whale,” Howell consulted someone she knew in the toy industry, also associated with Viking Penguin. The company agreed to become her publisher for a children’s book. The only problem was she didn’t know the first thing about writing a children’s book. Relying on her skill-set,
she first developed the illustrations in story board fashion, creating Winslow in his undersea environment. Howell also absorbed herself in the children’s book industry, taking any and every course she could find on children's literature. “I really learned everything as I went along in this segment of my career,” Howell pointed out.

Having broken into the world of writing and illustrating and realizing she could teach others to do the same, Howell became an educator. She joined the faculty at the Silvermine School of Art in Connecticut. She also became a visiting author and illustrator, creating programs for each grade level in elementary schools around Winslow Whale, and now teaches enrichment programs and workshops to teachers, as well as adult classes in writing and illustrating.

“I discovered I love teaching. I don’t think of it as teaching…I think of it as inspiring others. Writing is a wonderful way to get in touch with yourself,” Howell explained. “Everyone needs just one good idea to build on. Creativity is not limited to being a writer, artist or musician, but flows through all inspired ideas. Everyone has this creative well…some people don’t know they have it or haven’t tapped into it. The key is loving what you do and tapping into it…having your heart in what you do.”

Despite her love for travel and affection for Europe, Howell has always maintained a patriotic spirit and appreciation for America. Dubbed the American version of Laura Ashley at the start of her design career, Howell described her style as “American first in simplicity…very classic and whimsical.” This Americana influence showed up later in her work when she began creating a series of paintings incorporating the red and white stripes of the American flag with scenes from around the country in the field of stars. This body of work was inspired by the approach of the new millennium, and built upon her background as an exhibiting landscape painter in New England.

The “Spirit of America Series,” consisting of over 200 scenes depicting country villages, seascapes, national landmarks and commissioned images, celebrates the beauty and spirit of the United States through its communities. The images play up her unique flat, two-dimensional artistic style, which derives depth and movement from the way she places shapes and colors in her paintings. Once chastised by a famous painter and visiting instructor when she tried to paint like the other art students in his class at Boston’s Museum School of Fine Arts, Howell now appreciates her own rare design view. She cited Klee, Matisse and Jasper Johns among the artists whose work she most admires.

The success of Howell’s “Spirit of America Series” has continued, as her paintings are now a part of many major private collections and are being exhibited up and down the East Coast in gallery shows booked through 2010. The American Home Network selected one of the paintings in the series — “Main Street-USA” — as the main image for their website and to be used to market every town across America. Several are currently being considered for use on future U.S. postal stamps.

Everyone has this creative well...some people don’t know they have it...

Today, Howell appreciates the many business opportunities she has had. Through the classes and seminars she teaches, she is able to share her experiences with others and express some of the core values she has learned in life. One is being able “to move laterally and look for another way to move around an obstacle that seems to be blocking your path.” At the same time, she has come full circle and is now content in her painting. “As an artist, no one can downsize you. You can create for the rest of your life.” W
All the World’s a Stage
(and all the men and women merely players)

By Jennifer Telles
Wesley College has had a longtime tradition of excellence in the arts. In the 1960s and 1970s, Wesley’s cultural programs were in full bloom. Forums for artistic expression included the Wesley Players drama troupe, the WSLY radio station and the coffee shop that featured poetry readings, live bands and open mic nights. Student involvement in these programs was immense, and the students truly appreciated the surrounding creative atmosphere.

Remembering her days as a Wesley Player, LYNN SCHMID KNAble ’67 stated, “The Wesley Players were locally renowned. Professional critics from Philadelphia and Wilmington came to review our main productions...The Little Theatre (now known as Wells Theatre) was always transformed because Uncle Louie, the ‘Grand Director,’ was at the helm.” Professor Lewis Wells, for whom the Wells Theatre was named, taught a variety of English classes and drama, and formed the Wesley Players. His memory lives on in the theatre and in the hearts of his students.

Today, with Wesley’s partnership with the Schwartz Center for the Arts and several growing programs, the arts at the College are experiencing somewhat of a revival. Currently, Wesley offers a major in media arts, a minor in music and various electives in music, visual art and drama.

The professors in each department not only have strong academic credentials, but are gifted artists themselves. DR. DAVID LAGANELLA, assistant professor of music, is a composer and artistic director of the Chamber Music Now Concert Series in Philadelphia. He has received honors from several organizations and is also the author of The Composer’s Guide to the Electric Guitar. JONATHAN EMMONS, director of choirs and college organist, earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in music from Bridgewater College, where he was the co-founder/director of the Summer Choral Ensemble. While in Virginia, he served as assistant director of music at Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. Emmons continued his education with a Master of Music degree from the University of Michigan, where he studied choral conducting, organ and voice. Both Laganella and Emmons, still relatively new to Wesley, bring a strong artistic background and have helped to enhance the music programs at the College.

“The mission of the department is to provide a stimulating educational experience in music for the academic community. We do this by providing a variety of courses for students that cover a wide breadth of subject matter. The department also offers members of the academic community an opportunity to develop their performing skills. Students can elect to take part in several ensembles,” Laganella noted.

Similarly, Professor of Drama GEORGE TIETZ explained, “The drama program provides a creative theatrical outlet for students and faculty, while also providing an entertaining and engaging production.” He added, “Some [students] have even expressed a desire to have more comprehensive theater productions, including a full length play.”

Students can also obtain artistic experience with Professor of Art LON FLUMAN. Fluman has been a loyal faculty member since 1964 and has enriched many lives by teaching visual art courses.

Knable reminisced, “Art receptions showcased the students of Lon Fluman, an immensely talented artist himself. Lon and his art students mustered catchy posters and set decorations [for the Wesley Players].”

Hearts are pounding, sweat is dripping and the applause is overwhelming. Students at Wesley College have the unique opportunity to enjoy the thrill of performance. Whether it is the choir performing at Commencement, the drama department’s production of excerpts from classic and modern plays or the excitement of creating a student newscast, Wesley College can provide it all.
Students have demonstrated a growing interest in the arts programming that exists. Participation in the music and drama ensembles has increased in recent years, and performance attendance is at its highest since the 1970s. At the same time, the media arts program is an ever-growing major at Wesley. Offered as a bachelor’s degree program, media arts courses include video/audio production, media law, journalism and photography. Wesley also has campus media distribution such as the traditional Whetstone newspaper, WSLY stream radio, and WCTV — the campus television channel.

WCTV is a student-promoted and operated television station, currently streaming news reports on channel four. With the advisement of Dr. Michael Nielsen, professor of media arts, the television studio is run solely by students. Erica Queen ’10 and Justin Rhodes ’10 serve as co-managers of the station. Media arts curriculum is designed so that these campus media outlets provide practical experience for the students outside of the classroom and allow for hands-on training. For example, WCTV has received all levels of class involvement in the past year, and has been able to successfully design quality newscasts for students and faculty alike.

“Everyone feels good in this program. They get to gain experience within the field before they go into the real world. It’s a little taste of everything,” Rhodes stated.

Even with the success of these programs, however, there is still much to be done to expand the arts at Wesley. The primary obstacle each department faces is space. Although the Schwartz Center for the Arts (a 500 seat theater in downtown Dover), is a valuable venue for performance, there is limited space on campus for the existing programs. Students and faculty have expressed a desire to have an arts building located directly on campus to house music, media arts, theater, visual arts and ideally, dance. Practice rooms, studios and performance space would provide an atmosphere of artistic community and creativity for students, thus truly allowing Wesley College to build on its reputation in the liberal and cultural arts.

Although there is a core group of students who participate regularly and interest among the student body is apparent, increased involvement is needed. It can be difficult to entice students to participate in campus organizations such as the choir or WCTV because students’ schedules are already so hectic.

“The goal is to always get more people involved; it is hard to compete with full time schedules. Everyone is welcome and we would like to see student participation and the arts at Wesley College expand,” Rhodes remarked.

Wesley has had wonderful educational and performance opportunities in its past and continues to provide these outlets to its students today. However, in order to gain increased funding for these endeavors, the College is reliant upon alumni donors, grants and business sponsorships. President William Johnston’s initiatives to be student focused and his wife Susan’s previous experience as an arts educator and career as a professional artist could bring good things to the arts programs on campus. With a rich cultural history and the support of a talented faculty, the spark exists at Wesley to fuel future artistic endeavors, which will enhance not only the student experience but the surrounding Delaware community.

Knable articulated, “Someone somewhere long ago said something to the effect that, ‘without art, without its culture, all of civilization is dead.’ May the arts rise again as a rich and vital part of each student’s experience at Wesley.”
Old Friends, New Memories
INAUGURATION AND HOMECOMING WEEKEND | OCTOBER 17-19, 2008

Come home to Wesley this fall and join alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends for the Inauguration of Dr. William N. Johnston as Wesley College’s 16th president.

Relive old memories and celebrate a new era at Wesley!

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17
• 13th Annual Fall Golf Classic
• Tau Beta Nursing Conference
• Presidential Inauguration & Reception
• Men’s Soccer Alumni Game
• Alumni Awards Ceremony & Reception

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18
• Homecoming Parade
• Campus Tours
• Wolverine Athletic Games: Football, Women’s Soccer and Volleyball
• Post-Game Party (kids activities during game)
• All Class Reunion Dinner
• Young Alumni Party

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19
• Homecoming Worship Service
• Golden Grads Brunch
• Field Hockey Alumni Game

2008 Alumni Honorees
Please join us at the Alumni Awards Ceremony & Reception on Friday evening to honor the following distinguished alumni.

ALUMNI HALL OF FAME
Bill Willis ’66
Skip Willis ’70

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME
Jill Coleman ’93
Staci Maris ’99
Chris Becker ’99

Visit the Homecoming webpage at www.weare.wesley.edu/homecoming08
Online registration will be coming soon!
• View new events and updated schedule information
• Find out about class reunions and special alumni gatherings to be hosted
• Get information on accommodations and blocked rooms
• See who else is coming back for Homecoming

Most Homecoming events are FREE, but please register in advance.

Questions? Call the Alumni Office at 302-736-2318
1957
George “Pete” Rice retired in December from the DLR Group, the fifth largest A/E firm in the country. After practicing Architecture and having the opportunity to work on projects ranging from K-12 schools, university buildings, the Ritz Carlton, Hyatt Hotels, crime labs, spring training facilities for the Oakland A’s and LA Angels, office buildings and the Super Max Prison plus other exciting projects, he says, “This has been a fantastic career!” Shortly after retiring, he and his wife moved from Scottsdale, Ariz. to Broomfield, Colo. to be closer to their family. Now they are able to enjoy more time with their grandchildren, more golf, the great Colorado outdoors and continue to travel, with so many places yet to see in the world. Looks like he and his wife will be spending their summers and falls in Colorado and the winters in Arizona and Maui. He would like to hear from friends of the classes of 1957 and 1958. He can be reached at gricearch@yahoo.com

1972
Helen (Ranson) Bostock wants everyone from the class of 1972 to know she finally made it through to receiving her undergraduate degree. She graduated cum laude on May 17, 2008 from the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire with a degree of Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts with an emphasis in Theatre Arts Management and a minor in Religious Studies. She says, “It is hard to believe that it has been a 37 year journey between graduating from Wesley and then my graduation from UW-EC.” Helen says she will always remember that her journey began at Wesley College. After graduation, she will be off to Walt Disney World to work full time at the “most magical place on earth!”

1982
In April 2008, four friends, Peggy (Mac Kenzie) Pensack, Judy (Maxson) Donahue, Beth (Bunting) Sise ’80, and Judi Guy ’80 gathered to celebrate 30 years of friendship in Ocean City, Md. Little did they know when they first met in 1978, a friendship that started in Cecil Street Hall would continue all these years later. They have been there for each other in good times and bad, and over the years their friendship has grown stronger. Peggy writes, “Here’s to the next 30 years!”

1995
Tara (Lytle) Carrillo and husband Rick proudly announce the birth of their second daughter, Isabel Fiona Carrillo. Isabel was born April 7, 2008 and weighed 7 lb. 3 oz. and measured 19½ inches. The Carrillos are currently living in Melbourne, Fla. where Rick is a Materials Manager for the Harris Group.

1997
Melissa Spadaccini reports that she will be getting married September 27, 2008 to a wonderful man named John Wallo. They will be married in Dover, Del. at Southside Baptist Church in Woodside. Melissa has two children — Anthony (26) and Rebecca (21), and her fiancé John has two children of his own — Stephanie (25) and John (21). Melissa and John plan on staying in Dover.

1998
Justin Pugh and his wife Tracy continue to enjoy being parents to their son, Sawyer, who turned 2 years old in July. Justin has recently released his third children’s CD entitled “Rock Music for Education,” and is heading back to the studio to begin working on his fourth. His music helps children learn about everything from adjectives to the planets in the solar system, sung to hard rock music. Justin was highlighted on the local news regarding his educational music. You can listen to his songs and purchase CDs, as well as see the news segment at his website www.rockmusicforeducation.com Justin just finished up his tenth year teaching 4th grade in Baltimore County and says he “loves every minute of it!”

Correction: The Spring 2008 Wesley magazine incorrectly noted Dr. Rochelle (Davis) Delain’s announcement about the birth of her son under class of 1992. Rochelle was a member of the class of 1982. She would like her fellow classmates to contact her at delainrj7@alltell.net
2000

Gabriella Toto-Gedney and her husband, Brian, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Ava Isabella Gedney, born February 1, 2008.

2001

Jacci (Garton) Carr and husband Tim are proud to announce the birth of their son, Andrew Patrick Carr. Drew was born on February 13, 2008. Jacci is a 1st grade teacher in the Christiana School District in Newark, Del. Tim works for JPMorgan Chase. The family resides in Newark, Del.

2004

Kimberly (Robostello) Chila and Antonio Chila were united in marriage June 9, 2007 at St. Michael’s Roman Catholic Church in Gibbstown, N.J. Devin Roe ’05, a college roommate and good friend, was a bridesmaid in the wedding. Also in attendance were Tracey Short ’02 and Allison Houdek ’06. A reception followed the wedding at the Coliseum in Voorhees, N.J. Kim and Tony honeymooned in Hawaii, visiting the islands of Oahu and Maui. Kim teaches 2nd grade in the Greenwich Township School District, and Tony is the Athletic Director at Paulsboro High School. The couple resides in Paulsboro, N.J.

LaCandance Speight is currently employed as the Assistant to the Registrar at the National Labor College in Silver Spring, Md. The college is mainly for individuals that are part of unions, such as government employees, teachers, bricklayers, etc. She has been employed there for 6 months as of May 3, 2008. She left her previous position as the Student Success Coordinator at Everest College (formerly Parks College) located in Arlington, Va. and was employed there for 5 years. She is also working on her MBA in Human Resource Management at Strayer University. LaCandance can be contacted at Ms_Speight20@yahoo.com

In Memoriam

Theodore J. Bole, Jr ’76

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 October 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 (your first time login ID number can be found above your name on the address label of this magazine).

www.weare.wesley.edu/classnotes
Now there’s an easy way to accomplish all this with just one resource.

The new We Are Wesley online community is designed just for you to help you stay in touch with your fellow alumni and your alma mater better than ever before. With a new look and updated design, brand-new functionality and user-friendly navigation tools, you’ll want to check it out or visit again if you have already registered.

Log in today at www.weare.wesley.edu

NEW USERS
Click on “First Time Login.”
Search for your name (maiden name, if applicable) and enter your ID # found above your name on the address label of this magazine.

REGISTERED MEMBERS
Please use the existing username and password that you created.

NEED HELP?
Contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 302-736-2467 or ramirech@wesley.edu
Everyone knows the old adage, “The more things change, the more they stay the same.” That was never truer than it was for the 2007-08 Wesley College golf team. After winning every Pennsylvania Athletic Conference (PAC) Championship in which the team competed, the Wolverines began play in the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) in 2008.

The Wolverines rolled through the CAC at the conference championships on April 26 and 27 for the program’s 10th straight conference title. The team finished 21 strokes better than the second place team and tournament hosts from Villa Julie. Chris Osberg won the individual title and the CAC Golfer of the Year Award. Teammates Michael Rushin and Andrew Geyer joined him, finishing in the top five to earn spots on the All-CAC first team. Will Scarborough and Riley Powers gave the Wolverines five All-CAC picks, finishing in the top 10 to earn second team recognition.

Osberg’s run at the CAC Championships came two weeks after tying former Wolverine standouts Zach Oakley and Chris Noll for the school record by shooting a 66 to win the Bent Creek Invitational.

The effort at the CAC Championships and a second place finish earlier in the season at the Mid-Atlantic Invitational, in which Geyer and Rushin finished in the top five, helped the Wolverines earn a Pool B bid to the NCAA Championships. With just five teams in the CAC sponsoring golf, the conference champion does not get an automatic bid to the national championships.

Different players had stepped up every week for the Wolverines, illustrated by the fact that four Wesley golfers — Rushin, Scarborough, Osberg and Geyer — had each won CAC Golfer of the Week honors at some point in the season. The Wolverines finished outside the top five just three times in 13 tournaments in the season. Wesley went into the national tournament on a hot streak, with three second place finishes followed by a pair of victories to wrap up the spring.

Wesley golfers owned five of the top six spots on the CAC scoring average leader board. Rushin ended the season with a season average of 75.2 to lead the conference, followed by Scarborough’s 76.1 and Geyer’s 77.5. Osberg tied with a York golfer for third in the conference with a 77.8 average and Powers took sixth with a 79.4.

At the NCAAs, it was Scarborough who stepped up. The senior from Dover, Dela. was fifth after the first round. He spent the rest of the tournament bouncing around the top five and after all the scorecards were handed in after the fourth and final round, Scarborough had tied for third and led the Wolverines to a seventh place team finish.

It was the best NCAA placement for a Wesley golfer since Noll won the 2002 NCAA Championship. Rushin finished tied for 37th, Geyer tied for 55th, Osberg was in a tie for 57th and Powers was in a logjam at 105th.

After the team’s performance in the NCAA tournament, the Wolverines jumped 12 spots in the Golfstat rankings, finishing the year at No. 12.

Scarborough’s efforts earned him 2008 Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA)/PING All-America First Team honors, and he was joined by Rushin on the GCAA/ PING Mid-Atlantic All-Region team.

They were not the only Wesley golfers who received postseason accolades, as Geyer was voted to a spot on the ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District at-large squad. To gain selection to the at-large squad, Geyer had to go up against student-athletes from men’s golf and 11 other sports, including men’s fencing, men’s gymnastics, men’s ice hockey, men’s lacrosse, men’s rifle, men’s skiing, men’s swimming, men’s tennis, men’s volleyball, men’s water polo and men’s wrestling.

By Geoff Goyne
Baseball Advances to ECACs for Second Straight Year
The Wesley College baseball team continued its recent run of success, finishing 27-15 and advancing to the ECAC South Championships for the second straight year. The Wolverines, under third-year Head Coach Tripp Keister, also finished an impressive 10-8 in their first season of play in the always competitive Capital Athletic Conference (CAC).

A blistering 15-3 start — the best in school history — powered Wesley to what amounts to the most successful two and three year periods in program history. The start also garnered the Wolverines consideration in the national rankings. After the season, speedy centerfielder Stu Madden was named to the All-CAC first team, while pitchers Ryan Buckland and Colin Warner and catcher Dan Bunnion earned second team honors. Madden finished the year seventh in the nation for stolen bases with 35. Kevin Ellis was eighth in the nation with 34 as Wesley was rated eighth in Division III as a team. Warner ended up third in the nation in ground balls and his 42 caused turnovers easily would have been among the national leaders if the NCAA tracked it as an official statistic in men’s lacrosse. Both players were selected to the All-CAC first team after the season.

Buckland continued to anchor the starting rotation, claiming the school record for career victories with 26 after finishing 2008 with an 8-1 record. He also finished as Wesley’s career leader in strikeouts and innings pitched.

Other highlights along the way included Grant Morlock hitting for the cycle against Polytechnic (NY) and Billy Cunningham turning in a school record with base hits in seven consecutive plate appearances.

Young Men’s Lacrosse Team Posts Fourth Straight Winning Year
On the lacrosse field, Wesley won nine games despite fielding a roster with just two seniors and moving into the CAC, which featured national champion Salisbury and another national power in Villa Julie.

The Wolverines rode a stingy defense and a timely offense to its fourth consecutive season of at least eight wins. Junior Kirk Waldie emerged as one of the conference’s premier defenders and Jim McCleaf led the CAC in save percentage. Waldie finished 19th in the nation in ground balls and his 42 caused turnovers easily would have been among the national leaders if the NCAA tracked it as an official statistic in men’s lacrosse. Both players were selected to the All-CAC first team after the season.

Wesley’s five game winning streak in the middle of the season put the Wolverines on the radar for a national ranking. That streak was highlighted by a 9-8 win over York (PA) that featured the Wolverines capping a five-goal comeback with Brad Bivins’s game-winner with just 14 seconds to play. Wesley showcased its defense during the winning streak as well. Opponents mustered just over four goals per game during the stretch.

Three of Wesley’s six losses came to nationally ranked teams, including a narrow 8-7 defeat by Washington (MD).

Women’s Lacrosse Continues to Show Improvement
Just three goals separated the 2008 women’s lacrosse team from a .500 season. The Wolverines fell by just a single goal on three occasions.

The hard luck and injuries doomed Wesley to a 5-11 season. The season was not without its highlights, however. Brooke Bennett finished sixth in Division III in caused turnovers with 42. The sophomore also scored 12 goals and finished second on the team with 47 ground balls to earn second team All-CAC honors.

Stephanie Johnson poured in a school record eight goals against Frostburg State. The Wolverines came within 42 seconds of posting a shutout in a lopsided win over Lancaster Bible.
Softball Gets Better as Season Wears On

While the season started slowly for Wesley softball in 2008, it ended on a high note with a three-game winning streak down the stretch and a win in the opening round of the CAC playoffs.

Jessica Morgan capped a stellar career by leading the team with a .360 batting average and leading the pitching staff with four wins and 48 strikeouts.

The Wolverines, forced to play their entire CAC slate in a 10-day span, finished conference play by winning three straight games. A week later, the Wolverines upset Hood in the first round of the CAC Championship Tournament.

Win Over Division I UMES Highlights Men’s Tennis Season

The men’s tennis team had its ups and downs in 2008, but posted impressive back-to-back efforts in their two wins. On April 1, the Wolverines picked up their first win of the year with an 8-1 win over Maryland-Eastern Shore, then turned around the next afternoon and beat Hood 7-2 for the first CAC men’s tennis win in school history.

Will Johnson posted an undefeated 6-0 mark at sixth singles and finished 7-2 overall. Mickey DeSouza battled to finish 5-5 at second singles and Luke Melillo also finished .500 playing between fourth and fifth singles.

Women’s Tennis Makes Strides in 2008

The women’s tennis team continued the climb back to the pack in 2008. The Wolverines more than doubled the number of both singles and doubles victories from the previous season thanks to a talented batch of newcomers. While the team won just twice, three other matches were decided by just a single point, which bodes well for the future with a roster that contained no seniors and only one junior.

Lauren Tarver led the way with a 7-3 mark at first singles, and Rebecca Pennington finished 5-5 at second singles. They teamed up for a 5-4 mark at first doubles, as did the duo of Amanda Bynon and Kori Isken at second doubles.

Beavers Brings Home First Two CAC Men’s Track & Field Titles

Larry Beavers won CAC Championships in the 110-meter hurdles and the 200-meter dash and finished second in three other events as the Wolverines burst onto the conference’s radar in the program’s first varsity season.

Beavers cleared the hurdles in 15.88, blowing out the next closest competitor by .39 seconds. He then won the 200m in 22.23, seven hundredths ahead of the next runner. In the 100m, he finished in 10.91, just eight hundredths behind the champion. His leap of 21-feet 8¾-inches took second in the long jump. The junior was also part of Wesley’s second place 4x100 meter relay, which claimed second in 42.16. For his efforts, he was named the CAC Rookie of the Year.

Wesley finished fourth at the CAC Championships behind Salisbury, Mary Washington and York, who have combined to win every team championship in CAC history.

Duo Leads Wolverines in Women’s Track & Field

While the Wesley women’s track & field team went through some of the typical growing pains of any first year varsity program, the duo of Sontia Biggus and Ashley Cox helped make the Wolverines a formidable opponent.

Biggus had the Wolverines’ best finish at the CAC Championships, tossing the discus 107-feet 10½-inches to place third. Cox finished fifth in three events one week after winning the CAC Athlete of the Week Award.

Wesley finished fifth at the conference championships.
Mr. Robinson’s Neighborhood

BRYAN ROBINSON GOES TO ARIZONA

The National Football League Draft had just ended when Bryan Robinson’s phone started ringing. Despite not getting selected during the seven round affair, several teams were high on the Wolverine standout and offered him a chance to come to camp. In the end, the Dover, Del. native opted to go with the Arizona Cardinals.

Robinson, a defensive end at Wesley, will have to make an adjustment if he hopes to break camp in August with a roster spot. The six-foot, three-inch, 300-pound defensive lineman will have to move inside to tackle with the Cardinals.

Not only that, but the Cardinals have another Bryan Robinson on the roster — at the same position. That means the rookie will have to surrender his nickname, B-Rob, to the 12-year veteran of the same name.

“I’m very excited right now,” Robinson said after signing his contract. “But at the same time, I know that it’s time to get down to business.”

“It’s going to be like starting all over again, like freshman year in college. I’m going to have to prove myself, but this time it’s against bigger and better competition.”

Arizona was not the only NFL team to show interest in the three-time All-American. Robinson was also contacted by both the St. Louis Rams and Washington Redskins during and after the draft. Wesley College had been contacted by over 20 NFL teams in the past year about Robinson.

“Arizona was the first team where the position coach contacted us,” Wesley Head Coach Mike Drass noted. “When Ron Aiken, their defensive line coach, called to express a serious interest, that meant a lot. You had a coach that had watched a lot of film on him and felt like he could contribute.”

Robinson anchored the Wesley defense for four years, leading the team to a 44-7 record, three trips to the NCAA Playoffs and two trips to the national semifinals. As a senior, he led a team that advanced to the national quarterfinals and won both the Lambert-Meadowlands and ECAC Team of the Year Awards. The team also finished the season ranked fifth in both of the major Division III national polls.

Robinson was named to the AP Little All-American First Team and the American Football Coaches Association All-American First Team in 2007. His selection to the D3football.com All-American First Team was his third selection by that outlet, as was his D3football.com All-South Region Defensive Player of the Year Award. Robinson was also chosen as the ECAC All-Southwest Region Player of the Year.

He was named All-Atlantic Central Football Conference (ACFC) First Team four times and was the ACFC Defensive Player of the Year three times. Robinson finished his career as both Wesley’s and the ACFC’s all-time leader with 47 sacks and 92.5 tackles for loss. He also ranks among the school’s all-time leaders in tackles. W
And the Award Goes To...

**WOLVERINES HOLD ANNUAL SENIOR AWARDS BANQUET**

As is tradition at Wesley College, Sports & Recreation held its annual Senior Awards Banquet on April 22 as the spring season wound down. In addition to naming its team MVPs, Wesley also handed out the Male and Female Athlete of the Year Awards, as well as the Wentworth, Pat Knight and Murray Awards.

Bryan Robinson of the football team won both Male Athlete of the Year and the Murray Award. Women’s soccer’s Kyle Savidge was named Female Athlete of the Year.

Brian Demarest of men’s lacrosse was chosen as the Wentworth Award recipient, while Randy Chambers of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes was named the winner of the Pat Knight Award.

Robinson’s night adds to a long list of honors received by the senior defensive end. A Dover, Del. native, Robinson has already been named the ACFC Defensive Player of the Year, an All-ACFC First Team selection, was chosen to represent Team USA in the Aztec Bowl and was named All-South Region and All-American First Team by D3football.com. He was also named the ECAC Southwest Player of the Year.

He helped lead a Wolverine defense that finished the year 20th in the nation in total defense and 14th in tackles for loss. Wesley finished the 2007 season 11-2 and advanced all the way to the NCAA Quarterfinals. The Wolverines also went a perfect 4-0 in the Atlantic Central Football Conference, earning their third straight conference title.

The Murray Award is in honor of Mr. Joseph Murray. The Murray family has honored the MVP of the Wesley College football team with the award since 1990. It is the most prestigious campus honor a Wolverine football player can receive.

Savidge also completed a record setting career this fall. She finished second in the CAC in goals (12), tied for second in points (30) and tied for fourth in assists (six). The Clarksboro, N.J. native had four multi-goal games, including two in the CAC. She became Wesley’s all-time leading scorer in a win over Gallaudet and finished her career with 111 points and 47 goals, both school records.

Demarest was the 2008 winner of the Wentworth Award, named in honor of Shirley Wentworth, the late wife of the legendary former Wolverine men’s basketball coach, Jim Wentworth. Shirley’s spirit lives on through this award representing outstanding sportsmanship, work ethic, character, courage and commitment.

Demarest was the consummate teammate on and off the field, doing whatever asked and then some. His drive and spirit exemplify exactly what the award is to represent.

Chambers was named the winner of the Pat Knight Award. The award is named in honor of local sports legend Pat Knight, who for years served as Wesley College’s sports information director. The award honors an individual who gives his or her time to support and enhance the Wesley College athletic experience.

Chambers has devoted countless hours to Wesley College, its staff and student-athletes through his work with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Among his many other contributions, Chambers can be found on the sidelines with Wolverine teams and leads postgame prayer. He also leads a weekly chapel for Wesley student-athletes.

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**2008 WESLEY SENIOR SPORTS AWARDS RECIPIENTS**

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On April 25, the first grade class at Townsend Elementary School got a special visit from the Wesley College baseball team. Wolverines Dan Bunnion, Grant Morlock, Scott Marshall, Stu Madden, Matt Pizzolato and Ryan Buckland visited Kim Matyger’s class as part of the students’ unit on baseball.

The players had already taken part in a pen pal program with the first graders before making the visit. The players and students had exchanged letters with each other over the weeks preceding the visit to complement their learning about baseball.

While at Townsend Elementary, the Wolverines spent time teaching the students about the different positions on the baseball field, allowed them to try out the equipment and of course, played some baseball with the first graders before leaving.

“Our guys benefited from it as much as the kids. Just to see the kids’ enthusiasm energized the players who were there. It was very cool to see.”

In addition to showing up with all the basics — gloves, bats, balls, helmets — Bunnion, Wesley’s catcher, brought along his catching equipment for the students to see and try on. The other players explained the individual positions that they play on the field and how all of them work together as a team. After a question and answer session with Matyger’s class, the players let the first graders try their skills in the sport with some basic play.

“I think it was a great thing,” Wesley Head Coach Tripp Keister noted. “It’s very important for us to make a positive influence and represent Wesley College in the community.”

“Our guys benefited from it as much as the kids,” he continued. “Just to see the kids’ enthusiasm energized the players who were there. It was very cool to see.”

Wesley’s school visit came after the team completed competition in the Capital Athletic Conference tournament. After the visit, the Wolverines outscored their opponents 40-4 during the final three games of the regular season to earn a bid to the ECAC South Championships for the second straight year. W
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Game Plan

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