The mission of Lycoming College is to provide a distinguished baccalaureate education in the liberal arts and sciences within a coeducational, supportive, residential setting.
Transformational leadership
President James Douthat’s 24-year tenure elevates Lycoming into a national liberal arts and sciences College.

Four faculty members bid farewell
Lycoming is a better place thanks to the many years of dedication of Deb Holmes, Janet Hurlbert, Richard Morris and Fred Thayer.

Combat and chivalry
A new best-selling book by Adam Makos ’03 details a heroic act over the skies of Germany during World War II.

A new way of thinking
Shafiqullah Mujadadi ’15 has gone from Afghanistan to Vermont to Lycoming College in search of knowledge.

Back to the basics
Bruce Sawyer ’75 offers sound advice to students entering the workforce.
Clean Water Institute announces new intern program

Dr. Peter Petokas, research associate at the Lycoming College Clean Water Institute, and the Susquehanna River Heartland Coalition for Environmental Studies (SRHCES) have established a new summer internship program in environmental education at Camp Victory, a camp for special-needs children near Millville, Pa.

Internships will be funded by the Degenstein Foundation, and Petokas will serve as the intern mentor. Two years ago, Petokas and former Lycoming biology students Mike Henao ’10 and Brandon Gray ’11 completed an inventory of the plants and animals at Camp Victory. This inventory was used to bolster a grant application to fund a new nature center for the camp.

Freshmen, sophomores and juniors at SRHCES institutions may apply for the summer internships, and those selected will be offered a stipend, room and board at the 250-acre camp. The camp is especially interested in hosting student interns who enjoy working with special-needs children and those with an interest in environmental education.

Archaeology program reaps international exposure

Lycoming’s burgeoning archaeology program received national and international exposure recently thanks to the efforts of Dr. William Dever, distinguished visiting professor of archaeology, and Dr. Pamela Gaber, professor of archaeology and Judaic studies.

Dever was a featured scholar in “Back to the Beginning,” a two-part series that aired on ABC in late December. During the series, correspondent Christiane Amanpour retracted some of the stories and mysteries of the Bible as she explored places that are common to Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

Gaber presented a paper at the Archaeological Institute of America’s annual meeting in early January in Seattle, Wash. She then spent the rest of the month as a visiting lecturer at the University of California Los Angeles’ Cotsen Institute of Archaeology.

In February, she attended the British Museum’s special viewing of the newly-installed Cypriote gallery in London. For the past two years, Gaber has been a consultant on the installation of the exhibition. It includes materials from the College’s archaeology field school site in Idalion, Cyprus, which is directed each summer by Gaber and Dever. She also presented the lecture, “Regionalism in Late Bronze and Iron Age Cyprus,” at the University of Oxford before leading a tour of the Cypriote galleries at Oxford’s Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology.

Lycoming named to Top 100

Lycoming College has been named to this year’s Top 100 Organizations list by the editorial board of Pennsylvania Business Central. Nominations were taken from throughout the publication’s 20-county coverage area with more than 65,000 eligible candidates, and the final honorees were businesses that achieved a level of excellence and had a positive impact on the region in 2012, according to David N. Wells, magazine publisher.
Recent graduate offers career-building workshops

By Maranda Poe '14

Kristin Guthrie '10 returned to Lycoming College this semester as an intern in the career services office.

Guthrie, who earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology, is pursuing a master’s degree in education in counseling and student affairs at Bloomsburg University.

She schedules classroom presentations and discussions with students on topics such as career services, résumé writing skills, cover letters and graduate school applications. She also hosts a résumé review session each Wednesday night.

“What attracted me to Lycoming College as an undergraduate was the small, intimate campus setting where students are able to interact with faculty and staff at an individual level,” Guthrie said. “When I was asked to determine a placement for my internship requirement, I knew that Lycoming College was where I would like to intern, mostly for the same reasons. The small, private college setting would allow me to interact with many professionals within the student affairs field and gain exposure not only to career services and counseling, but also the other divisions within the college and to see how they interact with one another.”

Guthrie has also volunteered at Bloomsburg’s Career Development Center. “My interest in career services has evolved out of an interest in both student development and career development,” she said.

Guthrie is running a program designed for freshmen and sophomores that focuses on career planning. The program consists of four workshops where students will explore different career options through self-assessment in the hopes of finding a career best suited to their personal values, interests and skills. Open workshops are offered once a week for all students that focus on résumé and cover letter building skills. Finally, Guthrie is helping to plan and organize “Life After Lyco,” a street fair for graduating seniors to learn about the transition from college to either work or graduate school.

“My goal while I am at Lycoming is to be able to reach out to as many students as possible and make them aware of the valuable resources that the College has to offer them,” she said.

Neuroscience minor added

A new interdisciplinary minor in neuroscience will be offered in fall 2013.

The minor is designed for students in any major who are interested in theory and research on the mind, brain and nervous system. Two required courses, neurobiology and biological psychology, provide students with an interdisciplinary approach to the fundamental structure and function of the brain that includes laboratory experiences across the breadth of current neuroscience research.

The two core courses train students to access, read and critically analyze primary neuroscience literature, develop hypotheses, design and carry out experiments, analyze data, present the results and engage in discussion of ethical issues related to neuroscience research.

The four elective courses allow students to explore interdisciplinary developments in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, philosophy, physics, psychology and sociology that enrich and extend the understanding of the brain and of human thought and behavior.

“This was spurred by a confluence of faculty working together in similar areas,” said Dr. Mary Morrison, assistant professor of biology. “The minor brings together faculty from psychology, biology, philosophy and sociology. This is the ultimate embrace of the liberal arts ideal.”

Dr. Rebecca Gilbertson, assistant professor of psychology, stressed that this interdisciplinary approach is unique in that the philosophy department is included.

“We’re creating the interface to encourage the students,” Gilbertson said. “We’re rewarding students by giving them a more concrete experience.”

Morrison said that students with a minor in neuroscience will be better prepared for graduate and medical school, teaching, as well as conducting neuroscience, clinical psychology and behavioral research.
Lycoming wins public relations awards

Lycoming’s Office of College Relations earned two awards during the 28th annual Educational Advertising Awards, sponsored by the Higher Education Marketing Report. This year, the total public relations campaign for the College was honored with a gold award and the annual President’s Report received a merit award.

The pieces were designed by Murray Hanford, publications manager. He has worked at the College since 1991 and has earned more than 60 awards for excellence in publications and new media pieces.

Awards were given to those entrants whose programs and materials display exceptional quality, creativity and message effectiveness.

National recognition for community service

Lycoming College has been named to the 2013 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. To be admitted, a school must demonstrate that its students, faculty and staff are engaged in meaningful service in the community.

Lycoming was one of 690 colleges and universities in the U.S. recognized by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

During the 2011-12 school year, more than 400 Lycoming students were involved in direct service and completed in excess of 20,000 hours of volunteer work. In addition, 136 students took part in service learning activities that were integrated into course content, according to Jeffrey LeCrone, director of the Community Service Center.

Each year, Lycoming students, faculty and staff are regularly engaged in Big Brothers Big Sisters, Circle K, Habitat for Humanity, and various tutoring and mentoring programs with students in local elementary and high schools.

A Roesen for Lycoming College

By Dr. Amy Golahny

Through the generous gift of Rosanna H. Lowry Landin ’72, a wonderful painting by Severin Roesen (1815-ca. 1872) now belongs to Lycoming College. The Still Life of Fruit is an oval painting, about 24 by 20 inches, on canvas. It hangs in the president’s office in Long Hall. A tendril, extending from the large grape leaf beneath the spilled strawberries, spells his name in wiggly letters.

In the painting, the fruit is arranged on a table with a soft tonal landscape background of trees and tall grasses. At the center are strawberries spilling from an overturned basket and a large bunch of green grapes. The grapes, hanging over the rim of a stemmed compote dish, are surrounded on the dish by smaller bunches of red and blue grapes, peaches and a plum; on the table are plums, half-lemon, apple, strawberries and peaches. As typical for Roesen paintings, the viewer can “read” the work from front to back, side to side, as a pattern of the variety of shapes, colors and textures. The half lemon, for example, echoes the round basket; the blackberries contrast with the strawberries, and the yellow-red peaches and blue plums create a series of round shapes unified by their similar colors.

Roesen lived in Williamsport from about 1860-71, where, presumably, he died around 1872. He was born in Germany around 1815, and lived in New York City from 1848-57, where he had a wife and three children. He may have moved west to Pennsylvania to seek a better market for his paintings; he spent about two years in Huntingdon before settling in Williamsport. He lived in rented rooms at several locations on West Third and West Fourth streets in the center of the city. During his years in Williamsport, Roesen produced more than 200 paintings.

According to one account, Roesen was accustomed “to walk about the city streets and country lanes, gazing at gardens of flowers of every description, and on his return he would quickly transfer them to canvas, not even making a sketch of them” (The Williamsport Sun and Banner, 1895). Perhaps indeed, he did admire the gardens of Williamsport. But we have no evidence that Roesen portrayed the flowers that he actually studied in these gardens; he painted fritillary and other exotic bulbs that, so far as we know, were not cultivated in the city. It seems that Roesen painted largely from his memory, directly upon canvas and without preliminary drawings. His flawless peaches, strawberries and other fruit indicate that, as with the flowers, he was not recording nature as it is observed, but as it is imagined.

During Roesen’s years in Williamsport, the city was thriving in the business of lumber. Unfortunately, Roesen did not live to take advantage of that prosperity, but used his paintings as barter for room and board in the local hotels and rooming houses. There, they decorated the walls of taverns and restaurants, the bustling establishments of Williamsport’s commercial downtown.

Our Still Life of Fruit has an understated elegance that would have been quite far from Roesen’s own surroundings. The painting’s serene and abundant fruit provides a feast for the eyes. Painted in Williamsport, the work has been given to the College with the condition that it never leaves the city; it is here to stay.

Note: Golahny is the Richmond Professor of Art History at Lycoming.
When did you first realize you wanted to become a musician?

My desire to become a musician was a process. I started playing tuba in the seventh grade because my brother played it. I was very competitive, so I practiced until I was better than him. I made All Region and All State honor bands throughout high school, but the most powerful impact on my development happened when I went to Interlochen in the summers of 1988 and 1989. It’s a great camp that has been training musicians since the mid-1920s.

What is your favorite piece to perform and direct?

Perform … I have been fortunate to be in an orchestra performing Mahler’s Symphony No. 2 three times. That has to be one of my all-time favorites to play. Of the smaller works, I have a soft spot for John Rutter’s Gloria. As a conductor, I absolutely love conducting Gustav Holst’s Suite No. 1 for Military Band in E flat.

What is your favorite instrument to play?

It depends on the day of the week! I love to play the tuba; that’s the one I play the best. My favorite, though, is probably the French horn (Thank you, Mahler, Strauss and Brahms). My next favorite would be the cello. I fell in love with Dvorak’s Cello Concerto in high school and I’ve had the opportunity to play in orchestras performing this piece a couple of times. Perhaps I’ll be conducting it soon.

Why did you begin teaching?

My junior high school band director assured me that I would be a music teacher one day. He said I had it in me (Thanks, Mr. Clark). Of course, I didn’t believe that, nor did I want to, despite the fact that I was regularly tutoring young players. I wanted to play in an orchestra for a living. I believed that was my destiny if I practiced hard. Still, I was persuaded to get an undergraduate music education degree just in case. Flash forward and I was actually confronted with a choice in 1999, after finishing grad school. I won a symphony gig in Little Rock and was offered a high school teaching job within a two-week span. The high school job kept me in Cleveland with better pay and opportunities to work freelance. I’m happy to say that I chose teaching and I fell in love with it.

You have performed with many professional orchestras and toured worldwide. How do Williamsport and Lycoming College compare?

What is going on in Williamsport with the symphony and also the College is special. I can run down the list of orchestras I’ve played with over the last 20 years and many of them exceed the level of virtuosity that we have here. However, chemistry is an important factor. What I sense in the Williamsport Symphony that I do not sense as strongly anywhere is the desire to “be there” for one another. All of us play because we love the music, but we also work hard for our friends. The College has similar traits. Most of the people I work with at Lycoming College care about everything that goes on here, not just their area. The faculty friendships are rich and genuine. This is not the chemistry I’ve observed at other schools. If I could choose one word to define these institutions, I would choose the word FAMILY.

About Ciabattari

Dr. William Ciabattari was appointed director of bands at Lycoming in 2006. He is the conductor of the concert band, jazz ensemble and pep band; he teaches courses in instrumental conducting, music theory and music education. In addition, Ciabattari is an active freelance musician. He has performed with many professional orchestras including the Cleveland Orchestra, Canton Symphony, Charleston (S.C.) Symphony, and the North Arkansas Symphony. He performs with the Blossom Festival Band and NEOTUBA, a Cleveland-based tuba quartet. He has been a featured soloist with the North Arkansas Symphony, the Case Symphonic Winds, the Cleveland Youth Wind Symphony, the Brass Band of the Western Reserve and the University of Arkansas Wind Ensemble. Ciabattari also is the director of the Williamsport Symphony Youth Orchestra and the newly-formed Community Orchestra.
When Dr. James E. Douthat quietly walks away from his second-floor, corner office in Long Hall and concludes his 24th year at the helm of Lycoming College on June 30, 2013, his presidency will be regarded as one that undeniably transformed Lycoming into a national liberal arts and sciences institution.

Douthat is the third-longest-serving president in the College’s 200-year history. He has worked with trustees, faculty, alumni, students and staff to raise Lycoming’s academic reputation and create a financial base on which to build the future of the College.

“A strong endowment is essential in maintaining and expanding the College’s academic program,” Douthat said. “It is not by coincidence that the institutions with the very highest academic ranks also have the largest endowments.”

The last several years have been difficult ones financially for all colleges and universities. All traditional revenue sources are down nationally: parental income, state and federal support, endowment values, and grants and gifts. Unlike many other colleges, Lycoming has not had to borrow from its endowment or drain other resources to balance its operating budget. “We did not plan for such dramatic and widespread economic turmoil, but we had put in place a strong financial foundation for the College,” Douthat said.

Some think Lycoming is in that position today due to the sound leadership of Douthat. He dismisses such a simple explanation and points to the work of the board of trustees and the continuing support of alumni and friends of the College. He also speaks of his working partnerships with board chair Peter Lynn ’69, and former chairs Arthur Haberberger ’59, ’11H and Robert Shangraw ’58, ’04H. “Success is always a team effort,” Douthat said.

“I realized shortly after my arrival in the summer of 1989 that Lycoming was at a crossroad, both academically and financially,” Douthat said. “Leading the College was an exciting challenge. I pushed early for change, and the faculty, trustees and others came forward to lead...
in those changes. Those who worked to transform ideas into realities are the ones who deserve the credit for Lycoming’s success. They gave life to each idea, reviewed each option and set in place each improvement. At Lycoming, there is always plenty of credit to go around for the good things that happen because so many people can and do many things very well here.”

U.S. News & World Report recently ranked Lycoming 11th in the nation among liberal arts and science institutions for the “value added” to the education experience given to its students.

Based on their review of Lycoming’s graduation rate, the report identified the benefit Lycoming adds when its graduation rate is compared with those rates at other colleges similar in academic quality to Lycoming. U.S. News also names Lycoming a “Tier One” liberal arts college. “Solid students and solid teaching make that happen,” Douthat said. He also adds that Lycoming’s formal and informal support systems for students are also major factors in Lycoming’s high graduation rate.

Lycoming’s much improved financial position has allowed for a large variety of educational enhancements added during Douthat’s tenure. He created the Office of the Assistant Dean for Freshmen to support the transition to College, developed the Institute for Management Studies to create a programmatic umbrella enhancing the business, accounting and economics departments, and established the Visiting Scholars Program to bring directors, conductors, writers, ambassadors and others into the College’s classrooms. Lycoming’s endowment now contains 225 endowed scholarships, supporting hundreds of students each year. Douthat is particularly proud of his work with donors to recognize and reward Lycoming’s very best professors by creating endowed faculty chairs. During his years at the College, nine such professorships have been funded.

Laying the groundwork

The reason Douthat has remained at Lycoming for 24 years is simple. “I thought I could make a positive difference. There are many good people here who are committed to helping students receive an excellent education. I thought I, too, could have a role to play.”

When he arrived, Douthat wanted to introduce a new financial model at Lycoming, one similar to those found at many of the finest liberal arts colleges in the country. It was a lofty goal in 1989, especially for a college with less than $19 million in endowment. The three-part formula took both time and discipline to implement. Yet, the model has been instrumental in establishing the financial stability Lycoming now possesses. The first part of the plan involved setting a student body size in balance with the size of the faculty and staff and maximized facility usage; the second element was to create a long-range process for assessment and planning to ensure a balance between educational and competitive needs and the funds to support them, including debt levels and debt risk; and lastly, the model required that the endowment corpus grow significantly and that its success be measured by the growth of endowment per student, not just in total dollars.

Since Douthat’s arrival, the endowment has grown to more than $178 million, as of Dec. 31, 2012.

President Douthat was inaugurated as the College’s 14th president on April 6, 1990. He is shown with Nathan Stuart ’36 (left), former vice chair of Lycoming’s board of trustees, and Robert Shangraw ’58 ’04H, emeritus chair of the board.
"Few college presidents are able to comprehend higher education finance as keenly as Dr. Douthat."

During his 24 years at the College, tens of millions of dollars were also spent to build new facilities, including the Shangraw Athletic Complex, Recreation Center, Mary Lindsay Welch Honors Hall and The Commons student residences. Major additions and renovations in other areas, such as the expansion of the Wertz Student Center and the addition of FieldTurf at the football and soccer/lacrosse fields also occurred. The IT revolution arrived on his watch. Informational technology and the support it requires is an on-going expense equal to constructing a new building every five years or so. While the cost has been extensive, Douthat notes, failure to enter the Computer Age would have rendered any college irrelevant almost overnight.

Prior to the economic meltdown beginning in 2007, most of America’s colleges and universities were experiencing increased tuition revenues, higher alumni giving, and growing state and federal support. When endowment values collapsed beginning in 2007, some colleges found themselves in violation of their bond covenants, others had to buy back their debt, and many faced higher interest payments and rising associated credit costs. That did not happen at Lycoming. The College’s asset-to-debt ratios remained very positive.

Lycoming’s hard-earned financial efforts have not gone unnoticed. Dr. Richard Kneedler, president emeritus of Franklin & Marshall College, now serves as a higher education management consultant. He developed a national database comprised of 675 private colleges and universities, by using publicly available financial data. He then created comparative models to define the financial stability of these institutions. The conclusions of his research have been presented at several industry conferences. His studies ranked Lycoming among the top 15 percent of private institutions on those measures.

“That is a remarkable position for Lycoming to be in, considering that in the early 1990s there was concern in the Pennsylvania higher education community for Lycoming’s long-term prospects,” Kneedler said. “Looking at the data that I developed, as well as additional data supplied by the College, it is clear that efforts by the president, the board and the College as a whole have moved Lycoming from a very fragile condition to one of commendable strength and stability. I know of few, if any, cases nationally of colleges that have made such dramatic progress. Lycoming was very fortunate to attract President Douthat to lead it in a remarkably timely effort to position it for long-term success.

“President Douthat is a very smart person who is unusually well-informed about developments in higher education and perceptive as to their implications for a college such as Lycoming. He possesses a rare ability to drive for constant improvement while remaining alert to dangers of excess. I only wish that more of our national business and financial leaders had his combination of
intelligence, drive, high standards and lack of hubris.”

Another witness to Lycoming’s success has been Linda Eremita, managing director of M&T Education Investment Banking & Financial Advisory Services. She has worked with hundreds of private colleges and universities as they issued construction bonds. Eremita once was an analyst for Standard & Poor’s, concentrating in the private nonprofit sector.

“Few college presidents are able to comprehend higher education finance as keenly as Dr. Douthat,” Eremita said. “He has been able to apply his unique working knowledge of the numbers to create a campus that is beautiful, through new and renovated buildings; efficient, via staffing; and very sound, having the discipline to know how to utilize debt as a friend and not an enemy.”

Standard & Poor’s has recognized the College’s efforts by awarding it an “A” bond rating. Lycoming is now one of just 90 institutions nationwide on their list of “A or higher” rating of public and private colleges and universities.

“Testimony to Dr. Douthat’s very successful management style is simply found in the College’s ‘A’ rating, rarely assigned to a small college,” Eremita said. “In fact, the rating of Lycoming actually exceeds the rating of many other private institutions, including some … such as Georgetown University.”

As traditional sources of revenues decline, many serious challenges now face all of higher education. “As Lycoming prepares to educate tomorrow’s leaders, it has become even more evident that the College must rely on its alumni and friends to support our students needing financial support,” Douthat says. “Lycoming has a long history of educating students who are the first in their families to go to college. Every alum I met was either on aid as a student or had a roommate on aid or dated someone on aid. If each alum can find a way to return that support to current students, the Lycoming experience will continue for those who must have financial help to attend.”

“Alumni need to realize that they have had a very special opportunity to develop themselves through Lycoming College,” Kneedler said. “It’s important for them to spread the word about this special place and to do everything in their power – through volunteering, promoting and donating – to keep it moving forward. Lycoming’s present stability offers a unique assurance that every investment made today will be used well to build the College’s future.”

Volunteerism at its best

Emily Douthat does not have an official job description, but she is undoubtedly one of Lycoming’s hardest and most devoted workers. Whether it’s helping to organize campus events, greeting alumni and other dignitaries, traveling on behalf of the College, or attending music, theatre and athletic events, she proudly serves the institution as its chief public relations ambassador with grace, elegance and commitment.

President and Emily Douthat with the Class of 2012 officers (from left) Juliann Anderson, Kari Lenz, Denyse Walters and Angelika Maryniak at the bicentennial plaque on the Academic Center. The plaque was the class’ gift to the College.
“Our interest in endowing student scholarships is one way we can express the pride we feel.”

England in the early 1990s. In 2005, Lycoming’s Alumni Association awarded her the Dale V. Bower Service Award, recognizing her outstanding service to the College.

Reflecting on her 24-year association with the institution, Emily is quick to point out that she has always benefitted from that involvement. She has enjoyed Lycoming’s intellectual vigor, its many cultural events, as well as the day-to-day rhythms of the campus. Most of all, she has had great fun getting to know many Lycoming students and watching them mature as they prepare to become leaders of tomorrow. “At the end of the day, I gain energy from being associated with the College and its mission. We are in the business of educating our young people. What could be better!”

Leadership by example

Understanding the importance of higher education and the exceptional outcomes taking place at Lycoming, President James and Emily Douthat have committed much more than their time and talents to the College.

“The personal financial commitments made to Lycoming College by Jim and Emily Douthat speak volumes about their leadership and their belief in Lycoming,” said Stan Sloter ’80, chair of the board of trustees’ advancement committee. “I am inspired by their far-reaching dedication to Lycoming and the students it serves. I hope alumni from all eras are as proud as I am with the current status of our alma mater. With everyone’s financial support, we will no doubt help to strengthen Lycoming’s position as a national liberal arts institution.”

with their two young children, Mark and Anna. “We could tell during the interview process that Lycoming was a special place, made special by both its history and its people,” Emily said. “We recognized that there were long-standing foundations upon which to build. Our work with Lycoming College has been meaningful and significant. The College has warranted our commitment. I am grateful for our time here.”

Emily’s good work has reached far beyond the confines of the Lycoming campus. She has been deeply involved in the Williamsport community, as a member of various nonprofit boards and has served on several school district committees. The primary focus of her volunteerism has, of course, been the College. Her favorite activities include hosting the annual reception for new faculty in her home, attending events such as the annual International Students dinner, and the many wonderful programs surrounding the Christmas season. Among her fondest memories are trips taken with the choir throughout the U.S., Europe, South America and the Caribbean. The Douthat family accompanied the men’s soccer team to
“Lycoming is now a better college in many important ways thanks to President Douthat’s leadership.”

The Douthats have made outright gifts to the College of well more than $225,000 and arranged for the College to receive an additional $250,000 upon their deaths. They have endowed two scholarships: The E. Hayden Gwaltney Scholarship, named in memory of President Douthat’s high school mathematics teacher, and The Robert and Thelma Douthat Scholarship in honor of his parents. Both funds aid students who have career interests in teaching and are majoring in mathematics or history. They also established the Creative Writing Endowment, which financially supports Brilliant Corners, Lycoming’s national literary journal. For well more than a decade the Douthats have matched the Senior Class gift, doubling the impact of class projects. Knowing its importance to the College’s operations, they are yearly supporters to the Lycoming Fund. Their two planned gifts will establish additional student scholarships, the largest honoring Emily Douthat’s parents, The Rev. and Mrs. Daniel Christenberry.

“Jim and I support the College through our gifts because we believe in Lycoming’s mission and the good work of so many here,” Emily said. “Our special interest in endowing student scholarships is one way we can express the pride we feel in the two decades of students we have known and served. By assuring that others like them can have the opportunity of a Lycoming education, we feel we are not only helping individuals, but also doing our part to provide the nation with an educated citizenry. Perhaps our gifts can help our students to fulfill their dreams, develop their careers and serve the communities in which they will live.”

I was the first Lycoming faculty member to meet Dr. James Douthat. As the unofficial usher of the Presidential Search Committee, I escorted him into the interview room, which gave me a 10-second jump on the other committee members. I’m sure it is due to this temporal advantage that I was asked to share my reflections on Dr. Douthat at the most recent College Christmas gathering for faculty and staff. While the speech didn’t go viral on YouTube, it led to a request to write this brief summary for the alumni magazine, which I was honored to accept.

I recall some on the search committee saying that their only concern about offering the presidency to Dr. Douthat was that he was clearly a rising star and would probably leave after a couple of years. Then someone else – I’m pretty sure it was trustee Bob Shangraw ’58 ’04H – responded that he would rather have Dr. Douthat for a few years than settle for someone who appeared to have less ability and potential. Sound advice that led to unanimous agreement.

Over the years, I’ve heard a lot of people – often the best people – say they would only stay at Lycoming for a short while. Faculty and staff at all levels said this, as well as students who talked about transferring. But Lycoming College has a way of capturing our allegiance. Think about the people you know and knew at our (yes, OUR) college. We complained as well as anyone. But here we are, receiving the Lycoming alumni magazine because we stayed, and so did President Douthat. This is why I prefer behaviorism to cognitive psychology. Behaviors don’t lie.

It isn’t easy being president of a college, in large part because a president must answer to incredibly large and diverse groups of people, all championing their own personal and institutional agendas, interests and responsibilities. Over the years, President Douthat and I have disagreed on a number of issues. It amazes me how (in my opinion) I was always right, but he always won, and the College didn’t come tumbling down.

If I had chosen to define President Douthat by any one of those issues on which we’d disagreed, or if he had chosen to define me solely by any one of those issues, I wouldn’t be writing this today. It is always important to consider the totality of commitment, character and accomplishments that define a person. The fact is that although this was a good college 24 years ago, Lycoming is now a better college in many important ways thanks to President Douthat’s leadership. More remarkable is that this transformation occurred despite incredible obstacles conspiring against the very survival of colleges and universities nationwide.

On a personal note, Jim and Emily Douthat demonstrated great kindness and consideration to me and many others on numerous occasions. They did so in ways they may have thought I didn’t notice, or even without realizing how significant their actions were. I am grateful to them for this, and for giving me the opportunity to pursue my interests and interactions with students and colleagues in ways that gave meaning and satisfaction to my life. I know many others over the years have felt the same.
Deb Holmes is a pioneer in women’s athletics at Lycoming College. Her many accomplishments include serving as the Warriors’ first women’s basketball coach, 34 years as the women’s tennis coach and chair of the physical education department.

“I am very excited to see how the entire athletic department has grown,” says the retiring Holmes. “To start women’s basketball and see the addition of several other sports to the program has been great. And to see the opportunities that women now have and to know that I helped get that started has been rewarding for me to watch through the years.”

Holmes was the women’s basketball coach from 1978-85 and led the program to its first winning season (10-9) in 1981-82. As tennis coach, she compiled a school-record 137 wins, led the team to 10 straight winning seasons from 1993-2002 and four regular-season conference titles (1981, 1997, 1998, 2000). During her tenure, the Warriors made eight appearances in the MAC playoffs and two conference title matches. In recognition of her outstanding efforts, she was inducted into Lycoming’s Athletics Hall of Fame in 2011.

Through the years, she has coached and mentored countless students. She says her enjoyment comes from having the opportunity to meet and work with a variety of students.

“To see how the students have changed over the years has been interesting,” Holmes said. “When I first started, students were very quiet and kept to themselves and did whatever you asked them to do. Now, they are such individuals. They are more opinionated, but that’s OK. They are also more outgoing and share stories of what is happening in their lives. I have really enjoyed working with the students and it feels great knowing I have helped them to learn some things during their time here.”

Holmes has seen a lot of changes at the College, but perhaps the most compelling change has been the growth of the athletic department.

“Everything has expanded and the competition has grown and gotten to be more important,” Holmes said. “There are more schools in the conference, which means more travel for the student-athletes. The faculty and coaches do a great job of working together so the students can complete their coursework while also having the sports experience. Demands on the students have changed a lot.”

Although a major lifestyle change is on the horizon for Holmes, don’t expect someone who has been involved in athletics nearly all her life to just sit around in retirement. She plans to continue to volunteer at Daniel’s Closet, a free clothing community outreach ministry at Williamsport’s Redeemer Lutheran Church, and at the Lycoming County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

“I am looking forward to having the freedom to do some different things,” Holmes said, “but I’ll always be a fan of Lycoming sports. That won’t change.”
When Janet McNeil Hurlbert started at Lycoming College in 1982, the Snowden Library was a much different place. There have been many improvements since she became director in 2000, but she refuses to take all the credit, saying it has been a team effort among her staff.

“One of my contributions since coming here was establishing the library instruction program that we have now,” she said.

After Lycoming, she plans to become more active in the community and devote more time to her music. She is taking oboe lessons with the goal of performing with the New Horizons Band, a Williamsport-based concert band for seniors. She also loves quilting, gardening, yoga and Zumba classes, and hopes to spend more time with her grandchildren, who reside in Rochester, N.Y.

Hurlbert said what she will miss most about Lycoming is the process of having ideas and then implementing them. “Making things happen, that’s what I’ll miss the most.”

When she first began working, academic libraries did not have competitors, such as the Internet, and Barnes and Noble. Now, students and faculty expect the best information available in a comfortable setting, and she and her staff strive to make that possible. “In the past, we were sure the information the students were getting was pure,” she said in regard to Internet research. “We bought the best books so the students had the best.”

The most sustaining project under her directorship is perhaps the creation of the College Archives, which is now a permanent division of the library. What started as just a few boxes has become a cozy environment with archival materials available at the click of a button, along with space for displays and programs.

“We have a team that works on digital initiatives,” she said. “For a small school to have such a comprehensive archive … I hope that’s a lasting contribution.”

She said another project she is proud of is the Williamsport Women: Voices, Images, Actions history collection that is a cooperative community project between the College, the Lycoming County Historical Society and the James V. Brown Library. The project highlights the history of local women in volunteer and reform organizations, education, the arts, the workplace and private lives. The first part of the collection covers the time period 1875-1925, but materials are continually added.

In 2011, Hurlbert secured for the College a Louisa May Alcott grant from the American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities to host readings, presentations and a screening focused on Alcott’s life and work. She has helped the college secure more than $100,000 in grants throughout her tenure.

She said the Snowden Library has seen significant growth in its annual door count with 146,000 entrances to the library last year, compared to 90,000 in 2000.

“We’ve tried to make it student-centered and as comfortable as possible,” she said. “It’s something I’m proud of.”
An early attraction to the history of ideas spurred Dr. Richard Morris’ interest in Colonial America and the American Revolution. He is especially captivated by the political upheaval of the late 1700s, because he believes it remains the defining intellectual event in this country’s history.

So it should come as no surprise that the Lycoming College professor of history is writing a book about the accounts of Salem, Mass., during the American Revolution. Once the 2013 spring semester concludes, the newly-retired professor will shift his attention away from the classroom and devote more time to completing his latest book.

“I have about 140 pages done and have about that much more to write,” said Morris, who joined the College’s faculty in 1976.

For Morris, having the opportunity to teach history at Lycoming for more than 30 years has been a rewarding experience. He is especially pleased when he sees his students performing well.

“Students might find this counterintuitive, but faculty members really do want to give good grades because it is much easier to grade really good exams or papers,” Morris said with a chuckle. “I give my students typed responses at the end of papers in their writing intensive courses so they have something substantial to consider. The history department has always encouraged students to express their ideas effectively, especially in writing.”

In the classroom, Morris constantly stresses that history is a process. He wants students to understand the processes that have driven the human experience and says that studying history helps everyone to better understand themselves.

Morris believes that many people do not know why certain programs emerged nor do they appreciate the source of the ideas on which those programs were based and cited President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal as an example.

“Unemployment insurance and social security were not designed as safety nets,” Morris said. “They were designed to keep the economy from bottoming out. They were part of the whole approach to economics that the New Deal implemented. We want our students to understand where ideas, institutions and values come from.

“One of the things I tell them is that history as taught in high school is part of a tribalization ritual where core values are conveyed to the young. In college, we try to understand where those values come from and why they have been adopted. When we do that, we understand many of the forces that drive us and many of our responses to the many social, political and economic stimuli that we come into contact with on a regular basis. And that is how history helps people understand themselves. We hope students emerge with a better understanding of why society developed as it did and how it functions.”
After 37 years of teaching and conducting, Dr. Fred Thayer Jr. will conduct his final concert at 8 p.m. May 4 in Clarke Chapel.

Thayer joined the music faculty in 1976 and has led the choir on 35 spring break tours and 10 overseas trips.

“The students have been my life,” he said. “I just love working with this age group … it’s a very special age and the students are bright, thoughtful, willing to work and they care.”

Thayer said it is gratifying to work with so many students who want to be the best that they can be and he enjoys receiving updates from former students who have found adult groups that allow them to continue singing and performing.

The May 4 graduation concert will be comprised of the Lycoming College Tour Choir performing on the first half of the program and the larger Lycoming College Choir, of which the Tour Choir and Chamber Choir are a part, singing the second half of the program, culminating with alumni being invited to join the choir for three final pieces, “Beautiful Savior,” “Ride on, King Jesus” and the Lutkin Benediction, “May the Lord Bless You and Keep You.”

Although the final concert will be emotional, Thayer said it also will be a festive time with family, alumni and friends to help celebrate.

An avid composer, Thayer has earned numerous ASCAP PLUS Awards and Meet the Composer Grants. His compositions include an opera, three works for orchestra, two works for band and more than 75 choral works. In celebration of the College’s bicentennial, he was commissioned to compose “A Prayer for Lycoming.”

After retirement, Thayer and his wife will travel this summer to Colombia. “I haven’t been back there since I was in the Peace Corps,” he said. “Pasto is where I worked for two years and began teaching music.”

Thayer went to South America after graduating from Syracuse University with a bachelor’s degree in sociology. “Even though I didn’t major in music, I had performed in college. Following four months of music training in the states, including student teaching, I went to Colombia, and taught elementary music.”

When Thayer returned to the United States, he decided to study music and teach. “I taught four years of high school choral music in Elmira,” he said. “I liked it but it was time to go to grad school.”

After graduating from Cornell University with a doctorate, he started working at Lycoming – and he has not been disappointed.

“I never thought I’d stay this long,” he said. “But I have been associated with many wonderful people at Lycoming College. The alumni have been incredibly supportive, too.”

During his world travels with the Tour Choir, he became friends with Jan Szyrocki, conductor of a Polish touring choir that performed at the College. This association led to Szyrocki spending two residencies at the College. He also helped Thayer with the logistics of three European tours.

“We learned so much from him,” Thayer said. “He was a giant in the field and we were very honored to have this bond.”

The Tour Choir trip to Argentina in 2010 also was a highlight that Thayer said would not have been possible without the tremendous support of alumni and others.

“I have been very blessed with the sabbaticals I’ve taken, too,” he said, citing his time in Spain, Costa Rica and Bolivia as a “huge gift.”

“To be able to do all of these things at Lycoming College,” he said, “are real highlights.”

Dr. Fred THAYER JR.
Professor of music and director of choral activities

thayer@lycoming.edu

By Dana Borick Brigandi
When Adam Makos ’03 started a military magazine with his siblings – Bryan ’06, and Erica ’07 – he wanted to preserve the stories of the Greatest Generation: World War II veterans.

One story Makos featured in Valor magazine was rumored to be a tall tale: the story of a German bomber who spared the life of an American fighter pilot.

After eight years of research, though, Makos discovered the story behind the legend and wrote A Higher Call: An Incredible True Story of Combat and Chivalry in the War-Torn Skies of World War II. The book was released on Dec. 20, 2012, the anniversary date of the event that took place in 1943, when American pilot Charlie Brown and German Franz Stigler met in the skies over Germany.

A Higher Call is the first of a three-book deal he secured with Penguin Publishing and the book has been on the USA Today, Barnes and Noble and New York Times best-selling lists. His second book, Voices of the Pacific, a compilation of stories written by U.S. Marines who fought the Japanese on the ground during World War II, is due in April and his third book, about the Korean War, is due in 2014.

A few months after graduating from Lycoming, Makos sought to interview Brown for a story for the magazine he runs with his parents and siblings. He initially did not want to interview the German, but Brown would not tell Makos his side of the story until Makos spoke with Stigler.

“ ‘I’m just a character in this story,’ ” Makos recalled Brown telling him. “ ‘The real hero is Franz.’ ” Makos said that Brown was cognizant that he was defenseless that day in the sky and he owed his every breath to Stigler. “He was just on the wrong side of WWII,” Makos said about Stigler. “He would have been a great hero if he had been on another side.”

To research A Higher Call, Makos
interviewed Stigler and Brown over a four-year period from 2004 until their deaths in 2008. He estimates that more than 100 people helped him put together the story and he is grateful to Bryan for handling the research and data so he could focus on telling the story.

He credits his Lycoming marketing degree and communications minor for helping make Valor Studios – one of the top producers of military art, Valor magazine and now books – a success so he could have the opportunity to immerse himself in “this mammoth undertaking.”

Bryan, who has a communications degree with a minor in art, designed the book cover, which Makos said has been called “one of the best military book covers.”

“Lycoming imparted upon us a liberal arts sense of accomplishment,” Makos said. “We knew we could design the book and market it … our communications and marketing degrees kicked in, along with the history classes I took. This was the culmination of our diverse studies.”

Makos held his first book signing in December at Otto Bookstore in Williamsport and was excited to reconnect with his Lycoming family.

“Dean [John] Piper, Dr. [James] Douthat and Emily, Jim Spencer, Dr. [Phil] Sprunger – they all were at my book signing,” Makos said. “I wanted to do my first book signing there because Williamsport is still home, and Lycoming College is still home. A first book signing is a big party, so it was like a family reunion.”

While at Lycoming, Makos spent weekends interviewing bomber pilots who all spoke about this incredible story of chivalry and heroism. “I followed the treasure map to this story while I was at Lyco,” he said.

Makos has received interest from an Oscar-winning screenwriter who wants to collaborate and the film rights are in the process of “being transacted.”

“This is the Holy Grail of World War II stories,” Makos said. “So few books show both sides of the battle in such close detail.”

Makos said that one of the most important messages of the book is that enemies can become brothers to build a better world together – and Brown and Stigler were proof. “They traveled the world together, telling their story together.” He said that the odds of this story coming together were one in a billion based on the number of casualties of the war. Out of 40,000 German fighter pilots who fought in WWII, only 2,000 survived. The odds were even less that Brown and Stigler were both still alive to tell their tale 40 years later.

“The story has a happy ending that everyone loves,” he said.

For more information, visit www.valorstudios.com.
Shafiqullah Mujadadi, of Kabul City, Afghanistan, only intended to come to the United States for his sophomore year of high school. But he liked the U.S. so much that he decided to stay, and he now is a sophomore at Lycoming College studying political science and economics. He hopes to graduate in two years and then attend an American graduate or doctoral program.

Shafi, as he is known on campus, left his parents and five siblings behind and journeyed across a continent and ocean to settle in Essex, Vt., as part of a high school student exchange program. There, he stayed with a host family and attended a public school. After a year, Mujadadi wanted to continue going to school in the U.S. and applied for financial aid at a private boarding school in Fryeburg, Maine. When he realized he wanted to attend college in the States, he spoke with his high school adviser about locating a small school with the ability to help him financially. Lycoming College was a perfect match.

“I always wanted to attend a small liberal arts college because I thrive in tight-knit communities and also like to know my professors on a personal basis,” Mujadadi said.

High school and college are completely different in Afghanistan, Mujadadi said. To begin with, all high schools are segregated by gender. Students study 17 subjects, including religious studies. Schools also base more than 90 percent of final course grades off of a midterm and final exam, with a tendency not to incorporate group projects or essays into the curriculum.

“The general education approach in the U.S. revolves more around the students than back home,” he said. “In Afghanistan, you’re expected to memorize everything in detail and be able to recall it during exams, while in the U.S. there is more emphasis on learning concepts and applying those concepts in real life.”

Students who want to attend college in Afghanistan take a test on all 17 subjects at the end of their senior year to determine what area of study is appropriate and where in the country they will attend school. Colleges are almost all public there, with private schools now beginning to crop up.

“Being able to study in the U.S. is a great opportunity that not many people back home get, so I wanted to make the most of my time here and equip myself with the tools necessary to best serve my war-torn country in the future,” Mujadadi said.

Mujadadi stays with a host family in Vermont or local friends during school breaks, returning to Afghanistan for summer vacation. Although his family is very supportive and he misses them, he is excited for the opportunity to study at the College. After he finishes his career at Lycoming and his postgraduate studies, Mujadadi hopes to return to Afghanistan to use the skills and knowledge he acquired in the U.S. to help his home country.

Overall, Mujadadi says he has had a very positive experience at Lycoming, where he is receiving a well-rounded education.

“I have loved my time in Lycoming... The faculty and staff are very kind and attentive to the needs of students.”

“I have loved my time in Lycoming so far,” he said. “The faculty and staff are very kind and attentive to the needs of students. Students are very welcoming and are interested to learn more about people of diverse backgrounds.”
Bruce Sawyer ’75 offered plenty of sound advice to students attending Lycoming College’s eighth annual Black History Month Dinner on Jan. 26. The senior director of global business excellence for Johnson & Johnson’s Pharmaceutical Supply Chain organization concluded his keynote address with an enticing summer internship proposition.

Sawyer spoke of finding the right opportunities for success in a career. As he addressed finding the right kind of job for one’s lifestyle, he informed the students that they must decide what type of sacrifices they were willing to make for their career. He also emphasized the need for students to establish social skills and the ability to communicate effectively, no matter what type of career path they are looking into.

“Those who want to move around have to have social skills,” said Sawyer, who earned a bachelor’s degree in biology. “You have to be able to come across well in a face-to-face conversation, because you’re not going to text your way to success. You have to have boots on the ground, people in your face, being able to communicate. And that may mean being in a culture where English is not the primary language.”

Sawyer also stressed that after college, people are originally hired for technical skills according to the degree they receive. However, students must still remember they need to be open to learning and show their ability to adapt to on-the-job training and various work situations after they get hired. He adds that in most organizational cultures, advancement or an opportunity is based on one’s ability to socialize and network.

“It’s important you go into the workforce with the ability and the eagerness to demonstrate your ability to learn,” Sawyer said. “What’s different about the learning is, here your learning is structured. The professor will tell you ‘read this, study this, this will be on your exams.’ That’s structured; you can focus. In the work environment it’s all on-the-job training, unstructured. So if you’re a very structured learner, you may have to adapt to the style there. Your ability to learn is going to be critical.”

At Johnson & Johnson, Sawyer’s responsibilities include global manufacturing, procurement and external manufacturers, which encompass more than 9,000 associates and 30 manufacturing locations worldwide. Prior to joining Johnson & Johnson, where he has held a series of managerial positions, he worked at the Sloan-Kettering Research Institute.

Sawyer and his wife, Marcia, live in Whitehouse Station, N.J., and have two children.

Back to the basics

Bruce Sawyer ’75 delivers keynote address

By Savannah Hanford ’15

Bruce Sawyer ’75, keynote speaker for Lycoming’s eighth annual Black History Month Dinner, is shown (from left) with his daughter, Catherine; wife, Marcia; and Karen Sheaffer ’74.

Faculty and students from Lycoming’s Black Student Union helped plan this year’s Black History Month Dinner.
FRIDAY

12 P.M.
Golf Tournament at Williamsport Country Club
$110 per person, Advance registration required

3 TO 9 P.M.
Registration, Burchfield Lounge

7:30 TO 8 P.M.
Basic Swing Dance Lesson with Dr. Mary Morrison
Under the tent on the Quad
Learn some basic swing dance moves that will make you
dangerous on the dance floor!

8 TO 10:30 P.M.
Gatsby Night—Big Band and Champagne under the stars
Champagne, hors d’oeuvres and big band music by the
Williamsport City Jazz Orchestra
$10 per person, Advance registration required
*included in gold package

10:30 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT
All Decades Reunion
East Hall Coffee House • Socialize with alumni from all
decades while enjoying a playlist from the ’60s, ’70s,
’80s, ’90s and today! BYOB

SATURDAY

7:30 TO 10 A.M.
Breakfast
Dining Hall, Wertz Student Center
$7 per person walk-in price
*included in gold package

8 A.M. TO NOON
Registration, Burchfield Lounge

9 A.M.
Hike the Grampian Hills

9:30 TO 10:30 A.M.
Alumni Class: Dr. Robert Larson
D-Day

10 A.M.
Volleyball Tournament
Sponsored by the AAEB
$25 per team, Advance registration appreciated

10 A.M.
Campus Tour Available
Tours depart from the Drum Admissions House

11 A.M. TO NOON
Alumni Class: Author Pam McAllister ’73
Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

11 A.M. TO NOON
LinkedIn Boot Camp with Dr. Bonita Kolb and Anne Landon

11 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.
Campus Store Open!

11 A.M.
Campus Tour Available
Tours depart from the Drum Admissions House

11:30 A.M. TO 2 P.M.
Lunch
Burchfield Lounge, Wertz Student Center
$10 per person walk-in price
*included in gold package

12 P.M.
Campus Tour Available
Tours depart from the Drum Admissions House

12:15 TO 1:15 P.M.
Alumni Class:
Dr. Phil Sprunger

12:30 P.M.
Past Student Senate
Presidents Lunch
1 P.M.
Alumni Class: Dr. Gary Boerckel
“The Roaring ’20s” • Honors Hall

2:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.
Alumni Class: Dr. Cullen Chandler

2:30 P.M.
Band Reunion • Honors Hall
Join fellow band members, retired band director Dr. Glen Morgan and current band director Dr. Bill Ciabattari for fellowship.

4 to 5 P.M.
Alumni Class: Estate Planning 101
Tammy (Avery) Weber ’83

6:30 to 11 P.M.
Bash on the Quad
Dinner, drinks, live band (Quintessence) and dancing. The “not to be missed” event of Alumni Weekend!
$35 per person, Advance registration required
*included in gold package

SUNDAY
7 to 11:30 A.M.
Check-out, Burchfield Lounge

8 to 11 A.M.
Brunch • Dining Hall, Wertz Student Center
$10 per person walk-in price
*included in gold package

9:30 to 11:30 A.M.
Campus Store Open!

GOLD PACKAGE
Includes:
• Overnight accommodations in a Lycoming College residence hall Friday and/or Saturday night
• Linen bundle (fitted sheet, flat sheet, pillowcase, thermal blanket, towel, washcloth, hand soap)
• Gatsby Night on the Quad
• Breakfast Saturday
• Lunch Saturday
• Bash on the Quad Saturday
• Brunch Sunday

Not Included:
• Golf Tournament (additional $110 per person)
• AAEB Volleyball Tournament ($25 per team)

Cost:
• $130 per person until April 15
• $150 per person after April 16

BLUE PACKAGE
Includes:
• Overnight accommodations in a Lycoming College residence hall Friday and/or Saturday night
• Linen bundle (fitted sheet, flat sheet, pillowcase, thermal blanket, towel, washcloth, hand soap)

Not Included:
• Golf Tournament • Bash on the Quad • Meals • AAEB Volleyball Tournament

Cost:
• $70 per person until April 15
• $85 per person after April 16

Register Today
www.lycoming.edu/alumnweekend
570-321-4184

Includes:
• Overnight accommodations in a Lycoming College residence hall Friday and/or Saturday night
• Linen bundle (fitted sheet, flat sheet, pillowcase, thermal blanket, towel, washcloth, hand soap)

Not Included:
• Golf Tournament • Bash on the Quad • Meals • AAEB Volleyball Tournament

Cost:
• $70 per person until April 15
• $85 per person after April 16

www.lycoming.edu
Standing on the pool deck inside Lamade Gymnasium for the past 12 years, Jerry Hammaker has seen his fair share of good times. His men’s and women’s teams have never suffered through a losing season.

The women’s team has enjoyed both a perfect season (11-0, 2001-02) and a Middle Atlantic Conference title (2010). The men’s team has reached several individual milestones, including two Capital One Academic All-Americans and one All-American in the pool.

Heading into the 2012-13 season, though, the waters for the swim teams became a little rough. On April 3, longtime assistant swim coach Jeff Rauff ’72 was hit by a speeding truck while bicycling on Lycoming Creek Road. The accident left him in critical condition, with a broken pelvis, tailbone and sacrum, 12 fractured ribs, two punctured lungs and bleeding in his brain.

“In a sign of things to come, Rauff made quick work of his recovery. Less than five months after the accident, he was standing next to Hammaker on the pool deck at practice, cheering on the Warrior swimmers.”

“Over the summer, we were hearing from guys about how they were getting in shape,” Hammaker said. “They were in such great shape when they got back; it was one of those things where we had a great feeling even before we started.”

Then one day in the fall, a strapping, 210-pound football player walked into Hammaker’s office and inquired about joining the team. At first, Hammaker thought the defensive end was kidding, but he did a little research and found out that Nate Oropollo was one of the best prep swimmers in Philadelphia before heading to Lycoming, where he became all-region in football.

“That gave us a shot in the arm,” Hammaker said of Oropollo’s addition, “and it was a total surprise.”

From the first day he dove in the pool, Oropollo buoyed an already solid outlook for the team. During his first meet, he helped the Warriors win the final event of the night (4x50-yard relay) and upset Misericordia, 105-100.

By the final weekend of the regular season, with a winning streak at six dual meets, the Warriors were in position to record the longest winning streak in almost five decades if the team could post wins over FDU-Florham, Wilkes and Arcadia. None of the three teams came within 50 points of the surging Warriors. The win against Arcadia improved the Warriors to 8-1 overall and helped Hammaker break the men’s record of 81 victories set by Coach Mort Rauff, Jeff’s father, from 1960-73.

“It’s kind of neat to have that tie-in with Jeff’s dad,” Hammaker said of Mort, who was a 1941 graduate of Williamsport Dickinson Seminary and Junior College. “Jeff has been so special to our program and to me personally. It was quite an honor to surpass Mort on that wins list, but it was really nice to see the reaction of the swimmers, alumni and people from town.”

Meanwhile, the women’s team finished off the regular season with four straight wins to post its 12th consecutive winning season.

Finally, at the MAC championships, the Warriors men’s team dove into the pool the first night and started to rewrite the school’s record book, with Kyle Garase breaking the 200-yard individual medley record and the team of Dan Woods, T.J. Guminski, Garase and Zack Brower setting the 400-yard medley relay mark.

On the meet’s second day, three more records fell, as the 200-yard medley relay team of Woods, Oropollo, Garase and C.J. Arhontakis started the day by shattering a record before Trevor Endler broke the 100-yard butterfly record.

Woods, a sophomore, surprised many when he broke his own 100-yard butterfly record en route to a second-place finish. To cap the weekend, the Warriors set three more records, with sophomore Danielle Loiseau breaking a 31-year-old mark in the 200-yard butterfly set by All-American Denise Zimmerman ’85, freshman Josh Thomas setting a new standard in the male version of the event and Endler setting the mark in the 200-yard breaststroke.

The eight records matched the high-water mark (2001) during Hammaker’s tenure and helped the men finish in third place, which tied for the best mark ever at the championships.
Men’s basketball reaches conference finals again

For the second year in a row, Lycoming’s men’s basketball team reached the Commonwealth Conference championship game thanks to an 80-78 upset of No. 2 seed Albright in the conference semifinals. The Warriors posted a 17-10 overall record and played in a school record six overtime games.

Along the way, senior Jerald Williams left an indelible mark on the NCAA record book, as his 9.9 assists per game led the NCAA across all divisions. He also finished his career sixth in NCAA Division III history with 828 assists and 10th with 334 steals. Both are Middle Atlantic Conference records.

Women’s basketball makes playoffs

With a 49-39 win over Albright on Feb. 12, the women’s basketball team clinched a berth in the postseason for the first time since 2000.

Although the Warriors lost their playoff game, 72-55, to Elizabethtown on Feb. 17, the team still enjoyed a remarkable run to make the postseason. Despite not winning a non-conference game and finishing with an 8-17 overall record, the Warriors notched an 8-10 mark in Commonwealth Conference play, including a 70-62 upset over Elizabethtown in December that helped clinch the bid to the postseason.

Bukasa highlights plethora of football accolades

After enjoying its second straight 8-2 season, the Warrior football team once again brought in a plethora of postseason awards. Junior linebacker Kabongo Bukasa was named the MAC Defensive Player of the Year.

Bukasa finished seventh in the league with 7.8 tackles and 0.33 interceptions per game. He was the only player in the MAC in the top 10 in both categories, helping him also earn Second Team All-American honors from the Beyond College Sports Network. In addition, a record five Warriors were named to the D3hoops.com All-East Region team. Senior defensive end Nate Oropollo and junior defensive tackle Dwight Hentz were second-team picks while Bukasa, senior guard Cody Moyer and sophomore safety Tanner Troutman were placed on the third team.

Academic honors roll in

Lycoming student-athletes are on pace for a record-breaking year – in the classroom. Already in the 2012-13 season, several student-athletes have earned special mention for their efforts, including senior running back Parker Showers, who earned Capital One Academic All-District honors, and seniors Chelsey Lindaberry, Mike Krebs and Will Reiber, who each were named Honorable Mention Scholar All-East Region by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

The volleyball, women’s soccer, women’s swimming and men’s and women’s tennis teams have been honored by their coaching organizations for excellence in the classroom. In addition, a record 15 football players were named to the MAC Academic Honor Roll.

NCAA honors Burch and Yasui

Longtime Lycoming staff members Clarence “Dutch” Burch and Dr. Robert Yasui were honored with memorial resolutions at the 2013 NCAA Convention.

Burch passed away Sept. 8, at age 80. He coached Lycoming’s men’s basketball team for 32 seasons from 1962-94, amassing a school-record 318 wins.

Yasui passed away Aug. 20. He spent most of his career as a doctor in Williamsport and as the surgeon and athletic physician for the College, where he served for 36 years.
Dear Friends,

You and the people you met at Lycoming College have gone on to do spectacular things with your lives.

You are wonderful citizens, experts in your fields, leaders in your communities and volunteers for worthy causes. We want to recognize the achievements and positive contributions of our alumni.

Please nominate your friends and peers – even the people you don’t know all that well, but who you know attended Lycoming and have done something incredible – for our annual alumni association awards.

It is a privilege for the College to give accolades to its alumni who are responsible for positive change in the world each and every day. Your help in identifying worthy nominees is a great way to support your alma mater.

Call me at 570-321-4134 to make a nomination, or fill out the nomination form on the alumni association webpage at www.lycoming.edu/alumni/alumniassociation.

Warmly,

Amy S. Dowling ’04
Director of Alumni Relations

P.S. – I hope to see you at Alumni Weekend 2013!
POLAR EXPRESS TRAIN EXCURSION, WILLIAMSPORT, PA. DEC. 7

Justine (Girardi) '96 and A.C. '96 Cruz and family

Adam, Elizabeth and Megan (Miller) Kirk '05

Tiffany (Stoner) DeRemer '02, Tim DeRemer '05, Kristopher DeRemer, Cindy Springman, Nicholas DeRemer '01

TOUR CHOIR CONCERT AND RECEPTION, PAOLI, PA. JAN. 21

Karen (Eakin) '95 and Ben '93 Heckman, Daniel Petro

Douglas Hartzel '95, Mark Ohlinger '92, Kristin (Spengler) Zerbe '92, Meredith Rambo Murray '92

Joy and Brian Clayton '93, Michael Saulnier '96, Ginger Hale Quinn '96

8TH ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH DINNER, WILLIAMSPORT, PA. JAN. 21

Robert Smith '73, Bruce Sawyer '75

William Wingate '16, Jelani Martinez '16, John Monkam '16

Joe Cipriani '74, Nettie Wright

RECEPTION IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT AND EMILY DOUGHTAT, BETHESDA, MD. FEB. 2

Martene Bryan, Sue Gaylor, Stan Sloter '80, Ryan Rhed '06, George Purcell '05

Roxanne (Howard) Kanar '78, Joey (Hall) Sloter '80, Joyce (Gudmundson) Jamieson '78

Sabrina Eddington '11, Amanda Vicari '09, Steve Long, Michelle Griffiths '06, Jamie Drucker '09

Read more at www.lycoming.edu/alumni

www.lycoming.edu
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April (Sparks) Orwig ’98
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Russell Rabadeau ’04
Capt. Richard Raudabaugh ’60
Michael Ruddy ’05
Neil Ryan ’97
Kurt Weirich ’90
Ann (Bell) Wood ’73

VISIT www.lycoming.edu/alumni

UPCOMING events

May 17-19 • Alumni Weekend 2013!
Stay in the residence halls, eat in the dining hall, attend alumni classes and reconnect with your friends, favorite faculty and coaches!

Saturday, June 15 • Baltimore, Md. • 11th Annual Team Timeout at Camden Yards
Baltimore Orioles v. Boston Red Sox
*New this year: we will be on the 8th floor of the Camden Club in a private space for our picnic!
5:15 p.m. Gates open • 5:45 p.m. Picnic (buffet, draft beer and soda) • 7:05 p.m. Play ball!
$45 per person, RSVP by June 1

Sunday, June 16 • Michigan Alumni Event!
Grand Rapids, Mich. • West Michigan Whitecaps v. Fort Wayne Tincaps
Denise (Drosdak) Bartholomew ’05 and Shannon (Keane) English ’94 invite you to join local alumni and friends for fun, food and baseball!
11:30 a.m. Gates open • 11:45 a.m. Picnic lunch • 1:00 p.m. Play ball!
$27 adults, $20 children (ages 3-12), RSVP by June 1

Friday, July 19 • Williamsport, Pa. • Crosscutters Game at Bowman Field
Join Lycoming alumni and friends in the Cutters Cove for a picnic catered by Country Store before watching the Crosscutters take on the Hudson Valley Renegades. Picnic includes pulled pork barbecue, hot dogs, barbecue chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, salad, ice cream and assorted non-alcoholic beverages.
5:45 p.m. Picnic at Cutters Cove • 7:05 p.m. Play ball!
$15 adults, $5 children (ages 5-12), RSVP by July 1

Saturday, July 20 • Hershey, Pa. • Kayak Tour
Join in some outdoor fun on a guided two-hour tour led by Cocoa Kayaks. We will meet at Boathouse Park and take a shuttle to our launch spot. Kayak, life vest and instructions will be provided before paddling down the Swatara Creek filled with forested cliffs, fishing holes, wooded scenery and wildflowers. Tandem kayaks available. Boathouse Park is less than five minutes from Tröegs Brewing Co., where we’ll host an informal happy hour following the tour.
$27 per person, RSVP by July 8
12:30 p.m. Meet at Boathouse Park • 1 p.m. Two-hour paddle on the Swatara Creek
*minimum age for a single kayak is 10, minimum age to ride in tandem with an adult is 6

Saturday, July 27 • Elysburg, Pa. • Knoebels Amusement Resort, 2 p.m., Pavilion V
Enjoy a day at Knoebels Amusement Resort, America’s largest free-admission park, then join the Lycoming crew at Pavilion V for a delicious picnic featuring ¼ barbecue chicken, hot dog, macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, ice cream and iced tea.
$9 per person for picnic, RSVP by July 15
12:30 p.m. Meet at Boathouse Park • 1 p.m. Two-hour paddle on the Swatara Creek
*minimum age for a single kayak is 10, minimum age to ride in tandem with an adult is 6

Tuesday, Aug. 6 • Camden, N.J. • Alumni Night at the Camden Riversharks
Jack Tarditi ’63 invites Lycoming alumni and friends to join him in the Skyline Suite at Campbell’s Field to watch the Camden Riversharks take on the Sugar Land Skeeters. Refreshments will be provided. Don’t miss this opportunity to network, relax and enjoy some great baseball with your fellow Warriors. Campbell’s Field is located at 401 Delaware Ave., Camden, N.J.
6:15 p.m. Gates open • 7:05 p.m. Play ball!
There is no cost to attend this event. Jack encourages all attendees to make a contribution to the Lycoming Fund. RSVP by July 30.

Saturday, Aug. 17 • Harrisburg, Pa. • Alumni Night at the Harrisburg Senators
Join alumni and friends as the Harrisburg Senators take on the Portland Sea Dogs. Picnic includes hamburgers, hot dogs, barbecue chicken, baked beans, macaroni and cheese, potato salad, chips, cookies, popcorn, soda and water.
5:30 p.m. Picnic buffet • 7 p.m. Play ball
$23 adults, $13 children (ages 4-12), RSVP by Aug. 8

HOMECOMING 2013 • Oct. 25-27
Save the date for 25th and 50th Class Reunions and more!
You have the opportunity to create a lasting memory on campus while paving the way for the education of future students. Bricks pave the commencement walkway and are a part of the landscape of the College. All proceeds benefit the AAEB Scholarship.

**Bricks can be engraved to:**
- Commemorate graduation
- Create your own landmark on campus
- Honor a classmate, loved one or faculty member
- Give as a gift
- Serve as a memorial

**$225 PER BRICK**

Call Amy Dowling ’04, director of alumni relations, to order today!

570-321-4134
Class Notes submissions:
Lycoming College wants to join you in celebrating your career and life accomplishments. You may wish to share information about a birth, wedding, anniversary, career move, retirement, life-changing experience, etc. We reserve the right to edit submissions to meet Lycoming Magazine style guidelines and space limitations. Only activities that have already taken place will be included in Class Notes.

Photo submissions: Please feel free to submit printed and high-resolution digital photos. Because of space limitations, we cannot publish every photo we receive, but your chances improve if your digital photos are of good quality and at least 300 dpi at a canvas size of 3x5. Lower resolution pictures may look sharp on your computer screen, but will not reproduce well in the magazine.

Information received after Feb. 22, 2013, will be used in a future issue of the magazine.

Send your Class Notes information to:
- a) Class scribe
- b) Alumni Office
  Lycoming College
  700 College Place
  Williamsport, PA 17701
- c) Email:
  alumni@lycoming.edu

Please be advised that as a result of our online posting and archiving of the magazine, information included in Class Notes may become publicly available and searchable through the Internet.

1952
Ralph Marion
rmarionjr@bellsouth.net

1954
Rev. James Horace Gold
(570) 966-0330
jegold@atlanticbb.net

1958
Charles Fox (biology) was named to the Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners. He was nominated by Gov. Tom Corbett as a resident of Region Five, which includes Bradford, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Sullivan, Tioga and Union counties. He was confirmed by a unanimous vote of the Senate on Oct. 15.

1959
Beverly (Strauser) Manbeck
Ladypink101@aol.com

1962
Geoffrey R. Wood
(252) 636-0508
gwood8@suddenlink.net

1963
Evelyn (McConnell) Derrick
derrick@windstream.net

1964
Bill Lawry
(860) 658-7217
wlawry@aol.com

1965
Nancy (Snow) Cross
(540) 721-0003
crosswindsnsc@yahoo.com

1966
Kitty (Traxler) Morrison
(706) 398-3789
jimkitty@jimkitty.com

1968
Marbie (Pickles) Foster (history) is a Bechtelsville, Pa., artist who is known for creating some of Berks County’s iconic historical figures in miniature form. She has been creating miniature homes for more than 30 years. Learn more at www.miniaturehistorichouses.com.

1969
Tom McElheny
tmcelheny@churchplaza.com

Dr. Don Olsen (psychology) recently earned the Certified Sex Addiction Therapist credential, which is granted only to those who have completed extensive training and supervision under the direction of sex addiction treatment pioneer Dr. Patrick Carnes. A licensed psychologist, Don retired from Wernersville State Hospital in 1999 after 25 years of service. He and Barbara, his wife of 37 years, wrote two books on fishing the Delaware Bay and ran a successful fishing tackle business for a dozen years. In 2010, Don reactivated his license and started giving back to the community by treating people with process addictions. Olsen’s practice, Locus of Hope, is in Denver, Pa.

1970
Susan Stewart
susancstewart@hotmail.com

Current wrestlers and their families, along with Bill Bachardy (biology), gathered after Lycoming’s Budd Whitehill National Duals in January. Also shown are sophomore wrestlers Cody Barluche, Matt Bloom, Tyler Evans and Sam Bachelor, along with Bachardy and fellow alumni at the duals.
Mazzante named Alumna of the Year

By Dana Borick Brigandi

Another exceptional Lycoming College alumna was honored during the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce’s annual Education Celebration. On March 7, Marilouise Mazzante ’76 was recognized as the College’s 2013 Alumna of the Year. Recipients must live in Lycoming County and be active in the community and respected in their profession.

Mazzante, affectionately known as “Maz,” has been a social studies teacher at Williamsport Area High School for 37 years. She estimates she has taught more than 5,000 students and coached more than 500 young adults.

In addition to teaching, she helps lead the National Honor Society, Model United Nations and Constitutional Convention groups; is a department leader and co-coordinator for graduation; and coached track and cross country for 20 years.

Mazzante has earned a number of civic awards and honors, including being Rotary’s Honoree of the Year in 2011; has been nominated by students and selected numerous times for the Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers; elected to Lycoming County and state halls of fame; a nominee for the DisneyHand Teacher Award, a national recognition; the 1994 WAHS Teacher of the Year recipient; and serves on many educational, service and athletic committees.

Mazzante earned a bachelor’s in history and credits the small liberal arts atmosphere at Lycoming for giving her a well-rounded approach to teaching and instruction.

“My professors served as great mentors in skill and content,” Mazzante said. “Drs. Loring Priest, Robert Larson and John Piper represented the foremost authorities in the courses they taught. Their expertise in a multitude of areas gave not just me, but every Lycoming student that had the benefit of taking their courses, the optimum experience in learning history. All of them were great mentors and are responsible, in some way, for the successful teaching career that I enjoy.”

At Lycoming, Mazzante played tennis and was successful in the Mid-Atlantic Conference in singles and doubles. “In addition, I loved working with the education department as I rewrote curriculum for history using the newest skills at the time to apply to the instruction of teaching history,” she said. “My membership in the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society has always been a special part of my Lycoming experience.”

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Mazzante resides in Montoursville with Michael Fessler and is surrounded by her extended family. “My parents – Eleanor and Louis – who are deceased, taught my brothers and me the values of hard work, commitment and dedication as the key components in driving one to be the best we can be,” she said.
Nancy (Sanders) Kurtyka (English-education), as executive director of Insights Science Museum in El Paso, Texas, recently held a fundraiser dinner and star-gazing with guest Dr. Danny Olivas, who was onboard the Atlantis and Discovery space shuttles during his career at NASA. She also is a managing partner of Whitestone Technology, a consulting firm. Prior to Insights Museum, Nancy was regional director of the American Heart Association for Southern New Mexico.

1976

Tom Eisenman
(567) 204-8889
tne45801@yahoo.com

Gary Colberg (sociology) was honored by the Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals as the 2011 CEO of the Year. Gary is the president and CEO of the Southeast Georgia Health System.

1977

Brian Leonard
(703) 220-8121
unclebrian@brianleonard.net

1978

Edward and Jane (Snyder) Bird
fish1156@sbcglobal.net

Marci Dwyer (business administration) was named one of the top fundraisers for 2012 by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

1979

John Piazza
(570) 321-1818
johnpiazza3@verizon.net

1980

Roy Crowe
roycrowe@optonline.net

A true weekend Warrior
By Joe Guistina

As Jerry McGinn ’78 looked out the tunnel of the Rose Bowl on New Year’s Day, he stood next to six brothers-in-arms and thought back on all of the football games he had worked that got him to that point.

A Big East football official, McGinn has been running the middle of the field at football games as a referee for nearly three decades, becoming regarded as one of the finest collegiate officials in the nation. He had worked big games before, including the Orange Bowl, but this year he worked “The Granddaddy of Them All,” the Rose Bowl.

“It was really an honor to represent the Big East at such a prestigious event,” McGinn said. “Before the game, we were just standing there, thinking about all the little kids’ games we refereed, all the different clinics we worked. It was all worth it. It was a pretty special environment.”

McGinn played defensive back for the Warriors and helped the team to three winning seasons before going on to play semi-pro ball. He now has become a hot commodity in collegiate football – typically leaving his job as the director of business development at Vizant Technologies in Chadds Ford, Pa., on Friday afternoon and heading all over the country to different college football games. He is also such a respected referee that the big college conference shakeups have even affected him, as he recently signed a contract to work with the Big 10 this season.

“My weekends are not really mine in the fall,” McGinn said. “It’s all business. We are on a timeline. A lot of times, we have to be in town on Friday night at 6 p.m. for a normal weekend. A lot of my games were Saturday night so I didn’t have to be in until midnight. For those games, we have a meeting that starts at nine and ends at noon. We review scouting reports on the teams and our grades from the previous week. Then we have lunch and go back to relax. If we have kickoff at 7, we have to be at the stadium by 4:30. I meet with coaches to discuss time lines and unique play situations. About 60 minutes prior to kickoff, that’s when we take control of the game.

“After the game, we have reports to complete. Depending on the time of the game, we either head back home or wait until the next morning. Even for the Saturday afternoon games, though, we don’t usually get out of the stadium until 10 p.m.”

And then of course, on Monday morning, he is back in the office at Vizant Technologies.
is available on Amazon.com. He and his children, Sophie, 15, and Mick, 13, live in Lake Placid, N.Y.

1985
Théo (Gude) Truch
(908) 956-1273
theotruch@gmail.com

1986
Patricia (Dempsiy) Hutchinson
(610) 768-0404
mphutch@msn.com

1987
Tina Muheim
(215) 574-0160
tmuheim@colpenn.com

1988
Cindy (Smith) Snyderman
(610) 558-0998
stealthca@aol.com

Julie (Hottle) Day (criminal justice-political science) was named by Washingtonian Magazine as one of the top divorce attorneys in the Washington, D.C., area in its December 2012 issue. She also was named as a Virginia SuperLawyer by Thomson Reuters in the family law practice area. She resides in the D.C. area with her husband and two children.

1989
Wendy (Park) Myers
(610) 444-2629
forestabode@verizon.net

1990
Courtenay (Wells) Arendt
(410) 561-0909
gatormom40@gmail.com

1991
Malena (DeMore) Pearson
(570) 651-9575
malpear@comcast.net

Milton W. Glenn III (theatrical arts) was recently appointed as director of educational programs for the Absecon Lighthouse in Atlantic City, N.J. He has been volunteering at the lighthouse for more than a year and was named 2012 Volunteer of the Year. He is the third generation of his family to grow up on Absecon Island and now resides in Atlantic City.

1992
Julie Makatche Collins
(610) 644-2892
julmak70@hotmail.com

1993
Andrea (Ruble) Miller
(410) 353-5457
Andreamiller276@gmail.com

1994
Michele (Wawroski) Hogan
shelhogan3@gmail.com

Michael Bell (art-generalist), a teacher at Southern High School in Harwood, Md., recently received the William U. Harris College Board Award, which is given annually to individuals who have “demonstrated extraordinary leadership skills in the field of education.” Michael received the honor for his work with art students at the school. He also started a gifted and talented art program for students from around the Anne Arundel County who meet at the school on weekends. Michael also received the National Arts Education Association Rising Star award in painting for the fourth consecutive year. In March,
he presented the secondary lecture, “Best Practice,” during the National Art Education Association’s convention in Fort Worth, Texas.

Jeffery L. Bennett (accounting) has joined Lycoming College as controller and chief financial officer-treasurer. He previously worked for 17 years in the Williamsport office of ParenteBeard LLC.

1995
Bob Martin
(908) 326-3044
martin180@aol.com

1996
Angela (Dakshaw) Sweeney
(919) 779-4787
Asweeney22@yahoo.com

Carina McNear (education) is a columnist for the Muncy Luminary community newspaper. She is in her 14th year at Montgomey (Pa.) Area High School, where she teaches broadcasting, theatre, vocal workshop and music technology. She also is co-director of the extracurricular vocal and theatre ensemble, Virtuoso.

1997
Lauren Kolaya
(908) 755-5710 or
(908) 962-0816
lyco97@aol.com
or
Kirsten (Schwalm) Miller
(570) 888-6486

1998
Brenda (Bowser) Soder
(301) 598-5526
brendasoder@verizon.net

Kelly Knight (philosophy) was named vice president of compliance services at the Benecon Group of Manheim Township, Pa.

Brian McNoldy (physics-astronomy) recently began a new position as senior research associate at the University of Miami. He conducts research on various aspects of hurricanes. In July, he was invited to blog for the Washington Post as a tropical weather expert, and he also has been interviewed by National Public Radio, the New York Times, Continued on page 34

Sleevie Savers to the rescue
By Dana Borick Brigandi
Katie (Wuestner) Bell ’00 has created Sleevie Savers, a product designed to keep messes off of young children’s sleeves. Sleevie Savers are adjustable, lightweight sleeve covers that protect young children’s sleeves from foods, stains, liquids, stretched sleeves and more by slipping over the child’s arm and then attaching at the top with Velcro.

Bell credits her Lycoming College business and marketing degree for giving her the fundamentals needed to create a real-world product. “When I think back on my classes, one project in particular comes to mind,” she said.

“It was in a marketing strategy class taught by Dr. Mark Toncar. He brought in FreePlay – a real company with a unique product concept … Our class worked in groups throughout the semester to develop marketing plans for its radio product line.”

Bell said she participated and facilitated research groups while she was a student and used that knowledge when she and business partner, Lauren Bryson, wanted to receive feedback about Sleevie Savers.

“More than anything, the critical thinking skills I developed at Lycoming helped me to work through this project,” she said. “Every situation or idea is unique, and therefore requires a different approach and strategy. As a consultant for entrepreneurs creating and launching products, I helped many of my clients work on goals, identify resources and tailor marketing messages for their product launches. These same methods were used to develop and launch Sleevie Savers.”

Bell said the inspiration for the product came out of frustration of rolling up her 2-year-old daughter Annie’s sleeves for meals and craft time, only to have the shirts become stretched or stained. Using their business, research and product development backgrounds, Bell and Bryson did comprehensive searches to make sure nothing else like Sleevie Savers was on the market. They also conducted primary market research with other moms.

“Giving the go-ahead to start the first production order of Sleevie Savers was a pretty big step, and probably the most difficult one,” Bell said. “You’re trusting and committing to taking the product from concept to reality. There is always doubt whether the design will be ‘right.’ Once we moved forward on the decision to manufacture Sleevie Savers, we had to start putting all our business and marketing plans into motion to get the product where we want it to be.”

Although the product has only been available for a few months, Bell said her Lycoming family has helped share updates, stories and photos on the Sleevie Savers Facebook page and website. Sleevie Savers are available at www.sleeviesavers.com and through two specialty shops in the Williamsport area.

“I enjoy being a ‘connector’ for people of like interests, and I am hopeful that fellow alumni will be willing to share our story and product with others,” Bell said. “Everyone knows families with young children who might benefit from our product. We’re also open to suggestions, experiences and ideas that people would like to share.”
EUROPEAN BATTLEFIELD ADVENTURE!

CELEBRATE THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY ON OMAHA BEACH

by joining Lycoming College alumni and friends on an 11-day European Battlefield Adventure! The tour promises to be a great experience, led by professor Dr. Bob Larson, seasoned military historian, and Colonel Mike Ellicott, a retired military officer.

May 30-June 9, 2014
$3,499* per person
Plus airfare and optional tours
*price subject to change due to currency fluctuation

Highlights include:
- Churchill’s War Rooms
- House of Parliament
- London Sightseeing
- Portsmouth D-Day Museum
- Pegasus Bridge
- Gold, Juno, Sword, Utah beaches
- Mont St. Michel
- Omaha Beach
- Pont du Hoc
- French Army Museum
- Napoleon’s Tomb
- Seine Dinner River Cruise

Contact Amy Dowling ’04 for more information or to register
570-321-4134
dowling@lycoming.edu
Continued from page 32

Outside Magazine, the Los Angeles Times, Our Amazing Planet.com and other media outlets for information about active hurricanes.

Lori B. Staman (accounting) has joined the Watsontown, Pa., office of RE/MAX West Branch as a licensed assistant to the associate broker. For nearly 20 years, she has assisted the Future Farmers of America alumni in coordinating the School Day programs at the Lycoming County Fair. She resides in Turbotville with her husband, Eric, and four daughters, and is an active member of Hughesville Baptist Church.

1999

Heather Myers
570-244-6598
hm7793@att.net

2000

Amanda (Peterman) Dalla Piazza
(570) 546-9440
Harbingerii@hotmail.com

The Rev. Calvin Rich (psychology with minors in religion and sociology) was recognized for his work as pastor at First United Methodist Church in Huntingdon, Pa. He is an adopted, naturalized American citizen whose ministry focus is to develop leadership to meet people who are in the margins. He also has a passion for missions and community development.

2001

Andrea (Duncan) Mitcheltree
(908) 859-4525
seed2tree@gmail.com

2002

Austin Duckett
(610) 213-7504
ducaust776@hotmail.com
or
Sharon (Rotundo) Rotundo
SharonR6300@aol.com

Jason T. Herres, D.M.D. (biology) has purchased the assets of Wenger Dental in Mount Joy, Pa. While he was in dental school at Temple University, he was the recipient of the prestigious Health Professional Scholarship Program from the United States Navy. At the end of his naval career, Jason was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for his diligence

2003

Charlene (Bartolotta) Sterphone
chartolotta123@yahoo.com

Susan M. Featro (music and languages) sang a holiday concert at the Tamaqua Community Arts Center and donated the event’s proceeds to the center and the Tamaqua Blue Raider Foundation. She teaches English as a Second Language at Tamaqua (Pa.) Area High School. She also has recorded a CD, Voice Lifted.

2004

Christine (Colella) Zubris
misschristine@hotmail.com

Brett Curl (economics) was named a junior partner at Impact Advertising, a full-service advertising agency in Williamsport, Pa., in July 2012. Prior to that, Brett was employed there for six years as media director.

2005

Kristen Dart
Kristen.dart@gmail.com

Lauren (Detwiler) Cooley
commercial design-photography was recently inducted into the Pennsylvania Association of Dance Teachers Inc. (Chapter 25). After testing in the subjects of tap, jazz, ballet and modern, she is now nationally certified through the Teachers Training School program for Dance Masters of America. She resides in Williamsport.

2006

Michele (Connors) Witowski
mconnors@inbox.com
or
Jamie (Hershey) Arnold
herjami@hotmail.com

Kristen Dart has taken a job with Planned Parenthood Southern New England. She is the community organizer in Rhode Island primarily focused on college engagement and religious organizing.

Dr. Jami (Gabert) Scheib (biology, psychology) earned a Ph.D. in cellular and molecular neuroscience from Vanderbilt University in September 2012. She is a postdoctoral fellow in neurology at Johns Hopkins.

Kevin Socha (actuarial mathematics) recently accepted the role of actuary, head of annuities deferred acquisition cost with ING in West Chester, Pa. He is a fellow of the Society of Actuaries and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries. Kevin resides in Glenmoore.

Margaret Bortner
Margaret Bortner '06

Margaret Bortner (communications-electronic media) completed the 2012 Philadelphia Marathon held Nov. 17.

Summer (Beretsky) Bukaveich
(comporate communications-photography) has joined Lycoming College as adviser of the student newspaper, Lycourier. She comes to the College from Yellowbook in King of Prussia. She also teaches at Pennsylvania College of Technology and Ashford University and blogs for Psychcentral.com.

Jessica (Urick) Oberlin
(English-literature and 7-12 English teaching certification) has joined Lycoming
College as assistant professor and instructional services librarian and coordinator of access services at Snowden Library. She previously was a high school librarian in the Warrior Run School District in Turbotville, Pa. Jessica earned a master’s degree in library science from Clarion University in 2010 and also taught 10th grade honors and English at Mifflinburg (Pa.) Area High School from 2007-09. From 2011-12, she was the chair of the electronics communications committee and web designer for the Pennsylvania School Librarian’s Association.

2007
Laura (Holdredge) Layaou lholdredge@hotmail.com

Kellie Cicconi-Hogan (biology) earned a doctorate from Cornell University in comparative biomedical sciences with minors in epidemiology and microbiology in December 2012. While at Lycoming, Kellie discovered a previously unknown bacterial micro-organism and named it Acientobacter piperi, after Dr. John F. Piper Jr., dean and professor of history emeritus, who retired in 2007. She has a temporary appointment at Cornell as a postdoctoral research associate.

Jennifer (Mease) Goodpaster (art) recently published a children’s book, Otis & Maggie, which deals with themes of friendship and loss. She wrote and illustrated the book as a gift to a friend who experienced a loss. The book is available on Lulu.com and Amazon.com. In January, she was accepted into American Military University, where she is pursuing a master’s degree in information technology with a concentration in digital forensics.

2008
Amil Guzman amilguzman@gmail.com

Dan Bartholomew (business-finance) is a Realtor with Prudential Patt, White Real Estate, Allentown, Pa.

2009
Ashley (Smallwood) Isak (psychology) graduated from Capella University with a master’s degree in mental health counseling.

Whitni Williamson (Spanish-criminal justice) was named a compliance officer with the Cumberland County (Pa.) Adult Probation and Parole Department in November 2012.

2008
Ashley Wislock awislock@gmail.com

Allison Davis (archaeology and cultures of the ancient Near East) earned a master’s degree in Bible and ancient Semitic languages from the Jewish Theological Seminary in 2012. She is participating in a five-month study program in Israel in conservation and culture heritage.
2010
Pamela Burke
(973) 270-3765
PBurke2010@gmail.com
Jordan Hollander
(908) 872-7525
jsfhollander@gmail.com

2011
Bethany Herring
(717) 856-8121
bherring21@gmail.com

Bill Mauro Jr. (English-creative writing), along with Josh Troxler ’12, has launched Stolen Sheep Design, which offers design advertising for the Williamsport-area business market.

2012
Daniel Angstadt (accounting-business) was named staff accountant in the audit and accounting services practice at ParenteBeard’s Reading, Pa., office.

Chris Bernstorf (history-English), a spoken word poet, held a release party for his latest EP, Yellow, during the recent Mid-Year Extravaganza at the Christian Light Bookstore in Williamsport, Pa. Also performing were Mike Ludwig ’13, Kearsten Kreitz ’15, Lyndsey Peterson ’14, and Binary Starsystem members Kyle Swovick ’14 and Tony Rombola ’14. Chris released his first CD, Move, in September. HM Magazine named Move one of its “Independent Pick of the Litter” for October 2012. He also toured with Behold the Kingdom through parts of the Midwest and Southern U.S.

Jared Strayer (criminal justice) is the newest assistant manager with Sherwin Williams in Hanover, Pa.

Joshua Troxler (art-painting) has acted, directed and curated art shows at a new Williamsport, Pa., gallery, and had his own artwork featured in solo and group shows. He recently wrote the play, The Great North, which was performed Feb. 1-2 in the College’s Dragon’s Lair. He also has launched Stolen Sheep Design with Bill Mauro Jr. ’11. The business offers design advertising for the Williamsport-area business market.


More than 4,000 are fans of Lycoming College on Facebook and the number is growing every day.
Join your fellow alumni as well as current and prospective students at

www.facebook.com/lycoming

For an alumni-only community, visit

www.facebook.com/lycoalumni

Warrior sports fans can go to the new athletics fan page at

www.facebook.com/LycoAthletics

For quick updates, follow Lycoming on Twitter:

http://twitter.com/lycomingcollege

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Experience matters

By Jake Briggs ’14

Myles Biggs ’12 said Lycoming College provided him with a broad-based liberal arts education that prepared him to tackle any given task. The corporate communication major, who minored in sociology and business, was hired right out of college in the marketing department of Ritz-Craft Corp.’s Northeast Division in Mifflinburg, Pa. He coordinates the communication between the company and clients through tools such as email marketing, newsletters and website content.

A privately held company, Ritz-Craft Corp. is one of the largest family-owned modular and manufactured home builders in America. Lycoming’s connections within the company run deep as Paul John ’85 is president and CEO, and his brother, Eric John ’90, is co-owner and vice president.

Biggs became interested in the company after hearing Paul John give a presentation during the College’s James W. Harding Executive Speaker Series, which allows students to meet and network with top business leaders. He contacted the corporation about possible internship opportunities. Impressed by his determination, the company offered him an internship.

Biggs participated in internships the summers after his sophomore and junior years and again during his senior year. He excelled during the internships and that ultimately led to his full-time employment with Ritz-Craft.

“With most employers looking for two to five years’ experience before hiring, internships are an excellent way to present yourself to employers as experienced in your field,” said Biggs, who also gained valuable experience as a student worker in Lycoming’s public relations office.

He said his experience has allowed him to create and continue to manage all of the company’s social media efforts, along with lending his skills to public relations initiatives and event planning.

“I wear a lot of hats!” Biggs said. “But I love it, because I am always learning something new.”

After interning in the marketing department at Ritz-Craft Corp. as an undergraduate, Myles Biggs ’12 accepted a full-time position there.
To read a listing of alumni and friends in attendance at many of the weddings shown on this page, please visit www.lycoming.edu/alumni.

1 Andrea (Cooper) ’09 and Benjamin Tiedgen ’09, Sept. 8, 2012. The ceremony and reception were held at The Lodges at Gettysburg in Gettysburg, Pa.


Did you meet the love of your life at Lycoming College?

Lycoming Magazine is looking to highlight alumni couples who met and/or were married on campus. Briefly tell us a few details about how you met. Was it in a class, the cafeteria or were you introduced to one another by a classmate? Send your story for consideration along with a wedding photo via email to collegerelations@lycoming.edu or contact the College Relations Office at 570-321-4037.

A good teacher can INSPIRE HOPE IGNITE THE IMAGINATION AND INSTILL A LOVE OF LEARNING

BRAD HENRY

We all remember a faculty or staff member who changed our Lycoming College experience. Maybe it was a favorite professor, an inspirational coach or someone who went out of their way just to show they cared. This year, make a gift to the Lycoming Fund in honor of that person.

To make your gift, please use the enclosed envelope, call 570-321-4353 or visit www.lycoming.edu/LF

LYCOMING Fund
Creating Opportunity Since 1812.
1 Elizabeth (Gruse) '98 and Tanner Baldridge, a daughter, Margaret Ann Amira, Jan. 7, 2013.

2 Melissa (Giello) '99 and Peter Dannenfelser, a son, Jackson Edward, Sept. 6, 2012. He joins sister, Lily Grace, 3.

3 Monica (Marcinek) '00 and Michael Lizzul, a daughter, Inessa Barbara, April 30, 2012. She joins sister, Ellana Clara.

4 Janel (Franson) '01 and Brent Justice, a daughter, Reagan Kate, June 15, 2012. She joins brother, Christopher, 3.

5 Jessica (Miller) '01 and Perry Rearick, a daughter, Sophia Bea, Nov. 20, 2012.

6 Emily and Matt Staffaroni '02, a daughter, Grace Elizabeth, June 2, 2012. She joins brother, Jack, 4.

7 Missy and Andy Gutkowski '03, a son, Viktor Florian, Aug. 25, 2012. He joins sister, Josie, 3.

8 Stephanie and Justin Wadlinger '03, a daughter, Charlotte Elena, Oct. 4, 2012. She joins brother, Carson, 4.

9 Jessica (Feerrar) '03 and Shaun Boyer, a daughter, Addison Christine, Oct. 30, 2012.

10 Amy and Jason Moran '04, a son, Gavin Frederick, Jan. 29, 2013.

NEW ARRIVALS

www.lycoming.edu/bookstore
IN MEMORIAM

1932

1933
Laura A. Sechrist, of Williamsport, Pa., Nov. 15, 2012.

1936
Mary E. Flock, of State College, Pa., Jan. 22, 2013.

1938

1940

1941
Phyllis (Davis) Griess, of Williamsport, Pa., Jan. 20, 2013.

1942
Lawrence J. Stopper Jr., of Montoursville, Pa., Jan. 6, 2013.

1945
Elizabeth (Corson) Spega, of Linden, Pa., Dec. 17, 2012.

1948

1949

1950
Helen (Lee) Zecha, of Mechanicsburg, Pa., Sept. 15, 2012.

1953

1955
George F. Fortner, of Dover, Del., Feb. 15, 2013. George was inducted to the Lycoming Athletics Hall of Fame in 1995 for basketball.

1956
Arthur E. Miller, of South Williamsport, Pa., Dec. 6, 2012.

1957

1959

1965

1966

1967

1974

1975
Daniel P. DeFonte, of South Williamsport, Pa., Jan. 4, 2013. Among survivors is wife, Marie A. (Mussare) DeFonte '74, and daughter, Lisa (DeFonte) Arp '00.

1985

1994

Dr. James M. Buchanan, of Blacksburg, Va., Jan. 9, 2013. He received an honorary degree from Lycoming in 1992.
As a financial advisor at Wells Fargo Advisors LLC in Radnor, Pa., Peter knows the value of planning for the future. That’s why he and Kristie have made plans to ensure that Lycoming College is in their will.

“It came down to us looking at a variety of charities, and our closeness to Lycoming, where we met, made us want to give back,” Peter said. “The betterment we had in our careers can be attributed to Lycoming.”

Kristie was a practicing surgeon but is now working with a company that allows her more flexibility to be home for their two young sons, ages 5 and 2.

Peter and Kristie believe it is important to give back to their community, nonprofits and especially the educational institution where they both met.

“Her roommate was the sister of my roommate,” he said. “We weren’t in the same classes, but we were in the fraternity and sorority circuit.”

Although Peter earned a bachelor’s degree in political science, he credits Dr. Mel Zimmerman’s biology class for instilling a love of conservation. As such, Peter now serves on several nonprofit boards, including the Audubon Society and other conservation-based charities. He also is a member of the Rotary Club in Harrisburg.

Peter and Kristie, who earned a bachelor’s degree in biology, hope that their gift will benefit students in the biology and pre-medicine major or those who are interested in supporting environmental causes.

“We had great professors and great classes,” Peter said. “What’s the purpose of waiting? I do this day in and day out for my clients. It’s not a matter of when from my standpoint.”

To learn more about how your gift can strengthen Lycoming, visit www.lycoming.edu/development or contact:

Lycoming College Office of Advancement
700 College Place
Williamsport, PA 17701
570-321-4347
President James and Emily Douthat were recognized for their 24 years of service to the College and the community during a Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce PM Exchange on Thursday, Feb. 21.

President Douthat told the nearly 200 people who gathered in the College’s Mary Lindsay Welch Honors Hall that he and Emily plan to stay in Williamsport.

“This place is home for many, many reasons,” he said. “This is the place that has given us an opportunity to become a part of the community.”

Douthat encouraged those in attendance to serve their communities, especially the Lycoming County United Way’s annual campaign, and other nonprofit organizations.

“I want to thank you for all the opportunities that you have made available to us,” Douthat said, “and for all the support over the years that you, your businesses and your friends have given to Lycoming College.”