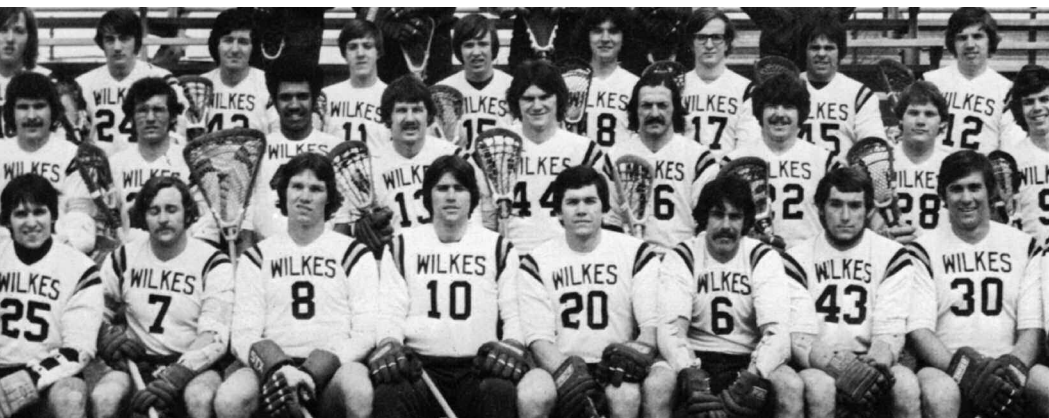


Vaulting to Success

At Wilkes, our students bring their abilities and drive. We provide the knowledge and skills, environment and, where necessary, a push to help them reach their potential. Our mentoring culture assures that all students encounter several persons who will nurture and prod them toward their goals. Sometimes it's gentle encouragement to reach further; other times it's a kick in the rear—whatever it takes.

Whatever the track, our graduates leave prepared to make a real difference in the fast-changing world they inhabit. This issue of *Wilkes* magazine highlights numerous examples.



1975 Men's Lacrosse Team

Consider the subject of our cover story: Ron Rittenmeyer '72. Ron worked three jobs while a student at Wilkes, earning a degree in commerce and finance and meeting wife Hedy Wrightson '72 along the way. His ambition and business acumen led him to become a well-known turnaround CEO. Just recently he took the helm at technology giant EDS. Beginning on page eight, he discusses his new role and the changing face of business with Paul Browne, dean of the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership.

Athletic fields provide fertile ground for cultivating leaders. This fall, we inducted the 15th class into our Athletics Hall of Fame. These individuals show that the goal-setting and perseverance necessary for success on field, mat or court translate readily into professional and personal success. You can read their stories beginning on page four.

This issue also brings you our annual Report of Gifts, which lists those whose generosity fuels the continued achievement of this institution. These contributors ensure Wilkes accomplishes its mission to educate our students for lifelong learning and success in a constantly evolving and multicultural world. Alumni appreciate the role Wilkes played in their own lives; friends understand the difference a premier, small university can make in the lives of students and their community. We thank them for their support.

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Wilkes University President

WILKES UNIVERSITY

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WINTER 2007

Wilkes University is an independent institution of higher education dedicated to academic and intellectual excellence in the liberal arts, sciences and professional programs. The university provides its students with the experience and education necessary for career and intellectual development as well as for personal growth, engenders a sense of values and civic responsibility, and encourages its students to welcome the opportunities and challenges of a diverse and continually changing world. The university enhances the tradition of strong student-faculty interactions in all its programs, attracts and retains outstanding people in every segment of the university, and fosters a spirit of cooperation, community involvement, and individual respect within the entire university.