



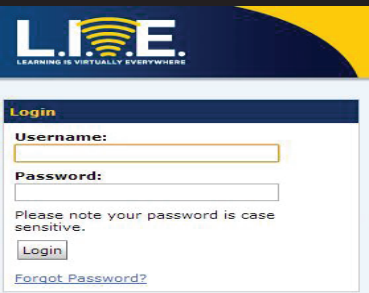
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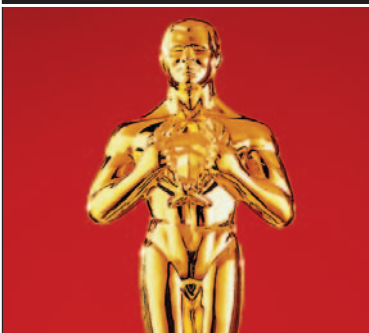
Feb. 19, 2013

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

Volume 66 Issue 14



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And the Oscar Goes to...
The Beacon weighs in on Hollywood's biggest night. Pages 10-11



Special kind of bowling
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Running for heat
Running Club goes forward with event despite snow-storm, Page 16

Behind open doors

Some students said they feel uncomfortable with conduct of SG members, Page 2



Photo: The Beacon/Kirstin Cook

For more information and content, check us out at: thewilkesbeacon.com



Feb. 19, 2013

Contact editor: christine.lee@wilkes.edu

Two students leave SG meeting citing problems with openness

By Kirstin Cook
Editor-in-Chief

Two students said they felt so uncomfortable while attending a Student Government meeting that they walked out after 20 minutes.

Sophomore communication studies majors Haley Adam and Talia Pantano had heard that SG meetings are open to all students. They were even encouraged by some of their friends who are on the SG board to visit the meetings, which are held every Wednesday night at 6 p.m. in the Henry Student Center. The two girls had been assigned a class project where they had to observe a formal meeting setting, so they picked a SG meeting for analysis.

But when Adam and Pantano showed up at the SG meeting, they said members made them feel uneasy. Despite publicity and new efforts this year by SG to create an open setting, the two students said they were disappointed by a negative atmosphere and behavior from some of the SG members.

"We just felt very uncomfortable overall," Pantano said. "It just wasn't welcoming or anything like that. It's a weird feeling."

Adam said the tone gave her the impression that the meetings aren't as open as SG promotes them to be.

"I feel like that's what they're all about, they talk about how they're a very welcoming crowd and they lead our school and make all these big decisions and we get in there and it's like complete opposite," Adam said.

She said SG members were staring at them and they appeared to be whispering about them behind sheets of paper.

"Everyone kind of just started staring and the board up front, they were whispering and putting papers up," Adam said.

After 20 minutes of feeling targeted, Pantano said they left the room when one of the presenters was finished.

"They just kept staring the entire time so I just whispered to her, 'they're still staring at us,' and we just kind of got up and left," Pantano said.

SG President Kris Rivers said he was unaware of any unwelcoming behavior from SG members and that he had not heard any complaints.

"I haven't ever had anyone come to me



The Beacon/Kirstin Cook

Students who attended an SG meeting left after 20 minutes because they said they felt so uncomfortable. They said they are disappointed with SG behavior.

with these issues or concerns," Rivers said. "All meetings are open to the student body and we welcome students to come to them."

He said it's important for students to feel like they can walk into these meetings and voice their opinions.

"We really would like as many students as possible to attend these meetings because this is their activities money, this is their representing organization," Rivers said. "We try to do the best we can to represent people, but we always need to be hearing from our constituents at all times."

He said he was not sure why meetings don't get more attendance, but SG has put in place a couple of measures this year to try to change that. Last semester, the meetings were moved from the Miller Room on the second floor of the Henry Student Center to the first floor lounge to be more visible and accessible to students.

However, the location change was unsuccessful, and Rivers said meetings were moved back to the Miller Room because of the noise

distraction on the first floor. He said there's potential to relocate them to the first floor again, but they would be moved farther back in the lounge to avoid too much activity going through the student center.

Another new measure this year was the creation of the SG position sergeant-in-arms. Kyle Wolfe was installed in this role, which Rivers describes as a "familiar face that you can expect to welcome you in and out of SG." In this position, Wolfe opens the doors to the meetings for all visiting and presenting students.

Rivers said this was a strategy to make students feel comfortable entering the meeting and attract more visitors. He said it has been successful so far.

Besides these measures, Rivers said there is no set policy defining welcoming conduct for members. He also said SG does not directly collect feedback from visitors.

But, he said he has not observed problems. He said conversations that go on during meetings are relevant exchanges on the fund re-

quests made by presenters.

"We do try to keep that discussion to a minimum during the discussion out of respect for the groups and we open it up and have full discussions after the groups have left amongst the SG members to get any concerns out, clarify any questions amongst each other," Rivers said.

But Adam disagrees, stating that she observed a great deal of unprofessional conduct such as side chatter.

"The people in the crowd, they were eating, they were texting, just having side conversations and it just really seemed complicated and nothing was getting done, I thought," Adam said.

Adam and Pantano also said they felt SG was overly critical of the presenters, and that they would not feel comfortable coming to the meeting with a fund request.

"I felt that they kind of made sarcastic comments sometimes, when people would be giving their short presentations," Adam said.

RJ Sperazza, who presented to SG on behalf of the Running Club, said he was nervous to request funds in front of the approximately 40 SG members, but they were very helpful.

"It is a little intimidating in nature, just being surrounded by people ... but they were very welcoming," Sperazza said.

To come off as more welcoming to all students, Pantano suggested SG should try to garner feedback from visitors to engage them in the meeting.

"That involves us as outsiders too so they could have asked the outsiders our opinions or just be more respectful of everyone in the room besides themselves," Pantano said.

Adam agreed, adding that engaging visitors in discussion and asking SG members to keep side tasks like eating and talking to a minimum would help the meetings reach students' expectations. She said the current set-up was a disappointment.

"It was eye-opening but it was also a let-down, because we have all these ideas in our head of what our SG should be and then we get there and we were like, 'Are you serious? This is how it happens?'"



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Emergency call boxes quick, effective for those who need help

By Christine Lee

News Editor

For most students, the emergency call boxes located throughout campus are taken for granted. They know they will be there in case of an emergency.

"I think they're a great feature to have; they're all over the place, they're easy to find, easy to see," senior mechanical engineering major Charlie Reilly said. "If there was an emergency situation that arose and I was in danger of some sort or if saw someone else was I would definitely use the buttons."

However, for the past few weeks one call box pole located behind Chase Hall between Kirby Hall and Stark Learning Center was out of order, leading some to question how reliable the call boxes really are.

"It's not encouraging so it's something that's unfortunate in that I would hope to get fixed as soon as possible," Reilly said.

Freshman integrative media major Annie Stauffer said call box behind Chase Hall being out of order concerns her because she has a night class.

"That bothers me a little bit. I have a night class on Thursdays so I like the idea of when they're working," Stauffer said. "I understand that happens sometimes."

Executive Director of Capital Projects John Pesta said the call box pole behind Chase has had its light replaced and has been repaired. He said various campus help departments work to repair the call boxes

"We'll check them internally with our electricians and if it's a phone line, if there's no dial tone to it, we'll contact IT cause IT knows the phone system," Pesta said.

Public Safety manager Jerry Rebo explained the boxes are checked frequently to ensure their workability.

"We check them twice a week to see if they're in good operating condition plus the electricians check them," Rebo said.

Rebo said if the button on the boxes was pressed, the response from Public Safety to the scene would be instant.

"It would be within three minutes," Rebo said. "The average would be a minute or less."

The Beacon tested the response time of Public Safety to a call from an emergency box and they arrived on the scene in one minute and 19 seconds.

Rebo said there are approximately 50 call boxes on campus and are located on all residence halls and various locations on campus based on student traffic.

"We check and see which way the students travel most of the time; to classes and so forth, even at night, what routes they take on campus or off campus and that's where they're placed," Rebo said.

He said Public Safety is always looking to improve where the call boxes are located. One possibility they have brought up is placing one behind the Marts Center as more students are passing that direction.

"We're always looking to improve and we are looking (to place) a pole behind Marts,"

Rebo said. "That's another area we think that the students do travel at night."

One parking lot that doesn't have a call box is the Creative Writing parking lot, located on the corner of Ross and River streets. Rebo said there have been no instances of break-ins at the lot.

"We haven't had a break-in in there for months," Rebo said.

Stauffer said she feels she would use the call boxes if there was an emergency.

"I think it's the fastest way to get help if there's an emergency," Stauffer said.

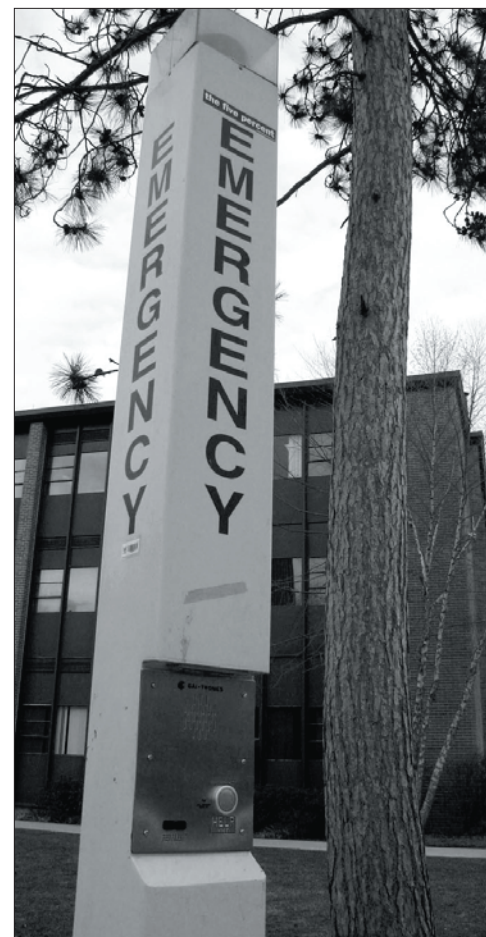


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The Beacon/Kat Dodson

Left, the emergency call box tower located behind Chase Hall between Stark Learning Center and Kirby Hall, was out of order for the past few weeks. Executive director of capital projects John Pesta reported the box has been fixed although it took the repairmen two days to do so. Students were concerned about the box being out of order but were hopeful that it would be fixed quickly.



Student affairs: Wilkes fully prepared for flu season

By Macey McGuire

Staff Writer

& Christine Lee

News Editor

Each year, Wilkes faces an attack from the flu. This year is no different. It marks another year Health Services must take precautions against the flu among the campus community.

During the first week of the year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported 4,000 cases of the flu. The most recent data from Feb. 9 reported 1,000 cases. This year, Health Services reported less than 10 cases of the flu on campus compared to none last year.

Although there are a high number of cases this year, Dean of Students Mark Allen said this is not enough to cause major concern.

"We've developed policies with respect to potentially pandemic sorts of viruses, we've been fortunate in that we have not had large-spread outbreaks of any serious contagious disease," Allen said.

Allen explained this year's flu season had colleges across the country concerned because of how close proximity students have with each other, particularly if they reside on campus.

"There was a national concern for the strength of this year's flu virus which prompted all institutions in higher education to be concerned about that, particularly residentially, because of the closeness by which college students are living, and also classroom



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

As of last week, Health Services said they had five flu shots left but students can get them at any pharmacy or clinic in the community.

settings, that lends itself well to the spreading of the virus," Allen said.

Due to the flu season almost being over, Health Services does not expect many more cases. However, they still encourage students to take precautions to avoid sickness.

"First and foremost, hand-washing. It's absolutely what keeps me from getting the flu after I've seen 35 kids that are sick," Director of Health Services Diane O'Brien said. "Not sharing drinks, face towels, hand towels, cigarettes, stuff like that is really important."

She said covering one's mouth and disposing tissues properly are other ways to avoid spreading the flu.

"Covering your mouth, cough into your

sleeve, dispose of tissues properly, don't let tissues kind of lay around on coffee tables or bedside stands, they should be discarded," O'Brien said. "It's spread by droplets, so anything that your saliva could touch should not be shared."

This year the CDC gave out 112 million doses of seasonal influenza vaccine, and they expect there to be more as well. Health services went through flu shots so quickly this semester they had to order a second package. Even though O'Brien said they only have five flu shots left, they still encourage students and faculty to get a flu shot in one of the many places offering the shot such as pharmacies, clinics or a private doctor.

Wilkes has a pandemic influenza policy which states that students should be aware of what the symptoms of the flu and seek help if they have the flu. It also states that students exhibiting symptoms of the flu are encouraged to go home or if they cannot, they will be provided housing separate from their normal residence hall. There they will be provided "essential goods and services" and their condition will be monitored.

Allen said the policy is stated on the My-Wilkes portal and has been distributed via email over the course of the semester.

"We've sent out notices to students and have updated the portal this year with respect to where we felt we were at as a community regarding a number of cases and things that people could do to minimize their risk," Allen said.

Allen said there is no way to measure how much impact Wilkes' flu policy has on students but it makes them aware of better incentives.

"It's hard to say what aspects of policy have the biggest impact," Allen said. "The spirit of policy is just to make people aware of things that they could be doing, the behavioral approaches to minimizing risk."



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Future Business Leaders of America chapter recognized as SG club

By Shawn Carey
Assistant News Editor

The Student Government meeting on Feb. 13 was called to order at 6:03 p.m. in the Miller Room

All College: \$7,916.16
Conferences: \$2,640
General: \$18,275.85
Leadership: \$1,200
Spirit: \$1,347.77
Student Government Total: \$31,379.78

The Adventures in Science fund request was moved until the next meeting because of a scheduling conflict. They will be at the next meeting to begin their fund request process.

The Wilkes chapter of Phi Beta Lambda, Future Business Leaders of America, was at the meeting this week to finish the process of getting club recognition because of an issue of who was going to pay dues for members to join the club.

Phi Beta Lambda is a club in the business department that allows students to compete in local, regional, state, and national competitions. Students in the club are able to participate in events such as business law, business ethics, and marketing concepts.

Last semester, Adam Wychowanec, presented on Phi Beta Lambda, but SG members were concerned that the \$300 that comes from SG to each club would be spent for dues to a club. SG Constitution requires open membership for all members interested.

The Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership agreed to pay the dues for the members each year and the club's constitution was changed to reflect that decision.

A motion was made to recognize Phi Beta Lambda as a Student Government club. The motion passed 35-0-7.

Capitol Requests was in for their second week. Julie Miller did a quick overview of the cost and installation procedures for the board. Miller said the money would be coming out of the buffer fund to purchase the treadmills.

A motion was made to allocate \$22,246 for Capitol Projects to purchase new treadmills for the Marts gym. The motion was passed 33-0-9

For this meeting, the SG board participated in a much-anticipated activity regarding the SG Constitution. The board discussed how it can be more open to the student body at Wilkes.

Ideas mentioned were email lists to all students, a newsletter that would be released to students and a diversity of majors on the board.

"I think the board needs to realize that there is a fine line between representing and ruling," Senior class representative Lindsey Coval said. "We need to work on reducing the size of the SG bubble."

John Sweeney, senior class vice-president reminded SG members to sign up for the SG Relay for Life team.

Anastasia Mauger, sophomore class president, said that they have sold more than 100 long sleeve T-shirts for their fundraiser. They plan on doing another order if students are interested.

Junior class, president Julie Miller said they are finalizing their sweatshirt order and design.



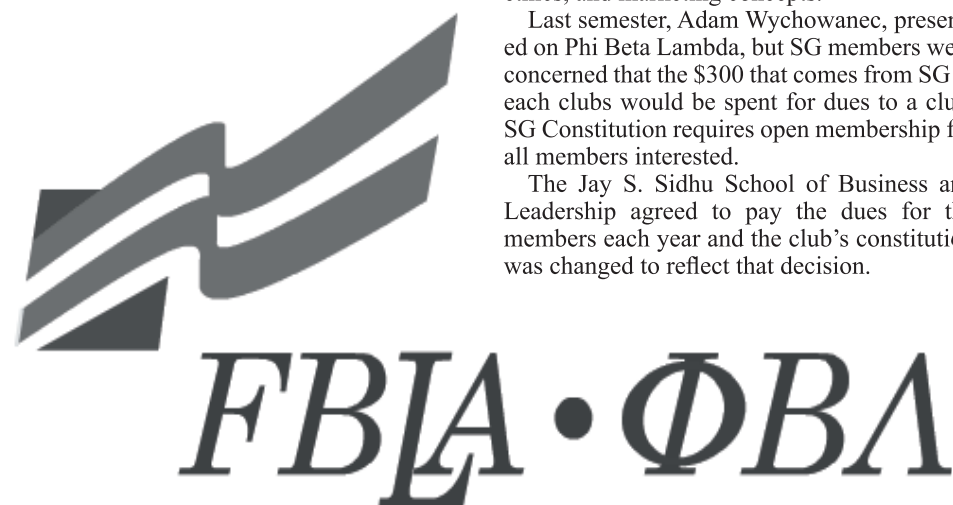
The sweatshirts will be a 1/4 zip sweatshirt. They hope to be selling in the near future.

Both Off-Campus Council president Nick Wierman and Commuter Council president Chris Cousins said they are glad SG members will be working on including off-campus and commuter students to participate in events that happen on campus. They say that some students feel that on campus events are not for them. They are hoping that by opening the communication between SG and off campus students, more students will participate in on-campus events.

Upcoming events for campus is a MSC/ISA program on Feb. 22, the Big Event is on April 7 and the Spring Concert is on April 8.



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Final provost candidate visits, speaks on campus

By Shawn Carey

Assistant News Editor

The third provost candidate visited Wilkes last week. She was the final candidate in the university's search for a new chief academic officer.

Susan Turell serves as the associate provost at Clarion University of Pennsylvania in Clarion. On Tues, Feb. 12, Turell met faculty, staff and student leaders as a part of the interview process.

She also participated in a forum for members of the campus to ask her questions on her plans if she was selected as provost.

"We are coming to an end and I think the search committee has been pleased with the caliber of the candidates who applied to the position," Vice President of Student Affairs Paul Adams said.

In the forum Turell talked about a multitude of issues ranging from tenure for faculty to online learning and its effectiveness in the learning process.

"The key is a faculty that is trained in order to create an effective online community," Turell said.

In the forum, Turell touched on tenure for faculty and staff and the criteria she would implement for reaching the mark.

"I think tenure is key to an institution of higher learning," she said.

Turell said that she would implement new criteria for tenure that would include good teaching report, research, scholarship and service. She would put an emphasis on the good teaching report and research in their designate



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Susan Turell speaks with faculty and staff during her on-campus interview. Turell spoke on various topics including online learning and tenure for faculty.

area.

Turell also said the provost should have an open door to the faculty and getting out on campus to talk to people.

She also touched on a liberal arts education saying, "There are so many skills that are a part of liberal arts education" She continued by saying, "we want to create lifelong learners."

Turell also mentioned that she would not push all staff into a mentoring role toward students because not everyone is made for that role.

Members of the committee met with President Patrick Leahy on Feb. 15 to go over the

three candidates and give them their feedback.

Ultimately Leahy will decide the next provost however there is no set date as to when the decision will be made.

The next provost should be in place by summer 2013, ready for the students to return in the fall.



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Susan Turell Biography

Susan Turell serves as Associate Provost at Clarion University of Pennsylvania. She previously served as dean of undergraduate studies and associate vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

While at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, she was the coordinator of the university's women's studies program and an associate professor, later professor, of psychology.

She earned her bachelor's degree at the University of Texas at Austin, her master's and Ph.D. from the University of Houston.

Her most recent works include the article "Lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans-gender communities' readiness for intimate partner violence prevention," published last year in the Journal of Gay and Lesbian Social Services and a presentation on "Dismantling Racism: Creating an inclusive Climate. Inclusive Excellence" and "International Education: Charting the Future Together" at the 2012 Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education summit in Slippery Rock.

She served as reviewer for the American Psychological Association's Division 35 through 2012.

Vagina Monologues 2013



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

On Friday, Feb. 8 and Saturday, Feb. 9, Wilkes presented Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. This year, the V-Day organization, the foundation which sponsors "The Vagina Monologues" each year, celebrated its' fifteenth year in existence by holding an event known as One Billion Rising, which people across the globe gathered on Feb. 14 to dance in order to raise awareness for violence against women and girls, particularly rape. Above, student director Miranda Baur performs the spotlight monologue, "Rising." See more photos on thewilkesbeacon.com.

Wilkes University Television Program Guide

Channel 97: Service Electric Cable

Monday February 18, 2013

6:00pm Rosenn Lecture Dillon-Dau
7:00pm Spotlight March 18
7:30pm Wilkes Now

Classic Arts Showcase

Tuesday February 19, 2013

12:00pm Wilkes Now
6:00pm Spotlight March 25
6:30pm Department Stores
7:00pm I Enjoy Being A Girl
7:30pm Wilkes Now
8:00pm It Takes A Village
8:35pm Rosenn Lecture-Cory Booker

Classic Arts Showcase

Wednesday February 20, 2013

6:00pm Spotlight April 1
6:30pm An American In Normandy

7:30pm Wilkes Now
8:00pm Wilkes Barre: Making A Difference
8:30pm Kirby Lecture-Tom Zasky

Classical Arts Showcase

Thursday February 21, 2013

6:00pm Spotlight April 8
6:30pm Ax Of Murder
7:30pm Wilkes Now
8:00pm Kirby Lecture Lawrence Reed
9:00pm It Takes A Village

Classical Arts Showcase

Friday February 22, 2013

6:00pm True Rarity: Amazing story of Irwin Weinberg
6:30pm Reveille To Taps
7:30pm Wilkes Now
8:00pm Generation X
Classical Arts Showcase

Feb. 19, 2013

Contact editor: carly.yamrus@wilkes.edu

Wilkes D2L website a missed opportunity

Merging sites has potential benefits for faculty, students

By The Beacon Editorial Staff

D2L, or Desire to Learn, is an online web service at Wilkes University that allows teachers to interact with their students online. If you have not used it yet, allow us to explain it.

The service is hosted on a website that allows professors to post lessons, documents, syllabi, power points, pictures and more for students to download.

Professors can post assignments to be handed in digitally, and put assignments and future quizzes on a calendar so that students can have a heads up on what is coming up next.

Grades are posted and are kept in an organized manner for students to view at any time and assess their overall grade.

This sounds like a great system, and in theory it is. It has all the necessary tools in place to bridge the gap between technology integrated students and their busy schedules, and help organize work for their professors.

And yet this system isn't used or utilized by all of the faculty here at Wilkes, and for some professors and students it causes more headaches and trouble than making life easier.

Common problems and complaints with the system tend to be that the website as a whole is buggy, and that not every professor is competent with the system, which can lead to assignments not obtained on time, grading messed up, work lost and even inaccurate information put on the calendar.

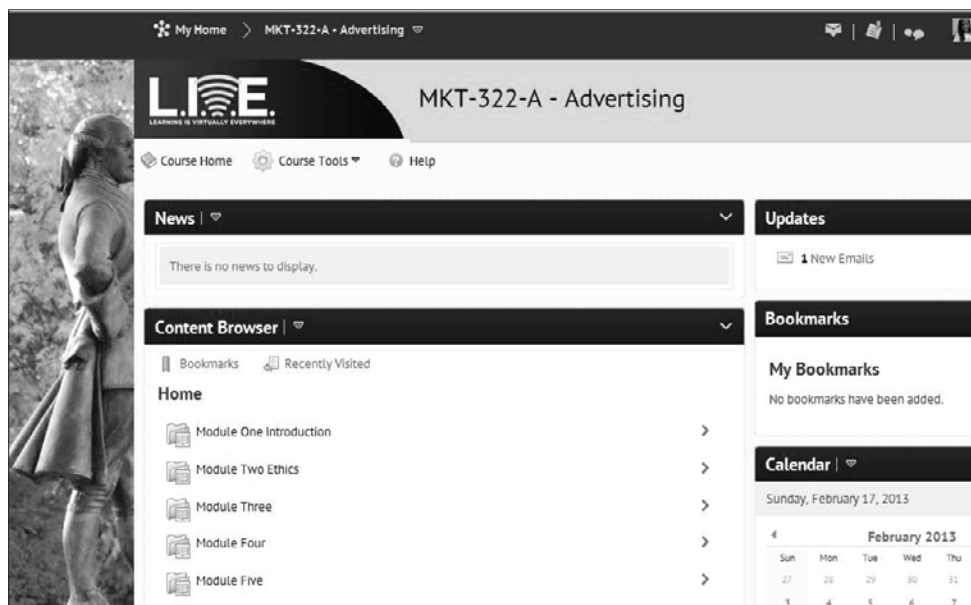
The Beacon believes that D2L has been a very useful tool. It can be used as a temporary storage place for files, to keep up on what assignments are next, and to check how my grades are.

Those of us who have used it have never had a problem with assignments not making it in on time, nor have we ever had trouble logging into the website unless there was a downtime for the website scheduled. These downtimes are typically emailed to our Wilkes emails.

Perhaps it's different for other departments and professors who use the system, but thus far we have not had any troubles.

The Beacon realize that not everyone feels the same, so what can we do to fix this? There is a lot of potential here that both students and professors are missing out on. We propose a few initiatives to help bring this resource to light.

The first is that we introduce it to our freshmen the same way we introduce the Wilkes online portal, mywilkes. But don't show them it in a onetime viewing that they will forget about 10 minutes after they walk through the door. Incorporate it as an essential tool for



The Beacon/Carly Yamrus

D2L offers students and faculty a place to store documents, write emails, organize coursework and see grades.

them to know, and teach them the in's and out's of it.

Second, highly encourage, but do not force, professors to learn and use the technology. Even if it's simply for the use of organization on the calendar, or a listing of the grades a student has obtained.

“If you plan a merge smartly with the D2L website, you would have a one stop place for student to access everything from school work to grades to financial account summaries to emails.”

- The Beacon Editorial Staff

If more professors become comfortable with the website and program, the more beneficial it will be for students and even future professors who can inform their colleagues on how to work the website.

Third, have a way for students and professors to send bug reports (errors) or even suggestions for improving the website. When you have a resource powerful enough to make the student-professor connection stronger, the fastest way to improve it is to keep an open forum between the developers and maintainers of that website, and the users who have to access it everyday.

But we could even take it a huge step forward and actually innovate. Integrate the My-

Wilkes website and combine it with the D2L website. And don't just merge them together, have an entire structural overhaul. Mywilkes.edu is an ugly website. It serves its purpose, but it could be much more appealing and easier to navigate.

If you plan a merge smartly with the D2L website, you would have a one stop place for students to access everything from school work to grades to financial account summaries to email. Consider it an online folder with every resource readily available to the student.

As with any technology-based resource, no matter how old or new, problems are sure to arise and people will re-

act negatively to change.

The Beacon believes that the Wilkes community should take a second look at making this useful tool relevant in the day-to-day studies of its students and faculty.



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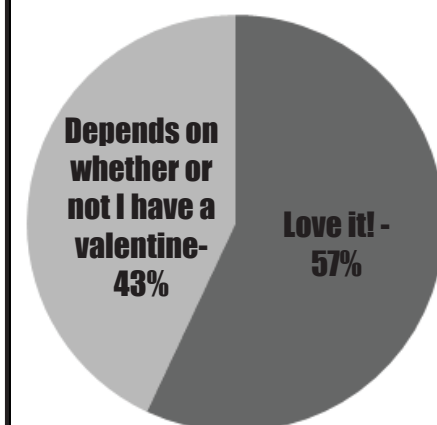
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BEACON POLL

The Beacon poll is unscientific and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on the Wilkes campus. Poll results are based on 7 responses.

Last week's question:

What is your opinion on Valentine's Day?



This week's question:

What website do you use most frequently when passing the time?

- Pinterest
- Tumblr
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Reddit
- YouTube

Cast your vote online at:

www.thewilkesbeacon.com

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Send your name, major, year and opinion to:

carly.yamrus@wilkes.edu

The Beacon reserves the right to edit submitted pieces for length and content. Anonymous letters will not be published.

Boy Scouts resist equality, tolerance with ban on gays



The Boy Scouts of America, a service and citizenship organization for young boys, continues to instill a “morally straight” mindset into young boys.

By Carly Yamrus
Opinion Editor

“On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.”

That’s the Scout Oath of the Boy Scouts of America, a youth organization for young men whose mission is to build character, leadership, citizenship and physical fitness.

The only part of that oath in question is that little part at the end that they tacked on in effort to promote ignorance and intolerance: “morally straight.” Meaning you cannot be openly gay.

Good news, though, you can still be gay but you just can’t tell anyone. I will assume that this ban was simply implanted to make the group feel better about themselves. To sweep the issue under the rug, if you will. If we don’t talk about being gay then our members won’t ever have the idea that maybe they are, in fact, homosexual.

While we’re at it we might as well inculcate our ignorant beliefs into the minds of young boys so we can stretch this fight for equality as long as we possibly can.

Those two words, “morally straight,” have caused quite a stir recently when the Boy Scouts decided to re-evaluate a ban on gay members and Scout leaders within the organization.

The Boy Scout policy says that openly gay people will be a distraction to the organization’s mission.

A distraction to the mission. The mission, being to “prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes.”

Please tell me, what is so unethical and immoral about equality? Please tell me how discrimination is honorable. Please tell me how, in the 21st century - after we overcame slavery, after we granted women their rights - that we cannot find it in us to allow young boys, who happen to be gay, to be a members of a group that sanctions character.

Who ARE WE, as people, to tell someone that they are not allowed to be in a group that promotes model citizenship because they prefer the same sex? Who are we as people to tell others that they are flawed in nature and thus ineligible, unqualified, unworthy of opportunities entirely unrelated to the given “problem.”

As a country, we should be ashamed of ourselves that we are still teaching young people to separate themselves from others who are not the same as them.

This relationship between sexual preference and Scouting is beyond me.

We need to look at who is actually making this a pressing issue. Do young boys really have this strong opinion about gay rights? When you were 11 years old, did you have this aversion to differences within your group of friends? No. You didn’t. You don’t come out of the womb believing that being gay is wrong. You are taught.


How sad it is to see little boys holding signs that say “stay strong” in support of the ban. This should have never been an issue for them.

I know the Boy Scouts’ vision is rooted in Christianity, and I am not about to make this a religious argument nor am I going to acknowledge this from a religious standpoint. But I will argue it from a human rights standpoint.

How are we still grounded in such selfish mindsets? Who gave straight people the authority to decide who has the inalienable rights cited in the Declaration of Independence?

The Boy Scouts are a private organization, and thus have the right to discriminate. They also have the right to understanding and tolerance.

You don’t have to agree with gay rights, nor do you have to like them. But it is 2013, and it’s about time we start acknowledging people for who they are, not who they like.

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Dropping the B-word: Does chivalry still exist out there?

By Lyndsie Yamrus
Assistant Opinion Editor

What I would really like to know is why many men, certainly not all, but definitely many, think that it is completely OK to disrespect women by how they address their female equivalents.

I am not referring to a woman being called the B-word, (otherwise known as a female dog,) when she is actually acting in a way that qualifies the use of the term. In such a case, words like this may be acceptable but of course the word “may” here is used rather loosely. In other words, I don’t recommend it in excess.

For example, a few months ago, one college-aged “boy” on my Facebook newsfeed would excessively post rude comments using the C-word left and right, as if it proved or supported any point at all. Such a case is never acceptable, as most of us already know.

I am more specifically focusing here on how in our society, we don’t think twice before using the insulting vocabulary on the female gender as a whole for no reason.

But how many songs can you think of where females are referred to as “bitches” and “hoes” amongs other condescending and disrespectful names? I can think of quite a few, and honestly, I feel that it severely decreases the value of the music, but that is beside the point.

Now don’t get me wrong, I am not a die-hard feminist. Girls, in general, bother me. And this is also not to say that women are completely innocent either. Nikki Minaj drops the B-bomb on her own kind in nearly every song she writes.

The music industry is just the beginning of the trend. Hip-Hop has had quite the long history of condescending women within the genre’s lyrics. Some songs are of course worse than others, but still.

It makes the music sounds trashy and classless, which is a shame because the actual music may be good.

Sure, most rappers have good-intentions but what makes verbally demeaning women something of absolute necessity when producing a quality song?

I had a conversation with someone maybe a year and a half ago about this kind of music and whether or not it can be considered “art.” He said yes, as disrespectful and tasteless the lyrics may be, it’s art.

I said absolutely not.

When I think of art, I think of MoMA in New York City. I think of theatre, drawing, dancing, modeling, designing and singing from the heart. But that’s just me.

I wanted to believe that this phase was relatively new, but it is in fact not a phase at all. I wanted to believe that women were at some point in human time completely respected in the entire sense of the word, and they might have been, but it isn’t clear.


Continuing with the B-word as an example, the term reaches all the way back to the 1800s when it was still used as a definition, sexually comparing women to dogs (who beg for men, etc. etc.) The word continued to rise in popularity throughout the entirety of the 1900s, reaching its peak in the early 2000s, according to Geoffrey Hughes’ “An Encyclopedia of Swearing: The Social History of Oaths, Profanity, Foul Language and Ethnic Slurs in the English-Speaking World.”

This is also not to say that women are the only targets of name-calling. Profanity and disrespect were present in every race and gender probably since the origin of man, all of which have been demeaned at one point or another if not still today.

I guess this becomes a reminder to remember your place in the world and to treat others with respect whether you’re serious or not.

As for chivalry and respect, I like to believe that they are not completely dead. Ladies and gentlemen still exist out there, right?

If so, prove it.

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The Beacon/Laura Preby

Many individuals feel that there is nothing wrong with using demeaning and disrespectful words in daily conversation to reference women.

Dress codes strip student's freedom of expression

By Bill Thomas

A&E Editor

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, on my way to Wilkes University, I pass the grounds of Elmer L. Meyers Junior/Senior High. At that time in the morning, around 8 a.m., all the students are making their morning walk to school. One thing I've noticed is that all the boys are wearing khaki pants and collared shirts. There are no obvious divisions between punks or jocks or Goths or nerds.

Don't get me wrong. I don't have some kind of us-versus-them mentality when it comes to different groups of students, and I'm certainly not in favor of cliques. But the fact that literally everyone looks the same makes me sick.

It's not like the cliques don't still exist. Just because you can't tell them apart at a glance doesn't mean the 'roided-up meatheads don't still pick on the Chess Club dweebs or that the heavy-metal freaks don't still get into skirmishes with the gangsta-rap thugs. So what does it matter if they wear the colors? Beneath the collars and khakis, they're still who they are. The poor kids still look scruffy, and the rich kids still look pristine. You can't change that.

Nor should you. Cliques suck, but they're more or less natural in human society. They don't disappear when you become an adult; they just become more subtle. Sometimes not even.

The point I'm trying to make isn't about cliques. It's about freedom of expression.

Personal expression is one of the most important rights we have, not just as Americans but as human beings. And really, what mode of personal expression aside from speech itself communicates who we are (at least on some level) more loudly than the clothes we choose to wear?

Note the key word there: "Choose." Strict dress codes like the one enforced at Meyers High School take away that freedom of choice and subsequently suppress students' basic human rights of personal expression. They impose values on said students which may not correspond with their own and deny them the opportunity to not only communicate their values, but to even discover those values for themselves.

School is a place for learning. The teenage years are a time for experimentation of all kinds: religious, romantic, philosophical, aesthetic. Distill that all down to the most fundamental form and what you're really talking about is identity experimentation, the act of trying different things and finding out who we are.

Take yours truly for example. I was a weird, artsy kid, and I experimented a lot. One of the key outlets for that experimentation was my wardrobe. I had a pair of tight-fitting red plaid pants covered in zig-zagging zippers that I called my "punk pants." I had a blue Baja poncho I called my "hippie hoodie." I used to cut the sleeves off of shirts, sew on patches, dye my hair green and wear mismatched shoes. I looked like a doofus, but that was my right.

More importantly, it was an integral part of my adolescence.

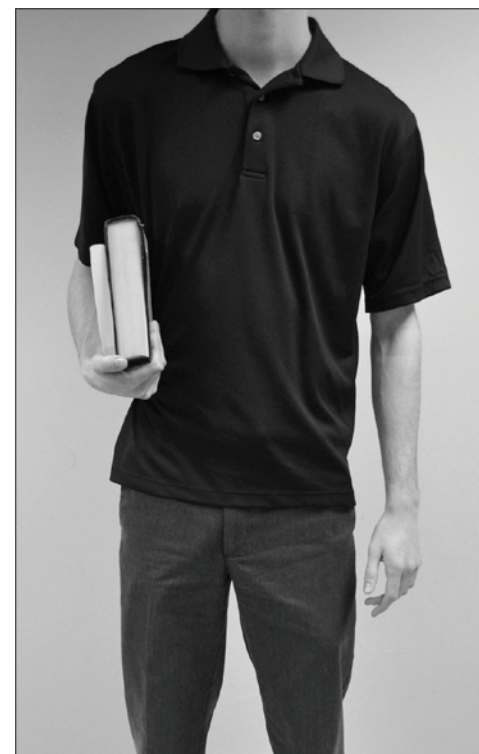
Some will argue that dress codes, especially in urban public schools, are justified because of their potential for reducing youth violence by making it more difficult to conceal weapons and by restricting the wearing of gang colors and provocative slogans. I would reply that enforcing dress codes as a means of reducing youth violence fails to address the underlying issues that lead to it. It's the equivalent of simply amputating a diseased limb instead of even attempting to cure the sickness itself.

How often do we look back at the things we wore in high school, roll our eyes and wonder what the hell we were thinking? Chances are not nearly as many times as we will in the future, for we continue to grow and change and evolve into individuals (hopefully) very different from our juvenile selves. But that evolutionary process is natural and necessary, warts 'n' all.

We look back and roll our eyes because we made bad decisions, but making bad decisions is how we developed a framework for understanding what constitutes a good decision in the first place. Depriving kids of that deprives them of an entire stage of their personal development. More distressingly, it deprives them of the most basic symbol of individuality.

What's worse: Freedom with its consequences or security via suppression?

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The Beacon/Laura Preby
Dress codes strip individuals of their basic right to personal expressions and disallows students to express their individualities.

Bringing the 'Harlem Shake' dance to Wilkes University

By Frank Passalacqua

Sports Editor

Every few months, there is new viral trend that floats from computer screen to computer screen on YouTube. The first one of this year is called "Harlem Shake."

Harlem Shake is a dubstep song from Bauer and has quickly become the newest thing for groups of friends or college campuses to do. All it consists of is people doing their everyday routine in the background while a person in the front casually dances. However, once the breakdown in the song drops, the frame cuts to everyone dancing crazily out of their minds.

A simple 30-second video is all it is, and this new trend is spreading on the internet like wildfire. College campuses all over the country are making their own versions, each having millions of views in just a few days. Because these videos are so short and people find them entertaining, people are willing to watch multiple at once, hence the quick million hits.

A student at Appalachian State University started a small event on Facebook to get his campus evolved. In just 24 hours, the event had 558 attendees all willing to dance like there is no tomorrow.

This is an opportunity too funny to pass up,



Courtesy of YouTube

The 'Harlem Shake' video has become a YouTube sensation among colleges.

and it can give Wilkes University some viral recognition. It doesn't have to be anything overwhelming, but it should be attempted. Why would anyone not want to be in a video that 2 million views in the first week?

An event has been made for the "Wilkes Harlem Shake" on Facebook and everyone is encouraged to join and help make this video a hit. As of now, it is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 21, during club hours, but a set place has not been determined. Students should help spread the word and make the Harlem Shake at Wilkes the best on the Internet.

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THE BEACON

Have An Opinion?

We want to hear from you!

Get your opinion heard!

The Beacon reserves the right to edit submitted pieces for length and content. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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Feb. 19, 2013

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Poet Tim Seibles speaks on race, love

Creative Writing brings National Book Award nominee to Wilkes

By Nicole Zukowski
 Staff Writer

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, when 2012 National Book Award finalist Tim Seibles came to Wilkes University last Thursday, many of the poems he choose to read to those in attendance had to do with heartfelt crushes, love, lust and growing up. Leading a special workshop in the Kirby Hall Salon from 1-2:30 p.m., Seibles kicked off the afternoon with an older poem, titled "What Holds You," which he wrote when he was in his 20s about a girl he "fancied."

"I have read that poem about 20-some times. It's very old," he said. "It is funny to think about what drives you to write poems, about how when I was working on that poem I was just consumed with her. Of course, now I have no idea where she is at."

In addition to the poetry readings, the workshop, which also included an extended Q&A session, was presented by Wilkes University's graduate creative writing program. During the workshop, Seibles discussed his creative process from his younger voice poems to his new collection of poems, "Fast Animal," which earned him his National Book Award nomination.

"Fast Animal," Seibles said, is a collection of poems that represent a movement from youthful confusion to the reality in adulthood. It is an expedition through real world themes that plague human society, such as the weight of race, the reality of authentic alertness and the importance of remembering our pasts.

"Fast Animal," which is Seibles' sixth such collection was published by Etruscan Press, a nonprofit publishing press located near campus, on South River Street in Wilkes-Barre. It is the home of Wilkes University's graduate Creative Writing Department and publishes five to six literary works each year. It was Etruscan that submitted "Fast Animal" for the National Book Award. In total, three Etruscan Press publications have been finalists for the National Book

Award since the press was founded in 2001.

Seibles, a former Pennsylvania native currently residing in Virginia has had poems published in literary journals and magazines in conjunction with his work that he presents nationally and internationally, making him one of America's foremost African-American poets. In addition to his writing, Seibles is a professor of Old Dominion University in Norfolk, where he works as a member of the English Department and MFA in writing faculty. He also serves on the teaching board of the Muse Writers Workshop and teaches part-time at the University of Southern Maine's Stonecoast MFA in writing program.

As an educator himself, Seibles frequently reads his work at cultural centers and literacy festivals in addition to high schools and universities.

Among the other poems Seibles read at the workshop was "Allison Wolff," which was not only featured in the "Fast Animal" collection but also included in the anthology "Best American Poetry 2010." The poem dealt with a variety of themes, but what seemed to capture everyone's attention were the most were the ways the piece brought up the subject of race.

When asked why he wanted to tackle such touchy subject matter, Seibles replied cited the importance of keeping the events of history fresh in one's mind

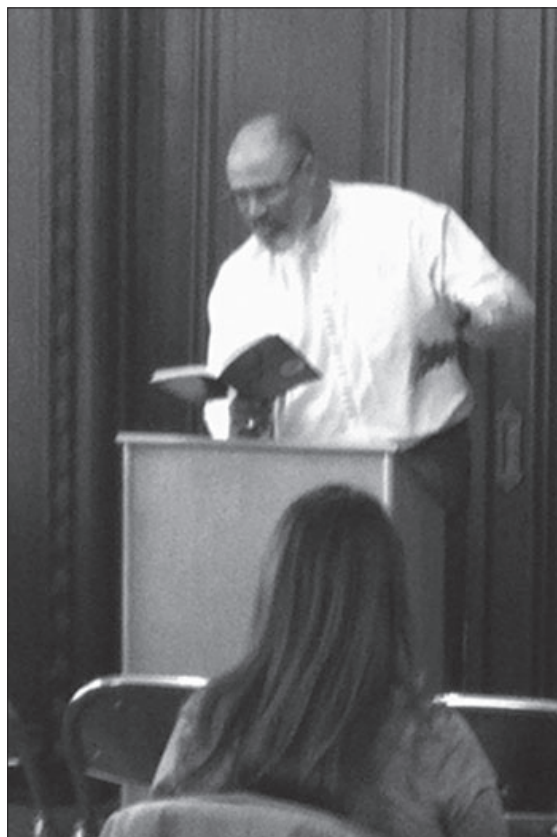
and learning from them, rather than simply ignoring them and trying to move on.

"We have to take responsibility for the past. I mention in this poem about Emmett Till," Seibles said, referring to the 14-year-old African-American boy who was

murdered in Mississippi in 1955 after flirting with a white woman. "One thing that speaks to me is that I was born the same year he was eradicated. I don't know if that had a specific impact on me, but I found that to be interesting."

Remember what you need to remember. Leave what you need to behind."

- Tim Seibles,
 Poet



The Beacon/Trevor Gilliam
Tim Seibles, one of the the most prominent African-American poets in the U.S., read selection from his latest book "Fast Animal."

Speaking of his own youth, Seibles spent some time highlighting the way people grow and change over time. Specifically, he compared the artistic "voice" of his younger self with that of the person he is today. He notes that he found it particularly interesting how his younger voice had different emotions about and perpectives of the world. More interestingly, he said, however, was recognizing those things that had remained the same after so many years.

"Remember what you need to remember," Seibles said. "Leave what you need to behind."



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Wilkes U Literary Event Calendar

You're in luck, bibliophiles. The creative program isn't the only department bringing wordsmiths to Wilkes. Check out this calendar of upcoming literary events to be hosted by the English department this spring.

David Wyatt

Thursday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m.

Kirby Salon

David Wyatt's latest book, "Secret Histories: Reading Twentieth Century American Literature," uncovers real histories hidden within the pages of American literature. The book both works to trace the multifaceted American past and models empathetic reading as his act of historical co-creation.

Jeff Mock & Margot Schilpp

Monday, March 18 at 7 p.m.

Kirby Salon

Jeff Mock is the author of a collection of poems, "Ruthless." Margot Schilpp is the author of three books of poetry: "The World's Last Night," "Laws of My Nature" and "Civil Twilight."

Tim Parrish

Monday, April 15 at 7 p.m. in the Kirby Salon

Tim Parrish is author of the short story collection, "Red Stick Men," set in his hometown of Baton Rouge, La. His other books, "Fear and What Follows: A Memoir of Masculinity and Racism" and "The Jumper," a novel and winner of the George Garrett Prize for Fiction, will be published in fall 2013.

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THE BARTOLI BEAT
 with Anthony Bartoli
Did Ed Sheeran get snubbed?



THE BOOK REPORT
 with Anne Yoskoski
"Drinking & Tweeting," by Brandi Blunders



THE GRAVEYARD SHTICK
 with Jake Cochran
Analyzing Merle Dixon

Oscar BRAWL

By The Beacon Editorial Staff

It's hard to tell how much blood is on the floor when the red carpet's rolled out.

Last year, the editors of The Beacon came together to discuss, debate, argue and ultimate trade fisticuffs over just which movie of 2011 deserved to win the "Best Picture" award at the 85th Academy Awards. They weren't necessarily movies that were nominated; just the ones that we thought were the cream of the crop.

With the awards airing this Sunday, we've done it again. Only, this year, we decided to class things up. We got dolled up in our Oscar best and tried to act cordial, but it wasn't long before dissension turned our snazzy soiree into an all-out warzone.

Oh well, there's always next year.

Kirstin Cook, Editor-in-Chief
The magic of the "Lord of the Rings" franchise is legendary in the movie industry, and even in our culture. "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey" had a lot to live up to, but the epic film deftly filled those giant Hobbit shoes and outdid all the anticipation and expectations. The special effects beautifully captured this fantasy world. The Hobbit humor and goblin antics brought back that whimsical feeling of "The Fellowship of the Ring." The film was more about setting and sensation than a series of events in a plotline. Those tones were captivating for the entire 169-minute duration. Perhaps the most compelling sensation was the deep sense of adventure, summed up in the immortal words of Gandalf: "Home is now behind you. The world is ahead."

Bryan Calabro, Managing Editor
"Looper" was my favorite movie of 2012. For a couple reasons: Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Bruce Willis are a

badass team. One is young and spry, the other is old and well-wized. There are boobs and drugs; not even a normal drug, one that they drop in their eye. So cool. Everyone likes boobs and drugs. They go together like peanut-butter and jelly. There is nothing like watching futuristic, gang-like violence in a semi-post apocalyptic world where anything goes. Anarchy is kewl. Because I like violence, sex, drugs, boobs and the concept of time travel over vast periods of time, this movie provided me with all the essentials to be thoroughly entertained. The whole concept of a world dominated in chaos, as in "anything goes" also made me appreciate this film.

Christine Lee, News Editor
"Moonrise Kingdom" is a quirky, nonsensical comedy

directed by Wes Anderson, of "The Royal Tenenbaums" fame. It is about two adolescent kids who fall in love and run away into the woods on a small New England island in the 1960s. The film focuses on their families' and the island's efforts to locate them, and the two kids' desire to be together despite the adults' protests. What I like most about this film is its nonsensibility. It has a certain quirk about it that makes it funny and it is up to the viewer to suspend their disbelief in order to truly enjoy it. That and its score, which uses music composed by Benjamin Britten, is truly fantastic.

Brandon Scott, Online Editor
"Cabin in the Woods" is the perfect mix of horror and cerebral satire. Although many may

dismiss this movie as a silly horror film, its underlying satirical tones skewer the horror movie genre with pin-point accuracy. That, along with its ridiculous over-the-top gore and monster-mash party scenes, make it an absolute must-see choice for the Oscars.

Carly Yamrus, Opinion Editor
I don't watch many movies, but when I do I like to laugh until it hurts. That or drool over attractive actors. That said, "21 Jump Street" is the best movie of the year for two reasons: Because it was one of only two movies I saw, and because it was pretty hysterical. The story follows two cops who are anything but good at their jobs. assign to go undercover as students at a local high school to find the source of a popular synthetic drug ship. The movie mocks high school students pretty hard., and Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum were great. My new favorite actor is Dave Franco, who played a nonchalant hipster drug dealer. Boy, was he beautiful.

Alyssa Stencavage, Life Editor
I don't go to the movies often anymore, but one movie I saw within this past year that I really enjoyed and was impressed by was "The Vow," starring Rachel McAdams (Paige) and Channing Tatum (Leo). Paige and Leo were married and Paige ends up in a coma after getting in a car accident. She wakes up with severe memory loss but Leo doesn't give up on her. He is determined to win her heart again, and works hard to do exactly that. I'm not sure what about this movie makes it my favorite. Although I love the characters, it's not necessarily because of them. It's more because appreciate the realistic aspect of it, the fact that what happens in this movie can and does happen in real life. This kind of thing makes you appreciate the important people in your life and what they will do for you. While it was sad, it was also a great movie.

Frank Passalacqua, Sports Co-Editor
"Silver Linings Playbook" combines three of my favorite things: the Philadelphia Eagles, Robert De Niro and, of course, Jennifer Lawrence. The addict-romance/drama isn't usually my cup of tea, but this movie is

the only exception. The movie ended on a happy note that left me wanting more. There was certainly a share of comedic scenes, too, that helped draw me in as well. The acting was great by every character and the emotional scenes actually felt real. While some may be surprised the movie is about a dance competition, the story simply could not have been done better.

Jake Cochran, Sports Co-Editor
I think the movie that did the best overall for the year was a Quentin Tarantino movie, but it wasn't "Django Unchained," it was "Killing Them Softly." I say this because it was vastly underrated and underperformed in the box office so many people passed it over, and was just a solid film overall. It was an interesting social commentary with an ultra realistic feeling that made you feel everything they wanted you to feel and it didn't have a happy ending which always a plus in my book.

Laura Preby, Photo Editor
My Oscar pick for the year is "Safety Not Guaranteed." This movie, from the producers of "Little Miss Sunshine," provided me with my dose of romance, comedy, drama and a little sci-fi all in an hour and a half. Mark Duplass plays a man intent on traveling back in time, who is looking for someone to accompany him. Not only is he devastatingly attractive, but he gets to display his amazing voice. I had to travel about a half-hour to see this movie, but it was absolutely worth it. It's a perfect film with an

ending that left me inspired and a little bit curious. What if we could time travel?

Bill Thomas, A&E Editor
When I vented my spleen over the Twilight series last year, I never thought said series' icy, pursed-lip male lead, Robert Pattinson, would go onto to deliver such a mesmerizing, intense performance in what I consider the best film of 2012. Color me stunned, as "Cosmopolis" is something of an actors' showcase, with Pattinson joined by Paul Giamatti and Sarah Gadon (among others), all of whom chew hungrily on meaty, magnetic, monologue-heavy roles. More so, though, "Cosmopolis" is a clearinghouse for ideas. Based on a book by Dan Dillillo and directed by longtime fringe auteur David Cronenberg, the film unspools a near-future narrative of a young, decadent, borderline-agoraphobic billionaire losing his fortune over the course of one long limo ride across New York City in pursuit of a simple haircut. In the process, themes of convergence, capitalism, sexuality, technology, morality, artifice and alienation are excruciatingly explored as the soul of modern society is vivisected with hypnotic hyper-realism and intoxicating intellect. All told, "Cosmopolis" is lyrical and subversive, and bound to get people talking. Just as great cinema should!



THE 101

Every issue, the staff of The Beacon's Arts & Entertainment section indulge their vanity and give a thoroughly biased crash-course in whatever madness happens to be dwelling in their warped minds.

Their views do not reflect those of The Beacon, its staff or Wilkes University.

Blah blah blah. This week, Laura Preby is hopping in the TARDIS to hang out with...

The Last of the Time Lords

By Laura Preby

Photo Editor

Who is The Doctor?

"He comes from somewhere else. He travels in the TARDIS that is bigger on the inside than on the outside and can travel both space and time."

This quote, spoken by Amy Pond during the introduction of the sixth season of the modern version of "Doctor Who," is the best description of who the titular Doctor is and what he's about. But there's so much more to the story that has had nerdy fan-boys glued to the television for the past half-century.

"Doctor Who" the longest running sci-fi television series ever, has over 700 episodes since its birth in 1963. The Doctor, who has been played by a succession of different actors since the show first insemination the imaginations of television audiences way back in the swingin' '60s, is the last of the Time Lords (an ancient, ageless alien race) who, by traveling through space and time, sets out to right the wrongs of the world and has encountered more than a few foes along the way.

Some of the most iconic monsters in the series are the Daleks, the Cybermen and the Weeping Angels, to name a few (find out all about these nefarious extraterrestrials in the

Cheat Sheet on the other side of this page). And, honestly, it's hard not to piss off a few people in the 1,200 years the Doctor has been alive.

The Doctor, currently played by Matt Smith, makes his journeys with the accompaniment of a companion, until recently the aforementioned Amy Pond, a stylish red-head with an attitude similar to my own.

Smith, the Eleventh Doctor, will be taking on a new companion, Clara Oswin Oswald, in the second half of the seventh series, which will begin airing on BBC America on March 30. This year will mark the 50th anniversary of the iconic television series, which originally went off the air in 1989, only to be relaunched and reinvented (but not rebooted) in 2005 for a new audience.

"Doctor Who" is one of the few shows that audiences can watch the old episodes as well as the new ones and still understand what's going on. Unlike "Star Trek," which keep changing characters with each new series, "Doctor Who" features a lot of the same faces and references throughout the years, allowing you to relate with them whether you're 15 or 50.

The new episodes, said to be some of the most epic thus far, feature a series of new foes, and the return of older ones portrayed in a way we've never seen them before.

Over the years, there have been eleven different Doctors played by different actors, which is a great gimmick to keep the show running when actors get uninterested.

Simply put, the Doctor does not "die"; he is regenerated into a new being after he sustains any injury that would result in death if he were human. He regenerates in a new body with a similar personality (but never exactly the same) and different amounts of sexiness depending on your taste and sexual preference (Tenth Doctor = Yum). There are also rumors of a female Doctor in the near future, although this is something that's been discussed for some time. Yay or nay?

Aside from the long-running television show, there have also had many spin-off series such as "Torchwood," "The Sarah Jane Adventures" and "K-9." There is also a popular Doctor Who comic that I indulge in on occasion. Additionally, there's been exciting news of a "Doctor Who"/"Star Trek" crossover comic, being released this May, that would make any geek set down his Magic cards, turn off his Nintendo 64 and skip off to the comic book store.

Whether you're a die-hard Whovian or have never experienced The Doctor for yourself, now is a great time to sit down with a few reruns and prepare yourself for new adventures with everyone's favorite Time Lord.



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CHEAT SHEET

The Whovian's Guide to the Galaxy

TARDIS

Stands for "Time and Relative Dimensions in Space." Essentially, a combination time machine/spaceship, the TARDIS looks like a blue police phone box on the inside (something once common in England), but is much, much, much bigger on the inside (as virtually everyone who enters makes sure to mention).

More than just a spiffy ride, though, the TARDIS itself is alive, and doubles as The Doctor's oldest friend and greatest love.

All together now: Awwwww.

Sonic Screwdriver

Never leave the TARDIS without it! The Sonic Screwdriver is The Doctor's trustiest tool, a sort of intergalactic all-purpose Swiss Army knife which can be used to open doors, scan alien life-forms or do anything else the show writers need it to.

For the nerd in your life, you can buy your own. It can't scan alien life-forms, but it can change the channel on your TV. Except for when "Doctor Who" is on.

Daleks

The most recognizable villain in the "Doctor Who" canon, your average Dalek look like a cross between R2-D2 and a tank. Basically a metaphor for Nazi eugenics, the Daleks have very little tolerance for any species other than their own, and have one specific agenda when they encounter "inferior" races:

EX-TERRRR-MINATE!

Cybermen

Who doesn't love big, scary robots? Too bad they don't love you. It's not anything personal, they just know you'd be better if you were made of metal and had no emotions. When you hear them shouting "delete" at the top of their synthetic lungs, get out of town, or you'll end up assimilated, Borg-style.

Oh well, if you can't beat 'em, join 'em.

Weeping Angels

Looking fear in the face is one thing, but what if you're not able to? The Weeping Angels are unique in that they're "quantum-locked." When you're looking at them, they appear harmless. Just statues of, well, weeping angels.

It's when you turn your back that things get dangerous. When they're not being looked at, these not-quite-angels are released from their marble prisons and free to kill you. And, trust me, they want to kill you.

You literally will never see it coming.

The Master

Every great hero needs a villainous counterpart. Sherlock Holmes had Moriarty. Darkwing Duck had Nega-Duck. And The Doctor? He has The Master.

Another Time Lord (yeah, that whole "Last of the Time Lords" thing changes every now 'n' then, per the needs of the writers), The Master is utterly insane. While The Doctor values all life, The Master detests it.

Appropriately, this not-inconsiderable difference of opinions has led the two endangered extraterrestrials to clash time and time again.

Companions

The official nickname of The Doctor's many sidekicks over the years, the Companions serve as audience surrogates, someone for us mere mortals to relate to and someone for The Doctor to kindly explain everything to.

Though most Companions have been female, it's worth noting that only one has truly captured The Doctor's heart. So, naturally, she was tragically written out. Parting is such sweet sorrow.

K-9

A robot-dog with an encyclopedic knowledge of pretty much everything. Plus, he has lasers guns and says "Affirmative" a lot (everyone has a catchphrase on this show, even the damn dog). In other words, he's the perfect pet.



Feb. 19, 2013

Contact editor: anne.yoskoski@wilkes.edu

Special Olympics bring the joy of sports to many

By Alyssa Stencavage
Life Editor

"It's always a laughter-filled time," Student Development Coordinator Megan Boone said. "It's the best time commitment students can make on a Saturday morning."

Boone is referring to the Special Olympics Bowling Tournament, a regional competition and international program that Wilkes has been partnering with in Luzerne County for two years now.

Special Olympians come to Chakos from across sectionals. As with any most every competition, there are metals and placements involved. If the athletes place, they then go on to nationals and then world competitions.

This Special Olympics event is very similar to those so many people around the world watch on television, except that the athletes that participate have other special abilities.

Most of them are the moderate to severe spectrum and cannot function without some type of aid because they don't fit in with those they are

around on a daily basis, such as those they go to school with, and so on.

"It's sort of like a release for them," junior psychology major Adam Bailey said. "This is a really fantastic cause to get involved with because you are helping people that can't really help themselves."

Part of working with Special Olympics is becoming a Special Olympics college. It is about bringing in guest speakers and athletes who have placed in the past and can talk about the value of the experience and then getting volunteers interested.

Those involved at Wilkes work to gather volunteers, generate interest in the program, student coaches to work with the teams, practice space and simply to grow and foster relationships with the athletes.

"Once you start working with the program, you develop a passion for it," Boone said. "Their enthusiasm sort of encourages you to stay with it. After being around the athletes, you get very attached to them."

Students have put in a heavy volunteering ef-

fort to help out.

"I joined the event because I felt that it was a really nice cause," Bailey said. "I know from personal experience that helping people is a fantastic joy. The athletes especially benefit because they really look up to our teams, who can do things the Special Olympians cannot. They motivate the athletes, so helping them along with their training is just very beneficial."

Bailey said the Special Olympics are similar to Relay for Life because you build a connection with the Olympians.

"It's a fantastic opportunity to get involved for people who know what it's like to have to be in that position," Bailey said.

Through this program, these Special Olympics athletes get to meet new friends and see other friends from competition. But it doesn't stop there. They will also ask millions of questions and tell you their life story, but Boone said the best part is they will remember your name every time they see you.

"It is a very positive, rewarding experience for a Saturday morning," Boone said.

These athletes aren't the only ones who benefit from taking part in this program. Perhaps one of the most rewarding aspects for students is that it breaks down barriers about what people think about those who have challenges in their life. Students will also find that working with the athletes is a great time.

"Once you start breaking down the barriers, you become very invested in making it successful," Boone said.

Although fund-raising efforts were being made through erasing "r" word T-shirts, more are still needed. The bowling tournament was the first initial installment, but Bailey said he wants to make Wilkes a Special Olympics college and actually host events for the college so that they can come and use our facilities. This way the university can act as a sponsor for them.

For future efforts to help fund this event, those currently involved will also work with other teams like football, tennis and swimming as well as Adventures Coordinator Jill Price.

Toward the end of the semester, the plan is to have a spirit week which will be a four day event. Each day will feature a different theme with different activities where people can get involved. The final day will be a field day in the UCOM, which will be similar to Winter Weekend. Here stations of activities will be available for those who would like to come.

These efforts will keep on. The initiation came with the T-shirts, but eventually restaurants will be sought and people can come in with their ticket, where a percentage of proceeds go towards the funds for the event.

Despite the disturbances caused by the recent inclement weather, fund-raising has been slightly difficult to accomplish. But there are more in store as the semester continues.

Students were able follow a link the Today @ Wilkes announcements to sign up to participate in the event, and transportation and food were provided.

The bowling tournament was held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16.

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The Special Olympics Bowling Tournament was held at Chakos Bowling Alley in Wilkes-Barre.

Left: Winners celebrate with their parents. Right: Winner Joanie Ziegler with her medal.



The Beacon/Dan Lykens



President's Day History...

President's Day is a United States federal holiday celebrated on the third Monday of February in honor of George Washington, the first president of the United States. Washington's Birthday is commonly referred to as Presidents' Day (sometimes spelled President's Day). Presidents' Day was started by President Nixon, to honor all past presidents of the United States, and set on the day when Washington's Birthday was celebrated. Both Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays are in February.

Pinteresting: A How-To Guide

Admit it, everyone is on Pinterest. It's chock-full of amazing ideas and simple crafts that cause everyone to take one look at the picture with the "it's so easy!" description and declare, "I could do that." After some severe craft fails (and successes), I, Anne Yoskoski, decided it was time to share these experiences with everyone, hopefully saving at least one oven, set of eyebrows, trip to the doctor for stitches and a carpet in the process.

iPhone case

We update our phone cases constantly. Well, if you have an iPhone, making a personalized case can be extremely cheap.

Supplies:

- scrapbook paper
- clear iPhone case (very cheap on amazon.com and eBay)
- scissors
- an Exacto knife
- pencil

Procedure:

1. Make a template on the scrap book paper for your phone
2. Cut out the template and place it in the phone case
3. With your phone snapped into the case, trace around where the camera hole is in the case, directly on to the scrapbook paper
4. Take the paper out of the case and cut out the camera hole with an exacto
5. Place your phone back in, and you are good to go!

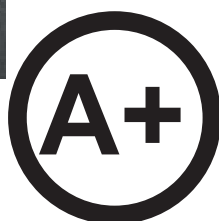
This can also be jazzed up with glitter, stickers, or Sharpie designs.

This was amazingly simple and cost less than \$5- a great bargain for something so cute and functional.



The Beacon/Anne Yoskoski

The versatile nature of the project makes customizing easy.



Heading abroad one more time

Winners to go abroad again with Sundance

By Beacon Staff



The Beacon/Beacon Staff

Winner Jill Price, Wilkes Adventures Education coordinator, was one of three recipients of a trip to Dreams Punta Cana Resort and Spa in the Dominican Republic from Sundance Vacations in Wilkes-Barre.

Two Wilkes University students and a staff member will be adding to their travels abroad this summer after winning an expense-paid trip to a Caribbean resort in a study abroad essay contest held Wednesday, Feb. 13.

Essays by Jill Price, Adventure Education coordinator, and students Jacob Parrick and Yehia Alzawaidah were selected by judges to be the recipients of a trip to Dreams Punta Cana Resort and Spa in the Dominican Republic.

The Wilkes University Center for Global Education and Diversity sponsored the essay contest in conjunction with The Beacon student newspaper, the Graduate Creative Writing Program and Barnes & Noble-Wilkes/Kings. It consisted of three categories: American students who have studied abroad, international students studying in the United States, and faculty or staff who have traveled abroad.

"Our main approach to globalization is to enable as many of our students as possible to become acquainted with other cultures by travelling abroad and having an immersion experience," Director Global Education Diversity Affairs, said. "However, we understand that not everyone can travel abroad for a variety of reasons. Thus, the essays will become conduits for transferring valuable knowledge gained abroad to those in our community who have not traveled."

The three trips were donated by Sundance Vacations in Wilkes-Barre. Runners-up won a free weekly café drink from Barnes & Noble-Wilkes/King's and third-place finishers re-

ceived a gift card from the bookstore.

Students, staff and faculty were invited to participate in the first essay contest by submitting a 500- to 750-word essay detailing how their experience abroad changed their perceptions, altered their world view or introduced them to new and interesting people and cultures in other parts of the globe.

Other winners included: second place American student, Francis Dumbreski, third place American student Angela D'Alessandro and honorable mention Cody Null; second place international student Doan Kim, third place international student Ahmed Allam; second place faculty-staff, Susan Biskup, third place faculty staff KarenBeth Bohan and honorable mention, Dana Burnside.

Winners were announced and had a chance to read their essays during the ceremony in the Henry Student Center.

The turnout far exceeded my expectations," Fonjweng said. "When these types of events here at Wilkes attract 25 people, they are considered successful. We had over 80 people at the essay contest award ceremony and that is well beyond my expectations."

Contest winners read their essays during a separate ceremony held Friday, Feb. 15, at Barnes & Noble-Wilkes/King's.



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Beauty Beat: Beauty myths and tricks, Volume One

By Ashley Evert
Staff Writer

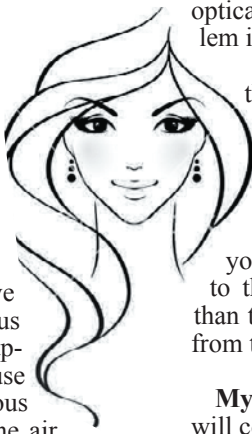
The Beacon is checking out the latest and greatest in beauty trends.

Beauty consultant Ashley Evert has the information you need.

As a cosmetologist, I've heard so many outrageous myths that I've run out of appalled facial expressions to use in response to these ridiculous claims. I wanted to clear the air about some of the most common myths and hopefully get people to think a little more about what they're told to believe.

Myth: Shaving or cutting hair makes it grow back thicker and faster.

Fact: Shaving or cutting hair will not make it grow back thicker or faster. Your hair is tapered, so it comes to a slight point. When you clip that hair off, it eliminates that point and makes the hair appear thicker. The hair that has already left the follicle, a k a the hair we physically see, is dead. Therefore, cutting it doesn't affect the actual growth process. Basically, it's all an



optical illusion. The solution to this problem is something everyone dreads: waxing. I know, I know. It hurts! But pulling that hair out from the follicle ensures that there is no blunt edge so when it grows back, the tapered point remains and gives the appearance of thinner hair.

But what if you can't wax because you've got sensitive skin? Just head over to the mall and get threaded! It's faster than tweezing and plucks the hair right out from the root.

Myth: Putting mayonnaise on my hair will condition it.

Fact: I can't tell you how many times I've heard this one. The reasoning behind this is that your hair is made up of protein, as are the eggs that mayo is mainly composed of.

OK, I could see how that makes sense; however, topical products only go so far because your hair has a cuticle that protects it (think of it like shingles on a roof, overlapping and protecting what's underneath).

So really, this method just doesn't penetrate the cuticle and deeply nourish your hair. Now eating protein is a whole different story. That will go a long way for long, strong, healthy hair and nails.

Myth: I'm losing so much hair in the shower, I'm totally going bald.

Fact: This myth needs to be put to rest! Your hair goes through three phases in which it grows, rests, and falls out. This is normal. Some studies have shown that the average human loses about 40 hairs a day, some claim it's over 100.

Either way, if you are seeing lots of hair in your hairbrush or shower, you should be relieved. Think of it like a dog shedding their coat in the spring.


This is just your body's way of telling you that this hair needs to go in order to make room for new, luscious strands. Sometimes, losing hair can actually be a sign of good health.

Wondering if prenatal pills really make your nails grow? How about quick fixes for split ends? Know a myth I haven't covered? Email it to me at ashley.evert@wilkes.edu and I'll do all the research for you!



The Beacon/ Ashley Evert

Ashley Evert tackles your common beauty myths including mayo conditioner, small hair loss leading to baldness and cutting hair to make it grow faster. Any beauty questions you submit will be answered by our beauty consultant.

 [@wilkesbeacon](https://twitter.com/wilkesbeacon)
ashley.evert@wilkes.edu

Winter Weekend triggers inner heroes



The Beacon/Wyatt Culler

Team Thor was announced as the winner of Student Government's Winter Weekend, which took place on Feb. 15 and 16. The theme was comic book superheroes and villains. Pictured left is team member Ethan Culler, who dressed up as Thor for the team mascot. The victory marked the fourth year in a row that the Frisbee Team took the top honor at Winter Weekend. Go to thewilkesbeacon.com to see more photos of the festivities.

THE WORD AT WILKES:

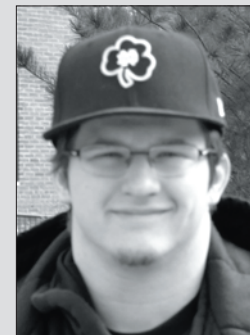
If you could be a superhero, real or invented, who would it be?



Dan Tomko:

Freshman Electrical Engineering Major

"I want to be Iron Man."



Eric Allen:

Freshman Electrical Engineering Major

"My favorite is the Hulk."



Adam Misiura:

Freshman Mechanical Engineering Major

"Spider-Man is the best."



Rich Lorfing:

Undecided Senior

"I want to be a superhero whose power is the inability to get a hangover."

Nemo's wrath fails to stop Relay for Heat

Runners break distance record despite biggest season snowfall

By Frank Passalacqua
Sports Co-Editor

Despite Nemo finding his way to P. Sherman, 42 Wallaby Way, the recent snowstorm also hit a large part of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

With the ninth annual "Relay for Heat" scheduled to begin at 6 a.m. on Feb. 9, participants found they had to deal with the aftermath of a blizzard.

As snowfall accumulated for around 6 inches in some areas, questions arose of how successful the event would be.

Will Terzaghi, Wilkes biology professor and running club adviser, started early to help prepare for the day ahead.

"We ended up holding the Relay for Heat in spite of the conditions and finished at 5:45 p.m.," Terzaghi said. "I shoveled a half-mile path (from the 1.75 to the 2.25 mile markers, and had to clean it up repeatedly because the wind was drifting snow into it) and most participants went back and forth along this path, but nearly 10 participants ran the traditional path from mile 2 to mile 0 and back."

As the weather threw a wrench into the runners' plans, many participants delayed their starting time until the conditions got better.

"It definitely slowed everyone down, and a number of people scheduled to run in the morning didn't show," Terzaghi said. "The wind was worse than the cold; at noon it was 23 degrees but the wind chill brought it down to -3 degrees F."

"For quite a while I was very afraid that we weren't even going to make 100 miles, but once the sun came out about 11 a.m. people started showing up in groups and we ended up setting a new record for miles covered by a huge margin."

In all, we covered 198 miles, of which 120 were covered by Wilkes undergraduates. I'm very pleased that we set the record for distance traveled and for numbers of participants, and I'm hopeful that this will also translate into a new record for funds raised."



Photos courtesy of Will Terzaghi

A little snow didn't stop runners dedicated to raising money for the Relay for Heat Feb. 9. Participants had to deal with the remnants of the blizzard nicknamed Nemo, which blanketed the entire Northeast, including 6 inches locally. Above, a bundled runner trudges through the snow. At right runners Sam Miller, Austin Loukas and Dan Lykens, from left, managed to stay warm in more basic attire. Total donations have not been tabulated yet, but the money will go to the Martin Luther King Jr. Fuel Fund.

Last year, the event helped raise \$2,500 for families in need. The Martin Luther King Jr. Fuel Emergency Fund was created to help families in the Wilkes-Barre area with children and senior citizens who are struggling to pay for heat during the winter because of an inability to pay.

It is unknown how much has been raised at this point, but Terzaghi is hopeful to have topped last year's funding.

"We're still waiting to find out some of the pledges," Terzaghi said. "Based on our experience

from previous years, we won't know the final numbers for a few weeks. So far we've raised at least \$1,500."

The event helped bring out many new faces as well. Student Matthew Shortell was a first-time participant and was very happy to be a part of the event.

"I had never heard of Relay for Heat before until recently from my friends, and once I learned what it was about I really wanted to run," Shortell said. "It felt great knowing that what we were doing was for a great cause, and that the money

raised would help keep families warm this winter."

Sophomore Christine Klingel returned for her second year and reflected on helping out those in need. Despite the weather, Klingel pressed on.

"It's an amazing feeling knowing that I can do something I enjoy and help people in need," Klingel said. "Last year was very windy and cold, but this year was even more challenging with the snow. I ran at 7 a.m. before the roads were plowed and was wary of going but then I thought 'here I am in a warm

dorm and there are people out there that need a warm place too.' I ran a total of 6 miles for the cause and even though I slipped a couple times it was fun and rewarding in the end."

The totals earned are expected to release within the next few weeks. Anyone looking to donate to the Martin Luther King Jr. Fuel Emergency Fund can send checks to the Wilkes University Running Club, 84 W. South St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766.

MLK Fuel Fund must be identified on the check's memo line.



BY EVAN WILLEY
Staff Writer

Being at a new college in a new town is hard for anyone, but also being a student athlete with one of the most difficult majors is such an amazing accomplishment for anyone. Wilkes is lucky enough to introduce freshman Emily Ketterman as its newest colonel athlete. Ketterman is from York, Pa., and went to West York High School where she excelled in lacrosse. She loves how intense the game can be, but what is amazing is how intense her schedule is and she still aces everything.

What is your most memorable moment while playing this sport?

My most memorable moment was when we won our first game. We didn't get a team until my sophomore year of high school so most of us were still learning. Winning that first game was a sign of accomplishment for us.

Who is your biggest inspiration?

My biggest inspiration is both my parents and my sisters. They have always taught me to never give up and push through anything so they always helped me get through the tough practices and always came to every game.

How long have you been playing?

I have been playing since seventh grade.

Have you ever received any awards? What are they?

Yes, I received an award for being the best teammate, and I also was captain both my senior year.

Are you superstitious when you're in game mode?

Yes, I always had to warm up with my headphones in to play good because it always put me in my own little world and got me in game mode.

What do you eat/drink before a game?

I eat usually just a granola bar or drink some water or Gatorade.

How do you like Wilkes? What's your favorite part of being here?

I love Wilkes. I love being with all my friends all the time, the nursing program is

Getting to know...

Emily Ketterman

Freshman lacrosse player

Nursing Major

Position: Defense



See Ketterman, Page 19

HOME	06:45	GUEST
037		047
QUARTER 3		
BONUS	POSS	BONUS
FOULS	SHOT CLOCK	FOULS
01	:10	05

SCOREBOARD

Wrestling

2/15 Ithaca College W 19-12

M-Basketball

2/12 DeSales University L 74-82

2/16 King's College L 62-71

W-Basketball

2/12 DeSales University L 54-72

2/16 King's College L 54-67

WEEKS AHEAD

Wrestling

2/22 King's College

3/2 East Regionals

Baseball

2/23 Lebanon Valley College

3/4 College of Staten Island

3/5 Emerson College

3/6 York College of Penn.

3/7 Penn State Berks

3/8 Catholic University of America

Softball

3/1 Shenandoah University

3/1 Rowan University

3/2 Frostbury State University

3/2 York College

Men's Tennis

3/5 Penn State Erie

3/5 Emory & Henry College

3/6 Wittenberg University

3/8 John Carrol University

Women's Tennis

3/4 Assumption College

3/6 Wittenberg University

3/8 John Carroll University

Joseph Pugliese
Columnist



The NFL combine is a huge process of the draft for NFL teams. With many prospects have rising and falling in the combine process.

Forty-yard dash times, vertical leaps and other drills have been developed to try to get an accurate measure of the talent of individuals.

But the question still remains, does it all work? Can a person's performance in the combine really accurately show how they develop into pros?

I think the answer is mixed. Numbers show that the draft combine and process as a whole does work.

There are more hall of famers from the first three rounds of the draft than any other rounds.

However, if we are looking to the more recent numbers and as far as pro bowls are concerned the numbers would tend to show there is more disappointment from the first rounders than there necessarily is success.

Excluding last year's draft, in the last 10 years there have been 319 first round picks. Ninety-eight of them have made the pro bowl, about 31 percent, and only 55 have made multiple pro bowls, only 17 percent.

Only nine of the 30 quarterbacks drafted since 2002 in the first round have made the pro bowl.

The best position for measurable success with regards to draft order seems to be the tight end position having seven of 13 first-round picks turn into pro bowlers.

So the evidence points to success of the first round overall but as far as where they are taken there is no correlation that says top five become better than the next five taken.

So the draft process works to a point, but there are things like heart, adrenaline, work ethic, off-field conduct and other such intangibles that can never be fully measured and accounted for that affect player's performance vastly in game time situations as opposed to the combine with no pads on and less pressure.

One of the improvements that the combine could make is to measure players with pads on. They play the game with pads and react differently in full uniforms with the added weight and less flexibility, which can greatly change the test results.

So I believe the combine works and helps but it is not a flawless system, however a good or bad combine will not automatically equate to pro success or failure.



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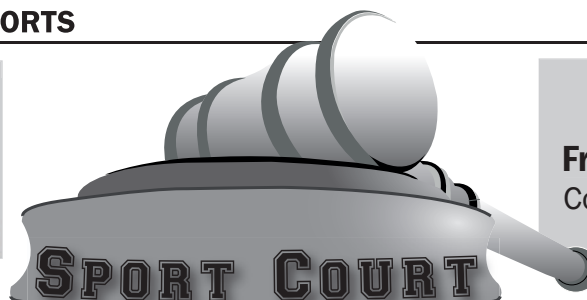
joseph.pugliese@wilkes.edu



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How effective is the NFL Combine?

The NFL Combine tests athletes on their various skill sets, which include their mental, physical and social attributes.

40-Yard Dash test the athlete's ability to reach top speed in a shortened distance; this is to represent their raw speed.

Bench Press tests the athlete's endurance strength, the 225-pound weight isn't a max for the athletes; it is to show how well they do over time.

Vertical Jump is pretty self explanatory; the athletes jump straight up seeing how high they can reach.

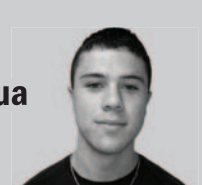
Broad Jump is also self-explanatory, the athletes stand still, jumping forward and have to land cleanly.

3 Cone Drill is designed to test the athlete's ability to change his speed and direction; this is a very good test for the athlete's agility.

Shuttle Run is also referred to as the 5-10-5 Drill. This drill is used to test the athlete's lateral speed.

The athletes also have position specific drills and get their physical measurements taken, as well as drug screenings, interviews and **The Wonderlic Test** to measure intellect.

Frank Passalacqua
Co-editor



The NFL Combine is one of my favorite off-season events, second to the draft of course.

Each year, a selected number of NCAA players are invited to Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, Ind., to put their skills on display to every organization in the league. With 333 total athletes invited, they will all go through numerous drills and physical tests in their chance to stand out from the rest.

Even though NFL scouts already have their eyes on a few names, the combine gives them a first-hand account of how the player really performs. These scouts study college film every second of their time, but nothing compares to watching the players one-on-one.

The combine is broken down into four days, with each position group having their own day to perform.

With every mock draft available today, they will all drastically change immediately after the combine. This is because a player's stock can rise or fall, depending on how well they have prepared for this event.

There are already certain players that people who follow football know are first-round material. If they show up to the combine 10 pounds heavier and sloppy at their position, you can bet they will fall to the middle of the draft.

Take Vontaze Burfict for example. Last year, he was rated as the best linebacker in the entire draft class. Burfict showed up at the combine 15 pounds heavier and did not perform well at all in his drills. His stock dropped from being the best at his position, to not even getting drafted.

This shows how crucial the event is to a player's career. Fortunately for Burfict, he was later signed by the Cincinnati Bengals, got himself back into top shape, and was one of the best rookie linebackers. Granted, a situation like that does not always result in a success story, but it does happen.

However, the combine is not a sure-sign of how a player will make the transition into the NFL. In last year's combine, linebacker Mychal Kendricks out of Cal was a late-round draft projection prior to the event. He shocked everyone by putting up the best numbers in the combine out of everyone in his position, and was taken in the second-round by the Philadelphia Eagles. In the pros, he did not stand out.

Those are just two examples out of more than 300. It is a great opportunity for the athletes to shine, in hopes for a good draft selection. Ultimately, that's what the combine is great for- the draft.

Every person in that stadium has his or her eyes on every player invited. This is when teams start building a draft board, in hopes to snag a gem that no one else saw. This year, it will be held Feb. 23-26.



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Ketterman

Continued from Page 17

How do you like Wilkes? What's your favorite part of being here?

I love Wilkes. I love being with all my friends all the time, the nursing program is awesome as well as being apart of the lacrosse team.

How is it being a new student in a new school and dealing with playing a sport?

It was hard at first because I was very nervous but once the team welcomed me as much as they did I felt like I belonged here.

What is your favorite sports icon?

My favorite sports icon is Peyton Manning. I look up to him because he is such a great athlete.

What is your biggest goal in life?

My biggest goal in life is to become a nurse in the NICU and to also be a lacrosse coach for younger children.

How do you like the people you met on your team? Are you close with them?

The people on my lacrosse team are awesome. They made me feel like I was a part of a family and they were so welcoming.

Where do you see yourself in the next five years?

I see myself working in a hospital helping to save lives in the next five years.

What do you miss about home the most?

I miss my family more than anything. I lived

within five minutes of all my family members so I miss being able to just go spend time with them all the time

What's your major and what are you looking to do with it?

My major is nursing and I plan on working in the NICU with the babies.



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Quick Hits: Follow up from UFC on Fuel and UFC 157

By Jake Cochran
Sports Co-Editor

Barao defends his interim title

Renan Barao successfully defended his UFC Bantamweight interim title against up-and-comer Michael MacDonald on Saturday in London, England, in the Wembley Arena to a packed crowd.

This was Barao's first defense since his win over Urijah Faber at UFC 149 in the summer of 2012. Barao earned the title because the champion, Dominick Cruz tore his ACL last July and reinjured his knee when the transplant failed, no date has yet been set for Cruz's return which leads many to believe Barao will be defending his interim title yet again.

Manuwa on rare win-streak

While a two fight win streak is not very rare to come across but the manner in which Manuwa is doing is

Manuwa is on a two-fight doctor stoppage win-streak in the UFC, with both of his wins coming early before the final bell. His last win was also in England but over Kyle Kingsbury he busted the scrappy wrestler up so badly the doctors had to stop the fight for the fear of blood getting into Kingsbury's eyes.

In his fight on Saturday Manuwa inadvertently tore Cyrille Diabate's calf muscle on a rough take-down and caused the fighter to throw in the towel in between the first and second round when he couldn't stand up.

Manuwa is undefeated in his mixed martial arts career and his

record stands at 13 and 0, with all the wins coming from stoppages, and interestingly enough, all within England.

Cub Swanson outlasts Poirier

Cub Swanson is currently on a four fight win-streak in the featherweight division with three of those four wins coming by the way of violent stoppages.

With the newly released UFC ranking system it is easy to see that Swanson will soon be knocking on the door of a title shot by knocking Poirier off the ladder. Poirier was formally ranked at No. 7 with Swanson at No. 6.

Look for Swanson to keep his streak going as he had an incredibly active 2012 with three fights, and keeping busy in early 2013, barring injury and any other setbacks Swanson could be in within top contention before the year clocks out.

First women's title fight to headline PPV

Next weekend the UFC will have women compete in their organization. The fight will be between media darling and former Olympic Bronze Medalist Ronda Rousey and the first openly gay fighter, Liz Carmouche.

The fight is headlining UFC 157 in Anaheim and while the fight has drawn a lot of interest from the MMA community there are still some questions about how the casual fans will react to the introduction of the women's divisions in UFC.

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