



Est. 1936
Pa. Newspaper
Association Member
Volume 72, Issue 01

THE BEACON

FREE
Take one

Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

Students to return to major campus construction updates

By Maddie Davis
Co-News Editor

With the help of eight different contractors, The Department of Facilities and the support of the city of Wilkes-Barre, Wilkes University's campus is getting a face-lift this summer as a part of the \$100 million campus enhancement plan. This plan, announced by Wilkes President Dr. Patrick Leahy in 2013, started on May 21, as soon as this year's graduates received their diplomas.

To kick-start summer construction, Leahy, state Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski (D-Wilkes-Barre), state Sen. John Yudichak (D-Nanticoke) and guests got together on the afternoon of May 21 to further discuss the construction project at the ceremonial "first dig."

According to Charles Cary, executive director of facilities, construction is "progressing on-schedule" and will wrap up the main renovations mid to late August. Some minor renovations will be completed during the school year, as those will not hinder any part of student life.

Construction will not only touch on the main Fenner Quad on campus, but will also help spruce up other components of the campus.

The Henry Student Center enhancements will include outdoor seating for students as well as an expanded parking lot and new entrances from the Student Center to South River and South Franklin Street.

The East and South Campus Gateway construction is an expansion project that

will better connect the Karambelas side of campus to the central campus. This portion of the construction will create the South Campus Gateway, a connection of the Henry Student Center and the Stark Learning Center.

"These two Gateways will beautify the campus and support recent renovations to the engineering labs in Stark Learning Center," Cary said.

The E.S Farley Library will receive an electrical replacement to provide cost efficiency and reliability.

The ongoing construction of Stark Learning Center is still underway as well as the addition of a new elevator and the reconstruction of the interior courtyard, which has been sectioned off as apart of construction.

Residential housing, University Towers and most of the mansions, will be spruced up with landscaping and updated, cost-efficient electrical work.

"These enhancements create a cohesive campus experience that will make Wilkes safer and more attractive, increasing Wilkes' unique appeal as an American private university that offers the opportunities of a large research institution in the mentoring environment of a small private college," Cary added about how the enhancements are projected to affect student life on campus.

Assistant Director of the International Engagement Office at Wilkes University, Hussain Alrumaym, shared his opinion of the \$100 million enhancement plan on campus.

"Wilkes has taken a major step with the



The Beacon/Cabrini Rudnicki

The site of the Fenner Quad during July showed dirt, rather than greenway.

new campus enhancements projects to renovate spaces for the students studying and living experience," Alrumaym said. "I'm very excited to see how the new enhancements and landscaping will beautify our campus."

Although construction is planned for the summer when a majority of the campus is enjoying their break, those taking summer classes and working on campus have experienced the setbacks of the construction.

The center of campus is completely blocked off to revamp the Fenner Quad with a new sidewalk layout, forcing those who wish to enter the academic buildings to use the main streets that surround the campus.

Incoming senior environmental engineering major David Heinz finds the construction troublesome with his on-campus experience over the summer.

"Construction definitely presents a challenge in getting around campus," said Heinz. "Many of the routes I typically take to classes have been closed, which forced me to find different routes to class."

Despite the current obstacle the construction forces Heinz to face he is

hopeful for the outcome of the enhancement project.

"The construction is good though because it will make things even more accessible in the future," Heinz said.

Sophomore history major Megan Graham reflected on the potential benefits for students in the upcoming fall semester.

"I think [the finished Quad renovations] will encourage students to hang out outside more often whether it's to study or just to relax," Graham said.

Leahy assured students that raised university tuition for the upcoming semester is not a result of the enhancement project, as the funds are being drawn from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and university money.

"[The various construction projects] are designed to transform Wilkes University into a park-like, residential campus in the heart of the City of Wilkes-Barre, added Cary.



Nick Filipek breaks down
the latest and greatest
movies, Page 4



2018 Founders Gala: Cohen
awarded President's
Medal, Page 10

The Beacon/Luke Modrowsky



@wilkesbeacon
Madelynn.Davis@wilkes.edu

News

Have a breaking story or a press release to send? Contact the either news editor: Cabrini.Rudnicki@wilkes.edu or Madelyn.Davis@wilkes.edu

Welcome letter from President Patrick F. Leahy

“There has never been a better time at Wilkes University”

By Dr. Patrick F. Leahy
University President

Dear New and Returning Colonels:

I hope that this issue of The Beacon finds you in the midst of an enjoyable summer. Perhaps you are traveling to a favorite vacation spot, getting valuable professional experience at a job or internship, or simply sharing quality time with friends and family after a rigorous academic year. Regardless of how you are spending your summer, I am sure that, like me, your excitement for the coming semester at Wilkes builds with each passing week.

There has never been a better time at Wilkes University. We've enjoyed a busy summer on campus and I am eager to tell you about the progress we have made since Spring Commencement.

Through an ambitious campus development initiative, state-of-the-art facilities are being constructed while historic properties are restored. Just two days after the Class of 2018 received their diplomas, we broke ground on the next phase of our Campus Gateway Project. This section will connect the Henry Student Center to the heart of campus in the same way that the Karambelas Campus Gateway links South Main Street to the Fenner Quadrangle.

The project's generous walkways, gathering spaces, and attractive landscaping will make our campus safer and more pedestrian-friendly. Complemented by a major effort to



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

Leahy

refresh the exteriors of many of our iconic mansions on River and Franklin Streets, the beauty of the Wilkes campus will never be more apparent.

When you return in a few weeks, I think you will be particularly pleased with the work that has been accomplished behind the Henry Student Center. A pedestrian plaza, anchored by a seating area and clock, along with sizeable green space, replace driveways and pavement along the perimeter of the student center. By redesigning the layout of this area, we will gain parking spaces and make the entire area more pedestrian-friendly.

The east and south gateways converge

at Stark Learning Center, Wilkes' largest academic building. There, an extensive renovation project has created a first-rate facility that will prepare Wilkes engineering students to become leaders in their field. The space now houses nanotechnology, bioengineering, and additive manufacturing flex labs; dedicated areas for 3D printing and high-speed computing; and a microfabrication lab. In addition, a new façade was added to the building and an underutilized courtyard has been transformed into a gathering area for the campus community.

The renovation of the engineering facility at Stark Learning Center is just the first step in a multi-phase project that will turn this outdated building into a campus showpiece. Next year, work will begin on the corridor of the building facing River Street, adding academic space and improving resources for the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy.

Whether you are a future engineer or simply pass through Stark on your way to get a snack at the P.O.D., these renovations are sure to improve your experience at Wilkes. I hope that you will join me in September when we officially dedicate the engineering center with a campus celebration.

These projects, along next year's complete renovation of the Ralston Athletic Complex, are key components of an ambitious campus development plan that is making Wilkes an even more vibrant place to live, learn and grow.

While this short recap touches on some recent highlights from campus, it in no way captures all of the progress happening at Wilkes. We are, after all, a university on the move. And it all starts with you.

At Wilkes, you're experiencing something unique - large-university opportunities in a small-college setting. Unparalleled educational opportunities - both in and out of the classroom - are delivered in a highly personalized manner by mentors who are experts in their fields. As many of you know firsthand, Wilkes students work side-by-side with faculty members to tackle the big issues of our day, including early cancer detection, wound therapies, and Alzheimer's disease. Through a growing list of athletic teams - both intercollegiate and intramural - and co-curricular activities, you have the chance to follow your passions and become well-rounded individuals.

I think that you will agree that the combination of big opportunity offered in a close-knit campus community makes Wilkes a private university like no other. I am so proud that you have chosen Wilkes to be your University and look forward to seeing you on campus in a few weeks. In the meantime, keep up to date on campus happenings by following me on Twitter, @PatrickFLeahy.



@PatrickFLeahy

Patrick.Leahy@wilkes.edu

Upcoming Events: 2018 Fall Semester

August

24-26 - Welcome Weekend
27 - First Day of Classes
30 - Welcome Back Bingo (WUPB)

September

6 - Club Day on the Greenway (SG)
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. (club hours)
6 - Laser Tag (WUPB)
11 SG Petitions available
13 - Council of the Clubs (SG)
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. (club hours)
13 - Family Feud (WUPB)
19 - SG Petitions due
20 - SG Ballots open
20 - General Board bonding (WUPB)
21 - Homecoming Ballots round one

22 - Family Day
25 - SG Ballots closed
26 - New SG Members announced
27 - Bingo (WUPB)
28 - Homecoming Ballots round two
30 - Rosenn Lecture: Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

October

4 - Homecoming Pep Rally
5 - Homecoming Dance
6 - Homecoming Game vs. Albright
18 - Fall Fest (WUPB)
19 - SG Fall Event
22 to 26 - Freak Week (WUPB)
22 - Monster Social Monday (WUPB)
23 - Zombie Bar (WUPB)
24 - Mobile Escape Room (WUPB)

25 - Bingo (WUPB)
26 - Scary Place (WUPB)

November

1 - Cupcake Wars (WUPB)
6 - Casino Week: Texas Hold 'Em (SG)
7 - Casino Week: Bingo (SG)
9 - Casino Night (SG)
15 - Wing Wars (WUPB)
29 - Bingo (WUPB)

December

6 - Holiday Party: PJs and Pancakes (WUPB)

WUPB denotes Wilkes University
Programming Board

Table of Contents

News.....	2
Life, A&E.....	4
Spread (News)..	6
Opinion.....	8
Sports.....	10

Pre-Professional Society raises money for local charity

By Maddie Davis
Co-News Editor

Wilkes University's Pre-Professional Society of the College of Science and Engineering promotes the professional development and collaboration of its students and the community. One of the ways the club promotes professionalism and collaboration is through their yearly fundraising for local nonprofit organizations.

During this past academic year, the students of the Pre-Professional Society raised \$500 for the Catherine McAuley Center of Scranton. The amount raised was one of the highest amounts the club has donated to a nonprofit.

On May 15, the club presented Jenny Blanchard, the Development and Volunteer Coordinator of the Catherine McAuley Center, with a giant check for \$500.

The Catherine McAuley Center is a local nonprofit shelter that provides housing and services primarily for homeless women and children within the Lackawanna and Luzerne County area. The center provides care for those who are stricken with a crisis and who are in need of temporary housing.

The McAuley Center aides in education, counseling, life skills, access to health care, employment, and training opportunities,

Blanchard said.

"This generous monetary donation will support the general operations of the Catherine McAuley House, including physical maintenance and upkeep, as well as household supplies, case management and gifts for the children," she explained.

Morgan Nokavich, senior biology major and president of the club; Zoya Rahman, senior biology major and the Vice President of the Pre-Professional Society; and Ana Rahman, senior biology major and vice president, all volunteered previously at the McAuley Center as part of an event called the 'United Way of Caring.' After volunteering there, the club knew this Center was worthy of a fundraiser.

"We had such a good experience with the people at the center that when our club wanted to do a fundraiser, we immediately knew we wanted the proceeds to benefit the Catherine McAuley Center," said Ana Rahman.

"I remember thinking how great it was that the Catherine McAuley Center was providing a safe environment for this family who might not have had any other place to go if not for the Center," recalled Zoya Rahman about the reason she wanted to donate funds to the Center.

To raise the funds, the members of PPS-

CSE and advisor Connie Dombroski, created a fundraising event on campus, "A Taste of Pakistan," as well as several other events. As part of the fundraiser, the club members sold authentic Karachi street foods, chai tea, and gave Henna tattoos to students, faculty, and staff.

"I enjoyed this particular fundraiser because we were able to interact with so many people and make them aware of this amazing nonprofit organization that does so much for families in need," recalled Ana Rahman.

"We put a lot of work into that event and it really came together in the end to be a great success and also a lot of fun," Nokavich said.

The profits raised from "A Taste of Pakistan" and several of their other fundraisers meant much more to the club members than just the amount that was written on the check for the McAuley Center.

"The most rewarding part of donating the money was knowing that it was going toward such a great cause," Nokavich said. "Having volunteered at the center and meeting the people there made it even more meaningful and I know that it will be put towards a great cause."

It was more important to the club to help build a connection and a community to the center, something Dombroski, strives to teach

the students in the Pre-Professional Society for their future careers.

"The club thinks that it is very important for our students to make connections and form bonds with individuals and organizations so they can absorb as much information as possible," she said.

Club members recognized the importance of their fundraising and community efforts in relation to their future career in the health services.

"Fundraising the money and building these relationships are not only helping out my local community but it's also instilling in me the values that I hope to have as a future doctor," said Zoya Rahman.

"As someone who aspires to be a doctor practicing medicine in underserved communities, building relationships with nonprofits, like the Catherine McAuley Center, is very important to me," said Ana Rahman. "The rewarding experiences I have had and hopefully will continue to have with these nonprofit organizations will only strengthen my desire to help the underserved population."



@wilkesbeacon

Madelynn.Davis@wilkes.edu

Sordoni Art Gallery, SHINE collaborate for children's summer camp

By Cabrini Rudnicki
Co-News Editor

Students from the SHINE Summer Camp had an unforgettable experience creating and appreciating art at the Sordoni Art Gallery this summer.

The experience was part of SHINE's second annual College Student for the Day.

None of the students who participated in SHINE's Sordoni Art Gallery program had ever been to an art gallery before.

Director of the Sordoni Art Gallery, Heather Sincavage, saw this as an opportunity.

"The time we spent with campers was a way to create a positive experience with an art gallery which instills a curiosity about the arts," she said. "Hopefully, this curiosity generates interest to return, possibly more than once, because they find things that peak their interest."

The Sordoni Art Gallery was only one of the multiple departments who were asked to create an activity for the SHINE students. Other areas includes the radio station with Kristen Rock, nursing with Cathy Hauze, robotics with Dr. Yong Zhu, and several others.

Nikki Lewis, assistant director of the gallery, and Sincavage worked together to

create a lesson plan for the students.

"SHINE reached out to us to ask if we could create an activity and show the students around the gallery," said Lewis. "We jumped on that opportunity because we don't usually have a lot of children in the gallery, and that's definitely something we want to change in the future."

The students participated in a sand casting activity, which allowed the students to make impressions in bowls of sand which were then filled with plaster, to create a sculpture.

The gallery had a cast iron exhibit titled "Solid Gone" up when the students had their lesson.

"The students loved it," Lewis said. "They were able to see a different kind of art than what is usually considered art."

This is the first year Sordoni Art Gallery participated in the camp, but the second year of the camp's existence.

Carol Nicholas, the Director of SHINE, spoke about how the camp started.

"We wanted to include not only science, literature, but also some art," Nicholas said. "Since we have such a wonderful gallery right on campus, we thought this would be an experience that the students had not been exposed to."

Many of the students had not even had an idea of what a 'museum' entails, according



Courtesy of Sordoni Art Gallery

SHINE students listen to a lesson from Sordoni Assistant Director, Nikki Lewis.

to Nicholas.

"We really had to answer questions about what is a gallery, and what kind of respect we have to have for the artists, and where artists come from."

SHINE gives students a real college experience, complete with roving classes on a schedule, a dorm tour, and lunch at the school cafeteria.



@wilkesbeacon

Cabrini.Rudnicki@wilkes.edu

Life, Arts & Entertainment

Nick's Flick Picks: 2018 Summer Blockbuster Edition

By Nick Filipek

Managing Editor

Welcome back, Colonels. This summer was just as good as any other, if not better, time to hit the movie theater. Over the past few months we have seen some major blockbusters hit the silver screen and out the box office in a frenzy. These are just some of the movies that made big waves this summer.

Deadpool 2- Produced by 20th Century Fox/Marvel Entertainment, directed by David Leitch, written by Rhett Reese & Paul Wernick and Ryan Reynolds, starring Ryan Reynolds, Josh Brolin, Morena Baccarin, Zazie Beetz, T.J. Miller and Brianna Hildebrand.

The merc with a mouth is back, but not better than ever.

Now do not get me wrong, the movie played out well, but it lands right where you think a sequel will. It is hard to top the original and Deadpool 2 just does not hit that mark.

The story to the sequel is pretty standard, and honestly laid out entirely in the trailers. Deadpool must protect a mutant with incredibly strong powers from the time traveling man with a metal arm, Cable.

Performances were great, Ryan Reynolds was born for this role, and Zazie Beetz and Josh Brolin were exceptional in their roles.

This really just seemed like a two hour long commercial for the next installment in this franchise, "X-Force", but hey, Marvel fans everywhere will take it.

Solo: A Star Wars Story- Produced by Lucasfilm, directed by Ron Howard, written by Jonathan Kasdan & Lawrence Kasdan. Starring Alden Ehrenreich, Joonas Suotamo, Woody Harelson, Emilia Clarke, Donald Glover, Paul Bettany Thandie Newton and Phoebe Waller-Bridge.

Lucasfilm's inaugural attempt at spinning off their characters into their own dedicated movies did not start as well as they were hoping for, but still hit the mark for many.

On a personal note, Han Solo was an icon for me growing up, there was no one I wanted to be more. I wore vests for years thinking it would help me look more like the scruffy nerf herder, so when I heard he was getting his own solo film (pun intended, obviously) I was ecstatic.

The movie did not do it for everybody, but I loved it. It had the perfect tone to join the Star Wars Universe and did the characters justice.

The audience is treated to the origin story of the partnership between Han and Chewbacca, the famous poker game that won Han the millennium falcon from Lando and so much more.

Alden Ehrenreich looks nothing like Harrison Ford's younger self, but that honestly doesn't matter after he starts talking, because he acts just like Han Solo should.

Though fans and box office reaction do not seem to warrant a sequel, many (including myself) would line up happily to the next installment in the Solo story

Incredibles 2- Produced by Walt Disney Pictures/Pixar Animation Studios, directed and written by Brad Bird. Starring Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Sarah Vowell, Huck Moner, Eli Ficile, Samuel L. Jackson, Catherine Keener and Bob Odenkirk

Usually the Hollywood trend is to strike when the iron is hot, and pump out a sequel to a hit movie, as soon as possible. However Disney/Pixar chose to go a different way with their superhero franchise, The Incredibles. It has been more than a decade since the original movie premiered in 2004, but that iron was still red hot and led the film to be one of the largest the studio has seen yet.

The best part about the movie is that it starts literally where the first one ends, in the same way "Back to the Future Pt. II" picks up right where the first one ended. Fans of the original are thrust right back into the action and it would seem as if the 14-year gap was non-existent.

Tag- Produced by Warner Bros. Pictures/New Line Cinema, directed by Jeff Tomsic, written by Rob McKittrick & Mark Steilen, based on the Wall Street Journal article entitled "It takes Planning, Caution to Avoid Being It" by Russell Adams. Starring Ed Helms, Jeremy Renner, Jon Hamm, Jake Johnson, Annabelle Wallis, Hanibal Buress, Isla Fisher, Rashida Jones and Lelslie Bib

The words "based on a true story" get thrown around often in Hollywood, and just like most others, this story gets a bit of a facelift for the silver screen, but deep down I

think it holds the spirit of the original story in mind to deliver a fun summer comedy.

The movie centers on lifelong friends who have been playing the same game of tag since early childhood. As the years passed the friends grew trickier and more theatrical in finding means of tagging one another, but no matter what their one friend, played by Renner, was never tagged. Now before Renner fully retires from playing, the crew must reassemble in order to tag that one untouchable player.

The movie is a fun ride of a flick that plays through the motions of a normal "bromance" comedy, but just on a larger scale due to the ensemble cast of some great comedians.

The end credits of the movie even show actual footage of the original game that inspired the movie of the real friends showing up and surprising one another with a tag. All in all, it was a fun experience to see in a theater and if you were just looking for a few laughs with a touch of heart, it would be safe to say

this is worth watching.

The summer is hardly over though and there are still plenty of new movies hitting theaters soon to look forward to before classes start up and that free time goes back to hard work and study time, right?

Movies to see before the first day of classes:

Mission Impossible: Fallout, (Paramount Pictures/Skydance Media/Bad Robot Productions)

July 27

Christopher Robin, (Walt Disney Pictures) Aug. 3

The Meg, (Warner Bros. Pictures) Aug. 10

Slenderman, (Screen Gems) Aug. 24



@wilkesbeacon

Nicholas.Filipek@wilkes.edu



2018 New Colonel Orientation: "Reach for the Stars"



Student Government President and first-year mentor Hunter Hughes hands a chair off to one of his mentees in preparation for the annual bazaar at St. Nick's Roman Catholic Church.



After Hughes passed off the chair, it went through the hands of incoming freshmen (left to right) Emma Dunbar (psychology/Jim Thorpe, Pa.), Alana Andreoli (biology/Kingston, Pa.) and Alyssa Lebo (psychology, Kulpmont, Pa.) to get outside the trailer.

Colonel Community Service



At the turn (left to right), it's freshman Chris Perez (neuroscience/Stroudsburg, Pa.) handing off to fellow freshmen Dustin Patton (biology/Troy, Pa.), Rachel Winings (biology/Berwick, Pa.), Michael Sherrick (biology/Shickshinny, Pa.) and Nick Hudock (Biology/Athens, Pa.).



Incoming freshman Allison Coppola (nursing/Taylor, Pa.) puts together a card for hospitalized children. Senior mentor Emily Messinger (education) led this first-year group.



2018 University Founders Gala

Lawrence E. Cohen '57 awarded President's Medal, Wilkes University's highest honor

By Cabrini Rudnicki
Co-News Editor

Wilkes University's annual Founders Gala was held on June 2 at Wilkes-Barre's Westmoreland Club. The event honors not only some university students, but also distributes the highly coveted Presidents Medal to a deserving individual who reflects the aspirations of the university.

The Founders Gala was established in 2014. Proceeds from the event are used for the First Generation Scholarship, a scholarship for students who represent the first person in their family to attend college.

Every year the gala honors students who were first generation college students. This year Nancy Ramirez, Margaret Galatioto and Joshua Evans were given the opportunity to deliver a speech directly to those who have donated to the university throughout the year.

Page Design: The Beacon/Madison Hummer

Each student was surrounded by family friends and professors as they greeted the donors around the gala.

Nancy Ramirez, a recently graduated criminology major, had always wanted to come to the event.

"I always wondered if I was going to get invited," she said. "I was finally asked this year to be one of the speakers, and now I get to wear a pretty dress and thank all of the donors.

Ramirez has a plan to use her degree to continue the cycle of generosity started by the school.

Joshua Evans, a nursing graduate and member of the wrestling team, said he was invited because the alumni office knew of his first generation college student story.

"It's a great opportunity and it's definitely something I'll remember forever," said Evans.

In his speech, Evans spoke about the opportunities he had while attending

Wilkes.

"I want to give everyone a background of my story, the people who have influenced my life, and what my journey through Wilkes has been like."

Margaret Galatioto, also a recently graduated neuroscience major, was given a First Generation scholarship by the university in her freshman year.

"The scholarship was part of the reason why I came to Wilkes," Galatioto said. "It was an affordable option, and I wanted to come to a small university, so it worked out perfectly."

According to Galatioto, being a first generation student made the college experience harder.



Margaret Steele, Executive Director of Development and Alumni Advancement, opens the Gala and introduces the three student speakers.



Attendees listen to Margaret Galatioto '18 speak about her experience as a Wilkes University student. Galatioto was one of three student speakers.

Photos: The Beacon/Luke Modrovsky



The 2018 Founders Gala featured an outdoor tent setting with a glamorous table setting that was enjoyed by all of the guests.

"It was hard to do something unprecedented in my family," she said. "I've been very determined the past four years."

Galatioto plans to attend graduate school before eventually attending medical school.

This year's Presidents Medal was awarded to Lawrence E. Cohen, namesake of the Cohen Science Center.

Cohen currently serves as Benco Dental's chairman and chief customer advocate. Cohen has donated to his alma mater, Wilkes University, for years, and currently serves on the Wilkes Board of Trustees. He received trustee emeritus status in 2008.

Cohen said he was honored and flattered to receive the President's Medal.

"Some people [donate] like that and think, 'ah, it's a lot of money' but I think it's the best thing I've ever done."

Cohen decided to donate to the university because in his opinion, Wilkes changed his life.

"Wilkes changed my opinion about myself," Cohen said. "It's always been an important thing in my life."

The Lawrence and Sally Cohen Science Center is a \$35 million, 72,500 sq. ft building which opened in 2014. The building features four floors of laboratory classrooms for science majors. Cohen donated \$2.5 million to the construction of the building, one of the largest donations in Wilkes history.

"Other than [the building], I'm not that

special," Cohen said, humbly. "I'm very surprised at the turnout, as I don't know a lot of these people."

This year's Founders Gala had more than 400 attendees.

University President Patrick Leahy spoke about what makes first generation students special.

"You see, even in 2018, over 50 percent of our undergraduates are first generation students," Leahy said. "They are chasing a dream, working tirelessly toward a degree that will aid their ability to create a better life for themselves and for their families."

Emphasis at the event was put on Wilkes University's campus-wide improvement project, which includes the recently opened Karambelas Media Center, as well as the newly renovated Stark Learning Center and South Campus Greenway, both set to open with the start of the fall semester.

Past Founders Galas awarded Presidents Medals to Frank M. Henry (2017), Clayton and Theresa Karambelas (2016), John G. Reese (2015), and Joseph Savitz (2014).



@wilkesbeacon
Cabrin.Rudnicki@wilkes.edu

NANCY RAMIREZ

MARGARET GALATIOTO

JOSHUA EVANS



The traditional Wilkes University President's Medal seal acted as the backdrop for the entire evening. The President's Medal is the university's highest honor.

Opinion

Have an opinion or want to write a guest column? Contact the opinion editor: Savannah.Pinnock@wilkes.edu

Editorial Staff

2018-19

MANAGERIAL STAFF

Editor-in-Chief - Luke Modrovsky
 Managing Editor - Nick Filipek
 Adviser - Dr. Kalen Churcher

SECTION EDITORS

News - Cabrini Rudnicki
 Maddie Davis
 LA&E - Available
 Opinion - Savannah Pinnock
 Sports - Ben Mandell
 Kirsten Peters

ASSISTANT EDITORS

News - Available
 LA&E - Available
 Opinion - Parker Dorsey
 Sarah Matarella
 Sports - Available

DESIGN EDITOR

Madison Hummer

Interested in joining The Beacon? To learn more about what you can do, contact: Luke.Modrovsky@wilkes.edu or Nicholas.Filipek@wilkes.edu

141 S. Main Street
 Clayton and Theresa Karambelas
 Media Center
 Wilkes University
 Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766
 Phone - (570) 408-5903
www.thewilkesbeacon.com

Want to advertise in The Beacon?
 Contact: [Nick Filipek at Nicholas.Filipek@wilkes.edu](mailto:Nick.Filipek@wilkes.edu)



The Beacon
 Est. 1936
 Pa. Newspaper
 Association Member

Welcome letter from SG President Hunter Hughes

By Hunter Hughes
Student Body President

Hello, Colonels,

My name is Hunter Hughes and I am the student body president for the 2018-2019 school year. I am a junior neuroscience major from Kingston, Pa. I enjoy setting up my hammock on the balcony of Towers and my favorite place to study is the 4th floor of the Cohen Science Center.

Welcome to our new first year students. First of all, please pardon our appearance as we work to improve our campus. We are excited to bring many new updates and improvements to make our campus better. This campus is your campus now. Secondly, I urge all the first year students to embrace all that college has to offer. You will never have another time in your life where you can try new things at a low cost and at a low risk. Get out there and make the most of these four (or six for our pharmacy students) years.

Join clubs, come out on Thursday nights to see what Programming Board has to offer, and make friends with the people sitting next to you in class. Finally, never be afraid to reach out. Reach out to our wonderful faculty and staff if you ever find yourself not where you want to be, either academically or personally. Professors are more than willing to help you and want you to succeed.

My personal experience with my first few days at Wilkes is one that I will always remember. When I first started classes, the first question on my mind was, "Who am I going to sit with?" Luckily I had made a few friends at orientation and spent time with

them during Welcome Weekend. Take the opportunities given to you and make those friends within the first few days. They will help you more than you ever know.

I had a lot of questions coming in so I will try and answer them here. If I don't answer yours, reach out to your e-mentor, resident assistant, or academic adviser.

My biggest question coming in was "Would I make friends?" Yes, you will make friends and they will help you through some of the best and most challenging times of your life. I also wondered if my roommate situation would work out, and I'm glad to say that mine certainly did, and if it doesn't for you residence life is always there to help resolve conflict. I wasn't sure coming into college what the workload would be like. In my experience, it is more than high school but it is a lot more personal responsibility. You may not have homework every night but you still have work to do.

Also, my biggest money saving piece of advice is to not buy your textbooks until you have spoken with your professors as they may indicate that the textbook is not required and that can save you a lot of money.

I was not sure when I first arrived at college on the best place to settle down and study. This really depends on your personal preference, but if you like quiet spaces, the second floor of the library is a great place to start.

When you arrive on campus in August, you will begin the journey of a lifetime. It can go a thousand different directions, and there are no right or wrong paths, just whatever path makes you the happiest. Go out into the Wilkes community seeking happiness and to

improve the lives of those around you and I promise you will never go wrong.

To the sophomore class, you have learned a lot and will be surprised how much more there is to learn. Many of you will be starting to dive into your majors which for me was the most exciting part of sophomore year. I look forward to seeing your leadership develop on campus and in the community. Remember how the upperclassmen helped you when you were first year students and try to exemplify the example that they set for you.

To the junior class, we have to continue to grow into the campus leaders that we are. We have made it through some of the toughest classes so far and now can really explore our majors and interests. Let's make this year the best year yet.

To the senior class, this is your last year on campus. You have done so much so far to contribute to our campus community and it is your time to shine. You have one year left here on campus. What are you going to do with it and how are you going to make the most of it?

As a student government, we are setting out to make this year the best year yet. If you are a club leader, please be on the lookout for club day on Sept. 6. We have a full schedule of events including casino night, homecoming, and many more events. If you are interested in joining student government, especially any first year students, please feel free to contact me via email or in person.



@wilkesbeacon
Hunter.Hughes@wilkes.edu

Self care: Summer is the time to take care of you

By Sarah Matarella
Asst. Opinion Editor

Summer is perceived to be a time to kick back and relax. However, this can serve to be untrue for the average person due to their jobs, having to take summer classes, internships, and truly, even vacations can get stressful.

Thus, it is extremely important to give yourself a break and recharge. Self care is equally as important year round, but the summertime often makes it much easier to practice. So, seize the opportunity and

focus on your body and your mind while you have more leisure time.

If you find yourself stuck in a job working long hours, make you use your vacation time to your advantage. You do not have to take an entire month off, but try to get a few days of vacation here and there to plan a small getaway that is less likely to break the bank, yet still provide you with a sense of relaxation.

Furthermore, huge vacations can be stressful. Having to worry about budgeting, booking a place to stay, deciding on a location and finding transportation can

become time consuming and even defeat the purpose of going on the vacation.

Therefore, a simple day or two of allowing yourself to just do what feels right for your mind and your body can be sufficient for a break: it is not necessary to go somewhere extravagant or even home for the matter to become relaxed.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and get ready to get to work on Aug 27.



@wilkesbeacon
Sarah.Matarella@wilkes.edu

Are extracurricular activities a college necessity?

By Savannah Pinnock
Opinion Editor

Extracurricular activities is a term that the vast majority of college, high school or even middle school students is familiar with. The term is closely associated with academia and the potential of obtaining a higher education, yet it is not necessarily academic.

In fact, this term has to do with the interests and activities a student enjoys outside of the classroom. Due to the fact that these activities are interest-based, they act as a good indicator of a person's strengths, weaknesses, ethics and inclinations.

For this reason, extracurricular activities dovetail seamlessly with one's academic performance. However, on a solely collegiate level, is it truly necessary to participate in these activities?

The question as to whether academic performance or involvement is more important has been worded in a plethora of different ways, and is likely one of the top ten questions students have who seek to pursue a higher education. For

college students who are solely seeking a bachelor's degree, the question is less stressful.

On the other hand, to a student pursuing a master's, a doctorate or further, the question is ever present.

In hopes of alleviating this source of anxiety, Amy M. Tenhouse, writing from stateuniversity.com, offers a few definitive statements to aid in this dilemma.

According to Tenhouse, extracurricular activities are by no means miscellaneous and can even "positively impact students' emotional, intellectual, social and interpersonal development."

One might suggest that this is clearly self-evident and may just be a string of hackneyed words that are easier said than visualized. As a student it leaves one to wonder how this manifests in real life, what are the underlying mechanisms?

The truth is that being involved on campus has a beneficial impact on all of the previously aforementioned components of a student's life.

On an emotional level one can observe an increase in their mood by engaging in an activity catered to their interests.

Getting involved for the sheer principle of getting involved is not enough, it's better to seek an activity you enjoy.

In a real world sense this is clear to see when niches and cohorts organically develop as a result of peers getting involved in an interest based activity like the student government, soccer or the environmental club.

In fact, Tenhouse asserts that "by identifying with a peer group, that group may influence a student's affective and cognitive development as well as his or her behavior."

On a socio-psychological level, such an advantage is priceless and has the potential to last a lifetime.

Alongside the more cerebral benefits, extracurricular activities can help "students to understand the importance of critical thinking skills, time management, and academic and intellectual competence."

These benefits will in turn manifest into a well-rounded student; this is essentially the "principal goal of extracurricular activities on college and university campuses."

In other words, in participating in extracurricular activities, a student is given the ability to grow in various areas of their lives e.g. emotionally, socially, etc.

So ask yourself, are you sometimes flooded with questions regarding graduate school or higher education?

If the answer is yes, rest assured that you can check this source of academic anxiety off of your list, as extracurricular activities are always a benefit to you on a personal and academic level.

Regardless of whether you desire to further your education after attaining your bachelors or just gaining a bachelor's, you will quickly find yourself growing on levels you never imagined.

College is essentially a bridge from a sophomoric state of mind to a more cultivated and refined state of mind, so be sure to get involved and grow into the exceptional individual that you were meant to be.

 @wilkesbeacon
Savannah.Pinnock@wilkes.edu

National juvenile arthritis awareness month

By Savannah Pinnock
Opinion Editor

Within the United States, July 4 is closely associated with patriotism, fighting for autonomy and an almost ethereal sensation of unity followed by a collective sense of pride. In a larger sense, this month is significant in that it is one of the primary months in which the nation embraces the collective over the individualistic.

In a similar manner as our beloved country, a lesser known population of individuals is fighting for freedom from a heinous disease known as juvenile arthritis. These diseases impact approximately 300,000 babies and children within the United States.

In order to increase awareness about this disease, National Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month is held in the month of July similar to our young nation.

With this being said, it begs the question, what is juvenile arthritis? According to an article from the Arthritis Foundation, juvenile arthritis is "an umbrella term used to describe the many autoimmune

and inflammatory conditions of pediatric rheumatic diseases that can develop in children and teens."

In other words, juvenile arthritis is a general term that covers a broad spectrum of diseases that elicit similar symptoms within a child. These symptoms include pain, joint swelling, redness and warmth.

The diseases are distinct in that they possess distinguishing characteristics and affect an individual in different ways. Among the various types of juvenile arthritis are fibromyalgia, juvenile lupus, kawasaki disease, and even juvenile scleroderma just to name a few.

In order to understand the gravity of this disease among infants and children, one must understand how rare it is. In terms of the adult population, it is said that approximately 31 million adults sustain osteoarthritis, the most common type of arthritis.

This figure does not include the other 23

million adults who have other variations of arthritis. Contrarily, in terms of infants and children, juvenile arthritis impacts only 300,000 individuals.

In light of the statistics surrounding childhood and adulthood arthritis, it is apparent that childhood arthritis lays in the shadows of other well-known diseases.

Due to the little-known nature of juvenile arthritis, the Arthritis Foundation has partnered with a series of organizations such as CARRA, PARTNERS, and PCORI in an effort to advance and accelerate the quest for new and better treatments – and ultimately to find a cure.

However, there appears to be one major stumbling block in accessing a cure for the inflicted, medical services. In fact, according to an article from kidsgetarthritis.org, there are currently fewer than 250 board-certified, practicing pediatric rheumatologists in the country.

In other words, on a national level there

are approximately five practitioners for every state. This does not include factors such as the counties as well as if this figure is equally dispersed.

Additionally, it is said that roughly "90 percent of those are clustered in and around large cities." In an effort to combat this issue, the Arthritis Foundation is centered on increasing awareness.

If you would like to help the 300,000 infants and children who are suffering from this often debilitating disease, feel free to visit the Arthritis Foundation's website kidsgetarthritis.org. There you will have access to more information and given an opportunity to be an advocate of juvenile arthritis.

So the next time you celebrate our nation's independence, feel free to tell a friend that this month also marks the courage of 300,000 little ones inflicted with juvenile arthritis.

 @wilkesbeacon
Savannah.Pinnock@wilkes.edu

"These diseases impact approximately 300,000 babies and children within the United States."

Sports

Want your sport covered? Deserve to be Athlete of the Week? Contact the Sports Editors: Benjamin.Mandell@wilkes.edu or Kirsten.Peters@wilkes.edu

Football program shifts focus for upcoming season

By Kirsten Peters
Co-Sports Editor

After a losing season in 2017 and six new coaching additions to the 2018 staff, the Wilkes University football program is undergoing some major changes. Under the leadership of new head coach Jonathan Drach, who previously coached at Hobart College for 11 years, the culture of the Colonel Football program is evolving for both the coaches and the players.

With an 0-10 season still fresh from last year, the coaching staff has decided to realign their goals for the upcoming season, making numerous changes to better the program overall.

According to new wide receivers coach Jack Pfohl, "A few of our main goals are to be successful in the classroom, to improve everyday on the football field and in the weight room, and to be involved in community service and giving back."

Pfohl believes these goals are attainable with the adjustments that are being made both on and off the field. As for football, there have been notable changes with the spring practice regimen. Instead of running practices in the evening, the coaches changed practices to bright and early in the morning, allowing the players to establish discipline. In addition, at the end of workouts players are to complete

"finishers," which Pfohl explains are meant to push the players both physically and mentally while simultaneously bringing them closer together as a team.

But with change can sometimes come discomfort, which is exactly why returning coach Tripp Merritt, who has transitioned to being the defensive coordinator and safeties coach this season, was skeptical of how well the players would receive Drach's new practice plan.

"I was afraid that the level of accountability Coach Drach expected was going to be too much for some guys, especially at the non-scholarship level," said Merritt. "But I was pleasantly surprised with our retention rate and how hungry these guys are to keep working and succeed."

This hunger might be fueled by one of the coaching staff's new principles.

"I believe our goal is a very simple one – to get one percent better every day," said new linebackers coach and special teams coordinator Tom Elder. "If our guys continue to buy-in to getting better every single day, then it will immediately impact our success on and off the field."

With the anticipation of two-thirds of the team being freshmen and sophomores, Drach notes that it is crucial for the young players and the upperclassmen to prove themselves on the field, drilling home the "one percent

better" mentality.

"We really want to focus on the competition piece, where everybody doesn't have a spot right now, and that's a really, really uncomfortable feeling and I want our kids to get comfortable being uncomfortable," said Drach. "I want them to compete every day – that's how we're going to get that one percent better – and that level of competition is how we're going to continually change as we move forward."

In order to achieve this "one percent better" goal, the coaching staff has placed an importance on face-to-face interactions. By investing time into each player, the coaches can ensure that their players are ready not only for every game, but for every test and paper as well. With this hands-on approach, the coaches will be able to satisfy one of their most emphasized goals: quality academics.

Although there are major adjustments being made on the field, the coaching staff is not forgetting about the significant changes being made off the field. As for the new tight ends and fullbacks coach Kelvin Cruz, he is in charge of monitoring study hall attendance and grade checks. The coaches have altered this aspect of the program to accommodate each player, creating a study hall schedule that will run between one to five days a week depending on how well each student has done and is currently doing at Wilkes.

According to Cruz, "We really want to take pride in academics and setting our players up to be successful in life after college, particularly to be good people in general."

This focus on academics is to ensure that each player's student-athlete status is being fulfilled, considering the word "student" comes in front of the word "athlete" in that title. This mantra rang true across the whole coaching staff, indicating how the coaches have outlined a specific set of goals that they are focused on accomplishing together.

In addition to the new set of guidelines getting the Colonels prepared behind the scenes, their new uniforms will have them looking the part on the field. In the fall, the Colonels plan to sport a new yellow helmet and an alternate blue jersey, creating eighteen different uniform combinations.

According to offensive line coach and recruiting coordinator David Bieber, these new uniform options are increasing the Colonels' swag factor.

"One change I have seen is in the swag. Yes, I said swag. This adds excitement to the players and potential recruits when you have eighteen different uniform options and two helmets that bounce between new school and tradition," said coach Bieber.

Not only are these uniform changes exciting

SEE FOOTBALL, Page 11



Fall Sports Schedules

Cross Country (Men & Women)

8/31 @ Misericordia Invitational
9/8 @ Stevenson Invitational
9/15 @ Cougar Classic
9/29 @ Mount Saint Mary
10/6 @ Desales Invitational
10/13 @ Inter-Regional Border Battle
10/19 @ LVC Last Chance Run Fast
10/27 MAC Championships (Stevenson)
11/10 NCAA Mideast Regional (DeSales)

Field Hockey

x-8/31-9/1 @ Susquehanna
9/5 @ Keystone, 4 p.m.
9/8 vs. Widener, 5 p.m.
9/13 vs. Cedar Crest, 7 p.m.
9/15 @ Alvernia, 7 p.m.
9/19 @ Moravian, 7 p.m.
*9/22 vs. Eastern, 5 p.m.
9/25 vs. U. of Scranton, 7 p.m.
*9/29 @ Manhattanville, 1 p.m.
10/3 @ Elizabethtown, 4:30 p.m.
*10/5 @ FDU-Florham, 7 p.m.
10/8 vs. Arcadia University, 7 p.m.
*10/12 @ Delaware Valley, 7 p.m.
*10/18 vs. King's, 7 p.m.
*10/20 @ DeSales, noon
*10/24 @ Misericordia 7 p.m.
*MAC Freedom
x-Connie Harnum Classic
Home games @ Schmidt Stadium

Women's Volleyball

8/31 @ PSU-Hazleton, 8 p.m.
9/1 @ Clarks Summit, 10 a.m.
9/1 @ Lycoming, noon
9/1 @ Penn College, 2:30 p.m.
9/4 @ PSU-Brandywine, 7 p.m.
9/6 vs. Lancaster Bible, 7 p.m.
9/8 @ PSU-Harrisburg, 11 a.m.
9/8 @ Shenandoah, 1 p.m.
*9/12 vs. Manhattanville, 7 p.m.
9/15 vs. Cairn, 10 a.m.
9/15 vs. Wesley, 2 p.m.
*9/18 @ FDU-Florham, 7 p.m.
9/20 vs. Clarks Summit, 7 p.m.
9/22 @ Brooklyn College, noon
9/22 @ Rutgers-Camden, 2 p.m.
*9/26 vs. Delaware Valley, 7 p.m.

9/28 @ RIT, 6 p.m.
9/29 @ Morrisville State, 11 a.m.
9/29 @ SUNY Cortland, 1:30 p.m.
*10/2 @ Eastern, 7 p.m.
10/4 @ PSU-Berks, 7 p.m.
10/6 vs. New Jersey City, noon
10/6 vs. PSU-Altoona, 4 p.m.
10/8 @ Keystone, 7 p.m.
*10/10 vs. King's, 7 p.m.
*10/16 @ DeSales, 7 p.m.
10/18 vs. Bryn Athyn, 7 p.m.
*10/24 @ Misericordia, 7 p.m.
10/27 vs. Marywood, 10 a.m.
10/27 vs. Rutgers-Camden, 2 p.m.
*MAC Freedom
Home matches @ Marts Center

Men's Soccer

8/31 @ PSU-Berks, 4:30 p.m.
9/3 @ Marywood, 1 p.m.
9/8 vs. Moravian, 2:30 p.m.
9/12 vs. Clarks Summit, 7 p.m.
9/15 @ Keystone, 1 p.m.
9/19 @ Susquehanna, 7 p.m.
9/22 @ Stevenson, 4 p.m.
9/26 vs. U. of Scranton, 7 p.m.
*9/29 vs. Delaware Valley, 1 p.m.
10/3 @ Lancaster Bible, 6 p.m.
*10/6 vs. DeSales, 7 p.m.
*10/9 @ King's, 7 p.m.
*10/13 @ Eastern, 3 p.m.
*10/17 vs. Misericordia, 7 p.m.
*10/20 vs. Manhattanville, 1 p.m.
10/24 @ Penn College, 7 p.m.
*10/27 @ FDU-Florham, 7 p.m.
*MAC Freedom
Home games @ Schmidt Stadium



Evolution of MLB analytics

By Ben Mandell
Co-Sports Editor

America's favorite pastime has gone through some changes. The rules are still the same, but the way the game is managed is no longer what it used to be.

The change has been driven by analytics, which is information created by systematic analysis of data or statistics. Many Major League Baseball (MLB) franchises have analytic departments that determine who the team puts on the field, who manages the game, and what the best matchup is for each player based on their numbers. Sabermetrics is what the MLB primarily uses when referencing analytics and numbers.

The game has now changed in many ways, such as managers focusing more on lefty batter vs. lefty pitcher matchups. These lefty v. lefty matchups have always been looked at, but mostly later in games when managers would use their bullpens. This movement has stemmed from numbers saying that left handed batters do not fare well against southpaws on the mound.

Another big change has been with starting pitchers. Starters used to throw as many innings and pitches as they could if they were pitching well. Managers used to try and avoid using their bullpen, as the arms were not as reliable.

Now, teams are built to have strong bullpens. Starters only throw five innings, opposed to seven, as the managers like to try and prevent any big mistakes. The number of innings starters throw is based on pitch count, which managers rarely let go over 100 to try and prevent an injury. The numbers throughout the league say that batters are more successful against a starter once they are seeing him for a third time, too.

Not only has pitching changed, but so has the way games are managed. Some differences are how teams build their lineups, shift their defenses and use their bullpen. Lineups are now built based on whose numbers fit best. For example, the second spot in the lineup tends to get the most RBI opportunities in a game. Teams will set up their lineup so their best hitter hits second, which is contrary to the belief that the best hitter should hit third.

Teams now look into where players hit the ball. This is mostly used against lefties, where teams will move players out of their routine positions to try and get specific players out. Almost all teams in baseball use the shift, and teams like the Astros will move all but one player to one side of the field against a hitter like Joey Gallo, who tends to pull the ball often.

Bullpen use has changed as well, as the format used to be the same for every team. Teams had a closer for the 9th inning, set-up man for the 8th inning, a few guys that were able to pitch the 6th or 7th innings, a long arm that could come into the game early in case the starter struggled, and left handed specialists.

Now, bullpens will be used in all sorts of ways. This season, teams have used their bullpens to actually start games, closers have been in potentially harder innings, and lefties have been used whenever the opposing team sends up a lefty.

Brian Kenny, a highly touted analyst for MLB Network and ESPN is one of the main guys who has helped bring analytics into baseball.

"It's an advancement of knowledge in baseball," Kenny said. "It helps teams win and it makes it easier to manage teams as they just follow the numbers."

Stats have always been a part of the game and they help everyone judge a player's season. They help set a baseline for what is above and below average and players have gotten paid based off of that. The issue that people have with analytics and judging the game completely off of the numbers is that it takes away all of the intangibles.

Arguments say that team chemistry, locker room presence, momentum and specific traits are taken out of the conversation when talking about analytics.

Baseball is a streaky game with players getting hot and cold. All players go through a stretch where anything they hit finds a way to elude a glove, and stretches where it's the other way around and people make plays. Analytics looks past that and says that following the numbers will prevent that.

All in all, baseball is evolving and the evolution of America's pastime is being fueled by analytics. The game is played much differently now than it was before and it will continue to change. The game will always evolve as teams find new ways to win and analytics are currently helping teams manage and find the best way to win games.

**Join the conversation
on analytics: Follow
@BenMandell55 on
Twitter and share your
thoughts.**



@wilkesbeacon
Benjamin.Mandell@wilkes.edu

FOOTBALL, from page 10

for current Colonels, but Bieber also touched on how the coaches always have to think about the future of the program and improving the recruiting process.

Elder echoed Bieber's mindset, stating, "Recruiting is without a doubt that lifeblood of any football program, and we understand the importance of creating great relationships with recruits and coaches."

Following this mindset, the coaching staff has made recruiting one of their priorities.



Wilkes Football/Kasey Bieber

Coach Tom Elder giving instruction during a rainy spring practice.

They have expanded their search radius differently than in the past with the hopes of finding the best student-athletes around.

By having open communication and a distinct set of goals, the coaching staff is changing the culture of the Wilkes football program. Adjustments to the practice schedule and workout regimen, highlighting face-to-face interactions, placing an overwhelming emphasis on academics, getting new uniform additions, having new recruiting strategies, and wanting to mold the players into great young men are the changes that the coaches have clearly outlined to make the program successful.

Not only are the coaches excited about these goals, but the players seem to be receptive to these new approaches as well.

After being a part of a losing program in high school and here at Wilkes, defensive lineman and junior captain Vinne Werner notes how it's all about learning from the losses and changing one's state of mind.

"I see the mindset changing vastly as this program moves forward with us already taking steps from where we were," said Werner. "Coach Drach did a fantastic job of bringing coaches with him who have the same mindset and are passionate about the little

things that are going to help us succeed."

Werner wasn't the only player latching on to coach Drach's new mentality and routine, as junior quarterback José Tabora Jr. expressed his enthusiasm about the changing dynamic as well.

"The new coaching staff brings a more serious and winning attitude," said Tabora Jr. "The whole culture is changing from our meetings to the weight room. Although it is hard to say much before we play, I think I'm right in saying that the whole program is itching to get back."

Although there are several changes being

implemented, both the coaches and the players seem to be anxious and optimistic about getting back on the field, which coach Drach notes is right around the corner.

"Everybody comes in Aug. 10 and by Aug. 15, I think we'll be in full pack," said Drach. "Then that's really going to show who's going to impress and who's not going to impress, which is one of the nice parts about having a brand new coaching staff because that's what first impressions are all about."

With the season getting closer every day, coach Merritt leaves a lasting impression on how the culture of the football program is changing.

"This is definitely a very exciting time for Wilkes football, and I know that we're going in the right direction and that we're on track to having a good season. It just takes time," said coach Merritt. "But we're taking care of a lot off the field and I believe the wins will take care of themselves."

With Colonel Football evolving, the excitement surrounding the season is only increasing as their first game against Hartwick College on Sept. 1 at 1 p.m. inches closer.



@wilkesbeacon
Kirsten.Peters@wilkes.edu

Fall 2018 Housing Calendar

	Date	Move Out	Move In
Move In Weekend	Aug. 23-25		Various Times
Classes Begin	Aug. 27		
Labor Day	Sept. 3	Halls remain open	
Fall Recess	Oct. 11-14	Halls remain open	
Thanksgiving Break	Nov. 21-25	Nov. 21 @ 12 p.m.	Nov. 25 @ 12 p.m.
Winter Recess	Dec. 20	24 hours after last final exam OR Dec. 20 @ noon*	*Whichever comes first

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #355
WILKES-BARRE, PA

McNichol, Macciocco, Drach, Limouze hired as new head coaches

By Ben Mandell & Kirsten Peters
Co-Sports Editors

Women's Soccer - John McNichol

After former head coach John Sumoski announced he was leaving Wilkes to take a head coaching position at Franklin and Marshall College, the Wilkes women's soccer team has named John McNichol as his replacement, making him the program's seventh head coach in 31 years.

McNichol has had success as a head coach in the past; he spent his last four years at the Pennsylvania College of Technology. In three of his four seasons, McNichol took his team to their conference tournament. Prior to his time as a head coach, McNichol spent time as an assistant at King's College.

Considering McNichol is replacing the Lady Colonels' winningest coach, he has some big shoes to fill. The program's expectations are high as the team looks to build off of last season's NCAA tournament appearance.

Women's Basketball - Tara Macciocco

After former head coach Chris Heery stepped down from the position he held for seven years, the Wilkes women's basketball team named Tara Macciocco as his replacement, making her the program's 14th head coach in 57 years.

Macciocco finds herself right back where she started as she began her coaching career with the Lady Colonels in 2001.

She comes to Wilkes following 14 seasons with Marywood University, where the Pacers appeared in 10 straight postseasons. In 2015-16 and 2016-17, Macciocco was named the Colonial States Athletic Conference (CSAC) coach of the year, where her teams won 19 and 15 games, respectively.

Macciocco comes to Wilkes looking to turn the program around and bring it back to the MAC Freedom playoffs. The Lady Colonels' last appearance was in 1997.

Football - Jonathan Drach

After the departure of former head coach Trey Brown, the Wilkes football team named

Jonathan Drach as his replacement, making him the program's ninth head coach in 72 years.

For the past 11 years, Drach has been immersed in the Hobart College football program, starting out as a quarterbacks coach in 2007 and adding offensive coordinator to his title in 2014.

Drach's credentials speak for themselves, as he coached the Liberty League Offensive Player of the Year in 2007, 2014, 2016 and 2017 and the ECAC Offensive Player of the Year in 2007 and 2016. Furthermore, he played a crucial role in leading the Hobart College Statesmen to six Liberty League Conference Championships, seven NCAA playoff appearances, and three consecutive undefeated regular seasons.

Men's & Women's Swimming - Thomas Limouze

After former head coach Mark Barnes stepped down after four seasons, the Wilkes men's and women's swimming program named Thomas Limouze as his replacement, making him the second coach

since the program's relaunch in the 2014-2015 season.

Limouze spent this past season as the assistant coach at Sewanee: the University of the South, where the Tigers finished fifth at the Southern Athletic Association (SAA) Championships, broke five team records, and ranked in program all-time top 10.

Prior to this past season, Limouze spent three seasons as the assistant coach at Swarthmore College, helping lead them to the Centennial Conference Championship in 2017 for the first time in program history. In 2015, he was honored with the Jean Freeman Scholarship for Outstanding Assistant Coaching.

Limouze also founded Friends Select Swimming (FSS) at USA Swimming Club in Philadelphia and began his coaching career at Ursinus College in 2006.



@wilkesbeacon

Benjamin.Mandell@wilkes.edu

Kirsten.Peters@wilkes.edu



Est. 1936
Pa. Newspaper
Association Member
Volume 72, Issue 01

THE BEACON

FREE Take one.

Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

THE BEACON HIRES:
WRITERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, EDITORS

By Staff Writer

This could be you!

If you have a passion for writing, design or photography, join us!



THE BEACON

Contact:
Managing Editor Nick Filipek
Nicholas.Filipek@wilkes.edu

Freshmen and all majors welcome!



THE BEACON



Fall Sports Schedules

Football

9/1 vs. Hartwick, 1 p.m.
9/8 @ Lebanon Valley, 1 p.m.
*9/15 @ Delaware Valley, 1 p.m.
*9/22 vs. Misericordia, 1 p.m.
*9/29 @ Alvernia, 1 p.m.
*x-10/6 vs. Albright, 1 p.m.
*10/12 @ FDU-Florham, 7 p.m.
*10/20 @ Stevenson, noon
*10/27 vs. Lycoming, 1 p.m.
*y-11/10 vs. King's, noon
*MAC
x-Homecoming
y-Mayor's Cup
Home games @ Schmidt Stadium
(More schedules on page 10)

Women's Soccer

8/31 @ PSU-Berks, 7 p.m.
9/5 @ Ithaca, 5 p.m.
9/8 vs. Marywood, noon
9/12 @ William Paterson, 7 p.m.
9/15 @ Bard, 3:00 p.m.
9/19 vs. Susquehanna, 7 p.m.
9/22 @ Arcadia
9/25 @ U. of Scranton, 7 p.m.
*9/29 vs. Delaware Valley, 3:30 p.m.
10/3 vs. Kean, 7 p.m.
*10/6 vs. DeSales, 4:30 p.m.
*10/10 @ King's, 5 p.m.
*10/13 @ Eastern, noon
*10/16 vs. Misericordia, 7 p.m.
*10/20 vs. Manhattanville, 3:30 p.m.
10/23 vs. Oneonta, 7 p.m.
*10/26 @ FDU-Florham, 7 p.m.
*MAC Freedom
Home games @ Schmidt Stadium

