

# THE BEACON

Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

#### Capture the moment: Pete Souza visits Wilkes

By Sean Schmoyer
Asst. News Editor

On Oct. 15, Pete Souza, former chief official White House Photographer for Presidents Ronald Reagan and Barack Obama, visited campus to meet with students and members of the Sordoni Art Gallery, as well as to speak about his time in the White House.

Souza is currently a freelance photographer based in Washington D.C. He was previously a national photographer for the Chicago Tribune and a freelancer for National Geographic, as well as the author of six photography books. His latest book is "Shade: A Tale of Two Presidents," which was published in October 2018.

The first event in Souza's schedule was a private Q&A with Wilkes University honors students.

"Listening to Mr. Souza speak about his experience during the UBL raid where he took the famous picture of the war room was intense," said Eric Beideman, senior sports management major.

The UBL raid was a famous 2011 operation to kill Al-Qaeda founder Osama bin Laden.

"The magnitude of the moment was not lost on anyone, and especially the nan tasked with recording it for history's sake," Beidman continued. "It was an awesome experience to meet a man who spent his days around some of the most impactful and powerful men on the planet."

Casino Week activities preview, page 5

Q&A session, the Sordoni Art Gallery hosted a members-only meet-and-greet which included a preview of the exhibition, T w o Presidents, One Photographer." featured 56 of Souza's photographs from his time as the chief official White House photographer for Regan and Obama.

The event Presidency in Photogra allowed gallery members to speak with Souza. During this time, he walked members through the exhibit and shared with them stories

about the photos in the exhibit.

Later that night, Souza spoke to a full audience in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center. Souza started by explaining that he viewed his speech as less of a lecture and more of a show-and-tell exhibit.

As he opened his presentation, he talked about the most emotional day during his time in the Obama administration: his last day on the job. Souza expressed that his job had been to document history, but now his mission was to point out the

Students gather for donut

and pie eating contest at

"Fall Fest," page 7



The Beacon/Sean Schmoyer

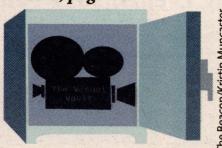
Jean Adams, pottery/ceramics instructor for Wilkes University, has her copy of "Obama: An Intimate Portrait: The Historic event Presidency in Photographs" signed by Pete Souza.

differences between what the presidency and politics were like during his time working with both presidents compared to how it is today.

As he continued, Souza showcased hand-selected photos to the audience, telling them stories about each. The photos he selected were from both the Obama and Reagan administrations in order to remain bipartisan.

Souza began by talking about his time with Reagan. He focused on the worst terrorist attack overseas on the marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1983,

SOUZA, page 4



The Visual Vault covers 'Community', page 18

# Colonel's closet increases food options with new donation

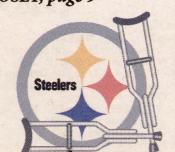
By Anna Culver Staff Writer

Colonel's Closet, the on-campus food pantry from the Campus Interfaith, provides a variety of food items, personal care and other household items to campus members in need. They recently have received a donation of a refrigerator from the Al Beech West Side Food Pantry located in Kingston, Pa to help continue to provide for campus members.

The donation allows for the pantry to carry more food options. The refrigerator allows for the inclusion of items such as milk, yogurt, cheese, fresh produce and more that students can get and use. They are also looking for donations of produce as well if any staff has extra from their gardens or farms. What is available each week in the closet depends on donations from faculty, staff and students.

"The donation of the refrigerator opens a lot of doors and opportunities for more students to come in," said Ashlynne Eichenlaub, sophomore nursing major and student worker at the Colonel's Closet. "We have cereal in the closet and this means we can have milk. There are mac and cheese products that require milk and butter. This

CLOSET, page 9



NFL: Are the Steelers strong enough to overcome injuries?, page 19

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## News

Have a breaking story or a press release to send? Contact the news editor: Parker.Dorsey@wilkes.edu

#### Student Government notes: Oct. 16 weekly meeting

By Sara Ross Staff Writer

This week's Student Government meeting featured a donation to Interfaith, reports from both the Health & Safety and Operations committees and exciting news about upcoming campus events.

There was a second presentation from the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) concerning a fund request for the Amazing Race on Oct. 25. SWE was looking to receive \$550 to cover T-shirt costs and any incidentals. This amount was approved with 37 in favor, zero opposing and one abstaining.

The Wilkes College Democrats would like to attend the Independence Dinner at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia on Nov. 1. This is the first annual Independence Dinner hosted by the Pennsylvania Democratic Party. There will be prominent speakers including Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, Gov. Tom Wolf and Sen. Bob Casey. The Wilkes College Democrats are requesting a total of \$1,200 for ticket and hotel

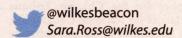
Student Body President Alanah Guerrero made the proposition to allocate \$300 towards Interfaith and it was approved. The Interfaith office is headed by Coordinator Kristin Osipower and it is involved with the Colonel's Closet. The Colonel's Closet provides food, household and personal care items for any member of the Wilkes community experiencing hardship.

There was a Health & Safety Report from Sergeant-at-Arms Nathan Pitcher. The Department of Health was giving out flu shots last Friday. The American Lung Association will be holding a discussion on Oct. 25 to go over the dangers of vaping.

Executive Board Treasurer Kevin Long had further news from Operations. There have been complaints about the Wilkes shuttle taking too long to pick up students. They are trying to work out a more efficient route. He added that one of the University Towers elevators is down and is supposed to be fixed sometime this week. Until it is repaired, students will have swipe access to the stairs.

Class reports started with the seniors as they decided on a Rock and Roll theme for their Downtown Establishment Tour on Nov. 9. The juniors will be selling Bluetooth speakers for \$15 every day except for Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sophomores will be having their Root Beer Float Social soon and the freshman class is going to be having a Hawaiian luauthemed social later on in the year.

Some final notes include the Commuter Council continuing signups for their Washington, D.C. trip. Also, Freak Week is coming up, which will include a series of events like a Mobile Escape Room & Laser Tag, a Cupcake Giveaway, Ghost Hunters, Halloween Bingo and a T-Shirt Giveaway.



### Beacon Briefs: The upcoming happenings on campus

Compiled by Sean Schmoyer

#### Spring Semester Registration Begins Soon

Online registration for the spring 2020 semester will take place according to the following schedule:

Seniors - Class of 2020, 10 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 27

Juniors - Class of 2021, 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 29

Sophomores - Class of 2022, 10 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 3

Freshmen - Class of 2023, 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 5

**Taste of Polish Food** 

At 11 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 24, on the second floor of the Farley Library, join the Polish Room Committee of Wilkes University for a taste of traditional homemade Polish food.

#### Wilkes Dining Looking for Feedback

Wilkes Dining is conducting a DiningStyles Survey to better understand the campus dining satisfaction and preferences of students. By sharing thoughts, Wilkes Dining hopes to gain valuable insight to help improve the overall dining hall experience.

The online survey will take no more than 10 minutes and responses are confidential. At the end of the survey, students have an opportunity to enter the drawing for a grand prize of a \$150 e-card or three first prizes of \$50 e-cards.

The survey can be found at www. DiningStylesSurvey.com.

#### Compete in Studio 20's Video Game **Tournament**

Studio 20 presents its first annual video game tournament at 6 p.m. on Nov. 1 in Breiseth rooms 020 and 018.

The main event at the tournament is Mortal Kombat X, though other games such as Mario Kart, Wii Sports and Beat Saber will be available to play.

The fee for tournament entry is \$10 granting

entry into the Mortal Kombat X tournament which will grant prizes to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place contestants.

There is a general admissions fee of \$5, which grants students access to spectate the tournament, access food and spend time playing the other games being offered. Globalize Your Thanksgiving

Invite one or two international students to your Thanksgiving dinner.

Those interested should contact Georgia Costalas at the Center for Global Education and Diversity

@wilkesbeacon Sean.Schmoyer@wilkes.edu

#### **Upcoming Events: 2019 Fall Semester**

21 to 25 - Casino Week (SG)

22 - Washington D.C. Trip Sign-ups (CC) 24 - Gen Board Bonding (WUPB)

24 - Washington D.C. Trip Sign-ups (CC) 28 - Mobile Escape Room & Laser Tag

(WUPB)

29 - Cupcake Giveaway (WUPB) 30 - Ghosthunters (WUPB)

31 - Halloween Bingo (WÚPB)

- Halloween Giveaway (WUPB) - Washington D.C. Trip (CC)

7 - Paint n' Sip (WUPB) 14 - Winter Giveaway (WUPB) 21 - Glow in the Dark Dodgeball (WUPB)

5 - Holiday Bingo (WUPB)

WUPB denotes Wilkes University Programming Board CC denotes Commuter Council

SG denotes Student Government MSC denotes Multicultural Student

Coalition Want your event featured in the calendar?

Email: The Wilkes Beacon@wilkes.edu

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### Third annual diversity conference focuses on social inequalities

By Genny Frederick Staff Writer

The Center for Global Education and Diversity recently held its third annual undergraduate conference at Wilkes University titled, "Understanding and Addressing Social Inequalities."

The conference coordinator, Erica Acosta, explained that the goal of the conference was to "consider how we can make conscious efforts to change the way we think about inequalities."

Seven presenters from Wilkes University and other local universities led workshops that discussed the forms of inequality present in society, and how to adjust responses to these injustices.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Blake Lamberti Mackesy, a member of the Wilkes School of Education, began the conference with a discussion of diversity, inclusion and intersectionality.

"We're equal," she said. "Me, you, all of us are equal in our knowledge. We're all experts in our knowledge, so I expect you to use your voice, to speak your truth."

She then asked students to get up and introduce themselves to someone they did not know, encouraging them to get to know the students from other universities or students from their own university whom they did not know well.

Mackesy encouraged students to lean into the discomfort of the discussions that would be had in that room, saying, "Disruption is something we celebrate in this room on this day."

Mackesy shared music videos and situations that addressed social inequalities and then passed a microphone around to students to lead a discussion, largely motivated by the responses of students in the room.

This discussion moved through conversations of identity, inequality, inclusivity and power in both the United States and worldwide.

Identity, as she explained, is a group in which people percieve themselves as being members of, or are welcomed into. These groups can be defined by religion, race, gender, sex, socio-economic status or language.

Mackesy defined intersectionality as, "The concept of concentric, intersecting, matrix-like circles where these identities cross."

According to Mackesy, power tied the two concepts together.

"Not all identities share equal power in this society. Step back. Every culture has different expectations and norms surrounding power, so what's right for here in NEPA may be different in different regions of our country, and certainly different across the world."

These topics moved into the smaller workshops that went on throughout the day. In the workshop led by Dr. Jim Calderone, students took part in a discussion about white privilege and how they are impacted by it. He challenged white students to be

aware of their mindset and to grow in their understanding of their privilege.

In another workshop, Dr. Samuel H. Schmidt presented a session about athlete activism in America. He looked at different people and teams such as the U.S. Women's Soccer Team, the Miami Heat basketball team, Muhammad Ali and Billie Jean King, and discussed how the empowerment of athletes results in more athletes addressing social injustices. Thus, this puts these injustices on a larger stage.

"The Diversity and Inclusion Conference was an amazing opportunity to discuss important but possibly uncomfortable topics like white privilege and microaggressions with people of several different backgrounds," said Rashonda Montgomery, a sophomore student at Wilkes University. "Each workshop left you with something to think about. It was an impactful learning experience."

One workshop by Jose F. Sanchez, from the University of Scranton, was about "Recognizing and Responding to Microaggressions and Implicit Bias and the Messages that They Send."

This workshop highlighted what microaggressions and implicit bias are, as well as ways to respond to them. The students listened to and watched examples of these microaggressions and engaged with each other on how to reduce their occurrence.

The workshop "Factors Affecting Persistence in Earning a Baccalaureate Degree for First-year Black Male Students Attending Predominately White Institutions in Northeastern Pennsylvania," lead by Yerodin Lucas of Marywood University, discussed the qualitative research study of black male students attending higher education institutions in the region.

Tanya A. Pyke led the workshop, "The Financial Solutions to put to use: Establishing a foundation." This was especially important to college students who are beginning to navigate their professional careers with debt looming overhead. Pyke discussed habits for students to begin practicing while they are still in school.

"It is all of our responsibility to disrupt, disrupt the status quo, the status quo was created by those who hold power to keep things the way they are," Macksey said at the end of her presentaiton. "It is all of our responsibility to shake that up, to think critically about that and educate yourself."

Macksey encouraged students to work together to make the world a better place, saying, "We need to work to empower ourselves and others. This walk is too isolating if we try to do it alone. We need a community of like-minded people to support us through this path."

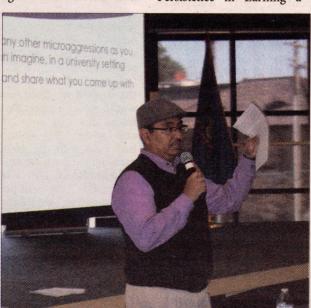
This conference is held yearly at Wilkes University and is open to all students across campus.

@wilkesbeacon Genevieve.Frederick@wilkes.edu



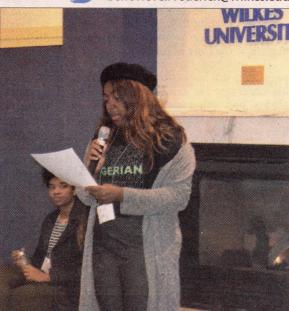
The Beacon/ Sean Schmoyer

Keynote speaker Dr. Blake Mackesy discussed with attendees about disruption of the status quo through critical thinking and education.



The Beacon/ Sean Schmoyer

Jose Sanchez, assistant director of the Cross-Cultural Centers at the University of Scranton, spoke about microaggressions.



The Beacon/ Sean Schmoyer

Mmachi Dimoriaku, senior theatre arts major, read a fictional story about microaggressions to the students.

### Wilkes University students receive PADE scholarships

News Editor

Two Wilkes University students were awarded the Pennsylvania Association of Developmental Educators (PADE) Scholarships. PADE is a statewide professional, non-profit, educational organization addressing the needs and interests of developmental educators from every type of postsecondary institution in the state.

The students who received the scholarship were sophomore nursing major Megan Oakley and sophomore psychology major Shyanne Wydo. The students are participants in the Act 101 Program at Wilkes.

The Act 101 Program enhances the educational opportunities and achievements of undergraduate students, who are first-generation students and Pennsylvania residents. It also provides educational support services that allow students to earn a college degree.

It is a state-funded program under PHEAA which allocates funds to Pennsylvania schools that operate an Act

program their institution.

Schools use funds provide services to academically n d financially disadvantaged students them assist so they can complete post secondary study.

"I think I selected because I care

a lot about my education and love Wilkes," Wydo said. "Getting this scholarship was the best feeling in the world, to be honest. I felt so honored the faculty chose me and thought so highly of my work ethic."

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Courtesy of Wilkes Marketing

Megan Senausky, Act 101 Program Counselor; Megan Oakley; Shyanne Wydo and Karen Riley, Act 101 Assistant Director.

Jones. She nominated me and Shyanne because she always saw that I was always going to the extra study sessions and I was always doing whatever I could to bring up my grade. It's like a reward from them saying that they recognize that we are trying.

established There are a lot of students who are trying so hard and don't get anything for it," the Act 101 program Oakley said. 1971.

"I was so excited. I don't win things like that. I'm not the luck-of-the-draw kind of person. The odds of us getting it at Wilkes and for her to nominate both of us, that's usually not how anything normally works," she added.

According to the Wilkes website, the Act 101 program assists students transitioning to college by assigning them a personal academic counselor to provide individual attention for guidance

This academic coach will listen to concerns and share strategies that have helped others achieve their goals. The Act 101 program offers academic, career and financial-aid guidance; peer and professional tutoring in most subject areas; professional study sessions in selected courses; and workshops to help improve performance.



Wilkes has

sponsored

an Act 101

program

since 1976.

"You get

the money

from them

seeing hard

work and

dedication.

nominated

by Thomas

Thomas

and Megan

got

@wilkesbeacon Parker.Dorsey@wilkes.edu

#### SOUZA, from front

when 241 people were killed and how Reagan spent time with those who had lost families after the attack.

He also focused on the relationship between the president and the first lady when he showed a photo of Reagan helping Nancy Reagan off of her horse.

Souza highlighted a story about Reagan's response to media coverage of himself at the time of his presidency.

"He watched the news, and as all presidents do, he was complaining about his coverage. He said that Dan Rather always had other people say what he (Reagan) had said instead of showing him saying it."

Souza continued, "Think of where we are today, where the president does not just complain about the press, he calls them the enemy of the people.'

He told similar stories through photos of Obama. Just as Reagan comforted families after the attack in Beirut, Obama comforted families in the aftermath of the Sandy Hook shooting.

And just as Souza had captured Reagan spending time with Nancy Reagan, Obama was captured by Souza spending time with not only Michelle Obama but with his daughters.

These comparisons of character and actions of the presidents were not done accident. Souza also showcased

photos of Reagan meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev and Obama meeting with Vladimir Putin. In both photos the leaders were composed, but very clearly standing in opposition to both the former Soviet Union leader and the President of Russia respectfully.

Despite political party differences, he said both Reagan and Obama served as President of the United States with dedication and passion in a way that is not present today.

Though Souza often kept the focus of his presentation on the former presidents, he spoke more about the current president when the audience session started.

When asked what the definition of a true president was, Souza began to talk not just about what makes a president, but also about the amount of work the members of previous administrations had put in and why.

I think number one, you need to be a decent human being. Number two, you have to respect the office of the presidency. Number three, do not lie to people every day. Number four, do not bully people every day. Number five, listen to others. There are hundreds of experts around you in our government," he said.

One of the things I mentioned earlier today, and I am speaking for both Reagan and Obama: there are dozens, maybe hundreds of people in the government

that sacrifice more than I did to help make things better for you.

Unfortunately the times when you might hear about them are when they make a mistake. I do not believe, again not talking about today, do not always believe the federal government is working against you. It is not true. People work hard to try to make things better for you, and I saw it in both a Democratic and Republican administration.

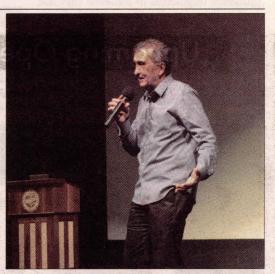
Souza continued to speak with the audience about moments he would never forget, about how he found his way into photography and about the connections he had built with the numerous staff members of both administrations.

Throughout his lecture, he expressed the importance documenting what happens in the after his presentation. White House.

Souza said he is worried the current administration is not allowing enough access to the president to allow for clear depictions of what is going on in our government.

Jessica Morandi, junior digital design and media art major, said she loved the rawness" of Souza's photography.

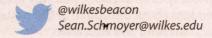
"All of them tell a captivating and true story about people that we normally do not see in a humanizing light," she said.



The Beacon/Sean Schmoyer of Souza takes questions from the audience

Seeing presidents up close and personal like you do when you look at Pete's photos does not happen that often. I love how genuine and full of emotion they are."

For those interested in checking out the Sordoni Art Gallery exhibit of Souza's work. It runs from Oct. 22 to Dec. 8.



### High school students invited to participate in EES Day

By Sean Schmoyer Asst. News Editor

The Wilkes University College of Science and Engineering hosted Earth and Environmental Science (EES) Day on Oct. 18. The purpose of EES Day is to grant high school students the chance to participate in interactive lab activities and presentations hosted by faculty experts from the EES Department.

The activities for the day were hosted on the Greenway and in the Cohen Science Center. Students rotated between stations learning about topics such as gravity anomalies, climate change, soil quality and utility, water quality, watersheds and the

impact of weather.
"EES Day exposes high school students to the potential education and career opportunities in the broad field of the geosciences. Many high school students are unaware of the professional opportunities in the geosciences," said Julie McMonagle, lecturer/lab manager for the Department of Environmental Engineering and Earth

She continued, "EES Day is an event where students can engage in hands-on lab activities in these subjects."

McMonagle supervised the "Soil Secrets

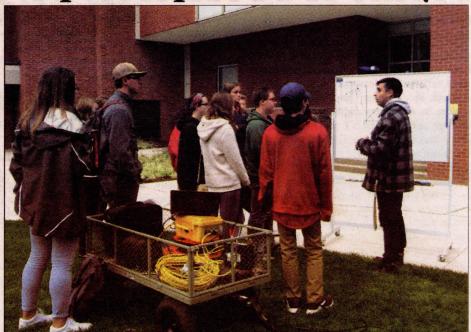
- The Food Factory of Life" session, which highlighted the importance of soil and its capabilities in functioning like a factory. McMonagle led students in a discussion about how the production of crops and plants consists of inputs and wastes, just like a factory.

The inputs are sunlight, fertilizers and fossil fuels to power machinery used for growing and maintaining crops. The waste is emissions from fossil fuels, as well as any harmful effects left by pesticides and fertilizers

In addition to this, McMonagle also spoke about the importance of color and grain size when it comes to soil. Students did numerous lab activities working with grain size and color of the soil. Soil grain sizes can range from the smallest, clay, to other sizes like sand and silt.

Grain size and color are both important features that can play a critical role in working soil, something environmental scientists, geologists and environmental engineers all may do in their fields of study and work.

Another station was "Grasping the Gravity of the Situation: Gravity Anomalies and Earth Structures" in which students on the Greenway gathered data about anomalies in gravity.



The Beacon/ Steffen Horwath

Dr. Bobby Karimi, assistant professor of environmental engineering and Earth sciences, explains to visiting students his station on gravity anomalies.

"I enjoyed the gravity station. By hitting the pallet with the sledgehammer, I think we got a lot of different data," Melanie Martinez, senior from Pocono Mountain West High School, said. "There was a lot to see and the campus seems easy to get around."

There were 116 students in attendance from different high schools.

Jack Feightner and Zach Zechman, juniors from Wyomissing Area Junior/ Senior High School, were impressed by the labs on campus and the faculty chosen to run the activities for EES Day.

"Today has been very informational. It is empowering young leaders to learn and make a change about global climate change," Feightner continued. "I think all of the lectures were excellent and the faculty were all experts in their topics."

"It was great to perform labs at a college setting that we would not be able to at our high school," Zechman added.

Feightner and Zechman engaged in a discussion with Dr. Matthew Finkenbinder, assistant professor of geology, environmental engineering and Earth sciences about climate change.

Finkenbinder's lecture and activity focused on the connection between climate change and the disappearance of glaciers.

By using time-lapses, Finkenbinder showcased that glaciers have been undergoing glacial retreat, where ice melts more than snow is produced. It's the opposite of glacial advance, where the cold temperature creates more snow to help

glaciers grow.

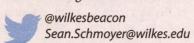
The importance is that the net loss of glacial ice is complimentary evidence towards climate change and global warming. The specific example Finkenbinder used was Glacial National Park in Montana, which has gone from 150 glaciers in 1850 to only 26 glaciers by 2009. The other lectures and activities held

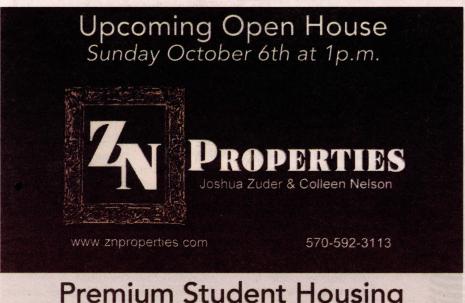
throughout the day were, "Is your Water Safe to Drink? Constructing a Water Filtration System," "The Magic of Maps - Geospatial Technologies to Assess Watersheds and Water Quality" and "Flash, Bang, Boom, Measuring Weather in the Backyard."

In addition to activities and lectures for students, EES Day also served as a way for faculty and alumni to talk with parents and guardians about the admissions process, financial aid and about career paths available to students who major in earth and environmental science.

In attendance at EES Day was Tyler Marino, an EES graduate from the Class of

"I came and shared my experiences as alumni. I talked to parents about how my EES major helped me to get my job with PPL," Marino continued. "I think it is important because the Earth and Environmental Science Department gives you a clear picture of the problems our world is facing and how to solve them."





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### Profile of a Professor: Dr. Danielle Kieck, pharmacy

By Emily Cherkauskas Staff Writer

Dr. Danielle Kieck has been welcomed into Wilkes University's pharmacy program as an assistant professor.

Kieck received her Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from St. John Fisher College in Rochester, NY, and her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from SUNY University at

For Kieck, pharmacy was always a strong interest and calling of hers.

"I chose a career in pharmacy because I have always been interested in how medications work in the body to improve and cure diseases," she said. "I also enjoy interacting with patients and working with them to improve their health."

Kieck always had a love for teaching. She explained this passion stems from her love to guide students through the journey it takes to become a pharmacist. She finds it amazing in watching her students succeed and reach their goals over time.

At Wilkes, Kieck is a professor on campus for upper-class students who are working to earn their Doctor of Pharmacy degrees. She teaches in various labs and in the self-care

In this course, students learn about over the counter medications and how to make recommendations for the treatment of common diseases, such as the cold or cough.

Kieck teaches in the Longitudinal Care Lab, a service-learning course, in which her students visit elderly patients in the community and have the opportunity to learn about common medical conditions and the barriers that patients may be facing.

She also teaches in the Care Lab, which involves her students learning and practicing clinical skills.

Additionally, as an assistant professor of the pharmacy practice, Kieck divides her time between teaching at school and practicing during experiential rotations at her site, Cook's Pharmacy, located in Kingston. Here, students in majoring in pharmacy are required to complete three hundred hours on rotation during their first three years in the program. Then, they must spend their entire fourth year practicing the skills they have learned in the classroom by working on rotations at various pharmacy

Kieck finds that working at a practice site to be very engaging and helpful to not just herself, but her students as well.

"Continuing to practice pharmacy at my site allows me to stay current with the changing landscape of the profession while also providing hands-on educational experiences to students that complete rotations at my site," she explained.

Kieck praised the pharmacy program, saying, "The Wilkes pharmacy program is very focused on providing a personalized experience to all the students. Faculty are close with the students and provide strong mentorship to help make sure they feel prepared to transition into the role of a pharmacist once they graduate."

Thanks to this close-knit environment, Kieck highly enjoys teaching in the classroom and at her pharmacy practice site. Her favorite moment of teaching is being able to watch a student implement the skills they learned in the classroom to help a patient.

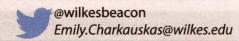
Kieck recalled fond memories of getting to know her students on a personal level and watching as they get excited when they achieve their goals. She explained that she was excited to watch as students grow from the first year in the program, until the time they finish rotations and transition into the role of a pharmacist.

Because of these many reasons, Kieck recommends Wilkes's pharmacy program to undecided students or those who are switching majors. She pointed out how pharmacy has many diverse practice settings, and that even if a student does not think he or she will enjoy filling out

Dr. Danielle Kieck

prescriptions or counseling patients, there is a large variety of places and fields where pharmacists can work. Kieck, along with other faculty members, is eager to talk with any interested students.

Outside of her career, Kieck likes to spend her quality time with her husband and pet dog. She also enjoys snowboarding in the winter, which is just another reason why Kieck is happy to have settled in this area.



#### Student Government updates Casino Week events, prizes

By Sean Schmoyer

Asst. News Editor

This year's Casino Week is seeing some changes, as Student Government and the Casino Week Committee have taken a look at student feedback from previous years to bring students an improved week of activities.

The Casino Week schedule this year consists of a Casino Royale movie showing yesterday at 7 p.m. in the Sub Lounge. Tonight at 6 p.m. Student Government will hold a Texas Hold 'em tournament in the Ballroom. Also in the Ballroom tomorrow at 8 p.m. is Bingo.

Finally, Casino Week closes with Casino Night on Friday at 7 p.m. in the Ballroom. Students who show up in formal dress attire on Friday will receive 25 tickets.

Outside of dressing nice, students have other opportunities to gain tickets on Friday and an extra bingo card on Wednesday.

In partnership with Lambda Kappa Sigma, Student Government will be trading extra tickets on Friday night and an extra bingo card to students who bring donations for the chemotherapy care package drive.

The drive is seeking donations of pens, pencils or colored pencils, adult coloring books, puzzle and word search books, mininotebooks, travel tissues, hand sanitizer, fuzzy

socks, mints, hard candy and other donation items which students can find the list of at in

Wilkes Today or on the posters around campus.

All donations go to the Medical On cology Associates, which is a "clinical team of experienced and caring physicians and nurse practitioners. Medical Oncology Associates Wyoming Valley, has been providing medical oncology and hematology care

and services to residents of Northeastern Pennsylvania since 1977."

Medical Oncology Associates diagnose and treats patients with malignant diseases and blood disorders. The partnership with Lambda Kappa Sigma and Student Government is one of the many changes to Casino Week this year.

"The partnership with Lambda Kappa

Sigma was made to support a great cause. Traditionally, we used to do the can donations

for the food pantry, but in recent months there have been many donation campaigns in residence halls and from other clubs on campus," Kevin Long, Executive Treasurer for Student Government, continued, "So the committee looked to see what other donation campaigns were going on that we could help out with our event and decided to support the cancer treatment package campaign for Graphic by Madi Hummer semester's Casino Week."

> Other changes to this year's Casino Week include the Monday movie showing of Casino Royale. The movie showing is a new idea that Student Government has not done before. In addition to that, this year's Casino Week also includes a theme.

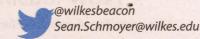
> Instead of just the traditional casino atmosphere, the theme this year is James Bond Casino Royale, to give it a formal/secret

agent feel to the event. The theme is using a red, silver and black color scheme, and some of the prize bundles are named after Bond movies.

which was made from scratch using student feedback for ideas of both what they wanted to see and have been asking for the last few years.

"This year's Casino Week is entirely based on student feedback. The Casino Week Committee and I reviewed feedback from the past couple of years and applied it wherever we could to improve the week and bring the student opinion back into the planning of Casino Week," Long explained.

"The committee and I hope all students come out and have a great time at Casino Week. We have put a lot of work into using student feedback to make this traditional event even better and to revamp it with the new additions we have added. After the event, we will be sending out a survey to see if the changes were liked or not and of course to see how we can further improve the event in the spring semester."



The final major change is the prize list,

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### Life, Arts & Entertainment

#### Students gather for donut and pie eating contest at "Fall Fest"

Asst. Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

Students did not let the increasingly cold temperatures stop them from attending Programming Board's "Fall Fest" event on Oct. 18.

Fall Fest was originally meant to be hosted outside on the Fenner Quad, but it was moved into the Student Union Building Lounge area due to the cold

"The turnout was really great actually. It was supposed to be outside but because of the weather we moved it inside, and it's crammed so we did not expect this great of a turnout," said Erin Schaepe, junior-level English language arts education major and board member of Programming Board. "The contests had pretty good sign-ups so far, but I think more people will sign up. Who doesn't want to eat pie and donuts?"

Chicken bites, macarons, apple cider and s'mores were also available to students. Aside from having refreshments, students could also play pumpkin tic-tac-toe or ring toss, make candy bags, take photos

in front of the fall-themed backdrop and repeated when the pie-eating paint plastic pumpkins.

The room was packed full of fall activities for students to enjoy, and to top it off, the room was decorated with orange and black table cloths, glitter pumpkin decorations hanging from the lights and haystacks spread throughout the lounge.

"I just happened to be passing by and I noticed how lively the event looked, and I really liked the music that was playing," said Reynaldo Perez, sophomore business administration major. "What caught my attention the most were the pumpkin paintings. I like creating things so seeing that is a huge plus for me."

The event attracted the most students when the donut eating and pie-eating contest began. Students were lined up in front of a thin string that was attached to either side of the wall with a donut hanging in front of each of them. They had to eat the whole donut without using their hands and the first to finish won a gift card.

Nonparticipating students stood around the line cheering their friends on. This

contest began. The competitors ended the race to finish their pies covered in whipped cream and pie

"I think that is pretty unique for Programming Board to have activities that go with the season and stuff just as much as making snowmen would go with winter," said sophomore international studies major and Programming Board member Donald Ballou.

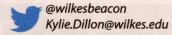
Programming Board members Erin Schaepe and Melanie Beck putting the event together. Pulling eating contest to win a gift card. or just general enjoyment of Fall-themed

"I think my favorite part of planning this event was seeing it all come together and how much everyone is enjoying it," said junior corporate finance major and Programming Board member Melanie



say they were at the forefront of Students competing in a donut on a string Photo: The Beacon/Kylie Dillon

> Programming Board plans events for the student population like concerts, comedy shows and bingo nights. They host events every Thursday night. For more information follow @wilkesupb on



#### Mental Health Awareness Society to hold "Devil's Night" poetry slam

By Rhena Lauver Staff Writer

In order for students to inhabit an environment where they feel safe to freely express themselves, the Mental Health Awareness Society (MHAS) is holding "Devil's Night" poetry slam on Oct. 31 in the Miller Room, located on the second floor of the Henry Student Center.

"The purpose of this event is to give people a night to share their works of art in an open and welcoming environment. There are not many, if any, places in the area where people can do this. We saw it as a perfect opportunity for MHAS to host one on campus," said MHAS Co-founder, Shannon O'Connor.

"Devil's Night" poetry slam is a chance for students to express anything. Students can bring ideas they want others to hear or emotions they fear to express. Performers can feel safe and free of judgment.

Performers will have to opportunity to read their own poetry, share their favorite poet's works, rap or sing for an audience. Anyone is welcome to participate or

"I feel that I'm given multiple opportunities to be able to express my ideas and myself throughout campus. I feel as though this is a campus full of very nonjudgemental community who lets you be who you are freely and welcoming," said Jaycee Demaria, first-year nursing

The Miller Room will be festively decorated to coincide with the theme and refreshments will be available for attendees. The content of the performances, however, does not have to follow the theme. Participants are more than welcome to perform other content if they prefer. If it is someone else's work, though, it is asked that they credit the original artist.

assured atmosphere is open and free. Everyone is very respectful and cheers everyone

else on. There is so much clapping and laughing. We're always making sure that during any of our meetings or events that those involved are comfortable and safe."

O'Connor further explained that the society strives to put the needs of those involved first.

This will be the second poetry slam that MHAS is holding, as they had "Post Cuffing Season" poetry slam last year around Valentine's Day.

"Last time we did a poetry slam, everyone had the best time and were laughing and giggling the whole time. Everyone wanted to keep performing that we actually ran out of time," said O'Connor. Ten participants had signed up for the reading, but eventually members of the audience decided to participate as

"People just kept going again and again. It was such a great night," she said.

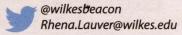
MHAS wants to try and have a poetry slam each semester, so the "Post Cuffing Season" will also be held in the spring semester.

"People should come because it is such an amazing night, not just to perform but also hear other students' and staffs' works as well. It is a no-judgment night where people feel comfortable and welcomed by everyone. Plus, you can dress up and wear costumes to the event," said O'Connor.

Interested performers can sign up at the SUB info desk on Tuesdays and Thursdays during club hours, or wait for open mic during the event.

If those who are interested are not able to sign up during these hours, they may contact O'Connor shannon.oconnor@ wilkes.edu.

For more information on the event, check out the MHAS Facebook page, Wilkes University Mental Health Awareness Society or their Instagram



#### Self care with Sarah: It's more than face masks and bubble baths

By Sarah Matarella Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

Self-care is a broad topic that pertains to many aspects of life. Thus, one can look past its breadth and depth, especially with its prevalence of social media.

Social media platforms are filled with posts describing self-care methods and quotes. In a way, this can allow people to use it to form a community related to self-

Ethan Schwartz, senior mechanical engineering major, referred to self-care on social media as a "support system."

"I firmly believe that a large majority of the population can and typically do turn to their social media accounts for reassurance and affirmations associated with the self-care mentality," said Schwartz.

People can also have more opportunities to share their stories on social media. They can share the ways that they engage in self-care and also certain situations that they have been through. They can relate these stories to others who have gone through something similar.

Social media can be a good way to feel connected to others and a great way of communicating to stay in touch with family and friends, but it can sometimes be draining and stressful. Sometimes people don't always post positive posts. People are much more willing to share

Peyton Neishman, senior neuroscience and psychology dual major.

Thus, a question can be posed on whether or not the community does

an adequate job of portraying self-care.

In addition to oversharing and overconcentration, self-care posts often include pictures of people using face light masks with expressions on their faces surrounded by candles in their bathrobes.

These aspects are often associated with pampering, which can be relaxing, but it does not encompass

the vast majority of other self-care principles.

"I think sometimes, social media can

major.

Therefore, one does not have to be going above and beyond in their daily routine to practice self-care. Senior mechanical

engineering major, Amrit Chandhok, addressed that Dr. Squatch Natural Company Soap develops YouTube commercials promote male personal hygiene.

Chandhok also explained that people do not tend to focus on the fact that personal hygiene can be an aspect of selfcare.

The Beacon/Madi Hummer physical aspect where

wearing showering, antiperspirant deodorant and brushing your teeth to make sure that you are always fresh and clean are self-care as well. It is self-care because all of these aspects affect your physical health as well as your mental health," said Chandhok.

Thus, self-care is not just for women. It involves daily things like personal hygiene, maintaining a sleep schedule, taking a break when you need it, etc. It also includes things that have longer-

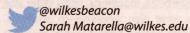
things on the internet than in person," said secondary education and Spanish dual term effects, such as keeping promises to yourself, improving upon your skills and learning more about yourself as well as countless other aspects.

"Self-care is important regardless of gender. We are all human and all have needs to suffice that allow happiness to enter our lives at a constant rate. Therefore, moral support for self-care should be promoted instead of shunned, allowing for growth of prosperity and opportunity," said Schwartz.

If enhancing your skincare routine or taking a bubble bath is something that you engage in for self-care at the moment, then that may work for you. With that being said, one should do whatever it is that they need to do to take care of themselves despite what others may be doing or saying.

However, it is still important to remember that self-care can go much deeper than those surface-level things with regards to overall mental and

physical wellbeing.
"Self-care could be portrayed any way really, but the true sense of self-care lies in the hands of you: the individual. To stay grounded, it is important to be kind to yourself to be the best version of yourself. Practicing self-care is one way to move and propel forward," Merrill said.





blur the seriousness of practicing selfcare. Sometimes it could be portrayed as feminine or "girly" to take the time and energy to practice it. This being said, there are many ways to practice self-care besides using a face mask or getting a massage, it could be something as simple as taking a nap or getting a much-needed haircut," said Cassie Merrill, senior

Each week, the Wilkes Beacon staff adds a song to the Beacon Bumps playlist on Spotify. Check us out under the Spotify username. The Wilkes Beacon, or look below this week's list of

Cabrini Rudnicki, Editor-in-Chief: Y La Bamba - Mujeres Maddie Davis, Managing Editor: Electric Guest - Dear To

Parker Dorsey, News Editor: Rage Against the Machine -

Sean Schmoyer, Asst. News Editor: Ricky Montgomery -Get Used To It

Sarah Matarella, LA&E Editor: Lost Kings, Anna Clendening - Too Far Gone

Kylie Dillon, Asst. LA&E Editor: Cierra Ramirez - Ain't

Neil Murphy, Opinion Editor: Attila - Shots for the Boys Sammi Verespy, Asst. Opinion Editor: Ritt Momney - On Love (An Alternative Reponse to Amitra's Request.) Ben Mandell, Co-Sports Editor: NBA Youngboy - Lonely

Kirsten Peters, Co-Sports Editor: Bad Day - Daniel Powter Kevin Singhel, Asst. Sports Editor: Astrovan - Mt. Joy Madison Hummer, Design Editor: Coldplay - Paradise

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### Residence Life to hold annual, spooky haunted mansions tour

Jordan Daniel Staff Writer

Residence Life will be hosting a Haunted Mansion Tour of Waller Hall at 8:30 p.m. on Oct. 30. Volunteers through the office will take students starting on the south side of Waller and ending at the north side of the hall.

"The Residents will be able to get treats upon arrival to Waller Hall," said Kedene Clarke, residence director and the traditions committee chair member.

"They will be able to take photos at our photo booth. A tour guide will take them on a tour of the building, with a twist. They will prepare to embark on an eerie tour through a haunted mansion and come face to face with ghosts, ghouls, goblins and supernatural beings," Clarke said.

Aside from the residence directors and assistants (RAs) who are in charge of planning the event (on the traditions committee), other groups and students within the campus are welcome to participate in the fright fest as well.

Waller residents and other RAs who are not on the committee are assisting in the production of the tour. Also this year, the Office of Residence Life is collaborating with the Walking Ghosts Tours, hosted by Programming Board.

If one is not interested in participating in working and setting up the event, they

CLOSET, from front page

available to students."

campus food pantry.

here on campus."

donation means that we can have all of that

coordinator and the overseer of the Colonel's

Closet commented on their policy of the on-

"We are just here to offer the support they

need so they can do the best while they are

for over three years. It started as a system to

help support students and help with the food

insecurity on college campuses.

The Colonel's Closet has been underway

"I think that it is a wonderful thing that

we have for students. There are students who just scrape by week by week, month

by month and day by day," said, Michele Foust, associate director of the Office fo

International Engagement. "Knowing that

Wilkes can help them if they do not have a

food plan. If they live in an apartment and

they can not afford food to go there and get

faculty and staff and even students who are

"I really think that it is important for us as

their means of just getting by for the week.

Kristin Osipower, Interfaith Office

"We are not here to judge," said Osipower.

are encouraged to check out the tours that Thursday night.

"Last year, the residents went all out with decorations, ranging from fog machines to a professionally trained resident who brought a ghoul costume with stilts attached," said

Danah Lassiter. resident director and co-chair of the traditions committee. "There was so much energy throughout the building. I would say each year is slightly different, depending resident participation but overall the goal is the same: to have fun."

Allyssa Olear, sophomore and political science and international studies double major who was a participating Waller resident during her freshman year and an RA this

year. She shared two different experiences with the Resident Life Haunted Mansion Tours.

great to go on the tour because it allowed me to experience a haunted house without leaving campus but it was also interesting to stay in my room and hear people react to the scarers," said Olear.

She explained that her experience with the tour this year is

different since she is on the traditions committee as an RA. She helped plan the event and will also be working the photo booth throughout the night.

"We all had different

"We all had different jobs in planning the tour so it is fun to brainstorm with the other RAs and see how their contributions will mesh together for the event," she added.

The Haunted Mansion Tours is one of the three traditions, which the Office of Residence Life hosts throughout every academic year for students. Other future

events hosted by Residence Life include the Battle of Halls and a Glow Run.

"Residence Life prioritizes the on-campus experience for residents," said Clark. "We aim to create and host programs that will

benefit the residents and build community at Wilkes.

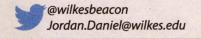
"These fun and exciting events can greatly influence their time here at Wilkes and we hope that they will look forward to it every year," she added.

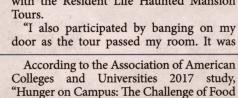
Those who have participated in the event in the past are excited to have the opportunity to arrange and set up the tour for other students this year. Those involved hope to see many new faces come and enjoy the haunting and exciting Haunted Mansion Tour.

Clark also expressed that she is excited to organize an event that she believes that all residents will enjoy. She is specifically looking forward to hearing the feedback from those who have gone through the tour to further improve the event for next year's group of students.

"I want to ensure it exceeds their expectations. Also, I enjoy working with my committee to plan this event. We have a lot of fun planning and sharing new ideas. I am excited to interact with the residents and see their reactions," said Clark.

The Office of Residence Life's staff encourages everyone, residents or commuters, to come out to Waller Hall on Oct. 30 and experience the campus' very own haunted mansion.





percent of students faced food insecurity in the previous month.

Students all across the United States are faced with food insecurity and college campus food pantries such as the Colonel's

Insecurity for College Students," nearly 48

Closet help students.

"Some students come in. They hit a bump in the road. They need help and it is just a one-time thing. Others come more often,"

explained Osipower.

The Colonel's Closet is accepting new or unexpired products that students can use to take care of their basic hygienic needs.

Products with shelf sustainability and canned goods like canned fruit and pasta preferably with pop-top lids, are accepted and needed. The on-campus food pantry is also accepting any hygienic products and other commonly needed household items, like menstrual products that students may need.

In addition to the food pantry, the Interfaith Office is also a place on campus where students can go if they are interested in learning about religion, religious practices or any other faith-related information. The Interfaith Office will help connect those

interested to different faith communities or clubs that are located on or around campus. They also provide a support system for students as they learn or grow in their spiritual endeavors.

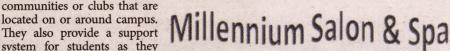
The Colonel's Closet is open to all campus members on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students may come to the office at any of these times to request the items

they need.

If students do not want to visit the food pantry in person they can fill out the online form located on Campus Interfaith's website. The form allows students to request items from the pantry that they can pick up at a later date.

For more information about the Colonel's Closet or the Interfaith Office, email Kristin Osipower at kristin.osipower@ wilkes.edu.

@wilkesbeacon Anna.Culver@wilkes.edu





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Walk-in's welcome

well off to donate food for the ones that are not. That is what we do we take care of each other. We are the Wilkes Family," added Foust.

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#### Creative Colonel of the Week: Caleb Ofori

By Kylie Dillon Asst. Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

Creativity can be expressed in many ways, from painting to photography. One does not have to make their creative passions a career for it to be legitimate. This week's creative colonel Caleb Ofori, a sophomore mechanical engineering major, demonstrates that creativity is just fulfilling when you do it for fun.

Ofori enjoys cutting hair, producing and writing music and he creates content on YouTube.

His enjoyment of cutting hair started a few years ago when he began getting tired of going to the barbershop. Ofori said that spending a lot of money every few weeks to keep up with having a nice, fresh haircut was not worth it.

Thus, Ofori decided to purchase clippers and learn to cut his own hair, ultimately to save money and also achieve the exact look that he wanted. He eventually started practicing cutting other people's hair, starting with his brothers.

While Ofori was learning different techniques of cutting hair, his brothers were patient with the growing pains of his skills. Although he did not always produce the best looks at first, his brothers still encouraged and allowed him to continue to practice. Once he mastered cutting hair on his brothers, he brought his haircutting

skills to the campus.

"I had only been used to cutting African-American hair and I wasn't used to straight hair," said Ofori.

"So, I started cutting my roommate's

hair.

His roommate, Kevin Doller, sophomore mechanical engineering major, offered up his hair to be Ofori's newest canvas. This newer experience helped Ofori gain a better grasp on how to cut hair.

Since arriving at Wilkes, he also started to pick up music-making. This past summer, he and his friends began hanging out and rapping to beats one of his friends would make.

He enjoyed it so much that when this past semester started, he brought his desire to continue to make music with his friends with him.

"We wanted to figure out a way to keep making the music while not in the same room anymore so I had to learn to produce the beats myself," said Ofori.

He downloaded an app on his computer to allow him to make and mix music. Now, he makes music and sends the finished product to his friends back at home allowing them to be able to collaborate on making music together.

His friends from home, however, are not the only people Ofori is collaborating with.

"I actually met someone on campus who makes music; he came to my room to record sample," said Ofori. "It got me feeling really hype about it."

He is still learning how to perfect making and writing music on his own. Ofori sees it is a fun way to express himself and connect with his friends he doesn't normally see on a day-to-day basis during the school year.

"The guys I work with are doing Key this as a starting point for them," added Ofori. "I'm just doing it as a hobby, if it gets somewhere bigger then it does but that is not what I intend for it."

Ofori believes that having creative hobbies does not always mean you have to want to pursue them as a profession, or even for-profit at all. He has yet to post or release any of his work.

In addition to cutting hair and making music, Ofori has also begun making YouTube videos in his spare time. He explained that he thoroughly enjoys the process of shooting a video, editing it and seeing the finished product on his channel.

Ofori hopes to expand his YouTube channel altogether in the future.



Photos submitted by: Caleb Ofori

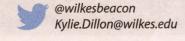
day-to-day basis during the school After learning to cut his brother's hair, Ofori year.

"The guys I work with are doing Kevin Doller, pictured above.

"I just want to make vlogs," he said.
"Like going around Walmart, stuff like that."

Ofori seems to be continually learning what he likes and how he enjoys expressing his creativity. Much like many students in a college setting, this was the ideal time for him to explore himself since many opportunities have been presented to him in the college atmosphere.

"All the stuff I'm learning, I feel like it's important to learn to do it for yourself," added Ofori. "You have to do things for yourself because then it becomes a skill."



Caleb Ofori enjoys cutting hair, making and mixing music with his friends and making YouTube videos for his personal channel.

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By Parker Dorsey
News Editor

Six Wilkes University faculty and staff members were honored with the 2019 President's Awards for Excellence. The awards were presented by Wilkes Interim President Paul S. Adams at fall convocation.

The Awards are presented to faculty or staff that have been recognized for going above and beyond in the following areas: Mentorship, Scholarship, Diversity, Innovation and Community.

They are a relatively new Wilkes tradition and were started in 2016 by previous Wilkes President Dr. Patrick F. Leahy. The awards are given out annually.

Heather Bowman, electronic resource librarian, received the President's Award for Excellence in Innovation for her efforts in "promoting programs, ideas and sustainable practices." Bowman was recognized for her efforts to both expand access to and increase numbers of peerreviewed electronic journal collections in the E.S. Farley Library.

Bowman has grown the journal collection from 30,000 titles to 80,000 titles. She was also responsible for migrating one of the library proxy servers to the cloud, which allowed distant and off-campus students better access to library resources.

Debra Chapman, faculty of practice in

biology, received the President's Award for Excellence in Mentoring for her efforts in "nurturing individuals to understand and act on their abilities while challenging them to achieve great things." Chapman was recognized for her work in Adventures in Science and also leading the Women Empowered by Science (WEBS) Program, which mentors young women to consider careers in the sciences.

She is also an academic advisor for over 30 students, which has earned her the TREC Award for outstanding advisor in the College of Science and Engineering. She also serves as an advisor for health sciences, where she gives mock interviews and help students get ready for medical school and other health sciences-related professions.

Dr. Abas Sabouni, associate professor of electrical engineering, was the recipient of the President's Award for Excellence in Scholarship for his efforts in "advancing knowledge through discovery and research to better educate our constituents."

Sabouni was recognized for his work

development of diagnostic and therapeutic technologies for biomedical applications about brain imaging and breast cancer detection.

in

Josh Savitski, associate director of enrollment services, also received the President's Award for Excellence in Innovation for his efforts in "promoting programs, ideas and sustainable practices." He was recognized for his work in leading a team to implement Slate, a new customer relationship management software for the admissions office

Heather Sincavage, assistant professor and director of the Sordoni Art Gallery, was honored with the President's Award for Excellence in Diversity for her efforts in "embracing differences and uniqueness through sincerity, awareness, inclusion and sensitivity." Sincavage was recognized for contributions that included her work featuring artists and their work representing diverse perspectives both in the Sordoni Art Gallery and in her teaching.

She has worked to increase awareness of diverse groups on campus, in the

community and in the arts. She works to see the gallery as a community, unlike historically elitist galleries in the past. She wants to see all different sorts of communities represented.

Mildred Urban, associate director of advancement, was honored with the President's Award for Excellence in Community for her efforts in "collaborating with others on campus with mutual respect to foster a sense of belonging." Urban's recognition included her leadership as a member of the University Staff Advisory Committee to help revive the Colonel Quarterly Staff Recognition Award Program.

The program boosts community spirit by fostering more meaningful relationships within campus. The program is designed to recognize staff who exceedingly contribute to university/department initiatives or special projects.

University faculty and staff can nominate anyone in the Wilkes community for the awards. The nominations are shared with senior administration for feedback, with the final recipients determined by the president.



@wilkesbeacon Parker.Dorsey@wilkes.edu

The President's Awards for Excellence recognize outstanding achievements of University faculty and staff who have gone above and beyond to serve our students throughout the academic year.

"I'm really honored to receive this award. The work that I do is often on the back-end of things. It's sort of hidden. I'm just here in my office doing things on my computer. So it is very rewarding to see my work recognized publicly. I'm very honored."

Josh Savitski

"It's a unique feeling of being really proud, yet really humble. It's an amazing feeling to be recognized by peers/colleagues. At the same time, it's humbling to be selected for this award, as the project was supported by many individuals across the University. The project could have been heavily delayed at many points and without everyone's help and support, we wouldn't be having this conversation."

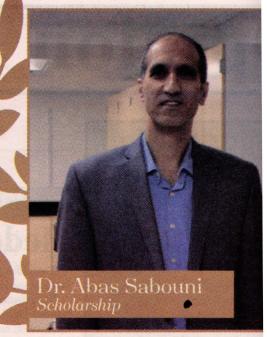
Debra Chapman *Mentorship* 

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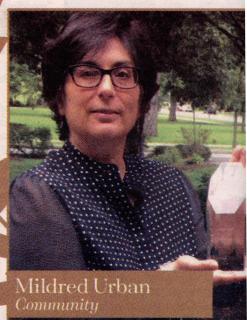
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Page Design: The Beacon / Madison Hummer Photos: The Beacon / Parker Dorsey & Submissi

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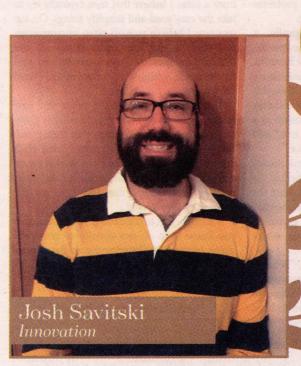
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"I'm really honored to receive this award. The work that I do is often on the back-end of things. It's sort of hidden. I'm just here in my office doing things on my computer. So it is very rewarding to see my work recognized publicly. I'm very honored."

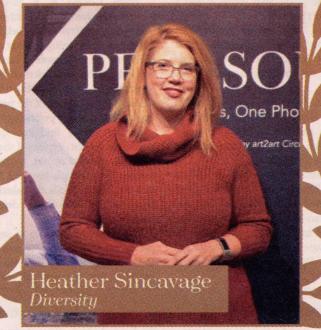


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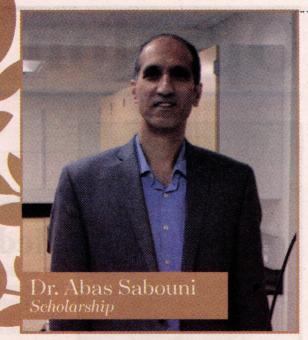


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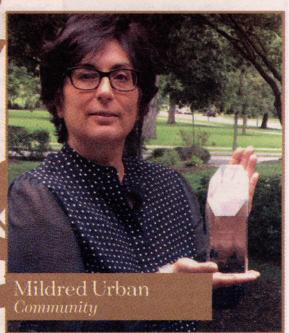
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Page Design: The Beacon / Madison Hummer
Photos: The Beacon / Parker Dorsey & Submissions

### Kurdistan: the abandoned American ally in the Middle East

By Christopher Smith Staff Writer

It is common for American presidents to promise a reduction in the number of troops in a military conflict. During the Vietnam War, then-Republican nominee Richard Nixon promised to reduce the number of American troops fighting in Vietnam.

More recently, President Barack Obama and President Donald Trump have promised the reduction of service members in Iraq and Afghanistan.

When these promises are given, the presidents usually follow-up on them by withdrawing a relatively small amount of men and women, and then soon after return a couple of thousand more troops

On Oct. 13, Trump made an action to reduce troops yet again. This time it was a complete withdrawal of the 50 American soldiers in Kurdistan's border with Syria.

In the grand scheme of things, this withdrawal may seem rather minor. According to Politico Magazine, The United States maintains around 800 military bases in 70 countries worldwide. The removals of these soldiers does not feel like much.

However, these soldiers were stationed in the Syrian part of Kurdistan, an unrecognized Middle Eastern country and an American ally. Kurdistan has had a long history of rebelling against Syria, Turkey, Iraq and Iran, and the country that they rebelled against was usually the same country that America was aligned against.

As such, an alliance formed in which the Kurds often did the fighting for the Americans.

I believe that because the Kurds had fought wars for the Americans so much, that Trump should have not withdrawn his troops from Kurdistan.

This is because the few American troops in Kurdistan acted as a buffer to other nations (i.e. Turkey and Syria) that wanted to attack the Kurds. None of them wanted to anger the United States, and the Kurds helped the Americans to defeat the Islamic State (ISIS) in Iraq and Syria. Since they defeated ISIS, they are holding a lot of ISIS

prisoners and these prisoners will soon end up being freed (albeit by accident) in the ensuing chaos.

According to Vox News on October 6th, the Syrian Kurds and ISIS went to

war in 2014. The United States was hesitant to help the Syrian Kurds because they were closely associated with the PKK, Kurdish terrorist group in Turkey. Obama decided to aid the Kurds against ISIS by providing them training and air support.

Trump increased the aid by arming them, and very soon after they took the capital of ISIS in Raqqa.

According to the Washington Post, in the fight against ISIS, the Kurds lost 11,000 soldiers. After the war with ISIS ended, the Kurds began to rebuild and govern the

I would argue that there was relative stability within Kurdish Syria.

President Recep Tayyip Erdoĝan of Turkey has recently been losing support and his grasp on power in Turkey has been looking grim. According to a New York Times article from Oct. 7th, 2019, he proposed a buffer zone in Syria, where he would resettle the Syrian refugees that fled to Syria and no longer share a border with the Syrian Kurds.

This would give him a political victory by resuming the fight against an old enemy, by using the Turkish military swiftly and effectively, and by getting rid of the pressure of maintaining the Syrian refugees.

Trump likely felt that he would also gain a small political victory when he decided to remove the 50 American troops from

Right now, his administration is under

stress by the impeachment inquiry and the mounting support to remove him from office, and the problems over at Fox News that would later culminate in the departure of Shepard Smith.

On Oct. 9, Trump wrote a letter to Erdoĝan that warned him not to attack Kurds. It concluded with, "[History] will look upon you forever as the devil if good things don't happen. Don't be a tough guy. Don't be fool!"

According the BBC to on Oct. 17,

upon receiving the letter Erdoĝan threw it away and proceeded to start his invasion of Syria.

The letter does inform us of an important point, though: Turkey would have never attacked the Kurds if Trump did not remove the American forces in Syria.

A Turkish or Syrian attack on the Kurdish territory would have likely meant the death of American troops. This essentially would have made the United States enter a war with the nation that just attacked the Kurds, and be completely justified in doing so.

As such, Turkey knew that they would not be able to successfully attack Kurdistan unless they could first remove the American forces.

After the withdrawal of the 50 troops and the beginning of the Turkish invasion, the Kurds decried Trump's action, according to an Oct. 7 article from Al Jazeera as a "stab in the back." I agree with that sentiment.

They also declared, "We are determined to protect our land at all costs." The Kurds turned to the Assad regime in Syria for

assistance against Turkey, and the Syrian military has been moved towards the border to prevent Turkey from moving any further into Syria.

Russia positioned their troops in between Syria and Turkey to prevent the two nations from fighting. Meanwhile, the United States has agreed to withdraw more troops from the Kurdish area in Syria, which would allow Turkey to invade more of Kurdistan.

Trump also placed steel tariffs on Turkey and is suspending trade talks with them. Vice President Mike Pence and National Security Adviser Robert O'Brien were to negotiate a "ceasefire" between the Turks and Kurds, in which the Turks went on record to say that it was only a "pause" of their invasion.

If we listened to Trump, though, this attack on the Kurds is similar to a schoolyard fight and that "[you] let them fight and then you pull them apart."

This would be the case if it did not cause thousands of deaths and even more instability in the Middle East.

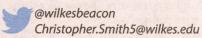
According to a Politico article published Oct. 8, the Kurds hold 11,000 ISIS prisoners in Northern Syria. According to NBC, two Belgian ISIS fighters have already escaped.

This is a dangerous precedent. As Turkey moves further into Syria, the vast number of ISIS prisoners that will be able to escape from the Kurdish prisons are more than enough to create a resurgence in ISIS.

Due to the actions of Trump, the situation in Syria is looking grim as the armies of four nations are converging on one spot. Our ally sits abandoned.

Once again, Trump has embarrassed the United States and its standing on the world stage. Once again, Russia fills the role that would normally be filled by the United States.

While I am against war, I do believe the United States should stand up for its allies. These actions in Kurdistan show that the United States has failed to fulfill its duties as an ally and would instead rather bow its head to the whims and wills of dictators than protect those who have constantly helped in a time of need.





Graphic by Madi Hummer

### Bre's Beats: the featured artists from this month

By Breanna Ebisch Staff Writer

This week in Bre's Beats we're focusing on several pop artists that everyone should listen to this fall. From an ex-boy group member who thrives in constant reinvention, to a country-pop star with an award-winning album, these four featured musicians deserve to be paid attention to.

#### **Harry Styles**

Two years after the release of his debut album which broke records and included heavy rock and pop influences, the former One Direction member is back once again.

With his recent new single "Lights Up," Styles is at the top of the charts and attracting the attention of millions across the world.

But if you're hesitant about listening to the singer because of his days in the worldfamous boy band, abandon those thoughts.

Styles' sound is unique, making him an artist that stands out in today's industry. Leaning more towards the pop genre, the new single has a dreamy sound because of the vocals, steady beat and overall dynamics

of the music.

Proving that there are no existing genre boundaries for music, Styles deserves a spot on your playlist and it's a guarantee you'll fall in love with the irresistible English singer.

#### Julia Michaels

You may not know Julia Michaels by her name, but you would likely recognize some of the endless hits she's written for other well-known artists such as Ed Sheeran, Selena Gomez and Shawn Mendes.

Arguably one of the most talented songwriters today, Michaels has her collection of songs under her belt and continues to produce brilliant music like no one else.

First appearing on the charts with her debut single "Issues" in 2017, she has gradually become an artist that has shaped the industry in more ways than one.

With a strong pop influence, the singer's unmistakable voice gives each song an aspect that can't be found anywhere else.

Her four EPs are perfect examples of how insanely skilled she is, and with time Michaels will grow into an even better singer/ songwriter whose music will immediately pull you in.

#### Ben Platt

Known for unbelievable acting in the Tony Award-winning musical, "Dear Evan Hansen," as the titular high school senior struggling with anxiety, Ben Platt has a remarkable album. Not only is it beautifully written, but it's a true taste of the different sides of pop music.

The plan to release music was announced after Platt left his beloved role on stage and the world immediately fell in love with his soft, raw voice and genuinely emotional lyrics.

#### **Kacey Musgraves**

After winning Album Of The Year at the 2019 Grammys for her record "Golden Hour," Kacey Musgraves is an artist who blends two of the most popular genres today, country and pop, all while creating music that touches thousands of people's hearts.

With a combination of ballads and catchy hits, all of her songs are sure to become some of your new favorites. Between her stunning voice and impressive melodies paired with passionate lyrics, everything this popcountry artist touches is pure gold.

Finding new music can sometimes be a struggle if you don't know where to start but these artists are sure to freshen up your playlist and quickly become your new favorites.



Graphic by Madi Hummer @wilkesbeacon Breanna.Ebisch@wilkes.edu

### Are deadlines pushing students towards plagiarism?

By Sarah Weynand Staff Writer

The future is always on the mind when working towards college degrees. Everyone is looking to graduation and its aftermath; everybody is concerned with the outcome, and who can blame them?

They are constantly told that it's difficult to survive. Many college students are always worrying about grades, extracurricular activities, and extra majors/minors because they would look good on a resume and then they'd get the job they want.

All of these concerns can make a student's workload exhausting and they may struggle to meet a paper or project deadline/requirements. They may scramble a few sources together or even worse, pay a peer to write a paper.

They may think the consequences of a bad grade would be worse than anything. A bad grade means a low GPA and a low GPA means less of a chance of getting a job after college.

Such ideas could scare a diligent

student into committing some academic dishonesty, which causes more harm than good.

Most can agree that plagiarism is not a good decision, but they may feel driven to it by desperation: is it a heavy workload, the sentiment that the work they put in themselves will not be good enough, or a mixture of both?

"Most people on the first day of class don't plan to plagiarize, but semesters get stressful," says Dr. Thomas Hamill, an English professor at Wilkes University. "We haven't managed the workload and then we have a paper due tomorrow.

"Plagiarizing for the sake of the grade is a misunderstanding of the assignment because of the principles of the work."

What's important here is the idea of valuing the work itself more than the outcome of that work. The outcome is just that: an ending point. Plagiarizing for an outcome seems to be a misunderstanding of why that student is willing to go to college and do work in the first place.

Hamill adds, "A grade is one of many

outcomes. The more significant outcome is the work itself. To me, an essay that gets a 2.0 is just as valuable as the essay that gets a 4.0 because the work that went into it produces value. It educates, it disciplines."

Do students complete work in their potential field because of the outcome (which would typically be money) or do they do it because they enjoy the work itself? What is more valuable to them?

It's a question that requires some self-investigation of why students are doing the work that they've chosen, and there is some great truth in Hamill's ideas. The act of doing the work holds more intrinsic and long-term value than the grade itself. Is work only considered such if you don't enjoy it?

Sarah Hoffman, a student with a triple major in math, dance and education, comments, "Overwork is something I've chosen, and all my majors are very time consuming, but something I'm very passionate about. No amount of money can pay you to be miserable at something."

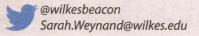
She also adds, "Just because you're good at your major doesn't mean you'll be happy with it. I was an engineer for my whole first year and I was good at it. There were more occupations for engineering majors than there were for math majors."

However, she turned back to math because that was solely what she enjoyed more than engineering. "Pressure is taken off of the work when you enjoy it."

That leads to a consensus that if you are thinking of taking someone's ideas for work, why are you working towards that in the first place?

No matter how much one loves their major, it will always be stressful, but the enjoyment of the work itself and the rewards (aside from money) it brings should make it worth it.

In the end, you're the person you're doing all this work for, so make it worth it, and most importantly: make it yours.



By Neil Murphy & Maddie Davis Opinion Editor, Managing Editor

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On Oct. 4, arguably the best movie of the year got released: Todd Phillips' "Joker." This movie was an experience that I urge everyone to go and see. I would like to warn anyone reading that this article does contain major spoilers for this film.

If you have not seen the film, I would encourage you to watch this film before reading.

This film was incredible. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the movie, "Joker" is a feature-length origin story for one of pop culture's greatest villains, the Joker.

The movie follows the rather disturbing story of Arthur Fleck (Joaquin Phoenix), a wannabe comedian who lives with his ailing mother in a run-down apartment in an impoverished neighborhood in Gotham City. His seemingly narcissistic personality disorder clashes with the negative experiences he encounters resulting in Fleck's descent into madness into the iconic villain we all know and love.

He spirals out of control when he uncovers the truth of his past. He was led to believe by his mother that Penny was his birth mother and that his father left. He then finds out that Thomas Wayne was his birth father and that he left him and his mother when he was younger. Wayne brutally reveals to Arthur that his mom is delusional, and that she was treated at Arkham State Hospital.

After stealing his mother's files from the state hospital, Arthur uncovers more truths that prompt him to kill his mother. He finds out that Penny adopted him and that her boyfriend at the time abused them both.

Arthur continues his murderous fit by killing a coworker and Murray Franklin on his live television show. He is then made an icon by the clown riots within the city.

This is NOT a Batman movie. Unlike the Joker in 2008's "The Dark Knight," Batman is not in this film at all. "Joker" takes place in the late '70s, early '80s. At this point, Bruce Wayne is featured as a child and both of his parents are still alive, until the riots at the end of the movie.

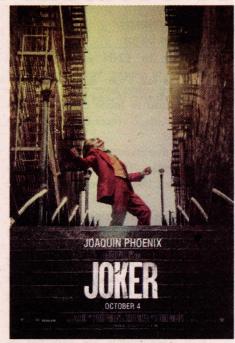
Thomas Wayne plays a crucial role in this movie not only revealing to Arthur his past but by sparking the anti-rich riots throughout the city. This is a story about the Joker and the world that made him.

"Joker" goes above and beyond in this movie to tackle the origin of an iconic character that has a shrouded origin. The movie solely focuses on his view of the world around him. There are scenes where the viewer believes something is happening that is later revealed to be a delusion of his. This movie hits tons of very important topics in our society, which can be interpreted/translated to a lot of political tensions that America is experiencing today.

While the director states that there is no meaning in the movie, there is a lot of symbolism towards modern society.

The movie decided to also take on a very relatable social situation: tensions between the rich and the poor. The rich people are portrayed in this movie as elitists and bullies, while the poor are viewed as lazy.

Stay tuned to next week's issue for an



in-depth analysis of how the 2019 "Joker" adaptation relates to modern society.

@wilkesbeacon Neil.Murphy1@wilkes.edu Madelynn.Davis@wilkes.edu

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Freshmen and all majors welcome!

### Five reasons why young people should register to vote

By Sammi Verespy Asst.Opinion Editor

According to CNN in 2016, only 56 percent of young voters cast their ballot. Young voters have been known to swing elections to incite change yet the millennial/ Gen Z voters do not seem to be interested.

Here are five reasons why young voters should register. The time is now, the change is you. Use your voice and register to vote.

First, young voters bring forth numbers that can outweigh baby boomers, making them a huge political force.

"Millennials are on the cusp of surpassing Baby Boomers as the nation's largest living adult generation, according to population projections from the U.S. Census Bureau." says Pew Research in 2019, "Millennials are expected to overtake Boomers in population in 2019 as their numbers swell to 73 million and Boomers decline to 72 million."

So with that, it is important to look at this as the first time in a long time that there is a chance to derail the Boomer ideals

Young voters going out and registering will push the memo of what the youth believe in. Young voters have an increasing range in where their voice impacts, so the time is now to continue to voice what they believe in. The most effective way to do this is by casting a ballot.

Second, young people need to connect with politics early on.

As previously stated, the youth have often been on the cusp of change. This is not reflected well in today's society. Participating in politics is something that the people before us fought incredibly hard for.

People died for this. People laid out their lives for this. To ignore the sacrifices that were made in order to have this freedom is an ignorant value to have.

According to Politico in 2016, building a relationship with voting early on makes a voter more likely to vote later on. As the saying goes, "Vote early, vote often."

Third, elected officials are more inclined to address issues of importance to young adults if they see a higher voter turnout among our age group.

If you look at the 1964 election, about 51 percent of young voters turned out to the polls. In 2016, that number was lowered to about 30 percent. With that, not voting takes away respect for the group as a demographic.

As seen in many political campaigns, candidates will go where they feel they have the potential to impact and to gain voters.

If it is obvious that young voters do not care, then the political figures will not seek out those groups and address their issues.

Fourth, registering to vote has never been easier.

When you think about registering to vote, many people have this antiquated value of arduous paperwork that has to be mailed in. That could not be further from the truth. To be frank, in Pennsylvania, you can register just about everywhere.

You can register online, off of Facebook links and Wilkes often has voter registration events. Claiming that registration is hard is no longer a valid reason to not register to vote.

Fifth, your vote does matter and your vote does count.

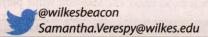
Often, people argue that they do not vote as their vote does not count. All votes are counted and taken into accordance with elections, especially in Congressional/ Senatorial elections.

According to nfty.org, "Fact: George W. Bush won the pivotal state of Florida by only 537 votes, and the 1974 New Hampshire Senate race came down to only 2 votes."

So it is important to keep in mind that your vote is important. Your voice matters.

Voting is a right that young voters have taken for granted for a while now. The time is now to claim elections as ours. The time is now to start taking politics seriously so that political figures will begin to take us seriously.

To register in the state of Pennsylvania, visit www.pavoterservices.pa.gov. From there, select registration. The whole process should take about 10-15 minutes to complete.



### Community' provides fresh look at the college experience

By Nicholas Whitney Staff Writer

What did you expect when you came to college? The exams, the friends, the athletics, the fun? All are common answers. But television has a way of warping those expectations. Enter "Community," the NBC comedy about a community college study group that ran from 2009-2015.

The study group forms like any typical college friend group. The seven members share a class, get together to study and end up becoming friends.

Each following semester they choose another general education class to take together, with each different class providing an underlying theme to its respective season.

Jeff Winger, the leader of the study group and played by Joel McHale, is your typical narcissistic player. A former lawyer, Winger is forced to attend Greendale Community College after it was discovered he faked his bachelor's degree.

He's your average, in-it-for-me kind of to a lot of what goes on around him, while guy that learns to care for his friends and Nadir is film and television nerd who often

essentially develops a soul throughout the course of the show. As the male lead, he's also at the center of several love triangles throughout the series, most notably with fellow student Britta Perry.

Perry, played by Gillian Jacobs, is a high school dropout who spent most of her early twenties being a failed activist. Her character arcs are centered around building self-confidence and figuring out her direction in life. Of course at Greendale, it can never be a straight line, and Britta develops a reputation for making mistakes and being a buzzkill.

The relationship between Jeff and Britta is the main arc of the first season, but the rest of the study group has plenty of hilarious adventures of their own.

By far the best relationship in the show is that between Troy Barnes and Abed Nadir, played by Donald Glover and Danny Pudi respectively. Yes, Childish Gambino was on this show, and yes, he was absolutely hilarious. Barnes is a former high school football star who is reasonably oblivious to a lot of what goes on around him, while Nadir is film and television nerd who often

narrates the study group's antics as if they're on a TV show.

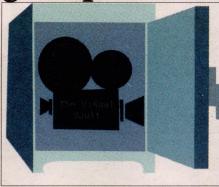
Barnes and Nadir often start the most hilarious adventures, including both campus-wide blanket forts. By far one of the best episodes of the series is the second blanket fort episode, which is told through the context of a History Channel documentary. Barnes and Nadir create opposing blanket/pillow forts and promptly plunge the campus into a civil war between their two creations.

What cannot be overlooked is the presence of two comedy legends in the cast: Ken Jeong and Chevy Chase.

Chase plays Pierce Hawthorne, the 68-year-old multimillionaire and 12 year Greendale student. Hawthorne's fortune comes from his father's company Hawthorne Wipes, a moist towelette empire.

Hawthorne is inherently a racist, sexist, bigot who, after 12 years at the school, finally makes long term friends in the study group. The study group, in turn, helps Pierce become a better, more open-minded person. More or less.

Jeong plays Ben Chang. Initially the



Design by Madi Hummer

Spanish teacher for the study group, Chang is mentally unstable, and this makes for some great television.

Whether it's sabotaging the schoolwide game of paintball assassin, living in the air vents, using his name unnecessarily as a pun, or staging a Napoleon-like military coup to take over the school, Chang will make you laugh in every scene he is in.

So if you're looking for a hilarious show to watch, "Community" is the show for you.

@wilkesbeacon

Nicholas.Whittney@wilkes.edu

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

### NFL: Are the Steelers strong enough to overcome injuries?

By Ariel Reed Staff Writer

As the 2019 NFL season is approaching week seven, it is no secret that the Pittsburgh Steelers have been struggling to overcome the adversity being thrown at them. However, there is no need to fret Steelers fans: There is still hope.

The main problem facing the Steelers is having a healthy roster. Early on, Ben Roethlisberger, the central part of the offense, suffered an elbow injury. This injury, sustained in the second game, has ruled him out for the rest of the season.

Next up is the second-string quarterback, Mason Rudolph. He led the team to a 27-3 victory after Roethlisberger's injury.

Rudolph did not show off his dynamic throwing range for this game, but he proved efficient with his short pass game to secure the Steelers' first win on the season.

He sustained a concussion while playing against the Ravens on Oct. 6. Third-string quarterback Devlin "Duck" Hodges made his NFL debut that evening.

Hodges was able to keep the Steelers in the game, but they succumbed to the power of the Raven's kicker Justin Tucker, who kicked the game-winning field goal to ensure another loss for Pittsburgh.

The Steelers' offense was stuck between a rock and a hard place going into week seven of the NFL regular season. "Big Ben" was out for the season, Rudolph was severely concussed and the fate of the Steelers' offense fell into the hands of Hodges.

Hodges took a similar route that Rudolph did in his first NFL start. He used several short, quick passes to lift the Steelers over the Pages

The question is, though, which back-up quarterback best suits their offensive line? Rudolph has a good arm, which makes wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster more of a weapon. Hodges, however, is smaller than Rudolph and is shiftier in the run game.

Besides the Steelers' slew of quarterback problems, the Steelers also have had to juggle injuries surrounding some of their key offensive players: Smith-Schuster, James Conner and Sean Davis.

Connor and Smith-Schuster's injuries have not been bad enough to rule them

out of games, but missing one of these instrumental players could throw their entire offense off balance.

Davis sustained a torn labrum in the second game of the Steelers' season. This injury has him out until at least week 11 due to the extensiveness of the recovery process.

After Davis' injury, the Steelers knew they needed to replace what he brought to the table on the defensive side.

With this in mind, the Steelers traded a 2020 first-round draft pick to the Dolphins for Minkah Fitzpatrick, who is talented enough to possibly keep his starting position even when Davis returns.

**Steelers** 

The Steelers have struggled for the first six weeks in the NFL regular season. Their current record 2-4, and they are ranked third in the AFC North. They should not be ruled out playoff contenders, though.

They have shown that they can

battle and contend with tougher opponents (except against the Patriots in week one).

Under the Sunday night lights at Gillette Stadium, there was concern with whether or not Roethlisberger and his offense could survive after the loss of Antonio Brown and Le'Veon Bell. With the Patriots' defense holding Rothlisberger and company to three points, it was evident that the offense was lackluster without their lost offensive pieces.

In the second week of the NFL season, the Steelers battled with the most tenacious NFL team, the San Francisco 49ers.

On average the 49ers have beaten their opponents by 17 points, yet they only beat the Steelers by four. The defensive strength

of the Steelers' line is what kept them in close contention with their opponent.

The Steelers have fallen to their tougher opponents by an average of three points if we discount their first blowout game against the Patriots.

Their defense has remained steady through the chaos of the offensive lineup.

The power of their defensive lineup is centered around Cameron Heyward, Stephon Tuitt and Javon Hargrave.

Heyward is great at his work. He has developed into a better lineman

throughout his career in football. When he first entered the league he "lived in the shadows," but now he is a powerhouse at stopping the run.

Tuitt, on the other hand, has had a lot of worry surrounding whether he is an overrated o r

underrated player. However, his

winning mentality can be demonstrated through the fact that he shows up and works diligently.

Tuitt is arguably the best run defender on the Steelers. His stat line for sacks is lackluster, but his ability to put pressure on the quarterback has been overlooked.

Hargrave is rapidly materializing as a known defensive lineman on the team. Hargrave's game is different from Tuitt's, who uses his power and size to bewilder offensive linemen while Hargrave uses a quick burst and a set of hand moves to get to the quarterback. Hargrave also improved his overall grade from 69.1 to 86.2 in the second half of last season. He has proven to be an important cog in the Steeler game.

Other noteworthy defensive players are Tyson Alualu, Daniel McCullers and Isaiah Buggs. These three have had the greatest impact on keeping the Steelers in playoff contention.

Although the start of the season has been unfortunate, they may be able to remain in playoff contention because of the AFC North's status. The Bengals do not pose a threat while the Ravens and the Browns have shown their set of weaknesses.

The Steelers losing to the Ravens isn't the end-all-be-all. They are past the hardest part of their schedule, so attaining the title of AFC North Champions is not impossible.

It is an uphill battle for Pittsburgh, but if they can right the ship and get things going, they can become a playoff team.



Are the Steelers capable of making the playoffs?

Ariel Reed Staff Writer Yes.

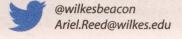
Ben Mandell Co-Sports Editor No.

Kirsten Peters Co-Sports Editor Yes.

Kevin Singhel Asst. Sports Editor No.

Maddie Davis Managing Editor

Parker Dorsey News Editor No.



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### NHL: Top picks Hughes, Kakko ignite "Hudson River Rivalry"

By Ben Mandell & Thomas Leone Co-Sports Editor, Contributor

The NHL season is upon us, and with this season's return, perhaps one of the league's best rivalries returns as well.

The Hudson River rivalry flourished through the early 2000s, especially when Henrik Lundqvist and Martin Brodeur squared off. The rivalry between the Rangers and the Devils was especially heated, with a short 15-minute train ride separating their stadiums. The fans for both teams are dispersed throughout the New York and New Jersey area, making tensions run high when these teams are competing.

This year, it appears that good offseasons have catapulted these teams into the playoff conversation. Although many people think the Rangers and the Devils are too young to make a run at the Stanley Cup, they will at least prove to be difficult competition.

For both fan bases, there are different views on the rivalry. As a lifelong Rangers fan, Thomas Leone's perspective differs from Ben Mandell's, a lifelong Devils fan.

#### Rangers

The Rangers have found a way to rejuvenate their fanbase for the 2019-2020 season after a commendable offseason. Being two years removed from a streak of making the playoffs 12 out of 13 years, having three Eastern Conference Final (ECF) appearances and one Stanley Cup appearance has made Rangers fans eager for another impressive season.

The team released a statement two years ago that they were beginning a rebuild, keeping the future in mind and noting that it would

take time to reach an impressive status again.

Considering the Rangers were forward with their fans, it allowed them to buy-in on the rebuild. Rather than being pessimistic about the possibility of not being a relevant hockey team for four or five years, the Rangers changed their approach this summer and went for younger players.

They traded for the best college hockey player in 2018, defenseman Adam Fox. Then the Rangers proceeded with trading for one of the top defensemen in the league with Jacob Trouba, signed the best free agent of this year's class with winger Artemi Panarin and took winger Kaapo Kakko in the second overall

Adding these players to the Rangers' already young arsenal of Mika Zibanejad, Chris Kreider and Pavel Buchnevich made Rangers fans optimistic about becoming relevant again.

There was just one problem -- their competitor over the Hudson was attempting to outdo every one of the Rangers' moves. The Devils winning the draft lottery and beating the Rangers out for that first pick was frustrating for a franchise that was competing with a rival during a rebuild.

Trading for P.K. Subban, a player who has had success against the Rangers, and then signing Wayne Simmonds and trading for Nikita Gusev continued to make tensions rise.

The Devils made all of their moves seemingly right after the Rangers made theirs. If the Rangers traded for a defenseman, the Devils traded for one as well.

Due to this summer, this rivalry will be great for years to come. It will now be Hughes against Kakko, Subban against Trouba and

Taylor Hall against Panarin.

The moves that were made, no more than a couple of weeks away from each other, can change each franchise for decades. This is an exciting time for Devils and Rangers fans in the tri-state area.

Have the Devils gotten a little too much hype this offseason? Probably. But that's a general consensus for most Rangers fans. Have the Rangers have gotten just as good if not better with adding Kakko, Trouba and Panarin instead of Hughes, Subban and Simmonds? Possibly. Devils fans probably feel the same way about their three players. Once again, it's just another reason to state that the rivalry is back and it's going to be a good one for fans.

#### Devils

Since the Devils lost to the Los Angeles Kings in the Stanley Cup in 2012, Devils fans haven't had much to cheer about. The post-Brodeur years were a struggle for New Jersey, as it took them until the 2017-2018 season to make the playoffs again and that was shortlived after the Tampa Bay Lightning needed just five games to knockout New Jersey.

The Devils took a step back last year with Hall missing most of the season, but an exciting summer has the fans invested. The Rangers also made noise this offseason and it has Devils fans ready to face their biggest

Adding Subban, Gusev, Simmonds and Hughes to Hall, Nico Hischier, Kyle Palmieri, Jesper Bratt, Blake Coleman, Damon Severson and Will Butcher will make for an exciting core for the future.

As every Rangers fan likes to point out, New

York has had more success against the Devils, but it doesn't have that feel to it. The 2012 ECF remains fresh in the minds of Devils fans, with the anniversary of Henrique's game-winning goal in game six being named "Henrique Day." It was the last time these teams met in the postseason, but that can be credited to the lack of recent success for New Jersey.

There is no love lost between both of these teams, but as we ring in the Hughes-Kakko era, both teams look to prove that they picked the better player.

The teams both met on Wednesday, and it was the Devils who took round one, 5-2. The game was evenly matched and both teams opted to use their backup goalies. MacKenzie Blackwood shined for the Devils, making multiple tough saves that kept New Jersey in the game. Alexandar Georgiev also had dazzling moments, but let in a couple of goals one would expect Henrik Lundqvist to make.

On the season, it was the Devils first win, putting them to 1-4-2 through seven games. It hasn't been a pretty start for New Jersey, which has included three blown leads of 4-0, 3-2 and 4-1. The first win should give them some confidence, but the team still needs to pile up some wins.

The Rangers are now 2-2-0 through four games after winning their first two.

It is fair to expect both of these teams to improve as the new veterans mesh with the young talents that both of these teams brought in. The top teams in the Eastern Conference may not include New York or New Jersey, but the future definitely does.



@wilkesbeacon Benjamin.Mandell@wilkes.edu

#### **Cross Country** (Men & Women) 8/30 vs. PSU-Hazleton, W 3-0 9/28 @ Farmingdale State, W 3-1 \*10/2 @ Delaware Valley, W 3-0

8/30 @ Misericordia Invite, 4th & 3rd 9/15 @ Queensborough Invite, 10 a.m., Both 3rd 9/20 @ Elizabethtown College Short Course

10/5 @ Paul Short Invite (Lehigh), 31st &

10/12 @ Golden Eagle Invite (St. Joseph's), 7th & 3rd 10/19 @ Hood College Invite, 7th & 4th 11/2 MAC Championships (Hood),

11/9 ECAC Championship (Mount Saint

11/16 NCAA Mid East Regional (Lehigh), 11 a.m.

8/31 @ Penn, L 3-0 8/31 @ Clarks Summit, L 3-2 8/31 @ Lycoming, L 3-2 9/3 @ Lancaster Bible, L 3-1 9/5 @ Marywood, L 3-2 9/7 vs. Albright, W 3-0 9/7 @ Wilson, W 3-1 9/10 vs. Keystone, W 3-0 9/14 vs. Cedar Crest, W 3-0 9/14 vs. PSU-Harrisburg, L 3-1 \*9/18 @ Stevens, L 3-0 9/21 @ Clarks Summit, W 3-0 9/21 @ Rutgers-Camden, L 3-0 \*9/24 vs. FDU-Florham, W 3-0 9/27 @ Wesley, L 3-1

10/5 @Neumann, L 3-0 10/5 @ Widener, L 3-0 \*10/8 vs. Eastern, L 3-1 \*10/16 @ King's, L 3-0 10/19 @ New Jersey City, W 3-0 \*10/22 vs. DeSales, 7 p.m. \*10/30 vs. Misericordia, 7 p.m. 11/2 vs. Cazenovia, 11 a.m. \*Denotes MAC Freedom match

Field Hockey 8/30-31 @ CHC, W 2-1 (OT)/ L 4-1 9/4 vs. Keystone, W 3-1 9/7 vs. Widener, L 2-1 9/11 @ Cedar Crest, W 4-2 9/14 vs. Alvernia, L 3-2 9/18 vs. Moravian, W 1-0 9/23 vs. Bryn Athyn, W 7-0 9/25 @ U. of Scranton, L 3-0 \*9/28 @ Eastern, W 3-2 10/2 vs. Elizabethtown, 1 1-0(OT) \*10/4 vs. DeSales, L 3-2 \*10/11 @ FDU-Florham, L 3-2 10/15 @ Marywood, L 3-2 (20T) \*10/23 @ King's, 7 p.m. \*10/26 vs. Delaware Valley, 1 p.m.

### Colonels athletics in brief: Wilkes' comeback defeats Eagles

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EDWARDSVILLE, PA – The Wilkes women's soccer team found themselves in a double-overtime conference thriller against the Eastern Eagles on their Senior Day, Saturday afternoon.

The Colonels (5-6-1, 2-2 MAC Freedom) snapped their two-game conference dramatically losing streak, tying the game in the last minutes of regulation before taking home the victory in double overtime against the Eastern Eagles (7-6-1,

2-1-1 MAC Freedom).
Senior Jessica Egan opened the scoring in the ninth minute, with a chip shot to take a 1-0 lead after some excellent ball work from fellow senior Haley Evans. The Eagles took early control of the match, however, with Nicole Weenink putting home a shot from the right side of the box into the goal in the 21st minute and then breaking away from the Colonel's defenders to notch her second goal in the 20th minute.

The Eagles outshot the Colonels 10-6 in the first half, but the tables turned in the second. The Wilkes defense held the Eagles to only two shots in the second period, which bought enough time for late-game heroics from the Egans. In the 88th minute, senior Emily Egan passed it to sister Jessica Egan who put it home for her second goal of the day and Emily Egan's first assist to tie the game up and send it into overtime.

Neither team budged in the first overtime, but the Colonels put away the game in second overtime. They outshot the Eagles 4-0 in the final minutes, the last shot being senior Delfina Bracchi's game-

winning goal into the upper left corner at the 108th minute to take home a key conference victory on Senior Day.

Bracchi led all Wilkes scorers with four shots on the evening, while Jessica Egan had three of her own. Senior goalkeeper Samantha Cecere had four saves in a victorious effort.

FIELD HOCKEY Wilkes 1, Stevens 0 Zoe Stepanski's penalty stroke goal with less than ten minutes to play in the fourth quarter proved to be the difference as host Wilkes University escaped with a MAC Freedom victory over Stevens University Saturday afternoon at Schmidt Stadium.

With the win, Wilkes improved to 9-7 overall and evened its conference mark at 2-2. Stevens dropped to 9-6 overall and 2-2 in league games.

The teams went scoreless through the first three quarters and into the final frame with Stevens controlling most of the play in its offensive end outshooting Wilkes 21-3 throughout.

Damgaard recorded her second career shutout making several game-saving stops including the big one late in the fourth.

#### MEN'S SOCCER

Eastern 2, Wilkes 1, 2OT

Senior Kyle Bentz tied the game in the 79th minute for the Wilkes University men's soccer team on Senior Day at Bruggeworth Field but it was siting Eastern University that scored the gamewinner 2:05 into the second overtime period to leave with the Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom (MAC Freedom) victory Saturday afternoon.

Wilkes dropped to 6-6-2 overall and 1-3-0 in the MAC Freedom while Eastern improved to 8-7-1 overall and remained unblemished in conference play at 4-0-0.

Wilkes pressed for the go-ahead goal in regulation as they had the next three shot attempts in the game off the feet of Seth Fowler, Matthew Horwedel and Cole Hefner.

#### Mikovich Sets School All-Time Kills Record

Senior opposite hitter Jamey Mikovich broke the Colonel's all-time kills record in the match against New Jersey City, surpassing the previous mark set, by Marissa Harrison of 1,329 kills. Mikovich now has 1,350 kills.



The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

Senior Emily Egan jumps for the ball in the Colonels Sept. 21 contest against Arcadia. This past Saturday, E. Egan passed to sister Jessica Egan for the second goal of Wilkes' overtime thriller against Eastern.

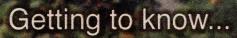
# Men's Soccer 8/30 vs. PSU-Berks, W 4-1 9/2 vs. McDaniel, L 1-0 (2 OT) 9/7 @ Moravian, L 2-1 (OT) FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES Women's Soccer 8/30 vs. PSU-Berks, W 2-1 9/14 vs. Lebanon Valley, W 30-24 9/17 @ RIT L 2-1

9/2 vs. McDaniel, L 1-0 (2 OT)
9/7 @ Moravian, L 2-1 (OT)
9/11 @ Clarks Summit, W 5-0
9/14 @ Haverford, TIE 0-0 (2 OT)
9/18 vs. Susquehanna, W 1-0
9/21 vs. Keystone, TIE 1-1 (2 OT)
9/25 @ U. of Scranton, W 3-2
9/28 @ Immaculata, L 3-2
\*10/5 vs. FDU-Florham, W 2-1
10/9 @ Hartwick, W 4-0
\*10/12 @ Stevens, L 4-0
\*10/16 @ Misericordia, L 3-1
\*10/19 vs. Eastern, L 2-1 (2OT)
\*10/22 vs. King's, 7 p.m.
\*10/26 @ DeSales, 3 p.m.
10/29 vs. Penn, 7 p.m.
\*11/2 @ Delaware Valley, 1 p.m.
\*Denotes MAC Freedom match

\*9/21 @ Lycoming, W 24-17 (2 OT)
\*10/5 vs. Alvernia, W 45-12
\*10/12 @ Albright, W 42-0
\*10/19 vs. #16 Delaware Valley,
L 42-0
\*10/26 @ Misericordia, 1 p.m.
\*11/2 vs. FDU-Florham, 1 p.m.
x\*11/9 vs. Stevenon, noon
y\*11/16 @ King's, noon
\*Denotes MAC match
x-Senior Day
y-Mayor's Cup

9/4 vs. Ithaca, TIE 0-0
9/7 @ RIT, L 2-1
9/11 vs. William Paterson, POST
9/14 vs. Bard, W 3-0
9/18 @ Susquehanna, L 3-0
9/21 vs. No. 19 Arcadia, L 3-0
9/24 vs. U. of Scranton, L 3-2
9/28 @ Marywood, W 4-0
\*10/5 vs. FDU-Florham, W 3-1
\*10/12 @ Stevens, L 2-0
\*10/15 @ Misericordia, L 4-0
\*10/19 vs. Eastern, W 3-2 (OT)
\*10/23 vs. King's, 7 p.m.
\*10/26 @ DeSales, noon
10/29 @ Oneonta, 3 p.m.
\*11/2 @ Delaware Valley, 7 p.m.
\*Denotes MAC Freedom match

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## **Zachary Nesheiwat**

### Junior Football Player

The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week Oct. 6 to Oct. 12 Why Zachary Nesheiwat was selected: Nesheiwat secured the game-

saving interception late in the fourth quarter in Wilkes' thrilling 42-40 victory over Albright College on Oct. 12. His performance earned him the MAC Defensive Player of the Week honor.

Name: Zack Nesheiwat Year: Junior Major: Finance Hometown: Hackettstown, N.J. High School: Hackettstown HS Position: Cornerback

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

I came to Wilkes for the business school and for sports. I felt that there was a good combination of both that worked best for me.

Post-graduation plans in terms of a career?

I would like to join the New Jersey State Police.

Favorite building on campus?
Pearsall because that's where I lived my

freshman year.

What came first? The chicken or the egg?

Obviously, the chicken.

Hopes for this season as a Colonel?

I hope to continue to go 1-0 each week and win the MAC.

When/Why did you first begin playing? I started playing when I was in elementary school. Football was always something my family and I were interested in, so I started to play as soon as I could.

Favorite thing to do during practice?

If you had to choose one thing about your program that you could improve, what would it be?

I think the program should continue to preach playing your 1/11th and play for the guys around you. That has been a big part of our success the past few years to build a positive environment.

Other interests or hobbies off of the field?

Off of the field, I like to play video games and make fun of my roommate Jordan Jones with Josh Fitzsimmons.

Most influential person(s) in your life?

My parents are the most influential people in my life. They always have my back with the decisions I make and are always there to support me.

If you could have dinner with a famous person from the past, who would it be?

Elvis Presley. Then, we could get a free meal.

Favorite Professor? Dr. Frear.

Coke or Pepsi? Cherry Coke.

Favorite meal to eat on campus? Grilled cheese.

A quote you live your life by? "What else?" - Big C

What does "Be Colonel" mean to you? Being a Colonel means to get your one percent every day. Simply, it means to get better in everything you do each day.

Anyone to give a shout-out to? Shout-out to all my North Jersey guys, you know who I'm talkin about.

-Compiled by Kirsten Peters, Co-Sports

Editor's note: Athlete of the Week selections are determined by the sports staff each week. At the end of the academic year, we will post a reader poll on Twitter @WilkesBeacon to crown an "Athlete of the Year."

The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

Getting to know...

Karlye Huffman Sophomore Volleyball Player

specific-given goal.

The Beacon: Female Athlete of the Week Oct. 5 to Oct. 12

Why Karlye Huffman was selected: Huffman recorded 72 assists and 12 digs over the course of three contests. Despite three losses, Huffman proved to be a standout player for the Colonels, recording 35 assists and 5 digs in the final contest of the week against Eastern University.

Name: Karlye Huffman Year: Sophomore Major: Business Management Hometown: Wyaulsing, Pa. High School: Wyalusing Valley HS Position: Setter

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

When I first came on campus, it felt like home. What the school had to offer for my education was exactly what I wanted as well.

Post graduation plans in terms of a career?

After graduating from Wilkes, I want to come out of college with a job already lined up. At this time, however, I am not exactly sure what type of job I want that to be.

Favorite building on campus?

What came first? The chicken or the

The egg.

Hopes for this season as a Colonel? As a team, our goal is to make conference playoffs and/or get a bid in ECAC Conference.

When/Why did you first begin playing?

I have two older sisters that both played volleyball, so I was always around the sport. Both of my parents were also coaches, so I couldn't escape the sport and I always enjoyed playing

Favorite thing to do during practice? Competitive games that result in a

Other interests or hobbies off of the

Hunting, kayaking and anything that involves being outdoors.

Most influential person(s) in your life?

My mother. She has shown me how to be a strong person each and every day, no matter what you are going through in life.

If you could have dinner with a famous person from the past, who would it be? Betty White.

Favorite professor? Professor Pyke.

Coke or Pepsi? Pepsi.

Favorite meal to eat on campus? Thanksgiving dinner in the SUB.

A quote you live your life by? "Just believe."

What does "Be Colonel" mean to you? "Be Colonel" means to be able to work together and have each other's back no matter what.

Anyone to give a shout-out to? I would like to give a shout-out to my volleyball family and my family back

-Compiled by Kirsten Peters, Co-Sports



taff each week. At the end of the academic year, we will post a reader poll

The Bearon, Kirsten Peters

on Twitter @WilkesBeacon to crown an "Athlete of the Year.

#### FB: Unbeaten no more; Wilkes takes first loss of season to Del Val

**By Kirsten Peters** Co-Sports Editor

EDWARDSVILLE, Pa. -- In a game where both teams were undefeated in the MAC conference, one team was bound to lose and tarnish their spotless record. On Saturday, the Colonels were knocked off their 5-0 pedestal and felt the sting of No. 16 Delaware Valley University's 42-0 blowout.

Simply put, the Colonels' game play can be summed up into six words of head coach Jonathan Drach's: "Obviously, we didn't play very well."

Following the Colonels' 42-40 victory over Albright College last week, the momentum was mounting and the pressure was there against Del Val, who has been undefeated in conference play dating back to 2016.

"The pressure was getting to us," said junior wide reciever Nick Yanik. "Honestly, we were just in our heads and weren't playing our game. When we don't focus on our own type of style, we're not going to be successful."

Considering the Colonels couldn't place a single point on the board, Del Val had some tricks up their sleeve that Wilkes was not prepared for -- the main one being the Aggies'

"Defensively speaking, No. 10 (wide receiver

Aaron Nelson) was by far their fastest kid on the field. He was running circles, and their whole receiving core was just very speedy," said defensive back Zack Nesheiwat. "They can't do a traditional offense with that skill, so they looked for big plays to get their speed to the outside, and that's what we struggled with."

Nesheiwat and Yanik also noted the aggressive nature of their opponent, with a lot of smack talk and smash-mouth football accompanying the game on the turf.

As for Wilkes' stat line, the Colonels posted a meek 80 yards passing and 20 yards rushing. Compared to their opponent, quarterback Anthony Fontana completed 22 out of 30 pass attempts for 242 yards, three passing touchdowns and one rushing.

"It's devasting, but it gives us that fire," said Nesheiwat. "Next week, we have the same thing coming up with Misericordia being undefeated in the MAC as well. Hopefully, we can turn the tides and give them a loss to put our name back in the MAC talk."

Yanik echoed Nesheiwat, citing the loss as a wake up call that makes next week's away contest a must-win game to retain any chance of a bowl game or playoff contention.



@wilkesbeacon Kirsten.Peters@wilkes.edu



The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

Sophomore fullback Jeremiah Acker was held by a swarm of Aggie defenders in a moment that depicts the tone of the game with the Wilkes being trumped by Del Val.



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