



THE BEACON

Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

"The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow."

Students celebrate a successful Block Party



One of the many faces at Block Party, Wilkes staple Tony "the Grill Guy" Wallace placed fresh patties on the grill to ensure that everyone in attendance got their free meal. For more photos, see page 6.

The Beacon/Ariel Reed

All Belgium victorious in tecBRIDGE's collegiate division, wins first place



Photo courtesy of Nick Godfrey

The Kirby Center hosted tecBRIDGE's 20th Annual Business Plan Competition awards ceremony on Thursday, April 23. The first place winner was All Belgium, the waffle food truck owned and operated by Toon De Schepper and Billy Berry, ice hockey athletes.

The organization aims to improve and encourage business innovation for local businesses in the area. With that in mind, tecBRIDGE awarded All Belgium a 10 thousand dollar cash award and a 90 thousand dollar award for business operations.

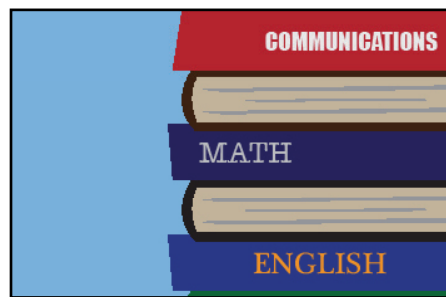
From left to right: John Barrett; Toon De Schepper, All Belgium co-owner; Jimmy O'Kane; Billy Berry, All Belgium co-owner.



GSA hosts first live drag show since pandemic in 2020, page 5



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News

Have a breaking story or a press release to send? Contact the news editor Maddy Kinard: Madelynn.Kinard@wilkes.edu

Student Government notes: April 20 weekly meeting

By Zach Paraway
News Staff Writer

Student Government began in traditional fashion with a call to order and roll being taken. The treasurer's report stated that there is a total of \$48,026.81 across all SG accounts.

The first order of business was week one of two for WEBS fund request. It was presented by Ada Soriano. WEBS, Women Empowered By Science, holds a summer camp every July on campus for middle school and high school girls in the area. The idea of the program is to get young women interested in STEM focused careers that tend to be dominated by men. They asked for \$2,500 in order to send 10 students to camp for free. The request will be voted on next week.

The second order of business was week

two of two for Kappa Psi fund request. The Kappa Psi fraternity is the oldest and largest pharmacy fraternity in America. Wilkes is known as the Delta Omicron Chapter. They came to ask for \$15,580 in order to attend the 60th Grand Council Convention. The request was approved for \$9,000.

The third order of business was a Commuter Council constitution update. It was presented by Kimberly Bailey, vice president. New requirements now state that members must attend 50 percent of the meetings and the e-board must now be a part of the

general board.

The fourth order of business was an allocation to the 2022 to 2023 club fund.

This was done by the secretary council, which is made up of all the class secretaries and the student body president. This makes up the funds for SG, the mega councils and many of the student funds.

The fifth order of business was week two of two for the block party fund

request. Block Party was Apr. 22 and was a campus-wide event for students. It was co-sponsored by SG and Programming Board. The request for materials was

\$6,000, which was allocated.

The sixth order of business was week two of two for the programming board food truck budget request. It was presented by Student Body President Lexi Payne. The food trucks are to coincide with the live concert of Two Friends performing on campus on Apr. 30. The request was for \$2,000 for the food truck Full Throttle. The request was approved for the full amount.

Next week will be the first meeting for any new members that got voted in over the last election.

The next and final SG meeting will occur Wed., April 30.



Beacon Briefs: Upcoming campus events

Compiled by Beacon News Staff

Parking Applications Open

Commuter and resident student parking applications have opened for the fall 2022 semester starting April 4 online.

The deadline to complete applications will be 4 p.m. June 30.

For those interested in Ralston, note so in the comments sections.

Any applications submitted later than the deadline will not go under review. Applications will not reopen once closed.

For any questions, call 570-408-7275.

Are you a member of the class of 2022?

If yes, the Office of Advancement and Alumni Relation encourages you to attend the First Farewell from 7 to 9 p.m. April 29, under the tent outside Weckesser Hall.

Food, a DJ and more will be provided. Attire is casual and attendees are able to purchase their senior class gift.

To register and make a gift, QR codes are available in the April 22 Wilkes, Today email.

Scholarship Availability

The American Association of University Women, Harrisburg branch, announced four college scholarships that are available to women from Dauphin, Cumberland and Perry County who are pursuing degrees in the 2022 to 2023 academic year.

Applications must be postmarked by July 15.

For more information about the different scholarship requirements, visit the April 19 Wilkes, Today email. Any questions can be directed to the AAUW Scholarship Committee at HbgAAUWScholarship@gmail.com

Buy a Tote Bag

Green Giants tote bags are an affordable, sustainable and durable alternative to plastic and are being sold for ten dollars each.

The bags come in two designs: the Wilkes logo and blue butterflies.

Students looking to purchase one should watch out for them in the Student Union Building, the Simms Center, or DM them on Instagram @greengiantstotEBags to place an order.

90 percent of proceeds go to Little Eric's Foundation, a local organization that funds pediatric cancer research.

Memorial Concert Honoring Professor Emeritus Steven Thomas

A memorial concert honoring Steven Thomas, late music professor, will be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 1 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

The public is invited to attend and will be required to follow St. Stephen's protocols for masking and social distancing.

If you would like to attend or perform, register through the Mar. 18 Wilkes, Today email.

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Upcoming Events: 2022 Spring Semester

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Want your event featured in the calendar?
Email: Madelynn.Kinard@wilkes.edu

Earth Conservancy files archived by Megan Novak

By Sydney Umstead
News Staff Writer

The Earth Conservancy Archive files have now been processed by first-year environmental science student Megan Novak. The files take place from 1963 until 2001, the bulk being from 1988 to 2001. Novak has since uploaded a blog post that highlights information in the archive.

Novak began working on processing the archive in October 2021. Library archivist Suzanna Calev reached out to Novak that summer asking if she would be interested in working on the archive since she is an environmental science major and a part of the honors program. While not required, Novak worked to conduct interviews with professors who were involved in the conservation organization.

“The whole project hits close to home when you see remediation being completed in an area you grew up in; my favorite part was seeing remediation having been completed in areas I drive by all the time,” said Novak.

Novak went through all the information and categorized them into many different series. Each document then was put into folders and numbered based on boxes they would go into. The task of completing the archive transpired over the course of six months. This includes Novak’s time receiving donations from professors and documenting that, as well as writing the blog post.

“These were files that were donated by Paul Adams and Harlod Cox from the President’s Office; they were part of the Christopher Breiseth papers,” said Calev.

The organization was officially established in 1992, but was indirectly created following the Knox Mine Disaster in 1959. The disaster was caused by illegal digging under the Susquehanna River in Jenkins Township, Pa., and 12 miners died in the disaster due to flooding.

Former congressman Paul Kanjorski and Wilkes’s fourth president, Christopher Breiseth, started to build a team that would clean up the land

previously owned by the Blue Coal Company, which shut down in 1976. The board of directors featured many members of Wilkes faculty and was chaired by Dr. Christopher Breiseth from 1992 to 2001.

Dr. Kenneth Klemow, professor and chair of biology, recounts how he and three of his colleagues were called into the office of the previous dean of the school of science and engineering, Dr. Umid Nejib, who told them he received a call from Paul Kanjorski, inviting them to attend a meeting he was holding to propose his plan to clean up mine damage across the Wyoming Valley and beyond.

The first part of the meeting consisted of Kanjorski informing them and a smaller group of people about his plans to begin the organization. The second part consisted of Kanjorski taking them alongside journalists and news stations to a wetland, where he informed Klemow that he wanted him and his colleagues to work together to do this.

“There are so many stories and things that happened along the way,” said Klemow. “I think some could write a book about the way that science interacts with the public.”

Originally, the organization faced pushback from the public. Klemow noted how many were afraid of the water jet technology being used clean out nuclear bombs and that radioactive residue being put into the constructed wetlands. This could not have been further from the truth, but the board members and people of Hanover township had made up their mind.

At first, they refused the proposal. This was until a local journalist wrote an editorial praising both Kanjorski and Wilkes for their proposal that would construct wetlands, reclaim land disturbed by coal mining, map out the mine impacted land and water and develop water jet technology. The proposal was then passed and they began their work.

In order to view Novak’s reflections and the link to the earth conservancy files collection, go the April 2022 section at: wuarchives.home.blog



Christopher Brieseth (left) and Paul Kanjorski (right) stand before the Blue Coal Company, which previously owned their team dedicated to cleaning up the land.



Dr. Dale Bruns, late dean of the college of science and engineering, with students. Bruns taught classes like aquatic ecology and water pollution ecology.

Photos courtesy of the Wilkes University archives

Weekly global coffee hour holds benefit for Ukraine

By Fen Farnelli
Staff Writer

On April 21, The Center for Global Education and Diversity Initiatives hosted a benefit for Ukraine as a part of their Global Coffee Hour event.

The benefit featured a Zoom presentation from speaker Dr. Andreea Maieran, assistant professor of political science and study abroad coordinator at Wilkes. Additionally, students could donate to Ukraine and tie-dye a shirt in the colors of the Ukrainian flag.

Maieran's presentation covered the current situation in Ukraine, the distinctions between refugees and immigrants and what is being done at the border to help refugees.

"The whole conversation is obviously sad but the type of solidarity we have seen since the crisis also gives us hope," said Maieran. "The government took their time but the population organized almost immediately almost the night it happened. The moment refugees crossed the border someone would provide them with food and shelter."



Photo courtesy Starr Sandt

Students tie-dye shirts in the Savitz Lounge during the global coffee hour.

Maieran closed her presentation with advice for Wilkes students who wish to help, stating that the most important thing they can do is what they were doing today: hosting the event and collecting donations.

The benefit was organized by Mary Ellen McLean and Crystal Cool of the Diversity Affairs Department, which

hosts Global Coffee hours weekly on Wednesdays in Savitz Lounge.

"After following the news stories of the atrocities taking place in Ukraine, I was compelled to find a way to help," said McLean. "The Global Coffee Hour seemed like the perfect avenue for a benefit, which would unite our international and American students

with the global concern for the people of Ukraine.

"Dr. Andreea was more than happy to offer to do a Zoom presentation on the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. In addition, she provided links for agencies providing relief for Ukraine and her connections with people aiding refugees on the border with Romania. As usual, the entire staff at the Center for Global Education and Diversity Initiatives came together as one to plan the details. I'm grateful that the Global Coffee hour is able to provide a way to help the people of Ukraine."

Starr Sandt, first-year psychology major who helped organize the event, saw the event as a great way to help raise awareness for what is happening in Ukraine. She hopes that the event was able to attract attention amongst the student body and help boost motivation for those to donate in any way possible.

An additional discussion on the Ukrainian crisis with professors from Wilkes will be held on Thursday at 2:30 p.m., the location currently to be determined.

School of pharmacy holds annual dean's golf tournament

By Zach Paraway
News Staff Writer

On May 19, the School of Pharmacy will host its 20th annual dean's golf tournament. The event takes place before the hooding ceremony and commencement, where students who finished their Ph.D. or master's degree are rewarded in ritual for their hard work in completing the program.

The event is open to all Wilkes students, staff, faculty and alumni. This gives people of the community a chance to golf with the dean of the School of Pharmacy, Dr. Scott Stolte. He, along with Dr. Marie Thomas, associate professor and chair of pharmaceutical sciences, have done the event for many years.

The event costs \$125 to current Wilkes students and \$150 to all other students. All proceeds from the event go to funding many of the scholarships

offered by the pharmacy department.

"We are proud of our students and how they give back to the community in many ways. It is rewarding to hold an event that allows us to give back to them," said Stolte.

This is the first time the event will be held since the COVID-19 shutdown began in 2020. This event allows for past students and staff members to come back and see colleagues after a long period of time. Both Thomas and Stolte stated that they loved that the event is back after the past two years and that they can meet many of their late students and colleagues.

Not only do they both do the event as a way to raise money for scholarships for students, but they also find great joy in the event and getting outside with even their current students. Stolte expressed how a lot of times students and teachers are used to this one-way relationship and do not meet outside of the classroom.

He sees this event as a way to bridge the gap and he takes pleasure in it. He did, however, note his lackluster golfing abilities.

"I am horrible. I mean, truly terrible," said Stolte. "I am so bad that I do not even play. I will spend the day on my golf cart going from group to group talking to people and making sure they

have everything they need. Even if I was a good golfer, I think I would choose to spend the day that way. There's no risk of bad shots or missed putts for me."

The event is set to take place at the Mountain Laurel Golf Club in White Haven. The form is available on wilkes.edu or in the Today at Wilkes email from April 18.



Photo courtesy Dr. Marie Thomas

Attendees participated in the last held golf tournament before the shutdown in 2020.

GSA brings back drag show, raises awareness

By Maddy Kinard
News Editor

On April 22, the Gender and Sexuality Alliance held its first annual drag show since the pandemic started in 2020.

Open to all students, the drag show featured four performers from Heat Bar and Nightclub in Wilkes-Barre along with four other student performers. Of the student performers, a prize basket was provided to the best amateur dancer which was voted on by audience cheers.

Estella Sweet, general manager of Heat, was the emcee for the evening and introduced all participants while also performing herself.

Each performer was allotted two dances in which they were interactive with audience members, dancing with them, or in some cases, on them.

"I don't really define drag," said Sweet. "Drag is whatever you make of it. There are so many different types and outlets of performing in drag, it's just like any other art form. There is no definition, it's what you make of it. Like RuPaul says, I know it's cliché, but 'we're all born naked and the rest is drag.'"

Sweet started drag as a in her mid-20's in 2006 as an artistic outlet for herself and was able to make a career out of it. To her, it is a way of expressing herself how she feels inside as well as outside. At the same time, it is also a way to be creative and involve all of her favorite forms of art like painting and drawing on her face instead of on a canvas and expressing herself through music.

She also goes on to state that shows like RuPaul's Drag Race get things wrong. Although she says she has to give credit where credit is due, it has brought drag mainstream which she does not see as a necessarily positive thing.

While it's good for business, exposure and awareness "killed" what drag was at the same time. It was taboo and an off the beaten path art form, and Sweet sees it being brought so far into mainstream that it is being judged more than it should be because it is not always going to look like what people see in the TV show.

"It was really awesome," said Victoria Vespiro, Miss Wilkes-Barre/

Scranton 2022. "As a member of the LGBTQ+ community, and the first Miss Pennsylvania candidate to be so, it was really awesome to see events like this happening because stuff like this never happened when I was in college. So having that kind of space where we can all be ourselves is really amazing."

Dr. Helen Davis, associate English professor and advisor of the GSA, similarly expressed the importance of having events like these on college campuses.

"It helps provide a social atmosphere and opportunity for students in the GSA and other Wilke's communities but also allows everyone to have fun and think about gender more broadly and to maybe come outside of narrow ideas about what gender is," said Davis.

The GSA is hoping to host another drag show in the fall of 2022.

Photos: The Beacon/Maddy Kinard



MC, Estella Sweet, performs her first number, a remix on Poor Unfortunate Souls.



Drag king, Xander Valentine, kisses the hand of Victoria Vespiro, Miss Wilkes-Barre/Scranton 2022.



Student performers. La Seana (left) and "Sexy Pitbull" (right) perform their first dance to "WAP" by Cardi B and Megan Thee Stallion.



Drag king, Oliver Twist, takes to the audience and dances on a table to "Chunky" By Bruno Mars.

Students celebrate Block Party



Newly elected vice president, Danielle Morris, (left) and president, Megan Makovsky (right), were just two of the many students who celebrated at Block Party.

Photos: The Beacon/Ariel Reed



First-year nursing major Lauren Beaver showed off her newly made bucket hat. Beaver utilized her creative side to make this hat one of the most impressive from the event.



One of the Block Party stations involved tie-dying bucket hats.

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Life, Arts & Entertainment

Have any events or artists to be shared? Contact Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor: Jordan Daniel: Jordan.Daniel@wilkes.edu

Programming board to host DJs Two Friends in MAC

First concert to be hosted since Spring 2019

By Morgan Rich

Life, Arts & Entertainment Staff Writer

Programming Board will host a Two Friends concert on April 30 at 8 p.m. in the McHale Athletic Center (MAC). This will be programming board's first time hosting a concert since the spring of 2019.

Two Friends is a Los Angeles based dance/electric duo consisting of Eli Sones and Matthew Halper. They are an American DJ and producer duo that are popular for their "big bootie" mixes, covers and their original songs. DJ Menace will be opening up for them at the concert.

In 2014, Two Friends' popularity increased when their remix of Lana Del Rey's song, "Born To Die," regularly rotated on SiriusXM radio. Their other remixes include songs by artists Steve Aoki, Blink 182, The Killers, Tove Lo, The Chainsmokers, Echosmith and Louis Tomlinson.

They also have their own mix series radio show, "Friendly Sessions," which debuted in 2012. This one hour show features both Sones' and Harper's favorite songs and guest producers and DJs. Lost Kings, Louis the Child and Mako are only some of the producers and DJs that have been featured on the show.

"I am planning on going to the concert because I get a good feeling listening to music live," said Sydney Miller, a first-year environmental engineering major. "Seeing popular performers in person makes them seem more like regular people."

The last concert Programming Board hosted had Bryce Vine perform in the fall of 2019, followed by Wild 'N Out in the spring. In spring of 2020, Social House was scheduled to perform but the performance was canceled due to COVID-19.

During the concert, students will be able to eat from different food trucks that will be in the parking lot at the Ron and Rhea Simms Center on Main. These food trucks will be exclusive and free to all Wilkes students.

"One of my goals as being the president was to bring the concerts back," said Maddy Yeager, junior pharmacy major and former president of programming board. "During the fall semester we utilized our Instagram to see what genre students would like to see. We followed that survey up with asking students for their suggestions of artists they would want to see as well."

Two Friends is currently on its "Adventureland Tour" and has over 30 stops across the United States. Currently, 25 of the shows are sold out. California will be the last stop in the United States on May 14 before the duo travels to Canada.

So far, Two Friends have received two awards for their music. They earned the

"Award of Independence Excellence" from Hollywood Music in Media Awards in 2015 and they earned the "Top DJ Set" from Soundcloud in 2017.

This concert is currently open to all current college students. Wilkes students are free but other college students will have to pay \$10 at the door. The concert is also one of the last events of the semester before finals begin.

"I love that we can have opportunities like this because it shows that the Wilkes community cares about making the best experience for students," said Olivia Scarborough, sophomore musical theatre major. "Having fun activities planned out and so close for us makes it as easy as it can for us to just go and have fun with friends."

Miller and Scarborough also believe that university concerts give students a chance to expand their music taste and listen to different types of music than they normally would. Free university concerts also give students the opportunity to

attend concerts if they otherwise would not be able to due to different life and financial circumstances.

"I personally didn't know who Two Friends were before but now that I have listened to some of their songs, I enjoy them," said Miller. "Music allows people to connect and having this group come to campus allows people to have more in common."

If you are interested in attending the concert, go to programming board's Instagram @wilkesupb and click on the link in their bio. The doors to the MAC will open at 7 p.m. and the concert will start at 8 p.m.

Two friends is open to all Wilkes students and other students who must present student identification at the door. Non-Wilkes students will be charged \$10 and all Wilkes students will be able to get in for free.

Graphic by Zoey Rosensweet



Dollar store recipe: Scrumptious snickerdoodle mug cake

This snickerdoodle mug cake is a treat just for one. After a long night of studying and preparing for finals, this mug cake is the perfect pick me up.

Ingredients:

1/3 cup all-purpose flour
4 tablespoons granulated sugar
1/4 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 cup skim milk
1 cup chocolate chips
3 tablespoons caramel syrup
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
2 tablespoons melted butter
1 tablespoon vanilla extract

Directions:

First, place the butter in a small bowl and microwave for one to two minutes or until completely melted.

Combine the flour, three tablespoons of sugar, baking powder, milk, 1/2 teaspoon of ground

cinnamon, melted butter and vanilla extract in a separate large bowl. Mix with a whisk or a spoon until the batter is smooth and the ingredients are combined thoroughly.

In a separate bowl, combine one tablespoon of granulated sugar and the remaining ground cinnamon to create a cinnamon sugar mixture.

Next, place one tablespoon of batter into a microwave safe mug. Sprinkle cinnamon sugar, chocolate chips and drizzle caramel syrup on top of the batter. Continue to alternate the layers and end with the cinnamon sugar mixture, chocolate chips and caramel syrup on top.

Once completed, microwave for two to three minutes until the cake batter is completely cooked or until it is to your liking.

By Morgan Rich

Life, Arts & Entertainment Staff Writer

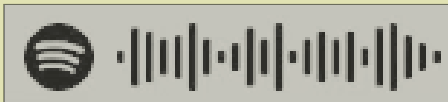


The Beacon/Morgan Rich

This after dinner snack will cure your sweet cravings

Beacon Bumps

Each week, the Wilkes Beacon staff adds a song to the Beacon Bumps playlist on Spotify. Check us out under Chris Gowarty's Spotify or check out this week's picks right now!



Emily Cherkauskas, Editor-in-Chief:

Stargazing- The Neighbourhood

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Baylee Guedes, Sports Editor:

F U Till I F U - Call Me Karizma ft. Cass

Jason Eberhart, Sports Asst. Editor:

Back Door - Pop Smoke ft. Quavo, Kodak Black

Zoey Rosensweet, Lead Layout Designer:

Elastic- Joey Purp

Faculty and students bring awareness for Earth Day

By Kellie Scott

Staff Writer

Earth Day has been celebrated worldwide since the 1970s on April 22 and focuses on educating people on how to be environmentally conscious. This worldwide event helps people understand why it is so important to keep the planet clean.

“I think we all have to be conscious of our footprint and waste,” said Jen McLaughlin, honors and scholars program coordinator, as well as adjunct faculty. “Can you get a Hydro-Flask and cut out plastic bottles? Are you recycling properly? Can you walk somewhere? I think if we’re all asking ourselves to be aware of what we put out into the world, it’s a small step in the right direction.”

The school values education and understanding of keeping the earth safe and clean. Therefore, students and faculty members were vocal on sharing some of the things they do to keep the earth clean and safe.

“To keep the environment safe, I recycle, leave places I visit better than



I find them, follow the ‘Leave No Trace Principles,’ drive an environmentally friendly vehicle and carpool when I can,” said Matt Haubert, junior business administration and management major.

Many people take their responsibility of leaving the planet better than when they found it seriously. Moreso, faculty members try their best to help save the environment too while encouraging their

students to do the same.

Associate professor of history, Dr. Akira Shimizu, shared how his home country of Japan deals with environmental issues in comparison to the United States. For instance, Japanese city offices have strict regulations for sorting and separating garbage.

“Despite everyday concerns people share, have you noticed how much leftovers, for example, our dining hall produces,” said Dr. Shimizu. “I try to avoid eating out as much as possible or only visit those restaurants where I know the amount that is served.”

Furthermore, people continued to express why they believe Earth Day is important today in society.

“Earth Day is very important because it brings awareness to the earth and how people’s actions are affecting the environment,” said Sydney Miller, first-year environmental engineering major. “Earth Day allows people to reflect each year on the significance of the health of the planet. Everyday should be Earth Day.”

Graphic by David Marks

To learn more about Earth Day and read about fast facts surrounding environmental protection and pollution, visit the official organization’s website at www.earthday.org

Mixed reaction, lack of hype surround Coachella festival

By AJ Rubino

Life, Arts & Entertainment Staff Writer

The most anticipated music festival, Coachella, held its first weekend of activities from April 15 to 17 and its second weekend from April 22 to 24.

The music festival is held in Indio, Calif., and consisted of a lineup that stirred mixed feelings and thoughts among students on campus.

“The lineup really was pretty disappointing,” said Eza Chaudhry, sophomore business administration major. “It was a few big headliners versus a lot of artists that I did not know.”

The major headliners for weekend one consisted of Harry Styles, Billie Eilish, Swedish House Mafia and The Weeknd. Other major artists included Doja Cat, Joji, Big Sean and Megan Thee Stallion.

“The lineup was not as diverse to music as it usually is,” said Ivy Kusi, P2 pharmacy major. “The performers were aimed at a specific genre of fans.”

Chaudhry and Kusi were most excited when CL brought the 2NE1 squad on stage. 2NE1 was a Korean girl group that was created in 2009 and disbanded in 2019.

“It was surprising to say the least and extremely emotional considering how they had disbanded previously,” said Chaudhry.

From videos that were streamed on the internet to students’ reactions, many came to the conclusion that the crowds did not put the same energy into the festival as the artists did.

“I have never seen a crowd that dead for so many artists,” said Lexi Payne, senior biology major. “If I was there, I

would be having the time of my life to see artists that I would love to see.”

Before COVID-19, the crowds were heavily engaged but the outfits were over the top.

“You can tell who goes to these events for the music versus these ‘influencers’ who get sent for a paycheck and/or for free is ridiculous,” said Kusi. “The difference has really shown at this year’s festival.”

This year, the crowd’s style is progressing back to the festival’s chic boho fashion agenda.

Styles brought out Shania Twain for weekend one and Lizzo for weekend two. As his new album is scheduled to release next month, many speculate that those two may appear on it.

However, Chaudhry and many others expressed their disgust about the

situation regarding musician Joji. Joji has expressed his struggle with epilepsy and how it is triggered through stress.

Something came up at the festival that triggered his health and when he asked to stop, he was forced to continue playing. In the stream, he apologized about the situation.

“Kanye West can drop out of Coachella at the last minute and not face repercussions, while Joji was forced to perform by the organizers of the event was insane and disheartening,” said Chaudhry. “It is unbelievable that they could not make an exception for him.”

Coachella can be streamed on YouTube for those who could not attend. More information about the event can be found on their Instagram account @coachella.

Liz's Craft Column: Psych club makes paper flower bouquets

By Liz Cherinka

Social Media Manager

The psychology club and Liz's Craft Column collaborated on Thursday to bring the club a crafting event. The club made paper flower bouquets together with instructions from the craft column.

The idea was initially created by Carolyn Purdy, social activities chair for the psych club. She said she was inspired to do a craft collaboration because the craft column is adorable and she loves the crafts. She said she enjoys the craft column because they tie in with the seasons and holidays, like the flower bouquet.

As the social activities chair, Purdy asked the club what activities they wanted to see and someone suggested crafts. Purdy thought that this would be a "wonderful collaboration between The Beacon and psych club."

Eryn McMonagle, member of the social activities subcommittee, said her favorite part about the event was 'being around friends and doing something that wasn't just homework or studying.'

This event was a stress reliever for students.

"I feel like I don't have a lot of just hang out time and it was nice to have that time to just relax," said McMonagle.

This flower bouquet craft is perfect for spring and summer and is an easy craft to add fun to your space. McMonagle loved the simplicity of it, and even though it was relatively easy, the crafts still turned out really cute.

Mady Hornak, member of the psychology club, said her favorite flower to make was the multi-colored flower. She noted that even though it was hard to cut, it looked the coolest when it was done.

This craft requires the following supplies:

- Multiple colors of cardstock paper
- Hot glue.
- Gluesticks
- Pipe cleaners
- Paper clips/ binder clips
- Scissors

To create the butterfly:

1. Grab two sheets of two different colors of cardstock paper. Cut two of the same color into a circle with a diameter of about 6 inches. Cut the other two into a circle with a diameter of about 4 inches. Glue the smaller circles onto the larger circles and wait for them to dry.

2. Accordion fold the circles once they are dry and then fold this in half. Hot glue the crease in the middle together to form a wing shape and use a binder clip to hold this in place while it dries.

3. Once it is dry, glue the bottom half of each wing together. Binder clip this while it dries as well.

4. With the scraps from the small circle color, cut a rectangle that is about ½ inch wide and 2 inches tall. Cut down the middle vertically almost to the bottom. Roll these two halves to create the antenna and fold the rectangle in half so the antennae are curled outwards. Glue them in between the two wings so the antennae come out of where the wings are not glued together.

5. Attach a pipe cleaner on the bottom of the butterfly with hot glue to add it to the bouquet.



Liz's difficulty rating:



To create the hyacinth:

1. Grab a full sheet of cardstock paper in any color. Cut 2 inches off of one end vertically. Fold this paper in half "hot dog style" and glue the long end together. Wait for this to dry.

2. Cut 1 inch strips on the folded edge down to where the glue line is. Do this across the whole paper. Then, roll each of these strips around your finger or a pencil. It is okay to crease them a little so they keep their shape.

3. Grab a piece of green cardstock paper. Cut it in half vertically, saving the other half and cut about ¼ off of the bottom. Roll this paper up to form a stem and hot glue the ends. Use a paperclip to hold them in place until it dries.

4. Wrap the paper around the stem so that the rolled edges are on top and facing outwards. Each level will be slightly lower so the petals can all be seen. Hot glue the end of the wrapped paper together, as well as gluing it to the stem.



Photos: The Beacon/Liz Cherinka



To create a multi-colored flower:

1. Grab 2 papers of different colors. Cut the paper the same way as the last flower but do not glue the ends together. Cut strips that are about 1cm in the folded end, leaving a small amount on the bottom the same way as the last one.

2. Once the strips are cut, fold it the other way while not creasing the formerly folded end and glue the long end together. Repeat this with the other color.

3. Make a stem with the other half of the paper cut earlier, the same way as before. Wrap the first color around the very top of the stem tightly. Hot glue the end as well as gluing it onto the stem. Wrap the other one around the same way directly under the first color. Hot glue the end and well as to the stem. Adjust the "petals" to make the flower "bloom."

Once the butterfly, hyacinth and multi-colored flower are finished, put them together to make a bouquet. Feel free to display it anywhere to add a spring touch.

Share your completed craft with us, or suggest a craft you want us to try!

Instagram: @wilkesbeacon
#LizsCraftColumn

CREATIVE COLONELS

Creative Colonel of the Week: Jacob O'Boyle

By **Jordan Daniel**
Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

This Creative Colonel's talent for writing sparked a unique hobby of his. Jacob O'Boyle, first-year biology major, enjoys collecting typewriters, as well as old and used books.

O'Boyle began collecting typewriters after seeing typewriter content creators online. However, books have always been a passion of his, whether they are new or old.

"Old books in particular just have a certain aura or vibe, if you will, around them that I love," said O'Boyle. "The smell of the paper, the texture of the pages, the soft thump you get when you tap on a hard cover; it just makes me

happy and calm in a way I can't really explain."

As for his typewriter collection, O'Boyle's first one is a Smith-Corona, which he found on Facebook Marketplace and his latest one is a Royal typewriter that he bought at an antique mall.

According to O'Boyle, typewriters can be found anywhere that specializes in antique and vintage, as well as on the internet but they are not always affordable.

"I think it is a really interesting and unique hobby," said Ryan Charnigo, first-year pharmacy student. "Something I have never been exposed to so it has been interesting to learn about."

Since O'Boyle is a new collector, he

has not sold any of his old typewriters. Nonetheless, he plans to list some of them on Facebook Marketplace when his desire arises.

Currently, his typewriter collection serves a decorative purpose. Decorative because they lay displayed on the floor of his bedroom due to the lack of space on his desktop.

Also, his typewriters serve a practical purpose since he uses it to write personal journal entries and letters to friends and acquaintances.

For instance, he wrote a letter to one of his English professors, Dr. Michelle Anthony, associate professor of English and chair of the English department.

"Jacob brought a typewritten letter and vintage literary anthology volume

to my office hours," said Dr. Anthony. "I felt happy and grateful to have had a student who has this fringe interest and who uses his brain well. I thought, 'that's good parenting' because he unashamedly luxuriates in the vintage world. It's a healthy vibe."

O'Boyle enjoys typewriting because it is an easy and effective way for him to express his thoughts in both an academic and creative sense.

Lastly, according to O'Boyle, he also finds typewriting "to be a better means of communication, as, quite frankly, I'm prone to getting far off track when speaking and the written medium allows me to correct my trajectory and edit my speech after I've had my explosion of creativity."



Courtesy of Jacob O'Boyle

O'Boyle types on his 1970 Royal Custom II typewriter in Farley Library.



On the left is his Custom II named Elizabeth after Queen Elizabeth I and on the right is the Royal Royalite '64 named Maude after the original owner.

Turning to the next chapter:

Breanna Ebisch

Opinion Editor



When did you join The Beacon, and why?

I have always been an avid writer and my big dream when I started at Wilkes was to become a journalist which is why I chose the communication studies major. In high school, I wrote for our newspaper and wanted to continue in college along with getting the experience needed for my future career which led me to join The Beacon in the first semester of my freshman year.

What was your favorite article that you wrote for The Beacon and why?

My favorite article that I've written has to be the one I wrote on my personal experience

of having COVID-19. It was a piece that meant a lot to me and I thoroughly enjoyed writing. There have been plenty of other articles that I have loved putting together too, but this has to be my favorite.

What was the biggest surprise or challenge that you faced during your time on staff?

The biggest surprise during my time on staff was simply how many friends I made! Getting the chance to connect with so many people either in our department or outside was amazing and a lot of my closest friendships started with the Beacon.

If you had three words to describe yourself, what would they be and why?

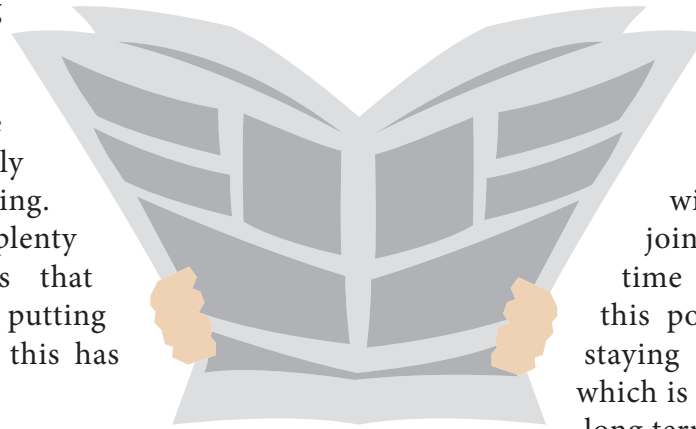
Outgoing, passionate and kind.

What are some of your favorite hobbies or activities outside of school?

I love reading (yes, for fun!), traveling, writing and spending time with my friends and family. I have about a million hobbies so sticking with one thing always changes.

Graduation is quickly approaching within a few weeks. What emotions are you feeling?

There are a lot of emotions surrounding graduation. I'm uncertain, excited, scared and proud all at once, just to name a few. It's a new chapter in my life and one that I'm completely in control of which is freeing and terrifying at the same time. But I'm soaking it all in since I'll only



experience this once.
What are your future plans after graduation?

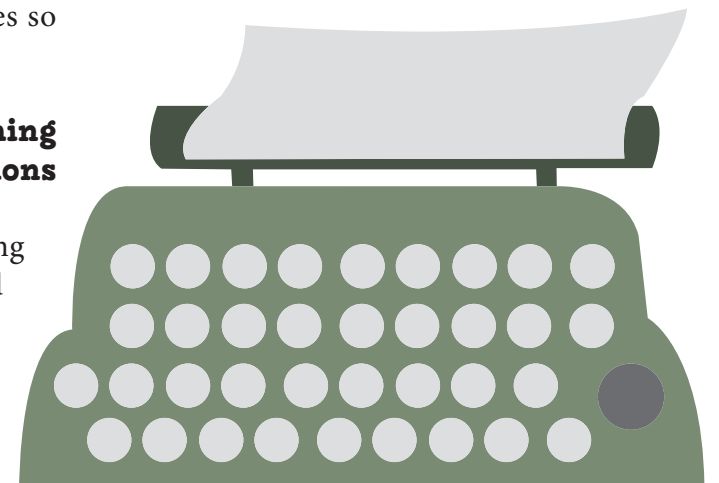
I will be interning with Special Guest before joining the team as a full-time employee. Having this position means I'm also staying here in Wilkes-Barre which is also really exciting! My long term goal is to either work for an NHL team in the media relations or social media aspect or become a journalist for a respected publication.

If you could give some advice to Wilkes students, what would you tell them?

Just to enjoy every moment! I know it sounds cheesy and you'll probably roll your eyes when someone says the four years of college go by quickly, but they do. It's so important to cherish even the little moments because you don't realize how special this time is until it's gone.

What's a fun fact that people don't know about you?

I have been on national television a handful of times!



Thanking our Beacon seniors

Zoey Rosensweet

Lead Layout Designer



When did you join The Beacon, and why?

I first joined The Beacon because I was required to complete co-curricular hours for Dr. Briceños class. I didn't know that there was such a good opportunity for me as a designer, or else I would've joined sooner.

What was your favorite design that you created for The Beacon and why?

My favorite project for The Beacon was redoing the layout for most of the paper. This

was a huge task to take on, but it allowed me to hone in on my typography skills as well as layout design.

What was the biggest surprise or challenge that you faced during your time on staff?

The biggest challenge for me was balancing my duties as a staff member with the rest of my workload. Luckily, there's some really great designers that are also involved who are always willing to help out!

If you had three words to describe yourself, what would they be and why?

If I had three words to describe myself it would be motivated, personable, and independent. I'm really motivated to be successful in life and this goes hand in hand with how personable I am.

Over my years at Wilkes, I realized that making connections IS as important as everyone says.

What are some of your favorite hobbies or activities outside of school?

When I'm not in class you can catch me working out, playing with my dog, and converting a sprinter van that I'll be traveling in this summer!

Graduation is quickly approaching within a few weeks. What emotions are you feeling?

I know most of us have been going to school our entire lives, so I'm probably not alone when I say that I am SO ready to graduate! I'm excited to start the next chapter of my life.

What are your future plans after graduation?

I'm hoping to land a remote job after graduation. As I said, I'm converting a van so I'm going to be traveling to many, many national parks and a remote job would make this so much easier.

If you could give some advice to Wilkes students, what would you tell them?

The best advice I have is to follow your own timeline. Everyone pushes this idea that you have to be done with college in four years, but I took a year off and it was the best decision I made. Everyone is different!

What's a fun fact that people don't know about you?

One fun fact people don't know about me is that I love pickle juice.



Page design by Emily Cherkauskas

Photos courtesy of Breanna Ebisch and Zoey Rosensweet

Graphics by Jack Malatesta



Opinion

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

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Interested in joining The Beacon? To learn more about what you can do, contact:
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Our Voice

Each week, The Beacon's editorial board will take a stance on a current issue.

Parking expenses for students are unethical

A consistent complaint from college student populations is the fact that they pay thousands in tuition and still are asked to pay for parking. On top of this, parking violations run rampant because of specific guidelines that are confusing to students.

While parking spaces are reasonably expensive for universities to pay for, especially for schools located in cities, they are arguably a necessary expense that these universities can fund or make grants for.

The universities covering these costs would be more beneficial, rather than making a student pay for parking that is honestly a struggle to find most of the time. Some students do not even receive a pass if they do not make the application deadline/there is not enough space.

Universities put charges such as student activities or general university fees into our tuition, usually inflating costs every year. Yet, even though tuition continues to rise yearly, parking is always its own expense.

Now this may make sense, because some students do not need parking passes, but offering free parking to

all would make for easier student experiences. Faculty and students could still receive passes so tracking of who is where is possible, but this would ease up any burdens, especially for commuter populations.

Commuter students already struggle with accessing all of campus resources 24/7, so making parking less anxiety-inducing would be a better alternative. It also does not help the fact that the majority of Wilkes' student population is comprised of commuter students.

As it stands now, depending on what time of day you park on campus, options can be extremely limited or nonexistent. By restricting parking access through requiring these passes, it creates a major obstacle for students who have many classes, activities and more to partake in.

Even though students pay more than \$100 for a parking pass per semester, they still have the possibility of receiving a ticket.

If someone were to park in the back right corner of the SUB parking lot, they would earn a ticket because they would be parking in faculty spots. If

someone were to park in one of the visitor spots at the Karambelas Media & Communication Center, they would receive a ticket because they are parking in spots that are reserved only for non-Wilkes parking pass holders.

The specifications for these parking spots can be confusing, especially if no one is informed of it or reads it in a handbook or guideline. And let's be real, not all students are reading section by section where they can and cannot park. We are getting the spot we see and are off to class.

Even if a student does what they are supposed to do and pay the hefty parking pass fee, they could still be penalized for these instances of mishap even though this information is not made easily known by Wilkes until the fine is already in the student's hands.

The university makes a generous amount of money in parking passes and violation tickets from students that disproportionately harms their own financial security as well.

It is time universities consider student needs first and stop instituting expensive parking fees.

Letter to the editor policy: *The Beacon* welcomes letters to the editor from differing viewpoints. Letters must contain contact information, including name, city, state and phone number. Phone numbers will not be published but may be used for verification purposes.

All letters to the editor must be sent using one of the following methods:

Email: Emily.Cherkauskas@wilkes.edu or Ariel.Reed@wilkes.edu

Phone: (570) 408-5903 (Voicemail: 30 seconds or less, please.)

Mail: 84 West South Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766 Attn: *The Beacon*

If you think humanities are easy, try and keep up

By **Lindsey Scorey**
Asst. Opinion Editor

It's the years-long college debate: are you team humanities or team STEM? As a department, many of my fellow communication studies students have been the butt of almost every "easy major" joke.

Here's the gag, though. Every single major has its difficulties and different skill sets. Every single career path has a necessary aspect to it.

There is a stereotype that humanities majors have a lower intellectual capacity, because they care to develop greater skills in more qualitative fields rather than more quantitative ones.

However, I would argue the complete opposite: our curriculum is well-rounded in requiring that we have all important skill sets.

Communication studies majors specifically take a full year of research methods, developing and editing their research from the ground up.

It is not just our program. Other humanities majors have similar capstones, statistics classes, practical projects, etc.

No one really asks us about our work loads, though. We do multitudes of co-curriculars, jobs, internships, classes, etc.

A large component of our career preparation is being as actively involved in our chosen areas of study as physically possible.



Then there is also that stereotype of our job market validity. The "Oh, what are you going to do with that?"

It just gives the feeling of "Ah, yes, my commitment, energy and intelligence accounts to nothing in the real world."

Writing and communication skills are two of the top expectations of good workers sought after by organizations and leaders.

The so-called "soft skills" we possess truly are hard skills, because no great idea is ever as loved as it is when it is well articulated and presented.

How you market yourself is crucial and we learn how to pitch ourselves rather well in this department.

On top of that, you rarely ever see humanities majors insulting those in the sciences and mathematical fields. In fact we praise the hard work you do.

I suppose I should speak for myself here, but it just feels as though the admiration for one another's work and intelligence is not equal.

It is time we recognize how valuable the humanities truly are for everyone's sake.

Graphic by Jack Malatesta

BAM: Books-A-Million times better than Barnes and Noble

By **Hannah Simerson**
Staff Writer

You walk into a bookstore and are immediately greeted by the smell of coffee and fresh pages. Around you, people are browsing shelves, reading books and drinking beverages.

Where do you imagine yourself?

Is it the top bookseller in the nation, Barnes and Noble, or is it the lesser-known (but far superior) Books-A-Million, or BAM?

If you imagined the former, you're missing out on the best book-buying experience of your entire literary life. Don't mistake name for quality; BAM is far superior than Barnes and Noble in every way.

BAM boasts a far more robust selection of titles than Barnes and Noble

can ever even dream of. When you walk into a BAM, you are immediately transported to a world with floor to ceiling bookshelves.

Unlike Barnes and Noble, BAM does not need fancy wall art to draw you in. They know you're there for one thing and one thing only: books and that is what they give you. There's no fluff here; you're getting what you came for...

...And some more. The atmosphere in BAM is like no other. BAM stores are the epitome of comfort, unlike their rival whose doors open to a stiff, cold environment.

Whether you're there leisurely or on a mission, at BAM you can be sure that you will leave more relaxed than you came.

Just like their atmosphere, the prices at BAM are simply unbeatable. You can

be sure that you are getting the best deal on your "to be read" list while shopping in a BAM store.

While other major booksellers (I'm looking at you, Barnes and Noble) make you pay for their discount, BAM simply requires you to sign up for their email list.

One of the highlights of spending time in a bookstore is the availability to grab a coffee or similar beverage inside the store. While most Barnes and Noble stores host Starbucks cafes inside their doors, BAM stores include an even better cafe called Joe Muggs.

At Joe Muggs, you can find even better beverages and even cheaper prices, a win-win.

Whatever brings you into a bookstore, all book shoppers have one thing in common: we love a good deal. BAM is

known for its used book sections, which span about half of the store.

Old and new books alike find their way to these shelves and, better yet, the discount (you know- the one you get for free) can be applied to these already discounted books.

Take that, Barnes and Noble.

If you're looking to purchase something other than books, BAM still has you covered. Along with its impressive bookshelves, BAM holds isles of Funko Pops, T-shirts, Manga, stuffed animals and more.

Make sure you bring comfortable shoes- you'll be in a BAM store for a while. If none of this convinces you that BAM is the superior bookseller, then you must just enjoy drinking overpriced coffee while staring at cliché wall art. Regardless, BAM does it like no one else.

Gen ed course validity put into question by students

By **Zara Lantzman**
Opinion Staff Writer

College general education classes can make or break your semester as gen eds are glorified high school classes.

High school is used to get a broad education and to potentially find what you love to do. Granted, not all high schools have the same programs, and others may not give the best education, but overall, high school classes give you a basic education.

“Gen eds are probably the most annoying part of taking classes,” said junior financial investments major Adrian Malavé. “Generally, I am uninterested in the subject and only take them to fulfill a requirement. They are also obnoxiously difficult and hard.”

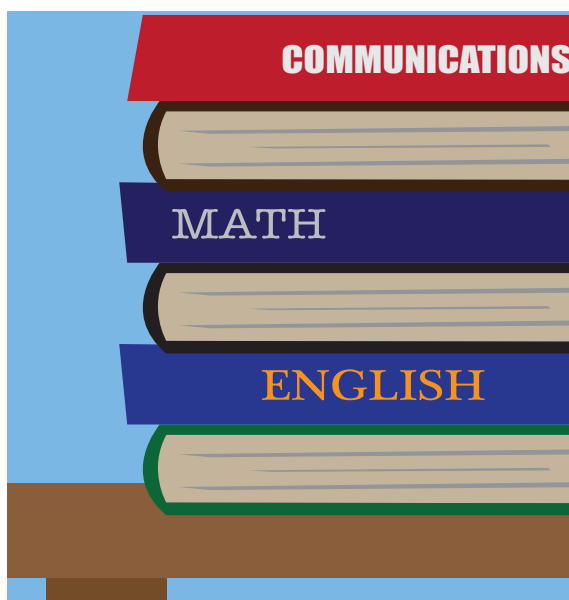
Your general education classes should not be more difficult than classes required for your major, they should contribute to your GPA rather than detract from it.

So why do we have to take gen eds? Why should we take classes that have no relevance to our majors? Why pay for those classes when it is expensive enough to pay for our classes in our major? Why spend two of your four

undergraduate years taking classes that you will not use? It just does not add up.

When looking at gen eds, you need to look at the type of university. A liberal arts college focuses on a well-rounded education, while specified colleges or main public ones focus more on the major.

With Wilkes being a liberal arts school, it is expected to offer a well-rounded education, but that is not why some people choose a liberal arts college. There are factors where people choose to go to a liberal arts college because of the inclusivity and diversity. Others might pick certain colleges because of the major that is offered, regardless if it is liberal arts or not.



While some agree that gen eds need to be nuked, others may not agree.

“I chose a liberal arts college purely because of the small class sizes and job placement rate,” said sophomore chemistry major Emily Purcell. “However, I have reaped the benefits of Wilkes being a liberal arts college because I discovered how attainable a minor in dance is.”

While I do not agree with gen eds being beneficial, it has made it easier to obtain certain minors. I almost have a women’s and gender studies minor completed and that is mainly because of gen eds.

“I liked having gen eds because they are important for fostering an appreciation and baseline understanding of all of

the careers and positions beyond your own,” said senior pharmacy major Sarah Markovich.

On top of the baseline understanding of a career, I can understand how gen eds can help an undeclared major find their career. That is the only way I see the need for gen eds.

Gen eds are literally just busy work that takes up so much of the time that is needed to spend on your major.

We should not have to pay the exact same amount of money for gen eds as our major classes. College is already expensive enough.

We should spend our entire college career gaining as much experience in our majors as possible, rather than wasting two years taking classes some would describe as useless.

Gen eds have made my college experience ten times worse and have dropped my GPA. Gen eds stress me out more than my actual major classes.

Professors try to give the most work and for what? If the school makes gen eds cheaper and easier, then I am sure more people will not actually mind them.

Graphic by Jack Malatesta

Review of “Spy x Family”: Plot makes for manga magic

By **AJ Rubino**
Life, Arts & Entertainment Staff Writer

It has been a little over two weeks since the Crunchyroll exclusive “Spy x Family” anime has been released and it is safe to say that I am in love with the Forger’s and Yor Forger herself.

The anime follows a spy with the code name, “Twilight,” a blonde man with piercing sea green eyes who is assigned to a case that requires him to have a fake family. The fake family would have to include a child who would be able to get into Eden Academy to aid Twilight in his case.

Twilight starts going by the name Loid Forger after discovering he needs to find a child in less than a week. A child cannot be created without an egg, so Forger decides to go to a suspicious orphanage.

There, the owner tells Forger to grab a kid and leave, so he settles on Anya, a little girl with pink hair.

Best yet, Anya is a telepath, which makes the whole situation better and worse for her at the same time.

Anya learns the real truth about Loid Forger and instead of being afraid, she is excited that her new father is a spy.

Personally, I would grab at any sort of attention a person would give me and Anya reads my mind and almost does the same thing I was thinking.

Besides that, the first episode was bittersweet and shines light into Forger’s actual personality a bit. The stigma in anime and any other spy movie shows a man who is only in it to kill people and get money. However, Forger does kill people but he also has humorous moments.

The MVP of the first episode was

definitely Anya. This girl convinced a grown man to buy her peanuts so she would leave him alone. That is one of the many girlboss moments she will have.

The second episode however, is handed off to Yor Forger, the assassin who makes a deal with Loid. He needs a wife for his case and she needs a boyfriend because she accidentally told her younger brother that she was in a relationship. At the dinner they had to go to however, Loid accidentally introduces himself as her husband.

It was funny because Yor’s coworkers could not believe that she was able to pull a handsome man like Loid. In my opinion, Loid was lucky he was able to pull her. Have they not seen her?

We get to see a little into what Yor does as well. The scene where she has to eliminate the Vice Minister Brennan

from the Auditing Department is nothing but showing how much of a badass she really is.

Shonen manga has a tendency to show the men who write women and it gives women the damsel in distress stereotype. However, this is one of the few women who is written strongly and independently.

The most I am looking for is the development of Loid and Yor and their fake marriage. The fake marriage trope can go either way and I am most excited to see what road it takes, considering this genre of manga focuses more on the action of the plot, rather than the relationships built with the main character.

New episodes drop weekly on Saturday through Crunchyroll. It is available online or on the Shonen Jump app.

Graduating seniors: Is it already time for graduation?

By Hope Williams

Staff Writer

For some students, they are excited to start this new chapter of their lives as they begin to enter their professional or postgraduate journey. For other students, leaving Wilkes is going to be a difficult transition.

For me, I am looking forward to my professional career after graduation, but at the same time, I will genuinely miss walking onto the Wilkes campus everyday and seeing all of the friendly faces I have built relationships with over the last four years.

Wilkes is unique in a variety of wonderful ways. The small, close-knit community has brought so many seniors wonderful memories, experiences, resources and relationships.

“There are many resources and mentors that have helped me become prepared for my professional career,” said senior hospitality management major Matt Franchetti. “The close knit campus community has helped me build meaningful friendships that I will have for a lifetime.”

Building meaningful relationships was a common theme as I interviewed the senior class of 2022.

Senior neuroscience major James Hughes, a current Guthrey Medical Scholar, said, “I made friends both at Wilkes, and through Wilkes, friendships that I didn’t even know I could make. In

addition, Wilkes gave me the ability to pursue my dreams and took a chance on me that I will always be grateful for.”

When I first came to Wilkes University, I immediately knew that it was going to be my home for the next four years. When I was beginning my college decision process, I visited Temple University and St. Joseph’s University, along with Wilkes. My plan was to attend a big school with Division I sports teams. As we all know, Wilkes is a small school with Division III sports. With that being said, the feeling I got when I walked onto Wilkes campus was something I could not find anywhere else. All of the student admissions ambassadors at Wilkes were extremely welcoming and knowledgeable and it immediately made me comfortable.

Going into Welcome Weekend in the summer, I was very nervous to meet the

rest of the class of 2022. But, my mentor, Deandre Depass, who was a sophomore at the time, made the transition into college comfortable and intriguing.

The first night of Welcome Weekend, I made a group of friends and we spent the entire weekend together. We even moved into one of the girl’s mattresses into our two-person dorm.

It was truly such a memorable experience.

On top of that, I built such a special bond with my mentor, Deandre. Our friendship continued to grow throughout my college journey. In turn, he inspired me to apply to become an e-mentor at Wilkes and it was one of the best experiences and opportunities I have been given at Wilkes.

I hope in my postgraduate years, I can give back to that program because it has given me so much.



If I could give any advice to prospective and current Wilkes students, it would be to soak in every moment you have in college. I know we hear it all the time, “time flies” and truly, it does. I would say to build as many connections and relationships as you can, because they will mean so much. And last but not least, allow yourself to grow in as many ways as possible.

“My past four years at Wilkes, definitely showed me that the best way to learn and grow is to step out of my comfort zone,” said P2 student Sydney Couturier. “You never know what you might learn, who you might meet, and what doors might open for you and your future, so push yourself and take every opportunity you can here at Wilkes, it goes by fast.”

Speaking to the class of 2022, as the last few weeks of the semester come to an end, emotions will come pouring out each and every day.

I hope that as the days count down, we take the time to reminisce on all of the wonderful memories and experiences we have had on the campus that has given us so much. I hope the class of 2022 has left a mark on this campus that will last forever.

Class of 2022, we did it! Well... almost.

Graphic by Jack Malatesta

We want to hear your voice!

Let your thoughts be known within the community. Join the Opinion section!

CONTACT:

Opinion Editor: Breanna.Ebisch@wilkes.edu



Politics, culture, social issues

Reviewing art, literature, movies, music

Columns, petitions, letters to the editor

The incredible magic of Hogwarts comes to Philadelphia

By **Morgan Rich**

Life, Arts & Entertainment Writer

“Harry Potter: The Exhibition” made its world premiere at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia on Feb. 18. It is the most elaborate Harry Potter touring exhibition and let me tell you, it did not disappoint.

Driving to the exhibition was probably the most stressful part of my exhibition experience. What they do not tell you is that you have 30 minutes to get there after your scheduled time until your tickets expire, so, take my advice and leave at least two hours before your ticket time. In other words, do not do what we did and try to take every possible stressful shortcut to Philadelphia.

My friends and I entered the institute and got our tickets scanned at 1:29 p.m. which was 29 minutes later than our initial ticket time. With one minute to spare, we entered the exhibition where you were able to choose which Hogwarts house you belonged to, your wand and patronus.

From there, we entered a room that projected the Marauder’s map on every corner of the room and it was the most magical experience of my life. The Marauder’s map changed to Hogwarts at Christmas, to the dementors surrounding the castle, and then to a bright and sunny Hogwarts with music from the soundtrack playing in the background. Overall, the atmosphere made me feel as if I was transported into the wizarding world.

After that is when the exhibition really started. There were a total of four different rooms that you could enter that were sorted into the four different houses. The rooms held different costumes from the movies, ranging from Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint’s Gryffindor robes to Robert Pattinson’s

outfits from “Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire.”

For me, the most glorious experience in those four rooms was seeing Tom Felton’s black suit and wand from “Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince.” Controversial enough, it is because Draco Malfoy is my favorite character.

When I exited the rooms, I entered more rooms that held remakes of sets from the movies. The divination classroom, herbology classroom, Newt Scamander’s study, the quidditch pitch, Harry’s cupboard under the stairs, Dolores Umbridge’s office and the great hall were only some of the sets that were re-created. I was able to get up close and personal with them and I believe I took over 100 pictures.

What I thought was cool is that throughout the exhibition, you could participate in virtual experiences to earn house points and at the end of the exhibition, you could see just how much your house earned.

Although the exhibition was amazing, the gift shop merchandise was very underwhelming and gave off millennial Harry Potter vibes. However, their zip-up hoodies were cute so I gave in and bought one just to prove that I went to the exhibition.

Overall, I would rate the exhibition a 10/10 and I am already planning to go again in the summer before it closes on Sept. 18.

Graphic by Jack Malatesta



**What is your Harry Potter house? Have you ever been to the exhibit?
Tweet about it and tag us!
@wilkesbeacon**

My first year of college: Different but better than expected

By **Sydney Allabaugh**

Staff Writer

Ever since I was a little girl, I was told that college would be “the best four years of my life.” Between romanticized portrayals of the college experience in the media and anecdotal stories from others, I had high expectations for my first year at a university.

College life is commonly depicted as an exciting experience between constant parties, developing friendships and newfound independence. Hence, when I started school, I expected life as a college

student would be much more exciting and different than my former lifestyle.

Now, as my first year ends, I am left to ponder on one question: “Has my first year of college lived up to my expectations?”

I have had a much different experience so far than what I expected. As a commuter, I have not seen much of a shift in my lifestyle. Unlike many of my peers, I am not living alone for the first time surrounded by strangers who I must befriend to have any sort of social life.

Instead, I still live in my childhood home in the town I have lived in my whole life, still work at the same job,

and still spend most of my free time with my friends from high school. I have had the opportunity to stick to what is comfortable, and I have chosen to do so throughout this year.

Although I sometimes feel discontent as my college life has not been as exciting as I expected, I am thankful for the decisions I have made. I do not have to worry about creating and maintaining my new lifestyle; I have had the opportunity to grow.

Throughout this school year, I have gained a better understanding of who I am as a student and person. Although I

have not made many close friends yet, I have met many amazing professors and fellow students who have inspired me and guided me on my path for the future.

Taking what I have learned both inside and outside of the classroom, I can better navigate the world, recognize my strengths, and feel more competent moving forward through college and eventually my career.

If high school senior me could see me now, she would probably be a little disappointed that I have a lack of “crazy college stories,” but she would be proud of the person college has helped me become.

Sports

Want your sport covered? Deserve to be Athlete of the Week? Contact the Sports Editors: Christopher.Gowarty@wilkes.edu or Baylee.Guedes@wilkes.edu

GOLF: Men's and women's teams finish up their seasons

By Christopher Gowarty

Co-Sports Editor

Last weekend, the men's and women's golf teams took one step closer to ending their 2021-2022 seasons. The men competed in the 2022 MAC Championships as the women faced Misericordia University and King's College in a tri-match.

After the first day of the championship, the men's team placed fourth out of nine teams overall with a score of 329, trailing Stevens, Arcadia and Misericordia. Senior Michael Sherrick led all Colonels after the first day with a score of 81. Following Sherrick are junior Andrew Finke and first-year Max Cocchi who both had a score of 84.

After the end of the second day, the Colonels held their fourth place spot and finished with a final score of 672. Sherrick continued as the lead scorer for Wilkes with 162 and placed 12th overall out of 43 golfers in the championship. First-year Cole Jungwirth was right behind Sherrick as he placed 13th in a two-way tie with a score of 165.

"We had a rough start yesterday," said head coach Guy Rothery. "We had a few rookies in their first MAC championship who I think were a little nervous and the conditions weren't as good, but as a whole I thought we played pretty well."

The men's team headed into the championships with a record of 6-8 on the season.

In the fall portion of their season, the Colonels found themselves splitting their matches to earn a 3-3 record before fall break. However, the spring portion has proven difficult for the team as they sit at a record of 3-5 in the second half of their season.

Despite their struggles in the spring, the Colonels still had their bright moments throughout the year. The team began both portions of their season with a win, defeating rival King's College 327-351 in the fall opener and Misericordia 328-337 in the spring opener. In a 27-hole matchup

at the Glenmaura Invitational, Finke shot a 119 to place him fourth overall out of 30 golfers. His performance led Wilkes to a third place finish out of six teams and earned him MAC Freedom men's golfer of the week honors.

"It was impressive to see the improvement in everyone's game," said Sherrick. "Everyone who plays golf has good and bad rounds but it seems like everyone on the team has improved their game on some level over the course of the season."

In their tri-match against Misericordia and Kings, the women's team defeated Misericordia 435-457 and lost against Kings 435-417. Senior Sarah Sorber led all Colonels in scoring by shooting 96 on the day, placing fourth out of 16 golfers. Senior Gwen MacConnell followed Sorber with a score of 106 and led senior Cassidy Taylor's score of 108, senior Marrisa Korea's score of 125 and junior Cally Erickson's score of 139.

After their tri-match, the women's team enters their MAC Championship with a record of 3-11. The Colonels found the majority of their success in the fall by defeating Misericordia 444-468 in their first match on September 12 and the Cougars once again on Oct. 9 by a score of 411-433. The spring portion of their season has been challenging, as the Colonels have lost to all four teams they have faced in both of the tri-matches they have played in.

"I think we go into every match with the mindset of giving it our all and trying our best," said Sorber. "One of the most important things is not letting the game get the best of you and always continuing to have fun no matter what."

The men's team will play two more matches before their season is complete, as they face the University of Scranton on April 26 and Misericordia University on April 29. The women's team will wrap up their season with their MAC Championships, which will occur on April 30 and May 1.



Photos courtesy of gowilkesu.com

Junior Andrew Finke shoots a shot up hill to the next patch.



Senior Sarah Sorber chips a shot off the green towards the hole.

LAX: Men's and Women's teams both fall to Stevens 20-5

By Jason Eberhart
Asst. Sports Editor

The women's and men's lacrosse teams seasons are both almost finished. Although both teams have been eliminated from postseason contention, they look to finish their seasons on a positive note.

The women's team took on the Stevens Ducks on Saturday at Schmidt Stadium, their last home game of the season. Not much clicked for the Colonels as they were outdueled 20-5 on the afternoon.

That has been the story of the season for Wilkes as they are currently on a six game losing streak and sit at 3-11 on the season.

"The biggest struggle for the team so far this year has definitely been the injuries," said head coach Amber

McCarver. "We have had 4 ACL injuries so far this year, two of which occurred during big games. Losing players this late in the season has been tough for the team and we are going to need our younger classmen to step up big for us, but I truly believe that they have it in them to do so."

With so many injuries it has been tough for the team to find any real consistency with its lineups, which is not ideal when playing a tough MAC Freedom schedule.

However, adversity is not something new to this team, as they were without a coach just weeks before the season started. Despite that, the group has stuck together and now feel like they are closer than ever as the season winds down.

"The biggest improvement as a team

I feel would be our overall dedication to the sport," said senior midfielder Savannah Bauman. "We came so close as a family this season, and I feel this is due to the instability of fall ball and early season prior to Coach Amber joining us. We really showed that we wanted to continue with our love for lacrosse, and clearly did everything in our power to do so."

The men's team did not fare well either as they traveled to Hoboken, N.J. to take on Stevens. They fell to the top-ranked Ducks 20-5 on Saturday afternoon to bring their overall record to 4-12.

Despite a tough year, the Colonels offense has been a bright spot. They averaged around ten goals a game, sitting right in the middle of the conference.

"Our biggest improvement this year

is scoring quickly in transition," said head coach Curtis Jaques. "I really enjoy watching our players create something out of nothing, unscripted yet fundamental lacrosse."

Four Colonels have reached the 100 point milestone in their senior campaigns. Senior midfielders Eric Ormsby, Alex Meyers, and Ethan Weaver, as well as senior attacker Luke Palladino were able to get the coveted 100th point during different matches of the season.

Both the women's and men's teams will look to finish their seasons with a win as they take on cross-town rival King's tonight. The women's team will travel to King's to play at 6 p.m., while it will be senior night for the men's team at Schmidt Stadium at 7 p.m.

TENNIS: Men's and Women's teams eager to start postseason

By Jason Eberhart
Asst. Sports Editor

The women's and men's tennis teams concluded their home matches at the Ralston Athletic Complex for the season with a pair of them over the weekend. They took on DeSales University for a MAC Freedom match on Saturday, before concluding their non conference schedule against RIT on Sunday.

The women's team stayed perfect in conference play with a 7-2 victory over the Bulldogs.

A neck-and-neck match for the men's team left the Colonels defeated by Desales 5-4.

The women's team is currently at 7-5 and the men's team at 7-6. Both teams are used to running through the regular season on the way to the MAC Championships. However, this year they have been tested by some of the teams they have faced.

"I inherited a very difficult schedule, and I don't think they were used to being challenged in almost every match," said head coach Todd Kane. "It's definitely led to some confidence issues with some of the team. But they have responded very well in the conference."

Despite the confidence issues, the Colonels are right where they want to be heading into postseason play. Both teams are in control of their own destiny of where they are going to be seeded for the MAC Championships.

"The mindset is the same as it has always been," said senior Dasha Yakhins. "We need to keep working hard, keep fighting, and enjoy the game, even when it gets tough."

Things will definitely get tough as both teams look to be on a collision course with the top-seeded Stevens Ducks in the playoffs. The men's team will look to avenge a 9-0 loss earlier in the season.

The women's match will be resumed from a suspension on Tuesday April 26, as the Colonels currently trail 4-1.

"This year we are striving to go to the finals of the MAC Freedom because last year we fell short in the semifinals," said sophomore Cole Gibson.

Both the women's and men's teams look to go into the postseason with a win as they travel to take on Arcadia on Saturday to conclude their regular season.



Photo: The Beacon/Ariel Reed

Senior Dasha Yakhins returned the ball to the back corner of the court in effort to close out the set.

BASE: Walk-off win highlights series sweep over Del. Val.

By Baylee Guedes

Co-Sports Editor

The Colonels baseball team is riding out the season above .500 as they have their final games of the season at King's College on Friday and at home on Saturday against the Monarchs in a Senior Day doubleheader.

In the conference, the blue and gold are under .500, but their out of conference games have pushed them to a high overall record.

Wilkes started out their season with an eight game win streak and has maintained a winning season.

Wilkes alumnus Kevin Gryboski is in his fourth season as head coach of the Colonels and has maintained above a .500 season for two years in a row. He motivates his team by making sure they stayed focused every game.

"We have played a ton of one run games this season in the conference," said Gryboski. "One bounce or one pitch either way and we could be sittin in a different position than where we are today."

Senior Michael Patrizio leads the team with a batting average of .350 with 41 hits and 13 RBIs (as of April 23). He and his teammates focus on staying active at the plate to back up their defense with offensive contributions.

In their most recent home doubleheader, the Colonels went 2-0

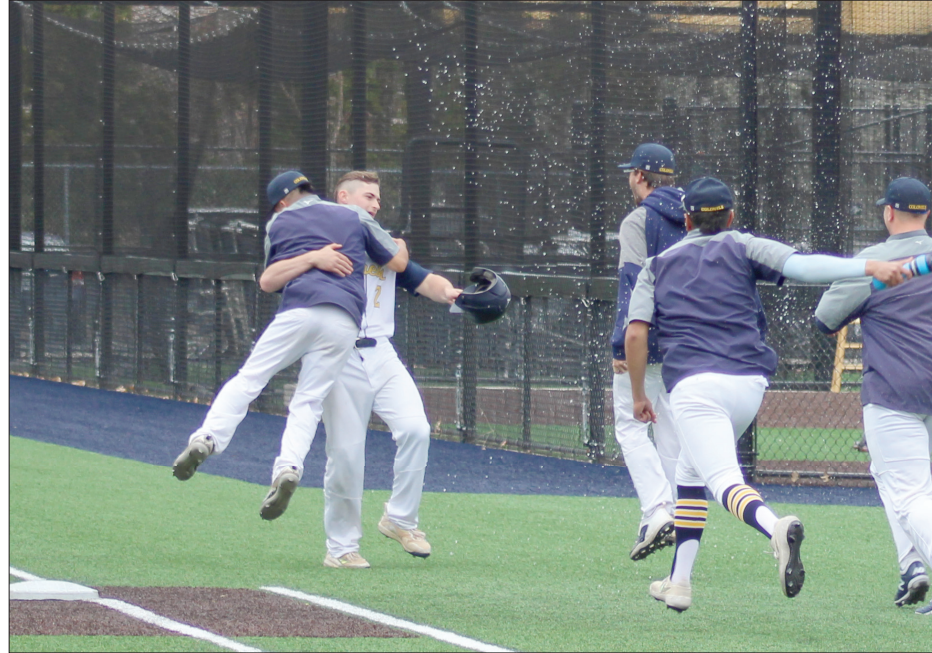


Photo: The Beacon/Ariel Reed

Junior AJ Brosious gets hugged by senior Rob Iacono after the walk-off win.

over Delaware Valley University.

Game one went into extra innings as the Colonels and Aggies had a tied ball game in the bottom of the seventh.

The Aggies scored in the top of the first inning off of a pass ball and the Colonels did not answer until the bottom of the sixth inning with a single to left field by first year Zack Luksic, who brought in junior AJ Brosious.

Wilkes held DelVal into the bottom of

the ninth and scored by capitalizing on a bad throw by the Aggies. The run was scored by junior Jason Spezzaferra who got on base with a single to left field.

Wilkes won 2-1 and senior Tony Moletoris collected the win on the mound, pitching a complete nine innings allowing six hits, one run and added six strikeouts.

"It felt great to get the win today," said Moletoris. "We needed this win just for

momentum and confidence for the end of the season. It was hard fought but well deserved."

The second game proved to be in Wilkes favor as they won 2-0.

The game remained scoreless until the bottom of the fourth inning when graduate student Dominick Bayo singled to left-center, bringing in Patrizio and junior Max Alessi.

"It felt great," said Bayo. "I was just doing my part to help the team win. You never know what is going to be a defining moment in a game, so it's always good to come up big when the opportunity arises."

Wilkes' defense held DelVal throughout the entirety of the game, not allowing any runs.

Senior pitcher Gage Coudriet got the win on the mound after pitching 6.2 innings with no runs scored, only allowing four hits and a walk, adding five strikeouts. Junior pitcher Sawyer Kemp closed the seventh inning on the mound for Wilkes, ending the game.

Wilkes looks to finish out their season strong as they take on their cross-town rival.

"Our goals for the last week of the season are the same, to go out and compete and win games," said Moletoris. "Especially this week with King's, these games are just as important as the rest of the games this season."

SOFT: Clutch hitting allows for series split against Del. Val.

By Baylee Guedes

Co-Sports Editor

The softball team is right under .500 as they head into their last week of play. They are sitting below .200 in conference play and will finish out their season in a home doubleheader as they host Lycoming College tonight at 4 p.m..

Wilkes started out their season with a three game win streak on their spring break trip to Myrtle Beach.

The Colonels are coached by Jackie Klahold who is in her third season as head coach.

"Heading into our final 2 double headers of the season, we are looking to finish on a strong note," said Klahold. "Have some momentum going into the off season and into the fall next year.

Senior Rachel Pritchard leads the team with an active batting average of .406 adding 26 hits, 10 runs and 11 RBIs (as of April 23).

"After playing collegiate softball for five years now, being a leader at the plate has come with experience," said Pritchard. "While this achievement is commendable, it is about being successful in each game as it contributes to success for everyone."

In their most recent doubleheader, the Colonels split with DelVal at the Aggies home field.

Game one went in Wilkes' favor as they held DelVal in the bottom of the seventh, winning 5-4.

No runs were scored until the fifth inning when first year Nicole Howell singled to left field, scoring senior Erin

Cabry. Junior Hope Mullins singled to the shortstop and brought in sophomore Kaylie Capriotti, making the score 2-0. To finish out the fifth inning scoring burst, Pritchard singled down the left field line, bringing in Howell.

The Aggies scored in the bottom of the fifth, but the Colonels answered in the sixth as Howell got her second RBI of the game, scoring Cabry.

A DelVal solo home run brought the score to 4-3 in Wilkes' favor, but the Colonels secured the win at the top of the seventh when first year Kayla Burleson singled to right field, bringing in senior CayleeMae Williams.

"It felt great to get the winning RBI," said Burleson. "I am so glad I was able to help my team out in a tough situation."

The Aggies got another run off of a

double RBI, but the Colonels got the final out and won the game 5-4.

Mullins started on the mound, pitching four innings with no hits, no runs, one walk and added four strikeouts. Senior Rhia Aurand finished the game and picked up the win pitching three innings allowing five hits, four runs, one walk and added two strikeouts.

The second game led to a 7-2 loss as Wilkes did not get their bats going until their final time at the plate in the seventh inning. The runs were scored by freshman Emily Murphy off of another Howell hit and by Howell off of a sacrifice fly by senior Emma Stauffer.

Wilkes looks to finish their season at home as they host Lycoming College tonight.



Getting to know...

Cole Gibson

Sophomore Tennis Player

The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week April 13 to April 20

Why Gibson was selected: In a 9-0 victory against Lycoming on April 19, Gibson earned a win for the Colonels as the No. 1 Single in two sets by scores of 6-3 and 6-2. He also helped Wilkes win the No. 2 Doubles match alongside first-year Rodniel Senson by a score of 8-3.

Name: Cole Gibson

Year: Sophomore

Major: Business Management

Hometown: Miami, Fl.

High School: Palmetto Senior H.S.

Position: No. 1

Other interests or hobbies off of the field?

Hobbies that I like to do off the field are playing spike ball, biking and fishing.

Favorite meal to eat on campus?

Which Wich is one of the top places to go because the sandwiches are always good. The POD is also great because of the sushi and other snacks.

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

I came to Wilkes because of the academics and the tennis team.

Favorite memory as a Colonel?

My favorite memory as a colonel is almost beating DeSales last year during the season because if we had beaten them we would have gone to the finals and played against Stevens.

What color/flavor of Gatorade is your favorite?

The Gatorade flavors that are my favorites are glacier freeze and fruit punch.

Hopes for this season as a Colonel?

This season as a Colonel I hope that we are able to beat DeSales to go to the finals of the conference tournament.

Most influential person in your life?

The most influential person in my life is my father because he taught me how to make decisions and the importance of having to work hard.

When/Why did you first begin playing?

I began playing tennis when I was seven, but I never focused on tennis primarily until I was midway through middle school because I was also playing baseball.

A quote you live your life by?

A quote that I live by is "Only he who can see the invisible can do the impossible."

Favorite thing to do during practice?

During practice, I like to work on improving shots that would be difficult to hit in a match, such as drop shots or winners down the line.

Anyone to give a shout-out to?

I want to give a shout-out to everyone that has supported me with playing tennis throughout the years and helped me improve.

- Compiled by Ariel Reed, Managing Editor

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/Ariel Reed

Getting to know...

Rachel Pritchard

Graduate-Student Softball Player

The Beacon: Female Athlete of the Week April 13 to April 20

Why Rachel Pritchard was selected: In a doubleheader against the University of Scranton on April 14, Pritchard earned a complete-game victory in the circle in the first game. In the second game, Pritchard supplied a walk-off, two-run double to secure the sweep.

Name: Rachel Pritchard

Year: Senior

Major: Neuroscience

Minor: Psychology

Hometown: Wilmington, Del.

High School: Concord H.S.

Position: P/INF

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

I transferred here in 2019 because of the level of academics Wilkes offered. I heard the softball program was also highly regarded and I thought that Wilkes would be a good fit.

Favorite memory as a Colonel?

My favorite memory as a Colonel was meeting friends that I will keep for the rest of my life. I think that softball has brought us closer together and I wouldn't trade it for anything.

Hopes for this season as a Colonel?

My teammates and I are hoping to make the playoffs.

When/Why did you first begin playing?

I first started playing around when I was eight. My parents were very supportive and helped me improve my game as I got older and continued my softball journey.

Favorite thing to do during practice?

I think my favorite thing to do during practice would be to pitch to batters but also get a chance to hit off of the other pitchers.

Other interests or hobbies off of the field?

I really like reading in my free time. I'm sure after graduating I will have more time to find more interests off the field.

Favorite meal to eat on campus?

Any free food that is given to us, does not really matter what it is. Also shout-out to the waffle truck (All Belgium) for always being around campus.

What color/flavor of Gatorade is your favorite?

My favorite is the yellow Gatorade.

Most influential person in your life?

I don't think I could just pick one person; I think the most influential people in my life are my parents. I wouldn't be who I am today without them and their support.

A quote you live your life by?

"It ain't about how hard you hit. It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward. How much you can take and keep moving forward. That's how winning is done."

-Rocky Balboa

Anyone to give a shout-out to?

Shout-out to my parents and teammates for pushing me to be the best I can be every day. (Special shout-out to Baylee Guedes.)

- Compiled by Ariel Reed, Managing Editor



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