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# THE BEACON

Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

## Alice Sola Kim kicks off Spring Writers Series in Kirby Hall

By Sean Schmoyer  
Asst. News Editor

Science fiction author Alice Sola Kim kicked off the Allan Hamilton Dickson Spring Writers Series as the first author to visit campus.

Dr. Mischelle Anthony, associate professor and chair of the English department, oversaw contact and reservations with students for the events throughout the day.

"I was happy to have Alice Kim visit our department as a person of color writing speculative fiction, a genre so many of our English majors and creative writing minors are interested in trying out. With our more diverse student population, Alice's position as an award-winning short fiction writer, as someone young in her career and working on her first novel, as someone who did not go 'straight through school' or did not 'always want to be a writer,' are important pieces of her identity for our students to witness," Anthony said.

Kim has a bachelor's degree from Stanford University in sciences and technology, and she produced content writing for a chatbot with a start-up in San Francisco before studying at the M.F.A program at Washington University in St. Louis. Kim also taught a class in the M.F.A program at Columbia University earlier this year.

Kim is known for her short stories and has been in publications such as *The Cut*, *Tin House*, *McSweeney's*, *Lightspeed*, and *The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy* 2017.

She has also received grants and fellowships

from the Elizabeth George Foundation, the MacDowell Colony, and the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. She was also the winner of a 2016 Whiting Award, which is given annually to 10 emerging writers in fiction, nonfiction, poetry and drama.

The first event students were able to attend was an afternoon workshop in which Kim expressed that she was interested in "the surprise in writing," and worked with students on writing against clichés in prose.

Daniel Stish, a first-year English major, was one of the students in attendance during the workshop.

"I think my favorite part was being able to see how different people responded to the same questions. It was neat seeing the different directions everyone was able to take their pieces, and the creative processes at play," said Stish.

Stish felt that the major skill he took away from the workshop was how to challenge



The Beacon/Sean Schmoyer

Alice Sola Kim spoke about her experience as a science fiction author writing short stories.

the audience's expectations through the use of descriptive language that keeps the reader surprised and engaged.

"Ms. Kim is a wonderfully talented writer," said Stish. "As someone new to being an English major, it is great that I have someone I can look at and say, 'I'd love to be able to write like she does.'"

**KIM, page 4**

## Opinion: Be your own valentine, every day of the year

By Taylor Dillon  
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day just passed, and as some of us are eating our left over candy and watching the flowers die, others are happy the holiday is finally over.

It is the holiday that is advertised on every store window, is seen on all television screens and plastered on thousands of store shelves across the nation.

Valentine's Day is the day where we take loved ones out for a day of romance displayed through gifts and greetings. But what about the people who are not in a relationship or do not have someone to call a loved one?

This day can make singles feel unappreciated or like there is something wrong with them. This, however, is not the case.

As old as it is and as corny as it sounds, you cannot truly love another until you learn to love yourself. You can start by practicing self-care and understand that love is not something to fear, but something that drives your actions and is permeated into every action.

**LOVE, page 7**



The Beacon/Sean Schmoyer

**SHINE hosts resource night for local families, page 3**



Submitted by Gracie Franko

**Creative Colonel Gracie Franko, page 11**



**NHL20 Review, page 15**



The Beacon/Madi Hummer

**Colonels set records at MAC Championship, page 20**

# News

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

## Student Government notes: Feb. 12 weekly meeting

By Sara Ross  
Staff Writer

On Feb. 12, Student Government went over first and second-week presentations along with a club report from BACCHUS.

To start, Adventures in Sciences came in for a fund request. Adventures in Science is a campus-wide event that is meant to encourage high school students to get interested in learning about science. This year the theme is "Blasting Off Into Space." They are expecting over 250 students from local high schools, such as in Hazleton and Wilkes-Barre, to attend. To fund their event, they are looking for \$2,730 to cover the costs of T-shirts, drawstring bags and safety glasses.

Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) made an

appearance as well because they would like to go to the 2020 State Leadership Conference in Harrisburg on Feb. 21. PBL is a business-oriented branch of a nationwide professional organization that participates in annual events. At the conference, students will be able to engage in open general sessions, award ceremonies, business workshops and networking opportunities. They will need \$1,500 for hotel and registration fees.

BACCHUS presented their club report at the meeting. They went over the activities they had during the fall, including the Alcohol Awareness Walk, Talk on Vaping and Sexual Jeopardy. In the spring, they plan on volunteering and participating at the Big Event, the Random Acts of Kindness Week

and the Sex Trafficking Awareness event.

The Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) gave a second presentation for a fund request to attend the SNPhA Regions I and II Conference. This organization's mission is to allow students to plan, organize, coordinate and execute programs geared toward the improvement for the health, educational and social environment of the community. They required a total of \$404.26, which they received in a passing motion.

Wilkes Adventure Education (WAE) was looking for a fund request to go on its 2020 WAE Spring Break trip. Students will get to go hiking and meet a Wilkes alumna who works as a park ranger at the Grand Canyon. To go on their trip, they needed \$3,000 to

cover expenses for car rentals, hotel rooms, a National Park pass and Grand Canyon permits. They were allocated this amount.

The Wilkes University Theatre Department is planning to attend the Southeastern Theatre Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. It will provide actors, teachers, directors and designers to participate in the art of theatre workshops, interviews for jobs, auditions and performance festivals. There will even be specialized classes that aren't available in a regular college curriculum. The theatre department is asking for \$200 for their trip, and they received the total amount.

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## Beacon Briefs: Upcoming happenings on campus

Compiled by Sara Ross

### Casino Week

Events for Casino Week are starting with Tie Dye Day on Feb. 17. Students can bring in shirts to dye. On Feb. 18, there will be Texas Hold'em, and on Wednesday, there will be bingo in the Henry Student Center's lounge.

Finally, on Feb. 21, Casino Night will be held in the ballroom. The theme will be glow-in-the-dark, and there will be many prizes available for students to win. Students will receive extra tickets at the entrance if they bring in donations for LEAP or the alternative spring break on campus.

### PharmD/MBA Dual Degree Program

At Wilkes, they are now offering a PharmD and MBA Dual Degree Program. If you are a pharmacy student and would like to learn more about it, there will be an information session on Feb. 25 at UCOM in room 231 at 11 a.m.

The PharmD/MBA program will help students to save time and money by allowing them to complete both programs in a total of six years. During this session, students will be able to learn more about the program, scheduling, admissions requirements and application process. Contact Kristin Donati if you have any

questions or require information.

### Summer Orientation Coordinator Team

The Office of Student Development is now hiring students for Wilkes' First Year Summer Orientation. Candidates that are selected will be responsible for assisting in the planning and coordination of orientation. They will work directly with Student Affairs Staff to execute all aspects of the event.

The position will be providing support in theme development, student leader training and event scheduling. If you are interested, contact Melissa Howells or visit the university's website for further

information.

### Wilkes to Host It's On Us Training Tour

On Feb. 24, the Spring 2020 National Training Tour is taking place. This is the first time Wilkes University will be a part of the event.

It's for It's On Us, which is a non-profit that combats sexual assaults on college campuses around the country. It will feature workshops on bystander intervention, consent, survivor support and more. Registration for the event will be free, and there will be refreshments.

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## Upcoming Events: 2020 Spring Semester

### February

20 - International Bingo (PB)  
18-21 - Casino Week (SG)  
21 - Turning 15 On the Road to Freedom (ODI)  
27 - Giveaway (PB)  
28 - Axe Throwing (CC)  
29 - Spring Recess begins

### March

9 - Classes resume  
12 - Magicaroni n' Cheese (PB)  
14 - Axe Throwing (SD)  
19 - Techno Bingo (PB)  
24 - Paint n' Sip (CC)  
27 - Spring Fling (SG)  
28 - Defy Jump (SD)

### April

4 - Phillis Game (SD)  
7 - Free Rita's Giveaway (CC)  
9 - Laser Tag Tournament (PB)  
9 - Holiday Recess begins  
13 - Classes resume  
16 - Birthday Bonanza (PB)  
18 - The Big Event (SG)  
21 - Commuter Council Cookout (CC)  
23 - Rainbow Bingo (PB)  
25 - Block Party (SG)  
29 - Multicultural Awards Celebration (ODI)  
29 - Final day of classes  
30 - Snack Attack (PB)  
30 - Final exams begin

### May

7-9 - Final exams end/make-up days  
16 - Spring Commencement

CC denotes Commuter Council  
MSC denotes Multicultural Student Coalition  
ODI denotes Office of Diversity Initiatives  
PB denotes Programming Board  
SG denotes Student Government  
SD denotes Student Development

Want your event featured in the calendar?  
Email: [TheWilkesBeacon@wilkes.edu](mailto:TheWilkesBeacon@wilkes.edu)

## Table of Contents

News.....2

Life, A&E.....7

Opinion.....14

Sports.....19

# College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences discuss new possible minors

By Parker Dorsey  
News Editor

With the recent adoption of the global cultures minor, the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences has been discussing several other possibilities for possible minors to be adopted into the university curriculum. These programs are Africana studies, film studies and emergent & game technology.

All new academic programs must be first approved by the Academic Program Committee and then by a vote of the full faculty. This process usually takes a few months or more. It is important to note that all three ideas are in their very early stages; emergent & game technology is the only one that has paperwork almost ready for submission.

Africana studies and film studies are both in an early enough stage where there is no formally written proposal as of yet. In order to have a minor, a faculty group needs to take into account numerous factors before they can draft a proposal.

First, the university needs to understand what resources are needed to deliver the program effectively. Of those resources, they must then determine how many of them are already available and identify how many are needed. Then, they would need to determine what the student demand is in order to make sure that demand is met. Finally, a proposal would be drafted based on that information.

"We are continually looking for new programs that we think will serve students well in their intellectual growth, in their job prospects, and that will help to attract and retain them at Wilkes. [Each of] these new programs have potential for that," said Dr. Paul Riggs, dean of the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences.

Africana Studies is an umbrella term for programs in higher education that study Africa, the African-American experience and other African diasporic communities around the world.

It is important to note that if Wilkes is able to develop and offer a new minor in Africana Studies, then it would be the only college or university in Northeastern Pennsylvania with that option.

"Our hope for Africana Studies is that students will have the opportunity to fully engage with this discipline. This includes learning and understanding key bodies of knowledge in the field, applying that knowledge to problems in the discipline and ultimately conducting original research to investigate new questions. We

already do this in lots of courses, but the idea is to move to the next level and make it more systematic and robust," said Riggs.

**E r i c a** Acosta, associate director for diversity initiatives, said she thinks it is important for students to have the opportunity to look at the "other side" of history.

"We have a Westernized approach to history. I would like it to be all-inclusive. For example, the narrative of the Africans and the Blacks that currently live here and how did that come about. Often times we are not showcasing their experience in our history or literature. In doing that it is a more narrow focus, and having that minor will allow students of all ethnic backgrounds to learn a little bit more about the history within that community," she said.

"It can also help us try to have better conversations with people of color. Just to understand them and have more dialogue. If we understand their story, their history and their narrative, we can, in a beautiful world, get along better," she continued.

Whereas global cultures focuses on understanding multiple different cultures on a global scale, Africana studies would focus on the experience of Africans exclusively.

While there are already several specialized topics courses related to Africana studies, there is a consensus that there would need to be a full-time faculty member where this is their area of focus.

"We might decide we would need a specialized faculty position or two that we don't currently have. These kinds of things take time to do well. As excited as we are to have the possibility of the program we want to make sure we're delivering it effectively and that we're doing a good job of it," said Dr. Helen Davis, associate professor of English.

Film studies would look at the various ways of exploring the narrative, artistic, cultural, economic and political implications of cinema.

While there is a focus on gaining proficiency in videography or cinematography, a primary concern would be analyzing film in detail and why certain techniques were used instead of others.

"In the case of Film Studies, we hope



to encourage students to think about film as an important art form that deserves serious inquiry. We also know that the ability to create film and video is a

marketable job skill these days when so much marketing is being done on social media. Employers are looking for recent graduates who are creative and who have hands-on experience with film and video production. We hope that a Film Studies minor will help our graduates compete for these jobs more effectively," said Riggs.

Students should expect to look at the modes of film studies, close analysis of film, methods of film production and the history of film and media. There would also be analysis of movies with an emphasis on period pieces, regional creation, genre and creators.

"Film is a reflection of our society," said Eric Ruggiero, associate professor and Digital Design & Media Arts (DDMA) chair, "There is an impact of pop culture on history."

He said that the minor was currently in the "gelatinous stage," and that several faculty are pooling ideas together. He said the minor would be a blend of hands-on work as well as film theory, and that students should expect to analyze film in detail.

"Ultimately, it becomes another opportunity for students to explore something they're interested in," said Ruggiero.

The final minor in the works is emergent & game technology minor, which would be available as a DDMA cognate minor in addition to being an interdisciplinary minor. A cognate minor is a required minor that applies to the DDMA curriculum, and every DDMA major needs to select at least one cognate minor.

Currently, DDMA students can choose from a selection of art, business administration, computer science, English, entrepreneurship, marketing and theater arts.

Ruggiero and Dr. Andy Ren, associate professor of DDMA, worked over the summer to develop a plan for the minor. Ren was hired this past fall and had currently been teaching several emergent & game technology courses as topics courses in order to get a feel for how they

would be received by students.

"Part of my proposal was talking to our admissions folks and our marketing folks. I wanted to make sure that admissions would get feedback from potential students to see what their interests looked like and they were very positive in their interactions. They said they had students interested in this," said Ruggiero.

Emergent & game technology is not limited to video games. It encompasses a wide variety of 2D and 3D interactive media. Ruggiero said one example of this could include a virtual reality tour of a building. Students who take the minor will be exposed to programming, game design, production, animation and storytelling.

"Students can gain a lot of next-gen skillsets. Being able to take the core of what they learn in DDMA and augment it with this new technology. That's why it's called emergent. It's new, it's evolving technology," said Ruggiero.

Much like Africana studies, the adoption of emergent & game technology would position Wilkes as the only school in Northeastern Pennsylvania with such a program.

All three minors likely won't be adopted into the Wilkes curriculum for several years. Each minor will be interdisciplinary and available to all students.

One positive is that it seems like there is a framework available for each minor; they are not starting from scratch.

Several global cultures courses could be cross-listed with Africana studies. The communication studies department offers two courses in broadcast production and an art of film class, all three of which could be included as possible courses for the film studies minor.

DDMA has already been offering emergent & game technology classes as topics courses, which according to Ruggiero have been received well by students so far.

In the past two years, Wilkes added a theatre design and technology major, a sport psychology minor, a sustainability management minor, a minor in actuarial sciences, a five-year B.A./M.B.A. industrial-organizational psychology major and a global cultures minor. Several of these programs, such as the sport psychology minor, are the first of its kind in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Graphic by Madi Hummer



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# New conditions to the student domestic travel policy

By Sara Ross  
Staff Writer

The Office of Risk and Compliance Management has updated the conditions to the student domestic travel policy to ensure safer travel and provide guidance for planning off-campus trips and excursions.

The policy includes undergraduate students traveling to events and activities that are beyond 50 miles of Wilkes University's campus or require staying overnight. It covers any student who belongs to one of the school's clubs, organizations, academic programs or departments. Also, it allows staff and faculty members to attend as well.

Further, the new stipulations that were added to the policy include a consent form and a travel waiver. They both need to be completed along with other documents at least one week before departure.

The consent document needs to be signed, as it confirms if those attending are in agreement with their rooming and lodging accommodations. Then, the travel waiver contains content regarding the student's trip and what regulations they need to follow while away.

According to Michaela Free, senior Student Government member and Class Representative, the policy states that

the university does not encourage or condone students from sharing a bed. However, spouses, partners and friends may be excluded from the policy if they so choose.

She explained that it will benefit students by reducing the number of hotel rooms being purchased for the trip and clear up any confusion.

"Before, we were constantly running into the question, 'Should we allow the male and female students to share a hotel room?' Now, the waiver must be submitted by each student, ensuring they are comfortable with the arrangement," she said.

Another addition is that a Wilkes University staff or faculty member must accompany and chaperone the student group. They are required to hold a pre-trip meeting with participants to discuss the itinerary, transportation details, budget and behavioral expectations.

Cell phone numbers and emergency contact information will be exchanged for all participants. Although, if they don't require an advisor, an exception can be made as long as it is approved by the appropriate administration, such as the Director of Student Development or the Provost.

Alanah Guerrero, student body

president, gave a presentation on the changes during the Jan. 15 Student Government meeting. She described the benefits the new policy would provide to students.

"It will provide students with comfort and peace of mind knowing that they are protected under this policy. It takes into consideration students' comfort levels on lodging with students of the same gender, opposite gender or non-binary students," she said.

Guerrero addressed as well how the policy will affect clubs, departments or any domestic student travelers on campus. She explains if it is not completed within the allotted timeline described in the domestic travel policy they can lose the ability to travel off-campus under Wilkes University.

At Student Government meetings, Kevin Long, executive board treasurer, continued how it will impact the proceedings, especially when clubs present fund requests to attend events, such as conferences and conventions for overnight stays.

He said that presenters will be reminded to complete the necessary paperwork, and if questions or issues arise, they will be sorted out.

Otherwise, the amended policy won't

change the process of how Student Government conducts business at their meetings. Still, their organization does operate under university policies, which is why Student Government members encourage clubs to utilize the travel policy.

Many clubs and organizations that have presented at Student Government meetings have had to plan their trips around the new guidelines of the policy.

At the previous meeting on Feb. 12, some of the clubs and organizations that gave fund requests were Wilkes Adventure Education (WAE), the Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) and the Wilkes University Theatre Department.

With these improvements, it appears that the updated conditions will help to alleviate previous problems caused by the former policy. Wilkes students will now have more of a choice regarding their rooming situations. They will also be further informed on details regarding their trips with increased advisor involvement.

For additional information regarding the policy, visit the university website at [wilkes.edu](http://wilkes.edu).



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## KIM, from front

Another aspect of writing Kim focused on was the necessity of a playful nature. Anthony recounted this part of the activity in her introduction to Kim later in the night.

"You need to have a playful nature to be imaginative in your craft of writing. Taking yourself too seriously and your writing too seriously can limit what you can produce," Anthony said.

Stish was also in attendance for the second event of the night, a dinner that allowed students and faculty to sit down with Kim.

"The dinner was very pleasant. It's really great how close the relationship between English students and staff appears to be. I was able to connect with other students and the faculty present, along with Ms. Kim herself," said Stish.

The final event of the evening was a reading from Kim to the general public in the Kirby Salon.

The excerpt Kim read was from a novel she is working on, which she has yet to publish anywhere. Known for her short stories, the new novel marks a change in format for Kim's writing. Despite that, the excerpt she used showcased many of the

skills she spoke about during the writing workshop earlier that day.

The excerpt focused on a frat party from the point of view of a girl named Bora. Kim uses Bora's point of view to describe other characters and produce the atmosphere of the setting and story.

"Although if there was a head bird it was Veronica. She was the easiest to track through the crowd both for her height and the slithering net of gazes she trolled in her wake. And who knew, maybe the back of her head was somehow beautiful too since he was so beautiful that she had reached this infinite vanishing point of hotness in where her hotness got fractal..." Kim read.

As the story continued, Kim tells Bora's story through the character's judgment and interactions with others at the party.

After reading the excerpt Kim took questions from the audience. She first spoke about her time writing science fiction.

"I started by being a science fiction fan. I went to conventions and I started publishing in science fiction magazines and publications. It was nice because it felt like a more smaller contained accessible world than just all of literary fiction. It was a nice way to start and it

is a community I still feel a part of," Kim said.

"The way I see science fiction, I agree with the writer William Gibson. Where for him, science fiction is not important as a form of future forecasting so much as it is like a heightened exaggerated strangely and magic way of looking at the present."

Kim continued as she spoke on how to write science fiction in today's world as technology continues to advance, "I think there are writers who see it as looking into the future and imagining that, but it is not the lens I view it through even if I enjoy that kind of fiction."

Kim then spoke about her current novel and the process of writing it and what convinced her to make the switch from the short story to the novel.

"I had just written short fiction before and the thing about my writing process is that it is very 'bingey', which works much better for works of a contained shorter work. I found that I had to make 'bingeyness' work for me, and one of the issues I had to deal with was keeping the project in my head and alive to me over a long span of time. I do not think everyone has to write every day if they want to write, but with a novel, if you are

not writing every day you have to have it present somewhere," said Kim.

"This is basically the first novel I am writing. I love novels, and just as a challenge, they are much longer and more deliberately built and structured. I always wrote way too long of short stories, and there are times where it feels like you are not a real person if you haven't written a novel," Kim said.

Finally, Kim spoke on the diversity of the genre of science fiction and how it has grown to include more writers and characters of colors.

"The simple answer is it is the best and I love it. It just speaks to how hungry you can be for something that you do not care if no one reflects you almost. You just want it and you do this big imaginative act of imagining yourself into it or forgetting yourself, which is a very difficult thing that happens when literature and media do not reflect you. But, I think it is also wonderful that it does not need to happen anymore," Kim said.

The next event in the series will take place on March 18 and will feature Poupeh Missaghi, Iran Editor-at-Large for Asymptote Journal.



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# SHINE program hosts resource night for local families

By Sean Schmoyer  
Asst. News Editor

Last Tuesday, Luzerne County SHINE (Schools and Homes in Education) hosted a resource night for families and members of the community.

The event featured representatives from a dozen social service agencies including: The Domestic Violence Service Center, Catholic Social Services, Volunteers in Medicine, Victims Resource Center, Children's Service Center, CEO, Fortis, Advantage, Pennsylvania CareerLink, Luzerne County Community College, and Maternal and Family Health Services.

The agencies provided information to families in a variety of ways. The Victims Resource Center provided an information table ran by one of their prevention education specialists who talked with families and provided handouts. These handouts listed all of the areas covered by the center and reminded families that the services at the center are confidential.

CEO, the Commission on Economic Opportunity, provided a kid's activity, a diabetes prevention program and screening for prediabetes for adults.

The family resource night also offered families a chance to learn about services such as WIC, safety, dental and counseling services. It also offered information on obtaining a GED, financial literacy, health and nutrition, technical schools and self-sufficiency.

The event was managed by Erin Maloney, SHINE's family resource coordinator.

"I help parents get connected to local resources around the community. I felt that by bringing all of these resources it would be easier to get families connected," Maloney continued. "Usually, I send home papers to them but I felt face-to-face contact would be beneficial. Sometimes it is hard for families to figure out how to get started, this is a way to help them by saying 'here is Fortis' and how to get in contact with them."

Maloney also helps in the centers SHINE provides through social-emotional learning, which she helps oversee.

"I really enjoy helping people. I went to school for rehabilitation human services, so I knew I wanted to work in a field where I could help people become successful in whatever they want to do," Maloney said.

Luzerne County SHINE at Wilkes University provides students from first to fourth grade with after-school services. The



The Beacon/Sean Schmoyer

Stephan Moore, Jennifer Haasz and 5-year old Josiah Haasz speak with Eryka Vargas, prevention education specialist at the Victims Resource Center about the confidential nature of the VRC and the services available to families.

centers operate four days a week and the program focuses on a project-based STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) curriculum.

"SHINE is important because it gives kids the opportunity to learn outside of school as

well. They go to school all day and then when they go home they may not have anything academic to do. But if they go to SHINE they can have STEM-based activities, they get a hot meal and 25 minutes of homework help as well," said Maloney.

# Professor joins editorial board of international journal

By Genny Frederick  
Staff Writer

Zbigniew J. Witczak, Ph.D. of Wilkes University's Nesbitt School of Pharmacy has been selected to join the editorial board of the international journal *Antibiotics* based in Basel, Switzerland. The open-access, peer-reviewed journal publishes papers monthly through MDPI. These papers focus on new discoveries in antibiotic research.

Witczak will be serving as a guest editor for the upcoming special issue of *Antibiotics* in which he will be requesting contributions from other well-known scientists. He explains his position, "My responsibility will be reviewing the specific type of paper. And validating the paper. You have to selectively try to decide 'oh this is true and this is not true.'"

This will not be his first position as editor. Witczak serves on the editorial boards of other scientific journals including *Current Organic Synthesis*, *Mini Reviews in Organic Synthesis*, *Current Medicinal Chemistry* and *the Journal of Carbohydrate Chemistry*.

Although he has many positions as an editor, Witczak has also written nearly 100 papers and published six books. Witczak is currently working on a review paper for the upcoming special issue of *Antibiotics*. The working title of his paper is "The functional modification

of streptomycin unit to combat aminoglycoside antibiotics resistance." As a carbohydrate chemist, one of the oldest classes of antibiotics, antibiotic resistance and its subfields are of particular interest to Witczak.

"How to combat resistance is a very, very important issue not only to pharmacy students but also the doctors who are dealing with patients who have bacterial infections. There is a growing problem of resistance because we cannot simply treat a bacterial infection through normal antibiotic therapy. The antibiotics will not be effective."

While his focus is in pharmacy, Witczak also understands that resistance to antibiotics and the use of antibiotics is not only related to pharmacy.

Antibiotics that are expelled into the environment pose a large problem according to Witczak. The neutralization of these chemicals is complex and requires the collaboration of

different fields. For many people to understand the issues of antibiotic resistance and antibiotic wastes, people need to have access to more information.

MDPI's mission is to foster open scientific exchange in all forms, across all disciplines, which is a mission Witczak is fully behind. Plus, the online publishing of *Antibiotics* allows the public to find the information they need on their own time.

"The journal is online, so if the patients or doctors or pharmacists want to find out something they can search online and bingo, you will have some kind of response. So, they will learn," said Witczak.

He believes that the public should be able to access this information so they can learn more about the antibiotics they are using and the research within the field or else they will stay on the "dark side" of knowledge.

While many daunting questions loom over the field of antibiotic research, Witczak says

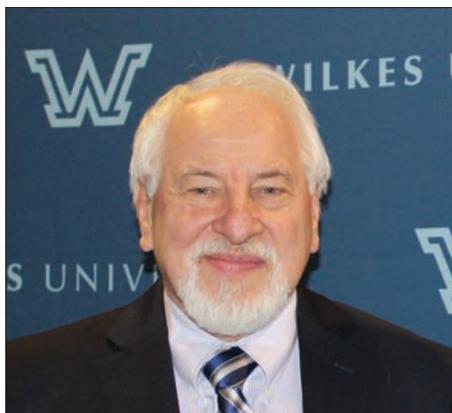
"there's still hope." He says, "It is fascinating because we don't know so many things. There are plenty of dark sides of this, and one day when someone solves this problem it will be very, very beneficial."

In recent years, Witczak has been acknowledged at Wilkes University. In the fall of 2018, he was recognized with the Wilkes University President's Award for Excellence in Scholarship. In May of 2018, he was selected by students as Teacher of the Year in the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy. He also received the 2018 University Teacher Recognition and Effectiveness Committee Award for Scholarship.

Witczak has had a distinguished career outside of Wilkes, serving as both a U.S. representative and president of the International Carbohydrate Organization from 2016 to 2018. He also served as chair of the selection committee for the National American Chemical Society's Earnest Guenther Award in Chemistry of Natural products in 2019.

From 2005 to 2018 he served on the National Science Foundation's Chemistry Panel Review and in 2015 the Kosciuszko Foundation recognized him as a distinguished fellow of its Collegium of Eminent Scientists.

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Submitted by Wilkes Marketing

# Student leaders and tutors provide tips at Study Better

By Sean Schmoyer

Asst. News Editor

Six P1 pharmacy students presented a group presentation on strategies to improve learning and studying to all interested students on Tuesday night. Amanda Albright, Timothy Hendershot, Auri Glucksnis, Morgan Casciole, Dani Francisko and Jeffrey Eager-Heffner presented together for their Foundations of Pharmacy course.

The presentation focused on how students could use the VARK system of learning to study more effectively.

Dr. Kimberly Ference, associate professor of pharmacy, alongside Dr. Judith Delika, chairperson of the department of pharmacy practice, both played a role in overseeing the class and presentation of the P1 students.

"Students often comment about the difficulty of transitioning from high school to college as it relates to productive study habits. During the VARK presentation, the student pharmacists did a great job highlighting the importance of effective studying strategies, including knowing personal learning preferences and how to adapt to different learning environments," Ference said.

"VARK is a learning approach that helps students customize how they want to learn. It is an acronym that stands for visual, learning through looking, auditory learning through hearing, learning through reading and kinesthetics, which is learning through doing things and touching," Albright said.

Students in attendance could take a questionnaire before the presentation to which categories apply to them. Presenters then broke down study tactics for each style of learning, as well as general study tips that could benefit different learning styles

"The first one is self-examination, it is pretty much just making a pre-test and see what you are lacking in. Once you take it and check your results, see what you are still lacking on. Then, information generation; what this means is instead of immediately Googling the word, try to use context clues to figure out the meaning. Finally, we have after class reflection. Fifteen to 20 minutes after class, review your notes every day. What this will do is let you go to your professor as soon as you have a question instead of everyone swarming the professor the day before the exam," Albright said.

After looking at the results of the VARK system's questionnaire, students can figure

out the ways they best learn and use the study methods the P1 pharmacy students presented to better prepare.

Outside of the VARK system, students can study through the writing center or student tutors like Cordell Siggins. Siggins, a sophomore physics and math major who tutors for general physics 1 and 2.

"To me, studying is rehearsal and practice of concepts and problems, which is exactly what tutoring does. Unfortunately, not a lot of time goes towards talking about study habits unless they do not understand the concept. Then we discuss different strategies to rehearse information in order for them to grasp the topics they do not understand," said Siggins.

Hunter Bowman, junior electrical engineering and physics major, tutors classes including general physics 1 and 2, engineering physics 1 and 2, modern physics, electrical circuits and devices, digital devices and electrical measurements lab.

"I do not view tutoring as studying. If anything I see it as a review, but I see it

have people around when you do practice problems, go over notes or are just talking about the material, because it can help you solidify your understanding of it while helping others. I also ask the professor what the material is heavily based on, what problems from class would be good to review and I make note cards," said Bowman.

"Getting together with friends to break down any practice problems or concepts we have to study for the final is definitely my preferred method. Other than that it is just individual rehearsal on my part; reading over notes and practice problems," said Siggins.

To be able to use tutoring to its full potential students need to be open to the idea of tutoring, seek out help and know how to come into contact with a tutor.

"I definitely overhear a lot of students struggling with their classes but I do not see enough of those people in tutoring sessions and the writing center. Perhaps they just prefer friend study groups. I feel like the whole system for tutoring and other aid offered by the university should be better advertised. Even when I wanted to get some tutoring in previous semesters, I never really knew where or when the tutoring sessions took place," said Siggins.

"For most students on campus, they feel as though asking a professor or a TA a question makes them weak or feel dumb. I have seen many students that are struggling not come to tutoring because they feel like they have to do it on their own or don't want to be seen at tutoring. Yet some of the most successful students I know use every resource they can to stay on top of the material," said Bowman.

Students interested in peer tutoring should contact Dr. Alberto Prado, the academic support coordinator, or visit the university's website and schedule a tutoring session online. The campus offers peer tutoring, small group tutoring, academic counseling and coaching.

In addition, students can seek help with their writing through the writing center located on the bottom floor of the Farley Library in the Alden Learning Commons.

Students can visit the writing center's page on the university website to submit papers to be looked over, learn foundations of writing they may need a refresher on, or simply learn more information about the writing center as a whole.



Submitted by Dr. Kimberly Ference

From left to right, P1 pharmacy students Timothy Hendershot, Amanda Albright, Morgan Casciole, Jeffrey Eager-Heffner, Auri Glucksni and Dani Francisko after giving their presentation on learning styles.

mainly as a position to give students a source to help learn the material that will follow them through their career. I try to talk with them frequently about their studying habits because it is a core part of passing a class. Everyone has their own way of studying and it's part of my job to help them," said Bowman

Despite their difference in whether tutoring is a form of studying, both Siggins and Bowman expressed that tutoring is a useful tool for students in general.

Outside of their tutoring, Siggins and Bowman are still students who have had to develop their own study methods.

"Some of the best ways I study for midterms and finals are in a group that is taking the course. For me, it works to

## VARK Study Tips: Visual:

- Graph information
- color and highlights notes and concepts
- Underline parts of notes

## Auditory/Aural:

- Explain concepts to aloud to other
- Record lectures to be able to play them back

## Read/Write:

- Recreate class notes
- Create study guides
- Summarize paragraphs as you read them
- Write captions and descriptions for tables and charts

## Kinesthetic:

- Use your senses and body to study
- Role play test study, use old exams to test yourself or recreate the testing environment

## Scheduling Tutoring Sessions:

- Log in to tutortrac using your MyWilkes Username & Password
- In the top left, click on "Search Availability" and choose Peer Tutoring in Center Dropdown followed by class in the Section Dropdown
- Choose Peer Tutoring in Reason Dropdown then click "SEARCH" - available time slots appear
- Click on your preferred time; to schedule an appointment during that time, click "SAVE"

# Life, Arts & Entertainment

## LOVE, from frontcover

Learning to appreciate yourself makes you appreciate gestures of love on a daily basis, not just on one random day of the year.

Simply put, you can be your very own valentine. Relying on someone else to fulfill your expectations of love or to make you happy is no longer an option. Your Feb. 14, and all 364 other days of the year, can be just as special through these 14 tips to be your own valentine.

Try a simple meditation each morning, anywhere from five to 20 minutes. Meditation can sometimes feel awkward at first, and sometimes our minds wander off, not really getting the full effect of what meditation can do for us. It just takes time and patience with yourself.

Taking a walk allows for a much-needed dose of fresh air, which does wonders for our heart and mind. Going for a walk is a nice little reminder to ourselves that we are

apart of something, our community.

Naps are very important on the self-care list. Taking a nap is the perfect way to treat our bodies with love and care because they need rest sometimes. The full eight hours of sleep is not always feasible.

Do not be afraid to let your bright light shine through! You are awesome and you do not need to hide your amazing qualities anymore. Do not allow yourself to dim that light because the world should see just how bright you are.

Make sure you are eating right. Take the extra time to prepare a meal that is healthy and filled with nutrients because your body is well-deserving of it.

Get a Reiki treatment. Reiki is all about loving energy that helps to heal our emotional and spiritual bodies. Most of us do not get this needed hands-on self-care. So, take this time to show yourself that love.

Allow yourself to cut loose and have some fun once and a while. There is no reason to be so serious all the time.

Get uncomfortable because it is vital to our growth and development. Yeah, taking the easy road gives us a sense of security but you become stuck in a pattern of unfulfillment. Remember that bright light? Well this stops your full potential from shining through the way it is fully intended to.

Try going to bed early once and a while. Disconnect from the world by turning off all screens and lights. Rub some lavender oil on your temples and sink into your bed fully relaxed and prepared to have the sweetest of dreams.

One of the most powerful practices a person can do is forgive. Practicing forgiveness can open up a path to heal and allow ourselves to see where we have been unkind. This gives us a chance to live in the moment rather than the past. No more holding grudges!

Keeping a clean home represents a sense of being grounded in our lives. A messy room usually correlates to a messy life. If you try keeping a clean space that will open

up a door to success in our lives because we feel more put together.

Give yourself a night to kick back and relax. Do something that gives you complete Zen. Whether that may be a nice hot bubble bath or snuggling up to a good book. Give yourself that you time.

No more procrastination. We all put things off for fear of failure, but this can cause unnecessary anxiety. Do what need to be done so you can avoid that unwanted stress.

Let go of the past. If there is something or someone in your life that does not add to your peace of mind or does not lift you up in anyway. Cut it or them out of your life. This can be so liberating and allows you to stay connected to yourself.

After following these helpful tips, you are one step closer to self-love. And remember, you CAN be your own valentine.



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## Programming board celebration on Valentine's Day Eve



Gathered around Valentine's day decorated tables, students were enjoying snacks and chatting with one another.



Umou Jalloh and Kabita Kandel holding their newly made candy hearts. Programming board offered a build your own pillow station.

Photos courtesy of Dr. Mia Briceno



# BEACON BUMPS

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 for this week's list of songs.

**Cabrini Rudnicki**, Editor-in-Chief: [Awake - Tkay Maidza](#)  
**Maddie Davis**, Managing Editor: [What's Up? - 4 Non Blondes](#)  
**Parker Dorsey**, News Editor: [Cattle Decapitation - Bring Back The Plague](#)  
**Sean Schmoyer**, Asst. News Editor: [Bang! - AJR](#)

**Kylie Dillon**, LA&E Editor: [My Main - Mila J & Ty Dolla \\$ign](#)  
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Freshmen and all majors welcome!

# WHAT'S THE DISH?

## RESTAURANT REVIEW

DISTANCE	★	★	★	★	★
PRICE	★	★	☆	☆	☆
OVERALL EXPERIENCE	★	★	★	☆	☆

# Dish of the Week: Arena Bar & Grill

By Maria DiBuo  
Staff Writer

This week, "What's the Dish?," travels to the Arena Bar & Grill, an eatery that has been serving American cuisine in the Wyoming Valley since 2002. Roughly a five minute drive from Wilkes University campus via Wilkes-Barre Boulevard, the Arena Bar & Grill is located at 380 Coal St. in Wilkes Barre.

The eatery describes itself on social media as a "upbeat spot, with dozens of beers on tap," as well as serving "a selection of bar food staples, plus pizza and pasta." They also offer desserts, as well as a wide array of beverages, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic.



The beer cheese pretzel dip appetizer at the Arena Bar & Grill.

The Arena Bar & Grill offers weekly specials, as well as special dinner events, such as their most recent Valentines Beer Dinner, which was held on Feb. 9. The restaurant also offers the space to be rented for special events and parties.

While Arena Bar & Grill is not a restaurant I personally frequent often, many Wyoming Valley locals have great things to say about the eatery.

"I like going to Arena in the summer for sure," said Dyann Daylida, of Glen Lyon. "They have good specials, and it's close to where I work. Their outdoor seating is really nice too."

Others however, feel that the environment and food at Arena Bar & Grill could use some work.

"They've been open for quite a while," said Sarah Spess of Kingston. "When they first opened, it was packed. I liked going there for a quick bite to eat or drinks with friends or family. It's just not the same now, there's less people. It's just kind of a weird atmosphere now."

While at the Arena Bar & Grill, I had the chicken caesar wrap, as well as pretzels with beer cheese dip, one of their specials for the week. I also sampled a Moscow Mule, a drink from their large selection of alcoholic beverages.

Although the food looked extremely appealing, the

actual taste did not meet the same standard. The chicken caesar wrap, one of my favorite dishes at any restaurant, was good, but not outstanding. The wrap was priced at \$10.00, which I feel is expensive for any wrap, but especially for one that was not out of the ordinary.

For an appetizer, I sampled the beer cheese pretzel dip, advertised as one of the Arena Bar & Grill's specials for the week. The appetizer was priced at \$8.99, and like the chicken caesar wrap, it left a lot to be desired.

While the pretzels were served almost cold, the dip was scalding hot. Ordinarily, I could forgive this; however in this instance, it seemed almost evident the appetizer was pre-made and then reheated.

My favorite part of the meal was the Moscow Mule, along with the side of french fries my wrap came with. In my opinion, regarding the cuisine at Arena Bar & Grill, better food can be made at home at almost, if not less, than the same cost.

To my surprise, the environment at the Arena Bar & Grill echoed the sentiments of Spess, rather than those of Daylida's experience. When I went to the restaurant around 7:30 p.m. on a Wednesday night, there were little to no patrons there.

It seemed that what was once a bustling restaurant in the Wyoming Valley had been forgotten about by customers. With quite a



The Beacon/Maria DiBuo  
The caesar wrap from Arena Bar & Grill.

large dining area, as well as a complete bar, it was shocking to see the eatery appearing so lackluster.

When dining in the Wyoming Valley, I cannot say I necessarily recommend the Arena Bar & Grill, at least not during the winter months, which seems to be their slow season. Personally, I will give the restaurant another shot in the summer months, when I can take advantage of their outdoor patio.

As always, remember to be safe and use caution when commuting to and from campus, and remember to eat local.

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# Be a little kinder, celebrate Random Acts of Kindness week

Jordan Daniel  
Staff Writer

Student Development and Campus Interfaith are sponsoring 'Random Acts of Kindness Week' throughout campus from Feb. 17 to 21. Some clubs and departments are already participating while others are welcomed and encouraged to join this five-day initiative to "brighten someone's day by doing something kind," as stated on Student Development's poster.

"The goal of Random Acts of Kindness Week is simple - to remind everyone that they are capable of doing something impactful even if the action seems small," said Interfaith Coordinator Kristin Osipower, via email. "Kindness doesn't require a lot of money or planning and everyone is capable of doing something thoughtful. Sometimes we need to be reminded that our words and actions do matter. We are taking the opportunity to highlight how positive and thoughtful actions can make Wilkes a better place to learn, work and grow."

The clubs that have planned ideas already for their random acts of kindness are: Programming Board, Colonel's Closet, Bacchus, SOL, PPA, Unicef Club and Neuroscience Club. They cannot wait for the

students to see the treats, positive messages, giveaways and other surprises they have arranged.

"If people want to know about the random acts that will be happening I would reach out to student development or check Wilkes social media accounts," said president of Programming Board, DeAndre DePass, via email. "Anyone can participate in this event."

Students got involved with this event for many different reasons. Some feel very passionately about spreading kindness, hoping their kind actions will create a chain reaction so more people will be kind to those in their lives and the people they do not know too well.

"I'm involved in this event with my entire club," DePass said. "However, I am constantly giving to others. Unfortunately, I don't really make it known because I do it out of the kindness of my heart. For example, not too many people really know this but every Monday and Tuesday I drive over to Kingston and take out an elderly couple's trash for them. I've been doing this since the start of my junior year. I am currently looking for someone to help me when I'm not here in the summer. It's rare to find someone who would take time out of their day to do something without compensation."



## RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

Classes and other clubs have made similar efforts in the past but this is the first time Student Development is making it campus-wide as well as a week-long event. All of the clubs have high expectation for this event and they hope to obtain as many participants as possible, doing whatever they can to make someone's day a little better.

"I hope that students enjoy themselves this week and that it inspires them to be kind to others not only this week but every week to come," said First Year Student Coordinator, Alana Guerrero, via email.

If you want to participate in 'Random Acts of Kindness' it does not take much to add a little happiness to someone's day. Start by smiling and saying "hi" to those you

encounter while walking to your class, make a new friend and maybe even give someone a compliment to make them feel good about themselves.

"I would love to see this effort lift the spirits of people but it is only going to be successful if people participate," said Osipower, via email. "You don't have to be part of a big effort from a club or department; make an effort to hold the door, help someone who is loaded down, put money in a tip jar...do something wonderful because someone may imitate you."

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# creative colonels

## Creative Colonel of the Week: Gracie Franko

By Kylie Dillon

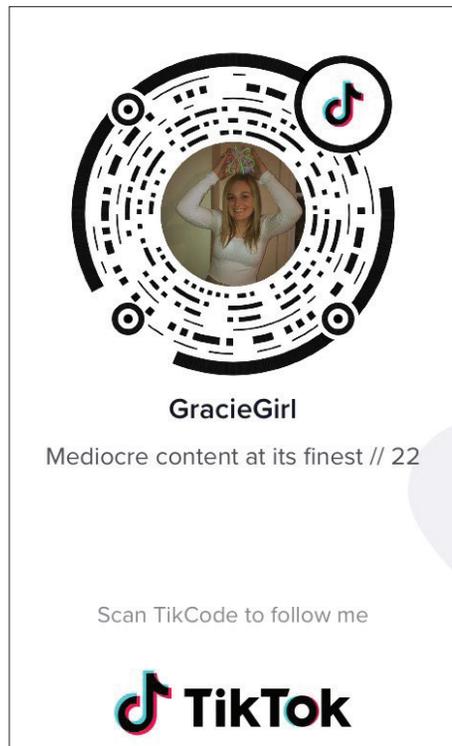
*Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor*

We all know the popular app, TikTok, and we all secretly hope to make a video that goes viral.

This week's creative colonel, Gracie Franko, blew up on the beloved app with a funny and quirky video made from a Snapchat memory.

Gracie Franko is a senior communication studies major and minors in political science and international studies.

"I thought it was a younger person app, but I was curious so I downloaded it and



Franko's TikTok user name and profile photo.

I really liked it," said Franko. "I also had vine so I figured it was similar so why not give it a chance."

Franko started her TikTok journey souly as a viewer, "for funsies", as she put it. After spending some time watching, she got invested, and began making her own content.

The TikToks were never really serious, but mainly Franko seeing what trend she could put her own creative twist on, or simply making silly videos with her friends.

It wasn't just her and her friends who liked the content, because shortly after making a few one of them went viral.

"The TikTok that went viral was actually a Snapchat memory from a year ago. So I just exported it into tik tok," added Franko. "I put a couple effects on it, picked a song that went with the video, and it blew up. I wasn't really expecting it."

In just about a week the video had over 400,000 views, about 43,000 likes, and around 41 comments.

The video was of two friends sitting at desks. One had a water bottle, and the other took it away. So, in retaliation, and for the joke, they immediately took another water bottle out of their backpack.

The TikToks are just a hobby Franko enjoys, but she also likes being in front of the camera in other ways.

Franko is a part of Wilkes Now! as a permanent news anchor. Originally, she liked being behind the scenes more, but as her confidence grew, so did her willingness to try new things. She delivers the news, along with her co-host on a weekly basis.

"It has been a wonderful experience, I have always wanted to give being on



Photos submitted by: Gracie Franko

Pictured above is Franko. She loves TikTok, and is thrilled her video became a viral one.

camera a try and so far I really enjoyed it," said Franko. "When it comes to preference I could really see myself in front or behind the camera now, really wherever I'm needed."

As her graduation date rapidly approaches, Franko has been making major decisions about her potential career options. Her love for media has only grown stronger since joining the Wilkes family four years ago.

Ultimately, her end goal would be to stay in the media broadcast field.

"I would love to be in the news room definitely. I'm not exactly sure doing

what just yet," added Franko. "But I have kind of always pictured myself there being involved somehow."

Whether it's TikTok, or news, Franko sure knows how to deliver on content. Her charismatic personality mixed with her passion and involvement for all things media, comedy, and even broadcast makes her the perfect fit for the creative colonel.



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# VAGINA MONOLOGUES

The Vagina Monologues is performed annually at Wilkes University. This year, the event partnered with the Sordoni Art Gallery's Year of the Vote series to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the 19th Amendment.

By Parker Dorsey  
News Editor

The award-winning play "The Vagina Monologues" was presented in the Henry Student Center Ballroom and involved at least 18 Wilkes University students, faculty and staff in the production.

"The Vagina Monologues" was the latest event in the Sordoni Art Gallery's "Year of the Vote" series, a year-long event celebrating and recognizing the 100-year anniversary of women receiving the right

to vote.

"The Vagina Monologues" were compiled by playwright Eve Ensler in 1996. They are a series of interviews from over 200 women and each monologue deals with some aspect of the feminine experience.

Some of the topics discussed in the monologues include consensual and non-consensual sexual experiences, body image, genital mutilation, reproduction, vaginal care, menstruation, sex work and several other topics. All are told through

the eyes of women from various ages, races, sexualities and other differences.

The play strives to promote awareness of any type of gender-based violence against women. The monologues aim to raise awareness of issues that are happening and are performed from a woman's point of view. They strive to allow the performers to spotlight the ending of various social issues such as harassment, rape, battery, incest, genital mutilation and sex slavery.

"I think it went really amazing this year. We had performers from all walks

of campus life: undergrad students, grad students, faculty and staff," said Olivia Caraballo, senior mid-level education major and event co-director. "We also partnered with different campus organizations who did presentations outside and inside the event which made it even more special. There was just so much collaboration this year."

Admission was free for Wilkes University students (with ID), \$5 for non-Wilkes students (with ID) and \$10 for general admission.



Kylie Dillon, Jessica Morandi and Jay Guziewicz introduced the event shortly after 7 p.m. on Feb. 14, the first day of the two-day event.



Alyssa Schuler delivered the first piece of the event, "Hair." This discusses how a woman got cheated on because she refused to shave her pubic hair.



Co-directors Jessica Morandi and Olivia Caraballo closed the event. They were responsible for organizing much of this year's event.



Samantha Trobe delivering her piece, "The Flood." This monologue was based on a conversation with a 72-year-old woman discussing her humorous erotic dreams.



Debbie Schiebler was given the Vagina Warrior Award, which is awarded to a member of Wilkes who is a "steadfast proponent of women's empowerment."

There were also baked goods sold at the show in an effort to raise money for various local charities in their work at preventing violence against women and children.

All proceeds will be given to beneficiaries, including the Domestic Violence Resource Center, the Victims Resource Center and Planned Parenthood Keystone. These beneficiaries support the goal of the "Vagina Monologues" event by increasing awareness of sexual assault as well as providing services to help victims and their family members.

"I thought it was an excellent event and am glad to have finally attended. I feel there is a lot to take from the different

stories presented. Some are obviously humorous and others hit on key issues that need more recognition," said Timothy Brown, senior psychology major.

The production will return to campus next year. If students have any questions or are interested in getting involved, please contact faculty advisor Dr. Mia Briceño at [mia.briceno@wilkes.edu](mailto:mia.briceno@wilkes.edu).

*Editor's note: Kylie Dillon is the Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor for The Beacon.*

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*Page Design: The Beacon / Madi Hummer*  
*Photos: The Beacon / Parker Dorsey*



Brianna Schunk delivered multiple pieces, but her two solo acts were "Six Year Old Girl" and "The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy."



Jeanne Rabel, Brianna Schunk, Dillon, Schuler and Mmachi Dimoriaku deliver the piece "They Beat the Girl Out of My Boy... or so They Tried."

# Opinion

Have an opinion or want to write a guest column? Contact the managing editor Maddie Davis at [Madelynn.Davis@wilkes.edu](mailto:Madelynn.Davis@wilkes.edu).

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### 2019-20

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## Our Voice

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

### Americans need to give foreign media a chance

This year's Oscar sweep of the Korean film *Parasite* has led many Americans to look at media in a language other than English for the first time. For as multicultural and diverse as we are, America is behind the trend. The world outside of English-speaking media is exciting, different, and at times, absolutely brilliant.

Around the world, people ingest American film and music as if it were its own culture. Hollywood is a driving force of culture, and the Americanization of the world due in part to blockbuster hits is undeniable. Many Hollywood movies, such as *World of Warcraft* (2016), earn more internationally rather than domestically. That does not mean, however, that everyone around the world consuming this media speaks English. The individuals watching these movies are watching them with subtitles.

People afraid of subtitles should, to be frank, get over it. There are amazing movies from around the world, in all genres. *Palme D'Or*, the major prize at the Cannes Film festival, is a great place to start looking for new movies. 2018's winner, *Shoplifters*, a Japanese film, tells the story of a poor family who gets by through shoplifting. The 2013 winner, *Blue is the Warmest Color*, tells a French love story featuring LGBT characters in a way that only the French can. The newest winner of the award was a dark comedy thriller *Parasite*, which also went on to win Best Picture at last week's Oscars.

There is even a world of anime tv-series

with deep plots, and thoughtful dialogue, such as "Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba," that America is missing out on simply because of a subtitle. So much so, that often these anime series are translated and English dialogue is overlaid. This takes away from the meaning and emotion in the original actor's tones, which can be heard even if the language isn't understood. This feeling can be found in other ways, like in music.

Music, in particular, has a way of transcending someone regardless of if they recognize the language.

Grammy-award winner Spain-native Rosalia has been releasing flamenco-inspired smash hits in Spanish. Our personal favorite is her newest single, "Juro Que," which speaks of having a loved one in prison, a situation that could be present in all cultures. Mega Korean girl group Loona reached #1 on the iTunes chart in 54 countries with their newest hip-hop/pop hybrid single "So What." What if you don't like pop? No worries, there are plenty of rock-based music in other languages from Avantasia (German) to One Ok Rock (Japan). Even country music has a place outside of the United States with the Iranian group Dream Rovers. Although subtitles are not an option for this medium, translated lyrics are always available online.

People should open their eyes to the emotionality available from around the world, as well as the easy access into the everyday lives of different cultures. Sure

it's through an often romanticized and/or fictional lens, but oftentimes this glimpse is all we can get short of physically visiting the culture itself. Even better, the cultures are presented via someone actually from the culture, rather than through an Americanized lens. Hollywood movies on other cultures, such as *Memoirs of a Geisha* (2005) or *Slumdog Millionaire* (2008), are directed by American people with an outsider's lens, often leading to a sense of detachment, or worse, cultural inaccuracies.

America's attempt at telling the stories of other culture's experiences falls quite short. A film with the intent to be inclusive does not automatically make it inclusive. Simply put, these films are often whitewashed anyway and take away from the importance of those stories for other countries and cultures. It is hard to learn anything about other cultures when you don't take the time to listen to them.

America is not the only country in the world worth knowing about, and it definitely is not the only country in the world with its own film and music industry.

Getting out of your comfort zone is definitely difficult, but you would be surprised just how much you're missing out on just because of a little language barrier. You might learn a thing or two from music, film, and anything in between in a language that isn't your own.



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# Video game review: did EA Sports actually improve NHL 20

By Maddie Davis  
Managing Editor

NHL 20 dropped at the beginning of the 2020 NHL season and I, like many other fans, was excited to test it out. Compared to last year's game, NHL 20 looks and feels much cleaner across the board, but the game still lacks notable changes on some of the iconic game modes. I'm going to break down some of my favorite changes and offer some improvements to the updates.

Sports video games tend to have the problem of looking not only glitchy with basic in-game mechanics, but they also tend to make handling the puck look unrealistic by helping the user adjust their player to the play no matter their position on the ice. However, in NHL 20, developers smoothed over the mechanics making the user's movements look smooth and realistic on all sides of the puck.

Some of this improvement comes from the Real Player Motion technology the developers added in NHL 19, but its evident smaller tweaks have been made to make hitting, changing of possession, passing and shooting more realistic. In this year's version of the game, the gameplay mimics the physics of real-life hockey.

Many of the presentation aspects of

the game have also improved including a change to the broadcasting, the in-game scoreboard and the graphics used.

To start, the broadcasting played during gameplay is electric. This year brought a new team to the booth including James Cybulski and Ray Ferraro, and although fans have complained about the change from NBC's Mike Emrick and Eddie Olczyk, the two bring high-energy play-by-play calling to the player's television.

The scoreboard seems like a minor change, but it is immediately noticeable to players. Developers lowered the scoreboard drawing the eye the entire game with varied statistics unveiled during downtime in the game. A new graphics package has also been released giving goal scoring more energy by showing the players headshot and those who assisted.

Although players could go without the minor improvements and would rather the effort be attributed to further improving gameplay, I think it's a fun addition and makes the look of the game fresher.

Moving onto the actual game modes, I usually gravitate more towards the Be A Pro mode, but this year's game showed no real improvements or changes because everything is the same.

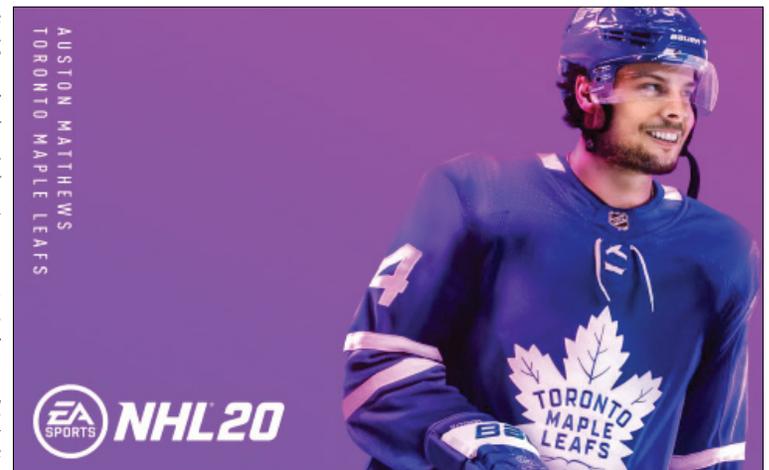
Although EA Sports could have done

much more by improving the ways to develop your players, they have neglected to make any meaningful changes.

"MyPlayer" in NBA 2K, have storylines that bring your character to life, but NHL falls flat of 2K leaving the player to play the same exact game with an updated roster. The minor options to make your player stand out consist of unnoticeable changes and are an overall disappointment.

Although the game has greatly improved its gameplay mechanics, it is still lacking in its uniqueness each year I think the game would benefit from mimicking its competitors to draw players in and causing them to want more year after year.

For one, I think, as I mentioned, the game should copy the "MyPlayer" feel by allowing the player to walk their pro



around an online town with the option to play in pickup games in open-faced rinks to increase their attributes in a setting other than an actual game. Along these same lines, I think the game would also benefit from having a practice mode where players play skill-challenges to further improve their pros for the season.

Despite changes that help smooth the gameplay mechanics, there are some major points EA can improve on for NHL 21.



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# Why Drake is the one of the greatest artist of our generation

By Dylan Mehl  
Staff Writer

Aubrey Graham, better known as Drake, has been creating music that has been forcefully played over streaming services, radio stations, and game and movie soundtracks since 2009. From his time as Jimmy Brooks on *Degrassi: The Next Generation* to his rather successful music career, Drake has made himself into one of the biggest celebrities in the world and the artist of our generation.

For the people in our generation (what I define as people born between 1995 and 2002, roughly 17-25 years old.), Drake has been making music from either the time he started to listen to music or his teenage years to now. I think this is perhaps the most impactful time an artist can make music for a listener. If you don't believe it, think about the artists the older generations still listen to. The answer is the same people they listened to in high school because those artists shaped their taste in music and have a heavy impact on their memories from growing up.

Drake has constantly been at the top of

all artists for our generation since about 2011 when his album "Take Care" vaulted him onto the main stage. Before his album, hits like "Best I Ever Had" and "Find Your Love" got people talking about Drake and his music. After "Take Care," Drake became a household name across younger listeners.

"Take Care" was on many people's album of the decade lists, including the Billboard's top 200 albums of the decades where it placed 45, but Drake did not stop there. Drake dropped "Nothing Was the Same" in 2013 and "If You're Reading This It's Too Late" in 2015, all of which also placed on Billboard's top 200 albums at 72 and 70. Drake's greatest three albums, including unforgettable tracks like "Started From The Bottom" (which was named the second-best song of 2013 by Complex) and "Legend" (which had a peak position of 52 on the Billboard's chart in 2015) had possibly the best run in the history of music. These songs among others cemented him as the top artist in the industry in early 2015.

Drake then continued to push the envelope, entering uncharted pop-rap territory in 2016 with his hit single "One Dance" (which lasted 36 weeks on the

Billboard's hot 100 charts reaching the peak position of 1). His 2016 "Views" album as a whole is the most-streamed album of all time on Spotify with 2.6 Billion total streams while the single "One Dance" had over a billion streams by itself.

Following "Views" was Drake's 2017 mixtape "More Life" which, while in my opinion was his worst overall album, provided many good and catchy songs for his fans and hip-hop enthusiasts.

He again put up massive streaming numbers including being streamed 89.9 million times in the mixtapes first 24 hours on Apple Music, according to Apple. This broke the single-day album streaming record for every music streaming service.

Drake's 2018 studio album "Scorpion" is his most recent track to date and is best known for its hit song "God's Plan." The song has over a billion streams on Spotify and 1.1 billion views on YouTube. On this album Drake also showed a new side of himself, revealing that he is now a father of a secret baby.

When it comes to the numbers, Drake is clearly the artist of our generation and the past decade. He was Spotify's most-

streamed artist with over 28 billion total streams. Drake even beat out popular pop artists like Ed Sheeran and Ariana Grande who have dominated the charts respectively for the past decade as well.

Aside from being such a big influence throughout the music industry, Drake has also made a huge impact outside of the music industry. He has taken his platform and made himself an icon all over popular culture including being declared a partial owner of his childhood favorite NBA team, the Toronto Raptors, who recently won the NBA championship. He has his own brand in October's Very Own a.k.a. OVO, a Toronto-based record label established by Drake, Oliver El-Khatib and Noah Shebib.

All of the extracurricular hobbies and passions that Drake is apart of in pop culture adds to him being the greatest artist of our generation because of his heavy influence.

Drake is certainly one of if not the biggest artist of our generation. Usually, the biggest does not always mean the best, but in this case, it does.



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# Bre's Beats: 10 of the best new singles of February

By Breanna Ebisch  
Staff Writer

February has been filled with countless new music releases from undiscovered and well-known artists across all genres. The songs have already begun to climb the charts, impress the fans and send ripples across the industry. This week in Bre's Beats, we're breaking down the best new singles of the month.

## 1.) No Shame- 5 Seconds of Summer

The Australian band released their third single along with the announcement of their new album, "CALM," which is being released in late March. Completely different than both "Easier" and "Teeth," "No Shame" is unique in many ways. Frontman Luke Hemmings's vocals along with the upbeat melody provided by every member of the band makes the song undeniably catchy and bound to get stuck in your head. Right from the start, you're pulled in with the deep intro before Hemmings opens with the memorable lyrics that vary over a wide vocal range. The single is another testament that the band is able to create music in any genre while still keeping a sound that's specifically theirs. Whether you're looking to have a dance party or something new to listen to, "No Shame" is the song for you.

## 2.) No Judgement- Niall Horan

The former One Direction member also released his third single and the announcement of his sophomore album this month. "No Judgement" takes on a more simple but pop feel, which varies from the last two singles that have already been released. The lyrics are all about having no judgment between two people in a relationship and just being yourself. With a catchy melody that carries through the entire song and Horan's easily recognizable voice, it's incredibly hard not to fall in love with this record. Contrast to most of the Top 40 music on the radio today, "No Judgement" showcases the element of the acoustic guitar and a strong vocal presence that fits perfectly with the well-written lyrics; all while becoming a fan favorite.

## 3.) Good In Goodbye- Madison Beer

Madison Beer delivers your not-so-usual breakup song with this pure pop single. Several elements were used to enhance the song, like spelling out certain

words such as "putting the ex in next" or "there's no I in trouble, just the u since we met" and sassy lyrics that pair nicely with the catchy beat. Just over two minutes long, Beer is able to pack an extensive amount of creativity into that short time. She proves she's an artist that is ready to make her mark in the industry. Along with the release of this single, the singer also revealed her debut album. If you're looking for an energetic song that takes a different approach to a typical breakup, "Good In Goodbye" is one of the great singles released in February.

## 4.) Down For You- Cosmo's Midnight feat. Ruel

The Australian electronic duo teamed up with the young singer also from Australia, to create an irresistible pop hit that's hard to miss. "Down For You" is an upbeat single that is sure to become an instant favorite of yours. Ruel has an unmistakable voice that captures a unique essence of buoyancy through the lyrics and easily danceable electronic, but not overwhelming, beat of the chorus. The song will immediately pull you in from the beginning and keep your attention with the energetic beat and memorable lyrics over its entire duration. Ruel's voice is the best fit for Cosmo's Midnight music, making "Down For You" a single you'll want to listen to on repeat for a few days straight.

## 5.) Shoulder To Cry On- Ryland James

"Shoulder To Cry On" was an unreleased addition to the Ontario native's setlist when he was opening for Alessia Cara on tour last year. Now, it's out for all the world to enjoy and it's certainly stunning. James has a strong influence

from jazz and pop which is clear in his own music. Featuring his powerful voice with lyrics that tell the story of being a person someone comes to when there's trouble in a relationship, it's hard not to love the single. The song starts off slow, but immediately catches your attention with a major build-up to the chorus and keeps the energy through the three and half minute duration. Although he's still mostly unknown by the general public, Ryland James is up, and coming and definitely proving himself as an incredible artist in the industry.

## 6.) Only The Young- Taylor Swift

The global pop singer released a new documentary on Netflix titled "Miss Americana" and with it, came a new song featured in the film. "Only The Young" is a powerful statement from Swift that captures her usual pop sound while also delivering lyrics with more strength and meaning than ever before. Dreamy vocals paired with the sweet melody makes this song truly unique. While addressing the political issues of today and how the younger generations are the only ones who can better the world, Swift makes an argument that has never been touched on in music before. Stepping back from the energy that was woven through almost all of her latest album, "Lover," this single is uplifting yet grounding and is sure to become a favorite.

## 7.) Intentions- Justin Bieber feat. Quavo

After the unsuccessful comeback song, "Yummy," Bieber released another single which is actually worthy of your streams and attention. "Intentions" uses pop and R&B elements that the singer has incorporated in his music before, to make a catchy single that is hard not to

like. Although lyrically, there isn't much substance, the beat gives the song an upbeat feel that would fit right in with the music playing on Top 40 Radio today. Quavo adds another element of R&B to the single with his part in the song's bridge. As one of the biggest names in the industry, it's no surprise that Bieber is still finding success even years after the release of his album.

## 8.) No Time To Die - Billie Eilish

After cleaning house at the 2020 Grammy's winning five awards, fans were not sure what to expect next from Eilish after the huge success of her first studio album "When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go." Despite potentially feeling pressured to keep up with her praise, Eilish released "No Time To Die," which will serve as the theme song to the newest James Bond film. The song begins very slow-placed and has a strong dramatic feel. With strong keyboard work by her partner/ brother, paired with her deep and slow tone, this song is a perfect listen on a gloomy day.

## 9.) To Die For - Sam Smith

Smith has once again appealed to the broken-hearted with his new single they released this past Friday on Valentine's Day. "To Die For" is another slow ballad from Smith that showcases their incredible voice and vocal range while appealing to the masses on a day mourned by many. This song comes after the announcement of their third studio album set to release in May.

## 10.) Oh My God - Alec Benjamin

Benjamin has released yet another catchy song that is sure to get stuck in listener's heads until the release of his debut album "These Two Windows" in April. The song follows Benjamin conflicting with who he is as a person through a beautifully put-together and heartfelt song.

February has delivered some amazing music so far and the month is far from over. Many artists didn't just release new singles but also announced upcoming albums exciting fans of all genres. Give these songs a listen and see if you think they're some of the best from this month.

Graphic by Madi Hummer



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# What are the highlights of the past 50 years of metal music?

By Parker Dorsey  
News Editor

Fifty years ago on Feb. 13, 1970, heavy metal band Black Sabbath released its self-titled debut, spawning a music genre that has been both adored and reviled by music listeners worldwide.

Seen as a sort of rebellious step-child, metal used to (and for the most part still is) be ridiculed and looked down upon in disgust. Many listeners are stereotyped as being angry, confrontational, Satanist, antisocial -- you name it. Today, it has grown into one of the loudest and most iconic genres of music on the planet, with a rich array of subgenres that offers a little something for anyone to enjoy.

While Black Sabbath's debut 50 years ago is seen as the "beginning" of heavy metal, it would be remiss to not mention the music that gave it its influence. Metal received its primary roots from blues and psychedelic rock, with 1960s bands like Iron Butterfly, Blue Cheer and Steppenwolf providing the sonic influence for metal's trademark overdriven distortion sound.

Arthur Brown also deserves mention here, with his facepaint and macabre performances providing the inspiration for acts like Alice Cooper and King Diamond, which in turn developed into the corpsepaint and Satanic imagery extensively used by black metal bands in the 1990s.

After Black Sabbath's release, fellow British band Judas Priest dropped their debut "Rocka Rolla" in 1974. This album strayed away from Sabbath's primarily blues-driven sound by combining a twin-guitar attack with cleaner guitar distortion.

Another British band, Motörhead, took this sound and combined it with the speed of punk, creating a voracious and energetic sound led by the furious bass attack of Lemmy Kilmister. These bands were the head of what was considered the New Wave of British Heavy Metal (NWOBHM).

Iron Maiden was another early NWOBHM metal band that began as a speedy punk rock/metal hybrid, before eventually settling into a style that prioritized grandiose song structures and guitar leads. Venom, the most underground of the British group, didn't form until the end of the NWOBHM.

However, they were extraordinarily influential in its influence in extreme metal. Their second album, "Black Metal," lent its name to an entire subgenre. Cronos' coarse vocals, Satanic imagery and abrasive, lo-fi production made Venom by far the most

inaccessible of the NWOBHM bands.

Many of these bands were responsible for a sound that influenced a specific subgenre. Bands such as Pentagram, Trouble, Saint Vitus and Candlemass took the traditional Sabbath sound of a thick guitar tone, slow riffs and wailing vocals to form doom metal in the early 1980s.

Judas Priest and Iron Maiden were responsible for traditional heavy metal (such as Tank or Accept) and power metal, with bands such as Helloween, Blind Guardian, Gamma Ray and Stratovarius trailblazing the way in the mid-1980s. These bands brought lightning-fast guitars, epic musical arrangements and wide vocal ranges to give power metal its distinctive sound.

Motörhead and punk provided a notable influence for thrash metal, which formed in part as a response to the conservatism of the Ronald Reagan era. Bands such as Metallica, Megadeth, Slayer and Anthrax were considered the "big four," of thrash, with a sound that consisted of rough vocals, shredding guitars and tight song structures.

Venom's influence to black metal (and other forms of extreme metal) was palpable.

The first wave of black metal in the 1980s had numerous bands emulating Venom's blueprint, with Bathory, Celtic Frost and Mayhem playing gritty, lo-fi and entirely inaccessible style of metal that was widely popular in underground circles.

Slayer deserves

special mention during this time. Their Satanic imagery and extraordinary speed pushed the limit of thrash metal. Fellow San Francisco Bay metal band, Possessed, connected the dots between thrash and death metal with their 1985 debut "Seven Churches." This raw sound was later expanded upon by Florida band Death by adding growled vocals and eventually blast beats. Bands in the late 1980s like Morbid Angel, Deicide and Cannibal Corpse refined this sound into traditional death metal.

The 1990s were an interesting period in heavy metal, with several genres of metal being refined, blended and expanded. Melodic death metal developed in Sweden, with At the Gates, Dark Tranquility and In Flames combining the growls of death metal with the grandiose riffs of Iron Maiden. Black metal settled in Norway,

with bands such as Gorgoroth, Emperor, Darkthrone and Immortal perfecting the groundwork set by Venom and Bathory: lo-fi recordings, corpse paint, shrieked vocals, extreme Satanic imagery and blast beats.

Black metal is also notorious for its many

controversies in the public sphere. In the 1990s, several bands were associated with church burnings and murders. A particularly grisly example was Burzum frontman Varg Vikernes murdering Mayhem guitarist Euronymous in 1993, where he was given a maximum prison sentence of 21 years.

The 1990s also featured a deconstruction of sorts of heavy metal. Groove metal developed from Louisiana band Pantera as a slower form of thrash metal with down-tuned guitars. Many of these bands, particularly Machine Head, Lamb of God and Chimaira formed the New Wave of American Heavy Metal (NWOAHM), which reached its height in the late 1990s.

Also during this time was the development of nü metal, a wildly popular form of metal that drew influences from hip-hop, EDM and industrial music. While some bands like Slipknot and Korn are still popular today, much of the genre phased out by the mid-2000s.

The mid-2000s saw the rise of metalcore, with groove metal fusing with hardcore punk. Metalcore is noted for a combination of melodic death metal riffs, a combination of screams and clean vocals, and breakdowns. Bands such as Avenged Sevenfold, Killswitch Engage and Trivium are among the most popular metalcore bands today.

Metalcore also combined with death metal to create deathcore, gaining popularity in the mid-2000s. Suicide Silence, Job for a Cowboy and Whitechapel are among the most popular bands of this style.

Arguably the newest metal genre is djent. While it was first developed by Swedish band Meshuggah in the late 1990s, it didn't catch a head until the early 2010s. Its distinctive sound consists of incredibly high-gain and down-tuned 7 or 8 stringed guitars with virtuosos solos. Bands like Periphery, Born of Osiris and After the Burial are considered the standard bearers today.

Heavy metal has come a long way in 50 years. Each of these genres has a specific sound and mood associated with them, and there are many more notable bands and genre combinations not covered in this article.

I'm excited to see where heavy metal goes in the next 50 years.

Graphic by Madi Hummer



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# How being both Muslim, Indian presents its difficulties

By Zarqua Ansari  
Asst. Opinion Editor

I am Muslim, and I am Indian.

These two things are separate facts about me. However, they are the most conflicting parts of my life.

According to NationMaster, America is three times the size of India, but the population of India is nearly one billion people higher than that of America.

This larger population size means the diversity, cultures, languages, dialects and religions in India are even more complex than in America.

For the most part, India is good at letting people do their own thing. For a nation with its population density, India is remarkably tame.

However, Indian hubris leads to two major conflicts: Pakistan and Muslims.

India was under British rule until the end of the second World War, a mere 75 years ago. Pakistan used to be a part of India. India was primarily run by Hindus and Muslims, although these two religions do not get along.

As a monotheistic religion, entertaining

the thought of multiple gods is unheard of. As a polytheistic religion, the need to defend against one of the three strongest monotheistic religions is unparalleled. Combined, the tensions between the two religions were high.

My grandfather informed me that the major conflict between the Hindus and the Muslims was over as a religious government, neither party wanted the other party's religion to be prioritized and neither was willing to give up religious involvement in their government.

As a result, many Muslims banded together and left the nation, heading northward. This became known as Pakistan.

Pakistan's independence day is quite literally a day before India's. Mahatma Gandhi has strongly advised against the segregation of Muslims and Hindus, sensing it would cause long-lasting tensions, much the same way George Washington had advised America against splitting into political parties.

And he was right.

The tensions between Pakistan and

India are still some of the most intense displays of hubris and racism. In fact, the ingrained hatred is so strong, I experience microaggressions from the Pakistanis in the Muslim community here.

According to the ICC, of the five most viewed cricket matches, three of them were between India and Pakistan, proving how tense the relationship is between the two countries.

Pakistan and India have been fighting over land for ages.

For one, because they both want to stake claim to Kashmir. The people of Kashmir want to be left alone, but due to the stronger power dynamic of India and Pakistan, they are unable to assert their voices. As a result, India and Pakistan went to war in 2019.

The aggression doesn't just stop there. Hindu Indians hold grudges against Muslim Indians for not having left the country with the rest of the current day Pakistanis 75 years ago.

The prime misnomer of India, Narendra Modi, was a Hindu third-party candidate. He won because the Muslim

candidates didn't drop out, causing the vote to split. With a majority of the government run by Hindus, the Muslims were immediately put under attack.

According to IndiaToday, Prime Minister Modi is passing the National Register of Citizens law. This law requires all Indians to submit proof of familial citizenship prior to 1971. Those who are unable to provide the proper paperwork will be taken to a detaining center, their property will be reclaimed by the government and they will be deported.

However, since the government is run by Hindus, any Hindus who are unable to provide the paperwork are simply made citizens.

As a Muslim, I am not accepted by Indians. As an Indian, I am not accepted by Pakistanis.

I am alone in this futile war over a seemingly endless superiority complex.



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## Wednesday brings in first official day of Pisces season

By Sammi Verespy  
Staff Writer

This Wednesday is going to be the first official day of Pisces season. It is time to get in touch with what you are truly feeling and what hides below the surface. Now is not a time to shy away from what you are facing. Take all challenges head on.

### Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)

You have been hiding from many of your financial burdens. It is time to take your head out of the ground yourself and face this surmounting deal. Once you move past this, you will truly be able to take a real sigh of relief.

### Aries (March 21 - April 20)

You are going to be incredibly easy to provoke this week. Take caution and make sure that you are not lashing out at the wrong people. Make sure all of your decisions are made with logic rather than emotion.

### Taurus (April 21 - May 20)

You are usually very cautious and thoughtful. This week you are going to get extra bursts of energy and spontaneity. Take this opportunity full force, let yourself be free and enjoy this next week.

### Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

You are known for being the twins of the zodiac, but make sure that you are not being two faced this week. You have been overstepping many boundaries and not following the social codes you have set to prevent this. If you are not careful, this shifty behavior will catch up to you.

### Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You have been feeling blah recently in the career sector. Take some time and let your creative side shine. This will help boost your ego and your position. Plus it may help provide some new career opportunities for the future.

### Leo (July 22 - Aug. 22)

You have been in the habit of people pleasing and stroking other's egos lately. All of this will make you feel more and more down.

It is important to please yourself too, Leo.

### Virgo (Aug. 23 - September 21)

You are taking a front row seat in the drama of those around you. Make sure to stay a spectator as getting involved will not turn out well. The most you can do right now is provide some valuable advice to those who need it.

### Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 21)

There is a damaged relationship surrounding you right now. The stars do not often point you to reconsider your choices, Libra. However, this time, you really should take the time and fix the decisions that you had previously set in stone.

### Scorpio (Oct. 22 - Nov. 21)

You have Venus moving into your sixth house this week, so you are going to be a code red clinger. It is important to keep in mind

that people may not take well to this new clingy you. The mood should pass in the next three weeks as Venus makes its exit.

### Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

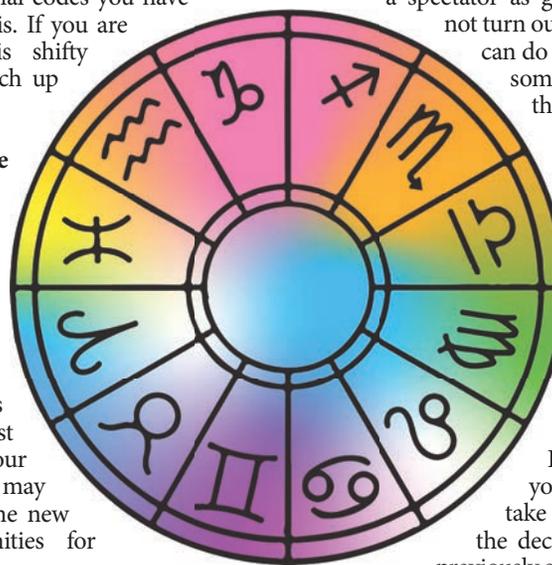
Award season is over, Sag, there is no reason to continue to be dramatic. If this streak of performances continues, you are going to effectively push everyone away. Keep in mind, the world does not revolve around you.

### Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

The move of Chiron and Venus is going to affect you very deeply this week, Cap. You are going to be very testy and feel like every sentence is a personal attack or someone prodding at you. Make sure to remember that you are not the center of peoples focus.

### Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Aquarius, with the recent passage out of the sun, you are going to feel uninspired. With Valentines day just passed, you may think that now is the time for new romances. Sadly, it is not the right time for you. Focus your energy on yourself and growing your empire.



Graphics by Madi Hummer



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# Sports

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

## Rival basketball teams unite for local Play4Kay fundraiser

By Ariel Reed  
Staff Writer

With a playoff spot on the line, and the chance to become the reigning team in Wilkes-Barre, the Colonels and crosstown rival Monarchs were able to set aside the rivalry and team up for a cause that is greater than themselves, and the game of basketball.

On Friday, the women's basketball teams of Wilkes and King's teamed up and hosted a free clinic for the children of both campus communities before Saturday's game between the two schools.

During the clinic, Monarchs and Colonels walked the kids who participated through several drill stations and some light hearted contests.

At the stations, the players taught the kids various fundamental skills such as layups, defensive shuffling, passing, how to close out on a shooter, ball handling and spot shooting.

"I think it is really great for the community to come together for such a great cause," Wilkes junior Maddie Kelley. "This was a free clinic and it was done all for the kids. We accepted donations for the Kay Yow Foundation. Overall, I think it is awesome for the two Wilkes-Barre campuses to team up for such a great cause."

It is a great way to bring the Colonel and Monarch communities together to contribute to a cause that is bigger than basketball.

Two rival teams joining forces helps get more of the Wilkes-Barre area involved and has a bigger impact on the teams involved.

"I think it means a lot to get both campus communities together for the same cause," King's coach Caitlin Hadzimichalis said. "I think using your community and our community to kind of join forces is a big deal."

The event is very exciting for both teams and their programs.

"I think it is great for both programs and schools to show that it is more than just a sport," Wilkes coach Tara Macciocco said. "It shows that we can work outside of that playing arena."

This is the second year that both schools are participating in the event. Last year, the colleges were able to generate upward of \$1,000.

"I think it is a great way to bring the teams together in a different environment. We are competitors, but we are able to join in a fight against breast cancer," Macciocco said. "I think the last two years we have done a good job getting the community involved and hopefully they come to the game tomorrow."

Even though the Colonels and the



The Beacon/Ariel Reed

Players from Wilkes and King's come together to give back to kids in the local community with basketball instruction.



The Beacon/Ariel Reed

King's players, from left to right Emily Kriston, Kristen Coleman, Kayla Dillinger, Mackenzie Yori, Rebecca Prociak, Emily Morano, Samantha Rajza, Zoe Stein and Sarah Keiskell-Mann.

Monarchs will face each other on the court, both the players and coaches set aside their rivalries to contribute to a cause that is bigger than themselves.

"It is such a nice event because we get to have two college teams come together and just really do something good for this community and the (Kay Yow) foundation," King's senior Mackenzie Yori said. "It is a bigger picture in life and I really appreciate participating in it."

All the proceeds the teams receive go to the Kay Yow Foundation. This foundation is a way to unite players, coaches, fans, and officials to do something for the betterment of others.

Play4Kay is a nationwide fundraiser specifically for basketball players to get involved in and contribute to the fight against breast cancer. All levels of basketball teams can participate in this fundraiser and the Colonels and Monarch sold "Play4Kay" shirts that were worn by the fans in attendance at the game.



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# WBB: Late run isn't enough for the Colonels

By Ben Mandell  
Co-Sports Editor

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. -- The Colonels came into rivalry week looking to pull off upsets against two of the top three teams in the MAC Freedom, Misericordia and King's.

Rebecca Prociak and Mackenzie Yori had big games for King's as they took another step towards securing a spot in the playoffs by downing Wilkes, 95-78.

"We were making shots, and even though we went through that dry spell, the fact that we came in with all that emotion of senior day and the crowd it carried us through," King's coach Caitlin Hadzimichalis said. "We are starting to get back to what works and building momentum."

The Monarchs had lost four straight games before picking up back-to-back wins against Delaware Valley and Wilkes.

King's built a comfortable 28-point lead with 3:35 left in the third quarter.

Wilkes came back with an answer though. After trailing by double-digits most of the game, the Colonels used a 17-0 run to get back into the game.

"I'm so proud of our kids because we fight until the final buzzer," Wilkes head coach Tara Macciocco said. "They play as hard as they can, and they did a great job getting back into the game."

After their lead was cut to 11 points, the Monarchs settled down and kept the lead over 10 for the remainder of the game.

Prociak continued her dominant campaign with a double-double. She led the team with a game-high 25 points and 10 rebounds. She also had five blocks, seven assists and two steals.



The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

The Colonels tasted a comeback with a 17-0 scoring run in the second half that cut Wilkes' deficit to 11 before King's reawakened their offense.

"We just try to play together," Prociak said. "We need to start doing that again. Like when they double me, I try to kick the ball out."

Yori also scored 20 points and Samantha Rajza had 17.

King's grabbed sole possession of the third MAC Freedom playoff spot after Eastern lost to Stevens.

"We need to clean up the defense and do what we do best," said Hadzimichalis. "These last few games have given us confidence and we are getting back to doing what works."

King's will have a critical game against Misericordia on Tuesday as the Monarchs will continue to push for the second seed in the MAC Freedom.

Wilkes was led by Brenna Babcock, who

finished with 17 points, four rebounds, two steals and two assists.

"I just really have a drive to win and I know we didn't get that tonight," Babcock said. "I feel like effort is a big part of that, and when one person gives 100 percent it goes on to the rest of the team."

Babcock helped spark the Colonels in the second half and fueled their 17-0 run that got them back into the game.

"She's fearless. She is competitive and goes out there no matter what," Macciocco said.

Wilkes has two home games left on Tuesday and Saturday to close out its season.



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# MIH: Perfect weekend has Wilkes in first

By Beacon Sports

Another weekend with two wins has the Colonels knocking on the door for a first-round bye and a home playoff series.

The Colonels took care of Neumann on Friday, winning 6-2. Donald Flynn added to his nation-leading goal total with a pair of goals and Tyson Araujo had a monster night with five points, three goals and two assists.

Nick Fea continued to make plays, racking up four assists.

Wilkes had to sweat out Saturday's contest with Manhattanville. They needed overtime to decide the game.

Danny Reidel played the role of hero, scoring three goals including the game-winner. Araujo stayed hot as well, netting two more goals and Flynn had a goal and an assist.

The power play continued to be a driving force for the Colonels, with three of their six goals coming with the man advantage.

Wilkes still sits alone on top of the United Collegiate Hockey Conference (UCHC). Utica and Stevenson battled Saturday night for the second-place spot and Utica prevailed. So The Colonels have a five point lead on the Mustangs and a two-point lead on Utica with two games left to play.

## WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <span>▶▶▶▶▶</span> <span style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Men's Basketball</span> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <span>▶▶▶▶▶</span> <span style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Women's Basketball</span> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <span>▶▶▶▶▶</span> <span style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Men's Ice Hockey</span> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <span>▶▶▶▶▶</span> <span style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Women's Ice Hockey</span> </div>
<p>11/8 vs. PSU-Scranton, W 122-69 11/12 vs. PSU-Hazleton, W 96-58 11/16 @ Marymont, W 73-65 11/20 vs. U. of Scranton, L 91-62 11/23 vs. Clarks Summit, W 105-63 12/4 @ Marywood, W 89-76 12/7 vs. Messiah, L 80-68 12/15 @ Drew, L 76-65 1/2 @ College of New Jersey, L 95-69 1/4 vs. Susquehanna, W 86-84 *1/8 @ Misericordia, L 68-60 *1/11 vs. Stevens, W 58-55 *1/15 vs. Desales, L 79-74 *1/17 @ Eastern, L 67-62 *1/22 vs. King's, L 75-72 *1/25 @ FDU-Florham, L 77-70 *1/29 @ Delaware Valley, W 76-65 *2/1 vs. Eastern, L 73-70 (OT) *2/5 @ Stevens, L 82-72 *2/8 @ Desales, L 81-72 *2/12 vs. Misericordia, W 79-63 *2/15 @ King's, L 73-71 *2/18 vs. Delaware Valley, 6 p.m. x*2/22 vs. FDU-Florham, 3 p.m.</p>	<p>11/8 vs. PSU-Scranton, W 72-28 11/12 @ Centenary, W 46-35 11/16 @ Franklin &amp; Marshall, W 53-50 11/17 @ William Smith, L 59-39 11/23 vs. Marywood, L 65-58 11/24 vs. U. of Scranton, L 78-42 12/4 vs. Gwynedd Mercy, W 73-71 12/7 vs. Pratt Institute, W 65-49 12/17 vs. Lycoming, L 78-57 12/19 vs. Neumann, W 54-40 1/4 vs. Stockton, L 59-49 *1/8 @ Misericordia, L 74-41 *1/11 vs. Stevens, L 85-54 *1/15 vs. Desales, L 70-55 *1/17 @ Eastern, L 65-48 *1/22 vs. King's, L 75-53 *1/25 @ FDU-Florham, W 66-65 *1/29 @ Delaware Valley, W 66-57 *2/1 vs. Eastern, L 63-59 *2/5 @ Stevens, L 72-42 *2/8 @ Desales, L 90-34 *2/12 vs. Misericordia, L 66-58 *2/15 @ King's, L 95-78 *2/18 vs. Delaware Valley, 8 p.m. x*2/22 vs. FDU-Florham, 1 p.m.</p>	<p>11/1 vs. SUNY Canton, L 5-3 *11/8 vs. Lebanon Valley, W 4-3 11/9 vs. Elmira, W 5-3 *11/15 @ Stevenson, W 3-2 11/16 @ Chatham, W 6-4 *11/22 @ King's, W 5-2 11/23 vs. Albertus Magnus, W 6-1 11/30 vs. Suffolk, W 9-0 12/1 Steve Hoar Tournament, L 4-1 12/6 vs. Manhattanville, W 7-5 12/7 @ Neumann, W 2-1 12/17 vs. Bryn Athyn, W 5-3 1/7 @ Bryn Athyn, W 5-1 1/14 @ SUNY Cortland, L 6-5 1/17 vs. Utica, L 8-3 1/18 vs. Nazareth, W 4-3 *1/24 @ Lebanon Valley, W 5-1 1/25 @ Elmira, L 3-2 1/31 vs. Chatham, W 5-2 *2/1 vs. #14 Stevenson, W 6-0 *2/6 vs. King's, W 9-3 2/14 vs. Neumann, W 6-2 2/15 @ Manhattanville, W 6-5 2/21 @ Nazareth, 7 p.m. 2/22 @ Utica, 7 p.m.</p>	<p>11/9 @ #3 Elmira, L 12-0 11/10 @ William Smith, L 4-1 11/15 vs. Nazareth, L 7-0 11/16 vs. Utica, L 2-1 11/23 vs. Post, L 3-0 11/24 vs. Post, L 3-0 12/7 vs. Anna Maria, W 5-4 12/8 vs. Anna Maria, L 1-0 *1/5 vs. Alvernia, L 4-1 *1/10 @ Lebanon Valley, L 4-2 *1/11 vs. King's, W 3-2 1/17 @ Manhattanville, L 4-0 1/18 @ Neumann, L 4-0 *1/24 @ Stevenson, L 3-1 *1/25 @ Alvernia, W 3-0 2/1 vs. Chatham, T 1-1 (OT) *2/2 vs. Lebanon Valley, W 4-2 2/8 vs. William Smith, L 9-2 2/14 @ Nazareth, L 4-1 2/15 @ Utica, L 2-0 2/17 vs. Elmira, 1 p.m. *2/21 @ King's, 3:30 p.m. *2/22 @ Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.</p>

# SWIM: Multiple Colonels set records at MAC Championship

By Kevin Singhel  
Asst. Sports Editor

YORK, Pa. -- This past weekend both the men's and women's swimming teams traveled to York to compete in this year's MAC Championship meet.

The meet is a four-day event where the Colonels competed against all of the other teams in the conference in an invitational style meet. Due to the large number of teams and competitors, results from invitationals can be vastly different than dual-meet results since they are scored differently.

Both sides of Colonel swimmers were hoping to build off already successful seasons and hoped that this scoring format led to even more success.

The men's team got off to a great start on the first day as sophomore Shane Miller and freshman Liam White both set personal bests in the 500 freestyle, coming in 5:11 and 5:34 respectively.

Sophomore Trey Harloff kept the ball rolling in the next event, setting a new school record in the 200 IM. Harloff's time of 2:00 was good for ninth place, netting the team 20 points. Freshman Keith Nissen and junior Cameron Aspey finished the event in 18th and 20th, earning the Colonels seven points and five points respectively.

Sophomore Joey Antolick had a strong showing in the 50 freestyle, coming in 10th with a time of 22.12. Antolick's efforts earned the team 17 points.

Junior Nick Martino also earned seven points for Wilkes, coming in 18th with a time of 22.72.

The day was capped off with a seventh-place 200 medley relay finish from Antolick, Harloff, Martino, and junior Justin Burda. The foursome set a new school record with a time of 1:38, earning the Colonels 46 points. The Colonel's "B" relay consisting of Miller, Nissen, junior Jacob Wessner, and Timothy Sechler-Stone swam the event in 1:32, good enough for fourth among the "B" relays and earning 20 points.

On the women's side, sophomore Alexa Crossgrove started the day with a podium finish, placing seventh in the 500 freestyle. Crossgrove impressed with a time of 5:22, earning the team 23 points.

"I think she could swim anything and score in the top 8," Wilkes coach Thomas Limouze said of Crossgrove. "She has a huge range of events which is extremely helpful for both individual events and relays"

In the next women's event, junior Abby Keating placed 10th overall in the 200 IM with a time of 2:16. Keating's efforts earned the team 17 valuable points.

To cap the first day off on the women's side, Crossgrove and Keating teamed up with senior Kyleigh Smeltzer and freshman Maddy Kinard to break the school record in the 200 medley relay with a time of 1:56. The new school record was enough to earn the foursome a podium finish, as the relay came in 8th and earned 44 points.

After the first day, there were plenty of other highlights for both Colonel squads. On the men's side, Harloff, Antolick, Martino, and Nissen placed fourth in the 200 freestyle relay, earning 52 points. The fourth-place finish is the highest relay finish since Wilkes' swimming program was restarted.

The foursome of Sechler-Stone, Harloff, Antolick, and Burda also finished 8th in the 400 medley relay, setting a new school record and earning 44 points.

One of the more interesting parts of the day was when senior Tyler Weatherby tied for the last spot in the 100 Butterfly final, forcing a "swim-off" which he eventually won. Harloff and Burda had extremely

strong showings in the event, placing 8th and 9th respectively.

The depth and versatility of the entire squad helped the men's team score many points in a variety of different areas, including the relays.

"Our depth has been a strong point this meet," Limouze said. "Having a handful of swimmers that have been able to grab points for us put us in a great position to succeed as a team."

Highlights on the women's side included Crossgrove finishing in 6th place in the 200 freestyle with a personal best of 1:57. Crossgrove later teamed up with Keating, Kinard, and freshman Tricia Bartosh to place seventh in the 200 freestyle relay with a school-record time of 1:42.

Throughout the MAC Championships, both squads put up some amazing performances and shattered both personal and school records.

"MAC's has been an extra long slog, but the swimmers have done a great job at keeping spirits high," Limouze said. "I told them that if you want to have a great swim then it's going to hurt, and they've done a great job of pushing through the pain."

Under Limouze, both the men's and women's teams have seen major improvements. Both programs are trending up in the right direction and will look to keep moving forward.



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## WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES



### Men's Swimming

10/19 @ Arcadia, L 180-81  
10/19 vs. Immaculata, W 173-53  
11/2 @ Dickinson, L 114-74  
11/2 vs. Lebanon Valley, W 137-52  
11/9 @ Marywood, W 147-41  
11/16 vs Mount Saint Mary, W 119-73  
11/24 @ Diamond Invitational (King's), 4th of 11 teams  
\*12/7 @ Lycoming, W 124-71  
\*1/25 vs. FDU-Florham, W 159-82  
x\*2/1 vs. King's, L 114-88  
2/13-16 @ MAC Championships (York), TBD  
2/28-3/1 @ ECAC Championships (Naval Academy), TBD

\*Denotes MAC Freedom/UCHC  
x-Denotes Senior Day

### Women's Swimming

10/19 @ Arcadia, L 176-80  
10/19 vs. Immaculata, W 162-44  
11/2 @ Dickinson, L 112-79  
11/2 vs. Lebanon Valley, L 113-81  
11/9 @ Marywood, L 103-91  
11/16 vs Mount Saint Mary, W 118-80  
11/24 @ Diamond Invitational (King's), 5th of 11 teams  
\*12/7 @ Lycoming, W 96-89  
\*1/12 vs. Misericordia, L 149-50  
\*1/25 vs. FDU-Florham, L 139-112  
x\*2/1 vs. King's, L 134-60  
2/13-16 @ MAC Championships (York), TBD  
2/28-3/1 @ ECAC Championships (Naval Academy), TBD

### Men's Volleyball

1/21 @ Neumann, 3-0  
1/23 @ Elizabethtown, L 3-0  
1/25 vs. Purchase, W 3-0  
1/25 vs. City College of NY, L 3-1  
1/31 @ Immaculata, W 3-0  
2/2 vs. Bard, W 3-0  
2/2 vs. Keuka, L 3-0  
2/7 vs. SUNY Potsdam, W 3-0  
2/8 vs. Sage, L 3-1  
2/8 vs. Mount St. Vincent, W 3-0  
2/11 @ PSU Altoona, L 3-0  
2/15 vs. Brooklyn, W 3-0  
2/15 @ NJ City, L 3-1  
2/18 @ St. Joseph's, 7 p.m.  
\*2/20 vs. Misericordia, 4 p.m.  
\*2/20 vs. Widener, 8 p.m.  
2/25 @ Bard, 6 p.m.  
\*2/27 vs. Eastern, 7 p.m.  
\*3/11 @ King's, 7 p.m.

### Wrestling

11/23 vs. KSU-Tuscarawas, W 54-6  
11/23 vs. Central, L 32-12  
11/23 vs. Muhlenberg, L 42-9  
11/23 vs. Gettysburg, L 25-22  
12/7 @ Messiah Petrofes Invitational, 9th place  
12/22 @ Wilkes Open, 17th place  
1/8 vs. Hunter College, W 47-6  
1/10 vs. #25 Washington & Lee, L 44-3  
1/10 vs. #23 Castleton, L 38-3  
1/10 vs. Ohio Nothren, L 24-14  
1/10 vs. Wesleyan, W 35-15  
1/10 vs. Williams, L 29-17  
1/18 @ MAC Championships, 5th Place  
1/26 vs. RIT, L 47-0  
1/26 vs. PSU Behrend, W 51-6  
1/26 vs. Oneonta, W 24-19  
1/31 @ Penn, W 30-11  
2/9 @ Scranton, W 22-14  
2/14 vs. #16 Ithaca, L 41-6  
x\*2/21 vs. King's, 7 p.m.

Getting to know...

# Robert Pecorelli

## Senior Basketball Player

### *The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week Feb. 2 to Feb. 9*

**Why Robert Pecorelli was selected:** With contests against Stevenson and DeSales, Pecorelli led the week. In his performance against Stevenson, Pecorelli reached 30 points for the third time this season. Against DeSales, Pecorelli notched 14 points, seven assists and five rebounds to be an offensive force for the Colonels.

**Name:** Robert Pecorelli

**Year:** Senior

**Major:** Marketing & Management

**Hometown:** Huntington, N.Y.

**High School:** Harborfields HS

**Position:** Guard

### **Other interests or hobbies off of the court?**

Outside of basketball, I'm interested in Star Wars, podcasts, reading and just enjoying my free time.

### **Most influential person in your life?**

My father.

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

Kobe Bryant.

### **Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?**

I decided to come to Wilkes because of the great atmosphere to further my athletic and academic careers. The university provided great opportunities that others schools didn't.

### **Post-graduation plans in terms of a career?**

I have a job lined up in New York City at an expert networking firm.

### **Favorite professor?**

Dr. Kaster.

### **Coke or Pepsi?**

Pepsi.

### **Favorite meal to eat on campus?**

An omelet from Sue.

### **What came first? The chicken or the egg?**

The egg -- no doubt.

### **A quote you live your life by?**

"Life is short, smile while you still have teeth."

### **Hopes for this season as a Colonel?**

My hope for this season is to have a great last year enjoying every moment with my teammates.

### **What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?**

To me, "Be Colonel" means being apart of a university that takes pride in everything it does, while also being the best you possibly can be.

### **When/Why did you first begin playing?**

I began playing in first grade because my brother played, and I wanted to, too.

### **Anyone to give a shout-out to?**

I'd like to give a shout-out to SAD6 minus Allie P. and my mom.

### **Favorite thing to do during practice?**

Offensive-mageddon.

-Compiled by Kirsten Peters, Co-Sports Editor

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

Nothing.

*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...

# Gianna Roberts

## Senior Basketball Player

### ***The Beacon: Female Athlete of the Week Feb. 2 to Feb. 9***

**Why Gianna Roberts was selected:** Despite a loss on the road against Stevens, Roberts was the bright spot for the Colonels with 16 points and seven rebounds in one of her final contests as a women's basketball player.

**Name:** Gianna Roberts

**Year:** Senior

**Major:** Management

**Minor:** Sports Management

**Hometown:** Nanticoke, Pa.

**High School:** Nanticoke Area HS

**Position:** Forward

### **Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?**

I chose Wilkes because of its business school, being able to commute and the opportunity to continue my basketball career.

### **Post graduation plans in terms of a career?**

I'm currently in the process of applying for jobs as senior year is coming to an end. I'm hoping to land a job in the sports industry with the Penguins.

### **Favorite building on campus?**

Marts Center.

### **What came first? The chicken or the egg?**

The egg.

### **Hopes for this season as a Colonel?**

With a few games left, my hopes are to finish strong as a team and to grab a few more wins to finish out my career.

### **When/Why did you first begin playing?**

I started playing as soon as I could pick up a basketball. My older brother was playing, and I liked to follow in his footsteps.

### **Favorite thing to do during practice?**

Five-spot shooting.

### **If you had to choose one thing about your program that you could improve,**

### **what would it be?**

I don't see anything to improve because the relationships that I have built over the past few years with the team is what I value the most. The ability to share so much time with these girls has been an overall great experience. I look forward to lasting relationships with my teammates long after college days are over.

### **Other interests or hobbies off of the court?**

I love volunteering at Blue Chip Farm Animal Refuge and going camping with my family and friends.

### **Most influential person(s) in your life?**

My parents.

### **Favorite professor?**

Dr. Schmidt.

### **Favorite meal to eat on campus?**

A grilled cheese with curly fries at Grille Works.

### **A quote you live your life by?**

"Never let yesterday use up too much of today." - Will Rogers

### **What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?**

It means taking pride in being a student of Wilkes University. It means working hard and taking advantage of the education both on and off the court that has been provided to me for the past four years. It means going out into the world with lots of confidence because of the guidance I have received.

### **Anyone to give a shout-out to?**

Always the DAWGS.

-Compiled by Kirsten Peters, Co-Sports 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/Kirsten Peters

# WREST: Medrow, Almkey win decisions in loss to No. 16 Ithaca

By Kirsten Peters  
Co-Sports Editor

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. -- In facing a ranked opponent, only two Wilkes upperclassmen were able to pull off victories in Friday's 41-6 loss against Ithaca College.

"They've got a lot of experience," shared head coach Jon Laudenslager of Wilkes' opponent. "They have six guys who have been to the National Tournament. They have a lot of juniors and seniors in their lineup, and we have mostly freshmen and sophomores."

Senior Kyle Medrow put Wilkes on the board with a 2-0 decision over Tito Colom at 141.

"The team really helps me stay motivated while I'm out on the mat. Hearing them cheer for me keeps me going," said Medrow.

Medrow and Colom went scoreless through two periods before Medrow chose top and rode Colom out of the final period.

Following Medrow, the Colonels had to wait until the 197 lb. weight class for their second victory of the night.

Junior Moustafa Almkey put three more points on the board for Wilkes, earning a 6-2 decision win over Dymir Davis-Carruth.

"I knew that these guys (Ithaca) train well,

and that we train well," said Almkey. "These are guys that are always going to stay in good position. We had to stay in good position with them, beat them to our shots and get them tired. I think that's something that both Kyle and I, and a lot of the guys who also lost their matches, did out on the mat. We can't be too ashamed of how we did tonight."

Laudenslager attributed the two victories to Medrow and Almkey wrestling smart matches.

"They wrestled really good on top," said Laudenslager. "At the end of the day, if you can ride legs and keep a guy down -- just when you're on top -- it limits any points they can score."

Before regionals are officially on the horizon, the Colonels have to face crosstown-rival King's College on Friday, Feb. 21 during Senior Night.

"We'll get their best," said Laudenslager of King's. "They're a natural rival. They've got some guys coming back, so they're going to have a full lineup now. I think it's going to be a good week of practice, and we'll learn from this match against Ithaca. We've gotten better all year long as a young team."



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The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

Senior Kyle Medrow attempted to work a power-half against Tito Colom in the 141 lb. weight class, pulling out the 2-0 decision.

# MBB: Wilkes eliminated from playoffs after 73-71 loss to King's



The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

King's Andrew Hudak embraced teammate Patrick Galvin (21) after Galvin makes the go-ahead foul-line jumper with 3.4 seconds remaining in the contest.

By Ben Mandell  
Co-Sports Editor

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. -- Patrick Galvin's tiebreaking foul-line jumper with 3.4 seconds remaining kept King's playoff hopes alive, and it ended those of the Monarchs' two local rivals.

Galvin's jumper kept the Monarchs in a tie for the final playoff spot in the MAC Freedom Conference and also knocked both Wilkes and Misericordia out of contention when the Cougars lost to DeSales.

"The last week and a half, every game has been a playoff game," King's coach J.P. Andrejko said. "We put Wilkes three games behind us with two games to play. We did what we had to do."

The Monarchs 73-71 win over the Colonels was nothing short of dramatic, as Wilkes tied the game up with under 30 seconds left.

The Monarchs held the ball until there were 10 seconds left on the clock. They put the play in motion and Galvin took his shot from the free-throw line.

"We ran that play against them at the end of the first half at their place earlier in the year," Galvin said. "Coach said we were doing it again and he trusted me with the ball in my hands to make a play."

The drama was still far from over though.

After a timeout, the Colonels sent the ball down the court towards Jake Robel. He tried a pass out to Donovan Breeding for the potential game-winning three-pointer. His shot went up and into the basket, but the officials blew the play dead, saying that Galvin fouled Robel on the inbound pass, meaning Breeding's shot wouldn't count and Robel needed to make two free throws to tie the game.

"We were just trying to get the ball inside and get a good look at the hoop," Rob Pecorelli said. "It was a good play that we designed and a good play to get an open look. They called the foul, and that's how it worked out."

Coming to the line, Robel was 2-5 from the stripe on the day and he missed his first of the two shots. He intentionally missed the second so his team could try for a rebound, but King's Pat Mitchell swallowed it up and called game.

Wilkes shot 41 percent from the field but just 17 percent from the three-point line. Pecorelli led the team with 23 points, seven rebounds and seven assists. Mark Mullins added 17 points and seven rebounds and Drake Marshall had 12 points, five steals and seven rebounds.



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