

THE BEACON

Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

Year of the Vote celebrates a century of women's suffrage

Beacon Staff Reports

Wilkes University's Sordoni Art Gallery is hosting a year-long event called "Year of the Vote: Gender, Politics & Power." The Year of the Vote is a year-long series of monthly lectures, discussions, activities and podcasts.

The Year of the Vote celebrates and recognizes the 100 year anniversary of women receiving the right to vote.

During this year-long event, there will be multiple events that are held each month. Each month's events will be centered around a specific theme about women's rights.

"We're not only looking to the past and the hurdles we've already overcome, but we're looking to right now and looking at how far we have to go," said Heather Sincavage, assistant professor and director of the Sordoni Art Gallery, in describing the initiative.

Each month professors across different disciplines will deliver a series of thematic lectures. The event will also feature discussion groups held in the Sordoni Gallery entitled "EqualiTEAs."

EqualiTEAs will be a homage to the tradition set by the suffragettes who discussed women's issues over tea. During these discussion groups, there will be tea and baked goods available for participants along with a creative activity.

On top of the main lectures and EqualiTEAs, there will also be a series of special events throughout the year.



Submitted by Heather Sincavage

Year of the Vote celebrates 100 years of women's suffrage, with several events planned every month spanning the entire year.

Starting in February, an open mic event will be held every month.

The event is organized by Karley Stasko, a volunteer and outreach coordinator at the Sordoni Art Gallery.

The project is a collaborative interdisciplinary project of university faculty including Sincavage; Mia Briceno, associate professor of communication studies; Helen Davis, associate professor of English; Maria Grandinetti, associate professor of nursing; Andreea Maierean, assistant professor of political science; Jennifer Thomas and Ellen Newell, both associate professors of psychology; and Lisa Reynolds, assistant professor of integrative media.

This group is also releasing a monthly podcast titled "In the Kisser." The

podcast will feature the faculty members discussing women's issues that tie into each month's theme.

Those involved with the podcast include Reynolds, who is hosting the podcast, Briceno, Newell and Sincavage.

Kristen Rock, adjunct communication studies professor and WCLH radio station manager, is producing the podcast, which will be released at the end of every month. The podcast will be available for streaming on wilkes.edu/yearofthevote.

Last month, the group introduced their lecture series for the Year of the Vote with a lecture entitled "What Binds Us Tight" by Eva Polizzi, fibers artist, on Jan. 30.

This lecture was part of the opening reception of the Sordoni Art Gallery

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Opinion: 2020 NBA All Star Weekend will continue to top previous years

By Dylan Mehl
Staff Writer

As the middle of February approaches, every true NBA fan knows what is going to happen: All-Star Weekend is near. All-Star Weekend used to be something all NBA fans looked forward to, but recently, opinions have changed.

It used to be a time of excitement where fans would look forward to stacked three-point contests or NBA giants like Nate Robinson dunking over Dwight Howard. However, although opinions of the weekend have turned sour, we could be on the verge of returning to times of old excitement in this year's festivities.

All-Star Weekend will be held from Feb. 14 through Feb. 16 this year. The coveted All-Star game will be held on the final day of the weekend at 8 p.m. This year's festivities will take place in Chicago, Ill. at the United Center.

The NBA took a major step in the right direction last year changing the teams from East versus West, to each team being led by specific captains. With the change, the game felt much more competitive

NBA, page 15



Submitted by Madison Becker

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The Beacon/Maria DiBuo

What's the Dish visits El Rey Azteca, page 9



The Beacon/Madi Hummer

A reflection of my ethnic identity, page 18



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News

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

Student Government notes: Feb. 5 weekly meeting

By Sara Ross
Staff Writer

On Feb. 5, Student Government's meeting featured a club report and first and second-week presentations.

First, Biology Club President Kayla Eller, came in for the club report. During the fall semester, the group went to the Renaissance Fair, Roba's Farm and the Scranton Aquarium. For community service, they participated in the NEDA Walk, volunteered at the CEO Food Bank and engaged in WEBS activities.

Next on the agenda, the Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) gave 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 require a total of \$404.26, which will cover the costs of P2 students.

Wilkes Adventure Education (WAE) is looking for a fund request to go on its WAE Spring Break trip. They are planning to visit famous sites in Arizona. Students go hiking and meet a Wilkes alumna who works as a park ranger at the Grand Canyon. To go on their trip, they need \$3,000 to cover expenses for car rentals, hotel rooms, National Park passes and Grand Canyon permits.

The Wilkes University Theatre Department is planning to attend the


Southeastern Theatre Convention in Louisville, Ky. It will provide actors, directors and designers to participate in 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.

For a second presentation, students from the Sidhu Business School went to the Graduate Education and Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism over winter break. The subject of their research was "How to Encourage Millennials' Green Consumption Through Social Media." The group needed funds to cover the rest of their trip expenses, which

was \$391.27. This amount was approved in a passing motion of 29 in favor, seven opposing and zero abstaining.

Pre-Pharmacy Club also came in to give a fund request for a visit to the Science History Institute in Philadelphia on Apr. 4. To attend, the club needed \$550 for the trip. This was approved in a motion of 33 in favor, one opposing and one abstaining.

Some last notes included the class reports. For seniors, the class began a rose sale. The juniors are selling speakers and the sophomores are having a mud cake fundraiser. Finally, first-year students are having their bracelet sale.

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Beacon Briefs: Upcoming happenings on campus

Compiled by Sara Ross

Pardon Our French

Pardon Our French is a French conversation group that will begin meeting on Feb. 12 from 4:15 to 5 p.m. in Breiseth 107. They will be held every Wednesday from this date until the end of the semester. It is open to all Wilkes students, faculty and staff regardless of skill level.

At the meeting, light refreshments will be provided, while members discuss a variety of topics. This group aims to accommodate speakers from near-beginner to advanced levels, with attention to pronunciation, vocabulary and fluency.

ASME Hosts Guest Speaker

During National Engineers Week, ASME is hosting a guest speaker and alumnus, Adam Davis on Feb. 20. Davis will visit campus and talk with students and faculty about his experience as a Toyota Safety and Crashworthiness Engineer in Saline, Michigan.

The event will be held in the Stark Learning Center in room 101 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Pizza and beverages will be included as well. If you would like to attend, sign up online no later than Feb. 14.

Sign Up to Play Spring Intramurals

This spring there will be sign-ups until

Feb. 21 to play intramural soccer, volleyball and basketball. Games will start the week before spring break. Each sport will operate on certain days of the week with their own schedules and leagues


BACCHUS Valentine's Day Contest

On Valentine's Day, BACCHUS will be holding a contest for any student interested in sharing a photo of them with their friends or partners. There will also be an opportunity to vote for "Best Duo" in the Henry Student Center on Feb. 13 during club hours. To post a photo, use #BACCHUSValentine2020 for a chance to win a \$100 gift card.

Blood Drive

On Feb. 19, the Passan School of Nursing and the Red Cross are coming together for a blood drive on campus from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the SUB lounge. Anyone who donates will get a free "HUMAN kind" T-shirt and can have some refreshments.

To sign up, go to Red Cross' website and enter WILKESU to schedule your appointment. If you require community service hours, students who donate will receive one to three hours for their time. This event is open to all students.

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Upcoming Events: 2020 Spring Semester

February

- 11 - Rent the Musical (SD)
- 13 - Valentine's Day Event (PB)
- 16 - The Ice Cream Museum (SD)
- 20 - International Bingo (PB)
- 18-21 - Casino Week (SG)
- 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)
- 27 - Spring Fling (SG)
- 28 - Defy Jump (SD)

April

- 4 - Phillies 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 - 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
PB denotes Programming Board
SG denotes Student Government
SD denotes Student Development

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

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International Engagement welcomes largest student group to date

By Parker Dorsey
News Editor

On Feb. 1, campus welcomed the newest group of students in the IFARHU program. The group consists of 40 students from all eight of the Panamanian provinces. It is the fourth, and largest, IFARHU group to arrive at Wilkes.

The Office of International Engagement has four program partnerships with Panama: IFARHU (Institute for Training and Development of Human Resources), MEDUCA (Ministerio de Educacion), MIRE (Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores) and UTP (Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá).

While the latter three programs function essentially as a study abroad for Panamanian students in specific schools, IFARHU is a five-year program that allows high-achieving Panamanian students to study at Wilkes. Wilkes is the only university in the United States that offers a five-year program.

For the first year, students participate in the Intensive English Program and the University Preparatory Program. Following this first year, students are able to pursue any four-year bachelor's degree program of their choosing.

"I believe that each student has a story to tell. All 40 students worked hard to be here at Wilkes and they are very intelligent. Their hard work and sacrifice gave them the opportunity to be here," said Juan Romero, international engagement

student aide and junior secondary education major in Spanish with a minor in English.

Panama is listed by the Inter-American Development Bank as the second strongest economy in Central America just after the Dominican Republic. However, it is also listed as the second-worst country regarding the distribution of wealth.

"It is a country with an incredible gap in terms of equity opportunities for its population. So its government has identified that and is trying to combat that through education," said Rosi Ponce, executive director of International Engagement.

The IFARHU program takes students with the highest grade point averages in Panama for education in the United States, with the hope to take what they learn back to Panama and revitalize its economy.

"The new administration really wanted to emphasize their commitment to education and the youth of Panama which explains the larger number of students this year," said Leslie Lopez, International Engagement student aide and junior education major.

"The new administration also believes that your background should not limit your potential if you work hard towards your goals. Thus they have high expectations for all students and believe that when they return to Panama they will be agents of change in their families, communities and country," she continued.

Two students in the IFARHU 4 group, Lux Gonzalez and Andrea Arauz, are excited to be at Wilkes and expressed how beautiful they thought the campus was.

Arauz is from the Panamá Province. She joined the IFARHU program after receiving a letter due to being the highest-graded student at her high school. She hopes to pursue a career in biology and medicine.

"I want to make investigations into humanity because Panama is poor in medical practice. When I return to Panama, I would like to study medicine. I think I'm going to do both of those because I want to create my dream of becoming a doctor. I want to make it different. I want to improve things," said Arauz.

"In Panama, we don't investigate a lot. You just prepare from your major, but you don't do anything to change what you're going to work for," said Arauz.

Gonzalez is from the Chiriquí Province. While he was not the top student in his class, he represented his country in mixed martial arts, winning four gold medals and another in Brazilian jiu-jitsu. He hopes to pursue a career in medical engineering and to also be a teacher. While in Panama he used to work as a technician.

"Everything can improve. But there has to be someone to change that. We are here to learn how to change things in our country," said Gonzalez.

While they acknowledge many things can be improved in Panama, they both

stressed their love for their culture. They excitedly discussed their love of food, celebrations and sports.


"We are a very happy people. We love life and we want to make the most of it every day," said Gonzalez.

"We're a small office but we really try our best. They're not just here to better their country, but their families as well. A lot of it is just the mental and emotional support of them being thousands of miles from home without family," said Madison Becker, International Engagement Program Coordinator.

"But we love the work that we do with the students. It's really cool to see them come here day one with no English, and then sophomore year they're dean's list. It's really cool to watch their progress and see them succeed. It's touching," she continued.

The International Engagement relies on the support of its 10 student aides to assist in the office: Abdul Almekey, Juan Astegiano, Anna Culver, Angelina Davis, Madelynn Davis, Rawan Elshamsy, Olivia King, Allen Kokilananda, Leslie Lopez, Juan Romero and Samantha Verespy.

Editor's note: Madelynn Davis, Anna Culver and Samantha Verespy are members of The Beacon staff.

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The students' second outing was at Dickson City Laser Tag, where they were able to play laser tag and other arcade games for the first time.



The students got to experience snow for the first time while snow tubing at Montage Mountain.

Photos courtesy of the Office of International Engagement

Accounting students take part in VITA program this month

By Sean Schmoyer
Asst. News Editor

Throughout February, accounting majors and other students from the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership are working to provide members of the community with free tax preparation.

Students will be helping community members with tax returns every Saturday throughout the rest of the month with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

While the service has been going on for the first two weeks, it will continue to be offered on Feb. 15 and Feb. 22 by appointment. The times for appointments are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in room 134 on the first floor of the University Center on Main, 169 South Main Street, Wilkes-Barre (corner of South Main Street and West South Street).

Cynthia Chisarick, associate professor of accounting, spoke about the benefits of the program.

"I believe there are a number of reasons why the program is beneficial. The first is that students are able to provide a service to the community."

She explained that students are required to both take a tax course on campus and take an exam to be certified by the IRS before they can partake in the program.

"The students gain real-world experience when they sit right with a client, get information from the client

and complete the return all in one setting," said Chisarick.

Kacee Diehl, junior accounting major, decided to join the program this year.

"I got involved because I thought it would be a great opportunity to gain experience dealing with electronic tax returns. It is really nice and rewarding to talk and work with [community members]. Some of them are very open to share stories and it is so nice to talk and help them."

The VITA Program offers free tax help to people with a household income of less than \$56,000 and who file basic federal, state and local tax returns.

Those interested in the service need to bring the following items to the VITA site:

- A form of photo identification.
- Valid social security cards for the taxpayer, spouse and dependents.
- Wage and earning statements (Form W-2) from all employers.
- Interest and dividend statements from banks (Form 1099).
- A copy of last year's federal and state returns (if available).
- Other relevant information about income and expenses.
- Bank routing numbers and account numbers for direct deposit.
- The total paid for a daycare provider and the daycare provider's tax identifying number.

Both spouses must be present for taxpayers who are married and plan to be file joint returns.

Students prepare around 200 tax returns every year on average with the VITA Program.

"This is my second year doing this, the opportunity came from professor Chisarick and it is just a way to give back to the community. It is not just helping the community, it is also taking what we learn from class and applying it," said Edward Lukowski, senior accounting major.

"It is like a warm feeling, that you are doing something good. We do not have a lot of time because we do a lot of school work, any chance to give back is a great feeling and you leave here in a better mood knowing that you came and you helped someone," he continued.

Chisarick said, "I think compliments go to the students, they give up their Saturdays. They give up every Saturday in February and we know how important and busy students are during the week."

"Saturday and Sunday are sometimes opportunities to catch up on work or relax a little bit and have some fun, but




Submitted by Wilkes Marketing

From left to right, Edward Lukowski, Nick Schepis, Taylor Akmal, Garret Gagliardi and Kacee Diehl, all student volunteers with the VITA Program.

they are dedicated individuals in that they feel strongly enough about learning and growing to give up their Saturdays and provide this community service," she continued.

Members of the community can schedule appointments by calling (570) 408-4710 and leaving a message with their name and phone number. They will then be contacted to schedule an appointment.

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VOTE, from front

exhibit "Material Pulses: Seven Viewpoints." This lecture discusses how most female artists who work in the medium of fiber are still overlooked by curators and museums.

This lecture aimed to add another layer to the investigation by exploring a few more women fiber artists whose names are still missing from many art-history textbooks, and their sometimes unconventional work that is left out of the limelight.

For the following months, there will be several important themes and activities. February is Black History Month. March is Women's History Month. April's theme is Sexual Assault/Human Trafficking. May is Health, June is PRIDE, July is Art/Expression, August is education, September is Sports, October is Politics and November is Violence.

As of now, the schedule for events is available for February, March and April on the Year of the Vote website.

The schedule for February begins with an EqualITEA discussion of women's

healthcare and activist poster making for The Vagina Monologues on Feb. 11 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Vagina Monologues event will also be hosted on Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. and February 15 at 2 p.m. in the Henry Ballroom.

The monologues are a benefit production of the award-winning play "Vagina Monologues" by Eve Ensler, featuring students and faculty from the university.

On Feb. 27 at 4:30 p.m., there will be a lecture "Black Liberation: Race, Class & Colonialism in W.E.B. Du Bois and Fanon" by Dr. Jap-Nanak Makkar, assistant professor of English.

After the lecture, the first open mic/poetry slam will be held.

Since March is Women's History Month, they are planning to begin with, celebrating International Women's Day on March 8.

This will be followed by a

lecture on March 12 at 4:30 p.m. by Dr. Amy Sopak-Joseph, assistant professor of history, entitled "Not Just Housewives: Women's Activism Before the 19th Amendment."

There will be an EqualITEA on Mar. 24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a discussion of clothing and politics as well as a button-making activity.


There will also be an open mic/poetry slam night on Mar. 26 at 6 p.m.

Each event will take place in the Sordoni Art Gallery unless otherwise noted. All events are free to the public.

The series will continue through the summer and into the fall semester. More information about the individual lectures will be released as the year progresses.

More information about Year of the Vote and any of its announced events can be found on the project's website at wilkes.edu/yearofthevote.

Information can also be received from contacting either heather.sincavage@wilkes.edu or lisa.reynolds@wilkes.edu.

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Submitted by Heather Sincavage

A new equalITEA will take place every month, centered around each month's theme.

Campus gears up for the inaugural Wilkes Giving Day

By Sean Schmöyer
Asst. News Editor

Feb. 20 marks the beginning of a new 24-hour long online fundraising effort by the university. Throughout the day the SUB will be filled with students, deans, coaches, other faculty and alumni as the university pushes toward its goal of raising the most amount of money for the university in a single day through donations.

At Winter Commencement, Interim President Paul S. Adams first brought the program to campus' attention.

"It is a new and special way for all of us to foster a sense of community and showcase our Colonel Spirit, while we raise donations for important campus activities," he said. "It is a contemporary way for our alumni and friends to engage with and support the areas of the university most important to them."

Giving Day focuses on 10 sections of the university: the six academic colleges and schools as well as four other sections that impact student life at Wilkes.

Alumni, students, faculty and friends and family of those connected to Wilkes can donate to any of the following: College of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences; College of Science & Engineering; Sidhu School of Business & Leadership; The School of Education; Nesbitt School of Pharmacy; Passan School of Nursing; Athletics; Student Life; Student Scholarships; and the E.S. Farley Library & Innovation.

Leigh Ann M. Jacobson, CFRE director of alumni engagement and annual giving, spoke about the day's importance.

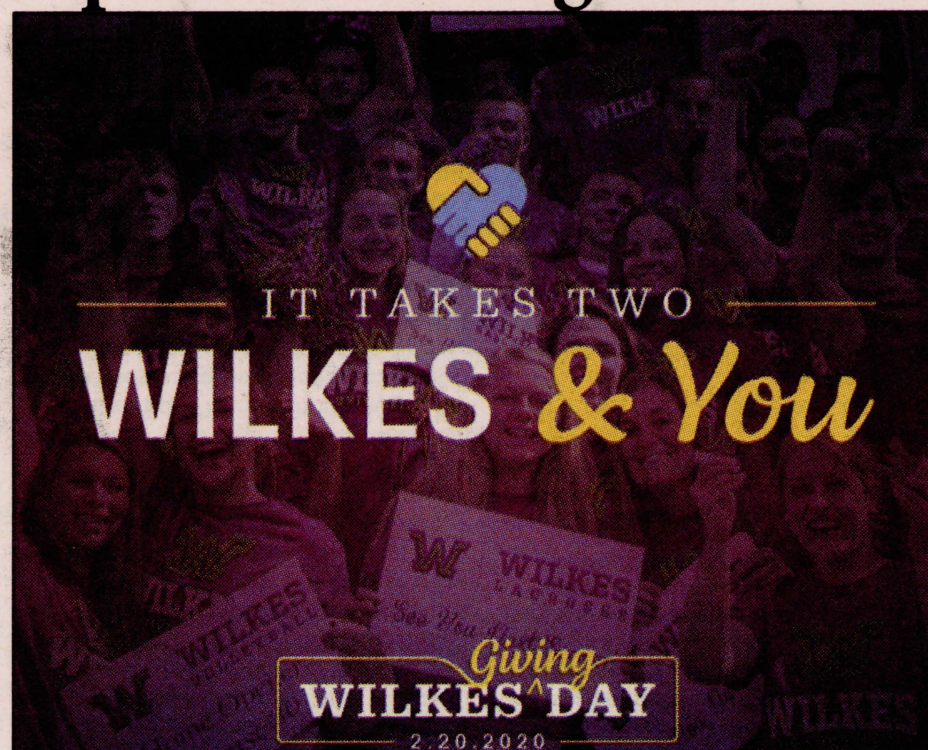
"The day is all about showing your colonel pride. There are many ways to participate and all of them have a level of importance than just making a gift. Making a gift, of course, is critical to the success and being able to raise money in support of all the academic, athletic, student life and general scholarships."

From 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on campus in the lobby of the SUB and on the second floor outside of the Miller Room, students and alumni will be able to participate in numerous events and activities to raise awareness about Giving Day.

Starting at 8:20 a.m. and continuing every hour until 7:20 p.m. (with a break at 2:20 p.m.) each of the ten areas of interest will have a challenge hour.

"We are having a theme of the 20s. When 20 donors are reached in each of the 10 areas it will unlock a challenge gift of \$2020. Each of the 10 areas has a challenge hour where we will be pushing out content just about that unit," said Jacobson.

The content will be pushed out on all of Wilkes social media pages, but each area will



Submitted by Wilkes Marketing

also be releasing content during its hour on its social media as well.

In the weeks leading up to Giving Day, each dean or central figure of each area has released a verbal and written statement about Giving Day and how each area can be impacted.

Dean Paul Riggs addressed that areas of interest for the College of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences are to continue to improve the performing arts, pre-law, the Sordoni Art Gallery and to help establish new programs that lack alumni, such as a new African-American studies and film studies programs.

The College of Science and Engineering's Dean Prahlad Murthy addressed that the school is hoping to have donations help fund student travel to conferences, undergraduate research opportunities, professional certification programs and many other aspects of the college.

Dean Abel Adekola said, "The Sidhu School of Business and Leadership prepares students for business success in today's highly competitive, global marketplace. As we continue our commitment to educate and prepare our students to lead beyond the boardroom we call on each of you to help us continue."

Donations to the School of Education will contribute to the school's mission to empower educators at every level, both locally and globally, according to Dean Rhonda M. Rabbitt.

Dr. Scott Stolte, Dean of the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy, spoke about three students,

Cody Morcom, Dylan Fox and Danica Benson, pointing out that donations would help students like them.

"They have all achieved outstanding accomplishments and they represent the excellence that all of our student pharmacists embody. On this 2020 Wilkes Giving Day, I ask that you join me in making a gift to support scholarships for pharmacy students."

Dean Deborah Zbegner addressed that over the past five years, the Passan School of Nursing has undergone changes that brought it into the 21st century. She stated that donations would continue to support what is the "only freestanding school of nursing in northeastern Pennsylvania that provides a comprehensive suite of academic programs leading to B.S.N., M.S.N., D.N.P. and Ph.D. degrees."

Athletic Director Addy Malatesta spoke of the 500-plus student-athletes participating in 23 varsity programs that donations would continue to benefit and support.

Deans Mark Allen and Phil Ruthkosky spoke about how donations to student life would contribute to the Student Emergency Fund, the Alternative Break Program and the Colonel's Clothes Closet.

Chief Development Officer Margaret Steele said, "When you choose to give to Student Scholarships, you have the choice of giving between the First Generation Scholarship Fund or the General Scholarship Fund. At Wilkes University there is no better example of generosity than the scholarships which directly reflects our collective values."

Dean John C. Stachacz stated that donations to the E.S. Farley Library & Innovation will directly support the mission "to provide the collections, services and environments to support and strengthen the teaching, learning, mentoring and research mission at Wilkes."

When every challenge hour starts the bell on campus will ring, signifying to students that a new challenge hour has begun.

"We are asking all students, faculty and staff, to come and get a picture and make a social media post with the #givetowilkes," Jacobson said. "The theme this year is 'It Takes Two, Wilkes and You,' and that means you as a student, the faculty and of the alumni and friends. Our mission is to turn social media gold and blue."

Alongside the photo booth that will be present in the SUB downstairs, there will also be an area for Tik Tok that will have to do with the theme song of "It Takes Two."

On the second floor of the SUB in the Miller Room, volunteers can come in and make calls, send emails to personal contacts and encourage others to donate. In addition, members of different athletic teams will be around the Miller Room to reach out to former athletes as well.

Throughout the day there will also be photo challenges online that will provide prizes to those who participate.

"The biggest thing about Giving Day is that it is a day on campus where you support the areas you love most. On the giving form, you can make a tribute to someone who has made an impact on you at Wilkes," said Jacobson.

"Throughout the year, every other day, when someone makes a donation to say, wrestling, half of the donation goes to wrestling and the other half goes to further all of athletics. On Giving Day, it is the one day where 100% of the donation will go to that sport in athletics," she continued.

While students can donate, the campus is looking for students to be active on social media and spread the word about Giving Day and encourage others to donate.

Students interested in helping out with Giving Day should go to the official website and learn more about the photo challenge, gain access to shareable images for different social media and check out the social media toolkit available which has example posts to model your own off of.

The hashtags being used throughout the day will be #ItTakesTwo, #Wilkes&You, #WilkesGivingDay and #Give2Wilkes.



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Student and faculty thoughts on the Iowa Caucus results

By Sean Schmoyer
Asst. News Editor

On Feb. 3, the Iowa caucus was officially underway. As results began to come in, official statements were released indicating it would take additional days to get the full report of results.

As the week went on and results trickled in, discussions about the Iowa caucus began to circulate from what the results meant to how well-managed the process for the caucus was.

Kyle L. Kreider, professor of political science, discussed how the Iowa caucus has a symbolic purpose.

"It helps a media narrative. If you win or are close to the top you can say, 'hey I won the Iowa caucus,' but in terms of the number of delegates you obtain if you win, it is not a lot. What it does is, with Iowa being the first caucus and New Hampshire being the first primary, it gives you bragging rights, which can be important for financing or getting donations for your campaign."

The results of the election as reported by NPR saw Pete Buttigieg leading by 0.1 percent over Bernie Sanders, resulting in essentially a tie. Elizabeth Warren had roughly 18 percent, Joe Biden had roughly 16 percent, Amy Klobuchar had roughly 12 percent and Andrew Yang brought up the rear with 1 percent of votes.

Hope Williams, sophomore communication studies major, felt the results were surprising.

"Looking at the results of the caucus, I wasn't really leaning one way or the other. At the same time, I am surprised by the results."

Donald Ballou, sophomore international relations and communication studies double major, said, "I am not overly surprised at the results of the Iowa caucus;

all the big names are at the top, like Warren, Biden, and Sanders. I am surprised that Pete Buttigieg came out on top, if by a hair from Sanders. Though the Iowa caucus has been known to be a bit unrepresentative of diversity, and Buttigieg's following has been pointed out to also be less than diverse, his win makes a bit of sense."

Ballou's analysis of the results for Buttigieg line up with reasons as to why the Iowa caucus is coming under fire and may be in danger of losing its position as the first caucus.

"Within five days, a week, two weeks, people are going to forget the Iowa caucus from a national standpoint. Since it was such a debacle I am wondering whether the Democratic Party will take steps to remove Iowa as the first caucus," Kreider said.

"There is always debate about whether this is the best first state because a caucus is very different from a primary. A caucus is basically a neighborhood gathering. The voter turnout is not high due to the time commitment, so people say 'was that really Democratic, is it really reflective?' Iowa is predominantly white, so the Democratic voters in Iowa do not really reflect the party as a whole."

Another aspect that has caused the Iowa caucus to receive criticism was the pace at which results were reported.

Ballou said, "To be honest, I didn't really notice a delay in the timing of the caucus, but I could probably credit that to the decreasing faith I have in the integrity of the election system of this country."

Williams felt the delay showed the country's corruption.

"It seems that interfering with votes is a common trend now, and that is not OK."

While no massive tampering or election interference was reported by news media, the major problem with the results for the

Iowa caucus came from an app the caucus decided to use to report results.

"I have heard that these election reporting apps have not worked in the past, so it should not be a surprise that it did not work here," said Kreider.

Older precinct captains decided not to use the app to report instead sticking to traditional methods. This, combined with reports that the back-up phone lines used as a way to report results were backed up by calls from Donald Trump supporters, seemed to be many of the reasons results were slow coming in. In addition to this, the Iowa caucus was also functioning under new rules.

"The changes were that you had to reach a threshold, I think around 15 percent, in order to viable," explained Kreider. "If your candidate did not reach that threshold you had to go to your second candidate. So the Steyers, the Gabbards, the Yangs... One of the rules was if your candidate was at that threshold you could not move. So if you were in a Sanders camp and he reached viability you could not move to another candidate."

As the country moves toward the New Hampshire primary, many are already putting Iowa behind them and focusing on other primaries and the general election in November.

"I would love to see more unity in the Democratic Party. Too many hands in the pot tend to ruin the meal, and they need to push a unified front if they want to be a force reckoned with against the Trump campaign. It drives me mad that politics in this country seems more and more for the politicians themselves than the people they are meant to represent," said Ballou.

He continued, "I would like to vote for someone who dedicates their office to the people, not to themselves, and I'm not entirely sure we have a good selection of

those kinds of leaders in this election."


"As a member of the Wilkes College Democrats, I am not too sure the caucus will have much bearing on the Democratic Party as of now," said Williams. "Looking toward the future of the Democratic Party, I hope that a strong and prepared candidate wins in the primaries and in the caucus."

She continued, "This country needs a complete 360 and a strong, level-headed Democratic candidate will need to make those necessary changes and decisions. I hope that young people turn out to vote. I think that as young people, we underestimate our true power when it comes to politics. We have the ability to change this country by just voting."

April 28 marks the date for the Pennsylvania primary. Registration to vote in the primary ends on March 30, while registration to vote in the general election ends on Oct. 5.

Kreider expressed that primaries result in higher voter participation than caucuses due to the lengthy nature of a caucus. Despite this, he also addressed that the nation should prepare for a long wait for results from primaries, caucuses and even potentially the general election.

"I think people might be surprised with the 2020 general election because some states, including Pennsylvania, have changed their election laws to require the election results not be publicized until all ballots are counted, including absentee ballots," Kreider said. "If that is the case, it is going to take longer to figure out who's the winner. There is a chance we are not going to know who the winner is on election night in November."

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IOWA DEMOCRATIC RESULTS							
CANDIDATE	PERCENT	SDE*	VOTES	CANDIDATE	PERCENT	SDE*	VOTES
PETE BUTTIGIEG	26.2%	564	43,195	JOE BIDEN	15.8%	341	23,691
BERNIE SANDERS	26.1%	562	45,826	AMY KLOBUCHAR	12.3%	264	21,181
ELIZABETH WARREN	18.0%	387	34,771	ANDREW YANG	1.0%	22	1,780

Graphic by Madi Hummer.

Life, Arts & Entertainment

Discuss body perception on V-Day at the Vagina Monologues

By Caroline Rickard
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day is approaching in a few days, which means Wilkes University will host the annual Vagina Monologues event on campus. Students can expect this year's program to be extra special because it coincides with the centennial of women's right to vote.

"The Vagina Monologues" is a play written by Eve Ensler in 1996 which focuses on feminine strength, empowerment and the overall female experience. The play is made up of various monologues that discuss the topics of body perception, gender identity, sexuality, domestic violence and women's bodily processes. Ensler found inspiration for her play by interviewing 200 women on their experiences as a woman.

Attendees can expect passionate Wilkes students, faculty and staff performing nine monologues in front of the audience. This event is a favorite for the campus community, especially the student performers.

Ashley Abbey, a senior marketing and management major, has been attending and performing since her first year. One of her favorite monologues is "Because He

Liked to Look at It," which discusses how women grow to appreciate their genitalia.

"It is funny and totally out there, but kind of relatable at the same time," said Abbey.

Jessica Morandi, a junior digital design and media art major, and Olivia Caraballo, a senior middle-level education major, are this year's directors of "The Vagina Monologues." Both women encourage students to become involved with the event.

"The wonderful community it creates, especially between women here at Wilkes, is a great environment to just be yourself in and to embrace your feminism," said Morandi.

She also mentioned it is a way to represent an activist movement on Wilkes University campus.

The event is much more than a play, but about unifying a group of people and discussing individual unique experiences.

"This event is just a way for me to support other women and express my creativity in a unique way," said Abbey, on why the event is important to her.

This year there will be 16 people banding together to perform as well as a handful of volunteers. Attendees can expect to see

fresh new faces and new attitudes.

Caraballo noted they reach out to the Wilkes-Barre community to visit campus and attend. Organizations like the Domestic Violence Resource Center, The Victim's Resource Center and Planned Parenthood Keystone will have tables at this year's program.

Inviting community organizations like Planned Parenthood and domestic violence centers is a great resource for patrons to educate themselves on topics typically not discussed in everyday conversation.

The work which goes into making this program successful is no small feat. Caraballo; Morandi; and faculty adviser Mia Briceño, an associate professor of communication studies, have been planning the February event since the beginning of the fall semester.

Once students returned to campus from winter break, the performers and directors meet every week to rehearse their monologues before the big day.

Morandi is utilizing her digital design education as the director. Since November, Morandi has been creating promotional materials and programs for the Vagina Monologues.

The Vagina Monologues coincides with the "Year of the Vote" campaign created by the Sordoni Art Gallery. The campaign consists of a series of lectures held in the art gallery celebrating women's suffrage and the impact women have on society.

The significance it has on this year's Vagina Monologues is one of celebration and honor.


On Feb. 11, the first Year of the Vote lecture will be the EqualITEA program held in the gallery from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

2020 is the year to celebrate the year of women and what better way to do that than by attending this year's Vagina Monologues.

"Overall, it is such a cool event to be a part of. Not participating would be a huge mistake," said Morandi.

The Vagina Monologues show will be Feb. 14 starting at 7 p.m., and Feb. 15 starting at 11 a.m. in the ballroom located in the Student Union Building.

Email Olivia.caraballo@wilkes.edu or jessica.morandi@wilkes.edu with questions.

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Performer Neha Kunche posing with a photo of Bert Reynolds. The photo is a prop for the monologue she read at last year's show.



Performers Jess Morandi and Brianna Schunk preparing themselves for the opening night of last year's Vagina Monologues performance.

Photos courtesy of Dr. Mia Briceño

Get a clue, learn how to fight the flu from the pharmacy school

Brendan Steiner
Staff Writer

In the wake of an outbreak of the deadly coronavirus coming from mainland China, our attention is drawn away from another viral infection that has killed thousands and infected millions of Americans: the flu.

As novel as the influenza viruses might seem, the United States is in the midst of one of the worst flu seasons to date, claiming the lives of over 8,000 people in the U.S., according to a new report from CNN, and its effects are even being felt on campus as many students have fallen ill.

It's easy to overlook the seriousness of this infection because it is one that has been around for as long as many of us can remember, but it's our underestimation of the flu that makes it so dangerous.

Influenza is an acute respiratory illness that typically occurs in outbreaks from October to March and is usually uncomplicated in healthy children and adults. Complications tend to arise in special populations such as the elderly, children under the age of 2 years, and those with certain medical conditions, especially

those that affect the lungs.

It is in these populations that the US has seen an increase in overall mortality as a result of infection; deaths due to an illness that has the potential to be prevented. Common symptoms of the flu may include fever, headache, muscle pain, and tiredness, all of which begin to start fairly quickly; the most prevalent symptom, fever, is usually seen first. Upon the onset of fever and other flu symptoms, all are encouraged to call their doctor or visit Health Services at Passan Hall immediately, as Tamiflu may

be an option in reducing the duration of flu symptoms.

This medication is only effective when given within the first 48 hours of symptom onset, so it is vital that you contact a healthcare professional as soon as possible if you suspect that you might have the flu.

The Beacon/Maddie Hummer

If you or anyone you know is infected with the flu, prevention of spreading the infection is a top priority. It's recommended that you wash your hands regularly and clean all surfaces that you come in contact with on a daily basis (doorknobs, phones, computers, etc.) with


a disinfectant spray such as Lysol, and most importantly, do not go to class.

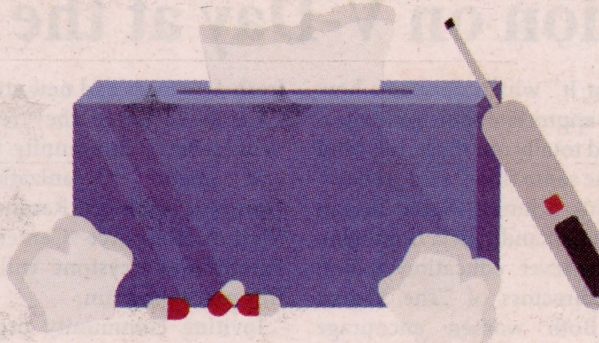
Your attendance is not worth the risk of exposing classmates, faculty and staff to the flu, some of whom might be at higher risk of developing more severe complications if infected.

If you miss class because you are sick, make sure to let your doctor know and ask for any documentation that is required by your professor and/or the university.

Although proper hand hygiene, surface sanitation, and coughing into your elbow are legitimate ways to prevent the spread of the flu, there is another option that has been proven to work just as well and is just as safe.

All healthcare professionals agree across the board on the effectiveness of getting an annual flu vaccine and say that safety should not be a concern after false reports allegedly linked its administration to the development of autism in early childhood.

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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: [Juro que - Rosalia](#)
Maddie Davis, Managing Editor: [High Fashion - Roddy Ricch](#)
Parker Dorsey, News Editor: [Syphilis - Fleshgod Apocalypse](#)
Sean Schmoyer, Asst. News Editor: [Devil - Tyler Glenn](#)

Kylie Dillon, LA&E Editor: [Broken Girls - Gabbie Hanna](#)
Kirsten Peters, Co- Sports Editor: [No Good - Ally Brooke](#)
Kevin Singhel, Asst. Sports Editor: [Why Did You Run - Judah & the Lion](#)
Madison Hummer, Design Editor: [Please Notice - Christian Leave](#)
Ben Mandell, Co- Sports Editor: [BLOW - Ed Sheeran](#)

WHAT'S THE DISH?

RESTAURANT REVIEW

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

Dish of the Week: El Rey Azteca

By Maria DiBuo
Staff Writer

This week, 'What's the Dish?' travels to El Rey Azteca, a family-owned Mexican restaurant, opened in 2010 by Gaston Romero and his family. A hidden gem of the Wilkes-Barre area, El Rey Azteca is located in the Triangle Shopping Plaza at 681 Kidder St. in Wilkes Barre Township.

Owner Gaston Romero, along with sister, Betsy; and wife, Margarita Cazares; pride themselves in operating a real, authentic Mexican restaurant, bringing the bold and fresh flavors of their culture to the Wyoming Valley.

At El Rey Azteca, Romero serves as chef



The Burrito Gonzales, a popular dish offered at El Rey Azteca.

and creates monthly features, as well as traditional favorites such as enchiladas and quesadillas.

The restaurant also features authentic Ricos Desayunos, or rich breakfast dishes, and also has vegetarian offerings. In addition, the eatery also serves various appetizers, nachos, burritos, salads, and more.

El Rey Azteca is just a short 11-minute drive from Wilkes University campus, via Wilkes-Barre Boulevard. The restaurant is located in the same plaza as Ollie's Bargain Outlet, and directly across from The Dough Company restaurant.

For Aaron Lewis, of the West Pittston area, El Rey Azteca is the clear choice when looking for authentic Mexican cuisine in the Wyoming Valley area.

"El Rey Azteca is definitely one of my favorite places to eat out," said Lewis. "They have a lot of competition, with there being other restaurants in the area that serve Mexican dishes, but theirs are just the best."

The El Rey Azteca eatery is not the Romero family's first venture in the restaurant business. The family previously owned Pizza Kings on Blackman Street in Wilkes-Barre, which served pizza, pastas, and sandwiches. It was there that the inspiration for El Rey Azteca was born.

When customers became curious about what the family was eating "behind the scenes", the Romero's were inspired to transform their pizza shop into an authentic Mexican restaurant, serving meals they grew up with, as well as traditional favorites.

As a nod to their previous restaurant, Pizza Kings, the new restaurant was named El Rey Azteca, or Aztec King.

While at El Rey Azteca, I had the Burrito Gonzales, a flour tortilla filled with steak, chicken, shrimp, and chorizo. The burrito is topped with melted cheese, as well as fresh pico de gallo and avocado.

I also sampled their tableside guacamole, along with their complimentary homemade tortilla chips and salsa, which were my favorite part of the meal.

Unlike many tortilla chips served at restaurants in the Wyoming Valley, El Rey Azteca serves a more dense tortilla chip, perfect for scooping their various homemade sauces and dips. My only suggestion ... bigger bowls of salsa.

The environment at El Rey Azteca is extremely family-friendly and comfortable, perfect for celebrating life events with family and friends. Katie Pollick, of the Swoyersville area, celebrated her 21st birthday at the eatery.

"I wanted to go out with my family and close friends for my birthday, and had a tough time trying to find somewhere appropriate for that," recalled Pollick. "My cousin suggested El Rey Azteca, and I couldn't have been happier that she did. There was a good vibe there, the food and drinks were great, and so was the service."

Menu pricing at El Rey Azteca is moderate, with the average dinner item falling in around \$12.50. For the price, portions are extremely generous.



The Beacon/Maria DiBuo

The popular Tuesday specials from El Rey Azteca

El Rey Azteca is open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Sunday, and offers lunch specials as well as dinner offerings. Take out is available, as well as ordering through the Doordash delivery service.

If you find yourself in the Wilkes-Barre Township area, I encourage stopping by El Rey Azteca, and sampling truly authentic Mexican cuisine in the Wyoming Valley. I recommend trying their burritos, as well as their nachos and tableside guacamole.

When off-campus, and commuting to and from, be sure to be aware and responsible and remember to eat local in the Wyoming Valley.

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GSA offers personalized Valentine's Day Cards for your special someone

Jordan Daniel
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day is almost upon us and the Gender-Sexuality Alliance (GSA) has the means to send your special loved one a personal valentine. The club is giving out free handmade valentines and candy at the SUB on Feb. 11 and Feb. 13 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"We decided to do something in relation to Valentine's Day because we thought it would

be a good way for people to get LGBT or even straight valentines since we know how to make personalized valentines for people," said Holly Jones, sophomore biology major and treasurer of GSA.

Last Thursday, GSA began giving out handmade valentines to people as they walked through the SUB. Many stopped by their table to retrieve a valentine and candy for themselves or to give to others.

"About a dozen people, both staff and students, came by," said Zarqua Ansari, junior biology major and secretary of GSA. "The turnout was better than I was expecting. I hope to get the same turnout the next two days."

As of right now, Ansari has taken the responsibility of writing the loving messages on her valentines for people. On the first day of giving them out, she had writing samples laid out on the table for people to pick their favorite and even did practice runs so everyone can get the perfect valentine for whoever they want.

"I brought up the idea because many people have told me I have beautiful hand lettering," said Ansari. "I am a self-taught calligrapher and have practiced calligraphy and lettering for almost 10 years now. The rest of the board loved the idea and decided it is a good way to raise awareness of our club existing."

Ashley Wallace, freshman mathematics secondary education major got a valentine for her boyfriend the first day GSA began

giving them out. She was pleased with the idea of telling Ansari what she would like written and drawn on her valentine.

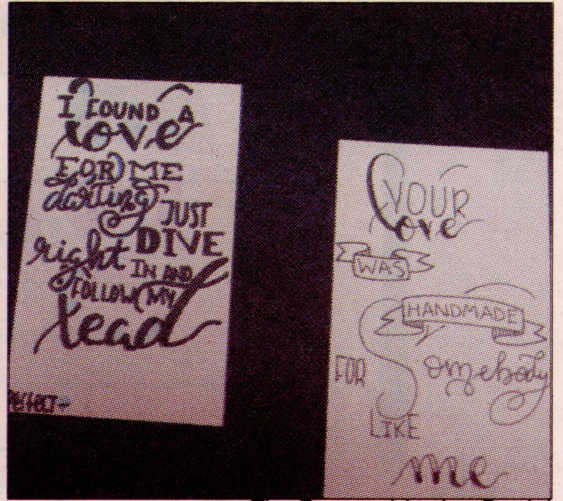
"I would recommend people to stop by the table during club hours and just ask for one," said Wallace. "It is really easy. They should get one next week because they are really cute and they will do practically any design right there for you."

If you want to make your valentine even more personal, GSA is allowing people to use their supplies to create your own messages and designs. They have gathered plenty of materials for people to use and enjoy making valentines for their significant others, friends and family.

"I plan on making cards with the supplies in the Club Hub and my own writing tools," said Ansari. "We'll see if we can get glitter and stickers to add alongside my decals."

Not only did GSA plan this event to make personalized valentines for students and faculty but with the hope that their club will gain some more recognition. Also, they cherish the idea of people expressing their love no matter their sexual orientation or gender identity.

"I think people will enjoy this event because whether you are LGBT+ or not it is a great way to show affection," said Jones.



The Beacon/ Jordan Daniel

Samples of the Valentine's Day Cards handmade by the members of the Gender and Sexuality Alliance.

This is the first time GSA is doing such an activity for their club and they hope to get a good response back.

"I think we will do this in the future because even if one person gets a valentine made, we will have made someone happy," said Jones.

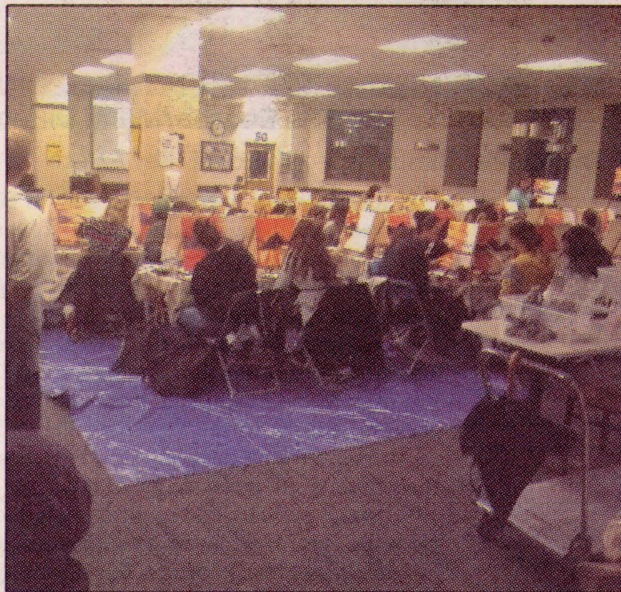
Editor's Note: Zarqua Ansari is on the Beacon staff as Assistant Opinion Editor.

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GSA's Secretary Holly Jones making cards in the student center.

Programming Board offers a paint and sip to students



Students gathered in the Student Union Building lounge to participate in a paint and sip. They were given a canvas to try to replicate on their own.



William Billingsley, pictured above, is working on his version of the painting.



Megan Sokol, pictured above, is concentrating intently on getting the brush strokes just right.

The Beacon/ Michael Osayi

creative colonels

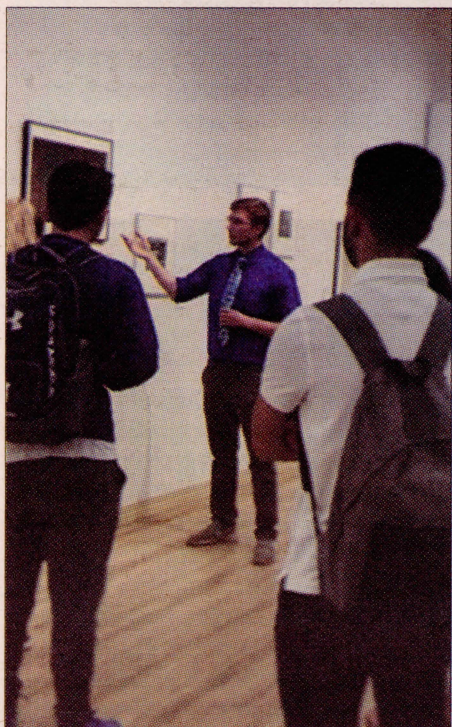
Creative Colonel of the Week: Jesse Elliot

By Kylie Dillon
Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

Whether you're a listener, a creator, a follower, or somewhere in between, we can all agree music plays a big role in most of our lives. This week's creative colonel, Jesse Elliot, checks all the boxes when it comes to his love for all things music.

Jesse Elliot is a senior finance and political science major with minors in women and gender studies and management.

Elliot has always been interested in music, but it was not until he began his journey here at Wilkes that he took his love for the craft to the next level.



Elliot giving a tour of a previous exhibit that was in the Sordoni Art Gallery.

"I would probably describe it as my biggest passion, it is something I am really into," said Elliot. "And even in my spare time I'm always either reading about it, or listening to music, and on top of it I'll read stuff on making music."

He started to practice making his own music and downloaded a software called FLStudios. There, he spends a lot of his free time testing his limits and seeing what he can create.

"I slowly kept picking it up piece by piece. It starts with you making little clips that don't really sound like much and are really simple," said Elliot. "But when you first start getting them to sound good together, it feels good and from there you keep working little by little."

Using the software Elliot has, he can add real musical sounds to the mix. He can play the guitar and the drums. Often, he hooks his guitar or drum set right into the software and records his playing. From there, he can manipulate the sound to get the beat he is going for.

The more Elliot works at his craft, the more clear it is that this is something he knows a lot about. He hopes to one day create full-length beats, and even write his own lyrics to go with it.

"Lyrics and music makes you almost more vulnerable when you put them out there. You're kind of communicating the exact emotion and feeling you have which can be pretty tough," added Elliot. "And you can really feel like you're putting yourself out there so that's why it's something I'd like to keep working on."

With a passion for a career that is so cutthroat, Elliot is aware that making it big time in the business might be hard. He says you have to put big time in to get big results when it comes to music. His ultimate dream would be to release full songs of his own, but for now, he enjoys learning more and messing around when he can.



Photos submitted by: Jesse Elliot

Pictured above is Elliot at the dedication of the conference room located outside the Sordoni Art Gallery's office spaces.


Not only does Elliot express himself through his music-making, he landed himself a job in the Sordoni Art Gallery back in 2017. He spent that summer with the gallery, assisting the director in curating the show for the upcoming exhibit.

"I had to do research for the captions that would go next to the pictures, and I am kind of a big history nerd so to me it was really fun," said Elliot. "It was really cool to work in a position where I got to read things that I was interested in all day long."

With his newfound knowledge, and the dream of the director to begin a tour program for local schools, his new job as a

tour guide was born. Elliot began taking time to tour students, locally and within Wilkes and informing them of what the pieces meant and why they served significance to the show.

"That is something I really enjoy, especially because of the nature of the shows that we put on here," added Elliot. "The first two exhibits I gave tours on hold a special place in my heart because I really appreciated the value of the stories being told in the art."

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Page Design: The Beacon / Madi Hummer
The Beacon / Maddie Davis and Parker Dorsey

The XFL's 2020 season is off to a hot start with the first four debut games finishing up this past weekend. Although the XFL pre-existed and failed in 2001, football fans are eager to see what the new innovative league has in store, especially after the end of the NFL postseason earlier this month. The XFL is meant to be ultra-accessible to the fans, as the league has incorporated several aspects to the game to keep fans drawn in. These include live commentary from referees and booth reviews, live audio from play calling on both offense and defense, and on-field interviews after scoring plays.

The league consists of eight teams (split into XFC East and West) that will play a 10-week regular season with a two-week postseason that has two semifinal playoff games and a championship game.

The XFL prides itself on being fast-paced and, as such has rule and game changes that allow the offenses to score in higher quantities than the NFL. For

XFL WEST

DALLAS RENEGADES



Despite being favored over their opponent, the Renegades were bested by the BattleHawks after a game-long slugfest. The Renegades offense was timid for the most part as field goal scoring dominated the game early on. QB Philip Nelson took over for ex-Steelers QB Landry Jones and had an uneventful night going 33 for 42 with 209 passing yards with one interception. With the chance of a comeback at his fingers, Jones threw an interception in the late seconds of the game to seal the win for the BattleHawks. Despite the offense's lack of explosiveness, fans should look forward to the team's chances next week against the Wildcats when Jones takes his with offensive weapons like WR Jazz Ferguson. Former Indiana Hoosiers LB Tegray Scales and ex-Panthers DE Frank Alexander held the BattleHawks Ta'amu for a majority of the game combining for two sacks, two quarterback hits and four tackles for loss. With Jones coming back to the lineup next week, the Renegades definitely have a strong case to win the XFL Championship.

HOUSTON ROUGHNECKS



The Roughnecks are off to a hot start after their win against the Wildcats on Saturday. The team is led by head coach June Jones who has coached football for several Division I universities and the NFL. Former Temple QB, P.J. Walker is someone to look forward to this season alongside his offensive weapons of former Steelers third-round pick Khalil Lewis (who he dropped a dime to two minutes into the game for 6) and former Kent State QB/WR Nick Holley (a Julian Edelman mini-me). Walker's arm was on display all night as he went 23-39 with four touchdowns and 272 passing yards. Walker and the offense are perfectly complemented by their defense with ex-Cardinals CB Deatrick Nichols who had an interception, two passes defended and a sack on the night and the number 60 pick in the 2014 draft, DE Kony Ealy, who had five quarterback hits and a 0.5 sack. The Roughnecks hold a strong case to be XFL Champions down the line with their stout of athleticism on all sides of the ball.

LOS ANGELES WILDCATS



Although the Wildcats were tamed on Saturday by Walker and company, there is a lot to look forward to for their season to come. DE Shawn Oakman, and former Baylor standout, is the right man to lead the team down the stretch with his collected one sack and two quarterback hits. Other defensive standouts like ex-Titans SAF LaDarius Wiley and former sixth-round pick CB Harlan Miller are keys to keeping the Wildcats afloat while they hash out their offensive troubles. Despite several issues throughout the night, former Rams WR Nelson Spruce had a big night with 11 receptions and 103 receiving yards on the night. Spruce is someone to keep an eye on as the season progresses and as the Wildcats work through their quarterback blues. QB and ex-Cardinals Charles Kanoff struggled throughout the night with a completion percentage of 53, 214 passing yards, one touchdown and an interception. With their first-ever game in the books, the team has plenty of time before their matchup with the Dallas Renegades.

SEATTLE DRAGONS



The Dragons kicked off the XFL 2020 season against the DC Defenders this past Saturday in a late-game blow out by the Defenders. Putting aside their woes from the night, fans should look forward to watching WR Austin Proehl down the line as he came up big for the Dragons with two touchdowns, and five receptions for 88 yards. QB Brandon Silvers showed some promise throughout the first half as he kept the game in close contention although he later added to the blowout throwing two interceptions (one of which was returned for a pick-six). He finished the game with three touchdowns and 217 yards. Switching gears to the Dragons' defense, some notable players like DT Will Sutton blew up the Defenders offense early on in the game alongside DE Jacques Smith. Each of the defensive big men split a sack and combined for three tackles for loss, and a quarterback hit. Despite some struggles late in the game, fans should look forward to see how head coach Jim Zorn works to clean up the offense and the durability of the defense.

example, they have adjusted the traditional kickoff to forcing teams to line up on the return side of the field five yards apart and waiting for the returner to make contact with the ball before going after him. They have also implemented a shorter halftime (10 minutes instead of 15), a 25-second play clock instead of 30 seconds, giving teams two timeouts instead of three, and not allowing coaches to have challenges. Instead, they make all plays subject to review by the replay official.

Several other changes have been made to help make the game of football interesting to fans such as the aforementioned new kickoff format. This rule change is a good idea as it eliminates the amount of touchbacks fans are used to seeing in the NCAA and NFL, and it can also reduce the number of high-speed collision injuries that come from a traditional kickoff.

Another large rule change that makes the game more interesting is allowing teams to have three different options to receive points after a touchdown. The scoring team must choose between running a play from the two, five and 10-yard line to earn (one, two or three points). We believe this adds excitement to the game as the extra-point kick in the NFL now is almost automatic. Having teams recreate drives from a short distance is more exciting and suspenseful.

There are several other rule changes that the XFL has made including a one foot inbounds rule to have clear possession, continual coach-player communication, and a simplified illegal man downfield rule. All of these rule changes are meant to make the game more enjoyable for fans and players alike "for the love of football."

XFL EAST

DC DEFENDERS



Even before the season started, the Defenders looked like they were going to be a force to be reckoned with. Former Ohio State QB Cardale Jones put on a clinic in his XFL debut, going completing 16 of 26 passes for 291 with two touchdowns and no picks in a 31-19 dismantling of the Seattle Dragons. With an offensive core of former Steelers WR Eli Rogers, LSU standout Malachi Dupre and FBS all-time leading rusher Donnell Pumphrey, Jones is going to have plenty of opportunity to show off his rocket arm this year. The defensive side of the ball has three potential NFL-caliber defenders in former Ravens first-round pick Matt Elam, ex-Steelers safety Shamarko Thomas and ex-Broncos safety Rahim Moore. The defense forced three turnovers (two interceptions, one fumble), one of which was a pick-six. The special teams also scored a touchdown from a blocked punt. The Defenders have a high chance to win the inaugural XFL championship, due in no small part to their balance on both sides of the ball.

NEW YORK GUARDIANS



The Guardians have former New York Giants offensive coordinator Kevin Gilbride as their head coach, providing a sense of legitimacy behind the headset after winning two Super Bowls in 2007 and 2011. Their first game was a 23-3 shellacking of the Vipers, which could be a preview of things to come. Local Scranton hero and Penn State walk-on QB Matt McGloin played solid, completing 15 of 29 passes for 182 yards and a touchdown. McGloin will provide a lot of excitement for viewers in this area due to his local appeal. Aside from the quarterback room, there are few recognizable names on the roster. While McGloin might have the ability to have an MVP-caliber season, the other players on the roster better make a name for themselves in a hurry if the Guardians have any shot of keeping up with the rest of the East. Their defense was solid against the Vipers, forcing two interceptions and a fumble recovered for a touchdown. Could this be a reincarnation of the fellow Floridians 1972 Miami Dolphins No-Name Defense?

ST. LOUIS BATTLEHAWKS



The BattleHawks have an intriguing roster led by former Ole Miss dual-threat QB Jordan Ta'amu, who completed 20 of 27 passes for 209 yards and a passing touchdown, as well as rushing nine times for 77 yards in his exciting winning debut against the Renegades. There are several recognizable NFL names on the BattleHawks, with ex-Seahawks fantasy football darling Christine Michael, ex-Redskins starting RB Matt Jones, flamboyant punter Marquette King and former Ravens starting safety Will Hill, who forced a game-clinching interception at the end of the game. King deserves a mention for his multitude of perfect punts that kept the Renegades pinned back all game long. They are coached by Jonathan Hayes, who was the longtime tight ends coach for the Cincinnati Bengals for 15 years. While there is a lot of promise with the BattleHawks they do not look like they are going to be exceptional in a tough division, as they struggled to put away a Renegades team that was without its starting quarterback in Landry Jones.

TAMPA BAY VIPERS



The Vipers have been getting a lot of love from oddsmakers entering the season. If their first game is any indication, those oddsmakers better start pumping the brakes. The Vipers got thumped by the Guardians in a 23-3 rout. They have former Georgia Bulldogs QB Aaron Murray under center, joined on offense by former Seahawks WR Tanner McEvoy and ex-Arena football star Nick Truesdell. However he played poor in his XFL debut, throwing two picks. QB Quinton Flowers can be an intriguing piece of this offense, as he was electric when he filled in. This could be the start of a quarterback controversy if Murray continues to play poorly. Former Browns WR Antonio Callaway, who was going to be the focal point of the offense, was recently placed on injured reserve with a leg injury. They also have several decent defensive backs, with ex-Falcons CB Jalen Collins and former Bears CB Demontre Hurst forming a solid shutdown duo. There is potential for the Vipers to turn things around and have a sneakily solid season.

Opinion

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2019-20

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Bloomberg's entry shows weak spot of U.S democracy

This past week the first votes of the 2020 presidential election were cast in the Iowa Caucuses. For many of the candidates vying for the Democratic Party's nomination, this has been a process that has extended into 2019. These candidates spent considerable amounts of time planning, organizing and fundraising. This support is necessary to maintain a national campaign for the presidency.

However, not all of the candidates vying for the nomination followed this path. Michael Bloomberg, a billionaire and former mayor of New York City, didn't launch his campaign until the middle of November, a little over two months before the first votes would be cast. Bloomberg is the founder and CEO of the media company Bloomberg LP and has a net worth of over \$50 billion, making him the eighth richest person in America. Thanks to Bloomberg's financial position, he didn't need to establish the support system that other candidates require in order to be successful.

Any normal politician that entered the race that late in the election cycle would stand little to no chance of winning the nomination. However, Bloomberg is actually polling quite well nationally, with some polls having him as high as fourth nationally. It comes as no surprise that the main reason for Bloomberg's success is his money. According to the New York Times, Bloomberg has spent over \$130 million on television advertising alone. When digital advertising, internal polling, travel costs and campaign expenses are added in, the figure balloons to almost \$200 million.

In the first week of his campaign, Bloomberg had already outspent all of the Democratic competitors except for fellow billionaire Tom Steyer. Those are some absolutely absurd figures that illustrate a major problem with personally financing a presidential campaign.

The other candidates in the Democratic Primary aren't happy about Bloomberg's entry in the race and have called his motives into question. Senator Bernie Sanders has been one of Bloomberg's harshest critics, calling the former mayor an oligarch and accusing him of trying to buy the election.

While other candidates have been putting the necessary work in to build up their campaigns, it appears that Bloomberg just woke up one day and decided to run. The craziest thing about this is that it might just work out in his favor.

In fact, Bloomberg was so unprepared to enter the race, that he isn't even on the voting ballot for the first four contests. The billionaire has instead opted to focus on earning the delegates from states that vote later on in the cycle, primarily on Super Tuesday. Could any other type of candidate besides a billionaire be able to ignore the first four contests and still have a legitimate path to the nomination? If Bloomberg's strategy pans out, he may actually be able to take the nomination. Even after missing the first four contests, Bloomberg may be able to spend enough to secure enough votes in key states like Florida, California, Texas and New York.

It's unfair that Bloomberg can just dump millions of dollars on key states and earn

votes while other candidates must struggle financially. Bloomberg even has deep enough pockets to run a Super Bowl ad, giving him a major advantage in name recognition.

Bloomberg's entry into the race is especially ironic considering the position of more progressive Democrats like Sanders and Elizabeth Warren. These two want to lower income inequality and incorporate a wealth tax. As Sanders and Warren try to champion their ideas, Bloomberg keeps spending more money and keeps rising in the polls.

President Donald Trump was able to finance his campaign similar to how Bloomberg is. If Bloomberg were to win the Democratic nomination, the 2020 general election would consist of two billionaires trying to outbid each other for the presidency. Is that really what we want our democracy to come down to? Currently, there is no limit for how much a candidate can contribute to their own campaign, but this can set a deadly precedent in the era of the ultra-wealthy.

The ability to use billions of dollars to finance a campaign creates an unfair advantage for the extremely wealthy. It's only a matter of time before more billionaires start following the path that Trump and Bloomberg have laid out, delivering even more power into the hands of the wealthy. Campaign finance reforms need to be made in order to prevent this from happening and to protect our democracy.



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NBA, from front

and clearly the NBA liked that and are continuing to push for that feel with the new rules they added this year.

New this year, each quarter for the first three quarters, the score will be reset to 0-0 and the winner of the quarter will receive \$100,000 dollars to donate to a Chicago-based community organization. Each of the three quarters will last 12 minutes. Ahead of the fourth quarter, a final target score will be set by adding 24 points to the leading team's cumulative score. For this final quarter, there will be no game clock as the game will last until one team reaches the final target score set. The winning team will receive an extra \$200,000 dollars to donate to a community organization.

This makes every quarter matter and ensures the players will remain competitive as the respective Chicago charities they chose depend on it. It also guarantees the game will end on a game-winning shot which always increases the excitement amongst fans.

The game will once again feature Team LeBron and Team Giannis, as they were the top vote-getters from fans. Many different storylines are set ahead for the weekend as well including, Luka Dončić's first All-Star game, Damian Lillard's hot streak, and can LeBron and Kawhi co-exist?

Kobe Bryant will be a huge focus of

the weekend with a full tribute set to him and his daughter Gianna's passing. Team LeBron will all wear number 2 for Gianna and Team Giannis will all wear 24 in honor of Kobe. The final target score is determined by 24 points added to the leading team's score, which is also a tribute to the late Kobe Bryant. Multiple other tributes are scheduled for Bryant and all the victims of the Jan. 26 helicopter crash throughout the weekend.

All-Star Saturday is set to be a real treat with the famous skills challenges with the three-point and dunk contest all having great competitors from east to west.

Competing in this year's dunk contest will be Pat Connaughton, Derrick Jones Jr., Dwight Howard and the high demand return of Aaron Gordon. Fans have been wanting to see Gordon back in the dunk contest ever since his amazing battle with Zach Lavine in 2016 and now they get their chance. Dwight Howard is also an exciting return as he is a previous winner of the event. The dunk contest always draws viewers but this year's field looks to potentially be the best since the infamous battle between Lavine and Gordon.

Three-point shooting is a huge part of the NBA in present-day, so naturally seeing the best shooters compete to see who is the best is in high demand. However, sometimes we see great players decline the invite to compete but this year that was



Graphic by Madi Hummer

not the case. Trae Young, Damian Lillard, Buddy Hield and defending champion Joe Harris will all compete. This is some of the best talent currently in the league when it comes to shooting so it could be anyone's for the taking.

The skills challenge has also become more exciting in recent years as they have added forwards and big men to the mix. Defending champion Jayson Tatum will be returning to the event competing against the likes of Pascal Siakam, Khris

Middleton and Patrick Beverley.

Finally, to start the weekend, the rising stars game (the U.S. versus the World) will be held on Friday night. The game will feature the likes of Zion Williamson, Trae Young and Luka Dončić. This game has always been somewhat competitive but the amount of young talent in the NBA is sure to raise fan's excitement levels.



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The NFL should rethink their International Series games

By Maddie Davis
Managing Editor

It is no secret that football is the most popular sport in America. This, however, is not the case for many other countries throughout the world which has led the NFL to begin trying to spread its influence.

Most recently the league has held games in two different locations (London, England and Mexico City, Mexico) as apart of their "International Series."

It was reported by Ian Rapoport, the national insider for the NFL Network, on Twitter that the Jacksonville Jaguars will play two of their home games at Wembley Stadium in London next season in 2020. He noted that they will be the first team to play two home games outside of the U.S.

Although I believe it is important and smart to spread the influence of the NFL and its teams outside of the continental United States, I think it is equally as important and smart to think of the players' well-being before making the decision to have teams play outside of the realm of the NFL home stadiums.

New York Giants WR Golden Tate

responded to his tweet saying, "That sucks for season ticket holders, players, and players families. AMAZING for Jacksonville fans in the UK."

Tate pokes fun at the fact that there are barely any Jaguars fans outside of Jacksonville further proving that this move was not done for the better of the team.

Former Colts punter Pat McAfee, has also spoken out against the move to playing internationally on his podcast "The Pat McAfee Show" on Oct. 7, 2019. He spoke about his trip to London in 2016.

"The London trip for me from beginning to end was not good and I think that happens for a lot of NFL players. It's just a complete break from routine, it's not fun, you have to fly back, you're playing in a soccer stadium," he said.

The routine that McAfee mentions is the key reason I think the NFL needs to relook at their contracts outside of the country.

According to a Newsday article in 2014, a player will typically go through the following schedule week-by-week if their game falls on a Sunday. On Monday, individual meetings will be held throughout the day as well as an afternoon

practice, weight training and more media availability. Tuesdays are the players' day off. Wednesdays include more practice, weight training and meetings while Thursdays and Fridays include a period of media sessions for players. Depending on if the team is home or away for the week, Saturdays include meetings, travel, and reporting to the team hotel. The week is very busy for players, and as McAfee suggests, it messes with the player's and team's overall weekly routine to internationally travel when they abide by such a strict schedule.

Of course, the argument can be made that with Monday and Thursday night games, players are already used to these routine changes. However, I believe a routine messed up by international travel is much more taxing on a player because of jet-lag and the troubles of US customs.

During NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell's media availability during the Super Bowl week, he mentioned that the NFL will continue to play in Estadio Azteca in Mexico City for the 2020 and 2021 season. Closing with, "We look forward to going down there."

It's a no-brainer that the NFL looks

forward to "going" down to Mexico because of the money they rake in from these games, however, I don't believe the players feel this same level of excitement because of the issues of of the stadium.

The Broncos' Mile High Stadium in Denver sits at 5,280 feet above sea level which has notably caused players to experience physical limitations because of the low oxygen levels in the air. Sitting at an even higher elevation of 7,201 feet above sea level is Estadio Azteca. Teams are now forced to practice at fields of higher elevations to get used to the lack of oxygen ahead of the international matchup.

The bottom line is that the time of travel and the impact on a player's routine is at risk with continuing the games played under these contracts. I don't think we should completely disband these international games as I think they are fun for fans inside and outside of the United States, however, I think the league should mandate a bye week to teams after playing an international game to recoup after their journey.



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“The future is female” is more sexist than feminist

By Zarqua Ansari
Assistant Opinion Editor

The statement, “the future is female” seems inspiring to girls and women around the world as it holds much promise for females everywhere. The idea of having a future based on your wants and needs is appealing to anyone; however, the good intentions of the statement are lost in its catchy wording.

According to the New York Times, the phrase first made surface roughly 50 years ago. The intention of, “the future is female” has always been about equality, but the way it is worded leads many people to assume otherwise. The main problem people have with feminism is the wrongful assumption that feminists want control over the world.

Feminism isn't that women are “better than men,” instead, feminism is about equality between men and women. Equality also doesn't mean that both parties should be treated equally, but rather fairly.

Take for example, the Aesop's fable about the fox and the stork. The fox

invites the stork for soup and serves it in a shallow bowl from which the stork is unable to consume the meal.

When the stork serves the fox in a narrow tall glass, the fox realizes his mistake and apologizes to the stork for treating her unfairly. Much the same way, society should treat people fairly, even if that can't be done equally.

The Institute for Women's Policy Research states that women make 82 cents for every dollar that a man makes. Feminism isn't about giving women more money, but rather equal money. I'm sure no man wants to be paid less, so women should be given increased payment.

The point is not to make the lives of women easier, but about making their lives fair. The fact that women have been recognized as workers in America since the 1890s still make less than men is massively unfair.

“The future is female” implies that the future is going to be primarily run by women. This is not the point of the statement, but the implication is heavy. A more suited phrase here would be that, “the future is equal.”

It's not nearly as catchy, but it embodies the statement's purpose much better. Feminists don't want the future to be run by females, but they do want the future to include fair treatment.

According to the Society of Women Engineers, women in science majors at colleges have almost doubled in the past ten years. That being said women held roughly 4 percent of the positions and now hold 8 percent.

Men are still the majority in these majors because women are discouraged subliminally from pursuing these careers. Although it is nice to see that women have increased in endeavors that are traditionally considered to be “male,” we have a long way to go before the field is equal.

The future is female in this case means that we want women to be represented more.


“The future is female” also heavily implies that women didn't matter in the past. Sure women have wrongfully not been regarded as equals to men, but it's not right to brush over the accomplishments of women throughout history.

Many women in the past are responsible for groundbreaking discoveries, inventions and political movements that shape the world today. Insisting that the future is female disregards the actions and accomplishments of females in the present and past.

At the base, social issues like sexism and racism are wrong because of their generalizing natures. “The future is female” sounds like a major generalization. It takes a deeper understanding of the phrase's origin and a perspective that only half the populace experiences to fully understand the true sentiment of the phrase.

Although the saying might not exemplify it in its wording the idea of “the future is female” is an important one for our society. Equality and equity are things that all societies strive towards.

“The future is female” is a symbol of that striving nature of society. It's a harbinger of fairness, a sign of representation, and most importantly, it's a beacon of hope.

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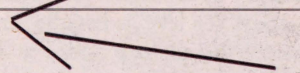
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Bre's Beats: Shakira and J. Lo brought the heat to Super Bowl LIV

By Breanna Ebsich
Staff Writer

The Pepsi Super Bowl Halftime Show hasn't been headlined by a female artist in three years, not since Lady Gaga's impressive performance in 2017. This year, not one, but two women headlined the halftime show while making several statements.

Shakira and Jennifer Lopez claimed the stage for Super Bowl LIV and put on a spectacular show for the biggest television event of the year. While the Kansas City Chiefs and San Francisco 49ers broke to the locker room, Hard Rock Stadium in Miami was transformed into nothing short of a giant party. The two successful Latina artists took different approaches to their part of the performance, but equally wowed everyone in attendance and the millions watching at home.

For the first half of the show, Shakira dominated the stage with her famous dancing and high energy pop songs that have been favorites for years. All in red, she belted songs that kept the audience on their feet and wanting more while also keeping the element of surprise in the air.

Shakira joined her dancers for most of

the performance to show off her impeccable choreography while live musicians accompanied her on the huge circular stage in the middle of the field. Incorporating an intense electric guitar solo along with putting her own unique twist on Cardi B's 2018 hit "I Like It" which Bad Bunny joined her to perform, her set was not one to miss. During her arguably most popular song "Hips Don't Lie," Shakira crowd surfed before closing her individual portion of the show with a huge dance number.

Even more fireworks lit up the sky above the stadium as Jennifer Lopez immediately took the stage on an elevated platform. Keeping up the energy, Lopez launched right into her own medley of songs while

dancing. The lights went dark for one moment, only to reveal J. Lo showing off impressive moves on a pole while making the transition to perform her more popular singles. J. Balvin, another Latino artist, joined to perform his song "Mi Gente" while the dancers took on intense choreography.

Then, taking a turn from the upbeat music, J. Lo's eleven-year-old daughter led a group of children in singing a rendition of "Let's Get Loud" while Shakira played the drums and her mother returned to the stage wearing a giant coat decorated with the Puerto Rican and American flag on opposite sides.

After the bold statement, both Shakira and J. Lo joined together to perform "Waka, Waka (This Time For Africa)," "Get Right"

and "Whenever, Wherever" to close out the Halftime show. The audience roared in response as fireworks continued to go off over the stadium.

Overall, the performance was a hit among many, proving to make history for the NFL and bringing major representation for the Latinx community. Although it was extravagant, the two singers each brought amazing aspects of their own to the Halftime show.

Of course, the internet brought plenty of backlash, including the shaming of the two women for showing too much skin or being proactive on live television which sparked the conversation about double standards. There were also complaints about how the performance wasn't family-friendly and that the show simply could have been better in general.

One thing's for sure, despite the backlash, Shakira and Jennifer Lopez brought the heat to Miami for Super Bowl LIV and will certainly be hard to top for next year's big game in Tampa Bay.

Graphic by Madi Hummer

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It could've been "You:" an analysis of Lifetimes's original "You"

By Sarah Weynand
Staff Writer

"You," the Lifetime original, had been picked up by Netflix for a second season, and Joe Goldberg is back to his innate stalking and manipulative tactics. Ever since its series premiere, in which Joe weaves his way into grad student Guinevere Beck's mind by stalking her, viewers have been enthralled with Joe's motives and often cheer him on through the ups and downs of his character.

Because his stalking also brings to light the toxic behaviors of other people in Beck's life, such as her sabotaging closeted friend Peach and her disrespectful cheater of an "ex" Benji, it's easier to make Joe seem like the good guy when they disappear.

The second season introduces the viewers to the Quinn family, the owners of the store Anavrin, where Joe applies to start his new life in Los Angeles. Here, Joe quickly turns his affection towards Love Quinn.

Love herself turns out to be abusive and precisely like Joe. When it was revealed that she killed her family's au pair, Joe's ex-girlfriend Candace Stone and his neighbor Delilah Alves and that she stalked him upon meeting him, a lot of similarities were drawn by viewers of the two. The similarities continue to be shown to the viewers as Love is also someone in her twenties who has endured abuse, loss, and trauma in the way

that Joe has.

On the outside, they both appear to be sympathetic, enjoyable, loving, and simply in need of love. Despite this portrayal, it becomes clear that no matter how much these two receive affection and devotion, they will always be just as abusive and controlling as they were without a significant other - maybe even more so.

The show highlights that abusers have good qualities - you can sometimes even share a hobby or a viewpoint with an abuser, but deep down they are still abusive and toxic. Joe's narration of his everyday life throughout the show strives to make people laugh at what is going on. When he observes the elitist Los Angeles society or the rich of New York City, for example, the viewers chuckle, because they know and understand what he is talking about.

In season two, he appears to have changed because Love is a completely different person in comparison to Beck - she keeps herself private in the eyes of social media and is a generally secure person. This prevents Joe from following her and stalking her thus forcing him to get to know her in a somewhat normal manner. Despite this limitation, he hasn't changed, as he is still just as possessive and murderous as he was in the first season. Brilliantly, the show is written to mirror the way that real-life

abusers claim to have changed their ways before slipping back into their toxicity.

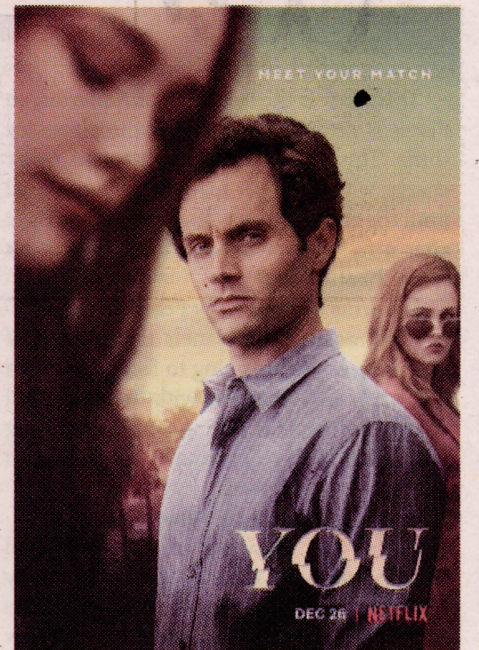
In regard to other viewers' opinions, Melissa Berardelli, a senior musical theater major with a directing concentration, watched the show and also had some opinions about how Joe is viewed.

"I didn't find him attractive, no. I'm not here for that mentality," but also states that she "hates Beck" and "the way a character is written to be somebody she isn't," she said.

At one point, Love condemns Beck while reading her book, dismissing her as "mediocre" and unworthy of Joe. This demonstrates how Love, who has been stalked by Joe, exhibits victim-blaming and abusive tendencies.

This show, in its motives, uses the narration to show the audience who they glorify and condemn, when in fact, they are all the same in some regard. The show "You" masterfully conveys, right under its audience's noses, that everyone can be an abuser, and everyone can be a victim. Berardelli ponders this, "I'm sure a lot of the victims of Ted Bundy were liars and cheaters, too. They're human; nobody's perfect. You can relate with a killer and a victim. That doesn't mean the killer isn't a killer and a victim isn't a victim."

The brilliance of "You" is that you are what you do and these characters could be



anybody. It doesn't have to be a damsel in distress and a monster - no crime is that black and white. Dysfunction does not discriminate.

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A reflection of my ethnic identity in an American world

By Parker Dorsey
News Editor

Fun fact, I'm Lebanese. You may or may not know this if you are close to me. I always wear a Lebanon bracelet on my wrist and I frequently eat Mediterranean food. I am very proud of my heritage and I love to talk about it whenever I can.

So if you were to walk up to me and call me a "white Arab," then, to put it mildly, I would be livid.

Let me make one thing clear right off the bat. Lebanese people are not Arabs. We are a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural civilization. Although Arabs are among the most notable of the ethnicities and cultures that influenced Lebanon, that does not mean Lebanese people are Arabs.

We are predominantly descended from the Phoenicians. We're an Eastern Mediterranean nation and our ancestry is mainly Euro-Levantine (which means that while there are many dark-skinned Lebanese, there is also a fair amount of white-skinned Lebanese as well). The Levant area is the cross-section between Africa, Asia and Europe. It's a very

diverse region and it is the gate of the East to the West.

With all of that said, there is absolutely nothing wrong about being an Arab if you are one. But it is important to remember history and to know our identity.

I guess the point I'm trying to make is that it is incredibly lazy, incorrect and denigrating to reduce a diverse people (and region for that matter) as one label. Far too often I've seen depictions of the Middle East reduced to broad generalizations. They're all Muslim terrorists. They're all ISIS. They hate America. They're always at war with each other. Their cities are warzones.

Sometimes it's hard to feel proud of my heritage in America. I remember I used to be

told not to tell anyone that I was Lebanese. As a young child, I did not understand why, and it wasn't until late middle school I finally understood. In America, especially in the mid-2000s, anyone who is Middle Eastern could be a terrorist.

It is unfortunate that many Middle Easterners still get profiled, with refugees receiving the brunt of national scorn. The reasoning is that since terrorists could hide amongst refugees, it is justified to dehumanize them. It is also important to note that some people who are seen as "ethnically ambiguous," such as Sikhs, can also be targets of said prejudice due to their wearing of turbans.

I do feel for the refugees though. Most are just trying to escape war and come here for a better life for themselves and their children.

They don't necessarily want to come here, they come here for the necessity of survival. From my own understanding, my family came over from Lebanon several decades ago to escape the civil war.

The funny thing is that I would actually love to visit Lebanon. There is so much rich history there. The capital, Beirut, used to be known as the "Paris of the Middle East" in the 1960s. Just over a decade ago was the Cedar Revolution, a revolution that was notable for its nonviolent approach to removing Syrian occupation, and the movement managed to achieve all of its goals without violence.

One thing I've always been self-conscious about is if I would even be accepted if I went to Lebanon. Sure, there is a sizable population of white, Maronite Catholic Lebanese, but would I truly be seen as someone with Lebanese ancestry? Or would I be just another white American?

After much reflection on it, the color of my skin does not make me less valid. I'm Lebanese. I'm mixed ethnicity. It's part of who I am.



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This is the last week for Aquarius ruling the planetary shifts

By Sammi Verespy
Staff Writer

This week is the last week of Aquarius, so Pisces is getting ready to rule the planetary shifts. This will bring along a lot of water energy with it, so get ready to be emotional until the end of March. This also comes right after a full moon, making things just a bit more chaotic.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18)
With most of the planets moving out of your house, you are going to feel extra down this week. Coupling this with the emotional energy in the air is setting you up for a big fall. Make sure to surround yourself with love and light this week.

Pisces (February 20- March 20)
Mercury is swinging in full force and bringing the sun with it, Pisces. So, enjoy this newfound boost of energy. Take time to rebrand yourself and show off the new you. Keep in mind that while you feel great now, you need to take measures to ensure that this stays great and maintain the high in happiness.

Aries (March 21- April 20)
Oh Aries, it is a chaotic time for you. Which is saying a lot considering that you

are the most chaotic sign. Make sure to count your eggs and allow yourself time to think things through. Now is the time for some self-care.

Taurus (April 21 - May 20)
You have been spending a lot of time reflecting, Taurus. However, it is not enough to just think things into fruition, you must act. So, take the jump and reap the benefits.

Gemini (May 21- June 20)
Gemini, you really need to take time for yourself. Mercury, the planet that rules your sign is taking an extended vacation into Pisces' house. So, you are going to feel very lost. Take this time to reflect on how you have hurt others. Rekindle those relationships. They may just help you find yourself.

Cancer (June 21- July 21)
Cancer, with another water energy taking the lead, it is going to feel like you are drowning. Take this time to grow out of your protective shell and make yourself feel better. All will calm back down once the planetary shift settles.

Leo (July 22- August 22)
Mercury is moving into your 8th house and Venus into Aries. So, this week is going to be quite weird. It may feel like you are in an episode of the Twilight Zone. Just take extra care to think things through very thoroughly before acting.

Virgo (August 23- September 21)
Mercury is a very powerful planet and it is slipping into your 7th house. You are going to want to explore new romances and have new flings. Though, take caution, your heart

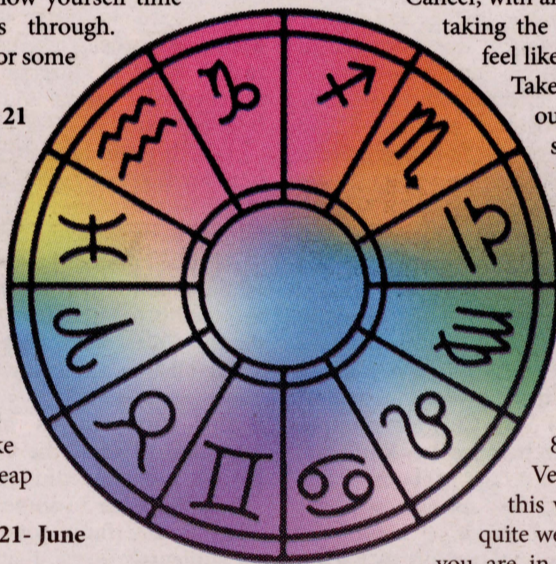
is not always right.
Libra (September 22- October 21)
You are feeling very drained this week. This is for a good reason. You are becoming your own biggest enemy. Stop being counterproductive and listen to your inner monologue. Deep down you know what you need, take time and get it.

Scorpio (October 22- November 21)
You are still defining healthy relationships and boundaries that you need. Now is not the time to change yourself for who you are seeing. You need to grow in yourself before you grow with someone else.

Sagittarius (November 22- December 21)
Check your ever-full planner, have you scheduled time for yourself? If not, now is the time to do so. It is important to help yourself before you continue to embark on your quest to help everyone else.

Capricorn (December 22- January 19)
You are on the rise. It is time to plan out what you have been dreaming of. Take that trip or start that business. Capricorn, the possibilities are endless.

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

MIH: Gurska powers offense to dominant win over King's

By Ben Mandell
Co-Sports Editor

WILKES-BARRE, Pa -- Another day, another win for Wilkes men's ice hockey. This one came against King's in blowout fashion, 9-3, helping the Colonels improve to 17-5-0 overall and 13-2-0 in United Collegiate Hockey Conference (UCHC) play.

Wilkes is also now 4-0-0 against the Monarchs in its first two seasons.

"Most nights it's about us and what we do," Wilkes coach Tyler Hynes said. "We didn't play too well in the first period, but I'm really happy with how we turned things around and responded."

The game was tied 1-1 after the first period. Danny Reidel opened up the scoring with a nifty move past a Monarch defender and flipped a shot towards the goal. Brandon Daigle got a piece of it in net for King's, but it wasn't enough, and the puck went in. Tyler Barrow and Michael Gurska picked up the assists.

Liam Johnson tied things up just over two minutes later with a goal on the power play. Alex Bastone made a Colonel defender miss in the slot and dent a puck towards the net. Johnson took the rebound and put it through the legs of Wilkes' Michael Paterson-Jones.

The second period was a different story for Wilkes. They outshot the Monarchs 23-6 and outscored them 4-1 in the period, taking a 5-2 lead.

Nick Godfrey opened the second period with a shot in front of the net. Charlie Spetz took the puck in the corner and sent a perfect pass into the slot. Godfrey was able to beat Daigle cleanly to put the Colonels back on top. Phil Erickson grabbed the secondary assist on the play.

Nick Fea added back-to-back goals, seven minutes apart. The first came off a shot from the left wing.

"I came down on the wing, moving my feet and I saw he was cheating a little," Fea said. "I saw the opening and took the shot and it went in."

Donald Flynn and Paul Cimilluca had the assists on the goal.

Fea's second goal came on a shot in the high slot. Dylan Kuipers had the lone assist on the goal after a good chunk of offensive zone time.

The Colonels were able to generate a lot of offensive zone time as the game went on using their forecheck and taking advantage of a short King's bench that only had 13 skaters dressed.

Alex Acosta scored the next goal for King's on a break-out. He raced down the ice and put a rebound past Paterson-Jones



The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

Xavier Abdella embraced Phil Erickson after the Colonels' fourth goal of the second period against King's, increasing Wilkes' lead to three with a score of 5-2.

to cut the lead to 4-2.

Erickson answered less than a minute later, putting the Colonels back up by three. Devon Schell and Gurska picked up the assists.

"Scoring has never really been an issue for this team," Hynes said. "It's when we aren't doing the other things that we run into trouble."

Wilkes came out in the third period and scored three power play goals, two from Tyson Araujo and one from Barrow. Schell also added an even strength goal, allowing seven different Colonels to find the back of the net.

"We started off slow, but we came back and worked hard," Araujo said. "We played Wilkes hockey and kept it simple."

Tyler O'Mara added a power play goal for King's. This goal came against Nico Pidro, who entered the game with under 10 minutes remaining.

The power play was a lone bright spot for the Monarchs, as they went 2-4 on the night.

Wilkes' power play didn't fall short either, scoring three goals on four power plays, all in the third period.

Even with the power play goals, the Colonels were able to get their offense rolling at even strength, something they

have struggled with this season.

"(Scoring at even strength) is something we have been working on in practice for a while now," Hynes said. "Our power play goals have covered up mistakes we have made in other areas, but tonight we were able to get it going."

Paterson-Jones was in net for just over 51 minutes of the game and earned another win. He has the highest winning percentage in the entire country among qualified goalies, winning just under 93 percent of his starts.

Despite the Colonels scoring nine goals against King's, the country's top goal scorer Flynn was held to two assists.

Gurska stood out for Wilkes, playing well defensively and collecting four assists.


"We have a lot of guys with goals on their sticks," Hynes said. "There is only so much ice and only one puck to go around, so they don't always get to put the puck in the net. In a game like this, we needed guys to come through when it was tied 1-1."

Wilkes returns to the ice for its final home game of the regular season on Friday against Neumann.



The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

Danny Reidel finished a high-reel goal after deking past multiple Monarch defenders for the first goal of the game on Thursday night.

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NBA: Hectic trade deadline leaves questions

By Dylan Mehl
Staff Writer

As we go through another year of the NBA, another trade deadline has come and gone. This year's proved to be as hectic as any and full of "Woj bombs."

The Minnesota Timberwolves made perhaps the biggest splash at the deadline, acquiring D'Angelo Russell from the Golden State Warriors. This trade is a win-win for Minnesota, as they were able to get Russell and get rid of Andrew Wiggins and his contract. This trade tremendously improves the Wolves from a talent standpoint and gets them a great point guard in a league that is focused on guard play.

Karl-Anthony Towns, the Timberwolves' star, will be one teammate especially happy with the move, as he has expressed his displeasure in the team's losing ways. Towns and Russell are also well-known friends off the court, respectively going number one and two in the 2015 NBA draft.

For the Warriors, however, this trade appears to be a big loss. While Wiggins is a wing that better fits alongside Steph Curry and Klay Thompson when it comes to size, he does not when it comes to the style of play. Wiggins is an isolation player who does not play great defense, which is the complete opposite of how the Warriors play.

Trading Russell may have been the game plan but Golden State would have been much better served waiting till the off-season if this was the best offer they got. The only benefits here for the Warriors are a draft pick and some extra cap room.

Cleveland and Atlanta both also saw

themselves emerge as winners from their separate deals. Both teams were able to acquire new starting centers that could help their teams in the future, despite not being viewed as contenders this year.

Atlanta was able to work a four-team trade with the Rockets, Nuggets and Timberwolves that in the end saw them landing Clint Capela. A center was a real need for the Hawks with Alex Len being their starter for some time. Capela is a huge upgrade for a team that now seems close to competing. Capela and Trae Young should work well together, as Capela is used to running the pick-and-roll with a scoring first guard in James Harden.

Atlanta now also has a frontcourt combination of Capela and John Collins, which could prove to be one of the best in the league. The Hawks were also able to secure Dewayne Dedmon to play backup center. With the East being very weak, especially at the bottom, the Hawks could push to make a late run at the eight seed after this move.

As for the Cavaliers, they bring in one of, if not the league's top rebounder, Andre Drummond. This win for the Cavs comes with a little asterisk, however, as Drummond does have the ability to opt-out of his contract after this season. That being said, Cleveland gave up almost nothing to get Drummond, and it is worth trying out for them.

Miami and Memphis also made a mutually beneficial deal, as it puts the Heat in a better position to win now and adds to the Grizzlies already young core.

Andre Iguodala, Jae Crowder and

Solomon Hill are all headed to South Beach from Memphis, so it already appears those three are the real winners. Miami added three great "three-and-D" options here, which are going to be necessary if they hope to win the east. The Heat added both veteran presences and bench depth with the move.

Adding these three also gives Miami plenty of options to throw at Giannis Antetokounmpo if they do happen to meet him and his Bucks in the playoffs.

Memphis getting Justise Winslow in return could prove to be a beneficial move for them in the long term, as now they have a young core of Ja Morant, Jaren Jackson Jr. and Winslow. The Grizzlies also don't mind eating the salary as they know they are not a free agent destination nor will they have to dish out big-time money anytime soon.

In Los Angeles the Clippers won the battle for Marcus Morris, not giving up too much to get him in Moe Harkless and their first round draft pick for this year. This is a subtle but big win for the Clippers as they add another great "three-and-D" wing. The acquisition of Morris allows for more load management for star Kawhi Leonard, as Morris can defend the same positions.

Morris could also prove to be a great addition come the playoffs, as the Clippers already deep bench just got deeper. This also gives them another option to throw at LeBron in a potential western conference finals matchup and Giannis in the NBA finals. As an added bonus, the team was also able to keep the Lakers from getting Morris.



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MLB: More details come out on Astros

By Ben Mandell
Co-Sports Editor

It has been over one month since the Astros cheating scandal report was released by Major League Baseball, and we still have questions.

New reports claim that the front office laid the groundwork of the scandal despite initial belief that this entire situation was player-driven.

An intern from a few years ago, now a full-time employee with Houston, presented a way to steal signs in real time, an application called "codebreaker."

The Astros used this to gather data and decipher what pitches were being thrown. They would relay the messages to the batters with base runners or by banging on trash cans.

The other rumor about the scandal is that the players wore buzzers under their jerseys, something that was not revealed through the investigations.

In an interview with Tom Verducci, recently fired Astros Manager AJ Hinch dodged the question by saying the commissioner's investigation didn't find anything along those lines.



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WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

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

SWIM: Limouze has improved teams, prepared for MACs

By Kevin Singhel
Asst. Sports Editor

Wilkes' swim team is bracing for the final stretch of their season as they prepare for the MAC Championships. Both teams are coached by second-year head coach Thomas Limouze, and he has definitely noticed some improvements throughout his first year.

"The biggest thing that is different is that I know everyone on the team now," Limouze said. "Even the freshmen and first-year swimmers because I got to know them through the recruiting process. This made it easier to get started this season, and has just given me a leg-up on where I was last year."

The men's team has had a solid season in the pool, going 6-3 overall in dual meets and 3-2 in conference contests. The team also had a solid showing at the Diamond Invitational in November, placing fourth out of 11 teams. Senior captain Tyler Weatherby credits the team's success to their versatility in events.

"The team's biggest strength this year is how well-rounded our team is and how willing we are to swim different events," Weatherby said. "This allows our coach to have a wider range of options when planning for meets."

This versatility has allowed Limouze to put his swimmers in the best position to win events and earn points. Many Wilkes swimmers have dropped considerable time off of their events, and many are looking to get even faster at the upcoming MAC Championships.

Sophomores Joey Antolick and Trey Harloff, junior Justin Burda along with Weatherby have

had several individual wins and top finishes at meets throughout the year. The team's success throughout the season has led to some high hopes for the MAC Championship this year.

"I think we have a good chance to move up in the conference standing this year," Limouze said. "There's lots of variables in a big meet like MACs, but I think our guys have a shot at moving up."

In swimming, invitationals like the MAC Championship are scored differently than dual meets, and depth is extremely important. With a deep and versatile team, it wouldn't be a shock to see the Colonels move up a few spots and even place higher than some teams that they may have lost to in dual meets.

"My expectations for the upcoming championships are to see everyone swim fast times and to see podium finishes in some events," Weatherby said. "The team has been working really hard in practice, and I would love to see their hard work pay off with big times drops from everyone."

As a team, Wilkes is looking for individual success and hoping it leads to team success.

"My expectations for MACs include placing high as a team in the conference, as well as placing high individually," Harloff said.

If everything goes the way the team envisions, the Colonels could be in line for a big weekend and a top place in the conference.

The women's team has struggled with numbers and depth throughout the year, but they have still been able to produce some solid performances throughout the season.

The Colonels swam their way to a 3-7 dual meet record, going 1-5 in conference dual meets. At the

Diamond Invitational in November, the Colonels took fifth place out of 11 teams.

The team's record may not be an accurate indication of the talent on the team, simply because Wilkes only has nine members on the squad.

Swimming is a sport where depth and versatility are extremely important for a variety of different events and limited numbers can cost a team more than a few meets.

"Although we may not win meets due to our low numbers, everyone on the team has qualified individually for the MAC Championship meet," senior Kyleigh Smeltzer

said. "Having everyone qualify for MACs is always a big goal for the team."

However, there have been some standout performers for the Colonels this season, even with the absence of numbers. Both personal records and school records have been shattered throughout the season, and several swimmers such as junior Abby Keating and sophomore Alexa Crossgrove find themselves with individual wins or podium finishes.

"The team this year has really improved in practice ethic and motivation," Keating said. "We have really grown as a team and as a whole."


The Colonels will look to translate this improvement into individual success at the upcoming MAC Championships.

"One of my goals for the women's team was to set some new records, and we have done that," Limouze said. "Another goal is for them to have more point-scorers at MAC Champs, and I think that goal is really shaping up for next weekend."

Lofty goals have been set, and each swimmer wants to cap off their season with a great finish.

"As a team, the women are looking to best individual times and get on the podium where we can," Smeltzer said. "Personally, I'm looking to qualify for finals in the 200 breaststroke."

Both teams will look to reach their goals and demonstrate their improvements as they travel to compete in the MAC Championships from Feb. 13-16.

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WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Men's Swimming</h3> <p>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</p> <p>*Denotes MAC Freedom/UHC x-Denotes Senior Day</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Women's Swimming</h3> <p>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</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Men's Volleyball</h3> <p>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, 7 p.m. 2/15 vs. Brooklyn, 1 p.m. 2/15 @ NJ City, 3 p.m. 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.</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Wrestling</h3> <p>*11/16 @ Delaware Valley, W 28-12 11/16 vs. York, L 26-9 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, noon</p>
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Getting to know...

Michael Paterson-Jones

Freshman Ice Hockey Player



The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week Jan. 26 to Feb. 2

Why Michael Paterson-Jones was selected: Paterson-Jones notched 16 saves in a 5-2 victory over Chatham and 23 saves in his second-career shutout against No. 14 Stevenson to earn the UCHC Rookie of the Week and MAC Defensive Player of the Week honors.

Name: Michael Paterson-Jones
Year: Freshman
Major: Business Administration
Minor: Sports Psychology
Hometown: Baldwinsville, N.Y.
High School: C.W. Baker HS
Position: Goalie

Favorite thing to do during practice?
Competition and game simulation drills.

Other interests or hobbies off of the ice?

I enjoy spending time with friends and family. I am also really big into music, and I play guitar and piano.

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

Getting the chance to be a part of a program that had such a high level of success in its first season was a tremendously special and exciting opportunity. The culture that Coach Hynes and Coach Riley built was impressive. Being able to play college hockey while getting an education has always been a dream of mine.

Most influential person(s) in your life?

My parents. It's not fair to just pick one when they have both been so instrumental in making me the person I am today. I am able to pursue my dream of playing college hockey and continuing my education knowing that they will be right there supporting me every step of the way.

Post-graduation plans in terms of a career?

I would like to continue my hockey career and possibly play professionally overseas. The majority of my family lives in Europe, and I think it would be a great experience. After that, I would like to pursue a career in business and live a comfortable life.

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

Alan Watts. I think it would be interesting to see what he has to say about the state of the world now.

Favorite professor?

Dr. Charnetski. I loved his Psych 101 class, and I am now minoring in sports psychology as a result.

Favorite building on campus?

Kirby Hall. The classrooms are very unique, and it's a nice change from the usual classroom setting.

Favorite meal to eat on campus?

Something from the pasta bar at the SUB with some ice cream for dessert.

Hopes for this season as a Colonel?

My hope is that we carry our momentum from the regular season into playoffs. We have already achieved a lot of the goals we set for ourselves at the beginning of the year, but we still have bigger goals in mind.

A quote you live your life by?

"Be better than you are. Set a goal that seems unattainable, and when you reach that goal, set another one even higher." - Herb Brooks

When/Why did you first begin playing?

When my parents first immigrated to the U.S., they lived in Pittsburgh. This is where my dad fell in love with the game. As soon as my brother and I were old enough, he had us give it a try because, growing up in South Africa, he never had the chance to play.

What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?

"Be Colonel" means doing the right things in the classroom, the rink and in the community.

Anyone to give a shout-out to?

My friends and family back home.

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

-Compiled by Kirsten Peters, Co-Sports Editor

Getting to know...

Alexa Rango

Sophomore Ice Hockey Player

The Beacon: Female Athlete of the Week Jan. 26 to Feb. 2

Why Alexa Rango was selected: Rango recorded 32 saves and a 94.1 save percentage in her first career victory with Wilkes' 4-2 win over Lebanon Valley, earning her the UCHC North Goaltender of the Week and the MAC Defensive Player of the Week honors.

Name: Alexa Rango
Year: Sophomore
Major: Criminology & Psychology
Minor: Sociology & WGS
Hometown: Hopewell Junction, N.J.
High School: Hoosac Preparatory
Position: Goalie

Other interests or hobbies off of the ice?

Cooking, writing poetry, reading and music.

Most influential person(s) in your life?

Both my mother and father have been the biggest influences in my life. Both of them have given me the strength and drive that I possess today. They have supported me through everything and have taught me to do everything with a purpose.

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

The opportunity to double major and be able to play the sport that I love.

Post graduation plans in terms of a career?

My end goal is to work in one of the many criminal investigation units of the FBI.

Favorite building on campus?

Breisetth Hall.

What came first? The chicken or the egg?

The chicken.

Hopes for this season as a Colonel?

To continue to grow our program into a successful, playoff-bound team.

When/Why did you first begin playing?

I first began roller hockey at seven years old and transitioned to ice hockey at 12 years old. I made the decision to become a goalie at the age of nine.

Favorite thing to do during practice?

Small area games and shootouts.

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

Our practice times. Five a.m. is not optimal.

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

Henrik Lundqvist.

Favorite professor?

Professors Wilczak, Wiernik and Newell.

Coke or Pepsi?

Espresso shots.

Favorite meal to eat on campus?

Upscale prime rib at the SUB.

A quote you live your life by?

"I am the master of my fate; I am the captain of my soul."

What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?

To me, "Be Colonel" means striving to be the best in academics and athletics in order to represent Wilkes University and the amazing community we have here on campus.

Anyone to give a shout-out to?

My amazing family and friends.

-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

MBB: Colonels look to take on crosstown rival as regular season comes to a close



**Wilkes @ King's College
Scandlon Stadium
Saturday, Feb. 15 @ 3 p.m.**

Make sure to check out the next issue of The Beacon for coverage of the game.

FAST!

HOT!

JANUZZI'S

Pizza & Subs

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\$13.95 +TAX
large 16" 1-topping
pizza & 2-liter soda

\$7.95 +TAX
each for 5 or more
large plain pies

\$17.95 +TAX
3 hot or cold subs
mix & match

\$20.95 +TAX
large 16" pizza & 12
cut tray Sicilian pizza

\$17.95 +TAX
2 large plain pizzas
toppings extra

\$20.95 +TAX
24- cut Sicilian pizza

\$17.95 +TAX
12- cut Sicilian pizza
& 1 order of wings

\$12.95 +TAX
12- cut Sicilian pizza

\$23.95 +TAX
2 tickets to Movies 14,
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pizza & 2 drinks

\$12.95 +TAX
small 12" 1-topping
pizza & choice of any sub

\$19.95 +TAX
large 16" pizza, 1
sub, & an appetizer

\$28.95 +TAX
3 large 1-topping
pizzas