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Pa. Newspaper
Association Member
Volume 73, Issue 15

THE BEACON

Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

Responding to the rise in hate and violence against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

By Genny Frederick
Asst. News Editor

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, there has been an increase in hate and violence toward the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in the United States.

In his message to the campus on March 20, Wilkes University President Greg Cant addressed this spike in hate across the nation.

“An alarming surge of racism and xenophobia has occurred against Asian and Asian Americans since the pandemic began,” Cant said. “It saddens me greatly that, during a time when our world should be united against a global pandemic, some have turned to violence. But my sadness and outrage cannot compare to the grief, fear and anger felt among those who are part of the Asian community.”

This surge of racism and xenophobia has been documented by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, in which compiled data shows that anti-Asian hate crimes rose by 149 percent. This increase is especially notable, as overall crime rates dropped by seven percent during the pandemic.

The increase in hate is attributed to the increase in racist rhetoric that was prevalent at the onset of the pandemic.

Anna Seamon, a junior environmental engineering major, explained her thoughts on the causes and effects of this rhetoric.

“Certain political leaders have referred to COVID-19 in some pretty racist ways, including ‘Kung flu’ and ‘China virus,’” said Seamon. “This seemed to me at least like a way to shift blame for the extent that the virus was reaching in the United States and how poorly action to control it was going, but in addition to that, it had much more damaging effects.”

The increase of these damaging effects



of violence resulted in the creation of the coalition Stop AAPI Hate.

The Asian Pacific Planning and Policy Council, the Chinese for Affirmative Action and the Asian American Studies Department of San Francisco State University came together to launch the site on March 19, 2020.

In the podcast, OUR AMERICA, Cynthia Choi, co-executive director of CAA and leader within Stop AAPI Hate, described why the group was founded.

“The discrimination, the vitriol and even the you know, the media was referring to COVID-19 as ‘the Wuhan virus,’” said Choi. “And so we knew very quickly that things were going to get bad, fast. We came together and said, ‘We’ve got to start documenting this.’ And we were shocked. We were shocked. And to

this date, we have over 3,000 incidents.”

National Reports from Stop AAPI Hate list 3,795 incidents from March 19, 2020 to Feb. 28, 2021, citing verbal harassment, shunning and physical assault as the three largest categories of incidents, while civil rights violations and online harassment were also accounted for.

While this is a large number of incidents, the report states that only a fraction of instances are reported. Choi explained why there is a lack of reporting.

“And we know that people are under-reporting too,” Choi said. “And we know that one of the reasons why we started this center was because there has been a deep distrust of government and reporting to law enforcement for a variety of reasons.”

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Sordoni Art Gallery launches “Gallery Guide: Sordoni Artcast”

By Emily Cherkauskas
Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

The Sordoni Art Gallery has launched its new podcast, “Gallery Guide: Sordoni Artcast.” The podcast aims to educate listeners about the world of art.

Hosted by Heather Sincavage, director of the Sordoni Art Gallery, and Karley Stasko, outreach coordinator, “Gallery Guide: Sordoni Artcast” aims to feature and discuss contemporary artists, including those who visit the Sordoni Art Gallery and give lectures to the community about their work. It also is planned to serve as a behind-the-scenes feature of the workings of the gallery in an unconventional way.

“Our main goal of the gallery is for the arts to be accessible for everyone,” said Sincavage. “(Stasko) and I talk about our exhibitions — so many iterations — around the office that we thought this might be of interest to others. It is a place where we hope to thread the needle for folks who visit the gallery and maybe wonder, ‘What is that all about?’”

The brand new podcast was a natural idea for Sincavage and Stasko since 2017, when the gallery found its new home inside the Karambelas Media and Communication Center building.

“I love listening to podcasts — in the car, taking a walk, taking a bath — and I also never shut up, so I’ve wanted to be in a podcast for a while,” said Stasko. “But ‘Gallery Guide’ was something (Sincavage) and I have joked about since the new location opened with the Warhol show.”

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News

Have a breaking story or a press release to send? Contact the news editors: Sean.Schmoyer@wilkes.edu and Sara.Ross@wilkes.edu

Wilkes Study Abroad cancels all travel for Summer 2021

By Sara Ross and Maddy Kinard
Co-News Editor, News Staff Writer

For many students and faculty, the study abroad program is an engaging and enriching experience, but all trips have been suspended through Summer 2021 to comply with CDC regulations regarding COVID-19.

The Wilkes Study Abroad Program offers opportunities for students to learn from hands-on experiences by traveling to places relevant to their studies. Many of these programs are integrated into their coursework.

As of this past January, Dr. Andreea Maieran became the new director of the study abroad program and revealed that she did not make the decision to cancel study abroad trips.

“High-ranked officials in administration made this decision, and these are professionals that looked at all aspects pertaining to possible travel, such as health concerns, which are always a priority,” said Maieran.

However, other universities have decided to provide students chances to travel abroad virtually. In this format, students can still take classes or hold internships. Student opinions at Wilkes have been divided on the subject.

“Virtual study abroad might be a little different,” said Bryce Snyder, senior mechanical engineering student. “I feel like part of study abroad is being able to be there and experience everything hands-on, and if you’re sitting in front of a computer screen, it’s gonna be just like watching TV.”

On the other hand, some student views are more positive regarding the virtual alternative, and this includes Dylan Womelsdorf, senior business administration student. He had the opportunity to complete an internship in Ireland online over the summer of 2020 through Global Experiences.

“In my opinion, a virtual internship is worth pursuing,” said Womelsdorf. “There is no doubt that it is worth the time and effort. Although, there is also nothing that can compare to actually going abroad. For my virtual experience, the coordinators made it seem like I was abroad the whole time. They held virtual tours, cooking classes and other

various activities that made it seem like I was still studying abroad in Ireland.”

Last spring, some students went on the last in-person study abroad trips and were coming home at the height of the pandemic.

Dr. Robert Bohlander, professor of psychology, led one of these last trips to Vienna, London and Amsterdam in his “History of Psychology in Europe” course. Bohlander and his students left the United States on Feb. 28, 2020 and flew home on March 7, 2020 when shutdowns for international travel began.

“I was worried that we would either be trapped in Europe and not be able to get home, or they would send us home early,” said Bohlander. “But, as it worked out, our flight home from London was one of the last international flights. In fact, our group almost had this entire Lufthansa jet to ourselves – hardly anybody was traveling.”

Other study abroad trips were canceled completely. Dr. Andrew Miller, associate professor of political sciences, and Dr. Jeffery Stratford, associate professor of biology, did not leave for Costa Rica as they usually do for spring break. They both desire to return to the island next year.

“I can only hope that as soon as May most people will be vaccinated,” said Stratford. “I started shopping for flights to Costa Rica and have made plans of my own to go back next January, but the prices and the bookings have gone up.”

Maieran wishes for students to be able to travel again in Fall 2021, but there are no concrete plans set in place. She recommends all to participate in the study abroad program, as it allows students to reflect on their own culture while experiencing another.

“I hope when things come back to a form of normality that we can encourage more students to travel because these are experiences that could fundamentally change your life,” said Maieran.



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Graphic by Jay'na Johnson

Student Government: March 24 weekly meeting notes

By Maddy Kinard
News Staff Writer

Student Government held its seventh virtual meeting, where the council voted on Women Empowered by Science and Wilkes Adventure Education fund requests, along with a non-club fund request for Dance Marathon and nominations for Student Body President.

To start, WEBS was back to present and get a final vote from the council. WEBS offers a summer science camp for girls going into the seventh and eighth grades that focuses on many areas of science. In total, the request comes to \$1,000, which would cover four girls to attend the camp. A motion was made to allocate the full amount and passed.

A non-club fund request was presented for Wilkes University Dance Marathon. The event is looking to take place over two weeks from April 12 to 24, which will encompass both virtual and in-person COVID-19 friendly events. Some of these will include

yoga and dance classes, virtual competitions, Kahoot trivia and more. They are also raising money for the Geisinger Janet Weis Children’s Hospital through Donor Drive. To sign up as an individual or to join a group, click the link in their Instagram bio, @dmatwilkesuniversity. The total fund request is broken up by T-shirt sales, hand sanitizer cost and stickers, coming to a total of \$2,100. Student Government will vote on the request next week.

Wilkes Adventure Education returned for a vote on their request. Their first aid weekend was held on March 20 and went well. Eleven people are involved in this semester-long training, also known as basecamp. WAE is paying for half of the training and is requesting that Student

Government pay for the other half. The total comes to \$1,292.50. A motion was made to allocate the full amount and passed.

Student Government then made nominations for Student Body President. Justin Glidden, a junior class representative, was nominated by Executive Vice President Brooke Mazzotta. Then, Lexi Payne, secretary of the junior class, was nominated by Executive Corresponding Secretary Nataliya Scarantino. Students have the opportunity to make more nominations at the next meeting before voting begins on April 5.

In closing, preparations for Block Party are being made, and it will be held in April. Plans for Casino Night and Spring Fling are still in the works. Spring Fling’s budget was approved in

the last meeting on March 17, but as of now, the event is still postponed.



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University makes decision to hold in-person commencement

Multiple ceremonies will be held with restrictions for Classes of 2020 and 2021

By Sean Schmoyer
Co-News Editor

In April 2020, then Interim President Paul S. Adams released a campus-wide email detailing the postponement of the commencement ceremony for Wilkes University's Class of 2020.

The cancellation came in light of an increase in COVID-19 cases; however, the class of 2020 still had their degrees conferred on May 16, 2020.

"To the class of 2020, our hearts are with you," said Adams in the email from April. "There is no greater joy for me and my colleagues than seeing graduates cross the stage to receive hard-earned degrees."

Adams went on to promise, "We are absolutely committed to holding a ceremony – with all of the fanfare to which Wilkes students are accustomed – when it is safe to do so."

That time has come for the Class of 2020, as Adams announced on March 23 that the university will hold in-person commencement ceremonies for graduates of the Classes of 2020 and 2021.

"I know I speak for the academic leadership when I say we are absolutely thrilled that we are having an in-person commencement," said Interim Provost Terese Wignot. "The commencement ceremony is the highlight of the year when we get to see our students, after four and six years of hard work, walk across the stage to receive their diplomas."

This year, the commencement

ceremonies will be held over the course of two weekends in May.

"Multiple ceremonies will be held to accommodate graduates and a limited number of guests and members of the campus community," said Adams. "Bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees will be conferred at each ceremony, with the exception of the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy's ceremony, which will recognize our newest PharmDs."

The ceremonies themselves will be divided over the final two weekends in May for the two respective classes. The Class of 2020 will be honored on May 22.

"I'm really happy they've finally set a makeup date," said Brianna Schunk '20, who earned her Bachelor's degree in English and individualized studies in dance. "We've all worked so hard to earn our degrees and even a shortened walk is super important. Personally, my 91-year-old nana is thrilled to see me walk for my degree. And I'm happy – I think it will give me some closure to the weird senior year I got."

The Class of 2021's ceremonies will be from May 28 through May 30 with respective schools and colleges being grouped together at different time intervals.

"With all of the changes that have had to happen with senior year in general, I'm really happy we will be able to get this experience," said Niamh Harkins, senior marketing and management double major.

The ceremonies will be held in the McHale Athletic Center in the University Center on Main and streamed on the university's website.

The ceremony will require all attendees to be masked, and the seating will follow social distancing protocols. Finally, guests will be required to register before the event for the purpose of contact tracing.

The email eased the concerns of Alanah Guerrero, senior nursing major.

"I was excited when I received Dr. Cant's email," said Guerrero. "I was very nervous the week before that graduation would be canceled due to the rise in cases on campus. I believe holding commencement in-person was the right thing to do, and by separating it by schools, it allows the ceremony to be more intimate and the safest option for everyone. I've been here for five years and in one of the most challenging majors. If graduation wasn't in-person, it would have taken away all the hard work I have put in over the years."

Wignot expressed that the administration felt it could hold an in-person commencement this year due to the easing of several of the state health guidelines, including increased indoor capacities. Despite this, the university is still limiting the number of tickets graduates will be given to two.

"My only concern I have about graduation is the number of tickets that will be given," said Guerrero. "It takes an army to raise a college grad. What is to be one of the most important days in

your life is to be one of the most stressful. Ultimately, you will hurt someone's feelings by not including them in the ceremony."

Limiting of tickets may also impact graduates whose parents have separated or divorced but still wish to invite both parents and their respective significant others. Grandparents and siblings also make dispersing of two tickets difficult.

The decision comes from the need to still follow health guidelines, even if they have eased up.

"It's hard that it's limited guests, and it's all broken up, but honestly that might even be better – no sitting through a huge long ceremony for cohorts I barely know," said Schunk. "I'm looking forward to seeing and celebrating with my professors and mentors again and seeing my classmates. I miss Wilkes so much, and I will feel much better once graduation has officially 'happened.'"

Students are encouraged to monitor the university's commencement webpage for additional information about how to register for tickets and attendance guidelines.

"We are thankful to the students, faculty and staff who are adhering to health and safety protocols so we can remain together for the rest of the semester and ultimately at in-person commencements in May," said Wignot.



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AAPI VIOLENCE, from front

Choi continued, "And so we believe that as trusted organizations, people came onto our site and they came on to say, I want to be a part of this collective voice to say, this happened to me, this happened to my family. They wanted to say, 'Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, we are also part of this racial reckoning that we're having in this country.'"

While there is a reluctance to report hate incidents, there is also a reluctance from law enforcement to label crimes as racially motivated.

The recent Atlanta spa shootings, in which six of the eight victims were of Asian descent, have not yet been listed as hate crimes.

Seamon responded to the reluctance

to label crimes as hate crimes or hate incidents.

"This absolutely repulsive behavior doesn't get publicized in a way that helps AAPI communities and makes people aware of the abuse and racism they are experiencing, especially the increase since the pandemic started," Seamon said. "And then, a white man goes on a killing spree and murders eight women, six of whom are of Asian descent, and that crime doesn't get labeled as what it clearly is – a hate crime against Asian women."

While there is an increase in the number of hate incidents, this racism and xenophobia are not new.

Crystal Cool, assistant director of international student services and adviser to the Asian Cultural Society, commented on this history of anti-Asian racism.

"Racism and xenophobia were undoubtedly present before the pandemic," said Cool. "There is a long history of examples of racist actions that have been committed against those of Asian descent (as well as others from underrepresented communities) in the U.S. The pandemic and former President (Donald) Trump's rhetoric may have further exacerbated these issues but did not create it."

While the Wilkes community is committed to welcoming and appreciating all, there are people to reach out to if students need to report incidents or seek emotional assistance.

Cool explained that students can come to the Center for Global Education and Diversity "if they have experienced any of these issues, and we can help put them in

contact with the right people on campus."

Students can also report directly to Student Affairs, "contacting the Dean of Students, Dr. Mark Allen, for discriminatory acts, and Public Safety for crimes."

Counseling Services are also available to all students.

To combat this hate, Cool suggests education and working together.

"Education can be a strong player in deterring hate," Cool said. "By learning more about a situation, a culture, a person, you may better understand the reality and facts of what is happening. Also, standing together against the hate and refusing to be a bystander to incidents of it."



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Life, Arts & Entertainment

Have any events, artists or businesses to be featured? Contact life, arts & entertainment editor: Emily.Cherkauskas@wilkes.edu

Liz's Craft Column: Affordable Dollar Tree bathroom sign

By **Liz Cherinka**
Social Media Manager

With the COVID-19 pandemic being ongoing for over one year, it is good to have a reminder to keep proper hygiene to avoid getting the virus or spreading it to others. Making sure to wash one's hands regularly could reduce the chances of catching the virus.

This Dollar Tree bathroom sign is sure to remind everyone to wash their hands, while simultaneously keeping the decor fun and handmade.

For a craft made only with supplies that cost a dollar each, this turns out to be quite trendy. It also takes inspiration from Pinterest and Etsy. Signs like this tend to sell on Etsy for tens of dollars, but this DIY was made with just \$4.

To make the Dollar Tree bathroom sign, the supplies required are an 8x10 canvas, an 8x10 picture frame, black paint and a small paintbrush. As previously mentioned, all of these materials can be purchased at Dollar Tree, but can also be found at any craft store, such as Joann Fabrics or Michaels.

This DIY may also require access to a printer, but that is optional.

To start, decide what the sign is going to say. The example says, "Wash your hands" to be fitting with the pandemic, but any saying will do. Feel free to head to Pinterest for some inspiration.

Now, head to Google Docs or Microsoft

Word to type out a template for the sign. This step is not required, but it may help in painting the letters if lettering is not a great skill set of yours. Simply type out the saying in any font. The two fonts in the example are Amatic SC and Homemade Apple in Google Docs.

The wording should take up most of the page in landscape mode. That way, when traced onto the canvas, the wording will fill up the space.

Print out the paper, and place it inside the back of the canvas so that it can be seen through. To help, if it is difficult to see through, hold it to a window or any light source.

Then, just paint over the letters with the black paint.

Allow the paint to dry, and then grab the frame. Remove the back of the frame and the glass, and then remove the metal pieces in the frame that hold the back in. They sometimes come out easily, but others can be harder to just pull out. Fold them over the back of the frame if they are hard to remove.

Now, place the canvas inside of the frame. The canvas should slip into the frame and hold in place on its own, but use some hot glue to secure it if needed.

Once the frame is on, the DIY is complete. Now, hang it up in your bathroom and enjoy.



Elizabeth.Cherinka@wilkes.edu
Graphic by Anna Culver



Step 1) First, decide what you would like your sign to say. The example says, "Wash your hands." On either Google Docs or Microsoft Word, type out your chosen phrase with your preferred font, preferably something that is easy to trace. This step is optional, but it will help with tracing the words onto the canvas. The fonts used in the example are Amatic SC and Homemade Apple, which are available in Google Docs. Make sure the words take up the entire page and are in landscape mode.



Step 2, left) Print out the paper and place it inside the back of the canvas, making sure that it is translucent enough to see through for easy tracing while painting. You can hold it up to a light or window to check its transparency. Step 3, right) Paint over the letters with black paint. Make sure the paint is completely dry before moving on to the final steps.



Liz's Craft Rating: One out of five yarn-balls. Craft supplies are extremely cheap from the Dollar Tree or any dollar store. Just make sure that your supplies are properly sized, such as having your frame and canvas match up in proportion.



Step 4) Grab the frame and remove the back of the frame and the piece of glass. You can remove them by folding back the metal pieces and removing everything. Now, place the canvas inside the frame; it should slip in easily. If it does not feel secure, you can use hot glue to make it fit in place as needed. Once completed, you can hang the frame up anywhere you would like. With a phrase like, "Wash your hands," you can hang it up in your bathroom as a friendly reminder to guests during the pandemic.

Share your completed crafts with us! Tag us on our Instagram account [@wilkesbeacon](https://www.instagram.com/wilkesbeacon) with your craft.
#LizsCraftColumn

The Beacon's entire newspaper collection is now available online!

The Beacon's entire newspaper collection – from 1934 to present day – can now be accessed online. John Jenkins, junior history major with a concentration in computer science and digital archives student, has been working on this project since 2018. As of March 22, his hard work has paid off with *The Beacon* being fully digitized.

Jenkins began this project when his supervisor, Suzanna Calev, Wilkes University archivist and public services librarian at Farley Library, ran out of things for Jenkins to process and decided it would be good for him to do a long-term project. He gladly accepted the idea.

Jenkins said the purpose of this project was to show researchers “what life at Wilkes was like.” Therefore, he digitized copies of *The Beacon* so people could learn about the history of the school and find information about past events or other news to aid their research.

Harold Cox, professor emeritus and university historian and archivist, began this project during his tenure. Cox digitized most of the issues up until 1970, which can be found on his legacy website.

Jenkins picked up where Cox left off, and now there is a complete set available for everyone's research needs.

“I feel happy that the project is done,” said Jenkins. “While I



Courtesy of John Jenkins

was doing this project, there were a few stories I found interesting, and now that they are up, I will definitely take a trip back and read some stories in my free time.”

Calev hopes to digitize more archived materials in the future.

“The mission of the Archives is to preserve, organize and provide access to records that document the activities, programs, peoples and history of Wilkes University and the Wyoming Valley,” said Calev. “We have a huge backlog of institutional records and special collections, and it's my goal to get these collections processed in the form of finding aids and digitize them so that researchers can use the collections near and far.”

Check it out:

The Beacon's complete collection can be accessed by visiting Omeka:

omeka.wilkes.edu/omeka/collections/show/5

To check for archives collections, uploads will be added to the website:

omeka.wilkes.edu/omeka/collections/browse

The links are also available via Wilkes Today or by reaching out to Suzanna.Calev@wilkes.edu

The entire Beacon staff sends their full gratitude and appreciation to the Wilkes University Archives, John Jenkins and anyone else who contributed to making the newspaper collection completely available online.

By Jordan Daniel, Asst. LA&E Editor
Graphic by Emily Cherkasuskas, LA&E Editor

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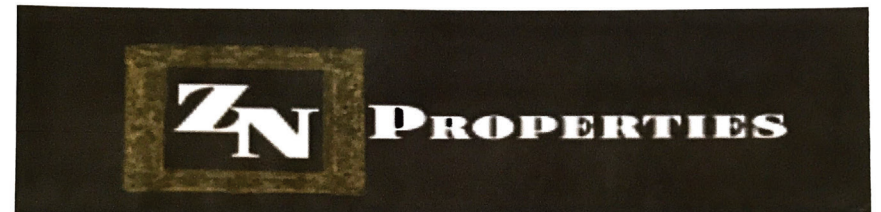
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ARTCAST, from front

As excited as Sincavage and Stasko were to talk about art, the hardest part of creating the podcast was to pick out a name that meant something special to not only them but to the gallery as well.

“The hardest thing was picking out a name that made sense,” said Sincavage. “‘Gallery Guide’ seemed the most appropriate because it is meant to be a supplemental place for info.”

The theme of the podcast allows for a comfortable, conversational environment.

“It’s formatted in such a way much like we have our office chats, which are heavily fueled by coffee,” said Sincavage. “Initially, setting up the podcast had a few little hoops to jump through, which mostly involved getting it approved on each of our platforms.”

For the pair, the most difficult aspect is setting up the recording time, but adjusting to the podcast has been rather easy for them.

“Each episode starts with a rough script outline where we try to work out a healthy balance of ‘expert’ and ‘voice of curiosity,’” said Stasko. “Once we feel we’ve got a good flow, we try to get a cup of coffee and record ourselves in a Zoom meeting.”

Jess Morandi, senior digital design and media art major and Sordoni Art Gallery design fellow, helped design the logo of “Gallery Guide: Sordoni Artcast” and enjoyed her time contributing to the project.

“The process was pretty different from most of the other projects I have worked on



Courtesy of the Sordoni Art Gallery

for the Sordoni Art Gallery,” said Morandi. “I had to create an identity and branding for a podcast that is really fun and educational, and I had to make sure that I maintained the brand and feel.”

Matching the brand offered by the gallery, Morandi designed a retro-themed color palette, giving the podcast a unique feel to it. In Morandi’s words, “the branding really took from there.”

Aside from helping with design, Morandi was also featured on the podcast episode, “Gallery Guide Preview,” which served as an introductory episode to the series.

“We talked about what ‘Gallery Guide’ is and gave an introduction to the podcast,” said Morandi. “(Stasko) also decided to quiz me on some facts about (Sincavage) and (Stasko). It was really fun.”

Episodes typically revolve around the current exhibitions being hosted at the Sordoni Art Gallery.

For example, a future episode aims to discuss shape-shifters in global mythology. The topic is inspired by Martha Posner’s pieces “Memory of the Flight” and “Beast Coat,” both of which are pieces included in Posner’s “Brutal Beauty: The Transformation of Women in Mythology,” which is currently available to view in the Sordoni Art Gallery.”

Sincavage and Stasko plan to release a new podcast episode every month, or three episodes per exhibit.

“Gallery Guide: Sordoni Artcast” is available to listen on various platforms, including Spotify, Amazon Music, Apple Podcasts, Acast and more to come in the future.

Sincavage and Stasko’s discussions are highly informative, enlightening and entertaining for those who are interested in delving deep into the environment of art commentary.



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BEACON BUMPS



Each week, the Wilkes Beacon staff adds a song to their 2020-2021 Beacon Bumps playlist under Chris Gowarty's account on Spotify. Look below for this week's list of songs.

Kirsten Peters, Editor-in-Chief: [Heat Waves - Glass Animals](#)

Sean Schmoey, Co-News Editor: [Joe - AJR](#)

Sara Ross, Co-News Editor: [Fallin' for You - R5](#)

Genny Frederick, Asst. News Editor: [Good Nights ft. Mascolo - Whethan](#)

Maddy Kinard, News Staff Writer: [I Know the End - Phoebe Bridgers](#)

Emily Cherkaskas, LA&E Editor: [Itchin' On a Photograph - Grouplove](#)

Jordan Daniel, Asst. LA&E Editor: [Let Her Go - Mac DeMarco](#)

Breanna Ebisch, Co-Opinion Editor: [Daydream - The Aces](#)

Dylan Mehl, Co-Opinion Editor: [BDE - Mac Miller](#)

William Billingsley, Asst. Opinion Editor: [Godzilla ft. Serj Tankian - Bear McCreary](#)

Ariel Reed, Sports Editor: [Slower - Tate McRae](#)

Chris Gowarty, Asst. Sports Editor: [Both Eyes Closed - Gucci Mane](#)

Baylee Guedes, Sports Staff Writer: [Rockstar Knights - Kid Cudi & Trippie Redd](#)

Mia Walker, Lead Designer: [Me and Your Mama - Childish Gambino](#)

Steffen Horwath, Staff Photographer: [Play Pretend - Kasbo](#)

Liz Cherinka, Social Media Manager: [Moscow - Autoheart](#)

Opinion

Have an opinion or want to write a guest column? Contact the co-opinion editors: Breanna.Ebisch@wilkes.edu and Dylan.Mehl@wilkes.edu

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2020-21

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

Help us send Peeps to the shadow realm

It is that time of year again — Easter. And with it comes all the familiar trappings of Easter: Egg hunts, religious observances, various egg and rabbit-themed chocolate candies and the yearly reminder of just how insufferable Peeps are.

This is simply an undeniable fact, though it seems that this is a rather contentious issue among us here at The Beacon, as we were bitterly divided when this subject came up. But in the end, the anti-Peep side won out.

And for good reason — Peeps sully the good name of sugary treats everywhere.

For those who do not know, Peeps are a marshmallow confectionery treat first produced in 1953. Since 1953, Peeps have continued to corrupt the hearts and minds of children everywhere time after time with their gooey, melt-in-your-mouth texture.

Yet, it is not just the children, but the women and men too, for it is the parents of these children who enable Peeps to carry on with its honeyed lies and mass production.

Let's look at just what your average Peep contains: Sugar, corn syrup, gelatin, various food dyes and a pinch of salt. According to their website, a single serving consists of exactly four Peeps. If you were to somehow manage to consume four, you would be consuming 110 calories, 28 grams of carbohydrates and 25 grams of sugar.

And ... that's it. That is the extent of the nutritional information.

But do not let this nutritional simplicity deceive you into thinking that this is a worthy treat — for Peeps are a hollow snack through and through.

We live in an elegant age of refined capitalism, and our taste buds deserve the very best — not some edgy norm-defying Easter candy. There is simply no shortage of Easter chocolate varieties to soothe our souls. But can we say the same for Peeps?

Nay!

Peeps perfectly symbolize the old ways and the mistakes of the past. Whereas, we have a great variety of chocolates to choose from in today's world, we simply cannot say the same for Peeps.

Peeps are eternally binding — you could buy a pack of Peeps today, tomorrow or a century from now, and they will hold fast. But what of the other candies and treats that await us in the future of tomorrow? The sky is, quite literally, the limit.

And what should we infer from the extraordinary shelf life of Peeps being an estimated two years? If this were any other foodstuff, we would surely look favorably on such an enduring snack.

Alas, The Beacon does not. The old mantra of “nothing lasts forever” rings especially true for any discussion regarding the best Easter candy. What does it say about the value of such a cheaply made marshmallow candy if it will literally stand the test of time?

Jokes even abound in popular culture about the indestructibility of Peeps. But what of other types of Easter candies? None boast nearly as robust a shelf-life as the eternal Peep. Clearly, that old mantra should be amended as such: “Nothing lasts forever, except Peeps.”

And to be fair, we are sure that Peeps will try to innovate their lineup to stay competitive and relevant in the hotly contested markets of holiday candy sales. But we are not optimistic.

Just last week, Pepsi announced the launch of what might be the abomination of abominations: Pepsi x Peeps, an unholy concoction of soda and marshmallow. Can you feel your teeth decaying yet? Thankfully, this collaboration is only for a limited time.

Unfortunately, there seems to be no shortage of fanatical devourers of Peeps, as some especially basic individuals have even taken to participating in annual eating competitions for Peeps. As of the 2017 competition, the current record was a mind-numbing 255 Peeps in five minutes — almost one Peep a second.

So this Easter break, put down the Peep. Go eat a proper holiday chocolate, you degenerates.



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Email: TheWilkesBeacon@wilkes.edu

Phone: (570) 408-2962 (Voicemail: 30 seconds or less, please.)

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

Why is college burnout not as acknowledged as it should be?

By Breanna Ebisch

Co-Opinion Editor

A full course load of 18 credits — six classes. Multiple extracurricular activities or clubs. Hours of assignments and studying. A work-study job, other leadership positions and hanging out with friends.

These are all the basics that make up the typical daily life of a college student. But beyond their academic responsibilities, they also need to get enough sleep, eat three proper meals a day and fit exercising and other hobbies they enjoy into their schedule. All of this can be overwhelming due to the unimaginable amount of things to do, with only so much time.

But this is how it has always been for college students. Spending every minute of each day under almost insurmountable unbearable stress, just to secure a degree that will benefit their futures. The expectation to put all other responsibilities ahead of themselves because their education is the most important often leads to exhaustion and burnout among a large population of students at higher education institutions.

As if this was not already a damaging and tiring lifestyle that many college students suffer from during the academic year, COVID-19 presented a multitude of other issues that this demographic had to deal with on top of everything else. Now, as classes

still remain mostly online, the workload continues to steadily increase, many aspects of life remain uncertain or different and more and more students are experiencing a phenomenon known as college burnout.

Although this is not something new, and millions of college students can relate to the feeling of not being able to catch up with their work or balance all aspects of their life when the demands are too high, the pandemic has amplified its effects to a new extreme.

The University of the People reports some of the tell-tale signs of college burnout are “feeling exhausted no matter how much sleep you get, lacking motivation to attend classes or start assignments and increased irritability due to frustration, lacking inspiration and creativity to bring to projects and class discussions, loss of confidence in academic abilities and incapability to meet important deadlines.”

It is almost a guarantee that if you were to ask any student on campus right now how they were doing, you might get the basic answer of “I’m good.” But more likely than not, the answer would be something along the lines of being tired, ready for the semester to be over or being generally stressed.

This semester has been unreasonably difficult for everyone, especially during a global pandemic, which has also taken a large toll on many people’s mental health.

So naturally, when college students

are already struggling with various other challenges that COVID-19 has presented, it only makes sense to make things worse, right?

Apparently so.

And despite the distress students are evidently feeling more than ever, there seems to be almost no sympathy or understanding for what they are going through. But this is not an issue on just one campus or for a single individual — burnout is something almost every college student can unfortunately relate to.

According to the National College Health Assessment of 2019, “Over 80 percent of college students reported feeling overwhelmed by all the things they have to do, and almost 40 percent felt so depressed that it was difficult to function.”

These numbers are undoubtedly higher now due to COVID-19, and we are seeing the effects at an alarming rate. So, why does the general public still believe that this pressure is nonexistent and that students are being overdramatic about the stressors that they deal with? College burnout is the looming cloud over campuses, and it needs to be addressed. Now.

The effects to students’ mental health from both the pandemic and the usual expectations connected to earning a higher education are more concerning than ever before. Attention needs to be given to

this issue, whether that means professors understanding how their students feel and lessening the work load or society as a whole recognizing how harmful this mindset that American culture has created truly is.

At the end of the day, students should not be feeling like they are the least important in relation to everything else that occupies their time. There is no reason that it should be creating burnout for people who are still young and just beginning to experience life to its fullest. Add a global pandemic that has flipped everything upside down, and it is not hard to understand why college students are struggling so much.

But while the fight for more understanding and change on even a small scale continues for students across the country, there are some simple steps that can be taken to help prevent burnout and benefit mental health as a whole.

Southern New Hampshire University reports “time management, setting realistic expectations and practicing self-care” are all tips to help students avoid the crippling effects that burnout produces.

It is important to remember this is a struggle that millions of college students are experiencing everyday and that burnout is more real than it has ever been.



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NBA trade deadline sees potential league-shifting moves

By Dylan Mehl

Co-Opinion Editor

The NBA trade deadline is always an exciting time for NBA fans, as it provides hope that one’s team will make a move that makes them championship contenders, playoff bound or even building for the future. This trade deadline was no different.

It is not all positives when it comes to trade deadline madness. This is due to the fact that sometimes there are trade rumors that fall through. This happened this trade deadline with Toronto Raptors guard Kyle Lowry inevitably not being moved after rumors that he would be traded to the Philadelphia 76ers, Los Angeles Lakers or Miami Heat.

Lowry is arguably the best player in Raptors’ franchise history, and the team could not come to terms with sending him off, disappointing many fans. However, Toronto was able to move Norman Powell to the Portland Trail Blazers.

The biggest Woj bomb of the day came

minutes before the deadline, as Adrian Wojnarowski reported that guard Victor Oladipo would be traded to the Heat. Miami barely had to give up any assets for Oladipo as well, losing Avery Bradley along with other assets. This is a big move for the Heat, as they look to return back to the NBA Finals and add a former all-star.

In a move that could push the Chicago Bulls into the playoffs, all-star center Nikola Vucevic was acquired from the Orlando Magic. The Bulls, who already have all-star Zach LaVine, are most definitely gearing up for a playoff push in the Eastern Conference with Vucevic. In the deal, the Magic got Wendell Carter Jr. and two first round draft picks, per NBA.com — clearly building for the future.

The Magic were not done yet, as they continued to sell assets, trading guard Evan Fournier to the Boston Celtics, as per Shams Charania. Already having all-stars in Jayson Tatum and Jaylen Brown, Boston currently sits at the eight-seed in the East and is

certainly looking to make that playoff push.

The Denver Nuggets were active at the deadline, picking up both Aaron Gordon and JaVale McGee to add big-man depth to the team. The addition of Gordon is especially good for the Nugget’s frontcourt, pairing him with the current odds on MVP, Nikola Jokic, as per Bovada. After last year’s Western Conference Finals loss to the eventual champion Lakers, the Nuggets are looking to retool in an attempt to make a championship run. However, this move does not seem to be one that puts this team over the top, with Gordon not qualifying as a third star.

Philadelphia was also an active team at the deadline, as they were one of a few teams interested in Lowry. However, they ended up settling for George Hill, a veteran guard from the Oklahoma City Thunder, as the price tag on Lowry was too high. This move could prove to be a great one for the 76ers, as Hill adds a veteran presence, three-point shooting, a defensive presence, and most importantly, depth. If the 76ers are going to

have any shot of beating the Brooklyn Nets, it will be on the strength of their depth, and Hill adds to that.

The Los Angeles Clippers finally got themselves a point guard, trading for Rajon Rondo from the Atlanta Hawks. The Clippers sent Lou Williams, two second-round picks and cash for Rondo, per Charania. Rondo played a pivotal role in the Lakers’ title run last season and can act as the game manager that the Clippers desperately need.

At the end of the day, there were several players that teams tried to move off of but simply could not. This resulted in both Andre Drummond of the Cleveland Cavaliers and LaMarcus Aldridge of the San Antonio Spurs being bought out of their respective contracts. Both could play huge roles for potential championship contenders, with the Lakers showing interest in Drummond and Aldridge rumored to be joining the Heat.



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“Falcon and the Winter Soldier” pilot review, initial thoughts

By **Matt Matrisciano**
Staff Writer

Marvel fans, take a deep breath. The wildly popular “WandaVision” may be over, but there is a new sheriff in town.

Kevin Feige’s Marvel Universe is back with the brand new and highly anticipated Disney+ original series, “The Falcon and the Winter Soldier.”

This live-action adventure of former sidekicks teaming up will have a six-episode run, released each Friday.

The die-hard Marvel fans who have been waiting for this since the end of “Avengers: Endgame” can finally rejoice. However, if you are a new Marvel fan who wants to get in on the action, do not fret, there is room at the table for you as well.

Unfortunately, there is not enough room on this page to tell you everything you need to know before tuning in. The Marvel Cinematic Universe is enormous, and possibly overwhelming for someone who has no idea what is going on.

Fear not, even someone who does not know who Iron Man is can find entertainment in “The Falcon and the Winter Soldier.” You just need to do a little bit of homework.

Although I recommend almost every Marvel movie out there to understand what is going on, beginners only need to watch six of them before starting the new Disney+ series to get the gist of things.

A newcomer to the MCU should consider watching, in order, the “Captain America” trilogy, “Black Panther,” “Infinity War” and “Endgame.” Some things may still be a bit fuzzy, but unless you have 50 hours to kill, this list is as good as it gets.

Now that everyone is caught up, it is time to go over the recently released first episode.

Let the adventure begin.

Actors Anthony Mackie and Sebastian Stan are back as Sam Wilson and Bucky Barnes, better known as Falcon and The Winter Soldier, respectively.

Episode one was fantastic, and it is sure to make any fan sit on the edge of their seat. It sets up for what could be a monster of a show.

Although this is a premiere episode, it does not feel like one, as it is more like a continuation of the story that we have been following since 2008 when the first Iron Man was released.

Characters Wilson and Barnes have

been around for a while, so the premiere did not have to go through the boring character introductions. It got right into the action, which Marvel has always excelled in.

The action scenes were all you could ask for and more, but another aspect where the show did really well is the story of Wilson and Barnes – not as heroes, but as people who are dealing with life just like everyone else.

While they fight crime and save the day, they still have everyday problems, but do not worry, while the first ten minutes of this episode suggests that the series is going to be action-packed, the story of the duo’s lives as ordinary people somehow only adds to the excitement.

The acting so far has been phenomenal. Mackie and Stan have been portraying these characters for quite some time, so it is not shocking that they deliver all the action a Marvel fan expects for the MCU by now.

Also adding to the excitement is the continuation of the story of the Avengers.

“WandaVision” almost seemed like it was a standalone series, but “The Falcon and the Winter Soldier” does a great job in picking up where the Avengers’ timeline left off.

For those who remember, “Endgame” left viewers with a plethora of questions as to the fate of the heroes who remained.

Episode one also raises its own questions to keep fans eagerly waiting for more.

All of that being said, episode one got me excited for the rest of the season. It plays just like the movies with the perfect amount of action, superhero one-liners and even a couple of laughs.

The show also got fantastic ratings, including a 93 percent from Rotten Tomatoes. My final rating for “The Falcon and the Winter Soldier” is a strong 8.7 out of 10, and we will see over the next few weeks if the show stays there.

Knowing Marvel, however, it may even go up.

Predictions & thoughts going forward

Now, what can we expect for the rest of the season? Although episode one answered many questions, it also raised new questions.

If you have not watched episode one yet, consider this your courtesy spoiler alert.

Despite the title, the duo is not together at the start of the season. Rather, episode one follows Falcon as he assists the United States Military and continues to grow

as a household name, while Barnes struggles to escape

his dreaded past as the brainwashed assassin, The Winter Soldier.

The story starts just a few months after the events of “Endgame,” so the planet is still dealing with the aftermath of half of the world reappearing after Thanos sent them into nonexistence for five years.

While most think that this was a great thing, some, of course, are not too thrilled.

A mysterious new group called the Flag-Smashers has arrived, and they liked the world better with half the population gone. If you are a day-one Captain America fan, that name may sound familiar.

A minor Captain America villain from the past may become a huge threat in the future.

Speaking of Captain America, he is back – kind of. Steve Rogers is still gone, but the United States government has decided that America needs its first Avenger, regardless of who is in the costume.

Enter: John Walker, the new captain. Walker is not exactly new, although this is the first time we are seeing him in the MCU. He was a character in the old Captain America comics, for those who are unfamiliar.

Actor Don Cheadle also returned as

Rhodey, the face behind the hero War Machine, for a few brief moments in episode one.

So, what can we expect from the return of these familiar characters?

In the case of Flag-Smasher, I doubt that he popped in for a tea party.

Since it has been revealed that his group is unhappy about half of the world population returning from ash, it would not be shocking if he somehow tried to recreate Thanos’ snap.

This certainly would set up for an epic fight, possibly involving Wilson, Barnes and Walker teaming up together.

Speaking of Walker, I am not exactly sure where Marvel is going with this storyline.

The world loved Chris Evans’ Steve Rogers, so putting a new man in the suit to replace him is bound to upset some fans.

Walker is portrayed by actor Wyatt Russell, son of the great Kurt Russell, and even he seems to know that Marvel fans may be reaching for their pitchforks.

“Hopefully, they don’t hate me too much,” Russell said in an interview with USA Today.

It is too early to really have a sound opinion on Walker as a character, though he will surely take some getting used to as the new Captain America.

This may be wishful thinking, but seeing Cheadle back in the cast gives me hope that we may be blessed with at least a few War Machine sightings.

War Machine is one of the lesser appreciated Avengers, but I, for one, would be thrilled to see his return.

With Iron Man gone, somebody has to fight crime in a highly weaponized suit, and who better than someone who goes by “War Machine”?

Finally, something about the military going against Falcon’s wish to honor Rogers and making a new Captain America gives me an ominous feeling.

Only time will tell if Walker ends up on the right side of history.

As the season goes on, I expect “The Falcon and the Winter Soldier” to give us some jaw-dropping moments.

For now, we just have to wait patiently. The adventure continues every Friday on Disney+.



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Sports

Want your sport covered? Deserve to be Athlete of the Week? Contact the sports editor: Ariel.Reed@wilkes.edu

MIH: Back-to-back wins propel Wilkes to No. 3, home playoff game

By Baylee Guedes
Sports Staff Writer

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. -- After winning 4-1 against rival Neumann University on March 26 at the Toyota SportsPlex, the Colonels beat Chatham University, 4-3, in overtime.

"We have a veteran group that has seen Neumann before," said head coach Tyler Hynes. "We knew what to expect, knew what type of game it would be, and I think our team showed growth by going out and putting our foot on the gas."

Junior captain Donald Flynn opened the scoring at the 16-minute mark of the first period, with an assist from Tyler Dill.

The first period allowed Wilkes to assert their dominance with a score of 1-0, not allowing the Knights to gain a full possession.

"We were able to establish a great forecheck early, and we saw the success we were having," said Flynn. "We knew if we kept it simple we were going to get some pretty good scoring chances."

In the second period, Flynn won a faceoff, resulting in a goal by junior forward Nick Fea, assisted by Flynn and junior forward Tyler Barrow to bring the score to 2-0.

The long offensive drives by the Colonels helped them control the pace of the game. The Knights were no threat to sophomore

goalkeeper Michael Paterson-Jones, as they unsuccessfully attempted 16 shots in the first two periods.

The Colonels started off with quite a few penalties throughout the first and second period, but the penalty kill squad was able to create big plays for Wilkes.

"The penalty kill was first and foremost spectacular," said Hynes. "That starts in net with Paterson-Jones, and then Joey Pasquini, Xavier Abdella, Scott Mueller, Devon Schell and Phil Erickson."

Along with the offensive side of the penalty kill squad, the defensive squad did not let up on the Knights.

"That is not even to mention the guys who are on the defensive side, including Charlie Spetz, Michael Gurska, Dylan Kuipers and Ryan Solomon," said Hynes. "Those are the guys right there – that group has been tremendous for us, and they do not get enough credit. I thought they were really good and stepped up tonight."

Wilkes' momentum continued into the third period with back-to-back goals, as Erickson assisted Barrow's goal at the 10-minute mark. No more than 30 seconds later, another goal was put in by sophomore forward Billy Berry.

"Our team feeds off each other's energy," said Berry. "When we had a big kill, the momentum would swing in our direction and



Photos: The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

Senior Xavier Abdella and junior Joey Pasquini fist-bumped on the bench.

we continue to play wave after wave hockey."

Neumann's Danny Cangelosi was able to score a shot at 2:30 in the third period to record their lone goal of the 4-1 contest.

On Saturday, Wilkes honored their three seniors – Spetz, Abdella and Solomon – in the program's first-ever Senior Night since being added to Wilkes in 2018. Assistant coach Ryan Secor was also honored before the start of the contest against Chatham.

"We have a group of guys who all came together three years ago to build a program," said Flynn. "We have had some success the past couple years but have not been able to achieve the ultimate goal. Our time is now, and how close we are is all the motivation we need."

Chatham scored midway through the first period, and Wilkes answered shortly after with an unassisted goal by Dill to tie the period, 1-1.

Wilkes had seven penalties throughout the game, which made it difficult to get a jump on offense. The score remained tied at one through the second period.

"Shout-out to Chatham – they did a really great job just keeping us off of our game and frustrating the play," said Hynes. "We definitely have to give them credit for that, but I am very proud of how our group stuck with it."

In the third period, Chatham scored twice right off the buzzer to take a two-goal lead.

Fea then scored at the midway point of the

third period, assisted by captains Flynn and Gurska. Following that momentum, Barrow scored off of a power play, assisted by Dill and Flynn. The period ended with a score of 3-3, resulting in a sudden-death overtime.

A Chatham penalty created a power play for the Colonels, who capitalized on it with a score by Barrow with 40 seconds left to win, 4-3.

"It felt amazing to win for the seniors ... it was a test to our culture and character, and I think we responded well down 3-1," said Barrow. "We knew this game was going to be a war, and we were equipped for it. When we play Wilkes hockey, I don't think any team in the league can hang."

According to Hynes, "These are two huge games as far as playoff implications – as far as whether you get to play at home in the first round of playoffs or have to go on the road."

Wilkes earned the three-seed and will face Nazareth College in the first round of playoffs on home ice tomorrow at 7:30 p.m.

"We have put in a lot of work and made a lot of sacrifices just to have the ability to play this shortened season," said Paterson-Jones. "We have a team of guys that are grateful for the opportunity that we have been given, and we want to make the most of it."



Junior Tyler Barrow recorded a combined three goals against Neumann and Chatham, including the game-winner in overtime against Chatham on March 27 to earn UCHC Offensive Player of the Week honors.



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MVB: Evans' 17 kills and five-set thriller blocked by Widener

By Jason Eberhart
Staff Writer

The men's volleyball team faced the Widener Pride in a doubleheader on Saturday afternoon in the Marts Center. The Colonels dropped both games against the Pride, 3-0 and 3-2, respectively.

The first match was dominated by Widener as they swept all three sets from the Colonels. Wilkes came out of the gate slow and could not get anything to work for them at the beginning of the match. The Pride took advantage and quickly put an end to the first match of the day.

"The guys played with their hearts the second match," said Czopek. "The first match we played a little half-heartedly, and we didn't stay in the game plan. The second match we stuck to our game plan and kept fighting."

Wilkes' offense became more cohesive in the second match, and the chemistry was clicking between all six guys on the floor. The chemistry between sophomore outside hitter Zach Evans, sophomore setter Zach Shay and junior middle hitter Ethan Speicher was evident.



The Beacon/Ariel Reed

Sophomore outside hitter Zach Evans reached new heights as he soared over his opponents to record one of his 17 kills in the second game against Widener.

"After the first match, losing three sets to nothing, we didn't fold, we kept our heads up," said Evans. "We didn't let the first match affect us and brought the effort we needed to compete in the second match."

Evans led the team with 17 kills in the

match. Shay was the chief facilitator of the contest, totaling a game-high 46 assists. The connection between Shay, Evans and Speicher helped the Colonels compete with Widener.

"A lot of it was running those middles with (Speicher) – he was on fire today," said Shay.

"They just respected him and the middles were sticking with him, and it got the outsides on solo blocks the whole time. Something clicked, and we just started working. The chemistry was definitely there."

Despite the Shay, Evans and Speicher trio firing on all cylinders, the Colonels ended up losing in the fifth set.

"That was a great match," said Czopek. "When someone wins a five set match, they earn it. We are not shy about saying that we played our best right there."

Wilkes is still searching for their first elusive win. The Colonels have come close the past few matches but have yet to be able to get over that hump.

"I think a lot of it is discipline," said Shay. "We miss a lot of serves, we let a lot of easy balls go. A lot of our losses come down to us not being disciplined."

The Colonels will wrap their regular season this coming week, still searching for their first win of the season. They return to the court tomorrow against Eastern University at home.



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SB: Wilkes posts first win in over a year to Arcadia, falls to King's

By Chris Gowarty
Asst. Sports Editor

The softball team split their home doubleheader against Arcadia University, as they played their first set of games in 377 days. The Colonels dropped the first game 8-4 but came back with a victory in the second, winning 5-3.

"I felt that we got stronger as the games went on," said head coach Jackie Klahold. "We had much more timely hits, and we were much more disciplined in the second game. We haven't seen live pitching other than inner-squad scrimmages in over a year, so it was really good to see our players come out and battle."

In the first game of the doubleheader, Arcadia jumped out to an early 2-0 lead at the top of the first inning.

In the bottom of the inning, first-year Haylee Calaman recorded her first hit, as she bunted to get two runners on base.

"At that moment, I just wanted to shorten up, get the bat on the ball and just put the ball in play," said Calaman. "We really needed to get a couple runs to put us over the edge. It was really great to get my first hit in."

The Colonels bounced back from the early two-run deficit with two RBI walks from

junior infielder Emma Stauffer and senior catcher Sarah Gibson.

In the top of the second, Arcadia scored four more runs to acquire a lead that they would not relinquish for the rest of the game.

In the second game of the doubleheader, junior pitcher Rhia Aurand pitched a perfect inning in the top of the first, which was followed by an offensive outburst by Wilkes.

Senior Jordyn Kondras scored the first run of the game via a wild pitch that was trailed by an RBI single from senior Rachel Pritchard, giving Wilkes a quick 2-0 lead.

After that, Calaman smacked a two-run double, putting the Colonels out in front 4-0, giving them all the runs they would need to secure the victory.

"The win was much deserved after 377 days

off," said Aurand. "We didn't look down after the first game. We pulled together and made the changes we needed to do to get that win. I'm very proud of my teammates."

Following the game on Tuesday, the Colonels returned to the field against cross-town rival King's College, where they did not see as much success. Wilkes dropped both games in the double-header against the Monarchs.

In the first game, the Colonels were unable to get on the board. Wilkes had an opportunity in the bottom of the seventh. Calaman began the inning with a walk. Stauffer singled through the left side, moving Calaman to second. Gibson then hit into a double play, which moved Calaman to third, but a groundout on the next at bat ended the hopes for a Colonel comeback.

In the second game, Wilkes was only able to rattle off four hits. First-year Marissa Prick started her hitting career with a two-run home run. Prick and first-year Taylor Douple were the only Colonels to score.

The Colonels will face local rival Misericordia tomorrow in a doubleheader starting at 4 p.m.



The Beacon/Ariel Reed

Head coach Jackie Klahold gathered her infielders against King's College on March 27 to relay the game strategy.



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The Beacon/Ariel Reed

Getting to know...

Ethan Weaver

Junior Lacrosse Player

The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week from March 17 and 24

Why Ethan Weaver was selected: Weaver had a stellar game against King's College, where he scored nine points (three goals and six assists) to help the Colonels to the 14-9 win over their crosstown rival.

Name: Ethan Weaver

Year: Junior

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Hometown: Olney, M.D.

High School: James Hubert Blake H.S.

Position: Attack

playoffs my freshman year for the first time in program history since lacrosse was brought back to Wilkes.

When/Why did you first begin playing?

I started playing in third grade. I started playing because my dad played while he was in high school, and I just ended up falling in love with the sport.

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

The driving force for my decision to come to Wilkes was the engineering program here.

Anyone to give a shout-out to?

A huge shout-out to Ryan Lasher. He has been doing an amazing job in cage and has been keeping us in games this year.

Favorite memory as a Colonel?

My favorite memory as a Colonel is making

Getting to know...

Julie Patterson

Sophomore Ice Hockey Player

The Beacon: Female Athlete of the Week from March 17 and 24

Why Julie Patterson was selected: Patterson was selected for her two-goal game against Utica College. Her efforts also earned her the award of MAC Offensive Player of the Week.

Name: Julie Patterson

Year: Sophomore

Major: Psychology & Pre-Occupational Therapy

Hometown: Trenton, N.J.

High School: Princeton Day School

Position: Forward

season in a sudden last second goal.

When/Why did you first begin playing?

I started skating as soon as I could walk and started hockey at the age of five. I grew up in a hockey family, so it was always around me.

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

I fell in love with the campus as soon as I stepped on it. Wilkes allows me to further my academic and athletics career.

Anyone to give a shout-out to?

To my super supportive parents and life-long teammate Abbey Barclass.

Favorite memory as a Colonel?

My favorite is when we beat King's last

– Both Athlete of Week questionnaires compiled by Ariel Reed, Sports Editor



The Beacon/Ariel Reed