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THE BEACON

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Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

Public Safety campus safety initiatives, 'Bovis' graffiti artist identified internally

By Luke Modrovsky
Editor-in-Chief

Wilkes Public Safety has been kept quite busy during the past few months. Between hunting down the 'Bovis' artist, making updates to the outdoor campus notification system, from instituting a supplemental shuttle service in the 'Colonel Connector,' Chief Chris Jagoe summed up everything into one statement: "We're always prepared."

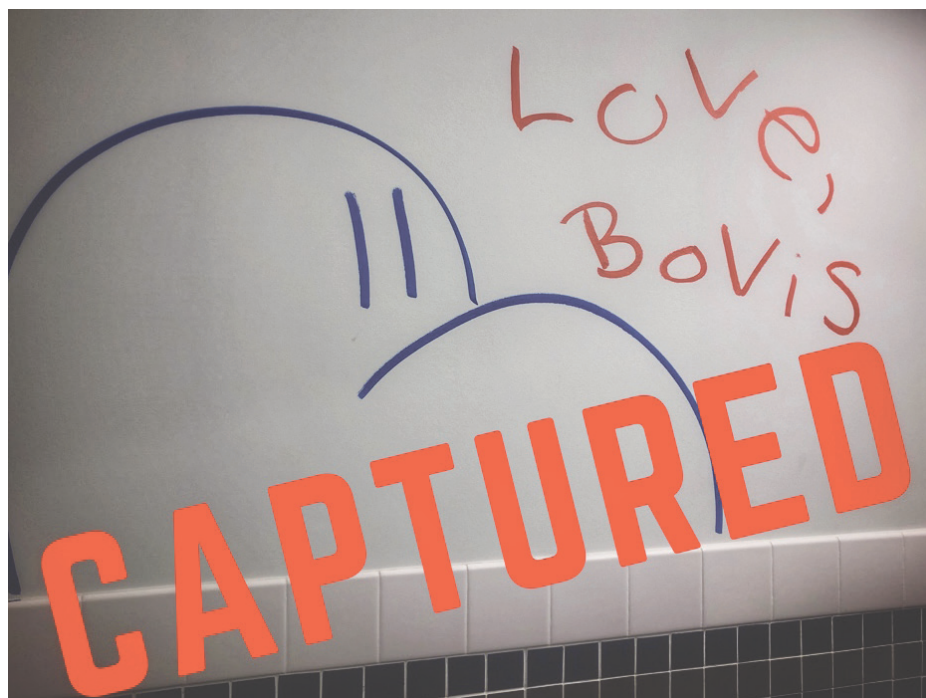
'Bovis'

Wilkes students may remember a Public Safety Notice that was delivered to email inboxes on Nov. 26, 2018. In the notice, Jagoe wrote to the campus community asking for their help finding the vandal painting the character figure 'Bovis' across campus.

In the notice, Jagoe wrote the vandalism resulted in "time-consuming and costly repairs" while also writing that "the cost of those repairs has exceeded \$10,000, categorizing the vandalism as a felony criminal offense."

Jagoe credited his team in identifying the suspect.

"This was an across the board job that was done from the patrol officers to our dispatchers that went over hours and



Design: James Dotter; Photo: The Beacon/Luke Modrovsky

'Bovis' in a UCOM bathroom. According to Public Safety, the suspect has been identified.

hours of film, reviewing access control, looking with other departments that vandalism had occurred like at King's College and in other areas," Jagoe said. "It was painstaking to put everything together and identified a subject. We

were pretty committed to stopping this."

Jagoe did confirm that the suspect is a Wilkes student.

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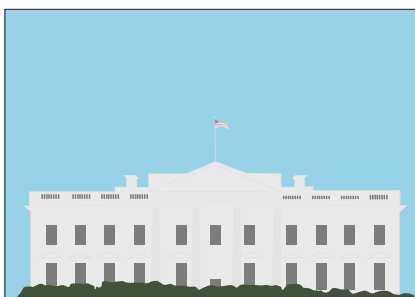
'Do the Right Thing:' MLK Day commemorated at event

By Sean Schmoyer
Asst. News Editor

Due to a condensed schedule on Tuesday, Jan. 22, the commemoration event for Martin Luther King Jr. Day was rescheduled to Thursday, Jan. 24. Despite the reschedule, the event saw a large turnout of faculty, students, and community members with the first floor lounge of the Henry Student Center filling up to the point that some attendees had to stand.

The theme for this year's commemoration event was "Do the Right Thing," based off of a King quote which said "The time is always right to do the right thing." The event consisted of numerous speakers and student performances. The commemoration was sponsored by the Campus Interfaith Office and Diversity Affairs.

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Beacon File Design

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The Beacon/Madi Hummer

Check out the photos of the week, page 9



The Beacon/Savannah Pinnock

How a change in your perspective can change your life, page 18



The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

WBB: Team seeing positive strides under new coach, page 24

News

Have a breaking story or a press release to send? Contact either news editor: Cabrini.Rudnicki@wilkes.edu or Madelynn.Davis@wilkes.edu

Beacon Briefs: The upcoming happenings on campus

Compiled by Sean Schmoyer

Register for NEPA Sings

CASA of Luzerne County is hosting auditions for local singers to show off their skills and support CASA of Luzerne County. Auditions will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 9 at the Kirby Center for the Creative Arts on Wyoming Seminary's Upper Campus in Kingston. Twelve vocalists will compete for the championship at the finals scheduled for Thursday, April 11. For more information register at <https://luzernecasa.org/nepa-sings/> to audition. Walk-ins will not be allowed.

Women's and Gender Studies Conference

Proposals for the Annual Women's and Gender Studies Conference are now being accepted. Proposals are due Friday, Feb. 22 and may be submitted online. The theme is "New Narratives of Gender in the Media" and students, faculty, staff, and community members are all encouraged to participate in the conference. Sessions will include research presentations, panel discussions, poster presentations, video screenings and performance art. For more information about the conference please contact Professor Jennifer Thomas, director of Women's and Gender Studies, at Jennifer.Thomas@wilkes.edu.

Celebrate the Lunar New Year

The Asian Cultural Society is hosting their Lunar New Year celebration on

Friday Feb. 1 at 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The event will be hosted in the ballroom of the second floor of the Henry Student Center. The event will be a celebration for the lunar new year and involve games, prizes, food, and performances.

Buddhist Meditation Sessions

Weekly meditation sessions that involve sitting and walking meditation will begin on Tuesday, Jan 29. from 4:45 until 5:30 p.m. They will be held on the first floor of Kirby Hall in the Kirby Salon. On each Tuesday throughout the semester meditation sessions will be held in the style of Zen master Thich Nhat Hanh. For more information, email Dr. Paul at linda.paul@wilkes.edu. sessions are open to all student, faculty, staff, and community members who are interested.

Roses for your Valentine

The junior class is selling roses for Valentine's Day. Prices are \$3 for one rose, \$15 for six roses and \$25 for a dozen roses. Roses are available in the following colors: red and pink. You can stop by the junior class table during club hours in the Henry Student Center on Feb. 5 and 7 or Feb. 12. You can also email logan.biechy@wilkes.edu. Pre-orders are recommended, and roses will be ready for pick up on Feb. 15 during club hours. For more information of if you have any questions please email Logan.Biechy@wilkes.edu.

Tours with the Sordoni Art Gallery

Want to interact with other students, schedule tours with the Sordoni Art Gallery. Check out the Art Gallery's website to learn more about current and upcoming exhibitions and to sign up for a tour. For additional information, please contact Sordoni Art Gallery assistant director, Nikki Lewis, at Nicole.Lewis1@wilkes.edu.

Save the date for Council of the Clubs

Student Government will be holding their Council of the Clubs meeting for all SG recognized clubs on Thursday, Feb. 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Breiseth 107. All club presidents and treasurers are required to attend the meeting. Food and refreshments will also be provided. For any questions or concerns please email Student.Government@wilkes.edu.

Sign up for Spring Intramurals

If you are interested in joining or creating a intramural volleyball or basketball team please email Scott.Robinson1@wilkes.edu. The deadline to sign-up for intramurals is Friday, Feb. 22.

Student Development Shopping Trip

Mall shopping shuttles will be held on Feb. 24, Mar. 31 and Apr. 28 to Walmart, Target and the Wyoming Valley Mall from noon to 4 p.m. Please email Megan.Pitts@wilkes.edu for any further questions.

e-Mentor Applications Available

Student Development is now accepting applications for the 2019 First Year Students e-Mentor Program. For those interested, please stop by the Information Desk in the SUB to pick an application. Student Development will also be hosting information sessions to provide more details on the program. For any questions or concerns please contact Student Deveopment at 570-408-4645 or through email StudentDev@wilkes.edu

Attend Sexual Jeopardy program

BACCHUS Club will be sponsoring the annual Sexual Jeopardy program on Feb. 5 in the Henry Student Center Ballroom from 9 to 10 p.m. If you have any questions or if you would like to participate in on of the four teams please contact Juli.Killian@wilkes.edu



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Sean.Schmoyer@wilkes.edu

The Jan. 23 Student Government meeting was canceled due to inclement weather. The Beacon will return with student government notes in next week's issue.

Upcoming Events: 2019 Spring Semester

January

31 - 2000 Throwback event (WUPB)
31 - Snacks'n'Politics (College Dems)

February

3 - Leadership Conference
5 - BACCHUS' Sexual Jeopardy
5 - Free Windshield Wiper Fluid (CC)
5 - Skating Night (CC)
7 - Council of the Clubs
10 - Elk Mountain Ski Trip
14 - Be Your Own Bae (WUPB)

19 - Free Emergency Car Kits (CC)
19 - Bowling (CC)
21 - Minute-To-Win-It (WUPB)
28 - Rodeo Night (WUPB)
22-23 - Vagina Monologues
24 - Mall Shopping Shuttle

March

14 - Themed Bingo (WUPB)
16 - Glow Night at Skyzone
19 - Free Tire Gauges (CC)
19 - Movie Night

22 - Medieval Times
24 - Ice Skating & Pizza
28 - Fondue Night

WUPB denotes Wilkes University
Programming Board
CC denotes Commuter Council
SG denotes Student Government

Want your event featured in the calendar?

Email: TheWilkesBeacon@wilkes.edu

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MLK Day, page 3

Due to a condensed schedule on Jan. 22, the commemoration event for Martin Luther King Jr. Day was rescheduled to Jan. 24. Despite the reschedule, the event saw a large turn out of faculty, students, and community members with the first floor lounge of the Henry Student Center filling up to the point that some attendees had to stand.

The theme for this year's commemoration event was "Do the Right Thing," based off of a King quote which said "The time is always right to do the right thing." The event consisted of numerous speakers and student performances. The commemoration was sponsored by the Campus Interfaith Office and Diversity Affairs.

The event opened with the singing of the American National Anthem by Wilkes student, Mmachi Dimoriaku and was followed by the singing of the Black National Anthem by Mmachi Dimoriaku and Brianna Rowland. Kristin Osipower, the interfaith coordinator, gave the invocation at the event.

After the poem, President Patrick Leahy spoke about the event stating that the event's postponement should be seen as a positive as it reflects Wilkes University's stance that Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a day off.

Leahy said, "I frankly believe that the other 364 days a year at Wilkes University

are days on, when it comes to the work that Martin Luther King Jr. would want us to do. You might recall me saying many times that the founding President here said that we would be a 'private institution with a public purpose.' That dual public purpose was one to create academic opportunity for people who deserve it, and at the same time we want to be a force for positive economic, cultural, and social development in this community."

Leahy then used King's famous quote, "If you cannot fly then run, if you cannot run then walk, if you cannot walk then crawl, but by all means keep moving," in order to encourage both students and faculty to keep striving to do their best throughout the semester.

After Leahy spoke, Abie Pessima, a junior at Wilkes, read the poem, "Still I Rise" written Maya Angelou. After the event Pessima gave insight to why she chose the poem and the connection it has to the event.

"I picked it because it honestly inspired me and it connected with (the theme of) do the right thing, we are still rising to the top to try to do better and fulfill our dreams. I am the first to come to college out of seven kids, it is just like okay, let me do this so my siblings can follow my footsteps. Honestly, we need to just get people engaged, keep motivating them to do better and involve them more, do not put people down. It doesn't matter

your race or the color of your skin, it just matters about keeping your head up, motivating people, and moving forward," said Pessima.

The keynote speaker was Rosana Reyes, vice president of enrollment management and student development at Luzerne County Community College, and is pursuing a doctorate in educational leadership from Wilkes University.

Reyes spoke about Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and how his actions and beliefs were focused on fighting challenges that society is still experiencing today. Reyes addressed King's speech "Remaining Awake Through a Great Revolution" in which King addressed four different approaches to challenges that society was facing at the time of his speech.

The first challenge was to acknowledge that the global world had become connected into one neighborhood because the actions of one person impacted that of another. The second challenge was to rid the nation of poverty, while the third challenge was to find an alternative to violence. The final challenge was to eradicate racial and social injustice from our nation, whether it was spoken or unspoken.


Reyes said, "As we stand here today, January 24, 2019, (and) as we evaluate the revolution that is still raging around us, I cannot help but feel a little bit of disappointment in knowing that the calls

of the challenges of Dr. King are still true. We have not solved these issues. But I am also encouraged knowing that this call for fairness and justice came throughout history and many years before Dr. King...I ask you, those who are sitting here, to remain awake in the face of the many revolutions that we still face."

To close out the event, the Wilkes African Cultural Association performed traditional dances. President of WACA, Mmachi Dimoriaku spoke after the event about the culture and tradition behind the dances.

Dimoriaku said, "The dance that we did today was a mixture of Ogene, a Nigerian traditional dance, and Afrobeats, a new style that has been sweeping around all of Africa. We also used a dance known as Gwara, our dances are usually cultural fusion. Keeping in mind King's "Do the Right Thing," the right thing is to show our culture, not hide or keep it to ourselves, and of course respect it."

The performance by WACA was one that combined many different cultures and traditions without any individual one losing its importance or meaning, a concept reflecting one of Martin Luther King Jr.'s ideas that everyone is interconnected, and that each of us has an impact on others.

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Photos: The Beacon/Maddie Davis
The Black National Anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing," was sung by students Mmachi Dimoriaku and Brianna Rowland at the commemoration.



Keynote speaker Rosana Reyes spoke about how the challenges King addressed in the 1960s are still relevant today.

New transfer agreement with LCCC for early education majors

By Sean Schmoyer
Asst. News Editor

Faculty from both Luzerne County Community College and Wilkes University met on Dec. 18 for the signing of a new agreement that will allow LCCC graduates, with an associates degree in in early childhood education, to more affordably and more easily transfer to Wilkes to acquire their bachelor's degree.

Rhonda Rabbitt, dean of the school of education at Wilkes University, spoke about the agreement.

"The certification that we offer is early childhood and elementary education, but you can get a pre-K through fourth (grade) certification which is just early childhood education. Right now nationwide [the major] has been identified as a crisis area. That is why I am really proud and excited that we are apart of the solution to address that issue."

Students at LCCC who graduate with a minimum overall grade point average of 3.0 and complete the Praxis Core or Preservice Academic Performance Assessment with passing scores can not only transfer their credits over to

Wilkes, but they also do not need to go through the transcript review process and are marked as a third year student in the Wilkes education program.

"What we have for the first time is a contract with a community college that will put more qualified educators into classrooms for early childcare. Too many times they are minimum wage paid people and transcient. This is about getting more qualified teachers in the program and professionalizing it so that it is a part of the K-12 school system. We are the only program in the state of PA that is affordable and accessible. The only other institution that comes close is Drexel University...but the difference is the price," said Rabbitt.

Dr. Anne Skleder, the university's provost, discussed the importance of the program for Wilkes University, as well as for the field as a whole. "From my vantage point, I see this as the perfect match between Wilkes' historic commitment to meeting the needs of the community and a crisis in a lack of professional early education specialists. Many young people at the most formative age are being educated by those who have very little education. We want to make sure that those working in those fields are

educated as much as they can possibly be. What we know is that the major constraints are finances and time." This agreements allows for people who work during the day and have families to be able to go through these courses with ease. The education courses offered are available online and in an affordable manner, making the those constraints as nonexistent as possible.

Rosana Reyes, vice president of Enrollment Management and Student Development at LCCC, related the program to LCCC's own mission of accessibility.

"[The mission] is all about providing opportunity for students regardless of their income or past academic performances, or even for those who are not able to relocate. What this program does specifically is that it continues to expand [students'] access to a bachelor's degree."

Reyes and Rabbitt expressed that this agreement allows students to feel that Wilkes is an affordable and accessible option for their higher levels of education.

"(LCCC) reaches back to high schools and ask how can we increase the success of students. We have over a thousand

students taking dual enrollment classes, one of the major things we did was discount tuition for high school students to as low as \$40 a credit, so that they can participate regardless of family income," said Reyes.

Reyes, Rabbitt and Skleder all expressed the success and importance of this agreement and the potential for this agreement with LCCC to be expanded to other community colleges not just in state but also out of state. The end goal of this agreement is to take the pathway from high school education, to community college, to a private institution like Wilkes University and make it more affordable and accessible.

"I would like to emphasis the leadership of dean Rabbitt and the faculty of the education department, the support of Dr. Cooper, Dr. Galella, and President Leahy, and the help of the finance committee, and Dr. Bill Grant a board member who has spent his life in early childhood education. I would also like to mention and thank our friends at PNC Bank who provided both financial and moral support to fight the crisis of early childhood education," said Skleder.



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Do you love to read the news?
Why not try writing it?

Contact our news editors:
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Maddie Davis - Madelynn.davis@wilkes.edu

PUBLIC SAFETY, from page 5

Wilkes student.

Through the use of our camera systems and just good, old-fashioned detective work, we were able to identify a Wilkes student who was involved in this.

With regard to punishment, Jagoe said Wilkes will be handling it internally for now.

“The student, right now, is working with Student Affairs to make restitution for the damage done,” Jagoe said. “We’ll look to see how this plays out with student affairs and how cooperative the student continues to be in making the University whole from the damage that was done.”

While Jagoe did not rule out charges, he is hopeful the situation will be resolved with Student Affairs.

“Once we have an good indication of what’s going on with that, we’ll make a further decision about whether we want to pursue this criminally or not,” he said.

Colonel Connector

The Colonel Connector provides campus members -- faculty and staff included -- with pick-up and drop-off safety escorts to a wider area around campus. According to an FAQ published on Today@Wilkes, the Colonel Connector “is NOT intended to replace the current shuttle services offered.”

“The main reason that I wanted to expand our services, we have a lot of students taking classes at King’s College and folks in our ROTC and it’s reciprocal too,” Jagoe said.

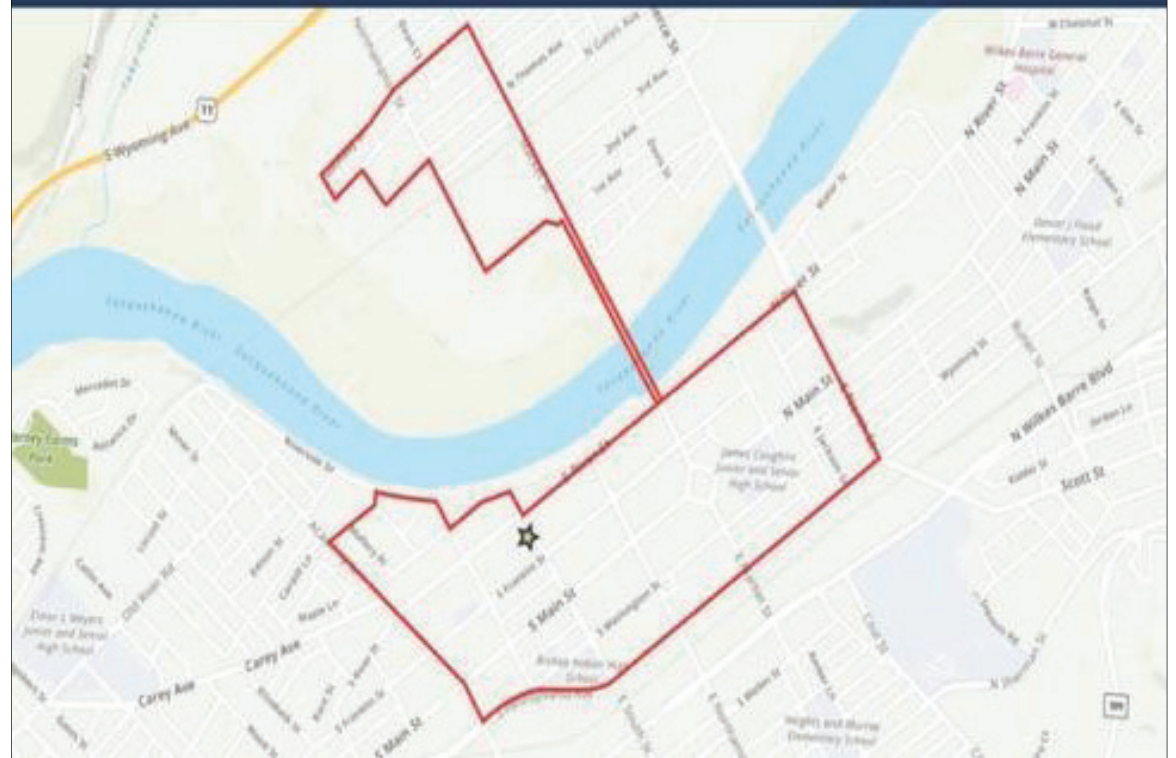
Jagoe clarified that the Colonel Connector differs from the shuttle service.

“The shuttle runs on a circuit route. It’s kind of limited in the area that it covers. The Colonel Connector, however, is door-to-door service in a set area. We had the opportunity to expand our coverage on that.”

The Colonel Connector is a clearly marked Wilkes University van with flashing yellow lights. To request a ride, use the Wilkes Shield public safety app (free download on Google Play and Apple App Store) to request a safe transport to and from anywhere within the Colonel Connector’s boundary.

“The driver will have clearly marked Public Safety clothing and a DPS (Department of Public Safety) radio,” according to the FAQ.

Previously, students were able to contact Public Safety for an escort and ride with an officer to their location. Jagoe said

THE COLONEL CONNECTOR COVERAGE AREA

Submitted Map

The Colonel Connector coverage area extends throughout the entire Wilkes University campus, as well as into parts of the northern end of Downtown Wilkes-Barre around King’s College.

there were a few issues with that.

“It didn’t make sense that we would take one of our public safety officers off the campus main to do this,” Jagoe said of officers traveling to areas like the Ralston Athletic Complex.

The Colonel Connector operates from 5 to 11 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Some of the rules regarding the Colonel Connector are:

Users must present their Wilkes ID when board, with no exceptions.

Each Wilkes campus member is permitted two guests who may ride with them start to finish.

All guests are required to present ID when boarding.

Public Safety reserves the right to refuse service to individuals who are deemed disruptive by the driver.

Alcohol and tobacco are not permitted in the van.

“It wasn’t spawned by any particular event or events,” Jagoe said. “We just thought it was a good idea given that we have students traveling a good distance.

Our shuttle service right now is limited in the area that it covers.”

Mass Notification System

Jagoe said that while the outdoor mass notification system is nothing new, he said updates have been made.

“They’re very powerful speakers that we have mounted on the roof of the garage,” Jagoe said. “That can cover the entire area of the Wilkes campus.”

He said it’s important to be able to communicate urgent items outdoors.

“If we have a weather event, or something that we wanted to get immediate notification out to the community that something’s coming our way to take shelter.”

Jagoe emphasized that these moves were proactive, not reactive.

“It’s just to enhance all of the tools we have available to us as Public Safety,” Jagoe said.



Beacon File Photo

In Feb. 2013, Wilkes University announced that it would create a hybrid security force, arming some of its Public Safety Officers. Now, Wilkes has shared plans of a transformation to a fully sworn police department. According to state law, Wilkes must petition the Court of Common Pleas for approval to start a police force. The university will share more details at an upcoming roundtable with local media.

Campus reacts to federal government shutdown

Maddie Davis and Sam Verespy
Co-News Editor and Staff Writer

The government has been shut down, but what exactly does that mean?

A government shutdown occurs when Congress needs to submit a federal budget, but cannot agree about the contents of this budget. This includes but is not limited to what to spend, how to spend it and where to place funding.

The government has shut down a total of 20 times since 1976 with three of these times in the past five years.

The most recent shutdown, which began on Dec. 22, 2018, was prompted by President Donald Trump wanting \$5.7 billion spent on a Mexican border wall.

This shutdown, according to the president himself, was to last days, months or possibly even years.

Trump planned to keep the shutdown rolling until he gets what he wants: a wall on the southern border of the country blocking off Mexico. The President's reason for the shutdown and the wall is the thousands of alleged terrorists illegally crossing the Mexican border trying to enter the country.

The shutdown lasted 35 days left almost 400,000 workers furloughed, and was the longest in US history.

The 2018-2019 shutdown is the second under the Trump administration. The January 2018 shutdown was the result of a disagreement with the extension of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). The shutdown only lasted three days.

The shutdown has affected federal workers and their families as the government closed for over a month. All of these workers are not receiving their paychecks.

Around 75 percent of "top tier" governmental programs have already been funded, but that still leaves the other 25 percent, including, Homeland Security, Urban Development, Justice, Agriculture, Treasury, Commerce, Environmental Protection Agency and Transportation.

Other affected, lower level programs that have closed are, all Smithsonian Museums and Zoos, most National parks and monuments, and many federal research operations.

Top tier workers and essential employees were still expected to show up for work even though they were not

promised a paycheck. However, those in the lower-tier federal positions were not mandated to show up to work.

As a result of this shutdown, images have emerged of National Parks being littered with garbage, Transportation Security Administration agents playing explicit rap music while working in the airports and accounts of the Food and Drug Administration lack of careful supervision of food inspection.

Two of America's more vulnerable populations that are also being affected by the shutdown: Native Americans on federally sanctioned reservations and federal prisoners.

Federal prisoners' benefits are being depleted because of the shutdown. They are not being granted their visitation rights with friends and families, programs are being cancelled, and correctional officers' shifts are being lengthened which may result in inadequate watch and care.

Native Americans, who live on reservations are losing the federal programs that helps provide them with the basic services they need to survive. The Indian Health Services, who operate health clinics, are also unable to service Native Americans on and off the reservation because of the lack of funding.

Dr. Thomas Baldino, a Wilkes University political science professor, named some effects that will hit home for students.

The first of these being that if a FAFSA has yet to be filed, there will be difficulty in doing so. The IRS is slowed down, and cannot provide the documents necessary for the forms to be filed, based on tax information from 2017.

He continued this by detailing how the economy is being affected by the shutdown.

He continued this by detailing how the economy is "contracting due to an unnatural force" which will "impact almost all seniors looking for jobs.

"(The graduating class) are going to be facing a tougher job market, as well as for those seeking summer jobs."

Dr. Andrew Miller, also a Wilkes political science professor, provided additional insights.

"One of the big effects of this partial government shutdown particularly affects things like student visas." He also reiterated the idea of 380,000

government employees are working without pay.

Students across the campus also have their own opinions on the shutdown.

"The government's shutdown, especially the way that (the government) is handling it is out of hand," said Natalie Carleo, a senior communication studies major. "So many people are going without food and without pay to support something that many do not believe in."

Megan Graham, a history major, further commented about the potential continuation shutdown in mid February. She drew attention to the lack of America support of the wall itself.

So this calls to question, what can the average person do about the shutdown?

"Call your representatives," Baldino said. "Whether or not you agree with their political affiliation, call them, and tell them to end the shutdown. Ask them to put people back to work and then solve the border wall crisis."

As of Jan 25, a new deal has resulted in Trump reopening the federal government for three weeks, lasting until Feb 15. Trump has agreed to pay all of those furloughed federal workers for their unpaid work over the past month.

"I think that it's incredibly unfair


to the government workers that there might be yet another shut down, especially since the reason for the shutdown is over the debate of the Wall—which not many people are in favor of," said Graham.

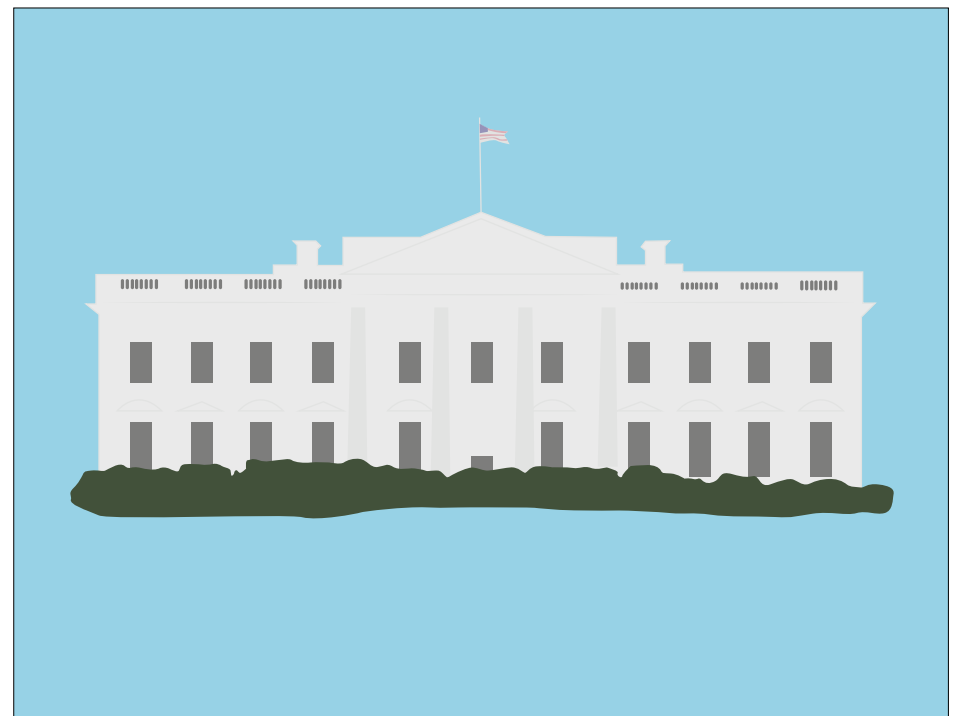
The deal came after it was announced by the FAA that they delayed flights New York City's LaGuardia Airport because there were issues with staffing air traffic controllers.

There is an agreement between the Democrats and Republicans that there should be some type of funding for southern border security, but they are not agreeing on what exactly to spend this funding on.

Most Republicans are in agreement that the funding should be spent on a wall that guards the border. However, the Democrats want to spend the funding on border security technology that will help border patrol and security.

Trump stated that if the Republicans and Democrats cannot strike up a deal by Feb. 15, he will declare a national emergency and put those funds towards the wall.

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Life, Arts & Entertainment

Have a story or want your event to be featured? Contact the Life, Arts & Entertainment editor: Sarah.Matarella@wilkes.edu

V-Day is Approaching: Wilkes University presents *The Vagina Monologues*

By Isabella Sobejano
Staff Writer

In order to raise awareness about sexual harassment and misconduct, Wilkes University will be presenting "The Vagina Monologues" on Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. and Feb. 23 at 2 p.m.

According to the Wilkes University handbook "Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and/or any other visual, verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature."

For this reason, Wilkes offers resources to inform the campus community about programs in place regarding issues surrounding sexual misconduct, as well as available support systems for victims.

However, outside of Wilkes, people still face a variety of other struggles including but not limited to sexual assault, female genital mutilation, harassment, rape, battery, incest

and sex slavery all over the world. Due to this, there have been more events, campaigns and other means to make people aware and educate them about these types of issues.

The Vagina Monologues, a play based on interviews with more than 200 women, strives to promote awareness of violence against all women and girls that are subject to gender based violence.

"While this is a show about tough topics, it's also a lot of fun and there's a lot of humor that really makes seeing it a good time," said Olivia Caraballo, co-director of the event.

Both shows will be held in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. Admission is free for Wilkes University students (with ID), \$5 for non-Wilkes students (with ID) and \$10 General Admission. It is a cash-only event. There will also be baked goods sold at the show in an effort to raise money for various local charities in their work at preventing violence against women and children.

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

"In addition to it being an enjoyable performance, it raises money to give to the beneficiaries as it is an act of activism in helping women and girls," said Brooke Giarratano, co-director of the event.

The monologues were written by playwright and feminist activist Eve Ensler in 1996 and will be presented this upcoming month. The main purpose of the show is intended to give special attention to a woman's body and her sexuality, which are can be frequently ignored.

Thus, students who are passionate about

women's rights, rape, sexual abuse, the different injustices women face all over the world will present dramatic monologues, addressing these different topics. Because of the variety of topics discussed within the monologues, students from different backgrounds can attend and help promote awareness. Students, faculty and staff at Wilkes University can all get involved to execute the play and its messages.

We have students, faculty and staff involved in the production, and it's really exciting to see how everyone comes together," said Caraballo.

As for those that may be interested in becoming a part of this event, students may contact Olivia Caraballo at olivia.caraballo@wilkes.edu, Brooke Giarratano at brooke.giarratano@wilkes.edu.



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Isabella.Sobejano@wilkes.edu

JANUZZIS

Pizza & Subs

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<p>\$13.95 + TAX</p> <p>large 16" 1-topping pizza & 2-liter soda</p>	<p>\$7.95 + TAX</p> <p>each for 5 or more large plain pies</p>	<p>\$16.95 + TAX</p> <p>3 hot & cold subs mix & match</p>	<p>\$20.95 + TAX</p> <p>large 16" pizza & 12 cut tray sicilian pizza</p>	<p>\$17.95 + TAX</p> <p>2 large plain pizzas toppings extra</p>	<p>\$20.95 + TAX</p> <p>24- cut Sicilian pizza</p>
<p>\$17.95 + TAX</p> <p>12- cut Sicilian pizza & 1 order of wings</p>	<p>\$11.95 + TAX</p> <p>12 -cut Sicilian pizza</p>	<p>\$23.95 + TAX</p> <p>2 tickets to Movies 14, 1 med- 1 topping pizza & 2 drinks</p>	<p>\$12.95 + TAX</p> <p>small 12" 1-topping pizza & choice of any sub</p>	<p>\$18.95 + TAX</p> <p>large 16" pizza, 1 sub, & an appetizer</p>	<p>\$28.95 + TAX</p> <p>3 large 1- topping pizzas</p>

What is leaving and coming to Netflix in February



By Nicholas Filipek
Managing Editor

With the month of January quickly coming to a close, it is that time again to realize what wonderful movies are leaving Netflix, and binge them as quickly as possible before they are removed for good.

Never fear though, even if you do not catch the titles you were hoping for, just like a fiery phoenix, as Netflix kills some movies off its rosters, more and more rise into its rank.

So, let us begin on what should be seen before the end of the week, and what will be waiting like a brand new present when the weekend arrives.

LEAVING IN FEBRUARY:

Clerks- Written and directed by Kevin Smith. Starring Brian O'Halloran, Jeff Anderson, Marilyn Ghigliotti, Lisa Spoonauer and Jason Mewes.

The movie that launched hundreds of indy flicks and made Kevin Smith a well known name in Hollywood is about to have its final hour on Netflix, so catch it now before it goes.

Made for a measly budget of \$27,575 (in a time where you had to actually buy film to shoot it on remember) the film is a sweet love song to people in their 20's with little to no direction in life.

For anyone who does watch the flick and needs some more Kevin Smith, Netflix also houses a few other movies written and directed by the New Jersey native. Be sure to check out Chasing Amy, Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back, TUSK, and Yoga Hosers.

Shaun of the Dead- Directed by Edgar Wright. Written by Simon Pegg and Edgar Wright. Starring Simon Pegg,

Kate Ashfield, Nick Frost, Lucy Davis and Dylan Moran.

Zombies are in vogue right now in popular media. The Walking Dead is still AMC's biggest hit with no signs of slowing. That is a truly serious show though, with drama and suspense around every corner. Can't zombies be funny?

That is exactly the message that the Shaun of the Dead crew must have been thinking in pre production, as this movie takes classic horror elements and flips it on its head in this truly funny movie.

The movie is brought to you by the same comedic team behind The World's End and Hot Fuzz, which bring their own twist on comedy into the mainstream with hilarious results.

Whether or not you are a fan of the current zombie phenomenon, you are sure to get a kick out of this fun, funny, movie.

Sing- Directed by Garth Jennings, co-directed by Christophe Lourdelet. Written by Garth Jennings. Featuring the voice talents of Matthew McConaughey, Reese Witherspoon, Seth MacFarlane, Scarlett Johansson, John C. Reilly and Taron Egerton.

What could be the best animated movie of all time, taking the greatest pop music from every decade, celebrity voices, anthropomorphic animals and mixing them all up into this heartfelt movie that makes you just want to sing.

The power behind this movie does not come from the aforementioned assets that this movie boasts, but from

the underlying message throughout: you are worth the shot. Believe in yourself, take that chance, do not doubt yourself, because you are more powerful than you can ever imagine.

Those are just the movies you need to be sure to check out before the end of the week, but let us also take a look at what to watch next as they arrive in February.

COMING IN FEBRUARY:

The Edge of Seventeen- Written and directed by Kelly Fremon Craig. Starring Hailee Steinfeld, Woody Harrelson, Haley Lu Richardson, Blake Jenner and Kyra Sedgwick.

During the tenure of "Nick's Flick Picks" it has been lost to actually how many movies have been recommended to readers. If at any time the reader should really heed the advice of the column, it should be now.

This quaint, adorable, and perfectly spot-on representation of the angst of young adulthood encapsulates every feeling of that time in life as a young girl attempts to make her way through high school.

The smart writing lends itself to the amazing actors and gives the movie the sense that these are real people who have been documented, rather than actors making a movie.

This is most seen between the movies two leads, Steinfeld and Harrelson, who have the student/teacher relationship down and makes you want to call that one teacher in high school who stands out in your mind as being "cool."

Jaws- Directed by Steven Spielberg. Screenplay by Peter Benchley and Carl Gottlieb, based on the novel by Peter Benchley. Starring Roy Scheider, Robert Shaw, Richard Dreyfuss, Lorraine Gary and Murray Hamilton.

A true classic. As citizens of the world, you owe it to yourself to see the movie that has caused dozens of people to never even look at the ocean, let alone go in it.

On top of all that, it is the film that launched Steven Spielberg's career, which then in turn launched now famous composer John Williams career with what could be the best theme song of all time.

Even if you have not seen the movie, it is almost guaranteed that as you read the last sentence about the theme song you went, "buuuuuuhhhhh don."

Not only is the classic going to be available at the beginning of the month, but three of its sequels will also be up for your streaming pleasure.

The 40-Year Old Virgin- Directed by Judd Apatow. Written by Judd Apatow & Steve Carrell. Starring Steve Carrell, Catherine Keener, Paul Rudd, Romany Malco, Seth Rogen, Elizabeth Banks, Leslie Mann and Jane Lynch.

If you are a fan of Carell in the popular NBC sitcom The Office, then you owe a large thank you to this movie. NBC was not too sure whether or not to give the show a second season due to some unimpressive ratings, but with his killer performance in this film that led to box office gold, NBC gave The Office the greenlight for season two, and the rest they say is history.

In hindsight, it was an obvious move for NBC because Carell really gets to shine in his role as the hapless virgin Andy. His supporting cast of now favorite comedy legends bring their best and every minute is just as funny as the last.

Let's be clear however, the humor is crude, so if that is not your bag, your would be best to steer clear of this title.

A strong argument can be made that it was this movie that led to the wildly successful genre in Hollywood, "The Bromance", including other titles like Step Brothers, I Love You Man, and Superbad.

Who knows how long these titles will be available on Netflix; they do change them out every month, so be sure to catch all these picks while you can.

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD

ON NETFLIX

Self Care with Sarah: Getting adjusted to a new routine

By Sarah Matarella

Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

Winter break is typically the time where people try to relax, destress and spend time with family over the holidays. Things typically slow down due to the fact that there is less responsibilities to attend to.

Thus, getting back into a routine can be difficult as school and work schedules can become exceptionally busy quite quickly, especially in college and full-time jobs.

After breaks, there's a new combination of classes, possibly new professors paired with a different workload that someone might not be used to. This paired with trying to get our brains out of "break mode" can require a lot of effort to get back into a proper routine.

"Adjusting to a new routine and schedule can be difficult, and I find that planning out what I do in the breaks in my schedule during the first week of school helps make

the change less overwhelming. I plan my studying and personal time around my classes while the workload is lighter, and it helps with making sure I adjust to the new routine as quickly as possible, before exams begin," Stephanie Ostir, a P1 pharmacy major at Wilkes University.

Planning and figuring out the breaks in your schedule are important, especially for food, exercise, homework and even napping purposes. Not only do you need to figure out how to maximize your time with work, but also make sure your body is getting what it needs so that you can have enough energy to get everything done. Staying organized also goes hand in hand with planning and maximizing your time.

"I stay organized by keeping all of my course work in different folders and binders designated for each course. I also carry a notebook to write all of my assignments in so that I don't forget anything," said Tyler Walther, junior middle level science

education major at Wilkes University.

Prior to any of this, one needs to find the motivation to get going. Motivation can be hard to come by with a taxing schedule ahead, but there are several different ways to find your motivation. One option is giving yourself something to look forward to amongst your work.

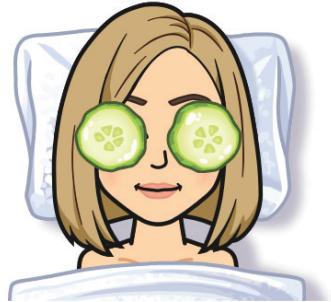
"My motivation comes from baseball whether it be the spring or fall semester. I come into the semester excited to start playing baseball again and it carries over into my studies allowing me to be my best on the field, but even more importantly in the classroom as well," said Tyler Walther, a junior middle level science education major at Wilkes University."

Another way to get motivated is to start your day earlier. Walther continued to explain that although it take take a significant amount of time to get

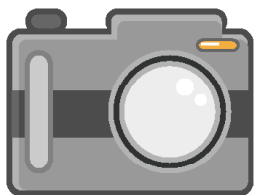
accustomed to a busy schedule again, waking up earlier than usual helps him kickstart his days and stay focused throughout them.

Consequently, it is important to remember that you can plan everything out, be as organized as possible, and possess an outstanding amount of motivation, but there will still be days where things do not go the way they are planned. Therefore, it is natural to have off days and there is no need to be discouraged. You can always get back on track.

"Even if someone says that they have their life together, 10 to 1, they probably don't. So, don't worry if you don't have yours together either," said Anthony Stampone, junior, electrical engineering major.



The Beacon's Featured Photos of the Week



PHOTOS
of the
WEEK



The roof of Rifkin Hall features elegant architectural details as sunset draws near.





Photos: The Beacon/Madi Hummer

After a week of snow and freezing rain, the sky above University Towers appears bright, blue and exceptionally clear.




The sun sets on three university residence halls on South River Street: Catlin, Rifkin and Sterling Hall.

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the BEACON



Beacon Vault: 1968 offered similar problems to today

Editor's note: This article appeared in the Jan. 12, 1968 issue of The Beacon (Vol. 27, Issue 14). The Beacon has quite the storied past. The Beacon has enjoyed many years of success, publishing continuously since 1936. The newspaper began as The Bison Stampede from 1934 until 1936 before changing names to The Beacon. Each week, we'll take a peek in the archives. Curious to see more online? Check out www.beaconarchives.wilkes.edu to dig through a Wilkes University treasure.

This week, we check out the similarities and differences between the problems of today, and the problems of 1968 on the then Wilkes College campus.

-Compiled by Luke Modrovsky, Editor-in-Chief

By Zig Pines

A university is not an army and not an industrial plant. It is an educational community and, as such, also a political community, with powers and privileges, duties and rights." With this fundamental belief in mind, uttered by Max Lerner, one of the influential intellectuals of our time, a Student Action Committee (SAC) has been organized on the College campus.

Basically, SAC is an attempt to investigate specific, disturbing social, political, and educational problems directly affecting the student; to establish a means whereby the student is given the right to probe, analyze, and act on such problems; and to establish a definite communication among the students, faculty, and Administration.

For years, the College has been faced with the dilemma of a lack of concern and respect for any form of student self-government. Look at the class meetings. Observe the campus elections. On the other hand, there have been pleas by concerned students and Administrators for student responsibility and involvement. The fact that Student Government has not immersed but only dipped itself into responsibility and actual political and educational involvement has probably caused this negative, apathetic attitude. But this year, more than ever, SG has taken the courage and initiative to act: first, through the Constitutional Convention and second, through SAC. The latter is the concern of this article.

SAC originated this year in the sophomore class as a major project in reaction to the increasingly meaningless roles of class organizations. Its purposes were the same as mentioned above with specific "major areas

of concern." Its goal was to become integrated eventually with two major organizations: the Interdormitory Council and Student Government. A critical commentary, proposing specific action, about the College scene was written by myself to the Beacon (November 3). It was followed by letters and comments by faculty members, Administrators, and students. An eight-page report was submitted to Dr. Farley by the sophomore class officers informing him of the nature and objectives of the then unnamed project. A subsequent three hour meeting with Dr. Farley and the sophomore class officers was held, followed by another meeting. In the meantime, faculty members and students were consulted for opinions and advice. General enthusiastic approval was shown in each case.

Finally, due to a recommendation by the College President, the sophomore class president approached SG and sought for a cooperative effort between the two bodies (IDC had previously been approached and gave unanimous consent) to exert pressure on various segments on campus to make student government more meaningful. Approval was given and a formalized, but tentatively named, "SAC" committee was set up, to be composed of the sophomore SG members, me and anyone interested. All proposals and actions will thus be channelled through SG.

The following are some of the indefinite proposals that will be presented and investigated upon continually with the students, faculty, and administration.

REGISTRATION - an attempt to obtain the right to know before registration the faculty members who are teaching courses. (presently being acted upon)

GRADING SYSTEM - an attempt to

reform the present limited 5-point system into a more exhaustive and definitive one. For example, a 70 would be worth a 2.0, whereas a 79 would be worth a 2.9. (Those who have been approached concerning this plan have expressed general approval.)

"CREDIT-ONLY" COURSES

Many students refrain from taking courses that they are interested in because they are afraid to affect their (cumulative average). Since the purpose of an education is to obtain knowledge and not a grade, the following idea deserves serious consideration: the possibility of students taking a "credit only" course once a year, outside their major, with a "pass" or "fail" evaluation. Such a system is quite feasible.

BOOKSTORE - If the bookstore cannot be re-located, maybe space can be conserved at the present site. Also: how about having books, magazines, and newspapers sold at the "college bookstore?" How about a used-book library?

CAFETERIAS - the possibility of having optional one, two, or three-meal ticket-plans offered to the dorm students: also investigation into the prices and problems at the Commons.

PARKING - Day students are continually talking about the old daily shuttle service being resumed in view of the current parking problems. (The administration has been contacted and seems favorable to the idea if a definite plan is proposed).

SOCIAL RESTRICTIONS - probing into the various restrictions that students feel are unjust such as cuts, dorm hours and visiting privileges, dress restrictions, etc. (The students must voice their specific complaints in this matter.)


TRI-PARTY SYSTEM - a system composed of administration, faculty, and students, with specific ratios of representation and responsibility (e.g. 7:5:4), that would cooperatively act on matters directly affecting the student. Thorough and specific consideration must be given to this plan, as proposed by Max Lerner. In view of these proposals, it must be realized that we are presently seeing the constitutional structure of the American college up-rooted, most often partially destroyed, and sometimes re-constructed for the better. Students and

scholars are in a crucial crisis in assessing their roles and responsibilities as never before. This crisis is no longer a cycle of quiet ups and downs, action and inaction. If change is not being promoted, it is now being forced. Legitimate grievances cannot be ignored. Students and teachers wish to feel that what they think is not being mocked but may become action and a part of their future.

We see at Wilkes several "planes of existence" that Henry Hewes, contemporary critic, recognizes in life. There are those who act on impulse and spontaneously to life, and, sadly too often without reflection. There are those who go with the crowd, who always agree, and who deceive themselves for selfish motives so as to avoid criticism or to impress others. There is also the plane of those who compromise in which the undesirable is tolerated rather than risk a correction. And there is the "plane of contemplation" for those who hopefully search for truth and progress. We must accept all these responses to life, whether beneficial or harmful.

I have seen those on the campus who look upon any form of student self-government with sneers, disgust, pessimism, and apathy. I have seen those who do not believe in student self-government and likewise, whether they realize it or not, in student rights. They are the passive ones who act only as parasites. Maybe they are justified in their attitudes in face of what they have witnessed. But if they are to be proven wrong, courage, reason, responsibility, and dedication must be shown in attaining our goals. We must risk corrections; we must act independently but with others; and we must yield only to reason, understanding, and truth.

I am hoping that through the Constitutional Convention and SAC, the class organizations, IDC, and SG in their attempts will engender a spirit of involvement and enthusiasm by making the educational community more meaningful to the student. I firmly believe that, in light of what is occurring on the campus now, this general goal can and will be achieved despite those few who believe not, and despite those few who hope not.

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BUFFALO CHICKEN DIP

INGREDIENTS:

One 10 oz Can of Canned Chicken in Buffalo Style Sauce

4 ounces of Cream Cheese

½ Cup of Your Favorite Cheese (Italian style used for this recipe)

Tortilla Chips of choice (Tostitos Scoops pictured here)

Optional: 1 Teaspoon of your favorite hot sauce (pictured is Frank's Red Hot Sauce)

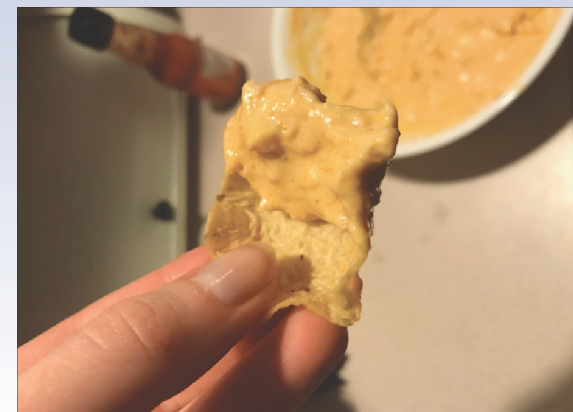
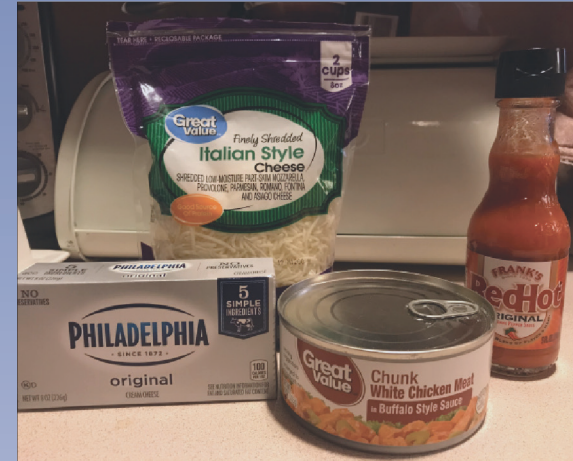
INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Open can of chicken and pour it into a large microwave safe bowl.
2. Using a fork, crush large chunks of chicken into smaller pieces.
3. Cut 4 ounces of cream cheese into smaller blocks and add to the bowl.
4. Microwave chicken and cream cheese for 45 seconds.
5. Take out of microwave and mix.
6. Add ½ cup of cheese and microwave for an additional minute.
7. If you like spice, add one teaspoon of hot sauce.
8. Enjoy with Tortilla Chips.

Jordan Fritz, *Staff Writer*



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Leahy resigns effective July 31, 2019; campus reflects on seven-year presidency

By Maddie Davis
Co-News Editor

On December 14, 2018, students, faculty and staff were notified via email that President Patrick F. Leahy would resign effective July 31, 2019. Leahy informed the Board Of Trustees of this decision prior to the announcement to the Wilkes campus.

Leahy has accepted the opportunity to become the 10th President of Monmouth University in West Long Branch, NJ.

Monmouth University is located on the northern coast of New Jersey that has a similar upbringing to Wilkes University both in 1933; first starting as a junior college, then to college, then to a university. The university houses 21 Division-I athletic teams, 32 undergraduate and 24 graduate programs.



“As we move forward, we’ll build upon the strong foundation here at Monmouth and move toward even higher levels of excellence and access. It is clear that the Monmouth community is a family. I, along with my wife, Amy, and our children, are excited to be joining this family at the Jersey Shore,” said Leahy in a press release from Monmouth University.

Leahy released his own statement on Dec 21 to tell the campus himself about his decision to move on from Wilkes. He announced a few opportunities for students to interact with him on campus before he leaves.

Over his seven-year tenure at the university, Leahy has brought a newer life to the campus and the community. Leahy and his peers are adamant about his student-focused outlook as he has put forth initiatives like the Founder’s Gala to help raise money for the First Generation Scholarship Fund for students on campus.

Another accomplishment of Leahy was his establishment of a partnership with Panama where the university welcomes students from IFARHU, MEDUCA, students who

attend Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá, and Panamanian diplomats under the Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores program.

Juan Astegiano, a Student Aid at the Office of International Engagement, works closely with different groups of Panamanian students at the University. He commented on how Leahy has also reached out to help those students in particular.

“We always felt that Dr. Leahy’s support and willingness to help and increase the international community,” added Astegiano.

President Leahy has campaigned to make the campus more diverse bringing in international students from all over the world including countries like Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, China, among others.

Astegiano is also an international student studying history, international studies and political science from Buenos Aires, Argentina.

“As an international student, Dr. Leahy always made us feel welcome, and a very special part of the Wilkes community,” said Astegiano.

“I believe that Dr. Leahy leaving Wilkes is

going to be a big loss for the entire university as well as the community of Wilkes-Barre as a whole,” added Astegiano.

Leahy’s biggest initiative for the campus was his “Gateway to the Future” plan. The plan kickstarted in 2014 and is expected to end in 2020.

This plan was initiated to strengthen the university’s academics and infrastructure, to support the local Wilkes-Barre community, and to attract, recruit and retain graduates and undergraduates.

Through this plan, Leahy and the strategic planning committee, have opened the Karembelas Media and Communication Center, reconstructed the Fenner Quadrangle, the Mark Engineering Center inside of the Stark Learning Center, and other enhancement projects.

Most recently, Wilkes University was designated as a doctoral university in the 2018 Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. Wilkes is one of 14 private universities in Pennsylvania with this accreditation.

Michele Foust, associate director of international engagement, commented on Leahy’s push to make the campus more welcoming to prospective and current students, faculty, and staff.

“He really beautified the campus,” said Foust. “He made it safer.”

Foust also commented on Leahy’s character and his accomplishments for students.

“I think he was a very great president, he brought a lot of funding not just for students, but for faculty and staff.

“I am hoping the President we get has the same youthful, go-getting attitude,” added Foust.

Dr. Anne Skleder, the senior vice president/provost also commented on Leahy’s resignation as someone who worked very closely with him since her 2014 start at the university.

She also spoke on how Leahy has impacted the campus and the Wilkes-Barre community through his seven-year tenure.



“Personally and professionally it is sad,” said Skleder. “He is a mentor to me. Over time I have grown to respect him even more and grown to work closely together with him.”

Skleder talked about how it is a great opportunity for Leahy as Monmouth is a perfect match for him because of its similarity to Wilkes.

“Institutions should not be dependent on one individual,” said Skleder, quoting Leahy’s own words. “The institution is running very strongly.”

Skleder said the university is in a better position to lose a president than we were before Leahy.

“We have President Leahy to thank and of course the campus for following and working together to meet the vision and the strategic plan goals to make it a better and stronger institution.”

Although Skleder wasn’t at the university for Leahy’s first two years at Wilkes University, she commended all of his work to improve the campus like the removal of buildings that needed to be moved, the signage of the campus, along other major accomplishments.

She also commented on how his family

have become apart of this campus either by attending different athletic events or just being present in campus itself. She said this has made a personal impact on students and staff she’s talked to on the campus.

“He brought a presence to the campus that not all presidents do,” she added. “Not all campuses have that opportunity and I’m sure he will bring that to his next campus as well.”

She also talked about how she hopes to find a person to be transparent and open, savvy, who puts students first, and to follow our university’s vision.

The Board of Trustees has the responsibility of naming the next president and have wasted no time to start that process after receiving Leahy’s resignation. They will also assign a search committee to aid them, as stated in the university’s faculty handbook.

There is no word on when this process will take place and whether or not they will have an interim president or just hire directly.



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“He brought a presence to the campus that not all presidents do.”

Opinion

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

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Our Voice

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

American arrogance: Fact or fiction?

As academics, professors and people who are influenced by pedagogy in one way or another, we all have some degree of understanding in terms of world cultures.

As children we were instructed to cut out the shapes of the seven continents and memorize which shape corresponded to what country. Some of us had diversity days or school projects that required we create a presentation on a particular culture.

At the very least, we were given a generalized picture of the history of different countries and continents in an effort to be more refined in our understanding of the world. However, what we were not given was our perceptions of different countries.

With that being said, why does it seem as though Americans are perceived as arrogant around the world? Is there any significance or truth to this idea or is it simply a misconception?

The notion of the arrogant American is one that is by no means unheard of or uncommon and is a prevailing stereotype around the world. It is also important to note that not all citizens of different countries maintain this belief.

For instance, not all Americans think the British are obsessed with tea or that Australians live in the desert so this should be kept in mind. However, what is interesting is how these stereotypes came to be?

The notion of the arrogant American is so commonplace that it bears paying attention to. In some way or another, Americans have been etched in the minds of other countries

as presumptive, rude and overbearing people. Why is this and what can Americans do about it?

According to professor Gina Zanolini Morrison, the answer is quite simple. Morrison states that "Americans--meaning those of us from the United States--, often go overseas without spending much time learning about the culture of our destinations.

So when we get there, we make cultural mistakes that are often misinterpreted in a negative way." It is then clear to see that our arrogant reputation may have been forged from our international affairs.

Having a limited understanding of the customs and practices of other countries can have a negative impact on our global presence.

In reference to whether there is truth to the notion of Americans being arrogant, Morrison states, "I just don't think that many Americans realize how their behavior is interpreted by people of other cultures, and while there may be arrogance in that ignorance itself, I honestly don't think Americans are inherently arrogant."

Erica Acosta, Wilkes University's associate director of diversity affairs has a similar perspective. "I feel like we are told at a very young age that America is one of the best countries - your dreams come true in this country so you already have that patriotism instilled in you," she said.

She also believes that "for example, when we go to a restaurant as Americans we are able to pick and choose 'OK I don't want this can you substitute it for that, we can change the

whole menu to fit a person's needs which can be rude when visiting other countries." This concept demonstrates the individuality and drive that initiated the American Revolution and our nation's independence from Britain.

This decisiveness is one of our core values which can also be perceived as arrogant in countries that value subtlety, humility and steady yet effective progression.

She emphasizes that this tendency and encouragement to take initiative "as natural born citizens or those that obtain their citizenship through other ways is one of your rights that you will gain as an American."


With that being said, what can we do to change the image of the arrogant American?

According to Morrison, one of the most effective things we can do is to research and learn about international customs.

Morrison states that "the best place to being your research is by going to our U.S. Department of State at travel.state.gov."

"Keep researching, get to know people from other cultures, listen well, and do your best to forgive yourself when you travel--because no matter how much we study cultures, we'll always make mistakes. Just treat every trip like a wonderful, new adventure and enjoy yourself!"

So when navigating the realm of international stereotypes, it is important to understand that such stereotypes are fueled by misconceptions.

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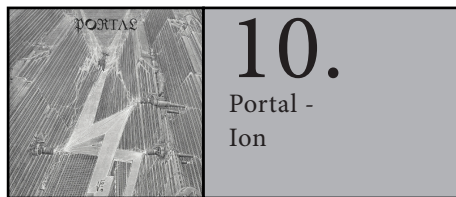
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The Top Ten Metal Albums of 2018

Looking back at last year's heaviest hits.

By Parker Dorsey
Asst. Opinion Editor

2018 was a strong year for metal music, one of the strongest in recent memory. This list had been revised about four or five times simply due to the sheer volume of quality material that was released this year. There were pleasant surprises, comebacks and letdowns. In fact, there were quite a few albums I had penciled in at the beginning of 2018 that didn't even make it to the honorable mentions (yes I'm looking at you Behemoth). Without further ado, here are the top ten metal albums of 2018.



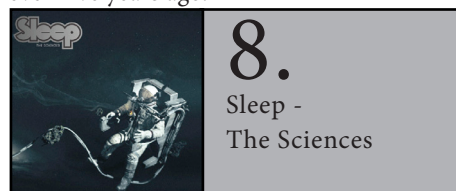
10.
Portal -
Ion

Be warned, Portal is not a band that is for the faint of heart. They are a band that have always been at the forefront of dissonant and experimental technical death metal. The tracks on Ion are intense, atonal, chaotic and terrifying. Let's make this clear: Ion is sonic noise terror. The dizzying guitar patterns resemble a blend of Gorguts' Luc Lemay and Morbid Angel's Trey Azagthoth but within a black metal- esque production veil. Without a doubt this is one the most bizarre and dynamic pieces of work of the last decade, and only its sheer auditory horror prevents it from surging much higher on the list.



9.
Ihsahn -
Ámr

This is yet another succinct release from the vocalist of legendary Emperor fame. Ihsahn's Ámr is the latest of his ever-continuing foray into modern progressive black metal (if it can even be called black metal at this point). The tracks range from expressive eight-string guitar chugs to more atmospheric piano and synth with clean guitar chords. With this also comes Ihsahn's ever more impressive vocal range. While his signature vocal laceration is on full display here, his cleans are incredibly smooth and much more polished and matured from even five years ago.



8.
Sleep -
The Sciences

Honestly, who saw THIS coming? It had been 15 years since the iconic stoner doom metal band released a record, and how clever it is to see it released on April 20. Matt Pike does a phenomenal job, with distorted, heavy and slow riffs dominating

the songs. The drums are methodically slow, lethargic and pounding, and the muddy bass is hypnotic. It's easy to lose yourself in these six songs with running times cracking the ten-minute mark, which is exactly what this type of music aims to achieve.



7.
Hoth -
Astral Necromancy

Yes, that's the same Hoth as in the ice planet from Star Wars. Yes, their logo is in the shape of a TIE Fighter. And yes, they have Star Wars-themed lyrics (subtle and vague as they may be). While their previous release Oathbreaker took an exponential leap upward in terms of progressive elements, this album returns to a straightforward style akin to their debut whilst still maintaining that same maturity and progression. The atmosphere is chilling, with Dissection- esque tremolo guitar riffs within a lo-fi album production.



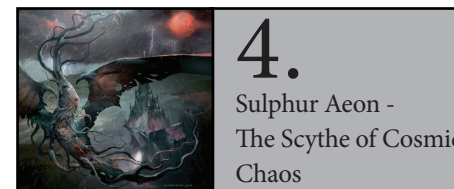
6.
Deicide -
Overtures of
Blasphemy

Holy hell. It would've been easy to write off Glen Benton and company after a string of underwhelming releases in the late 2000s, but wow, this album smokes. It is a nonstop barrage of intense riffage hell-bent on tearing out your skull. The combination of chaotic blastbeats and a faster-than-light rhythm section make this album nothing short of a true force of nature. After 30 years it is refreshing to listen to the standard-bearers of American death metal with a sense of renewed vigor and ferocity. For the first time in a long time Deicide sounds truly primal.



5.
Khemmis -
Desolation

The third album from the doom metal newcomers is a foray into a more traditional heavy metal sound and it sounds absolutely fantastic. Each of these six songs have an epic feel, with crushing riffs, hooks and melodic guitar solos peppered all over the album. The vocal department is a highlight here, with an impressive range of soaring clean vocals, black metal snarls and death metal growls. While this doesn't quite reach the lofty heights of Candlemass or Black Sabbath, it is a very good doom metal release from a band trying to push their boundaries.



4.
Sulphur Aeon -
The Scythe of Cosmic
Chaos

One of the primary reasons for the many revisions of this list was this album being dropped on the last week of 2018. The H.P. Lovecraft fanatics composed a hefty serving of abyssal death metal. The album production is fitting, with an enormity of noise that makes it seem as if you are being enveloped by the ocean itself. The instrumentation is solid across the board, with a thunderous percussion section and murky guitarwork that has just the right balance of technicality and intense riffage. This is not to mention the haunting addition of ceremonial, prayer-like clean singing on top of the booming growls.



3.
Obscura -
Diluvium

When Diluvium was first released early into 2018, my primary concern was how it was going to stack up to the other technical death metal releases that were going to be released later that year from Alkaloid, Revocation or Beyond Creation. After many listens, Diluvium was the album that I kept going back to. The compositions here are sure to inspire a legion of YouTube covers with their absurd technicality throughout the entire album. There are so many well-executed songs with massive progressive/jazz fusion influences, and they all contain

countless intricate leads, drum fills and showboats galore.



2.
Hate Eternal -
Desolate Sands

Desolate Sands is almost the antithesis of their previous album Infernus. Whereas Infernus was punctuated by precise and lightning-fast riffage, Upon Desolate Sands returns to a slower, more sludgier Domination-era Morbid Angel death metal style evoking the Tampa Bay death metal scene of the 1990s. This is an impressive album with guitarist/vocalist/producer Erik Rutan's bass-forward production resulting in a sound that is truly monstrous. These are among his most sinister and downright ugly riffs of his career, and they are almost drowned out by the unrelenting barrage of Hannes Grossman's impossible drum patterns. This is the apex of death metal.



1.
Amorphis -
Queen of Time

It shouldn't seem possible, but Amorphis released another perfect record after already releasing a perfect record, Under the Red Cloud, three years ago. Everything, from the instrumentation, to the grand pianos, saxophones, vocal choirs, is perfect. There is so much going on in this album, even for a progressive band, and every single song is brilliant. This is unprecedented for a band almost 30 years into their career. What a job.

Honorable Mentions

Alkaloid - Liquid Anatomy

Jaw-dropping progressive death metal.

Revocation - The Outer Ones

It's criminal they didn't make the final cut, but David Davidson shreds.

Monstrosity - The Passage of Existence

Brilliant return to form for a classic act.

Krisiun - Scourge of the Enthroned

Brutality. Speed. Consistency. Fantastic.

Anaal Nathrakh - A New Kind of Horror

Terrifying stuff from the industrial duo.

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Culture exposure in contemporary American society

By Zarqua Ansari
Staff Writer

I'm not the average American girl. I'm not even American-born for starters. I was exposed to American and Indian lifestyles growing up and I know the cultures of both societies.

This has enabled me to be more open-minded and considerate to others.

America is called a melting pot, yet most people in America are not exposed to as many cultures as you would expect. Learning about other cultures is a very important feature in many different areas of one's life.

For example, I was raised as an Indian-American child, as in my parents raised me as Indian, but I had the life outside of home to become American. I am capable of fluently speaking and understanding four languages.

My cognitive development was accelerated due to having a grasp on more languages. There was a study that found that people that can speak multiple languages are better at mathematics than those who speak a single language.

Learning about other cultures is not only useful, but also fun. Being exposed to

the Indian lifestyle, I have eaten some of the most amazing foods, seen some of the most festive and colorful ceremonies and I've been exposed to some quality movies, television and music.

I have taken part in different celebrations such as the extravagant weddings India is known for and I have a deep appreciation of India's society as a whole.

A better understanding and more open perspective can be applied to your personal life if you know about other cultures. I have lived whole summers in India and as much as I loved it, it made me appreciate many things about my own life.

Free public education, sanitary products, clothing and even electricity and plumbing are often taken for granted in first world countries. However, in India, I have had to tough out some pretty harsh conditions regarding those very things.

Cultural exposure has helped develop me into a well-rounded person. I am more open to trying new things than most other people. I find that when presented with an presumably odd fact about a culture I often think first what they might think of us.

I am less judgmental because I know

how different people can be. In addition, I can avoid being ignorant and offensive because I have a decent amount of background knowledge on the culture already.

Embarrassment and discomfort can easily be avoided with some knowledge of other cultures. For example, knowing that Indian people prefer closer proximity than Americans in conversation allows for you not to feel as uncomfortable if you are in conversation with someone from India.

Knowing that a thumbs up is a form of teasing in India, you know not to accidentally offend someone when you set foot in India.

The most important reason to learn about other cultures is to combat stereotypes. Stereotypes help no one. People get insulted, assumptions are made and it is all around awkward. I have been asked some very odd questions in my life.

People ask me if I shower with my hijab on of course not, it's an article of clothing, or where my red dot is-I'm Muslim not Hindu, or if I'm really good at math. I am but it's not because I'm Asian.

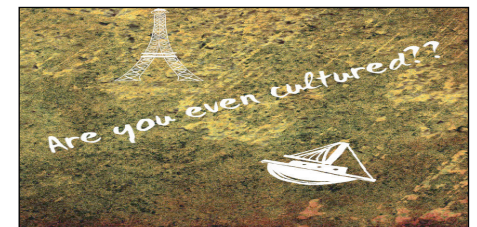
Stereotypes often mislead people. I

have been told by many people that I'm more funny, outgoing, open, free and fun than they expected me to be. This is because they filled in my character using stereotypes without getting to know me first.

To summarize, learning about other cultures is crucial. Cultural exposure enables you to have an open mind, make new friends and try new things.

You become a well-rounded and open-minded person and your curiosity can be fueled. Awkward situations can be avoided and you might even make someone feel welcome.

Learning about other cultures is important and with today's technology is easier than ever before.



Graphic by Savannah Pinnock

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How a change in your perspective can change your life

By Savannah Pinnock
Opinion Editor

What do the terms glass half empty, glass half full or rose colored glasses have in common?

Well, these terms all have to do with one's perspective and subsequently their world view.

In a world that is currently home to approximately eight billion people from all walks of life, it goes without saying that there are a great deal of perspectives permeating throughout the society.

These different perspectives have lead to contrasting philosophies, ideologies, spiritual concepts and cultural diversity. Although these streams of thought are as varied and complex as the topics you may find on "reddit", they are more alike than you think.

All of these perspectives can be compartmentalized into a glass half empty or glass half full point of view. In more refined terms, these perspectives can be lumped into the realm of optimism or pessimism.

Yes, this is good to know, but what does this have to do with you you may ask? Well a lot, it has a lot to do with you. In fact, a simple change in your perspective can change your

life and here's how.

Before delving into the how's and why's, it is essential to understand the distinction between optimism and pessimism. You can think of optimism as a perspective that

takes the silver lining into account, it is definitively positive.

Pessimism on the other hand is a perspective that is inherently negative. It is the "Chicken Little" of perspectives; the sky is always falling and there is no point in anything, yikes.

It is important to be aware of the fact that we are constantly teetering between optimism and pessimism. Some of us lean more on one end of the two extremes but nonetheless, we all teeter between them.

The problem however is that we are never completely optimistic. Embracing an optimistic worldview is one of the keys to having a rich and fulfilling life.

So, how does one go about that you may

ask? According to Amy Przeworski from psychologytoday.com, the answer is simple but requires you to retrain your brain, it's quite interesting. Przeworski suggests noticing "your negativity.

Listen to what you say and how negative it is. Track your thoughts on a daily basis and notice the negative assumptions and conclusions that you draw." She emphasizes that pointing out and analyzing your negative streams of thought facilitates the change that is needed to be an optimist.

Ignoring the elephant in the room won't make it disappear. So acknowledge your negative elephant and send it running.

Przeworski continues by suggesting that one searches "for positive aspects of situations." Remember the notion of silver linings we discussed, well this is where that idea comes to play.

It is imperative that you navigate situations



Graphic by Savannah Pinnock

by looking at the bright side. If you obtained a B on an exam as opposed to an A, pat yourself on the back; you were very close and it could have been much worse. Just try harder, you'll do even better next time.

Alongside silver linings, Przeworski recommends following in the footsteps of someone you know who seems to be the face of optimism.

We all know that person, they're always smiling, chock full of energy, ready to start the day and often than not a morning person.

When confronted with situations in life whether good or bad, ask yourself, what would they do? When you found the answer, do it.

Last but not least Przeworski advocates "Practice, practice, practice. It has taken me years of work on this and I still sometimes dip into pessimism. It took you a long time to learn negativity and will take you a long time to learn optimism."

So why not go for it, optimism may just be the key to living a more vivid and rich life. And plus, who truly desires to live their life to the tune of "The Sound of Silence", yikes.

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Meet the Majors

This week's major: Nursing

Interviews and Photos by
Savannah Pinnock
Opinion Editor

Every week, The Beacon will offer a chance for majors to be placed in the spotlight. Each student that gets chosen will have a few words to express why they chose the major and how they feel it will benefit them in the future.



Alanah Guerrero

Junior

I have always been the type of person to put others' needs before my own, and so in that sense I don't feel as if I chose nursing, rather it chose me. As a nursing major, I aspire to one day be the person who can make others feel comfortable when they are most vulnerable, by incorporating the value system encouraged by the Passan School of Nursing faculty.



Jasmine Mailler

Sophomore

My grandma got really sick and I would take care of her and it inspired me to help people. I want to be a pediatric nurse. I think it'll help me to help people to the best of my ability and that's something I'm really good at. And I think that is something that will benefit me in the future.



Victoria Kraft

Junior

I was inspired to become a nurse after watching how supportive the nurses were to my family and I when my grandparents were going through some health concerns. I believe my major will help me in the future by allowing me to help others and also by allowing me to live out a dream I've had ever since I was a little girl.



Erika Gerace

Junior

I decided to major in Nursing because I wanted to be able to help people and it would be such a rewarding job. I hope to use my nursing degree from Wilkes to further my education and specialize in pediatric nursing. My major will help me care for my family and friends in the future.

Is authoritarianism trending in the West?

By Neil Murphy
Staff Writer

The Western world has served as the center of democratic ideals, especially after World War II. Now it seems like the age-old enemy of democracy is making a comeback, and its name is authoritarianism.

Hear me out. We clearly aren't seeing the rise of a one-party state or the abolishment of presidential term limits, but there are clear signs that presidents of many western countries are dabbling in authoritarian ideals.

For instance, if you take a look at Brazil, they are about to show how democracy dies: with thunderous applause. Jair Bolsonaro, a right-wing nationalist known as the "Brazilian Trump," just recently got inaugurated as the fifth president of Brazil. He was a captain in the army during the reign of the Brazilian military dictatorship.

He often built his campaign on very

controversial opinions as being anti-LGBT, anti-climate change, etc. He especially defends the past military dictatorship. He went so far to even express the dictatorships time in power as "glorious."

In a way that can be seen as how "nostalgic" he is about the old days, he also enlisted General Antonio Hamilton Mourão as his running mate. General Mourão stated in September of 2017 that the military could seize power if certain policies were not met. This isn't a government official we should have associated with the United States.

In the United States you can see parallels with our own current government and even our president Donald Trump. I will be using a checklist published online through Princeton University, known as the "Authoritarian Checklist," which will highlight common authoritarian actions - some of which the president has done.

The first part that I want to point out will be "the persecution of an ethnic or religious minority, either by the administration or its supporters." You can see this with the policies put in place by the Trump administration, such as the border wall, the Muslim travel ban, etc.


The second I will be pointing out will be is the "loss of press access to the White House." This was clearly observed with the incident regarding Jim Acosta having to go to court to get his access back a few months ago in the White House, or even Jorge Ramos. This is because of the "fake news" stigma between all news organizations who don't sugar coat the White House.

The last one I will point out, despite there being so much more to cover, will be the "made-up charges against those who disagree with the government." When it came out that Hillary Clinton was cleared twice in regards to her email scandals, Trump still called for

her arrest and others who didn't agree with him. Another instance can be seen with his "widespread voter fraud" claims, even without evidence to back up those claims.

Now, this does not mean the citizens of the United States will wake up one day to a fascist America or see the rise of a military dictatorship in an allied foreign power. However, the individuals in office seem to be showing an interest in authoritarian actions and powers.

The best part of acting against this is to be sure to be informed on the candidates/incumbents and their plans/actions. For all we know, we may end up with a Bolsonaro running for candidacy in the United States. How can we prevent individuals who dabble in authoritarianism reaching public offices? To put it in the simplest way: vote.

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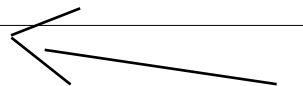
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MIH: First-year Colonels claim first place in conference

By Tyler Aldinger
Staff Writer

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. -- As many Wilkes University students are just getting back into the grind after the four week winter intersession, the men's ice hockey team got a head start, coming back early to compete during the break.

Before the break, the Colonels entered into a two-game home stretch on back-to-back days, both of which proved to be important UCHC matchups. Prior to the home games on Dec. 7 and 8, the Colonels had a 6-3 record overall and a 5-1 record in UCHC conference play.

In the first of their back-to-back contests, Wilkes fell 2-1 to Utica College on Dec. 7.

Late in the third period, forward Tyler Barrow scored the lone goal for Wilkes, tying the game 1-1. Although this sparked a momentum change for the Colonels, it unfortunately came too late into the game, as Utica was able to bury the puck into an empty net with seconds remaining.

"I think, obviously, Utica got the best of us this time," said forward Donald Flynn, using few words to describe the game.

Despite the loss on the previous day, Wilkes was able to bounce back in a memorable game at Mohegan Sun Arena, defeating Nazareth College 3-2.

Like a majority of the Colonels games played this season, their contest against Nazareth was a comeback victory. Forward Devon Schell secured the Colonels win with a late short-handed goal.

As head coach Brett Riley notes, "The big thing is how we respond. Whether we score or we get scored on, it's how we respond. We certainly responded shaky at first..."

Despite their "shaky" beginning, Wilkes ultimately came out with the victory, improving their record to 7-4 overall and 6-2 in the UCHC.

After taking some time off from competition during finals week, the Colonels returned to the Toyota Sportsplex for a non-conference matchup against Bryn Athyn College on Dec. 19.

The Colonels appeared to be shaky again at the beginning of the Bryn Athyn game, allowing the Lions several golden opportunities to an early lead. However, the

penalty kill, which has been highly praised all season, proved to be crucial to keeping the game scoreless.

With a lot of back-and-forth in the first two periods, the Colonels and the Lions traded goals, allowing the game to be tied 2-2 going into the third period.

At 1:20 into the third period, forward Angelo Marquart's first career goal broke the tie and gave the Colonels a lead they wouldn't give up for the remainder of the game. Wilkes proved to dominate for the entirety of the third period, with defenseman Michael Gurska solidifying an empty net goal to lead the Colonels to their 4-2 victory.

Following the contest, Coach Riley and

After the winter intersession, Wilkes returned to action in 2019 with a trip to Post University in Connecticut on Jan. 5.

The road trip proved to be successful, as the Colonels attained a 3-1 victory with goals by Tyson Araujo, Barrow and Marquart. Despite trailing early in the second period, the Colonels' resiliency proved to outmatch Post's, tallying three goals in the second and third periods to beat the Eagles.

After returning to Wilkes-Barre, the Colonels made their way back to the Toyota Sportsplex for a non-conference matchup against Anna Maria College on Saturday, Jan. 12.

The slow start put the Colonels behind

Anna Maria would only score one more goal, taking the 2-1 lead before the goal-hungry Colonels scored four goals in the final ten minutes of the second and third periods. Araujo kicked off the scoring for Wilkes, tying the game 2-2. Forward Wade Novak and Flynn were responsible for the final three goals of the game, propelling Wilkes to a 5-2 victory.

By the time everyone else returned to campus, the men's ice hockey team had improved their record to 10-4 overall and 6-2 in the UCHC.

Since the start of spring classes, Wilkes has played three important UCHC games, two of which were against Lebanon Valley and followed suit with the rest of their season by being come-from-behind wins for the Colonels.

The third, and most recent, game the Colonels played proved to be imperative for Wilkes' standings, as they tied 4-4 with Elmira College on Jan. 21.

The fact that the game was counted as a tie is significant, as this places the Colonels at 8-2-1 in the conference. Marking this game as a loss would have put the Colonels in flat second place behind Utica, being that the tie-breaker would go to Utica since they beat the Colonels earlier in the season. However, Wilkes' tie and Utica's record of 8-3, secures the Colonels current standing of first place in the conference.

The UCHC currently has the first-year Colonels in first place with 26 points.

Wilkes and Utica will meet again in mid-February for an important contest.

Although it seems that the game against Utica will be a deciding factor for the Colonels as far as UCHC play goes, Wilkes is approaching the rest of their competition with the same mentality they've had all season.

"To be honest, we're just taking it one game at a time. We're not trying to look too far ahead on the schedule," said Flynn.

Wilkes will compete against crosstown rival King's College at the Toyota Sportsplex on Jan. 31 at 7:15 p.m.



The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

Wilkes fell to Utica College in the final four seconds of play on Dec. 7, but tied with Elmira College on Jan. 21 to secure their first place standing in the United Collegiate Hockey Conference (UCHC) over second-place Utica.


the team took some well-deserved rest.

Riley emphasized the importance of taking a break for the players, as Barrow noted some of Riley's sentiments.

"Definitely take some time with your family and take some time off. But also do the little things, either stuff on the ice or in the weight room. The most important thing is to stay on task," said Barrow.

1-0 early in the contest, however, Wilkes' theme of responding and finding a way to win games held true in this contest yet again.

Schell scored the first goal for the Colonels, tying the game 1-1 before a lot of back-and-forth action ensued with most of the goals for the day being scored on the power play for both teams.

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MBB: Colonels look to bounce back after rough patch

By Ben Mandell
Co-Sports Editor

A season is full of ups and downs, no matter what level or sport one plays. As for the Wilkes men's basketball team, they have experienced many ups and some downs throughout their season.

The Colonels currently sit at 12-7 overall and 4-4 in the MAC Freedom. They started conference play at 2-0, but have suffered losses in three of their last four games - to King's, Delaware Valley and Eastern.

"In the Delaware Valley game, their team presented many interesting challenges for us," said head coach Izzi Metz. "They had five guys who can all pass, dribble and shoot, as well as drive to the basket. They were able to space us out, and a lot of teams in the conference have been able to do that."

Wilkes fell 99-90 in a high-scoring affair with Delaware Valley on Wednesday night and against Eastern 79-69.

The Delaware Valley game was back-and-forth early, but the Aggies were able to build a comfortable lead going into halftime. They continued building their lead to start the second half, but the Colonels surged with 10 minutes left in the game.

Rob Pecorelli and Mark Mullins started finding points in the paint and Wilkes cut the deficit down to single-digits. The Colonels got it down to as low as four points with under two minutes left in the game, but unfortunately, their comeback fell short.

"It was one of those games where we were

playing a good offense and once we got behind, we felt like we were chasing," Metz said. "This game was tough; they had answers for our runs and put pressure on our guys to keep scoring."

Things have been good for the Colonels over the first half of conference play, as they carry a .500 record. They have scored 90 plus points in four of their MAC Freedom games and are 3-1 in said games. The offense has improved for Wilkes this season and part of the improvement is the emergence of Tommy Bowen and Mark Mullins as scorers on offense.

Bowen has been having the best season of his career, and is currently averaging over 14 points per game. He also has been in double figures for points in 10 of the team's last 12 games.

"I have been working through the offense and Coach has been getting me a lot of touches down low," Bowen said. "I just let the game come to me and try not to force anything."

Mullins has been close to Senior Mark Mullins dished out two three-pointers the top of the conference in in a 99-90 loss against Delaware Valley.



The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

scoring this season and has emerged as one of the league's most dangerous weapons with his size and ability to shoot. He is currently averaging just under 16 points per game and is shooting at 46 percent from three-point land.

The Colonels currently sit in fourth in the conference standings and find themselves in position to go back to the MAC Freedom tournament.

"I feel confident in our team. We work hard in practice and do what we need to do," Bowen said. "We just have to make sure we do what we're coached to do in games and improve our defense."

Every team is going to face adversity at points in a season, and the Colonels have been struggling with it. Point guard Landon Henry hasn't played in 2019 yet, after suffering a lower body injury, and the absence has left Wilkes with one experienced point guard in Connor Evans.

The issue has really come up when Evans is in foul-trouble or when Metz wants to give him a break. The Colonels have had success with others running the point, but they are at their best with Henry and Evans.

Wilkes has arguably been in every game they lost in conference play, with exception of the King's game. DeSales handed them their first conference loss, and the game looked like it was being played between the conference's top two teams, until Mullins and Evans got into foul-trouble and eventually fouled out.

MBB, page 21



Winter Sports Schedules

Men's Swimming

*10/6 @ FDU-Florham W 152-51
10/20 @ Mount Saint Mary W 153-46
10/27 vs Immaculata W 158-25
*11/3 Lebanon Valley W 171-19
11/3 Dickson L 107-92
11/17 Diamond Invitational 2nd
*12/1 vs Lycoming W 109-96
*12/8 vs Arcadia L 183-79
*1/13 @ Misericordia W 145-112
1/26 @ Marywood L 153-73
*2/2 @ King's 1 p.m.
2/14-2/17 MAC Championships
* MAC

Men's Ice Hockey

10/26 @ SUNY Canton L 6-4
10/27 @ SUNY Canton W 7-5
*11/3 @ Elmira L 5-2
*11/9 vs Stevenson W 4-2
*11/10 vs Chatham W 8-4
*11/16 @ King's W 3-0
11/20 @ Hamilton L 3-2 OT
*11/30 @ Manhattanville W 5-3
*12/1 @ Neumann W 5-4 OT
*12/7 vs Utica L 2-1
*12/8 vs Nazareth W 3-2
12/19 vs Bryn Athyn W 4-2
1/5 @ Post W 3-1

1/12 vs Anna Maria W 5-2
*1/16 @ Lebanon Valley W 6-5
*1/18 vs Lebanon Valley W 6-3
*1/21 vs Elmira TIE 4-4
*1/25 @ Chatham W 1-0
*1/26 @ Stevenson L 3-2 OT
*1/31 vs King's 7:15 p.m.
2/2 @ Bryn Athyn 7 p.m.
*2/8 vs Neumann 5 p.m.
*2/9 vs Manhattanville 5 p.m.
*2/15 @ Nazareth 7 p.m.
*2/16 @ Utica 7 p.m.
*UCHC

Women's Ice Hockey

10/26 @ King's L3-1
10/28 vs Oswego L 5-0
11/2 vs Nazareth L 10-0
11/3 vs Nazareth L 0-7
11/10 @ Neumann L 7-3
11/17 @ Chatham L 5-0
11/30 vs SUNY Canton L 7-1
12/1 vs SUNY Canton L 6-2
12/7 @ Morrisville L 6-0
1/5 @ Stevenson L 5-1
1/11 @ Post L 3-1
1/12 @ Post L 4-2
1/18 @ Lebanon Valley L 4-1
2/6 vs Lebanon Valley 7:30 p.m.
2/15 vs Utica 5 p.m.
2/16 @ Utica 3 p.m.



MBB, from page 20

The loss to Delaware Valley seemed like another game with calls that could've gone either way or that the Colonels were just off their game.

"Our conference is very good this year and any team from top to bottom can win," Metz said. "If you don't play well, you are going to lose. For us, we win when we play well. We have also had games where we didn't do everything we needed and it hurt us. We are where we deserve to be, but we are getting better."

Looking to right the ship, Wilkes headed to Eastern, a team they beat earlier this season. Unfortunately for the Colonels, they didn't have the same luck this time around. Despite a season-high 27 points for Marcus Robinson, the Colonels didn't have an answer for the Eagles.

As a team, Wilkes shot just over 40 percent from the field, and outside of Robinson, they didn't generate much offense. Mullins and Bowen each scored 12 points, but the next highest scorer was Evans.

Austin Duncan led Eastern with 16 points and three assists. William Blet added 14 points and 10 rebounds before fouling out, while Michael Bowers contributed 13 points, six rebounds and three assists, and Brennan Kastens had 10 points in 20 minutes off the bench with four rebounds and three assists.

The Colonels have a chance to get back into the swing of things with two home games, the first against Manhattanville and the second against DeSales. Wilkes looks to take care of business and get back into the win column against the Valiants on Wednesday, then get revenge against the Bulldogs on Saturday.



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NFL: Past vs. Future?

By Ben Mandell
Co-Sports Editor

The talk of the sports world lately has been, "Can you bet against the G.O.A.T.?" As we inch closer to Super Bowl Sunday, fans of the NFL are eager to see if the league's new "Golden Boy," Sean McVay, and the Rams can prevent Tom Brady from getting his sixth ring.

Brady has made it hard for people to argue his legacy as the greatest quarterback of all time, as he appears in his ninth Super Bowl. He has helped turn the New England Patriots into the league's most successful dynasty.

Brady and the Patriots have been overlooked this season, as everyone continued to count them out because this team has been viewed as the worst supporting cast Brady has played with. His best weapons in previous seasons, Rob Gronkowski and Julian Edelman, appeared to be aging quickly. The defense is one of the worst the team has had under head coach Bill Belichick, and Brady appeared to be too old to carry a team as well.

All of that went out the window when New England blew past the Chargers, a team people viewed to have the best roster in the league. They then traveled to Kansas City where Brady outdueled likely MVP Patrick Mahomes. Edelman and Gronkowski had huge games and made big plays when it mattered to push the Patriots past into another Super Bowl.

The Rams now step into the gauntlet, suggesting that McVay and his young quarterback Jared Goff, a former number one pick, are the future of the league. The Rams hired McVay and it raised a lot of eyebrows because of his young age. McVay turned 32 last week, making him noticeably the youngest head coach in the league.

McVay's success with Los Angeles has been so impressive that teams around the league are hiring anyone who has been associated with him on the football field. He has proven to be an offensive genius and the Rams are now a hot topic around the league.

McVay and his success have come from the outstanding play of Goff, and one of the league's top playmakers Todd Gurley. Robert Woods and Brandin Cooks have also emerged as threats at the wide receiver position, and McVay's innovative thinking has teams constantly guessing how the Rams will attack them.

Belichick is still viewed as the league's best coach and his game plans for both the Chargers' and Chiefs' games have shown that he can out-coach anyone. "The Patriot-way" has proven to still work, but McVay and company are trying to make a statement. The Rams are trying to create a dynasty of their own. They think they have the coach and the quarterback to do it, now it's time to take the next step and dethrone the Pats.



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WBB, from backcover

Both Giordano's and Kelley's remarks do not seem far off from the ideals that Macciocco is working to instill, as Macciocco's remarks herself bare a resemblance to that of her players' statements.

"The team is starting to buy-in and I'm really looking forward to building on some of the successes that we have had this season and learning from our failures," said Macciocco.

However, since transitioning from coaching at Marywood University for 14 seasons, Macciocco has noted some of the adjustments that come with coaching a young team again.

"I was at Marywood for 14 seasons, so I consistently had players in the program that would help the newcomers learn my system," explained Macciocco. "This season has been a different challenge in terms of having to teach an entirely new system, get buy-in from all the players and help everyone understand expectations."

Since their victory against Delaware Valley, the Colonels traveled to Eastern University for another conference matchup on Saturday, Jan. 26. Despite the confidence boost from their most recent victory, Wilkes fell 82-68 against the Eagles.

The Colonels are set to take on Manhattanville College in their next home conference matchup on Wednesday, Jan. 30 at 6:00 p.m.

As the Colonels continue into the thick of conference play, Macciocco noted Wilkes' approach for the rest of the season, stating, "Just continue to control the controllables and get better every game."



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**Winter Sports Schedules****Women's Basketball**

11/8 @ Neumann L 85-75
11/10 vs PSU Hazleton W 93-73
11/13 vs Susquehanna L 79-66
y-11/16 @ Marywood L 82-76
y-11/17 vs #8 Scranton 69-47
11/20 vs PSU Wilkes-Barre W 89-61
11/26 @ Juniata L 89-63
12/1 @ PSU Harrisburg W 67-64
*12/5 vs Misericordia L 78-54
*12/8 @ Manhattanville L 83-50
1/3 vs Centenary W 63-51
*1/9 @ #22 DeSales L 86-46
*1/12 vs Eastern W 82-75
1/14 vs Rutgers-Camden L 90-82
*1/16 @ King's L 73-59
*1/18 vs FDU-Florham W 83-78

*1/23 vs Del. Valley W 56-45
*1/26 @ Eastern L 82-68
1/28 @ Valley Forge 7 p.m.
*1/30 vs Manhattanville 6 p.m.
*2/2 vs DeSales 12 p.m.
*2/6 @ Misericordia 6 p.m.
*2/9 vs King's 1 p.m.
*2/12 @ Delaware Valley 6 p.m.
*2/16 @ FDU-Florham

*-MAC Freedom
y-Cross County Challenge

Wrestling

11/3 @ Ned McGinley Invite 5th
11/10 @ Gettysburg Invite 2nd
11/17 @ Otterbein W 30-21
11/17 @ Averett W 27-12
11/17 @ Greensboro W 33-10
11/17 @ Bluefield W 49-0
12/1 @ Ferrum L 20-15
12/1 @ S. Virginia W 35-16
12/1 @ McDaniel W 34-8
12/8 @ Elizabethtown W 24-10
12/22 Wilkes Open
1/5 @ S. Maine W 18-17
1/5 @ #19 Stevens W 27-24
1/5 @ #25 Messiah L 26-16
1/5 @ Camden CC W 54-0
1/11 @ Springfield L 20-17

1/11 @ Ohio Northern W 31-16
1/11 @ #21 Wash. & Lee W 24-12
1/12 @ Wis.-EAU Claire W 22-20
1/12 @ Oswego W 34-6
1/27 vs Lackawanna W 36-12
1/27 vs PSU-Behrend 12:30 p.m.
1/27 vs Oneota 2 p.m.
2/1 vs Penn College 7 p.m.
2/8 @ Ithaca 7 p.m.
2/10 @ King's 12 p.m.
2/15 @ Scranton 6 p.m.
2/16 vs Keystone 12:30 p.m.
2/17 @ Futures Mid East 9 a.m.
2/22-2/23 @ SE Regionals 9 a.m.

Men's Basketball

11/13 @ PSU Hazleton W 80-60
x-11/16 vs Bethany W 88-68
x-11/17 vs Leb. Valley W 83-81
11/20 vs PSU W-B W 87-81
11/28 vs Drew L 67-65
12/1 @ Clarks Summit W 106-55
*12/5 vs Misericordia W 81-78
*12/8 @ Manhattanville W 91-87
12/18 vs Albright W 85-77
y-12/29 vs #25 Scranton L 74-64
y-12/30 vs Marywood W 74-70
1/2 @ Susquehanna L 88-64
1/5 @ Messiah W 80-73
*1/9 @ DeSales L 97-85
*1/12 vs Eastern W 94-74
*1/16 @ King's L 81-53

*1/18 vs FDU-Flor. W 96-53
*1/23 vs Del. Valley L 99-90
*1/26 @ Eastern L 79-69
*1/30 vs Manhattanville 8 p.m.
*2/2 vs DeSales 2 p.m.
*2/6 @ Misericordia 8 p.m.
*2/9 vs King's 3 p.m.
*2/12 @ Del. Valley 8 p.m.
*2/16 @ FDU-Flor. 3 p.m.

*-MAC Freedom
x-Lebanon Valley tournament
y-Cross County Challenge





Getting to know...

Tyler Barrow

Freshman Ice Hockey Player

The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week Jan. 18 - Jan. 25

Why Tyler Barrow was selected: Barrow was named both the UCHC Rookie of the Week and the MAC Offensive Player of the Week. He scored the game-winner during the 3-on-3 overtime period against Elmira, pushing Wilkes into first place in the conference.

Name: Tyler Barrow
Year: Freshman
Major: Undecided
Hometown: Massapequa, NY
High School: Saint Anthony's HS
Position: Forward

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

My decision to come to Wilkes was because of the hockey program and how Coach Brett recruited and trusted us to build something incredible.

Post-graduation plans in terms of a career?

My plans are to play professional hockey, and possibly to become a police officer, if I decide to choose criminology as my major.

Favorite building on campus?

The Marts Center. That's where it all happens - from meetings, to preparing for games, to working out and getting treatment - these are all the things you learn and use to be successful.

Favorite professor(s)?

Mr. Thomas Thomas. I learned a lot from him and will continue to stay in contact while at Wilkes.

Hopes for this season as a Colonel?

Our hopes for this season are to keep on being successful and proving people wrong, as we were picked for last place.

When/Why did you first begin playing?

I was three years old when I first starting playing. My dad said he tied up my skates and sent me on my way to see if I liked it or not - I loved it.

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

A rink on campus would be unbelievable and really cool to have.

What came first? The chicken or the egg?

The chicken before the egg, for sure.

Coke or Pepsi?

Have to go Coke; it's a classic.

Favorite meal to eat on campus?

Without a doubt, Which Wich. It just really does the job.

Most influential person in your life?

My dad. I wouldn't be where I am now without everything he has done for me.

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

Will Ferrell, for sure. He is one of the funniest people alive and has the best movies I've ever seen.

A quote you live your life by?

"Nothing comes easy; everything is worked for."

What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?

"Be Colonel" means that you are part of the school in many ways, as a student, athlete or both.

Anyone to give a shout-out to?

Always have to give a shout-out to the boys.

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...

Maddie Kelley

Sophomore Basketball Player

The Beacon: Female Athlete of the Week Jan. 18 - Jan. 25

Why Maddie Kelley was selected: Kelley had a career-high 27 points to lead Wilkes past FDU-Florham 83-78 for the first time since Jan. 29, 2011. Kelley finished 12-for-19 from the field while adding six rebounds on her career-best night.

Name: Maddie Kelley

Year: Sophomore

Major: Nursing

Hometown: Dallas, PA

High School: Dallas HS

Position: Guard

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

I chose Wilkes because of the reputable nursing program, the opportunity to still play sports, and the fact that it's really close to home.

Post graduation plans in terms of a career?

I plan to get a job at one of the local hospitals.

Favorite building on campus?

The SUB.

Favorite professor(s)?

Dr. Gutierrez.

Hopes for this season as a Colonel?

I hope to make it to the post-season MAC tournament. But, most importantly, I hope to leave the season better than we started it.

When/Why did you first begin playing?

I began playing basketball in second grade because my mom signed me up, and I've loved it ever since.

Favorite thing to do during practice?

11-man.

Other interests or hobbies off of the field?

I can't think of anything else, so I guess not.

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

I would choose to improve our consistency and how we perform on the road.

What came first? The chicken or the egg?

The egg.

Coke or Pepsi?

I'll have a water.

Favorite meal to eat on campus?

When the SUB has taco salad with the tortilla bowls.

Most influential person in your life?

The most influential person for me would have to be my sister.

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

Kim Kardashian.

A quote you live your life by?

"Live in the moment."

What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?

To me, "Be Colonel" means to be the best version of you for yourself, peers and friends!

Anyone to give a shout-out to?

MY DAWGS!

-Compiled by Kirsten Peters, Co-Sports Editor



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The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

WBB: Colonels secure win, display grit under new coach

By Kirsten Peters
Co-Sports Editor

After struggling last season, the Wilkes women's basketball team has seemed to turn their program around this season.

Under the leadership of former head coach Chris Heery, the Colonels failed to attain a single conference victory and went 4-21 overall. Despite wanting to succeed, last year's program found themselves on the losing end.

However, with the introduction of former Marywood University head coach Tara Macciocco into the Colonels leadership position, the women's basketball program has been seeing a positive turn-around.

Currently, Wilkes has an overall record of 7-11 and a conference record of 3-5. With at least seven games left in the season, the Colonels hope to keep improving and enhance their stat sheet.

As for some of their game play, the Colonels faced Delaware Valley University on Wednesday night, securing a 56-45 conference victory on their home court.

"We wanted to push the tempo and try to score in transition," said Macciocco, noting the mindset she instilled into her players prior to the game. "Defensively, we wanted to make sure we were closing out hard on their shooters."

In the first quarter, Wilkes dominated and set the tone for the rest of the game, outscoring Delaware Valley 17-6. Junior center Gianna Roberts and junior guard Alyssa Alfano proved to be key for the Colonels success, as they each tacked on five points to the home side of the scoreboard.

As for the Aggies, Lauren Moretti and Amber Grohowski were the sole two players responsible for Delaware Valley's meek six points.

On both sides of the court, foul shots played an important role in gaining ground, as the Aggies committed five fouls in the first quarter that allowed the Colonels to capitalize on their opponent's aggressive game play.

However, the Aggies were not the only side committing fouls, as the Colonels gave up 14 points of Delaware Valley's 45 to shots made at the free throw line.

In the second quarter, the Colonels maintained their lead. However, this did not go without challenge, as the Aggies gained some momentum with back-to-back shots from beyond the arc to jump start their 11-point quarter.

Despite the momentum-booster for Delaware Valley, the Colonels remained

in control. The Aggies aggressive game-play proved to be a downfall once again, as Wilkes' senior forward Ashley Caster sank a two-point shot and the and-one from the line to reassert the Colonels dominance following Delaware Valley's impressive three-point shots. Caster's three-point play stretched the Colonels lead to double their opponent's, 24-12, with 6:09 remaining in the half.

With the shift in momentum back in the Colonels favor, the scoring began to cool



The Beacon/Sean Connelly

Senior forward Ashley Caster sinks a two-point shot and the and-one from the line after being fouled to stretch the Colonels lead to 24-12 in the second quarter.

down for the rest of the quarter. Sophomore forward Gabby Smicherko finalized Wilkes' offensive efforts for the half with a three-pointer that kept the Colonels in the lead 27-17 going into the second half.

"When the whole team is on-board with the game plan, that is when we have success," said sophomore guard Maddie Kelley, who led the Colonels offense with 12 points. "This was a huge component in our win over Del Val."

Kelley's message to follow the game plan was reinforced during halftime, as the Colonels decided to adjust their approach to accommodate the strategy of their opponent.

After realizing some of the challenges Wilkes faced in the first half, Macciocco

decided to remind her players of some of the small, but crucial, elements of the game.

"Delaware Valley trapped us a bit early on, so we talked about taking care of the ball more and making sure that someone was always stepping up with their hands high calling for the extra pass," said Macciocco.

This approach proved to be successful for the Colonels, as they scored 29 points in the second half to solidify their victory.

However, the victory did not come easy for Wilkes, as the Aggies continued their

Despite Giordano's ability to get the Colonels to a 20-point lead, it did not last for long, as the Aggies shifted gears once again, going on an 11-0 run to gain control of the game.

Sarah Willis and Danielle Skedzielewski contributed nine points combined of Delaware Valley's 13 points for the quarter, challenging Wilkes' defense to get within nine points of the lead heading into the fourth quarter.

Despite improving upon their pace since returning from the winter intersession, Macciocco noted that the Colonels haven't found their defensive rhythm as easily.

"We have tried a few different strategies this season to figure out what works best for us," said Macciocco. "The defensive end is where I think we still need to get better and improve, both individually and as a team. My teams have always been known to be tough and out-work their opponents, and that strategy will never change."

In the fourth quarter, the Aggies continued to try for a comeback victory. An Emily Kutskel two-pointer got the Aggies within seven points of the lead on their first possession of the quarter.

However, the Aggies comeback came up short, as the Colonels reinforced their presence on the court. With just over eight minutes remaining, Kelley secured the field goal from downtown, giving Wilkes a double-digit lead once again, 44-32.

The Aggies were able to reduce their loss to a nine-point deficit, fittingly finishing off the game at the free throw line with Morgan Culbreath sinking her two foul shots, leaving the Colonels victorious 56-45.

As for the Colonels success, both Giordano and Kelley echoed similar sentiments.

"Everyone on the team has really bought-in to what Coach Macc and Coach Lindsay are teaching us," said Giordano. "Our coaches put us in a really good position to be successful."

Kelley reiterated Giordano's remarks, emphasizing how "buying-in" to their coach's style of play and "adapting to discipline" are key to their approach on the court, part of which allowed them to be successful against Delaware Valley.

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