

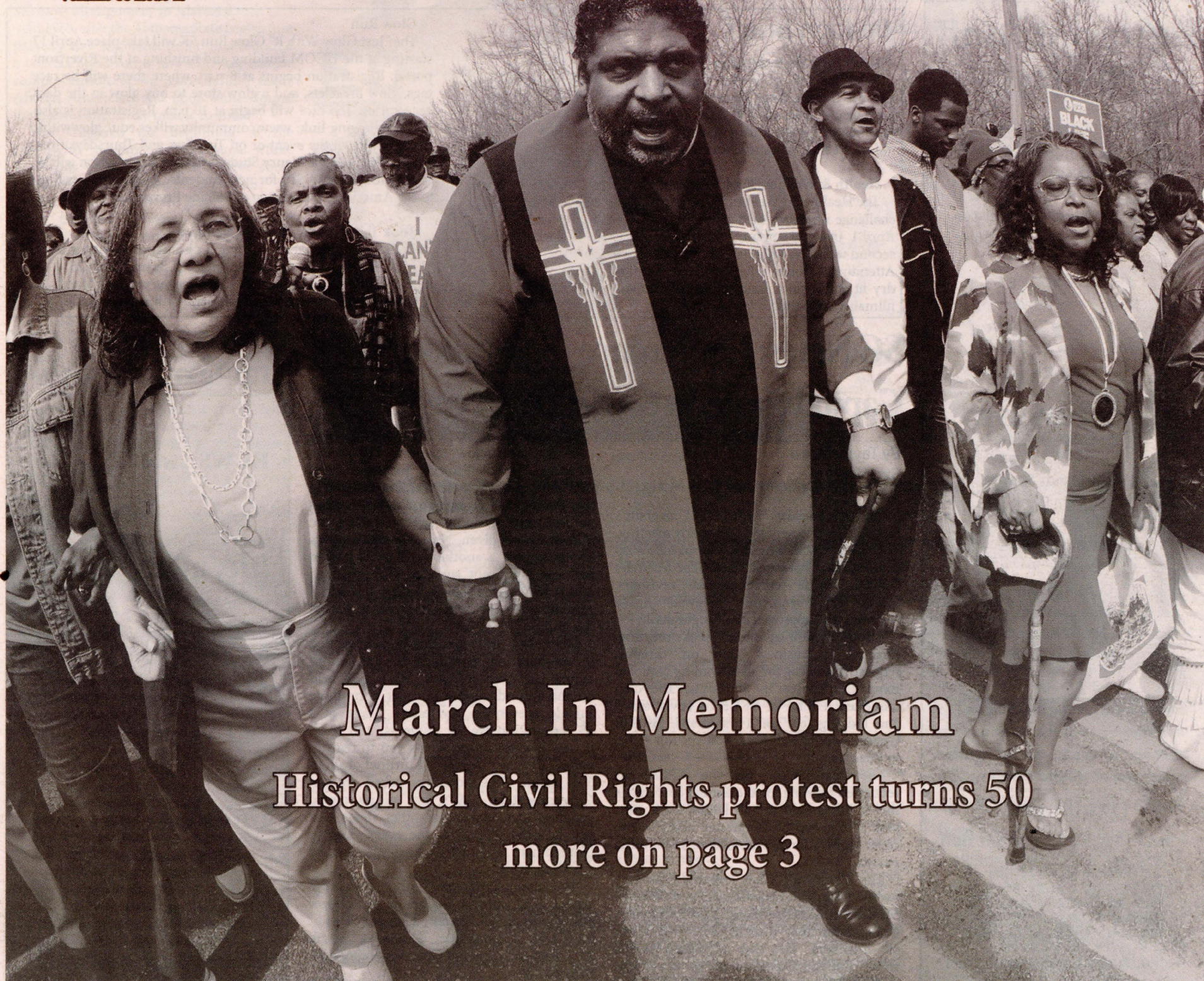
The Beacon - March 24, 2015



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THE BEACON

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.



March In Memoriam

Historical Civil Rights protest turns 50
more on page 3

Civil Rights leader Diane Nash and William J. Barber, lead marchers over the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama.

Courtesy of Jim Gavenus

News

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

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Beacon Briefs

Relay for Life: Remember

Relay for Life of Wilkes University, sponsored by Colleges Against Cancer, takes place April 18 starting at 10 a.m. on the greenway. Registration is \$10, and there will be food, games, fundraisers. Contact justin.davis@wilkes.edu for more details, or follow the link: www.relayforlife.org/pawilkes.

Health & Wellness Club Workout Challenge

The Health and Wellness Club is hosting an eight-day workout challenge weekdays at 6 a.m. in the UCOM from March 23 to April 1. Insanity workouts the first week and P90X workouts the second week (no weights). Each workout will last 40-50 minutes. Attending sessions enters students into a raffle to win a free dry-fit club t-shirt. Email michelle.kuzma@wilkes.edu or sarah.fillman@wilkes.edu.

Glow Run

The "Just Glow With It" Glow Run 5K will take place April 17 starting at the UCOM building and finishing at the Riverfront portal. Registration begins at 8 p.m. where there will be race tags, glow bracelets, and a glow store to buy glow in the dark accessories. The race will begin at 10 p.m. Registration is also at the following link: www.community.wilkes.edu/glowwithit until the day of the event or on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Henry Student Center. Registration will be \$5 for students and \$10 for non-students. All proceeds will go to the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention

Book Talk with Dr. Edward Bednarz

Dr. Edward Bednarz is hosting a discussion about his book The Journey to Discover the Meaning of Life on March 25, 4 - 6 p.m. in the Salon of Kirby Hall. RSVP for the event by March 20 to BookTalk@wilkes.edu. Refreshments will be served.

SG Notes: Conference funds allocated, Capital Projects & Glow Run week one

By Taylor Ryan
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Wilkes University's Student Government held its weekly meeting.

This week's meeting had a lot of follow up content from last week. First, The Veteran's Council made constitutional revisions. Student Government reviewed these revisions and approved all changes made.

Another follow up on last week's meeting, Enactus, a business club on campus, requested funding for an upcoming National Expo Conference in St. Louis. The club requested a total of \$1715 to cover travel and lodging fees for 11 students. Student Government moved to allocate the full \$1715 to Enactus.

The next follow up, the APhA has requested funding for the annual conference that is being held in San Diego, Calif., this year. The group has requested \$1,695.60 to cover registration and hotel fees. The motion passed.

The Chemistry Club requested funding for the American Chemical Society National Meeting conference being held in Denver, Colo., later this month. This will cover six members. The club requested \$1,500 from Student Government to cover the registration and transportation fees. Student Government voted to allocate the Chemistry Club the \$1,500.

In the last follow up from last week's meeting, Capital Projects presented part two of its budget for the year. It was decided that Student Government will not be voting on the neuro-training facility until more information is given. Next, Capital Projects also presented a another part of its budget for new Big Event supplies, the projected cost is \$642.18 for shovels, rakes, gloves and gardening sets. Student Government passed the motion.

Some new business that was presented in the meeting, pertained to the second annual Glow Run in April. This is a 5K held on and around campus in order to promote suicide prevention awareness. There is a \$5 registration fee for students, and there is now a website that allows you to register online. Last year there was a turnout of about 300 people. The requestors asked Student Government for \$2,079 that will go toward supplies, generators, and other items that will be used to put on the event. Student Government will cast its final vote at next week's meeting.

The council reviewed the Treasurer's report. The current budget is as follows: All College: \$4,724.60; General Funds: \$7,552.14; Conference: \$1,835.00; Spirit: \$1,250.00 for a Student Government total of: \$15,361.14



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March for Freedom: 50th Anniversary of Historic Civil Rights Protest

By Pat Walther
Asst. News Editor

This month marks the 50-year anniversary of the famous civil rights marches from Selma to Montgomery in Alabama.

In 1963, after the Alabama State Legislature passed a new law constitution that required a poll tax upon voting and a literacy test for comprehension of the constitution, many African-Americans and poor whites found themselves effectively unable to vote.

This triggered the beginning of the civil rights movement in Alabama, where thousands of people fought to give equal rights to disenfranchised black citizens.

Altercations began to grow more and more frequent between protestors and police, leading to numerous deaths that caused national outrage.

Then a plan was concocted. Civil rights supporters decided to march from Selma to Montgomery, the state capital, in protest of the unfair voting laws.

The first march ended on March 7, 1965, or what is known infamously throughout American history as "Bloody Sunday."

As protestors crossed into Dallas County, where Montgomery is located, they faced a wall of state troopers. Earlier in the day, the sheriff of the county issued a proclamation ordering all males over the age of 21 to report to the county courthouse. When there, they were all deputized.

Words were exchanged between a leader of the march and the commanding officer of the posse. The protestors were told to "turn around immediately." When they did not comply, officers began shoving and pushing the marchers, eventually beating them with nightsticks.

Tear gas was fired, troopers on horseback charged the crowd. Absolute anarchy reigned supreme.

After the smoke had settled, 17 marchers were taken to the hospital and 50 were treated for lesser injuries.

But the protestors did not give up. The second march was organized for March 9.

Rev. Martin Luther King led 2,500 people into Dallas County before turning around in respect of a court-order which prevented them from doing the full march.

After Lyndon B. Johnson promised King to protect the protestors with troopers and guardsmen and a federal judge came to the conclusion that the protestors were exercising their First Amendment rights, thereby overruling any court-order, the protestors went back to it.

The third march began on March 21.

Led by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and numerous spiritual leaders, the march commenced with close to 8,000 people



Courtesy of Jim Gavenus

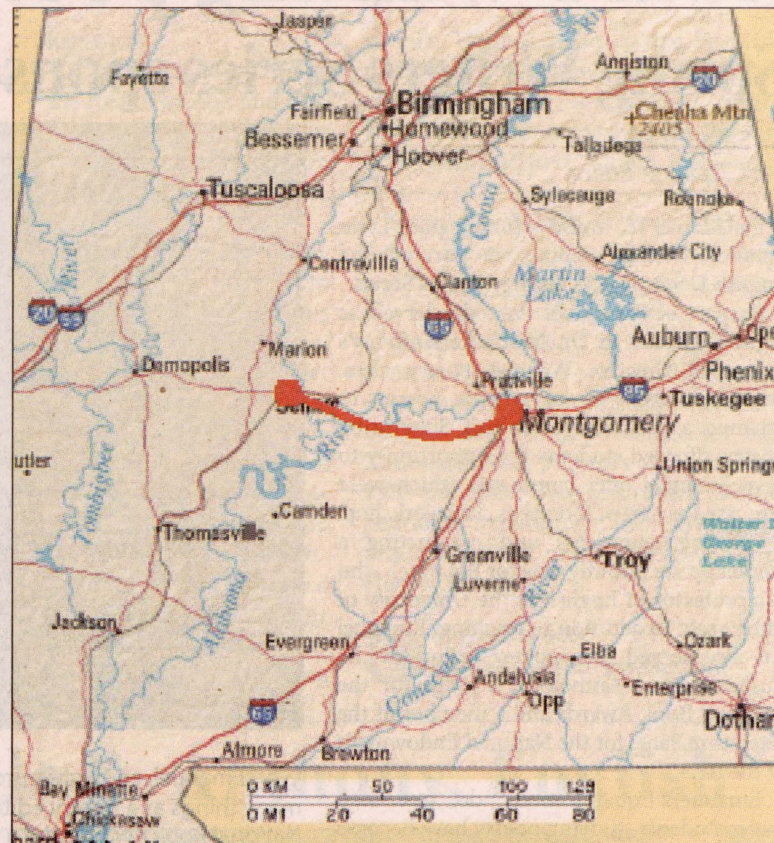


Illustration by Pat Walther

On left, marchers hold up a sign of MLK during the 50th anniversary of the march to Montgomery. at right, a map denoting the protest route.

ready to take up the trek.

When the nearly 25,000 civil rights supporters arrived in Montgomery on March 24, they took a day to organize on the outskirts of town. Finally, on March 25, they stepped foot on the Alabama State Capital Building. It was there that King delivered one of his most famous speeches.

Known now as "How long, not long," the words still echo forth today.

"Once more the method of nonviolent resistance was unsheathed from its scabbard, and once again an entire community was mobilized to confront the adversary," King spoke. "And again the brutality of a dying order shrieks across the land. Yet, Selma, Alabama, became a shining moment in the conscience of man. If the worst in American life lurked in its dark streets, the best of American instincts arose passionately from across the nation to overcome it."

This protest march is important to this very day. Though it may be overshadowed by the movement itself, it stands as seminal act that defines the turbulence of the time period.

"The cultural significance is enormous--finally the country and the world were

waking up to the lack of justice and freedom in the U.S. South. Black citizens had stood up for themselves--in the face of grave danger--and peacefully demonstrated for their rights, equality, and justice," said Dr. Diane Wenger, associate professor of history at Wilkes University.

On March 7, 2015, the 50 year anniversary of Bloody Sunday, President Obama and numerous political activists came together to reenact the historical event.

In a speech, President Obama noted the importance of the march.

"[Selma] is instead the manifestation of a creed written into our founding documents: 'We the People...in order to form a more perfect union.' 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal,' Obama spoke.


He continued, "These are not just words, they're a living thing, a call to action, a roadmap for citizenship and an insistence in the capacity of free men and women to shape our own destiny."

Jim Gavenus, a Kingston resident and internationally known documentary photographer, was at the scene of the reenactment. Gavenus attends the

anniversary celebrations regularly and has gotten to know quite a few of the original protestors, many of whom provided some insight into their actions. His work documenting the civil rights movement is featured in the National Voting Rights Museum in Selma.

"They were looking to change the world, not for themselves, but for their children and grandchildren -- for everyone," Gavenus said..

Jim Gavenus is the keynote speaker for the 15th annual Tom Bigler Journalism Conference slated for April 10th at Wilkes University. For additional info contact kalen.churcher@wilkes.edu

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Award-winning poet Lynn Emanuel guest lecture

Spring Writers Series sponsored by Allan Hamilton Dickson Fund

By Sara Pisak
Asst. Opinion Editor

On March 16, award-winning poet Lynn Emanuel visited campus as part of the English Department's Spring Writers Series.

As part of Emanuel's visit, she served as a guest speaker in Dr. Mischelle Anthony's Advanced Creative Writing, Poetry class. Students were able to submit poems to Emanuel a week before her visit. Submitting poetry afforded students the opportunity to have Emanuel offer comments which were discussed as part of Monday's class workshop.

Offering comments and conducting a workshop are nothing new for Emanuel, who is a professor of English at the University of Pittsburgh. In addition to teaching, Emanuel has also served as a poetry editor for the Pushcart Prize Anthology, a judge for the National Book Awards and a member of the Literature Panel for the National Endowment of the Arts.

Emanuel's qualifications do not stop there; students studying poetry have become familiar with her work from her four published books of poetry. She spent the class time leading group discussions which focused on the students' submitted poems. The class began with Emanuel stating each of the students' poems, "occupies a distinct voice with no cookie cutter format or copy-cattng of each other or a favorite poet." As the class and Emanuel discussed the works, the differing topics and varying styles led to a wide range of topics being examined.

A major topic of class discussion focused on the revision process. As many authors find revising difficult, Emanuel cautioned



The Beacon/ Rebecca Voorhees

Lynn Emanuel, an English professor at the University of Pittsburgh, has accomplished many things as a poetry editor for the Pushcart Prize Anthology, a judge for the National Book Awards and a member of the Literature Panel for the National Endowment of the Arts.

"revision isn't about dissolving a poem to sand." Instead she advises the best way to revise can be to write a completely new poem.

Each student received possible points of revision from Emanuel on their submitted pieces.

Students also conversed on the ideas behind imagist poetry. "Sometimes poetry does large things in small spaces," she said.

Through work-shopping Emanuel expressed that when working with imagist poetry the concept focuses on employing

sounds and images to draw a reader to conclusions about the work. Often imagist poems lack a concrete time and place as a traditional setting. Using specific lines from their classmates' poetry, students offered comments on their beliefs of the ideas represented through the imagist poems.

The class visit offered students unique insight into an admired author as well as invaluable feedback on work from a professional.

"It was very cool to meet someone whose

poetry we read and especially to have her read our work," said junior English major Gabriella Romanelli. "She [Emanuel] came into class as someone who is extremely down to earth."

Students departed the class with insight into furthering their writing techniques as they travel on the road to becoming more experienced writers.

The Spring Writers Series is sponsored by the Allan Hamilton Dickson Fund.

The next featured writer for the Spring Writer's Series will be Henry Veggian. Come see Veggian at 7 p.m. on April 9 in the Kirby Salon.



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Writer's workshop speaker offers advice to aspiring publishers

By Sara Pisak
Asst. Opinion Editor

After serving as a guest speaker, Lynn Emanuel also spent time speaking to students one on one during a writer's workshop.

Emanuel answered questions about her experience as a writer and her career as an educator. As for when Emanuel knew she would pursue a career as an author, she expressed, as an undergraduate in the English department, English was not viewed as a profession for which you could train individuals, unlike departments now.

Emanuel fell in love with the idea of a career in English when the newer theories of writing and literature came to the forefront.

She described how she earned her doctoral degree in English by alternating semesters teaching at the University of Pittsburgh and completing her degree at the University of Iowa.

Emanuel also spoke about the pros and cons of Low Residency Master's programs in English/Writing. She informed students of the positive attributes associated with publishing work as the result of successful completion of a master's program.

Many creative writing students use the process of writing and revision to work toward a goal of publishing. She offered valuable advice to those seeking to publish their work.

"(C)ontinuously work on the craft of writing," she counseled.

Emanuel further elaborated on the progress of having a work published by affirming, "It all depends on the work itself."

Emanuel spoke about creating the best and most concise work to send to editors and judges. She elaborated even though works chosen often match editors' and judges' personal styles, working to improve writing always produces the greatest chances of being selected.

On advice for judged and editorial contests, Emanuel said that before submitting to ask yourself, "Do I love the author's [who is editing] work?"

For those in creative writing looking to break into the world of publishing, Emanuel's advice is instrumental. Offering students advice based on her personal experiences of publishing and serving on editorial boards provided students the opportunity to gain a glimpse into the world of submitting and publishing work.

After the workshop, Emanuel held a reading of her works. Her day on campus concluded with a book signing for those in attendance.



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March marks Women's History Month: Two professors reflect on women's roles

By Gabby Glinski
News Photographer and Staff Writer

Every March is dedicated to the recognition and appreciation of women's history. While the recognition of Women's History Month seems enough to appreciate it, women's views and feminist views are still in need of being included in everyday life to fully understand the importance of women.

"When you shift history around and you start to look at it through women's eyes or how it affected women or how women effected it, you get a whole different slant on it than if you looked at [history] in the traditional way," said Dr. Diane Wenger, and associate professor of history at Wilkes. Wenger teaches American women's history and specializes in the history of women.

Feminism holds strong ties with Women's History Month. Wenger said she tries to incorporate feminism into her everyday

teaching.

"What I try to do is show students how few rights women had. I think once we show what women did not have, then feminism doesn't seem like that radical of an idea."

The true meaning and theories of feminism are often hidden under harsh stereotypes. Dr. Mia Briceño, an assistant professor of communication studies at Wilkes University, states her definition of



Graphic by Moe Woodard

feminism.

"It's about emphasizing the role of gender and how it potentially constrains both men and women in their daily lives, culture, and society."

While there are many progressive attributes to Wilkes' culture, including the recent addition of a Women and Gender Studies minor and the Wilkes Safe Space, there are many more things that can be done to promote Women's History Month and its theme of feminism.

Wegner discussed having more programming on campus pertaining to celebrating and protecting

women. Wegner disclosed that establishing markers for local successful women and creating Wilkes scholarship programs would be a good way to establish the themes of Women's History Month into everyday life.

Briceño and Wenger hope that in the future, Women's History Month, feminism, and the recognition of women's success will play a larger role in the main curriculum of all education levels.

According to womenshistorymonth.gov, Women's History Month was founded in 1987 after being petitioned for by the National Women's History Project. Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional petitions requesting the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month.

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Profile of a Professor: Dr. Mischelle B. Anthony, English

By Toni Pennello
Staff Writer

Dr. Mischelle B. Anthony is an associate professor of English at Wilkes. Her teaching focuses on 18th century literature, early American literature, Gothic and sentimental fiction and poetry.

She teaches courses ranging from first year to senior courses and capstones, specializing in writing, poetry and literature.

Anthony is originally from the small town of Luther, Okla.

"We had no stoplights and more cows than people," she explained.

She earned her Bachelor's degree from The University of Central Oklahoma, and her PhD from Oklahoma State University.

As an English professor, her favorite part of teaching is "discovering student's responses to the reading. Seeing into students' heads."

Originally, Anthony planned on becoming a child psychologist.

"I'm actually a practicum away from a Master's in psychology.... I looked at my final year of coursework and realized that I didn't want to do that," she said.

Between the mass of statistics courses and a personal aversion to some beliefs in the field, she decided that psychology was not the best choice for her.

"The DSM freaks me out," she explained, referring to the Diagnostic and Statistical

Manual of Mental Disorders. "At that point homosexuality was still in it - when I was in school it was still considered a disorder."

Reading and writing was always a great love of Anthony's, but she did not consider it as a career path until a friend of hers suggested it.

"I switched to English and this whole time, that was 20 years ago, I still can't believe that I get paid to do this work. I'm very fortunate."

Among other things, she is a published poet and the president of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) at Wilkes, but as her most valued accomplishment Anthony points to earning her PhD.

"I realized that was the first thing in my life that I received that no one could take away from me... I knew that no matter what happened to me, no matter what choices I made in my future, I would always be a doctor. I would always be a researcher, and I had that under my belt. That meant so much to me."

This great pride is what makes the field of education so important to her.

"I knew I'd worked hard, and it was so rewarding for me. I wanted to share that with other people. It's such a great life."

Anthony is a strong advocate of Women's History Month.

"There's a lot more acceptance of things that, I would say, even five years ago we



The Beacon/Gabby Glinski

Dr. Anthony reflects on her past career goals explaining that education was the best choice for her as it has proved to be so rewarding.

were't talking about so much, or there would be someone in class who would be uncomfortable with talking about these issues... it seems like people are becoming much more educated about these things. But gender is still the one that people can't see around so much. It's so embedded."

She seems to feel that gender inequality is still an issue that needs to be addressed.

"Even in this higher education workplace,

I still see issues with gender. I think we do need Women's History month, and I'm glad we have it."

During her free time, she likes to read poetry, fiction and the New York Times, as well as listen to jazz and blues. She also likes to garden and relax with her cat.

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Human trafficking lecture brings awareness to timely issue

By Alyssa Mursch
Asst. Social Media Director

Every 30 seconds, someone becomes a victim of human trafficking. Human trafficking involves the buying and selling of human beings as if they were commodities.

On March 17, Emily Pasnak-Lapchick came to Wilkes University to spread awareness and encourage students and faculty to participate in taking action to end child trafficking.

Pasnak-Lapchick is the End Trafficking Officer at the U.S. Fund for UNICEF where she leads a national awareness and advocacy campaign about this matter.

She informed the university about child trafficking and the lack of awareness that surrounds it, as most people are focused on drug trafficking instead. However, human

trafficking is more profitable than drug trafficking as humans can be resold. For example, a trafficker can profit up to \$250,000 per year from just one girl.

Pasnak-Lapchick argued the problem is increasing because there is not enough public outcry to take steps toward ending it. Also, police are more focused on prosecuting the victims of these crimes rather than the traffickers themselves, even though more times than not, their career in prostitution is not their choice.

More often than not, people become subject to trafficking because they are offered jobs under false pretenses, causing them to believe that they are legitimate. Once wrapped into the job, they are exposed to the world of trafficking and it is too late to turn back.

So what can an everyday citizen do?

Anyone is capable of advocating stronger legislation, addressing the objectification of women and children, spreading awareness, and learning signs to recognize a victim of human trafficking.

When looking for subjects of human trafficking, there are signs that can help. A child that is being trafficked knows little about his or her whereabouts, works excessively long hours, exhibits fear or anxious behavior, was hired with false promises, and has inconsistencies with his or her story.


Anyone can fall victim to trafficking, but children who are abused, homeless, a runaway, or in foster care are especially vulnerable. Within 40 hours of running away or becoming homeless, 1 in 3 will be solicited for sex. Women and children are even being sold on Craigslist.

Many people have the misconception

that trafficking is strictly found in other countries, when in reality this problem has been reported in all 50 U.S. states. One incident was especially close to home, right here in Wilkes-Barre.

According to the Times Leader, four years ago, federal prosecutors targeted five massage parlors, including one on North River Road in Plains Township, in a human trafficking scheme involving Asian woman forced into prostitution. This is one example of how close to Wilkes' own campus the problem has occurred.

To report a potential case, get information, or request training, call 888-373-7888. It is 100 percent confidential, and interpreters are available.

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Neuroscience minor to become major this fall

By Alyssa Mursch
Asst. Social Media Director

Starting next fall, Wilkes students will have the option of declaring a major in neuroscience.

"Neuroscience is the field that studies the nervous system, mostly focusing on the brain and spinal cord," said Dr. Edward Schicatano, associate professor of psychology.

Wilkes currently offers a neuroscience minor, which has been successful and typically encompasses about 40 students.

"The design of the program is really for students who intend on going to graduate school, whether that be in a neuroscience graduate program or something in the

health sciences," Schicatano said. "The curriculum is designed so that they could easily go on to these programs."

From a student standpoint, freshman Lauren Evans explained why this major, which she will be declaring in the fall, will put her at an advantage for her post-college plans.

"My plan for after my four-year degree would be to go to chiropractic school, and because chiropractic [medicine] deals with the spine and manipulating it, which holds the central nervous system, I really think it would benefit me in the long run to have a degree in neuroscience," Evans said.

This major will entail neuroscience courses, psych methods courses, basic science classes, and will also include performing research in

psychology.

As research is a large part of neuroscience, there needed to be enough resources and opportunity for students to engage in it before the major could be brought to the university. One main way that students will be able to do their research is through the upcoming neurotraining and research center.

"The center uses cutting-edge neuroscience techniques like neurofeedback. The goal is to use these techniques to help people with stress management, attention focus, energy, and overall emotional regulation," Schicatano said. "We are the only university in the nation with a neurotraining center."


Also coming in the fall, the neurotraining and research center will be located in Breiseth Hall and available to any student, faculty and

staff for free. It will provide neuroscience students with research, work, and internship opportunities.

"I've always loved application more than straight memorization," said Evans, regarding the research aspect of the major.

"If you're really interested in what controls your behavior and your thinking, then you probably want to understand the brain, and neuroscience is the study of the brain," Schicatano said.

For more information about this upcoming major, contact Dr. Edward Schicatano at edward.schicatano@wilkes.edu.

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Sen. Tom Cotton's 'Letter to Iran' and the Logan Act

By Pat Walther
Asst. News Editor

On March 9, Sen. Tom Cotton of Arkansas wrote a letter without President Barack Obama's knowledge addressed to the nation of Iran. Signed by 47 of the Senate's 54 Republicans, a large outcry came by way of the American public and news-anchors for their actions.

The letter was in relation to the Obama administration's ongoing nuclear-proliferation negotiations with Iran. The letter said, in effect, that any deal struck by the president with Iran can easily be overturned by a potential future Republican administration. Many believe the Republican

senators were overstepping their boundaries by interfering with foreign policy, while others have praised Cotton and his compatriots for their bold actions.

Within hours of the letter's release, news-media outlets were claiming that it violated a little known part of the Constitution called "the Logan Act."

What is the Logan Act?

As explained by Chris Lombardi in an article for Philly.com, "The law, passed by Congress and signed by President John Adams in 1799, prohibits unauthorized people from negotiating with foreign governments. Violating the act is a felony, and anyone convicted under the statute faces a three-year prison sentence."

Legal experts are quick to mention that since the passing of the act over two centuries ago, nobody has been prosecuted under it. What isn't often mentioned is how this act came into place.

When Philadelphian George Logan went overseas to France to discuss diplomatic relations in 1798, it caused a good amount of criticism. This was during a conflict known as the Quasi-War by historians. Fought predominantly between France and the United States, it started because of French privateers seizing American shipping vessels.


John Adams, who was president at the time, attempted to negotiate with France but was met with no response. So it was, John Adams rescinded all treaties in place with

France. Numerous naval battles followed.

George Logan, though not in violation of any laws, was not in any position of power to negotiate with a foreign entity. An amendment was passed shortly after to prohibit any private citizen from ever doing anything of that nature again.

Though France and the United States came to a peaceful resolution and Logan did no lasting damage, the law is still in power today.

As for the 47 GOP senators, it's doubtful any will be prosecuted due to the stand down nature of the law itself.

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Life, Arts & Entertainment

Have a story or want your event to be featured? Contact the Life, A&E Editor: Nicole.Zukowski@wilkes.edu

Diversity smiles in the form of electronic Emojis

By Austin Ely
Staff Writer

Apple, the company that revolutionized our technological age, has done it again. This time they are including all skin tones to the equation by introducing some new emojis.

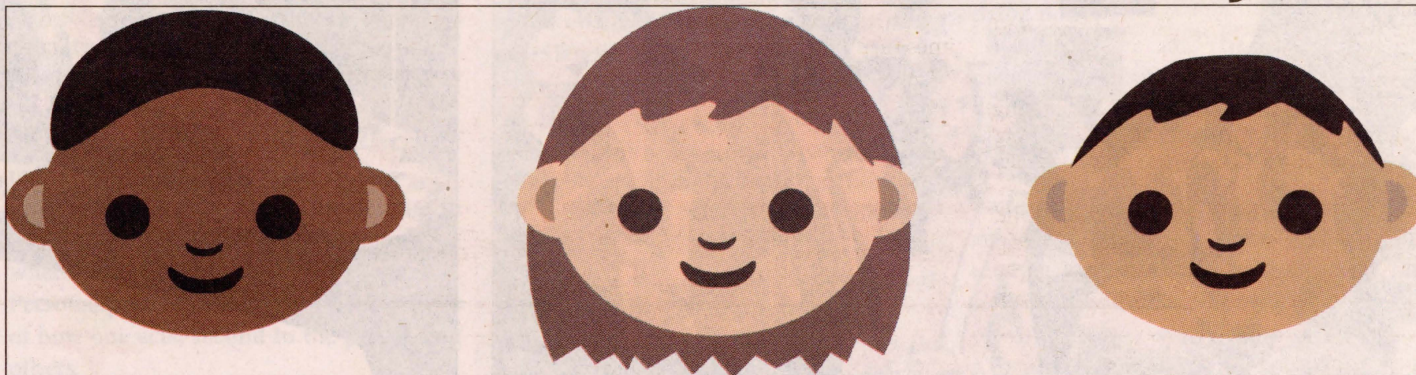
Originally from Japan and first called "smileys," emojis have provided society with a new way to communicate in social media, texting, emailing and so on. Emojis can be used in the place of words to express how someone may feel or interprets something.

"I always think it's a good idea to acknowledge diversity in every aspect of life," Dr. Gina Zanolini Morrison, associate professor of history and global languages, said.

"Not only is it a smart move for Apple, commercially, but it's great for a company this important to realize that so far the default icon has been white, Eurocentric."

Emojis aren't faces of expression however; they are all pictures that identify with different things.

For example, an emoji of a person smiling may symbolize happiness, an emoji of a clock may symbolize time, an emoji of a heart may symbolize love and an emoji of a moon may



The Beacon/Nicole Kutos

When using emojis, one could express feelings in their message. The new updates for the Iphone now include diversity.

symbolize nighttime.

Apple was not the first company to use emojis or smileys in their software however. According to iemoji.com it was actually a Japanese mobile phone provider called DoCoMo i-mode who came up with the idea and have since integrated emojis in mail and web service in all mobile carriers in Japan.

Smileys in Japan soon turned to smileys everywhere when The Unicode Standard was released, which contained over 100,000 different characters that can be used as text. This standardization allowed for emojis to be

used elsewhere in companies such as, Apple, Google, and Samsung.

Morrison not only spoke on Apple, but she included all companies when she went on to say, "Now, if only all companies, including textbook companies, could take a good look at their products and work on recognizing how Eurocentric common products are, we'd live in a more realistic, more inclusive world. We'd all have a lot more choices."

With an upgraded emoji line-up the potential issue of appropriate use should be considered.

"One thing I can say is that I believe that it is easy to be offensive and to feel offended when using electronic communications," said Executive Director of Diversity Affairs, Georgia Costalas, "but intent is harder to discern."

Texting may already be difficult for some because messages can be interpreted differently and in some instances people can be offended. The question is whether these emojis are exceptions to this issue of electronic communication.

Thrifty Business: 'Ballin' on a Budget'

By Josephine Latimer
Staff Writer

Thrifting. It's a word many college students have become incredibly familiar with.

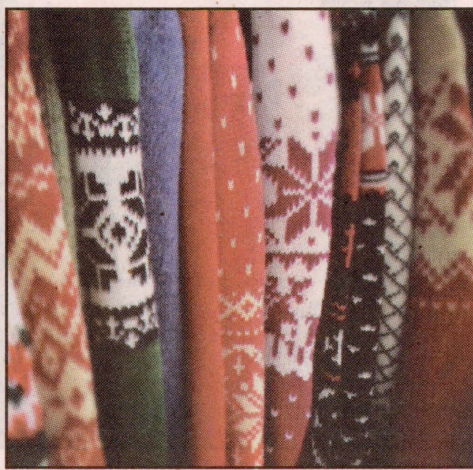
Whether it's someone telling their friend how they got pieces and parts of their outfits from the local Salvation Army, or if it's heard in passing conversation, thrifting is being discussed among groups of eager college students.

The act of thrift shopping has become a way of life for many college students, but why has it become such a phenomena recently?

The thought of thrift shopping did not cross many people's minds too long ago.

It was once regarded as a last ditch effort to find something remotely nice looking, but now? College aged people flock to thrift stores.

Sam Szura, a freshman nursing student, weighs in on this. "I think it's cool that you



Courtesy of Creative Commons

Second-hand stores are a cheap way of expanding one's closet

can go around and find vintage stuff, it's unique."

Szura raises a point; Going into a thrift store, there's always that air of mystery, an ambiance that is lacking in a corporate clothing store.

From clothes to knick-knacks to furniture, one can expect a wide variety.

Another reason people frequent thrift stores might be the cheap prices.

Going to the mall is discouraging; especially when there's only \$15 dollars in your wallet and that sweater is \$27.99. In a thrift store, there could be a sweater with an uncanny resemblance hanging on the rack for only \$4 dollars.

Rather than being sad over the overpriced sweater, one could be overjoyed about getting a similar piece of clothing for much less.

Low prices are the perfect way to lure in the college crowd. There's nothing better

than the feeling of not spending as much money as one anticipates.

There's also a thrill involved with thrifting. There's a history to the things one buys, it hasn't been mass manufactured, starched, void of life.

There's character in the clothing, in all things nestled in a thrift store. The items have personality, something one can't find in a brand new sweater.

Thrifting is an adventure, the act of going to the store, not knowing what one might find especially appeals to the younger crowd.

Cost efficiency and exploration mark the exhilaration college aged adults find in thrifting, not to mention escaping the cookie cutter department store stigma.

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Everyone is a Wilkes all-star at VIP Day



The Beacon/ Gabby Glinski

Wilkes hosted a VIP Day for all accepted students for Fall 2015. The event was a chance for them to experience a day on campus and take a interactive tour.



The Beacon/ Gabby Glinski

Many accepted students showed up to explore Wilkes University on Sat. March 21. They were able to get a feeling for the campus environment and all the diversity Wilkes has.



The Beacon/ Gabby Glinski

In the Ballroom of the Henry Student Center were tables where accepted students could browse, pass and stop to ask questions about the types of clubs Wilkes has to offer.



The Beacon/ Gabby Glinski

Any questions from accepted student were welcomed at the many information tables set up.

She said, He said Gendered Drinking in Social Situations

By Nicole Zukowski
Life, A&E Editor

In the late college years of one's life, the bar is a place to catch up with old friends or make new ones. It is also a place of judgement - judgements of appearance, behavior and passing judgements as far as criticizing one for their drink preference.

"I usually only see when a girl will, unexpectedly, buy a beer. When this happens, other girls tend to judge by saying phrases such as, 'ew, you like beer?' to that girl," Jennifer Magnotta, junior communication studies major said.

The judgement does not stop there either. Magnotta adds, "Even though you didn't ask for her opinion, then she goes on to tell you why she doesn't like beer."

Society had shaped a gendered stigma of who should consume what drinks. The term "fruity drinks" seems to be interchangeable now with the term "girly drinks".

"In society, beer is masculine and fruity cocktails are feminine," Magnotta said.

Context.com describes "girly drinks" as being fruity, sugared rimmed and colorful cocktails.

This stigma of gendered drinks is relevant at the bar, but in the college setting there is one thing that can overcome the judgement: money.

Cocktails usually cost more than beer.

"It depends on how I'm feeling, if I want a fruity drink or a just a glass of beer," Magnotta said. "It mostly depends on how much money I have."

College is a time where the scarcity of money controls what you do.

There is also a change happening in college setting of a reinterpretation of what is masculine and what is feminine. Personal preference now is a leading force of how one acts, second to the pressure of others.

"I see girls order fruity cocktails a lot, but I also see them buy a pitcher of beer. I really think it depends on what your flavor preference is," Magnotta said.

Whether you are a shot of whiskey kind of girl or a Mai Tai drinker, choosing what one drinks should be entirely up to the consumer and free from the idea that the drink should be gendered.

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By Justin Topa
Asst. Life, A&E Editor

As warm weather starts to set in and many seem much more inclined to imbibe, some may notice differences in the way males and females handle social drinking experiences.

Everal "Ben" Eaton is a senior within the Department of Psychology at Wilkes University. While Eaton dedicates most of his free time during the warmer months to outdoor activity, he said he typically visits the bar once or twice weekly. He typically patrons Rodano's, the Woodlands and bars local to him, as he is a commuter.

"I tend to go out with a mix of males and females," said Eaton. "I usually go with one or two people and end up running into quite a few friends while I'm out."

The senior psychology major tends to drink rum-based mixed drinks or lagers, but says he sees most guys ordering a wider array of beers and mixed drinks. While he has heard past generations criticize the drinks males choose to order, he feels this is no longer a timely concern and said he does not hear neither positive nor negative feedback.

"Honestly, that's something I heard from my parents more than from my generation," said Eaton. "I have ordered what some may consider 'girly' drinks and was never harassed for it. I think it's a dying notion."

While Eaton said he does not see instances of criticism in regards to the drinks he or others consume, he does feel pressure to drink larger quantities.

"When I do go out, I feel a sort of underlying pressure to drink large amounts," explained Eaton. "There isn't really a particular person that makes me feel this way. Rather, it is more of a societal pressure. When you're in your twenties, it is alright and expected to drink larger amounts."

Eaton does not see this societal pressure in the way males are expected to dress while socially drinking, contrary to the pressures many women report to feeling.

"Usually when I go to the bar, it's after a long day of school and work. The last thing I want to do is dress up to go to the bar, so jeans and a hoodie it is for me," said the senior. "For the men who do 'dress up', the code seems to be jeans and a button-down flannel. It's nothing too outrageous."

Eaton said he feels that many proposed gendered schemas involved with nights out at the bar might not be as prevalent in the millennial generation. He does note, however, there may be a few instances where gender might still play a role.

"If you are in a relationship, the guy might pay for the cover or for a drink or two and, at the end of the night, it's typical to make sure your female friends have someone to walk them home," he explained. "Other than that, there aren't really too many situations that come to mind."

Editor's Note: The Beacon does not support underage or excessive alcohol consumption.

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Photo Illustration /Nicole Zukowski

People who drink in social situations have the added burden of choosing a drink that people will not criticize them for. Whether you prefer a shot of whiskey or a glass of fine wine, the choice of drink one orders might make a bad impression on those around.

Dancing from the heart with school spirit

By Jackie Kurovsky
Staff Writer

"Dance is the hidden language of the soul," says the quote by dance pioneer Martha Graham.

This holds true for members of the Wilkes University Dance Team, a group of students who put their heart and soul into every crowd-energizing performance.

The team, established in fall 2010 by former member Jaclyn Palummo, gives students a fun way to explore their dance talents while meeting new people and supporting the university.

Jenna Vislosky, a senior nursing major from Peckville, Pa., has been elected this year's president of the dance team. She previously served as the team's secretary for three years.

Vislosky's position as president also gives her the role of team captain. Her responsibility is to keep the team's performance up to par and make sure things are running smoothly.

Usually, the captain and co-captain would create the team's dance steps. But this year, choreography is a combined team effort. Vislosky says this has been working very well and has helped the team bond.

The choreography is mainly hip-hop and jazz, and is the kind of dance that will entertain and excite an audience.

The team performs during halftime at all Wilkes men's basketball home games.

Anyone with experience and an interest in dance, as well as school spirit, is welcome to join the team. Being a dance minor is



The Beacon/ Rachel Leandri

Members of the Wilkes Dance Team are all experienced in dance and have an overwhelming joy for school spirit. One does not have to be declared a dance minor to join the dance team. The team welcomes anyone who is interested.

not a requirement.

"I think it's great having members as dance minors and non dance minors because it creates a more diverse and well-rounded team," Vislosky said.

"With such a variety of dancers, the team is able to collaborate and use their dance

and choreography skills from Wilkes and other dance facilities."

Those interested in joining the dance team can contact Vislosky at jenna.vislosky@wilkes.edu, or Kendra Radle, the upcoming president for fall 2015-spring 2016, at kendra.radle@wilkes.edu.

Rehearsal times are scheduled every Sunday and Wednesday, and all members are expected to attend.

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Wilkes University's Enactus Club means business

By Nathan Hughes
Correspondent

Interested in helping others and meeting new people?

Wilkes University's Enactus is that and more. It provides experience and connections to all of its members.

In its 21st year, Enactus' mission is "to help improve life for local business owners within the community," said Bridget Turel, business professor and club adviser.

Prior to being called Enactus, the club was known as SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise).

The purpose of the club is to put community first by doing specific projects.

The projects are powered by grants given to Enactus through partners in order to execute their mission.

A total of \$4,500 was given to the club this year to help accomplish projects and make an impact.

One project that members are involved in is Women's Economic Empowerment, which targets Ruth's Place in downtown Wilkes-Barre. To power this project, a \$1,500 grant supported by Coca-Cola was provided. The project is to work with the women's shelter and provide professional training sessions and financial support brought within by the students.

Turel, who took over the reins shortly after

2010, is more than proud to lead this club and make an impact in the community.

"There has been a long legacy here and in the last couple of years there has been success," Turel said.

This success is not only shown throughout our community but also at the national stage in competition.

Every spring the Wilkes Enactus club treks to St. Louis, Missouri, to compete against more than 400 teams from other universities across the nation. The competition is based solely off of the presentations the students give on the projects they did throughout the year.

The club has done extremely well at recent

competitions. In fact, last spring the club was recognized as a finalist in the opening round of competition, moving on to the quarterfinal, where they were crowned third place.

Jamie Seyler, a junior, and current vice president of recruitment, says the club has benefited her by "the experience and networking." Last fall, Seyler spoke with representatives from Home Depot and Kraft at a conference in Chicago.

If interested, the club meets at 11 a.m. every Tuesday in UCOM 231.

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6 Things You Should Know About Wilkes-Barre, PA

By Emily DeAngelis
Staff Writer

A drive down North River Street portrays a provoking billboard reading: "Hey @wilkes_barre, if you don't like what people think of you, then change it!" This billboard originated from a business project by Wilkes University students trying to bring positive change to the city. One student involved, senior Chelsea LaPorta, stated that the purpose of this billboard was, "To make people realize that this city truly isn't bad, and there are a lot of great things happening around the area." She also notes that people need to be the driving force behind the positive change of Wilkes-Barre's reputation. So to further these efforts, here is some background information new comers should know about Wilkes-Barre.

1. TRICKY CITY

One of the few cities in the United States to include a hyphen, according to the city website, there are two commonly accepted pronunciations for Wilkes-Barre: "Wilkes-Berry" and "Wilkes-Bear."

2. THE FLOODS

In 1972, Tropical Storm Agnes sent the Susquehanna into swell over the 41 ft levees, flooding downtown Wilkes-Barre with over 9ft of water. Since then, the levees have been rebuilt to cover above their previous abilities and they have withstood the less severe storms of 1996, 2004 and the scare of 2006.

3. TERRITORIAL BUILDINGS

After its founding in 1769, both Pennsylvania and Connecticut both laid claims on the area, causing the Yankee-Pennamite War. According to records from the city's demographics, after the U.S. Congress accepted Pennsylvania's claim on the land, second "burning" of the area took place by the hand of Connecticut settlers. The first time the Wyoming Valley area was set ablaze was during the Revolutionary War via the British.

4. EDUCATION-FILLED


Home to two universities and one college campus, Wilkes-Barre is the 13th largest city in Pennsylvania.

5. ARTS AND MUSIC SCENE

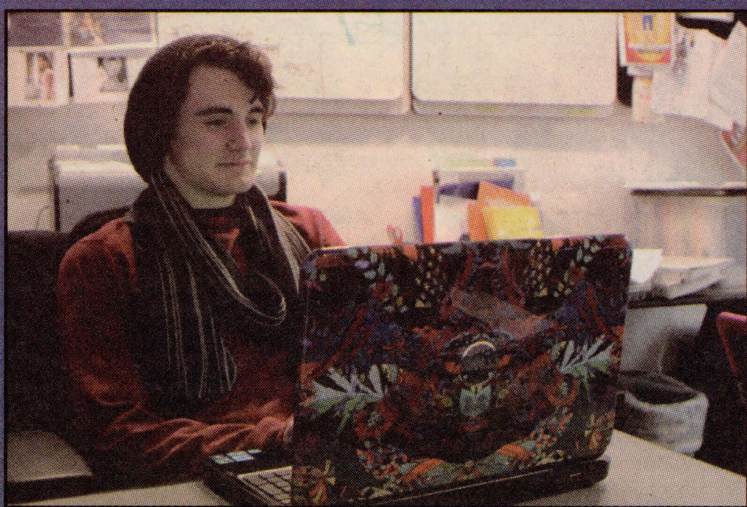
Freshman commuter Cassidy Clement mentions that the area has a growing and thriving amount of artists and bands, as well as perfect venues to suit the city's talent. One such place Clement mentioned was The Lamp Post- Chapter One, on Franklin Street.

6. STILL GROWING

While many renovations have been added to downtown Wilkes-Barre in years previous, the city website notes that the coming year will bring over one hundred more street lights to brighten the square, as well as a \$25 million parking complex to make the city more accessible and convenient for visitors.

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HUMANS OF WILKES UNIVERSITY



The Beacon/Danny Lykens

"What do I have to do?"

-Taillon Staudenmeier

Inter-Residence Hall Council Hosts Cake Challenge



The Beacon/Gabby Glinski
IRHC hosted a cake challenge in the SUB lounge last Friday evening. The theme was board games. Towers floors 4/11 won first place with this chess cake.



The Beacon/Gabby Glinski
Contestants were required to use marshmallows in their cakes, which Weiss Hall did with their rendition of the classic board game Operation.



The Beacon/Gabby Glinski
Waller North's cake imitated the CLUE murder-mystery game.



The Beacon/Gabby Glinski
Sturdevant's chocolate cake was reportedly delicious.



The Beacon/Gabby Glinski

L-R: Liz Swantek, director of Residence Life, Jamie Miller, assistant Director of Residence Life and Christian Victoria, resident staff adviser, were the three judges for the evening's challenge.



The Beacon/Gabby Glinski

Students sample cake from contestants.



The Beacon/Rebecca Voorhees

Those in attendance enjoyed free dessert.

Opinion

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

'Synthetic children' births Dolce & Gabbana boycott Elton John urges followers: #BoycottDolceGabbana

By Mandy Stickles
Assistant Opinion Editor

Outrage quickly flooded social media after a recent statement made by Dolce & Gabbana.

Social media has been buzzing over the designers of Dolce&Gabbana and their recent statement about not supporting gay marriage and artificial insemination.

While doing an interview for Italian Magazine Panorama, Domenico Dolce made an unforgettable statement.

"I am not convinced by those I call children of chemicals, synthetic children, rented uterus, semen chosen from a catalog," Dolce told the magazine.

Gabbana added, "The family is not a fad, in it there is a supernatural sense of belonging."

Dolce discussed how he grew up in a 'traditional' family, with a mother, a father and a child. That's how he sees fit of what a family should be. He feels a child should never be taken away from its mother. He also states that he is aware that there are other types of family structures out there;

however, he does not agree with that family life style and believes in his traditional views.

The singer, Sir Elton John, was outraged (having two sons of his own through I.V.F) by the designer's statement and decided to make a statement of his own to speak out on the matter. He took to Instagram and made it known to Dolce&Gabbana how disgusted he was on the designer's statements.

"How dare you refer to my beautiful children as 'synthetic.' Shame on you for wagging your judgmental little fingers at I.V.F. Your archaic thinking is out of step with the times, just like your fashions. I shall never wear Dolce & Gabbana ever again," John said.

Included in John's post on Instagram was a hashtag that said, "#BoycottDolceGabbana." Soon after the post went viral on social media, with several followers; including celebrities, standing behind John's statement. Many other celebrities followed John's footsteps and posted their own statement on social media regarding their disgust and

disappointment of the designer's blatant disregard for acknowledging children that were created through I.V.F as 'actual children' or as an unnatural way of creating a child.

Threats were made on social media of wanting to burn the designer's clothes and take no part in anything the designers create from this point on.

It's appalling to think that Dolce & Gabbana, who are openly gay men, have such negative views on same sex marriage and the right to raise a family if they so choose.

In addition, this type of behavior will do nothing but bring down their business. It is one thing for someone to come out and make their views known on a matter that many not agree with. However, it is another for Dolce & Gabbana, who are such well known and successful designers, to make such a poor judgment call while representing their business.

It is going to take a lot for the designers to make a comeback from this. Yet, the designers are already off to a rocky start.

Gabbana decided to retaliate against John by calling him a fascist and also posting "Je Suis D&G" on Instagram, which is in reference to "Je Suis Charlie" which was posted in the French magazine Charlie Hebdo after the attack in France.


After a horrible judgment call on Gabbana's part, the designers decided to try and tone down the situation. A statement was released through the company by Gabbana to explain why they made the statement about I.V.Fs in the first place.

"We firmly believe in democracy and the fundamental principle of freedom of expression that upholds it. We talked about our way of seeing reality, but it was never our intention to judge other people's choices," said Gabbana in a press release from the company.

Gabbana tries to justify his actions in a half attempt to apologize for offending people. No matter what Dolce and Gabbana say at this point to try and justify their actions they still stand behind their beliefs. Within this day and age many people will not stand for that type of blatant disrespect and disregard for ways of being able to create a human life.

Dolce and Gabbana have dug themselves into a deep hole. Their credibility is shot at this point in regards of being designers and being companionate understanding human beings.

A life is a life, no matter how it is created.

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eltonjohn

How dare you refer to my beautiful children as "synthetic". And shame on you for wagging your judgemental little fingers at IVF - a miracle that has allowed legions of loving people, both straight and gay, to fulfil their dream of having children. Your archaic thinking is out of step with the times, just like your fashions. I shall never wear Dolce and Gabbana ever again.
#BoycottDolceGabbana

Beasts & Men: A journey into flash fiction

By Sara Pisak
Asst. Opinion Editor

Curtis Smith's collection of essays entitled *Beasts & Men* marks the reader's journey into the world of flash fiction. The genre of flash fiction is characterized by essays/short stories consisting of a mere 100 to 1000 words.

The author must work to efficiently capture life's most unique moments in an abridged form. This is not an easy task to complete as authors are often trained to employ longer detailed events and often longer, flowery language. The idea behind flash fiction is to abbreviate the use of the language in order to freeze and portray a single moment in time. Freezing a specific moment in time, is an element which the 30 pieces of flash fiction included within *Beasts & Men* excel beyond their call of duty.

I was first introduced to this text in a previous creative writing class. We were given copies of *Beasts & Men* to read in preparation for the text's author, Curtis Smith, who was a guest lecturer in our class. I instantly fell in love with the text. Although not included in this collection, "My Totally Awesome Funeral" is perhaps my all-time favorite work by Smith. On a side note, one of my favorite memories from Smith's visit is during his public reading when Smith read "My Totally Awesome Funeral" for the

audience. Hearing Smith read his essay aloud worked to further bring out the satirical, emotional perspectives and will always be one of my favorite moments from his campus visit. As a reader will notice solely by the title, "My Totally Awesome Funeral" offers insight to Smith's satirical but emotionally deep sentiments surrounding life and death. The reading audience can expect similar attitudes ranging from touching to sarcasm but always poignant stances in *Beasts & Men*.

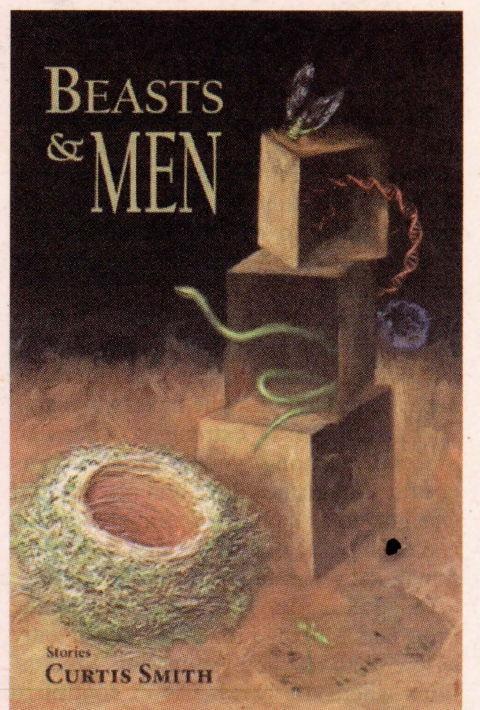
From start to finish, each piece of flash fiction works to peel back the layers of society and the complex layers of human emotion. Personally, although it is challenging to privilege one story over another, some of the standouts of the collection include: "Lenin," "The Diorama" and "The Couple and Their Secrets." Smith offers the reader a look through the camera's lens as he presents a snapshot of the human circumstance.

The snapshots of life range from "Lenin," a story about a bankrupt country planning a worldwide tour for Lenin's body. The fandom, the backlash and the chaos that ensues, illustrate the consequences of the trend-hopping, hottest vogue chasing, money loving society, in which we reside. To the other side of the scale, "The Couple and Their Secrets," assists the reader in the realization that everyone retains secrets and pains which they carry with them throughout

life.

Smith's succinct language and short pieces of work create an interesting paradox that might shock a reader. This surprise is simply that succinct language and short pieces of work create an exceptionally descriptive slice of life. A description which can fill hundreds of pages and be created by thousands of words instead of just a special selected few. Reaching a reader with a few selected words is a concept I view as a prodigious skill. It is easy to influence people and cause them to ponder with profuse expressions. Furthermore, it is even easier to paint a masterpiece with a full color palate. Smith can paint a natural, realistic to life picture with a straightforward keyword. The true skill lies in what Curtis Smith evidently has mastered; condensing.

Condensing in writing is essentially saying what needs to be said and moving along. Striving to make a point with direct wording, without being bluntly in the reading public's face is exactly what a reader will find when peeling back the layers of life illustrated in *Beasts & Men*. Now that I have written an entire page on condensing and being concise it is time to practice what Smith flawlessly preaches. Long story short: Buy the book. Read the book from beautifully decorated cover to cover, and fall helplessly in love with this text.



Courtesy of Creative Commons

Sara's Score:



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Disney not going to “Let it Go” with blockbuster sequel

By Elyse Guzewicz
Staff Writer

On March 12, Disney announced its plans for a sequel to the blockbuster animated film *Frozen*, produced by Walt Disney Animation Studios. Fans of the film were overjoyed at the news and the major cast all expressed their delight over social media.

At this time, there hasn't been a release date or production schedule announced, but given the impact of the first film many expect it to be within the next two years.

Frozen was extremely popular, especially among young girls, for its portrayal of sisterly love and affection. It was lauded as having a feminist message and even being one of the first to eschew romantic love in favor of family bonds.

In addition to *The Princess and the Frog* and *Mulan*, *Frozen* is one of only a few Walt Disney Animation Studios' films where the heroine is in control of her own destiny rather than operating from a prophecy or other outside force.

This has led to many accolades, including an Academy Award for Best Animated Feature and Best Original Song.

Although the sequel is sure to be

very profitable, there are two particular mistakes Disney could make as they develop the plot and script for the film.

To start, Disney could go entirely wrong by introducing a love interest for every character that remained single at the end of the original film.

This includes Olaf, the strangely popular chatty sidekick, Sven, the reindeer that served as an animal companion, and Elsa, one of the major characters and perhaps the most popular character of the film.

Many fans were happy to see a princess (or in Elsa's case, a queen) who wasn't occupied with romantic pursuits and rather focused on self-actualization. It was a refreshing change from previous movies where the princess characters were concerned either directly or indirectly with getting a boyfriend or husband.

To change Elsa's character into one focused on romantic love would ruin much of her appeal.

In addition, concerning more minor characters with romantic subplots could mean a propagation of gender stereotypes and a reinforcement of the gender binary—giving a female snowperson breasts or a female reindeer elongated/mascara-adorned eyelashes, for example.

Clearly, there's no evolutionary need for either of these things – to the best of our knowledge, snowpeople don't give birth, lactate, or nurse their young, and reindeer in general don't attract mates with cosmetics, but in films such as *Bambi*, female animals are often given highly sexualized characteristics for no reason other than to prove their gender identity.

The second major problem that could pop up would be giving the sequel film a carbon-copy plot.

In the first *Frozen* film, Elsa struggled to control her ice powers – whenever her emotions got the better of her, she would cause major damage to her surroundings. By the end of the film, Elsa had learned the key to controlling these powers was love and could freeze and melt water molecules as well as conjure ice storms at will.

Some critics have predicted that a *Frozen* sequel will mean Elsa losing control of her powers again, likely through some major destructive or traumatic event.

Unlike my previous point, this wouldn't be a result of stereotyping or social norms, but rather lazy writing.

It would be easy to get a plot that was

based around Elsa freezing the country of Arendelle once again – the writers have already done it once before. However, it would cheapen the impact of the first movie and frustrate both child and adult fans of the film.

There are a myriad of options when it comes to directions to take the plot of a *Frozen* sequel. My personal choice would be to look into political problems that may face Arendelle now that Elsa's ice powers are widely known.

From Prince Hans' family in the Seven Isles to the fate of the Duke of Weaselton, there are a lot of interesting areas that could be elaborated on; a plot of this nature would also result in valuable lessons about power and politics for young people, particularly girls.

The *Frozen* sequel will likely be a big success, and the franchise will gain more traction from merchandising and promotional material surrounding the film. My hope is that Disney will see the mistakes they have made in the past and with the first *Frozen* film and make changes for the better.

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Esquire's “80 Books Every Man Should Read” list severely lacking gender diversity

By Sara Pisak
Staff Writer

Recently *Esquire* magazine released a list entitled “The 80 Books Every Man Should Read.”

This comes as no surprise since *Esquire* is a publication geared towards a predominantly male audience. My love of books urged me to read through the list and found included the following texts: *Deliverance* (James Dickey), *The Things They Carried* (Tim O'Brien), *Hell's Angels* (Hunter S. Thompson) and *Savages* (Don Winslow).

If a reader is unfamiliar with the novels above, *Deliverance* was adapted into a thriller. *The Things They Carried*

involves soldiers serving in the Vietnam War. In *Hell's Angels*, Thompson infiltrates the notorious motorcycle gang of the same name. Don Winslow's *Savages* is a violent crime novel dealing with the drug trade. Judging by the short synopsis of each work, these texts ooze testosterone and masculinity.

Although several classics such as *Call of the Wild* also make the list, a reader will notice that only one text making the list is authored by a woman.

Flannery O'Connor has this honor with her text *A Good Man is Hard To Find*. One immediately notices the word “man” appears in the title of the only text representing a female author.

Esquire is a men's magazine and

it is definitely not the definitive and authoritative judge of literary classics. In fact, the magazine declares the list “an unranked, incomplete, slightly biased list of the greatest works of literature ever published.” This led me to ponder if women are represented in authoritative literary circles.

The Pulitzer Prize website contains a list of previous Pulitzer Prize winners for fiction since 1948. From 1948 until 2014, roughly 40 men have won the award while 17 women have claimed this accolade. The results are unproportioned; however five out the 17 women have been awarded the Pulitzer since 2005.

Some of my favorite works by

women have never been considered for the Pulitzer Prize. These works are considered “classics” such as *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* (Betty Smith), *The Diary of a Young Girl* (Anne Frank) and *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (Zora Neale Hurston).

What implication does the recent increase in female authors winning The Pulitzer Prize mean for female authors? As is the case, where women work for equal rights in our society, female authors have a greater chance of being recognized for their work now than in previous years. Nevertheless, there is still a great deal of progress to be made.

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Hozier creates a bold, hit-filled and soulful debut album

By Eric Casey
Staff Writer

Is this a "Best of Hits" album? Is this the second coming of Elton John, but with more of an edge? Maybe even a lost Elton John album? Well obviously the answer is a definite no.

Not since Icona Pop's 2013 effort "This is...Icona Pop" and Foster the People's 2011 debut "Torches" has there been such a stellar debut album in my opinion. By that I mean every song is superb. There is literally not one bad song on his debut self titled album Hozier.

He was born Andrew HozierByrne. There seems to be confusion on how to pronounce his name. The best way to describe it is it rhymes with cozy, then just add an 'er' at the end. Anyway, he's an Irish born singersongwriter at age 24. Just like George Ezra, who he's touring with here in the states soon, his age doesn't match the voice that comes out of his body!

Hozier came out of nowhere last year with his now certified triple platinum song "Take Me to Church." It peaked at #2 on the Billboard Hot 100 just a few

weeks ago, and has been on the chart for 28 weeks now. It has also reached #1 on the US Adult Top 40 chart and #1 on the US Hot Rock Songs chart. Around the world the song has reached #1 in over 10 countries. After the music video went viral in the fall of 2013, he was instantly signed to Columbia Records.

In case you're not aware, "Take Me to Church" is his irritation with the Catholic Church and their stance on homosexuality and gay marriage. In a recent interview he explained further.

"The song is about how sexuality and love are such a basic, integral part of humanity," Hozier explained.

"For the church or any organization like a government to question who you love or who you have sex with just seems to go against humanity. I'm not condemning the church or religion on the whole, just that one policy, which seems so wrong to me. And obviously I'm not alone in thinking that." Speaking of alone, he was far from it at the Grammy Awards just a few weeks ago. Although he went home unfortunately empty handed, he did however perform with the legendary Eurythmics lead signer

Annie Lennox on stage.

As stated above, the whole debut from Hozier is stellar. There is heavy R&B and Gospel influence in his music and lyrics. "Angel of Small Death and the Codeine Scene" is arguably just as good as "Take Me to Church." It has not been released a single yet, but I predict it will be his next huge hit.

The lyrics are a little touchy as it deals with the positive and negative effects he possibly felt with drugs in the past. "With her sweetened breath, and her tongue so mean, she's the angel of small death and the codeine scene."

If there is any weak song on this album it would be "Jackie and Wilson", but it's still a better song than most hit songs on any random mainstream artist's album. "From Eden" is the current single making it's way on to alternative radio format. It's vibe is almost similar to his hit song, but has a really retro feeling.

"Someone New" is another superb standout. It's catchy and feels like an early 1970's "AM Gold" lost hit song. This could also be a potential future single. Like many of the other songs on this

album, it features beautiful background chorus singers. It's quite ethereal.

"In a Week" features a duet with unknown singer Karen Crowley is about a young couple who are found dead in a field. It's a peaceful song and a change of pace on the album. "Work Song" and "Like Real People Do" have a much folkier aesthetic vibe that comes across pleasantly.

The last few songs pick up pace like the opening songs and then ends with a live version of "Cherry Wine". If you haven't had the chance to listen to this album all the way through, then it's highly encouraged. It's one of the best albums in the past two years and it will not disappoint. Hozier has an extremely bright future ahead. He may in fact be the next Elton John, although he is much different from him. Lastly, this man sings incredible live. There is nothing polished about him. I give this album a rare 5 out of 5 stars.

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2015 NFL Free Agency

By Frank Passalacqua
Opinion Editor

Every single year, I wait for 4 p.m to strike on the first day of free agency. Every year, 4 p.m comes and goes without a single thing happening. Every year, I am met with disappointment at the anticlimactic event.

This 2015 Free Agency, however, was one for the books.

Never could I think of a single day where so many signings and trades kicked off the official start of the offseason.

First, about a week prior, breaking news emerged that the Philadelphia Eagles would trade star running back LeSean McCoy to the Buffalo Bills in exchange for linebacker Kiko Alonso. Social media exploded, and so did I. A few days later, the Eagles reported they would not be resigning wide receiver Jeremy Maclin. Again, social media exploded with people all around the world asking, "What is Chip Kelly doing?!"

At the start of free agency, Chip made one more move to puzzle the minds of the world.

The Philadelphia Eagles traded quarterback Nick Foles to the St. Louis Rams for Sam Bradford. Minds exploded.

People took to social media, mainly bandwagon Dallas Cowboy fans, and used this as an opportunity to live it up.

"I don't know what Chip Kelly is doing, but I love it!" was the most

common comment on every thread and wall post, but what would happen a few days later would be something they did not particularly love. Since the Dallas Cowboys continued to low-ball the leagues leading rusher Demarco Murray, he took his talents to Philly to join Sam Bradford, Ryan Matthews and Darren Sproles in the backfield.

Naturally, sulking in remorse and pain, Cowboys fans claimed Murray "wasn't even good" in an effort to make the situation lighter in their cold hearts.

It is safe to say Chip Kelly and the Eagles made the biggest splash thus far. It should also be noted that Seahawk's cornerback Byron Maxwell joined the Eagles as well, in a move to upgrade their secondary.

Enough with the Eagles, let's talk about the other big moves in free agency.

4 p.m also was met with another huge trade. The New Orleans Saints traded Jimmy Graham to the Seattle Seahawks in exchange for center Max Unger, with the Seahawks also throwing in a first round pick in this year's draft.

The trade sent the star tight end to a team who made it to two consecutive Super Bowls, going 1-1 after losing last year to the Patriots. I've never thought highly of Russell Wilson, but now that he has a huge target, I expect the Seahawks to do some work in the NFC.

Ndamukong Suh signed a massive deal with the Miami Dolphins, worth \$114 million dollars. Suh taking the big bucks over a contender team proves he would rather have money than a shot at the playoffs.

Darrelle Revis would not stay in Super Bowl winning New England, as the Patriots declined to pick up the option. Revis would decide to return home to New York, bringing a tiny glimmer of hope to the two Jets fans in the world. Antonio Cromartie also decided to return home to the Jets, rejoining Revis and his squad for the first time since 2011.

The Jets also brought in Ryan Fitzpatrick in an attempt to give Geno "Turnover" Smith some competition, but it is hard to see them competing in the AFC East with those options at

Orange Julius is no more, he is now in Jacksonville. Peyton Manning's former favorite tight end in Denver has signed with the Jaguars for a 5-year deal. Blake Bortles will now have a legitimate weapon on Sunday's.

In a speed round of signings, Brandon Marshall joined the Jets, Greg Hardy signed with the Dallas Cowboys, Percy

Harvin and Charles Clay signed with Buffalo, Jeremy Maclin is now a Chief, Nick Fairley joins all former first-round picks on the d-line in St. Louis, Andre Johnson and Frank Gore are Colts, Jordan Cameron joined the Dolphins, Tramon Williams is in Cleveland with Dwayne Bowe, and Vince Wilfork is a Texan.

There are still a few talented players out there who remain un-signed.

I can not remember a single free agency with this many signings and trades right off the bat. The Patriots lost three key players to their defense in Revis, Browner, and Spikes all vacating. In the same division, the Bills vastly improved. Their offense now has LeSean McCoy, Percy Harvin, Sammy Watkins, Charles Clay, and Robert Woods. Scary for sure, now only if they had a playmaker at quarterback.

It is hard to judge the Seahawks. While they added Jimmy Graham, they lost two secondary players to their famed "Legion of Boom." Dallas lost one of their most valuable playmakers in Demarco Murray,

who literally carried the entire team last year. With Romo and their crippling defense only getting older, I do not see them repeating as division champs.

If I had to pick a sleeper how I think will be better than last season, I like Cleveland's chances at being a better team. They have two first-round picks in the draft, so that will add some talent in the void.

Then obviously, the Philadelphia Eagles get the award for most dramatic changes. No one was safe from being cut or traded on the team, and as a result, the Eagles are a completely different team than 2014.

The NFL Draft kicks off on April 29. For the teams that missed out on some top targets in free agency, the draft will be their last shot to redeem their team.

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Sports

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Wilkes Freshman crowned National Champion

Matthew Grossmann becomes the first National Champion from Wilkes in 40 years.

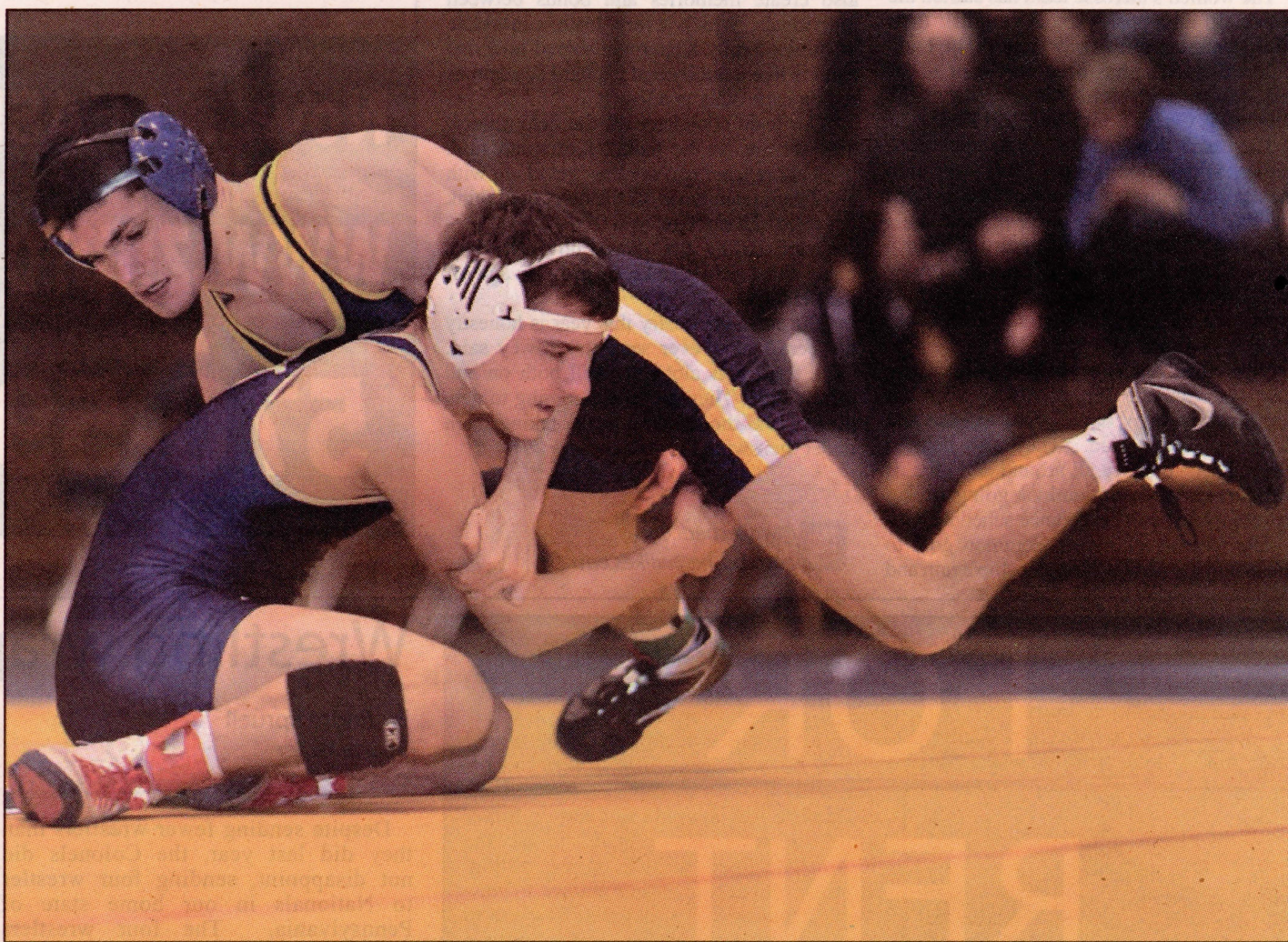
By Brandon Gubitosa
Sports Editor

For the first time in 40 years, Wilkes University has a national champion. Freshman Matthew Grossmann captured the 11th national championship in Wilkes University wrestling history with a 4-3 decision, defeating Chad Bartschenfeld of Augsburg College. Winning the championship was no easy task for Grossmann as he went on to defeat four wrestlers in the 133-pound bracket. Grossmann finished the season with a 36-6 record. The last Wilkes wrestlers to win a national championship were Gene Ashley and Jim Weisenfluh when they were notorious back in 1975.

"It is an awesome feeling, it is a testament to a lot of hard work and is really cool to see all my hard work pay off," Grossmann said. "I had an amazing support system behind me from my parents, coaches and my work out partner, Gueseppe Rea. They all helped me tremendously in achieving my goal and I know will be crucial in continued success."

He was able to reach the finals after upsetting top seed Nathan Giorgio of the United State Coast Guard Academy. Grossmann jumped off to an early 2-0 lead in the first period before Giorgio narrowed it down to a 2-1 lead. He then managed to escape Giorgio and held on to win in the final minute with a 3-1 win.

This year's tournament was in Hersey not far from Grossmann's hometown of Lancaster. "I had some extra motivation wrestling so close to home. There were a lot of people that have been involved



Grossmann attempting to pin his opponent in the ring

Courtesy of gowilkesu.com

in my wrestling career that were able to come and watch," Grossmann said. "The tournament was in Pennsylvania and not in the mid west like it usually is there were a lot of Wilkes wrestling alumni that were in attendance," said Grossmann when talking about the support he had.


"Matt had an amazing freshman year and really got better each week," Coach Laudenslager said. "He learned from his earlier losses, which helped prepare him for the National tournament. It's really uncommon to win a National Championship as a true freshman," said Laudenslager during an interview featured on gowilkesu.com.

"They were all thrilled. It was awesome to be coach Laudenslager's first NCAA champion and the school's first in 40 years," Grossmann said. "The support from all the alumni that were at the tournament was amazing, when they raised my hand and I turned to see the Wilkes section, which was front and center, and saw everyone going crazy it was such an amazing feeling that I will never forget."

In his twelfth season as head coach of Wilkes Laudenslager has led the Colonels to a 144-44 overall record including eight straight seasons of at least 15 wins. In those years he has coached 28 national qualifiers, eight All-Americans, one national finalist

and one national champion.

Now Grossmann looks to become the third Wilkes wrestler to win back-to-back national championships and the first to do since Joe Wiendi did back in 1968 and 1969. "I think there is a little pressure on me now because I am now the one with a target on my back. However I know that if I continue to work hard and improve that I will have continued success," Grossmann said.

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Women's lacrosse bonds on and off the field

By Cara Basile
Sports Writer

The women's lacrosse team has started the season off on a positive note with half their wins stemming from away games. The Lady Colonel's offense has been dominant so far this season with lead scorers Madeleine Brownsey, Carley Smith, and Tori Kerr.

The team has yet to play conference games, which don't begin until later into the season. With this advantage, the women are able to develop and improve their skills for games that will be necessary to earn a playoff spot. Head coach Kammie Towey said the competition in the conference is tough and these games will say a lot about the rest of season.

"The first few weeks of games really give our team the opportunity to work out any kinks we may have in our offense and defense," Towey said. "They also help to boost our confidence all around and give us a positive attitude and outlook going into an extremely difficult conference schedule."

The women all have a common goal to make it to the MAC Championship again and

to do that will take preparation. Although some games will be a challenge, they know the conference teams will be the ultimate competition. While winning is fun, sports also create memories and bonds between individuals, which every team can relate to. Junior Emily Ketterman shared how this team is like a family and it's hard sometimes seeing each other at a loss.

"Our team chemistry off the field reflects how we are on the field," Ketterman said. "Not every team can say they get along with all of their teammates off the field, but I think our team can say that."

Coach Towey also shared how she loves being able to see her players grow on and off the field.

"Our team chemistry this year is honestly the best I have ever seen it," Towey said. "The team gets along so well both on and off the field. They are so welcoming to new players and the underclassman taking them under their wing."

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Wrestling wraps up season

By Andre Spruell
Sports Writer

Despite sending fewer wrestlers than they did last year, the Colonels did not disappoint, sending four wrestler to Nationals in our home state of Pennsylvania. The four wrestlers that made Nationals were Junior 174 pounder Kyle Diesel, Freshman 149 pounder Josh Evans, Junior 125 pounder Gueseppe Rea who finished 6th in the nation, and 133 pounder Matt Grossman who went on win the National Championship.

Although Diesel had a strong showing at Nationals, he was not able to advance past the quarterfinals, despite at one point holding the lead over top seeded Conner Lefever of Wabash in the second, he was defeated by Lefever 8-6. Freshman Josh Evans had a strong showing in his rookie campaign going 15-7 and gaining huge experience by wrestling in Nationals. Matt Grossman, also a freshman, went on to win the

National Championship and was named the MAC Conference Rookie of the Year as well as the Conference's Wrestler of the Year. Gueseppe Rea made Nationals and has been making his presence felt on the team since his Freshman campaign. Despite having a strong showing, Rea finished 6th in the East Regional. When asked about his efforts this season Rea replied, "I had more ups than downs. I think it was one of my better seasons but not my best. It went by very quick. I'm happy to be an All-American but I'm not pleased with the result."

Behind Grossman's result and Rea's leadership, the Colonels will look to continue its tradition and have an even stronger showing in Nationals next year. When Rea was asked about what to expect in his senior year, he said, "I want to help my teammates succeed and to get what I came here for."

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Coach Brown and Team 70 look to bounce back

By Jared Powell
Sports Writer

The Colonels are coming off of a 2-8 season, their worst in the last five years. Coach Trey Brown does not plan on looking back on that season, the blinders have been on since the last game of the 2014 season and the coaching staff has been working hard to get the Colonels back on track.

"I think recruiting overall has gone very well! The guys on this team understand their role within recruiting, and did an awesome job when the recruits were on campus," Brown said.

Coach Brown seems very enthused about the upcoming season. Team 70 is the theme for the 2015 season. This will be the 70th football team that Wilkes has had, and with that Coach Brown has used it as a way to motivate the players. Various emails have been sent out to players to express the level of excitement he has for this spring.

"I am very excited for spring ball. With it being year two I have much better feel for our football team," said Brown.


He said this, because last year was his first

year as head coach, and he came in with about a month to prepare for spring ball. This time around he has months to prepare, and even sent out the entire schedule to the team about a month or two ago. This goes to show how much time and effort the coaching staff has put into the organization.

When speaking with Brown about "Team 70" and the 2015 season his big smile always is prominent. With that being said, he knows hard work and commitment is the only way to get it done. He was brutally honest when asked about next season.

"I think next year possesses another very challenging schedule for us. If we can improve upon all of the things that we know are critically important, we will give ourselves a chance to be competitive within every ball game."

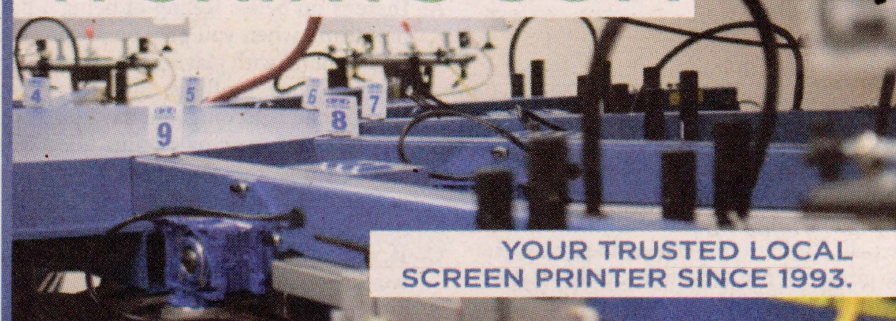
Team 70 and Coach Brown feel like its time to turn the program around. In the last three years the overall record is 11-18, which is well below .500. Team 70 is ready to make the change the campus has been waiting for.

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Getting to know...

Marcus Leaf

Junior Baseball Player

By Evan Willey
Sports Writer

Marcus Leaf is a two sport athlete at Wilkes University, football in the fall and baseball in the spring. He is from Reading, Pa and went to Berks Catholic High School. It's not easy juggling school, football, and baseball, but Marcus makes it look easy. He is a junior Communication Studies major that one day plans on opening his own Public Relations Company.

Q: What do you plan on doing with your major when you graduate from Wilkes?

A: After I receive my degree from the communication studies department, I plan on working with ESPN, to maybe write or organize events, then potentially open up my own PR agency.

Q: Do you have any lucky charms that you bring with you on game days?

A: I don't really have any lucky charms that I take to games with me.

Q: What are some of your favorite foods to eat before and after a game?

A: Before games I have to have some sort of sweet candy such as Swedish fish, Sour patch kids or Hot Tamales. And if I could choose to have any meal after a game it would have to be Mac n cheese bites from sheets, however I am also a big fan of Frank's "college heart attack."

Q: How long have you been playing baseball and how did you pick up interest in the sport?

A: I started playing baseball at the age of 5, what kept me so interested in the game at that young age was the fact that I could smack the ball pretty far. Unfortunately I lost that talent once I reached higher levels of play, so now I strictly pitch and learn the life lessons that the game teaches each day.

Q: How does it feel to be part of the team?

A: There is no better feeling of being a part of a team, when you play on a team you build a bond with players who potentially become your brothers, and when you step on the field on game day you know you have a dugout or sideline filled with brothers that have your back at your best and at your worst.

Q: If you won the lottery tomorrow what would you do with the money?

A: Buy my mom a house, donate money to the Reading Olivet boys and girls club baseball program and unfortunately pay off my student loans I have been blessed with.

Q: What position do you play and why do you like it?

A: This year I am strictly a pitcher, I enjoy pitching because a pitcher has the potential to be the most dominant player on the field and that is a role I like to take on when game time rolls around, everything is moving at your pace and you're constantly challenging batters with the confidence of beating every one.

Q: What's one memory you won't forget from Wilkes?

A: After we win the MAC championship this year.

Q: What are your expectations for the season?

A: Having a win percentage over .600, and winning the MAC.

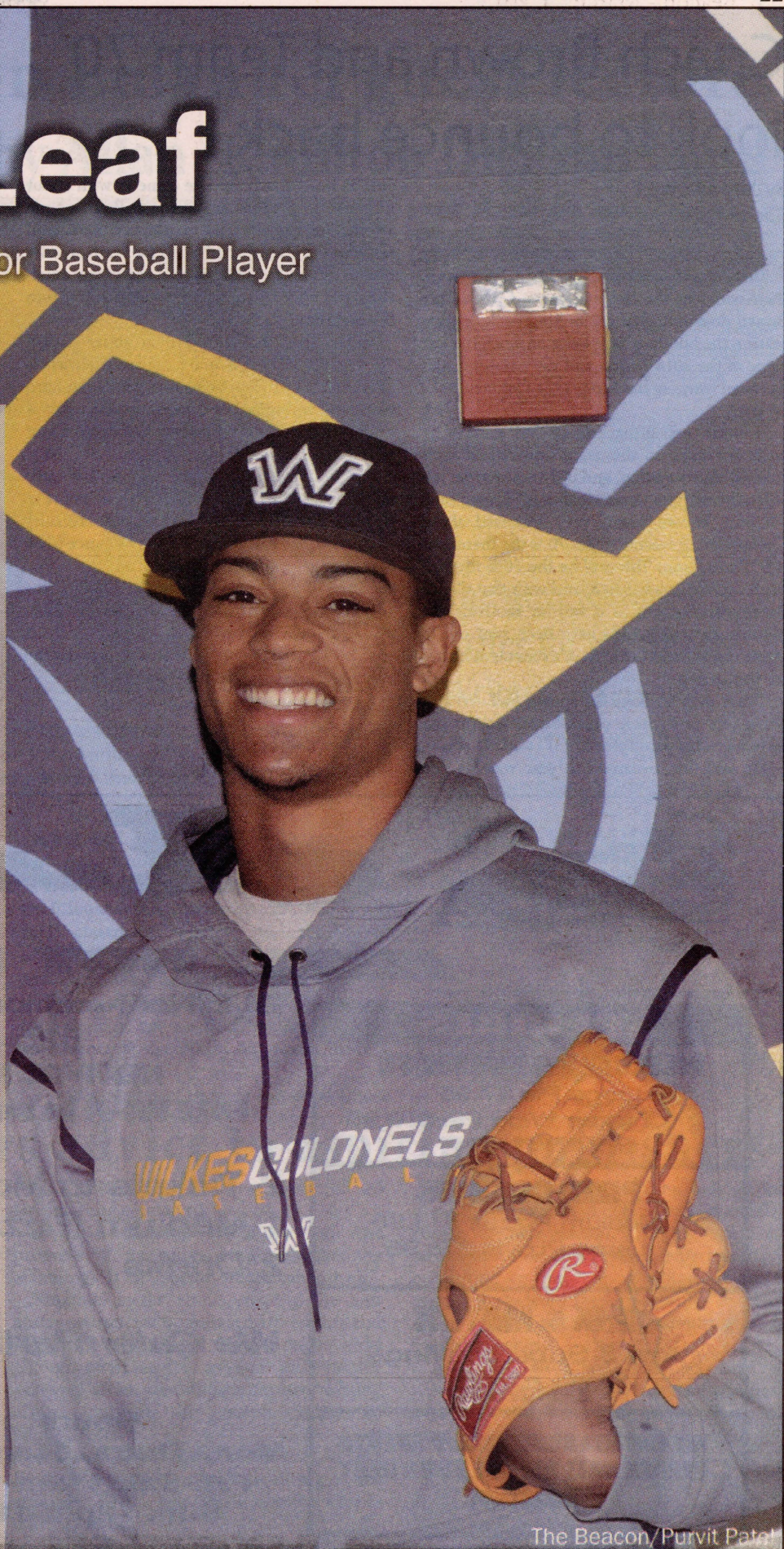
Q: Who is your role model in life?

A: My mom is my role model in life, single parent that takes care of two kids and is constantly bending over backwards to make sure my sister and I have successful lives. Her dedication to my sister and I is what drives me to be the best student, son, brother, man and potential parent I can be in life... "she's the real MVP."



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The Beacon/Purvit Patch

Getting to know...

Heather Lorincz

Freshman Lacrosse player



The Beacon/Purvit Patel

By J.T. Keer
Sports Writer

Q: Where are you from?
A: Bridgewater, NJ

Q: What high school did you go to?
A: Immaculata High School, Somerville NJ

Q: What do you do for fun at home?
A: I usually attend high school or college hockey games and shop with friends from high school.

Q: What made you want to come to Wilkes?
A: The opportunity to play lacrosse was probably the biggest factor when I was picking a school.

Q: What is your favorite part about Wilkes?
A: It would definitely have to be my teammates.

Q: What is your major?
A: Engineering

Q: What are you planning on doing with your degree?
A: I hope to one day run a power plant.


Q: What inspired you to do that?
A: My high school physics teacher.

Q: When did you start playing Lacrosse?
A: My senior year of high school.

Q: Did you play any other sports in High School?
A: Nope.

Q: Who's your favorite professional sports team(s)?
A: Pittsburgh Penguins and the Minnesota Twins.

Q: Favorite athlete?
A: Sidney Crosby.

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