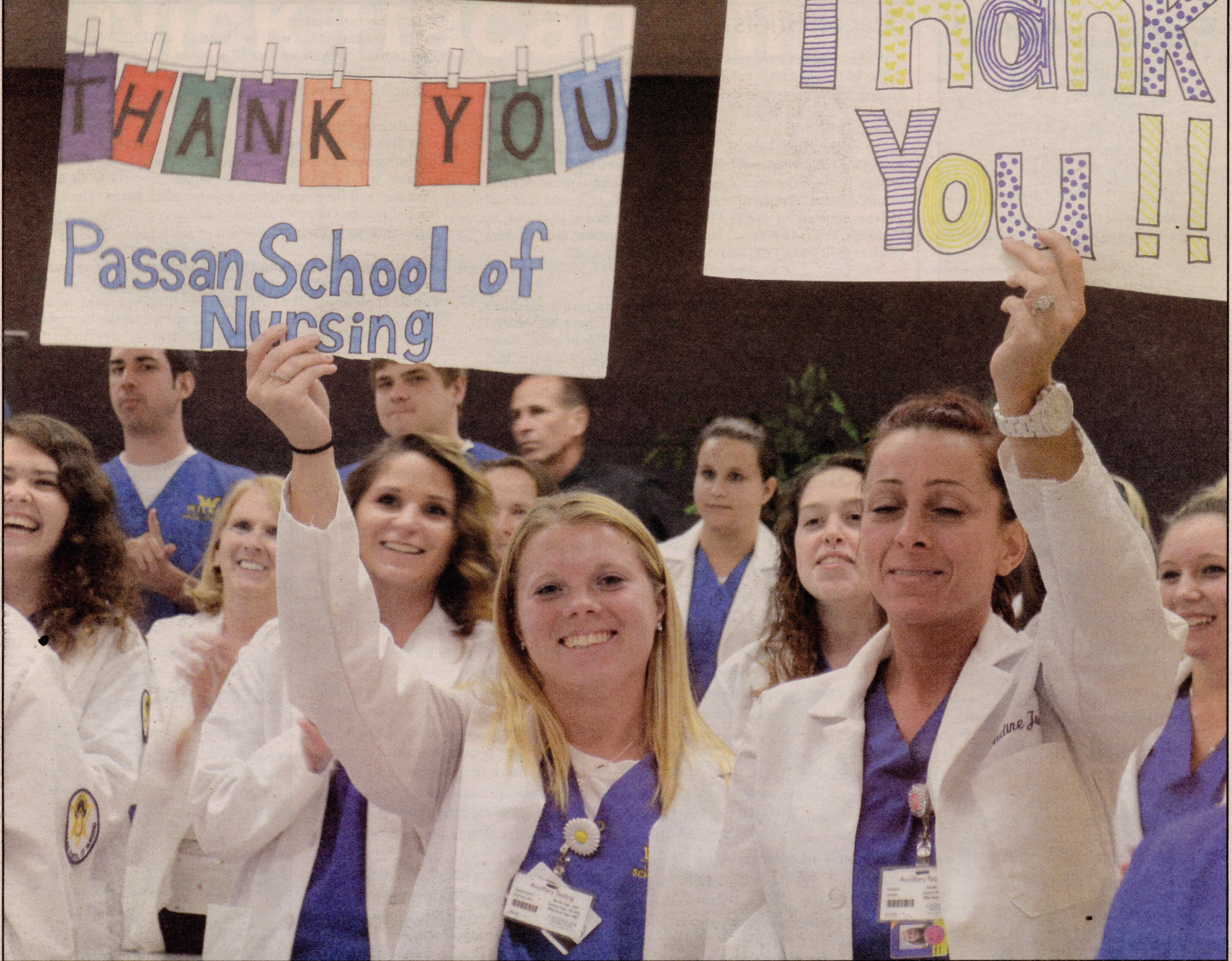


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Volume 69 Issue 06

THE BEACON

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.



The Beacon/Jesse Chalmick

Students thank donors for \$3.3 million gift -- Page 4

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

Wilkes Honors Program Sponsors Book Drive
The Wilkes University chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the national English honor society, is sponsoring a book drive across Luzerne county. Boxes for donations are established in the following places: Mountain Top: Kirby Library. Plymouth: Wyoming Valley West High School. Tamaqua: Marian Catholic. West Hazleton: Holy Name of Jesus Parish. Wilkes-Barre: City Hall; Wilkes University; Barnes & Noble on Public Square; Schiel's Family Market. Spanning until November 20, all books received will be donated to Ruth's Place House of Hope, Inc. and St. Hedwig's Veterans Home. For more information, contact Sara Pisak at (570)-401-7196 or at sara.pisak@wilkes.edu.

Work Study Positions Available
Wilkes University Student Government is hiring qualified individuals for new work study positions. There are several hours available to work and pay will start at \$7.50 an hour. Work study students will serve as cashiers in the new club room that Student Government has developed. A full job description and an application can be picked up from the info desk in the SUB.

U.N. Lecture Series
The Wilkes U.N. will be hosting a U.N. World Food Programme on Syria on Oct 27 at 4 p.m. in the Henry Student Center Miller Room. For more information, conact Mildred Urban at event.productions@wilkes.edu.

Influenza Vaccine
Wilkes University Health & Wellness Department is offering the Influenza vaccine Fluzone Quadrivalent at a cost of \$20.00, payable by check made out to Wilkes University or cash. Vaccines will be given during regular office hours. There is a limited number of shots available which are offered on a first-come, first-serve basis.

GET Funds for Flex and Dinning Dollars
Wilkes University Business Operations launched the "GET Funds" application. The GET Funds application allows you add Dining and Flex Dollars from any computer, laptop or mobile device. Login to the MyWilkes Portal Student Services tab for the sign-in page and create your account. If you have any questions, please contact Business Operations at studentmeals@wilkes.edu.

SG Notes: Constitutional changes, NSO, vehicles

Staff Report

Week 7
On Wednesday, Wilkes University's Student Government held its weekly meeting.

IEEE presented its revised club constitution for review to the board. Changes included revisions to their national dues, officer titles, elections, meeting notifications, and subcommittees.

The board will vote on the constitutional changes next week.

The Nursing Student Organization (NSO) came in for week 2 of 2 to ask for a fund request to attend a conference. The conference is the Student Nurses Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP) Convention. While there, students will participate in an NCLEX Bowl, NCLEX Review Sessions, hear speakers and attend workshops. By attending, students will gain knowledge that can be shared with the entire nursing class and bring attention to Wilkes. There are 16 students participating in the conference, 10 officers from NSO and six additional participants from the

organization. Student Government casted their vote and approved the request.

IRHC also presented week 1 of 2 for their constitutional revisions. Changes included membership, voting rights, and procedures.

The changes were made to make IRHC more inclusive to the campus community.

The board will vote next week.

Capital Projects came in for week 1 of 2 for fund approval of a new commuter lounge in the Hiscox room. Funds are requested for storage units, lounge furniture, and a bulletin board as well as a few suggestions such as a TV which was discussed at the meeting.

The board will vote on the final budget next week.

SG Vehicle policy changes were discussed. Changes were made to ensure the proper use of the vehicles by undergraduate students only as well as vehicle up keep.

The council reviewed the treasurer's report. The current budget is as follows: All College: \$749.88, General Funds: \$5,493.26 Conference: \$5,000, Spirit: \$2,000.00 for a Student Government total of \$13,243.14.

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University educates students, realities of sexual assault

By Alyssa Mursch
Social Media Director

Sexual assault is a growing issue on college campuses, and even more alarming are the attitudes and misconceptions surrounding it.

According to Sarah Lawrence College, 1 in 4 women will be the victim of a sexual assault during her academic career. Moreover, 48.8 percent of those women that met the study's definition of rape did not consider what happened to them rape.

It is important to note that both men and women are victims of sexual assault. The issue being raised by these statistics isn't one of sex, but rather perception. What do college students consider rape, and how does this affect their likelihood to report it when it happens to them?

Based on a survey given to more than 30 students, both male and female, at Wilkes University, there are some disparities as to what qualifies as rape. Of the 33 students surveyed, six did not consider it rape if one person says no but flirts, sends naked photos, or leads the other person on beforehand.

The survey explicitly states that the victim said no, and yet because he or she showed some type of interest beforehand, 18 percent of students did not consider this to be rape.

Other questions that received mixed responses were whether or not it is considered rape if the victim said no but made the first move or was in a relationship with the offender.

These misconceptions are just one of the

many reasons that victims of sexual assault may be reluctant to come forward, often times accompanied with embarrassment, fear, and not wanting to tell their stories again.

"I'm concerned that the students surveyed didn't think that those questions equated to rape. If one person says "no" at any point during a sexual encounter, and the other person still forces it, it is rape," said Dean Gretchen Yeninas.


"It doesn't matter who initiated sex. It doesn't matter how much flirting went on."

Yeninas deals with these cases first hand, as she has been a board member for the Victims Resource Center for 16 years and recently became Dean of Student Affairs at Wilkes University.

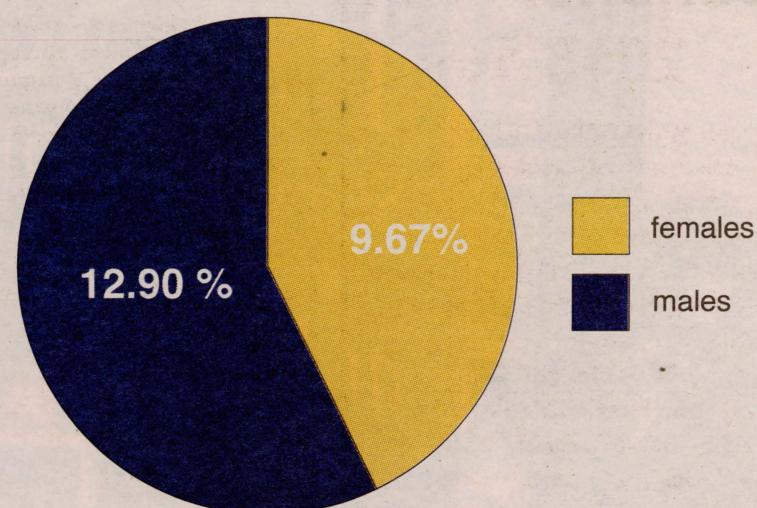
The most recent Clery Report shows that there were four incidents of rape in 2014 at Wilkes University, and that is only accounting for those that were reported.

This issue is not without solution. Being informed is only the first step, but it is an important one.

"I want students to know that there is a team of people in Student Affairs that are here to help, no matter how a student chooses to proceed. Counselors are available, on and off campus, free of charge," Yeninas said. "No one is going to judge a student or blame a student for what happened... No one should feel alone."

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Percentage of Wilkes students surveyed that believe it's not rape if the person flirted, sent nude photos or otherwise led them on.



Graphic by Ashley Evert

Students were randomly selected to gain insight on what the Wilkes campus community may consider to be sexual assault or not. Students answered a variety of questions as well as provided their year and gender. Questions were created based upon findings of other campus sexual assault surveys.

What if it happened to me? Steps to take after an assault

By Sarah Bedford
News Editor

Sexual assault is always a topic of concern at the university level.

Dr. Philip Ruthkosky, associate dean of Student Development as well as the university's Deputy Title IX Coordinator explains that while being able to have a conversation about sexual assault is critical, being informed on what to do if an individual or peer is assaulted is just as important.

"Get to a safe place is what initially we want to have happen," Ruthkosky said.

According to the university's "Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures," if an individual is a victim of sexual assault, or witness to a sexual assault, the first step is to get the victim to a safe place as soon as possible.

Ruthkosky explained that if the victim is trapped by the perpetrator, call 911.

Once safe, the next step is to seek immediate

medical attention. Ruthkosky emphasized that by seeking medical attention, the victim is not required to report it to authorities. However, when an alleged victim calls 911, the Victim's Resource Center is notified. They will meet the victim at the hospital and will cover the cost of care. The Victim's Resource Center is not required to notify the university on any calls or reports.

A confidential counselor will be made available to the victim who by law, cannot reveal any details of the situation to officials.

If the victim is not in a life threatening situation, the Department of Public Safety can be reached at (570) 408-4999 or Student Affairs staff person on-call at (570) 362-8346.

The next step is to preserve any evidence once the victim is in a safe place. Any articles that may contain the offender's DNA should be saved, so victims should not bathe or shower, use the restroom, change clothing, comb hair, clean the crime scene or move anything the offender may have touched.

The final step a victim may choose to take, but is not required to, is to file a report with Student Affairs or Public Safety.

"Someone who is categorized as a responsible employee at a university knows or reasonably should know there was a sexual assault on or off campus dealing with one of the students, is required to report that to someone at the university who handles that," Ruthkosky explained.

Everyone employed at Wilkes is a responsible employee except people at Health Services. Those individuals at Health Services are considered to fall under the "safe space" category. Confidential conversations are critical according to Ruthkosky for students to know what their options are.

If a student reports it directly to Student Affairs or other related employees, they will do their best to maintain confidentiality but must also review the safety of the campus community. They can only move forward with investigations with victim's consent.


While it is ultimately the victim's choice to report a case, Ruthkosky explained that in informing students what options and services they will have available to them will hopefully encourage them to come forth with allegations.

"There is no right or wrong way to go about it," Ruthkosky said.

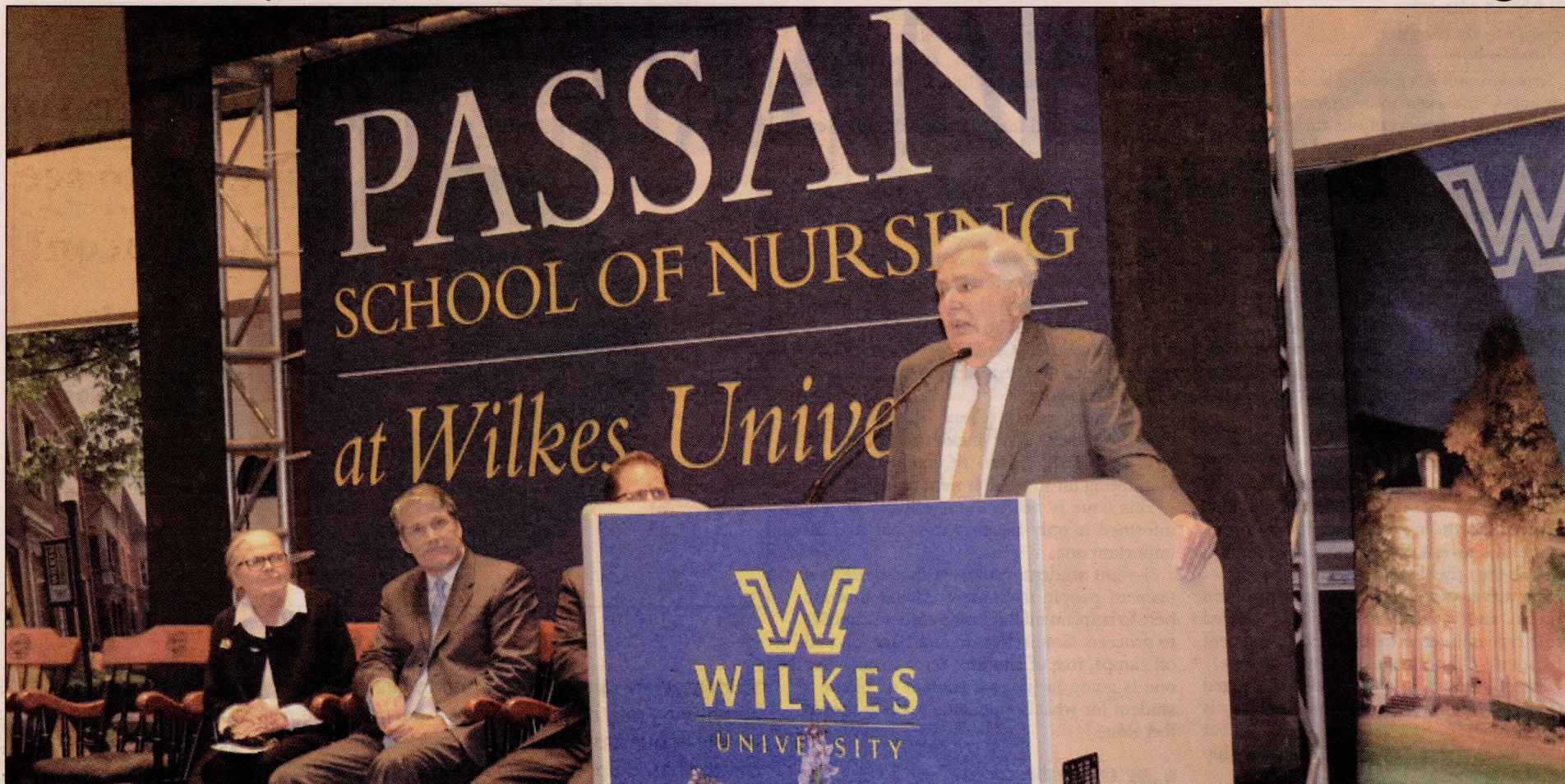
One such way the university has been informing students on sexual assault is through the Bystander Intervention Training Program.

The program focuses on teaching students creative ways to intervene before an assault occurs. By going through the training, Ruthkosky hopes more students will develop and use that skill set to save peers from future trauma.

"You as one individual can change a person's life."

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University dedicates school as Passan School of Nursing



John Passan speaks at the dedication for the Passan School of Nursing after donating a record-breaking \$3.3 million.

The Beacon/ Jesse Chalnack

Wilkes Marketing Communications

Wilkes University recently received a \$3.3 million gift – the largest in the institution's history – to support its School of Nursing. The gift, given by local businessman and philanthropist John J. Passan of Wilkes-Barre, and his wife, Ann, will be used to create a dedicated, permanent endowment for the school.

The gift will transform nursing education at Wilkes for both graduate and undergraduate nursing students, enabling expanded opportunities for technology and professional development experiences.

• The nursing school was renamed the Passan School of Nursing in Passan's honor at a dedication ceremony on, Oct. 21.

"Wilkes University thanks John and Ann Passan for their vision in giving this gift to the School of Nursing, which now will bear John Passan's name," said University President Patrick F. Leahy. "Such an investment reflects an awareness of not only what nursing education at Wilkes is – but,

more importantly, what it can be, given the resources this his contribution provides."

Passan founded Valley Distributing & Storage Co. of Wilkes-Barre. He has supported a number of charitable causes in the region, including previous support to Wilkes. The building at 267 South Franklin St., which currently houses the office of the university's dean of students, health and wellness services and residence life, bears his name.

"My wife and I have a deep respect for health care professionals and especially nurses," Passan said. "It is very exciting for us to know the possibilities the Passan School of Nursing will bring to Wilkes University nurses and the health of this community and beyond."

Nursing school Dean Deborah Zbegner said the Passan gift provides valuable programmatic support to Wilkes' nursing programs.

"The School of Nursing faculty joins me in thanking Mr. Passan for his support. With

its dedication as the Passan School of Nursing, we enter a new era in nursing education with new resources," Zbegner said. "As technology continues to rapidly evolve, this funding will allow us to provide advanced technology in our simulation center and programs, increase online journal holdings in library databases and grow scholarly opportunities for students and faculty."

Wilkes University transitioned its nursing school to become a standalone school beginning in fall 2014. The move, which separated it from the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy, made it the only such nursing school in the region, reflecting Wilkes' strong commitment to nursing education.

The Passan School of Nursing offers a bachelor's degree in nursing and an accelerated baccalaureate degree in nursing for those who already hold a bachelor's degree in another field. On the graduate degree level, the school offers online master's degree programs in adult gerontology primary care nurse practitioner, psychiatric/mental health

nurse practitioner, nursing informatics, nursing education and nurse executive. An online program leading to the doctor of nursing practice was introduced at Wilkes in 2012 – making it the first institution at that time to offer the degree in northeast Pennsylvania.

The Passan School of Nursing's undergraduate nursing program places nursing students in clinical rotations during their sophomore year -- an opportunity unique among nursing programs. Students experience three years of clinical education, giving them more opportunity to explore specialties and making them more prepared to work in hospitals.

In addition, Wilkes has a Clinical Nursing Simulation Center, which is one of the most advanced in the region. The center is credited with helping students become more prepared than ever to enter clinical rotations in hospitals.

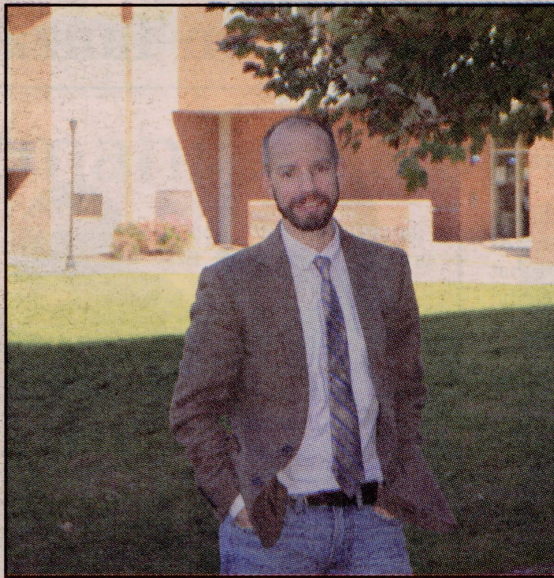
Profile of a Professor: Dr. Chris Zarpentine, philosophy

By Toni Pennello
Staff Writer

How do people make moral decisions? Why is it that certain moral questions do not translate well into action? These are only a few questions pondered by Chris Zarpentine, assistant professor of philosophy. Zarpentine has worked at Wilkes since 2013, and specializes in moral psychology, a discipline which integrates philosophy, psychology, and neuroscience.

Zarpentine has been in the field of moral psychology for almost ten years. "What is unique about the ways I approach these questions is that for many thousands of years philosophers have been asking these sorts of questions, but only recently have scientists and psychologists been able to study them in a more systematic way," he said. "I try to ask philosophical questions in a way that is informed by the interesting research being done in psychology and neuroscience."

Even though he specializes in this area of philosophy, the courses he teaches as well as his interests are not restricted. "We're a small program, so I teach broadly. It's great because I am interested in almost every aspect of



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

philosophy," he explained. Zarpentine has taught courses like logic and ancient philosophy, and will be teaching philosophy of the mind and environmental ethics. "I'm allowed to be interested in many things, and

I found that to be a great part of being a philosopher."

Zarpentine didn't discover his interest in philosophy until he began his undergraduate studies as a music major at Ithaca College. He realized that jobs in music would not work for him, and decided to take up philosophy instead. "I think that's the way a lot of people discover philosophy, because most people don't take philosophy in high school," he said.

He is also on the Institutional Review Board, responsible for protecting the human subjects involved in research. As an ethicist, the protection of human subjects is important to him. He is also working with psychology professor Ellen Newell to form and advise a student organization which will focus on the intersection of philosophy and psychology.

Whenever he has free time, Zarpentine likes to do things like hike and read. "I have a two year old now, so many weekends are spent at the playground."

**Have a professor
you want to see
in the Beacon?**

Contact

**Toni Pennello or
Sarah Bedford**



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"The Hunting Ground" screening Safety vs. university reputation

By Gabby Glinski
Asst. News Editor

On Oct. 20, Student Affairs hosted a viewing of the award winning documentary "The Hunting Ground" to bring awareness to sexual assault on university and college campuses.

Dean of Student Development Philip Ruthkosky and Elizabeth Swantek, director of residence life, presented the film to educate students on the cover up of sexual assault on campuses by colleges and universities. Ruthkosky described the institutional phenomena as "a fight between the safety of students and the reputation of the university."

"The Hunting Ground," directed by Kirby Dick, is a documentary featuring a variety of college students sharing their struggle with the process of reporting sexual assault on their respective college campuses. The film specifically follows two students and their protest of unfair treatment of sexual assault victims by college administrators through Title IX, a federal law that prohibits

discrimination on basis of sex.

The film includes an array of statistics that are meant to stun the viewer. The film claims, "88% of women who are raped on college or university campuses do not report it," due to colleges condemning the persecution of the assailants.

"I want you to think, what can I do as a student?" Ruthkosky stated, wanting students to use the film to further educate themselves on learning the signs of a victim of sexual assault and becoming an engaged bystander.

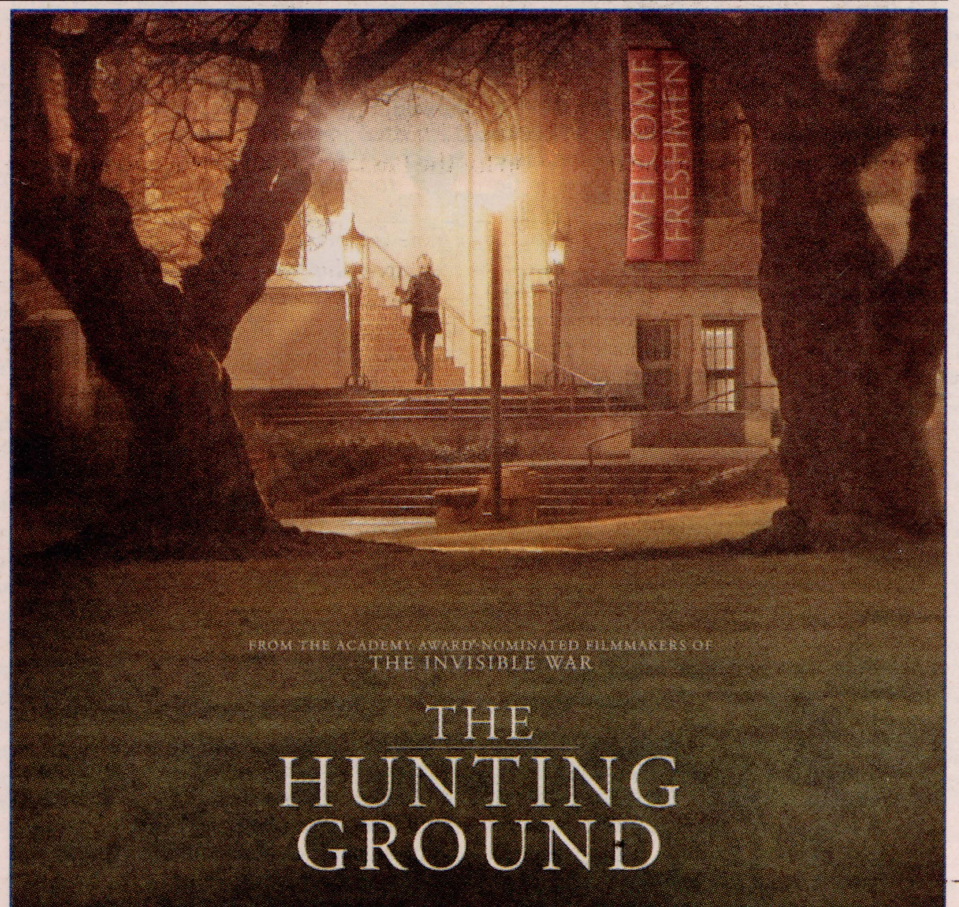
Through education, Ruthkosky believes that sexual assault will become easier to report on Wilkes campus.

For more information on the documentary and its message, visit www.thehuntinggroundfilm.com. The film can be rented or bought on Amazon or in the iTunes Store.

To learn more about sexual assault on campus, check page 3.



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RottenTomatoes

Kihinga George meets Wilkes friends after years of support Zebra Communications; press conference on Tanzanian education

By Toni Pennello
Staff Writer

On Oct. 12, students and local media met in Breiseth Hall for a conversation and press conference with a well-dressed and enthusiastic Kihinga George, a 21-year-old Tanzanian student.

Since 2011, Zebra Communications, the student-run PR agency of the communication studies department, has sponsored the education of four students in Tanzania. George was orphaned by the AIDS virus. Communication studies professor Jane Elmes Crahall oversees the agency.

Anthropology Professor Linda Winkler has been aiding children and families devastated by AIDS in George's hometown of Karagwe, Tanzania, for 15 years.

George has shown a lot of potential in his studies, and hopes to become a doctor or pharmacist in his hometown, where medical services are lacking. When asked how he maintained his ambition and strength through overwhelming obstacles, he simply said that he saw a need in his community and has decided to answer the call no matter what.

George, who visited Wilkes for about a week, has met his sponsors for the first time and also seen America for the first time. Here he ate his first ice cream, learned how to tie

a tie and took his first selfie. He also saw firsthand what it was like to be a student in America while attending classes.

Higher education in Tanzania is radically different than it is in the United States. At the press conference, it was announced that George had been accepted to university; however, his acceptance must still be reviewed by the school board. Since there are so few universities, it is very competitive. George will be placed in the biology program based on testing, because students do not get to choose their own field.

At the press conference, George presented Elmes-Crahall with a handmade map of his town, the bottom of which depicted shaking hands, one hand showing an American flag, and the other a Tanzanian flag. George was then presented with a Wilkes hoodie, which he immediately put on.

Despite the opposition he has faced, George remains determined to empower himself through his education and also help his community. He continuously expressed appreciation to the students and faculty who have worked to sponsor him, and credited them as his inspiration.

"Ambition in education is the key to life," he said.

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Photo Courtesy of Zebra Communications

L-R: Zebra officer Amanda Kornak, Kihinga George, Tanzanian nurse Martha and Zebra Co-Chair Justin Topa.

Weird News

By Gabby Glinski
Asst. News Editor

PENNSYLVANIA

According to a Yahoo! News report, two Pennsylvania cheese manufacturers were charged with conspiracy after selling mislabeled cheese. The cheese, labeled Parmesan and Romano but actually containing cheddar and Swiss, didn't conform to federal standards. The company has been charged with misbranding food as part of a scheme.

NEW JERSEY

Joseph Greenwood allegedly used a police summons as toilet paper. After being released on a charge of threatening assault, Greenwood placed the summons between his "butt cheeks," made a wiping motion and threw it at an officer, Newser reported. Greenwood was then charged with throwing bodily fluids at a police officer.

LONDON

British man Jeff Woolmer was forced to move homes after winning a seven-ton army tank on an online auction, paying \$14,000. The massive ex-Canadian military vehicle forced him to move to find a place with more parking space. Surprisingly, with the correct paperwork, it is possible to drive tanks on roads in the UK.

PENNSYLVANIA

According to police, a woman was arrested after she broke into a neighbor's house and washed clothes in the bathtub. Kelly Bancroft, 44, is charged with burglary and trespassing after the neighbor found her in the bathroom with water, shampoo and clothing in the bathtub.

CNN

Rapper Wacka Flocka Flame announced in a Funny or Die video his bid for speaker of the house, dismissing his dream of running for president last spring after realizing he was too young for the role. If he wins, his plans include implementing "cool things" like marijuana legalization, women's rights and

gun control, and blocking "stupid" things such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership, voter ID laws and a wall between the United States and Mexico.

ALASKA

A man legally named Santa Claus won a three-year city council term in an Alaskan town called North Pole. According to news reports, the 68-year-old man has a natural white beard and donned a red suit for the campaign. Claus is an advocate for legislation and services that benefit at-risk children.

OREGON

A Subway unknowingly served a dead mouse in one of its sandwiches. The mouse was found in an Italian sub by Matt Jones, who snapped a picture of the unusual find and posted it to social media. The animal was likely scooped out of the bottom of the spinach bin, according to a USA Today report. Luckily, local health officials said there was a low chance of sickness from the food.

NEW YORK

Buster the kangaroo experienced a few minutes of freedom in New York City. Buster

and his owner were visiting friends on Staten Island when the 3-foot tall marsupial slipped through an unlocked gate. The New York City Police Department confirms they responded to a call of a wild animal hopping in an auto shop parking lot. The owner was not charged in the incident, as marsupials are allowed in upstate New York but not in New York City.

AUSTRALIA

An Australian chicken restaurant, Chicken Treat, has an unusual PR coordinator. Betty the Chicken tweets promotions for the restaurant in hopes of eventually typing a legible five letter word. While Betty's latest tweet "79./ a1" is not a Guinness World Record, she did allegedly type "bum" once. In retaliation to blowback from animal rights activists, Chicken Treat tweeted that the effort has been "been approved by (the Australian Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) & abides by all standards regarding animal welfare."

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Life, Arts & Entertainment

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

Just what the doctor ordered Wilkes professor makes directorial debut with The Rocky Horror Show

Staff Reports

Sitting in his office on the third floor of the Stark Learning Center, Dr. Tom Franko excitedly discusses one of his ongoing research projects stopping only long enough to answer an advisee's registration question.

He then chats with a colleague before moving onto further organizing a neatly stacked pile of papers on his desk.



Franko

It's 5 p.m. on a Thursday, but for Franko, an assistant professor of pharmacy practice, the work day is far from finished. Once he leaves Stark, he'll head to the Little

Theatre of Wilkes-Barre, where he is making his directorial debut with The Rocky Horror Show – the stage version of the cult classic Rocky Horror Picture Show.

According to the show's Facebook page, "Innocent young Brad and Janet seek refuge in a mysterious castle on a rainy night. Inside, they encounter the lab of Dr. Frank 'N' Furter and his madcap gaggle of aliens and misfits, who lead the young couple on an intergalactic adventure of sexual discovery and rock-and-roll."

"Understanding art helps people better understand people," Franko said, adding that medicine is more than simply treating a disease – it's treating the person.

So while some people may think Franko, who has been active as an actor in community theater since 2011, is unique with such an artistic pastime outside of his medically minded job, he sees it as making perfect sense.

After performing in shows like Spamalot, Anything Goes, The Crucible, Barefoot in



Courtesy of On My Cue Photography and Productions

The Rocky Horror Show at Wilkes-Barre's Little Theatre takes place this week. From left, first row, Ben Steltz, Ericka Law, Karl Kleist and Ashley Firestone. Back row, Mike Wawrzyniec.

the Park and Les Miserables, Franko felt it was "time to get (his) name out there" as a director as well as an actor.

"It's a lot of work. As an actor, you stay on stage...and go with it," he explained. "As a director, I need to know where everyone has to go and why."

One thing that has helped Franko with Rocky is a number of returning cast members. Little Theatre put on The Rocky Horror Show last October, and a number of actors are returning the their past roles, such as Mike Wawrzyniec and Ericka Law. Wawrzyniec plays the platform-shoe-wearing Dr. Frank n' Furter, while Law plays the innocent goody-two-shoes Janet Weiss.

"(Dr. Frank n' Furter) is rarely subtle in his movements or reactions," Wawrzyniec

said. "I've almost likened him to a silent movie star in the way that he reacts so grandiosely and impulsively to everything that happens to him."

"I do everything in my power to keep the audience on their toes – so don't be surprised if I end up in the audience multiple times throughout the night."

Show goers can expect to be scared, shocked, surprised and entertained, cast members said.

"There are multiple scenes in this show where you are forced to be rather close and intimate with other cast mates," Law said. "...It allows you to be yourself and let loose."

That's what Franko hope the audience can also do – let loose.

Fans of the film or stage show know

how important audience interaction is to The Rocky Horror Show, he said. Little Theatre will have "prop bags" available for \$5 so attendees can participate in the show's activities, too. At Friday night's show, the cast will be available for on-stage photos with audience members; cost is a "suggested donation," Franko added.

The Rocky Horror Show runs at 8 p.m. on Oct. 29 and 30 and 3 p.m. on Nov. 1. There will also be a midnight Halloween show. Wilkes University students are eligible for free tickets with their ID.

For additional information on Rocky Horror or other upcoming Little Theatre Shows, visit www.ltwb.org.

Students help raise awareness of social issues



The Beacon/ Rebecca Voorhees

BACCHUS President Troy Carey, reads about the alarming statistic of sexual violence at the "Stop the Hate, Stop the Violence" event last Thursday.



The Beacon/ Rebecca Voorhees

WCLH Programming Director Markeata White speaks to the audience about the station's late DJ Moe at the "Stop the Hate, Stop the Violence" event.



The Beacon/ Jesse Chalnack

On Oct. 21, BACCHUS held their annual Wilkes Alcohol Awareness Walk to increase the education of the risks of alcohol.



The Beacon/ Jesse Chalnack

Walkers in the 2015 Wilkes alcohol awareness walk made the journey from the Wilkes Greenway, across the Market Street Bridge to Kirby park and back.

MSC: one world, one university

By Andre Spurell
Sports Asst. Editor

If you're looking to learn about different cultures without having to sit through lots of classes, look no further than the Multicultural Student Coalition Club.

The multicultural student coalition, or MSC, is a club has been around for a few years and its purpose is to let students discuss their cultures and get to know each other better as a result.

"Students get to come together and each student gets to learn about each other's culture which is what I like most about the club," stated Erica Acosta, the faculty adviser of MSC.

One of the biggest issues the club tackled was the "Black Lives Matter" protest, which took place at the Henry Student Center back in March.

The purpose was to stand up for African Americans like Eric Garner and Trayvon Martin, who got their lives taken away due to police brutality and violence. The idea was brought up by senior Erica Chambers, president of the club, and turned out to be a huge success.


The former president, Kayla Rooney, helped Chambers with the idea of having a protest or rally on the issue.

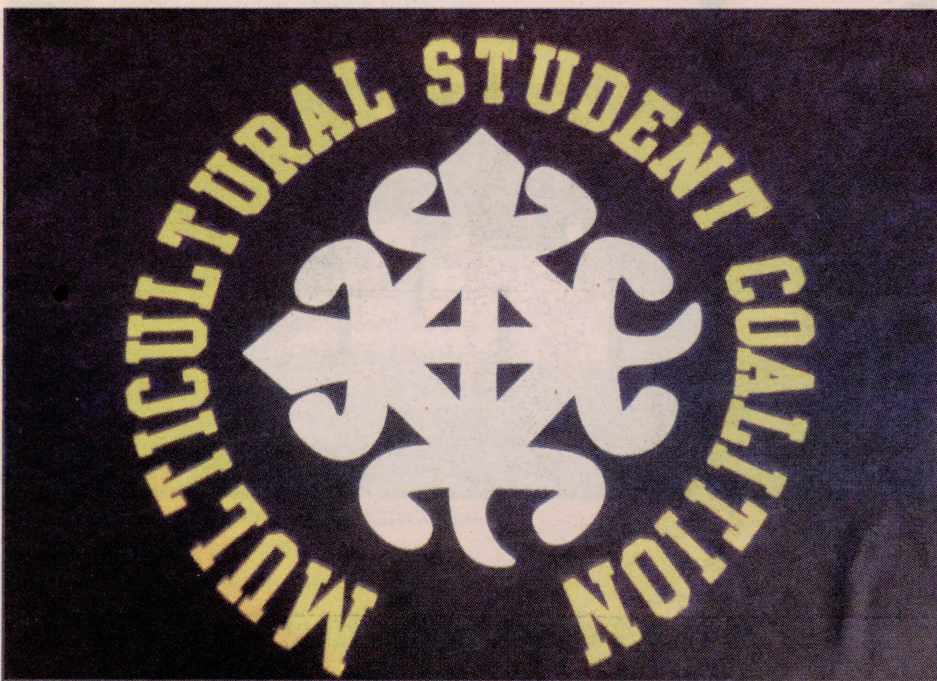
"It's especially important for a school like Wilkes, since we're so small, to spread light on these issues because I feel everyone is silent here about issues like this," Chambers said.

When the club originally started, there really was no clear purpose or motive behind it, so about two years ago, the students involved with the club decided to do something about it. Recent Wilkes graduate and former president of MSC, Jaleel Sterling, is credited with helping turn the club around according to current and former members.

What the club is probably most known for is the "One World Party," which includes dancing and food from different countries, and allows for people to interact with each other and discuss their cultures. The party typically includes different genres of music from around the world and a talent show which is open to everyone on campus.

"This is a club where you can learn about different cultures, meet new friends, and learn more things, which I'm sure is something people would like to do," Chambers said.

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The Beacon/ Nicole Zukowski

MSC prompts a link between diversity and acceptance on campus.

HUMANS OF WILKES UNIVERSITY



The Beacon/Alexandra Devarie

"Psychology and exercise are both huge passions of mine. I decided to do my capstone research on the psychological effects of exercise because I love to exercise. It's a passion of mine that has helped me throughout the years of being a student- when I was dealing with the stress of a typical college student. The gym was helping me relieve that stress. I'm glad I have it in my life to give me something to look forward to. To me, researching and conducting an experiment on something I already love was a no brainer. It makes me feel good and it makes me feel like I can do better."

-Nina Grippo

GSA hosts lecture to debunk LGBT+ myths

By Austin Ely
Life, Arts & Entertainment Asst. Editor

On Oct. 21, the Wilkes University's Gay Straight Alliance hosted a special lecture from Michael A. Bronski of Dartmouth College and Harvard University, who visited Wilkes to continue the discussion about gay, lesbian, bisexual, asexual and transgender communities.

The topic of discussion was centered around a book called "You Can Tell Just By Looking: And 20 Other Myths about LGBT Life and People," which was written in collaboration between Bronski, Ann Pellegrini and Michael Amico.

In the book there are actually 21 myths outlined in five parts that pertain to the LGBT life and people.

Bronski started the discussion by passing

out copies of the table of contents of the book. He asked the audience, which was comprised of about thirty people, which myths seemed foreign or unusual. He also prefaced the discussion with an explanation about myths and what the purpose of myths are.

Almost immediately the discussion fired off as those from the audience asked for clarifications and explanations about some of the myths.

The myths that were discussed ranged from the first myth, which is "You can tell who's gay just by looking" to myth 17 which is "Positive Visibility in the Media Increases Tolerance and Acceptance of LGBT People" as well as myth 21, "Getting Tested on a Regular Basis Helps Prevent the Spread of HIV."

However, the bulk of the discussion focused around myth 17, which sparked an extensive discussion about the media's role in depicting LGBT people in a positive way.

"What is the difference between acceptance and tolerance?" Bronski asked, directing his question at the audience to answer.

He also said that the definition of "visibility" is also important in understanding this myth. He provided the example of how visibility did not help the Jews during World War II and therefore the visibility in the media for LGBT people, at times, does not help either.


Bronski then challenged the audience to think of a T.V. show that would be the most accurate representation on everyday

life for a member of the LGBT community.

Professor of Communication Studies Mia Briceño was present at the discussion and cautioned that people must be weary of the media and how it portrays gay, lesbian, bisexual, asexual and transgender characters because these characters are often defined by that trait alone.

Bronski's visit lasted almost two hours and curated some valuable points to add to the ongoing discussion about LGBT life.

It strengthens the understanding of Wilkes professors and students alike, and makes way for tolerance and acceptance of people who do not define themselves as heterosexual or cisgender in this world.

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Expression through physical appearance

A look into a professional life affected by body art

By Austin Ely

Life, Arts & Entertainment Asst. Editor

In this series, Austin Ely will explore different topics about expressing one's self through a physical form of body art.

More people, especially employers and recruiters, are beginning to realize and understand that body art does not determine the skill or expertise of a person.

More people, especially millennials between the ages of 19 to 25, are getting tattoos and according to a Pew research study titled "A Portrait of Generation Next," more than a third of millennials have at least one tattoo.

This means that as millennials continue to enter the workforce employers and recruiters will continue to see more employees and clients who have body art.

In a previous article in this series titled "Expression through physical appearance: A change of perceptions in the professional realm," there was a distinction made between two different job fields. Those two job fields consisted of the conservative job field and the liberal arts job field.

These two professional realms differ in how they address body art in the work environment. Where one is more cautious of its employees' appearance in regards to body art and the other may not be as concerned with it.

Susan Zubitne, a senior English and secondary education major at Wilkes University, currently works at a law firm in the area as well as observes at Coughlin High School for her observational hours as part of her secondary education curriculum.

She also has a tattoo on the back of her neck of a skull which has butterfly wings sprouting from it, surrounded by a spider web and stars. Her tattoo is also difficult to hide with just clothes and hair.

Zubitne states that she has had issues in both the conservative and liberal fields, especially when majoring in secondary education.

When talking about the conservative job field she explained that every day is



The Beacon/ Austin Ely

Visible tattoos in a professional work setting sometimes comes with negative stigmas of unprofessionalism depending on which type of work one is in. In some environments, visible tattoos can bring a feeling of shame, something Susan Zubitne, above, experiences often.

a struggle to hide her tattoo and that she puts her hair down even before entering the law firm.

"You are expected to dress as if you were walking into the courtroom," Zubitne said. "I would likely be looked at as a client if I walked into the firm with my tattoo exposed."

She also explained that special concealer for tattoos and scarification is relatively expensive, especially if someone has to use it every day to conceal their body art.

Zubitne then compared her law firm experience to her observational experience at a local high-school.

First, she explained that she was given a packet in which explained many rules and procedures when observing in a school and one of the bullet points in the packet actually addressed tattoos and their

restrictions. It said that all tattoos must be covered.

"When students saw my tattoo they never said anything negative," she said, "but if any of the teachers or administrators saw my tattoo they could immediately tell me to leave just because they saw it."

All though Zubitne has never experienced having to leave the school because she makes sure her tattoo is covered, she expressed that there is still the feeling of being ashamed of having her body art when she is in the school.

She also said that at times she has even questioned whether or not she will be hired just because of her ink.

However, despite her experience in having to continuously cover her tattoo due to the type of work environments she is in, she has a positive outlook on how

body art defines herself and others.

"Being forced to hide my tattoo on the basis of society makes me feel like I am covering up a part of me; my tattoo is part of me but it does not define me."

The more the discussion of body art in the workplace is brought up, there can only be more of an understanding and acceptance of it.

Zubitne spoke for all those who have body art and are seeking a career in a professional field when she stated, "Don't allow society or anyone to shame you or make you feel worthless or belittle you for your tattoos because they are works of art. Be proud."



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"CTHULHU FOUND IN SUSQUEHANNA"

Ashley Evert
Managing Editor

Wilkes Barre police were called to the River Commons late Monday night to investigate a call about a creature found in the Susquehanna.

Police would not comment on what was taken in for lab testing, but a witness was found at the scene chanting, "Ph'nglui mglw'nafh Cthulhu R'l'eyh wgah'nagl fhtagn."

The witness was Emma Thurston, a junior philosophy major at Wilkes.

"The great priest Cthulhu, from his dark house in the mighty city of R'l'eyh under the waters, should rise and bring the earth again beneath his sway. We knew some day he would call, when the stars were ready, and the secret cult would always be waiting to liberate him," she commented.

Thurston is not the only person to comment that the creature found in the river was reminiscent of a science fiction legend.

Jax Johansen, freshman criminology major at Wilkes, was walking along River Street when he saw the plastic sheet slip off of the creature the police were examining.

"It had this head like a cuttlefish but a slimy, scaly body like a mix between a dragon and a fish. I swear I saw tentacles, too. I know it sounds crazy, but that's what I saw!" he said.

William Price, professor of English at Dunsany University, specializes in science fiction. Price wrote his dissertation on H.P. Lovecraft's short story, "The Call of Cthulhu."

"The story was published in 1928, but is not the first written notion of Cthulhu. For example, Tennyson wrote a sonnet titled The Kraken in 1830 that described an aquatic monster at the bottom of the sea. This is no new phenomenon," he said.

Price continued, "Authors often draw inspiration from real life, so who's to say Lovecraft, Tennyson and dozens of other authors hadn't actually seen this monster? Who's to say that we know about every living thing in our waterways?"

VOLUNTEER TAKES BITE OUT OF CAMPUS BLOOD DRIVE

Sara Pisak
Assistant Opinion Editor

Wilkes University recently held its annual blood drive benefiting the American Red Cross.

However, several news outlets were quick to report that suspicious activity ceased the event from going as planned. Local vampire Vlad Usturoi is now the subject of a statewide manhunt after illegally working the blood drive held on the university's campus.

A student, who wished to remain anonymous to protect their identity, is quoted saying: "I observed Mr. Usturoi placing the donated bags in the bloodmobile and suddenly he was gone. It was as if he vanished into thin air."

Usturoi is described as being six feet two inches tall, speaking with a foreign accent, having slicked back, black hair and was last seen wearing Halloween themed black and

red scrubs adorned with fangs. Campus and Wilkes Barre police are asking anyone with any information to call 911 immediately.

Wilkes University Professor Philip Plasma was interviewed by campus and city police. He stated, "Mr. Usturoi was the phlebotomist who drew my donation today. In all my years of donating to the drive, I have never seen him before, but he seemed like a great guy."

Plasma continued, "Mr. Usturoi made me feel comfortable. He explained that he works with people and blood everyday so not to worry I was in good hands."

According to the Wilkes-Barre city police report, the bloodmobile never arrived at its final destination at the Wilkes-Barre Red Cross. Several witnesses report a small bat was seen sitting comfortably on the dash of the bloodmobile as it drove away from campus.

UFO GTA SUSPECTS APPREHENDED

Sarah Bedford
News Editor

The string of thefts occurring across NEPA was put to an end Thursday when police took two felons into custody.

"Morkie Mork" and "Alf Nado," as the two are known in the local "Galaxy Gang," have been arrested and charged with grand theft auto after attempting to steal a UFO from the space craft dealership,

Outta This World Automotives early Thursday.

Mork, 29 and Nado, 19, have each been charged with 13 counts of grand theft auto and 666 counts of illegal possession of space weaponry.

Authorities found hundreds of lightsabers, thermal detonators and seismic charges in their getaway

vehicle, "The Mini Death Star."

Outta This World Automotives Manager Darth Brooks explained that he's happy to see the two men put behind bars.

"Those monsters have caused enough damage around here," Brooks said in a statement to the public Friday morning. "With part of the Galaxy Gang awaiting trial, we can all rest a bit easier at night."

With their arrest, authorities are on the lookout for more members

of the alleged gang, whose main victims are those in the UFO and broomstick business.

Police say that shop owners, space craft enthusiasts and Quidditch players should lock up their belongings before dark as to avoid possible theft.

Those with information on the Galaxy Gang or who would like to report any suspicious or supernatural activity can report it to the police.

Design by
Nicole Kutos

FORMER PROFESSOR RETURNS, SEEKS REVENGE

Eric Casey
Staff Writer

Wilkes University's Public Safety received a call last night from Kalen Churcher, professor of communication studies and recent addition to faculty. City police were reportedly called in for backup to investigate the scene at Conyngham Hall, home of The Beacon student newspaper.

Once inside, they found Churcher in shock and almost motionless on the floor in the middle of newspapers that had ominous red writing scribbled on them.

"I was just looking through old newspapers when suddenly three knocks came from outside," Churcher announced to the public this morning, visibly shaken. "Without thinking I went to the back door to let in what I thought was a student coming to finish a late assignment, but alas I was wrong."

She said the person at the door was former Beacon advisor and communication studies professor Loran Lewis. According to Churcher,

he looked ghostly and kept rambling on about trying to take his job back. He swung at her with an AP style guide book. She said that he admitted to working with Student Government to "take (her) down."

"He said they had a secret meeting around 3 a.m. last Thursday. They planned for Dr. Lewis to come after me," she said. "After he told me he's been spying on me all week, that's when I yanked out my phone to call public safety, but I tripped backwards and fell. I panicked into the phone, and then he swiftly ran away."

Churcher is taking an extended leave of absence at her home. For now, Lewis is still at large. Rumors speculate potential plans to scare off Communication Studies Chair Mark Stine so he can take over the entire department. Student Government, and its president Anthony Fanucci, are to be questioned for possible suspicious activity relating to the attack.

ZOMBIE SPURS POTENTIAL RABIES OUTBREAK, UNDEAD ARMY

Gabby Glinski
Assistant News Editor

On Monday, October 26 at 4:30 a.m., the Wilkes-Barre city zombie, affectionately named 'One Eye' was admitted to the quarantine department in the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital due to a positive rabies testing. The test sent the city into a mass panic.

"Our staff is trying its hardest to contact every former human that was ever bitten by One Eye," stated Chief Physician of Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, Anthony Terreo. "However, One Eye did not keep good records of his bitings and the infected will soon turn into a rabid army of the undead."

Early morning rioters through the streets near the General Hospital were threatening to re-kill One Eye. The Pennsylvania National Guard quickly arrived on the scene to dismiss the turmoil.

Mayor Jack Olanturn quickly addressed the situation at 9 a.m. the same day. "We need to take caution in upcoming Halloweens, by then, we should have

everything under control." He quickly fled after the address.

Due to the uncertainty of the precise locations of the other infected zombies, the Wilkes-Barre City Police Department placed the areas of Wilkes University, Sheetz #297 on Wilkes-Barre Township Blvd, and Wilkes University Ralston Field Sports Complex under a Class A High Risk Watch for potential infected zombie uprisings.

The Wilkes-Barre Family and Friends Rabies Center has volunteered to provide free housing for residents in the areas claimed as high risk. The center is located on North River Street, next to the courthouse.

"Run while you can," said Wilkes University President Patrick Leahy in a recent address to the university's remaining undergrad students, after an immediate evacuation was put in place for all graduate students.

If an emergency, zombie spotting or foaming at the mouth occurs call the Wilkes-Barre Anti Zombie Coalition immediately at 570- RUN-AWAY.

Opinion

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

Do college students really run on coffee?

By Allison Rossi
Staff writer

College is like a bubble to the outside world.

In that bubble students are constantly running around trying to squeeze everything possible into small periods of time, including clubs, meetings, going to class, studying for their classes until ungodly hours of the night and going out with their friends as well.

Something must keep students running and focused so they have the energy to make it through their busy schedule.

This is where coffee comes into play.

Coffee gives people an energy boost and keeps individuals alert. It can also become addicting. According to webmed.com, caffeine is a stimulant to the central nervous system, and regular use of caffeine does cause mild physical dependence.

Becoming dependent on coffee or on any

substance is not good for you. Harvard's T.H. Chan, from the school of public health, said that 54 percent of Americans over the age of 18 drink coffee every day.

Americans drink an average of 3.1 cups a day. Sixty-five percent of Americans drink it with breakfast, 30 percent drink it in between meals, and 5 percent drink it with meals other than breakfast. The United States of America spends \$40 billion dollars on coffee per year.

The reasoning on why college students drink coffee as much as they do can vary. Sophomore Sarah Adelfio had a lot to say about her caffeine consumption habits.

"On average, I drink two to three cups of coffee a day," Adelfio said. "On a busy day I usually drink more than that. I can study without coffee but I typically have a cup before I study to help me focus more. I go through very bad withdrawals after 24 hours of not having coffee."

Student Jacqueline Scheffler similarly enjoys drinking coffee.

"Depending on how my day goes, I drink one or two cups daily. I usually have one in the morning and that gets me through the day but sometimes I need more than one and I always make sure it is dark roast.

"I can study without it but I prefer studying with coffee. I do not go through withdrawals, I can go days without having it but I drink it because it tastes good, wakes me up, and helps me with headaches."

Ashley Weber explained, "I consume coffee once a day. I can study without coffee and I am not dependent on it. I do not have withdrawals from coffee either."

Coffee consumption habits vary from student to student. Some do not need coffee to focus like Weber; however, others need coffee to complete their everyday tasks like Adelfio and Scheffler.

Clearly, many college students are



dependent on coffee. After hearing these caffeine consumption statistics and habits it is true that America really does run on coffee.



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Yes; the world really does revolve around money

By Rebecca Voorhees
Staff writer

The frustrations of a college student seem to increase with every passing day, but 8 a.m. classes and five-page papers are the least of our troubles. Most students are concerned with money, especially if they have a financial hold on their account.

It has been brought to many students' attention that their account summaries are significantly higher than previous semester's - the question is, why?

Student Services at Wilkes University, and college institutions all over the state, are still waiting for the Pennsylvania State Budget to be passed in Harrisburg. Without a budget, the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) grants cannot be dispersed, leaving students distraught and worried for the future.

A budget was approved by the Senate earlier this summer, but on June 30, Gov. Tom Wolf vetoed the \$30.2 billion budget

bill. Since then, there has not been an agreement and students eligible for PHEAA are impatiently waiting for their account summaries to decrease.

Republicans proposed a compromise for the bill the last week of August, but it is under review. On Sept. 29, the Republican majority passed an \$11 billion short-term spending plan to cover four months of funding, but Tom Wolf vetoed their advance once again. When will politicians stop dancing around and finally address the immediate problems at hand?

Student Services can only make estimations for PHEAA grants based on the numbers from the previous fiscal year, but they will not know for sure until the budget is passed. Schools stay in contact with PHEAA, receiving limited information and empty promises. Colleges everywhere can only attempt to comfort their students during this time of uncertainty.

Should students prepare for the worst outcome?

With midterm exams being over, students are anxious to see their progress so far this semester, but students who have a hold on their account cannot have access to their grade reports.

Academics are obviously very important, and without access to grades some students could struggle with balancing out their studies. One class could negatively change a GPA and lots of students receive academic scholarships. Losing a scholarship would cause even more financial troubles.

Pre-registration has already begun on campus. Friends are planning to schedule classes together and advisors are guiding their students to success. Unfortunately, Wilkes University policy does not allow students with a financial hold on their account to register for classes for the next semester. If students cannot register for the appropriate classes on time, they could lose credits and fall behind on their major courses. This could force students to not graduate on time, and spend even more

money towards earning a degree.

Sophomore criminology major Samie Hilenski shared her difficult experience with The Beacon.

"If PHEAA had fallen through on time, I would have only had to spend a few hundred dollars on tuition this semester. But because the bill wasn't passed, I had to take out a substantial loan. It's not fair because I was relying on PHEAA, and I had to take out a loan on such short notice."

Another student, who wished to remain anonymous, could not take the same action. "I can't get a personal loan. My parents don't have good credit, and I need a cosigner. I'm desperately waiting for my PHEAA grant so that I can figure out what to do as soon as possible. I'm really worried about my future here at Wilkes."

So brace yourselves classmates, and hope for the best outcome.



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Colonels Talk Back

Reactions to the KKK actively recruiting in Wilkes-Barre

Interviews by
Luke Modrovsky

Photos by
Jesse Chalnack

Alison Walck
Freshman/Pre-Pharmacy

"I am not really worried about it. The press seems to overdo things a lot so I think they're overdoing this too. I think this will pretty much go away and not be an issue after a while."

Jason Ugwu
Senior/Mechanical Engineering

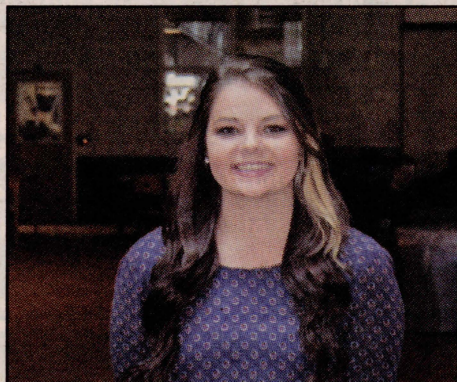
"I'm really not that scared anymore. Probably back in the day I would be, but right now, no. I don't think there is going to be much success with it, but good luck to them. I've heard a lot of white men say I'm proud to be white and I don't consider that racist at all. These guys are associated with a terrible past and they shouldn't do what they're doing."

Jay Gonzalez
Freshman/Political Science

"It makes me feel frustrated, but in the long run, I'm not really worried about it. I mean, if the KKK was prevalent today, you would see them everywhere and you don't. So, there's no need to worry about it right now."

Media outlets reported that local leaders from the Ku Klux Klan are seeking out new members in the Wilkes-Barre area. Although the members say they are not a racist organization, some people feel differently.

The Beacon asked members of the Wilkes Community for a reaction to the news.

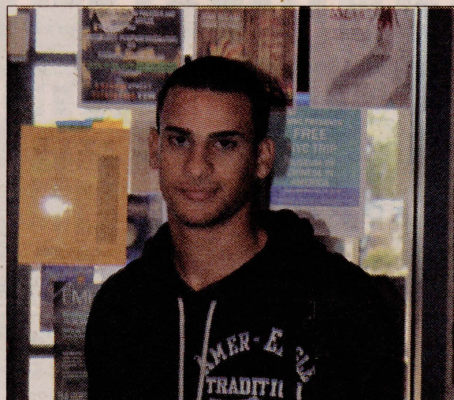
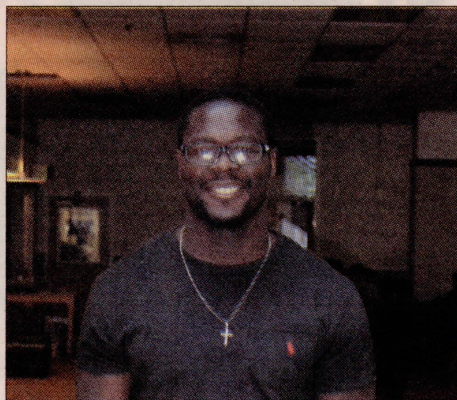


Here is the message placed on fliers distributed in the Wilkes-Barre area:

I am proud to be black; said the black man.
I am proud to be Asian; said the Asian man.
I am proud to be white; said the racist.
Stop the double standards.
Help us fight white racism, illegal immigration and terrorism.

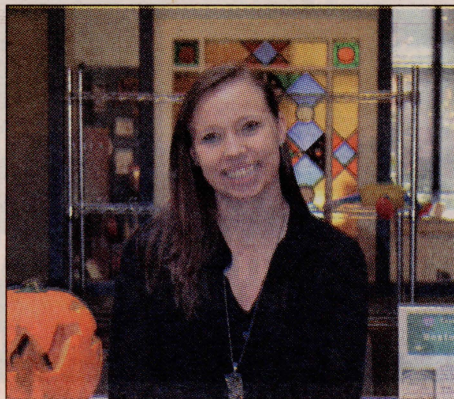
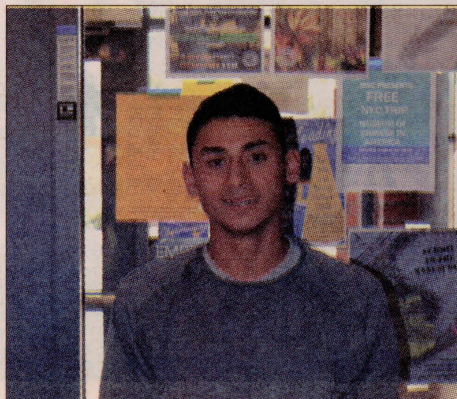
Neha Kansal
Freshman/Biology & Pre-Med

"I don't like this. It's sad. Racism shouldn't be a thing anymore in today's world. Today is a society where all of us should be equal. This group and their mission will work to destroy the progress made so far."



Ramon Bazan
Freshman/Business Administration

"I'm kind of worried, but also not at the same time. These people are looking to reform the KKK again where we live, so it can be dangerous. It can be kind of scary with just thinking about what they've done in the past."



Allie Grudeski
Junior/Pharmacy-1

"I think the biggest thing is that I am upset about it. I don't see why if I'm white, that I should be considered a racist. Some of my best friends are of different ethnicities than I am. Today's a different world."

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The Monk: Lewis, 18th century's Stephen King

By Sara Pisak
Assistant Opinion Editor

Halloween is the one time a year we allow ourselves to be scared. Most of us avoid fear the other three hundred and sixty-four days of the year. We simply change the channel to avoid the scary movie and we stay within our comfort zone to avoid our own psychological fears. However, during Halloween we sit wide-eyed confronting our fears, and if you are a vivid reader, it is the perfect time to pick up a Stephen King classic.

Instead of discussing the contemporary king of horror, Stephen King, I would like to discuss the first ever king of horror, Matthew Lewis. I always consider Matthew Lewis and his text, *The Monk* to be ahead of its time and comparable to the works of Stephen King. Although *The Monk* possesses several elements of the horror genre such as character doubling, gruesome deaths and the interrelatedness of characters, it also possesses one of the contemporary elements of horror a reader closely recognizes. This element is the supernatural becoming corporeal and is often employed by authors such as King.

Matthew Lewis published his Gothic classic, *The Monk*, at the age of nineteen in 1796, well before the public craved shock and horror within their novels. A reader only needs to view the popular late 1790s political and social cartoons depicting the repulsion of women reading *The Monk* to see its shocking impact. When examining Gothic works whether classic or contemporary, it is always important to keep in mind the difference between terror and horror. I discussed these differences between terror and horror in a previous opinion column focusing on Alfred Hitchcock's classic film *Rear Window*.


The concepts behind the differences are still the same no matter the genre. Ann Radcliffe, writer and contemporary of Matthew Lewis defines the difference behind terror and horror. In Radcliffe's essay *On the Supernatural in Poetry*, she states, "Terror and horror are so far opposite, that the first expands the soul, and awakens the faculties to a high degree of life; the other contracts, freezes, and nearly annihilates them." Radcliffe is defining terror as a type of fear which allows the reader to expand their senses. Terror engages the reader allowing them to take an active role in the dialogue, the other sensory details and the psychological aspects of the text. Horror, on the other hand, paralyzes the reader with fear. This fear disengages the reader from the text as he or she becomes shocked and passive onlookers.

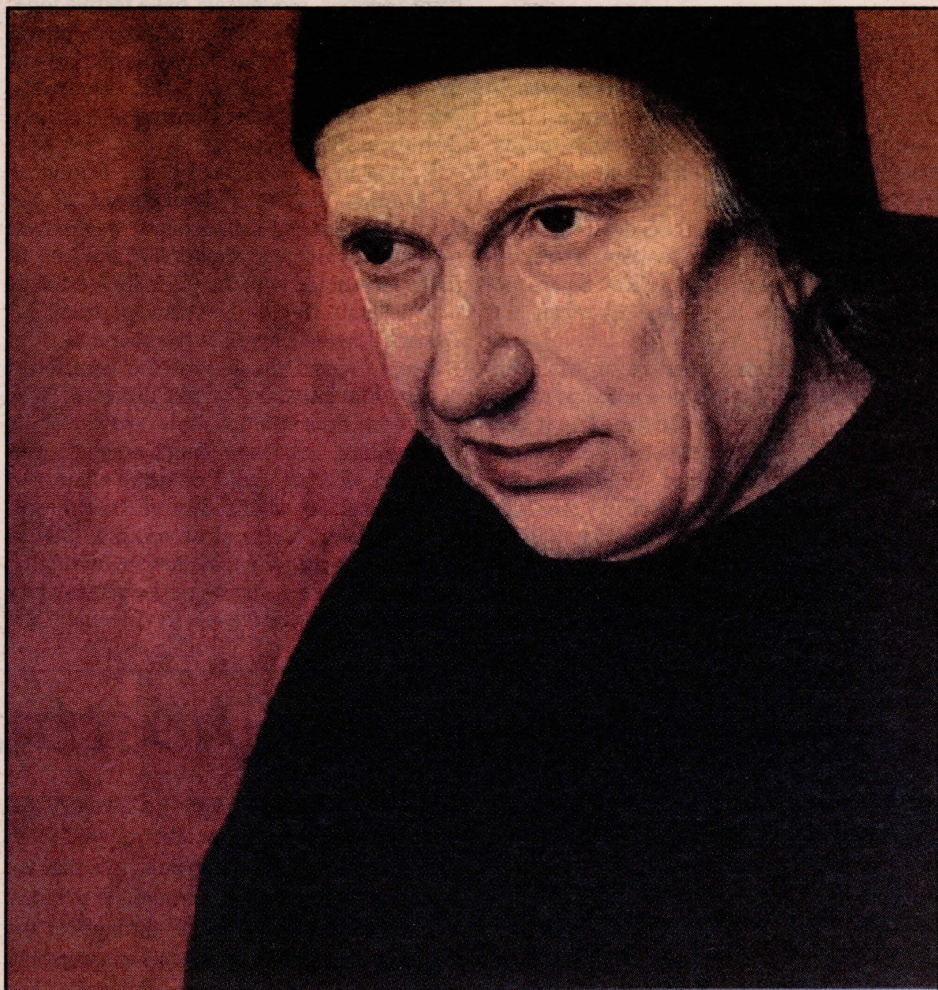
Regarding *The Monk* and any Stephen

King text, they employ horror. The main goal of these works is to scare the reader senseless and they do just that. Lewis' text is the tragic tale of Capuchin Monk, Ambrosio, who breaks his vow of chastity. The breaking of this vow leads Ambrosio down the path of obsession, rape, incest and murder. The horror within *The Monk*, is the element which makes this text comparable to a contemporary King novel. Lewis plays on the reader's expectations that a man of God would not be led astray. Lewis shatters the idea that religion is a refuge. Lewis leaves the beliefs of his readers crumbled and with the crumbling of their beliefs so does the solid ground on which the reader stands. By Lewis shattering the religious convictions of his readers, he creates the horror which the text instills.

The horror continues when the manifestation of the Madonna icon in Ambrosio's bedchamber turns out to be the devil in disguise which is responsible for leading Ambrosio astray. For authors like Lewis and King, the devil is in the details. Lewis and King are able to use their writing ability to create horror lurking within everyday objects. Lewis creates horror by having the devil disguised in iconography. Lewis develops horror through objects further when he employs the setting of an Abbey. The Abbey turns into a house of horrors. For example, the mother abbess imprisons one of the characters in a damp, rat infested dungeon below the Abbey. As the mother abbes, the other nuns and the faithful parishioners remain devote and model symbols of religion above ground praying in the Abbey, the prisoner remains hypocritically beneath their feet as screams are squelched by music and prayers. The Abbey and dungeon become a character themselves as the horror which lurks in their midst becomes too physical to contain.

Lewis utilizes the natural elements in the setting to take on a life of their own. The ending scene witnesses a character (I will not reveal which character) being thrown to their death by the devil. The character painfully dies with only the river and rocky landscape as company. With the rise of natural elements and inanimate objects being brought to life by Lewis, it is no wonder centuries later the public would crave novels such as Stephen King's where pictures and cars cause mayhem and take on a life of their own. If you are looking for a scare this Halloween, pick up this classic Gothic text and discover where the public's fascination with horror began.

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Matthew Lewis
The Monk

OXFORD WORLD'S CLASSICS

Courtesy of Sara Pisak

Sara's Score:



EL DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS: Wilkes professor offers insight

By Dr. Rafael Garcia
Guest Columnist

I have been teaching Spanish for four years at Wilkes University. As we approach the end of October, students often ask me about *el día de los muertos*, which means "the Day of the Dead," and it seems to be the "Spanish" version of Halloween.

I have to tell them that it is not a tradition that we have in Spain, my country of origin, and only few years ago it was as exotic to me as it might be to any American not familiar with it.

The Day of the Dead is a Mexican holiday originally celebrated in the southern and central regions of Mexico, but it has spread to the whole country because of the educational policies of the government of Mexico in the second half of the 20th century.

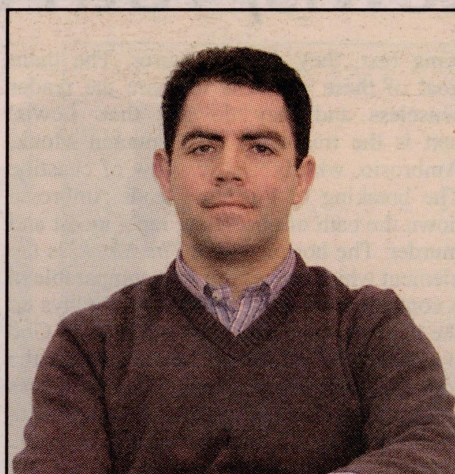
On this day, people get together with family and friends to remember and pray for the loved ones who have died, in the hope

that prayer will help them in their spiritual journey. Day of the Dead, however, doesn't have a serious, gloomy air, but a festive tone.

The Day of the Dead is now a public national holiday in Mexico. It is interesting to note that the origin of this celebration precedes the Spanish colonization for more than thousands of years.

It used to be celebrated at the beginning of summer but, as a consequence of the Christianization of the region, it was moved to October 31st, November 1st and 2nd to make it coincide with the Catholic feast days of All Saints Day on November 1st and All Departed Souls Day on November 2nd.

People spend the day at the cemeteries to be with the souls of the departed. It is a perfect occasion to show artistic skills in painting, carving, dancing and even literature. People build colorful altars and shrines that are abundantly decorated with many different kinds of ornaments, flowers (especially marigolds), photos, memorabilia, paintings, crosses, statues of the Virgin Mary and other saints and even food, usually the



Courtesy of Wilkes University

favorite food of the departed.

The belief is that the spirits of the dead will eat the spiritual essence of the *ofrendas* (this is the Spanish word for the food offered to the dead) but the celebrators will later eat the food once the festivities are over. Pillows

and blankets are provided for the deceased to rest after their long journey.

No wonder this celebration found some resistance among Christians, because it is perceived as a syncretic Christian celebration still containing pagan elements.

It appears that in every culture there has always been some kind of day of the dead and it was usually observed as a part of the autumnal rites, when the last harvests had been collected.

In Christian Europe, Catholicism assimilated this pagan tradition and it became All Saints Day and All Souls Day. But for some reason, in Mexico the assimilation was not complete and elements from its pagan origin still remain.

The day of the dead has crossed the boundaries of Mexico and has spread to the United States and other countries. It's likely to become more and more popular for the years to come.



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The Bechdel Test: *Ghostbusters*, sadly, gets busted

By Em Leonick
Staff Writer

Each week, staff writer Em Leonick will analyze classic and current movies to see if they pass the Bechdel Test, which gauges female representation in film.

Looking at movies with the Bechdel Test in mind can sometimes be a frustrating thing to do. Just because the movie itself is good does not always mean it is going to pass the test.

Likewise, movies that pass the test, even those that pass on technicalities, are not always the best to sit down and watch. It is also incredibly frustrating to know a movie really well and love it, and then go back and approach it with the Bechdel Test in mind.

One movie that I love that I thought would be good to go back and look at with the Bechdel Test is *Ghostbusters*, a supernatural comedy released in 1984. The movie stars Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd and Harold Ramis as three scientists who started a ghost-hunting business after being fired from their jobs at Columbia University, and Ernie Hudson as the fourth edition to the team when business takes off.

Also in the movie are Sigourney Weaver

and Rick Moranis, who play a client of the ghostbusters and her neighbor, who both end up dealing with demonic spirits that are haunting their building. Throughout the film, the team deals with ghosts throughout the city and eventually stumble upon something even more sinister when Weaver's and Moranis' characters end up possessed by the demonic spirits in their building.

Ghostbusters is a genuinely funny movie, and it holds a place as one of my all-time favorite films for a reason. What it lacks in special effects it makes up for in great writing and great acting. However, it does not pass the Bechdel test. There are two named women in the film, Dana (Weaver's character) and Janine, the ghostbusters' secretary.

While the two do speak to each other, they only speak to each other about the men Dana is trying to hire to solve the problem of her building being haunted. It passes two out of the three tests, but it almost does not feel like it should pass.

Dana is the only female character that can be taken out of the movie and leave behind a plot hole, as it is her apartment being haunted and she does end up possessed by a spirit.

Unfortunately, that also means that she ends up needing to be saved by the protagonists in the film, a group of men. She serves as the damsel in distress in the film, which is commonly seen with women characters. Dana also serves as the object of multiple men, creating a rivalry between them.

Though *Ghostbusters* is one of my favorite movies, watching it for this article was both frustrating and a bit of a letdown. While it is a great movie by the standards of the average movie watcher, someone interested in female characters holding an important role in films will be disappointed.

There's only one female character of any real importance, and she ends up being something for two men to fight over and ends up needing to be rescued. It is a disappointment because this movie is otherwise great.



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Courtesy of Creative Commons

Sports

Want your sport covered? Contact the sports editor: Rachel.Leandri@wilkes.edu

Jeremy Hartman: back on the field as a Colonel

By Rachel Leandri
Sports Editor

Jeremy Hartman, a 2014 Wilkes University graduate, traded in his shoulder pads and helmet for a clipboard and whistle this year.

Hartman was named the university's assistant football coach at the start of this season.

Head Coach Trey Brown arranged for Hartman to play football in a different league post-graduation, but being fully involved with basketball as soon as his senior football season ended, Hartman was unable to commit to the original plan.

"That's when coaching came up in conversation as an alternative," Hartman explained. "I felt extremely honored to be working under Trey's system and I was more than ready for the learning experience. He hired me as an offense coach for the tight ends, and that's where it all began."

Brown felt it was a great idea to bring Hartman on board.

"I told him, as with most things in life, you are never truly sure you want to do something until you do it," he insisted. "I felt Jeremy, along with our other young coaches, could add a dynamic to the staff that was lacking last year."

Considering this is not a typical move to make as a postgrad student, Hartman followed his gut feeling on the opportunity.

"The truth is you don't get to play organized sports for your whole life, and coaching was something that seemed like the next best thing for me," he said.

Though approaching the job with optimism, Hartman realized there is a fine line between playing and coaching. When a player, Hartman kept to himself in order to focus his performance. Now as a coach, he must motivate an entire team.

Another difficult aspect of the transition from player to coach was the idea of not being able to play at all.

"At practice, you see the guys kicking the ball and stretching, and you long to be back out on the field standing next to the guy who loves the game as much as you do," Hartman said. "I always think to myself how much I wish I could sneak shoulder pads on and get on that field, but then I remind myself that everyone's time ends eventually."

Hartman also finds himself struggling

to keep the mindset of a coach at all times instead of what previously was a player's mindset.

"As a player, I had a humorous and a sarcastic attitude lots of times and tried to keep things fun when hardships would arise. That is the brotherhood aspect of it," he said. "I have to remind myself that I cannot always be their buddy anymore, but instead a professional in the sense of helping to keep the players focused and not distracted by jokes."

Hartman balances the role he is in now in dealing with his players on the team that had previously played with him side by side through accountability.

"We both hold on our end of the deal," he said.

Working one-on-one with Hartman, the team's tight end, Garrett Armstrong, loves learning from a longtime friend who he now thanks for helping him make an impact on the field.

"It was cool to see him go from a big asset of our team to now part of our coaching staff, especially since I am learning off of his own past experiences," Armstrong said.

With an abundance of challenges, Hartman is humbled by the few similarities within being a player and a coach.

"That is a reason why I continued to stay here and start coaching," he explained. "It is so hard to leave such a great game like football behind. ... I still have that drive to win and improve, not so much as a player anymore, but as a coach."

Any obstacles his position entails are outweighed by the beneficial take-aways of it all.

Hartman sees himself in the future of the evolving Wilkes football program as continuing his position if the opportunity arises for the upcoming seasons. He plans to become a grad assistant and earn his master's degree in athletic administration.

"If you love the game and possess the ability to teach others, do it, because you cannot play forever," Hartman said. "There is no better feeling seeing the boys that you work with every day go out and win. Seize the opportunity, because I definitely do not regret doing this."



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

Hartman shares a moment with his team during a timeout the Homecoming game against Widener.



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

Hartman signaling the plays to his team members on the field from the sidelines.



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Wilkes wrestling will grapple in the Garden soon

By Kimberly Hein
Sports Writer

Wilkes University's wrestling team will head to New York City to participate in Grapple in the Garden on November 29 at Madison Square Garden.

"It really excites me to know that we will be wrestling at such a well-known venue. There is going to be a lot of great competition and it'll be an amazing experience for everyone," said sophomore Dustin Zuzulock.

The Colonels will join 17 other colleges, including institutions from all three divisions of the NCAA, in the one-day event.

This year's Grapple at the Garden will feature a total of 11 NCAA Division I programs, including five schools which placed among the top 20.

"This is our first time going to an event like this. Usually it is all the well-known, division I teams, so we are lucky to be invited. It is going to be a very cool experience to wrestle somewhere as iconic as Madison Square Garden," junior Kelly Pullen states.

Wilkes is one of the only four Division III programs to be invited to the event, and will be part of a field that includes Division I teams such as Cornell, Princeton, Rutgers,

Nebraska, Maryland, George Mason and Drexel.

"It's just a great honor for our team to be invited to such a prestigious event," said head coach Jonathan Laudenslager.

"I expect it to be a great experience for our entire team. I believe that it's the first time in Wilkes Athletic history that we have had a team compete in Madison Square Garden."

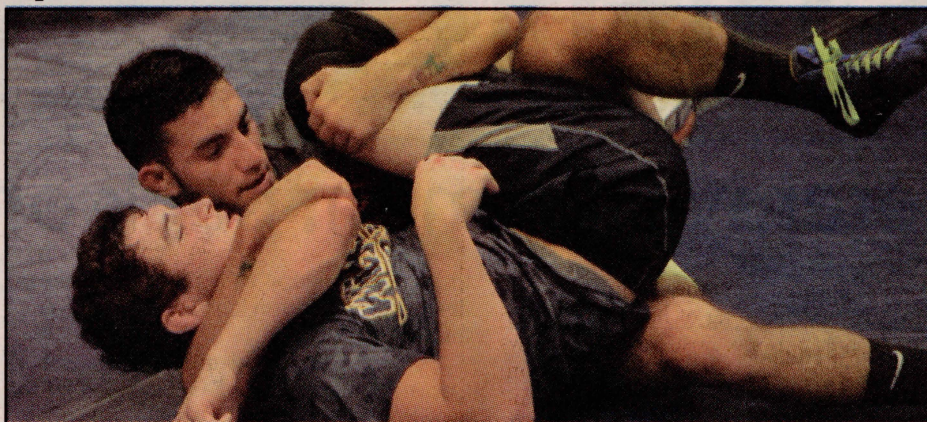
Competing in an arena as big as Madison Square Garden that can hold over eighteen thousand people can be intimidating. Although that is true, the Wilkes wrestling team has competed in National Duals the last few years, so they have a wide variety of experience with wrestling big duals in front of some giant crowds.

The team has four National Qualifiers and a National Champion returning, so there is a lot of talent from last year coming back.

"Our teams greatest strength has to be that we were returning the majority of our lineup. One of the benefits of returning the majority of our lineup is guys will be a year more mature," senior Kyle Diesel explained.

Some may find it hard to stay motivated throughout the whole season. Although that is true, the Wilkes wrestling team has motivation all around them.

Zuzulock expresses, "I think our team is motivated by our previous success as well as



The Beacon/Purvit Patel

Ashton Gyenicz is getting cradled by Jake Dimarsico at last week's practice.


each other. We always want to be working harder to bring championships to Wilkes, but we also have a lot of excellent competition within the room that keeps us improving as a team."

"We all know how close we are to being a top five team in the nation and then some. I think on our best day we can actually be the best team in the nation," Diesel adds.

For a number of college wrestling programs, the Grapple at the Garden will be the opening event for their season. However, Wilkes will have several matches beforehand

that the coaches say will prepare them for the event and get their starting line-up in order.

In order to attend the event, family, friends and fans are asked to purchase one of Wilkes's 100 allotted tickets. Each ticket comes at a cost of \$20. For more information on how to purchase a ticket, please contact Colonels head coach Jon Laudenslager by email (jon.laudenslager@wilkes.edu) or by phone (570-408-4035).

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Women's Volleyball has big future

By Mark Makowski
Sports Writer

The Lady Colonels Volleyball team has had an up and down season so far. With seven games left on the season, the Lady Colonels have compiled a 12-17 record. The team has a 1-4 record in conference play. While many people may see this program as a below .500 team, many do not know that this team has a young core and will be a contender in the near future.

Megan Powers is facing something that she never has before- she is the only senior on the team. Although this is something she has never experienced, she has taken the challenge of leadership exceptionally well.

"It is definitely a challenge, and it puts a lot on my shoulders," she said. "You also have to be a role model because these players are the future of the program."

Many see this team as one who cannot make the playoffs. Coach Joseph Czopek, who is in his fourth season, does not listen to the doubter as he has expectations for this team.

"Our team preseason outlook was the earn a Conference Playoff spot," he said. "Last season proved that it can come down

to our last Conference match."


A team that is filled with underclassmen also gives Coach Czopek a chance to watch all of these players grow as the seasons go by. He is very impressed by the performance of Sophomore Middle Hitter Ellen Mook.

"She continues to grow with each week of the season," Czopek said. "Ellen has improved 100% since last season and she makes us a better middle-oriented team, which makes us successful," said Megan Powers.

Transfer Junior Outside Hitter Kayley Schinski, has started to find her groove on the team since not playing the game since high school. Schinski and Mook look like they can be future leaders for the Lady Colonels.

Coach Czopek believes that even though his team is young and inexperienced, they can make another playoff run like they did last year. Czopek believes that practice will help these young players grow.

"There aren't any drills in practice that can compare to competition court time," he explains. "Experience playing at the college level for our young team will pay dividends as the volleyball program continues to grow."

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For The Love of The Game: Kate Mahoney's Journey

By Danny Van Brunt
Asst. Sports Editor

Kate Mahoney, the Wilkes Women's Soccer team goalkeeper, has come a long way. She is a graduating senior who has been an important part of the team from the start.

She appeared on the John Mendola Show in the beginning of her season. John Mendola is a radio host who interviews local coaches and student athletes from high school and college in northeastern and central Pennsylvania.

Her coach put her up for the interview. She described her time playing soccer at Wilkes.

Mahoney is a marketing major with a minor in accounting. She is very passionate about her major along with soccer.

A five and a half hour drive separates her from her family in Kingston, New Hampshire. However, it does not stop her parents from attending her games. She has a sister in northern New Hampshire, and another in Connecticut. They all play sports so it has been tough for them to attend all of their daughter's games this year.

Mahoney started her senior season slowly. She was not performing as well as she knew she could. She also knew the team had potential to do much better as the season progressed.

The soccer season is coming to a close soon, and Mahoney has played an outstanding season. She received the Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom Player of the Week twice in her final season. Her first award was for making four saves in the 2-0 win against William Paterson, and eight saves in the 2-1 double overtime loss against Arcadia. The second award was



Mahoney clears the ball downfield during a recent game.

named the following week of the first award. She made seven saves in a 1-0 loss against Susquehanna, and made five saves in the 1-0 win against Stevenson.

"Last season I coached soccer and played golf because I couldn't play," said Mahoney. She continued, "This season has been so taxing on my body because of practicing instead of just coaching."

October of Mahoney's sophomore year, she sustained a concussion that pulled her out of the game for over a year. She was injured in her game against Cortland.

"I tend to think, would I have been able to save that shot if I had not taken a year and a half off?" said Mahoney. Although sometimes she can be hard on herself, she tries not to dwell on it because she does not like negativity.

Soccer was not the only thing that she struggled with after her concussion. Her classwork had to come to a halt due to

her injury. Some of her classes resulted in incompletes because she was unable to keep up with the work. Other professors worked very closely with her in order to help her pass, especially her classes that were prerequisites to other classes.

"I couldn't study, I couldn't read, I couldn't do anything for about four months," Mahoney said. She was hit on her right temple, above her right eye twice in a row which is what made her concussion so bad. Her overall reaction time had slowed, her vision had changed, and her balance was unsteady.

To recuperate, she had to see a therapist who taught her various techniques to get her to focus once again. The main therapy she had to do was to focus her eyes on a moving target.

She has overcome her adversities with help from her head coach, John Sumoski, her goalkeeper coach, Elizabeth Pauly and the Adventure Education coordinator, Jill Price.

They have shed positivity onto her.

After her first double-header, Mahoney felt really down after letting two goals go past her. She chose to speak with her roommate Megan Binder for comfort. Binder had just come back from her ACL tear.

"We are never going to win this way if I keep letting goals past me," Mahoney said.

"I am just so happy that we can play together again in our senior year," Binder said. Mahoney knew that was the turning point for her. She realized that when she first started, all that mattered to her was winning. Now she is just grateful to be able to play.

"If I didn't make those saves, my week was ruined. But now, at least I get to play. That is all that I want," Mahoney said.

Mahoney believes her performance may be a bit lower than freshman year, but her presence on the field is greater. She is very vocal.

She attributes her leadership and management skills to her soccer career. She started an internship, and believes they wanted her because she has these skills from soccer. The internship has given her the opportunity to work after college.

"I think what they don't teach in classes is how to motivate different types of people, individually, because not everybody's the same. That's what you can learn on a sports team. You can get each individual pumped up," Mahoney said.

She believes that walking away from soccer would have been a terrible decision. She knew that she could come back and she set her mind to it. For everyone who is overcoming an injury or experiencing a setback, Mahoney is proof that it can be overcome.

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It's not about the position played, but the passion of the game

By Evan Willey
Sports Writer

Carl Von Glahn is a senior criminology major who has a great love for football.

Carl had been playing this sport for 15 years when he had found out his love for football may have to be put on the back burner.

Carl needed back surgery. He had three bulging and two herniated disks in his lumbar spine. He also has spinal stenosis, which is narrowing of the spinal column, and arthritis in his spine. Carl also has degenerative disk disease.

"One of the herniated disks was compressing my sciatic nerve so much

that it reduced my mobility in that leg to 30 percent and was causing nerve damage," explained Carl.

While in high school, Carl was in the most important position on the field: the quarterback. His senior year, he was named first team all conference. Still in high school, he also occasionally played outside linebacker on defense, kicked and punted. Carl is a very versatile player, which just shows how much passion he has for the game.

When he was starting football at Wilkes, the coaches moved him to tight end, where he admitted he didn't have much experience but was excited for the opportunity. Carl played his freshman year, but sophomore year he had no choice but to redshirt. To redshirt

means a player takes a delay in participation in order to lengthen their period of eligibility.

Carl was forced to redshirt because that is when he had back surgery, lumbar spine decompression. The procedure was called a discectomy, where they had to shave the section of the herniated disk off the compressed nerve. Junior year, Carl switched his major and focused on school.

One would think after having this serious surgery, Carl would want to take it easy and just watch his favorite sport. However, that is not the case.

In the 2015 season, Carl punts and kicks for the Colonels. "Since I kicked in high school, it is nothing new for me," Carl said.

"It sucks only being able to kick and not

contribute any other way on the field but I couldn't take not playing football anymore and knew I could at least contribute to the team by kicking."

Carl lastly states that the chances of him re-injuring his back are very high, but he doesn't want to miss out on a sport he loves.

Many people wouldn't take the risk after major health procedures, but Carl has a passion for the game that he can't just give up. The Wilkes University Colonels are lucky to have such a dedicated player on their team.

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Getting to know...

Sarah Birchmeier

Sophomore Basketball Guard

By Purvit Patel
Sports Writer

Sophomore Sarah Birchmeier is a Spanish and Secondary Education major, with a minor in Women's and Gender Studies at Wilkes University. From Cherry Hill, N.J., Birchmeier plays for the Women's Basketball team as a guard.

Q: What was the driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

A: The great teacher-to-student relationship, small class sizes, and Spanish as a major.

Q: What are your post-graduation plans in terms of a Career?

A: High school Spanish teacher and/or Translator.

Q: What are your hopes for your second season as a Colonel?

A: I hope to see the Women's Basketball team achieve a winning record and make it to playoffs.

Q: When/Why did you first begin playing basketball?

A: I started playing in 6th grade because the coach told me to -- because in 6th grade, I was already 5'6".

Q: If you had to choose one thing about Wilkes' Basketball Program that you could improve, what would it be?

A: I wish we could improve our record from last year; we are a much stronger team than our record made us out to be.

Q: Do you have other sports/interest/hobbies off of the court?

A: I also play for the Wilkes Softball team, but when I'm not at practice or a game I play guitar and piano.

Q: Who would you say is the most influential person in your life?

A: The most influential person in my life is my high school basketball/softball coach. Stephanie Digneo coached me all four years in basketball and coached me for my last two years in softball. She taught me what it means to be a true athlete.

Q: A quote you live your life by?


A: "If you don't go after what you want, you'll never have it. If you don't ask, the answer is always no. If you don't step forward, you're always in the same place." - Nora Roberts

Q: Do you have any advice for the freshmen student athletes beginning their freshman seasons and semesters?

A: Come to your season in shape, work hard whether you are in season or not. Stay ahead on your school work, you never know when a game or practice will be rescheduled.

Q: How do you feel about the changes being made to campus this year? What do you like or dislike?

A: I love the Gateway, it's so pretty and well-lit and makes me feel a lot safer walking back to Towers late at night. I dislike that they got rid of Cinnamon Toast Crunch in the SUB.

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The Beacon/Purvit Patel

Getting to know...

Nick Racanelli

Sophomore Wrestler

By Purvit Patel
Sports Writer

Sophomore Nick Racanelli majors in Biology at Wilkes as he also wrestles at 157 lbs for the university's team.

Q: What was the driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

A: Wilkes had great athletic and academic programs suitable for my sport and major.

Q: What are your post-graduation plans in terms of a career?

A: Become a dermatologist.

Q: What are your hopes for your second season as a Colonel?

A: Become an NCAA All American and make the Dean's List.

Q: When/Why did you first begin wrestling?

A: I began wrestling in the third grade and was encouraged by my older brother who wrestled.

Q: If you had to choose one thing about Wilkes' Wrestling Program that you could improve, what would it be?

A: As much as I hate the green rooms they are only preparing me to become more in shape and stronger. Not much of the program needs improvement and we show that when we wrestle.

Q: Do you have other sports/interest/hobbies off of the court?

A: Lifting, going to the beach, snowboarding and hanging with friends.

Q: Who would you say is the most influential person in your life?

A: The most inspirational people in my life would have to be my father, older brother and past wrestling coaches. All have taught me valuable, life long lessons that I still consider today.

Q: A quote you live your life by?

A: "When the going gets tough, the tough get going." Or, "tough times don't last, tough people do." I use these quotes in everyday life because there's no such thing as an easy day for me. Each day contains some sort of obstacle that need I need to overcome to get better or improve.

Q: Do you have any advice for the freshmen student athletes beginning their freshman seasons and semesters?

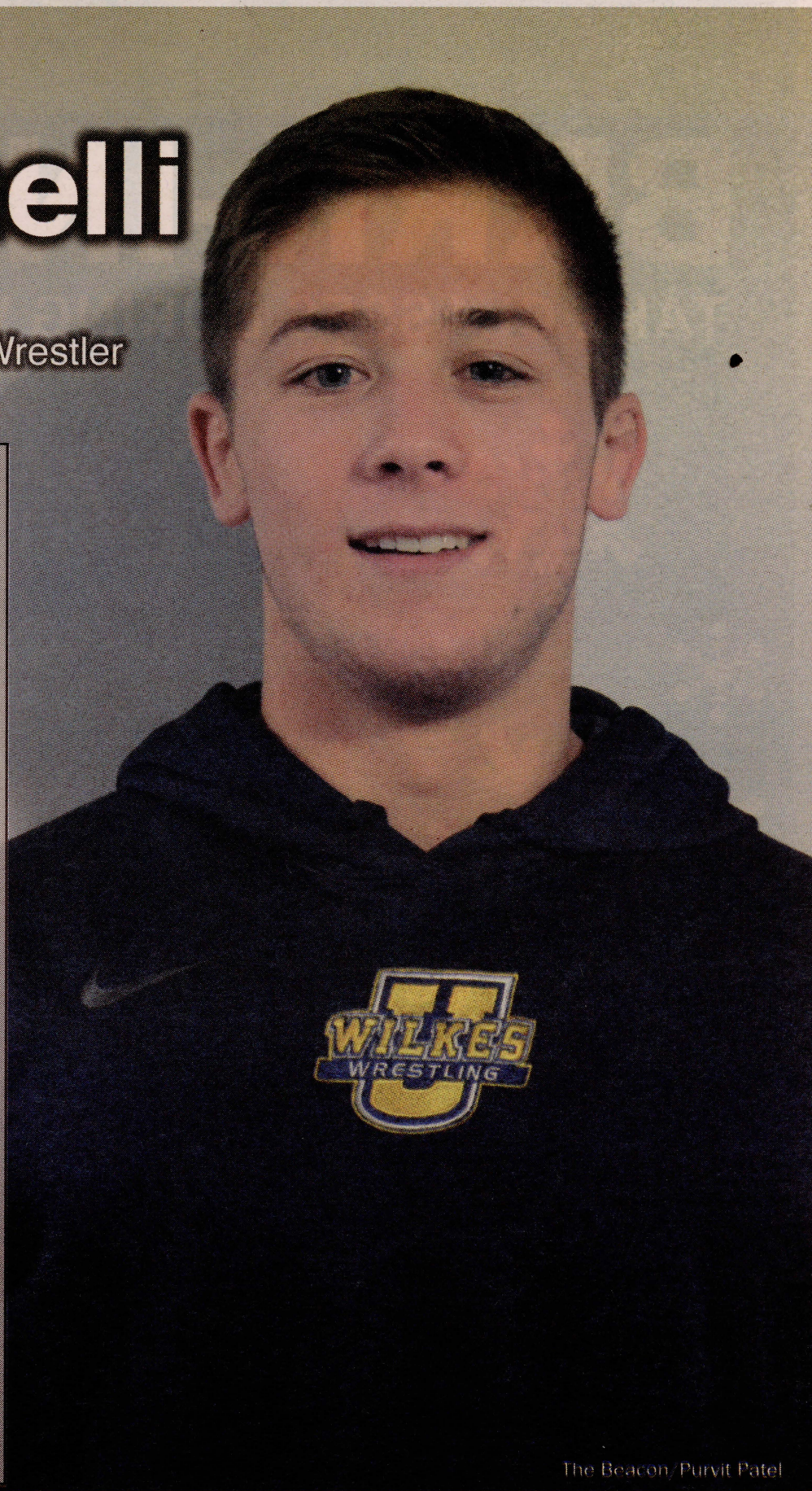
A: Being a student athlete is probably going to be overwhelming at times, this is where time management and organization comes in. You need to be able to balance things out to make them work, even if it means sacrificing things like going out on weekends or playing video games.

Q: How do you feel about the changes being made to campus this year?

A: I think the changes made to the campus are wonderful this year. I also love food so I really like the new Grilleworks and Which Wich places.



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