



# THE BEACON

Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

"The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow."

## Wilkes hosts second Dance Marathon, exceeds expectations



The Beacon/Emily Cherkaskas

As of Saturday, March 26, Dance Marathon raised more than \$11,500, for the Geisinger Janet Weis Children’s Hospital through the Children’s Miracle Network, as announced by Donald Ballou, executive director (far left). From left to right, holding the signs: Kaleb Hanson-Richart, special events chair; Cassidy Taylor, external director; AJ Rubino, fundraising chair; Maddy Kinard, internal director; Ariel Reed, finance director; Lauren Gardner, volunteer; Ariano Como, public relations chair. Donations are still being accepted until April 4. For the complete story, see pages 12-13.



ASME car show returns for fifteenth annual event, page 3



Liz’s Craft Column: Festive terracotta pot bunny decor, page 11



Representation impacts in ‘SIX’ vs. ‘Hamilton,’ page 15



BB: Colonels late-game comeback falls short by one run, page 21



# News

Have a breaking story or a press release to send? Contact the news editor Maddy Kinard: [Madelynn.Kinard@wilkes.edu](mailto:Madelynn.Kinard@wilkes.edu)

## Student Government notes: March 23 weekly meeting

By Zach Paraway  
News Staff Writer

Student Government began in traditional fashion with a call to order and roll being taken. The treasurer's report stated that there is a total of \$67,175 across all SG accounts.

The first order of business was a club report from the choral club. It was presented by the club's current president, AJ Quadarella.

The second order of business was a club report from the society of women engineers, presented by President Kimberly Bailey.

The third order of business was a fund request from Lambda Kappa Sigma, the women's pharmacy sorority. They came in for a request in order to attend the LKS convention in Indianapolis,

Indiana, July 13 to 16. The convention provides a chance for the club to be able to network with other chapters. Members are hoping to bring 15 members. They provided multiple options, ranging from \$9,750 to \$16,750. This is week one of two and is to be voted on next week.

The fourth order of business was week two of two from the table tennis club and the review of their updated constitution. The presentation was given by its president,

Saurabh Patel. Discussion was had over there not being a vice president in the constitution. A motion was made and passed to approve the constitution if the VP position was added.

The fifth order of business was a fund request from the dance marathon board. It was presented by executive director, Donald Ballou. The funds raised by the event will go to Janet Weis Children's Hospital in partnership with Children's Miracle Network. SG

believed that the cause is impactful and decided to give an amount of \$5,000 to dance marathon in order to put on the best event.

The final order of business was the budget request for the Big Day. It was presented by Megan Makovsky, corresponding secretary. The Big Day is an upcoming event from SG where all of the clubs on campus are invited to volunteer to help clean up and serve different areas around the Wilkes-Barre area. The event is to take place on April 30. The amount asked for was \$10,500. This is week one of two and is to be voted on next week.



## Beacon Briefs: Upcoming campus events

Compiled by Beacon News Staff

### Glow run

On April 2, the Office of Residence Life will be hosting a glow run in the Simms Center. Registration begins at 7 p.m. and ends at 8 p.m.

The run is a 5K event that seeks to promote unity and raise funds and awareness of suicide prevention. All proceeds from the event will go to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

To register or donate, click the link in the March 25 Today at Wilkes email.

### Submit work to Manuscript Society

Manuscript Society is accepting submissions for the 2021-22 edition till 11:59 p.m. on April 17.

Submissions are open for undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff and alumni.

The society accepts poetry, essays,

short stories, photography, art and digital art. Short stories have a limit of five pages. The limit is five submissions per person.

To submit original work or ask any questions, email [magazine@wilkes.edu](mailto:magazine@wilkes.edu)

### Buy a Tote Bag

Green Giants tote bags are an affordable, sustainable and durable alternative to plastic and are being sold for ten dollars each.

The bags come in two designs: the Wilkes logo and blue butterflies.

Students looking to purchase one should watch out for them in the Student Union Building, the Simms Center, or DM them on Instagram @greengiantstotbags to place an order.

Ninety percent of proceeds go to Little Eric's Foundation, a local organization that funds pediatric cancer research.

### Memorial Concert Honoring Professor Emeritus Steven Thomas

A memorial concert honoring Steven Thomas, late music professor, will be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 1 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

The public is invited to attend and will be required to follow St. Stephen's protocols for masking and social distancing.

If you would like to attend or perform, register through the Mar. 18 Wilkes, Today email.

### Online Buddhist Meditation Returns

Interested in practicing some sitting and walking meditation with others?

The sessions will be offered each Tuesday and run for about 40 minutes. No experience is needed and anyone interested is welcome.

For more information or the link for the virtual sessions, contact Linda Paul, associate professor of philosophy, at [linda.paul@wilkes.edu](mailto:linda.paul@wilkes.edu).

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5 - Final Exams Begin  
12 - Final Exams End

Want your event featured in the calendar?

Email: [Madelynn.Kinard@wilkes.edu](mailto:Madelynn.Kinard@wilkes.edu)



# 15th annual ASME car show returns to campus

By Maddy Kinard  
News Editor

On April 2, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers at Wilkes will be hosting their 15th annual car show.

The car show is all encompassing, including everything from trophies to food to a dynamometer that will allow participants to measure their vehicle performance. The event will take place in the student union building parking lot from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a rain date for April 9.

Everyone is welcome at the event, including those not bringing a car to be entered.

“Since it is a weekend event, alternative on-campus parking other than the event parking lot is available, and there is no cost to come out and enjoy the food, cars and music,” said Dustin Snyder, ASME student section secretary.

This year, there are 29 different trophies to be won by attendees, as well as additional prizes. Trophy categories include European, highest mileage, domestic, classic domestic, kids’ choice, Japanese domestic market, trucks/Jeeps, antiques and highest horsepower.

There are also two sponsor choice awards.

On top of being a fundraiser for ASME, the event will also serve as a fundraiser for a charity for the non-profit organization, The Seeing Eye. The Seeing Eye raises dogs with the intention of them becoming seeing-eye dogs. They then match a dog with an applicant while working with them to foster a relationship between the two to ensure lasting codependency.

“There are many more benefits that come along with the car show such as community involvement with the

university, possible networking abilities and a clean and enjoyable event for all ages,” said Snyder.

While pre-registration closed on March 24, vehicles are welcome to register at the event gate for \$20.

Specific to this year’s car show, a professional photographer will be working with ASME as well as offering custom portraits of vehicles to their owners.

Food wise, ASME will provide Halal foods, Caribbean Island Cuisine and All Belgium who will be offering coffee.

“I’m looking forward to seeing the community come out again to have a good time and help raise money for a great cause,” said Brad Hepner, junior mechanical engineering major. “There are some individuals who have come every year and we hope they keep being a part of our show.”

The society has seen an increase in attendance each year that the event is held and is looking forward to raising more money than last year. Snyder finds that some owners who rarely showcase their vehicles choose to showcase at their event because of how well run it is and the variety in types of cars.

“We hope to raise over \$2,000 for our benefactor and to have 300 cars in attendance,” said Justin Burda, ASME President. “I am particularly excited to see the turnout and welcome everyone.

“This event usually sees anywhere from four to 600 attendees.”

Photos: courtesy of Dustin Snyder  
**RIGHT TOP AND BOTTOM: A preview of some of the trophies that will be handed out at the car show**



The car show will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 2 in the student union building parking lot.



# APKCFEE to host veterans recognition breakfast in April

By Maddy Kinard  
News Editor

The Allan P. Kirby Center will hold its fifth annual Veterans Recognition Breakfast at from 8 to 10 a.m., April 19, at Genetti's Hotel and Conference Center.

The event is open to the public with a registration fee of \$50.

In 2016, the challenge to provide support to U.S. military veterans was prompted by Lt. Col. (Ret.) Alan West. Following a luncheon with a group of community leaders, West asked what they were going to do to recognize veterans.

"As a veteran and that several individuals attending the luncheon were also veterans of the military, I asked that each attendee consider if they would want to take up Lt. Col. West's challenge, and if so, then just indicate so by writing their name onto the back of the table name cards," said Gerald Ephault, "I was pleased to learn that all luncheon participants did sign the card."

This influx of support became the Veterans Entrepreneurship Initiative within the Kirby Center.

The initiative first sought to find how many veterans there are in the eight counties of Northeastern Pennsylvania. There are 79,428.

With such a large number of veterans to serve, and knowing that they could best do this through multiple types of organizations and agencies, CONNECT was created through the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce and Industry which collaborated with the Kirby Center's initiative.

"As the inaugural 'Kirby Cares' service, Kirby Scholars along with support by veteran services organizations such as Patriots Cove, Equines For Freedom, Camp Freedom, Business, and individuals, Lt. Col. West's Challenge was met with the first Veterans Recognition Breakfast being held on Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2017," said Ephault.

While the event is an annual one, the breakfast was unable to be held in 2020

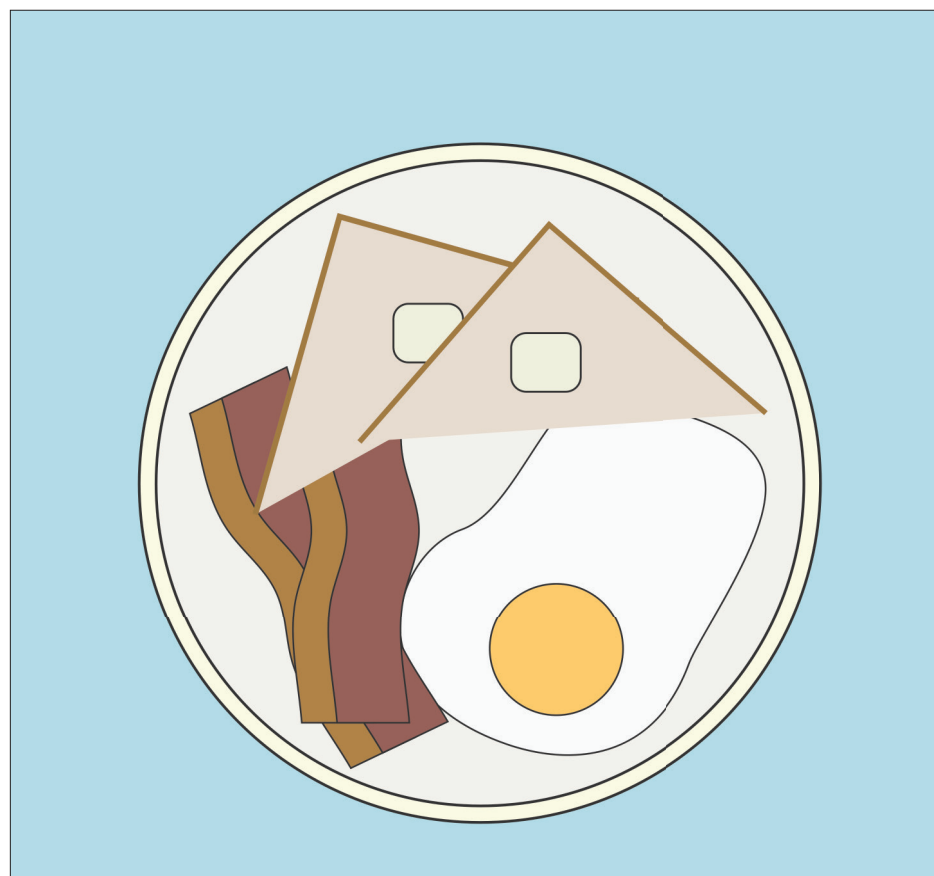
and 2021 due to restrictions and safety concerns associated with COVID-19.

This year, the event will honor two individuals: Gary Johnson and Ray Cobb, both U.S. Marine Corps Veterans separated in 2008.

"The gentlemen we are honoring this year are more than just veterans but have given back to the community by helping fellow veterans with PTSD and getting reacclimated," said Breanna Yashkus, graduate assistant at the Kirby Center. "Those that serve in the armed forces don't do it for the recognition, nor do they expect any, so as a community if we can shine some light on local veterans that have gone the extra mile in both protecting our freedom and helping the surrounding community we should."

Nick Godfrey, scholar of marketing at the Kirby Center, also finds this event to be important to him personally, as both his grandfather and uncle served. Seeing how much pride they take in being a veteran is something he is fond of, so Godfrey especially enjoys being able to support veterans in his local community.

Ephault also would like to give special thanks to everyone who has made this event possible over the years. Kirby Scholars Sara Ross and Lindsey Scorey for program content development; Austin Rentschler for invitation flier design; John Pezzolanti for project management, securing Federal and Pennsylvania legislative citations and US Capital flown Flags; Sreyneat Chan for correspondence support; Yashkus for logistical support; Allan P. Kirby Center Executive Director, Mr. Charles Pierce. Ms. Carrie DeMarco, Wilkes Print Shop, for her assistance with print format requirements; Lt. Col. Sarah Hedrick and the Color Guard members of Detachment 752 AFOTC; Lt. Col. (Ret.) Mark Kaster and the Officers of Wilkes University's Veterans Council; and The Allan P. Kirby Center Board of Managers: Mr. Milan Kirby, Dr. Greg Cant, Ms. Virginia DeCristoforo, Mr. Brooke Roulette, Mr. David Davis, Atty. Michael Mey.



Graphic by Jack Malatesta


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# Fulbright U.S. student program set to open April 1

By **Sydney Umstead**  
News Staff Writer

The Fulbright U.S. Program opens for eligible students on April 1, with the deadline being set for mid-Oct. 2022. The program is open for those at the graduate level, however, all students are encouraged to consider the opportunities presented.

The Fulbright U.S. Program is a program that offers the chance to travel abroad and connect with different cultures. The program offers awards and grants to make this possible. The awards include: open study and research awards; English teaching assistant awards and the Fulbright National Geographic Storytelling Fellowship. Wilkes began participating in this program during 2020 but due to the pandemic, this is the first year participants have the opportunity to travel.

“Living abroad and participating in an

educational exchange, whether focused on teaching or research, is an incredible opportunity for everyone involved,” said Dr. Christopher Zarpentine, associate professor of philosophy.

Wilkes began participating in this program after Dr. Gina Morrison, associate professor of global cultures, was encouraged to apply for a Fulbright Specialist Project by colleague Dr. Linda Winkler.

In 2018, Morrison went to Malaysia as part of the project and plans to go to India in December. As of February 2020, she became the Fulbright Program Adviser or FPA. She also offers summer workshops that aid in teaching students how to write an application. In September, Wilkes applicants will be interviewed and will be provided with feedback on how to strengthen their applications.

“When I got involved with Fulbright, I realized what fantastic opportunities

it presented, and what a first-class organization it was,” said Morrison.

When beginning with the U.S. program interested applicants can start by going to Fulbright’s website and submitting an application. They can apply for one award per country. Interested students need to apply before they graduate. Following graduation, master or doctoral students can still go through the university when getting involved with the program and even after achieving those degrees.

“The goal is to promote international understanding through educational exchange, which is an incredibly important mission and one that current global events demonstrate is more important than ever,” said Zarpentine.

Students are able to pick the host countries they travel to. While each host country coincides with the awards won, The English Teaching Assistant award or ETA, works with fellow teachers in the host country.

No teaching degree is required, the participant just needs to be a native English speaker. The research/study grants present the chance for interested students to apply for graduate school in the host country or do independent research in that country. Typically, all costs will be covered. However, there is a potential for tuition costs in some countries.

Currently, there are two students recommended as semi-finalists in the program. Both candidates are up for the ETA award. Their chosen countries are Poland and Spain.

The pandemic also affected grants. Malaysia, in past years, took 100 ETAs but all of their ETA grants ended up being canceled as a result.

“I’d like to invite people to contact me if they have any questions, and to please consider attending the Fulbright virtual campus visit on April 21 at 3 p.m.,” said Morrison.

# Drive safely PA initiative to continue through April 24

By **Taylor Dillon**  
News Staff Writer

As the weather gets warmer, more and more drivers are on the roads. The Wilkes-Barre City Police Department is joining forces with the Pennsylvania State Police and more than 300 municipal agencies to begin a targeted enforcement.

Officers will be intentionally targeting drivers on Pennsylvania roads until April 24.

The goal is to target those who may be driving aggressively, speeding and driving distractedly.

“The initiative prevents accidents and injuries to keep lives from being in danger. Drunk drivers and vehicle codes are also being monitored which might keep drivers from driving aggressively,” said Chief Michael Krzywicki, chief of the university’s police department. “Stops can also have officers come into contact with wanted persons or expired registration on vehicles. These things are preventive.”

Aggressive driving can be a serious



Graphic by Zoey Rosensweet

problem, especially as nights get warmer, more people may be out drinking or celebrating.

Drunk driving on the road is a form of aggressive driving, especially because not only is the driver at risk, but so is each person around them. The driver may be swerving, slowing down or speeding up.

Aggressive driving does not only include serious infractions but hostility on the road in general.

Road rage is ever-present in the streets

of Pennsylvania and many drivers might drive extremely close to another vehicle, attempt to side-swipe them or even be distracted by yelling in the direction of the person who upset them.

“I have experienced so many drivers on the road who just seem like they are always in a hurry. I have had cars be inches off my bumper because they must not have thought I was going fast enough,” said Juana Pimentel, senior hospitality major. “Then they suddenly jerk their car and fly past you down a

busy road, it’s really scary to be a part of.”

If encountering an aggressive driver on the road, it is extremely important not to engage with them; doing so may only cause more aggression and could put other drivers at risk. Do not attempt to follow them or trail them in any way. Move out of their way and let them move around you.

Law enforcement will be along the roads and will find those drivers who could be putting lives at risk and each person who is pulled over will be fined a ticket accordingly.

“Driving safely is important because one mistake can have lasting effects on not only your life but someone else’s,” said Priscilla Rey, senior sociology major.

The enforcement plan is part of PennDOT’s requirement of federal funding given by the National Highway Safety Administration.

For more information about the initiative or to learn more about aggressive driving, visit PennDOT’s website at <https://www.penndot.pa.gov>



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# Life, Arts & Entertainment

Have any events or artists to be shared? Contact Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor: Jordan Daniel: [Jordan.Daniel@wilkes.edu](mailto:Jordan.Daniel@wilkes.edu)

## Programming Board and dance marathon host bingo

By Jordan Daniel

Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

On March 24, Programming Board partnered with the university's dance marathon to host a new type of bingo, "Dollar Board Bingo" was held in the ballroom of the Henry Student Center.

The event raised \$123 for the children at the Geisinger Janet Weis Children's Hospital.

"The purpose of this event was to collaborate for a cause," said Maddy Yeager, P1 pharmacy major and president of programming board. "We are doing our part to promote the dance marathon and raise money for the Janet Weis Children's Hospital."

At this particular bingo event every participant automatically received a bingo board; however, if someone donated \$1, they received a second board.

Halfway through the bingo there was a bonus board opportunity where people who donated \$1 to \$4 got an extra board and those who donated \$5 or more were given two extra boards.

"I think people liked this event. One, because it is bingo and two, because we are having this event to help a really important cause," said Luz Castro, first-year history and secondary education major, as well as co-small events coordinator of

programming board.

Many students gave into the incentive of getting an extra board and were willing to donate for a chance to win one of the prizes up for grabs. Plus, there was a wide range of prizes, which all related to dance and moving around.

Prizes included headphones, a record player with records, Beats headphones, as well as other small prizes. The two larger prizes of the evening were a Nintendo Switch with the game Just Dance 2022 and a voucher for two concert tickets up to a total of \$250 value.

One of the big winners of the night was Eza Chaudry, sophomore business administration of management major, who won the voucher for the concert tickets. She had a total number of two boards.

The winner of the other large prize, the Nintendo Switch with the "Just Dance 2022" game, was Andrew Sabol, first-year mechanical engineering major. He had only one board the whole night.

Although not every student was able to win a prize, they still were able to enjoy their time with their friends. Also, it was a way to relax during exam season for most students.

"The energy in the room was so fun," said Julia Firestine, senior pharmacy major. "Everyone was locked in and there to have



The Beacon/AJ Rubino

**Eza Chaudry, sophomore business administration of management major and Andrew Sabol, first-year mechanical engineering major were the two big winners of the "Dollar Board Bingo."**

a good time."

Programming board regularly hosts free events and activities for students. Stay up to

date with programming board by following their Instagram account @wilkesupb.

## Commuter Council announces last major events of semester

By Morgan Rich

Life, Arts & Entertainment Staff Writer

As the weather gets warmer and the spring semester progresses, Commuter Council continues on with its last few events of the semester.

These events are in addition to an annual spring cookout for all students to attend—a tradition for the Mega Council and a staple of the end of the spring semester as a whole.

Commuter Council is a part of

student leadership on campus and allows commuter students to have a voice.

The group also hosts numerous socials and fundraising events throughout the semester.

So far, Commuter Council has been hosting events on Tuesdays and will continue to host events for the next few weeks of the semester.

Commuter Council's next event is a bowling celebration at Chacko's Family Bowling Center on April 12 from 6 to 8 p.m. During this event, students will have

a chance to bowl, hang out, relax and get competitive with their friends.

"Bowling night is a great social event which creates opportunities for new students to become acquainted with other students and friend groups to have an enjoyable time," said Ray Parricelli, a senior digital design and media art major and vice president of commuter council. "While I'm not the greatest at bowling, I do enjoy playing and the bowling night has allowed me to make friends that have lasted throughout my whole college experience."

Commuter Council will also host its annual spring cookout on the greenway on April 22 from 6 to 8 p.m.

This cookout will have barbecuing, different activities and giveaways, and will be partnered with student government's block party.

This year's cookout is the first year it is returning since the COVID-19 shutdowns led to cancellations.

**COMMUTER, page 9**



## Dollar store recipe: Rocky road no-bake fudge bars

These no-bake fudge bars are easy to make and will be the hit of any event. They are the perfect snack for any peanut butter and chocolate lovers out there. This snack serves 16 people and can be stored in the fridge for about a week.

### Ingredients:

3/4 cup peanut butter  
1/4 cup unsalted butter  
2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips  
2 cups mini marshmallows  
1/2 cup dry roasted peanuts

### Directions:

First, cut the unsalted butter into thin pieces.

Add the peanut butter, chocolate chips and butter in a large bowl. Microwave for two minutes or

until everything is melted and stir the mixture halfway through.

Next, chop up the dry roasted peanuts into small pieces and stir the peanuts and marshmallows into the peanut butter and chocolate mixture.

Pour the mixture into an 8x8 pan and spread it evenly.

Then, chill the mixture in the fridge for about two hours or until the mixture hardens.

Once completed, cut into square bars.

Enjoy!

**Allergens: Nut products**

**By Morgan Rich**

*Life, Arts & Entertainment Staff Writer*

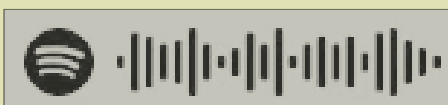


The Beacon/Morgan Rich

**These delicious bars are a simple and easy treat to make for any event.**

## Beacon Bumps

*Each week, the Wilkes Beacon staff adds a song to the Beacon Bumps playlist on Spotify. Check us out under Chris Gowarty's Spotify or check out this week's picks right now!*



### **Emily Cherkauskas, Editor-in-Chief:**

Rhinestone Eyes - Gorillaz

### **Ariel Reed, Managing Editor:**

Don't Play - Polo G, Lil Baby

### **Liz Cherinka, Social Media Editor:**

Savior Complex - Phoebe Bridgers

### **Maddy Kinard, News Editor:**

Solitude Is Bliss - Tame Impala

### **Jordan Daniel, LA&E Editor:**

Moth To A Flame - Swedish House Mafia, The Weekend

### **Bre Ebisch, Opinion Editor:**

Until I Found You - Stephen Sanchez

### **Lindsey Scorey, Opinion Asst. Editor:**

Blue Tint - Drake

### **Christopher Gowarty, Sports Editor:**

New Person, Same Old Mistakes - Tame Impala

### **Baylee Guedes, Sports Editor:**

Upper Echelon - Travis Scott, T.I., 2 Chainz

### **Jason Eberhart, Sports Asst. Editor:**

Sometimes - Juice WRLD

### **Zoey Rosensweet, Lead Layout Designer:**

Brain Stew - Green Day



# Courses related to diversity available to take for fall 2022

By Morgan Rich

*Life, Arts & Entertainment Staff Writer*

Courses addressing topics related to diversity and diversity issues will be available to take this upcoming fall semester. These courses will be available across many majors, ranging from anthropology to pharmacy.

In total, there will be 42 classes relating to these topics offered. English is the major with the most courses addressing these topics with 16 of them being offered.

“Many of our English courses speak to diversity issues and are included on the campus list of diversity courses,” said Dr. Mischelle Anthony, an associate English professor who is teaching ENG 357: Studies in Gothic Literature.

Dr. Anthony’s course will begin in the time period of 1764 with the short novel, “The Castle of Otranto. This novel, in particular, deals with a Prime Minister’s son who is a member of Parliament. In this course topics surrounding systematic racism, classism, misogyny, LGBTQ+ and other topics in culture will be discussed.

“My interests have always been on the dark under-belly of everything,” said Dr. Anthony. “What’s not part of the veneer we present as people and institutions to the world. Plus, these works are just compelling narratives that raise endless questions: Why is incest present in so many gothic novels? What’s with

all the veils? And, my recent favorite, why is this genre traditionally taught as white-authored only?”

Other courses offered that address topics related to diversity and diversity issues are the general education and first-year courses. Altogether, 21 of the 42 classes are first-year level courses that are available to all students who are searching to complete requirements for their degree or an elective for a specific major.

“One of the classes that I’ve taken that I feel have covered topics on diversity was SOC 101,” said Morganne Seitz, a sophomore pharmacy major. “While it’s a 101 course and not as in depth as some of the other courses Wilkes has to offer, we touched on many topics of diversity and how different societies approach and view diversity.”

Diversity is at the core of the university’s values and they hope to show through many leadership organizations, clubs, organized trips and events.

“I grew up in a small town without much diversity so it’s nice to have the opportunity now in college to be able to take courses to learn about diversity,”

said Shelby Brazes, a sophomore criminology and psychology major.

Students who are interested in taking any of the fall courses addressing diversity should contact course instructors for more information.



Graphic by Jack Malatesta

## COMMUTER, from page 7

“During my first year at Wilkes, the council had just started planning the cookout before the pandemic began and I have been hoping we would have the opportunity to bring it back ever since,” said Helen Campbell, a junior environmental science major and treasurer of Commuter Council. “It’s a chance to relax before finals, eat some food, see your friends and even win really cool prizes. I’ve been looking forward to it for three years.”

Students were able to help choose a theme for the cookout and the top themes were dinosaurs and Disney, specifically

“Encanto.” In the past, the themes have been Mad Hatter tea-party and luau.

“I personally don’t mind what the theme is, I am just glad that there are current commuters who are active and passionate about the club and enjoy helping and voicing their opinions,” said Brynn Stahl, a junior neuroscience major and president of the Commuter Council.

Commuter Council’s events are free to students and interested students can register for the events through the links sent to them in their university email.

To receive emails from Commuter Council, email [commuter@wilkes.edu](mailto:commuter@wilkes.edu).

## Diversity courses offered for the Fall 2022 Semester

- ANT 101 (IHA, INA, & HH) Intro to Anthro./WGS; Dr. Winkler
- ANT 102 (& HH, IHA) Cultural Anthro./WGS; Dr. Winkler
- COM 306 (A) Gender and Communication/WGS; Dr. Briceño
- EC 102 (A, B, &HA, &HB) Principle of Economics II; Dr. Seeley
- EC 230 (A) The Economics of Crime; Dr. Seeley
- ED 220 (IHA) Teach Cult/Linguist Divers/OPO; Dr. Polachek
- ED 220 (INA) Teach Cult/Linguist Divers/OPO; Prof. Balice
- ENG 120 (A) Reading Amer Experience; Prof. Howey
- ENG 120 (C) Cultural Crossroads/WGS; Dr. Davis
- ENG 120 (D) Reading Amer Experience; Dr. Kelly
- ENG 120 (F) Cultural Crossroads/WGS; Staff
- ENG 120 (G) Reading Amer Experience/WGS; Staff
- ENG 120 (INA, INB) Reading Amer Experience; Dr. Kuhar
- ENG 201 (A) Writing about Lit.& Cult/WI; Dr. Stanley
- ENG 203 (A) Creative Writing; Prof. Kovacs
- ENG 225 (A) Comparative Grammar/DH; Dr. Stanley
- ENG 233 (A, &H) Survey of English Literature I; Dr. Hamill
- ENG 282 (A) American Literature II/WGS; Dr. Kuhar
- ENG 308 (A) Rhet Anal/Nonfic Pros Wri/WI; Dr. Davis
- ENG 357 (A) Studies in Gothic Literature/WGS; Dr. Anthony
- ENG 397 (A) Medieval/Renaiss Drama/DH/WGS; Dr. Hamill
- HST 125 (A) American History I/WGS; Prof. Smith
- HST 331 (A) Colonial America/WS; Dr. Sopcak Joseph
- MGT 538 (& H) International Business; Dr. Taylor
- MUS 101 (& H, & HB) Introduction to Music/HNRS; Dr. Simon
- MUS 101 (A) Intro to Mus: Hist of Amer Pop; Dr. Simon
- MUS 101 (B) Intro to Mus: Music in the US; Dr. Simon
- MUS 101 (INA, INB) Intro to Mus: Classical Music; Prof. Vaida
- PHA 308 (A, & H) Pharm and Health Care Delivery; Dr. Roke
- PHL 114 (A, & H) Intro. to Bioethics/WGS; Dr. Zarpentine
- PS 111 (A, B) Intro to American Government; Dr. Kreider
- PS 111 (INA) Intro to American Government; Dr. Maierean
- PS 151 (A, & H) Intro to Comparative Politics; Dr. Miller
- PSY 221 (A, B) Developmental Psychology/WGS; Dr. Thomas
- PSY 242 (A) Personality; STAFF
- PSY 242 (E) Personality; Professor Hazlak
- PSY 341 (A) Intro. to Social Psychology; Prof. Newell
- SOC 101 (B) Intro. to Sociology/WGS; STAFF
- SOC 101 (C, D) Intro. to Sociology/WGS; Dr. Wilczak
- SOC 101 (INA, IND) Intro to Sociology/WGS; Dr. Tuttle
- SOC 325 (A) Juvenile Delinquency; STAFF
- SOC 352 (A) Social Stratification; Dr. Tuttle



# Liz's Craft Column: Festive terracotta pot bunny decor

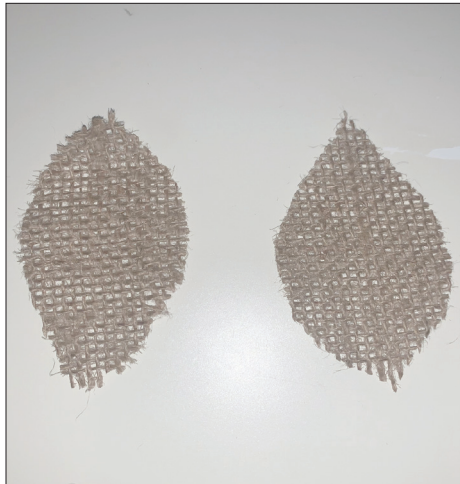
*An affordable decoration that is perfect for springtime*

**By Liz Cherinka**

*Social Media Manager*

This craft is a bunny made out of a terracotta pot. This decoration is perfect now that spring has begun and it includes common household items. The bunny is cute and is sure to add a springtime touch to any space. This craft is affordable because it only requires a few supplies, which can be found at most craft stores, as well as many other stores.

- One terracotta pot
- Pink ribbon
- Burlap
- Scissors
- Hot glue
- Googly eyes
- White and pink paint
- Black fine tip marker



1. First, grab the terracotta pot and flip it upside down. Paint the entire exterior with the white paint. Use two coats if needed but one should be sufficient. 2. While the paint is drying, the ears can be made. Grab the burlap and cut two ear shapes out of it about 3-4 inches tall and 2 inches wide.

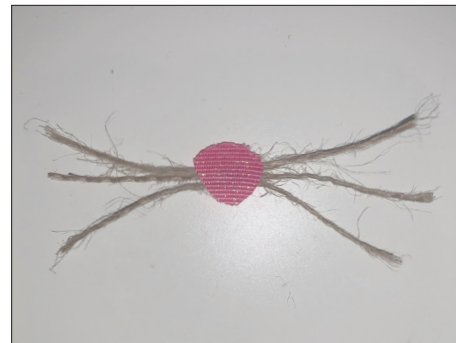
2. Then, grab the pink ribbon and cut a similar shape out of it but much smaller. This will make up the inside of the ear. Once both pieces are cut, put a line of hot glue on the back of the ribbon and glue it onto the front of the burlap ears. Be careful to not touch the back of the burlap while the glue is drying because it will seep through.



3. Once the paint of the pot is fully dry, it is time to glue the ears on. Put a small dot of hot glue on the top of the pot off-centered and glue the first ear on. Push the ear on so that it is secure.

The ear may flop forward but that will be fixed later. If it falls backwards, reglue it to fall in the opposite direction. Glue the other ear in the same way.

4. Make a medium-sized bow out of the pink ribbon. Glue this in the middle of the top of the pot. This will hold the ears up and also add a fun touch to the bunny.



5. Now it is time to create the face of the bunny. First, make the nose and whiskers. Pull three strings of burlap out of the fabric and make them about 3 inches long. Cut a bunny nose shape out of the pink ribbon. Put a glue dot on the back of the ribbon and glue these three burlap strings onto it.

Toward the top of the pot glue two googly eyes. Make the eyes close together so they can be seen through the ribbons from the bow. Glue the nose underneath the googly eyes.



6. Lastly, put some pink paint onto a palette or paper plate. Dip your finger into it and dab some of the paint off. On both sides of the nose underneath the whiskers, dab the pink paint on. This creates bunny cheeks.

Now, grab the fine tip maker. Put three black dots onto the pink blush when it is dry to add detail. Then, draw a straight line underneath the nose to make a mouth.

Once the bunny's face is completed, the bunny decoration is ready to be displayed. Display it anywhere to add a springtime touch to any space.



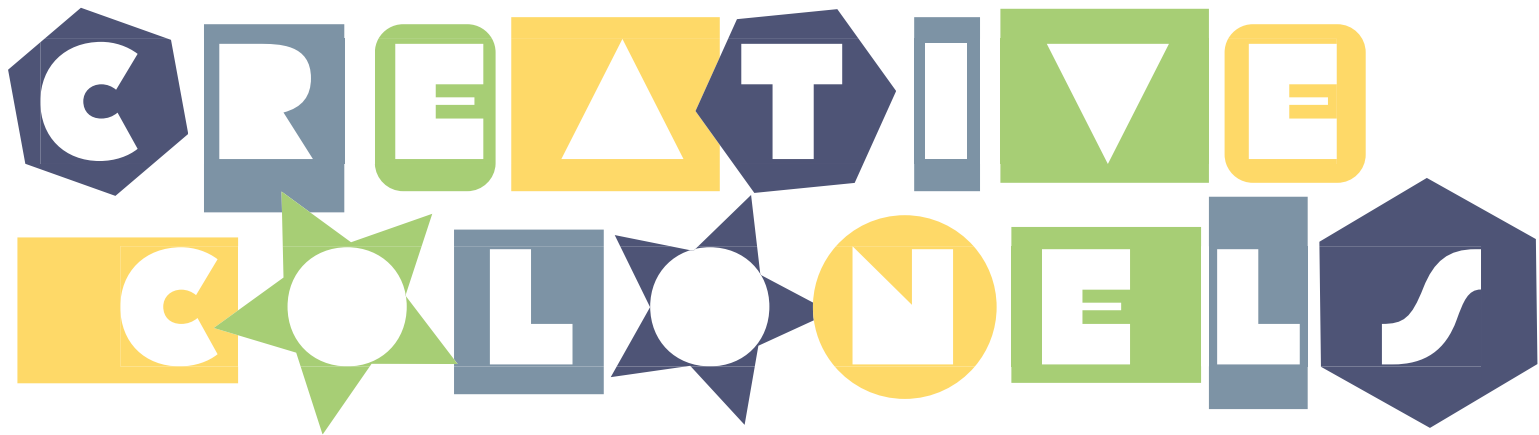
**Liz's difficulty rating:**



**Share your completed craft with us, or suggest a craft you want us to try!**

Instagram: @wilkesbeacon  
#LizsCraftColumn





## Creative Colonel of the Week: Jack Flynn

By **Jordan Daniel**

*Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor*

The new Creative Colonel of the week is a “Jack” of all trades, which is fitting given his name. This Creative Colonel is Jack Flynn, sophomore musical theatre major.

“I’ve always loved performing and theatre and dance have been great outlets for that,” said Flynn. “My hometown, Oneonta, N.Y., had a very large theatre and arts scene so there were always opportunities to get involved.”

Flynn has been interested in theatre ever since he joined his high school’s drama club his first year.

On campus he has been cast in seven mainstage productions, which are “God Bless You Mr. Rosewater,” “Nice Work If You Can Get It,” “Julius Caesar,” “Androcles and the Lion,” “Violet,” “Silent Sky” and most recently, “Chicago.”

“Jack has natural charisma that translates easily to the stage,” said Rachel Kern, sophomore musical theatre major. “As a performer, he is incredibly versatile and well rounded in acting, singing and dancing. He takes direction well and I think any person would be lucky to have him onstage.”

Not only can Flynn act, but he is also gifted in tap dance as well, and has been tap dancing for over six years. It started with him taking lessons at a competition

studio in his hometown. He has since danced in various community theatre productions, including “A Christmas Carol” and “Aladdin Jr.”

He has also performed in dance shows with his local dance studio.

In addition to acting and dancing, Flynn can sing, making him a triple threat in the theatre industry. However, he is more excited to brag about his realistic dog bark.

Flynn is determined to become a performer when he graduates, but if those cards are not in his future, he has a back-up plan: playwriting. Therefore, he will still be a part of his passion; the arts.

“Our graduates run the gamut from becoming professional actors to doing something totally unrelated,” said Joseph Dawson, associate professor of theatre. “In the years after graduation they learn as much about themselves as they do in college.

“I do know that he will take advantage of as many opportunities to stay in the field as he can.”

If interested in seeing Flynn’s performance, he will be playing Billy Flynn in the theatre program’s upcoming musical, “Chicago.” Performances will take place at 8 p.m. on April 7, 8 and 9 and April 9 and 10 at 2 p.m.

“He’s [Billy Flynn] been my dream role since I saw the movie when I was 13 so I’m very giddy about it,” said Flynn.



Courtesy of Jack Flynn

**Olivia Schanbacher, junior musical theatre major and Jack Flynn, sophomore musical theatre major are pictured together above, acting in the production of “Androcles and the Lion” from last semester. Schanbacher played the Lion and Flynn played Androcles.**

**Want to nominate someone for Creative Colonel?**

Contact LA&E Editor:

[Jordan.Daniel@wilkes.edu](mailto:Jordan.Daniel@wilkes.edu)



# DANCE MARATHON@WILKES UNIVERSITY

By Emily Cherkauskas  
Editor-in-Chief

**Editor's note: Several executive members of Dance Marathon are staff members of The Beacon.**

On March 26, Dance Marathon at Wilkes University held a six-hour dance-a-thon in the McHale Athletic Center.

By the end of the evening, donations reached \$11,500, all going toward the Children's Miracle Network, an organization that raises money to help benefit more than 10 million children in North America.

Donald Ballou, senior communication studies major and executive director of Dance Marathon, and Samantha Kennelly, development specialist of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, hosted the event and spoke to the audience about the goals of Dance Marathon. They introduced three Miracle Kids who would benefit from the fundraiser.

"It's just insane for these students to come together," said Kennelly. "This is a year-long fundraiser so the fact that they're able to dedicate some of their time to help out some local kids in their community just means a lot to us."

Kennelly introduced Saige LaCoe of Clarks Summit, Owen Kramer of Berwick and Rylee Bond of Bloomsburg. The children have each suffered from life-threatening and traumatic illnesses, and received help through the Children's Miracle Network hospitals.

LaCoe, diagnosed with Crohn's

disease, was named the 2022 Janet Weis Miracle Child champion. Each child was given a gift basket by the Wilkes dance marathon committee. Students, Dance Marathon staff and other attendees kept the children entertained during the event, inviting them to participate in various activities.

The first major event was a dance lesson hosted by Wilkes' dance team. Two captains of the team, Courtney Corona (senior) and Katie Ecker, (sophomore), energized the crowd of around 150 students and family members by teaching them a dance routine to Pitbull's "Don't Stop the Party."

"It meant a lot to us to be involved in such an important cause with such an important meaning behind it," said Corona. "We're very thankful to the university and Children's Miracle Network for involving us and the entire dance team in this event."

The dance lesson was quickly followed by other activities. Attendees were able to let out their energy with volleyball, football, table tennis, basketball, yoga, playing "red light green light" and more.

Students also lined up for a temple-themed mobile escape room and Wilkes Adventure Education (WAE) activities, including rock climbing and rope obstacle courses. Not only were students eager to hook themselves up for the rope

courses, but they also cheered on the Miracle Kids who participated.

"I think what's so great about the ropes course is that it encourages people to be outside of their comfort zone and to try some things that are scary," said Jill Price, coordinator of WAE. "From listening to Rylee give her speech it sounds like she and her family went through something that was really scary. It great was it today to see her challenge herself and do that."

Dance Marathon was described as a unifying event on campus, a statement

echoed by many, including Ballou. Several student and campus organizations and clubs attended, aided in funding or planning, donating or raising awareness. In addition to the dance team and

WAE, Dance Marathon also received help from student development, programming board, the nursing department, student athletic teams, the table tennis club, tap dancing club and the gender-sexuality alliance.

Lexi Payne, student body president, saw Dance Marathon's day-long event as a drive to motivate students to be more involved in the surrounding community. Student government offered \$5,000 in aid for setting up, in addition to having several representatives present.

"I really appreciate this because I feel like we should be doing more, not only as

the student body, but also for the outside community," said Payne. "I know that we often put on events where it just impacts us students but I feel more outreach should be done."

The closing ceremony was held around 8 p.m., where the current amount of money donated - \$11,500 - was announced. This is nearly triple last year's total of \$4,425.

In addition, the Passan School of Nursing was the largest donor, contributing \$5,000 to the total. The top three donors—Gabby Hann with a contribution of \$520; Jodi Oleginski with \$500; and Danielle Morris contributing \$430—all received gifts for their donations. Lastly, before the night ended, a raffle was held for those who registered for the event.

The night ended with participants leaving with shirts, gifts, snacks and flyers. Dance Marathon is still aiming to raise awareness and donations for the cause, accepting donations until April 4.

"You can just tell how happy everyone is to be able to meet the Miracle Kids and be able to be there for them," said Ballou. "In my welcoming speech, I mentioned how to think of it as a party for these Miracle Kids. I think everybody really took that to heart. Everybody has been doing really well with it. It made me so happy to see the amount of people participating."

**Donations are being taken until April 4 at 11:45 p.m. In order to donate, please text WILKESDM to 51555.**



Scan this QR code with your phone to quickly access the link to Wilkes's Dance Marathon donor drive.



Left: Courtney Corona (on stage, left) and Katie Ecker (on stage, right), captains of the dance team, teach attendees a dance lesson to keep the energy going throughout the dance-a-thon.





Donald Ballou (left), executive director of this year's Dance Marathon, and Saige LaCoe (left) strike a pose after she was awarded the 2022 Jaet Weis Miracle Child Champion and received a gift basket.



Owen Kramer is helped by Hera Mukhtar, e-Mentor, while engaging with the WAE activities offered at the dance marathon.



Rylee Bond (center) stands with Donald Ballou (left) and Samantha Kennelly, development specialist of Children's Miracle Network. Bond told her personal medical story during the dance marathon.



Celebrations rang through the McHale Athletic Center after the amount of donations through March 26, was announced.

For the entire photo gallery, please visit [www.thewilkesbeacon.com](http://www.thewilkesbeacon.com)



# Opinion

Have an opinion or want to write a guest column? Contact the opinion editor: [Breanna.Ebisch@wilkes.edu](mailto:Breanna.Ebisch@wilkes.edu)

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## Our Voice

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

### Policies lack uniformity across men, women sports *Why are women's sports less physical?*

Men's teams have been consistently able to add more contact to their game in order to make it more enticing to the viewer. Thus, increasing viewership and popularity.

As the old journalism phrase goes, if it bleeds it leads.

Similar applies to the physicality of sports, that is why people are so encaptured by sports.

To start off, let's take a look at men's and women's basketball.

In men's basketball, there are two halves, not four quarters like the rest of basketball. They also have less contact restrictions.

For example, men's basketball can maintain a hand on the offensive player while guarding them but in women's basketball that is not allowed.

You can only touch the player you are guarding one time. If you touch them a second time, it is a foul.

Looking further into the rules, men's basketball has a "flopping" call that directly implies that the men should not fake taking contact and actually take it.

In women's basketball there is no such rule.

Women's basketball players are often encouraged, via teammates or coaches, to be dramatic and fake or sell displacement fouls.

This does not occur in only basketball though, it crosses over to other sports.

In men's ice hockey, you are allowed to cross-check your opponent, but in women's ice hockey this is a penalty.

The sound of the collision of two players against the plexiglass makes fans go crazy and is what is entertaining about hockey.

Sadly, the women are not allowed to do this, thus decreasing viewership drastically.

The same story is found within men's and women's lacrosse, in men's lacrosse there is an overarching concern about getting poked or swatted with a stick, but in women's there is no such concern as again, it is a penalty.

Women are only allowed to do stick-to-stick contact, while men are able to full on swing at each other.

The only sport that has the same rules across the board is soccer.

Both the men and women face the same rules when they step on the pitch.

So why the uproar?

Well, if the current mold for society is pushing for more uniform equalization amongst men and women, then why has sports, the self proclaimed most progressive platform, not equalized the playing field.

The physicality of sports is what truly hooks the viewers' attention.

Media platforms would find it much easier to televise women's sports with a rule change to allow a more aggressive style of play.

Consider Pay-Per-View WWE matches, thousands of people pay to watch the match because of the physicality.

If any athletic organization was truly interested in increasing viewership in women's sports, then they would make the rules the same and allow both men and women to be more physical in their respective sport.

**Letter to the editor policy:** *The Beacon* welcomes letters to the editor from differing viewpoints. Letters must contain contact information, including name, city, state and phone number. Phone numbers will not be published but may be used for verification purposes.

**All letters to the editor must be sent using one of the following methods:**

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# The impact of representation between 'SIX' vs. 'Hamilton'

## *Understanding history beyond the hegemonic lens*

**By Lindsey Scorey**  
Opinion Asst. Editor

Ever since my preadolescence when I first saw "Mamma Mia" on Broadway, I have been hooked. When Broadway came back into action, I had the privilege of seeing both "SIX" and "Hamilton" on the big stage, two shows well known for their representation and inclusivity.

But how well did they hit the mark?

"SIX" follows the lives of the six wives of Henry the VIII, 16th century King of England best known for his annulment of his first wife and the five wives that followed.

Most people would know Henry the VIII's legacy, but this show is dedicated to the impact made by his wives, with a cast that is not only all women, but majority women of color.

I will say the plotline of their songs being a competition of who had the worst experience/marriage with Henry is funny, but not very "women supporting women." However, the finale song is likely one of the most "girl power" anthems I have heard.

The rewriting of history, from the women's perspectives, is incredibly

inspiring, especially for young women who generally learn history through a male, hegemonic lens in the education system.

Without Anne Boleyn, the Reformation may have never occurred in the same sense. Henry's final wife, Catherine Parr, was the first woman to publish work in her own name. Their history goes on.

In terms of "Hamilton," of course it is going to kill me to critique this show at all, as the writing and artistic vision of it stands alone as iconic.

It was one of the first shows to ever flip history on its racist little head and be inclusive to minorities whose history is rarely ever so well-written or even taught.

Now, this is still a story that honors the white man's history. That is undeniable.

But, to tell the tale of the founding of America with a diverse cast? Man, some powerful dead white men would be rolling in their graves. For that alone I'm going to say 10/10.

But of course, I have to state the obvious. While the cast of "Hamilton," includes diverse and talented actors, it is a play based on the perspective of a dead

white man who really is not that forgotten.

Hamilton was a lesser known Founding Father, yes, especially because he never served as an American president, but I personally think the perspectives of Eliza Hamilton and Angelica Schuyler were more fascinating than Hamilton's at times.

It is also incredibly hard to empathize with Hamilton when he not only cheats on his wife, but also is secretly in love with his wife's sister as well. Silly, silly.

For its excellence and precedent-setting, I still believe "Hamilton" to be a work of art. But in terms of true representation, I think "SIX" hit the nail on the head.

We cannot change our history, but we can shape our telling of it and our



Graphic by Jack Malatesta

present representation.

Both of these shows should serve as examples to bounce off of and learn from. But I cannot wait to see even better representation in all forms of entertainment in the future.

# When gas prices rise in the U.S., so should employee wages

## *How current prices show an unfair disadvantage*

**By Sydney Allabaugh**  
Staff Writer

The economy has struggled immensely since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Between business shutdowns, supply chain issues and now, the Russian-Ukraine war, prices of many goods such as meat, vehicles and most notably gas, continue to skyrocket.

Widespread outrage over gas prices highlights one of the most pressing economic issues plaguing Americans: wages are not rising fast enough to match the rise in prices.

U.S. consumer prices are up 7.9 percent as of February 2022. Gasoline

saw the biggest change, as prices are up by a whopping 38 percent, according to the U.S. Labor Department.

The current average price for regular gasoline in Pennsylvania as of March 21 is \$4.32 per gallon.

This time last year, the average price was \$3.03 per gallon. Even just a month ago, the average was \$3.73 a gallon, nearly 60 cents cheaper.

This price increase means that most with smaller cars and SUVs will be paying \$13 to \$24 more each time they fill their tanks.

Although \$15 to \$25 extra in gas may not seem like a grand expense, national outrage over the increase shows how

this extra expense can be financially devastating.

Although wages have increased over the past few years, prices increased at a quicker rate. Workers are still being underpaid in proportion to the price of goods.

Two-thirds of America is living paycheck to paycheck. This means even relatively minor price increases are felt in drastic ways. A few extra dollars spent on gas equates to a few less dollars available to spend on groceries, bills or other expenses.

Some workers lower on the economic spectrum may make between \$8 and \$12 an hour before taxes.

These workers who have struggled to make ends meet before rapid inflation would have to work an additional two to four hours on top of their normal hours just to account for the increased price of gas, let alone the increased price of food and rent.

A country where most of its citizens are living just within their means is not a country that allows for economic prosperity.

Americans cannot stimulate and invest in the economy if they can hardly afford necessities like gasoline.

We must raise wages to match prices to allow for a comfortable and successful economy and nation.

# The difficulty of eating correctly during college years

By Rudy Urenovich  
Staff Writer

My friends and I often make jokes to each other about our eating habits in high school with little comments about how all we had to eat one day was a cough drop, or how we consider Starbucks cold brew a primary food group.

Behind this lighthearted banter, though, we realized the problem many college students have on a daily basis: healthy eating.

But I, and many other college students, often fail at this. It's quite common for our schedules to keep us occupied for hours with barely a 10-minute break to do something as banal as walking across campus from one hall to another.

Sometimes we simply do not have the time to get fuel, unless we do some hardcore planning or meal prep, which takes time and effort to become a normal practice all in itself.

All this being said, almost every job, extracurricular or class I have taken or been a part of at Wilkes has had an extremely open policy when it comes to food. Bosses, peers and professors would allow us to take some time out of our duties to eat or get food.

I know not every semester is overwhelmingly busy like this. I have had times where I was free. This was the time when I felt my eating habits thrived. I would be able to cook more

and eat correctly.

I will even say my performance in all things, from waking up and getting ready in the morning, to effectively writing an essay in one sitting, was of better quality.

I guess it is not much of a shocker that, when we eat well, our bodies feel better.

Let's talk about a very real obstacle many of us face when it comes to getting food: anxiety. Many people, myself included, feel pretty anxious when getting food from somewhere. We overthink and worry about everything,

from waiting in line, orating our desired order, and what to do if there is an abnormality with the already nerve-racking process, like the wait time or if something is out of stock. If I'm already having a busy, stressful day, I am less likely to put myself in another tiresome situation.

As previously mentioned, I have found I am most likely to eat well if I put effort in preparing it beforehand and simply always have something to nosh on with me, even if I cannot have a full meal. I

have found myself devoting more time to grocery shopping and meal prep recently.

I guess I figured soon I will be out in the real world, and developing healthy eating habits is a necessity, so I might as well learn as I still have a somewhat protective blanket of college swaddling me. I do believe that this is becoming a trend, what with all the food TikToks and people prioritizing their overall health and wellbeing in general these days.

Another main barrier that we face as college students is money. There is this stigma that to "eat healthy" we need to spend money on expensive, quality food.

I do not think many of us are in the position to shop in the organic section at Wegmans, so sometimes we may feel backed against a wall. It is quite well known that oftentimes the cheap food found on dollar menus of fast food restaurants have little to no nutritional value, and may also have the opposite effect on the body.

I totally understand that it is so much easier to use dining dollars and not think about the cost.

All this taken into consideration, I must say that Wilkes does have quite a few options that make eating well more affordable and convenient, like the POD and Starbucks which have decent hours, and are convenient to pop to between classes.

Graphic by Jack Malatesta



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Politics, culture, social issues

Reviewing art, literature, movies, music

Columns, petitions, letters to the editor



# WNBA's Brittney Griner: A Russian prisoner amid war

By Hope Williams  
Staff Writer

Phoenix Mercury WNBA star, Brittney Griner, is being held captive in Russia for what is reportedly for possession of vape cartridges containing “hashish oil” in her luggage during their travels back into the United States.

Griner's imprisonment is a high tension situation amid the horrifying war, started by Russian President Vladimir Putin.

According to The New York Times, “Griner's detention comes at the most dangerous moment in U.S.-Russia relations since the Cuban missile crisis, as the Biden administration leads dozens of nations in imposing crushing sanctions on Russia's economy and its political elites. President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia said on Saturday that the sanctions were ‘akin to a declaration of war’ against his country.”

It is no secret that the war that is currently taking place between Russia and Ukraine is a worry for many Americans, as President Joe Biden has implemented some strict sanctions on Russia. These sanctions are taken as a threat by Putin.

With that said, can we begin to question

the real reason there is an American citizen being imprisoned in Russia? There are many questions being asked by many individuals close to Griner.

According to many sources, Russia is threatening Griner with a possible 10 years in Russian prison for allegedly “smuggling” the hashish substance found in her bags. These charges are extremely serious and can cause Griner, her family, her friends and her teammates with major issues to deal with.

Not to mention, how is Griner feeling? Imagine being in a completely different country and having absolutely no control with the events happening around you. Although in a different country, according to CNN, Griner has had the opportunity to speak with her legal team several times a week since she was detained.

It was also stated by CNN sources that, “Earlier this week, US Ambassador to Russia John Sullivan met with the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Monday and “demanded that the government of Russia follow international law and basic human decency to allow consular access to all U.S. citizen detainees in Russia, including those in pre-trial detention.”

It is many people's hope, especially Griner's, that they are able to be released into United States custody while awaiting trial.

Not only does Griner play in the WNBA, but they are also a part of a basketball team in Ekaterinburg, Russia. The other important question to pose in conjunction to the effect this has had on Griner, but, how has it affected their coaches and teammates? It was stated by ESPN that her Russian teammates and coaches have taken it upon themselves to speak on her character and overall prominence as a player.

In order to try and provide a unique perspective on this hot button issue, I reached out to two Wilkes women's basketball players, as well as their head coach for comments on this issue. However, all three declined to respond or provide any comments.

When it comes to an issue such as this—a queer, black, American athlete being wrongfully detained in another country—everyone should have something to say about it.

Although it seems that Griner's detainment has been extended to May

19, it is a responsibility of our country, the WNBA, the NBA, Griner's family and friends, and the American people as a whole to ensure they are released into United States custody.

The WNBA season begins on May 9. The seven-time all-star athlete has played basketball in Russia for almost seven years. Will they still be given the opportunity to play in a sport they deserve to play in?

It is our job to ensure that Griner is released and able to participate in the sport they love.

## Share your thoughts

Should Brittney Griner be held?

Send your alternate opinion to  
Editor Breanna Ebisch  
breanna.ebisch@wilkes.edu

# Going to Tame Impala's world tour is a euphoric experience

By AJ Rubino  
LA&E Staff Writer

**Editor's note: This story contains potentially graphic content.**

I had the pleasure to attend Tame Impala's Rushium (Slow Rush Tour) on March 19 at the Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia.

I did not have to take time out of my day to stand in line because the best part about attending arena tours is that the seats you picked online are the seats you are stuck with. That being said, I was able to hop in the line right before the doors opened because I did not have to fight for my life in general admission.

Once we entered the arena, I coughed up \$30 to capitalism on Tame Impala's “Currents” vinyl. Do I own a record player? No.

Then, a random woman pretending to be a doctor asked if I wanted a sample of what she was giving out. I accepted this

said medicine when I saw it said dietary supplement.

Well, I was lied to.

Upon reflection, the drug was actually a sugar pill that went along with the opening set for Tame Impala.

I love giving openers the benefit of the doubt, but there are only so many chances I can give.

I will never forget the opener, Junglepussy.

Junglepussy's beats all sounded the same but the context of the lyrics was horrendous, and the lyrics were vulgar. Autotune could not save this performance. I felt bad for the 14-year-old teenagers who sat in front of me

and had to experience this horror.

Nothing will ever make me forget a grown woman dry humping the air as she raps about a guy taking her out on a date to Trader Joes. Or, that was what I thought the lyrics were about.

My mouth was dropped so far open a whole army of flies could have made a colony there. I was just so flabbergasted about the range of Junglepussy in juxtaposition to Tame Impala.

After the opener, I took a few minutes gasping at the price my friend paid for a pretzel; it was more than \$6.

Nothing was more jaw dropping than Kevin Parker appearing on stage. That man never had to rely on autotune. His vocals were beautiful.

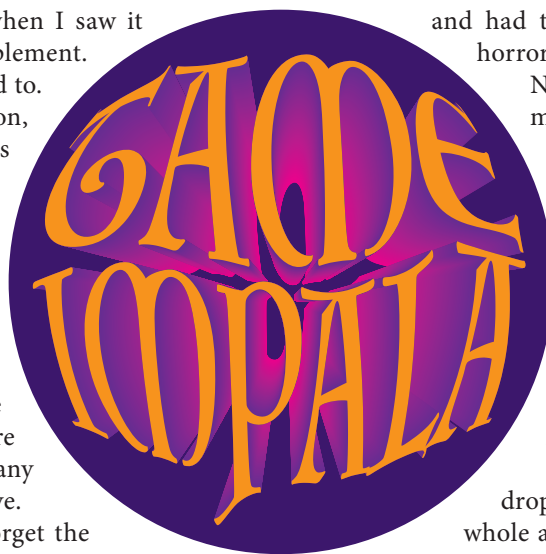
My favorite song by Tame Impala he performed was “Lost In Yesterday.” The visuals were breathtaking and I felt in this moment that I died and was being sent to heaven. Resurrected back to Earth and sent back to life.

The first part of the concert, Parker played his newer songs from his new albums, but the crowd got moving when he started moving into his older songs.

Though the arena had seats, I had no problem jumping around to each song and singing my head off to the point I lost my voice. The flashing lights and instrumentals had me screaming my head off with pleasure.

This was one of my favorite concerts I have ever attended.

Graphic by Jack Malatesta



# Lia Thomas increases visibility, criticism, of transgender athletes

By **Zara Lantzman**  
Opinion Staff Writer

University of Pennsylvania swimmer Lia Thomas won the 500-yard freestyle to become the first transgender athlete to win a Division I championship.

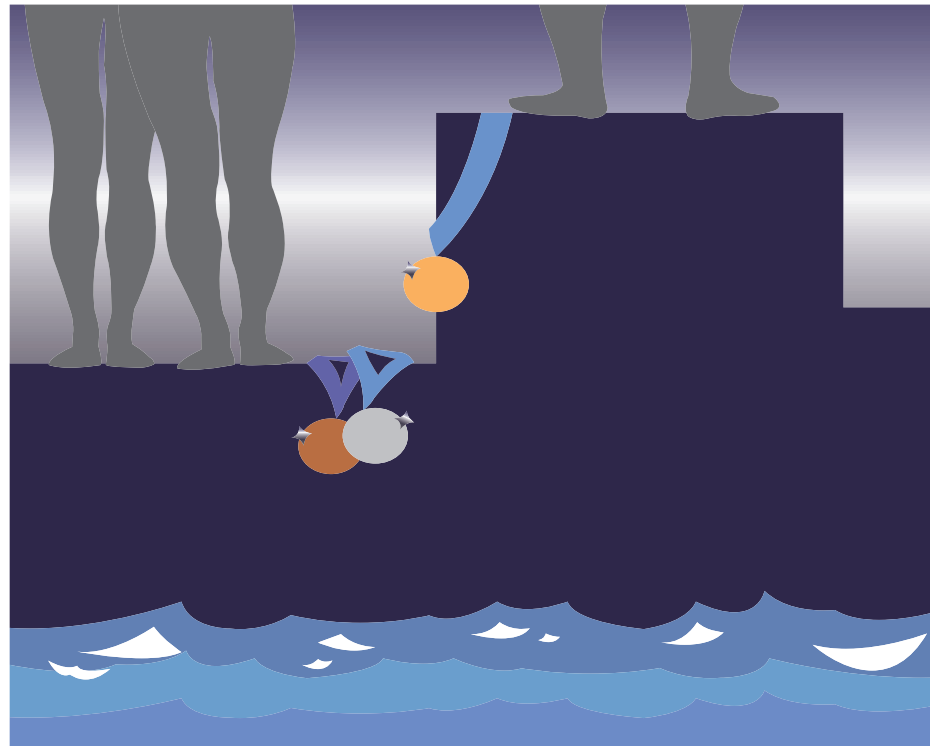
Thomas won with a time of 4:33.24 seconds, but her win brings up the burning question of a transgender women's role in women's sports.

In January 2022, the National Collegiate Athletic Association updated the policy of transgender athletes in sports, specifically focusing on transgender women.

According to the NCCA, the policy is as follows, "during the 2022-23 season, athletes will need to provide testosterone level documentation at three predetermined points, including four weeks before championship selection."

Testosterone is the main hormone in males. Testing transgender women's testosterone levels gets rid of the presumed advantage testosterone brings, because the facts are present.

This new policy is much better as there is no timetable for suppressing testosterone. The other policy forced trans women to have testosterone suppressors for at least a year.



People tend to bring up the argument of biology. Yes, trans women may have a slight advantage because of biology with their bone structure, but it is only a slight advantage.

Trans women take hormones like estrogen and progesterone to change their bodies to fit their gender identity. Regardless of what they take,

their bodies are being completely transformed.

It is hard to rope in all trans women in the argument of transgender athletes in sports. Some trans women never go through male puberty at all as they transition before puberty. It is not fair for pre-puberty trans women to be roped into the argument.

Trans women who went through male puberty may have some advantages, but they are slight. Height may be a factor.

Estrogen completely deteriorates the muscles in trans women. It also affects reaction time and hand-eye coordination.

The hormones nearly erase all competitive advantages that trans women supposedly have.

Thomas started hormone replacement therapy in May 2019. She has been on hormones for nearly three years. Three years is enough time to affect transforming one's body.

What's not being talked about is the fact that Thomas placed last in the 100-yard freestyle final.

If she has such a major advantage, why did she place last in a race with other cisgender women?

There will always be a conversation on transgender athletes in sports. Most people do not know what transgender people go through. There are so many other factors that go into reaching this point in one's transition. Transgender athletes should be praised, not ridiculed.

Graphic by Jack Malatesta

## A review of refreshing 'X': A24 kills it on screen again, literally

By **Hannah Simerson**  
Staff Writer

A24 is back and better than ever with the studio's newest horror flick "X". The film follows a group of adult filmmakers as they rent out a farmer's barn for the night, quoting it as "the perfect backdrop" for their film.

Things quickly turn from sensual to scary once the cameras begin to roll. After seeing this movie, my fear of creepy old people (that originated after my viewing of "The Visit") has been reestablished.

"X" boasts a seriously impressive cast that no doubt only adds to the strength of this film, with names like Kid Kudi, Brittany Snow, Mia Goth and Jenna Ortega making the credits sequence.

There wasn't a single cast member who didn't knock it out of the park in this film.

### What it did right

Everything. I'm not even exaggerating with this one—"X" is just that good. The perfect mix of original, moody, scary and disturbing, this film hits every box and then some.

"X" boasts a seriously impressive cast that no doubt only adds to the strength of this film, with names like Kid Kudi, Brittany Snow, Mia Goth and Jenna Ortega making the credits sequence.

There wasn't a single cast member who didn't knock it out of the park in this film.

Mia Goth actually performed a dual-role in "X" by playing the parts of both attacked and attacker.

Under such heavy prosthetics and makeup, Goth is unrecognizable as the creepy old woman from the trailer, but she plays her so incredibly well. The white dress with the red blood splattered on it? What a staple of horror movies. "X" knows what to do and how to do it, and it shows.

A factor of films that I never pay attention to is the editing, but "X" forces you to pay attention to this otherwise invisible element.

The editing, specifically the cutting from one scene to the next, fit the 70s to 80s aesthetic, which is actually when

the film takes place. It was so well-done that it forced me to take notice of it and to appreciate it.

The plot line of "X" does what "Fresh" wishes it could do: it transforms the genre.

A24 never misses, and "X" only furthers my idea that anything produced by A24 will be my new favorite movie. I want to find whoever wrote the screenplay for "X" and shake their hand.

Finally, we have something new—not a reboot or stale premise.

### What it did wrong

Quite honestly, nothing. "X" was extremely solid all around.



# Sports

Want your sport covered? Deserve to be Athlete of the Week? Contact the Sports Editors: [Christopher.Gowarty@wilkes.edu](mailto:Christopher.Gowarty@wilkes.edu) or [Baylee.Guedes@wilkes.edu](mailto:Baylee.Guedes@wilkes.edu)

## BB: The process of balancing school, sports and a full-time job

By **Ariel Reed**

*Managing Editor*

There is little debate that being a student athlete is difficult. However, three graduate student baseball players, Brandon Reno, Nick Pronti and Dominick Bayo, have decided to come back for their fifth-year of eligibility while working full time and completing their masters.

"We want all of our players to succeed beyond baseball," said head coach Kevin Gryboski. "For players to have the opportunity to get real world experience, pursuing a masters degree all while being a big part of our team is a win for all our guys."

Reno and Pronti are both registered nurses working night shifts and are completing their MBA. Bayo is a teacher working towards a degree in effective teaching.

Pronti and Reno noted that their days consist of attempting to get as much

sleep as possible, school work, meals, weights, and of course - baseball.

"I spend most of my time in the hospital," said Reno. "I mean, I only work three 12 hour shifts, but it becomes a lot. Especially on the days that we are busy, I feel like I am in the hospital more."

Bayo's schedule is slightly different as he is a teacher. Bayo noted that his schedule consisted of long term subbing in the fall, as he needed to get his teaching certificate before becoming a full time teacher. He is currently substitute teaching.

Despite the uphill battle of physical exhaustion from working as much as these three do, their game stats are second to none.

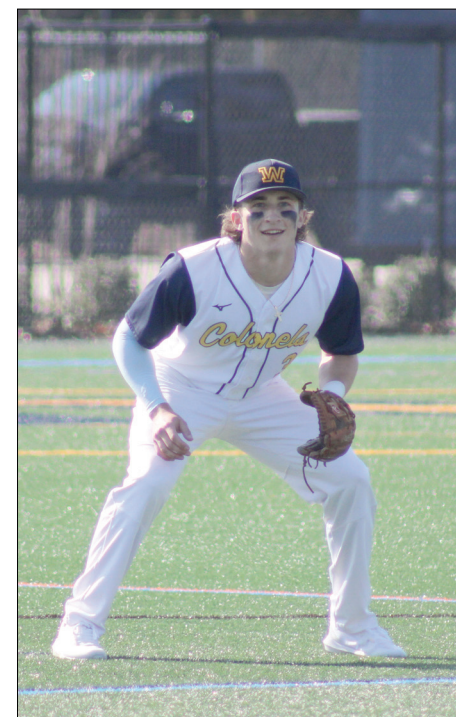
Bayo leads the team with a .429 batting average and an on base percentage of .525. Pronti leads the team in doubles with eight and Reno already has 11 RBIs on the season.

"This is a great group of men," said Gryboski. "The best part of a team is that

we become aware of people beyond their ability to throw a baseball. Knowing guys are coming to practice after working all night and opting to be there for ground balls carries a lot of weight for me, the coaching staff and the other guys. We don't use the word respect lightly. I think these guys working and somehow making it all work out is a bigger bullet point on a resume than most people will ever understand. All these guys have earned respect however their season unfolds."

The decision to come back and balance full-time work, school and baseball was a no-brainer for Pronti, Reno and Bayo as they all noted that the 'sour taste ending' in their last season was motivation enough to make another run at the MAC Championship.

For the full interview with Reno, Pronti and Bayo, check out [gowilkesu.com](http://gowilkesu.com) or find it on "Wilkes Now TV" on Service Electric Channel 97.



**Nick Pronti gets set at short stop, waiting for the next play to occur.**



**Brandon Reno throws his arms up, questioning a call made at first base.**



**Dominic Bayo sizes up his pitch, hoping to bunt a runner into scoring position.**

Photos: The Beacon/Ariel Reed



# MLAX: Colonels fall to 4-5 on season after home match

By Jason Eberhart  
Asst. Sports Editor

The men's lacrosse team closed out their non-conference portion of the season with a game against Utica College Saturday afternoon at Schmidt Stadium. The Colonels lost to the visiting Pioneers 18-13 and fell to 4-5 on the season.

The first quarter was a back and forth affair, with multiple lead changes from both sides.

Wilkes was leading 3-2, after junior midfielder Jacob Kudysch scored off a slick pass from senior midfielder Ethan Weaver. The play resulted in Weaver earning his 100th career point.

"It felt really great to reach that milestone," said Weaver. "It just feels good to be around great teammates that are able to elevate me and help me get to the hundredth point."

Weaver was tied for the team lead in points, as he racked up two goals and three assists to help generate the Colonels offense.

Utica quickly responded with three goals to take a 5-4 lead after the period. Wilkes used three consecutive goals of their own to get ahead 7-5.

With the score tied at eight and just a few minutes remaining in the half, it seemed as if the game was going to come down to whomever got the ball last.

However, Utica rattled off four straight goals spanning over the second and third quarter, taking control of the game.

The Pioneers used their physicality to gain possession and capitalized on a couple of mental lapses from the Colonels.

"They just won the faceoff battle," said senior midfielder Alex Meyers. "That was the determining factor. We tied them on ground balls. They just got more possessions and were able to score more by running a better offense."

Meyers tied Weaver on the day with a team-high five points, with two goals and three assists of his own.

The two goals moved Meyers into second on the team, with 17 of them throughout just nine games.

Despite trailing by as many as five goals, the Colonels did not give up.

Three straight goals to start the fourth quarter pulled Wilkes within a pair with just over seven minutes remaining.

Utica was able to refocus and score a goal just a minute later that seemed to ice the game.

The goal appeared to take the wind out of the Colonels and the Pioneers chipped in two more goals to put the game completely out of reach.

"We can't take one ground ball for granted," said head coach Curtis Jaques.



The Beacon/Jason Eberhart

**Senior Ethan Weaver looks to receive a pass moments before his 100th career point as a Colonel.**

"When it comes down to a tight game like that, every single ground ball matters. We can't take one possession for granted."

The Colonels will look to take this mindset into MAC Freedom conference

play as they try to make the playoffs and get back to five hundred.

Wilkes will kick off its conference season with a home game against Delaware Valley University tonight at 7 p.m. at Schmidt Stadium.

## THE BEACON *Player of the Game: Ethan Weaver*

Points

5

Goals

2

Assists

3





# BB: Colonels late-game comeback falls short by one run

By Baylee Guedes  
Co-Sports Editor

The Colonels came off of a 6-2 win over Penn College and started the week off strong. Wilkes finished off the week with a hard fought loss in a conference matchup on Friday afternoon where the Colonels lost 10-9 to the Arcadia Knights.

In the first inning, Arcadia came out strong by capitalizing on two Wilkes errors and scoring six runs off senior pitcher Tony Molitoris. The second inning remained scoreless and the third inning saw the Knights earn another run, making the score 7-0.

Wilkes was unable to score early as they did not have a hit until the fifth inning. Graduate student Brandon Reno got the bats going, but the Colonels were not able to score a run.

“After the first time through the order our guys adjusted to their starter and started having better approaches at the plate,” said head coach Kevin Gryboski. “I knew we were going to score runs, it was just a matter of time.”

The sixth inning brought Wilkes their first runs of the game with RBIs from graduate students Dominick Bayo and Nick Pronti.

“We know we are a team that can hit the ball,” said Bayo. “Each guy feeds off

one another, and when one person does something positive the next guy follows.”

Arcadia scored again early in the seventh inning and Wilkes contributed two more runs in the bottom of the eighth. Junior AJ Brosious and graduate student Brandon Reno both hit singles advancing runners to score as the Knights led 8-4.

Arcadia scored two more times as Wilkes brought in junior pitcher Jack Gordon to relieve Molitoris, making the score 10-4.

The Knights brought in relief pitcher Nadell Booker for Hunter Curley in the ninth inning with one out.

The Colonels capitalized on this pitching change with a hit from first-year Chase Vrabel who got on base with a single to left-field. Vrabel’s hit got the bats going again as senior Michael Patrizio walked and Bayo got a single to load the bases.

Pronti singled to left-field, scoring Vrabel. First-year Connor Morgan singled in Patrizio, bringing the score up to 10-6.

Arcadia brought in Owen Margolis for Booker and Wilkes’ junior Peyton Schuck took advantage. He capitalized on the Knight’s second pitching change with a single, scoring Bayo and Pronti.

Reno singled and loaded the bases once again for Wilkes. First-year Zack Luksic had a sac-fly that brought in Morgan,

The Colonels also only had one baserunner in the first, but failed to capitalize on the opportunity leaving the frame scoreless.

In game one, the Saxons were the first team to strike. Alfred’s senior Tatiana Mejia led off the inning with a double and was then moved over to third base with a sacrifice bunt by senior Alison O’Toole. First-year Meghan Neto grounded out to Wilkes’ sophomore shortstop Hayden Calaman to score Mejia. Aurand struck out the next batter she faced to finish the top of the second with Alfred on top 1-0.

The rest of the game proved quiet for both teams as they continued to put runners on base yet failed to cash them in. It was not until the bottom of the fifth when action resumed.

The Colonels began their fight to



The Beacon/Ariel Reed

## Senior Nick Pronti preparing himself for an at bat on March 18.

leading to a 10-9 score at the bottom of the ninth.

The game ended with a fly-out to center and Arcadia took the win.

“We faced a good arm for eight innings and managed to put up a few runs against him,” said Pronti. “It is difficult to come back from a deficit like we had after the first inning. I was just pleased with our composure and confidence while being down all game. This loss stings, just like they all do.”

Bayo and Pronti both went 3-for-5 at the plate and Reno went 3-for-4. Bayo scored three runs and had one RBI, Pronti scored two runs and had two RBIs and Reno had one RBI.

“There is no clock in baseball telling you when the game is over,” said Bayo. “Every at-bat matters and anything can change the result of a game. Nothing in this game is guaranteed, going forward it is whoever wants it more.”

Next game: April 1, 2022 at FDU.

# SB: Split with Alfred University leads to 7-5 record on season

By Chris Gowarty  
Co-Sports Editor

On Friday March 25, the softball team split a doubleheader against Alfred University improving their record to 7-5 on the season. The Colonels won the first game 2-1 and fell in the second game 4-0.

“Our pitching has been real solid and our defense has been backing them up,” said head coach Jackie Klahold. “We’ve been starting to get some timely hits. Everything is just starting to play together as we’re finding our groove.”

The first game started off slow for both the Colonels and the Saxons. Senior Rhia Aurand started on the bump for Wilkes in the first game and allowed just one baserunner in the first inning.

earn the lead with a leadoff walk by sophomore Kaylie Capriotti. Sophomore Marissa Pick bunted Capriotti over to second base and junior Hope Mullins walked to fill first base.

A wild pitch then allowed Capriotti and Mullins to advance to third and second base, putting two runners in scoring position for Calaman. Calaman capitalized on the opportunity to score as she hit both Capriotti and Mullins with a two-RBI double, giving Wilkes a 2-1 lead that they would not relinquish.

“The most important thing to take away from today was our energy,” said Mullins. “They were regionally ranked and they almost won their regionals last year, so I think we kept up a really good energy throughout both games.”

Mullins earned the win on the mound

for the Colonels, closing out the last three innings of the game with a scoreless relief appearance.

The second game of the doubleheader belonged to Alfred. The Saxons jumped off to an early 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning and added insurance runs in both the third and seventh, ending with a 4-0 score.

Graduate student Rachel Pritchard earned the only hits for the Colonels, going 2-for-3 with a double and a single in the contest.

“We really need to work on adjusting our hitting,” said Calaman. “We did a little bit of adjusting in the first game and I think we got thrown off in the second one, but we still tried our best.”

The Colonels next face Penn State Hazleton in a home doubleheader today.



Getting to know...

# Eric Ormsby

## Senior Lacrosse Player

### ***The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week March 16 to March 23***

**Why Ormsby was selected:** In a 15-7 victory against Manhattanville College on March 19, Ormsby led his team with seven points through scoring five goals and adding two assists.

**Name:** Eric Ormsby

**Year:** Senior

**Major:** Marketing

**Hometown:** Warwick, N.Y.

**High School:** Warwick Valley H.S.

**Position:** Attack

**Favorite building on campus?**

My favorite building here is the ceramics studio.

**Favorite meal to eat on campus?**

I love to grab a quick sandwich from Which Wich.

**Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?**

I came to Wilkes because I was able to continue my education and also was given the opportunity to play on the men's lacrosse team.

**What color/flavor of Gatorade is your favorite?**

My favorite gatorade flavor is Artic Freeze.

**Post-graduation plans in terms of a career?**

I hope to eventually build my own marketing company where I would be able to help businesses with advertising and their online marketing.

**If your life was a movie, who would you want to play you and why?**

I would want to be played by Steve Carell because of his roles in the Office and Anchorman.

**Favorite professor?**

My favorite professor here is Jean Adams.

**Favorite Memory as a Colonel?**

My favorite memory was when the men's lacrosse team made it to the playoffs for the first time since the rebirth of the program.

**Most influential person in your life?**

The most influential person in my life is my brother.

**Hopes for this season as a Colonel?**

I hope for us to win a MAC playoff game.

**What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?**

To me, "Be Colonel" means putting in the work and not expecting things to fall into your lap.

**When/Why did you first begin playing?**

I have been playing lacrosse since I could remember, and this is because my grandfather played, coached throughout his life.

- Compiled by Ariel Reed, Managing Editor

**Other interests or hobbies off of the field?**

I enjoy playing disc golf and I have played soccer my whole life as well.

*Editor's note: Athlete of the Week selections are determined by the sports staff each week. At the end of the academic year, we will post a reader poll on Twitter @WilkesBeacon to crown an "Athlete of the Year."*

The Beacon/Ariel Reed



Getting to know...

# Sarah Sorber

## Senior Golfer

### **The Beacon: Female Athlete of the Week March 16 to March 23**

**Why Sarah Sorber was selected:** Sorber led all Colonels with a scorecard of 89 in a tri-match against Kings College and Hood College on March 20. Her low score placed her fourth overall in the match.

**Name:** Sarah Sorber

**Year:** Senior

**Major:** Psychology

**Hometown:** Hunlock Creek, Pa.

**High School:** Northwest Area

#### **Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?**

My driving force to come to Wilkes had to be the small campus as well as the small class sizes.

#### **Post-graduation plans in terms of a career?**

I plan on possibly going to grad school and getting a master's, maybe even pushing it as far as a doctorate down the line.

#### **Favorite Memory as a Colonel?**

My favorite memory is going to Pizza Hut after our away golf matches. Because no one out-pizzas the Hut.

#### **Hopes for this season as a Colonel?**

I hope the team has a good season but most importantly, I hope everyone has fun and enjoys themselves.

#### **When/Why did you first begin playing?**

My mom needed a golf partner for her league and I said I'd come to keep score. I hit one ball and I've been hooked ever since.

#### **Other interests or hobbies off of the field?**

I'm super big into fly fishing or just fishing in general.

#### **Favorite building on campus?**

Probably the P.O.D. or even just the fourth floor in Cohen on the side where there's that huge window that faces the greenway.

#### **Favorite meal to eat on campus?**

I love to get a Lunchable, a bag of chips and a lemonade from the P.O.D..

#### **What color/flavor of Gatorade is your favorite?**

My favorite flavor is red and I cannot believe people say yellow.

#### **If your life was a movie, who would you want to play you and why?**

I would want to be played by Will Ferrell in a wig.

#### **Favorite professor?**

I have to say the psychology department as a whole. They are all extremely warm and welcoming and willing to help you with anything you need.

#### **Most influential person in your life?**

My parents for sure. They definitely shaped me into the person I am today and I'm not sure where I'd be without them.

#### **What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?**

I think "Be Colonel" means being a respectful individual on and off the field.

- Compiled by Ariel Reed, Managing Editor

*Editor's note: Athlete of the Week selections are determined by the sports staff each week. At the end of the academic year, we will post a reader poll on Twitter @WilkesBeacon to crown an "Athlete of the Year."*

The Beacon/Ariel Reed





# Wilkes Giving Day brings in record breaking numbers

Grand Total: **\$188,000**

Percentage increase from last year:

**27%**

**9%**

Increase in Donors

“The commitment of our donors and their endorsement of Wilkes University through their contributions to areas they love the most is outstanding. We are overwhelmed by the positive response and look forward to our annual Giving Days in the future.”

—Margaret Steele, Chief Development Officer

## Wilkes Giving Day Leaderboard

	School/Unit	Total Raised	Gifts ▼	Goal	Percentage of Goal for Challenge Gift to Unlock
1	Athletics	\$40,621	282	20	1,410%
2	Student Scholarships	\$56,963	102	20	510%
3	Student Life	\$16,553	64	20	320%