

The Beacon - October 13, 2015



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THE BEACON

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.



**Sounding Off An Anniversary:
Dorothy Dickson Darte Center celebrates 50 years - pg 12**

The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

Pat Klus, '14, plays trumpet with the Wilkes University Jazz Ensemble as they practice for the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center's 50th anniversary.

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

WGS Newsletter Available Online

The latest edition of the Women's and Gender Studies (WGS) Newsletter is now available online. Go to wilkes.edu/academics/colleges/arts-humanities-social-sciences/behavioral-social-sciences/womens-and-gender-studies/newsletter/index.aspx

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, contact Mildred Urban at event.productions@wilkes.edu.

Annual Alcohol Awareness Walk

Join the walk toward awareness of the dangers of excessive and underage drinking on a one-mile walk on Oct. 20 starting at noon. A free long sleeve t-shirt will be given to all participants. Register with Gail Holby at gail.holby@wilkes.edu by Oct. 12.

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 Dining 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.

CORRECTION

A teaser on the front page of last week's newspaper incorrectly identified the position of a Wilkes employee who resigned because of what she considered to be 'questionable ethics'. That employee was a staff member. *The Beacon* regrets the error.

SG Notes: Clubs present requests; Casino night

By Jen Baron
Staff Writer

Week 6

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

Members from the Math and Computer Science Club delivered their annual report. The group is trying to bring a math and computer science honor society onto campus, Pi Mu Epsilon, so they can become part of the national organization. They also are trying to get more underclassmen to participate because the club is mostly juniors and seniors right now.

A representative from College Democrats came in to present for week 2 of 2. They want bring back the college Democrats on campus because it has been inactive for the past few years. They intend to work on helping the community as a whole. They are also part of a national network of college Democrats. They want to have equal representation for both Democrat and Republican students on campus. Their constitution was passed and the College Democrats will be more active on campus.

The Nursing Student Organization

(NSO) came in for week 1 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. NSO is requesting \$3,724.25 to attend the conference. Student Government will vote next week.

The Casino Week budget was voted on. After discussion and voting, it was determined that \$12,278.98 be allocated for Casino Week.

The council reviewed the treasurer's report and there was no change from last week. The current budget is as follows: All College: \$1,528.84, General Funds: \$16,993.26 Conference: \$5,000.00, Spirit: \$2,000.00 for a Student Government total of \$25,522.10.

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Some faculty give failing grade to administration's transparency

Art gallery plans spur shared governance questions

By Sarah Bedford
News Editor

Decisions about the future of the university's Sordoni Art Gallery led one staff member to resign from her position in early October.

Now some faculty members are accusing the university's administration of not being transparent in the decision making process, as well as not living up to the spirit of shared governance.

"We are all witness to the Wilkes upper administration failing to have rigorous and difficult conversations, its failure to be genuine to all its constituencies, and its failure to work with and respect faculty and staff who are unflinchingly loyal to this university," said Dr. Mischelle Anthony, associate professor of English and president of the Wilkes chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP).

In an interview conducted last week, Wilkes President Patrick Leahy said the plan for the gallery involves "three prongs": investing funds to hire a new gallery director, moving the art gallery to a more visible location and deaccessioning much of the art.

The deaccessioning of the art led to the resignation of Brittany DeBalko Kramer, the now former assistant art director of the gallery. DeBalko Kramer had been employed by the university for more than a decade.

According to Dr. Jonathan Ference, Faculty Affairs Council (FAC) chair, faculty opinion has varied regarding the decisions.

"There's some that are clearly disappointed...there are people who are ambivalent and there are people who reached out to me who expressed support," Ference said. "Because of that... the next logical step is to develop and continue the dialogue."

The FAC, which serves as a venue and voice to the faculty to discuss issues that affect them, has been conversing with faculty and administration to discuss the way in which the process played out.

Though some faculty members question the ethics behind the deaccessioning of the art, the decision making process behind the plan has caused an even greater concern.

"There have been decisions where the faculty have been involved because they were identified as a stakeholder," Ference explained. "Here is one particular issue where they weren't involved and I believe...it's because this has been thought to be a donor initiated initiative process."

Ference explained that the FAC received a report this summer from Provost Dr. Anne

Skleder, regarding the plans for the art gallery. Skleder also serves as the university's chief academic officer.

"Dr. Skleder provided us (the FAC) with a report this summer of what the plans were for the Sordoni Art Gallery. Prior to that, FAC was not asked for input," Ference said.

"At that time where the provost presented the information there was not a discussion surrounding the decision or the process by which the decision is made."

Skleder explained that the plan was delivered to the FAC over the summer and at an August meeting with donors. It was also discussed at fall convocation and at faculty and FAC meetings held in September.

"We as the administration strive to serve with as much transparency and gather input as appropriate," Skleder said.

Skleder explained that it was the president's task force that discussed and created the plans for the gallery, which was then presented to the Board of Trustees.

"The task force consisted of people who fit particular roles," Skleder said.

Those individuals included Vice President for Advancement Michael Wood, who also serves as the Chief Development officer; Andrew Sordoni; Leahy; and Dr. Thomas Baldino, who at the time was the Interim Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

According to Skleder, Baldino was not on the committee as a faculty representative.

When Dr. Paul Riggs joined the university as the new dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences in July, he then took over Baldino's position on the task force.

Skleder said that Dr. Sharon Cosgrove, an associate professor of art at Wilkes, was one of the first faculty members to learn of the plans.

"It was very important to speak with Dr. Cosgrove and we did," Skleder said.

According to Cosgrove though, not soon enough.

"I was not involved in the decision making process," she explained. "To my knowledge, I was the first faculty member to be, 'informed,' of decisions made by a select few administrators."

Several other faculty members also voiced concern on the lack of transparency by the administration; however, they declined comment or could not be reached for this story.

"Regarding the Sordoni decisions, faculty from every part of campus are concerned with this administrative failure of shared governance," Anthony said. "Wilkes has been



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

Recent changes surrounding the university's Sordoni Art gallery (pictured above) have some faculty accusing the administration of a lack of transparency.

charged by our accrediting organization, Middle States, to make sure and involve campus constituencies affected by campus decisions in the decision-making process."

Anthony explained that dialogue didn't begin until decisions had already been made.

"President Leahy working privately with a donor to set up a faculty position, without any faculty in that college having a say or even being informed of the matter until after the decision was made-- (is) a failure to abide by that Middle States charge," Anthony said. "No art faculty on campus had any say or (was) even information about the Sordoni Gallery moving to a new location, either, until after the decision had been made."

When asked his thoughts on the level of faculty involvement, Ference said that it "seems very reasonable" that a faculty member could have been consulted or invited to participate on the taskforce.

Skleder explained that future faculty involvement will revolve around providing input on teaching space in the new gallery as well as in the search committee responsible for hiring an art director.

According to Skleder, Cosgrove has been asked to serve as part of the search committee.

Last week members of the College of Arts,


Humanities, and Social Sciences were also invited by Riggs to participate in an upcoming open forum to discuss concerns surrounding the issue.

Ference said the decision making process will also be a topic of discussion at the Oct. 27 FAC meeting.

While this is one instance where the faculty may not have been as involved in the decision making process, Ference does not think this is a widespread issue with the administration.

Anthony, however, believes the issue may have lasting repercussions as the state AAUP, which serves as a source of advice as well as works to "safeguard academic freedom," is watching the university.

"The Pennsylvania State AAUP is also watching Wilkes right now, especially since our administration made a curricular decision—a new faculty position—without any involvement of faculty. That piece of the Sordoni action is a violation of best practices in American higher education, and will put us at risk of being censured by the national AAUP."

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Students can ‘Zoom In’ to win monetary awards, study abroad

By Toni Pennello
Staff Writer

The Wilkes study abroad program recently introduced Zoom In, a photo contest which encourages students studying abroad to enter photos from their trip for a chance to win a monetary award.

Photos can be entered in one of three categories: people, scenery and helping hands.

Students can enter up to two photos, each of which will be judged by the staff and committee of the Office of Study Abroad. Submitted photos may then be used for promotional purposes by the study abroad program.

Erica Acosta, who is in charge of Zoom In, said that a contest like this has been done before and had a great turnout.

“The name started this year, but the idea came from a colleague of mine who worked here about two years ago... It’s great for students to showcase amazing pictures they took while abroad,” she said.

The name Acosta chose reflects her goal for the contest.

“I want students to zoom in on their own experience, and also educate the whole campus about what they saw,” she explained.

“I want it to reenergize students and encourage them to study abroad again.”

Lisa Semetti, a senior political science, international studies and history major who


just returned from Wales, plans on participating in the contest.

“We studied abroad. We had these amazing experiences that we were able to capture in photos, so why not try to share them?”

Senior sports management major Victoria Warne also plans on participating, hoping that if she wins the reward may pay for future travel. Warne also thinks the contest might help the program as a whole.

“Study abroad is a fairly small program, and Erica wants to make it bigger. Students will see the photos and it might get them interested,” she said.

The contest began Sept. 27 and will end Oct. 27. The winners will be announced during International Diversity week on Nov. 19.

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The Beacon/ Jesse Chalnck

During a recent study abroad fair, a representative from Alliance Global Education spoke with Anthony Polizzi, a freshman, mechanical engineering major, and Ashley Bender, a freshman, pre-pharmacy major about international opportunities.

Campus shootings across the U.S. cause Wilkes community to reflect on safety

By Amanda Bialek
Staff Writer

With recent campus shootings at Umpqua Community College in Oregon, Northern Arizona University and Texas Southern University, college campuses everywhere are being even more vigilant at enforcing safety and security.

The tragedies raised mixed emotions for students, staff and faculty at Wilkes University.

“The whole school shooting strikes a cord. Every time this happens, I think that could have been me or my brother,” said Christine Walsh, a freshman.

Wilkes’ Public Safety continually strives to ensure students are safe and aware of their surroundings.

“The University is working on and continues to do a good job with the emergency procedures,” said Don Noble, lieutenant of Public Safety. “Wilkes has hired professional police officers that bring a great deal of training to campus.”

Junior Kellie Palko believes that the safety on campus is good. She feels that Wilkes takes it very seriously by sending out daily emails to the students.

Multiple media outlets have reported there have been 74 school shootings in the last 18 months. This averages one school shooting every five weeks in the U.S., according to CNN.

“It’s really saddening when students are just trying to go to school to get an education,” said Valerie Woods, a resident assistant and junior.

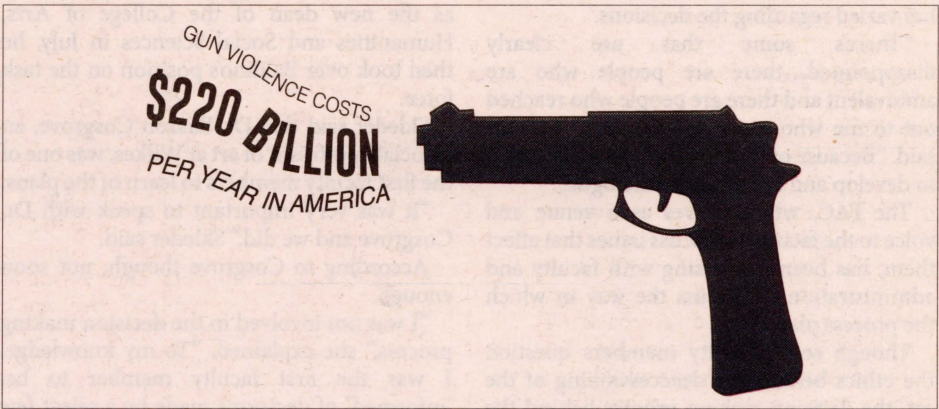
According to Gallup, in 2014, 47 percent of the public felt that the selling of firearms should be made more strict.

“I believe in rigorous background checks, but not necessarily on more gun restriction,” said Alex Faes, a freshman.

Lora Gerlach, an Aramark cashier, believes that guns do not kill people. She feels that they aren’t the problem.

People are the problem.

“There is a lot of security on campus, and there are people kids can talk to,” Gerlach



The Beacon/ Ashley Evert

said. “A lot of the workers here are mothers and fathers, so my hope is that the kids can find it in themselves to get help or come talk to us.”

Michael Reagan, the son of the late President Ronald Reagan, recently lectured on the Wilkes University campus. Discussing guns causes him to think back to the day his father was shot.

He, too, believes that guns are not the problem.

Reagan would like to see more armed guards at schools to help prevent these shootings.

“A guard without a gun is just a bystander,” he said.

Faculty and staff recognized for their excellence

Wilkes Marketing Communications

Wilkes University recognized 12 faculty and staff members for excellence in teaching and advising at the 2015 Teacher Recognition and Effectiveness Committee (TREC) Awards Ceremony. The recipients of this year's awards are:

Marianne Rexer, Robert Capin Professor of Accounting, received the **Carpenter Award for Teaching**. The awardee is nominated by his or her full-time colleagues and must have been a full-time employee for at least three years.

Rexer joined Wilkes as an assistant professor in 1990. She was nominated for the award by Matthew Sowcik, department chair of entrepreneurship, leadership, and marketing. His nomination stated that Rexer models teaching excellence for faculty and students within the business school, demonstrating hard work, dedication, and a desire to set the bar and redefine how accounting is taught.

Students have commented that she demonstrates her interest in their success now and as future accountants. She also makes an effort to attend an extracurricular event for every student she advises, has collaborated with numerous students and mentored students on scholarly projects.

She also received much positive support from alumni, who noted her ability to relate to the aspirations of her students and her commitment to their success as business and accounting leaders. Rexer is currently building the Sidhu School programs at the newly renovated Mesa Center for Higher Education in Mesa, Arizona.

Paola Bianco, professor of global history and languages, received the **Multiculturalism Award**. The award recognizes an outstanding faculty member who demonstrates leadership in the advancement of multiculturalism ideals in the classroom.

In her award nomination, it was noted that Bianco wants her students to experience other languages, beliefs, cultures and traditions so they can appreciate, respect, accept and embrace people from diverse backgrounds. As a professor of foreign languages, she believes in integrating multicultural education into every aspect of the curriculum through her teaching, advising, new course creation and participation in diversity events.

The Outstanding Advisor Award is a student-nominated award that recognizes one academic adviser from each college who demonstrates excellence in academic advising based on load, advising philosophy and testimony by advisees. This year's recipients are:

Karen A. Frantz-Fry, assistant professor of education-undergraduate, received the

Outstanding Advisor Award for the School of Education. As an adviser, Frantz-Fry believes it is her responsibility to communicate with students, provide them a map of requirements that must be met for graduation and refer them to university resources to assist them in their academic and developmental success. She treats her advisees as family and checks in with them throughout the semester.

Dean E. Frear, associate professor of business, received the Outstanding Advisor Award for the Sidhu School of Business. Frear's advising philosophy centers around helping students with course scheduling and focusing on a career path. Students have commented on the individual attention he gives to their schedules and making sure they graduate on time.

Gretchen Yeninas, associate dean of student affairs, received the Outstanding Advisor Award for the University College. Working primarily with first-year students, Yeninas strives to teach her advisees about policy and procedural issues, and also how to be better students inside and outside the classroom. Yeninas was formerly an advising coordinator in University College.

Kalen M.A. Churcher, assistant professor of communication studies, received the Outstanding Advisor Award for the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences. Churcher views advising as being part mentor, part cheerleader and part apron string-cutter. She believes it is a privilege to advise students, holds high expectations for her students and challenges them to succeed.

Prahlad Murthy, associate dean and professor of environmental engineering and earth sciences, received the Outstanding Advisor Award for the College of Science and Engineering. Murthy believes that in addition to assisting students in evaluating their academic progress, the ability to listen and communicate well with students and at times with their parents is important for effective advising. Students have commented that he is very approachable and tries to provide advisees with as many professional opportunities as possible by discussing their career aspirations and other professional interests.

Maria Grandinetti, assistant professor of nursing-undergraduate, received the



Courtesy of Wilkes Marketing Communications

TREC award winners who were present at the ceremony include, from left, Dr. Kalen Churcher, Dr. Maria Grandinetti, Dr. Jonathan Ference, Gretchen Yeninas, Dr. Andrew Wilczak, Dr. Karen Frantz-Fry, Dr. Don Mencer, Dr. Marianne Rexer, Dr. Edward Bednarz III, Dr. Prahlad Murthy and Dr. Dean Frear.

Outstanding Advisor Award for the School of Nursing. Grandinetti is a proactive adviser; answering questions, being supportive, and providing guidance when needed. Her advisees know that she is available to them, as she makes a conscious effort to stay connected throughout the year. Her overall aim is to be an effective and friendly adviser. Students appreciate the excellence in advising that she demonstrates.

Jonathan D. Ference, associate professor of pharmacy practice, received the Outstanding Advisor Award for the School of Pharmacy. Ference understands mentorship as a process of nurturing individuals to understand and act on their abilities while challenging them to achieve greatness. He employs student self-confidence, comfort, competence and control to aid him when advising students during the personal and professional development processes.

Edward T. Bednarz III, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, received the Innovative and Non-Traditional Teaching Award. The student-nominated award recognizes a teacher who successfully incorporates innovative or non-traditional strategies into at least one class. Teaching innovation includes effective small group, collaborative methods; advanced use of

technology in the classroom; consistent student-centered, interactive classroom experience; engagement in outside-the-classroom learning experiences that enrich student mastery of concepts and theories; and engaging students in joint faculty-student research projects.

Donald E. Mencer, associate professor and chair of chemistry, received the **Alumni Mentoring Award**. Mencer was nominated by four former students who expressed their gratitude and provided examples of his continued mentoring, such as making phone calls to graduate school programs, developing research collaborations for former students and providing career advice.

Andrew R. Wilczak, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology, received the **Outstanding New Faculty Award**. Wilczak, who specializes in criminology, joined the Wilkes faculty in fall 2012. Students have consistently commented that Wilczak makes the material interesting, is engaging, makes the class fun and pushes his students to learn. Also, unsatisfied with the textbook options for the foundational course he teaches in criminology, Wilczak crafted a proposal to write a criminology textbook himself and received a contract with Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Michael Reagan delivers Kirby Oct. 7 lecture



Photo Courtesy of Anthony Fanucci
Student Government President Anthony Fanucci and Michael Reagan

By Gabby Glinski
Asst. News Editor

On Wednesday Oct. 7, Michael Reagan, son of President Ronald Reagan, gave a speech on his father's legacy in the Dorthy Dickinson Darte Center, sponsored by the Allan P. Kirby Center for Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship.

Reagan, a Fox News commentator, radio personality and world record setter for paddle boat racing, was adopted by the Ronald Reagan family.

Reagan spoke about the importance of starting speeches with stories and knowing and relating topics to the audience. Reagan shared that when

his father ran for president, he denied rumors of his plans to "wipe out Iran." By knowing his audience and never denying the rumors, the American hostages in Iran were let free on the day of Ronald Reagan's inauguration.

Throughout the speech, he referred to his father's legacy and his presidency and used it as an example. "If you never fail, you'll never really understand success," stated Reagan in relation to his father's loss in the 1972 and 1974 presidential elections.

Forgiveness to Reagan is an important aspect to have as a professional. When Ronald Reagan was shot and inches away from his death, Reagan recalled his father saying to him about the shooter, "If you're ever going to get shot, don't wear a new suit. I wonder if he will buy me a new suit."

The lasting impression Reagan gave his audience was the moral of his speech, "Remember how far you can go and how much you can accomplish if you don't worry about who gets the credit."

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Weird News

By Gabby Glinski
Asst. News Editor

NEW YORK CITY

A New York City health department employee will face his second suspension for ignoring his supervisor's warnings to stop talking like a robot.

On Sept 15, a city administrative judge ruled that Ronald Dillon will be suspended without pay for 30 days for answering calls using a robotlike voice. According to the New York Daily News, Dillon was previously suspended in 2014 for 20 days after performing the same act.

MICHIGAN

A Michigan man filling his car at a gas station reportedly spotted a spider sitting near his car's gas cap. He pulled out a lighter and attempted to burn the arachnid, according to local news outlets. The flame from the lighter set the area around the gas pump up in flames. The man was able to safely douse the flames with a nearby fire extinguisher. The gas pump was destroyed.

INDIANA

According to Indiana authorities, Angela Kipp, 35, allegedly leapt from her car after spotting a spider on her shoulder. Her 9 year old son moved from the back seat in an attempt to hit the brakes but accidentally hit the accelerator, sending the car from the driveway into a passing school bus.

ALLENTOWN, PA

An Allentown man must spend at least 60 years in prison after claiming in court that his "evil twin" robbed 10 gas stations and other stores, according to The Associated Press. On Sept 28, Steven Felton, 34, was sentenced to 62 to 124 years by a Lehigh County judge.

GREAT FALLS, MT

According to the Associated Press, Chase Dellwo, 26, was hunting in Montana with his brother when he encountered a sleeping grizzly bear, estimated to be 350-400 pounds. Dellwo said he surprised the bear and it attacked, biting his head and leg. When the bear attacked him for a second time, Dellwo used a tactic he recalled his grandmother telling him. Remembering bears have a bad gag reflex, Dellwo shoved his arm down the bear's throat, causing the bear to stop and leave.

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Wilkes pulls Cosby's honorary degree

By Staff reports

On Sept. 12, 2003, members of the Wilkes University community voted to award Bill Cosby an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Just more than 12 years later, the university's Board of Trustees voted unanimously to rescind that degree.

Cosby, the well known actor and comedian who starred in 1980's "The Cosby Show," was chosen to receive the degree because of his educational and theatrical achievements, as well as commitment to social justice and civil rights issues.

"It has become clear by Mr. Cosby's own admission in a 2006 legal deposition (Constand v. Cosby) that became public this summer, that he engaged in conduct that is contrary to the values of Wilkes University and the qualities for which he was honored," said Wilkes University President Patrick Leahy in an email sent last week to the campus community. "This conduct is not in keeping with the principles of social justice and civil rights stated in the honorary degree citation."

"Mr. Cosby does not represent the ideals



Wilkes archived photo

Above: Bill Cosby shakes hands with a graduate during the May 15, 2004 commencement activities.

to which Wilkes aspires or the values most important to the university."

On Oct. 2, the Board of Trustees voted to rescind the degree that had been awarded on May 15, 2004.

"The board's decision was made following careful consideration and was taken to uphold the interests, mission and values of Wilkes University," Leahy's statement continued.

Wilkes University had no additional comment on the Cosby or the revocation of the honorary degree.

What are your
thoughts on Wilkes
rescinding
Bill Cosby's honorary
degree?
Tweet us @
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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

Laughs through meaning: transformational comedy

By Nicole Zukowski
Life, Arts and Entertainment Editor

"Don't believe the shit in life that says you're incomplete," said Kyle Cease, a transformational comedian who performed at Wilkes University on Oct. 8.

The night of laughs took place in the Henry Student Center Ballroom and was hosted by Wilkes University's Programming Board.

The night featured Cease doing his style of standup—a combination of hilarity and inspiration.

Comedy Central ranked Cease's act as number one on its Standup Showdown in 2009.

The comedian started stand up at the age of 12. If Cease looks familiar, it may be because he has also acted in the movies "10 Things I Hate About You" and "Not Another Teen Movie." Cease speaks of transformation through the art of learning to let go.

Students who attended the event seemed to connect with Cease's message and delivery style.

One student who "scheduled fun," as Cease worded it, particularly enjoyed the night with Cease. Brianna Nutaitis, a

nursing major, found a bit of herself within the comedy routine.

"I related to almost everything he talked about and I was always cheering along," Nutaitis said.

"He used his own experiences and comedic aspects in a way that truly resonated with not only me, but I believe everyone who came."

Cease walked the audience through his major life events, triumphs and struggles. He categorized different parts of his life into jokes with meaning. Much of his time on stage was talking about how he overcame doubts from his friends and people around him.

"You have total control of your life and a lot of people don't want you to know that," he said.

Cease shared a time in his life that he was at an all time low, in a depression that spiraled into crippling anxiety. He spoke about how one could get past such lows and see the positive, bright side of life.

"Do you know why we are scared to leave something?" Cease asked.

"Because your mind could measure what you will lose, but it could never measure what it will gain. Your mind is literally

tricking you."

It was advice that made what was supposed to be an hour stand up set turn into two. After an hour Cease asked for a time check but also asked to keep going. With approval from the audience, he continued to relay his messages.

"I think students took away his deepest and most true message, which is to be 100 percent genuinely who you are," Valerie Woods, WUPB president said.

"The one thing that I took away from it (his set) was to not take anything too seriously," Nutaitis said. "I feel like I've been hyping up things in my life that don't need my time."

Cease focused on this concept of "time" as a major theme throughout the evening. Although many would say his stand up is motivational, Cease believes that "motivation is bullshit."

"Motivation is when you go 'I'm going to make this thing happen; I'll be the best.' That only happens when you think that 'thing' you're going to get will complete you. Meaning that you are saying whenever you want something you are incomplete."

This thought especially motivated students to reflect on their lives.

"Goal setting and having the motivation to achieve a goal has always been a huge worry that I've had. Now I'm looking at these types of things differently and in a more open way," Nutaitis said.

The one thing that Cease did ask of the audience was to try and follow along with what he was saying. He did not expect the audience to accept his words as truth, but he requested that they at least put thought into his message.

"The reason I wanted to be the president of WUPB is because I wanted to bring events to campus like this. Wilkes has never had a transformational comedian, and I'm sure many students were hesitant to come to something they've never heard of," Woods said. "The sole purpose for why we are here, at Wilkes University, is to learn and figure out who we are and what our goals are. That's exactly what bringing Kyle Cease to campus did."

For more information about Cease and his upcoming shows go to: kylecease.com

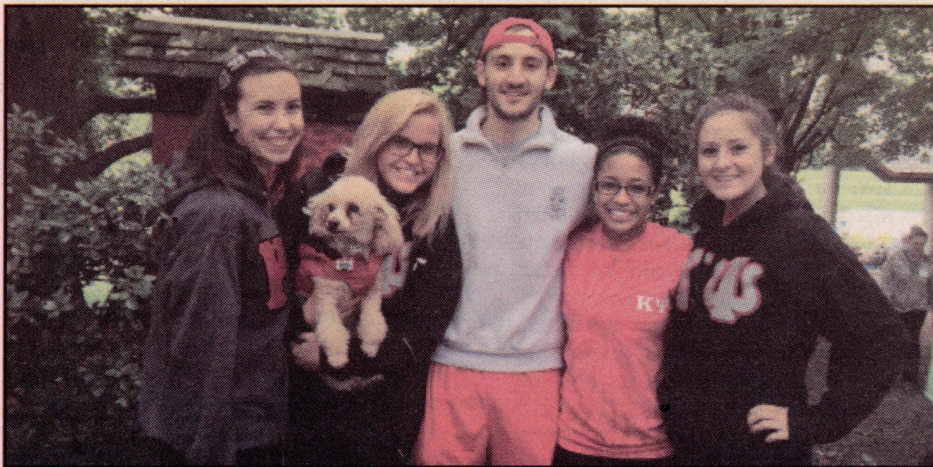


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Wilkes students participate in suicide awareness walk



Wilkes University students recently participated in a suicide awareness walk at Kirby Park, near the university's campus.



Even four-legged friends were involved with a recent walk to spread awareness about suicide.

H&M showcases Muslim model in newest advertisement

Students respond; question of traditions, beliefs, culture



Courtesy of YouTube

Idrissi balances a modeling career with her religious beliefs and finds that H&M is understanding of the Muslim culture.

By Gabby Glinski
Asst. News Editor

H&M, the world's second largest retailer, recently made headlines for its new ad campaign that features a Muslim model wearing a hijab, a first for the fashion company.

The video ad campaign, "Close the Loop" was released earlier in September in efforts to better the environment by encouraging customers to recycle clothing. The ad includes a wide variety of under-represented models alongside the starring Muslim woman. The inclusive ad features an amputee model, plus-sized model and a group of Sikh men.

The most popular face of the new campaign, Mariah Idrissi, 23, of London, started modeling as a hobby. She starred in the video after her photo was submitted to H&M by her casting director and friend. Debuting in the fashion industry, Idrissi was surprised at the amount of insight H&M had of Muslim culture and traditions, how to wear the hijab and how tight clothing was frowned upon.

The video opened a conversation whether modeling conflicts with traditional Islamic

beliefs or promotes them. Idrissi states she doesn't believe modeling conflicts with her beliefs because she isn't breaking any rules; she still wears the clothes she is used to.

According to several Muslim Wilkes students, the H&M ad provides a strong empowering message to Muslim women. Student Maryam Almarhoon, an accounting major, agreed with Idrissi and H&M's message. She believes people are all the same and shouldn't be attacked for doing what they love.

Entrepreneurship major Abdullah Nazal Altaieb was recently in New York City and saw the ad in Times Square. He thinks Muslims in modeling should be encouraged and there is no difference between Muslim and non-Muslim models.

"I believe that Islam has nothing to do with it and it is not against it, but that's me," Altaieb said. "I know that a lot of Muslims would disagree and I'm OK with that. You know people interpret beliefs differently."

Fatimah Salat, who is in the intensive English program, level 5, stated H&M's message is a beacon of hope for Muslim women who want to model, including herself, due to the appearance of more

Muslim women in modeling.

Israa Hawsawi, a sociology major, sees the ad as a way to educate others about Muslim culture.

"I think modeling can be one approach to familiarize other cultures about Muslim women's unique way of wearing clothing, especially the western culture that sometimes perceive the hijab negatively."

Hawsawi also said that to represent the hijab, a woman must be careful to follow Islam beliefs.

However, some students think Muslim models should take caution. Asma Mourcy, a political science major, voiced her opinion on how modeling can infringe on the meaning of the hijab.

"Staying away from modeling is preferable because it could lead to women following new trends of hijab, like wearing it tightly and putting makeup on instead of covering their beauty, which is against the purpose of hijab and will draw the wrong idea of the hijab to the world."

To see the full version of "Close the Loop," visit www.hm.com or www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4xnyr2mCuI.

Live, Love and Dance

By Amanda Bialek
Staff Writer

Live Love Dance is now offering dance classes to college students on the second floor of the Wilkes-Barre YMCA. Classes include jazz, hip hop, tap, ballet, lyrical, twirl and baton.

"Dance is not only a great form of exercise, but it is also mentally relieving," said Janet Nevel, artistic director for Live Love Dance. "I want everyone to feel like they have a dance family. Instead of taking time off when you go to college, you can still continue your passion for dance with us."

Nevel has been dancing since she was 3 years old. She has previously taught at three other dance studios and is a former dancer for the University of Scranton Dance Team. Her favorite genres of dance have always been tap and jazz.

"Dance is my passion. This is my dream job. I love teaching about something that I am so passionate about," Nevel said.

Live Love Dance has a variety of classes available with five different teachers. There are classes for all ages and skill sets.

"I find great joy in my students and their accomplishments. The individuals I teach have a great deal of impact on me, as well," said Shana Kwiatkowski, a senior who serves as ballet and pointe teacher. "Each student is extremely unique and has their own set of talents and challenges."

The dance studio hopes to build friendships between students and enable them to express themselves with other artists sharing the same passion.

"As a highly involved student on campus with a background in dancing for over 13 years, dancing at this studio gives me an opportunity to relax, work out a little and be creative," said Kristen Lopatofsky, a junior at Wilkes University. "Miss Janet is also very flexible when it comes to something you would like to work on and she understands our busy schedules."

Any student interested in taking a course at Live Love Dance might be persuaded by the discount the studio offers to students. The teachers within the studio hope that once students are introduced to the classes, they will have a lasting involvement in dance.

"I hope the college students will grow with us, so that they have a place to go. Dance was always a place I could go growing up where no one judged you. Everyone comes together and becomes one happy family," Nevel said.

For more information, students are asked to call the studio at (570) 970-5055 or contacting the studio via e-mail, at livelovedancestudio@gmail.com.

OPINION: Top GOP Contenders

By Emily DeAngelis
Design Editor

With a large selection of potential GOP presidential candidates, even political pundits may not know where to begin. To start, let's break down some of the basics of the main runners.

1. Jeb Bush

Accomplished Florida Governor and younger brother of 43rd President George W. Bush, Jeb Bush has made it clear in his campaign that he is different from the rest of the Bush family. However, in trying to make this distinction, political analysts from the Conservative Review quote, "His commitment to conservatism has waned since 2007". The biggest reason they cite for this is his alliance with the Common Core standards for education. This factor alone will lose him popularity with educators across the nation. However, he will gain favor for his commitment to family values and efforts to defund Obamacare.

2. Ben Carson

Retired Johns Hopkins neurosurgeon famous for the surgery that successfully separated twins conjoined at the head, Ben Carson is holding his own among a field full of career politicians. Carson first gained notice when he spoke at a National Prayer Breakfast in 2013, preaching about the dangers of political correctness when it pertains to health care—sitting not 10 feet away was President Obama. While running on the conservative ticket, Carson carefully distinguishes that he does not identify with any political group. The Politicians and Elections Portal describe his political views as "traditional, but infused with common sense."

3. Chris Christie

Newark, NJ, native, Chris Christie graduated from the University of Delaware and earned his law degree from Seton Hall along with honorary doctorate degrees from Rutgers and Monmouth University. Christie is a straightforward conservative. He opposes the legalization of marijuana, he is against gay marriage but believes that gay couples should be granted civil unions and he identifies as pro-life. He has a number of vulnerabilities, but he is still cited as a top contender for the 2016 nomination. Critics have gone as far as

to cite his weight as a limiting factor on his vigor and health. To combat this, Christie has lost more than 100lbs in four years and underwent lap band surgery.


4. Ted Cruz

Texas produces several big name politicians, and Ted Cruz is no exception. Cruz is the first Hispanic-American to serve for Texas. Cruz was named the "most principled candidate" in the race by talk show host Rush Limbaugh. Cruz's steadfast opposition to liberalism and firm connection to his beliefs is making him a true contender in a large and accomplished group. While several of the candidates he is facing once fought for Obamacare, Cruz consistently fought against the immorality of Obama's failed health care plan, and his reviews remain constant today. Washington Times reported Steve Deace writes, "Here is the bottom line: If someone doesn't have a proven history of fighting the corruption in Washington before getting elected, that probably means they're unlikely to do it after they reach the White House."

5. Carly Fiorina

On Monday, May 5, CEO of Hewlett-Packard, Carly Fiorina announced that her, "private-sector background and conservative credentials make her best positioned to capture the Republican nomination and take on Hillary Rodham Clinton." She since has taken the GOP by surprise by capturing support after the first debate. While Fiorina debated with the group of less likely candidates, her commentary still managed to overshadow some of the bigger names during post-debate analysis. According to the Conservative Review, "Fiorina has, for the most part, stayed silent on most civil rights issues, although she has vocally criticized the Left—namely, Clinton, for hypocrisy in decrying religious freedom laws while doing business with corners of the world where women are treated as second class citizens." Her lack of political experience, while appealing to many, makes her rather thin on several of the hot issues within the campaign.

For information on other top presidential contenders, be sure to check out the next issue of The Beacon.

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HUMANS OF WILKES UNIVERSITY



The Beacon/Alexandra Devarie

"The biggest influence and inspiration in my life is my mother. She made me into the person that I am today. My mother has had a hard life but is so powerful and it pushes me. She is a two-time survivor of cancer. At age 12, she lost her leg to bone cancer, but defeated it. A number of years later, after both my sister and I were born, my mother developed advanced stage breast cancer. She was given three months to live, but she ended up defeating cancer again.

After her battle, she continued to work as much as possible. She is the one that has supported me and pushed me everyday. She is the one always telling me to never give up. So, whatever comes my way, whatever stops me, whoever tells me no, I am not going to stop pursuing my dreams because I learned from my mother to never give up. She always said those who are good people and who have strong will power will succeed. My mother is a fighter. I admire her and I aspire to be as strong as her."

-Alexander Harrington

Wilkes takes a firm stance against violence

By Nicole Zukowski
Life, Arts and Entertainment Editor

Wilkes groups are teaming up with community organizations to raise awareness regarding all forms of violence.

WCLH, the student-run radio station on campus, and BACCHUS are hosting an event entitled "Stop The Violence, Stop The Hate" on Oct. 22 in the Henry Student Center lounge from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The groups have invited the Domestic Violence Resource Center, Victims Resource Center and United We Stand / Divided We Fall to provide information and resources to the campus community during the event.

"WCLH has a concern with raising awareness about violence because, not only does it seem to be increasing around the Wilkes community, we also lost a WCLH DJ, DJ Moe, two years ago on Oct. 13," Kayla Bucci, the WCLH promotion and information director said.

"We are not just honoring what he's done for WCLH, but making the community aware that it's still active."

This event seeks to raise awareness across all forms of violence, as well provide a tribute to DJ Moe, a former WCLH DJ and victim of gun violence.

Coming together to host this live remote broadcast with WCLH, BACCHUS has its

own interest in promoting a healthy and safe lifestyle.


"BACCHUS has always tried to take a leading role when it comes to tackling issues such as sexual violence on college campuses. It's hard to find an issue that's more relevant to students here at Wilkes so, we thought this was a really important opportunity to raise awareness for this issue," President of BACCHUS Troy Carey said. "Not to mention, the size of this issue makes an event like this hard to plan on your own. I know coming together with WCLH is going to make this a very successful event."

This event is intended to bring the Wilkes

community together and acknowledge and inform Wilkes students on such issues related to violence.

"Students should come out to hear from speakers in the community to become educated on violence and what they can do to help someone in a violent situation. Lunch will also be served and there will be lots of giveaways," said Markeata White, WCHL programming director.

For more information on the event contact Kayla Bucci at kayla.bucci@wilkes.edu.

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nicole.zukowski@wilkes.edu



New Contest: Find the 4 differences

Follow us for a chance to win prizes!



@wilkesbeacon

Tweet us the 4 differences first for a chance to win a Dunkin' Donuts gift card!

Club commits acts of random kindness

By Michelle Lehman
Correspondent

A cupcake.
A flower.
A kind word.

These simple items have all – at one point or another – been part of the Acts of Random Kindness club at Wilkes University.

Simply put, the club was formed to make others happy. Members perform random acts of kindness on campus and in the community.

"Kindness is powerful," said Dr. Anne Batory, the faculty adviser of the Acts of Random Kindness (ARK) club. "Several years ago a small group of Sidhu students were inspired to start a club that would nurture and encourage acts of random kindness by working together to identify opportunities for kindness."

ARK usually meets in UCOM every two weeks at various locations and times. At meetings the members generate new ideas for acts and discuss how previous acts went. ARK only meets when the club is prepping for or preparing an act.

During the last few years ARK has been active on and off campus. The group has cleaned up a street in a neighborhood connecting the Wilkes campus, passed out hand warmers during cold winter days and offered free socks.

ARK members also have given away movie tickets and flowers to Wilkes food service personnel, helped with a cupcake sale and shoveled snow for older area residents.

This semester, ARK members handed out flowers around campus and distributed Gatorade and water to the construction workers working on the Wilkes Gateway Project.

Members even wrote anonymous letters to professors on campus to make them feel appreciated.

Other acts of kindness are planned for the future.

The president of ARK, Jeffrey Horwith, said that the club is about Inspiring selflessness in individuals and promoting kindness to others on campus and in the community.

"My favorite part about ARK is making

people cry tears of joy," said Horwith.

"I like doing nice things for people who seem like they need it," said Kya Lewis, a freshman and new member of ARK.

To find out more about ARK, visit getarked.org or follow them on Instagram [Wilkes_ark](https://www.instagram.com/wilkes_ark).

**What acts
of random
kindness would
you like to see
on campus?
Tweet us
@wilkesbeacon**



Sometimes a simple flower can brighten someone's day.

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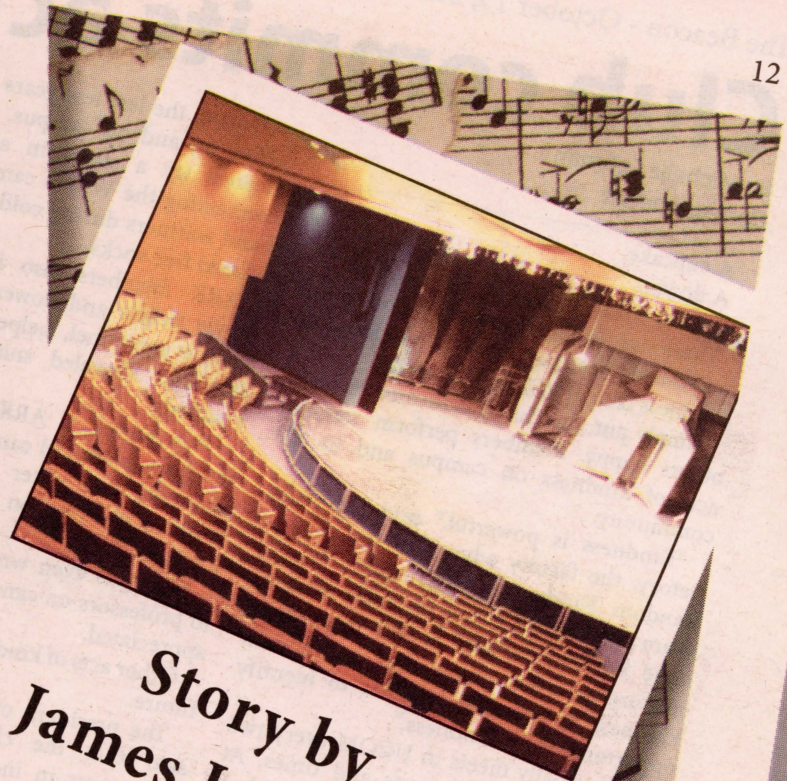
BEER BOYS

Kitchen Open Until 1AM Friday & Saturday

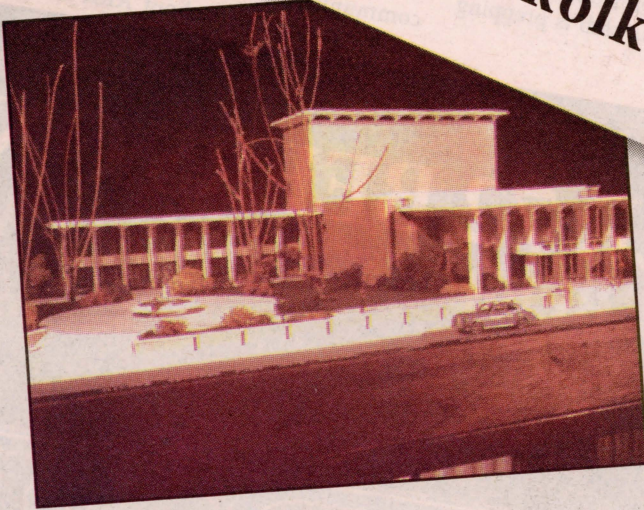
176 North Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre

MUST BE 21+ Mon, Wed-Sat 6PM - 2AM • Sun 12PM - 2AM • Tues CLOSED

A Celebration of the Performing Arts: Dorothy Dickson Darte Center turns 50



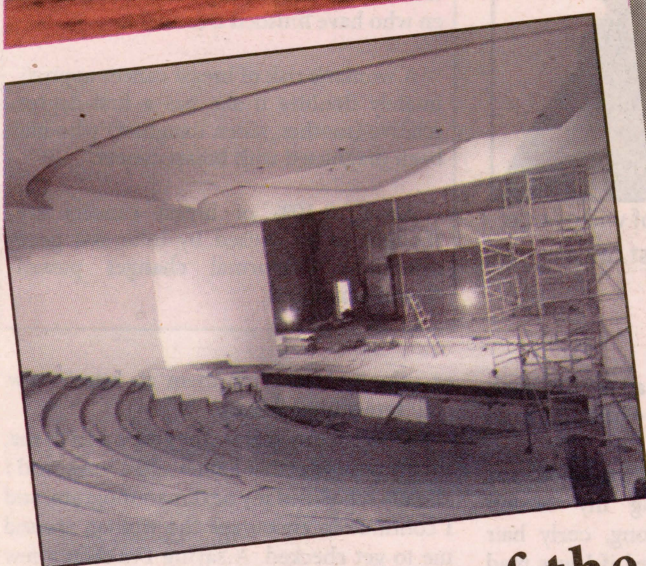
Story by
James Jaskolka



Design by
Nicole Kutos



**An audio engineer
operates the sound
board**



**Construction of the
Darte's stage**

In the mid to late 1800s the land on which the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts now stands was used as a depot for the Lehigh & Susquehanna Railroad. At the peak of the coal industry, the spot was essential.

Today, the land remains important. Instead of coal, it serves as a terminal for talent, where those interested in the performing arts can spend up to four years honing their creative skills. This month marks the 50th anniversary of the Darte's construction.

Held October 24 at 8 p.m., the Darte will celebrate its milestone with performances from those in the program as well as short speeches about the anniversary's significance.

"It's a mark of staying power in a way, that the university is invested in the arts," Chair of the Division of Performing Arts Steven Thomas said. "It's a wonderful thing that the university did fifty years ago, to create this facility for the arts, and we're still making art fifty years later."

Billed as "A Celebration of the Performing Arts," performances by several different groups will show what the division has to offer by showcasing three distinct sections: theatre, music, and dance.

The theatre program will perform select scenes from this year's shows, including Our Town and Shout! The Mod Musical. The dance program will perform two dances: a ballet and a more modern piece. The music program will feature performances by the civic band, the jazz ensemble and the choral ensemble.

"It's a time to reflect on the brilliance that the building has been host to in the past 50 years," Shaun Pierre, a Senior theatre arts major who will be performing at the anniversary, said. "It's a brilliant thing when you have a gala event such as this, where all aspects come together."

While this event marks the 50th anniversary of the Darte's construction, the performing arts have been a staple at Wilkes University since its inception. In 1937, only three years after the university's founding, Chase Theatre was built on what is now the greenway, according to Public Services Librarian and Archivist Elizabeth Sullivan.

During the Great Depression, Dorothy Dickson Darte contributed large amounts of money to fund the arts programs at Wilkes. "She was a huge supporter of Wilkes, and especially of the arts at Wilkes," Sullivan said.

Darte was one of the main benefactors during the construction of what was originally called the Wilkes College Center for Performing Arts. Reportedly too humble to let it be publically known as more than an anonymous donation, former president Eugene Farley dedicated the building to her in 1970 after her death the year prior.

Opinion

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

"This is the story of how I got my scars..."

By Gretchen Yeninas
Associate Dean of Student Affairs

This is the story of how I got my scars. I'm going to say it in one word: mammogram. You were probably expecting me to say something else, like breast cancer, and that would have been correct, too.

When people hear the word cancer, some of those fears that you stuff deep down come rising up to the surface. It makes people say things like, "Oh, you poor thing," or "That's too bad." I hated that. I got my scars because I was doing the right thing: I got my annual mammogram. It's that preventative screening that women joke about regularly, put off or completely forget about...and while it may have given me a scar (or three), damn, is it important!

Forty-one-years old. It was only my second mamo ever. It was also a few days before Christmas. I scheduled it that way on purpose. Mamo first thing in the morning and the rest of the day to finish last minute shopping.

Perfect, right?

And it was perfect, until I got the call telling me I needed to come back for an ultrasound. That was Dec. 22, 2014. Because of the holidays, I had to wait for a biopsy until Jan. 7, 2015. The confirmation the next day that it was indeed cancer rocked me, but I just wanted to know, "What's my next step?" That was my refrain through a mastectomy, six treatments of chemotherapy, follow-up medicines, with one more surgery to go next year. Knowing what comes next made it easier for me to get through the day-to-day of my treatment.

I'm lucky. Wilkes provides staff and faculty with outstanding health care coverage. I didn't have to leave the Wyoming Valley for anything. However, I'm surprised at the number of women who told me after they heard my story that they hadn't been for a mamo in years. Why?? According to the American Cancer Society, all states except for Utah, require that private health insurance covers mammograms. And the Affordable



Courtesy of wilkes.edu

Women should be scheduling mammograms for themselves at least once a year. Above, Gretchen Yeninas prior to donating her hair.

Health care act (aka Obamacare) also covers mammograms. If you're covered, what on earth are you waiting for? <http://www.cancer.org/cancer/breastcancer/moreinformation/breastcancerearlydetection/breast-cancer-early-detection-paying-for-br-ca-screening>

So, was it cancer or the mammogram that caused my scars?

I suppose that's up for debate, but the fact is, I took care of myself enough to get checked. Had my tumor gone unchecked, who knows what would have happened? Someone recently asked me if I would do it again. I was genuinely surprised by the question. No one chooses to have cancer and feel the way I did for months during chemo, but if I had to do it

again, I know that I could. I had my bad days, but I had (and still have) tons of support from family, friends and strangers.

Another question I heard was about my hair. Immediately following my second chemo treatment, all my long, curly hair started to fall out. I was asked if I was mad about losing my hair. The answer is, no. I was mad that I didn't cut it off sooner to be able to donate more. By the time I cut off three thick ponytails worth of hair, I had probably thrown out another ponytails worth. I just hope that Children with Hair Loss was able to make a great wig, or two, out of what I sent in. As an aside, if you're looking to donate your hair, they take anything over 8", natural

According to breastcancer.org

About 1 in 8 U.S. women — 12.4% — will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime.

For women in the United States, breast cancer death rates are higher than death rates for any other type of cancer, besides lung cancer.

Except for skin cancer, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among American women. Just under 30% of cancers diagnosed in women are breast cancers.


As of early 2015, there were more than 2.8 million women with a history of breast cancer in the U.S. This figure includes women currently being treated and women who have finished treatment.

A woman's risk of breast cancer approximately doubles if she has a first-degree relative (mother, sister, daughter) who has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

About 5-10% of breast cancers are thought to be caused by inherited gene mutations (abnormal changes passed through families).

or color treated. Visit them at: <http://www.childrenwithhairloss.us/>.

So, back to my scars...they are a part of me, a daily reminder that I am healthy now. And I already scheduled my next mammogram, and I continue to encourage the women around me to get checked. A saying I've seen a few times sums up my experience: "A scar simply means you were stronger than whatever tried to hurt you."—Unknown. I feel like that fits me perfectly.

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Until it happens to you

By Allison Rossi
Staff writer

Lady Gaga is famous for her catchy songs and her crazy outfits. Some people do not take her seriously because of some of her lyrics. Others do not take her seriously because of the way she presents herself. For example, the meat dress she wore to the VMAs. However, A majority of people that have heard her new single "Until It Happens To You" have a new outlook on Lady Gaga. "Until It Happens To You" had 12,157,884 views and 270,674 likes within the first week of the song being on Youtube.com.

The song "Until It Happens To You" is striking and the music video that goes along with it is extremely graphic. The lyrics and the music video send out an inspiring, powerful, and meaningful message for many. The song depicts victims of rape on college campuses. This growing topic is needed to be known and people, especially college students should be informed. The song brings great attention to this serious topic.

Many victims of rape get different reactions when they speak up about this tragic event that happened to them. The lyrics state: "You tell me 'it gets better, it gets better, in time. You say I'll pull myself together, pull it together, you'll be fine. Tell me what the hell do you know, what do you know tell me how the hell could you know, how could you know."

These lyrics describe some of the responses that people give to victims but the truth is they do not know how the victims feel. The lyrics continue: Till it happens to you, you don't know how it feels, how it feels till it happens to you, you won't know, it won't be

real, no it won't be real, won't know how it feels."

No one can truly understand something until it happens to them personally. People deal with their issues differently especially when it is a serious and harmful problem.

When asked their opinions of Lady Gaga's new single, students had a lot to say. Adrianna Fiore explained her opinion of the song and the major topic: rape on college campuses. Fiore stated, "When I first heard the song I thought there was a deep meaning behind the lyrics; however, I did not grasp the full message until I watched the music video. The video helped me understand how serious the issue of college rape, and rape in general truly was. It is a scary reality to fathom."

Sophomore, Quinn Kelly also had many thoughts on the new song. Kelly stated, "After seeing the statistics in the video, I realized how many people are affected by rape. It is scary to think that it does happen on college campuses and that majority of the victims are in my age group. It is good that Lady Gaga and others are using their fame wisely and addressing this serious problem."

Andrew Neidig explained, "The video was very graphic and too awful to face the reality of college rape on campuses. It is sad and unfortunate that this is a rising issue in today's society."

The statistics in the video were as follows: "One in five college women will be sexually assaulted this year unless something changes." "Until It Happens To You," deals with a very important and serious issue and this topic is getting the attention it deserves.



Courtesy of via YouTube

Lady Gaga expresses her feelings of rape on college campuses through a powerful song and music video.

The Beacon Wants YOU



The Beacon is looking for Colonels to join our staff.

All majors and years are welcome to join and no experience is necessary. If you have an interest in writing, editing, designing, photography, marketing or advertising, we have a home for you.

For more information, e-mail Ashley Evert, managing editor:

Ashley.Evert@Wilkes.edu

Bare-faced or clown-faced: Is there a preference?

By Allison Rossi
Staff writer

Why are we judged by our outer appearance the most?

Why, especially is it in the work force, one is first judged on their clothing, hair, and exterior features.

People are judged on their everyday appearance even before others get to know them. First impressions say a lot about an individual but should they?

First impressions are relevant in a dating setting, social setting, and the most important of them all, the work place. Bosses are most likely going to choose the individual that looks the most professional. The quality or value of an individual's work and work ethic should not be solely based on someone's outer qualities.

In some professions, women may feel obligated to wear make up to work, particularly in professions that deal with the public. A job interviewer should not force someone to wear make-up if they do not want to.

It is one thing if women want to wear makeup but they should not be required to in order to be taken seriously in the world; whether in a social environment or a professional environment. According to the Huffington Post, out of three thousand women, 91 percent of them would cancel a first date if they did not have makeup on, 31 percent said they that they would not exercise at a gym if they were bare-faced.

There is a difference between being professional and needing to meet the

requirements of today's society. Have we as a generation taken professionalism to the extreme?

The Detroit Free Press stated factors that could be preventing ones career success: "On the appearance side, employers cited provocative clothing (44%), wrinkled clothes or shabby appearance (43%), piercings outside of traditional ear piercings (32%), clothing that's too casual for the workplace (27%), visible tattoos (27%), an unprofessional or ostentatious haircut (25%), unprofessional or ostentatious facial hair (24%)."



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Have an idea
for an opinion piece?
Contact Mandy
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This week Eric reviews Lana Del Rey's new record, Honeymoon: "This could be her best work yet because nothing seems to be overwhelming or too kitschy. At this point Lana is too cool to care about the naysayers. As heard in "Honeymoon", "We both know that it's not fashionable to love me, but you don't go cause truly there's nobody for you but me." Don't be surprised to see this record at the top of many "best albums of 2015" music publication polls by December. My rating is 4.5 out of 5 Stars." For the full review go to <http://www.thewilkesbeacon.com/category/opinion/>

By Eric Casey

Photo illustration Ashley Evert

Eric Casey's music column

Album reviews posted every Tuesday at
www.thewilkesbeacon.com

Hear the albums streamed weekly
on Eric's radio show "Indie Flavour"
90.7 WCLH
every Wednesday 3:00-5:00 p.m.



Spies of the Balkans: All the intrigue the cover advertises

By Sara Pisak
Assistant Opinion Editor

Spies of the Balkans is the eleventh novel by Alan Furst however, the novel marks my first foray into Alan Furst's writing. Why did I select this Furst novel? I wanted to select a book from the bookstore shelf without background information or a synopsis posted on the back cover. Honestly, I selected this book because of its cover.

Spies of the Balkans is the perfect text to select based on its cover. First, the word "spies" is boldly printed on the front cover. Instantly, this should be a clue that intrigue and mystery will follow. Second, adorned on the front cover is a black and white photograph of a 1940s couple clutching a briefcase. The woman's face obscures the man's face, rendering him unidentifiable.

The cover art is a precursor to the plot as well as the main characters enclosed within the book's pages. As soon as a reader opens the novel, they know immediately that the novel is exactly what the cover illustrates. As a result, I enjoyed being plunged into the shady, uncover world of espionage.

After opening the pages, the reader becomes engaged in the story of Costa Zannis, a senior police official. Set during the 1940s, Zannis, a citizen of Greece, lives in the port city known as Salonika. Zannis quickly finds himself playing a dangerous game of political espionage. As Adolf Hitler organizes an invasion of the Balkans, Zannis plans an escape route for fugitives captured by the Nazis. Pursued by the Gestapo, Zannis must work quickly to free Balkan detectives from the Nazi's grasp.

As time before the invasion runs out, Zannis finds himself falling in love with three different women who come into his life. Does Zannis and his captive Balkan detectives make it out alive?

What makes *Spies of the Balkans* a worthwhile read in the throngs of all the available thriller and mystery novels? Furst's writing is top notch but what makes this novel standout is his ability to use actual events in a productive and a believable way which paints a vivid setting.

Typing historical fiction into a Google search yields the following definition: "Historical fiction is defined as movies and novels in which a story is made up but is set in the past and sometimes borrows true characteristics of the time period in which it is set." The definition of historical fiction states, events or characters are "borrowed."

The wonderful element of Furst's *Spies of the Balkans* is his work, notably his characters and setting, does not in the least feel borrowed. In short, Furst immerses

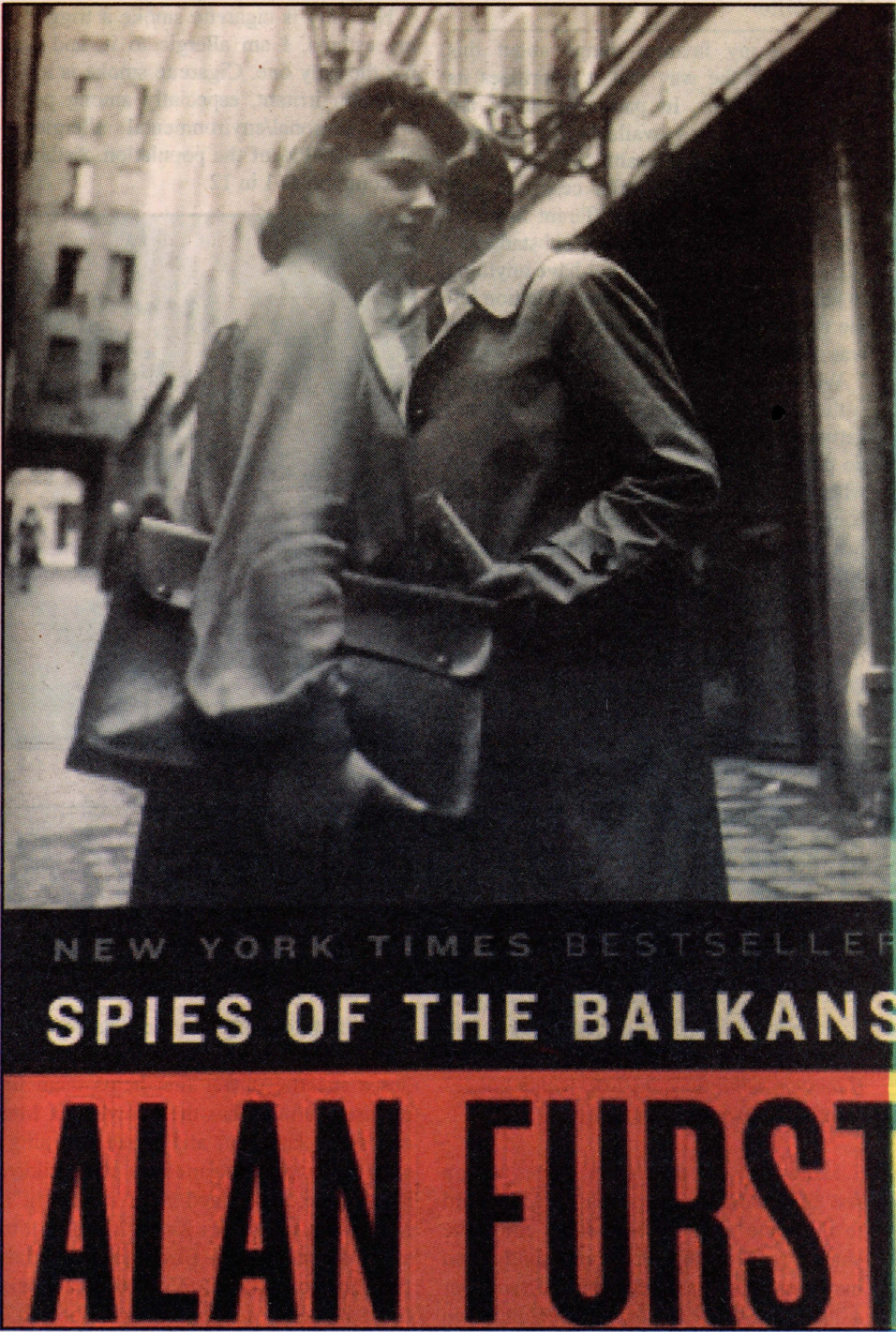
the reader in a time instead of simply borrowing characters and adding them to his contemporary work. Although not a true historical account of the Balkan police force during the 1940s, Furst's work engages a reader so greatly in the time period that as a reader closes the final pages, it is difficult for the reader not to believe the text is historically accurate. A reader will definitely have a problematic time separating fact from fiction, which is exactly what one hopes for in a historical spy novel.

Furst is able to achieve the feat of readable historical accuracy by setting the scene. The way characters such as Zannis dress, walk, talk and interact leaves the reader entirely absorbed in a different way of life. Further, *Spies of the Balkans* is vividly described. The setting of the city rears to life, becoming a character in its own right. The setting flows as Zannis travels through the Balkans to assist with the escape of captured Balkan detectives.

With each twist and turn, as Zannis runs through the dark alleys of Salonika, the setting comes to life; twisting and turning in its own right. The streets wither and die as the countdown to the final attack quickly approaches. Furst's description of The Balkans during World War II leaves the reader in a state of shock when he or she peers over the edge of their book, only to realize the modern world surrounds them.

As the setting in the *Spies of the Balkans* breathes life, it creates the affect that as Zannis and his girlfriend try to escape, Zannis' account could be more historically accurate than fiction. It is Furst's idea of immersion instead of borrowing that leaves more historical details for the reader to grasp than fictionalized story elements. Zannis' escape reads as a plight of all those who fled the Nazi regime and not just those who fled like Zannis because of his political treason. The idea of Zannis being "the everyman" by the conclusion of the text further drives home Furst's historical immersion instead of historical borrowing. I look forward to reading additional Furst's novels and being transported into completely thrilling times and places.

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Sara's Score:



Courtesy of Sara I

Isolating smokers was a good idea -- and necessary

By: Elyse Guzewicz
Staff Writer

One of my favorite things about this university is the way that it prioritizes its students' health. In particular, there are addiction programs available for students through the campus Health Services office in Passan Hall. They offer cessation aids and counseling for many different forms of addiction, including controlled substances.

Unfortunately, they did not have anything to help me; last year, when my addiction left me tired and with a persistent cough, there was not anything they could do.

What was I addicted to? Air. Oxygen – the good stuff. See, I have asthma, and getting enough air is just a necessity. They do not make albuterol gum so I do not start wheezing, or oxygen patches to keep the cough at bay. Unfortunately, the university just does not prioritize my addiction to clean air, possibly because air is necessary for all mammals to live.

Due to the lack of smoking regulations on campus, I spent the entirety of last year coughing through classes, study sessions, and even when I was trying to sleep. In many situations I had no choice but to walk through clouds of smoke while entering and

exiting certain buildings to attend classes.

Not only is cigarette smoke a trigger for my asthma, I am allergic to it, and I am not the only one. Cigarette smoke is a very common irritant, especially among people with seasonal/environmental allergies – about 30-40% of the population. Asthma is as common as 1 in 12.

Smokers sidling up to building entrances and exits literally made me sick. Ask my mother, or my doctor, or my nebulizer, which I had to pull out of storage for the first time in years. So you can imagine my frustration when I see someone complain that the new policy is unfair.

Smoking risks were written on the

pavement in chalk? What a childish thing to do. Kind of like insisting your dangerous habit get in the way of other people breathing. Forgive me if I don't care as much about smokers being "isolated" on campus – I will always prioritize respiratory health over someone's feelings.

So yes, walking past a cloud of cigarette smoke will cause an adverse reaction. Within seconds of inhaling secondhand smoke, I start coughing; within minutes I have a headache that will last most likely for the rest of the day.

Do not get me wrong – I have friends who smoke; this isn't a personal attack. I'm going to be honest. If it were up to me, there wouldn't be smoking on campus at all. There is no such thing as a cessation aid for a respiratory disorder, and I certainly did not pick up asthma because I thought lying in a hospital bed with a nasal cannula looked cool.

Sure, I think now (with Wilkes' new cessation program) would be a great time to quit, but you can smoke if you want to. Just do not do it near me.



Photo Illustration by Elyse Guzewicz

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The Bechdel Test: *Hocus Pocus*, the Halloween classic

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.

Halloween season always comes with a few things that make people look forward to that time of the year. People enjoy the chance to dress up, eat some candy, and maybe go to a haunted house or two. For a lot of people, however, the Halloween season means it is the time of the year for some of their favorite movies. People every year re-watch the same movies they watched as kids and get to relive some of the magic.

One of these movies is *Hocus Pocus*. Released in 1993, this movie is about the Sanderson sisters: Winnie (Bette Midler), Mary (Kathy Najimy), and Sarah (Sarah Jessica Parker) and their quest to collect the

lives of children before they die forever at sunrise after Halloween night. Each sister has a specific power that helps them find children. Winnie has the knowledge, Mary can smell children, and Sarah can sing a siren song that mesmerizes the children. They were summoned by a candle lit by Max Dennison (Omri Katz). Max, his little sister Danni (Thora Birch) and his crush from school, Alison, (Vinessa Shaw) visit the Sanderson sisters' cottage, located in witch central itself, Salem, Massachusetts, which has become a museum dedicated to the legend of the sisters.

With the help of Thackery Binx (Sean Murray), who has been cursed by the sisters and forced to live as a black cat that can never die, they spend their Halloween trying to rid the world of the Sanderson sisters once and for all. The witch trio does not take this lying down, and sends all sorts

of magical things the kids' way. This is a Halloween movie that seems to have it all: a legend about witches, magic, a talking cat, a whole lot of people in costumes, a great musical number, and even a zombie. There's a reason many consider it a must-see in the Halloween season.

Hocus Pocus does certainly seem to have it all. By the Bechdel Test's standards, it definitely does not disappoint. It fills all the qualifications of being a good representation by the test's standards. The film has a whole host of female characters that have been named. To make things even better, with the exception of Allison, they all have both a first and last name. These women characters talk to each other often, and more often than not, it is not about a man.

Outside of the Bechdel Test, I would argue this film is a decent representation

of women. There are many different types of female characters in the movie. It is not just the evil Sanderson sisters in the movie. There are women characters that are meant to be seen as heroes. Unfortunately, the film lacks any real diversity. Not only are none of the main characters people of color, there are not really any people of color seen at all throughout the film.

Hocus Pocus has its place in the Halloween season. It certainly has reasons to be loved by so many, though it still had potential to be more inclusive.

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Sports

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

Off-season is no time off for these Colonels

By: Andre Spurell/Danny Van Brunt
Asst. Sports Editors

Cold football games are a reminder that winter is around the corner. All of the fall sports are in full swing, but there are still winter sports teams preparing for their season.

The men's wrestling, basketball and women's basketball teams' seasons are slowly beginning. These teams have been staying fit and doing team activities.

"We have been working harder, doing more, and looking better this year," said James Palys, a sophomore 157-pound wrestler.

He continued about his routine stating that the wrestlers have been doing various activities such as being assigned lifting routines in the gym and wrestling practices. The wrestling team also has high-paced sprinting and lifting routines in the large and open green room.

The men's basketball team has been waking up before many others, getting to

practice at 6 a.m. to run, do basketball drills and play pick-up games followed by lifting weights.

Freshman forward Tommy Bowen has started this routine.

"The workouts were pretty tough at first, but once I got into the swing of things, everything got easier," he said.

Bowen has struggled, but he has pushed past it. He did not lift as much as he does now when he was in high school.

"The biggest transition I had to deal with was the whole lifting part of the college level. I was never forced to lift or had a lifting program in high school so lifting is way different for me," Bowen said.

Catey McFadden is a sophomore women's basketball player. She has been participating in all the off-season activities so far.

"We have conditioning and lifting three days a week and we play pick-up at least twice a week," McFadden said. "We also do team bonding activities."

She thinks the preseason has been busy,

but fun. Even though the team is not in season yet, everyone shows up ready to work hard. She notices how excited everyone really is.

"A major difference from last year is that we don't have as young of a team. Last year, we had six freshman, and now we have two, so most of us are returning players," McFadden said.

The wrestling team began practicing on Oct. 10, while the two basketball teams start a week later on Oct. 17.

Although all three teams won't be starting their season for another few days, they all have been working hard these past two months to attempt to accomplish their goals of reaching the playoffs and ultimately winning a championship.

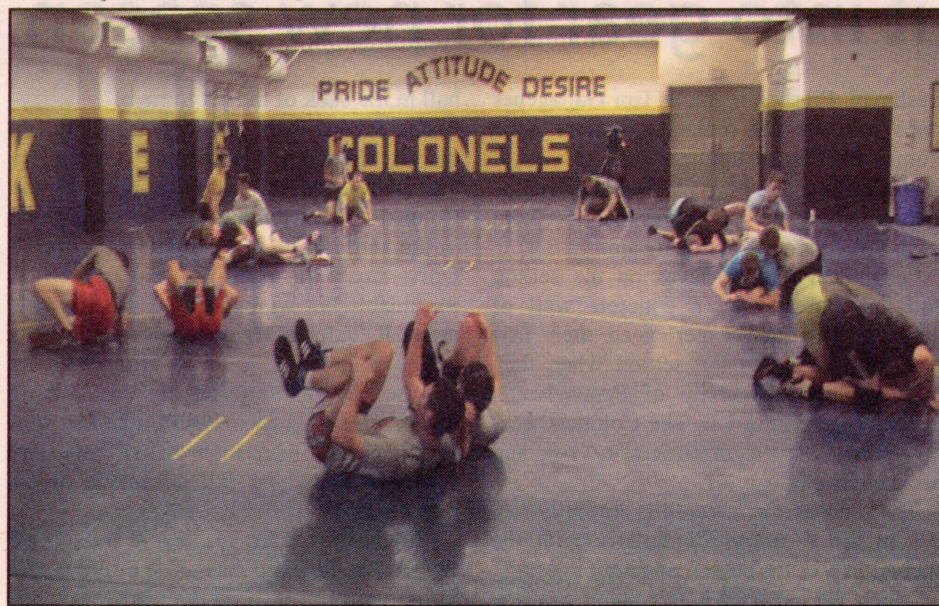
Each team will be competing in tournaments in about a month, and all of the tournaments will be hosted away.



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

Members of the women's basketball team go head-to-head in preparation for the start of winter sports.

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The Beacon/Purvit Patel

Wrestlers practice their top and bottom techniques during an off-season practice this past week.



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

Members of the men's basketball team compete hard for a rebound at a recent practice for their upcoming season right.

Wilkes' Stengel dreams big on and off the field

By: Brandon Gubitosa
Sports Writer

At the age of 5, Tanner Stengel played in his first ever football game for the South Parkland Trojans. Fifteen years later, he is still playing the same game he grew up to love.

Stengel is in his junior year for the Colonels and is a returning second team All-MAC linebacker. When Coach Trey Brown took over for the Colonels last year, Stengel was given the chance to prove himself. He finished the 2014 season as the league's top tackler with 102 total tackles in ten games played.

At the age of 8, Stengel realized that he had a future in football. During a practice, one of his coaches, who weighed more than 300 pounds, was running toward him, and Stengel was able to tackle him to the ground.

Coaches stood there in shock, unable to register what he had just done. After practice, his coach approached his dad telling him that "although he might not be the biggest kid on the team, he has heart for the game, and that will take him places."

Standing at 5 feet 11 inches and 190 pounds, Tanner still might not be the biggest guy out there, but he always prides himself on being the hardest worker.

"Tanner's mobility allows him to make plays all over the field," said senior safety

Jared Powell. "I have never played with a linebacker as mobile as him. He allows me to not worry about the run so much; I can play the pass quicker knowing he's there to make any run play."

This is Stengel's first season as captain, and he knows that it comes with a big responsibility.

"Nothing really changed, you just have to be vocal and outright with everything and just play to the best of your abilities so the younger guys look up to you."

Leading the league in tackles is a major accomplishment, especially as a sophomore, but Stengel has his goals set high for this season.

"There's always that dream of being an All-American."

So far he is on pace to lead the league in tackles, which will help him in his journey toward achieving that dream.

However, there is more to life than just football. Stengel is a mechanical & electrical engineering major at Wilkes. Having two demanding majors is rough for a student athlete, but he has found that time management and being able to put in the extra hours really helps. Being able to maintain a high GPA while balancing it with athletics really shows who he is as a person.

"He can take your breath away with a stare, but touch your heart with his words,"



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

Junior Tanner Tengal makes a tackle during homecoming game against Widener.

said junior defender Josh Farrell.

Powell also praised Stengel for his ability to lead.

"As a captain, he leads us with not only his words but also by example. He is always working hard, and when we get down as a defense he is there to pick us up and make sure we keep a next-play mentality."

Like many football players, Stengel dreams of one day playing the NFL, but he has a plan in case that dream doesn't play out. He hopes to one day have his

own engineering company. Unlike other companies out there, which focus on a certain aspect of engineering, he would like for his company to be able to complete a wide range of activities and do anything possible.

When he is not on the field or in the classroom, he can be found participating in one of his hobbies including longboarding, snowboarding or skim boarding.

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Wilkes men's soccer: Kicking it into gear for new season



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

Men's soccer members perfect drills in pairs at a recent practice.

By: Sean Grundy
Sports Writer

The Wilkes men's soccer team began its campaign for the 2015 season with big challenges early in the season.

Last year, the team rounded out the season with a four-game losing streak to end the season.

The team's final overall record ended up being 4-15, 2-5 in the Freedom Conference. The Colonels ended up losing their first four games of the season to some of the best out-of-conference teams in the country, two of which were ranked. Gettysburg is ranked 10th and Elizabethtown is ranked 21st.

"We had a lot of opportunities in all four of those games and just came up short and couldn't get it done," said Head Coach Phil Wingert.

The soccer team has a good core group of upperclassmen but also has a few new additions on the field with five new

freshman. Freshman goalie Tim Gallager steps into the net replacing seniors Kyle Romm and Patrick Loube.

"Gallager has been playing very well -- he has made some great saves that have kept us in some games," Wingert said.

Gallager has 41 saves on the season and continues to be a concrete wall of defense. The men experienced their first taste of victory on the season when they beat Summit University of Pennsylvania in double overtime 1-0. The Colonels went on to beat Stevenson University 1-0, and McDaniels College 2-1.

The soccer team's record is currently 3-8, 0-1 in the Freedom Conference with the second half of the season approaching fast.

When talking to Wingert about the first half of the season he explained that, "The game is all about finding ways to win or finding ways not to lose, whether it's being up 1-0 and eating up clock to stay ahead or being down 1-0 and finding ways to put the

ball in the back of the net to tie it."

The second half of the season consists of all Freedom Conference games, so the conference is still wide open to the Colonels. The team has only lost one game in the conference -- to Fairleigh Dickinson University. This half of the season is formidable but winnable, and the Colonels are well equipped for the challenge.

The men have a lot of firepower on offense. A good portion of it is coming from their senior co captain Eddie Metzger. Metzger has a team high of five goals and seems to be taking full advantage of his opportunities.

"Eddie proves his leadership on and off the field as he continues to be a role model to the younger guys on the team," Wingert said.

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Wilkes "shares the spirit" with alumnus at homecoming

By Jared Powell
Sports Writer

As homecoming rolls around each year, Alumni Relations Director Bridget Giunta, Alumni Events Manager Jacki Lukas and Associate Alumni Relation Director Mary Simmons rally to host Share the Spirit, where sports alumni return to campus for honors and reunions.

This year's honoree was Kevin Gryboski, a 1995 Wilkes graduate and former Atlanta Braves pitcher.

Along with Gryboski, President Patrick Leahy and Dr. Paul Adams, vice president of student affairs, addressed friends and family in the crowd.

"The event is designed to celebrate the legacy of Wilkes athletics. It brings former student-athletes, current student-athletes, coaches, staff and faculty, friends and alumni together to celebrate the rich tradition of Wilkes."

Adams is heavily involved with the academics and even more so with athletics at Wilkes. He is known for his reputation among the student-athletes on campus.

He knows most athletes on a personal level; between the president and himself, the athletes are kept involved and in check on campus.

This year's Share the Spirit event turned out to be very successful. There were plenty of refreshments going around as the marching band put on a show along with

the cheerleaders on campus.


Drs. Leahy and Adams also kept the crowd involved by asking questions and recognizing the different teams and alumni that attended the event.

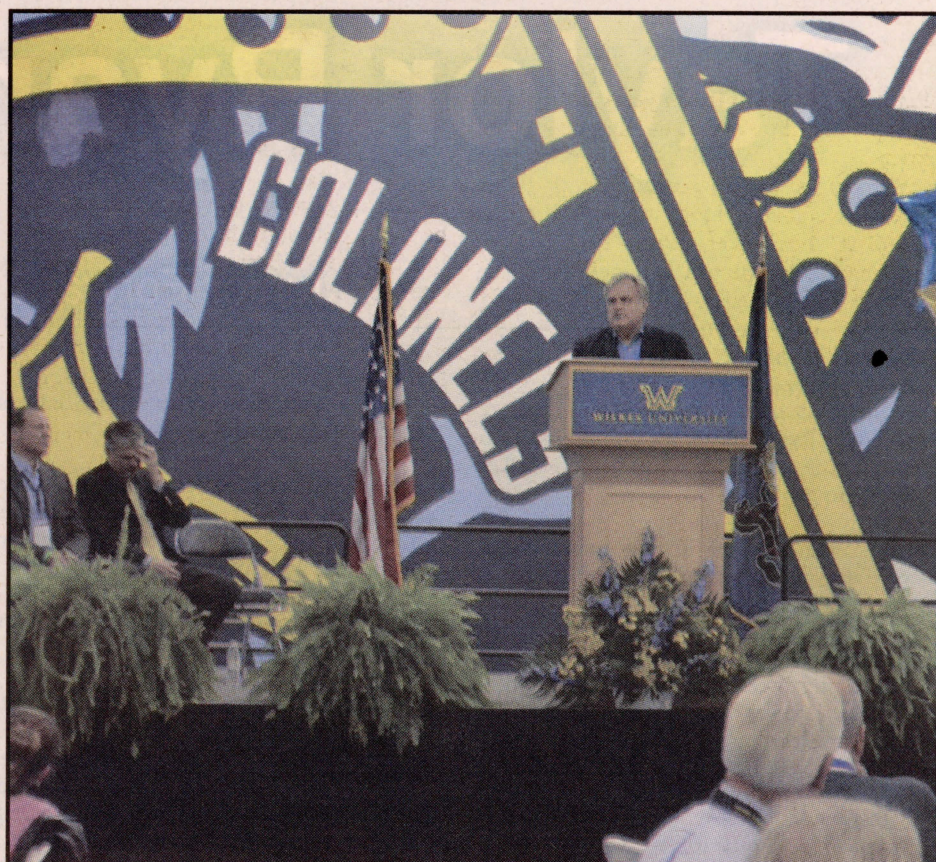
Adams felt the need to reach out to the alumni and thank them wholeheartedly for all that they do for the campus. At a small institution like Wilkes, it is hard to find the funding each sport needs to get by each season. The alumni play a huge part in funding their respective sport after they leave.

"Wilkes alumni support our athletics program in so many ways: with their financial support, their attendance at athletic contests, their service on University committees like the Athletics Hall of Fame selection committee, and coaching search committees," he said.

The Share the Spirit event is a way to keep the alumni involved and give back to the Wilkes Community for all the alumni do for the school.

"I think the event accomplished its intended purpose — to celebrate Wilkes athletics and to honor a distinguished former student-athlete — Bryan Gryboski. It is a great opportunity to bring together our current student-athletes with our alumni — it creates sharing across the generations,"

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The Beacon/Purvit Patel

Dr. Paul Adams, vice president of student affairs, addresses the crowd and thanks attendees for not only being a part of Wilkes Athletics, but sporting Colonel pride to this day.

University welcomes new men's volleyball team in 2016-17

By Evan Willey
Sports Writer

Over the years, Wilkes has welcomed many new teams and clubs in which the student body can participate and excel.

Soon, students will have another sporting choice -- men's volleyball. The MAC and Wilkes have decided to develop a men's D3 volleyball conference in the 2016-17 academic year.

Joseph Czopek will lead the boys volleyball team in the 201617 season. The university is taking the opportunity to expand its sports offerings to attract prospective students.

Faculty and students may recognize this

coach's name that is because he is already the women's volleyball coach at Wilkes. This will not present a problem because women's volleyball takes place in the fall semester and the men's team will start playing in the spring semester.

This gives Czopek a full year of great volleyball knowledge and will only help the two teams excel within each other.

"I am excited that Wilkes has given me the opportunity to be the first men's volleyball head coach," he said.

Current volleyball graduate Assistant Coach, Alex Czopek, is being considered to be part of the future coaching staff.

The fact that Wilkes already has the women's program means the university can take full advantage of using the current facility and existing equipment.

To start a new MAC team is a long process and the process that the men's volleyball team went through was led by Athletic Director Addy Malatesta.

When asked about his expectations about the new team, Czopek said the main expectation will be to fill the full roster of athletes and field a motivated team that will be competitive in the new conference being established.


As a coach, he is looking forward to

qualifying for the conference playoffs and to have team members be recognized on the All-Conference Team.

Just being recognized within the MAC will be a great start for the new program.

Czopek has high hopes for this new endeavor at the university and is optimistic about the future.

"Once qualified for the playoffs, anything can happen from there," he stated.

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Getting to know...

Taylor Ryan

Junior Forward

By Purvit Patel
Sports Writer

Taylor Ryan is a junior communication studies major and plays forward on Wilkes Field Hockey Team.

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

A: I am from Virginia and was recruited to play field hockey, so originally that was the driving force. Once I visited, the Comm. Department was definitely what I needed to make my decision.

Q: Post Graduation Plans in terms of a Career?

A: I hope to work in the public relations field or as a part of the marketing team for a professional sports team.

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

A: I have high expectations for this season as we have a lot of talent that came on this year. I hope to make another appearance in the MAC finals.

Q: When/Why did you first begin playing field hockey?

A: I started playing when I was in elementary school after I first moved into my area. I just wanted to get involved in a sport and had tried a lot of others, but didn't really like any of them.

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

A: We could really use a new locker room (we barely fit in ours), but I think that our program has grown in a short amount of time and we are headed to reach our full potential. It is just awesome to be part of this.

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

A: I'm a waitress, so between work, hockey, and school, a lot of time is being taken up. Other than that, hanging out with friends and hanging out with my dog.

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

A: I can't pick one, so I'd just say my family in general. My parents give up almost every weekend in the fall to make the drive up here and make sure I have someone in the stands. They are all my support system, but also make sure I'm always improving whether it's in sports or just life in general.

Q: A quote you live your life by?

A: "You are confined only by the walls you build yourself"

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

A: It isn't easy, but in the end it'll be the best decision you make. Take it all in, because it goes by a lot faster than you expect.

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

A: I like all the changes. I think the gateway looks awesome and makes it feel like a unified campus. I'm excited for the new Comm. Department to be underway.



The Beacon/Purvrit Patel

Getting to know...

Jarret Colvin

Junior Defender

By Purvit Patel
Sports Writer

Colvin is a soccer player from Stroudsburg, Pa., who majors in chemistry at Wilkes University.

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

A: I visited a lot of schools as a senior and Wilkes felt like the best fit. Also, as a science major, having a new science building was a plus.

Q: Post graduation plans in terms of a Career?

A: Going for my masters degree in chemistry.

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

A: Finish the season with a good record and make the playoffs.

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

A: I started when I was 6 and enjoyed it so I've stuck with it since.

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

A: It would be nice to have a field closer to campus -- that way we could get more fans

at our home games.

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

A: In the winter, I snowboard as much as I can.

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

A: My parents.

Q: A quote you live your life by?


A: "Life is a beach, I'm just playin' in the sand" -Lil Wayne

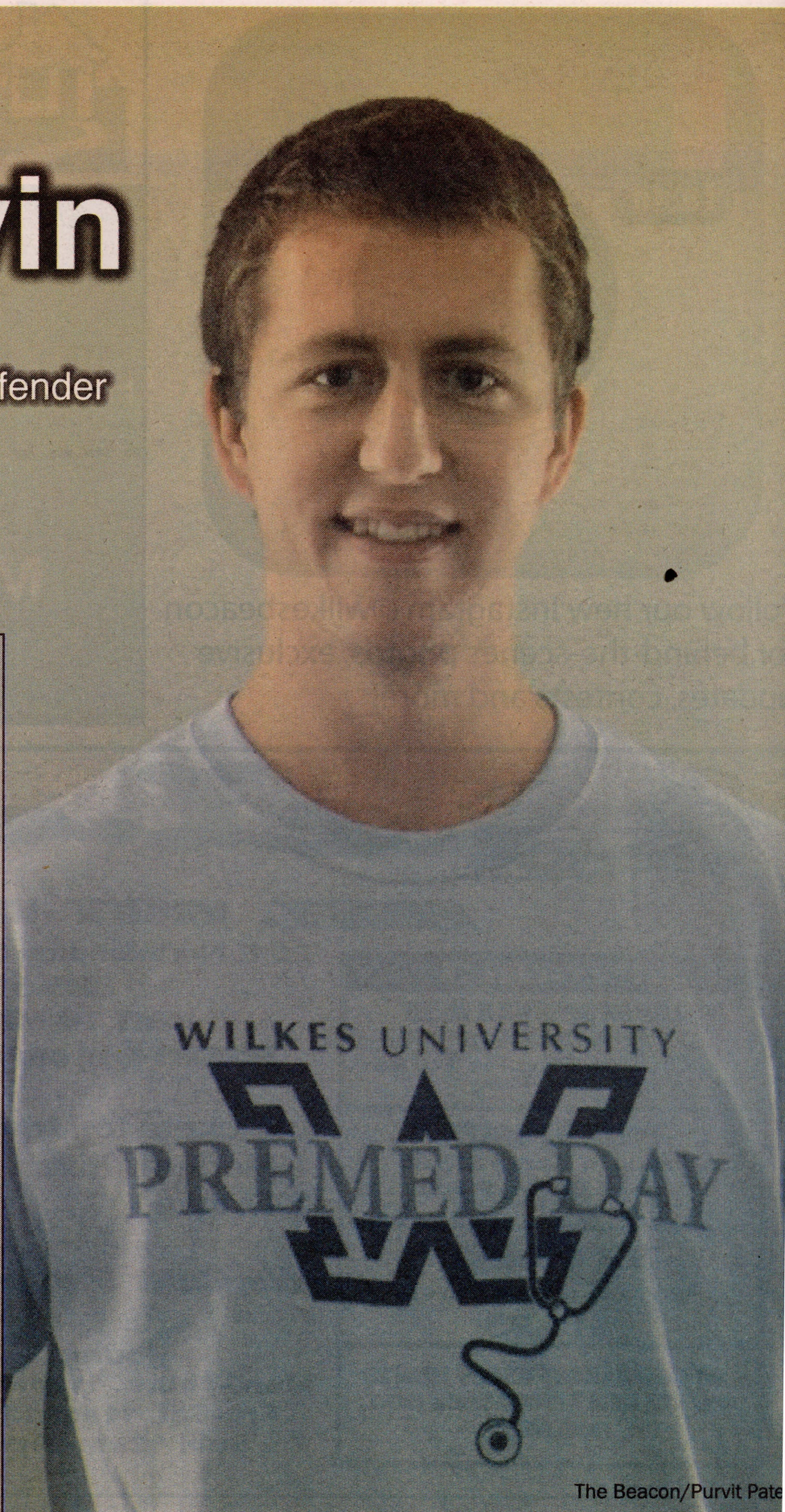
Q: Do you have any advice for the freshmen student athletes beginning their freshman seasons and semesters?

A: Don't fall behind in work or studying, because it'll come back to bite you in the end.

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

A: The changes made this year have improved my experience at Wilkes from previous years (especially Which Wich).

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The Beacon/Purvit Patel

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