

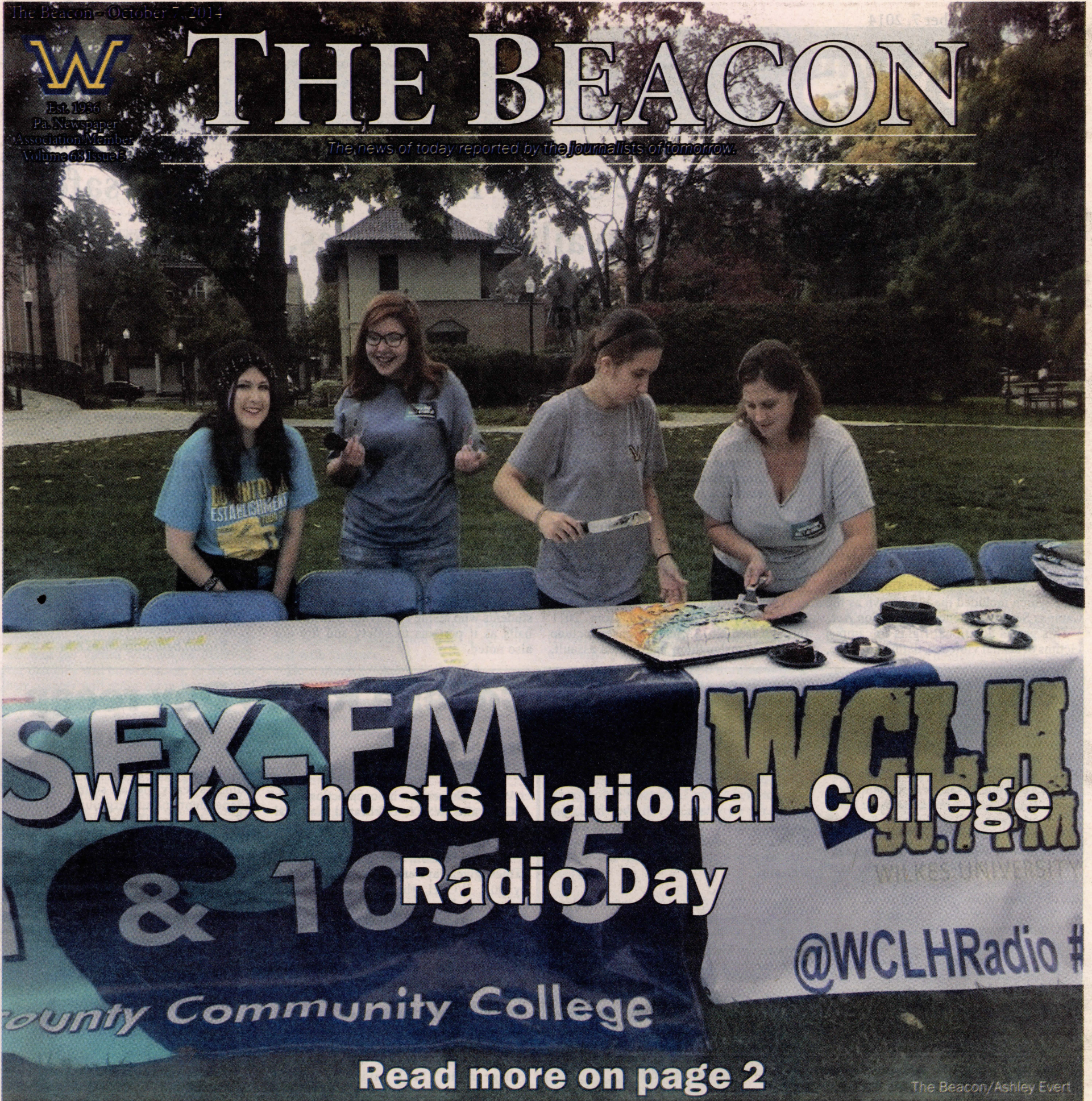
The Beacon - October 7, 2014



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Association Member  
Volume 68 Issue 5

# THE BEACON

The news of today reported by the **Journalists** of tomorrow.





# News

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

## “Annual Security and Fire Safety Report” published; safety updates, crime statistics, available facilities, processes

By Sarah Bedford  
News Editor

The “Annual Security and Fire Safety Report” was released by the Department of Public Safety on Oct. 1, notifying the campus community of security reports, statistics, policies and facilities available.

Within the document, a list of important contact numbers are given in the event of an emergency, as well as within the individual sections.

The report also describes the legalities and requirements of the university as it pertains to campus safety in its various forms, especially within the Clery Act Requirements. These requirements were updated in 2013.

One such update occurred in March 2013 with the signing of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 which included the bill known as the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act.

This grants additional rights to campus victims of sexual violence, dating violence,

domestic violence, and stalking as per amends of the Jeanne Clery Act.

These changes also require the university to compile statistics for certain crimes that are reported.

According to the report, “final regulations to implement the statutory changes to the Clery Act will not be effective until after the Department completes the rule making process. Until those regulations are issued, Wilkes University will make a good faith effort to comply with the statutory requirements in accordance with the statutory effective date.”

The statistics compiled are available within the report, as well as online.

Within the report, the authority of Public Safety officers is also noted and differentiated with the types of training officers undergo signifies, Act 120 and Act 135.

Types of crime, as well as their frequencies, are also listed from 2011 through Dec. 2013. Such offenses include murder, manslaughter, aggravated assault,

arson, liquor-law violations, etc.

Campus crime prevention programs such as “Campus Advisory Reporting Extension” “C.A.R.E.,” “S.A.F.E.,” Safe Escort Service, as well as programs in conjunction with Residence Life which are created throughout the year as listed and described.

Specific instructions on how to report a crime or emergency are also listed, stressing that all emergencies should automatically be notified by calling 911 and non-emergencies should be directed to Public Safety.

The campus community may be notified of incidents via the university email system, MyWilkes portal, and in some cases, through the text message system which can be signed up for online at <https://www.e2campus.net/my/wilkes/signup.htm>.

Rights and responsibilities relating to students who reside in university residence halls as it pertains to safety and fire are also noted.


The university’s drug and alcohol policies and tolerances are also described.

First year students are required to participate in education programs such as the MyStudentBody.com during the start of the semester. Those who fail to complete the course may be subject to fines.

Students are also told to attend programs at orientation and during Welcome Weekend which further educate.

The report also goes in-depth on policy and procedure when reporting missing persons, the possession of firearms, sexual misconduct, support services, emergency response plans and fire log statistics.

Physical copies of the annual report are available at the Department of Public Safety, Student Affairs, 2nd floor of Passan Hall and Admissions, Chase Hall, 1st floor.

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### Beacon Briefs

#### \$5 Unlimited Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's

Contact a Wilkes University Cheerleader to purchase your \$5 tickets to an unlimited pancake and sausage breakfast to be held at Applebee's in Wilkes-Barre on Sunday, Nov. 16th. Those interested can also email [Jessica.short@wilkes.edu](mailto:Jessica.short@wilkes.edu) or call extension 3331. (Coffee, tea, and soft drinks are included.) This is a fund-raising event for the cheerleading squad.

#### Alcohol Awareness Week

The Alcohol Awareness Walk 2014 will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 21, at 12 p.m., rain date Thursday, Oct. 23. Join the walk to raise awareness of the dangers of excessive and underage drinking. Wilkes University will be sponsoring a one-mile walk starting at 12 p.m. from the Greenway to Kirby Park and back. A free long sleeve T-Shirt will be distributed to every person

who walks for Alcohol Awareness. Email [gail.holby@wilkes.edu](mailto:gail.holby@wilkes.edu) to register. Give your name and your shirt size. All participants must register by Oct. 15, at noon. There will be Maers BBQ after the walk.

#### Fall Break Reminder

According to the University's Academic Calendar, no classes will be held on Thursday, Oct. 9, and Friday, Oct. 10, due to Fall Break. Classes will resume on Monday, Oct. 13 at 8 a.m. with a regular Monday schedule.

#### The Idea-Driven Organization: Unlocking the Power in Bottom-Up Ideas

The Idea-Driven Organization: Unlocking the Power in Bottom-Up Ideas with Dr. Alan G. Robinson will be held on Oct. 7, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Penn State Worthington Scranton, Business Building, Hawk Lecture Hall. Light reception & registration from 5:30 until 6 p.m. Presentation begins at 6 p.m. To RSVP, contact Lorna Galliford at [lorna.galliford@wilkes.edu](mailto:lorna.galliford@wilkes.edu) or call at (570) 408-4590 for more information.

## College Radio Day recap

By Justin Topa  
Assistant News Editor

Wilkes University, in conjunction with WCLH and WSFX, celebrated National College Radio Day on the greenway this past Friday.

This celebration, which featured cake, games, giveaways and music, was hosted by 90.7 WCLH, the Wilkes University campus radio station. Luzerne County Community College's campus radio station, 89.1 WSFX, was present to take place in the national event, as well.

The celebration on the greenway was organized by WCLH Programming Director, Rasha Shaker. Kristen Rock, general manager of WCLH, said this event is meant to raise awareness for what it is that college radio does.


“We’re here to raise awareness for college radio,” Rock said. “It’s one of

the last live mediums that are out there that allows students and staff to play music that isn’t aired on commercial radio. It’s really the last source for local, independent and underground music.”

Kayla Bucci, a DJ for WCLH, said the event is an important one for gaining recognition and reaching out to students and the community.

“College radio is unlike any other medium,” said Bucci.

“Everyone should be giving it a listen and taking a chance on, not just us, but campus radio stations everywhere. There are a wide variety of programs and one of them is sure to peak your interest. It really is a fun experience on both sides.”

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# Domestic violence awareness month; university takes measures to educate, inform student body

By Jennifer Baron  
Staff Writer

October is a month full of awareness, from Breast Cancer to Lupus to Alcohol. One cause that sometimes goes unnoticed, is the fact that October is also Domestic Violence Awareness month.

Many students do not think they can be victims of domestic violence because they consider it to be something that can only happen to married couples or couples who live together.

However, as Dr. Philip Ruthkosky puts it, "domestic violence, dating abuse and sexual assault are related."

This means that domestic violence is something students are certainly susceptible to.

According to the Sexual Assault Prevention & Awareness Center (SAPAC), many students feel isolated from their support networks and resources on their college campus to report domestic violence.

Ruthkosky, the associate dean of student affairs and student development, is very well versed when it comes to this topic. He said "every person experiences trauma differently."

Ruthkosky also said the main aspect that causes assaults to go unreported is fear; the fear that the victim will not be believed, fear that they will be an outcast, or fear that their parents will make them leave school once they find out.

A major fear is that a victim feels they have nowhere to turn. Because of these factors, roughly 90% of assaults on college campuses go unreported.

Ruthkosky is determined to keep Wilkes out of that statistic. To do so, he encourages our community to "make it about all of us" because "students are at the ground level of what happens on campuses."

Students see what faculty, advisers, and teachers often do not. Everyone needs

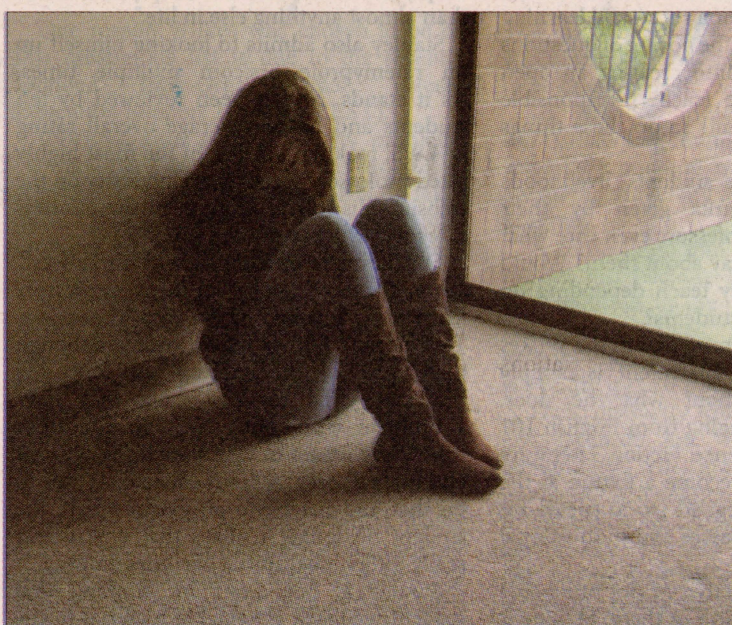


Photo Illustration/Gabby Glinski

**October will be honored nationally as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Wilkes University will continue to take measures to educate the student body on domestic violence.**

to look out for one another, respect one another and recognize the signs, symbols, and behaviors associated with a predator and with violence.

He stresses that victims have an extraordinary burden placed on them and they need the support of the community.

The most obvious effort to educate in this matter has been seen by many first year students over the past few weeks when they had to take the mystudentbody.com Essentials Course.

This online course educates students about drugs, alcohol, and sexual violence. Ruthkosky says the program, with all three parts, has been in place for three years.

Before this, the program only educated students about drugs and alcohol. The

importance of teaching about sexual violence is recognized and by including that in the course, students will be better able to identify and stop an assault.

He also wants to ensure that students know there are outlets for them if they are a victim. There are counselors on campus, health service employees, and the Victim's Resource Center.

They can also call a 24-hour victim's resource hotline. There is no reason a

student should go through it alone.

Shawn Carey, president of BACCHUS (Boosting Alcohol Consciousness Concerning Health of University Students), was recently given the opportunity to be a part of the movement to educate about and prevent domestic violence on campus.

Wilkes has recently implemented a Bystander Intervention Program. This program allows students, like Carey, to be trained in how to take a leadership role when it comes to education and prevention of sexual violence.

Carey, along with other students, were educated about the dangers of sexual violence, the prevalence of rape culture, and how important it is to take a stand and intervene.

The students who were trained in the program will now go to classes and talk to students to spread awareness about domestic and sexual violence.

Gail Holby, adviser of BACCHUS and director of the Substance Abuse

**"You can safely and effectively make a difference."**

Task Force, agreed with much of what Ruthkosky stated. She said that victims fail to report an assault because they are fearful of retaliation and do not know what is available to them.

She says all students should know that victims are granted support services such as accompaniment to the hospital, access to ongoing information, assistance in reporting to the police, and protection from the perpetrator. All of which is absolutely confidential.

Statistics about domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking say that individuals ages 16-24 are the most vulnerable and it is most prevalent among that age group.

The number of assaults on our campus will be reduced through prevention and education. To quote Ruthkosky, "you can safely and effectively make a difference."



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## THE BEACON

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## Grading the instructor: Student feedback in action

By Pat Walther  
Staff Writer

Some choose their college based on location, some based on prestige, some based on cost and some even choose their college based simply on where their friends are going. While various reasons to attend or not attend a college exist, importance should be placed upon quality of education.

On the website ratemyprofessors.com, students have the chance to grade their teacher. Students rate their professors on a scale from one to five in areas such as easiness, helpfulness and clarity. The ratings given by students are then compiled and averaged to make, a virtual report card.

At face value, this website seems like a novelty. It's a way for students to let off steam if they're stressed about a certain course; it lets them know what they're getting into with any new professors they may have from semester to semester; and it can show them they're not necessarily alone if they're having trouble with the teaching style of an instructor.

Look past these things and a different picture appears. The age-old argument of who controls the learning process is

rekindled. The philosophical quandary boils down to this: When an entire class performs poorly on an exam, who is to blame? Are the students responsible for a successful learning environment through the posing of questions or by putting effort into creating an open dialogue? Or are the teachers responsible for pushing the students to do these things naturally?

More so, while the students' livelihoods depend on the marks given by their instructors, do the professors even care what the students have to say about them? Would they change how they teach depending on the feedback of their students?

Dr. Chad Stanley, a professor in the Wilkes University English Department is, simply stated, passionate about what he does. Teaching subjects ranging from English 101 to a Horror and Science Fiction Literature course, Stanley has become a fixture at the university, a "living legend" so to speak, for his dialogue driven classes and motivational nature.

On the topic of whether or not professors care what students think of them, Stanley is the first to admit he does indeed care.

"Of course, what they 'think' about me matters," he said. "It's not a popularity

contest. But anything that remotely pertains to my effectiveness as an educator I care very deeply about. I care more deeply about that than almost anything else in life."

Stanley also admits to looking himself up on ratemyprofessors.com multiple times. As it stands, he has been reviewed by ten students and has an average overall rating of 4.9/5, making him one of the most highly rated professors for Wilkes University on the website. His lowest score is in the easiness category, which, rests at a 4.5/5.

On the topic of easiness and his "lowest" score, Stanley states "So many professors learn to be terrified of the idea of easiness. That doesn't bother me so much, although that's one of the metrics on Rate My Professors that my colleagues may have a problem with. But...that's an educator's role. We're meant to take something difficult and make it easy. A good educator is able to do that and maybe to an extent where the student no longer realizes that it was ever really difficult because it becomes natural."

Stanley is not alone in thinking that student feedback is valuable material to the modern educator. Wilkes allows students to evaluate their professors each semester.

"We pour over the feedback generated

through the official Wilkes student response surveys, we save those, we review them ourselves, our program chairs review them and then review them with us."

As opposed to Rate My Professors, the responses on these surveys have far reaching effects. The student reactions can determine the likelihood of a professor getting tenure or being promoted. So, these grades matter just as much as the marks given by teachers to students. Stanley further adds: "If we see something like a similar comment two semesters in a row, by two or three students, that's something that should be addressed. Even the most anomalous comments deserve consideration."

What students think is important. Furthermore, instructors that care what students think are in a better position for advancement. Student feedback does not fall on deaf ears. And at Wilkes, with the jobs of professors on the line and their competency being determined by those they teach, it never will.

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## SG Notes: club recognition, discussion; treasurers report

By Nicholas Durdan  
Staff Writer

Wilkes University Student Government tackled a second week club recognition, and a first week club recognition for their meeting.

The newly formed guitar club went into its second week of club recognition status, with little in change from the previous week.

The club is the first of its kind on campus, created by two guitar players who did not find any clubs they enjoyed and noticed that there was no guitar club.

In addition to fund-raising, the guitar club plans on making guitar-grams, much like Wilkes University chorus does singing-grams for Valentines Day.

The guitar club also plans on having a concert at the end of the year. New techniques will be taught, and no prior experience is necessary, but members must supply their own guitar.

Guitar club plans with its funds to purchase a few inexpensive guitars for members to sign out and practice, much like students can do with the bicycles in the Henry Student Center. This rental, however, is planned for members of the club only.

Student Government was pleased with the idea and thus guitar club was granted club status with a vote of 38-0-4.

The Entrepreneurship Club sought club recognition this week for its week one of two. Its purpose is to prepare its members to become better business people and how to raise money for perspective businesses, such as venture capitalism.

It wants to be different from ENACTUS and help fund itself and its own members.

Reception was mixed; namely, Student Government did not want to fund a separate business. SG funds clubs, and they stated they were a business, not a club.

The vote takes place next meeting.

The treasurers report for Student Government is as follows: all college: \$13,245.36, conference: \$5,000, spirit: \$505.39, general: \$9,552.81, giving Student Government a total of: \$28,303.56.

Student Government meets every Wednesday at 6 p.m. In the Miller Room inside the Henry Student Center.

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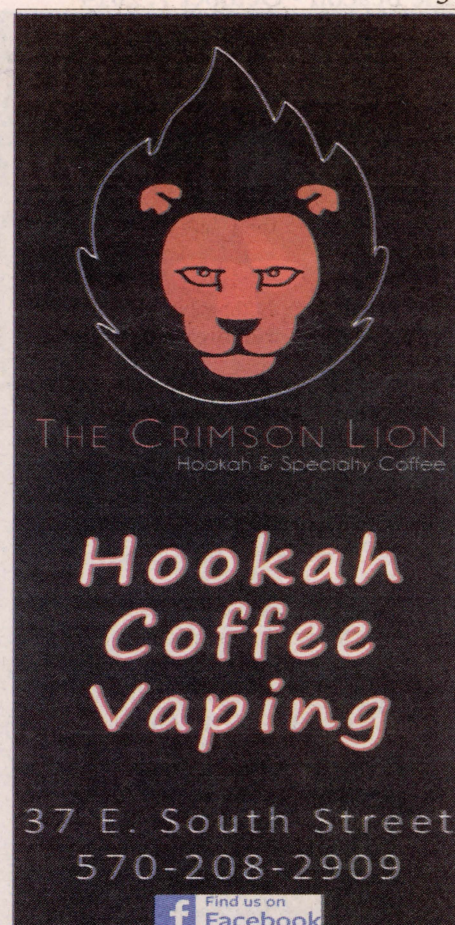
The Beacon/ Gabby Glinski

On Oct. 2, the Wilkes University Veteran's Council hosted a self-defense seminar in UCOM. Topics to be covered included avoidance of dangerous situations, breaking holds and basic defensive maneuvers. All members of the campus community were welcome to attend this informative and demonstrative session.



## 5


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**By Justin Topa**  
*Assistant News Editor*

A large, detailed image of the Moon, showing its craters and maria, set against a dark background. The Moon is depicted as a sphere with a textured surface, featuring numerous craters of varying sizes and darker, flatter regions (maria). The lighting creates a gradient from a bright, sunlit left side to a dark, shadowed right side, emphasizing its three-dimensional form.

Courtesy of Creative Commons. Copyright Chris Meller

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On Oct. 14 at 5:30 p.m. in the Henry Student Center ballroom, a free showing of Iron Age Theatre's, "Marx in Soho" will be presented.

The performance features Bob Weick in the role of Karl Marx, as he returns to life for one hour to defend his ideas and challenge audiences to consider issues of social justice.

"Marx in Soho" is written by playwright and historian Howard Zinn, professor emeritus at Boston University and author of the books "A People's History of the United States" and "The Twentieth Century." The show uses current events and mischievous humor to explore both Marx's political legacy and state of the world today.

For more information call, (570) 408-4306.

Courtesy of Marketing Communications

## Professional Development Week

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2014
<p>11am-12pm: Resume Writing @ Henry Student Center Miller Room - Presented by Student Development. "Take your good resume to the next level!"</p> <p>1pm-2pm: Networking @ Henry Student Center Miller Room - Presented by Dr. Kathleen Hamilton. "Using LinkedIn to your best benefit!"</p> <p>2pm-3pm: Career Fair @ Henry Student Center Miller Room - Presented by Student Development. "What do you want to accomplish to get an interview?"</p> <p>4-5pm: Interview Skills @ Henry Student Center Miller Room - Presented by Carol Bosack. "Great resume guide to help your preparation on a single minute of your resume!"</p>	<p>11am-12pm: Interview Skills @ Henry Student Center Miller Room - Presented by Dr. Kathleen Hamilton. "Bring your tablet, smartphone, &amp; laptop!"</p> <p>12-1pm: Professional Writing @ Henry Student Center Lounge 1 - Hour Conference room Presented by Melissa Howells, Student Development. "Cover letters, thank you letters, and letters of appreciation letters professional email!"</p> <p>2-3pm: Resume Writing @ Henry Student Center Miller Room - Presented by Student Development. "Take your good resume to the next level!"</p> <p>3pm-4pm: Interview Skills @ Henry Student Center Miller Room - Presented by Carol Bosack. "Great resume guide to help your preparation on a single minute of your resume!"</p> <p>4pm-5pm: Career Fair @ Henry Student Center Miller Room - Presented by Student Development. "What do you want to accomplish to get an interview?"</p>	<p>11am-12pm: Interview Skills @ Henry Student Center Miller Room - Presented by Dr. Kathleen Hamilton. "Bring your tablet, smartphone, &amp; laptop!"</p> <p>12-1pm: Professional Writing @ Henry Student Center Lounge 1 - Hour Conference room Presented by Melissa Howells, Student Development. "Cover letters, thank you letters, and letters of appreciation letters professional email!"</p> <p>2-3pm: Resume Writing @ Henry Student Center Miller Room - Presented by Student Development. "Take your good resume to the next level!"</p> <p>3pm-4pm: Interview Skills @ Henry Student Center Miller Room - Presented by Carol Bosack. "Great resume guide to help your preparation on a single minute of your resume!"</p> <p>4pm-5pm: Career Fair @ Henry Student Center Miller Room - Presented by Student Development. "What do you want to accomplish to get an interview?"</p>	<p><b>INTERNSHIP FAIR</b></p> <p>11am to 1pm Student Center Ballroom</p>



Contact Sharon Castano (sharon.castano@wilkes.edu) with any questions or concerns.

# DON'T GET STUCK WITHOUT AN INTERNSHIP NEXT SEMESTER!

## INTERNSHIP FAIR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2014  
11-1, HENRY STUDENT CENTER, 2ND FLOOR BALLROOM

Professional dress with resume required.

Contact Sharon Castano at [sharon.castano@wilkes.edu](mailto:sharon.castano@wilkes.edu) to learn more.



# Life, Arts & Entertainment

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

## A night of open-mindedness and compassion Producer of "Bridegroom" movie to visit Wilkes

By Nicole Zukowski  
LA&E Editor

"It's not a **gay** thing.  
It's not a **straight** thing.  
It's a **human** thing"

-Award-winning  
documentary,

**Bridegroom**

On Oct. 14, Wilkes University and the surrounding communities are invited to take what has been described as an emotional journey into an eye-opening documentary that explores a heart-wrenching love story dealing with the technicalities of the legal system and the fight for equality.

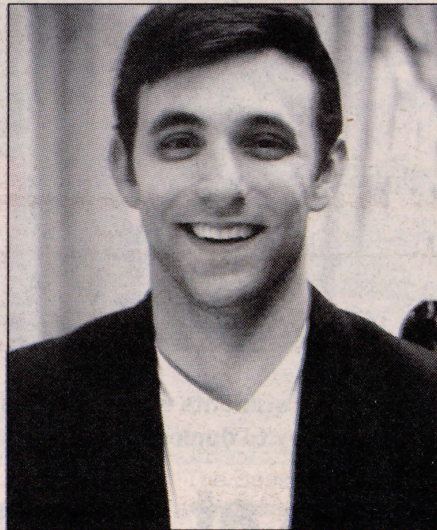
The free screening of *Bridegroom* will be held in the theater in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center at 7 p.m., followed by a Q & A with the producer, Shane Bitney Crone, whose life story is the base of the documentary. Afterward, by RSVP only, there is a dessert reception where you can meet and have a picture taken with Crone.

"I really wanted people to have the opportunity to see it (*Bridegroom*), and watch it with other people who are supportive and open-minded," said Anthony Bartoli, senior communication studies major and organizer of the event.

The idea of having *Bridegroom* screened at Wilkes and having Crone present was Bartoli's, who has worked on this event since late April. He also has received university support to make this event happen.

"It (the idea of screening the documentary) developed like crazy with planning and it got so much support," Bartoli said. "I'm so so thankful that it is finally happening. It means the world to me that people have been so supportive."

Wilkes is one of the smallest universities on the list of places Crone has scheduled to speak at. His message is about giving a voice to the fight for equality by taking a



Courtesy of Anthony Bartoli

**Anthony Bartoli planned the event of having *Bridegroom* shown at Wilkes**

humanistic approach.

Bartoli said, "It has the message that sometimes things suck." He goes on to quote the *Bridegroom* website 'You can't change the past. You can change the future.' The past is not going to be the future."

With conviction in his tone, Bartoli went on to say that "trust in the fact that the right now is not going to be forever."

The documentary was started when Crone released a video about his life story with his partner, Tom, which touches the raw nerve of the viewers. The video went viral and Crone was approached by writer/director Linda Bloodworth Thomason, who wanted to turn his story into a feature-length documentary.

To help fund the movie, Crone and his team launched the most successful film crowd-funded campaign in the history of Kickstarter. His message of love and kindness to all has touched people all over the world.

Bartoli proceeded to put into words just how watching this movie changed his life for the better.

"It was kind of a moment of relief in my life that I never felt before. Ever since I came out, I never wanted to make people

feel uncomfortable, but once I watched *Bridegroom*, that was kind of the point of relief in my life.

"I was like, you know what? I'm done being scared of making people feel uncomfortable; if it makes them uncomfortable that's not my problem."

Bartoli continued, "It is different for everyone, people are going to take away different things than I would. Everyone has different life experiences that play back in their head. It makes you think and makes you really grateful about the people you have around you."

"I hoping for every single seat in the theater is filled," he said.

Bartoli hopes that people who don't agree with equal rights or protection under the law will show up with an open mind and truly grasp that equality is needed. "I always say 'there is so much improvement for everything.'"

For more information on the event, contact Anthony Bartoli at [anthony.bartoli@wilkes.edu](mailto:anthony.bartoli@wilkes.edu). If interested in learning more about the documentary, visit [bridegroommovie.com/](http://bridegroommovie.com/).



Courtesy of Wolfman Productions

**Shane Bitney Crone made a YouTube that went viral and led to the making of the movie.**

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### Facts about Equality

-May 20, 2014 - U.S. District Judge John E. Jones strikes down Pennsylvania's ban on same-sex marriage.

-16 other countries (and parts of Mexico) also have laws allowing same-sex marriage and domestic partnerships. Most of these are in Europe and South America.

-The "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy that prevented gay men, lesbians and bisexuals from openly serving in the military was effective from 1993 to 2011 when it was banned. Transgender individuals are still discriminated from speaking openly about their sex and orientation.



## Cool weather for Fest Fall made the campus festival



The Beacon/Nicole Zukowski  
Students swung a wrecking ball at each other in the hopes of making their peers fall off a wobbly platform.



The Beacon/Nicole Zukowski  
At Fall Fest, students were able to pretend to be an professional basketball player and try to dunk a ball in the hoop.

## Students broaden their horizons at Study Abroad Fair



The Beacon/Briana O'Neil  
Students were able to attend a Study Abroad Fair that was located in the lounge of the Henry Student Center last Tuesday.



The Beacon/Briana O'Neil  
Wilkes offers many opportunities for students to study abroad for the summer or a semester that will count for academic credit.





The Beacon/Austin Ely  
Victoria Rudovitz shows her Colonels pride by painting a "Wilkes pumpkin."

## College Party on the Square returns to great fanfare

By Austin Ely  
Staff Writer

Free food, free stuff and a good laughs were all to be had at the 2014 College Party on the Square last Wednesday.

The bash brought together a crowd of people both from Wilkes, Kings and others from the general public.

Students with their college I.D. were able to shop around the party for a number of free items.

Students received a complimentary cup from Jack Williams Tire Co. which had a card of discounts good to use at local businesses inside. Some of those businesses include Bottleneck's, Movies 14, El Zocalo, Maer's BBQ and Dunkin Donuts.

Some of the vendors and local businesses were actually at the Square, including Rodano's, the Kettle Corn Shop and McCarthy Tire who were all offering food and more coupons.

A pong table was set up as a game in order

to win free stuff from the Woodlands, which was also offering membership cards to those who hit the right cup and who were over 21.

Pumpkin painting was set up not far from the pong table, where students were able to decorate a pumpkin however they wished. On the other end of the Square music was resonating from the DJ tent where DJ Hersh was spinning tunes.

When asked about what his impression was on The Party on the Square Zach Cayea, freshman mathematics major commented, "I enjoyed myself and I definitely think it's a good idea to get college students out and about especially at this time of the school year."

The Party on the Square was definitely a great way to kick off the schedule of fall festivities. The event help make it easier for college residents to indulge and have a little bit of fun in a responsible way.

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The Beacon/Austin Ely  
People filled bags of free give-aways from local businesses in Wilkes-Barre.



The Beacon/Austin Ely  
From left, Evan May first-year undeclared major and Zach Cayea, first-year mathematics major, pose with Pocono Raceway's mascot.



# Beauty Beat

## Men's styling 101 products for all types of hair

By Ashley Evert  
Managing Editor

With the resurgence in classic barbers and men's grooming is coming a certain pride in men regarding their hair that hasn't been seen in decades. The problem is that not many barbers or stylists are willing or able to explain to men how they need to keep the style that they leave the salon or barbershop with.

Most men are left wandering the aisles of department stores, looking for a product similar to whatever their stylist used in their hair to no avail. The issue is lack of education – many men just do not know what certain products do or even that there is a difference between products.

This short guide will enable men everywhere to know the difference between products and choose what is best for their cut and hair type.

Pomade is a really unique product because the texture is unlike any other. It is used to add shine and medium-strong hold to hair. This product is incredibly popular right now because all the old school haircuts that our grandfathers had are very much back in style.

A little goes a long way with this product, so start with a dime-sized amount and add more for stronger hold and more shine. I recommend all of Layrite's pomades, as they are water-soluble, so they wash out easily and leave your hair feeling clean and not sticky.

Hair wax, sometimes called molding wax,

is used to create texture in the hair. It can add shine to the hair but is usually for more matted styles. Wax is great for fine hair and messy looks, like "surfer hair." I love Crew's Fiber product, which isn't too matte or too shiny.

Putty is basically a "wetter" version of wax. Putty tends to have more hold than wax because it creates a web-like structure of fibers to hold the hair fairly stiff. Putty is what you should grab when aiming for more gravity-defying styles. I really like RUSK's new putty, which was released just last month.

Styling creams or sprays are for styles that rely on keeping the hair soft and natural without much hold. Styling creams are really just to tame flyaways and are great for defining waves or curls in the hair so they don't get frizzy throughout the day. This product is ideal for longer hair and almost acts like a light hold hairspray. Crew's styling cream and Layrite's grooming spray act similarly and are reasonably priced for their high quality.

Try using one of these products instead of the usual go-to: hair gel. Gel just gets stiff and creates flakes in the hair, and there really aren't very many styles that require gel—you can use something else in place of it that will definitely be more efficient and flattering.

Still have questions? Email me at Ashley.evert@wilkes.edu and I'll walk you through buying the best product for your hair type and style.

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Photo illustration by Ashley Evert

Differences of products could change the way your hairstyle looks. Knowing the products and how to use them leads to better hair days.

# Anime Club colors Wilkes alive

By Nicole Zukowski  
LA&E Editor

Action plots, colorful images, strong characters and a special time in the week where friends who share the same interest can meet.

That is what Amine Club strives to provide for members.

"I'd say that the club's mission is to explore different types of anime and games," Kathryn Evans, president of Amine Club said. "We try to be broad in terms of what we watch, like this semester we are watching supernatural genre and a sport genre."

Creating a respective space where people can be together to appreciate a particular interest was always a focus for this artist club.

"One of my favorite things about this club is that anyone of any age and any major can come and feel welcome," Sarah Allwein, PharmD. candidate '17, said.

The club offers a break from the reality of school work if a fun and sociable way.

"It's a nice, laid back space where people can come and watch some shows or just play games with each other," Evans said.

"We don't have mandatory meetings and we aren't an academic club. It's really a come as you go club as long as you respect it."

However if you are an active member to the meeting it is noticed.

Evans adds "we are trying to get together with Misericordia's Anime Club, and we usually try to get active club members together to go to conventions."

Along with the fun and relaxing aspect of the club, charity is also important to the Amine Club. It would not be the Amine Club though if the charity work was not fun.

Evans said, "We have our fundraisers and charity work that follow themes of the club."

To elaborate more on that, clubs under Student Government law have to have fundraising and community service of some kind. The Amine Club tries to complete these requirements in a fashion that stays true to the core goal of the club: exploration of anime and games.

"We will be hosting a Super Smash Bros. tournament on Oct. 24 from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Miller Room. It's \$10 to participate and the winner will receive a 3DS and Super Smash Bros. for the system," Allwein explained. "All the money will go to a charity called Child's Play, who strive to purchase video game consoles for children in hospitals to give them some fun activities."



Courtesy of Wilkes Anime Club

The photo above is the logo for the Wilkes Anime Club. This club is open for all students of any major to be in the company of many people who share they same interests. The club also explores topics in gaming.

In recent years the club has expanded from just the tradition anime to include gaming.

"In addition to watching anime, we also do pen-and paper RPGs, console gaming ,like N64, card games including both Magic the Gathering style and Blackjack style and pretty much any other game someone requests," Allwein said.

There is always fun and knowledge to be learned in this exploratory club. Any questions about Anime Club contact Kathryn Evans at kathryn.evans1@wilkes.edu.

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## Artist Spotlight:

## Amanda Thomas

Senior Musical Theater Major

By Bill Amos

Assistant Life, A&amp;E Editor

The performing arts lead us down many paths and allow us to live a multitude of lives vastly different from our own.

Amanda Thomas' theatrical career began with a unusual career interest that many marvel at, but few are able to realize.

"I told my father I wanted to be a secret agent when I was a little girl," said Thomas, a senior musical theater major at Wilkes University.

After confirming to her father that perhaps a life in the clandestine operations wasn't quite for her, she began to ponder why it seemed so glamorous in the first place.

"I was convinced that I was going to be one and that only happened because of the movie *Spy Kids*."

She explained that *Spy Kids*, along with the entire Disney library of films, was among her favorites when she was young.

She reminisced that perhaps that that was what appeared so intriguing about wanted to be a secret agent.

"It was the ability to pretend to be someone else and trick people into believing that that was who you were."

And so it was goodbye *Spy vs. Spy* and hello footlights and center stage.

Thomas followed her dream of becoming an actress to theaters across the valley. Thomas has performed in a variety of venues, including the Pennsylvania Theater of Performing Arts in Hazleton, Pa, The Little Theater of Wilkes-Barre, The Phoenix Performing Arts Centre in Duryea, and The Grove Theater in Nuangola.

Throughout her career she has played roles that ranged from Tracy Turnblad in the popular musical *Hairspray* and Dr. Emmett in the comedy *The Curious Savage*. Soon, Thomas will find herself filling the shoes of Margaret White, the title character's overbearing mother in the dark musical *Carrie*. *Carrie* is based on the best-selling novel by Stephen King.

"As much as I loved that show," Thomas said about *Hairspray*. "I was a teenaged girl who sings and dances, playing a teenaged girl who sings and dances. So I could have a lot of fun with it but it wasn't a lot of acting as much as it was learning songs, memorizing my lines and putting on a show."

Dr. Emmett in the *Curious Savage* proved to be unique because the role

was originally intended for a male actor.

"The play took place in a time when there really weren't any female doctors, so we had to kind of rewrite history a bit to make it work."

Thomas explained that she had to create a backstory for Dr. Emmett that as fitting for a woman at that time in history to succeed in a medical career.

Although the audience may not have been privy to the details, they helped her to create a character that the public could relate to.

You might wonder how someone can juggle three completely different characters and create them to stand apart as far as possible without making them too similar to one another.

Thomas said that she begins first by examining the smallest and most relatable feeling whether it is fear or

anger.

Finding that common ground between herself and the character helps develop the role in order to portray it in the most sincere and honest way possible.

"Sometimes you can't do it all on your own, though," Thomas said. "Sometimes you need some input from the director or your choreographer as to how a role can be played."

"That sort of thing is important to playing a character because the director has a vision as well and it's your job as the actor to realize that vision. It's definitely a collaborative effort."

Thomas is scheduled to graduate in December and is currently researching various grad school options, including Ithaca College and NYU Steinhardt.

"My goal is to live comfortably enjoying what I do for a living no matter where my

profession takes me, whether it Broadway, film, or an equity house somewhere. It's what I'm going to do because that's what I love."

Thomas' love of the performing arts began as a little girl when her mother took her to auditions with various theater companies.

Thomas also attributed her love of the arts and musical theater to her grandmother, whom she said had a beautiful singing voice and inspired her to pursue a musical career.

Oscar Award-Winner Meryl Streep and comedians like the late Robin Williams, have also been influential to her life.



Courtesy of Teresa Fallon



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# Stirring Up a Safe Space

**Local bars,  
nightclubs  
offer  
options to  
those  
who are  
not yet 21.**

Pictured: Stir, a new club  
on Main Street, just before  
opening doors to its first all-  
ages event last Thursday.

The Beacon/Purvit Patel





**By James Jaskolka**  
Editor-in-Chief

During his first year, a student, who wished to remain anonymous, was caught with a handle of vodka in his dorm room.

Public Safety saw it through his open window and promptly came to discipline him. The student, who was intoxicated at this point, proceeded to curse out the officers.

He was then escorted to a hospital (the alternative, he said, was the police), where his blood test revealed a near-comatose BAC level. His father eventually came to pick him up.

The student awoke in his bedroom, an hour away from Wilkes, with a hospital band on his wrist and no recollection of the prior evening.

This is the sort of problem the owners of Stir, a new bar and nightclub on Main Street, seek to avoid.

Stir opened just a few weeks ago, but the staff is already working to bring a variety of events to the establishment. Specifically, the club

is dedicating one (and eventually, two) nights a week to attendees that are under 21. The club has already hosted a foam party, and has plans to host themed dance parties every week going forward.

Co-owner Jim Sperrazza explained the motivation behind hosting an under-21 night.

"It gives the kids something to do and gets them away from those house parties," he said. "My experience is that people like to come out and dance...we wanna make it a party where people can have a good time and be safe...it's a safe environment."

The student echoed Sperrazza's sentiments, pondering the idea of a place where students can have a good time without having to worry about campus security or Resident Assistants.

"You can do whatever, and then go and get rowdy there," the student said.

"You might as well have a controlled space where kids can get rowdy and be loud without getting in trouble."

Sperrazza said that these theme nights, especially the ones on holidays, like Halloween, are notoriously well attended, and often

serve as a sort of middle ground for those who want to participate in the social scene but are too young to go to bars.

As Sperrazza put it, Stir is the in-between for those who are "too young to go out but too old to be staying home."

"Where do kids go who aren't 21?" he said. "They can't go trick-or-treating door to door, and they can't go to bars, so they can come here to dress up and party."

Sophomore Nursing Major Bryan Bilbao was at Stir's first all-ages event and called it a good experience.

"It was a great time," he said. "I had fun dancing to upbeat music and meeting new people!"

Jacquelyn Gallo, a first year international studies major, was also at the foam party.

"Overall it was fun to be with friends and meet people," she said. "I enjoyed meeting new people from both schools (King's and Wilkes)."

Located in downtown right next to Subway, Stir took the place of what was Joe K's Brewhouse. It has been completely gutted and remodeled, featuring a dance club

with two juice bars and a VIP lounge section in the back, and a sports bar with arcade machines, pool tables and the likes in the front.

Under 21 nights are scheduled to take place every Thursday at Stir.

Additionally, other local establishments offer entertainment to those not of age.

Bart & Urby's on Main Street hosts a wing night every Monday that features 45 cent wings. They also host trivia night on Wednesdays, and regularly offer 20 percent discounts on food with a college ID.

The Woodlands, in Wilkes-Barre, hosts CLUB HD with 97 BHT, a dance party featuring Top 40 hits, inside Evolution Nightclub every Thursday at 9. The cover is \$5 with a student ID.

To see what else is offered in the area, readers can look at websites from places such as Rodano's, Arena Bar and Grill, Bottlenecks and Barnes & Noble.

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# Opinion

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

## To vote or not to vote? That is the question.

By Elyse Guzewicz  
Staff Writer

Monday, October 6th was the deadline for voter registration in Pennsylvania.

Although the majority of college students have turned eighteen before they enter school, the majority will not vote in the coming election. Only 24% of Americans aged 18-29 voted in the 2010 midterm elections. Although turnout is higher among college students than young Americans who don't attend college, that's less than a quarter of our peers that will be at the polls this November.

Why is that number so low? Why does it matter to us as students or as citizens? That's what I'll try to answer today.

"I registered as soon as I turned eighteen," said freshman Gabrielle Spagnuolo. "I think it's my duty as a citizen."

Gabrielle isn't the only person who feels this way. Many students cited their reason for voting was the same as hers – it's a civic responsibility.

Some elaborated, sharing the feeling with increased visibility of voter suppression in Russia and the Middle East, we should take advantage of our right to vote. Not including the Holy See/Vatican State, which has a unique form of government, seven countries still don't have universal voting rights.

Of the countries that do, the validity of the vote has been called into question for more than half, citing everything from directly rigging elections to starving or punishing those who don't vote a certain way. "One vote might not mean a lot," said junior Forest Hawkins, "but at least you have a say in things."

Ayajan Nardone, a local high school senior, stated that her American Government class encouraged her interest in the American political system. "I've been intrigued about



Courtesy of Creative Commons

politicians."

Interest in the American political system and voter registration facilitated by schools has helped to increase the number of youth voters by 7% over the last eight years.

Many students, including Gabrielle and Ayajan, received their registration senior year of high school, which helped them to ensure they would be registered on time.

Out of those Americans aged 18-29 who didn't vote, well over a quarter of them cited the reason being they didn't know where or when to vote. Involving schools in registration has helped to solve some of that problem.

Registration is more prevalent among women and minorities, with good reason. Although every gender and ethnic group has had to fight for suffrage at some point in time, the concept is more fresh for these citizens, whose grandparents or great-grandparents saw the uninhibited right

to vote come in their lifetimes.

Women have a higher turnout than men by 8%, and 68% of Black students voted in 2010 – higher than any other racial/ethnic group since 1972. In addition, the recent visibility of policies considered "women's issues" (such as the restriction of access to birth control by Hobby Lobby's parent company) or "minority issues" (such as the ongoing conflict in Ferguson, Missouri) have spurred young people from those groups to take action in what one student termed "my own destiny."

However, not all students are as eager to vote.

Although the biggest explanation given for not registering was simply "I forgot," junior Eliza Neidlinger continued to explain it as such: "It's not that I don't think my vote will matter...it's just never been a priority."

Many young voters feel as if the political system isn't for people their

age, and the statistics back them up.

Only 7% of congresspeople said that they felt young people were the most important factor for the long-term success of their party.

Other students feel resentment toward the political system. Senior Matt Oakum said "... there are far

**"It's not that I don't think my vote will matter... it's just never been a priority."**

too many corrupt powers in play that influence what an individual can actually accomplish in office. The greed of a small percent of the wealthy... use their funds to buy the opinions of members of congress. Nothing good gets done."

**Continued on Page 15**



Cont. from page 14

This is a belief held not only by young voters but by American citizens as a whole; Congress' approval ratings are probably going to begin rivaling those of such noted groups as Al-Qaeda and Nickelback. Growing dissatisfaction with the political system has caused a drop in voter turnout for almost 15 years and until a solution for bipartisan gridlock is found, the likelihood of this getting any better is slim to none.

However, it's probably this response (from a student who has requested his name not be included) that truly sums up the problem with voter registration among young Americans. When asked why he hadn't registered to vote, he responded immediately "I just don't care." Apathy has been cited by national polls as the number one reason young people don't vote in America. As far as reasons go, it isn't a very good one. Although the political system is certainly flawed, to have your only excuse be "I couldn't be bothered" reflects poorly on the generation as a whole.



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## New respiratory virus on the rise

By Mandy Stickles  
Assistant Opinion Editor

Enterovirus EV-D68: a virus that has been reported by the Center for Disease Control (C.D.C) and is causing concern in 12 different states: Alabama, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Montana, New York and Oklahoma.

Collectively there have been more than 100 cases Enterovirus D68 reported within these states.

The virus is reported to be more significant in young children, primarily ranging from the ages 4-6, but it can vary. The virus begins like any other cold with symptoms including coughing, difficulty breathing, and in some cases a rash, fever, or wheezing.

This particular virus causes predominantly respiratory symptoms, however, specialists are still not sure why this is happening.

At first glance, the name Enterovirus EV-D68 strikes fear into people, particularly in parents with young children. It is common to think the worst when an unknown virus becomes more prevalent to the public eye; however, this virus is nothing new.

It was first discovered in the 1960s, since then there have been few reported cases of the virus.

"There are more than 100 types of enteroviruses causing about 10 to 15 million infections in the United States each year, according to the CDC."

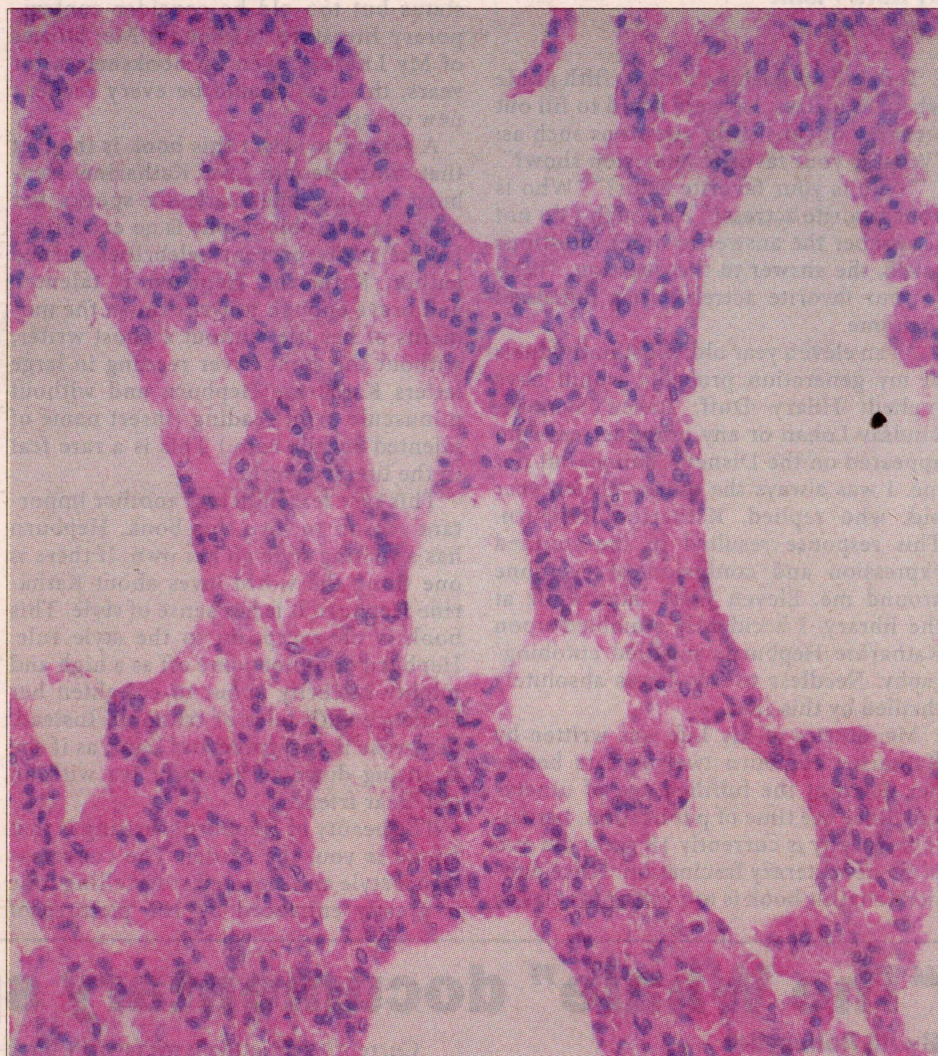
"They are carried in the intestinal tract and often spread to other parts of the body. The season often hits its peak in September, as summer ends and fall begins," said Jethro Mullen, writer for CNN Health.

The worrisome thing about this virus is the high number of hospitalizations. The New York Times has recently reported 38 states having confirmed outbreaks of respiratory illnesses and the C.D.C has confirmed 226 cases are of Enterovirus EV-D68.

When the media presents something new and unknown to the public, many drag it out to be more terrifying than it actually is in order to grab attention.

Many recent cases regarding respiratory problems are trying to blame it on Enterovirus EV-D68, yet there have not been any deaths linked to this virus. Children will get better, some faster than others depending on the child's immune system or if there are other factors to consider, such as asthma.

A four year old student at Yardville Elementary school in Yardville, NJ has recently passed away due to an unidentified respiratory illness.



Courtesy of Creative Commons

**This microscopic image shows Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) infection usually produces widespread bronchiolitis and interstitial pneumonia.**

Nowhere was it reported that it was linked with the Enterovirus EV-D68, yet assumptions will be made because it happened to a young child and it is still unclear of what the child actually died from.

Should elementary schools and day cares be extra cautious? Or is the threat of the virus more media induced rather than something to be overly concerned about?

Trisch Madaya, an assistant child care director at the YMCA day care in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., expressed her feelings on the matter saying there is nothing to fear beyond a common cold -- because that's really all it is. Every year there is something new and every cold a child gets just helps build a stronger immune system.

"It is basically just a bad cold. I would only really start to worry if the health board called and told us to take precautions, which hasn't happened," said Madaya.

"We teach the kids to cough into their

elbow, wash their hands after using the bathroom, after eating, or anytime we feel it is necessary. We make sure to keep the daycare very clean. Zep is a very reliable and frequently used cleaner in the daycare and used for many different things," said Madaya.

There will always be something in the world to worry about; however, the Enterovirus EV-D68 seems to be running its course through the season and, like all other common colds, this virus will pass as well.

Taking steps to prevent the virus will help: frequently washing hands with soap and water, disinfecting surface areas that are regularly used and touched, and refraining from sharing beverages, food, or utensils with someone that is sick.



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## Bridging classic and contemporary with Katherine Hepburn

By Sara Pisak  
Staff Writer

Today, I am flashing back to fifth grade when, as a class, we were asked to fill out a survey of consisting questions such as: "What is your favorite television show?" "Who is your favorite actor?" "Who is your favorite actress?" Although I do not remember the answer to other questions asked, the answer to the question, "Who is your favorite actress?" has remained the same.

As an eleven year old, most individuals of my generation probably would have replied: Hilary Duff, Raven Symone, Lindsay Lohan or any other actress who appeared on the Disney Channel but not me. I was always the quirky eleven year old, who replied, Katharine Hepburn. This response resulted in the stunned expression and confusion of everyone around me. Eleven years later while at the library, I accidentally stumbled upon Katharine Hepburn's misfiled autobiography. Needless to say, I was absolutely thrilled by this find.

Me: Stories of My Life was written by Katharine Hepburn twelve years before her death at the fulfilled age of ninety-six. Since the time of publication, her autobiography is currently 18 years old and is my new literary fascination. Since publication, this book is too young for classic

status but too old to be considered contemporary literature. Although, Me: Stories of My Life has been on bookshelves for years, this text should be every reader's new obsession.

A reason to select this book is the fact that most people love Katharine Hepburn because she fearlessly speaks her mind; her autobiography is no exception. Unlike many current celebrities turned author, Katharine Hepburn is talented and brave enough to write down the moments of her life without a ghost writer; without the front cover reading in large letters Katharine Hepburn and without minuscule print reading (insert name of talented author here.) This is a rare feat in the literary world.

This rare feat indicates another important reason to love this book. Hepburn has a writing style all her own. If there is one thing the world loves about Katharine Hepburn it is her sense of style. This book is no exception to the style rule. Hepburn does not come off as a high and mighty celebrity about to enlighten her audience with tales of triumph. Instead, her prose is easygoing and light, as if she is sitting down to a cup of tea with an old, dear friend.

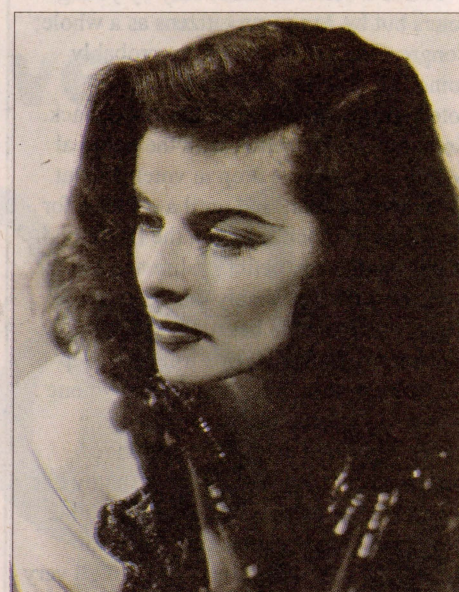
The beauty of Hepburn's writing is that friend is you, the reader. The conversational style and elevated storytelling tone is greatly enhanced by 165 pictures of

Hepburn, her colleagues, her family and her friends.

Me: Stories of My Life is a candid and a uniquely personal look at a woman who is legendarily defined as classic. It also contains an innate sense of truth, which pushes limitations. Hepburn's pushing of boundaries and brutal honesty is my third motivation behind selecting this 18 year old autobiography from the shelf. Katharine Hepburn was a pioneer in her profession, who pushed the boundaries of not only the roles women play in Hollywood but the roles of women in fashion, in stage, in humanitarian causes and most importantly in their personal lives. This book sets the record straight on how exactly Hepburn feels about the lasting role she plays in society.

Like always, Hepburn is straightforward, hysterically quirky and full of charm, all qualities which seem to ooze off the pages. From the moment you open this book, you will be transported back into a time when in a male dominated profession, one woman spoke her mind and set the world on fire. From the start of Katharine Hepburn's career to the final moments with the love of her life Spencer Tracey, this autobiography is candid and superb.

The last reason to resurrect this amazing text comes from Hepburn herself, which is nestled in the final chapter of



Flickr/ Rebel Without a Cause

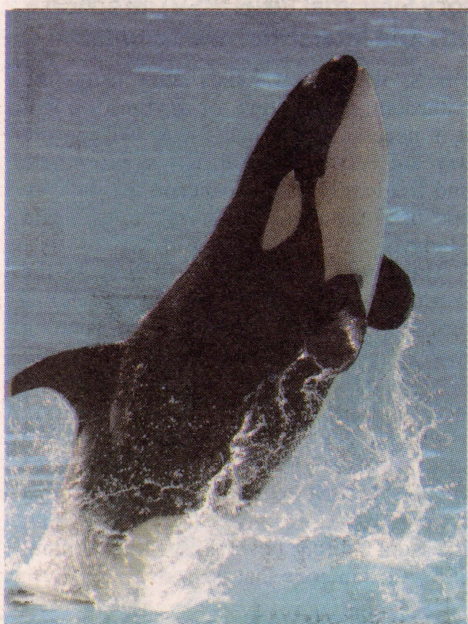
Me: Stories of My Life. Katharine Hepburn states, "Love has nothing to do with what you are expecting to get - only with what you are expecting to give - which is everything."

This one respected, hard to learn lesson makes this autobiography invaluable and worth becoming your new literary favorite.

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## "The Whale" documentary speaks up for the speechless

By Jill Reifsnnyder  
Staff Writer



Courtesy of Creative Commons

Currently on Netflix is my favorite documentary, "The Whale", so every single one of you should, after reading, pull up your Netflix accounts and watch this amazingly insightful film. If you have a beating heart, you will love it and thank me for exposing you to this remarkable story.

This documentary follows the journey of a young orca whale, Luna, who loses his pod (whale family) and takes refuge in the west coast of Vancouver Island. At first, the whale surprises the residents, but they soon welcome him with open hearts.

Orca whales need socialization, similar to humans in order to grow, learn, and keep from depression, and because he couldn't socialize with others from his species, he decided to socialize with people.

Most people took the opportunity to play with the little whale that visited their boats and harbors, given this once in a lifetime chance. Soon enough Luna became a part of the community.

But not all people welcomed the stray whale, and soon legal fines were put into place forbidding any contact with the

lonely whale.

The first 45 minutes of this movie is filled with cute videos and accounts of people's experiences with Luna. I spent the entire time giggling on the sofa and pointing at the screen in pure delight.

Soon enough, the documentary turns political, as they all do. What becomes unclear is which side to take in the heated battle. The documentary wants to explain to the viewers what is best for little Luna, but making this decision is the heart wrenching controversy one small town faced.

On one hand, Luna could get easily hurt or killed by a boat or person if he stays near the harbor and continues to socialize and play. But, and this is my opinion on the matter, the approach taken of ignoring Luna and refusing to socialize him didn't keep him safe and was detestable and unnecessary.

The people of the island thought that if they stopped all contact with Luna, he would stray away and find other orcas or a new pod to join. In fact, he craved attention and social connection so badly he

never stopped approaching people, boats, or even planes.

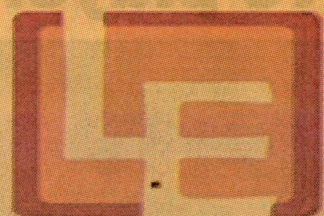
It is known that orcas require socialization as much as humans, and psychological damage can be done if it is not attained. When the people of Vancouver Island stopped spending time with Luna, he never left; but he did put himself in greater danger trying to reach out to anyone he could, even those that would cause him harm.

This movie is extremely informative about orca whales and gives appalling insight into the way the government goes about solving a problem. In the case of Luna, it was to capture him and put him in captivity, the cruelest of punishments for an orca.

This movie will infuriate you, tickle you, and inspire you as it did the people of Vancouver, and hopefully you'll learn something about these magical, calm creatures that share many human qualities.

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# Can J.J. Watt win league MVP as a defensive player?

By Frank Passalacqua  
Opinion Editor

When you think of the award Most Valuable Player, odds are that the MVP is going to someone who is the face of the NFL.

Ever since the MVP award was first given out in the NFL in 1957, there have only been three players to win that was not either a quarterback or a running back. Hall of Famer player Alan Page, a defensive tackle won it in 1971, Mark Mosely in 1982 won it as a placekicker, and Hall of Famer Lawrence Taylor in 1986 was the last defensive player to win the award as a linebacker.

This year, there have been a few standout players throughout the first quarter of the season. Andrew Luck, Philip Rivers, DeMarco Murray are all on pace to have record breaking seasons, and then there is one other guy, defensive end for the Houston Texans, J.J. Watt.

Ever since Watt was drafted four years ago out of Wisconsin, he has been one of the premier defensive players in the NFL. His 6'5" frame along with the 289 pounds of an offensive lines' nightmare has been not only the face of the Houston Texans, but the NFL.

This offseason, Watt was given a contract extension worth \$100 million dollars, marking the most money given to defensive player in NFL history. Usually when players receive a contract worth this much, their performance significantly decreases. However, Watt is already showing his worth, and I am sure the Texans are not regretting the price for his extension.

Throughout the first four games of the season, Watt has accumulated 2.0 sacks, 15 combined tackles, three passes deflected, a forced fumble, and an interception.

On paper, that may not seem like anything noteworthy, but where Watt shows his elite presence on the field is in how he plays and obtains those numbers. His interception in week 4 was the first of his career and it ended in an 80-yard touchdown return, emerging him as one of the league's best players. Also, let us not forget that he lined up as a tight end and caught a touchdown against Oakland, making him only one of two defensive players to score on offense and defense ever in the NFL.

Watt may only have 2.0 sacks and 15 tackles, but stats do not show how many times he has rushed or hit the quarterback. Stats do not show how many times he rushed the quarterback to throw an interception, an in-

complete pass, or to end a drive to set up his team to win the game. Watt's presence on the field is arguably more dominant than any other defensive player in the NFL, which is why his name is already in the running for league MVP.

Last season, Watt finished with 10.5 sacks, which was tied for 16th in the NFL. Honors of Defensive Player of the Year in 2012 was taken by Watt in only his second season, and last year's award was claimed by Carolina Panthers' linebacker Luke Kuechly.

With the way the first four games have shaped up, will this be the year that Watt claims NFL MVP? Let us look at the other contenders.

Indianapolis Colts' quarterback Andrew Luck is in only his third season and is already in the talking for being a top-tier NFL quarterback. With 1,305 yards, a 13:4 touchdown to interception ratio and a 108.0 QB rating, Luck is putting up numbers that are on par to lead the NFL, and even break records set by Peyton Manning in past seasons.

Philip Rivers turned the San Diego Chargers' franchise around since he took over as quarterback and last year proved his team was one to compete for the Super Bowl. Currently at 3-1, Rivers has thrown for 1,155 yards for a league best nine touchdown to one ratio with a 114.5 QB rating thus far.

If Rivers can keep this up, people will be seeing the Chargers go farther than just the AFC Championship game.

Lastly, DeMarco Murray of the Dallas Cowboys is leading the NFL in rushing with 534 yards and a league best five touchdowns. The record for most yards in a single season has not been broken since 1984 when Eric Dickerson ended the season with 2,105 yards. Adrian Peterson came close in 2012 with 2,097 yards, but came up shy in his final game.

If Murray keeps up his performance and stays with his current pace, the record will be broken and Murray will have rushed for 2,136 yards.

The odds of this actually happening are extremely slim, but it is possible. As it stands, those are currently the only players in Watt's way. If Murray does break the record for all-time rushing yards in a season, then the MVP award deservedly goes to him.

However, if that does not happen and Watt continues to prove his NFL dominance on the defensive side of the ball, then we very well may be witnessing one of the best defensive players to ever live.



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## Recent MVP winners

2005 Shaun Alexander, Running back	2010 Tom Brady, Quarterback
2006 LaDainian Tomlinson, Running back	2011 Aaron Rodgers, Quarterback
2007 Tom Brady, Quarterback	2012 Adrian Peterson, Running back
2008 Peyton Manning, Quarterback	2013 Peyton Manning, Quarterback
2009 Peyton Manning, Quarterback	

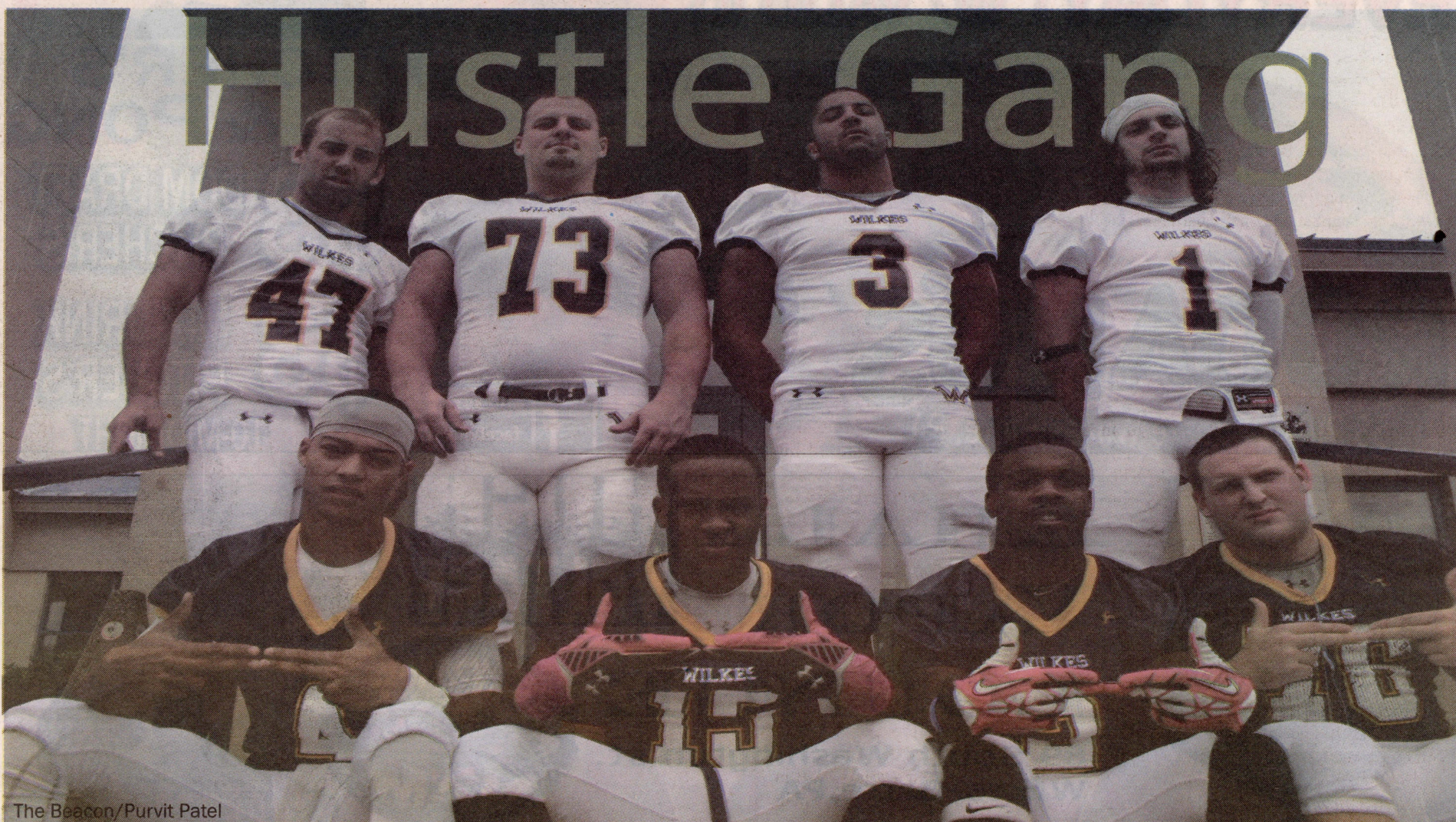
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# Sports

Want your sport covered? Contact the sports editor: [Brandon.Gubitosa@wilkes.edu](mailto:Brandon.Gubitosa@wilkes.edu)

## Hustle Gang helps unite members of football team



The Beacon/Purvit Patel

**Hustle gang members are: Top Row (left to right): Johnathan Keer, Jon Koslop, Tyler Thomas and Tim Bousson. Bottom Row (left to right): Marcus Leaf, Tyheed Jackson, Jared Powell and Jeff Lee.**

**By Brandon Gubitosa**  
Sports Editor

If you have ever been around a Wilkes University football player, you more than likely have heard him say "hustle gang" at least once. To the average person it may not mean much, but it has helped form a brotherhood among members of the defense.

Hustle Gang is a brotherhood where the always have each other's backs. They are like a family. "It brings us closer together" said junior corner Jared Powell. "We all have something in common, and that is to do our

job to win."

Senior Ty Thomas founded Hustle Gang at the start of the 2013 season. "A teammate nicknamed me the hustle and then from there I came up with Hustle Gang," Thomas said. "A good defense is all about hustling to the ball."

A good defense needs to have "swag" and a form of its own identity which is what Hustle Gang has done for this defense. The idea of Hustle Gang is partially based on the Seattle Seahawks secondary. Since 2012 the Seattle Seahawks secondary have called themselves 'Legion of Bloom'. The Seahawks are the

defending Super Bowl champions and the 'Legion of Boom' played a huge role in their journey toward winning that Super Bowl. The nickname was coined by safety Kam Chancellor during an interview, telling the interviewer "the secondary brings the boom."

This is what the defense hopes to accomplish here. "Our community is the MAC, and we want to mark our territory on it" said Powell. "We are not something to mess with, as we mean business when we are on the field."

Thomas added, "We don't have any

influence from B.O.B" who is part of Grand Hustle Records, also known as Hustle Gang. Hustle Gang does not have a logo, but instead its members have a hand symbol of putting together their index and middle fingers of both hands horizontally across their bodies.

Although they are called 'Hustle Gang' members of it do not consider themselves to be an actual gang. "It is a mentality, not an actual gang," Thomas said.

Powell agrees. "We are not a gang in that sense"

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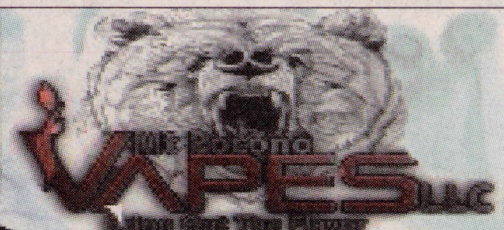
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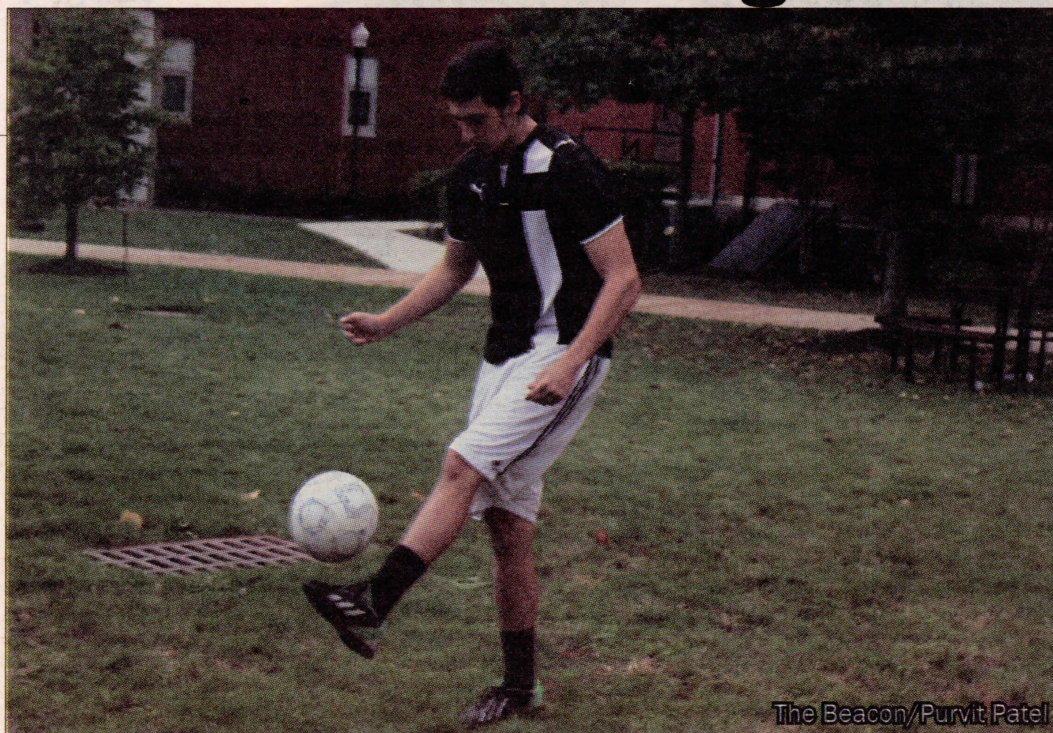


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## Intramurals are a great way to get involved



The Beacon/Purvit Patel

Pictured is Sophomore Bryan Bilbao juggling a soccer ball around.

By Andre Spruell  
Sports Writer

The sports section of The Beacon focuses on the varsity teams at Wilkes and athletes in the "Athlete of the Week" section, but what about those men and women that love sports but are not able to play on those teams?

Enter Wilkes' intramural sports. This program provides a great opportunity for those who love to play sports but do not have certain qualities to make the varsity teams. It is a fun way to interact with others, competing against each other and setting up their own teams.

Sophomore Nursing major Bryan Bilbao is currently playing his second year of intramural soccer. When asked what he likes most about playing intramural soccer, he replied "Being able to relieve stress and have fun with all the new friends you make while playing soccer."

From interviewing Bilbao and just asking around, the main reason students play intramurals is to just have fun. There is no added pressure of trying to win a conference championship or worrying about having good enough record to make the MAC playoffs. One unique thing about intramural teams is that the team who wins has bragging rights for the rest of the year.

Another reason why students enjoy participating in intramurals is because they make life-long friends while playing a sport they love.

According to Bilbao, playing intramural soccer allowed him to adapt to Wilkes, especially as a freshman. "I was able to connect with new people whether who were older, younger, and came who came from different backgrounds, which helped me get into a groove of things down here at Wilkes."

Students that are interested in joining should sign up. Even if they do not know how to play, intramural sports are a great way to have fun and make friends while breaking a sweat.

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## Tennis team anticipates success this season

By Danny Van Brunt  
Sports Writer

The Wilkes University tennis program hopes to continue the dynasty it has been working on for the past nine years.

The team's "smaller season" is off to an incredible start. The women's team has won against Rosemont, Muhlenberg, Keystone, and Lycoming. They also won nearly every match in the Bloomsburg Tournament.

The men's team also participated in the Bloomsburg Tournament, along with the Scranton Invitational, and performed exceptionally well. The first match of the season is scheduled for March 13, at Lebanon Valley College in Annville, PA.

Chris Leicht, the head coach for the men's and women's tennis teams, is eager for the official season to begin.

He has a strong team of thirty men and women. It makes him happy to see so much depth of skill in his players, and how well the team gets along.

The positive attitude is attributed to the sense of belonging in the team on and off the court. He has very high expectations for them, including winning the eighth straight conference title for the men, and the ninth straight conference title for the

women. He also hopes for the best as they progress to NCAA National Tournament.

Troy Haas, a sophomore tennis player, has been playing tennis for a long time. He is proud to say that the team, including himself, has improved since last year.

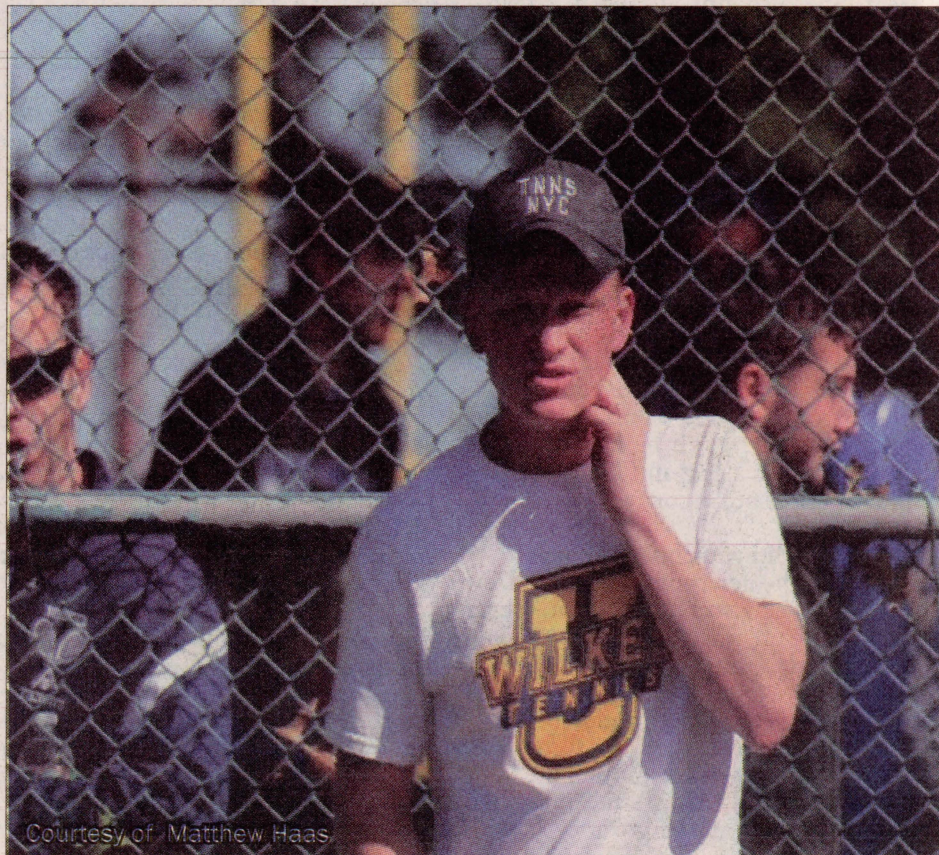
He also claims the team is very close, and the freshman are getting along with everyone. His goal for the team is to advance past the second round of the National Tournament.

The next tournament for both teams is the MAC Individual Tournament hosted by Wilkes. The tournament for the women is scheduled for October 4-5, and the men's tournament is scheduled for October 11-12.

Coach Leicht quotes, "Hopefully the community can come out to a match, especially a women's and men's combined, because our team is doing great and they deserve the support."

The team is anticipating to put on a fantastic performance to follow up last year's tournament. The men scored gold in eight out of nine matches, and according to Troy, "This year I think we're shooting for nine."

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Courtesy of Matthew Haas

Troy Haas and the rest of the Tennis team are excited for the upcoming



Getting to know...

# Micaela Oliverio

Freshman soccer player

By Evan Willey  
Sports Writer

Freshman Micaela Oliverio is a forward on the Wilkes women's soccer team. She is from Carlisle, Pa, and attended Trinity High School. For soccer, she was named First Team All-Conference and named Player of the Year. She also finished with a team-high 54 points on 16 goals and 22 assists as a senior

Q: What's your major? Why did you choose it?

A: I am a double major in musical theater and communications, I love to sing and act and communications is the closest thing to musical theater so maybe I can go into broadcasting or journalism.

Q: What is your favorite thing about soccer? How does it make you feel?

A: It's my favorite sport, I love this team, it's like a family being with them. Everyone gets along and I love them, if that doesn't sound corny.

Q: Why did you choose Wilkes?

A: The theater program really drew me in. I was also recruited for soccer and the team was very friendly when I met them.

Q: Who is your role model in life?

A: My parents, they teach me how to be a good person, morals are very important. They always tell me when I want something to go after it with 100%.

Q: What is your biggest fear in life?

A: It would be to lose my voice, so I wouldn't be able to talk or sing. I wouldn't be able to do what I love.

Q: What is your favorite thing to eat before and after a game?

A: Before I have a granola bar, if I eat too much I'll get sick. After a game I usually have pasta

Q: What is your favorite class here at Wilkes?

A: This is my first semester here, but my favorite class is my voice and speech class with this new professor here at Wilkes.

Q: What is your favorite hobby to do when you're not playing soccer?

A: I love to play the piano.

Q: What are 3 words that explain who you are?

A: Creative, quirky, and honest

Q: If you could be any animal what would you be and why?

A: I'd love to be a sloth; they move so slowly and are so lazy. They are very odd looking. It would be funny.

Q: When did you first start playing soccer and how?

A: When I was 4, I just started on a team. When you're little you just try all these sports soccer just stuck with me. My sister played too.

Q: What is your zodiac sign?

A: Aquarius



The Beacon/Purvit Patel





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