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# THE BEACON

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

## Allan Hamilton Dickson Spring Writer Series hosts first speaker

By Megan Stanley  
News Writer

The Wilkes University English Department hosted their first writer of the Allan Hamilton Dickson Spring Writer Series of 2018 last week.

Alex Burns, founding director of Quintessence Theatre group in Philadelphia, spoke on Tuesday to staff and students about his journey as a director and his motivations and reasons for creating contemporary versions of classical plays.

Burns has directed 30 shows with Quintessence, but has also directed at the Arden Theatre, Trinity Shakespeare Festival and the Shakespeare Theatre.

During the day, Burns delivered workshops to English literature and theatre students.

Dr. Mischelle Anthony, a professor and chair of the English Department, introduced the writer at the start of the evening event.

"Alex Burns is here because at one point, some Wilkes University faculty and students went down to see his production of Othello," she said.

She added, "I wept twice during the (performance) and I'm not an easy crier. So I was shocked I was weeping over the production of Othello that had very minimal staging — the production of that play, it was so impressive. I'm a regular theater-goer now because of Alex's vision."

At the start of his talk, Burns talked about his experience in a British all-boys school, and how that affected his relationship with

William Shakespeare.

He continued that his exposure to the theatre in the UK really inspired him: "One of the places I felt most at home was in the theatre. The stories of these plays were exciting and thrilling, the focus was all on the language, not on the acting."

"I never had that moment of thinking that Shakespeare was this thing you had to meet in a classroom as a piece of written text." Burns continued, "For me it was only something that you just learned and spoke aloud and it was something you felt in your body, the action of the words and the meter was a force, and the beat and the energy."

Burns spoke about his horror when he returned to the U.S. at the age of 16 and his classmates didn't have the same appreciation for the 17th century playwright: "They thought this was a really boring thing to study, not a blood sport where you can run around in a dress with a sword covered in blood."

The director told the audience that the classics have strong relevance to contemporary times.

"Truly none of the questions we are asking and none of the things we are struggling with as human beings and people have really evolved or changed at all since the time Shakespeare was writing, and that's really sad to say," he said.

Burns added: "During moments of great social change like the one we're experiencing right now, I think it's more important than ever to look to the stories of the past and see



The Beacon/Steffen Horwath

Alex Burns discussed topics such as his love for Shakespeare and writing plays.


where were we 400 years ago and how have dynamics evolved."

Recently, the director created a contemporary take on the musical "My Fair Lady," and said that because of the rise of the "MeToo" movement, the play had new complex meanings.

"You wouldn't usually see 'My Fair Lady' as a war cry of the patriarchy. It really created this amazing space of ownership of language and the exploration of romance coming out of abuse and the need for abuse in women's education and is censorship appropriate," Burns said.

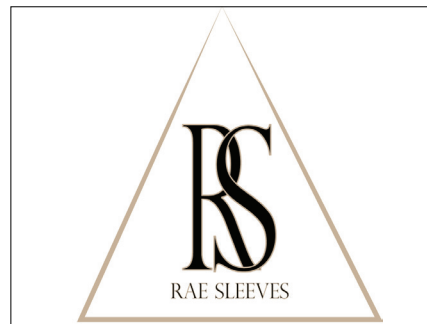
In the Q&A section of the event, Rebecca Voorhees, an English major, said: "Your rendition of 'My Fair Lady' reminded me of a play which made people very angry at the end. I read an article which just talked about audience, which was disturbing but so important."

Burns responded: "I don't want to create a theater that doesn't reflect the world in which we live."

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Submitted / Michelle Lehman

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# News

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

## Beacon Briefs

Compiled by Maddie Davis

### Free Tickets for Horward Gospel Choir

Students can recieve free tickets to an upcoming performance by the Horward Gospel Choir on Sat., Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. The Interfaith Office, which is located on the second floor of the SUB, has a limited number of tickets. It is first-come, first-serve basis. Email [kristin.osipower@wilkes.edu](mailto:kristin.osipower@wilkes.edu) for more information.

### Join SOL for Solo Amor

On Feb. 15, from 6 to 9 p.m, the Student Organization of Latinos and the Multicultural Student Coalition will be holding Solo Amor, an event celebrating self-love and embracing Black History Month. The event, which will take place on the first floor of the Student Union Building will featuring discussion, food and self-love crafts and activities.

### Scholarships Available through the Alumni Association

If a parent or grandparent of yours graduated from Wilkes University you may qualify for Wilkes University Alumni Scholarship that is now accepting applicants. Apply through the Wilkes Alumni Website to see if you qualify before the Feb. 23 deadline.

### LEAP Program Clothing Drive

Wilkes University's LEAP program will be holding a clothing drive and collecting all used clothing for those in need. There will be a clothing drop off box in the SUB lounge on the first floor of the Henry Student Union Building. For any questions contact Zawadi through email at [Nshimirimana.zawadi@wilkes.edu](mailto:Nshimirimana.zawadi@wilkes.edu).

### Wanted: Interns for Wilkes Alumni Political Campaign

Anthony Bartoli '15 is looking for those who are interested in a political internship to help with his campaign running for State Representative of the 118th District. If you are interested please email [jon@votebartoli.com](mailto:jon@votebartoli.com) and attach resumes and plans to set up an interview.

### Come out and run in the upcoming Glow Run

On April 13 at 7 p.m, the Office of Residence Life will be hosting "Glow Through the Darkness," a 5th Annual Glow Run 5K which raises proceeds for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Online registration and more information will be released soon.

### NOTE Fragrances Experience

On Feb. 18, Student Development will be taking students to NOTE Fragrances in Scranton to a create-your-own perfume workshop. A shuttle will leave the Student Union Building at noon. Seats are limited, and can be signed up for at the Info Desk. Sign up is \$5.

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*Editor's note: Due to a campus closure on Wednesday, Feb. 7, Wilkes University's Student Government did not hold its weekly meeting. Student government notes will continue in next week's edition of The Beacon.*



# Black History Month lecture series: Straight Outta History

By Maddie Davis  
Asst. News Editor

Wilkes-Barre's NAACP Branch #2306 is bringing Straight Outta History as a part of the black history month lecture series. Partnering with Wilkes University's Multicultural Student Coalition, Action Together NEPA, and Sociology professor Dr. Andrew Wilczak to bring three events to campus on Feb. 12, 19 and 26 all held at 6 p.m. at the Ballroom on the second floor of the Henry Student Center.

"Every night has its own purpose," said Wilczak. "I wanted to try to come up with a diverse number of topics."

The three events will highlight key aspects of black history that are not focused on in classrooms.

"We want people to come away with different things every night," said Wilczak.

The first event, on Feb. 12, will feature Wilkes University's Santana Velez. Velez will hold a discussion about the history of rap and hip-hop music and how the music has impacted American culture. The discussion will cover the importance of black music from songs of slavery sung to secretly communicate between each other. It will also

cover the genre of jazz, influential rappers like 2pac, Kendrick Lamar and more.

"Black music has always had this greater political level than a lot of other music in American culture," said Wilczak. "It's always drawn attention to social problems."

"[The purpose] is to foster dialogue, things you can identify and relate to like the hip hop discussion, everyone likes music," said Geraldine Ojukwu, Junior Political Science major.

On Feb. 19, the event will screen the documentary 13th that focuses on the abuse of the loophole in the 13th amendment, which abolished slavery, with the modern day mass incarceration of the black population.

On Feb. 26, the event will show a biographical drama about a young Thurgood Marshall as a lawyer before becoming a Supreme Court Justice. The story describes the trial where Marshall is representing a black man charged with sexual assault of a white woman.

"I think it's a great opportunity to shine light on black culture," said Gianna Brown sophomore criminology and sociology major.

"The whole point of the event is just to bring attention to certain aspects of popular

black culture, like music and what is going on with police brutality," said Ojukwu.

"I think it's a cool way for people to get together, have fun, discuss a little watch a little bit of movie and get educated," added Ojukwu.

"We all think black history month or civil rights and automatically think of MLK. It's superficial; it just allows us to kind of skip over the fact that 'hey there are other ways we can look at culture, appreciate it, and celebrate it,'" she said.

Wilczak and those sponsoring the event also plan to have voter registration booths to urge people to make a change.

Wilczak has recently found himself driven by injustice and wants those who attend the event to understand they too can make a difference in their community no matter their age.

"I hope that the campus community can come away with a sliver of it, a fraction of what I think about everyday," he said.

NAACP Wilkes-Barre Branch #2306 Presents:

## STRAIGHT OUTTA HISTORY

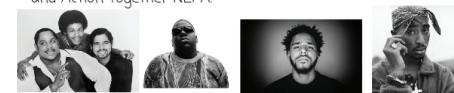
As Part of its Black History Month Series

**WHERE?** Wilkes University Henry Student Center Ballroom

**WHEN?** Monday Feb 12th

**TIME?** 6:00 PM

Join us for a discussion of the history of rap & hip-hop and the importance of black music in American culture. Presented by Santana Velez. Sponsored by Wilkes-Barre NAACP branch #2306, the Wilkes University Multicultural Student Coalition, and Action Together NEPA.



Other Upcoming Events...

Screening of "13th" : Feb 19th @ 6PM

Screening of "Marshall" : Feb 26th @ 6PM

**PARENTAL ADVISORY EXPLICIT CONTENT**

Courtesy of Dr. Andrew Wilczak

The events' purpose is to bring light to issues of black history.



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# Sordoni Art Gallery holds first 'Art in Context' lunchtime lecture

By Cabrini Rudnicki  
News Editor

On Feb. 6, the Sordoni Art Gallery hosted the first of its "Art in Context" lunchtime lecture series.

The gallery featured Dr. Ellen Newell of the psychology department at Wilkes, lecturing on the topic 'Sparking Change? A Discussion of the Effectiveness and the Consequences of the #MeToo Campaign.'

The lecture occurred at noon in the gallery. The audience was encouraged to bring food and refreshments.

Newell's lecture focused on her and Dr. Jennifer Thomas' psychological research.

"The big question since I started my research has been sexism: how do we deal with it? We have two choices. One, we can ignore it and pretend it doesn't exist, or two, we can face it head on," Newell explained.

Dr. Newell performed an experiment which gave subjects a test on their belief in the meritocracy, or the American Dream, then made them give an impromptu speech in front of a fake group of judges. One group of subjects was given a judge with a sexist belief system, the other was given a judge with a neutral one. The subjects were tested for biological signs of stress, as well as gendered speech.

While the research found a variety of interesting statistics, the main focus was how a high belief in the meritocracy created less

stress in women when facing the sexist judge.

This led to a conclusive chart which pointed out that feminism often led to activism, but also led to high levels of stress.

"I hypothesize that there is high stress because there's a charge here," she explained. "It's your job to take care of these problems. It opens you up to further discrimination and sexism with people who may disagree with you."

When high belief in meritocracy was added to the chart, there was considerably less stress.

However, as Dr. Mia Briceño later pointed out, the belief in the American dream and feminism often do not coincide together.

"You have to believe in the meritocracy to feel less stress in the model," asked Dr. Briceño. "But isn't that denial?"

Due to this, Dr. Newell also found that having a belief of your own sense of control, rather than the belief in the world's sense of justice, will also reduce stress created through activism.

Dr. Newell and Dr. Thomas plan to expand the research to beyond the Wilkes campus and do a survey of NEPA, and then eventually a nationwide study.

Students and faculty were amazed by the findings of the research. Junior psychology student Kelly Barnefiher gave her opinion of the lecture.

"I wish I had a copy of that powerpoint to show everyone I met," said Barnefiher.



The Beacon/Megan Stanley

The lecture, held by Dr. Ellen Newell, was held in the Sordoni Art Gallery.

The series was created to provide an opportunity to discuss important social and political issues related to the current art exhibit, 'The Bones of Us Hunger for Nothing' by Angela Fraleigh, which opened in January.

Heather Sincavage, the gallery director, spoke of the lecture series.

"The lecture series in itself were inspired by a lot of [Angela Fraleigh's] content and a lot of what she looks at for inspiration, and the consideration that she made when she created her artwork."

"If you look around here," said Sincavage, gesturing around the gallery, "Some of them look a bit historical, but she's speaking a lot

about contemporary issues. One of the pieces is inspired by the Harvey Weinstein scandal."

Two more lectures are planned for this semester. On Feb. 5, Dr. Laurie Sterling of King's College will be holding a lecture titled, 'My Beautiful Fur: Women, Beasts and The Fairy Tale.' The last lecture will be held Feb. 27 on '(Re)Reading Violence: Intimate Aggressions in Literature' by Dr. Mischelle Anthony and Dr. Chad Stanley. All lectures are at noon in the art gallery, and are free to the public.



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# Campus suffers shutdown of video game networks, bitcoin mining

By Megan Stanley

News Writer

Over the past few weeks, the Wilkes University IT system has faced some issues, including a shutdown of the PSN network and potential Bitcoin mining.

At the start of the semester the gaming network for PlayStation and Xbox went down, leaving students unable to play.

Jon Carlin, Director of Network and Technical Infrastructure at Wilkes University, said that a piece of malware, computer software that is intended to damage computer systems, was detected on the network which got the network blocked.

"They detected that someone was intentionally [creating malware] or maybe somebody had a piece of malware on their computer that they might not know about. We're probably leaning to it being a piece of malware because I'd like to hope our students aren't doing malicious stuff," Carlin said.

During the five days it took to fix the block, Carlin said "There were a bunch of students that were very helpful and emailed me straightaway, we're greatly appreciative to the students who responded quickly to questions to try to test things out."

"We were on the phone for two days with people from Cisco, and even they were having

a hard time trying to figure out the block," Carlin added. "We're appreciative that the students were very patient with that."

A student who wished to remain anonymous said "I was starting to get in my groove in Rocket League and when the network went down for so long it really hurt my progress. It was really an inconvenience. We could watch Netflix so it wasn't too bad but it was really exciting when it [the gaming network] came back on."

While the PSN network is back up and running, Carlin told *The Beacon* that the issue isn't quite fixed. Whilst IT now knows how to fix the issue, they don't know why it keeps happening.

"I don't want to mess with it and have people complain, so I'll bring my Xbox in and have a look, hopefully we can solve it and if it fails over people won't even notice," he said.

Recently, rumours have arisen that some students have been Bitcoin mining, which might explain the situation.

Bitcoin, a cryptocurrency and worldwide payment system, that has no central bank or single administrator. Bitcoin mining is a process that requires a lot of processing power. Bitcoin miners keep the Bitcoin network secure by approving transactions. According to bitcoinmining.com, this "ensures fairness

while keeping the Bitcoin network stable, safe and secure."

However, because the process requires a lot of electricity and WiFi, this presents some potential issues for the university if students are Bitcoin mining in their residence halls.

"It is a cost to the university. Is it fair that someone is making money by causing expense which would cause the university to increase revenue somewhere? ... and unfortunately, like most universities, that would be tuition or some other thing," Carlin said.

Connie Lee, a sophomore nursing major who used to use Bitcoin, but did not engage in mining, said "I used it at the time because it was the easiest way to make money, it was the newest fad and I wanted to get involved."

However, Lee's experience with Bitcoin was not a positive one.

"I got greedy and lost a lot of money because it was growing and a lot of countries started regulating it," she said.

Regarding the question of whether anyone is Bitcoin mining on campus, Carlin said it was complicated.

"They're hard to find. We're looking at it from two folds: is any of the malware coming in used for mining cryptocurrency? If they do get in, how do we make sure those people don't make money off anybody here? Unfortunately,

a lot more new things are coming in in terms of malware and viruses. So, we'll look into it and see if we see anything," he said.

Carlin wants to encourage students to get anti-virus software on their devices.


"I don't believe we require students to protect from malware and have protection on their computers, but it's good practice to have stuff like that," he said.

He stated that whilst the university network protects devices connected from malware, once students go outside of campus devices are left unprotected.

"Malware is not just targeting Windows, Macs are vulnerable too," Carlin said.

Next year, the university will start using the Colonel network, which is available now for students to use, instead of the Guest and Student Networks.

Carlin told *The Beacon* that the hope is when everyone is on the same network, once a piece of malware is detected on a student's device an email can be sent to ask that individual to run a security scan on their device, because one piece of malware "is basically giving people back doors to your files."

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# Mechanical Engineering professor patents fourth invention

By Jacqueline Kurovsky

News Writer

A love of creativity and new ideas has led one Wilkes faculty member to patent his fourth invention.

Dr. Edward T. Bednarz III, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, recently patented his "System for Identifying the Magnitude and Position of a Load within a Weight Area of a Beam," also called a force transducer.

Bednarz began formulating the invention while working as an engineer for the United States Armed Forces. At the time, he was working towards his Ph.D and developed the invention alongside advisor Dr. Weidong Zhu. Bednarz said the invention went hand-in hand with his dissertation.

The concept came about when considering a method for getting tanks across enemies' bridges damaged by military fire.

"The goal [of the invention] was to answer how much force a tank put on a bridge," said Bednarz. "It's basically a system that turns a bridge into a scale."

As this invention was part of his dissertation, Bednarz said he did a lot of the work on his own but also worked with a patent lawyer who turned the patent application into "legal speak."

As he was working with engineers, the

patent lawyer had a technical background and was able to bridge the gap between the technical and legal aspects.

Bednarz said the rest is a waiting game that depends on the review from the patent office. Often, claims in the application will require further explanation. Bednarz said this particular patent application took more than four years to be approved.

Because the government owns the rights to this invention, Bednarz does not have control over how it is used. He said he hopes to see it applied to large-scale projects.

This concept of giving broader uses to inventions created as specialty items extends to Bednarz's other patents. These include a safety brace for a radar antenna and a deflection plate for a portable dynamometer.

Bednarz has also invented with the help of students. His third patent was for an adjustable wheelchair, which he formulated with four Wilkes students and his wife, Heather. Bednarz says they own the rights to this invention and may look to get it licensed.

Bednarz has a patent pending on a fifth invention, the idea for which came from a group of engineering students and his wife. It is a pressure redistribution system for those who are partially paralyzed.

The invention was designed to help prevent pressure sores which come from sitting in one spot for too long. Bednarz said he hopes for



The Beacon / Steffen Horwath

Dr. Edward T. Bednarz III sits with the certificate for his fourth patent.

a patent as this system has great commercial-use value.

Autumn Warner is one student who worked with Bednarz on formulating this system. She called Bednarz the driving force behind taking it from a school project to a patent-pending invention.


"He created an atmosphere that let us all use our strengths with this project and create something that all of us are proud of," she said.

Student Robert Moyer added that a critical part of the project was the guidance and input from Bednarz. Moyer calls him one of the most gifted teachers he's ever been around.

"I think anyone in our group would agree that any time we were stuck ... Dr B's wisdom and experience got us past any obstacle," he said.

As a young engineering student, it was the prospect of changing the world that led Bednarz to start inventing. This motivation has not faded.

"I am absolutely going to keep inventing," Bednarz said, "probably until I'm 80 years old."

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# Wilkes welcomes four Panamanian diplomats

By Maddie Davis  
Asst. News Editor

Wilkes University and Panama's Department of Foreign Affairs, or MIRE (Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Panamá), have partnered up to send diplomats from Panama to further their education here in America.

As a part of the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative, Wilkes University has built a relationship with the country of Panama and has established the Meduca program within the past two years. This program has helped public school teachers from Panama come to America to learn English and the American culture to use in their schools back home. Since this program has developed to help make Panamanian schools more bilingual, Wilkes and Panama have furthered their relationship to begin a new program to bring Panamanian diplomats in for a semester.

Specifically, the diplomats from MIRE expand their English speaking skills here at Wilkes University as well as taking classes that focus on Political Science and international relationships.

This spring semester there are four students who have come to Wilkes as a part of this relationship between the diplomatic academy of Panama's MIRE. Their backgrounds of work and education range from bachelors to masters degrees in various majors. These diplomats come here for professional development purposes to bring back to Panama and use

them in their various diplomatic positions.

Linda Luque Nunez is a Public Relations Official in Panama and is one of the students who have come to Wilkes University this semester as a part of this program. She has a Masters in Business Administration. At Wilkes, Linda has also become apart of the Department of Diversity in her semester here.

"Here there is a lot of diversity, and I love that," said Linda.

Francisco Javier Marquez Vega is an international analyst in Panama and is in charge of the Diplomacy Culture Department. Francisco has degrees in Tourism as well as Culture from the University of Panama.

"For me it's very important and interesting to understand the American society," said Francisco, "I am really enjoying this time here, it is very nice because it is my first time in the United States."

Aileem Itzel Mejia Jovane works in the Department of Human Rights and has a masters in International Protection of Human Rights from the University of Alcalá in Spain, and a major in Law and Political Science.

"I can share what I learned with my colleagues, and just share the experience [of Wilkes]," said Aileem.

"It's really interesting," answered Aileem about how Wilkes differs from Panama.

Mario Alberto Morales Lopez is the fourth and final student that has joined the Wilkes University campus this spring as a part of the program. Mario has a degree in Law,

Engineering, and Computer Science and is very experienced in his field.

Dr. Andrew Miller, advisor of these students and Wilkes Political Science professor, also takes time out of his summer to teach for a week in Panama as a part of this partnership.

"You are able to have students in class, in an International Relations class, that are literally International Relations professionals," said Dr. Miller. "You try to make it good for them, but also good for Wilkes students to have this opportunity to interact with people that work with international relations out in the field."

"The program is designed so they have full immersion experience on an American campus, the opportunity to learn more; especially on courses that have to do with the American government and institutions to add to their perspective," said Rosi Ponce Executive Director of International Engagement.

The program takes the students to visit UN Panamanian representatives, the Panamanian representative in the organization of American States, and the Panamanian Embassy. It also welcomes them to join many of the opportunities and organizations on Wilkes' campus.

"[The program] is a little bit of the theory from classrooms, but also a program that is enhanced with other opportunities for them to do a little bit more of the practical side of the program," said Ponce.

For the future, Rosi Ponce has a hopeful outlook for the program to help further our

relationship with Panama with Dr. Miller and the Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Dr. Paul Riggs to send Wilkes students to intern at MIRE in Panama.

"We hope to promote not just students from Panama coming to us, but creating opportunities for American students to be there," said Ponce.

"From my perspective, as a staff member, I think that they have not only benefited from the expertise of Dr. Miller and other faculty that they are interacting with. I believe that one of the most rewarding experiences is being able to make friends and interact with our students. On the flipside it has been a very positive experience for our students and faculty to be working with them as they bring a completely fresh and different perspective to class," said Ponce.

"This office is all about empowering and inspiring; we are trying to do our best for the student who come here so they can take the most of this program and other programs that we have," added Nik Baliakin, Graduate Assistant of the Office of International Engagement.

In the Fall 2018 semester there will be two more MIRE diplomatic students who will join Wilkes' campus.



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Courtesy of Linda Luque Nunez

From left to right; Francisco Javier Marquez Vega, Linda Luque Nunez, Wilkes University Senior Vice President/ Provost Dr. Anne Skleder, Aileem Itzel Mejia Jovane, and Mario Alberto Morales Lopez.



Courtesy of Linda Luque Nunez

From left to right; Linda Luque Nunez, President Patrick F. Leahy, Aileem Itzel Mejia Jovane, and Mario Alberto Morales Lopez.



# Accounting students offer free income tax preparation

## Beacon Staff Reports

Accounting students will get a little extra industry practice, while students and members of the community will get a little extra free help this tax season through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program.

Students will be assisting taxpayers with less than \$54,000 in yearly household income file their basic federal, state and local tax

returns, according to a press release.

The assistance will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Feb. 17 and 24 in Room 134 of University Center on Main (UCOM), at 169 S. Main St.

The tax assistance is available by appointment only. Interested parties should call 570-408-4710 and leave a message with their name and number. Taxpayers filing joint returns must have their spouse present.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, often abbreviated "VITA," is a government program meant provide access to free assistance with preparing tax returns for individuals making less than \$54,000 a year, those with disabilities and those whose English speaking is limited.

According to the website's VITA site locator, only one other site exists in Wilkes-Barre.

This will be senior accounting and finance double major Trudi Casier's second year participating in the program. This year, she is serving as a senior site coordinator, which entails "overseeing and teaching the new juniors how to do everything," she said.

She said that the experience has been enriching -- both from educational and philanthropic perspectives.

"VITA is an excellent program for students to get real-life experience doing taxes. I participate because it has been an exceptional learning experience in more ways than just the tax prep, and we are helping out community members," Casier said. "It really is a win-win for everyone involved."

Casier said that community members are consistently more likely to use the service, but that students need not shy away.

"It's certainly a good resource if any students need their taxes done too," she said.

According to the press release, filers must have the following with them:

- A Photo ID
- Social security cards for the taxpayer, spouses and dependents
- Wage and earning statements (Form W-2) from all employers
- Interest and dividend statements (Form 1099) from banks
- A copy of the taxpayer's federal and state returns from last year, if applicable
- Bank routing and account numbers (for direct deposit)
- Total paid to daycare provider, as well as the provider's tax identifying number
- Healthcare coverage (Form 1095) or healthcare exemption documents
- Other relevant information about income and expenses



Courtesy of Wilkes Marketing

Accounting students at Wilkes are using their skills to administer free assistance to members of the community and students in preparing their tax returns. From left: Daniel O'Steen, Shelby Trumbo, Trudi Casier, Christine Quinn, and Amanda Cohick.

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## Allan P. Kirby Center Spotlight

### Wilkes Colonel Michelle Rae Lehman builds a business of her own

By Amanda Bialek

*Life, Arts and Entertainment Editor*

Senior Michelle Lehman began her college career with the aspiration to become a nurse. After her first semester of soul-searching, she discovered her true passion. The field of marketing captured her heart giving her the creative outlet she was looking for.

"Michelle is an extraordinary young woman. As a student, she has maintained high academic achievement as an undergraduate and it is my expectation she will excel in her planned graduate studies," Gerald Ephault, executive in residence at the Allan P. Kirby Center for Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship said. "As a Kirby Scholar, Michelle has set a high standard of accomplishment in duties in providing support to the University's students, staff, faculty and this Center."

Lehman is the Kirby Scholar of Business Development at the Allan P. Kirby Center for Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship where she assists with internal and external client business organization, strategy and marketing.

"I have complete confidence in her whenever we are meeting with clients or engaging in a networking activity. She is an outstanding representative of Wilkes University and the Allan P. Kirby Center for Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship," Ephault said.

Her experiences mentoring various clients with their business ventures is what prompted Lehman to take the next steps in her undergraduate career.

"I noticed the enthusiasm clients had as they were turning their business dreams into a reality. It inspired me to take a leap of faith and pursue my passion for entrepreneurship," Lehman said.

Lehman's love for fashion and desire to help other women led to the development of her clothing business RAE Sleeves. She wanted this brand to be authentic and an extension of herself which is why she used

her middle name Rae. The company logo is a triangle which symbolizes spirit, ancient wisdom and harmony.

Her sleeve design was meant to solve a problem. She found herself and the women in her inner circle complaining about arm imperfections. Through her research, Lehman found that 91 percent of women are insecure about some part of their body.

Whether at a casual dinner or in a professional setting, she realized there was always a level of insecurity present for women wearing sleeveless apparel. Although jackets were the obvious option for arm coverage, the extra layer of fabric hid the clothing underneath. With this in mind, Lehman decided to create a fashionable and functional option that would allow women to feel comfortable wearing their favorite sleeveless top or dress.

"It was my goal to create a clothing line that would empower women by making them feel covered and confident," Lehman said.

She started the design process by creating digital renderings of the sleeves. Lehman chose hosiery for the sleeves and spandex for the bodice. After presenting her idea and fabric choices to a seamstress, her design was brought to life. A microgrant from the Allan P. Kirby Center for Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship allowed her to invest in her first prototype design.

"The supportive staff at the Allan P. Kirby Center along with the experiential learning opportunities I was given as an undergraduate and Kirby Scholar has provided me with the skills and confidence to launch my business," Lehman said.


The first signature line of RAE Sleeves available will be the onyx black sleeves. She plans to also add a neutral line of nude, blush pink and grey; a glam line of gold and silver and an essentials line with dark blue, burgundy and army green.

In order for Lehman to mass produce her first 500 sleeves, she needs to raise approximately \$6,000. To help raise funds for manufacturing and overhead fees she

recently launched her Impact Campaign in January. She created a t-shirt design which is a white crew neck shirt that has a black pocket with the word "impact." Lehman wanted to offer a product that is true to her brand. She hopes that her supporters feel empowered to make an impact big or small in 2018 when they wear their t-shirt.

"My hope is for women to wear my brand and feel empowered to reach their full potential," Lehman said.

For those interested in supporting the Impact campaign, visit [www.raesleeves.com](http://www.raesleeves.com) to order a t-shirt or email Michelle Lehman at [raesleevesapparel.com](mailto:raesleevesapparel.com). To follow along Lehman's business journey, follow her on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter at RAE Sleeves.

 [@wilkesbeacon](https://twitter.com/wilkesbeacon)  
[amanda.bialek@wilkes.edu](mailto:amanda.bialek@wilkes.edu)



*Covered, Confident, Empowered*

Submitted photo/Michelle Lehman

Visit [www.raesleeves.com](http://www.raesleeves.com) to purchase an Impact t-shirt for \$25.



# Recipe of the Week: Pizza Roses

## INGREDIENTS: INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 package of pizza dough
- 1 package of pepperoni
- 1 package of shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 jar of pizza sauce
- muffin tin

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees and grease your muffin tin.
2. Roll out our pizza dough and cut into long strips.
3. Take one strip and one half spread our pizza sauce.
4. Add our cheese and along the top edge of the strip overlap your pepperoni.
5. Take the other half of our strip and fold it over.
6. Roll our strip and place our pizza rose in muffin tin.
7. Bake for 25 minutes.
8. ENJOY!



Recipe from [youtube.com/threadbanger](https://www.youtube.com/threadbanger)

Design by Nicole Kutos

# JANUZZIS

## Pizza & Subs

Next to Movies 14 • For Delivery- Call 825-5166 • Wilkes -Barre. Kingston. Plains. Plymouth. Nanticoke

**\$13.95** + TAX

large 16" 1-topping  
pizza & 2-liter soda

**\$7.95** + TAX

each for 5 or more  
large plain pies

**\$16.95** + TAX

3 hot & cold subs  
mix & match

**\$20.95** + TAX

large 16" pizza & 12  
cut tray sicilian pizza

**\$17.95** + TAX

2 large plain pizzas  
toppings extra

**\$20.95** + TAX

24- cut Sicilian pizza

**\$17.95** + TAX

12- cut Sicilian pizza  
& 1 order of wings

**\$11.95** + TAX

12 -cut Sicilian pizza

**\$23.95** + TAX

2 tickets to Movies  
14, 1 med- 1 topping  
pizza & 2 drinks

**\$12.95** + TAX

small 12" 1-topping  
pizza & choice of  
any sub

**\$18.95** + TAX

large 16" pizza, 1  
sub, & an appetizer

**\$28.95** + TAX

3 large 1- topping  
pizzas



# Unique Valentine's Day Date Ideas

By Shannon O'Connor

*Life, Arts & Entertainment Asst. Editor*

Not sure what to do or where to go on Valentine's Day with your special someone? No need to worry because The Beacon has got you covered. Whether you're hanging out with friends or taking out your sweetheart, check out these fun and creative date ideas. Happy Valentine's Day! Love, The Beacon.

## Grab the popcorn

What better date night idea than to go and see a romantic movie with the one you love. Romantic comedies like "Forever My Girl" or joyful sing-a-longs like "The Greatest Showman" are the perfect movies to go and see with a bucket of popcorn in one happy and your loved one in the other.

## Star light, star bright

Take a hike at a local state park and spend the night gazing at the stars. Bring a jacket and some snuggly blankets and see how many constellations you can find. Don't forget on every shooting star, make a wish for more nights like this.

## Flurries of fun

With all the snow coming down, the perfect date is right at your fingertips. Spend the day out in the snow. Having snowball fights, catching snowflakes on your tongue or make a cute pair of snowmen that match you and your partner. Remember, don't forget the hot cocoa.

## Get your armor

With some chairs and blankets the perfect fort can be made. Add glittery lights and pillows and you've got a night you'll never forget. Plug in your laptop and through on your favorite tv show or movie and you and your beloved are set for a cozy night in.

## Sweet tooth

Whether it's breakfast for dinner or dessert all around, you and your lovebug can spend your night away in the kitchen cooking or baking your favorite foods. Who cares about the calories. Enjoy the night with a full belly.

## Arms of steel

Challenge your paramour to a workout competition at the gym. For those athletic couples, see who really has the game they have been talking up. Don't be embarrassed to get all sweaty that's the whole point.

## Break out the games

Invite over other couples or even your friends and have a couples game night. See who knows each other better and pick out a fun and exciting prize for the winner. Who could ever say no to a round of Cards Against Humanity?

## Hold on tight

Ready for a night of laughs and falling on your butt, well then this is the date night for you. Plan a date of ice skating or rollerblading and hold onto your lovebird tight. Be careful not to bring your partner down with you if you fall, but always be there to pick them up.

## Get crafty with it

You and your honey can spend the night creating and crafting some awesome

projects as you break out some DIYs. Is there a project your sweetheart has been showing you on Instagram? Well, get some supplies and surprise them with a crafting night.

## Brew some coffee

For you romantic love birds, wake your loved one and grab some coffee and watch the beautiful sunrise come over the mountain. You'll be all snuggled up and with your favorite person in the whole world as you get to watch the world wake up.

**DID YOU GO ON  
A CUTE DATE OR  
MAKE A FUN DIY OR  
RECIPE?  
SEND IT TO US AND  
HAVE IT FEATURED  
ON THE BEACON  
WEBSITE!**

Interested in writing for the

**LIFE, ARTS  
& ENTERTAINMENT**

Section? Why not try all three?

Contact LA&E editor Amanda Bialek at [amanda.bialek@wilkes.edu](mailto:amanda.bialek@wilkes.edu).



# CRAFTING WITH CAROLINE

## •Valentine's Day Snow Globe•



### Supplies needed:

- One mason jar
- One plastic heart
- Super Glue or a hot glue gun
- Two packs of sequins
- One cup of water



### Instructions:

1. Turn the lid over, and super glue the plastic heart onto the inside of the lid.
2. Grab the cup of water, and pour it into the mason jar. Fill the water to almost the top of the jar.
3. Take the two packets of sequins, and pour them into the water-filled mason jar.
4. Twist the lid back on to the jar. The heart should be inside the mason jar, upside down looking.
5. You can shake your new snow globe and watch the sequins swirl around.
6. Enjoy!!





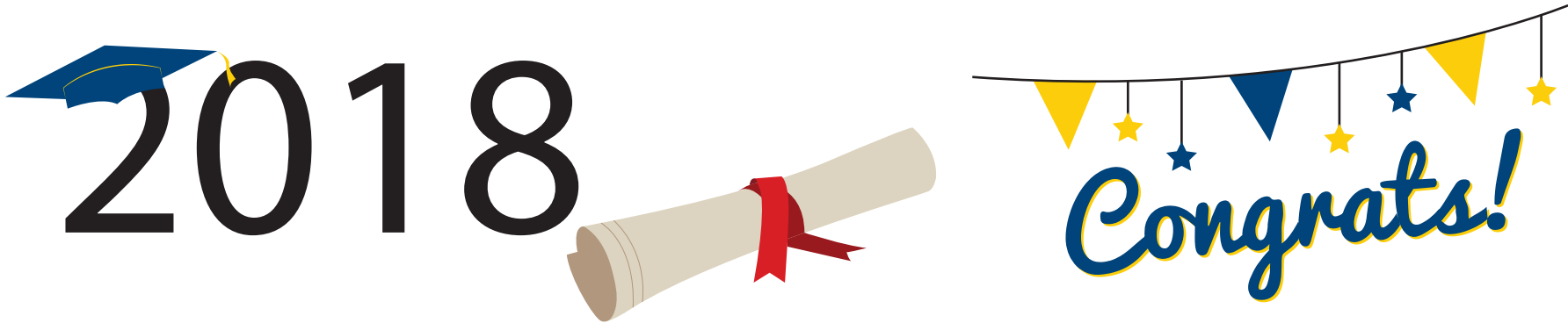
# SENIOR FIRST FAREWELL



The Beacon/ Shannon O'Connor  
Senior Class President Paige Gallagher gives the Class of 2018 their first fairwell address as their last semester slowly comes to an end. This event is the first event of many in the seniors last semester.



From left: Matthew G. Miller, David Stecco, Kaitln Sitch, Natalie Cugini, Patrick Serino and Josh Jarmoski were all set to party as they kick off their last 100 days here at Wilkes.



A great turnout of seniors come all dressed up and ready to mingle the night away at the Senior First Farewell on Thursday night.



Nancy Ramirez, Tina Doshi, Maribel Rivera, Mrasia Flores, Yan Mar Abreu and Atija Barteu pose while enjoying the night with their favorite professors.

# Say OLIVE you this Valentine's



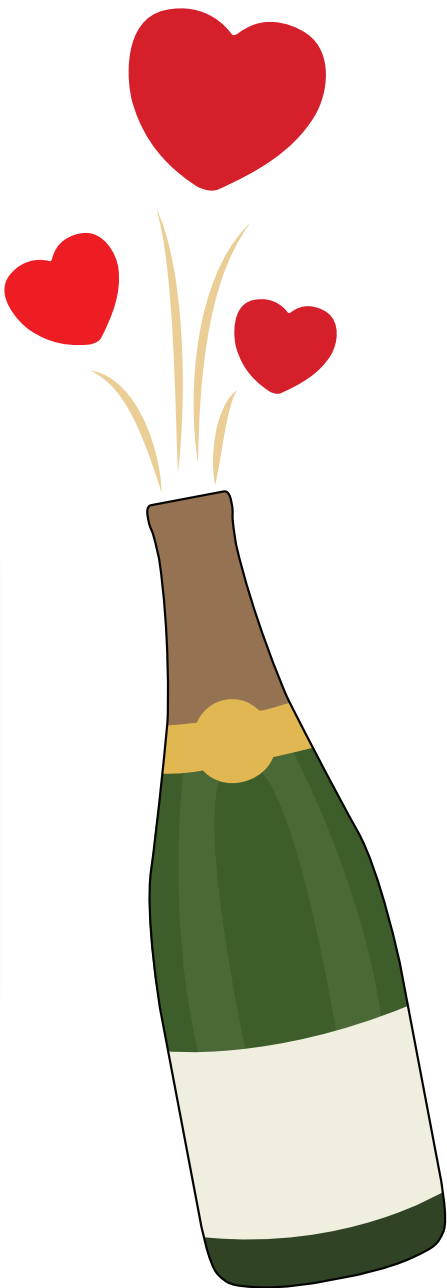
Thai Thai  
Price : \$\$-\$\$\$

Thai Thai features thai food, along with other international cusine. Located at 41 S. Main St. Open Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Closed on Sundays.



Bart and Urby's  
Price : \$-\$\$

Located at 119 S. Main St., Bart and Urby's features classic American food. Open Monday through Saturday 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Closed on Sunday.









# Opinion

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

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## Our Voice

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

# Keep up the good work, Wilkes Athletics

The Beacon praises teams' support of each other

*The Beacon* Editorial Board wants to commend Wilkes Athletics for cultivating support between teams.

Wilkes University has plenty of athletes that play many different sports. As many athletes know, including the athletes on the staff here at *The Beacon*, games grow and become more intense and those crunch time moments that athletes dream about suddenly become a reality.

"When student athletes support each other," assistant football coach Michael Harris said. "It builds not only a community but a family."

Most athletes do not play for the spotlight, but when there is a supporting crowd at your games, they definitely become much more enjoyable.

Support for athletics not only makes the sport much more enjoyable for everyone, but many athletes feel that it elevates their game.

"Getting our intercollegiate athletic teams to support each other at athletic contests is something that is crucial on a campus like

ours," men's basketball head coach Izzi Metz said. "Where over 30 percent of our student body competes on a team, [we rely on each other's support]."

With the football team having recruits on campus the last few Saturdays, the coaches have gone off-schedule to bring the recruits to home basketball games.

"Football is doing its best right now to build the feeling of community by supporting other teams," Harris said. "When you have the support of other athletes the atmosphere becomes an athletes dream."

The Wilkes athletics community has worked on getting that support and with the coaches and athletes getting involved it seems to be coming to fruition.

In the fall, athletes came together in support of the football team, providing a good atmosphere for the football games.

Both women's and men's soccer received good crowds for their games. Women's soccer made it to the MAC Freedom championship this year along with a birth and a first round win in the National Tournament.

As the year turned and the basketball season has come along, the men's basketball team has received tons of support, mostly from the other Wilkes Athletics teams.

The basketball team has ridden the wave of their hard work and their peers support to a top spot in the MAC Freedom conference and have almost locked up a spot in the conference tournament.

"It's very important for teams to get support from each other," Colonels sophomore basketball player Rob Pecorelli said. "It creates a level of excitement knowing



that other teams and athletes are rooting for your success."

Athletes love to play the game, but the feel of the game changes when there is an atmosphere created by fellow athletes. When athletes feel like the result of their play will impact others, it means so much more. It makes the work every athlete puts in that much more rewarding when it pays off.

Athletes live for the opportunity to hit that walk-off home run in the World Series, hit the game winning buzzer beater in the NBA Finals, score the overtime goal in the Stanley Cup, or catch the game winning touchdown in the big game. These moments are dreamt of by athletes because of the atmosphere which creates the world biggest stages.

Wilkes athletics teams will not be able to create those kinds of atmospheres with their support, but they can create an environment that inspires a winning culture and an attractive spot for future Division III athletes -- and we feel that this is what they are doing.



The Beacon/Luke Modrovsky



# Unconventional Valentine's Day movies



*Nick Filipek, The Beacon's resident movie buff and assistant opinion editor, will review movies each week. Want to hear about one in particular? Email Nick at: [nicholas.filipek@wilkes.edu](mailto:nicholas.filipek@wilkes.edu).*

By Nicholas Filipek  
Asst. Opinion Editor

Valentine's Day is this week, and with it, every sappy love movie is sure to be on top of the queue of flicks to watch.

The princess wakes up, Rose never lets go and the millionaire ends up with the "lady of the night" with a heart of gold and a giant smile.

It is all a bit old, so this Valentine's Day be sure to avoid the cliché and check out these unconventional love stories.

Chasing Amy (1997)- A bit on the older side for some, "Chasing Amy" is Kevin Smith's ("Clerks", "Red State") third film, and in my opinion, his most touching. After reading a bad review for his second movie "Mallrats" that claimed the director was nothing but a "big softy", Smith decided to go ahead and pour out his more sensitive side into "Chasing

Amy"

Now a word of caution, a sensitive Kevin Smith movie has more thought provoking material to discuss, but it still all comes from a certain twisted perspective. It is rated "R" for a reason, but underneath the foul mouths and dirty minds still lays a million dollar heart.

The movie stars Ben Affleck, ("Justice League", "The Town") Jason Lee, ("Dream Catcher", "My Name is Earl") and Joey Lauren Adams ("Big Daddy", "Dazed and Confused") It is their chemistry, guided by Smith's vision, that really makes this movie something special.

Affleck and Lee play comic-book creators from NJ whose lives collide with Alyssa Jones (Adams) at a comic convention in NYC. Holden McNeil (Affleck) falls head over heels for Alyssa, but his hopes of a new relationship are instantly smashed when he finds out she's

a lesbian.

I won't spoil the ending, but it is probably not what you think. This movie strays so far from the conventional path that a "standard Hollywood ending", just wouldn't be fitting for this movie.

It was pretty edgy material for the time, and even by today's standards has a scene or two you wouldn't want to watch with your folks, but it still manages to make you feel good at the end while bringing you a better sense of what "true" love is.

Crazy, Stupid, Love (2011)- Another star-studded cast brings this excellent story to life in what is my favorite romantic comedy of the 21st century.

Everything about this movie is just absolutely charming, and always leaves me feeling warm and toasty after watching it. It's the type of movie that just makes you feel like anything is possible, and this little blue rock in the solar system actually might be worth living on.

Steve Carell ("The 40-Year-Old Virgin", "Little Miss Sunshine") Emma Stone ("La La Land", "Easy A") Julianne Moore ("The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio", "The Hours") and Ryan Gosling ("Blade Runner 2049", "Gangster Squad") make up the main cast, but really every last actor/actress is perfect in their role.

Carell and Moore play characters that have been together since they were 16 and find themselves in a stale marriage. An act of infidelity sets the story in motion and though you may think you know what is going to happen, this is another movie that does not follow the standard.

I pride myself greatly on being able to break down movies elements that allow me to predict what is going to happen before it happens, and this movie caught me right on my behind with a twist I really just didn't see coming.

"Crazy, Stupid, Love" may not end in a way you would expect, but shows a different perspective on a love story.

Deadpool (2016)- That's right, the "merc with a mouth" makes the list just one day shy of his theatrical release. Though the movie features hardcore violence, language and nudity, at its core, it really is a romance.

Wade Wilson, played by Ryan Reynolds ("The Hitman's Bodyguard", "Van Wilder") falls in love with Vanessa, Morena Baccarin ("Spy", "Gotham"), and goes to extreme measures by trusting Francis aka Ajax, Ed Skrein (The

Transporter Refueled", "In Darkness") to cure his aggressive form of cancer. Turns out trusting a guy with an alias in an underground laboratory was not the smartest move, as Ajax (Skrein) goes on to double cross our hero, forcing Wilson (Reynolds) to assume an alter ego of his own, Deadpool, and hunt down the man who crossed him in order to set things right.

Through all of this drama Deadpool is able to break the fourth wall, being able to acknowledge the audience, just like in the comics. Not since Ferris took his day off have we seen this many fourth wall breaks, and Deadpool even gives Mr. Bueller a shout out in a post credit scene in which he also teases a sequel.

That sequel is practically around the corner now, with its first teaser trailer dropping during "The Big Game". Though the sequel has not been given an official title yet, it has been given a release date of May 18th 2018. The sequel will be introducing another famous Rob Liefeld creation to the movie universe, Nathan Summer aka Cable. Played by Josh Brolin ("Men in Black III", "No Country for Old Men"), Cable is a time traveling, butt kicking, one metal-armed man from the future who has a long-standing relationship in the comics. If the sequel is half as good as the original, then it is going to be a rip roaring good time.

Make sure to go out and watch Deadpool, or any of this week Nicks Flicks Picks to have yourself a Happy Valentine's Day.



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# The controversial use of steroids in sports

By Brandon Belfonti  
Staff Writer

Steroids are becoming a very controversial topic in modern society.

Very controversial usually means a strictly defined argument, binary that is. Either you are for the use of such drugs or against.

It must be stated that this discussion involves the role steroids play in the aesthetic and self enhancement aspect of society.

This has absolutely nothing to do with the medical application of steroids, that is necessary and a completely different discussion.

Anabolic steroids, the ones used by abnormally large muscle seeking humans, were first heard of in the 1930s when it was discovered they could increase skeletal muscle in rats.

Once isolated, bodybuilders and the like saw an opportunity or even more so, an edge on the competition.

This sparked a rage of conflict throughout the playing field of fairness.

Next was something that really hit close for people at home, sports. Once the realization came that you could be faster,

stronger, and better than your body would ever naturally allow then the choice was simple. Inject and grow to win.

The average size of an NFL player in 1950 was 215 pounds (for all positions). Fast forward to today and that number has skyrocketed to 240 pounds (that is on the smaller end of things).

Not only that, but the average BMI (body mass index) has gone from 24 to 28 which indicates that these players are obese on the average human body scale.

Clearly they are not obese so why is the table of height to weight ratio saying so? Because these men are doing things the human body was not made to do.

A 330 pound man is not meant to move 40 yards in under 4.8 seconds. I took some physics and the force provided by such a mass is nothing shy of inhuman.

This example is the exact controversy that such a drug presents us.

Now, I am not saying someone with such stats must be on steroids. What I am saying is it takes a lot less reps and substantial less work to do such a thing with the aid of steroids.

It is evident that high class and even olympic level athletes are taking these drugs. It is our turn to make a decision on


the matter and this is where things become blurred.

We give higher regard to certain individuals of society opposed to others, almost as if they do not take body enhancing drugs at all.

Arnold Schwarzenegger because he is a walking statue with a smile, Sylvester Stallone because he took out Apollo Creed, and Justin Gatlin because he beat Usain Bolt.

Steroids can not be a person to person treatment. They can not be a reflection of what makes us feel better about ourselves. Steroids are nice when it wins your team the Superbowl or your country a gold medal, but they are cheating when it is the russians or Barry Bonds.

Clearly put, they should be as legal as marijuana. The social standards are alike and so are the repercussions. Either we see what the human body is capable of or we let our morals choose who is allowed to win. The situation is hypocritical in itself and the longer society wants "their guy" to win, the longer opposing greats will be to blame for the mass act done behind doors.

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# Meet the Majors

## This week's major: Mechanical Engineering

Interviews and photos by

Abigail Tarway

Staff Writer

Every week, The Beacon will offer a chance for majors to be placed in the spotlight. Each student that gets chosen will have a few words to express why they chose the major and how they feel it will benefit them in the future.

Natalie Cugini  
Senior

"I decided to specialize in this field because both of my grandfathers were mechanically inclined and I have always looked up to them.

I believe that having this major will help me in the future by providing a stable job market as well as many opportunities to continue learning new skills and expanding my professional network."



The Beacon/ Abigail Tarway

Coletta Rempe  
Senior

"My decision to specialize in this field was based on the fact that I had phenomenal high school teachers for both math and physics who challenged me and gave me the confidence to pursue an engineering major.

I believe that majoring in Mechanical Engineering will help me in the future by providing a wide spectrum of opportunities to continue learning new abilities, improving on current understanding and enhancing quality."





# Do attractive people have advantages others do not?

By Andre Spruell  
*Opinion Editor*

As a child, if you wanted something to go your way, you would just throw a temper tantrum. Unfortunately for adults, this does not hold true, unless you are attractive.

Attractiveness is something that is held in high regard, especially in American society with things like modeling reality shows, the popularity of acne and make-up products, and many other examples.

So what is seen as attractive? According to Business Insider, high cheekbones, fuller lips, big eyes, and a thin chin are associated with sexiness in women, whereas a big jaw and broad chin are preferred in men.

The simple question to be answered is: Do attractive people have advantages others do not? Simply put, the answer is yes.

The advantages that attractive people have is proven through science.

According to Psychology Today, we tend to attribute a number of positive characteristics to attractive people. Also,

we perceive them to be more competent, happier, and more successful than the general population.

These characteristics associated with attractive people has become somewhat of a norm.

As a result, people that do not see themselves as attractive resort to things like getting acne products for clearer skin, starting a diet to lose weight, and even going as far as getting plastic surgery to alter their physical appearance.

If gaining advantages just by having a pleasant physical appearances is something that can get you further in life, can you blame people that would want that?

One advantage attractive people have according to Business Insider is that beautiful people are more persuasive.

This fact is proven to be true through the saying "handsome devil."

A term that has gone hand in hand because the term "handsome" refers to physical attractiveness, while the term "devil" relates to an evil figure known for its persuasive

capabilities.

A real life example in which attractive people are more persuasive is in job interviews, a situation in which an attractive individual can use their sex appeal, increasing their chances of landing a job over someone that is less attractive but may be more qualified.

For men in particular, one aspect that as seen as extremely attractive is how tall he is.

According to Psychology Today, in a study conducted by Daniel Nettle of the Open University in Great Britain, it showed that the taller men were, the less likely they were to be single or childless, concluding that taller men are deemed more sexually attractive and more likely to find a mate.


The trend of women preferring taller guys is something that I have recently noticed through social media, especially Twitter. I believe the fascination for taller men is something that has developed over time because nowadays, it seems like the upcoming generations of males seem to be getting bigger and bigger than ever before.

Another perceived advantage of attractive people is that they are more likeable and trustworthy. According to Business Insider, beautiful people are typically treated better by others.

In a study from Harvard University, researchers found that wearing makeup, shown to enhance a woman's attractiveness, boosted people's perceptions of that subject's competence, likability, attractiveness, and trustworthiness.

The main advantage that attractive people have that others do not is that it is easier for them to find a mate. This reason alone is why I believe people strive to look their best, especially for people who do not view themselves as being attractive.

Attractiveness is something that can get you further in life, and make it easier to find a mate, but if all someone has is looks without any talent, how far can they really go?

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andre.spruell@wilkes.edu

# Has cheating been getting worse than it has before?

By Savannah Pinnock  
*Staff Writer*

Throughout academic circles, the subject of cheating has been a well-known cultural taboo.

This cultural taboo is not affiliated with one's racial and/or ethnic culture, but in reference to an academic taboo.

Within the culture of academia, honesty and sincerity within one's work can be seen as paramount to a student or teacher's success.

It is understood that an educational institution requires a student to have scholastic integrity, though, this also extends to pedagogical integrity.

When it comes to the subject of cheating, otherwise known as academic dishonesty, the teacher and the student are for the first time, on the same level.

If a teacher strays from their convictions and assists a student unfairly, this can have extremely detrimental repercussions. Likewise, if a student assists himself in an illegal manner, the same holds true. The difference between

the teacher and the student lies within what the repercussions of cheating are.

Depending on a wide range of factors, teachers who engage in cheating often find themselves terminated or faced with life changing consequences such as suspension, and being reported.

As it pertains to the student, it depends on where they are in their academic career.

Within a K-12 education, the consequences of cheating are negative but the student will always be able to attend their educational institution. During this student's collegiate and postgraduate education, the consequences of cheating are deleterious to one's future career path which can extend to their life.

In other words, during this period, cheating is not tolerated and will result in the termination of their career.

For the previously aforementioned reason, statistics revolving around one's academic integrity are minimal college wise but great in one's high school education.

The reason for this appears to be due

to a fear of consequences revolving around cheating in college. Therefore, it is clear that in order to know if cheating is prevalent in college, one must look at the students high school career as behavior tends to be linear.

According to David L. Jaffe, a professor from Stanford University, "cheating among high school students has risen dramatically during the past 50 years".

This information implies that cheating amongst students who are about to enter their collegiate years has had a positive rise and is continually rising.

He then states that "cheating no longer carries the stigma that it used to" due to the fact that these students will do anything that they can to perform well in an effort to go to their college of choice.


The connection between cheating and attending college appear to be very close; it begs the question as to why this would end during the students collegiate years?

Cheating has always been prohibited,

the only difference over academic years has been in the consequences of this act. So, if cheating has risen among high school students over the past fifty years, why would it stop during college if the rules of academic integrity have been ignored before?

The answer is that it has not, and cheating is in fact getting worse. Cheating is a growing epidemic and "between 75 and 98 percent of college students surveyed each year report having cheated in high school".

The only difference between one's collegiate education and their high school education appears to be the growing silence about academic dishonesty and it must be put to an end.

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# Sports

Want your sport covered? Deserve to be Athlete of the Week? Contact the sports editor: [Luke.Modrovsky@wilkes.edu](mailto:Luke.Modrovsky@wilkes.edu)

## MBB: Colonels inch closer to playoffs with win over DeSales

By Ben Mandell  
Asst. Sports Editor

CENTER VALLEY, Pa. -- The Wilkes University Colonels bounced back with a 72-67 win over the DeSales University Bulldogs. The Colonels came into the game looking to rebound after their modest five game winning streak was snapped on Feb. 3 against Manhattanville.

They entered the game tied with the Bulldogs for first place in the Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) Freedom, both with 8-2 conference records.

"One game does not define us," Colonel Head Coach Izzi Metz said. "We are having an excellent season and we stumbled on the road (in Manhattanville) and we knew we did not play our best."

DeSales came into this game riding high as they had a five game winning streak of their own. The Bulldogs last loss came to the Colonels back on Jan. 17 by a score of 72-66.

The game got off to a good start for the Colonels as Marcus Robinson (18 points) got going early, draining two three-pointers. Robinson's hot start was mixed with good defense and some other nice plays by the rest of the team to put the Colonels on top 14-4 with about 16:30 left in the first half. Following a DeSales timeout, the game quickly turned and after a good run for the Bulldogs, the Colonels 10 point lead turned into a seven point lead for the Bulldogs. A good surge at the end of the first half though helped push the Colonels back on top to the smallest lead possible going into the break, 34-33.

The second half was better for the Colonels as they lead for a majority of the period and the brief time the Colonels trailed, they did not trail by more than four. Robinson continued to drain threes as he hit three more and finished 5-8 from outside the key. Rob Pecorelli (18 points) proved to be a huge player for the Colonels as well as he matched Robinson's point total and provided a big defensive spark with two steals. The second half stayed close, as neither team was able to grab a lead bigger than double digits, and the

Bulldogs kept the game within reach until Rob Pecorelli hit two free throws to put the Colonels up by seven in the final minute.

"It's always a big game coming into DeSales, it's a great shooting gym and I think everyone shot well today," Robinson said. "It's just good to stay locked in and get the win."



The Beacon/Alex Kielar  
Zach Brunner tries to avoid the DeSales defense during Wednesday's road game.

Robinson and company have been playing well all season and the credit belongs to the entire Colonel team between the players and the coaching staff. The players provide the product on the court but the coaches have helped the players reach their full potential.

"We knew we needed to play a more consistent forty minutes, Metz said after the game. "I did not think we did that in Manhattanville and clearly today I think we did that today."

In big games this season, the Colonels have had key players step up this season, whether it is Connor Evans, Marcus Robinson, Rob Pecorelli, Mark Mullins, Zach Brunner or even sixth-men Tommy Bowen and Mason Gross. All of these players have stepped up at some point this season to push the Colonels

**SEE COLONELS,**

**Page 21**

## MBB: Colonels clinch postseason berth with win over Misericordia

By Ben Mandell  
Asst. Sports Editor

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. -- The Wilkes University Colonels clinched a spot in the Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom tournament with their 86-72 win over the Misericordia University Cougars.

"It feels really good to be back," junior Marcus Robinson (23 points) said. "We missed last year and we were there my freshman year, but overall it just feels good to be back."

Robinson dominated once again Saturday, proving to be one of the premier two way players in the MAC Freedom. Robinson showed early on in this game why he is a force to be reckoned with offensively as he was honored for his entry into the Colonels 1,000 point club, then hitting his first two threes to start the game.

The Colonels jumped out to an early lead, but the Cougars stormed back and took a nine point lead. The Colonels were able to do what they do best though and kick it into gear as the first half started to wind down as they took a 31-29 lead. With four seconds left, The Colonels inbounded the ball and Connor Evans (9 points) pulled up behind the arc to hit a three-point buzzer beater going into halftime to push the lead to 34-29.

"When Marcus is going well, the team feeds off of that," Colonels Head Coach Izzi Metz said. "The team loves to see him have success and it fuels the other guys and they continue to play at a high level."

The second half was controlled by the Colonels for the most part, as the Cougars were briefly able to grab the lead behind a valiant effort from the Cougars Tony Harding (25 points), who hurt his ankle in the first half. Harding's effort was not enough to slow the Colonels though as they surged behind

Robinson, Zach Brunner (20 points), and Rob Pecorelli (15 points). The Colonels started to create separation on the scoreboard around the four minute mark and they were able to put the game to bed with a minute left when the Cougars Head Coach Willie Chandler was called for technical foul for arguing with an official.



The Beacon/Luke Modrovsky  
Connor Evans sinks a three-pointer at the buzzer to close out the first half.

"I knew it was going to be a hard fought game," Metz said. "Misericordia is too good of a team to not come in here and play a good game. They made their shots, and it really took us until the ten minute mark in the second half to get our defense going."

The win puts the Colonels into the MAC Freedom tournament and with two games left to play, the Colonels look to lock up home court. They control their own destiny, as they sit alone atop of the conference, but they still need to win at least one more game to secure the home court advantage.

"Of course you'd rather play at home for a lot of reasons," Metz explained. "You don't have to travel, you can sleep in your own bed, and it's your fans that are cheering behind you."

The Colonels have enjoyed their home court at the Marts Center where they boast a 9-1 (6-0 conference) record.

"[Home Court] definitely means a lot," senior Zach Brunner said. "But we still have two games left to get there so we're moving on to King's on Tuesday."

Misericordia did end up clinching the tournament as well as Eastern and DeSales following the King's loss, so the four teams making up the tournament now will fight for higher seeds.

**SEE CLINCHED,**

**Page 21**

# MVB: Colonels drop first-ever MAC home opener to Messiah

By Kirsten Peters  
Staff Writer

On Feb. 8, the Colonels took on the Messiah College Falcons in their first MAC home match, falling in three straight sets (25-13, 25-17, 25-19), advancing the Falcons' record to 3-1 overall and 2-0 in the conference.

Although the Colonels improved as each set went on, they were unable to gain the lead in any of the three sets.

In the first set, the Falcons started off with a six point lead, demonstrating their dominance from the beginning. However, a kill by sophomore Cole Hefner got the ball rolling for the Colonels, putting them on the board 6-1. Later in the set, senior Michael Henne had a kill of his own to get the Colonels within four points of the Falcons' lead, making the set 11-7. But the Colonels were unsuccessful in making a comeback.

In the second set, the Colonels battled back from a five point deficit to get within one point

of Messiah's lead. During this run, senior Brian Schumacher and Hefner each had a kill and junior Jones Mensah had a powerful attack down the right sideline, helping to close in on the Falcons' lead. However, the Falcons picked up steam once the Colonels were on their trail, pulling out the 25-17 victory.

"I think the biggest thing we took away from that game as a team was that we finally saw the level we have the potential to play at. In the second set, we started to get excited and have a lot of fun with the game, which is something I don't think we really did until that point in the season," reflected middle hitter Schumacher. "Everyone was confident in each other's abilities and we started passing a lot better and generating some really good offense. As long as we can remember to play with that same energy, I think there's definitely still time left to turn our season around and start winning some games."

With a fire in their stomachs, the Colonels ended the match with their best set of the night. In the third set, the Falcons took an early 5-1 lead, but two kills by Mensah and a kill by senior Daniel Sales, who is third in the conference with

80 kills and is second on the team with 81 assists and 35 digs, started the comeback stretch for



The Beacon/Kirsten Peters  
Junior Kyle Price readies his hands during Thursday's match against Messiah.

the Colonels. By working together, the Colonels were able to tie the set 7-7 with an ace by Henne. Yet, this tie was as close as the Colonels would get to tasting victory, as the Falcons responded to Henne's ace with four consecutive points of their own. Although the Colonels had their best offensive set of the match, they were unable to come out on top, losing the third set 25-19.

Despite losing the match 3-0, the Colonels had a solid night statistically: Sales recorded his second double-double of the season and the ninth of his career with 10 kills and 11

assists, junior Kyle Price led the Colonels' digs with nine, Henne had a career-high eight digs, sophomore Salvatore Purpura recorded 14 assists, and Mensah and Schumacher each tacked on four kills.

However, Wilkes's efforts were not enough to overcome the impressive performances of Messiah's senior Logan Hunsberger who had 11 kills and seven digs and junior Brad Nase who had 30 assists, causing the Colonels record to fall to 2-7 overall and 0-2 in the conference.

Come support the Colonels at their next home conference match against Misericordia on Feb. 14, as Schumacher notes, "It was a lot of fun playing in front of some family and friends, so any support from the Wilkes community moving forward this season would mean a lot to us."

**Messiah 3, Wilkes 0**

**Messiah 25 25 25 -- 3**

**Wilkes 13 17 19 -- 0**

**Leaders**

**Messiah --** Kills: Logan Hunsberger (11), Aces: Matt Knab (3), Blocks: Jarred Sands (3), Assists: Brad Nase (30), Digs: Hunsberger (7).

**Wilkes --** Kills: Daniel Sales (10), Aces: Michael Henne (1), Blocks: Brian Schumacher (2), Assists: Salvatore Purpura (14), Digs: Kyle Price (9).



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## Wilkes Winter Sports Schedules

### Wrestling

11/3 vs. Millersville L 24-25  
11/4 @ King's, 10th place  
11/11 vs. Suny Cortland, L 20-23  
vs. NYU, L 6-34  
vs. Hunter College, W 38-6  
11/18 vs. Heidelberg, L, 23-28  
@ Mount Union, L, 9-33  
vs. Alma, W, 34-8  
vs. Baldwin Wallace, L, 3-43  
vs. Greensboro, W, 31-13  
12/2 vs. Southern Virginia, W, 35-9  
vs. McDaniel College, W 25-12  
12/8 vs. Elizabethtown, W, 24-19  
12/10 @ Stevens Institute, L, 16-29  
vs. LIU Post, L, 3-38  
12/22 Wilkes Open  
1/4 vs. North Central, L, 6-32  
vs. Chicago, L, 17-24  
vs. Ohio Northern, L, 18-24  
1/11 vs. Penn Tech, W, 43-9  
vs. Lackawanna College, W, 41-10  
1/20 MAC Champ. @ King's, 3rd Place  
1/28 John Reese Duals  
vs. William & Jefferson, W, 30-19  
vs. RIT, W, 22-21  
vs. SUNY Oneonta, L, 20-24  
2/2 @ College of NJ, L, 6-42  
2/3 Messiah Open  
2/9 vs. Ithaca, L, 3-40  
2/11 vs. King's, W, 44-6

### Men's Swimming

10/7 vs. William Paterson, L 98-108  
10/14 Colonel Sprint Invite, 1st place  
\*10/20 @ Arcadia, L, 44-142  
10/21 vs. Mount Saint Mary, W, 152-97  
\*10/28 vs. Stevenson, W, 117-20  
\*11/5 @ Lebanon Valley, W, 128-61  
vs. Dickinson, L, 88-106  
\*11/11 vs. FDU-Florham, W, 126-72  
11/18, 11/19 Diamond Invite, 5th place  
\*12/3 @ Lycoming, L, 84-173  
12/8 vs. PSU-Altoona, W, 110-70  
\*1/13 @ Misericordia, L, 108-139  
\*1/20 @ Messiah, L, 65-125  
1/27 vs. SUNY-Cobleskill, W 135-86  
vs. SUNY-Delhi, W, 155-37  
2/3 vs. King's, L, 68-130  
2/15-2/18 MAC Championships  
\*-MAC  
Home meets @ Wilkes-Barre  
Record: 7-7  
(MAC: 3-5)

### WREST (Continued)

2/16 vs. Scranton @ King's, 12:00 p.m.  
2/17 vs. Keystone @ Scranton, 12:00 p.m.  
Home matches @ Marts Center  
Record: 11-14  
Results through 2/11



### Women's Swimming

10/14 Colonel Sprint Invite, 3rd place  
\*10/20 @ Arcadia, L, 42-136  
10/21 vs. Mount Saint Mary's, L, 79-151  
\*10/28 vs. Stevenson, L, 61-104  
\*11/5 @ Lebanon Valley, L, 57-136  
vs. Dickinson, 57-111  
\*11/11 vs. FDU-Florham, L, 77-90  
11/18-11/19 Diamond Invite, 9th place  
\*12/3 @ Lycoming, L, 74-164  
12/8 vs. PSU-Altoona, L, 85-88  
\*1/13 @ Misericordia, L, 48-199  
\*1/20 @ Messiah, L, 46-114  
1/27 vs. SUNY Cobleskill, W, 103-85  
vs. SUNY-Delhi, W, 102-36  
\*2/3 vs. King's, L, 37-155  
2/15-2/18 MAC Championships  
\*-MAC  
Home meets @ Wilkes-Barre CYC  
Record: 2-11  
(MAC: 0-8)

### MVB (Continued):

\*4/4 @ Messiah, 7:00 p.m.  
4/7 vs. City College of New York, 11:00 a.m.  
\*-MAC  
Home games @ Marts Center  
Record: 2-9  
(MAC: 0-3)

### Men's Volleyball

1/17 @ Lancaster Bible, L, 1-3  
1/19 @ St. John Fisher, L, 0-3  
1/20 @ Endicott College, L, 0-3  
@ Bard College, W, 3-1  
1/24 vs. Loras College, L, 0-3  
1/27 vs. Wilson College, L, 0-3  
vs. Bard College, W, 3-1  
\*2/3 @ Stevenson, L, 0-3  
\*2/8 vs. Messiah, L, 0-3  
\*2/10 @ Arcadia, L, 1-3  
vs. Kean, L 0-3  
2/11 vs. Hunter College, 1:00 p.m.  
vs. Mount Saint Vincent, 3:00 p.m.  
\*2/14 vs. Misericordia, 4:00 p.m.  
vs. York College, 8:00 p.m.  
\*2/21 vs. Alvernia, 7:00 p.m.  
2/23 @ York College, 8:00 p.m.  
2/25 vs. New Jersey City, 11:00 a.m.  
vs. Keuka College, 3:00 p.m.  
\*2/28 @ Widener, 7:00 p.m.  
3/15 @ Lehman College, 7:00 p.m.  
\*3/17 @ Alvernia, 12:00 p.m.  
\*3/21 vs. Widener, 7:00 p.m.  
\*3/24 vs. Stevenson, 2:00 p.m.  
\*3/27 @ Misericordia, 7:00 p.m.  
\*3/29 vs. Arcadia, 7:00 p.m.





# Colonel Athletics in Brief

By Luke Modrovsky  
Sports Editor

2/8

**WBB:** Desales took control against the Lady Colonels by grabbing a commanding 51-28 halftime lead before extending its victory to 89-46. Sophomore Gianna Roberts led the Lady Colonels' attack with 10 points and eight rebounds. The game was Wilkes' first that the Lady Colonels did not make a three-pointer.

**MBB:** See page 19.

**MVB:** See page 20.

2/9

**WREST:** No. 3 Ithaca dominated the Colonels 40-3 as the Bombers scored seven bouns point wins. Junior Josh Evans was the only Colonel to win and did so by a 5-0 decision.

2/10

**WBB:** Visiting Misericordia used a 29-11 third quarter to fly past the Lady Colonels in a 87-54 final. Senior Catey McFadden led Wilkes with a game high 13 points.

**MVB:** The Colonels dropped two matches against Arcadia (12-25, 16-25, 26-24, 16-25) and No. 8 Kean (25-20, 25-11, 25-15) on the first of two days in the Arcadia Knight Challenge. Senior Brian Schumacher tied his career high nine kills in the match against Arcadia and sophomore Salvatore Purpura passed a team-high 15 assists.

**MBB:** See page 19.

## 2017-18 MAC Freedom Conference Standings

### Men's Basketball:

MAC Freedom	Conf.	Overall
<b>Wilkes*</b>	<b>10-2</b>	<b>17-6</b>
DeSales*	9-3	18-5
Eastern*	8-4	13-10
Misericordia*	8-4	13-10
King's	6-6	10-13
Delaware Valley	3-9	5-18
Manhattanville	2-10	8-15
FDU - Florham	2-10	2-21

\*Clinched Conference Tournament Berth

### Women's Basketball

MAC Freedom	Conf.	Overall
FDU - Florham*	10-2	17-6
King's	9-3	14-9
Manhattanville	8-4	18-5
Misericordia	8-4	15-8
DeSales	8-4	13-10
Delaware Valley	4-8	7-16
Eastern	1-11	4-19
<b>Wilkes</b>	<b>0-12</b>	<b>4-19</b>

\*Clinched Conference Tournament Berth

## Sports

## COLONELS,

### Continued from page 19

to victory. These players for the Colonels all have the same mindset, whether they are the team's top scorer in Robinson, or the big man Zach Brunner.

"We're just trying to get better every day," Brunner said. "We want to keep playing our best ball so we're going to go to practice tomorrow and keep getting better."

### Wilkes 72, Desales 67

**Wilkes (72)** -- Marcus Robinson 6 1-3 18, Rob Pecorelli 5 6-9 18, Connor Evans 4 3-5 12, Mark Mullins 5 0-0 10, Zach Brunner 4 0-0 8, Mason Gross 1 4-6 6, Tommy Bowen 0 0-2 0, John Goffredo 0 0-0 0, Landon Henry 0 0-0 0, Jack Bova 0 0-0 0. **Totals 25 14-25 72.**

**Desales (67)** -- Connor Jones 9 0-0 21, Tracy Simsick 4 4-7 14, Luke Connaghan 3 3-6 9, Kweku Dawson-Amoah 2 3-4 7, Steven Ciotti 0 0-0 0, Ben Pratt 2 1-4 5, Julian Wing 2 0-0 4, Shaundell Fishburne 1 2-2 4, Mike Bealer 1 0-0 3, James Smith 0 0-0 0, Alex House 0 0-0 0. **Totals 24 13-23 67.**

**Halftime score** -- Wilkes 34-33.

**Three-point goals** -- WIL 8 (Robinson 5, Pecorelli 2, Evans); DES 6 (Jones 3, Simsick 2, Bealer).



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## CLINCHED,

### Continued from page 19

The Colonels will continue the journey towards the top seed in the MAC Freedom as they head across town to King's College in the "Battle for the Barre". The Colonels took the first meeting between these two teams 76-64 following an explosive second half from the Colonels.

The Monarchs are now officially eliminated from the MAC Freedom tournament but they will still look to spoil the Colonels chances at the top seed.

### Wilkes 86, Misericordia 72

**Misericordia (72)** -- Tony Harding 10 1-4 25, Jason Kenny 6 4-5 18, Stone McCreary 5 0-0 12, Noah Rivers 1 4-6 6, Tre' Fields 1 2-3 4, Tyerell Mann 2 2-3 7, Patrick Douthit 0 0-0 0, Brendan Leonard 0 0-0 0, Bryce Mondorff 0 0-0 0. **Totals 25 13-21 72.**

**Wilkes (86)** -- Marcus Robinson 5 9-9 23, Zach Brunner 10 0-0 20, Rob Pecorelli 6 0-3 15, Connor Evans 1 6-9 9, Mark Mullins 3 2-5 8, Landon Henry 2 0-0 5, Tommy Bowen 2 0-0 4, Mason Gross 1 0-0 2, Jack Bova 0 0-0 0, John Goffredo 0 0-0 0. **Totals 30 17-26 86.**

**Halftime score** -- Wilkes 34-29.

**Three-point goals** -- MIS 9 (Harding 4, Kenny 2, McCreary 2, Mann); WIL 9 (Robinson 4, Pecorelli 3, Evans, Henry).



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# Wilkes Winter Sports Schedules

## Women's Basketball

11/15 @ Rutgers-Camden, L, 54-83  
11/17 vs. Marywood, W, 70-59  
11/18 vs. U. of Scranton, L, 43-78  
11/21 vs. PSU Wilkes-Barre, W, 72-51  
11/30 @ Moravian, L, 57-80  
12/4 @ Rutgers-Newark, L, 43-59  
12/5 vs. Valley Forge, W, 89-76  
12/7 vs. PSU-Schuylkill, L, 56-61  
12/9 vs. Juniata, L, 44-77  
\*1/3 @ FDU-Florham, L, 59-90  
\*1/6 vs. Manhattanville, L, 38-93  
1/8 @ PSU-Hazleton, W, 93-79  
\*1/10 @ Delaware Valley, L, 71-83  
\*1/13 @ Eastern, L, 79-93  
\*1/17 vs. DeSales, L, 36-101  
\*1/20 vs. King's, L, 59-75

1/22 @Alvernia, L, 60-65  
\*1/24 @ Misericordia, L, 33-89  
\*1/27 vs. Delaware Valley, L, 61-67  
\*1/31 vs. FDU-Florham, L, 63-104  
\*2/3 @Manhattanville, L, 45-63  
\*2/7 @ DeSales, L, 46-89  
\*2/10 vs. Misericordia, L, 54-87  
\*2/13 @ King's, 6:00 p.m.  
\*2/17 vs. Eastern, 1:00 p.m.

\*-MAC Freedom  
Home games @ Marts Center  
**Record: 4-19**  
**(MAC-Freedom: 0-12)**

Results through 2/11

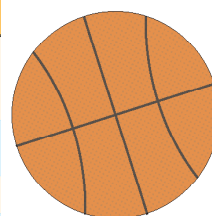
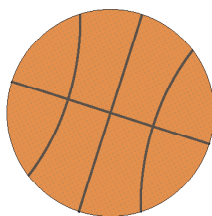
## Men's Basketball

11/15 vs. PSU-Hazleton, W, 83-58  
11/18 @ Elizabethtown, W, 86-75  
11/21 vs. PSU-WB, W, 74-65  
11/25 @ Marywood, L, 64-74  
11/26 @ U. of Scranton, W-52-45  
11/29 @ Drew, W, 87-80  
12/2 vs. Messiah, L, 64-67  
12/5 vs. Clarks Summit, W, 86-64  
12/19 @ Albright, L, 65-72  
12/28 @ Hiram, L, 85-94  
12/29 @ Norwich, W, 97-74  
\*1/3 @ FDU-Florham, W, 75-52  
\*1/6 vs. Mahattanville, W, 73-68  
\*1/10 @ Delaware Valley, W 78-69  
\*1/13 @ Eastern, L, 76-91  
\*1/17 vs. Desales, W, 72-66  
\*1/20 vs. King's, W, 76-64

\*1/24 @ Misericordia, W, 87-82 (OT)  
\*1/27 vs. Delware Valley, W, 58-57  
\*1/31 vs. FDU-Florham, W, 86-59  
\*2/3 @ Manhattanville, L, 63-73  
\*2/7 @ Desales, W, 72-67  
\*2/10 vs. Misericordia, W, 86-72  
\*2/13 @ King's, 8:00 p.m.  
\*2/17 @ Eastern, 3:00 p.m.

\*-MAC Freedom  
Home games @ Marts Center  
**Record: 17-6**  
**(MAC-Freedom: 10-2)**

Results through 2/11





Getting to know...

# Kelsey Yustat

## Sophomore Basketball Player

**The Beacon: Female Athlete of the Week 1/28 - 2/4**

**Why Kelsey Yustat was selected:** Kelsey Yustat scored a career-high nine points off the bench in a loss to FDU-Florham on Wednesday, 1/31. Congratulations, Kelsey!

**What head coach Chris Heery said:** “Kelsey works as hard as you can ask a player to work and that hard work has been paying off.”

**Name:** Kelsey Yustat  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Nursing  
**Hometown:** Hunlock Creek, Pa.  
**High School:** Northwest Area  
**Position:** Point Guard/Shooting Guard

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

I transferred to Wilkes during my sophomore year to pursue their nursing program and to be closer to home.

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

I plan to work in the nursing field and specialize in psychiatric nursing. Eventually I want to go back to school to become a nurse practitioner.

**Favorite building on campus?**

Bursar’s office because everyone who works there is fantastic!

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

I hope to make a positive impact in every game and that my individual game gets stronger throughout the season.

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

I began playing on a basketball team in 4th grade but my family really got me into playing as soon as I was able to dribble. I come from a family that loves sports so I have grown up around them forever. Basketball has definitely always been my favorite, though.

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

Going to the movies, spending time with friends and family, going to amusement parks.

**Most influential person in your life?**

My mom

**A quote you live your life by?**

“When you trip in life make it part of your dance.”

**If you could have dinner with a famous person from the past, who would it be?**

Michael Jackson

**Coke or Pepsi?**

Pepsi

**Favorite meal to eat on campus?**

Grilled cheese and curly fries from Grill Works

**Favorite Professor?**

Dr. Grandinetti

**Anyone to give a shout-out to?**

Maddo and Jordyrox

-Complied by Alex Kiehar, Asst. Sports Editor

*Editor’s note: This year’s Athlete of the Week is narrowed down to two candidates by the sports staff. The two final candidates are then voted on by peers using a Twiter poll @WilkesBeacon*  
*Additionally, at the end of the academic year, we will post a reader poll to crown an “Athlete of the Year”.*



Getting to know...

# Rob Pecorelli

## Sophomore Basketball Player

**The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week 1/28 - 2/4**

**Why Rob Pecorelli was selected:** Rob reached double-digits against both FDU-Florham and Manhattanville and led the Colonels in scoring with 17 points in their victory over FDU-Florham on Jan. 31. Congratulations, Rob.

**What head coach Izzi Metz said:** “Rob has had a very good sophomore year. He has emerged as one of our top backcourt playmakers and scorers this season. His positive attitude and enthusiasm for his teammates make him a pleasure to coach and a very popular person in our locker room.”

**Name:** Rob Pecorelli

**Year:** Sophomore

**Major:** Business Management

**Hometown:** Greenlawn, Ny.

**High School:** Harborfields HS

**Position:** Shooting Guard

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

Opportunity for success

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

Working in New York City

**Favorite building on campus?**

Marts Center

**What came first? The chicken or the egg?**

Chicken no doubt

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

MAC Championship

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

1st Grade because my brother was playing and I also wanted to.

**Favorite thing to do during practice?**

Enjoying time with my best friends.

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

Watching sports, hanging out with my friends and time traveling

**Most influential person in your life?**

My dad and brother

**A quote you live your life by?**

“Life is short, smile while you still have teeth.”

**What does “Be Colonel” mean to you?**

Being the best you can be everyday

**If you could have dinner with a famous person, who would it be?**

Post Malone or Kristaps Porzingis

**Coke or Pepsi?**

Coke

**Favorite meal to eat on campus?**

Omelette for breakfast

**Anyone to give a shout-out to?**

My mom and the 6-Pack

*-Complied by Alex Kielar, Asst. Sports Editor*

*Editor's note: This year's Athlete of the Week is narrowed down to two candidates by the sports staff. The two final candidates are then voted on by peers using a Twitter poll @WilkesBeacon.*

*Additionally, at the end of the academic year, we will post a reader poll to crown an “Athlete of the Year”.*



# Hobart assistant introduced as new coach

By Luke Modrovsky  
Sports Editor


From a total of 247 applicants, Jonathan Drach saw his application rise to the top and is now the new leader for Colonel Football. His experience includes spending the last 11 years at Hobart College. He began as the quarterbacks coach before adding the offensive coordinator title in 2014. The Statesmen saw six Liberty League Conference championships, seven NCAA playoff appearances (two Sweet Sixteens and one Elite Eight), and three consecutive undefeated regular seasons during Drach's time there. The ninth head coach of Wilkes Football contributed to a 92-24 record over the past 11 seasons. Drach also coached the Liberty League Offensive Player of the Year in 2007, 2014, 2016 and 2017, as well as the ECAC Offensive Player of the Year in 2007 and 2016. Not only did Drach mention the on-the-field aspect, but also said he plans to focus on academic success as well. "I am so thankful to have the opportunity to

lead the Wilkes University football program," Drach said. "I look forward to being a part of such a dynamic academic community that offers students the opportunity to be successful on and off the field." Looking back on his previous successes, Drach said he has many people to thank for where he stands today, as he mentioned he has not gotten there alone. "I've learned a lot and had a lot of really great mentors," Drach said. "At the same time, to be able to have my own program, to kind of take this in a new direction. I'm looking forward to really getting my hands on these guys and provide a lot of value for them." Drach hopes to carry over his winning culture at Hobart to Wilkes.



Drach

"Success breeds success," Drach said. "I really want to surround our guys with a lot of successful people from our alumni base, to people on campus and really give them a lot of exposure." His focus for Wilkes football will be for the team to compete each and every day. "As a team, we will look to continually improve and be process driven as we compete on and off the field," Drach said. "I am eager to start working with the team and complete the incoming recruiting class for 2018." "When most of the eastern half of the Commonwealth is celebrating the Eagles and their Super Bowl, we're having our very own football celebration at Wilkes," Vice President

of Student Affairs Dr. Paul Adams said. President Dr. Patrick Leahy said he was impressed of both Drach's personal and professional backgrounds. "It's the combination of the two that makes him such a great fit for what I believe is a University on the move." Leahy also reflected on the hill next to the east endzone of Schmidt Stadium, stating that he believes Drach's young children will spend plenty of time there. "Equal to the accomplishments on the field, Coach Drach is committed to student-athlete success off the field, and that was so noted by the players that sit before us," Athletic Director Addy Malatesta said of the search. According to the Wilkes Athletics website, Colonel Football remains without two key coaching positions, offensive coordinator and defensive coordinator." Wilkes Football kicks off their season on Sept. 1 at Schmidt Stadium against Hartwick College.  @wilkesbeacon  
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