

The Beacon - February 28, 2017

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Association Member
Volume 70 Issue 11

THE BEACON

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

Colonels run the bases against Penn State

Full story on page 19

The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

News

Have a breaking story or a press release to send? Contact the news editor: alyssa.mursch@wilkes.edu

Beacon Briefs

Make Magic at the Cinderella's Closet Runway Show

AmeriCorps VISTA, the Office of Civic Engagement and the Office of Diversity Initiatives invite you to donate and/or model beautiful, gently used prom attire at the Cinderella's Closet runway event on April 7 at 6 p.m. Items needed include dresses, tuxes, suits, pants, ties, and shoes. If interested in being a model or donating clothing, please contact Justin Davis (justin.davis@wilkes.edu) or Erica Acosta (erica.acosta@wilkes.edu).

Ash Wednesday Service Will Be Held March 1

An Ash Wednesday Prayer Service will be held on Wednesday, March 1 at 8:30 a.m. in the Savitz Lounge. Ashes will also be available on a walk-in basis until 4 p.m. in the Interfaith Office, located on the second floor of the Henry Student Center.

Please contact Kristin Osipower at the Interfaith Office at kristin.osipower@wilkes.edu or by calling extension 5904 for a list of additional Ash Wednesday services in the downtown Wilkes-Barre area.

Mentoring Project Funding Grant Applications

Information regarding Mentoring Project Fund grants for the 2017-2018 academic year can be found online at <http://wilkes.edu/about-wilkes/university-committees/mentoring-committee/funding-requests.aspx/> under the title Mentoring Project Funding for 2017-2018.

Applications are due to the Mentoring Committee on March 14. The Committee's goal is to complete its review of applications by April 3. Members of the Mentoring Committee are Paul Adams, Ajay Bommarreddy, Janet Frascella, Woojun Lee, Paul Reinert, Debbie Tindell and Brian Whitman.

Save the Date for Career Day

Come to Career Day on Tuesday, Mar. 14 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in UCOM-RAC. Career Day features recruitment/information tables from organizations seeking employees, interns and volunteers. A variety of employers are registering, so get your professional attire and resume ready. Stop in at Career Services in Conyngham 215 on Walk-in Wednesdays for a Resume Guide or feedback. You can also email us at careers@wilkes.edu for an appointment. Any questions can be directed to Wilkes University Career Services at (careers@wilkes.edu or 570-408-4060) or visit their website. For jobs and resume tips, visit College Central Network.

Wilkes University Student Government notes

Staff Report

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

The Pre-Pharmacy Club reported that there are 40 to 50 active members. The club is selling T-shirts and coffee mugs, and it will be taking part in the Big Event this year.

The Chemistry Club then presented its report. The club participates in WEBS, adventures in science, passport to science, Pre-Med Day. The members also show chemistry experiments to elementary school children. The club did a Chipotle and Buffalo Wild Wings fundraiser and plans to hold a paint and cider night next Thursday. It currently has 30 total members.

The Education Club reported that it will be holding its fundraisers in the SUB. The fundraisers include Krispy Kreme, shirt sales, bake sales and tumbler sales. The club is also holding a Chipotle fundraiser on March 14.

The PBL presented week 2 of 2 for a conference fund request. The request was originally for \$1,500 for 15 people to attend the Harrisburg competition that the club competes in every year; however, three of the students might not be able to attend, thus making the amount needed to cover registration costs \$1,200.

The club contended that the conference helps publicize Wilkes University's name.

There was a motion to allocate \$1,500 with the stipulation that any unused money comes back to Student Government. The motion passed 30-0-3.

The Chemistry Club then presented week 1 of 2 for a fund request. The club requested \$2,500 to go toward the annual ACS trip in San Francisco. Five students will be attending and two students will be presenting research, and the club will be receiving an award for Outstanding Chemistry Club at the conference.

The Education Club came in for week 1 of 2 for a fund request for a PSEA conference in Pittsburgh from March 30 to April 1. The group is requesting \$1,400 for registration and gas.

The Finance Club Recognition then presented for week 1 of 2 for a fund request. The club is currently split between the investment club and personal finance clubs. The investment club is based off of a \$25,000 donation from an alumni that they have invested in a brokerage account, and is now worth about \$50,000 over 10 years. The investment club is requesting a personal finance aspect to be funded by Student Government to allow for more involvement in the community.

Casino Week presented week 2 of 2 for a fund request. A motion was made to allocate

\$11,000 for Casino Week. The motion passed 32-0-1.

Paige was named Student Government member of the month, and Geo-Explore was named club of the month.

Upcoming events include: WUPB Bingo on March 23, Petitions out for new Student Government members on March 1, WUPB Club Hours Giveaway on March 2, Petitions due on March 15, Ballots out on March 16, WUPB Spring Concert on March 19, Ballots closed March 22 and Installment of new members on March 23.

Committees then came in to make comments. Ellen spoke on behalf of the library to update Student Government about strategic plans for library renovations.

Austin presented on behalf of SLAM. The interfaith coordinator came in and said she was bringing in speakers and hopes to start a student ministry at St. Nicks.

Allie Grudeski presented that the operations committee discussed the Karembeles Center.

The treasurer's report is as follows: All College: \$15,267.82, General Funds: \$8,545.03, Conference: \$237.74 and Spirit: \$699.40 for a SG total of \$24,749.99.


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Breaking down a political buzzword: Exploring fascism

By Toni Pennello
Asst. News Editor

On Nov. 29, Merriam-Webster Dictionary tweeted, "Fascism" is still our #1 lookup. # of lookups = how we choose our Word of the Year. There's still time to look something else up."

By the end of the year, their pleas were heeded: The word 'fascism' was trumped by the word "surreal," as far as number of lookups go.

Peter Sokolowski, editor-at-large for Merriam-Webster, told The Guardian in December, "Spikes of interest in a word are usually triggered by a single event. So what's truly remarkable this year about 'surreal' is that so many different stories led people to look it up."

It's possible that the same can be said for surreal's runner up.

Fascism has arguably become something of a buzzword - it's been written in op-eds, shared on the internet and written on protest signs a disproportionate amount in recent months.

What is fascism? Why is everyone suddenly talking about it so much?

Before throwing the word at President Donald Trump and his supporters, as many have, it's important to understand what it really means, why it is that the term seems applicable and why it might not be.

The aforementioned dictionary defines fascism as "an authoritarian and nationalistic right-wing system of government and social organization." However, as Assistant Professor of Global History and Languages Dr. Jonathan Kuiken puts it, there is a lot of "fuzziness" surrounding the definition in a practical sense.

"Part of the reason why it's so easy to use that term is that it looks really different in different countries. There's not really one set of fascist ideas," Kuiken said. "In some places it takes the form of ultra-patriotic nationalism, in some places it even has a certain kind of religious messianic kind of thing."

Kuiken used the example of Nazi Germany, one that most people are familiar with, where fascism took the form of racial hatred.

"Some things that kind of unify all of these different forms of fascism is a rejection of difference. You have to be the same in some way shape or form, either you all have to be Aryan racially as Hitler would say, or you all have to be super nationalistic, or whatever," he explained.

Besides the gray area that defines what

fascism is, leaving room for speculation and interpretation of reality, Kuiken feels that the word is being used more often than in the past because of the unorthodox nature of Trump's presidency.

"I think whether you like them or not, everybody has to agree that they've thrown the traditional political playbook out of the window. That's part of the reason people like Trump, and that's part of the reason that people dislike him," he said, adding that the shock associated with the election could

a thing, is not going to look like 1930s fascism," he said. "If we spend our time looking for Hitler, we're never going to see it."

Kuiken stated that instead of looking for Hitler, people should be looking for infringements on freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of movement and freedom of the press, as well as the attempt to control judges. If that becomes the case, Kuiken said, perhaps it would be the time to worry.



The Beacon/Gabby Glinski

have created crisis for some Americans.

"Trump operates differently. I think that's what's alarming to people, and exhilarating to people, too," Kuiken said.

Kuiken reiterated that Trump is not the reason why Americans should be wary of fascism, and that there is always reason to defend democracy and pay attention to threats. He added that the institutions of the United States are not strong on their own, but because people follow them.

"Should we be afraid of fascism? No, because fear is poison. But we should be on guard," he said.

"Twenty-first century fascism, if that's

But do Americans even still want democracy?

In considering this question, Dr. Thomas Baldino, professor of political science cited an article published by the Washington Post last April titled "Do Americans Still Believe in Democracy?" which included survey data collected by AmericasBarometer.

AmericasBarometer is a project of the Latin American Public Opinion Project which measures democratic public opinion in the Americas (North, Central, South and the Caribbean).

The data indicates a trend suggesting that residents of the United States are becoming

skeptical of traditional democratic values, such as political tolerance and support of the political system.

"Now you've opened the door to 'why do we need this particular form of government? Maybe a strong man system... a strong, powerful leader... is what we need.'" Baldino speculated.

Baldino, along with other experts that he's read, seem to think that if fascism were to occur in the United States, it would be not with a bang, but with a whisper.

"We don't believe that what might come to America would be fascism per se - what's more likely to happen is that Americans willingly give up some of their rights, freedoms, to a powerful leader and, in the process, America would transform itself," Baldino said.

He explained that this makes sense, since the most basic reason for having government is to provide order and security.

"If enough people feel that they are unsafe, insecure, fearful... sure, some 'strong man' comes along and says, 'I will make you feel safe. This is how we're gonna do it: no free press, no freedom of speech, we'll be able to lock people up without a trial.'"

Baldino said that it is way too early to be afraid of fascism, and that there are not enough of the warning signs associated.

He also encourages students and citizens in general to consume as much unbiased news as possible, and to make an effort to consume media that leans toward the opposite of their party affiliation.

While America remains a democracy, Kuiken said the issue of modern fascism is showing its face rather blatantly in Europe.

"If you look at what's happening in Europe, it's actually quite terrifying," he said. "There are groups who are practically covering themselves in the fascism banner that are doing quite well."

The National Front Party, present in France and whose imagery and ideas have been regarded by some as eerily similar to that used by the fascist regime in France during World War II, has been at the forefront as its leader Marine Le Pen is running for president. Kuiken says it looks like she might win.

The popular notion is that history repeats itself. Kuiken prefers the quote, usually attributed to Mark Twain, "history doesn't repeat itself but it often rhymes."

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Black History Month: The legacy of Malcolm X

By Isaiah McGahee
Staff writer

The room is quiet, those in the audience are waiting anxiously and silently for the speaker to emerge from behind the curtain. A roar of applause fills the room, the audience rises to its feet. A tall, powerfully built man walks to the podium. His very presence, without even uttering a word is commanding.

For just a moment, he stands gazing into the sea of spectators. In a loud, thunderous voice, the phrase "Assalamualaikum" reverberates throughout the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem, New York. "Mualaikumsalam!" in a loud, uniform voice is said in response.

As he begins his address, his thunderous voice sounds introspective and reflective, almost elegiac, yet fearless and unbending. An eloquent and potent speaker, he moves the audience to applause with ease multiple times, his message resonates with the crowd of 400. His wife and daughters are in the audience, sitting, listening, and gazing with admiration.

"Get your hand outta my pocket!" is yelled from within the audience, stopping the address in its tracks. An altercation ensues. The speaker from his pulpit, peacefully tries to resolve the conflict. Suddenly, a sound more powerful than thunder, one more closely resembling an explosion, fills the room. Again, for just one moment, silence...

The silence then gives way to the sound of gunfire and screams. The tall, powerful tree of a speaker, lie on the ground in a pool of blood, cut down in his prime. His wife and his children rush to his side, weeping, calling his name, but to no avail. The



Photo Courtesy of National Park Service

Black History Month was created by Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1926, and originated as "Negro History Week," taking place during the second month of February. Woodson is pictured.

audience, angry, manages to detain and beat one of the assailants. At 3:30 PM, shortly after arriving to Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, he was pronounced dead.

Malcolm X was dead.

Fifty-two years after his assassination, some feel that the legacy of Malcolm X (Formerly Malcolm Little) is as important as ever. In a time of political, social, and ever-present racial unrest, there are lessons to be learned from the slain icon. A former pusher, gambler, racketeer, prostitute, thief, pimp, and eventual convict, X transformed himself in prison through Islam; he became a leader.

Oft "villainized" and sparsely discussed, without X, it's arguable that the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's would have been a microcosm of what it was, evidenced by his substantial following, constant media coverage, a controversial message, and clashes with other Civil Rights leaders.

At the onset, many found X's message and views were radical and divisive. However, like a dynamic character in a good book, his message and mind-set changed as his life progressed. Under the leadership of Elijah Muhammad and the Nation of Islam, X encouraged and preached complete separation of black and white communities, even discriminatory sentiments towards whites.

The antithesis of Martin Luther King Jr. and his other Civil Rights counterparts, X did not favor a completely non-violent approach in the quest for progress. He is quoted as saying: "Be peaceful, be courteous, obey the law, respect everyone; but if someone puts his hand on you, send him to the cemetery."

After leaving the Nation of Islam in 1964 and converting to Sunni Islam, Malcolm X made a pilgrimage to Mecca and shortly thereafter, rejected the Nation of

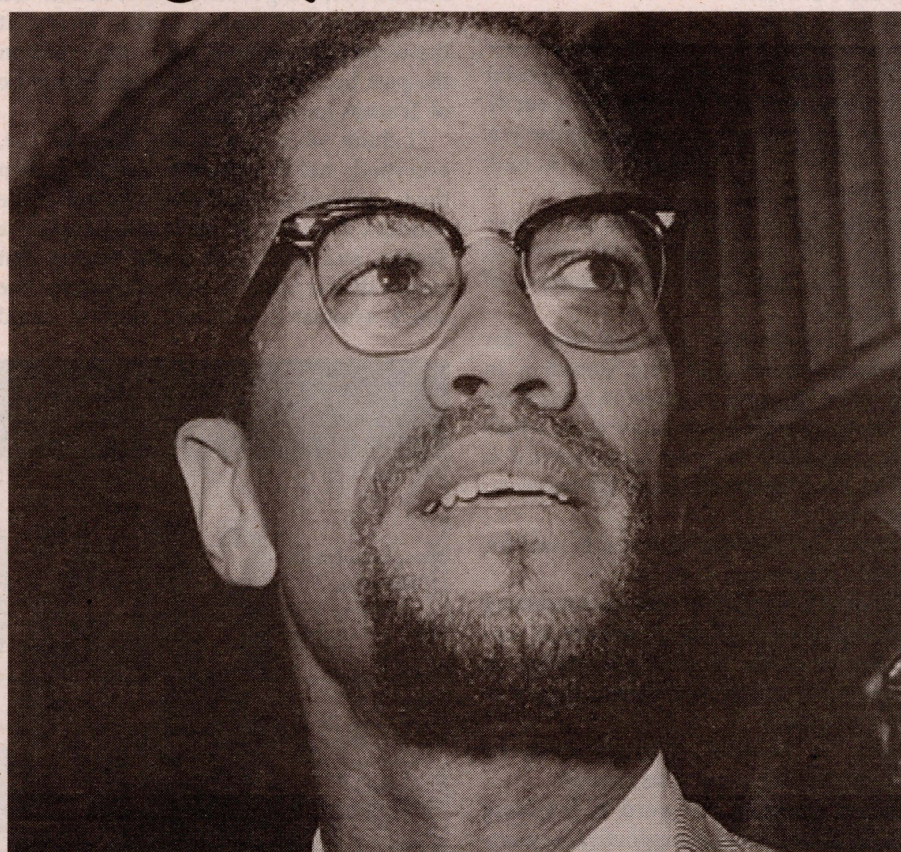


Photo Courtesy of Herman Hiller, World Telegram staff photographer, Library of Congress Collection

Malcolm X, an influential civil rights leader who was assassinated in New York on February 21, 1965.

Islam's sentiments and expressed an earnest and open desire to work with other black leaders in a unified fight for equality.

Just as any other black leader of this time, X's days were numbered and he knew such. It wouldn't be until less than a year later that X's home would be bombed and then he would be assassinated, both by the Nation of Islam.

Dr. Diane Wenger, associate professor and co-chair of global history and languages said, "Even gone, he was an inspiration to Black Power and those who were seizing the moment, who thought Martin Luther King wasn't going far enough. I think he would have been a very positive figure in the (Civil Rights) movement."

Malcolm X sought change and acted upon his desire. Always a student, X said: "I have always been a man who tries to face facts, and to accept the reality of life as new experience and new knowledge unfolds. I have always kept an open mind, a flexibility that must go hand in hand with every form of the intelligent search for truth."


Many feel that Malcom X's fight isn't over. In light of incidents in Ferguson,

Charleston, Miami, Baltimore, and a political administration that many fear will not fight on behalf of minorities, many would argue that Americans must stand together in the light of Malcom X and the leaders of yesteryear.

"(Now) It is important that we examine his (X's) legacy... I don't want to say history repeats itself, but if we don't understand what has unfolded in the past and the adversity that African-Americans faced and overcame, we can't understand their mind sets today," Wenger said.

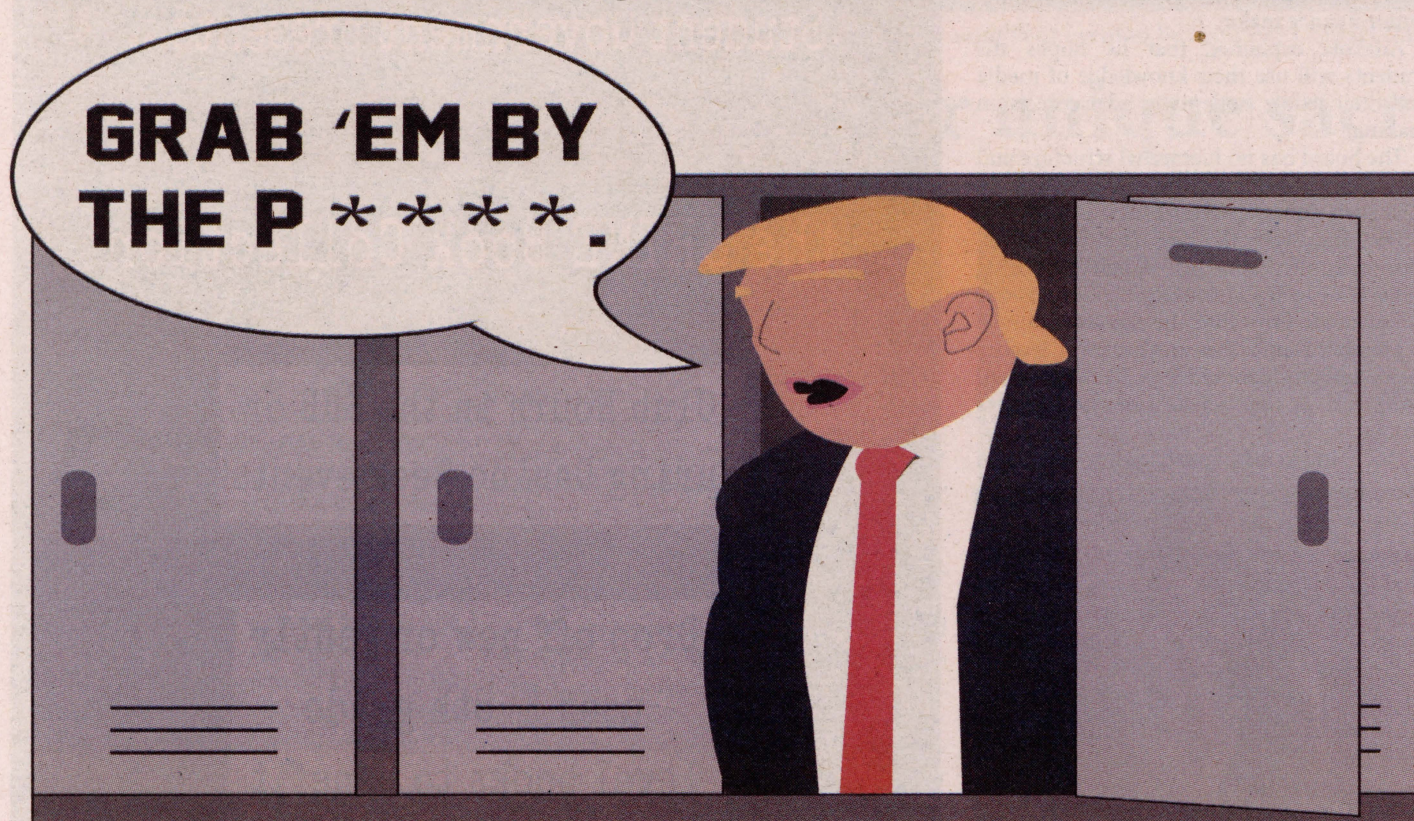
The legacy of Malcolm X continues, especially in the thinking of those in minority communities. In a time where minorities feel their rights are in jeopardy, Wenger said "It's hard to stay patient. A lot of people are saying we can't just sit back, we need to stand up."

Sam Cooke sang it best, "It's been a long time coming, but I know, a change is gonna come."

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Is “locker room talk” an excuse? Discourse analyst weighs in

Webinar addresses gendered language, political implications



The Beacon / Gabby Glinski

By Alyssa Mursch
News Editor

*“I better use some Tic Tacs just in case I start kissing her. You know, I’m automatically attracted to beautiful — I just start kissing them. It’s like a magnet. Just kiss. I don’t even wait. And when you’re a star, they let you do it. You can do anything. Grab ‘em by the p****. You can do anything.”*

This excerpt is from the transcript of a leaked tape that recorded President Donald Trump engaging in what many people excused as “locker room talk.” A controversial topic during his campaign, opponents say it is inexcusable while supporters argue, “boys will be boys,” and that he was not a political figure at the time and had an expectation of privacy. Which side is correct?

Although a matter of opinion, Associate Teaching Professor in the Department of Linguistics at Georgetown University Dr. Jennifer Sclafani presented a webinar titled “Coming Out of the Locker Room: Lessons on Language and Gender from Presidential Politics” to try to tackle this question.

Sclafani’s research focuses on how people use language to construct meaning, navigate social relationships and negotiate social

categories like gender, social class and race. As such, she focuses on linguistics and what language teaches us. One of the first aspects she stressed about the importance of linguistics in the political realm is that it can be used to study how society’s language is shaped. Many people argue, she explained, that presidential language is important because it lays the foundation for what is acceptable for other people who are not in positions of power.

However, a common counterargument is that Trump did not have to practice “presidential speech” at the time the recording was taken, as he was not a candidate for president then. The argument extends further by saying he believed he was in private, simply engaging in playful banter with a colleague, what many refer to as “locker room talk.”

To unpack this, Sclafani first outlined common general language differences among men and women, citing Robin Lakoff as her source. Women, for example, often use hedges, which are words that make affirmative statements sound less taunting. Examples of hedge words are “maybe,” “somewhat” and “perhaps.” Women are also known to use question tags, which is when they make a

declarative statement into a question. Instead of saying, “it’s nice outside,” they might say “it’s nice outside, isn’t it?” Men are more likely to be dominant in a conversation, to interrupt, to create debate, to tell narratives. As a result, women come off as weak and are taken less seriously.

Looking at these common conversational traits, Sclafani found it fair to question if Trump is just a “typical man.” Throughout the election cycle, he was known for his interruptions. Sclafani cited every outlet noting more interruptions of Clinton by Trump than the reverse. He also created debate, she explained, by outlining a “me versus them” storyline in which he was a political outsider. Finally, he told narratives, all of which involved him conquering others. This involved his business deals, Sclafani said, as well as his sexual exploits.

Referring to the conversation at hand as “locker room banter,” eludes that it happened in a private, gender-segregated space and was simply language of male bonding. The problem with this argument, Sclafani explained, is the “leaky boundary” between public and private discourse, meaning that the line is continuously blurred between what is public and private, especially in an

age of such advanced technology.

Although he was on a private bus, he was minutes away from engaging in public discourse and his microphone was on, whether he knew it or not, she explained, making it debatable as to whether or not he was really in private.

The problem is that people have different ideas about the importance of language. Sclafani explained that while some people believe this recording to be exemplary of misogynistic and sexist language, others contest that it was blown out of proportion.


For the future, Sclafani offered suggestions as to what people can do, especially those in the political realm, to avoid these situations.

The first step is to be aware of the differences between men and women and the language they use. The second is to come up with new language, such as terms and phrases that are more politically correct, and be patient as they catch on. Third, recognize the increasingly blurred line between private and public in the age of social media, noting that it is unlikely anything said or done as a public person will likely stay private. Finally, be clear when talking to others about what each person’s linguistic ideology is. This means that some people strongly believe the president should be a role model for others in everything he does, including how he presents himself even in private conversations, but others do not hold him to the same standard.

Ultimately, the question is too great for a quick and easy answer. It depends on a multitude of factors, not the least of which being how men and women are socialized and the linguistic patterns they are taught.

Sclafani studies discourse analysis, which she defines as studying the language above and beyond the sentence. Language above the sentence refers to conversations, arguments, stories and the like. Language beyond the sentence refers to what the social context is, the channel of communication, the setting, the speaker’s purpose, the audience, etc.

Sclafani teaches courses in sociolinguistics, cross-cultural communication, language and gender, and political discourse analysis. She received her Ph.D. in Linguistics from Georgetown University and has also taught at Hellenic American University in Athens, Greece and the University of Vienna in Austria.

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Business school adds Advisory Board

By Toni Pennello
Asst. News Editor

The Sidhu School of Business is celebrating some changes and new goals since the arrival of the new Dean of the school, Dr. Abel Adekola, in June.

"This is a good business school, but not too many people know about us. My goal is to make sure we get it out of the valley," Adekola said, referencing new initiatives. "We can not only do that by talking about it, we need to think about the students that we are recruiting - that they're not just only from this region, they are nationally and internationally collected students," he added.

Another way to get the school recognized, he said, was to ensure that faculty come from diverse backgrounds from all over the country and "the business world."

students who are presidents of clubs or are high-ranking in their respective business clubs, explained member Aaron Sadowski, junior finance major.

Adekola explained that he hopes the students will use their knowledge of media and their fellow students to advise decision making.

The board has no hierarchal structure and is made up of students who can contribute in their own rights, according to Sadowski.

"It started with the new dean coming in. Our main purpose is just to help him bring the school to his vision and what he wants the school to grow into," he explained.

Member Danica Benson, junior pharmacy major and president of ENACTUS, explained the board as the "senate" for the business school.

"It's going to distinguish (Sidhu) as its own



The Beacon/Toni Pennello

Left to right: Aaron Sadowski, Danica Benson, Kimberly Hein, Tyler Derby, Dean Abel Adekola, Brian Schumacher and Michelle Lehman.

Members of the board not pictured: Em Meinhart, Jeffrey Horwith, John Scalese and Justin Schoennagle.

An important goal in this process, Adekola said, was to become accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, usually referred to as AACSB.

"Only about 6 percent of every business school is accredited by the AACSB," Adekola said.

Adekola was sure to mention that Wilkes is already accredited by the ACBSP, or The Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs.

"... It is also a good accrediting agency, not every school is accredited... we just want to merge the premium accreditation, and the goal is that the Sidhu School should be the business school of choice," he explained.

The change that will likely be the most visible to students is the advent of the Advisory Board. The board is made up of

school, but as part of Wilkes," she said.

"So we can identify the needs of the individuals in the business school, apart from maybe the whole Wilkes population," she explained.

Benson used the example of promoting change in curriculum that will "help to identify better business practices" and aid in motivating students.

One of the first goals of the advisory board is to start dressing business casual every Tuesday and Thursday. Junior marketing major Michelle Lehman said that this would help with the school's image and cohesion.

Students should keep an eye out for further updates regarding the new advisory board of the Sidhu School of Business.

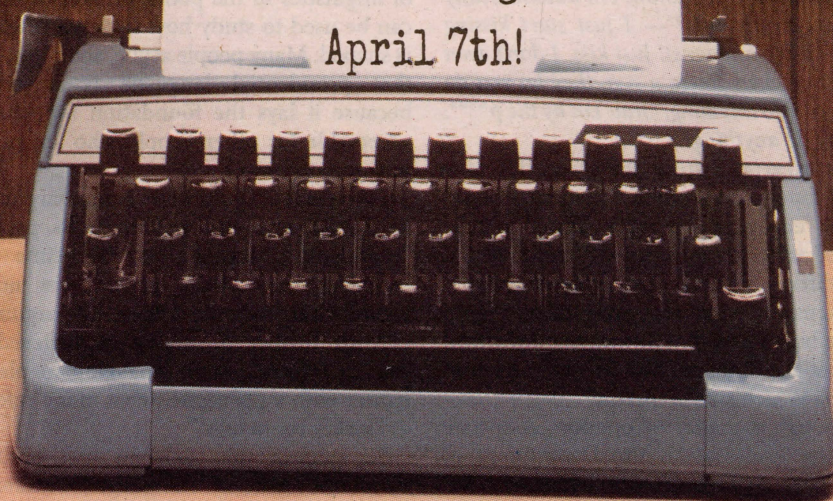
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Student Government presents...

the SHINE Book Collection!

Club Hours in the SUB or
during Casino Week events!

Drop off new or gently
used K-8th grade
level books to benefit
local children and
receive extra tickets
for Casino Night on
April 7th!



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Life, Arts & Entertainment

Have a story or want your event to be featured? Contact the Life, A&E Editor: kimberly.hein@wilkes.edu

Students speak about their unique sacrifices for Lent

By Rachel Leandri
Co-Managing Editor

Students and faculty wandering around campus with fasting mind sets and ashy foreheads signifies one thing: the season of Lent has arrived.

Lent is an observance of the 40 days before Easter and is meant to be spent in preparation for the feast of the Resurrection of Jesus. The season begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts until the start of Holy Thursday.

Interfaith Coordinator for Wilkes University Kristin Osipower says Lent is usually a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving as a way to self-purify.

"Since Catholics especially focus on the penitential aspect of Lent, many will make a sacrifice of some sort for the duration of Lent," Osipower said.

Many young adults continue to practice the values of Lent that they were traditionally taught within their families. One such student is senior pharmacy major Leslie Shumlas, who said the Lenten season has always been a time of sacrifice in her household.

"When I was younger, I gave up candy or treats during Lent, but then I realized there are many more sacrifices than just giving up your favorite junk food," Shumlas said. "This Lenten season will be my third year participating in Alternative Spring Break through Wilkes."

This year, Shumlas will sacrifice her spring break for the third time and travel to Kentucky to volunteer through the Christian Appalachian Project. She and other Wilkes students will help families in need with home repairs and renovations that they wouldn't be able to do or afford on their own.

During her time volunteering, Shumlas also gets to meet the families she is helping and learn about how they got into their current situation of need.

"I go back every year because each experience is more rewarding than the last," she said.

Like Shumlas, senior Susan Gerencser is also using her Lenten sacrifice to benefit

others. The business management major said her goal is to get at least five people to smile per day.

"The smile can be through something as simple as complimenting their response to a lesson during class," Gerencser said. "I want to improve people's daily lives, even if just in little ways."

While Gerencser respects the practice of the Catholic Church, she also finds it somewhat limited. According to Gerencser, penance is an exercise in spiritual discipline, but it doesn't actively improve anyone's life in the tangible sense, which is what she is aiming to do.

"We are supposed to see Christ in all other people, so what better way to give to Christ than by refocusing our attention on others rather than ourselves?"

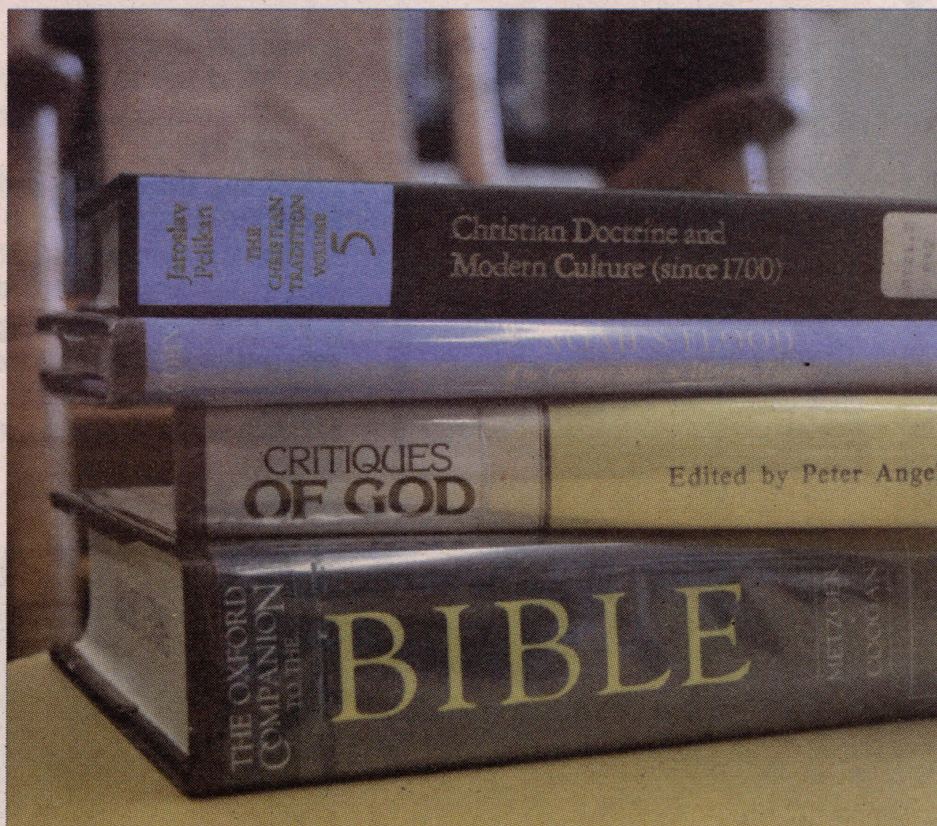
Many students see Lent as an opportunity to become more disciplined within their faith. Majoring in pharmacy with a heavy academic workload and busy schedule, senior Dylan Smith plans to finish reading two books, "When Christ Comes" and "The Discipline of Grace." He started both books but has not made time for them during the semester, he explained.

Smith said the purpose of reading these books is to focus on the importance of Christ's life and death.

"Personally, it helps me become more in tune with all Lent has to offer and why Christ's sacrifice is so important for us as sinners."

The Interfaith Office holds a complete list of Lenten opportunities available in the Wilkes-Barre community such as Monday evening confessions and Stations of the Cross on Fridays at local Catholic Churches.

"The University recognizes that many people feel deeply rooted in their faith, and they want to support that," Osipower shared. "It doesn't matter if you are Christian, Jewish, Muslim or agnostic--everyone is welcome here."



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

The library offers plenty of books about multiple religions. Stop in and speak to any librarian for help on finding something that fits you.

The interfaith office holds a complete list of Lenten opportunities. Contact Interfaith Coordinator, Kristin Osipower for information.



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RECIPE OF THE WEEK:

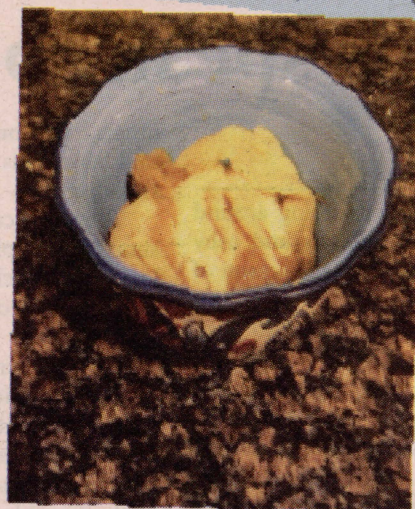
Grandma's Pierogies

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 cups of flour
- 1 cup of water
- 2 eggs
- pinch of salt
- 5 lbs of potatoes
- 1 onion
- 25 slices of American cheese
- 1 stick of butter

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Mix the flour, eggs, water and salt to make the dough.
2. Mash potatoes and mix in cheese to make filling.
2. Roll out the dough and cut it.
3. Fill the dough with the filling.
4. Slice the onions and cook on low heat in butter until brown.
5. Put pierogies in boiling water and wait until the water comes back to a boil and pierogies float.
6. Drain them and put them in melted butter.
7. Put onions on top and enjoy!!



Wilkes Student Chef, Lexie Panek makes her Grandma's traditional pierogies recipe.

Do you have a favorite dorm room recipe that's convenient for college students always on the go?

Submit it to Amanda Bialek, LA&E Assistant Editor

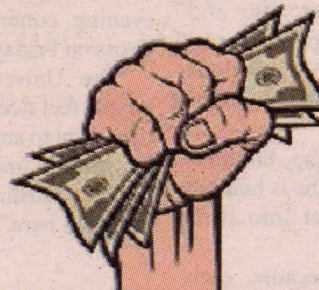
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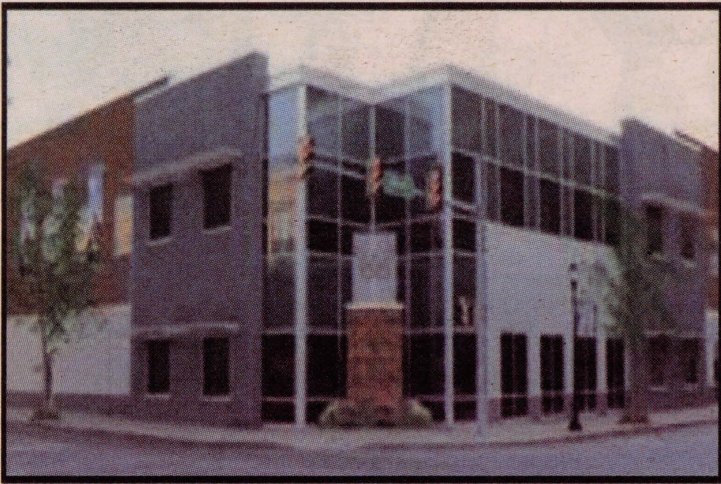
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Programming Board attends national convention National Association for Campus Activities, NACA

By Kimberly Hein

Life, Art & Entertainment Editor

Wilkes University's Programming Board (WUPB) attended the National Association for Campus Activities' (NACA) National Convention which took place in Baltimore. Four students from the executive board, along with Melissa Howells, the club's adviser attended the four-day long convention.

The convention is filled with great entertainment, business connections and education and professional development opportunities.

"Going for the third time this year to the national convention, what I always take away is how many event possibilities exist," said Valerie Woods, president of WUPB. "Vendors and performers always blow my mind with their creativity and talent."

While at NACA, Programming Board attended educational sessions about different program ideas, new ways to get members and how to keep members, and other leadership sessions. They also were able to see various comedy and music showcases.

Leading up to the event, Emily Taylor, secretary, said she was most excited about being in the city of Baltimore.

"I had been there before and really liked the city. I was also really excited to sit and watch so many different types of entertainers," she added.

Taylor will be running for President of Programming Board for the 2017-2018 school year and she found the convention to be very beneficial looking towards the future.

"The most beneficial thing about the NACA conference for me was the ability to network with so many different people. Not only did we meet other student's who were a part of Programming Boards at their own schools, we met various comedians, singers, and other performers and were able to speak with them and their agents to get an idea about who would be good for Wilkes," she said.

Kya Lewis, WUPB public relations chair, agreed and said that the sessions were beneficial.

"The most beneficial thing about

attending NACA were the sessions that we went to it taught us how to interact with the newer generation, and how we can get them more involved on campus," she said.

Woods added, "The conference runs from 9 a.m. to midnight so there is a multitude of things to do. We were able to watch showcases which consist of comedians, magicians, bands, slam poets, magicians, contortionists and anything else you can think of. We also choose 4 different educational sessions to attend, and were able to meet new vendors, and mingle with other schools nationwide at the NACA marketplace."

There is a campus programming board at almost every collegiate school you go to, while they may not always be called the same thing and have different organizational structures.

"It's always refreshing to see that Wilkes offers so many things to students, and the members and advisors of WUPB put their all into building an event every week. Also we're open to any suggestions for new events or feedback for returning events. Since we do an event every week we want to keep them new and as exciting for all students as possible," Woods said.

Looking towards the future, WUPB members are looking forward to bringing back the things they learned at the convention to the campus.

"I'm so excited to have brought back the information of so many comedians and musicians. I think we have a lot of new and fun ideas to bring in for the next few semesters," Taylor said.

Lewis said, "I learned so much, but mostly to improve attendance at our events we need to market and include our younger generation in a way they will respond to, and allow them more responsibility and encouragement in whatever they do for them to feel included."



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WUPB/Valerie Woods

Wilkes University's Programming Board while attending the National Association for Campus Activities conference. From Left to right: Lanai Galarza, Valerie Woods, Kya Lewis, Emily Taylor, Melissa Howells



WUPB/Valerie Woods

While at the conference, the members of Programming Board won a social media challenge. The NACA organization rewarded them with Starbucks gift cards.

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The Beacon/ Purvit Patel
On February 23, The Off-Campus Wilkes Liasons (OWLS) spoke about the advantages and disadvantages with living off campus. Their goal is to help students find housing that suits their needs. From left to right: Gretchen Yeninas, Tori Harrison, Jerry Bogdan, Annelise Przywara, Dianna Connor and Denise Krasucki

Global warming heats up NEPA



Global warming? With temperatures in the mid 70s on a sunny afternoon, students need be reminded that it is February.

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**I GOT 99 PROBLEMS, BUT
SPRING BREAK AIN'T ONE**



By Olivia Macdonald
Staff Writer

With Spring Break 2K17 right around the corner, the dynamic on campus starts to drastically change. Girls fake baking to get their glow before hitting the beach, guys working on their "bods" to get the attention of females from other universities, and teachers cramming in as many power point slides as possible before releasing the eager college students on the 3rd. With all of the talk of where people are going and when they are leaving leaves little thought about the safety precautions that should be taken while vacationing. I am hoping that all of our Wilkes spring breakers will not run into any problems with all of the exotic places that they will be attending but sometimes crazy things happen! Luckily, the Thursday before the riots begin, the BACCHUS club will be handing out little things to help stay healthy throughout the week. There will be sunscreen to protect skin, whistles for girls in case of sticky situations, and condoms to make sure that no one has to get an extra present after a week of fun!

I personally know lots of people heading out of the country to resorts in places like Puerto Vallarta, Cancun and Turks & Caicos, but there are also many of the Wilkes population staying within the country bounds. Senior Courtney Moyer is going a different route from the typical spring break adventure and heading down

to New Orleans for the week.

She said, "We are super pumped because our hotel is said to be haunted. We are also going on a swamp and cemetery tour."

If you are a fan of American Horror Story, she and her group are checking out where the season of The Coven was filmed and making sure to visit all of the voodoo shops around the area.

"I live for this," Moyer said

Moyer says choosing this kind of adventure over going to the beach any day. Like her, I will also not be spending my spring break with other members of the Wilkes University community, and instead enjoying my time with friends from other universities.

My two best friends attend Penn State University and it turns out that their break falls on the same dates as ours. We plan to road trip up to Canada for a few nights, hit the beach, go bungee jumping, and visit the wolf sanctuary to play with some intimidating pups. I like the beach, don't get me wrong, and going to a resort somewhere else seems like an amazing opportunity but if you are with some great friends it is also a great time to kick back from a hectic semester.

Even the teachers agree that spring break is a time to take a load off and enjoy the sun. Sociology professor Dr. Tuttle, says that he "will be going down to Florida to visit some family and enjoy the sun and warmth."

My guess is that the professors on


all university campuses are not too heartbroken to say goodbye to their students for the week. Always keep in mind that professors deserve a break too and even though it seems that tests and quizzes fall while we are in "spring break mode" they do it because they know we will not remember anything or study a single ounce while we sink our toes in the sand!

Having this break time is a perfect allotted time period to finish up papers that are due, perfect graduation projects, or read a good book. Also always make sure to spend time with family and friends that are home because it is still another few months until summer break commences and part time jobs take toll.

If you did not have the opportunity to head off to the destination of your choosing, take the time to relax and get a head on your school work due before finals or catching up on which girls are still holding on to their roses on The Bachelor.

Before you know it, it will be March 13th and you will be rolling out of bed dragging yourself to class wishing you were still sipping on you margarita and taking in the sun!

In the words of Bianca Coccoziello, "I got 99 problems, but spring break ain't one."

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Opinion

Have an opinion or want to write a guest column? Contact the opinion editors: mark.makowski1@wilkes.edu or andre.spruell@wilkes.edu

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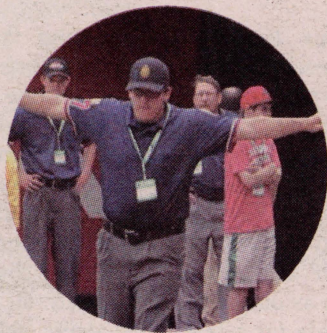
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Our Voice

Officiating: Perfection in a imperfect world



By Luke Modrovsky
Asst. Sports Editor

Time and time again, sports officials face harsh criticism from players, coaches and fans. In the era of increased use of video replay, we now have the ability to review plays again and again and again.

But wait, how many chances do the on-field officials get to make a call?

One, and that's not even in slow motion.

How many calls can make or break a game in a fans opinion?

One, but only if it's against their team.

As a five-sport high school official with numerous other certifications, I get it. Half of people are going to like the call and the other half are going to hate it.

In a story I wrote earlier in the academic year, veteran official Bruce Weinstock was quoted as saying, "The art of officiating is a 50/50 proposition in the public's eye. You are always right at least half of the time." This quote has stuck with me ever since I first read it.

Again, I get it.

But at least give us a chance. It is never an

easy job knowing no matter what decision you end up making, someone is not going to like it.

Folks around the game need to realize that sports officials have a job to do. Provide a fair environment to participants within the game. If someone does something wrong, it is penalized accordingly.

The whole idea is to promote a fair environment for the participants.

Sports officials have long been the victim of abuse. From water bottle tosses, to dirt kicking, even as far as the old term "Kill the umpire!", officials have been taking heat since they began officiating games.

Where most people will draw the line is assault. According to the National Association of Sports Officials (NASO), only 21 out of 50 states have a "Assault Protection Act" that supports officials. Two of the 29 remaining states have a supportive resolution.

Now, I know the answer for myself already. Is Pennsylvania on the list here somewhere? Before Googling the answer, head over to www.thewilkesbeacon.com to participate in a reader poll. The poll will close on Mar. 15 and the results will be revealed in the sports section in the Mar. 21 edition.

Think about it, 29 states do not adequately protect sports officials as they should. Should that mean someone's son or daughter is not legally protected when they step onto the playing surface? What is a player takes a swing at them?

The simple answer: Yes, there will be some sort of ramifications but NASO's model legislation makes it a criminal offense to

physically assault sports officials.


NASO has a model legislation for states to adopt on their website, NASO.org. Although NASO is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit entity, and is "not a political action committee nor does it employ a legislative lobbyist". However, the organization does feel "it is important to protect its members in certain areas of the law, and therefore feels it is the organization's duty to inform its member of current law as well as potential needs for legislative action."

For myself, I have been very fortunate to have been in great situations where if something could have gone wrong, the game administrators were quick to diffuse it.

Others, have not been as lucky. Take a look below to see some of the incident that have come up over the course of time.

All that I ask: Just put it in perspective. We are certainly not trying to do a bad job, but we are certainly not going to do a perfect job.

We are just imperfect human-beings trying to do everything possible to do a perfect job.

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**Each week a Beacon editor
will take a stance on a
current topic.**

**Note: The views expressed
are those of the writer.**

Find this story online and take the poll at www.thewilkesbeacon.com

Here are a few examples of headlines with a brief explanation where abuse has occurred:

*Referee killed by red-carded player's head-butt

-Soccer referee in Burkina Faso was killed after disqualifying a player from the game.

*Softball dad guilty in assault of ump

-A 44 year old man was found guilty of assault after his daughter was ejected for wearing jewelry after a warning.

*Umpire charges parent with assault

-A 16 year-old Little League umpire filed a complaint against a father who rushed out of the bleachers to punch him.

*HS ref collision to be treated as assault on a school official

-Two Texas high school football players blindsided a referee during a Friday night varsity game.

James Dolan, Charles Oakley: The confrontation at Garden

By Mark Makowski
Opinion Co-Editor

On Feb. 8, the New York Knicks and Los Angeles Clippers met at Madison Square Garden, but the main storyline of this night being about the basketball game would quickly be thrown out the window.

Halfway through the first quarter Madison Square Garden security swarmed to a section of courtside seats to remove what many thought was just a testy fan until the person stood up and it was revealed that the fan was former Knick star Charles Oakley. Oakley has had some beef with outspoken Knicks Owner James Dolan over the years.

Oakley made some comments to Dolan before taking his seat. So Dolan, who thinks of the Garden as his own private country club, decided to have Oakley removed from the building because he didn't like what he heard.

This conflict has been brewing for the past 20 years since his 10-year tenure with the Knicks ended in 1998. Over the past few seasons the Knicks have honored their squads from the 90s that always made deep playoff runs; however, there was always a certain player missing Charles Oakley.

Since his playing career has ended, Oakley has voiced his thoughts about Dolan with comments that "he is not a nice guy." Now while this may seem like a one-time incident for Dolan you would be sadly mistaken.

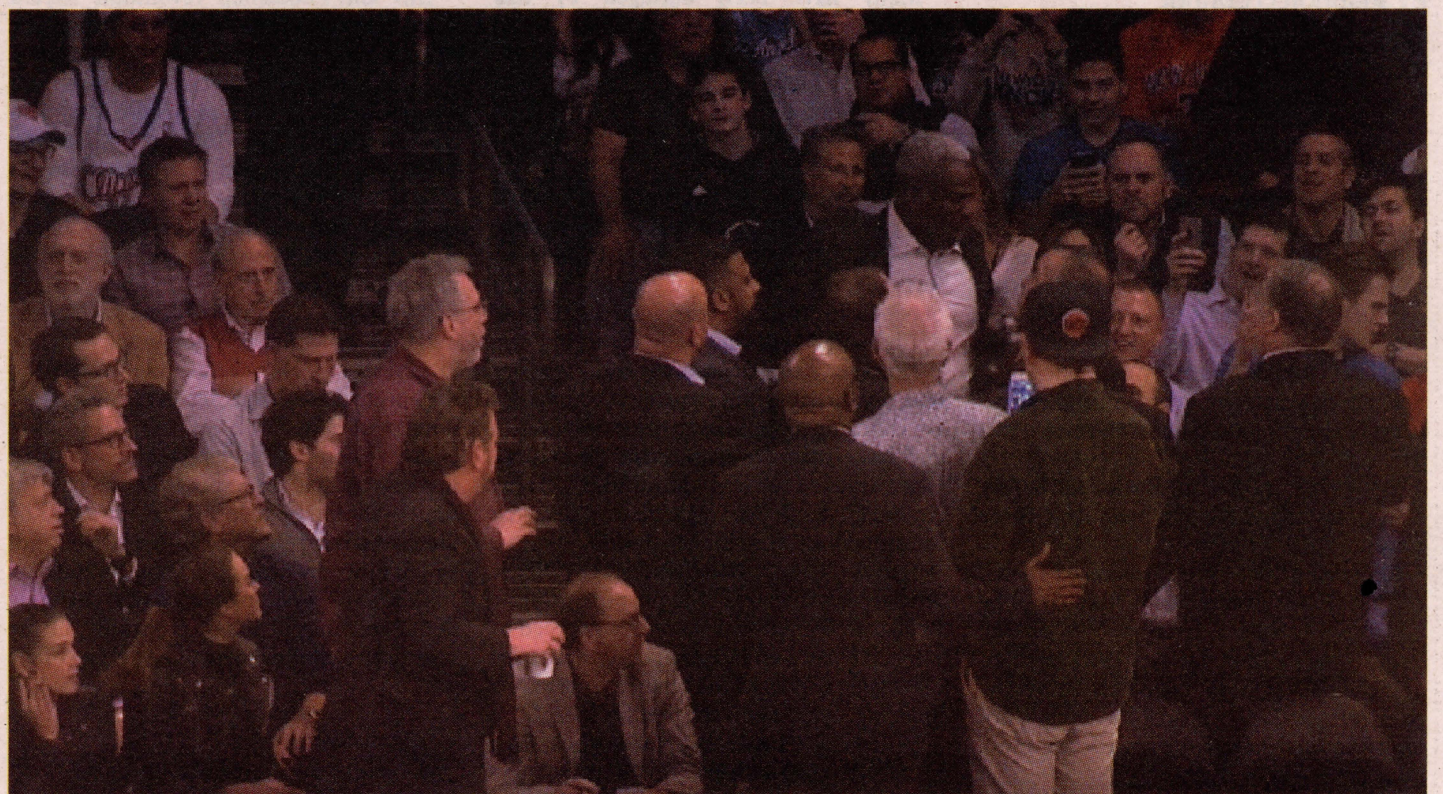
Over his tenure as Knicks owner, Dolan thinks he has a high basketball IQ and likes to make ill-advised moves that blow up in his face, but instead of taking responsibility he would punish the head coaches by firing them.

One of his major blunders was the signing of Shooting Guard Allan Houston to a six-year \$100 million contract which was \$20 million over what other teams would offer. Houston would never make it to the end of this contract and even while he was healthy, Houston would not be the playmaker he was paid to be.

Another victim of the James Dolan leadership has been the fans. The main example was 73-year-old Irving Bierman who in Feb. 2015 would write a note to Dolan criticizing his leadership skills and said how he should act more like his father.

Dolan would decide to reply to the letter writing that Bierman sounds like he is an alcoholic and should seek help for his problems.

Leadership skills like this would once again show up when the Charles Oakley



Former Knick Charles Oakley (center) being removed by Madison Square Garden Security. Knicks Owner James Dolan (left) watches as this is another event that has stemmed in their relationship.

Photo Credit: Relix.com


incident did occur.

After the event the Knicks PR would release a statement that was Dolan-esque. The statement at the end would say that "we hope Charles Oakley gets help soon," a phrase that Dolan also used when he sent his letter to Irving Bierman.

Now I agree they should have released a statement on the matter, however to publically say he needs help no matter true or false is an extremely wrong move to make.

This whole disaster has been just another story for the Knicks roller coaster season much like the roller coaster ride that has been going on for the last 20 years since James Dolan started to push himself into everyday operations of the Knicks. Since this event Charles Oakley has been invited back to Madison Square Garden.

However, Oakley has not accepted the invitation and I do not expect him to. In fact, Oakley went to see the Knicks play in Cleveland and had court side seats with Cavaliers Owner Dan Gilbert.

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Charles Oakley Madison Square Garden Timeline

February 8: Charles Oakley and friends purchases tickets for the Knicks-Clippers game four rows behind Knicks Owner James Dolan. Oakley is arrested and charged with three counts of assault as well as trespassing.

February 14: After meeting with NBA Commissioner Adam Silver Charlotte Hornets owner Michael Jordan. James Dolan says that Oakley will be invited back to Madison Square Garden in the near future.

February 23: Charles Oakley attends the Knicks-Cavaliers game in Cleveland after being invited to attend by Cavs Owner Dan Gilbert.

“A Revolution in Advertising”

By Shannon O'Connor
Opinion Writer

There has been much controversy surrounding the advertising world for the past few years.

However, a revolution is sweeping the industry and changing the way society views the human body.

Photoshop is a commonly used application used in the advertisement industry.

It was designed to edit photographs and imagines to make them “more appealing.” The process involves fixing mistakes and flaws in the photo to make it the best it can be.

However it has been ridiculed for setting ridiculous standards for men but more commonly for women.

Photoshop has been overused when editing photos of models. It started out by edited out acne and frizzy hair to editing stretch marks, belly fat and even freckles. Some mistakes have even been made by accidently making a model too skinny, not look like themselves or even editing out a body part.

Many have been outraged by this ridiculous editing. It has caused society to question their self-esteem and self-worth. This over-editing causes body image issues among young teenagers whose bodies look nothing like the images they see in the photos in the magazines.

The funny thing is, the models in real life don't even look the models in the photos. In a Ted Talk from 2013, model Cameron Russell explains how it takes a whole team of people to create the woman in the picture. As she said, “That's not me.”

However, a change is slowly coming about in the advertising industry. Select companies are choosing to move away from Photoshop and leave their advertisements all natural. Companies such as ModCloth, Aerie, American Eagle and Seventeen Magazine have are all starting the revolution.

Aerie's Chief Merchandising Officer Jennifer Foyle states, “The purpose of 'aerie Real' is to communicate there is no need to retouch beauty, and to give young women of all shapes and sizes the chance to discover amazing styles that work best for them.”

When Aerie made this pledge, their sales shot up by nine percent.


This anti-Photoshop revolution started when Dove released their “Campaign for Real Beauty.”

They wanted to advertise women that were beautiful in their own skin. They also created a workshop. The Dove Company explained, “The project delivers self-esteem education to young people (primarily girls) aged 8-17 years through lessons in schools, workshops for youth groups, and online resources for parents.”

Photoshop is an application cleverly designed to enhance photographs mainly in advertising. However, it has escalated to the point where the people in the images are unrecognizable.

Many companies are taking a stand to these ridiculous events. The people of society should be able to be empowered by the advertising they see in magazines, not be put down by unrealistic expectations.

This no Photoshop revolution is changing the advertising of today. Hopefully, in the near future, Photoshop will be a thing of the past.

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Colonels Talk Back

Spring Break Adventures

Interviews by
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peyton.neishman@wilkes.edu

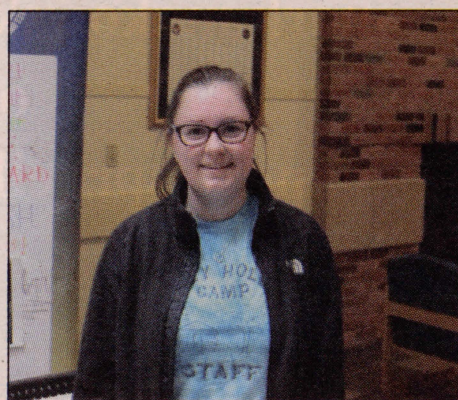
Photos by
Jesse Chalnack
jesse.chalnack@wilkes.edu

Spring Break is almost here. The Beacon asked Wilkes University students to share their plans for the upcoming spring semester break.

Want to be in the next Colonels Talk Back? Email peyton.neishman@wilkes.edu

Hayley Bundz
Senior
Environmental Engineering

"I'm going on a retreat the first weekend with my youth group from my local church, then during the week I will be working on my senior project. The second weekend I'm going to Woodlock Pines."



Michele Natale
Freshman
Nursing

"I will be going to the Jamaica with my family for spring break. We will be staying at a resort. I really love to hot sunny wheatear and the crystal blue oceans."



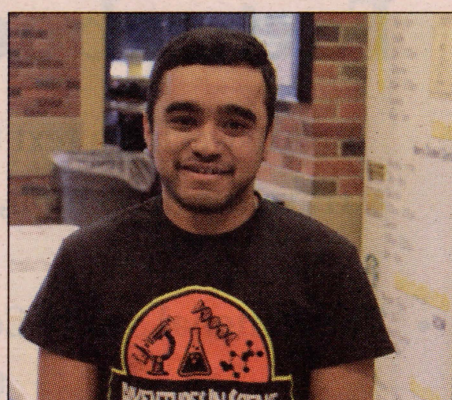
Ammar Sabanovic
Senior
Criminology

"My plans for spring break this year consist of going to Florida for a couple of days. I might also be going to Europe with my best friend, John Platt for the rest of the break."



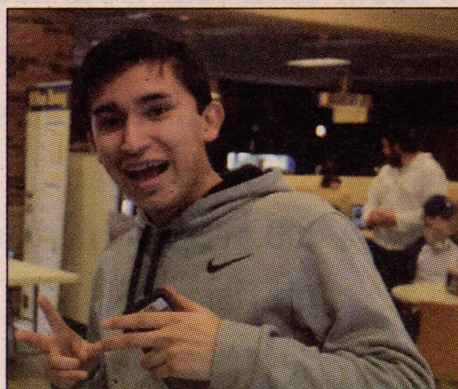
Tejuss Kakarla
Senior
Biology Pre-Med

"My plans for spring break consist of spending time with my family and friends at home. I will be hopefully going to Chicago and maybe the beach. I love playing around in the sand."



John Platt
Senior
Mechanical Engineering

"For spring break I will hopefully be traveling to Europe with my friend, Ammar. I will be exploring three different cities: Barcelona, Rome, and France."



Kya Lewis
Sophomore
Business Management

"I really don't have a big plan for spring break. I plan to just relax back at home with my family and friends. It's also my birthday week so I'll be celebrating with my loved ones."



Are cellphones more harmful than beneficial?

By Andre Spruell
Opinion Co-Editor

It is not hard to recognize that cellphones have come a long way in the last decade. With all their advances, the real question is if they create more harm than good.

Although it is great to do something like surf the internet without having to go to a computer every time, there is no denying that cellphones have become a distraction.

It has gotten to the point that if you get caught using your phone while driving by law enforcement, it is a hefty fine as well as points off your driver's license.

If a law has to be put in place in order to prevent using phones when doing something like driving, that in itself just goes to show how much of a distraction cellphones have become.

Also, it further enhances the idea of how cellphones are more distracting than beneficial.

Cellphones are something that everyone that as a teenager or older should definitely have because no matter the situation, it is the quickest way for people to get in contact with each other.

For that reason and for safety measures, cellphones are a must have.

At the same time, when it is not being used for the sole purpose of needing to get into contact with someone, all its other functions are pretty much distractions.

The list of "distractions" a phone has is insurmountable and range from things like games, social media, internet access and more.

What creates much of the distraction is the fact that as a society, we have become so accustomed to our cellphones that every time it buzzes or rings, we immediately direct our attention to our phones.

For example, if you have been snapchatting someone the whole day and hear that specific Snapchat alert, knowing that it is that same person, your eyes are still immediately drawn to the phone.

Because of that drier need to check a cellphone, it has made something as simple as driving a car more complicated.

Personally, when I drive I put my phone on do not disturb mode so the urge to check my phone decreases dramatically because it will not go off. In a way, people should train themselves not to check their phone as often then phones would not be as big of a distraction. Easier said than done.

For the most part, everyone has been in a car where the person driving the car is texting as well. If you are the one in the passenger seat you would not be cool about it.

If that is true, what makes it better to do the same thing when no one else is in the car with you?

According to the Edgar Snyder & Associates law firm, texting while driving is six times more likely to cause an accident than drunk driving.

I do not condone drunk driving at all but based on that fact, someone's life is at less of a risk by driving while intoxicated as opposed to texting while driving, which is crazy to even think about.

Playing with a phone helps cope with boredom and can be a major waste of time. For instance, checking every social media platform and playing games then you go to check the time and see that two hours have passed when you could have used those two hours to do something productive.

In other words, people tend to spend more leisure time than they probably should on their phones.

Although cellphones have many benefits, they have become more of a distraction than beneficial. In my opinion, the dangers created by the distractions of phones outweigh how helpful they are.

Would people be as distracted if land lines were still the only way for people to get into contact with each other?

Have an opinion or want to write a guest column?

Contact the opinion editors:

mark.makowski1@wilkes.edu

or

andre.spruell@wilkes.edu

Facts about texting and driving

- Answering a text takes away your attention for about five seconds. Traveling at 55 mph, that's enough time to travel the length of a football field.
- The National Safety Council reports that cell phone use while driving leads to 1.6 million crashes each year.
- Nearly 330,000 injuries occur each year from accidents caused by texting while driving.
- 1 out of every 4 car accidents in the United States is caused by texting and driving.
- Texting while driving causes a 400 percent increase in time spent with eyes off the road.

Sports

Want your sport covered? Contact the sports editor: taylor.ryan@wilkes.edu or daniel.vanbrunt@wilkes.edu

Wilkes' baseball heads to Fort Pierce to prep for season

By Taylor Ryan
Sports Editor

It's almost time for spring break, the break that many college students use to go on a nice vacation to de-stress from school and all that accompanies it. The Wilkes' baseball team may be going south, towards warmer weather, but it's all business when they get down to Fort Pierce, Fla.

The team described the conclusion of the 2016 season, as disappointing. The Colonel's finished with a record of 18-21 overall and 7-14 in the Middle Atlantic Conference play. It is the hope that this upcoming experience over spring break, prepares the team and the upcoming freshman for what is waiting for them back at Artillery Park.

Senior, Johnny Lee Jan, described this week in Florida as, "basically Spring Training where we are able to play games every day for a week in the nice and hot weather."

Following up, senior Matthew Reese, has been able to participate in similar spring break trips with the baseball team in previous years. Reese talked about some of his favorite memories, and what he is

most excited for, saying, "My favorite part is probably the weather and just the time that you get to spend with all of the guys without any outside distractions, such as schoolwork."

This is a time that the team is able to compete with teams from all over the country, and gain experience prior to coming back to Wilkes and getting right into conference play. This is also intended to allow the teammates to bond, and experience a more unique feel that many teams in the Middle Atlantic Conference may not get to.

Reese later mentioned all of the activities that the team participates in while on the trip, this included, "This year, we have 9 games scheduled to compete in, while in Florida. Usually it is one a day, with a double-header mixed in throughout the week. We literally do everything together as a team. We all have the same floor of the hotel and we eat all of our meals together at various restaurants."

As the team is preparing for their season, the expectations are high. They have a large returning class, bringing back plenty of experience to the diamond and dugout.



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

Senior James Brown has become a key hitter for the team in his time as a Colonel.

The team is focused and knows exactly what they are after.

Senior, Quinn Kelly, said, "We all know what we want, and we all know what it is going to take to get there."

This camaraderie will allow the team to make those strides they are searching for. The exceptional leadership will be a large part of the teams expected success. They large amount of upperclassmen on the team will be able to guide the newer team members to feeling as an essential part of the team. This is a huge part in any team's success, you must be able to get everyone on board and feel that in order to be successful.

As a senior, pitcher, Johnny Lee Jan, is expected to be an essential part of this leadership team.

Jan discussed his expectations as a senior on the team, saying, "I set high expectations for us as a team. I believe we have the talent and leadership that it takes to win the MAC Conference. So that is my expectation of winning the MAC Conference and eventually winning the College World Series."

He is taking his designated leadership role seriously. When we asked him about his goals or himself as an individual, he quickly answered with, "my main goal for this season

is to become that leader that everyone looks up to and can count on and to show what it takes to become a champion."

The Colonels have a challenging upcoming schedule in the following weeks. Reese spoke on this aspect of their season saying, "We have to take each game one at a time, even one inning at a time. That is how we will get to the championship."

Reese continued talking on the importance of focusing on the small picture before getting to the big end goal. He said, "I think the goal of most people is to make playoffs and get a shot at playing for the MAC title. Ideally that would be nice, however, I think that continuing on building the program, as a whole is a goal of mine. Obviously winning a MAC title is the biggest goal, I think the process and being a building block within the process is my goal."

It is with these attitudes, this focus and attention to detail that the team will find their success.

Nothing comes easy, but one thing is for sure, the Wilkes baseball team is ready to work to get to where they want to be. They have a group of seniors that are ready to do whatever it takes to leave their program in the best position possible for years to come.



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

Senior Matt Reese starts opening day with a strong start at Artillery field, on Thursday afternoon.

Wilkes Wrestling prepares to take regionals by surprise

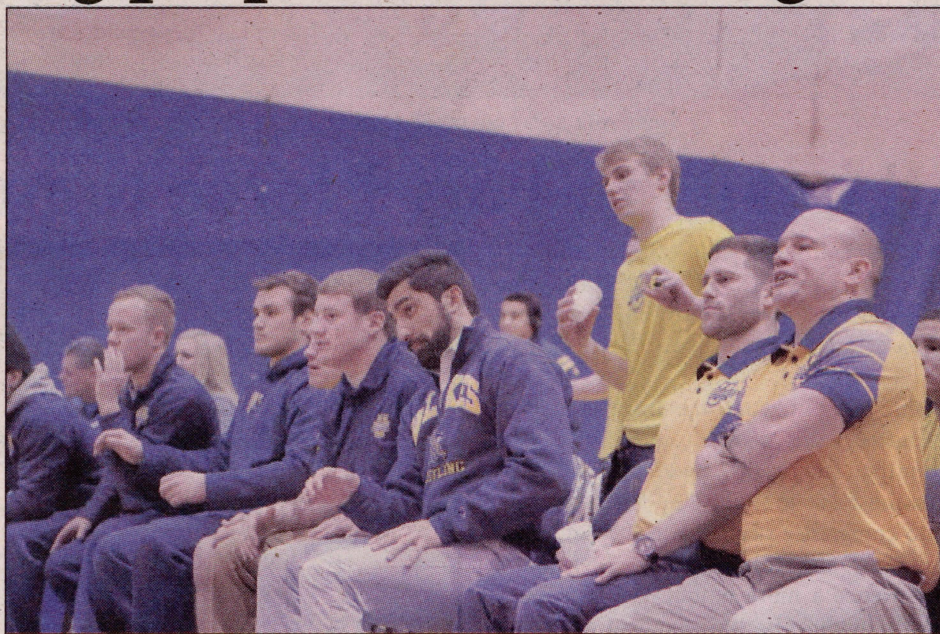
By Danny Van Brunt
Sports Co-Editor

Wilkes Wrestling heads to the Regional Tournament in York, Pa., and the team is prepared for a series of wrestlers to potentially place in the top-three, which would allow them to wrestle next week at the National Tournament in La Crosse, WI.

Wilkes enters the tournament ranked as No. 24 in the nation. There will be as many as nineteen teams competing in the tournament. There are a handful of teams that are also ranked as well. Three teams are tied at No. 28, and those teams are Baldwin-Wallace, Oswego and RIT. No. 14 Brockport, No. 12 Lycoming and No. 2 Messiah will also be present at the tournament.

Both Gueseppe Rea and Matthew Grossman are ranked No. 2 in their respective brackets. Rea received All-American status two years ago when he placed sixth in the 2015 NCAA National Tournament. Rea is in his fifth year after he took a red-shirt year off the program last year. Grossman returns to the Regional Tournament after not entering it last year. In his first year, Grossman took the 133-pound National Title and was the eleventh wrestler in the history of the program to claim the title.

"I think our team has the potential to



Courtesy of Josh Evans
Coaches Jamie Miller, Mitch Marcks and Jon Laudenslager coach together at the match versus The College of New Jersey in the Marts Center.

accomplish great things this weekend! I think we have the capability of sending a lot of wrestlers to Nationals and I look forward to seeing what we can do. For having a very young team, we were only the fourth ever

Wilkes team to win 20 matches in a year, which is something for all of us to be proud of," said Grossman.

The Regional line-up for the Colonels starts with Gueseppe Rea at 125-pounds,

Pankil Chander at 133, Matthew Grossman at 141, Kyle Medrow at 149, Nick Racanelli at 157, Michael Paskas at 165, Justin Morel at 174, Jacob Brook at 184, Jordan Nochimson at 197 and John Austin at 285.

Five players have recorded more than 25 wins this season, and two have surpassed 30 wins. Some other stand-out players from the team include Chander, Medrow, Racanelli and Paskas. Racanelli was the lone wrestler last year to participate in the National Tournament.

"I'm very prepared for the Regional Tournament. I feel as if my coaches and teammates have pushed one another to be in the best shape possible for this tournament and we are going to shock a lot of people with how well we perform. As the only national qualifier from last year, I look forward to getting another shot at the podium, and I just hope this time I get to travel with my boys," said Racanelli.

Consult www.gowilkesu.com to see how the Wilkes Wrestling team performed at the Regional Tournament. Next week, Wilkes Wrestlers will have an opportunity to wrestle on the national stage.



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Courtesy of Josh Evans

After a long and tough season, the Wilkes Wrestling team overcame several injuries and achieved a team record of 20-5 as they enter the Regional Tournament.

Colonel Lacrosse looking to gain experience with young group

By Luke Modrovsky
Asst. Sports Editor

Wilkes University men's lacrosse suffered a 10-6 setback in their season opener against Marywood University on Feb. 22. However, the program has a bright future only being in its second season of revival.

In the season opener, many underclassmen proved themselves.

The team's first goal of the season was scored by freshman Gerard Setteducato. Setteducato picked up a fumble by Marywood's goalkeeper and sent it into the back of the net. Not only was this goal the team's first, but it was Setteducato's first of his very short collegiate career.

A video of the goal appeared shortly on the men's lacrosse Facebook page that night saying there were more to come.

The Colonels would only find the back of the net one more time before halftime. Junior Matt LaSorsa tied the game at 2 goals after an assist from freshman Connor Daly.

The Pacers would score four unanswered

goals before the halftime intermission.

Sophomore Matthew Bush, junior Glenn Weist, freshman John Wink, and junior Nicholas Ruggerio rounded out the scoring for the Colonels with one goal each.

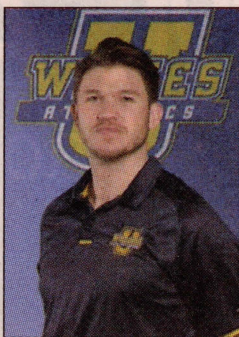
Wilkes was penalized five times to Marywood's two.

Going forward, the Colonels have a lot to look forward to under second year coach Curtis Jaques.

The position marks Jaques' first head coach position at the NCAA Division III level.

In a press release on the Wilkes Athletics website, Head Coach Curtis Jaques said the team worked well in the non-traditional season during the fall. He said the team is looking forward to building off of last year.

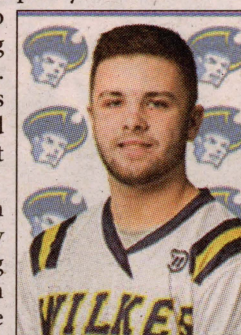
"Our mission has not changed," Jaques said. "We continue to be very on the things that we can control; conditioning, health, and team chemistry."



Head Coach
Curtis Jaques



Freshman
Carter Whittemore



Freshman
Gerard Setteducato

This will be the second season Jaques has had to recruit unique students to play for the Colonels instead of seeking students who are already on campus.

With a roster of over 25 players, Jaques has plenty of tools in his arsenal to combat the grueling two-month season. The roster contains only four juniors and two seniors. The rest are underclassman.

Two freshman had the opportunity to compete for the starting goaltending position. Freshman Carter Whittemore played the entire season opener against Marywood in the cage. Another freshman, Cody Geidel, is also listed as a goalkeeper. It is too early to tell if the job will remain Whittemore's for the majority of the season or if we will eventually see split time between the netminders.

Judging by other position shuffles we have seen in the past, a lot can happen during the course of a season. One thing is for sure, the

Colonels hope to improve off of last year's start and continue forward.

The 16 game schedule features seven conference games including familiar foes like King's College and Misericordia University.

Hopefully by the time the conference schedule begins to roll around in the beginning of April, the Colonels will be playing at their highest potential.

The schedule features a balanced eight home games this year. That means there are plenty of opportunities to see the Wilkes LAX-ers in action. Notable home games include the Misericordia Cougars matchup on Apr. 12, Eastern University on Apr. 26 and FDU-Florham University coming to town for Senior Day on Apr. 28.

Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom play begins Apr. 5 in a road game against cross-town rival King's College.

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Getting to know...

Woodly M. Augustin

Senior Men's Lacrosse Player

By Purvit Patel
Sports Writer

Name: Woodly M. Augustin
Year: Senior
Major(s): Psychology major, Sociology minor
Hometown: Hewlett
High School: Hewlett High School
Position: Defensemen

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

A: I really liked the sense of community the Wilkes campus offers and the small classroom.

Q: What are your hopes for the upcoming season?

A: This season I hope to compete in our conference and turn some heads

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

A: This is last year of eligibility but I hope our lacrosse team goes on and competes for a conference championship

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

A: I started playing lacrosse in 6th grade. At first I started playing because everyone on long island played lacrosse then I started to get the hang of it and that was all she wrote.

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

A: I enjoy listening to rap/ hip hop/ old school music from the 80's and 90's, Watching rom coms (favorite rom com is hitch) and listening to motivational speakers

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

A: My mother is the most influential person in my life. She came to the states from Haiti with pretty much nothing and through hard work, dedication and optimism she gave me the life she never had all on her own. We faced a lot of hardships but she would always tell me, "We're going to look back at this point in our lives and laugh" she is my rock, the reason why I work hard on and off the field

Q: A quote you live your life by?

A: Life is not the amount of breaths you take, it's the moments that take your breath away - Will Smith

Q: What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?

A: Be Colonel means being the best version of yourself and representing the university and your family name the best you can.

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

A: Martin Luther King Jr.

Q: Does the Men's lacrosse team have anything they would like to inform the student body?

A: Come out and support us this season! You can find our schedule on the Wilkes Athletics page!



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The Beacon/Purvrit Patel

Getting to know...

Madison Salmon

Senior Tennis Player

By Purvit Patel
Sports Writer

Madison Salmon
Year: Senior
Major: Biology
Minor: Chemistry
Hometown: Endicott
Highschool: Endicott High School

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

A: I was really looking for a school that had a good science program and possibly play tennis. However, the main driving force was the ability to play tennis and have a demanding course load heading towards optometry. The flexibility and understanding of Coach Leicht and my professors allows me to be a successful student and a successful athlete.

Q: What are your hopes for the upcoming season?

A: We have an incredibly strong and deep team this year all the way from seniors to the freshmen class. I have high hopes for us going undefeated and making another NCAA national tournament appearance, as well as making it further than any other year in that tournament.

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

A: I started playing tennis when I was about 8 years old. Honestly, I hated it at first. I played soccer and ran track for an extended period of time but eventually returned to the tennis lessons my mom forced me to take and ended up falling in love with the sport playing competitively from high school onward.

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

A: I ran track all four years as a sprinter in high school and still occasionally run for pleasure but honestly anything active or outdoors is right up my alley. From hiking to fishing to snowboarding I love to be active and outside.

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

A: I would have to say my older sister is the most influential person in my life. Through all the hardships and injuries, she has had and been through in her life she continues to be one of the most positive upbeat people I know. She is the kind of person that runs towards danger in every situation, without a single hesitation, hoping to help someone else. That is the kind of person I strive to be more like every day.

Q: A quote you live your life by?

A: "Pain is inevitable. Suffering is optional" - Haruki Murakami

Q: What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?

A: "Be Colonel" to me means to accept others with open arms, work hard and never stop pushing towards what you want in life.



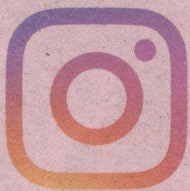
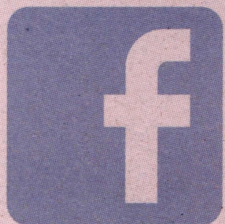
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