

THE BEACON'

Feb.12, 2013

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

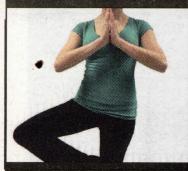
Volume 66 Issue 13



Dean gets shiftedChange of role and an introduction to other deans, Page 3



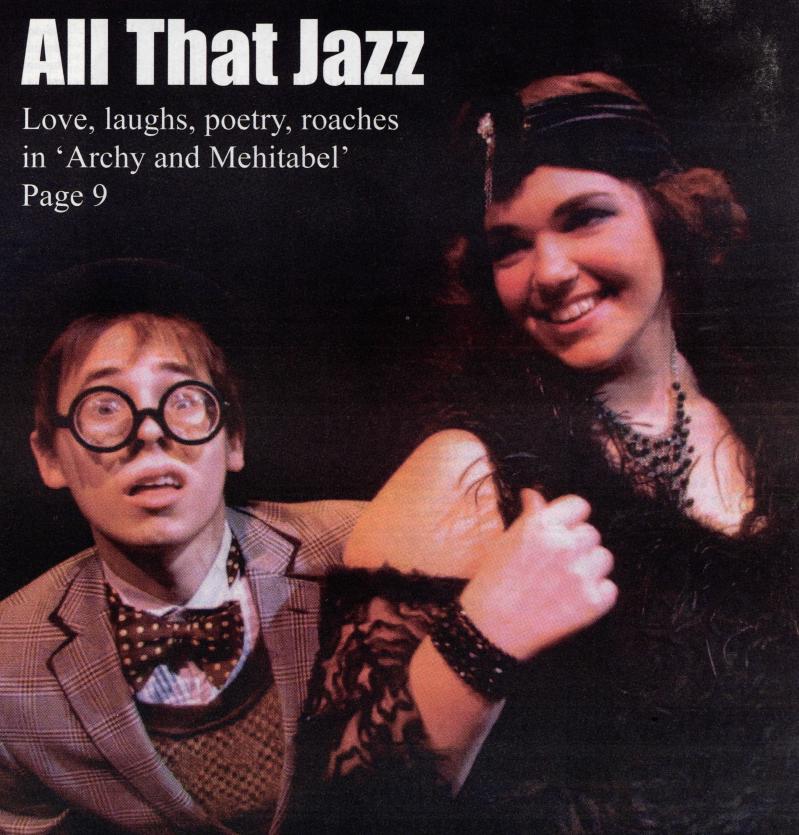
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Teacher lecture Page 5

Contact editor: christine.lee@wilkes.edu

Campus officials address issue of drinking during Winter Weekend

Assistant News Editor

Winter Weekend 2013 is approaching and for some it could raise some issues on public safety for students and the surrounding community.

Winter Weekend is an event that allows students to participate in different team oriented events and win prizes during the cold winter months. For some, it raises issues of safety, whether it is on-or off-campus, but university officials assure safety is not a

"Winter Weekend really depends on the level of involvement, from year to year it has taken many shapes," Dr. Mark Allen, dean of Student Affairs, said. "In terms of safety and crime issues there is no more than one would deal with.'

The events comprised in Winter Weekend have changed from over the years. Many of the safety concerns could be attributed to off campus parties that are held

"That is certainly not an activity encouraged by either the sponsors of Student Government or the institution."

According to Residence Life, students living on campus should not have a safety concern when it comes to Winter Weekend.

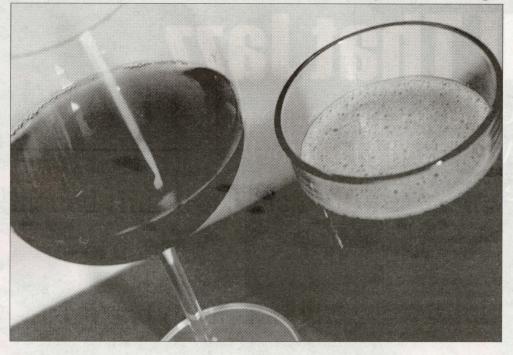
"The reason why we have these on-campus activities is to foster that positive 66 competition and get students together,' Elizabeth Swantek, on-campus activities is to foster director of Resi-that positive competition and dence Life, said.

Swantek said that get students together." there is a Student Affairs representative on call at all times and the calls received are no dif-

ferent than any other weekend. Aller says that the issue of on-campus safety could come with students coming on campus that have been participating in off-

campus events and bringing the behavior

"It is dealt with; we certainly do not turn a blind eye to the law or school policies be-



cause of Winter Weekend," Allen said.

Allen said Student Affairs hasn't experienced any problems or concerns when it comes with Winter Weekend safety.

"We have increased our security, in contract with Wilkes-Barre police department for off-duty officers since early fall," Allen said. "We feel it

is adequate for the weekend or any other weekend."

A request for interview with Jerry Rebo, manager of Public Safety, was - Elizabeth Swantek, not returned.

Allen also said that Director of Residence Life the university works with the Wilkes-

Barre Police Department if there are any issues with off-campus activities and will issue their own investigation if the problem



The reason we have these

@shawncarey8 shawn.carey@wilkes.edu University officials say students should not worry about safety on campus during Winter Weekend. If students need assistance there is always a Student Affairs representative on call or students may call Public Safety at 570-408-4999. The Beacon/Laura Preby

Check out more Wilkes crime statistics on:

http://wilkes.edu/pages/318.asp

Winter Weekend will be held Feb. 15-16. This year's theme is "Comic Book Heroes

Wilkes alcohol-related crime statistics from Jan. 2010 - Dec. 2011

Statistics are provided by Wilkes University Public Safety Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime and Fire Statistics.

Jan. 2010 - Dec. 2010	Campus	On-Campus Residence	Non- Campus	Public Property
Arrests	7	2	0	28
Disciplinary Referrals	62	43	0	39
January 2011 -	December 2011			
Arrests	13	2	0	39
Disciplinary Referrals	88	74	0	46

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Shawn Carey Asst. News Editor

Dean of Education shifted to new role in administration

By Christine Lee

News Editor

This semester brings with it several changes within the university academic structure.

Mike Speziale, formerly dean of the College of Graduate and Professional Studies and the School of Education, now has the new title of vice president of Strategic Initiatives. The School of Education is now separate from the College of Graduate and Professional Studies and has its own dean like the rest of the undergraduate colleges.

Speziale explained that the two schools were combined, with the School of Education falling under the College of Graduate and Professional Studies. President Patrick Leahy separated the two schools so the School of Education is independent from the College of Graduate and Professional Studies.

"It was the College of Graduate Studies and under the College of Graduate Studies was the School of Education, so the school fell into the college, and the Creative Writing program," Speziale said. "What the president did in his re-organization was he separated out the schools so the School of Education stands on its own."

Speziale said with the re-organization, the School of Education now has its own dean and there isn't a plan in place for there to be a dean of Graduate Studies, but the administration is considering expanding the roles of the other deans on campus into areas of the graduate school.

"We're working through having a lot of the other college and school deans assume some of those responsibilities, which are more academic in nature," Speziale said.

Interim Provost Terese Wignot said a search committee for a new dean of the School of Education will be formed and will follow the guidelines in the faculty handbook for the composition of the search committee.



The Beacon/Dan Lykens

Mike Speziale said his new role hasn't changed his role in the administration, just who he works under.

The faculty handbook states the committee has to consist of four faculty and two students from the school or college where the dean will serve, two administrators and one non-administrative staff member. The committee is formed by the provost and faculty within the college the search where the search is taking place have to approve the faculty and administrators selected for the committee. It is generally left up to the committee to choose the committee chair but the provost can select the chair or recommendations from the school or college the dean will serve in for chair can be made to the provost.

Wignot said a national search will start in fall 2013. An interim dean, Rhonda Waskiewicz, is serving this semester and the next academic year until the new dean takes over,

usually in the summer.

Wignot explained that the role of the dean is that of the chief academic officer for their particular college or school. They are responsible for the administration of the programs offered in the school or college, which includes making sure all courses are covered, the budget of the school and evaluation of faculty and staff in the college or school.

"The dean should basically have a mission vision for the school," Wignot said.

The interim provost said the whole purpose of having a school or college at Wilkes is to educate students, so all the decisions the deans make should impact students and be made with students in mind. Wignot said that under Pres. Leahy, the role of deans will be more important.

"Under President Leahy, I think the role of the deans is going to be increasingly more important because he is allowing the deans to have the authority to manage their schools," Wignot said.

Speziale said, in addition to the possibility of the academic deans having more responsibilities in the graduate school, recruiting for the graduate school is now the responsibility of Vice President of Enrollment Melanie Wade. The main responsibility of the graduate dean was to coordinate things within the school.

He explained he is still responsible for many things in graduate studies, including chairing the graduate program directors' meetings and working with the graduate studies council. Speziale explains this has to do with what the graduate student bulletin states in the graduate student handbook.

However, in his new role, he is responsible for finding new opportunities for Wilkes and to look for new ways to deliver education and working with business industries and healt care partners to form relationships to benefit students, two of which are the Mesa campus and Pocono center. His said his role applies to all of campus.

"My new role cuts across basically everything, any potential project or partnership that I can find. My role is to bring it back to that sector of campus that could benefit from it," Speziale said. "I work with all the schools and all the colleges wherever opportunities present themselves."

Speziale explained his new role has him working directly for the president whereas he used to work for the provost but it hasn't changed his role within the administration and this role is an opportunity for him to support the ideas Leahy has.



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Wilkes' academic deans and the colleges under their leadership



Jeffrey Alves
Jay S. Sidhu School
of Business and
Leadership



Dale Bruns
College of
Science and
Engineering



Bernard Graham Nesbitt School of Pharmacy and Nursing



Rhonda Waskiewicz School of Education



Linda Winkler College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

SG notes: Group requests new treadmills for Marts

By Shawn Carey Assistant News Editor

The Student Government meeting on Feb. 6 was called to order at 6:02 pm.

All College - \$23,816.16 Conference - \$2,640 General - \$18,875.85 Leadership - \$1,200 Spirit - \$1,347.77 Student Government Total - \$47,879.78

First on the agenda was a second-week budget presentation for the Spring Fling. Amber Konopka, student director for the Spring Fling, presented the budget and was able to answer questions that SG members had.

Konopka was able to reduce the cost of dinner to \$18.95 per person. A motion was made to allocate \$13,940 for the Spring Fling. The motion passed 35-0-8.

Next on the agenda was a second week fund request by the Running Club. Robert Sperazza, president of the Running Club, presented on the Relay for Heat event.

The club was requesting \$600 to participate in the event. The cost breakdown is \$5 per mile per student.

The relay benefits the Martin Luther King Foundation, which helps underprivileged homes in Luzerne County during the winter



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

The current equipment in the Marts Center fitness room is around 10 years old and only four of them allow users to run, and one only allows users to walk.

months. A motion was passed to allocate \$600 to the Running Club for the Relay for Heat event. The motion passed 36-0-7.

The Capitol Projects committee presented a first week budget fund request. Julie Miller, junior class president, presented a proposal to purchase four new treadmills for the fitness center in Marts Gym.

According to the presentation, all the equip-

ment in the center is approximately 10 years old. There are currently seven treadmills, only four allow running and one is "walk only."

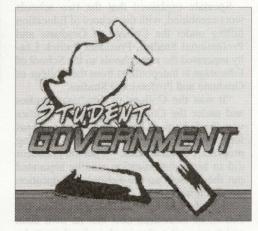
The proposal is to purchase four new treadmills in the center. Each treadmill is \$5,499 and a one-time \$250 installation fee, for a total fund request of \$22,246.00. There was conversation about the topic as well.

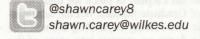
"We (as freshman representatives) think it is

a great idea," freshman class president Logan Rutch said. "We want to acknowledge Capitol Projects for always finding the little things on campus that needs to be addressed."

The Capitol Projects committee will be back next week for a final vote.

Finally on the agenda was the selection of Member of the Month. Nominees were taken and the winner was announced. Christian Victoria was announced as the winner for January because of his hard work and dedication to Student Government and being a great role model.







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Forum highlights ed issues

By Delishia Washington

Staff Writer

Cyberbullying and strategies that will help students succeed are only a few topics that will be presented at the 2013 spring semester's Drs. Robert S. and Judith A. Gardner Educational Forum Lecture Series.

Every semester since 2006, assistant professor of education Robert Gardner and his wife, adjunct instructor of education Judith Gardner have coordinated a series of lectures for students, teachers and the general public to inform and educate them on various issues in education and the community.

Judith Gardner marveled at the lecture series' national appeal when she described receiving phones calls from hopeful speakers from as far as California.

This class of recognition has made the candidate selection process diverse and enjoyable

The Gardners said they use newspaper articles, phone calls, emails and referrals to recruit prospective speakers.

Book authors and workers from prominent television networks have also contacted them with lecture proposals. Then, they would collectively decide which speakers' topics would be of value to the audience.

According to Judith, the Educational Forum Series has allowed students to build a network of caring people that are natural teachers but not always classroom teachers.

"That sometimes strikes a chord with young people who are a little bit tired, frankly, of the sage on the stage (explicit instruction)," she



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Associate professor of chemistry Amy **Bradley teaches Organic Chemistry II** in Stark Learning Center 101.

Teachers from local school districts are also invited to sit in on the informational sessions as the content is beneficial to them as well the Gardners said.

Robert stated that he and Judith ultimately strive to provide an environment in which people can speak freely and honestly.



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Seven to be charged with links to campus crimes last month

Warrants for arrest filed connecting suspects with series of armed robberies and assaults

By Kirstin Cook

Editor-in-Chief

Wilkes-Barre police filed warrants for the arrest of seven men in connection with a crime spree that included an assault on Wil-

Police plan to charge the suspects with terrorizing people with armed robberies and physical assaults throughout the city over a series of days.

The spree of armed assaults and robberies occurred last month on East Main Street , Arch Street, Lehigh Street, Old River Road and West River Street between Jan. 20 and Jan. 22.

Police said a firearm was used in each of the incidents. Some of the victims suffered injuries in the attacks.

One of the attacks involved a male undergraduate student who was robbed and assaulted in front of Waller Hall on 40 W. River St. According to Public Safety, the attackers approached the student in a white sedan.

According to police, the same vehicle was involved in a similar attack on Old River Road later in the evening.

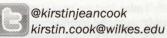
The vehicle that was suspected to be involved in this spree was located on Jan. 23. According to the police department release, officers pulled the car over and identified some of the suspects.

All the suspects were identified through a criminal investigation.

The seven charged include two adults and four 16-year-olds, who police say will be charged as adults due to the severe nature of the crimes. A 14-year-old boy suspected to be involved will be tried in juvenile court.

Investigators identified Quincy Michael Patrick, age 18 of Larksville, and Jahmel Rashon Wadley, age 20 of Wilkes-Barre, as the adult suspects.

The planned arrests were announced by Wilkes-Barre city police on Feb. 8.



Educational forum schedule

"Land Grant Colleges and the **Reshaping of American Higher** Education"

Nathan Sorber, assistant professor of higher education administration at West Virginia University Tuesday, Feb. 12, at 4:30 p.m. in Marts Center, Rm. 214

"Lattimer Massacre, A Radio Play: A Chapter Out of Luzerne **County History**"

William Bachman, assistant professor of communications at Pennsylvania State University Wilkes-Barre Tuesday, Feb. 26, at 4 p.m. in Marts Center, Room 214

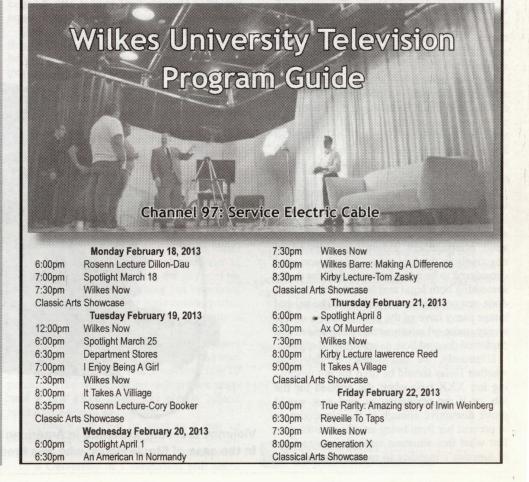
"Cyberbullying: A Crisis in Our Schools"

Jane Holter, trainer in the Attorney General's Office in Harrisburg Monday, March 18, at 4:30 p.m. at Marts Center, Room 214

"Strategies that Will Help Young People Succeed in School and in

Mahmond Fahmy, Rabbi Larry Kaplan, the Rev. Robert Zanicky and Monsignor Vincent Grimalia Panel Discussion Tuesday, April 16, at 4:30 p.m. in the Henry Student Center Ballroom

For more information, contact Robert Gardner at robert.gardner@ wilkes.edu.



6 OPINION



Contact editor: carly.yamrus@wilkes.edu

Sex education: Is America too prudish?

Fired porn star teacher raises issues of sex, violence in U.S.

By Bill Thomas

A&E Editor

Historically, America has always had an uptight and unhealthy attitude toward sex. Guess that's what happens when you live in a nation founded by Puritans.

Case in point: Last year, Stacie Halas, a 32-year-old science teacher at Richard B. Haydock Intermediate School in Oxnard, Calif., was fired when it was discovered that, prior to her hiring, she'd performed in a handful of pornographic movies under the nom du porn "Tiffany Six."

Some readers may recognize Halas/Six from her work in such movies as "Boobaholics Anonymous 2" and "Eat My Black Meat 4." Others will also recognize her work but refuse to admit it. After all, sex is icky. We wouldn't want to admit that sexuality, erotic fantasies or masturbation are all natural parts of human nature, would we?

Last month, Halas lost an appeal to overturn her arguably wrongful termination. Never mind the fact that Halas proved herself capable in the classroom, the only thing that should even matter. Never mind the fact that Halas turned to porn out of desperation, at a time when money was low and jobs few and far between. Never mind the message Halas' firing sends, that second chances are little more than a pipe dream.

For that matter, never mind the fact that adult entertainment is a completely legal profession, one which Halas engaged in with other mature, consenting adults, all on her own time, before ever entering the employment of Haydock Intermediate School. Never mind all of that. Instead, chock up another win for repression and hypocrisy.

Sure, there's an argument to be made that teachers need to be role models and that Halas failed to be a positive one. But that once again raises the question of why those in the adult entertainment industry are viewed so negatively in the first place. Why is someone considered to be a "bad role model" for doing something both legal and lucrative that, when done responsibly, harms no one? The mental image many have of the porn industry, one of sleazy snake-oil salesman and traumatized and exploited drug addicts, is an outdated cliché.

Ultimately, we can debate all day long whether Halas should be fired for not disclosing her XXX past when she applied for the job, or if the revelation of said past would prove disruptive enough in the classroom as to prevent her from being an effective teacher. But what this situation really brings to light is America's inability to make peace with its

It's baffling that Americans are so squeamish around sex considering how comfortable we seem to be with violence. One has the power to create while the other can only destroy. Still, television programs can show bullet-riddled torsos but not bare breasts. We're all OK with the parts of "Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas" where players murder police officers (i.e. all the parts), but not the 'Hot Coffee" hack that depicts fully clothed and pixilated cartoon sex.

Don't be confused. The point here isn't that violence should be censored, despite its inherent negativity. It's that sex shouldn't be. Certainly, if the argument could be made that sex should be done in private (for some reason), then one could just as easily counter with the argument that war should not be done at all. If Halas had been a war veteran, would that have caused even a lick of controversy? Would anyone have questioned her integrity or capability? Not likely. And, yet - no disrespect intended - what is a soldier other than a

Killing on the behalf of corrupt politicians: good. Knockin' boots for fun and profit:

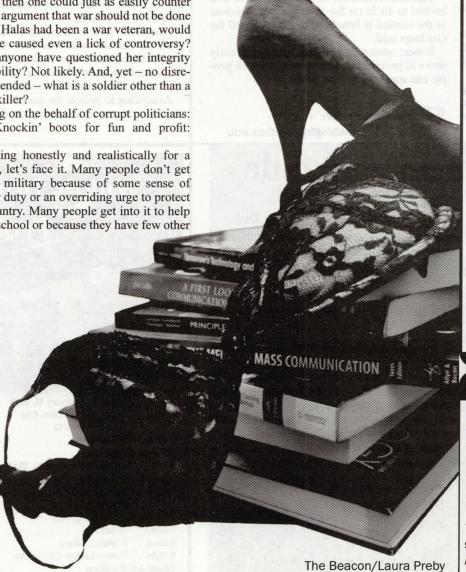
Speaking honestly and realistically for a moment, let's face it. Many people don't get into the military because of some sense of honor or duty or an overriding urge to protect their country. Many people get into it to help pay for school or because they have few other

options. That doesn't sound too different from why Halas got into porn, does it?

Perhaps the American attitude toward sexuality is so immature because a lack of education. All over the country, PTAs argue over when sex ed should be taught in schools, if at all. Meanwhile, the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are treated as ho-hum historical facts. War, it's implied, is just something that happens. A necessary part of human culture.

What, then, is sex?

@thatbillthomas billthomas@thewilkesbeacon.com



Violence is readily accepted in American culture, yet sex is frowned up such as in the case of Stacie Halas, who was fired as a teacher for being a ex-porn star.

BEACON POLL

The Beacon poll is unscientific and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on the Wilkes campus. Poll results are based on 4 responses.

Last week's question:

What is your diet like at school?

Anything that Tastes Good-25% Healthy SUB choices-25%

This week's question:

What is your opinion on Valentine's Day?

- Love it!
- Like it
- Hate it
- Depends on whether or not I have a valentine
- No opinion

Cast your vote online at: www.thewilkesbeacon.com

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The Beacon wants to hear your voice.

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The Beacon reserves the right to edit submitted pieces for length and content. Anonymous letters will not be published.

Valentine's Day: Happiness for some, anxiety for others

By Lyndsie Yamrus

Assistant Opinion Editor

Feb. 14, like any other day, occurs every year. Typically, people either hate this day or love it, depending solely on whether or not they have a "special someone" at that particular time of the year.

It is actually the second most celebrated holiday in the world after New Years. People like Valentine's Day. They like is so much that a countdown for it is automatically programmed into one of the apps on my iPhone.

But, granted you're happy in your relationship or seeing someone new, this day does have a lot of potential. From experience, I can say it is a lot of fun exchanging cute little Valentine's Day gifts and cards with each other, going out to eat and spending the day together.

Not that it is or should be any different than any other day, but Valentine's Day allows couples to make each other feel special while celebrating romantic or courtly love in a sweet and amusing way.

In theory, it should be the perfect day because that's how Valentine's Day is adver-

Then there are people like me who wanted to hide back in early January when Wal-Mart and CVS started putting out stuffed bears and dogs and chocolate roses, boxes of valentines, bags upon bags of candy hearts and other miscellaneous tchotchke that people like to buy.

It made me nervous. That Wal-Mart outing became mildly overwhelming. So much pink and red and (gasp) ... I didn't have a valentine! I wasn't ready for it. I bought whatever I needed to buy, tweeted about the experience and bolted for the door.

Now don't get me wrong. I think all of those colorful little gifts are adorable and marketed up to the fullest extent. I like the holiday because it's different.

I've found that even if I don't have a "real" valentine, celebrating with family and other single friends makes the day a lot more manageable.

But the truth is that for some, Valentine's Day causes more stress and anxiety than anything else, especially since the world has commercialized the holiday to the extreme.

Not having a partner or even just a valentine on Valentine's Day is just one of the major V-

For many, being alone on Feb. 14 is a depressing thought. You'd want to be one of the people receiving stuffed animals, cards, kisses and affection, right?

If not, then it looks like you're ready to take on the holiday single-handedly.

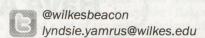
But for those who aren't entirely OK with being in The Singles Club, Valentine's Day can feel like a real slap in the face, lowering ones self-esteem and self-worth. It is estimated that 15% of women will send themselves flowers on Valentines Day, according to Time. How's that for low self-esteem?

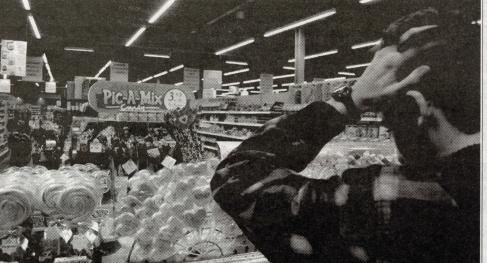
Another major anxiety-causer is ensuring that the day really is as perfect as it can get. Did I buy the right gift? Will he/she like it? Is it too late to make dinner reservations? So many things could go wrong that you have to wonder if it even matters at all anyway. After all, it is just a made-up holiday.

So why are we getting ourselves so worked up over it?

Unfortunately, it is not uncommon for Valentine's Day troubles to go straight to the head. As much as I like the holiday, society takes it entirely too seriously. Consequently, individuals may become agitated, discouraged or disappointed, wishing the day would just end already.

Unlike Christmas, Halloween and New Years, Valentine's Day singles people out. It is costly not only from a gift-giving sense (in the billions, by the way), but also mental health wise. It's all in all just not a fair holiday.





The Beacon/Austin Loukas

For many, Valentine's Day is more stressful and disappointing due to a lack of that special someone or the fear of messing up the supposed "perfect" day.

Equality in combat a threat to both performance and moral



The Beacon/Bryan Calabro

Lifting the ban on women in combat was well-intended but with it comes physical, emotional and social problems.

By Carly Yamrus

Opinion Editor

History was made Jan. 24 when a 1994 ban barring woman from military combat was lifted. Let's hear it for the advancement of women's rights. OK, now I am going to argue against popular opinion when I say that this was a mistake.

Here in America we have this mentality of 'Anything you can do, I can do better." Which is completely ridiculous because it is simply not true. There are some things that men are better at than women, and vice versa. We are equal, but we are not the same.

One of the biggest arguments surrounding this issue is the obvious physical disparity between men and women. Take for instance gender blind recruitment. It's already unequal.

The Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard physical requirements are all different, but in almost all aspects, women are required to do either do less physical work (for example push-ups and sit-ups) or have more time to complete tasks such as the mile

A United States Navy study found that "the top 7 percent of 239 women scored in the same range as the bottom 7 percent of men in upper-body strength.'

In a radical effort for fairness and equality, we are sacrificing performance. More times than not, the female will underperform in comparison to men. Lowering the physical requirements would be anything but beneficial to the effectiveness of our male counterparts.

Mixing women and men in combat units is a dangerous move for everyone involved.

We can't ignore biology. We can't ignore he fact that women can get pregnant and men cannot. The New York Times reported that 10 percent of the women in the military are pregnant at any given time. This greatly affects military readiness and morale.

Pregnancy can also be used as a way of avoiding deployment. Another unfair advantage. who is to say that that will not happen?

In a University of Connecticut poll taken

by military personnel 46 percent said that the pregnancies "had a negative impact on unit readiness," 59% said it had a "negative impact on morale."

When you put men and women together in a group for an extended period of time, after a while a few natural tendencies are going to

Physical attraction is a very real problem in the military. There's no time for these kinds of distractions when you are on a mission. Relationships are bound to form, resulting in favoritism or erratic behavior due to desire. Close connections between men and women may lead to risky and impulsive decision-making that could be detrimental to the group and could even cost lives.

There is a great possibility that men will feel obligated to protect their female counterparts. After all, chivalry is not dead.

It's silly to think that "gender sensitivity training" will make men and women any less attracted to each other.

Women also run the risk of being sexually harassed or assaulted. The US Department of Defense reported that 1 in 7 women were sexually assaulted on three military campuses last spring. Do you think this number would decrease when you put men and women together

Women in combat is, in theory, a great idea. Equality, empowerment, opportunity... would all be great but the argument is flawed. It doesn't take into account our significant gender differences. It's science. It's psychol-

We can't be blind to all of the potential problems that may come out of this.

This is not the time for a social experiment. Social equality isn't going to win a war.

It's not sexist, it's the truth.



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Visible administration to benefit students, school

Wilkes administrators should make an effort to be seen and be in tune with student affairs

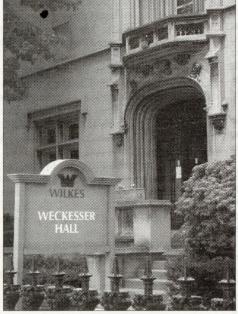
By The Beacon Editorial Staff

Over the course of this year, students have become fairly familiar with President Patrick Leahy. He has made a lot of efforts to be visible to students on campus and has even said that the Henry Student Center is his favorite place on campus. He's even gone to a few Student Government meetings and student functions such as Club Day.

However, The Beacon can't recall many other members of Leahy's administration being as visible to students on campus. We haven't heard of them attending student functions or Student Government meetings. In fact, for some, students aren't aware of their position and how that position affects them. And that's because they don't ever really see the administration interacting with the students around campus.

Although it may not seem like it, every member of the administration is doing his or her job to benefit students. Even though the descriptions and roles differ by position, the overall purpose of a Vice Presidential job is to benefit the students and to enrich their Wilkes experience, whether that be academic, financial or social. Even though the administration at Wilkes has been described as "complex," the fact that Wilkes is a small university makes it is possible for members of the administration to easily speak and get to know students. It is a lot harder for administrations at larger universities to do the same.

The Beacon praises Leahy for going out and speaking to students and going to student functions such as Student Government meetings. We're happy that he is eager to get to know what students at Wilkes think about issues on campus. We haven't seen other members of the administration do the same.



The Beacon Archives

President Leahy's office is now located in Weckesser Hall in an effort to become closer to the Wilkes community.



The Beacon/Laura Preby

The Beacon believes administrators are rarely seen outside of their offices located in UCOM, which is far from many campus life and student activities.

We believe that for members of the administration to do their jobs well, they need to get perspectives on campus issues not just from faculty and staff, but also from students. Students are the ones they are working for after all, and their perspectives will give them insights into how the campus should look and how it is running.

The Beacon believes that the administration will receive better perspectives on campus issues and how it should be portrayed if they physically go out and speak with students. For example, asking students about what attracted them to Wilkes and what they like best about Wilkes can help with promoting the university and increasing enrollment. Speaking with students about how they think Wilkes is running can give members of the administration perspectives into what problems and issues are going on. They can then find a way to fix those problems.

Students complain about issues on campus that could be fixed. If members of the administration got out and took the time to speak with students around campus, they would know about these problems students are complaining about and they could fix them.

Leahy has enacted several initiatives The Beacon thinks will help the administration become more in touch with students. One of them is Leahy's initiative to move his office and most of his administration back to Weckesser Hall, which has been the traditional home to the president's office since the university's

Having their offices in UCOM makes the president and members of the administration seem isolated from the rest of campus because of the location of UCOM on campus.

We're glad Leahy has chosen to take the tiative to move his office and those of most of his administration to Weckesser because it will allow them to be better in touch with the rest of campus, particularly students, which is the main goal.

Leahy has said that moving his office back to Weckesser will help do just that. The administration's comings and goings from the building will bring them in contact with students on a more daily basis.

The Beacon is also aware that Leahy is plan-

We believe that in order for members of the administration to do their jobs well, they need to get perspectives on campus issues not just from faculty and staff, but also from students."

- The Beacon Editorial Staff

ning to participate in Wilkes Relay for Life with his administration as a team. The Beacon thinks that this is a great idea, as it will really help give members of the administration a chance to interact with students while simultaneously raising awareness for a good

Members of the administration can surely get better insights on campus issues as well as perspectives on how the campus should be represented simply by showing their faces more and discussing different aspects of the school with those who are most affected.



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The Beacon reserves the right to edit submitted pieces for length and content. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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The cockroach and the cat: Revisiting the jazz age Wilkes theater students spin seriocomic tale of life, love, loss with "archy and mehitabel"

By Anthony Bartoli Assistant A&E Editor

Wilkes University Theatre will be presenting "archy and mehitabel," a jazz musical about Archy, a nerdy cockroach (literally) with the heart of a poet and his love for Mehitabel, a free-spirited alley cat, on the main stage of the Dorothy Dickston Darte Center for the Performing Arts on River Street.

The play, based on a series of newspaper columns written by humorist Don Marquis, is a satrical but emotionally resonant tale of life, love and loss in the 1910s and '20s.

Archy will be played by English and theater arts junior Jamie Alderiso, who says, "the show is about the inability to change another person, and the choice of accepting a person for who she or he is as an individual." Mehitabel will be played by education and theater arts sophomore Amanda

Teresa Fallon, Wilkes' director of theater and performing arts, will direct the musical. Other cast members include Brandon Scott, Cassidy Conroy, Luke Brady, Kelly Pleva, Sam Prentice, Kassandra Richmond, Janel Naro, Erin Weinberger, Courtney Littlefied,

The Beacon had the chance to speak with the stars of this production to get some insight into the musical.

What's different about this play than any other production that you've been in?

Amanda: This production is a jazz comedic musical; I have never been in a production where those three are combined into one. Jamie: This is a jazz musical. Written in the 1950s, the piece doesn't sound like any contemporary musical today.

What challenges do your roles bring?

Amanda: Challenges that I face when playing Mehitabel are definitely bringing a cat to life, but still keeping realistic instincts and feeling and connections with other characters in the show.

Jamie: I have a ton of different aspects to portray as Archy: everything from dejected, to inspired, to drunk as a skunk.



Courtesy of Teresa Fallon

Jamie Alderiso and Amanda Thomas jazz things up as the titles characters of "archy and mehitabel," a musical play based on the writings of Don Marquis.

How did you prepare for your roles?

Amanda: I honestly researched a lot of cats. The way the move, react, and interact with others. I also researched jazz icons including, most importantly, Josephine Baker, whom I based a lot of my acting choices off of. She was an extremely free spirited woman who owned her body and took control of every situation.

Jamie: I had to learn how to respect Archy. I also had to learn how to do a vaudeville and cartoony piece of theater.

What is the experience of performing in a jazz musical like?

Amanda: Vocally challenging. This show cannot be sung like normal Broadway, not choral music or pop. It's a whole other animal, which I have never actually attempted Jamie: With a musical like this, style is al-

ways a concern as an actor.

What do you like most about your role? Amanda: I enjoy Mehitabel's ambition and unwavering belief in the phrase "toujours

gai," meaing "always happy." Jamie: There are times when I clearly identify with Archy. And for this reason it makes it very easy to like him.

If you could change anything about your role, what would it be and why?

Amanda: I wouldn't change Mehitabel, because that's what the show teaches us. We can't try to change ourselves to be what we're not.

Jamie: Actors aren't supposed to judge their characters. I'm the interpreter, and I don't think I'd change anything.

Do you connect on a personal level with the character you are portraying?

Amanda: I definitely believe I connect with her fun energy.

Jamie: There are aspects of Archy that remind me so keenly of my identity as a person. We both definitely have unrealistic expectations of people. We are both idealistic.

If you could describe your character in one word or phrase, what would it be and

Amanda: Free. She is a firecracker of a free spirit and she owns the situation she's in. Jamie: I don't like to describe or assign anything to one specific word. This is a comedy and I am playing a cockroach, but I'm dressed like a human being. Human beings are complex and so is Archy and his felinelike counterpart.

What is your favorite part of this produc-

Amanda: I love seeing the whole production come together into true art.

Jamie: I love getting the chance to perform "Flotsam and Jetsam" with the beautiful and highly talented Amanda Thomas. All in all, we have a great cast and the visionary Teresa Fallon as a director.

Performance dates of "archy and mehitabel" are on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 15, 16 and 17 and Feb. 22, 23 and 24. Performances on Fridays and Saturdays will be at 8 p.m. Performances on Sundays will be at 2 p.m. General admission is \$10. Admission for students and seniors is \$5. Admission for Wilkes students with a valid ID is free.



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THE BARTOLI BEAT with Anthony Bartoli Lots of love for Lana

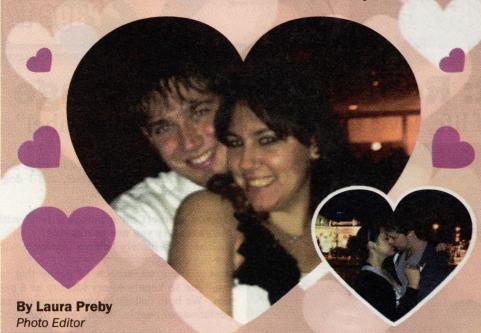


THE BOOK REPORT with Anne Yoskoski "City of Dark Magic," by Magnus Flyte



THE GRAVEYARD SHTICK with Jake Cochran Sociology of Woodbury

Sam and Dustin: Je t'aime, Te amo



Dustin Raymer is a junior at Wilkes University, majoring in industrial and organizational psychology, marketing and Spanish. He loves traveling and exploring the world, and has lived in Georgia, New Orleans, Washington D.C. and Florida before coming to Wilkes-

Samantha Lindo is also a junior at Wilkes, who loves traveling, sports and animals. She has a triple major in criminology, sociology and Spanish.

Dustin and Samantha have been in a serious relationship for the past six months. So serious, in fact, that they have attached a padlock to the Love Bridge of Paris to symbolize their everlasting devotion for each other. seem to have the perfect relationship-they are adventurous travelers who, when they aren't doing schoolwork for their many majors, can be found snowboarding, surfing, or just talking about the million other things they have

But the relationship between these two lovebirds hasn't always been so easy.

"We both met while studying abroad in Madrid, Spain," Lindo said. "Dustin went to USF in Florida and I went to Wilkes. We met one night while going out to the bar with a few friends we had just made, and there was an instant attraction.'

She recalls being so interested in him that she made sure she was standing near him at all times, including in line for bus tickets so she was able to grab the seat next to him.

The love struck feeling was mutual. "The first night we were in Spain, I was gathering a large group of people together to go out and explore the city," Raymer said. "I saw her immediately as everyone gathered around, and thought she was beautiful. As we all went from place to place in the city, I made every attempt to talk to her. We hit it off immediately."

Throughout the rest of their trip, Dustin and Sam made every effort to spend time together, knowing that when the trip was over, he would be going back to Florida and she, Pennsylva-"Every night we had there was amazing and every day, we grew closer," Raymer said.

After visiting Madrid, the group took a

trip to Paris for a few days. This was a wakeup call for Dustin, as he realized the trip would soon be coming to an end and he knew he was truly falling for Sam. Deciding that they would make their relationship work regardless of the distance, they purchased a padlock, attached it to the Love Bridge to signify the start of their relationship, and pledged their dedication to one

"There is a story behind the lock," Lindo said. "It is about true love and how you will be together forever. The lock had three keys, one in which I threw off the bridge and the other two which are ours. I got him a necklace and put his key on it, and I have a bracelet with the key attached. Neither of us goes a minute without

After getting back to the states, Dustin and Sam were only able to see each other once every few weeks. "I usually flew up to Wilkes every 3 weeks to visit." said Raymer, "It was definitely hard since we wanted to be together, though we put time aside every day to Skype with one another and we were both constantly on our phones talking and learning more about one another. It was very difficult, but we developed a level of communication that was incredible, as well as an incredible level of trust."

Dustin decided to learn more about Wilkes University, and found some information that made the couple ecstatic. "It happened that Wilkes had a program I was interested in pursuing, and I was willing to make that change to be with her," he said.

In the spring semester of 2013, Dustin made the transfer to Wilkes to be closer to Sam, and the couple lived happily ever after. They plan on spending their Valentine's Day doing some of their favorite things - racing snowboards at Sno Mountain, hitting up the bar and spending quality time with one another.

For their one-year anniversary this summer, the couple is planning a trip back to Paris. They want to attach a new lock to the one they originally placed on the bridge, to symbolize the struggle of distance that they overcame and to renew their promise to each other.



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Allie and Trey: High school sweeties

By Christine Lee

News Editor

Trey Tietz first met Allie Givens when he was in fourth grade. They became friends around fifth or sixth grade and started dating his senior year of high school. Today they are happily engaged.

Tietz, a P3 pharmacy major, had been dating Givens, who is studying at Kent State University in Ohio, for six years. In July, he finally popped the question to her. Even though they have been together since high school, Tietz went away to Wilkes while Givens was still back home in Ohio until she joined him a year later. This semester she transferred to Kent

Tietz said when he and Givens started dating, they knew there would be a long-distance component to their relationship because he was a senior in high school at the time.

"We were at the point where we knew that I was going to be at college and she was going to be in high school another year so we kind of talked about that beforehand. We just said we were dedicated to it and that we weren't going to let it get in the way of anything," Tietz said.

He said he and Givens were both committed enough to their relationship to make it work and both have the personality to make the relationship work, He explained that communication is a big factor in keeping their relationship

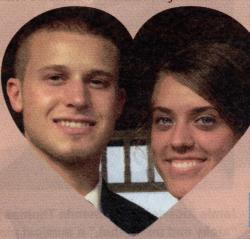
"We talk frequently throughout the day, not necessarily on the phone, but we text each other good morning every morning," Tietz said. 'She usually will call me before she goes to work or before I have a big test or something."

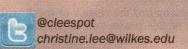
Tietz said he and Givens also try to video chat every week when they can and send each other letters in the mail every once in a while. He said some of the challenges they have faced are times when they individually are going through something rough or stressful. However they are able to pull through those times together.

"When we're going through rough times individually, those times can be challenging," Tietz said. "The good thing is that we can go through those together."

Tietz explains his favorite quality of hers is her caring nature.

> "The best thing about Allie is that she cares about people more than anyone I've ever met in my whole life," Tietz said. "She's such a caring person and she would really do anything for anybody.





Shawn and Jared: Long-distance lovin'

By Anne Yoskoski Assistant Life Editor

Shawn Loyack and Jared Gibbons met in high school. They starting dating in their sophomore year, and stayed together when Loyack moved to Texas for the last two years of high

"It was tough," Loyack, a Wilkes junior education major, said with a smile, "But it was

The couple, still together after five years, is going strong. With Loyack back in the area for college, their relationship has only gotten

The secret to their success is simply put in a common phrase. "No matter what life throws at us we still love each other and love always

When you find someone who truly loves you, you can always be yourself. That's the best kind of relationship because you don't have to hold back anything.

Gibbons thinks the relationship is a perfect match. He considers Loyack his other half, the person that fits perfectly into his life.



The most trying time in their relationship was their time spent 2,000 miles away from each other. Loyack flew in to see extended family in the NEPA area when she could, and Gibbons flew down on holiday breaks from school. The couple knew that starting out as a high school relationship didn't contain amazing odds for such a long distance relationship, but the two persevered into their twenties, where they support each other today.

"We knew what the word just saw us as a couple of crazy kids, but we didn't care, clearly we have proved even the odds have excep-



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Erin and PJ: Field trip to romance

By Christine Lee

News Editor

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A seemingly ordinary field trip her sophomore year of high school turned into something more meaningful for Erin Hanley.

Hanley, a senior P2 pharmacy major, and her boyfriend of seven years, PJ Turcotte, were in two sections of a class called World Culture, World Literature and had gone to see an exhibit on Claude Monet.

"Everyone who went to the class went on the field trip and he went on the field trip with all of us and actually at the time my best friend liked him so we were hanging out with him because me and my friend were with and his friends and that's kind of when I got find out who he was," Hanley said.

Hanley explained she had seen Turcotte, who graduated from Arcadia University near Philadelphia last year and is attending graduate school for his Masters in Public Health at Drexel University in Philadelphia, around her high school before the field trip but it wasn't until after the trip that they started talking. She said they started dating in June of that year.

Hanley said she has a lot of trust in Turcotte and because he is more outgoing than she is, he makes her life more fun while she keeps him grounded.

"He and I are actually very opposite. I don't party so I guess I'm not really this lifestyle where I would have gone out single and crazy to the house parties and stuff like that. But he is much more of a partier," Hanley said. "I think I kind of ground him in his decisions so he kind of makes my life fun I kind of ground him."

Hanley explains she and Turcotte are a good match for each other as she has trust in him, which she says is important in a long-distance

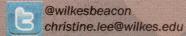
relationship. She said they text each other throughout the day and call at night to stay in touch. She said the fact that she was the only one with a car caused minor trouble between them but they were able to work it out because of the importance of their relationship.

"It caused tension at times but the importance of our relationship was more important," Hanley said.

Hanley's favorite quality about Turcotte is that he is considerate and thoughtful toward her. She also enjoys the fact that he is a lot of fun to be around.

"He's considerate of my feelings, the stress I go through; he's always trying to find ways to make me happy, to take me to new things or do new things with me," Hanley said. "I like the fun-loving side of him. That kind of gets me to get out and have fun because I think I'd be boring without him."





Five Tips for Making it Last

By Bill Thomas

A&E Editor

One thing all relationships have in common is that they take work. Some more than others. In the spirit of Valentine's Day, flowers, puppy dogs and all those sappy sweet things people think of when they think L-O-V-E, The Beacon sat down with Robert Bohlander, a psychology professor who's also worked as a marriage counselor for 24 years, and Jane Elmes-Crahall, a communication studies professor who teaches classes in interpersonal communication, to come up with these...

1. Be Yourself

Have foresight. No one wants to spend the rest of their lives sacrificing their self-identity for someone else's happiness, and no one wants to be with someone who isn't really who they thought they were.

"During the dating phases, people become like chameleons," Bohlander said. "They want to be exactly like what the other person wants, so you're really not seeing completely who they really are. People think 'Oh, she wants this now, so I'll do it, but after we've been together for a long time it'll change.' They think that after a while the hard part's over, that they don't have to work as hard. But it doesn't get easier as times goes on, it gets harder."

2. Find a Balance

Being in a relationship does not mean being fused at the hip. It's important to remain your own person and to not be afraid to ask for, or offer up, alone time.

"Sometimes couples want different levels of that. One wants to be together 95 percent of the time, the other wants to be apart 95 percent of the time," Bohlander said. "Ideally, you want a balance between connectedness and separateness, so, yes, there will be things you want to do on your own, but there are other things you do as a couple."

3. Don't Wait

If something's bothering you, get it off your chest. Don't just sweep it under the rug because, chances are, later on it will come up.

"When things are going well, we don't talk about it. When things are going bad, that's when we talk about. 'We've been together for 15 years and you still don't know the kind of birthday cake I really like.' Talk about stuff early, before it festers and causes resentment," Bohlander said. "A lot of time when people arrive in marriage counseling, it's kind of late because there's so much animosity and resentment built up."

Talk things through, but, as Elmes-Crahall added, "don't fight dirty" and don't get bogged down in debates over who's "right." Be candid, but use tact and be mindful of your partner's own thoughts and feelings.

4. Be Logical

Speaking of being mindful. Obviously, romance is all about emotion. But a real relationship needs a mix of emotion and logic to be successful.

"If you say you're in this for the long haul, that's a logical decision and you have to learn how to communicate," Elmes-Crahall said. "The biggest skill needed is what we call dual-perspective, or empathy. Even if there's tension there, try to think about things from the other person's point of view. Don't become so wrapped up in 'What does this mean for me?' You need to establish the ability to find out from their point of view what may be causing the tension. ... Pay attention to their non-verbal communication as well."

Self-reflection and open-mindedness are also necessary.

"It's good to get some insight into how you came to your current perspective on relationships," Bohlander said."That can help you see, 'OK, this is how it was in my family, this is what I raised to value, but it doesn't have to be that way. If I'd grown up in a different family, I might see things differently."

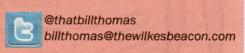
5. Don't Give Up

One thing Bohlander wants people to know is that there's always hope. "Even if there's a setback, a big blowout or whatever, learn from that," he said. "Anytime two people try to get along, whether it's a friendship or a working relationship, there's always going to be rough spots. You have to believe that this relationship will still be intact six months from now."

Meanwhile, Elmes-Crahall shared own insights gained not just from her profession, but personal experience.

"This is not me being the interpersonal communications professor, but the person who's been married for 27 years," she said. "Be open to surprises. Don't think because you're with the same person for a long period that things are predictable. There will always be surprises and changes, and if you trust the person enough, then change doesn't have to be a problem. In fact, it can bring you closer together."





Photos courtesy of subjects



Every issue, the staff of The Beacon's Arts & Entertainment section indulge their vanity and give a thoroughly biased crash-course in whatever madness happens to be dwelling in their warped minds.

Their views do not reflect those of The Beacon, its staff or Wilkes University.

Blah blah blah. This week, Bill Thomas is breaking out the chips, dips, chains and whips for some...

Tough Love

Eproctophilia

By Bill Thomas

A&E Editor

Call her Daphne. Just Daphne.

She knows better than to let her last name wind up splashed across the printed page. She knows that not everyone is comfortable, or accepting, of what she does.

Daphne, y'see, is into BDSM. That's "Bondage, Discipline, Sadism and Masochism," for all you squares. Think handcuffs, ball gags and lots of leather. You know the kind of thing, don't you?

Maybe. Or maybe you just think you know. "You'd be surprised. There are a lot of people in this valley that are into it," Daphne says.

She would know. More than just an 11-year veteran of BDSM herself, Daphne is the founder and organizer of the NEPA Kinksters Munch, a group of like-minded fetishists that, up until a recent hiatus, got together on a more or less monthly basis to share drinks, conversation and fantasies.

The group's membership is far from the raincoat brigade of libertines and deviants some of you may be picturing in your heads.

"It's usually the most unsuspecting people," Daphne remarks. "There a lot of respectable people who are into it but who are afraid, even to this day, that if they're quote-unquote 'discovered' they'll suffer repercussions at their job or something like that.

The reason for many of the misconceptions the mainstream has about the kink scene? Daphne points to the media, especially lurid pieces of mass-market entertainment more interested in ruffling feathers and titillating housewives than accurately portraying their own subject matter. All eyes on you, "Fifty Shades of Grey."

"A lot of what's in that book misrepresents what we do," she says. "Everything we do is based on the saying 'safe, sane, consensual.' Everything's safe, everything's sane and most importantly everything's consensual. A lot of people think it's all just whips and chains and hurting, but it's really not. It can be such a deep connection between two people that when they get into this lifestyle together, it's an even deeper connection than marriage."

Revealing that the bondage which the B in BDSM stands for is more than just a matter of ropes 'round wrists, Daphne explains how the very nature of this kind of kinky sex contributes to stronger, more fulfilling romances.

"In BDSM relationships, you really have to keep a lot of open communication between each other, whereas I think in a lot of – I hate to use this word – "normal" relationships, communication is lacking. There's so much trust involved with what we do. It can be dangerous but it can also be wonderful. I know people who have done some really crazy things. I could tell you stories that would make your eyes bulge out of your head, but their relationship and the trust they have for each other is so awesome and they're closer than any other couple I've ever met."

For those who may be curious about BDSM but unsure how to go about satisfying their curiosity, Daphne recommends research and experimentation, but also caution.

"Get your feelers out there, but always be careful. If you're going to meet someone, do it in a group setting, meet in a public place, bring someone with you," she says. "That's how I started. I started looking up stuff online, finding information about what I liked or what I thought I liked. Then I started the group, instead of looking for one, because there wasn't really anything in this area back then. That was six or seven years ago."

So what did Daphne find out about herself in her research? What kink is that lights her fire?

"I consider myself a submissive. I like making people happy. Even in my normal everyday life, I work with the public and I'm a people-pleaser. It's not always about getting tied up and getting spanked. While that is a lot of fun, it's about just giving that other person what they want. That in turn makes me happy, so it all comes full circle."



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CHEAT SHEET

Kink-O-Rama

Think bondage is kinky? That's nothing compared to the wide array of sexual fetishes in the world. They may seem bizarre or even sick to you boring, vanilla, missionary sex-havin' suburbanites out there, but, remember, beauty is in the eye of the beholder and even Haddaway had to ask "What is love?" As long as it's "sane, safe and consensual," who cares?

who cares?			
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	sometimes swallowed whole.

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terest scratch off, **Page 14** 

Contact editor: anne.yoskoski@wilkes.edu

# Learning to manage stress, one step at a time

By Alyssa Stencavage

Life Editor

Stress and anxiety are a part of everyday life. Everywhere you turn, whether it be work, school or just on the go, you are constantly facing some type of it. The pressures experienced by college students only compound this problem.

Stress is not uncommon, and its causes are many. The adjustment to living on one's own and having to take care of oneself is a major issue for many college students all on its own, which makes prioritizing, managing time well and having study skills in place that much more important.

The idea of socialization is another stressful obstacle in the college environment. Beginning with roommates, sometimes living with others at school works out well for some people, while in other instances having to live with another person has the power to create special, intense stress. For this reason, it is especially important to negotiate respect for each other and each other's property, sleep schedules and space. Everyone likes their

Considering the dissimilarity in nature between high school and college, the work load that college brings can be a slap in the face for students, especially those who are unprepared to take it on. In addition to this, much is expected outside the classroom. Students must take responsibility for their own actions and stay on top of things if a class is missed.

There are excellent tutoring and student services available, but it is difficult to receive help if you are not requesting services," Biskup said.

Along with the urge to fit in that so many students feel, comes peer pressure. Biskup said students may feel pressure to engage in the "college culture" and all that that includes.

"Students want to socialize with other students and as such may feel pressure to engage in drinking or other substance use," Biskup said. "I encourage students to engage in social activities where they are connecting with other students in healthy ways.'

Especially with the daily Wilkes announcements along with the posters and signs hanging all over campus, it shouldn't be a surprise that students have many opportunities to take part in activities on and off campus through the student activities office.

The community service director also offers many volunteer activities, and students can find spiritual guidance and service with

the Interfaith Office, which assists people in finding a place of worship. Of course, taking a trip to the gym is a great way to relieve the stress that so many of us carry on a day to day basis.

Although we tend to think of stress as negative, it is not always that way.

'Sometimes the tension we feel due to stress is positive in that it gets you out of bed in the morning so that you can move forward to accomplish your goals,'

Biskup said. If you take a second to think about those things that get you so worked up sometimes, it may become clear that we are not even really aware of what is actually behind the stress we are experiencing.

"We tend to think that stress is caused by external issues," Biskup said. "But it's not the events themselves that are stressful, it's the way we think about, interpret and react to them."

We can recognize stress through feelings, thoughts, behavior and physiology. If one is feeling anxious, scared, irritable or a fluctuation in mood, that person is probably experiencing things that characterize anxiety.

People may also have "all or nothing" thoughts running through their minds, or engage in futuristic thinking, which can also be something that prompts uneasy feelings. Fear of failure, inability to concentrate or focus or forgetfulness are warning signs of someone who spends enough time worrying.

That's not all to look out for. Continuous talk and frequent tears as well as grinding teeth haviors that signal someone out. When it starts to affect sleeping and eating patterns, that may be cause for concern. Along with that, trembling, neck and back pain, headaches and sweating are all issues that can scream stress.

As pretty much any college student can say, college itself, among all other major life changes, has the ability to make someone crazy and give them anxiety. These changes can come from home, like the death of a loved one or even divorce.

With the start of ex-

ams just around the corner, looking for ways to manage this stress may be the first thing on students' "to do" list. If you think your options of dealing effectively this burden are limited, think again. There are many ways of doing so, some that one may not even be aware of.

First and foremost, focus on your positive qualities and good things that happen in your life.

"A spirit of real, sincere gratitude truly changes people," Biskup said. "Finding one thing to be grateful for each day allows us to cope better with the stresses of life. Once you begin the practice of gratitude, it continues

Another helpful tip to consider is developing assertiveness and being able to communicate your needs. Biskup said it is OK to say no to requests for our time.

"We need to learn to prioritize what is really important to us and what we are capable of completing so that we don't become overwhelmed," Biskup said.

There's also no reason to hold oneself to the same standards as someone else when everyone has their own gifts and qualities that make

"We live in a competitive world, so we need to avoid unnecessary competition," Biskup

In reality, there are numerous ways to cope with and reduce stress. Biskup shares some of the most important.

Setting realistic goals and priorities, working toward living a balanced live and staying in the present are just a few Whether it through exercise, listening to music, expressing yourself via an artistic avenue, there's a way to take care of body, mind and spirit for a healthier you. It doesn't hurt get away from those stress producers or practice some relaxation techniques, either.

Biskup said counseling can help one learn positive ways of coping with stress.

"Recognize your humanity and that no one is perfect," Biskup said. "Even though you want to achieve your personal best, you want to prevent perfectionism. Surround yourself with kind, loving people whenever possible while practicing this attitude toward others."

Learning Specialist Katy Betnar said the No. 1 reason for college-related stress is time management so taking better control of schedules and prioritizing can help improve that.

"It all goes back to prioritizing," Betnar said. "Build it into your schedule and map it out. Small changes can lead to more and better productivity. Little things can go a long way."

Using a planner or a calendar to figure out what priorities one has and then scheduling your daily activities around them can only

"Start getting tutoring early, before you have any concerns," Betnar said.

Another common problem and cause for stress is that so many people want to do it all and end up getting involved in too much. Limit yourself to a certain number of hours for extracurricular activities.

To keep up with the countless assignments, papers and projects throughout the semester and avoid procrastination, set mini-deadlines so that procrastination isn't an option. Plan for study breaks and review your notes within 24 hours ahead of time.

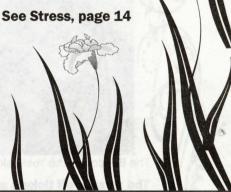
Betnar recommends 45-minute study periods with 15-minute breaks because the brain can only handle so much.

Finally, never forget the importance of sleep, exercise and eating.

"Some students take that for granted and don't realize what sleep and exercise does," Betnar said.

If you're more of the outdoorsy or adventurous type, those kinds of

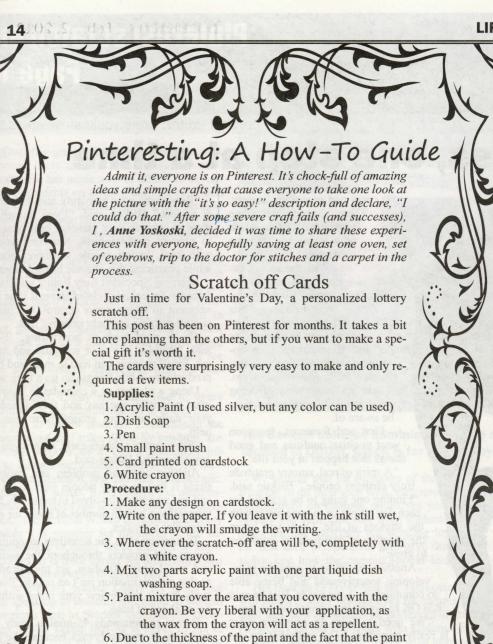






## Valentine's Day History...

St. Valentine's Day began as a liturgical celebration of one or more early Christian saints named Valentinus. The most popular martyrology associated with Saint Valentine was that he was imprisoned for performing weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry and for ministering to Christians, who were persecuted under the Roman Empire; during his imprisonment, he is said to have healed the daughter of his jailer Asterius. Legend states that before his execution he wrote "from your Valentine" as a farewell to her.



can't be absorbed in the paper, the valentine it will need to dry for about one hour before it is dry.

This was more time consuming and messy, but surprisingly

not too difficult. A bit pricier than the previous crafts ringing

up at \$7.49, I think it was still cheaper than buying a singing

greeting card and candy to go with it that isn't personalized

The Beacon/Anne Yoskoski

personalized gifts.

The scratch-off tickets are perfect as

# Grading disagreements What to do if you feel your grade is incorrect

By Anne Yoskoski

Advertising Manager

At one point or another, everyone has gotten a grade that the student felt was not earned or warranted. How does a student go about changing this grade or at least getting someone to take a look at it? Many students do not know the proper procedure for doing this and instead stay silent.

"I've gotten grades I disagreed with," junior Tiara Grant said. "I usually just try and bring it up next semester."

These are the steps one needs to take.

First, talk to your professor. Ask why you received the grade you did. Be prepared to prove you handed in all of the required work and did not violate any class policies such as attendance.

If that doesn't go well, speak with your department chair. The department chair will speak with the professor about your grade. If needed, the chair of the department can call the appropriate school dean into the meeting.

Depending on the outcome of that meeting, the final stop would be the provost. The provost will speak with the appropriate dean and department chair in order to establish an Appeal committee of faculty members, with some members from the department in ques-

The committee will hear the student's complaint, speak with the faculty member and study any evidence provided. If it is deemed necessary, other students or faculty can be brought into the committee and interviewed.

The committee would present the final decision to the provost. The most common decisions are upholding the grade, altering the grade or presenting a third option possibly including additional work to be completed by the student before a new final grade is determined.

All the policies are outlined in the student handbook, and students can check them at any time at www.wilkes.edu. Unfortunately, many students do not know that any of these policies exist.

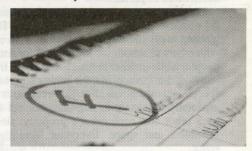
Junior education major Shawn Loyack wasn't sure where to look for the information.

"I wasn't aware you could even do this," Loyack said. "It's a good things to know."

For more information, look for the student handbook on the portal and the university web-



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**Grades are something that many** students struggle for.

The Beacon/ Laura Preby

Continued from Page 13

and don't realize what sleep and exercise does," Betnar said. If you're more of the outdoorsy or adven-

turous type, those kinds of strategies might be for you. Adventure Education Coordinator Jill Price

gives us some more physical strategies to deal with stress. Take the time to get fresh air and con-

nect with nature. such as hiking, which will allow you to get away from all the hustle and bustle of college life. Rock climbing is an effective way to confront stress because it requires physical effort and mental strategizing to conquer different routes, or pathways from the bottom to the top of the

Because yoga is filled with meditation, stretching and powerful movement, people often walk away from a session feeling extremely relaxed, centered and revived from the stresses of everyday life.

'The best medicine for stress is laughter," Price said. "Creating down time to laugh with your friends and try new adventures is time well spent. So often we get caught up in all the things we have to do we forget how vital it is for people to be connected with others and experience life."

For those interested in being guided through the process of relaxation, the Buddhist meditation sessions at Wilkes could be the place to

These sessions are aimed at quieting the mind and sitting and paying attention to breathing, and this is done by learning to concentrate. If your mind wanders off track, you quickly bring it back to where you're at.

"When you can keep the mind focused better, you learn to relax better and feel better in general," Associate Professor of Philosophy and the instructor of the sessions Linda

Paul said. "We need to retrain our minds. Stress arises because of the way we think, and if we learn to react differently to situations, we will experience less stress."

Paul encourages people to focus on the present moment and at least do a little and then do more when

"The more often you do it, the better results you'll get," Paul said.

Meditation sessions are held at 4:40 p.m. every Wednesday in Kirby Hall Salon.

Contact Paul for questions at linda.paul@ wilkes.edu or give her a call at (570) 408-



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## **Beauty Beat: Is Smashbox BB Cream worth price?**

By Ashley Evert Staff Writer

The Beacon is checking out the latest and greatest in beauty trends.

Beauty consultant Ashley Evert has the information you need.

What on Earth is this BB Cream non-sense everyone's talking about?

BB Cream stands for beauty balm in the Western market, but can also stand for blemish balm. BB cream is promoted as an all-in-one facial cosmetic product to replace serum, moisturizer, primer, foundation, and sunblock

What became BB cream was originally formulated in the 1960s by a German dermatologist named Dr. Christine Schrammek to protect her patients' skin after surgery.

From there it was introduced to South Korea and Japan as "the secret of Korean actresses" because it gave the look of porcelain skin.

Because Korean companies focused initially on the Korean and East Asian markets, they are offered in a limited number of hues. Instead of offering multiple shades for different skin tones, most formulas are designed to oxidize to match the user's skin tone. BB cream has invaded the Western

market with companies like Boscia, Clinique, Dior, Estee Lauder, Garnier, Maybelline, Revlon and Smashbox all releasing their own versions.



**Smashbox BB Cream** 

Claim: This BB cream claims to prime, protect, perfect, control oil and hydrate all in one product.

Color: This tinted formula is made in five shades: fair, light, light/medium, medium and dark.

**Coverage:** sheer/buildable. A pea-sized amount will give you a sheer layer to even out skin tone, but you can use another layer or two for more coverage if you need it.

**SPF:** Of course! Smashbox boasts 35 SPF instead of the usual 15 SPF. This is great for fair-skinned ladies like me that acquire lobster status as soon as they step outside. Bye, bye sun damage.

Price: \$39

Where to buy: Sephora, Nordstrom, Macy's, Smashbox.com

Pros: Its 1.0 fl oz / 30 ml size doesn't

seem like much, but you really only need a pea-sized amount. A tube of product lasted me about 5 months with heavy, daily use. You can use this as a way to prime your skin before foundation application (a good powder on top will nix the shine for a matte finish and set the makeup for longevity) or use it as a better-for-your-skin alternative to a heavy foundation.

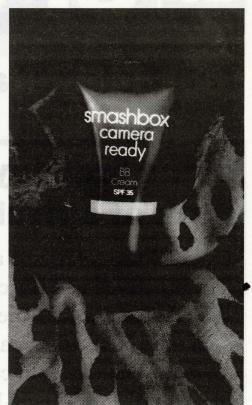
The whole "control oil, but still hydrate" claim made me raise my eyebrows, but this BB cream really does control my oily skin and hydrate the dry areas that tend to spring up in the winter. If you do tend to get very oily throughout the day, I would definitely recommend a light setting powder on those areas.

Smashbox's BB Cream is also bursting with anti-aging peptides that help to decrease the appearance of fine lines over time. You ladies know what the best cure for aging skin is: prevention! The best thing about this BB cream is the fact that it's cruelty-free! Kudos to Smashbox for that.

Cons: The price of this product makes my wallet weep. I really don't think it should cost as much as it does, but until I find something that makes my skin as pretty as this does, I'll splurge.



@wilkesbeacon ashley.evert@wilkes.edu



The Beacon/ Ashley Evert Smashbox BB Cream sells for \$39.

## Poet set for Wilkes workshop

Tim Seibles, whose collection of poems, "Fast Animal," was a finalist for the 2012 National Book Award, will host a poetry workshop from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 14, in Kirby Hall Salon at Wilkes University.

The workshop, sponsored by Wilkes University's graduate creative writing program, is free and open to the public.

One of America's foremost African-American poets, Seibles has authored six previous books of poetry.

During the workshop, Seibles will read several poems from "Fast Animal," discuss his creative process and conduct a writing exercise with attendees. There also will be time for questions, and he will sign books. Those who plan to attend should sign up by email with Etruscan Press at dzera@etruscanpress. org or call 570-408-4546.

"Fast Animal" is available at a 25 percent discount prior to the event. The book can be purchased between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 12 through Thursday, Feb. 14, at the Etruscan offices at 245 S. River St., Wilkes-Barre, or at any time by emailing Etruscan Press managing editor Starr Troup at stroup@etruscanpress.org.

A highly active ambassador for poetry, Seibles presents his work nationally and internationally at universities, high schools, cultural centers, and literary festivals. Born in Philadelphia in 1955, he recently spent a semester as Poet in Residence at Bucknell University, a post awarded annually by the Stadler Center for Poetry.

His poem, "Allison Wolff," was anthologized in Best American Poetry 2010. He has been a featured author in the Vancouver International Writers Festival in Vancouver, Canada, in the Calabash Festival in Treasure Beach, Jamaica, and in the Poesia en Voz Alto Festival in Mexico City.

Seibles lives in Norfolk, Va., where he is a member of the English Department and MFA in writing faculty of Old Dominion University. He is a teaching board member of the Muse Writers Workshop. He also teaches part-time for the University of Southern Maine's Stonecoast MFA in Writing Program, a low-residency program.

"Fast Animal" was published by nonprofit Etruscan Press, which is housed in the graduate Creative Writing Department at Wilkes University, 245 S. River St., Wilkes-Barre. Etruscan Press was founded in 2001 with initial funding from the Oristaglio Foundation. The press publishes five to six literary works each year in the genres of poetry, creative nonfiction, essay, translation, and fiction. To date, 40 titles have been published, 29 of them carrying the Wilkes University logo.

Etruscan's Executive Editor Dr. Philip Brady is a member of Wilkes University's creative writing program's faculty as is Dr. Robert Mooney, co-founder and fiction editor of Etruscan.

## THE WORD AT WILKES:

## Have you ever received a grade you didn't agree with?



James Wismer:

Senior Psychology Major

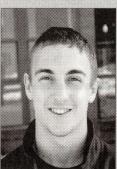
"Yes, English because I got a low grade on a subjective assignment.



Stephen Castrigno:

Senior Electrical Engineering

"No, professors here seem pretty fair."



Brain Smith:

Freshman Pharmacy Major

"Yes, my sociology professor gave me a bad grade on my final paper."



Matt Evans:

Freshman
Enviromental Science Major
"Yes, I got below an
80 on a computer
since lab that took

me three days to do."

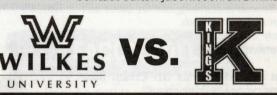
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Feb. 12, 2013

Contact editor: jason.cochran@wilkes.edu

## The Colonel and the Lion: Rivalry

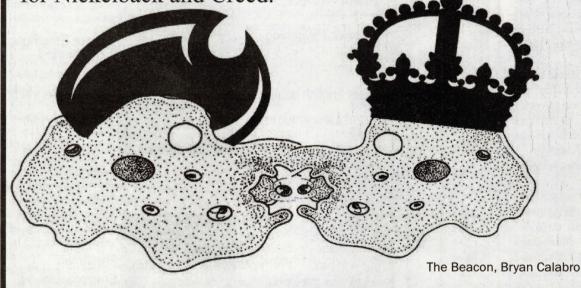
By Jake Cochran Sports Co-Editor



## In the first days of pre-history: Birth of a rivalry, the split

A long, long time ago, back when River Street was cleanly paved and Boscov's had just opened, a single celled organism emerged from the Susquehanna primordial ooze, also known as river. The organism split itself in two. With that split came one of the fiercest rivalries in the world ... of Wilkes-Barrian higher education academics.

Throughout the years the rivalry has intensified on every front possible, ranging from academics to athletics, the war even continues to this day to include the radio airwaves, where King's College fiercely defends its love for Nickelback and Creed.



## **Jumping far ahead:**

The Mayor's Cup is the trophy that the winner of the football game between the two schools gets to take home and relish over for the year until the time comes to defend it in the following fall.

In the 2012 season, the Colonels went into hostile territory to defend the Mayor's Cup and won the game 44-32, continuing its win streak and raising its all-time wins against Kings to 13.



Beacon Archives

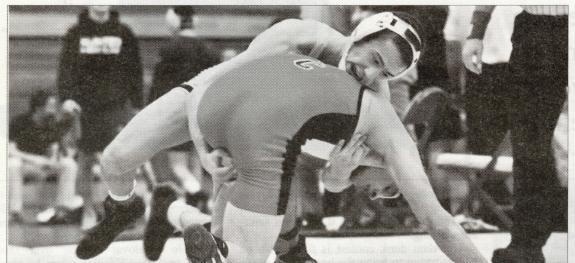
## The all-time record:

Wilkes University 13 wins
Kings College 4 wins
Wilkes University is currently on a
four-game win streak since 2009

~3000 BC

1996 AD

## Wrestling closes out at King's



Beacon Archives

The wrestling team looks to finish up its season at Kings College at 7p.m. on Feb. 22. The team recently extended its winning streak to 17 straight matches.

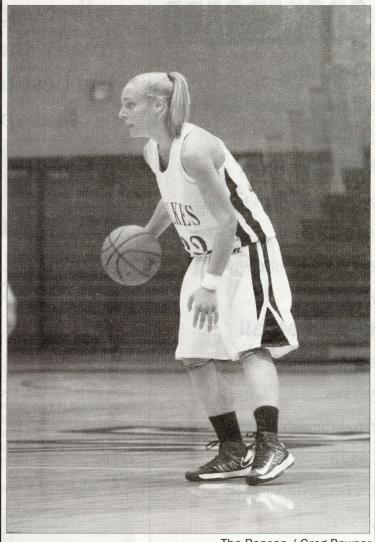
## Men's cagers close at King's



The Beacon / Greg Bowser

The Wilkes men's basketball team is scheduled to close its season at King's College at 1 p.m. Feb. 16 following the women's game. The team is on a four-game win streak.

## Join in the history: River Street Riot



The Beacon / Greg Bowser

The women's basketball team will close its season at King's College at 1 p.m. Feb. 16. Before the game students are marching to King's in support of both the men's and women's teams as they take on the crosstown rival for the final time this year.

The women's team will have a chance to end out its season with an above-.500 record with a win against the Monarchs and will hope to carry that moment with them into the next season as they continue to develop the young talent on the team

February 2013



# **SCOREBOARD**

### Wrestling

2/8 The College of New Jersey

Cancelled

### **M-Basketball**

2/6 at Fairleigh Dickinson

W 60-42

2/9 Eastern University

W 72-61

### W-Basketball

2/4 Keystone College

W 60-45

2/6 at Fairleigh Dickinson

L 36-73

2/9 Eastern University

L 65-71

## **WEEK AHEAD**

### Wrestling

Ithaca College 2/15

Kings College 2/22

#### M-Basketball

DeSales University 2/12

Kings College 2/16

### W-Basketball

DeSales University 2/12

Kings College 2/16

## NBA all-star game needs more quality

This week's topic:
Does the NBA
all-star game -- or
any major league
all-star game -really showcase
the best talent in
that sport?



All Star games in sports were always seen as a big spectacle in sports, the idea of taking the best players in the league and putting together two teams to play each other seems to be a fool proof idea.

However slowly but surely these games have been diminished to the point where they borderline circus.

The Pro Bowl is a joke, and the NHL all-star game no one cares about, let alone knows when it's on, even though the skills

competition is very entertaining.

MLB all-star games are seen as the only important one, considering home field advantage is on the line for the World Series, and the home run derby is always a great spectacle to watch.

The NBA all-star weekend has become a

sort of joke, the game is filled with players laughing at each other and dogging it until the fourth quarter where it becomes semi-entertaining.

The slam dunk contest is filled with no names trying to bring the hoop down while the stars and real dunk artists sit and watch. The three-point contest is the same and has the best players watching and not participating.

One of the main problems behind all-star woes is fan voting. Fans vote big names and biased views based on hometown players.

I think it is a great thing to have the fans have a partial say in who they watch, however, when we have Dwight Howard and Kevin Garnett starting the all-star games this year, that is a joke.

Hack-a-Howard has been a shell of his former self and Garnett is in his glory days with his best game well behind him. Chris Bosh and Tyson Chandler both have better numbers and are coming off the bench.

And the NBA is not the only culprit. MLB might even be worse. We have eight Yan-

kees on the team every single year, and the one person per team minimum rule is a killer when something is on the line and a team like the Astros must have representation.

like the Astros must have representation.
Pablo Sandoval starting over David
Wright or Chase Headley when he played
half as many games is a joke.

Taking fan voting completely away is not the answer. I will not go as far to say the words "electoral college."

However, I think that they should account for 50 percent of the vote and the sports writers should hold some weight like the Hall of Fame and should ultimately decide who starts the game.

These games must get back to a respectable level of play and we to get the best to participate, there is no excuse besides injury to not play if asked.



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Whenever fans are the deciding factor in any sport, things can get iffy.

It isn't always the case, but having fans as the final say can raise some questions of how credible the votes are.

If you follow the NBA, then you'll remember when the four Detroit Pistons started the 2006 All-Star game, marking the first time ever when four players on the same team were elite enough to lead an All-Star roster.

Granted the 40-8 Pistons were a power-house at the time, was it fair to other players around the league who got snubbed because of the Pistons players?

The point is fans have too much say perhaps in these situations, and should be voted

on by the league and the players.

This year, the West starting five will consist of two Los Angeles Lakers and two Los Angeles Clippers players; Kobe Bryant, Dwight Howard, Chris Paul, and Blake Griffin respectively, with Kevin Durant being the only starter not from LA. The problem here is diversity, and the fact that Howard (who is having one of his worst seasons ever) is voted over players who deserve it much more.

Basically, just because Howard is a fanfavorite, he was picked over someone like Al Jefferson or Anderson Varejao from the

The East consists of mainly Miami, New York, and Boston players, and I'm sure you can guess who from those teams. The All-Star game should consist of players from a league of 30 teams, not just 6.

The only time where it's nice to have fans rule favorites is in a case like when Shaq played.

Before Shaq retired, he was elected to every All-Star game, not because of his talent,

but because of the image and level of fun he

brings to the game of basketball.

His numbers may have been way down in his final years, but I know I'll never forget him break dancing with the Jabbawockeez for the introduction.

The only thing that is fueling the fans voting is their participation with the league. Millions of people voted for their favorite players ... literally. Just under 7.8 million fans voted for the East players and slightly more than 7.8 million fans voted for the West

Keep in mind, those are just the totals for the players who have been selected. There are millions of other votes for players who did not make the roster.

I say just have the players and coaches decide who should be on the team, that way, it would be more reputable.



@wilkesbeacon frank.passalacqua@wilkes.edu

# Men's basketball takes home forth straight victory against Eastern on Saturday

**Courtesy of Sports Information** 

Senior Tyler Breznitsky (Freeland, PA/MMI Prep) and Junior Chris Shovlin (Kingston, PA/G.A.R.) combined for 44 points to lead host Wilkes University to a 72-61 win over Eastern University Saturday afternoon at the Marts Center. The Colonels improve their win streak to four straight and remain alive for a postseason berth.

Wilkes stands 11-11 overall and 4-8 in Freedom play following the win. Eastern drops to 6-17 on the year, tied with Wilkes for sixth place at 4-8 in league play.

Early in the game Breznitsky got Wilkes rolling offensively canning his first three shots and capping an 11-3 Colonel run to give the hosts an 18-11 lead with 12:05 left in the first half.

A Shovlin layup in transition kept the Colonels ahead 27-24 with 3:39 left in the frame as Wilkes would settle for a 32-27 advantage at the break.

The second half became a foul plagued stanza as both teams spent a majority of the half at the charity stripe. The Wilkes lead grew to eight as Nic Wilkins (Dushore, PA/Sullivan County) and Pat Furst (Jamison, PA/Central Bucks West) hit back-to-back jumpers to give the Colonels a 36-28 advantage early in the half.

Brendan Sheldon (Milford, PA/Delaware Valley) hit two consecutive jumpers and two free tosses from Breznitsky grew the lead to 14, 48-34 with just under twelve minutes to play.

The Wilkes lead ballooned to as many as 19 as two more free throws, this time from Shovlin ended any hopes of an Eagles comeback attempt late.

Breznitsky led the Colonels offense with a career-high 24 points on 7-for-16 shooting including a 9-for-10 performance from the foul line.

Shovlin followed with a complete floor game adding 20 points, five rebounds, and a game-high seven assists. Furst chipped in with 10 points and three boards off the bench.

Tyler McGrath led Eastern with 17 points and 10 rebounds, while Malcolm Garrison (11 points) and Dan Werth (13 points) were the two other Eagles to reach double figures in the contest.

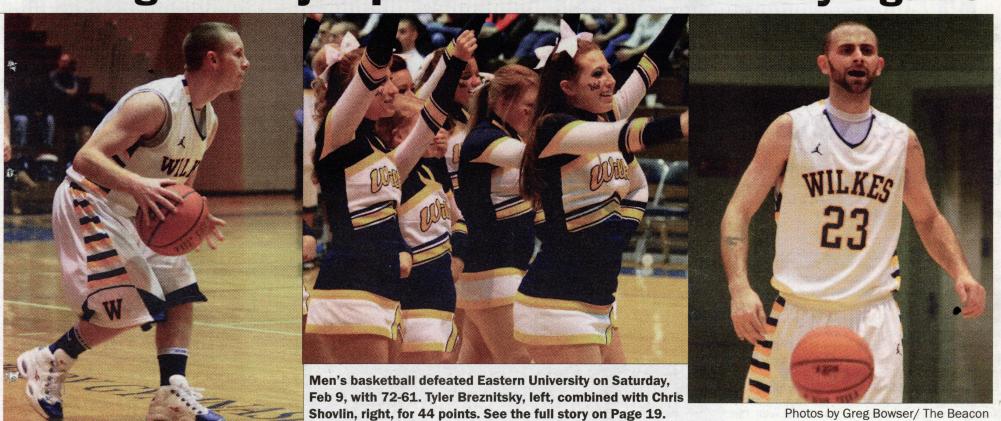
Both teams combined to shoot 67 free throws as Wilkes went 25-for-31 from the charity stripe (80.6 percent) while Eastern finished 26-for-36 (72.2 percent) from the line.

This is following their Freedom victory against FDU-Florham on Wednesday, Feb. 6 in the Marts Center. This third win wrapped up with a score of 60-42.

Wilkes returns to play Tuesday with another important contest when the Colonels travel to Center Valley, Pa. for a matchup with first-place DeSales University at 8:00 p.m.



## Winning streak jumps to four after Saturday's game



Photos by Greg Bowser/ The Beacon

and 12 rebounds. The team is 11-12

overal; and 2-10 in Freedom play.



# Women's team falls to Eastern

