



THE BEACON

Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

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



The Beacon/Baylee Guedes

Head coach Jonathan Drach links arms with (left to right) senior Jeremie Hernandez, junior Cory Pelzer and sophomore Mike Balichik. For more photos of the homecoming game, see pages 12-13.

FB: Colonels take Homecoming victory with 27-0 blowout

By Baylee Guedes
Sports Editor

EDWARDSVILLE, Pa. – Family, friends, fans and alumni all helped celebrate the 27-0 Colonel shutout win over Albright College for the homecoming day game.

"It was great (to get a homecoming win)," said head coach Jonathan Drach. "It was fun to get that kind of fan support and I think our guys played really-really hard."

Wilkes won the toss at the beginning of the game but decided to defer and kickoff the ball to the Lions. The Colonels held Albright's drive, forcing them to punt at fourth and 12.

With the ball in Wilkes' possession, seven plays in, junior running back Elijah Jules took a handoff from sophomore quarterback Isaiah Rodriguez for a 10 yard running touchdown. First-year kicker Nick Volpone's extra point attempt was satisfactory, putting the Colonels up 7-0.

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News

Have a breaking story or a press release to send? Contact the news editor Maddy Kinard: Madelynn.Kinard@wilkes.edu

Student Government notes: Sept. 28 weekly meeting

By **Claudia Cuchran**
Staff Writer

Student Government held its fifth meeting of the semester, covering one club fund request, three club re-recognitions and one constitution update.

First, the president of the proposed Spanish Club presented to the council with requests for club re-recognition for the first time since before COVID-19. The club, which will provide Spanish language and culture related activities for the Wilkes community, plans to meet twice a month and is accepting members of all levels of the Spanish language. They plan to host cultural events, shows and films, game nights, educational trips and community service events. The Spanish

Club will hold another presentation next week, with voting to follow.

The Wilkes Gender and Sexuality Alliance presented their constitution updates to the council for a second week. A motion was made to approve the changes and was passed.

The UNICEF Club, which was proposed to the council last week for re-recognition, has not been available to students since before COVID-19. An officer recapped their presentation and constitution. UNICEF Club, sponsored by the United Nations, will give Wilkes students the opportunity to experience humanitarian development and aid at both a local and worldwide level. A motion was made to approve the club, and was passed.

Next, The Indian Cultural Association

presented to the council with the request of re-recognizing the chapter. This club will bring Indian students closer to their diverse background, make international students feel comfortable by embracing their culture and provide friendly opportunities to welcome students into Indian traditions.

They will host events such as Diwali and Holi, volunteer at food banks, clean up parks and run fundraisers such as henna tattoos and Indian snack sales to support club activities. Officers will present again at next week's meeting, where voting will take place.

Lastly, the GeoExplorer's Club approached the council with a fund request for their Spring Break 2023 trip to Hawai'i. This trip, which runs every three years, provides students the

opportunity to explore new climates, environments and cultures different from that of Wilkes-Barre. It also allows geology students to collect samples from volcanoes and beaches to grow their geological collection and to use in class.

This trip will include visits to the Hawai'i Volcano Observatory, Green Sand Beach, Waipio Valley, Mauna Kea Volcano, Kona and brewery and plantation tours.

The GeoExplorer's Club executive board will present to the council again next week, covering cost breakdowns, incidentals and fundraising efforts.

Beacon Briefs: Upcoming campus events

Compiled by **Beacon News Staff**

Polish Room Committee Scholarship

The Polish Room Committee Scholarship welcomes applicants from Luzerne County residents to apply for an up to a \$3,000 award. Applicants must write a brief description of their Polish heritage (family immigration description) and what that means to them. Preference will be given to those in financial need. The letter must include applicants name, WIN, contact information and is to be submitted to Vera Krewsun of the Alumni House.

Applications can be mailed to vera.krewsun@wilkes.edu, with the subject line "Polish Heritage Scholarships."

Honors Online Clothing Store

Are you an Honors student looking for merchandise? The Honors apparel store is open now till Oct. 1. They are selling

joggers, shirts, hoodies and clothing for parents as well.

To purchase items, go to www.axelradshop.com/wilkeshonors/shop/home

Free Flu Clinic on Campus

The Wilkes-Barre Department of Health will host free flu clinics in the SUB, Henry Student Center, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 11 and Oct. 20.

No appointment is needed.

Vocal Ensembles Seek New Members

Wilkes University Chorus is accepting any new members, including students, staff, faculty and administrators. A voice placement audition is required for all participants.

To audition, the chorus meetings from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Geis Hall in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center.

Chamber Singers is also accepting new singers. Students, staff, faculty and administrators are also welcome to audition. Participants will be required to complete a song of their choice that showcases their skills, ear training, and sight reading

If interested in either, contact director **Matthew Rucpich**, at matthew.rucpich@wilkes.edu

Interested in Wilkes Adventure Ed?

If you are interested in WAE or want to stay up to date on planned trips and other outings, go to the link: <https://forms.gle/8SCdTmrU7rFg9m9j6>

Interested in Chess Club?

If you are interested in starting up a chess club on campus, contact jake.middleton@wilkes.edu

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Wilkes Veterans Council and Air Force ROTC co-host 5k

By **Sam Mullen**
Staff Writer

One of the many events over homecoming weekend was the Kisses to Cancer 5k, held on Oct. 1, aiming to bring awareness to cancer and to raise donations for various charities.

The event took place bright and early on the busy Saturday, continuing with the homecoming festivities. All proceeds from the event will be donated to The Valor Clinic, which gives back to veterans in the NEPA area; Relay for Life to help

with the fight against cancer; and the Wilkes University Gold Bar to provide funds to future officers at Detachment 752.

The donations will all be in memory of Major Candice Adams Ismirle, a Wilkes alumnus from the class of 2003.

All runners received a Major Candice Adams Ismirle short-sleeve shirt, as well as a swag bag with different gifts and promotional materials.

Awards were given out to those who were top overall in both female and male and for each age group.



Anneke Bouma (front) and Gianna Manzi (back) race to the finish line as their volunteer hours come to a close.

Have a news event you want to see covered?

Email
News Editor
Madelynn.Kinard@wilkes.edu
or
Editor-in-chief
Emily.Cherkauskas@wilkes.edu

REMINDER!

The Beacon is looking
for News writers!

You can write about...

- Campus happenings
- National news
- Current events
- Politics
- And more!



CONTACT:

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Office of Diversity Initiatives hosts “Taste of the Town”

By Zach Paraway

News Staff Writer

Last Tuesday, Wilkes students and staff gathered in the square for “Taste of the Town,” hosted by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. “Taste of the Town” is a monthly opportunity for students to experience and try the food of the many different cultures present within Wilkes-Barre, all at no cost to the students.

For September, students attended La Tolteca located within the Square. According to its website, La Tolteca is “prepared fresh daily and includes traditional Mexican grill favorites like fajitas, enchiladas, burritos, tacos, as well as daily lunch specials, signature drinks, and cocktails.” The restaurant is proud of its authentic Mexican menu and preparation within their food.

La Tolteca was chosen for the celebration of Spanish Heritage Month, celebrated from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 every year. It is done in a long timeframe of celebration as many of the different days of independence fall within those 30 days.

The first day of the celebration of independence for many Latin American countries including Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Mexico. All of them are close because it was all achieved in the Mexican War of Independence. Chile was also close as its independence came on Sept. 18.

“The importance of events such as this is not only to expand the kinds of food we eat but also to honor history. We celebrate American holidays without hesitation and we should come together and do the same for our friends,” said Erica Acosta, director of diversity and inclusion.

The event included many Wilkes students and even members of Wilkes staff. Students of all different backgrounds were present as well having grown up around different cultures.

“The event was a cool way to show everyone’s culture. You like to think that you are diverse and that you attend events like this and see there is still more you can learn,” said Quincy Banks,



La Tolteca was able to open its location on Public Square last March after the pandemic had delayed its grand opening.



“Taste of the Town” will occur once every month and is available to all Wilkes students, staff and faculty.

senior digital design and media arts major.

Participants ate a variety of foods, including fajitas, which are a stripped meat with peppers and onions served in a corn or flour tortilla or even on a skillet.

The presence of history and community was there as well. Before eating, Acosta led everyone in

introductions and conversations to bring everyone together before they began to “break bread.” This allowed everyone attending to open up about where they were from.

“I think that part of the experience brought everyone together. Many of us had never seen each other before so it was nice to make new friends and put names to faces of people I see around

campus,” said Starr Sandt, a sophomore psychology major.

“Taste of the Town” occurs every month through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. For more information, contact Erica Acosta at erica.acosta@wilkes.edu.

Screening of documentary "Agnes" for 50th year anniversary

By Josh Garced
Staff Writer

This summer marked the 50th anniversary of Hurricane Agnes, the flooding of the Susquehanna River and the destruction of Wyoming Valley. To show support for the Wilkes community amidst the anniversary, a screening of the documentary "Agnes" was held on campus.

Those who went through the flood slowly started entering the ballroom, picking up a beverage of their choice with a bag of popcorn. As they filled the vacant seats, President Greg Cant and Alan Stout, one of the three producers, writers and narrators for the documentary, went around the room and greeted everyone individually, thanking them for being able to come.

At around 7 p.m., Greg Cant spoke to the Wilkes community.

"The story of Hurricane Agnes and its impact it had on Wyoming Valley can be seen in the small posterboards placed throughout the campus. Since arriving in Wilkes, I've witnessed and heard about the resilience and strength this community has built after the devastation of Agnes. Not just throughout all of Wyoming Valley, but just on this campus alone," Cant said.

Hurricane Agnes affected the Wyoming Valley from June 14 to July 6, 1972. As Agnes made its way north from Florida, its arrival in Pennsylvania was met with heavy amounts of rain, with most of the rain deposit landing in the Wyoming Valley. As the Susquehanna River continued to fill and fill, the Governor and the people of Luzerne County noticed the imminent danger of rising water levels.

The levees that were in place were set to control the water level at a certain maximum level. The overflowing river broke that limit resulting in the levees not working, leaving the dikes to be the last defense.

This resulted in sandbagging. All members of the community, from teens to the elderly, created barriers of sand and dirt to help add two to three feet of a wall so that the water would not overflow



The Beacon/Josh Garced

Dr. Greg Cant opens event with discussing the impact Hurricane Agnes had on the Wilkes-Barre community.

if the dikes did not work.

It took one day of sandbagging until the governor sent out an evacuation order to all residents of Wyoming Valley and rang the sirens to commence the evacuation.

"Well, actually, the strength of the Wilkes community (and also the King's community) was made apparent at the dike along the River Common by the Darte that day (and in the many hours preceding the river's breach)," said Chuck Slavish, Wilkes alum and resident during Hurricane Agnes. "It was mostly all college students, those who stayed for the summer, or who were from here, or home for the summer, and lived in the neighborhoods surrounding the universities, that put forth that superhuman sandbagging effort."

All buildings were flooded with 60-feet of water with gas pipes exposed, causing fires. Firefighters were unable to reach them.

It took months for the community to get government funding and back to

the way things were, but the community always stayed strong and helped each other to rebuild Wyoming Valley into a new, better community.

Alan Stout, one of the three producers, writers and narrators for the documentary, was present at the screening. He shared with the audience and his fellow community how much this film meant to him, as he was only 5 years old when this event took place.

Stout remembers how his grandmother had her house destroyed, but he does not have any vivid memories of what was happening in the world and especially to Wilkes-Barre.

"I wanted this film to capture the flood as the main character, but to also have the people of Wyoming Valley be the heroes," said.

The idea for this documentary began on the 40th anniversary of Hurricane Agnes. He bought books about floods for his children and looking through these images of floods gave him the idea of

finding as much information as possible about Hurricane Agnes. Whether it was interviews, images, news broadcasts or articles, he was interested in making a documentary or "collage" about the nation's coverage and local stories of what Agnes did to Wyoming Valley.

"I want this film to be a tribute to the people of our community who experienced this devastating event; I want them to feel honored," said Stout.

Helen Ralston and her son, Tom Ralston, made appearances at the event as well.

Helen Ralston shared the story of her love and marriage with her husband, George. George and Helen Ralston were married for about 51 years and in their long, happy marriage, they contributed their talents to the university's community.

George worked and helped Wilkes University for 50 to 60 years, while also creating and becoming head of the athletics program and its department. Helen studied to become a musician at Wilkes, and eventually taught musical techniques at Wilkes.

Helen recollected back to the summer of 1972 when Hurricane Agnes began its descent upon Wyoming Valley. She talked about the aftermath of Agnes and how she was "blessed" to have the previous owners of the house install metal reinforcements behind the walls of the house.

The house was two blocks away from where the dike was overcome by the flood and was still standing after the flood cleared. Helen and George began the rebuilding process of their home. George would travel to Wilkes University to help rebuild the campus, then come back home to rebuild the house.

"As I looked around the wreckage inside my house, there was some furniture that survived while clamps and nail reinforcements were needed for others," said Helen Ralston.

"Like the furniture, the people survived and were reinforced by this tragic disaster and helped each other build and grow as a community."

Alumnus meets with business students about networking

By Ariel Reed
Managing Editor

As part of more homecoming celebrations, Andrew Seaman, a 2010 graduate of Wilkes, returned to campus to talk with students about ways to improve themselves on LinkedIn. Seaman also spoke about general business networking tips.

Seaman is a managing editor at LinkedIn and also the host of the podcast "Get Hired."

In attendance at the event were various business students, professors, the office of career development and various others.

"Hopefully it is not just a moment in time where they hear a lecture or presentation and just walk away," said Bridget Turel, the director of personal and professional development programming (PPD). "I hope that they take some of the tips and information and put that into use and see success from it."

During the event, Seaman first spoke about how a degree sets the foundation for what someone wants, but real life experience is what truly allows a person to work where they would want to work.

Seaman also went on to express how students should not be afraid about non-typical job paths.

"I've only had a few actual job jobs and I've stayed there," said Seaman. "So I'm actually not like a typical millennial that sort of hops around to a new job every two or three years. If you want to do that, totally fine, normal."

After touching on career highlights, Seaman turned to his specialty: LinkedIn and marketing yourself.

He talked about how posting on LinkedIn can be extremely beneficial, but also warned to not post things without depth to them.

He emphasized that commenting "atta-boys" is not beneficial, and students should shy away from that.

"I think I can not be worried about what I am posting on LinkedIn," said senior accounting major Liam



Photo courtesy Patty Deviva

Above: Andrew Seaman addresses students by talking to them about general business practices and ways to improve their online presence.

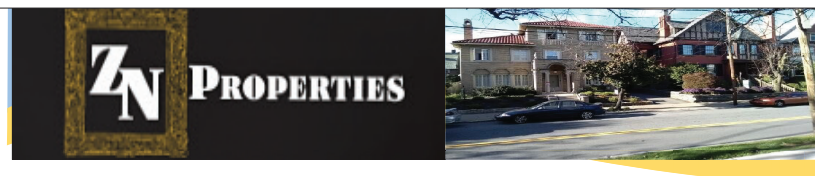
White. "I should post more about my accomplishments, and I now know that people see it as a good thing."

Seaman transitioned and talked about current industry trends and gave general tips on how to get jobs after graduation. He even discussed grad-school and whether or not it was a mandatory requirement in today's market.

The lecture was beneficial to not only students, but also the professors in attendance.

"I think that it is all about keeping up with current trends and hearing from people that are working in the industry," said Turel. "I took a lot of notes for myself and got a lot of inside tips from Andrew. I think as Wilkes professionals we are always trying to keep up with current trends and those are things we are trying to bring to our class."

Wilkes plans on making similar events available to students and faculty throughout the course of the year.



Student Housing 23-24 Open House

Sunday Oct 9, 2022

*

12-2PM

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Life, Arts & Entertainment

Have any events or artists to be shared? Contact Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor: Jordan.Daniel@wilkes.edu

Students celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at coffee hour

By **Laury Angeles Martinez**
Staff Writer

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, at the latest coffee hour, several Hispanic students and faculty gave short presentations, representing and speaking about the Hispanic country they come from.

Information and curiosities were shared about Puerto Rico, Spain, the Dominican Republic, Brazil and Colombia. Traditional foods from the countries were also shared.

Two Hispanic students, Josh Garced, a sophomore communication studies major and senior Gabriel Arauz, supply chain management, gave a short lesson in Bachata, which is a danced rooted in the history of the Dominican Republic.



Clockwise, from top:

Josh Garced (left) and Gabriel Arauz, senior supply chain management (right, who was also representing Panama) teach how to dance Bachata to the students at the Coffee Hour.

Ian Dewar, a senior hospitality leadership major represented Spain at the international coffee hour.

Joshua Garced, a sophomore communication studies major, representing Puerto Rico, gives a thumbs up to a photographer during the international coffee hour. The coffee hour celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month.



Photos: The Beacon/**Laury Angeles Martinez**

Cocktail of the Week: Perfect for fall...the toasted almond

Feeling a little nutty for the fall season? Then try making this toasted almond cocktail, an amaretto-based drink that is sweet and decadent and will have you feeling squirrelly.

Ingredients:
 1 part vodka
 1 part amaretto
 1/2-part coffee liqueur (Kahlua)
 1 part heavy cream
 Whipped cream
 Caramel syrup
 Sliced almonds

You will need a cup, ice and something to shake the liquor into. This is optional but for a pretty fall vibe, sprinkle some fresh nutmeg on top of the drink. This will add a warm spice, perfect for the fall.

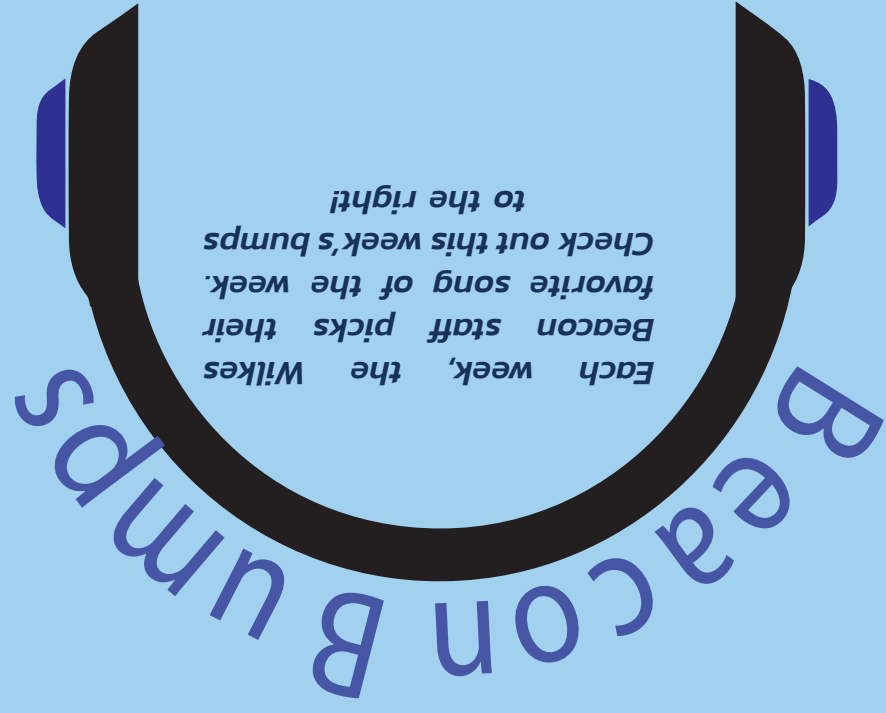
By Haley Katona
Staff Writer

The Beacon reminds everyone to drink responsibly...and that the legal drinking age is 21

Directions:
 Add all ingredients into a shaker and add ice.
 Shake thoroughly and strain into a glass.
 Add the sliced almonds and whipped cream.
 Then, top with caramel syrup as an additional garnish.
 For a different approach, switch the vodka to coffee for a more mild and caffeinated drink.
 Enjoy!



The Beacon/Haley Katona
 One sip of this toasted almond drink and it will make you fall in love.



Emily Cherkaskas, Editor-in-Chief:
 Electrical Feel - MGMT

Ariel Reed, Managing Editor:
 Pool House - The Backseat Lovers

Maddy Kinard, News Editor:
 Sabrina (i am a party) - Fred again..

Jordan Daniel, LA&E Editor:
 I'm In Love With You - The 1975

Morgan Rich, LA&E Asst. Editor:
 Charlie Boy - The Lumineers

Baylee Guedes, Sports Editor:
 Not Good At Not - Morgan Wallen

David Marks, Lead Layout Designer:
 you're a parasite - Riovaz

Center for Career Development opens doors to say welcome

By Bailey Dejesus
Staff Writer

On Sept. 30, the Center for Career Development and Internships had an open house for all students to come in and learn about the services available right on campus.

“This open house is mainly to make sure people know we are here,” said Carol Bosack, the director of Career Services. “We want students to be confident in their career choices and abilities when they begin looking for jobs.

“All too often, students get caught off guard when trying to enter the workforce. That is why we are continuously networking and assisting students with resumes and job applications.”

Bosack gave some easy, personal advice regarding future career choices. When a student tells her their major she is able to help them map out a career path.

The Center for Career Development and Internships is a valuable resource for the students. They organize job fairs, review resumes, call in major companies to hire students and help students walk through their plans for careers starting with which major would suit them best.

According to Olivia Wychock, a junior

English major and career peer, as well as an ambassador at the Center for Career Development and Internships, her job is to “help with editing resumes, plan events, reach out to students and get them into the Center and run different career fairs.”

Wychock aims to make students feel more confident talking about their futures. Also, Wychock is there to help students feel more comfortable in asking for help from someone who is similar in age to them so they are able to relate more.

The Center for Career Development and Internships offers many other features to help students succeed too.

“One major asset we offer is our Clothes Closet that helps students have professional clothing to wear for any of their interviews so they can dress the part and look put together,” said Anna Bateman, coordinator of Career Development. “It is free and a great way to save money on expensive clothing.”

There will be a Career, Internship and Graduate school prep session held on Oct. 11 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Center for Career Development and Internships building. Walk-ins are welcome and encouraged. This event will help students

learn what to do in interviews, what to include in their resumes and how to dress for professional events.

Also, those interested in learning more about the Center for Career Development and Internships should visit the Job Fair on Oct. 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Students can register for it through Handshake. There will be other fairs going on throughout the year, which are being planned now.

This open house allowed students to better understand not only where the Center for Career Development and Internships is but also how it is there to assist them.

Students wandered in and out, familiarizing themselves with everything so when they need help they know exactly where to go.

How to Register for the Fair
Thursday, October 20, 2022
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

- 1. Join Handshake**
Go to www.joinhandshake.com and create an account using your Wilkes email
- 2. Register for the fair**
Go to "Career Center" in the top right corner, then scroll down to "Upcoming Career Fairs." Click on the Fall 2022 fair and click the blue "Join Event" button on the right
- 3. Get ready to meet employers!**
Attend our Career Fair Prep Sessions in the weeks leading up to the fair, and use this checklist to help!

If you have any questions or need help preparing for the fair, contact:

Anna Bateman, Career Development Coordinator
anna.bateman@wilkes.edu
Carol Bosack, Director of Career Services
carol.bosack@wilkes.edu

Fall-ing in love with autumn; students talk season favorites

By Anthony Cazun
Staff Writer

Pumpkin spice, turkey, sweaters and oranges with reds. Autumn is a special time for many, as it often represents change, the second chapter of the year. As those leaves change color, life itself does as well.

It is also a time to feel cozy and kick back before the holiday season. There is no shortage of activities to participate in during the fall.

Halloween may be the most distinct holiday during the season, a cornerstone of autumn and maybe the most recognizable. Ghouls, ghosts, skeletons and pumpkins generate a special kind of spooky excitement for eager participants all over the world.

Trick-or-Treating may be what most people associate with Halloween. Every October, many costumed children go out during the night to knock and collect candy from every door in their neighborhood.

“I used to go trick or treating and I enjoyed it immensely,” said Reagan Weldon Peri, first-year environmental engineering major. “I love taking my brother around too.”

There is no Halloween without some iconic Halloween movies. Films, such as “Friday the 13th,” “Scream,” “Child’s Play,” “Beetlejuice,” “Coraline,” “Halloween” and even “The Nightmare Before Christmas,” although that may be a controversial pick for the Halloween season, are all in common rotation during autumn.

Pumpkin is the star fruit of the fall season for many during Halloween, as there is nearly a pumpkin flavor for anything one may think of.

“To get into fall spirit is to firstly have pumpkin everything,” said Basma Al-Salem, an undecided first-year student. “Like everything has to be pumpkin flavored.”

A journey to the pumpkin patch is a particular favorite among many during the season.

“I love to go to the pumpkin patch,” said Gabriella Amaya, first-year nursing major. “It’s so soothing.”

For those that are feeling particularly artistic, pumpkin carving is a joyous activity. Pumpkins transform into beautiful and masterful carvings of recognizable faces, landscapes, logos and even original designs. Whether someone is a master pumpkin carver or just trying to have fun, pumpkin carving is an excellent way to pass the time with some friends and family.

Thanksgiving is a time of unification and harmonization within the family and amongst friends and significant others. There are few feelings more comfortable than dining on some homemade food with loved ones while listening to some relaxing tunes. The root of Thanksgiving is connection on an elevated level.

Along with the zen-like feeling of peace and unity with Thanksgiving comes the chaotic, adrenaline fueled rush of Black Friday. The

nation’s favorite time to splurge on extravagant televisions, kitchen utilities, toys, video games and more.

“I love the rush of Black Friday,” said Aleczia Britt, first-year computer science major. “It makes me feel liberated and I love spending money.”

Many also take the sale opportunities of Black Friday to purchase all sorts of clothes. A nice flannel and boots go a long way; however, sweaters seem to be the particular favorite among many on campus.

“The weather is so beautiful, I love to break out the sweaters,” said Amaya.

Although sweaters are made for fall weather, it is also great for various outdoor activities.

From the perspective of an athlete, fall often means the beginning of a tireless practice and competition cycle.

“I played tennis a lot in the fall during high school,” said Bethany Yashkus, first-year neuroscience major. “I always felt the anticipation leading up to it.”

Meet the Majors

This week's major: Musical Theater

Interviews and photos by
Jordan Daniel
Life, Arts & Entertainment
Editor

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

Olivia Scarborough Junior

“My favorite production we have done has to be Chicago. It was such a fun show to do and the feeling of pride being able to produce something we worked all year on is unmatched.

“I like how we can physically see how far we are progressing with our learning. Our major is really hands on and I like being able to see everyone get better with each performance rather than on a test.

“I hope to keep performing as much as and for as long as I can.”



Rylee Gaskill Senior

“I hope to be a successful performer in the industry for as long as I can be. Although performing can be a tough business, I have learned so much in so many different aspects that there will always be something I can do in the arts, even if I am not acting all the time.

“Having such a well rounded education is one thing I am most thankful for in our program because I can always count on my training to continue a career path in the arts no matter what.”

Rachel Kern Junior

“My favorite aspect of my major is being able to do what I love every single day. I wake up, dance, learn acting & theater history, sing, go to rehearsal for hours at night, and do it all again every week.

“I chose this major because I cannot see myself doing anything else and being happy. Knowing that I can try even with the possibility of failing is still more than enough for me to pursue this path.”



Olivia Schanbacher Senior

“This year I am looking forward to our production of “Sweet Charity” in February. It’s another Bob Fosse piece. He is one of my favorite choreographers and our choreographer, Lynne Esgro, is amazing at interpreting his work.

“I hope to continue to perform and choreograph professionally. I love to travel as well, and to combine those two things would be a dream.”

Photos: The Beacon/Jordan Daniel

MAGICAL MEMORIES WITH MORGAN

Disney Magic prevails for interns even with Hurricane Ian

By Morgan Rich

Life, Arts & Entertainment Asst. Editor

This week was a little different than expected due to Hurricane Ian making landfall in Florida on Sept. 27. I had a great start to my work week with two days off; however, we were definitely preparing for the hurricane ahead.

My friends and I decided to spend Monday and Tuesday at the Disney parks Epcot and Hollywood Studios. It was one of their first times in the parks and it was also my first time since January.

The first park we visited was Epcot and the most memorable part about it was getting to see Winnie the Pooh and trying all of the sodas from around the world at Club Cool. My advice is never drink the sour plum soda from China because it tastes like liquid barbecue sauce.

The wait times there were not long at all and we were able to go on the Tower of Terror three times, Toy Story Mania, Rock 'n' Roller Coaster Starring Aerosmith, Smuggler's Run and Rise of the Resistance. Our favorite ride was the Tower of Terror, and we did not enjoy the Star Wars rides.

Personally, we thought that Rise of the Resistance was not as good as what lots of people said it would be. We had higher hopes for the ride and not to mention it is always a wait time of at least 90 minutes. Smuggler's Run also made us extremely nauseous and gave us very bad headaches.

We then went to the Boardwalk Inn Resort after the parks. Over the past week I was working caseliner, which is where we hand out all of the sweets and treats and I wanted to try all of the different sweets that we had. I got a churro cupcake, a pumpkin spice cupcake and a Mickey

Mouse rice krispie treat that was coated with chocolate.

I was mostly excited to try it because all of the time guests come in and ask me what my favorite treat from caseliner is and every week I have to tell them I have not tried anything yet. Now, I can finally tell them that the churro cupcake is the best cupcake to get in Walt Disney World.

Wednesday and Thursday I had off because of the hurricane. Ian hit my area as a category one hurricane. The parks were all closed and I was honestly kind of excited to ride out my first major hurricane.

According to the weather.com, Hurricane Ian was a category four hurricane, and the fourth deadliest hurricane to ever hit Florida. They are estimating it caused \$120 billion in damage.

During the Hurricane, my friend Carla came over to my apartment and we had

a "hurricane party." Those two days we sat and watched the new Netflix series, "Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story," which was really interesting.

Even though this hurricane was not the first one I have ever experienced it was certainly the scariest. I love storms though and was kind of excited to bring back this sort of story with me. After all, Walt Disney World hardly ever closes and nobody I know has experienced a hurricane like this.

We were fortunate enough to not lose any power but our internet was not working very well. My building did not have much damage but the streets around us were very flooded and there were lots of wildlife roaming the streets.

Even though I did not get to work for my internship this week, Hurricane Ian brought a new experience to my Disney College Program adventure.

Column: The Reveille with Ryan Evans: A non-traditional student focus

By Ryan Evans

Staff Writer

"Reveille, reveille! All hands heave out and trice up. Uniform of the day is as follows..." These were the first words heard every morning for eight weeks at Great Lakes Recruit Training Command, more commonly referred to as Navy bootcamp.

That intercom-broadcast message was typically carried out in unison of drill instructors screaming at the top of their lungs about one thing or another, banging on trash cans or using clipboards as crude noisemakers. Five minutes to get in uniform, shave, make your bed and be ready for inspection before the day actually began.

Looking back, all of that was the easy part.

You see, entering into the military, one rarely has time to think about too much or process what's happening. And that's the point: Learn how to react—and make it snappy.

The following three and a half years post-

bootcamp passed like a warm summer day; all too quickly, and perhaps a little bittersweet. But, I'm not here to reflect on that stuff, at least not yet anyway.

Four years ago, my time in uniform came to an end. With 100 percent post-9/11 GI Bill entitlement earned, I left the Armed Forces and returned to Luzerne County to once more try my hand at being a college student for the first time since dropping out of Kutztown University of Pennsylvania way back in 2012.

In the time since, I almost dropped again, got a PTSD diagnosis, finished an associate's in journalism at Luzerne County Community College and was somehow named Outstanding Graduate in my class. I then enrolled at Wilkes back in the fall of 2021, and here we are (of course, I don't share these things to be braggadocious. On the contrary, I'd just like to point out that if this goofy dude can do it, anyone can).

"Where is here?" you may ask. Well, here is where we address the unique challenges

and concerns of being a non-traditional student. Whether, like myself, you were irresponsible at 18 and enlisted to gain some sense of purpose or are returning to school after years or decades away to finish up a degree and further a career as a civilian, we face very unique and daunting situations and scenarios. My hope is that we can address those things here and perhaps walk away with a new perspective.

And so, let's get after it.

As a kid, I remember hearing the phrase "there's not enough hours in the day." I'd laugh it off in my naivete. Now at almost 30, it's certainly become a mantra of sorts. Between staying up on full-time classwork, working a full-time job, doing around the house chores (laundry, cooking, cleaning), caring for the dog and still trying to maintain some semblance of a social life, it's maddening at times.

Fun fact: it's due to these very circumstances that, a month into this semester, I've already considered withdrawing from the university

or quitting my job more times than I'd like to admit, knowing deep down that neither route is feasible.

And then there's kids.

While I don't have any of my own, I spend a lot of time with my nieces, trying to be involved in their lives. I absolutely could not imagine raising children full-time on top of the aforementioned responsibilities. For those of you that are doing it, if you're ever feeling depleted, please know that this columnist is absolutely cheering for you.

It's for these overwhelming circumstances that I reference my military service. Wrapping that joyful excursion up, the realization is that nothing will ever be that difficult again, though sometimes it sure as hell feels like it. We're quick to forget the things we've accomplished when faced with the next obstacle. While living in the past isn't recommended, it is important to remember what you've overcome. From that

Continued, on page 11

COLONEL HOMECOMING



The Beacon/Wren Haze

The campus has spoken: Student Body President Megan Makovsky and John Hannaway, both P2 pharmacy students, were voted as homecoming queen and king, as revealed during Saturday's football game.



The defense heading into the field along with their coach.

Photos: The Beacon/Baylee Guedes



A cluster of Colonel defenders gather to hear feedback from one of the assistant coaches.





Junior Elijah Jules makes moves on a run play as he heads towards the Lions.



Sophomore Elijah Lee was ecstatic on the sidelines during the homecoming win.



Photos: The Beacon/Baylee Guedes



The team embraces in a huddle and celebrates after scoring on a kill.

Graphics by Lara Mullen

The women's volleyball team prepares to go into a set, gathering around to discuss.

Opinion

Have an opinion or want to write a guest column? Contact: Emily.Cherkauskas@wilkes.edu

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2022-23

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Why Autumn is the best season ever

It's that time of the year again—a time that we, in particular, adore. In fact, we find it is the best time of the year.

On Thursday, Sept. 22, we entered the fall equinox.

While autumn may simply be a transitional period for some into the “most wonderful time of the year,” it is more than just a waiting period till winter.

It is the perfect weather to be not too hot and not too cold. The perfect weather to light a candle, read a book. Some might even say it is the perfect weather to rewatch “Twilight: New Moon.”

Robert Frost writes, “Nothing gold can stay” and it is especially true for our ephemeral friend Autumn.

It is the sound of the leaves breathing their last breath of life into the trees overhead, the crunch of fallen acorns beneath shoes—the beauty that is the temporary.

Death and change never seemed so beautiful, but autumn shows just how impactful and vital it is to nature and humans.

Now, we know that autumn may not be everyone's favorite season. After all,

it is quite difficult to compete with the hauntingly beautiful, snowy and quiet winters; the fun, energizing and warm summers; or the blooming spring season that brings on rebirth.

Additionally, we understand that autumn has some not so aesthetic-pleasing traits, as well.

Those changing leaves? After they turn into the gorgeous reddish hue, they have to fall from their branches eventually. Well, who has to clean up and possibly slip on them once they finish their cycle for the year? All of us.

Those annoyances won't last forever, either. Soon, admittedly, we will be cleaning up inches (or maybe even feet) of snow. Then, we will be dealing with seemingly never ending rain showers and the infamous spring allergies. After that, we will be dealing with sunburns and summer jobs.

Then, it will be back to watching the leaves turn color and fall. And because of that, you should take the time you have and enjoy the current state of the environment for what it is.

Now that we are in the autumn season, put on a jacket and go for a walk. Take a

look at what is around you and ponder on it.

Observe the changing and falling of all types of leaves and petals, the colder temperatures, that cool breeze, the hiding sun and more. Relax with the cooling temperatures and satisfying crunching sounds.

With the temperatures continuing to lower as we delve deeper into the autumn season, you might find yourself cuddling in a blanket, sipping on some tea or wine—perfect in time for the autumn season (depending on your age, of course).

It is those little moments and observations that serve as core memories for us as human beings. Those moments of peace and calm that allow for autumn to mark a particularly unique time on the earth's calendar.

The autumn season—and the rest of them, too—tell us one thing: nothing lasts forever. The seasons prove that, with their constant changing.

To quote the poet John Keats who authored a special ode “To Autumn:” “think not of (the other seasons), thou hast thy music too.”

Letter to the editor policy: *The Beacon* welcomes letters to the editor from differing viewpoints. Letters must contain contact information, including name, city, state and phone number. Phone numbers will not be published but may be used for verification purposes.

All letters to the editor must be sent using one of the following methods:

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Student Government's lack of inclusivity during homecoming

Steps to more progressive environment were incredibly inconsiderate

By Jay Guziewicz
Staff Writer

This year, Student Government decided to add a new category to the homecoming court, adding the position of homecoming royalty alongside homecoming king and queen. This option was described as a category for “those who identify as neither (ladies or gentlemen).”

This was an awesome step forward for people who identify as non-binary, it was finally a chance to be included in a deeply rooted tradition without conforming to gender binaries that can create extreme discomfort.

Student Government said they would take the top 10 individuals nominated and put them on the homecoming court. Yet, somehow, there was a completely even split between female and male nominees—and not one person who was nominated for homecoming royalty.

Now, I don't want to claim this was an intentional oversight from Student Government, but the even split is what makes me question how much thought went into this process. It leaves non-binary and trans students with questions about how the court was determined.

Was it really an even split? Were nonbinary students even given a fair chance to end up on homecoming court? Why even put the category in there, if you were just going to take the top five male and female nominees?

The fact of the matter is that cisgender students outnumber transgender and nonbinary students. In a small campus like Wilkes University, this number is probably more extreme than at schools with a larger student body. However, that doesn't mean that representation isn't important.

To include a category without specific gender constraints like homecoming royalty was a great step towards representing and noticing transgender and nonbinary students on the Wilkes campus, but to not include any of them seemed inconsiderate.

The option was there, but nothing was done about it. Student Government could have solved this problem easily by taking the top five students in each category, and then allowing voting out of that population.

Even if there were four, three or even one nomination for homecoming royalty, they could've allowed them on the ballot. We've seen previous polls from Student

Government that only had one person nominated for a position, but they still allowed the student body to vote for that person.

It would've been easy to do that, and continue this trend of representing transgender and nonbinary student on campus. But Student Government instead just decided to eliminate the position entirely, and take the top five nominees for the other two positions instead.

Now, you could argue that they did what they said they would, and they took the top 10 nominated individuals and put them up as homecoming court.

But, it's interesting that in a school in which there is a great female population (1,082 female undergraduate students to 925 male undergraduates) that they would have a perfectly even split between five men and five women.

Is it possible? Absolutely, but it's extremely unlikely. In all honesty, it's more likely that Student Government took the

top five female nominees and top five male nominees because it was easier. It comes off as if they don't really care about students who don't fit into those gender binaries, which isn't a good look.

If Student Government wanted a traditional homecoming, with only two people on the court, they shouldn't have given students the option to vote for homecoming royalty.

It comes off as performative and not actual activism. This truly could have been the start to a new and progressive, tradition on campus. Instead, it fell back in gender binaries and further alienated nonbinary students from their cisgender classmates.

I want to be clear: I do not think this was intentional. I do not think that Student Government did this as a publicity stunt, but I do want people to be aware that this is how it comes off. It may have been poor planning, or it just became too complicated to enact.

But the option should never have been presented to the student body if they were not going to do anything with it. Next time Student Government wants to be progressive and include transgender and nonbinary candidates in something, I suggest they fully follow through. Student Government could've done better, and treated their fellow students better.

As all the signs around campus say: “At Wilkes, you will.” So, will Student Government be better?

“ Even if there were four, three or even one nomination for homecoming royalty, they could've allowed them on the ballot. We've seen previous polls from Student Government that only had one person nominated for a position, but they still allowed the student body to vote for that person. ”

Why more class time is needed for college students

By Rudy Urenovich
Staff Writer

I know you have probably heard the same thing: we need more class time to complete assignments. This is even said for children in elementary school—but it still applies for all of us in college.

We have classes, what, only 2-3 times a week? We also have a ton of technology, that has advanced unprecedentedly without limits in the past two years, making completing work on own time more probable. However, that is not the

argument. I am arguing that we should have more time in class to actually work on assignments, not the other way around.

By now I think that I have a grasp on how college classes, or really all educational courses at some higher level work. We are instructed in the class and go complete the work on own time. I get how it works, and can see why classes are organized this way. I really do.

However, I really do believe that we need to class to work on the tasks we are given. I mentioned how we have class usually multiple times a week. Well, at

least one of these class periods should be slated as a workshop for projects.

A handful of courses already include workshops, adding an additional credit hour. But still, it is not enough for students to mend their workload from class.

Getting help and feedback immediately from your instructor and classmates is a lot easier. You do not have play the game of email tag and pray you get a response. Speaking in person also would result in less miscommunications. Having people right next to you to bounce ideas off is also beneficial.

At a job, internship or really any sort of a professional position where you clock in and out of, the goal is to do most of the work there so you do not have to do anything on your free time. Now I know, we all signed up for college, so this is what we should expect.

Higher education is rigorous for a reason, and we should expect to devote the necessary time to work towards excellence. But like i have said, some class time set aside to work on and troubleshoot assignments would be beneficial in countless ways.

Wren's Watchlist: The impact of "Cyberwatch Edgerunners"

By Wren Haze

Opinion/Sports Staff Writer

For a show so short, it feels a lot longer than it seems.

This week, I took the time to see what the hype was about on Netflix's "Cyberpunk Edgerunners." The show is 10 episodes long and each episode runs about 25 minutes long.

The show follows a young man David Martinez who is a student at Arasaka Academy who is an outcast due to his social class. Due to that, he is constantly bullied by his classmates—one of them named Adam Tanaka.

Remember that last name, it's very important for the end of the show.

Martinez and his mother Gloria get caught up in a cyber-tech assault and Gloria passes away, which does not make anything better, considering they were financially unstable to begin with. Martinez does not cope with his mother's death well, you know classic main character behavior. He ends up getting expelled from Arasaka Academy, but he discovers cybertech that his mother owned.

Curious main character obviously installs the sandvestan and suddenly he gains new abilities due to the new techware.

With this new installment, Martinez piques Lucyna Kushinada's interest. The netrunner and Martinez meet when Martinez is targeted and captured due to the popularity of the cyberware that he had installed.

Kushinada gave me the biggest gender envy ever.

Kushinada shows Martinez a bit about

the city they live in, and warns Martinez. She calls the city a prison and dreams of one day of leaving and going to the moon. However, she remains calm and mysterious.

Of course, Kushinada is used to gain Martinez's attention to be captured by Maine's crew. I discover that Kushinada is a part of this crew and the head is named Maine.

Maine is this big burly man who is mainly cyberware and got a killer punch, literally. The sandvestan that Martinez wears is military grade and his mother was originally going to sell it to Maine before she passed. Martinez explains to Maine that his mother was recently killed in the line of fire and makes a deal to Maine that instead of taking the cyberware off and killing him, he can be of use to Maine and the rest of his crew.

Maine offers the rookie a chance to prove himself and of course Martinez pulls through. I get to see the rest of the crew which includes Rebecca and her brother, Falco, Kiwi, Lucy and Dorio, Maine's partner. The first few episodes, Maine's crew takes Martinez under their wing and show him the ropes to becoming an edgerunner.

Everything goes south when Rebecca's brother is killed in action by someone who was taken over by cyberpsychosis. Cyberpsychosis occurs when the cyberware that is installed rejects the body and causes the body to be taken over by the cyberware technology.

The situation gets handled, but Rebecca becomes more protective of the group since her brother's passing. Especially more protective of Martinez as we see that she cares for him deeply.

At the same time, the relationship between Martinez and Kushinada finally makes its moves as they confess to each other under the stars. It is romantic, but do not get too hopeful.

Maine's crew is given a job from a client named Faraday and just from his face, I knew he was suspicious. Faraday gives the crew a job to overthrow Arasaka, a military technology company. They use Tanaka, to get information about the company, but it backfires when Tanaka flatlines mid netdive.

Due to Arasaka being on their tail, the crew finds themselves with no breaks on defending themselves. This is where everything gets crazy and goes downhill at the same time.

While everything is going downhill, Maine starts experiencing major cyberpsychosis and we get to see that there is simply no cure for this and that despite his antibiotics, he is destined to fail. With this, he injures Kiwi and his partner tries to bring him back to reality, but only does so much until they are attacked by Arasaka. Dorio sacrifices herself for Maine and in the end Maine takes his life so he can die with his lover.

Martinez witnesses this and returns to find that Kushinada leaves the group due to this. However, Kushinada is digging deeper into Arasaka and gets caught by Faraday.

I told you this man was two-faced.

Faraday somehow convinces Kiwi to come up with a plan to take down the rest of the Edgerunners, but does not know that Martinez is getting a major upgrade to the point he is almost unrecognizable.

Kiwi does her part and leaves only to be killed by Faraday for not continuing to work

with him. Kiwi at the beginning of the show told Kushinada to never trust anyone in the city only to betray Kushinada in the process.

Martinez starts experiencing cyberpsychosis as he installs his last piece of cyberware to end this situation once and for all. He discovers that Faraday is the one behind this mess and kills Faraday. At the same time, Martinez saves Kushinada and they escape the building.

Kushinada was able to bring Martinez back to his senses, but she gives him a final goodbye kiss before they are broken apart by "Adam Smasher" which is the Adam Tanaka that got him expelled at the beginning of the show.

Rebecca sacrifices her life for Martinez and distracts Tanaka from Kushinada and Falco who are escaping. Martinez's last wish was for Falco to take Kushinada away from this mess and let her follow her dream of going to the moon.

Martinez is then defeated and killed by Tanaka and I have never cried more in my life from a scene. The goal was Kushinada to free Martinez from this city, but in turn, she is freed from the city to live her own life.

At the end of the show, we get to see that Kushinada finally makes it to the moon. She has a reflection of the time that Martinez and her went there in virtual reality, and at this point I am sobbing in my shower, quite literally.

All in all, I was surprisingly shocked that I really enjoyed this series due to its popularity on TikTok. I rate this show a 10/10, however, I will be recovering from this show for a long time.

Evans, from page 11

motivation, anything should seem possible.

And this is, of course, not to take away from those of you that came to college right out of high school. Quite honestly, I'm jealous I didn't have the sense of responsibility to be able to do it. I'm thankful for the experiences I've had since then, but I never did picture myself still in school at 29.

That is, however, my reality and the reality of many others.

There's a quote I discovered just before my PTSD diagnosis and it's one

that certainly helped me through a very strange time in my life. "There's nothing noble in being superior to your fellow man; true nobility lies in being superior to your former self," stated by Ernest Hemingway.

And I think it's important to bear that in mind. As non-traditional students, we're very aware of doing the work, of showing up to class, of participating (even though sometimes it is a little overwhelming to try and share ideas amongst peers that are sometimes 10 years younger ... or more). What's key is to remember why you're doing it.

Are you looking to be Summa Cum

Laude? Homecoming Queen? Dean's List? Or are you trying to create a better life with more opportunities for yourself and for your family? To set an example for your kid(s)? To, like myself, become the first member of your family to hold a four-year degree and break a generational cycle of underachieving?

Finding a "why" makes all the difference. And even though it may still, to be frank, seem ridiculous at times, the "why" should always be greater than the "what." Don't agree with an assignment? Feel like you're just being assigned busy work? Doesn't matter. Focus on the "why."

And, for my fellow GI Bill veterans, if

all else fails, remember: you're getting paid to be in that classroom. Easy money.

I certainly hope someone needed to hear this, because I know I did. I've given up on the thought of downtime for right now. Rest of this semester and one more to go. Hopefully, but who needs downtime when you could be conquering?

The great Henry Rollins once said (and if you don't know who that is, start with hardcore DIY punk legends, Black Flag ... all apologies for taking the easy way out and closing on a quote), "No such thing as spare time, no such thing as free time, no such thing as down time. All you got is lifetime. Go."

Your vote this election will determine your future

By **Sydney Allabaugh**
Staff Writer

The voter registration deadline is quickly approaching as Election Day is just a mere five weeks away. With highly polarized candidates in a swing state, youth participation is crucial this election season in Pennsylvania.

On Nov. 8, Pennsylvanians will vote for their next governor, U.S. Senator, and some additional representatives. Controversial candidates with contrasting views can transform this state's political future.

Most notably, the gubernatorial candidates Josh Shapiro and Doug Mastriano have conflicting views on every pressing issue including abortion, climate change, the economy, gun control and LGBTQ+ rights. With no moderate candidates, voters are at a fork in the road.

When the winners of this general election have the potential to drastically change our lives, we should have a say in selecting who will do so. Unfortunately, young people often allow older generations to choose their fate for them.

Generation Z and millennials combined made up the largest pool of eligible voters in 2020. However, younger generations

were not the largest share of the electorate. In the 2020 presidential election, voter turnout was highest among those ages 65 to 74 at 76 percent and lowest among those ages 18 to 24 at 51.4 percent, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

This means youth ideology is not accurately or proportionally represented. Older generations commonly have different views on many political issues. Generation Z is much more likely than older generations to want an activist government that promotes societal change, according to Pew Research Center. Additionally, Generation Z and millennials have more positive views about same-sex marriage and believe more should be done to prevent racial inequality than their elders.

Not only do college students have different beliefs on the pressing issues, but they also have different opinions on what those pressing issues should be. Decisions regarding student debt, gun regulation, global warming and the cost of living are more relevant to the youth. We will be

forced to deal with the consequences of these decisions made by those much older than us for decades to come, so we should have a say.

Unfortunately, many believe their singular vote is insignificant. However, Pennsylvania having no clear political lean grants our votes more weight. For example, in a Luzerne County election summary report from the 2020 general election, Josh Shapiro won the popular vote for attorney general by a mere 274 votes. If a few dozen people voted for another candidate, the election results would be different, exemplifying the significance of each voter.

Other young people have doubts about the American democratic process. According to a Harvard youth poll, most young Americans believe our democracy is either "in trouble" or "failing." To strengthen our democracy, we must make our voices heard. When we have issues we care deeply about, participating in the democratic process to elect adequate leaders is the most effective action we can take to create

change. Politicians make decisions for us, so it is our responsibility to choose suitable ones.

According to research organization Circle, young people report that they did not vote as they missed the deadline to register. Luckily, there is still time to register as the deadline is Oct. 24. Potential voters can easily register to vote online at www.pavoterservices.pa.gov. Wilkes students may also visit the Office of Student Affairs for more information regarding voter registration.

Others, according to Circle, did not know how to vote or were uninformed about the candidates. To learn more about how to vote, visit www.pa.gov to find information about your polling place or how to request a mail-in ballot. Website www.ballotpedia.org can provide information about what candidates will be on your ballot. To find information on candidates, voters can visit each candidate's campaign websites or social media.

When we are informed about and participate in our government, it becomes more responsive to our needs. This Election Day, vote like your future depends on it, because it does.

Graphic by David Marks



An outsider's culture shock at the college experience

By **Fernando Zumaran**
Opinion Writer

The college experience is a difficult subject to write about. It is impossible to capture college life's entire essence into a single article. There are so many variations and differences in how you can go about living your life on campus.

I wish to share my experiences with college as someone who is new to the area and the differences between it and the high school that I went to. I am not from around here, I am from a town that's about an hour and a half away.

I assume the people from Wilkes-Barre have heard about this college and have seen it plenty of times. I did not know the university existed until about a year ago. So, it was a wild experience being tossed into an entirely new environment.

Over here, the differences are immense. Growing up in Reading, Pa, you get used to someone complaining or yelling at someone at every corner on the street, or just in the schools. At Wilkes, the amount of times I see negative behaviors is significantly less compared to Reading.

Even in the town I do not see as many people yelling or arguing in the middle of the street on a random Tuesday; the people that live in Wilkes are not like that. In Reading, there were fights every day. Whether it be in the schools or just in the street, two people would be going for each other's throat, either by yelling or physically going for their throat.

In high school, you had to be careful who you talked to and who you were around, as even being associated with the wrong person could be detrimental to your academic career. Plenty of people

were robbed of their academics and diplomas all because they associated with the wrong person or group.

There was a lot of crime in the town, and I do not say that lightly. Whether petty theft or straight-up assault, in the actual school, anything was possible. People lived their life in defense mode constantly and it is hard not to.

According to neighborhoodscout.com, the crime in Reading is more than double the crime in all of Wilkes-Barre. So coming over to Wilkes, I carried some attributes with me. I look over my shoulder and I am always hyper-aware of my surroundings, when I do not think it is necessary. The crime in the actual school is minuscule compared to the area I am from. While there is crime everywhere in the world, it seems to be greatly reduced here when taking other places into account.

Besides crime, there are other differences I have noticed, especially in the teaching department. I am unsure if it is because I am in college or maybe because it is a new area, but the professors here are fantastic and seem to care a lot.

Almost every professor I have seems to care about each student and wants them to succeed. Every staff member here wants students to succeed. In high school, they wanted you to succeed too, but here, the positivity is practically triple the positivity from high school from my account.

For Zumaran's full column,
check out
www.thewilkesbeacon.com

“The Invitation” is a hilariously terrible movie

By **Jeremiah Eyles**
Staff Writer

Disclaimer: This article contains spoilers.

This year has seen the release of great horror movies, such as “X,” “Nope,” and “Bodies Bodies Bodies.” “The Invitation is not one of those movies.”

“The Invitation” has read the sins a director can make when making a movie, and decided to commit everyone of them. The movie has an aesthetic of a cheesy, 1980’s B-rated horror movie, while also having the action feel like something out of the 90s and early 2000s. Of course, both of those eras had amazing movies but the bad aspects of those movies are the only thing “The Invitation” took from them.

“The Invitation” follows a young woman forced to work as a caterer for the wealthiest people in New York City, and is subjected to abuse because of her low social class. However, she discovers through an ancestry test that she has rich distant relatives from the United Kingdom and decides to fly with

some total stranger to meet her extended family.

The family appears nice, but there is a hidden supernatural element that is behind the facade of the movie. The plot is pretty basic, but the way the movie presents itself completely ruins any sort of suspense. I will go into spoilers to include the absolutely insane choices the movie made, but of course I will give warning ahead of time if you so happen want to have a great laugh at the dumpster fire that is the movie.

Before going into the actual scenes for the movie, the biggest problem that completely blows away the horror aspect is the soundtrack. Since it is a horror movie, it has the usual spooky soundtrack, but the music the directors decided to use for the music is completely baffling. There is no perfect way of describing the soundtrack and the only way to understand what I mean is by seeing it yourself, but, the best way to describe the soundtrack is that it sounds like it belongs in the animated children’s halloween movie

“Scary Godmother.”

If the one song in the movie was played without any context, the first thing anyone would think of is “Scary Godmother,” but instead it is in a terrible B-horror movie. Anytime the soundtrack played, even if it was supposed to be a pivotal moment in the movie, it brought me to tears with laughter. I cannot conceive how the director possibly thought any sane person would take the movie seriously.

Now for some spoilers to further prove the terrible directions this movie takes. The family the main character sees is made of vampires. There is a long fight scene where she slowly kills off each member of the family, until the head of the family comes back to kill her for the damage she did to his family. The main character then proceeds to drive a steak into his heart, where he slowly withers away and dies.

This does not sound all that bad, except that the movie adds a slow motion scene with her walking away as the mansion

burns all around her. When I mean slow motion, I mean as in the scenery seemingly shaking as it trucks along, something that was a huge thing with movies back in the 90’s for dramatic purposes. Instead, what it does is it adds to the comedic purposes of the movie as it adds to the seemingly fever dream that is “The Invitation.”

Normally with bad movies, recommending it to other people usually does not happen. And the movie itself is terrible; however, I do recommend seeing “The Invitation” not because of the movie itself, but just the experience from it.

The movie is an absolute ride that not one anyone asked to be on and the fever dream feeling of the movie just makes it all the more hilarious.

“The Invitation” is not bad, but rather amazing to watch for the sole purpose of getting a good laugh out of it. But do not go in expecting a well fleshed-out plot or anything remotely scary, as it is none of those of things.

Haley’s Hot Takes: Amendments should be above politics

By **Haley Katona**
Staff Writer

The Constitution of the United States has not been amended since 1992 after the passing of the 27th Amendment. Though more than 11,000 amendments have been proposed, only 17 have been ratified since 1791 with the initial Bill of Rights.

There are those who believe the Constitution should not be amended due to it being the traditional legal document that set the founding principles of our country. Yet, Article V of the Constitution was written to lay out the amendment process, implying there would need to be changes and amendments proposed/ratified over the course of however long the document were to last.

But alarmingly, what ends up being more dangerous are those in power who are more than reluctant to work with the possibility of fostering change and modification of the legal document. This is because the vague framework of its design allows for massively powerful parties that dominate and overwhelm the political system. Hyper-partisanship and polarization

have essentially locked the door on the amendment process currently as we stand.

“I don’t think the American public is reluctant to change the system,” said Dr. Benjamin Toll, political science professor. “What we see is a system where the two major parties have a monopoly and are winning under the current rules. So, they are not interested in changing how things are done because it would upset their monopoly on power. We also have seen limits put in place (by Congress) to how long the process can take to amend the Constitution, and with growing polarization if one side wants to change something the other side invariably wants to fight change.”

The hesitation to amend the Constitution because of ideological differences and power play tactics only minimizes the public’s role in government. It forces other branches such as the Supreme Court to be relied on to decipher and interpret the meaning of the Constitution and how it applies to laws made by the legislature.

Rather than relying on the representatives of the states’ people to make the best decisions, they focus on themselves. These factors all contribute and result in an

institutional paralysis, which provides no outlet for change.

“In some sense, the paralysis from lack of institutional change creates pressure on the Court,” said Toll. “We have a Congress and executive branch full of people more interested in maintaining the system.

“They make less policy which creates the need for a Court to answer the important questions when it should be elected representatives doing it.”

Unarguably, our society has evolved and changed in innumerable ways. The evolution of technology and concerns of privacy being just two obvious examples. These changes not only affect our personal lives and our society, but how government is handled and participated in. Take social media and political campaigning as an example.

When there is a historical 27-in-11,000 chance of an amendment being ratified by Congress regardless of public support, there is clearly a lack of beneficial representation. There is a lack of care to support the people the government is there for: us, not just elected members who serve it.

“There are a lot of things that are popular among the public that would necessitate

an amendment,” said Toll. “However, they will go nowhere because it would upset the current system and make those in power have less of a chance of knowing the outcome of elections. We (the public) want change, but Congress is unwilling to change how elections are run, how we vote, etc. and we get angry. This means we trust the system less and are less likely to participate as a result.”

The founders intended for the amendment process to be deliberate, difficult and long. But they did not intend for the process to be unattainable due to those who are afraid to lose their power and a heavily polarized two-party system that is out to win and attack the other.

And though there are senators who propose amendments consistently, the unwillingness to consider them important and legitimate proposals especially when they regard benefiting the public is indicative of a failure of representation that is very clearly in front of our eyes.

The Constitution is not just about Congress or the Court. It is about us, the American people, designed for “We the people”—not the political parties of the United States.

Sports

Want your sport covered? Deserve to be Athlete of the Week? Contact the Sports Editor: Baylee.Guedes@wilkes.edu

HOMECOMING, *from front*

"Playing in front of some of the alumni was fun," said Rodriguez. "We kept getting positive plays and kept the ball moving."

The Colonels kept the Lions off of the scoreboard, stopping them seven plays in, forcing another Albright punt.

Wilkes then turned the ball over on downs and the Lions finished with possession as the play clock ran out for the first quarter.

Going into the second quarter, Albright's possession did not last long as the Colonel's defense forced another punt eight plays in.

The Lions punt put Wilkes at the 20-yard line as it was a touchback in the end zone. Rodriguez completed two passes for eight-yards along with rushing for one-yard to get to the 29-yard line.

After an offside call and then a false start, Wilkes capitalized on the extra time they were given between plays. Jules rushed for three-yards and then caught a pass for a 60-yard gain on a screen.

"My biggest key moment was the screen for 60-yards," said Jules. "It was a third-down, a key down and to execute that in such a critical moment definitely stuck out to me."

First and goal for the Colonels led to Rodriguez taking one in himself for an eight-yard rushing touchdown, putting Wilkes up 14-0 after another extra point from Volpone.

Albright was forced into another punting situation, but Wilkes was unable to take advantage of their last first-half drive. The Lions finished with possession of the ball to end the first-half.

"I think our defense did a really good job of getting in the run lanes," said Drach. "Our defense was quicker and faster than their offense and we found the gaps."

Wilkes started off with the ball in the third quarter after receiving a punt at the 33-yard line.

The Colonels were forced to punt on their drive and Albright picked up a penalty on the play, putting them back on

their own 22.

Three plays into their drive, the Lions were forced to punt again. Sophomore Zane Grover received the punt on the 44-yard line, fumbled it, but was able to recover it for no gain.

In a three and a half minute possession, Wilkes got the ball up the field and scored another touchdown as Jules rushed for a 10-yard run to put Wilkes up by three touchdowns. Volpone's extra point put the Colonels at a secure 21-0 score.

"It felt great (scoring twice)," said Jules. "Being to do it (score) twice on homecoming is a special feeling I won't forget"

Another forced punt by the Colonel defense led to Wilkes gaining possession for the remainder of the third.

The start of the fourth quarter led Wilkes to have the ball for over seven minutes, pulling off 12 plays.

On fourth and eight, the coaching staff decided to have Volpone attempt a field goal from the 27-yard line. The kick was

good and Wilkes was now up 24-0.

Forcing another Albright punt, Wilkes regained the ball and went on to have Volpone kick another field goal from the 31-yard line. Another good kick put the Colonels up 27-0.

Personal fouls and unsportsmanlike conduct put the Lions at third and 37.

Wilkes' defense made it harder for Albright as they pushed them back another three-yards on a run attempt.

At fourth and 35 after a five-yard rush play, the Lions were forced to punt again.

Wilkes punted the ball on their drive as they made substitution changes on the field. Junior wide receiver and quarterback Xavier Powell had a few incomplete passes, leading to the punt decision.

Albright did not capitalize on their drive and turned the ball over on downs at their own 38.

Wilkes finished out the play clock with two rushing plays to lock in the win.

The Colonels will play on the road at Alvernia University this Saturday at noon.



Isaiah Rodriguez gets taken down by the Albright defense. Rodriguez rushed for 21-yards and also passed for 163-yards and 11 completions.



Photos: The Beacon/Baylee Guedes
Elijah Jules making moves on offense as he ended the game with 115-yards.

MSOC: Schulmeister shines in MAC conference opener

By **Ariel Reed**
Managing Editor

EDWARDSVILLE, Pa. — Opening up conference play, the Colonels battled a 4-3 win with the help of junior Colin Schulmeister.

The pressure of conference play started to build throughout the early stages of the contest, but Wilkes did not let that get in the way of their stride.

At the 11-minute mark, Schulmeister got to work, breaking through the defensive pound of DeSales and finding the head of senior Owen Breisch.

“So the assist in the first half definitely set us on for a better game,” said Schulmeister. “We knew if we came out strong, we’re going to have at least a little bit of an advantage.”

The early goal set the comfortable tone and allowed the team to let off a little bit of pressure as noted by Breisch. The next twenty minutes both teams would attempt

to rattle off shots, but neither would be successful.

First-year Will Wagstaff recovered a missed shot off the crossbar and smashed it into the back of the net.

“I think this is just the start,” said head coach Michael Piranian. “So yeah, the intensity, the flavor we’ll call it, of the game was definitely getting heightened.”

Heading out of the half, DeSales started to get aggressive.

“It depends on the game, but this game, definitely, because we knew they were chippy themselves,” said Schulmeister. “So we definitely wanted to come out with some authority.”

DeSales finessed a goal past senior Zach Tone, cutting the lead to one, but Schulmeister nailed two back-to-back shots to give the Colonels a little more breathing room.

DeSales managed to get a pair of goals to put themselves within one within the final minutes of the game.



The Beacon/Ariel Reed

Colin Schulmeister celebrates with one of his teammates after a big goal.

Toward the end of the game, multiple yellow cards were dealt to both sides of the ball, but neither team relented.

“You could feel a conference game, right? It felt very exciting and everybody really wanted it,” said Piranian. “I think that that’s where it was, a lot of tension on the line and the game wasn’t quite settled, so I just felt like we had a good majority of

the game.”

As the final moments of the game began to wind down, DeSales rattled off plenty of shots to attempt to get one final point on the board. The Colonels held strong and thwarted all their attempts.

Wilkes continues conference play tonight in Williamsport against Lycoming College at 6 p.m.

WSOC: Wilkes falls to DeSales after losing momentum

By **Amber DeJonge**
Staff Writer

EDWARDSVILLE, Pa. – The Colonels faced off against DeSales University on Saturday in their conference opener.

The Colonels came out with speed and intensity to put DeSales’ game to the test.

In the first half, Wilkes’ defense was able to keep the Bulldogs on their toes. Strong defensive stops kept DeSales from scoring until 27:53, leaving the game at 0-1 at the half.

“I thought we executed things pretty well,” said head coach John McNichol. “I thought there were moments where we really held possession well. As the game progressed, failed clearance led to their first goal and we struggled to get out.”

On the offensive side, the Colonels had some great passing and carrying through the midfield. They were able to get the ball to senior Erica Feese, who was able to get a shot off, which appeared to be a goal but was called off.

“I think we could have had more energy (if the shot was counted),” said Feese.

Senior Hannah Hart and graduate student Kayla Lopez both agreed that the momentum of the game would have changed if the goal was counted, but the officials made a call that took that opportunity away from the Colonels.

“Not only do I think that it would increase our energy, but I think it really would have gotten into their heads,” said Lopez. “They are a very big mental and energy type of team so if we scored, I think it really would have affected how they played.”

The halftime score remained 1-0 in DeSales’ favor. In the second half of the game, despite Wilkes’ defensive efforts, the Bulldogs were able to score two more goals during the second half.

“At the beginning of the second half, overall our effort was there, but they (the Bulldogs) finished their opportunities and we did not,” said McNichol.

This resulted in a 3-0 loss for the Colonels. DeSales barely outshot Wilkes 4-3 in the first half and both teams came back more aggressively in the second half resulting in nine shots for Wilkes and 12

for DeSales. Junior Hannah Landis was in the net for Wilkes recording eight saves.

“We are right in the middle of conference play,” said McNichol. “We are really excited for the opportunity to continue to compete, watch our team grow, build and continue to improve each day.”

The team is now 2-7-1 overall and 0-1

in conference with eight games left in the regular season. There are still plenty of conference games for the team to improve their ranking in hopes of making the playoffs.

Wilkes returns to action on Saturday at 2:30 p.m. against Stevens University at Bruggeworth Field.



The Beacon/Ariel Reed

Erica Feese looks to drive the ball as two DeSales defenders approach her.

WVB: Wilkes goes 0-2 in close scoring sets during tri-match

By Wren Haze
Sports Staff Writer

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. -- During the busy homecoming weekend festivities, the women's volleyball team took part in a tri-match with New Jersey City and Neumann University in non-conference play.

New Jersey City started the day by defeating the Colonels and Neumann closed the day with wins as well. The Colonels sit at 3-14 for the season.

In the first game, Wilkes took on North Jersey City University and fell with three close matches of 25-23, 25-21, 25-20.

"Our NJCU match was excellent overall," said head coach Joe Czopek. "They are a top ranked team in their Conference. Statistically we were similar, they just came up with a big serve or block at a key point in each set that gave them the slight advantage. I felt we did a great job minimizing their multi point runs with ones of our own."

Sophomore Alexis Reedy led the Colonels with 10 kills against New Jersey City as juniors Hope Ousey and Nicole Fitzpatrick followed with eight kills each. 27 assists came from sophomore Alexa Cassel.

The Gothic Knights took the lead in the first match 11-6 but as the game drew to its final stages, Wilkes started closing the gap with aces from senior Emily Gentzel and two kills from Reedy.

The two teams went back and forth but New Jersey took the first set 25-23.

In the second set, Wilkes led 16-12 with a five point run that included junior Nicole Fitzpatrick, Ousey, Reedy and sophomore Sierra Hines.

The Gothic Knights ended the second and third matches strong to sweep the

Colonels in the match.

After a game break, the Colonels took on Neumann and fell.

Ousey led the Colonels with 16 kills with senior Kelsey Carroll following with eight kills. Cassel stayed strong with 28 assists.

The Colonels took the lead in the first set with a kill by senior Allie Murie and an error by Neumann.

The Knights caught up to the Colonels and took the lead following a block attempt from Murie and Fitzpatrick to take the win in the first set 25-19.

In the second set, the Colonels took the win from Neumann to tie 1-1 with three kills from Carroll, a kill from Ousey and a mix of errors from the Knights.

The winning streak came to a quick end in the third set as Neumann took the win from the Colonels.

Both teams went back and forth to tie the game 19-19 as the Knights remained strong to score their remaining six points, taking the set 25-22. Neumann stood 2-1.

In the final set, the Knights took an early lead 16-8 but the Colonels quickly bounced back to rack up the scoreboard 16-15.

"When we get to really close points, it becomes more of a mental game," said Ousey. "We struggle with that and stay out of our heads. We start to play 'not to lose' instead of 'playing to win.' That brings up a mental barrier that none of us seem to get past."

Ousey, Fitzpatrick and Hines were key players in the last set, but the team fell with a final score of 25-20. The Knights won the match 3-1.

"Volleyball is such a game of momentum," said Czopek. "After being on the road for almost the entire month of September, along with not having our



The Beacon//Baylee Guedes

Alexa Cassel tricks New Jersey City as she tips the ball instead of setting.

own gym to practice in most of the season due to construction, the team is finding the confidence they need to push through to the 'W'. Success is right around the corner as they continue to develop both

individually and collectively."

Wilkes hosts Lycoming College for a MAC matchup tonight at 7 p.m. For more Wilkes athletic updates go to www.gowilkesu.com.

Have a passion for sports? Do you have an interest in sports photography?
Contact Sports Editor Baylee.Guedes@wilkes.edu

Getting to know...

Will Wagstaff

First-Year Soccer Player

The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week Sep. 26 to Oct. 3

Why Wagstaff was selected: In a 3-0 win over Keystone College, Wagstaff scored the first goal of his collegiate career to secure the win.

Name: Will Wagstaff

Year: First-year

Major: Pharmacy

Hometown: Allentown, Pa.

High School: Parkland H.S.

Position: Winger

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

My driving force to come to Wilkes was the guaranteed-seat pharmacy program.

Post-graduation plans in terms of a career?

After graduation, I would like to work in hospital pharmacy.

Favorite memory as a Colonel?

My favorite memory as a Colonel is scoring my first collegiate goal.

When/Why did you first begin playing?

I started playing soccer at the age of four because it was fun.

Favorite thing to do during practice?

My favorite thing to do during practice is finishing drills.

Other interests or hobbies off of the field?

Off the field, I like basketball and lifting.

Favorite building on campus?

My favorite building on campus is the Marts Center.

Favorite meal to eat on campus?

My favorite meal to eat on campus is french toast sticks.

If your life was a movie, who would you want to play you and why?

If my life was a movie, I would want Chris Hemsworth to play me because I love Thor.

Go to karaoke song?

"Let It Go."

Most influential person in your life?

The most influential person in my life is Miles (my best friend).

A quote you live your life by?

"If you ain't first, your last."

Anyone to give a shout-out to?

No.

- Compiled by Ariel Reed, Managing Editor

Editor's note: Athlete of the Week selections are determined by the sports staff each week. At the end of the academic year, we will post a reader poll on Twitter @WilkesBeacon to crown an "Athlete of the Year."

The Beacon/Ariel Reed

Getting to know...

Nicole Fitzpatrick

Junior Volleyball Player

The Beacon: Female Athlete of the Week Sep. 26 to Oct. 3

Why Fitzpatrick was selected: In a doubleheader split, Fitzpatrick recorded 11 kills in each match, tallying 22 for the day.

Name: Nicole Fitzpatrick

Year: Junior

Major: Psychology

Hometown: New Hampton, N.Y.

High School: Minisink Valley H.S.

Position: Outside Hitter

Favorite building on campus?

My favorite building on campus is Weckesser.

Favorite meal to eat on campus?

My favorite place to eat on campus is Starbucks.

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

I fell in love with the campus and when I got the chance to play in college, it solidified my choice.

Post-graduation plans in terms of a career?

I am still trying to figure out my exact plans, but I am definitely going to grad school.

Favorite memory as a Colonel?

Freshman year as a whole because of all the connections and friendships I made.

When/Why did you first begin playing?

I began playing in sixth grade just to try out for the modified team, and the sport has stuck with me ever since.

Favorite thing to do during practice?

Our favorite warmup - "All Around The World."

Other interests or hobbies off of the field?

I love my animals, so anytime I can be with my dogs, you can find me snuggled up with them.

If your life was a movie, who would you want to play you and why?

Melissa McCarthy is one of my favorite actresses. She is hilarious and I think we have similar humor.

Go to karaoke song?

"La Mama de la Mama" - El Alfa.

Most influential person in your life?

The most influential person in my life is my grandma, "ma."

A quote you live your life by?

"YOLO," you only live once.

Anyone to give a shout-out to?

My roommates back at 367.

- Compiled by Ariel Reed, Managing Editor

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The Beacon/Ariel Reed

The Beacon will upload online exclusive stories for the next three weeks, including an exclusive Oct. 19 online edition, before returning to print on Oct. 26.

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