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# THE BEACON

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

## MBB: Colonels fall in MAC Freedom playoffs

By Ben Mandell  
Asst. Sports Editor

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. — The Wilkes University Colonels played the Misericordia University Cougars on Feb. 21, where they fell, 72-58. The game was the Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) Freedom semifinal where the Colonels came in as the tournaments top seed.

The Colonels were able to earn the top seed in the MAC Freedom by going 11-3 play and 6-1 at home throughout conference play. Wilkes came in also beating their opponent Misericordia in both of their meetings.

The first time these two teams clashed was in January. On the Feb. 24, the Colonels came into the Anderson Sports-Health Center in Dallas looking to jump the Cougars in the standings. Both teams entered the game with 5-1 records and in a tie for first place in the conference. The game was tight the entire time, and they eventually would need extra time to create separation on the scoreboard. The game ended with the Colonels edging the Cougars 87-82.

The second meeting was not much different then the first meeting as the two teams battled it out in the Marts Center. The first half was close, but the Colonels were able to take the lead and get some



The Beacon/Nicole Gaetani

Wilkes students distract Misericordia's team at the foul line during Wednesday night's MAC Freedom semi-final. Misericordia won the game 86-72.

cushion thanks to a three-point buzzer beater from Connor Evans. Wilkes took control in the second half and cruised to an 86-72 win.

The Colonels came into the game losing a nail-biter on senior day at the Marts Center to Eastern, 69-66, following an Antonio Chapman buzzer beater. Wilkes

also came into the game knowing they would have to play their second straight game without their starting point guard Connor Evans, who injured his knee last

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## Norman Mailer Center partnership announced

By Cabrini Rudnicki  
News Editor

Wilkes University announced a partnership with the Norman Mailer Center to bring writers workshops to campus. The campus also plans to bring more of Mailer's belongings to the Mailer Room in the E.S Farley Library.

The university's creative writing program, the Maslow Family Graduate Program in Creative Writing, is bringing the Norman Mailer Writers Colony to campus. Wilkes will serve as the program's new permanent home.

The colony includes workshops taught by nationally recognized authors from throughout the country. The program was started by director and author Lawrence Schiller in 2008. The colony was previously held at Mailer's former home in Provincetown, Mass. Along with the colony, the Norman Mailer Center also offers grants,

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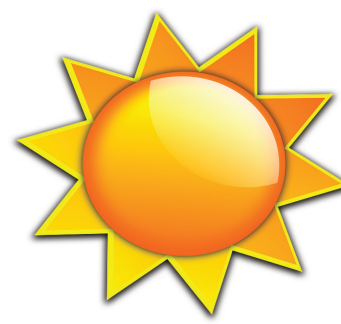


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Submitted Photo/Teresa Fallon

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The Beacon/Sean Connelly

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

Beacon Briefs

Compiled by Maddie Davis

Art club distress day

On March 1 from 12 to 2 p.m. in Kirby Hall, the Art Club is having an adult coloring event to help students relax for their upcoming exams. Refreshments will be provided and all are encouraged to attend this therapeutic, stress-relieving event.

Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science needs judges

On March 3 the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science is holding their 2018 Science Competition at Wilkes. Judges will be evaluating Northeastern PA high school students. Any student, faculty, staff, or professional who are involved in STEM and the social sciences are welcome to volunteer. The event, for judges, will be held from registration at 9 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

For further information or to sign up to be a judge for the event, please visit [www.pjasregistration.com](http://www.pjasregistration.com).

Student Government's Spring Fling Dance

On March 23 from 6 to 11 p.m. Student Government will be hosting their annual Spring Fling at Genetti's in Wilkes Barre. Tickets for the dance will cost \$5 each and will go on sale in the Henry Student Center on the first floor from Feb. 26 to March 2 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For any other further questions please email [nicole.hughes@rodano.org](mailto:nicole.hughes@rodano.org)

Gold Bar Club Fundraiser at Rodano's

On March 18 from 1 to 4 p.m., the Gold Bar club is holding a fundraiser at Rodano's on Public Square. Come support the club and help them raise funds while enjoying pizza, stromboli, and drinks.

By Megan Stanley

Staff Writer

The Wilkes University Student Government held their weekly meeting on Wednesday.

The Psychology Club delivered its club report. The group held a scavenger hunt with the Neuroscience Club to help freshmen who join either major. This semester they will volunteer at Blue Chip. They are hoping to host a Gertrude Hawk sale and are trying to organize a Moe's Southwest Grill fundraiser. As community activities the club had a table in the tailgate tent during homecoming where they decorated cookies with the theme "how do you feel to be back at Wilkes?" In the summer, the group are hoping to water raft as a bonding activity.

Next on the agenda was the Lambda Kappa Sigma non-club fund request. The group are attending a convention in Buffalo. Twelve pharmacy students are attending the conference and will be able to apply for national committees, present research and increase recognition for Wilkes. Student

Kappa Psi Volleyball Tournament

On March 13, from 6 to 9 p.m., the pharmacy fraternity Kappa Psi will be holding a volleyball tournament that will be open to the entire school. Each team will consist of six players, and the first place team wins a grant and prize. It will cost \$5 per player in the tournament, and you can pay with either cash or card. For further questions please email [ashley.hoffman@wilkes.edu](mailto:ashley.hoffman@wilkes.edu).

Spring Career and Internship Fair

On March 15 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Career Services will be holding their Career Internship Fair on the first floor of UCOM, in the MAC Gym. Meet with different types of organizations who are looking for employees, interns, or volunteers. Please bring a resume and dress in professional attire for the event. For further questions and information please contact Career Services through email at [careers@wilkes.edu](mailto:careers@wilkes.edu) or over the phone at 570-408-4060 or stop by Room 215 in Conyngham Hall.

Come out and run in the upcoming Glow Run

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

CYC looking for Volunteers for After-School Program

The CYC is looking for volunteers for their after-school program African American read-in. The program focuses on books by Andrea Davis Pinkley. If you are interested or have any further questions, please email [erica.acosta@wilkes.edu](mailto:erica.acosta@wilkes.edu)

Wilkes University Student Government notes

Government passed a motion to allocate \$1,611 to the group to cover the hotel costs.

The next item of business was the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and request for their annual Car Show. The event has been happening for twelve years, and is free to both Wilkes students and the public. It is organized entirely by students, and attracts over 200 cars. There will be food and entertainment and the group hopes to donate \$500 to charity. Student government agreed to allocate \$1,000 to the group to help

The fund request for Adventures in Science was next. Adventures in Science will be held on April 27, with 230 fifth graders attending the university for a day full of fun science. Student government passed a motion to allocate \$2,730 to cover costs for T-shirts, bags and safety goggles that will be used on the day.

The Pre-Pharmacy club fund request for their trip to a museum in Philadelphia was next. The 33 students attending the trip will cover the costs of the museum entrance fee. Student Government passed a motion to

The fund request for Adventures in Science was also allocated at this weeks student government meeting.

The Operations Committee met to report that the Karambelas media and communications center will be shut down in July to complete any work that was not completed when the building was opened at the start of the year. The library will also be closed for six to eight weeks over the summer after commencement because a transformer will be replaced, so all the power will be out.

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Courtesy of Wilkes Marketing  
Mailer

awards, and fellowships to creative writers, however, Wilkes will only be bringing the colony to campus.

The workshops will be a week long and will feature lectures on different literary genres such as fiction, poetry, nonfiction, publishing, playwriting, and screenwriting. The program will take place two to three weeks each summer, with ten to twelve classes being offered.

The program has previously had a number of Wilkes faculty teaching at the colony, including J. Michael Lennon, an Emeritus English professor, former vice president at Wilkes and the writer of the official Norman Mailer biography, "A Double Life." Bonnie Culver, the co-founder of the university's creative writing program, also previously taught at the colony.

Anyone over the age of 18, including undergraduate students, can join the workshop. According to Bonnie Culver, the classes will be offered at half the price of typical summer residencies, at \$575. The program also plans to discount the class price for students if there are empty seats, as well as scholarships for room and board.

"The benefit for Wilkes is that we can take some of the empty seats and fill them with our own graduate students," said Culver.

Three workshop faculty members have already been announced: memoirist Beverly Donofrio, best selling author Jacquelyn Mitchard, as well as NPR's Fresh Air book critic Maureen Corrigan. Corrigan will be teaching a class on how to review a book. More faculty members will be announced soon.

Senior english major Elyse Guziewicz spoke excitedly about the colony.

"I think it's the next step towards

legitimizing our MFA program," she said. "Right now, we only have a low residency program, which is great for certain kinds of people just looking to expand their skills, but if you're looking to teach, usually you'd go to a high residency program."

The program is named after the late award-winning author Norman Mailer. A Pulitzer Prize winner, Mailer was one of the founding board members of the creative writing program advisory board. Mailer wrote books such as "The Naked and the Dead" (1948) and "The Executioner's Song" (1979). Since his death in 2007, the university has continued to honor him in a number of ways, including the Norris Church Mailer scholarship, which is dedicated in honor of his late wife.

The Norman Mailer room in the library will also be updated in the next coming months.

"Norman had a study in the attic of his Provincetown home which had five to six thousand pieces in the library, including books for research and drafts for a planned trilogy," explained Culver. "He wrote everything by hand, and he edited by hand, so you can imagine all of the drafts contain his marginalia."

The university now plans to display the library's collection. The collection will be housed in the Norman Mailer room, which already features some of his memorabilia including first editions, awards and even his old dining room table. The final phases of negotiation are currently taking place.

"The Harry Ransom center in the University of Austin purchased the bulk of Mr. Mailer's paperwork almost a decade ago before he passed," said Culver. "Wilkes will just be getting a small portion of the last work that he did."

"The interest in that is that the scholars studying him will be able to see how he wrote each draft, what he changed in each draft, and his notes for why he changed things," continued Culver. "Wilkes will be a place for people to come and look at that material. It's important for libraries to have that kind of archive."

J. Michael Lennon, who wrote an official biography of Mailer in 2013, was excited about the upcoming room.

"The room really gives you a full sense of his career as a writer for 50 years," he said. "It really constitutes the insides of his mind over his life."

The inclusion of Norman Mailer has been criticized by some students on campus for the lack of acknowledgment of his past alleged domestic abuse. Mailer allegedly stabbed his then-wife, Adele Morales, at a party in 1960, according to a New York Times article published that year. He was indicted by a grand jury of felony assault, and received a sentence of probation after pleading guilty.

Students on campus have been confused by the absence of recognition of this event.

"I think that's something we need to be aware of at the very least," said Guziewicz. "It



The Beacon/Steffen Horwath  
Norman Mailer's own personal dining room table from his house in Provincetown, Mass., sits in the middle of the Norman Mailer room between his awards and first editions of his books.




The Beacon/Steffen Horwath  
Outside view of the Norman Mailer room on the second floor of the E.S Farley Library, awaiting his own personal library collection and drafts.

really opens up a discussion of art versus the artist."

The program does not plan on bringing specific attention to the issue.

"There is already a biography out there that does that, so we most likely will not acknowledge it in the room. Certainly if there are any personal notes in that collection, we will include that," said Culver.

The Maslow Family Graduate Program in Creative Writing was founded in 2005. The program grants a M.A and M.F.A in several different writing genres, including fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, playwriting, screenwriting, documentary films and publishing.

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# Wilkes holds the Wyoming Valley Undergraduate History Conference

By Megan Stanley  
Staff Writer

Last week, Wilkes University hosted the Wyoming Valley Undergraduate History Conference.

Students from King's College, Marywood University, The University of Scranton, and Wilkes University all delivered presentations.

Keynote remarks were made by Brian A Pavlac of King's College and senior Wilkes student Sarah O'Hara.

Pavlac discussed the contrast and overlap between historical fiction and history itself, using the Game of Thrones as an example.

During his speech, Pavlac said that: "History is written by the winners."

He credited George R. Martin for being able to tell the story of both sides, because as a historical writer he has the freedom to write from multiple viewpoints, and shows that all the characters are heroes within their own narrative.

"It's the reason why it makes such great literature," Pavlac told the audience.

In her final year at Wilkes, O'Hara welcomed the visitors to the campus on behalf of the history department staff and students, she discussed the experience of being an undergraduate researcher.

"It's an opportunity that allows us as

student researchers to learn for ourselves, but also allows us to become teachers and to share the subject matter we've been researching. It can be difficult and trying at times, but we all know how good it feels when we hand it in and we know we've done our best work," O'Hara told the audience.

The conference was split into three panels. The first panel featured three presentations on U.S. History, ranging from the Cold War to the Jesuit takeover of the University of Scranton. The second panel was about women's history and explored things from witchcraft to the experience of Native American women. The third and final panel was titled 'European History,' covering events such as the rise of Adolf Hitler to the French Revolution.

The second panel, Women's history, boasted three Wilkes students and was chaired by Dr. Paul Riggs, Dean of Arts and Humanities and Social Sciences of Wilkes University, and the discussant was Nicole Mares of King's College.

Courtney McMonagle, senior history major at Wilkes, discussed her capstone research project, which discussed how court system impacted the way countries would react to witchcraft hysteria, arguing that the stronger the legal system the lower the number of witch trials.

Women tended to be the most affected by the witch trials, McMonagle explained, saying that women were usually poorer than men and also worked with women and the sick, which meant they could be easily blamed for anything that went wrong.

The reformation also contributed to creating a more unstable atmosphere that impacted the witch trials during the period. "It's easier to blame witchcraft, rather than the threat of war. It's easier to blame something you really can't explain," McMonagle said.

The presentation then moved on to explain the different court systems in Europe, looking at the Holy Roman Empire, Scotland, France, Italy and England.

The Holy Roman Empire was split up into several different Kingdoms, with very decentralized power. McMonagle explained that it was the "heartland of the witchcraft craze, instability and centralization of power and all this fear that was already present led to these chain reaction witch hunts ... there was nothing in place to keep back that mob mentality that took over."

Scotland had the highest execution rate in Europe, France had many secular courts with judges that were skeptical of witchcraft, and in Italy the Roman Inquisition was highly concerned with keeping everyone catholic, rather than witchcraft itself.

England has one of the lowest rates of witch trials in all of Europe. McMonagle credited this to the legal system which included judges and juries meaning that often friends and family members were responsible for deciding if someone was a witch or not. "If you were guilty you were killed, so now that's on your friends, your family, your townspeople who are deciding whether or not your guilty." Prosecution was also very expensive, which was also given as a reason for low trial stats.

Nicole Kolessar, a junior at Wilkes, discussed the impact boarding schools had on Native American females.

In the 19th century, Europeans that had moved to America made it law that Native Americans must assimilate into their society. To do this, the government created boarding schools for the Native American children. "It was less expensive to educate Indians than it was to kill them," Kolessar said.

Pupils were striped of their clothing and hair and put in regulated uniforms at the schools. There was a heavy emphasis on domestic sciences, to prepare the children to become housewives and have vocational training for jobs.

"Discipline was a major aspect in boarding school education systems, every aspect of student life incorporated strict rules and regulations that students had to follow." Kolessar told the audience, adding that punishment, including physical beatings, was immediate. Female students were also a target for priests who often sexually assaulted their students.

Kolessar explained that after their time in the boarding schools, many pupils experience depression or post traumatic stress disorder.

"Assimilation was not completely success, it made Native Americans stronger and prouder of their heritage" Kolessar credited the women who wrote about their experiences so the world could know the truth, explaining that most historians at the time thought the schools were a positive programmes.


Mackenzie Egan, a junior English and history major at Wilkes University, also presented during the second panel and discussed how Catherine Beecher and Harriet Beecher Stowe changed the lives of women in the 19th century.

Other Wilkes Students who presented at the panel included Mauri Bohan who presented on human rights and ethical concerns during the Cold War. Fast Food in the US was discussed by Robbie Petrovich. Patrick Gilhooley explored how religious and cultural toleration shaped Poland.



The Beacon / Megan Stanley

Courtney McMonagle, a senior history major, presented her capstone research project titled "The Magic of Reformation Era Europe: Witchcraft and the Courts." The project focused on how different European countries reacted to the witchcraft hysteria.

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# Nursing students rescue ill Panamanian exchange student in SUB

By Cabrini Rudnicki  
News Editor

On Feb. 15, two nursing students were able to apply their practices and save a fellow student when a Panamanian exchange student fainted.

Theresa Couchara and Kim Roman, both juniors, were in the Student Union Building around noon when they noticed a girl slumped on a couch.

"I went over and they were taking off her jacket and giving her air," Kim Roman explained. "I started asking questions but no one spoke English, then out of nowhere someone came to translate."

Couchara then joined Roman at the couches to help assist the girl.

"I saw Kim standing there and I was really confused," said Couchara. "The girl was laying there with her head back, but in nursing school we were taught to sit them up because it promotes better breathing, so I sat her up."

"The student was hyperventilating," continued Roman. "We just told the translator to tell her to breathe in through her nose and out through her mouth."

Public safety was called while the students were helping her, then the EMS arrived and escorted the student to the hospital.

"It was like a miracle," said Couchara. The

two girls described how they usually went to lunch at a noon, but decided to go that day at a little bit later.

"It was scary," continued Roman. "I had never seen anything like that outside of clinical."

"Everyone around us was like 'Oh, let the nurses do their thing,' but we didn't even graduate. We barely knew what we were doing."

According to the girls, the student left to the hospital with better breathing.

The Panamanian student, as well as the girl who translated for Couchara and Roman, are unknown at this time.

"We aren't even sure of the name of the girl we saved, or the girl who helped us, but we hope they are both doing well," said Roman.

Wilkes University Passan School of Nursing has over forty years of history. In 2016, the school had the honor of being recognized by the Obama Administration for leading efforts to stop the prescription opioid epidemic.

Although it is unknown what program the Panamanian exchange student was a part of, Wilkes currently has a partnership with the MEDUCA-Bilingual Panama Program in order to bring students from Panama to the United States in order to better their English speaking skills.



The Beacon / Cabrini Rudnicki

Theresa Couchara and Kim Roman, both junior nursing students, were able to help a Panamanian exchange student, utilizing their years of nursing school education.

## Profile of a Professor: Dr. Carole Baddour, mechanical engineering

By Maddie Davis  
Asst. News Editor

Dr. Carole Emilie Baddour, a mechanical engineering assistant professor, is one of the newest faculty members to join Wilkes University this past fall semester.

Before becoming an assistant professor in 2017, Dr. Baddour was a visiting professor in the chemistry department in 2016 and also had a hand in developing a polymer chemistry class at Wilkes.

Engineering has always been a part of Baddour's life, as her father, brother, and uncles were all engineers. The heavy exposure to the engineering field and her father's labs as a child, as well as the support from both of her parents, all helped guide her interests and helped her become who she is today.

After being submerged in the field throughout her childhood, Baddour chose the chemical engineering route because of all of the applications that were possible through the field; specifically nanomaterials and technology.

Baddour is originally from London, Ontario, Canada. She obtained her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Western Ontario in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering. She also obtained

her Ph.D in Chemical Engineering from McGill University in Montreal.

After she received her degrees, Baddour did a year of postdoc industry work in London, Ontario, about renewable fuels.

Baddour also was a part of many groups who developed patents and publications. With her master's, she was a part of a team who developed an industry patent with Arkema, a specialty chemicals and materials company located in France.

After working in industry for a year, Baddour then realized the place for her was not in industry like she had believed, but in academia.

Baddour taught at a junior college in Quebec for three years before coming to the United States to be with her husband, where she found the open position to teach at Wilkes University.

Baddour added her favorite parts about the position.

"You feel that at Wilkes, anything is possible," said Baddour.

When coming to Wilkes, Baddour loved the overall welcoming atmosphere from the campus.

"Everybody is so friendly and you really feel that Wilkes is a family," said Baddour.

Baddour also has taken part in many



The Beacon / Maddie Davis

Baddour

outreach programs, specifically one that has become one of her biggest passions; Women in Engineering.

"I would like to see more women [in the engineering field]," said Baddour. "That is actually something I am hoping to do here because right now in mechanical engineering we don't have a lot of women students."

Aside from reaching out and trying to get more females into the mechanical engineering field, Baddour is also in the

process of setting up her own nanomaterial lab where she hopes to get students involved in her research.

"Thank you to students and to faculty, staff, everybody for making Wilkes what it is," added Baddour, "it's been such a wonderful experience and I just look forward to everything that's to come."



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# Wilkes announces 2017 Business Partner of the Year

## Power Engineering Corp. honored for work on Karambelas Center, other projects

By Beacon Staff Reports

This month, Wilkes University named Power Engineering their 2017 Business Partner of the Year.

Power Engineering Corporation is a Wilkes-Barre-based mechanical contractor. The firm was selected for their work on several projects at Wilkes, including the design and construction of the mechanical systems in the building housing the Karambelas Media and Communication Center and Sordoni Art Gallery, the university's newest facility.

The award is meant to "recognize partner organizations that demonstrate outstanding quality, value and service to Wilkes University," according to a press release.

University President Patrick F. Leahy said in the release that he was glad to announce the choice.

"I am so pleased to honor Power Engineering as our 2017 Business Partner of the Year," he said. "We continue to make significant enhancements to our campus, and Power Engineering has exceeded expectations with their results and professionalism."

"They are an important partner and we look forward to continuing our work together."

The corporation was one of five finalists for the award, and Wilkes Vice President of Finance and General Counsel, Loren D. Prescott, said in the document that the choice was not an easy one.

"We work with incredible business partners and are in the tough position to choose our finalists and ultimate honoree," he said in the release. "I want to thank all of the business partners who made this year a successful one at Wilkes University."

Also among finalists were Discovery Education, a media organization based in Silber Spring, Md.; Cocciardi and Associates Inc., a Jessup-based occupational health and safety firm; David Sheydwasser, a Kingston architect; and PNC Capital Markets LLC. All finalists were recognized at an event in January.

On behalf of Power Engineering, the firm's president, Tara Mugford Wilson, and vice president, Tom Fritz, accepted the award.



The Beacon/ Toni Pennello

Power Engineering Corporation was chosen as Wilkes University's Business Partner of the Year, most notably for their work on the design and construction of mechanical systems in the University's newest facility at 141 S. Main St.

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# Life, Arts & Entertainment

Have a story or want your event to be featured? Contact the Life, A&E Editor: [amanda.bialek@wilkes.edu](mailto:amanda.bialek@wilkes.edu)

## Artist Spotlight: Justin Gaskill

### Musical theatre major pursues his passion for the arts at Wilkes

By Jacqueline Kurovsky  
Staff Writer

A natural love of performing led junior musical theatre major Justin Gaskill, 20, on the path to Wilkes. During his time as a Colonel, he not only perfects his craft but is getting an education that will set him apart from the rest.

From his youth, Gaskill knew he wanted to act and perform, telling his parents he wanted to be in movies. A native of Somers Point, New Jersey, he attended a performing arts high school where he mainly concentrated on acting before being pushed towards vocal performance.

This made Gaskill the first at his high school to double major in advanced musical theatre and advanced vocal performance. It was this combination that became the driving force for Gaskill's passion: musical theatre. This led to a number of college auditions, with Wilkes being the right fit.

"Wilkes Theatre stood out to me because of the inviting atmosphere," Gaskill said. "I felt as though this was the best place for me to grow as a performer and as a person."

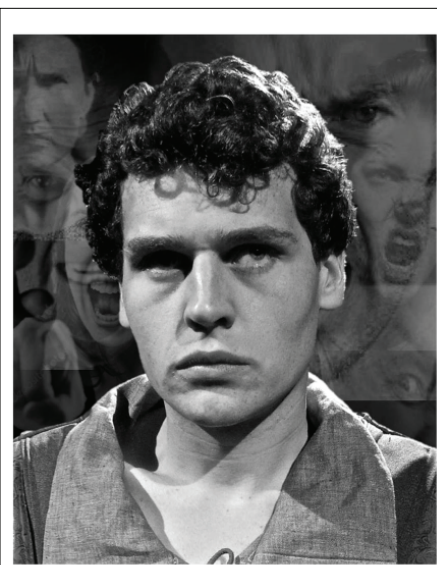
That feeling proved right. Gaskill said his training at Wilkes has vastly improved his abilities in key areas of the musical theatre craft. His initial interest sparked brightest in acting, with singing and dancing to follow.

"While training at Wilkes University I have grown tremendously in all three aspects of my major and am confident that with continuous study, I will be ready to hit the bigger auditions," he said.

This immersion in all aspects of his major is complemented by the guidance of the faculty, who he said are a key element in his training, onstage and off.

"Our acting instructor is incredible," he said, "and has helped me immensely with not only acting, but just looking deeper within myself and figuring out who I am as a person and as a performer."

Gaskill said the technical aspect of his major - which includes set construction and stage managing - is not something in which he was initially interested. Now, he said technical



Submitted Photo/ Teresa Fallon  
Justin Gaskill

theatre is something for which he has gained immense respect, and his knowledge of it will set him apart in the future.

"While there are many other universities with musical theatre degrees, many do not touch on the technical side of the craft," he said. "If you declare your major as musical theatre, that is what you learn. I have a basic understanding of almost everything in my field, and for that I am grateful."

Onstage, Gaskill's acting roles have a purpose beyond entertaining.

"I set a goal to learn something from every part I play," he said. "While every show I have been in has been rewarding and memorable, I have to say 'Little Shop of Horrors' takes the top. Seymour was the first leading role I had ever played."

Gaskill's most recent role was John Proctor in "The Crucible." This dramatic role saw Gaskill as a man wrapped up in the now-historic Salem Witch Trials. He hoped audiences would take away the message of the play, which he called beautiful.

"The Crucible is an award winning play for a reason, and I believe the moral of the story holds strong even in today's society," he said.

To prepare for this role and others, Gaskill said a "tremendous process" is required. Once the initial abundance of research and character analysis is behind him, he said he takes time for himself when the curtain is about to open.

"What I like to do is stand in the wings, close my eyes and listen to either the music or the lines that are prior to my entrance. It helps me feel the mood and enter the new world that I will be a part of," he said.

With Gaskill's future sights set on Broadway or Los Angeles, he said he feels ready to embrace a job market that likely will be very competitive.

"After being here for three years and learning, I have completely evolved into a

better artist simply by being immersed in all aspects of the craft," he said. "The instructors in the Wilkes theatre department have truly pushed me, and I believe that after graduating next year I will be ready to audition in the big cities."

While Gaskill finds appeal in the idea of performing in the hubs of arts and entertainment, the core of his envisioned future is simply set on doing what he loves.

"I quite honestly just want to be able to perform and inspire others through my work," he said.



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Submitted Photo/ Teresa Fallon  
Justin Gaskill and Melissa Berardelli perform in the Wilkes University Theatre production of "The Crucible."



# Recipe of the Week:

## Eggs in the Microwave

INGREDIENTS:

INSTRUCTIONS:

- A mug
- 2 large eggs
- 2 tbsp. milk
- ¼ tsp. Black pepper
- ½ tsp. Salt
- Dried basil (optional)
- Ketchup

1. Take your mug and crack 2 eggs.
2. With a fork, whisk together with milk, salt and pepper.
3. Put into microwave in 30 second intervals until fully cooked. Normally, about 1 minute and 30 seconds.
4. Top with basil and ketchup.
5. Enjoy!



Design by Nicole Kutos

Recipe from Shannon O'Connor

# JANUZZIS

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3 large 1- topping  
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# Buy a towel and save an animal: Gold Diggers raise money for SPCA

By Shannon O'Connor

*Life, Arts & Entertainment Asst. Editor*

With the summer months right around the corner, you're probably in need of new beach essentials. Well why not represent Wilkes University while cozying up with a fuzzy new beach towel brought to you in part by The Gold Diggers?

The Gold Diggers is a freshman IME intro to business class group consisting of five friends looking to change the lives of local animals. Matt Alden, Alyssa Dubose, Alexa Hann, Jordon Jones and Andrew Lessig were given the task from their professor to work together to create and carry out their very own business plan. The Gold Diggers wanted to create a business that would help a cause as well as bring unique merchandise to the Wilkes University campus.

The Gold Diggers are currently selling dark blue, fuzzy beach towels with the Wilkes University logo in gold. Each towel is \$15 and will be personally delivered to each person that purchases one. The towels will be on sale until March 31.

"We noticed there weren't any towels sold at the bookstore so we decided that was a niche we should fill," said Dubose.

The group decided to donate all its proceeds to the SPCA of Luzerne County.

"We all love animals. In the winter, there are a lot of animals that don't have homes," explained Dubose.

Lessig said, "We also figured that we didn't just have to donate money to the SPCA. We actually go there and help out. We clean kennels and feed dogs, whatever that they need us to do. We're there to help out as well as donate the money we raise."

Through this class, the students get to have hands on experience at their future life-goals of becoming entrepreneurs.

"It helps show us how to run a small business and gives us experience of how to handle inventory and things such as that," said Alden.

Hann added, "It helps us work with teams. It's not always easy to work together but in this class, we are always working with each other and we're always coordinating with each other."

To purchase a towel, for more information regarding the Gold Diggers project, or to join them in helping out at the SPCA shelter, contact them at [golddiggers21@gmail.com](mailto:golddiggers21@gmail.com).



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Interested in writing for the

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**Section? Why not try all three?**

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



# Self Love with Shannon

Graphic by Todd Espenshade

*When it comes to mental health, it can be hard to tackle the struggles when faced alone. It is also difficult for others to step in and help without the proper knowledge of how to handle the situation. These are some helpful tips, provided by Psychology Today and MentalHealth.gov, on how to help your family and friends who may be going through a rather struggling time. Consult these tips before you lend a hand, and remember to be awesome!*

## **Don't Push**

If someone is not ready to talk about their mental health or they are not in the mood to discuss it, then drop the conversation. Talking about mental health issues can be scary and is often very difficult for the person talking about it to open up. They need time and space. Do not pry! Mental health is important and so is seeking help. However, sometimes a person needs to figure out their own feelings before they discuss it with others.

## **Try and Understand**

Understanding mental health is a huge task that can be very difficult. Often people are quick to judge or even think less of a person suffering from these illnesses. There is no reason to think of this person any differently. They are still the same person you have come to love but now they are in need of some help. You may not fully understand what they are going through but ask them to explain how

## **Do Some Research**

First thing is first, if a friend or family member confides in you and tells they are struggling with their mental health, do some research. Knowing the ins and outs of their illness can help you understand more of what they are going through. This can also help you not rush into rash judgments and save you from acting like you know everything.


## **Be There for Them**

If someone is telling you they are experiencing issues, they truly trust you. Don't take advantage of that trust. Odds are they haven't told a lot of people about how they are feeling, so be there for them. Being their shoulder to cry, so to speak, can make a huge difference that you may not even realize. Remember, being there for them means that, more often than not, they are going to be there for you.

## **If There is a Crisis: Seek Help.**

they are feeling or thinking. This will give you a better understanding of how their mind is working. Always remember, you had respect for this person before they confided in you, never lose that respect over a mental health issue.

Whenever someone tells you how they are truly feeling, sometimes they may be in danger of hurting themselves or others. This is when you need to seek help. Whether it be from a hotline (1-800-273-8255), Passan Health Services found on campus, or calling 9-1-1. You cannot help someone all by yourself if the situation has reached a serious point. Also, don't feel like you can do it all by yourself. Seeking help is not a bad thing, nor should you feel like a bad person for doing so. Everyone needs help sometimes.

 @willkesbeacon  
shannon.oconnor@willkes.edu



# Rain, Rain Go Away

With weather.com showing a lot of rain in the forecast for the next few weeks, students can turn to these photos taken by Beacon Staff Photographer Madison Kaminski for a reminder that spring is coming, and that all weather can be beautiful.



The Beacon/ Madison Kaminski

Spring weather shows it's face as Wilkes University sees a day that reaches 70 degrees in February.



It's almost that time of year again to break out the hiking boots and some bathing suits and hit the natural trails the surrounding area has to offer.



Take a scenic drive and see the beautiful Pennsylvania country side.



Even if its a littly snowy out, the view is still breathtaking.



# Wilkes Spring Sports Preview

## Baseball

**Affiliation:** MAC Freedom

**Head Coach:** Brandon Michael (0-0), first season

**Venue:** Artillery Park located in Kirby Park

**Last year's record:** 10-24, noting nine one-run losses with eight of them in conference play.

**Key returners:** Senior: third baseman Joe Champi (.369 avg.); Juniors: second baseman Jack Fischer (.353) and left fielder Brady Wing (.321)

**What coach says about this season:**

"This is my eighth year as part of the Wilkes baseball program, four as a player and four as a coach, with this being my first year as the head coach. I have never been this excited to start a season. We have a fantastic group of guys, which includes a handful of upperclassmen and a large group of freshmen that have meshed well together and created a strong culture," said Michael. "We have definitely had to overcome a few challenges along the way, but I believe those challenges have made every single person in this program stronger and better as both a person and a baseball player."

-Kirsten Peters, *Staff Writer*



#	NAME	YR.	POS.	Bat/Throw
0	Nick Pronti	Fr.	INF	R/R
1	Brady Wing	Jr.	OF	R/R
2	Jarret Clymer	Sr.	OF	S/R
3	Bryan Nifenecker	Fr.	INF	L/R
4	Jorge Gonzalez	Jr.	INF	S/R
5	Jared Angerman	Fr.	INF	L/R
6	Rob Iacono	Fr.	INF	R/R
8	Alex Palmer	Jr.	OF	R/R
9	Michael Patrizio	Fr.	INF	R/R
10	Eric Beideman	So.	C	R/R
11	Travis Woolfenden	Jr.	P	R/R
12	Jesse Gerdes	Fr.	C/INF	R/R
13	Keaton Allison	Jr.	C	R/R
14	Alex Halladay	So.	INF	L/R
15	Tyler Walther	So.	C	S/R
16	Nick Malatesta	Fr.	C	R/R
17	Jonah Harder	Fr.	OF	R/R
18	Zach Metz	Jr.	P	L/L
19	Andrew Indzonka	Fr.	P	R/R
20	Colin Smith	Fr.	P	R/R
21	Anthony Favor	Fr.	INF	R/R
22	Adam Martinese	So.	UTL	R/R
23	Matt Reinert	So.	OF	R/R
24	Jack Fischer	Jr.	INF	L/R
25	Noah Durnin	Jr.	P	L/L
26	Joe Champi	Sr.	INF	R/R
27	Dan Eicher	Sr.	INF	R/R
28	Nicholas Capozzi	Jr.	INF	R/R
29	Jack Hines	Fr.	OF	R/R
30	Nolan Ott	Fr.	P/C	R/R
31	Charles Giacometti	Jr.	Fr.	INF R/R
32	Jimmy Oschal	Fr.	P	R/R
33	Jason Tisa	So.	P	R/R
34	Matt Amaral	So.	P	R/R
35	Matthew Konikow	Fr.	P	R/R
36	Matt Maranca	Jr.	P	R/R
38	Zach Adamchick	Fr.	P	L/L
39	Kyle Pokrinchak	Fr.	P/INF	L/R
42	Francis Navatta	Fr.	P	L/R
46	Nicholas Poyer	Jr.	P	L/L
47	Jeremy Worlinsky	Jr.	P/INF	R/R
48	Vincent Uzzi	Fr.	OF	R/R
49	Jeremy Yzeik	So.	P	R/L



## Softball

**Affiliation:** MAC Freedom

**Head Coach:** Sarah Leavenworth (Maulorico) (37-37), third season

**Venue:** Ralston Athletic Complex

**Last year's record:** 24-16, fell in MAC Freedom tournament

**Key returners:** Juniors: Haley Welker (.357 avg.); Sophomores: Celine Podlesney (.387), Gracen Stauton (.364).

**What coach says about this season:** Coach Leavenworth could not be reached for comment.

-Luke Modrovsky, *Sports Editor*

#	NAME	YR.	POS.	Bat/Throw
---	------	-----	------	-----------

1 Sydney Cogswell Fr. UTL S/R

4 Gracen Staunton So. P/UTL R/R

6 Haley Boyd Fr. UTL L/R

8 Erika Gerace So. P/UTL R/R

9 Jordyn Kondras Fr. UTL L/R

10 Nicolette Kessler Fr. UTL L/R

11 Haley Welker Jr. UTL R/R

12 Alexis Kessler Fr. UTL R/R

13 Mia Lussier Sr. OF L/R

14 Megan Magoon Fr. UTL R/R

17 Britny Jumalon Fr. UTL R/R

19 Caitlin Brown Jr. INF R/R

22 Sarah Gibson So. UTL R/R

23 Sarah Birchmeier Sr. UTL R/R

32 Kaliyah Moore So. UTL R/R

34 Celine Podlesney So. P/UTL R/R

44 Christina Gambino Sr. P/INF R/R

## Men's Tennis

**Affiliation:** MAC Freedom

**Head Coach:** Christopher Leicht (456-99, combined), 16th season

**Venue:** Ralston Athletic Complex

**Last year's record:** 23-4, Lost to Williams College in NCAA Tournament 2nd Round

**Key returners:** Seniors: Andrew Neidig and Gabe Velez; Juniors: All-American Courtney Murphy

**What Coach Leicht says about this season:** "We will be trying to win our 11th straight conference title, and earn another invitation to the NCAA National Tourney."

-Alex Kielar, *Asst. Sports Editor*

NAME	YEAR
Matt Angara	Freshman
Braddock Chow	Junior
Mike Ellis	Freshman
Colin Greenman	Freshman
Alec Levin	Sophomore
Andrew MacDonald	Junior
Chris Maderitz	Sophomore
Jack Maline	Freshman
Courtney Murphy	Junior
Artyom Nabokin	Senior
Andrew Neidig	Senior
Larry Scartz	Freshman
Isaac Shenton	Freshman
Ryan Simon	Freshman
Gabriel Velez	Senior
Jonathan White	Junior







Men's Lacrosse:

**Affiliation:** MAC Freedom  
**Head Coach:** Curtis Jaques (4-26), third season  
**Venue:** Schmidt Stadium at Ralston Athletic Complex  
**Last year's record:** 4-11  
**Key returners:** Evan Stolicker (faceoff), Jeremy Kachel, Nick Ruggerio, JT Weitzel, John Luna  
**What coach says about this season:** "In year one, we were learning how to compete. Now, we expect to compete. We expect to be in one, two goal games this year. We have a strong foundation and great culture to build on. We are bigger, faster, stronger than we ever been and we are physically tough, which I hope will translate into mental toughness."

#	NAME	YR.	POS.	
1	Kiernan Quinn	Jr.	A	
2	Connor Daly	So.	M	
3	Jeremy Kachel	Sr.	A	
4	Glenn Weist	Sr.	M	
5	JT Weitzel	Jr.	M	
6	Nico Lorenzo	Fr.	A/M	
7	John Luna	So.	A	
8	Mathew Kelly Jr.	M		
9	Timothy Madden	Fr.	M	
10	James Peaney	Jr.	D	
11	Joseph Papa	So.	D	
12	Matthew Bush	Jr.	A/M	
13	Jamison Shaw	Fr.	M	
15	Cody Geidel	So.	G	
18	Jacob Kadis	Jr.	M	
20	Garrett Armstrong	Sr.	M	
21	Joe Kuchinski	Fr.	M/D	
23	CJ Alevras	Jr.	D	
24	Alex Loscalzo	Fr.	M/FO	
25	Jack O'Connell	So.	D	
30	Max Brown	Jr.	A	
32	Evan Stolicker	So.	FO	
33	Carter Whittlemore	So.	G	
34	John Malley	Jr.	G	
36	Michael Gallagher	So.	M	
43	James Copley	Sr.	FO	
44	Gerard Setteducato	Jr.	D	
45	Jack Moyer	Jr.	M	
50	John Wink	Jr.	A	
66	Nicholas Ruggiero	Sr.	M	

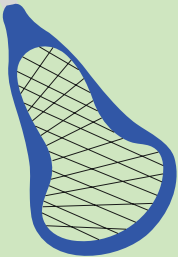
-Ben Mandell, Asst. Sports Editor

Women's Lacrosse:

**Affiliation:** MAC Freedom  
**Head Coach:** Kammie Towey (78-92), 12th season  
**Venue:** Schmidt Stadium at Ralston Athletic Complex  
**Last year's record:** 5-10  
**Key returners:** Jessie Held, Kylie Bedwell, Sarah Carlini  
**What coach says about this season:** "We have a young team of hard workers who are very motivated for a successful and fun season. I think we have a lot of very strong talent on our team that will come together and should help us to be successful. We are a very tight knit team who has great team chemistry. I am looking forward to rebounding this season from a rebuilding season last year. I think everyone has been working extremely hard and it is definitely showing as we are improving each day."

-Amber Grohowski, Staff Writer

#	NAME	YR.	POS.
2	Sierra Duman	Fr.	A/M
5	Gracie Franko	So.	A
6	Kylie Bedwell	Sr.	D
7	Maura Brownsey	Sr.	A
8	Paige Thomas	So.	A
11	Delaney Lukowski	So.	D/A
12	Sophia Gavigan	So.	A/D
13	Brianna Sailor	Fr.	D
14	Kyra Boccio	Jr.	M
18	Ashley Burkhardt	Fr.	A
20	Melania Velasquez	So.	GK
21	Heather Lorincz	Sr.	A/D
23	Kirsten Jackson	So.	A/M
24	Laura Singleton	So.	A/D
26	Danielle McCole	So.	D
27	Jessyca Held	Sr.	M
34	Kayla Gronkowski	Jr.	D
35	Natalie Dowd	Fr.	D
40	Sarah Carlini	So.	GK
88	Ashley Cadet	Fr.	GK



Design by Todd Espenshade

Women's Tennis

**Affiliation:** MAC Freedom  
**Head Coach:** Christopher Leicht (456-99, combined), 16th season

**Venue:** Ralston Athletic Complex

**Last year's record:** 24-1, lost to Williams College in NCAA Tournament 2nd Round

**Key returners:** Sophomores: Francesca Varela-Seri; Seniors: Brittany Stanton

**What Coach Leicht says about this season:** "We will be trying to win our 12th straight conference title, and earn another invitation to the NCAA National Tourney."

-Alex Kielar, Asst. Sports Editor

NAME	YEAR
Nicole Gaetani	Junior
Sarah Malone	Freshman
Dagny Markle	Freshman
Courtney McCowan	Junior
Dana Saliyev	Sophomore
Brittany Stanton	Senior
Francesca Varela-Seri	Sophomore
Jordan Vasarkovy	Junior
Erin Volutza	Junior
Laura Zielinski	Sophomore





# Opinion

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

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## Our Voice

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

## The cafeteria dilemma

*The Beacon asks for more visible vegetarian, kosher and healthy options*

Trying to eat for a specific dietary requirement at the SUB sometimes is difficult. Even if you just want to eat a little bit healthier, finding the food you want and need can be an issue.

Eating in Henry's Dining Hall, more commonly known as the SUB, is not a terrible thing in itself. The staff members are always friendly and welcoming; the options are always varied; and the salad bar is plentiful.

And while we vegetarians love the vegan sloppy joes and falafel the SUB has offered, we don't feel that the options are always so exciting -- or visible.

The seniors of *The Beacon* Editorial Board remember a time where there was a designated section, every day, with vegetarian options and tofu galore.

Now, if you want the vegetarian option you have to ask for it. Located next to the sandwich section, the sign indicates that a vegetarian meal should be served in this section. However, there's normally only a meat option visible here instead.

The vegetarian and vegan options are served near the wall behind this station, but the lack of wonderful, ready-to-eat meat-free options on plates leave some people assuming the only completely meat-free options available are the pizza, pasta and salad bar.

Even upon discovery that there is in fact a vegetarian section, the offerings aren't always that varied, with bean burgers being offered two days in a row last week.

While asking for a meal is not necessarily an issue considering people who have gluten intolerances are required to do this, sometimes you can't help but feel like a burden when someone has to leave their

station to go make you a vegetarian meal, sometimes leaving another station empty. Bean burgers can take up to 10 minutes to prepare - this is a long time to wait for such a simple meal.

But shouldn't the vegetarian option be in one of the main serving stations? Vegetarianism isn't a niche dietary requirement anymore. Nor are you required to be a vegetarian to eat a meat-free meal.

According to One Green Planet, 30 percent of Americans are vegetarian, with 6 percent claiming they are vegan. While the Wilkes population might not represent these statistics, it shouldn't mean that meat-free options are pushed to the back and hidden. If vegetarian meals were part of the main serving area, it's likely that meat eaters would choose it too -- and that might be in their best interest.

The Physicians Committee writes how leaving out meat has many benefits. According to studies done in England and Germany, vegetarian diets reduce the risk of cancer by 40 percent. Less meat also reduces the risk of heart disease and lowers blood pressure.

The environment also benefits from less meat consumption. TIME wrote that livestock contributes to 14 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. A vegetarian diet could cut this down by 63 percent.

TIME also claimed that vegetarianism could reduce healthcare costs by \$1 trillion each year.

While the *Beacon* Editorial Board isn't suggesting all students adopt a vegetarian or vegan diet, the increased inclusivity of vegetarian meals at the SUB could reduce students' meat intake, increase health and save the environment.

It would especially make the lives of people who are participating in Lent a little easier when they aren't used to navigating the vegetarian life.

Some students have had to opt out of the meal plan service entirely. With the lack of Kosher meals offered, Jewish students are left with little options. One student who no longer has a meal plan said: "I don't have a meal plan because I wasn't able to eat there [in the SUB]. Being a Kosher student, there was nothing for them to offer me so I had to opt out."

Luckily, the student who spoke to *The Beacon* lives in University Towers, so has access to a proper kitchen and cooking equipment. However, what about the students who don't have access to such facilities in some of the residence halls? While a shared kitchen is handy for snacks and making small meals, it's not exactly ideal if for cooking every meal.

Healthy eating in general can sometimes be a difficult experience. With pizza offered at all times, the large variety of high-sugar cereals, and a lack of vegetables at some serving stations, it's all too tempting to choose an unhealthy option over a nutritious meal.

The fact of the matter is, all resident students are required to purchase a meal plan. Freshmen are required to purchase the Colonel Gold plan, which costs \$2,785 per semester. For students who remain on campus for the rest of their years, the cheapest meal plan is \$2,427.

If you're a vegetarian, or have a niche dietary requirement, are you really getting the most from your money when you have to ask for a meal that should arguably be readily available?



# Does television need more diversity?

By Andre Spruell  
Opinion Editor

Television has undoubtedly become a major source of media consumed by Americans. Based on the programs being aired, is television too white?

When we think of some of the more popular shows that are on air today, shows like "Grey's Anatomy" and "Game of Thrones" may come to mind. Both of which have a predominantly white cast.

On the other hand, they are current shows like "Empire" and "Black-ish," which both are extremely popular and have predominantly black casts.

With the respective shows being on two different ends of the spectrum, the question again is posed, is television too white?

To answer that question, I believe that it still is white, but has certainly become more diverse.

Although television has diversified a lot more over the last couple of years, it seems like shows are still predominantly white casts that are led by white males. In my opinion, television shows have become more conscious of making sure to include people of different racial backgrounds.

Variety.com identified 46 lead and co-lead actor roles, and 42 showrunners and co-showrunners on the 39 new series ordered by the Big Five broadcasters for the 2017-2018 season. Of the lead actors, only 20% were Hispanic or non-white, and only 35% were female. Of the showrunners, 10% were non-white or Hispanic and 29% were female.

Based on these facts, females and minorities seems underrepresented, but it is not a bad representation.

I am not saying that minority actors need to completely take over television and be the lead or supporting roles in every show, but it is certainly possible to have a better representation. Despite this, there are many shows out today that represent non-whites.

Aside from "Empire" and "Black-ish," there are also shows like "Master of None," which depicts an Indian man, played by Aziz Ansari, going through real life, everyday problems while living in New York City.

What is unique about this show is that although it is centered around an Indian man, it is not solely about him going through traditional Indian customs. It simply involves him living life in the U.S. as the son of first generation immigrant parents.

A show like that is an example of one that could have been played by an actor of any race because the storyline is so relatable.



The Beacon/ Todd Espenshade

Having a storyline that people can relate to regardless of race is another reason why it is important to keep having non-whites represented.

Because of this, the idea of television becoming more normalized seems to be sticking more than ever. Shonda Rhimes, an African American woman who is the creator of shows like "Grey's Anatomy" and "Scandal," has been noted for arguing that "normal" should be the new "diversity."

This idea of making television shows more normal can not only put more non-whites in a position to play more lead and supporting roles, but will also garner a more diverse audience because if more shows become normal, it allows more viewers to relate to shows themselves.

Diverse viewership is something that is discussed in a Washington Post article. In the article, Mary Beltrán, an associate professor of media studies in the Department of Radio-Television-Film at the University of Texas offered her thoughts on diverse viewership.

Viewership is more diverse, so "it's becoming more embarrassing when a network has mostly white shows and showrunners," Beltrán said. "A lot of us are still affected by race and class, and it does a

disservice to American viewers to present a world that pretends that that isn't true."


What Beltrán offers up about a lot of us being affected by race and class is something that holds true and is a vital reason as to why this discussion of television being too white is happening.

Back in 1999, the NAACP boycotted television networks, in particular the four major networks – CBS, NBC, ABC and FOX – for having a lack of diversity in their programming.

Nearly 20 years following the NAACP's efforts, strides have been made and will continue to be made as television keeps diversifying.

An article from The New York Times puts it best: "This isn't about less 'white' TV, but about putting on other kinds of people than there have previously been."

Twenty years ago, the NAACP fought for the lack of diversity on television networks and in twenty years, I believe television will be so diverse that it will become totally accepted and no longer be seen as "too white."

 @wilkesbeacon  
andre.spruell@wilkes.edu

## The Most Diverse Networks

\*Non-white/hispanic lead roles from 2017-2018 season by network

- 1) CW- 33%
- 2) Fox- 30%
- 3) NBC -18%
- 4) CBS- 13%
- 5) ABC- 9%

Source: variety.com



Anders Krusberg / Peabody Awards

Aziz Ansari, co-creator and lead role in Master of None



# How necessary is a college education?

By Savannah Pinnock  
Staff Writer

Dating back to the eighteenth century, around the Renaissance period, the topic of education has been an important asset to an individual, and society as a whole.

The establishment of intellectual institutions such as Oxford, Harvard, and Yale within the early and late Elizabethan era have been centers for intellectuals to grow and learn about the world around them.

Fast-forwarding to modern day society, the role of education has remained the same with the exception of previously marginalized groups being granted the ability to access a standard kindergarten through twelfth grade education, alongside higher education if they so choose. It can also be said that pressures to pursue a higher form of education have increased exponentially, but why is this so?

It is fairly common and encouraged on a federal level for a student to receive a pre-high school education as well as a high school diploma.

After completing these years of academic instruction, a student is not required to attend college, though, they begin to receive a great deal of peer and societal pressures to attend college.

This influence is clearly a carefully

implemented marketing strategy administered to the public through the media.

Advertisements promoting a wide range of low budget and highly accredited colleges and universities begin to appear at high rates and are geared towards high schoolers, single parents, and those who dropped out of their k-12 years of school and endeavor to go back to school to attain a better life.

The idea of a better life has inaccurately been synonymized with colleges and universities giving the majority of these targeted groups the idea that not pursuing a higher education is synonymous to having an inferior life.

The question is, are there any truths to such sentiments, and how necessary is a higher education? The answer is simple; it depends on the individual.

According to Dawn Papandrea writing from College Covered, "For some students, traditional college may not be the best choice if you want to work in a trade like plumbing or construction."

The same can also be said for an individual who desires to pursue cosmetology or aesthetic endeavors.

At the same time, Papandrea also suggests that "attending college is usually a smart decision for students. In fact, for the most lucrative career paths, a college degree is

usually a minimum requirement just to get a job."


In relation to the concept of having a better life, college can be extremely helpful, though it may not be if your potential career endeavors do not require a degree.

So yes, to an individual with a desire to pursue something that requires a liberal arts education, Papandrea states that "a college degree is not only necessary, but worth the

expense."

For a student who seeks to pursue a trade or a career that does not require a bachelor's degree as a prerequisite, it is not at all necessary.

So what would you truly like to pursue? Your path is solely dependent on you.

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**Have an  
opinion you'd like to share?  
Email us!**

**andre.spruell@wilkes.edu**

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# Meet the Majors

## This week's major: Geology

Interviews and photos by

Abigail Tarway

Staff Writer

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



Submitted photos

Emma Sukowaski  
Sophomore

“I love the outdoors and rocks have always interested me since I was a kid. I had a collection of them actually and I continued to add to it. I hope to get a job doing what I love.”



Taryn Skinner  
Sophomore

“I would love to be a geologist and possibly move on to teaching some day. I love geology so much and teaching to other people sounds fun. Most people don't know anything about it or are confused about the contents of studying geology.”



# 5 ways to enjoy spring break without traveling

By Sarah Matarella  
Staff Writer

Spring break is approaching and many people will be using that time for a vacation. However, if it is not in the cards to sunbathe on the beach or tour a beautiful city, there is discoverable enjoyment in a 'staycation.'

While spring break is often associated with going to the beach, traveling abroad, and taking a vacation, there are still ways to find enjoyment in staying at home. In addition, planning a trip including one or two nights in a hotel can get outrageously expensive, let alone traveling abroad for a whole week.

If you are trying to avoid breaking the bank, or you simply just need to take a hiatus from the hectic semester, here are some alternative activities, both leisurely and lively, that you can engage in during your spring break:

## 1) Relax and Decompress

After working diligently throughout the start of the semester, your brain may be due for a well deserved lull period. Sleeping and

lounging around during the break can serve as a recharge for the brain from the late nights spent doing homework and studying. To be honest, there is truly no better feeling than sitting on your couch binge watch your favorite Netflix series and without having any uneasiness about uncompleted tasks and responsibilities.

## 2) Catch up with old friends

If you are a college student on spring break, it is likely that you have not seen a lot of your hometown friends in a significant amount of time. The break can serve as an excellent opportunity to exchange stories with your old friends about what has occurred the past few months and to catch up on what has been happening in each others lives in general.

## 3) Spend time with family

It can also be difficult to see and talk to your family members if you are in college, especially if you live far away from where you attend school. Sometimes the hasty, five minute phone conversations with your

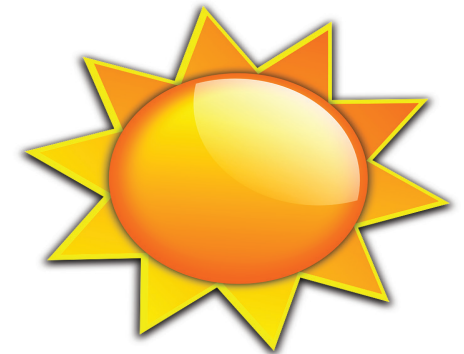
mom in between classes is just not enough. Therefore, spending quality time with your family is often refreshing and comforting, especially when you are at college trying to prepare for the real world.

## 4) Self Reflect

Although it is great to be around your friends all the time and live with roommates, sometimes you just need time to yourself. It is essential to your overall health and wellbeing to take some time to ground yourself and be aware of your thoughts and feelings. This can be quite difficult to do sometimes when you are in a stimulating college atmosphere, which is a reason as to why spring break can be the perfect opportunity to do so.

## 5) Find a new hobby


When staying at home and relaxing becomes too mundane, you can always try discovering a new hobby or passion. For example, a break can be a great time to start a workout regimen that you can even continue to utilize after break. If working



The Beacon Archives

out at the gym is not ideal, you can try taking a yoga class, a dance class or even take a martial arts or kickboxing class.

Another option can be to start journaling and documenting some of the instances that happen in your life. You can even try painting, drawing, or doing DIY projects. These activities are all examples of fun, interactive things to do that do not require leaving the country or driving a far distance.

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# 5 tips for staying safe while soaking up some sun

By Katelyn Shaffer  
Contributing Writer

Sunscreen is a great tool to help prevent skin cancer, and it also helps prevent early skin aging and sunburns. The American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) recommends sunscreen for anyone who is planning to spend time outside. Below are some helpful tips about how to get the most out of sunscreen to stay safe in the upcoming warm, sunny weather.

## 1) Choose an SPF of at least 30.

SPF 30 blocks 97 percent of the sun's harmful rays. There is no sunscreen that blocks 100 percent of the rays and coverage only goes up about 1 to 2 percent as SPF increases, whereas cost of sunscreen will increase for a higher SPF. SPF 30 will provide adequate coverage against the sun's harmful rays as well as save you a little money in the long run.

## 2) Select "broad" coverage that is water resistant.

Broad coverage includes protection against UVA and UVB rays. UVA rays can

cause early aging of skin including wrinkles and age spots. UVB rays are considered harmful rays because they cause sunburns. Water resistant does not mean waterproof. Sunscreen that is water resistant will stay on in the water for about 40 minutes. If the bottle says very water resistant, that includes coverage for up to 80 minutes. Water resistant does not mean you do not have to reapply, it just adds extra protection while swimming or sweating.

## 3) There are pros and cons to each formulation.

There are several types of sunscreens including sprays, lotions, and sticks. Lotions are best because having to rub it into your skin provides best coverage. Sprays are easier to use and take less time, but it is important to follow the directions on the bottle and use enough to benefit. Sticks are good for application around the eyes, and lip balms are also available for the lips.

## 4) Apply a generous amount of sunscreen BEFORE going outside.

Most people do not use sunscreen appropriately and end up applying only 25-50% of the recommended amount. Sunscreen should be applied on all bare areas of skin exposed to the sun 15 minutes before going outside. The AAD recommends using one ounce, which is one shot glass full, of sunscreen each time you apply. Sunscreen should also be applied every two hours, and after swimming or sweating.

## 5) Cover skin, and wear a hat and sunglasses in addition to sunscreen.

The sun is its hottest from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. In these hours it is best to either seek shade if outside or stay indoors. Covering skin or wearing hats and sunglasses is a good add on method if you need to be outside during these times. Water and sand reflect the damaging rays of the sun, increasing likelihood of sunburns, so take extra precaution while at the beach and use good sunscreen technique. Following these tips this upcoming season will help keep you safe from the sun's harmful rays and allow for worry-free fun in the sun.

Do you have opinions? Do you wish you had a platform to share them? Contact Andre Spruell to write about them and get them off your chest.  
andre.spruell@wilkes.edu



# Sports

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

## COLONELS, Continued from front cover

The third match-up, the MAC Freedom semifinal, played out almost identically to the second meeting, but with the roles reversed.

The game started with a great playoff feel, as the Marts Center was packed, filled with students and Colonels fans dressed in all white for the white out. Both teams seemed to have some butterflies as they struggled to get the games first points.

Once Misericordia got the game's first basket, both team's offenses heated up. Rob Pecorelli (16 points) got the Colonels going, helping them keep pace with Jason Kenny (29 points) and the Cougars. Both teams went shot for shot with each other, keeping the half within six points throughout its entirety. Going into halftime, Wilkes was unable to capitalize on the final possession of the half so the Cougars lead 32-31.

The second half picked up where the first half left off with both teams continuing to exchange blows. Around the halfway point of the second half, the Cougars defense found their rhythm on defense as slowed the Colonels' offense down drastically.

With Tre Fields (7 points) almost entirely eliminating Wilkes' star Marcus Robinson (7 points) for the entire game, and Kenny, who was named the MAC Freedom player of the year on Thursday 2/22, moving over to guard Pecorelli, holding him to just five second half points.

While the Colonels were slowed down, the Cougars kept their foots on the gas as Kenny picked up 18 second half points, along with 11 rebounds throughout the game to record the double-

double. Noah Rivera (16 points) also picked up a double-double for the Cougars with 12 rebounds.



The Beacon/Nicole Gaetani  
Marcus Robinson (#10) dives for the ball during Wednesday night's game. Wilkes was awarded a time-out.

The game slipped away from Wilkes as Misericordia went on a 23-7 run between the twelve and four minute marks. The Colonels trailed 66-53 with just under three minutes left. Wilkes tried to fight their way back but without enough time and Misericordia continuing to score, the comeback was shot down, and the Cougars won 72-58.



The Beacon/Nicole Gaetani

Mullins (#12) holds his follow-through on a three-point attempt.

Misericordia advanced to the MAC Freedom Championship with the win, where they will play the DeSales University Bulldogs. DeSales, the third seed in the tournament, beat the second seeded Eastern University Eagles.

The Bulldogs and the Cougars split the season series, with the home team winning each game. The game at DeSales University in Center Valley, Pa., was an offensive slugfest with the Bulldogs

coming out on top 90-83. The second game, at Misericordia University in Dallas, Pa., was a much lower scoring game with the Cougars barely edging the Bulldogs 58-57.

This matchup between DeSales and Misericordia is also a rematch of last years MAC Freedom championship, where the Cougars won 78-75. Both teams also had to win road games to get to the championship, but Misericordia was home last year. The last two MAC Freedom Championships have been decided by three points and the home team has won four straight MAC Freedom Championship games and six of the previous seven.

The Colonels' season may not be over yet even though they were eliminated from the MAC Freedom tournament. The Colonels still await an NCAA at-large berth or a berth into the ECAC tournament.

### Misericordia 72, Wilkes 58

**Misericordia (72)** -- Jason Kenny 9 9-10 29, Noah Rivera 5 6-8 16, Tony Harding 4 5-8 15, Tre' Fields 2 3-4 7, Alec Rodway 1 0-0 2, Stone McCreary 1 0-1 3, Tyrell Mann 0 0-0 0, Patrick Douthit 0 0-0 0. Totals 22 23-31 72.

**Wilkes (58)** -- Mark Mullins 8 2-2 18, Rob Pecorelli 7 0-0 16, Zach Brunner 6 0-0 12, Marcus Robinson 2 2-2 7, Landon Henry 0 0-0 0, Tommy Bowen 2 0-0 4, Mason Gross 0 1-2 1, Jack Bova 0 0-0 0, Clay Basalyga 0 0-0 0. Totals 25 5-6 58.

**Halftime** -- Misericordia 32-31.

**Three-point goals** -- MIS 5 (Kenny 2, Harding 2, McCreary); WIL 3 (Pecorelli 2, Robinson).

## MBB: Metz named MAC Freedom Coach of the Year

By Ben Mandell  
Asst. Sports Editor

The Wilkes University Colonels Men's Basketball team Head Coach Izzi Metz was named the Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom Coach of the Year.

Metz lead the Colonels to an 11-3 conference record and the top seed in the MAC Freedom tournament. A humbled Coach Metz gives a lot of the credit to the players.

"The Coach of the Year Award is a reflection of how well these players and assistant coaches performed this season," Metz said. "I felt great to have some of our players be recognized by the conference."

The Colonels had Marcus Robinson (1st team), Rob Pecorelli (2nd team), and Mark Mullins (Honorable Mention) all receive All-MAC recognitions.

This season has been a good one for the Colonels and Coach Metz as they will be expecting four of their starters to return, so another future run at the MAC Freedom title is still in their minds.

Following the loss Wednesday to Misericordia, Wilkes has been eliminated from the MAC Freedom tournament but they still have hopes of receiving a berth into the ECAC.

"A berth to the ECAC tournament would be great for our program," Metz said. "We really would like to keep playing postseason basketball."

*Editor's note: At production time, the Colonels were still waiting to hear about their postseason fate in either the NCAA Division III Tournament, or the ECAC Tournament.*



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# MLAX: Colonels fall short in second half comeback

By Alex Kielar  
Asst. Sports Editor

In their second game on the season, the Colonel Men's Lacrosse team never held a lead, as their second half comeback fell short in what ended up being a 12-7 defeat by the hands of the visiting Marywood University Pacers.

With Marywood holding a 1-0 lead early in the first quarter, sophomore attacker John Luna assisted by senior attacker Jeremy Kachel, found the back of the net with 12:24 remaining in the 2nd quarter. You could certainly see the chemistry Kachel and Luna have as the attackers for the Colonels on that play. Junior John Wink is also another key attacker for the Colonels as they look to build on their chemistry throughout the season.

"I'm looking forward to the chemistry of our three attackers (Kachel, Luna and Wink) developing as the season goes," fourth year Head Coach Curtis Jaques said.

The Colonels would then end up surrendering two straight goals to start the second quarter, but then were able to answer back with a goal of their own as freshman attacker/midfielder Nico Lorenzo found the back of the net with 13:21 left in the first half, assisted by Luna. The Colonels would then trail by only one.

Three minutes later, after another goal was scored by Marywood, junior Matthew Bush was able to put the Colonels back within one score of the Pacers, as he scored off an assist from junior JT Weitzel.

The Colonels were able to keep Marywood



The Beacon/Sean Connelly

Sophomore Cody Geidel (#15) dives to collect the ball during Wednesday's game vs. Marywood.

scoreless for almost a solid five minutes, but then the Pacers looked almost unstoppable as they rattled off seven straight goals starting at the 5:49 mark in the 2nd quarter, to make it 11-3 with 1:47 left in the 3rd quarter.

The Colonels just really weren't able to execute on defense, as they just couldn't put a stop to the Marywood attack. Marywood's attack was led by senior Matt Casto with three goals, sophomore Zach Vaughn and senior Rob Maini, each with two goals.

"We just need to execute better," Jaques

said.

The faceoffs in the contest were one positive to take away in the loss, as sophomore Evan Stolicker, the Colonel's main player on the face-off, controlled 14 of the 23 faceoffs he faced. Stolicker proved he could be a huge asset to the team on faceoffs with this stat line, allowing for the Colonels to be able to get to work on offense and try getting something going.

"We certainly have some great weapons in the face-off," Jaques stated.

Kachel, assisted by Luna, was able to find the back of the net once again to make the score 11-4 with 1:29 left in the 3rd quarter. But then only two minutes later, the Pacers made it a seven point game again, as Maini scored his second goal of the game.

The Colonels then sparked a mini comeback attempt in the final quarter as they got within five points with 9:17 remaining in the game. Kachel was a part of two more Colonel goals in the three goals that they scored from 11:37 to 9:17. He assisted on goals by Luna, his second of the game, and Wink, his first goal of the game, with 10:07 remaining. The other goal was scored by senior midfielder Nicholas Ruggiero which went unassisted.

The Colonels were able to keep the Pacers scoreless in the final nine minutes of the game. However, they themselves, were held scoreless as well, as their comeback attempt fell five goals short as the final was 12-7.

Both teams finished the day with 31 shots total, with 14 shots coming on goal for Wilkes. The Colonels were also able to convert 11-of-

18 clears to go along with 46 ground balls to Marywood's 19-of-27 on clears and 36 ground balls.

The Colonels will look to continue improving day in and day out as they prepare for the rest of the season. They will also look to keep games closer and come out with close-game victories.

"This is all preparing us for a great season and rest of conference play," Jaques said. "We expect to be in one, two goal games this year."

The Colonels definitely will look to improve on the defensive side of the ball, and try to limit the damage on shots and shots-on-goal.

## Marywood 12, Wilkes 7

Marywood '3'5'3'1 -- 12

Wilkes '1'2'1'3 -- 7

### Scoring:

**Marywood (12):** Matt Casto (3 goals, 1 assist), Rob Maini (2 goals, 2 assists), Zach Vaughan (2 goals, 1 assist), Jeff Johnsen (2 goals), Luke Shedler (1 goal), Austin Maylor (1 goal), Sean Higgins (1 goal).

**Wilkes (7):** John Luna (2 goals, 2 assists), Jeremy Kachel (1 goal, 3 assists), John Wink (1 goal), Nico Lorenzo (1 goal), Matthew Bush (1 goal), Nicholas Ruggiero (1 goal).

**Shots --** Wilkes 31, Marywood 31.

**Saves --** Wilkes 9 (Vinny Biancardi); Marywood 7 (Matt Leen).



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## Wilkes Winter Sports Schedules

### Wrestling

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

### Men's Swimming

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

### WREST (Continued):

2/16 vs. Scranton @ King's, L, 21-23  
2/17 vs. Keystone @ Scranton, W, 46-6  
Home meets @ Marts Center  
Record: 12-15  
Results through 2/17

### Women's Swimming

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

### MVB (Continued):

\*4/4 @ Messiah, 7:00 p.m.  
4/7 vs. City College of New York, 11:00 a.m.  
\*-MAC  
Home matches @ Marts Center  
Record: 5-14  
(MAC: 1-4)

### Men's Volleyball

1/17 @ Lancaster Bible, L, 1-3  
1/19 @ St. John Fisher, L, 0-3  
1/20 @ Endicott College, L, 0-3  
@ Bard College, W, 3-1  
1/24 vs. Loras College, L, 0-3  
1/27 vs. Wilson College, L, 0-3  
vs. Bard College, W, 3-1  
\*2/3 @ Stevenson, L, 0-3  
\*2/8 vs. Messiah, L, 0-3  
\*2/10 @ Arcadia, L, 1-3  
vs. Kean, L 0-3  
2/11 vs. Hunter College, L, 0-3  
vs. Mount Saint Vincent, L, 0-3  
\*2/14 vs. Misericordia, W, 3-1  
vs. York College, W, 3-0  
\*2/22 vs. Alvernia, L 0-3  
2/23 @ York College, W 3-0  
2/25 vs. New Jersey City, L 2-3  
vs. Keuka College, L 0-3  
\*2/28 @ Widener, 7:00 p.m.  
3/15 @ Lehman College, 7:00 p.m.  
\*3/17 @ Alvernia, 12:00 p.m.  
\*3/21 vs. Widener, 7:00 p.m.  
\*3/24 vs. Stevenson, 2:00 p.m.  
\*3/27 @ Misericordia, 7:00 p.m.  
\*3/29 vs. Arcadia, 7:00 p.m.





# Colonel Athletics in brief

By Luke Modrovsky  
Sports Editor

**Feb. 18**

**MTEN:** Wilkes had several winners in the Drew Invitational. Double winners in singles action were junior Courtney Murphy (8-5 and 8-1), senior Artyom Nabokin (9-7 and 8-2), senior Andrew Neidig (8-5 and 8-2), freshman Larry Scartz (8-2 and 8-4) and junior Jonathan White (9-8 and 8-3). The Colonels also took eight of 14 matches in doubles action.

**Feb. 21**

**MLAX:** See page 20.

**MBB:** See front cover and page 19.

**Feb. 22**

**MVB:** Alvernia swept the Colonels (25-17, 25-20, 25-16) in MAC action. Senior Daniel Sales led the attack with eight kills and a .273 hitting percentage. He also notched a team-high 11 blocks. Senior Michael Henne also defended a career-high 10 digs.

**Feb. 23**

**WREST:** After one day of action at the NCAA Southeast Regionals, seniors Matt Grossmann and Josh Evans scored semifinal appearances. Junior John Ritter, sophomore Matthew Judge and junior Ashton Gyenizs awaited their consolation round battles in hopes of an NCAA qualification.

**MVB:** Wilkes defeated York College (NY) for a second time in 10 days (25-14, 25-11, 25-21). Senior Dylan Smith and Brian

Schumacher had career high days with 11 and 10 kills, respectively. Senior Daniel Sales rounded out the stat sheet with a season-high 22 assists. Schumacher also posted a career high of three aces. Teamwise, the Colonels also tied their season-high of 15 aces, that was set in their first meeting with York.

**Feb. 24**

**WREST:** (See page 21 for Grossmann.) Evans posted a top-six finish, but missed an opportunity at an NCAA berth. He began the day with an 11-3 major decision loss to the eventual champion Gregory Warner in the semifinals, but battle back for a pin in 2:26 to reach the third place match. He lost in sudden victory. Ritter and Gyenizs also finished in the top-six, but were also unable to secure a national bid. Grossmann, Evans, Ritter and Gyenizs were all able to secure Academic All-American awards.

**MLAX:** Wilkes scored their first victory of the season in rout fashion against Keystone College (14-3). Senior Jeremy Kachel notched his first career hat-trick.

**MVB:** The Colonels lost a heartbreaker to visiting New Jersey City University (25-17, 24-26, 25-20, 14-25, 13-15) in their final tri-match of the season. Wilkes also hosted Kekua College and fell in straight sets (16-25, 22-25, 23-25). The Colonels posted a team best, season-high 50 digs in the five-set loss.

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# WREST: Grossmann gets back to NCAA tournament

By Luke Modrovsky  
Sports Editor

One might have looked at the past NCAA Division III Wrestling tournament brackets in the past two years and noticed there was a notable name missing.

The 2015 National Champion at 133 pounds was absent from NCAA glory for the past two years.

Now, senior Matt Grossmann is back for a second time.

"It's been a journey. There's definitely been some highs and lows in-between," said Grossmann reflecting on his past four years.

Grossmann will hit the mat for the final time in his wrestling career when he travels to Cleveland, Ohio for 2018 NCAA Division III Championships on Mar. 9 and 10.

The journey, however, almost never happened at all.

He had reached the semifinal round and was one win away from "dancing" but was turned away.

The semifinal match featured a tight battle between Grossmann and Zach Bylykbashi of Washington and Lee. The match would not be without any controversy.

After leading 4-2 late in the third period, Grossmann was just seconds away from securing a spot in the finals. Bylykbashi scored

a takedown to tie the match, but in a flurry of action, Grossmann appeared to lock up a cradle, scoring a minimum of an escape point, or a reversal, along with back points. The initial ruling on the mat was no points awarded for Grossmann.

After a series of boos from the crowd, some of the loudest of the day, the officials took it upon themselves to utilize the video replay system before Wilkes went to challenge.

After review, the ruling on the mat stood, which would eventually force overtime. Grossmann lost in sudden victory, 6-4.

Grossmann battled back in the consolation semifinals by taking a 5-4 thriller over King's Jacob Taylor.

He won the third place match as well by defeating Zachary Rainess of Greensboro to earn his second career NCAA qualification.

"He's a champion for a reason," noted Laudenslager. "He found a way to get it done even when he was losing in matches."

Grossman said he looks forward to this year's preparation with "great workout partners," senior Josh Evans, senior Jake Dimar-sico, senior Billy Bicci and assistant coach Guesseeppe Rea.

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## Wilkes Winter Sports Schedules

### Women's Basketball

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

1/22 @Alvernia, L, 60-65  
\*1/24 @ Misericordia, L, 33-89  
\*1/27 vs. Delaware Valley, L, 61-67  
\*1/31 vs. FDU-Florham, L, 63-104  
\*2/3 @Manhattanville, L, 45-63  
\*2/7 @ DeSales, L, 46-89  
\*2/10 vs. Misericordia, L, 54-87  
\*2/13 @ King's, L, 49-82  
\*2/17 vs. Eastern, L, 68-81

\*-MAC Freedom  
Home games @ Marts Center  
**Record: 4-21**  
**(MAC-Freedom: 0-14)**  
Results through 2/25

### Men's Basketball

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

\*1/20 vs. King's, W, 76-64  
\*1/24 @ Misericordia, W, 87-82 (OT)  
\*1/27 vs. Delaware Valley, W, 58-57  
\*1/31 vs. FDU-Florham, W, 86-59  
\*2/3 @ Manhattanville, L, 63-73  
\*2/7 @ Desales, W, 72-67  
\*2/10 vs. Misericordia, W, 86-72  
\*2/13 @ King's, W, 101-72  
\*2/17 @ Eastern, L, 66-69  
x-\*2/21 vs. Misericordia, L, 58-72  
\*-MAC Freedom  
Home games @ Marts Center  
**Record: 18-8**  
**(MAC-Freedom: 11-3)**  
**x-MAC Freedom Semifinals**  
Results through 2/25







Getting to know...

# Mason Gross

## Senior Basketball Player

### **The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week 2/12 - 2/18**

**Why Mason Gross was selected:** Mason Gross led all Colonel bench players with 15 points, six assists, and seven rebounds in a win against King's, and on Senior Day Feb. 17, Mason worked the board once again with 10 total rebounds in a loss against Eastern.

**Name:** Mason Gross  
**Year:** Senior  
**Major:** Biology  
**Minor:** Secondary Education  
**Hometown:** Hughestown, Pennsylvania  
**High School:** Pittston Area  
**Position:** Forward

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

Wilkes allowed me to enter into a great science program while also allowing me to continue my playing career. It also was close enough to home to allow my family to see all of my games.

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

I plan on teaching high school biology as well as coaching basketball.

#### **Favorite building on campus?**

The Marts Center.

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

The egg.

#### **What can you say to reflect on your basketball career now that it's over?**

Now that I can look back on my career, I can say I definitely made the right decision to come to Wilkes. I had the opportunity to play for an amazing head coach as well as four other assistant coaches throughout my career that have taught me many things that go beyond the game of basketball. I was also fortunate enough to play with some amazing players who I am lucky enough to call life long friends.

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

I have been playing for as long as I can remember. I think the first shot I ever made was on a Fisher-Price hoop.

#### **What was your favorite memory from your four years?**

Hitting a game winning shot against #14 Hope my Junior year in Ohio.

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

Randy Pausch.

#### **What are your thoughts on how the program looks now that you are graduating?**

I think the ceiling for the program is very high. I believe the program has made strides every year Coach Metz has been here and I don't see any reason that should change. The team still has great players currently and will continue to recruit great players. I expect them to have the same success for many years to come.

#### **Other interests or hobbies off of the court?**

Playing Fortnite and beating Zach Brunner in NBA 2k18.

#### **Most influential person in your life?**

My parents.

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

"We cannot change the cards we are dealt, just how we play the game."

#### **What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?**

"Be Colonel" means that you are striving to be the best you can be every day.

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

Randy Pausch.

#### **Favorite meal to eat on campus?**

Omelette for breakfast

#### **Favorite professor?**

Mr. Richards

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

Every member of the Bullet Club, the Goon Squad, and Wilkes Basketball's biggest fans, Buck Schwab and James Emmett

#### **What is one last piece of advice you would like to give to the underclassman as you leave the program?**

Continue to work hard and believe in what the coaches are putting forward. Trust the process.

-Complied by Alex Kielar, Asst. Sports Editor

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

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



Getting to know...

# Nicole Farrell

## Senior Basketball Player

### ***The Beacon: Female Athlete of the Week 2/12 - 2/18***

**Why Nicole Farrell was selected:** Nicole Farrel led the Colonels in total rebounds with eight in a loss at King's and also totaled seven boards in a loss in the season finale on Senior Day against Eastern.

**Name:** Nicole Farrell

**Year:** Senior

**Major:** Elementary & Early Childhood Ed

**Minor:** Reading

**Hometown:** Blairstown, N.J.

**High School:** North Warren Regional HS

**Position:** Forward

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

Wilkes had a great education department that allowed me to become certified in special education in my undergrad as opposed to graduate school. I also loved the campus as soon as I visited.

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

I intend on returning home to New Jersey where I will look for a teaching job in local school districts.

### **Favorite building on campus?**

Breiseth.

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

The chicken, obviously.

### **What can you say to reflect on your basketball career now that it's over?**

Four years came and went pretty quickly. I made some great friends and had a lot of fun. I'm sad that it is over, but I'm so happy I had the experience.

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

I started playing in third grade. Basketball has always been a big sport in my family so it was only natural that I would at some point too.

### **What was your favorite memory from your 4 years?**

We won a tough game against Valley Forge this season after losing Catey one of our key players, in the first quarter. We all played really well together and worked as a team. It was one of the most fun games we played, especially since we lost to them last year.

### **What are your thoughts on how**

### **the program looks now that you are graduating?**

There is a lot of talent in the younger girls that will go a long way for the next few seasons.

### **Other interests or hobbies off of the court?**

Off the court I am usually watching Netflix, hanging out with my friends, or going home to spend time with family.

### **Most influential person in your life?**

My family is a pretty big influence on me as a whole.

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

Go with the flow.

### **What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?**

To me, "Be Colonel" means that a person is willing to go above and beyond to help others.

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

Dwight K. Schrute

### **Coke or Pepsi?**

Pepsi all the way.

### **Favorite meal to eat on campus?**

Buffalo chicken cheese steak from Grille Works.

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

Catherine Grace McFadden and Jamie Florence Campbell.

### **What is one last piece of advice you would like to give to the underclassman as you leave the program?**

You won't remember the score of the game, but you will remember the friends and memories that you have made. Four years goes by quick so just make the most of it.

-Complied by Alex Kielar, Asst. Sports Editor



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Submitted Photo



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