

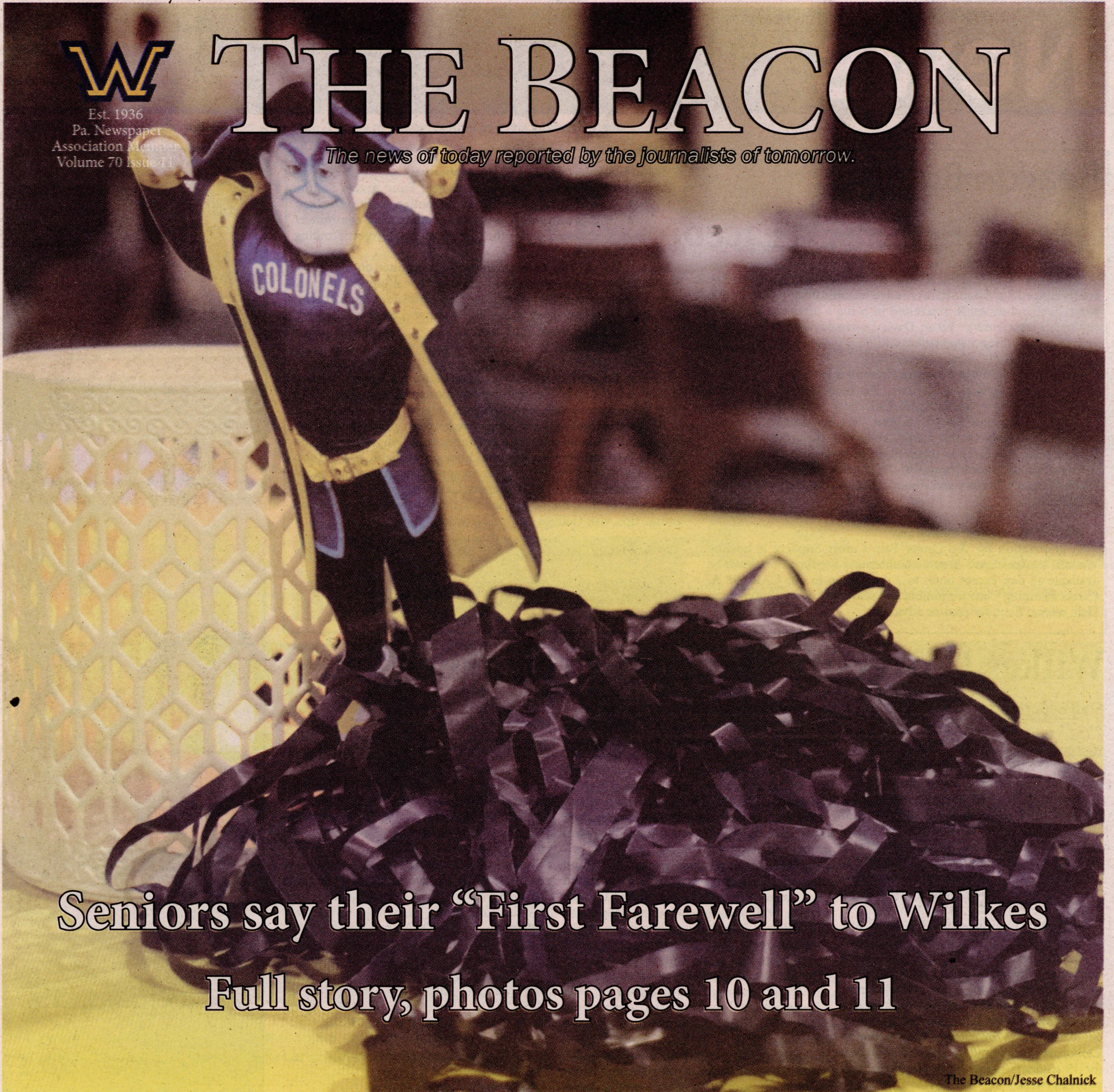
The Beacon - February 21, 2017



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THE BEACON

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.



Seniors say their “First Farewell” to Wilkes

Full story, photos pages 10 and 11

The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

News

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

Beacon Briefs

Make Magic at the Cinderella's Closet Runway Show

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

Black History Month Program Presented Feb. 21

On Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 11 a.m., Dr. Leslie Patrick, Associate Professor of History at Bucknell University, will discuss "Black History: Needed Now More than Ever." The event includes lunch; it is free and open to the public. Following the lecture, from 1 to 2:15 p.m., the campus community is invited to continue the conversation on black history with Dr. Patrick and members of Dr. Diane Wenger's "Slavery and Abolition" class. The class will be held in DDD201.

Walk-in Wednesday Resume Day

In preparation for the Career Fair, Career Services is hosting Walk In Wednesdays - Resume Guides and Feedback. Staff will be available all day, except noon to 1 p.m. when in our CAR 198 A, Career Planning Class for juniors and seniors. Stop by Conyngham Hall, second floor, for resume advice.

Mentoring Project Funding Grant Applications

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

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

Save the Date for Career Day

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

Editors Note

Correction: In last week's issue of the Beacon, the incorrect date of the career fair was posted. The correct date is March 14.

Wilkes University Student Government notes

Staff Report

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

Running Club representatives delivered their club report. The group meets every other week as well as connecting with local runners with the online site called Run NEPA, which is constantly updated with new runs in the area. For their community service for the fall semester, the group volunteered at CEO Food Bank and did campus clean ups. They are also hosting Running for Heat in the spring.

Phi Beta Lambda presented for week 1 of 2 for their club fund request. The group plans to attend the annual PBL state conference this semester which will allow the members to participate in award ceremonies, business workshops, seminars, internship fair and networking sessions. If they do well, the group could advance to the national competition in California. Total funds requested is \$1,500 for 15 student's registration. The board will vote next week.

Geo-Explore presented for their week 2 of 2 fund request. The group was seeking funds for 13 students to attend a spring break trip at \$200 per person, at a total of \$2,600. The trip also counts for a one credit geology course. The motion on the floor was to allocate \$2,366.00, or \$182 per person, which subtracts \$18 per person for the Hoover Dam tour, covering gas and rental vans. The board voted and the motion passes, 22-7-0.

APhA presented their week 2 of 2 fund request. The group is planning to attend an annual meeting in San Francisco, Ca which will include speakers, roundtable discussions, patient counseling competition, presentations and networking. The club sought funds for 11 students totalling \$8,000. The motion on the floor stood at \$4,030.26 for registration and half of flight cost, with the stipulation that any unused money comes back to SG. The board voted with the motion passing, 18-8-3.

WAE also presented their non-club fund request in week 2 of 2. The group was requesting funds for their spring break

trip which is to take a 4,500 mile round trip to the Grand Canyon, with hiking and camping along the way. The group requested \$3,000 for two Tahoes, gas, campsites, cargo compartments, and park passes. After much discussion, the motion on the floor was for \$2,502 for transportation, gas, and equipment with the stipulation any unused funds come back to SG. The board voted passing the motion 15-14-0.

Casino Week was presented for week 1 of 2. In an effort to save funds, the projected cost is \$2,000 less than last spring. The group is also considering changing the donation drive associated with Casino Week to a book drive for SHINE. The total funds requested is \$11,000. The board will vote next week.

The treasurer's report stands as follows: All College: \$15,267.82; General Funds: \$13,623.03; Conference: \$4,268; Spirit: \$699.40 with a SG total of \$33,858.25.


 [@wilkesbeacon](https://twitter.com/wilkesbeacon)

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Students, family and staff gather to remember Brianna Smarkusky

University holds memorial service to celebrate the life and memory of Wilkes senior

By Sarah Bedford
Editor-in-Chief

"Fly high, beautiful butterfly."

On Feb. 16, students, faculty and staff gathered in remembrance of Brianna Smarkusky, 21. Smarkusky died on January 12 after becoming ill while participating in a biology department field trip in Buck Township, Pa.

At the memorial held in the Henry Student Center Ballroom, friends and Wilkes University community members shared fond memories of Smarkusky.

The service began with Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Paul Adams welcoming family, friends, students and Wilkes faculty and staff who gathered to remember Smarkusky. Adams explained that the crowd which gathered showed "how much impact she had on this campus and her friends who knew her best."

Adams explained that this was an opportunity for those who could not attend her funeral at St. Patrick's Church, which had standing room only after all gathered, to pay their respects.

In speaking of Smarkusky, many described her as a woman of faith, being selfless, courageous, motivated, charismatic and caring.

After the Invocation presented by Kristin Osipower, the coordinator of

campus interfaith, members of the campus community shared their memories of Smarkusky.

Dr. Kenneth Klemow, biology professor, shared part of the poem "Woman of Valor" by Eric Kingston. Klemow explained, "a woman of valor...defined by her actions...her valor makes the world change."

In sharing his time with Smarkusky as her academic advisor and research mentor, Klemow shared that she had a "take charge attitude" that "made him a better research mentor."

Smarkusky's friends also shared their memories, as the group, known as the "fearsome foursome" had been inseparable since their freshman year.

Those who spoke during the service included Kasaundra Barclay, James Ardoline and Alexandria Gartner. They shared traditions that the group would partake in like attending the Bloomsburg Fair, spending snow days watching movies and getting Asian Kitchen and how Smarkusky often would be the "motherly figure" of the group, sending wake-up texts to the group chat.

Ardoline described Smarkusky as "more like the family we get to choose to have in our life." Barclay shared that one day the friends had hoped to get tattoos, and Smarkusky had wanted a butterfly. Now, when they see butterflies they know Smarkusky is near.



Courtesy of Wyoming/Lackawanna County Dairy Princess Committee

Smarkusky after being crowned the 2012-2013 Wyoming-Lackawanna County Dairy Princess.



The Beacon/ Jesse Chalnack

Dr. Paul Adams, vice president of student affairs, spoke at Smarkusky's memorial, attributing the crowd size to her influence on Wilkes students and faculty.

Gartner shared a fun memory, explaining that her friendship with Smarkusky was unique because, "it's not everyday your best friend is the dairy princess."


Gartner also prepared a picture slideshow of Smarkusky which included sweet moments from their time together at Wilkes.

Osipower shared that, "it is the remarkable men and women like Brianna that make Wilkes more than a university. It is a community."

Smarkusky was a senior biology major from Nicholson, Pa. Very involved on and off campus, she played various sports including softball, basketball, field hockey, track and field and travel ball. Smarkusky was part of the Wilkes women's basketball team her freshman year.

She also belonged to the Pre-Professional Society and Adventures in Science. Off campus, Smarkusky was involved with 4-H clubs, including the Wyoming County Grow'em and Show'em, Elk Mountain Baconeers, Wyoming County Beef Club and Sewing Club. In 2012-2013, she also was crowned the Wyoming-Lackawanna County Dairy Princess.

**More
photos from
Brianna's
memorial on
page 4**

 @wilkesbeacon
sarah.bedford@wilkes.edu

Memorial for Brianna Smarkusky, continued from page 3



The Beacon/ Jesse Chalnick
Hundreds of photos of the late Wilkes senior Brianna Smarkusky were displayed at her memorial on Thursday.



The Beacon/ Jesse Chalnick
Members of the Wilkes University Chorus, led by Dr. Steven Thomas, perform at the event.

Counselors from the University's Office of Campus Counseling (570-408-4730) are available for students in need of grief support. The University provides 24-hour access to counseling services by calling (570) 408-CHAT (2428).

Love Your Career Month

Feb 21

**Baker/Tilley Accounting
Summer Spotlight
"Intern-view"
11:30am-12:30pm
UCOM 127
Military as a Career
11am-12pm BREIS 107**

Feb 22

**Walk in Wednesdays
9:30am-12pm
1:30pm-4pm
Career Services
Conyngham, 2nd floor
Partner with Engineers to
learn about Internships
6pm SUB Ballroom, 2nd floor**

Feb 23

**Study Abroad or
Domestic Info Session
11am-12:30pm Farley 002**

**Contact
Sharon Castano
for more information
sharon.castano@wilkes.edu**

Call for Proposals: Women's and Gender Studies Conference

Wilkes, Kings: "Identity at a Crossroads: Third-Wave Feminism and Intersectionality"

By Amanda Bialek
Asst. LAE Editor

Wilkes University and King's College invites students, staff, faculty and community members to participate in the upcoming 2017 Women's and Gender Studies Conference, "Identity at a Crossroads: Third-Wave Feminism and Intersectionality." This is an opportunity for the community to share their thoughts about gender-related topics and learn from each other.

The term intersectionality means that there are many different facets of identity that combine to create who we are individually and as a society, Dr. Robin Field, King's director of women's studies said.

"Intersectionality says we need to combine our way of understanding different identities and work across groups in order to challenge structures that prevent us from being who we truly are," Field said.

This year, conversations at the conference are meant to focus on questions of diversity and inclusion for contemporary and historical debates regarding women and gender.

"The theme is pointing out that feminism is an evolving, theoretical understanding of the world," Field said.

This conference is held to bring awareness to the way that gender intersects with other social category variables, Dr. Jennifer Thomas, Wilkes' director of women's and gender studies said.

Some aspects that gender crosses over with include socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, religion and ability status.

"We would like to have our conversations centered around issues of being more inclusive as well as understanding and appreciating diversity," Thomas said.

According to Thomas, here are a lot of misconceptions about what women's and gender studies is, as well as what feminism is. Although the term feminist is associated with a negative connotation, Thomas feels that this should not be the case.

"Being a feminist really means that you are wanting to end discrimination that is based on oppression and gender," Thomas said. "Part of having the conference on campus is to help reduce some of the misconceptions that surround what women's and gender studies is."

The Wilkes' and King's women's and gender studies departments encourage students to share past work or create new work related to identity and diversity issues.

Presentations dealing with gender-related topics that do not connect directly to the

theme are also allowed. Service learning, community service and travel abroad opportunity are welcomed at the conference.

"One of the nice things about the conference is that students can take work that they have done in other classes or ideas they have talked about in other classes and create new work and actually get to talk about it beyond the classroom setting," Field said.

For individuals interested in participating, prepare a proposal explaining the presentation. Proposals are now being accepted until Feb. 24. They may be submitted online.

"We hope to accept everyone who is interested in presenting. It is a very inclusive process," Field said. "There are some professors who have participating in the conference as part of a course requirement."

There are different session types including research presentations, panel discussions, poster presentations, video screenings and performance art.

"It's a chance to learn," Field said. "It's a chance to learn from their peers in a way that I think is really exciting and a chance to see what it is like to do this kind of public speaking to a friendly audience who is very interested in the topic."

Thomas also believes that students need opportunities to share their work with other individuals and have more public speaking experiences.

Employers are looking for individuals who have the capacity to communicate effectively and speak clearly in the work environment. Practicing public speaking skills help students become better at influencing others, motivating change and forming connections.

Thomas said the conference "is a very safe and friendly environment to gain public speaking skills and confidence."

This year's keynote speaker is award winning author, Susan Muaddi Darraj. Her presentation, taking place on April 10 at 7 p.m. at King's College, is called "Changing the Narrative," and will be about how race and politics affect the way people view women.

"She will also be talking about how literature is a way we can have these discussions and gain a better understanding of other people," Thomas said. "Literature can help us give voice to groups of people who are marginalized and often do not have a voice."

The conference is on April 10 and 11 beginning at 9 a.m. at King's College. For more information or questions about the conference, please contact Dr. Jennifer Thomas at jennifer.thomas@wilkes.edu or Dr. Robin Field at robinfield@kings.edu.



2017 WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES CONFERENCE
April 10-11 at King's College

This year's theme is "Identity at a Crossroads: Third-Wave Feminism and Intersectionality."

Proposals are due by **FRIDAY, FEB. 24.**
Submit online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/HWW275H.

REQUIREMENTS:

- 150-word abstract on topic
- Presentations must be tied to a gender-related or social justice issue

SESSION TYPES INCLUDE:
Research presentations, panel discussions, poster presentations, video screenings and performance art (e.g., poetry slam, dramatic performance, dance)

For more information, please contact
Dr. Jennifer Thomas, Director of
Women's and Gender Studies,
at jennifer.thomas@wilkes.edu.

Persons requesting accommodations or services at Wilkes University or Wilkes University-sponsored events in accordance with The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III: Public Accommodations are asked to contact the University at 1-800-Wilkes-U to request such services/accommodations. It is recommended that requests be made at least 48 hours prior to any event. Wilkes University is an equal opportunity institution. For information on the University's Policy on Non-Discrimination, visit www.wilkes.edu/nondiscrimination.

Runway Event: Donate your old prom clothes

By Toni Pennello
Asst. News Editor

What could Wilkes possibly want with your old prom dress?

Wilkes' Office of Civic Engagement and Office of Diversity are collecting donations for a Runway Show on April 7 at 6 p.m. in UCOM. They are accepting lightly used formal attire and accessories – dresses, tuxedos, shoes, pants, gowns and more – to be worn in the Runway Show and then donated to Cinderella's Closet.

Cinderella's Closet helps provide used formal clothing to local residents who cannot afford to buy them new. The organization has a northeastern Pa. chapter in Scranton.

According to their website, Cinderella's Closet began as a ministry of Immanuel United Methodist Church, located in Lakeside Park, Ky. The organization has since grown to include churches all over the country.

Each is founded on the belief that providing formalwear is simply a way to show God's extraordinary (sic) love to some amazing young women," the website says.

The Runway show will feature Wilkes students as models. Mr. Justin Davis, AmeriCorps PACC VISTA and coordinator of the event, hopes that this will bring Wilkes together with the community.

"It's just more fun. It's more engaging,

gets the university involved, and really bridges those gaps between university and community because they really do exist," he said in a press release.


Why prom clothes? Davis shared that he witnessed the need when he taught at a high school for a year.

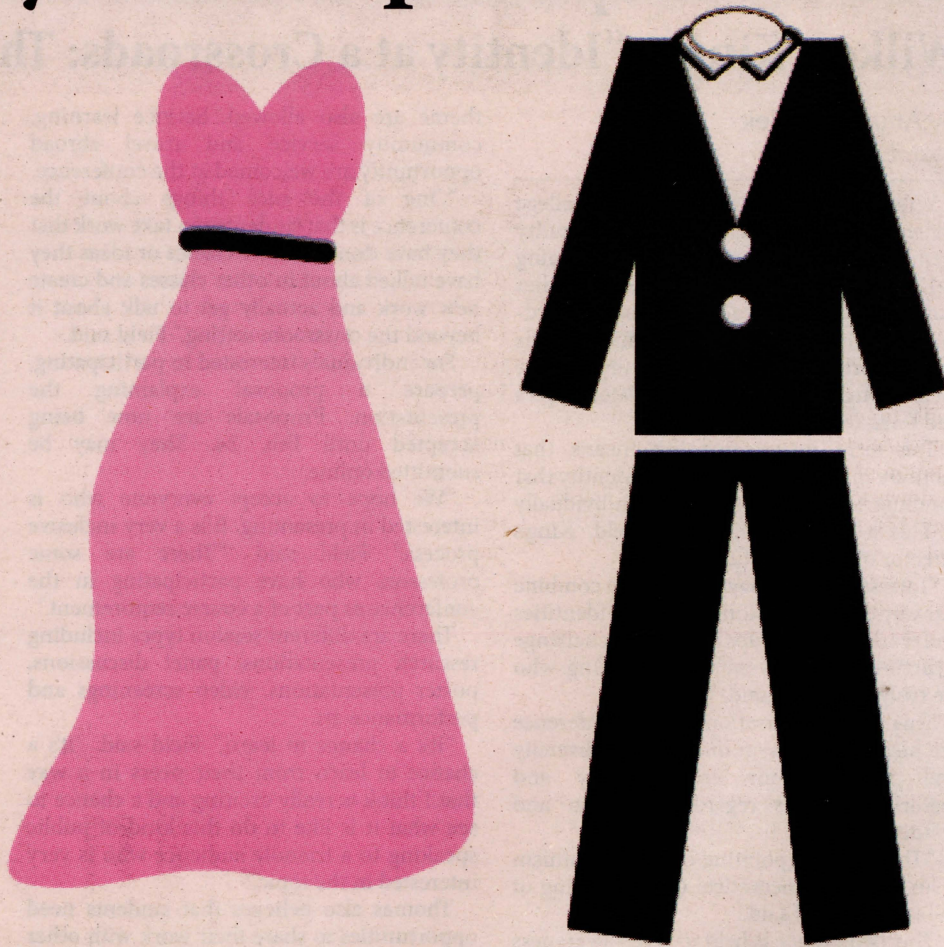
"I had quite a few students who didn't go to the prom simply because they couldn't afford to go. It wasn't a ticket issue. It wasn't that they didn't have money for attendance, but their families couldn't afford a dress or to get their hair done," he said.

Davis also hopes that the event will provide some "impetus" for high school students who are unsure of whether or not they wish to attend college.

"When they see events like this at such a small university, it might give them the impetus to go and say 'You know what, college may be studying and may be hard and may be expensive, but they also do stuff like this that can really get me involved,'" Davis added.

To volunteer or donate, contact Justin Davis at justin.davis@wilkes.edu or Erica Acosta at Erica.acosta@wilkes.edu.

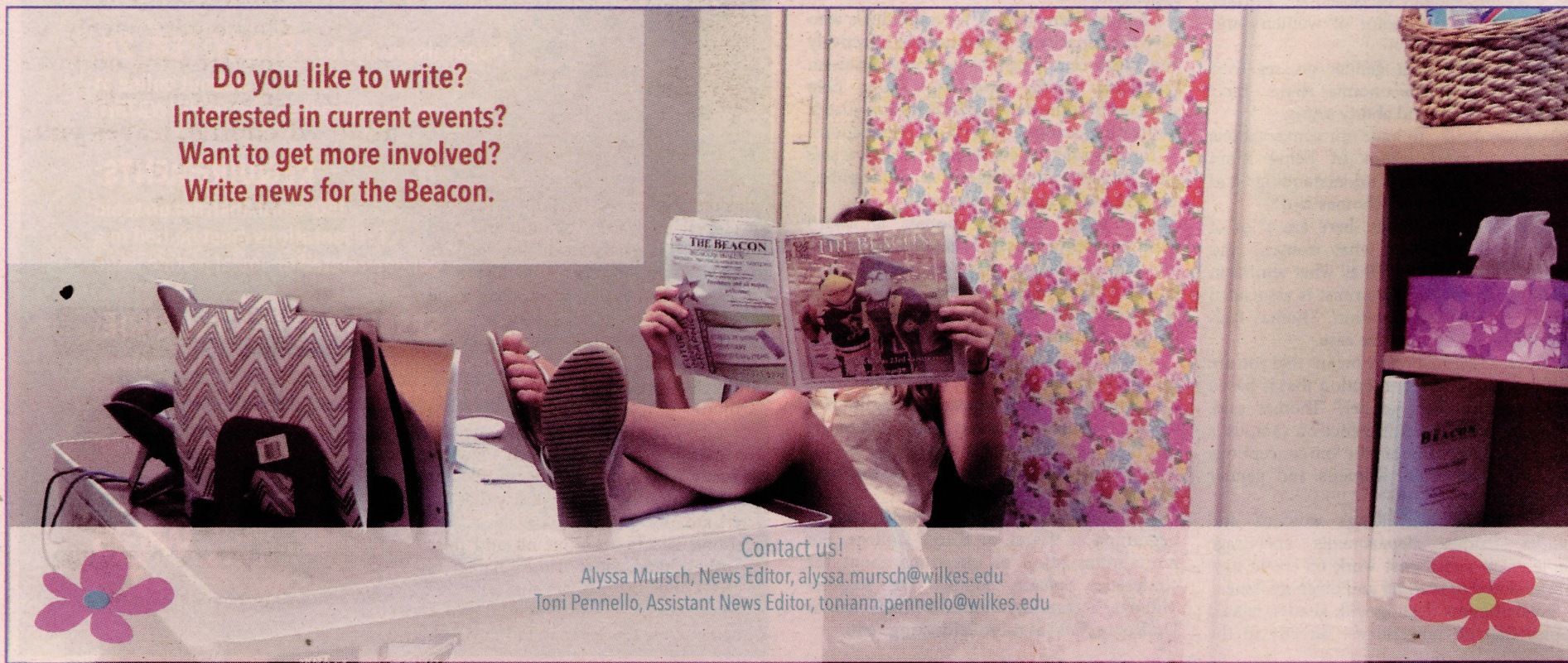
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Do you like to write?
Interested in current events?
Want to get more involved?
Write news for the Beacon.

Contact us!

Alyssa Mursch, News Editor, alyssa.mursch@wilkes.edu
Toni Pennello, Assistant News Editor, toniann.pennello@wilkes.edu



Life, Arts & Entertainment

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

Video game review of Final Fantasy XV

By Zachary Smith
Staff Writer

Almost 10 years since the game was initially announced, Final Fantasy XV has arrived. The game had been pushed back multiple times; it's been renamed, reworked, and completely redone to fit on the current generation of consoles. So the question now boils down to, was it worth the wait? Short answer: Yes. Long answer...

Plot

You cannot begin to discuss a Final Fantasy game without first talking about the plot, and I am happy to say that Final Fantasy XV has one of the most straightforward plots in recent memory, for a Final Fantasy game at least.

The game begins with Noctis Lucis Caelum, prince of Lucis and his friends as they push their broken down car along the road towards a repair station. Noctis and company are heading toward an arranged marriage with Lunafreya Nox Fleuret, princess of opposing nation Tenebrae. While on this journey, Noctis' home of Lucis is besieged by the Niflheim Empire and his father is killed, effectively making him the new King of Lucis. Before Noctis can return home to reclaim his throne however, he must first journey to various corners of the planet, gathering up his strength and rallying allies in order to drive the invading force out of his home.

The plot is standard Final Fantasy affair, there is a crystal, there is a Cid along with his daughter Cindy, (missed opportunity for her to be called Cidney) and there is a villain you will see coming a mile away. Where the game really shines though, is in its main cast of characters.

• Noctis is joined by his three closest friends during his journey; Ignis Scientia, Noctis's tutor for most of his life, Gladiolus Amicita, Noctis's bodyguard and trainer, and Prompto Argentum, Noctis' best friend since childhood. Together they make up the most cohesive and relatable group of characters that I feel a Final Fantasy game has ever had, and is by far one of the game's biggest selling points.

Throughout the game, story snippets will be divulged between characters during conversations as they progress, either by riding around in the Regalia (their car), walking around the vast landscape of Lucis, or riding on the series trademark mounts,

Chocobos. These conversations range from discussion of important story elements, such as where to go, who to see, or what to kill; to mundane conversations that many of us have had with our friends, like what to eat for dinner that night.

It's these small conversations that do nothing but build the characters of your main group and a part of what makes me care about what happens to them throughout the course of the game. Unlike many of the protagonists that have come before in Final

that you use while allies are in range will affect them as well, often damaging and/or incapacitating them in the process. This is a huge downside to the system and as there is no real easy way to get your allies out of the way, I usually opted to not use magic at all.

Atmosphere

Simply put, this game is beautiful. Square Enix has really outdone themselves and is forgiven for taking so long with this title. The world of Eos comes alive and feels very lived in. Simply driving around and taking in all

characters footsteps would have an odd echo to them, as if they had a second set of footstep sounds that the foley artist recorded somewhere else.

Overall

This might just be my favorite Final Fantasy game to date. From characters you care about to a combat system that keeps you engaged and wanting more, you can definitely see where all the time and energy was spent over the last ten years, making sure that this game was everything its fans wanted it to be and more.

When you boot the game up you are greeted by a splash screen that simply says "A Final Fantasy for Fans and First Timers", and I am happy to report that it well and truly is.



Fantasy games, these characters, and Noctis in particular, feel like real people. They have motivations, weaknesses, and character flaws; they are not all simply the walking stereotypes of games past.

Gameplay

No Final Fantasy is complete without a great battle system and XV is no exception. With a much greater emphasis on action this time around, the combat favors strategy and positioning over simply unleashing the most powerful spells and techniques you have over and over.

Magic has always been an integral part of the Final Fantasy experience but unfortunately it takes a back seat in this entry. Magic usage functions somewhat like grenades and have a cool down period between each use. The biggest downside to magic however, is friendly fire. Most magic

sights really gives you the impression that the developers took a lot of time and care to make sure this was a world that players would want to spend hours getting lost in.

Final Fantasy games have always had some of the best scores you could get for an RPG, and on this point XV fully lives up to its pedigree. The score by Yoko Shimomura is beautifully done with the help of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, and you can tell a lot of care and consideration went into the creation of this soundtrack. Each piece of music seems to be tailored specifically for the mood, location, even time of day that the characters are in.

The sound effects are a bit hit and miss on the other hand; often time characters would grunt and make noises that sounded like it did not come from their original voice actor, but someone else entirely. Other times,

Pros: Excellent character development, engaging combat system, beautifully rendered world, fantastic score leaves you wanting more
Cons: Game gets overly linear towards the end, magic system feels underwhelming, leaves you wanting more
Grade: B+



RECIPE OF THE WEEK:

chocolate chip cookies

INGREDIENTS:

- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 cup butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 egg
- 2 1/4 cup flour
- 1/2 teaspoon of salt
- 1 package of chocolate chips

Design by Nicole Kutos

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
2. Mix the sugar, butter, vanilla and egg in a bowl. Stir in flour, baking soda and salt. Then stir in chocolate chips.
3. Drop cookie dough by rounded tablespoonfuls approximately 2 inches apart on an ungreased cookie sheet.
4. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until light brown. Let cool.

Enjoy!!



recipe from:
www.bettycrocker.com

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

*Submit it to Amanda
Bialek, LA&E Assistant
Editor*

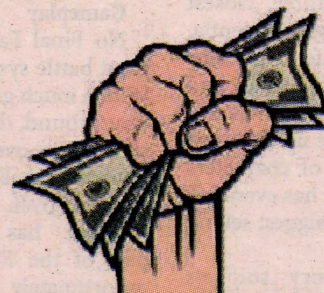
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CAREER FAIR



Tuesday March 14, 2017

11 am - 2 pm

University Center on Main

An opportunity for ALL students, from first year to seniors, to meet with employers and intern sites regarding jobs, internships or volunteering!

Dress professionally and bring resumes.

Scrubs & nursing uniforms are ok!

**For resume assistance, come to Career Services,
Conyngham Hall, Rm. 215 or email careers@wilkes.edu**

570-408-4060

Five tips for job interviews

By: Mark Makowski
Opinion Co-Editor

Seniors of Wilkes University, picture this. It is gradation and you are sitting in a chair with your cap and gown on waiting for your name to be called so you can receive that diploma that you worked so hard for.

Getting that diploma will most likely be one of the happiest and relieving moments of your life. Then after all, the day starts to wind down you think to yourself, "I need to find a job."

The task of entering the job market is always the hardest thing to do. The Career Services office at Wilkes helps current students and alumni with the tools and tips needed to prosper during job interviews.

Here are five tips and tricks to help you prepare for an interview.

1. Of course have a resume

The most important paper you will be handing your interviewer is a copy of your resume. Make sure that everything on the resume is accurate for such as work history and education.

Also make sure that the grammar is correct so you are not giving a hopeful employer a paper full of mistakes. Also look into having a reference sheet ready to hand to the employer if they were to ask for one.

2. Be prepared to answer questions

One of the most nerve racking things about a job interview is how you are going to ask the questions you will be asked.

One way to think of what you are going to say when asked the critical questions is to schedule a mock interview with Career Services, during this mock interview a member of the Career Services staff will ask you questions about your past accomplishments and challenges.

Knowing how to answer these questions can help you succeed during the interview.

3. Do your research on the company

This may not seem like something that should be important but it really is. It is recommended to find the website for the company you are interviewing with if they have one available.

The key of this is to look up things like mission statements and a history of the company that may be employing you. Researching these items can help you during the interview if the interviewer starts to ask if you have any questions.

You can show them what you know about the company and this can put you in a better chance to get the job.

4. Take advantage of Career Fairs now

This step is not only for seniors but for all of the students at Wilkes as well. Every semester at Wilkes a career fair is held on campus, with the next upcoming fair on March 14 in UCOM.

Usually even before the event occurs a list of the employers coming to the event is published so you can research if there are any employers there in the field you will be entering.

These fairs can also take place as a mock interview as well. If you do a good job with the company representatives at the stand, you may get a step ahead of other candidates.


5. Know what to wear

This may seem like a weird tip, but it is a very important one. You should have your outfit for the job interview picked out the day before the interview.

This outfit should not be jeans and a T-shirt. No matter where you are going for a job interview, you should always be better dressed than what the dress code for the employer is.

Besides these five tips there are several more tips that students can learn for their upcoming job search.

If you are a senior that thinks they may need help with job interviews and other documents such as resumes, contact the student services office in the second floor of Conyngham, or send an email careers@wilkes.edu.

 [@wilkesbeacon](https://twitter.com/wilkesbeacon)
mark.makowski1@wilkes.edu

**Put these tips
to the test at
the March 24
Career Fair!**

**11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
UCOM**

Seniors give their “First Farewell” at Feb. 16 event



Seniors Peter Feno and Lizzy Lisecki pose for a photo.

The First Farewell was hosted on Feb. 16 in the Henry Student Center Ballroom from 7-9 p.m.



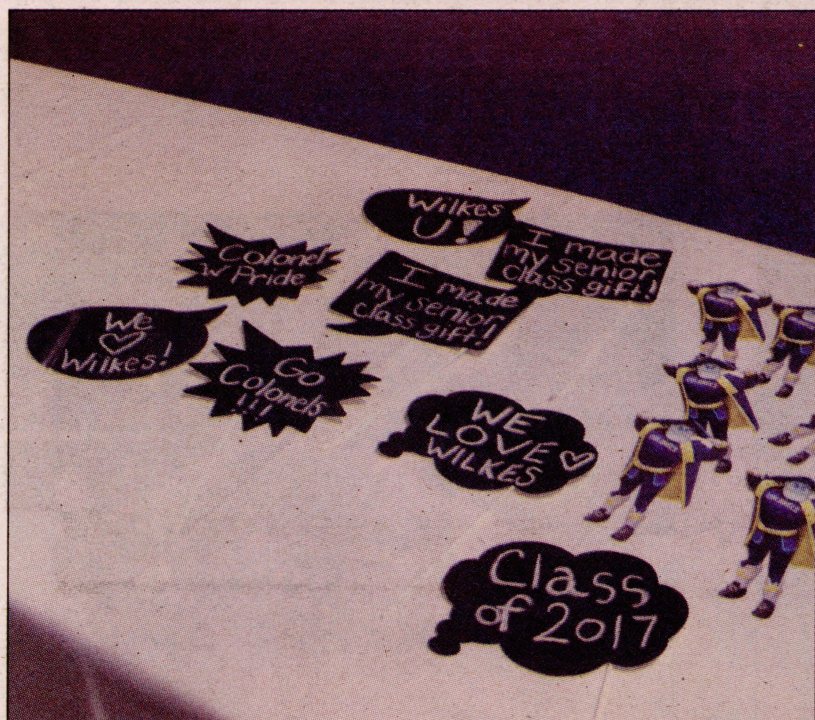
The Beacon/ Jesse Chalnack

Members of the Wilkes University Student Government class of 2017 from left to right: Scott Vandine, Michaela Chidiac, Sarah Kennedy, Allie Grudeski, Bryan Bilbao and John Scalese.



A memorial display was set up in honor of those Colonels who passed away. Students include: Brianna Smarkusky, Matthew Kachurak and Jonathan Ratchko.

"First Farewell" cont.



At the event, the Class of 2017's gift was announced. The students will be donating an emergency response kit to the university to use at events.



From left to right: Marcellus Haze, Havi Rodriguez, Dre Roberts, Ethan Lonstein



The Beacon/ Jesse Chalnack

Michael Sabon and Shana Noon smile for the photo while at the first of the senior activities held with Student government and The Alumni Association.



From left to right: First Row: Dianna Connor, Morgan Galluzzo, Alyssa Young, Caroline Connor, Taylor Wright Second Row: Ronald Espinosa, Vanessa Zottoli

Wilkes vs. King's Men's Basketball



Marcus Robinson and Connor Evans led the Colonels to victory with accurate three-pointer shooting.



Mark Mullins pulls up to shoot a three-pointer.



Johnny Bamford takes the ball across the court ready to run an offensive play.

| WILKES | KING'S |
|--------|--------|
| 84 | 68 |

Wilkes vs. King's Women's Basketball



Catey McFadden concentrates on making her next shot.



Haley Mesaros goes to the foul line to take a shot.



The Colonel mascot made a surprise appearance at the game.

| WILKES | KING'S |
|--------|--------|
| 61 | 78 |

Opinion

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

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Our Voice Five reasons to say "yes" to study abroad



By Alyssa Mursch
News Editor

I've had so many people ask about my experience with study abroad: if it was worth it, if I would recommend it, if it changed my life...

All questions get a resounding YES.

I cannot emphasize enough how amazing of an opportunity it is to be able to be completely immersed in a new culture, surrounded by new people and experiencing new things.

It is the best decision I've ever made, and if sharing my thoughts on it can give even one person the added push they need to make the decision, I would feel I'd made a great contribution.

So, why should you study abroad?

1. It makes you more independent

Prior to going on my trip, I was terrified of traveling to another country with complete strangers. I was so scared that I actually almost backed out (of my nonrefundable trip) the day before leaving. I had never been away from home alone for an extended period of time, let alone in a whole other country. I had never used a debit card, never been good with directions and definitely never navigated an airport by myself.

I'll be honest, the first two nights I cried myself to sleep. I wondered if I'd ever enjoy myself. However, I am not lying when I say that feeling lasted all of 48 hours, and from then on I never wanted to leave.

I grew up a great deal and grew as a person. I didn't think I had the ability to be alone- literally or figuratively- and it taught me that not only was I capable of it, but it was liberating. I've never evolved so much

as I did on this trip. More than basic life skills, I learned how to fend for myself, how to be my own source of happiness and solve problems on my own.

Because of my experience, I'll never again fear the thought of being alone.

2. It makes you eternally brave

As I said before, I traveled abroad accompanied with crippling fear. Fear of being alone, fear of not making friends, fear of failure. I almost missed out on the greatest experience of my life because I was scared.

I know now that if I didn't take the risk, if I didn't push past that fear and take that opportunity, I would've missed out on a life changing experience.

Whenever I am apprehensive to embark on a new experience, I think back to how much it benefited me to do so with study abroad. Keeping this in mind has encouraged me to put myself out there in friendships, school, internships and more.

Once you overcome that fear once, it can never touch you again.

3. You will make some of the best friends of your life

Believe it or not, everyone is experiencing the same fears you are.

I remember nights where we would all be missing home, be stressed about class, or just be exhausted and we would go out for pizza and cry about it, then laugh about it. Within two short weeks they became my family.

I grew closer with these people in a month abroad than I have with some friends that I have known for a lifetime. Being in a situation that involves so many emotions, and being each other's sole source of support, is the greatest connection that two people can have.

Every day we had class, every night we had dinner, a movie, a night out or just a little exploration of the town. Regardless, we were always together, and before we knew it we were one.

4. It gives you a new perspective

Whether it's opening your mind to a new culture, new foods, new education, or just the simple realization that we make up such

a small part of the world- study abroad gives you a completely new outlook.

It's invigorating; you feel a fleeting sense of invincibility and have an urge to travel, to learn, to continue to take risks that will teach you things you never knew about the world.


As I said before, it makes you grow as a person, and this enlightened attitude is just one of the ways it does so.

5. It's a different, unique and incredible way to learn

All of the aspects above contribute to this one. Whatever it is that you do, studying it in another culture just makes it all the more interesting and provides added skills.

I studied journalism, and it was amazing to hear stories from the people that lived in the small town of Urbino. It was so interesting to learn to work with an interpreter to conduct interviews while still building rapport and being engaged in the conversation with nonverbal cues, which was just one of the added skills I took away from the experience that I never would have had without it.

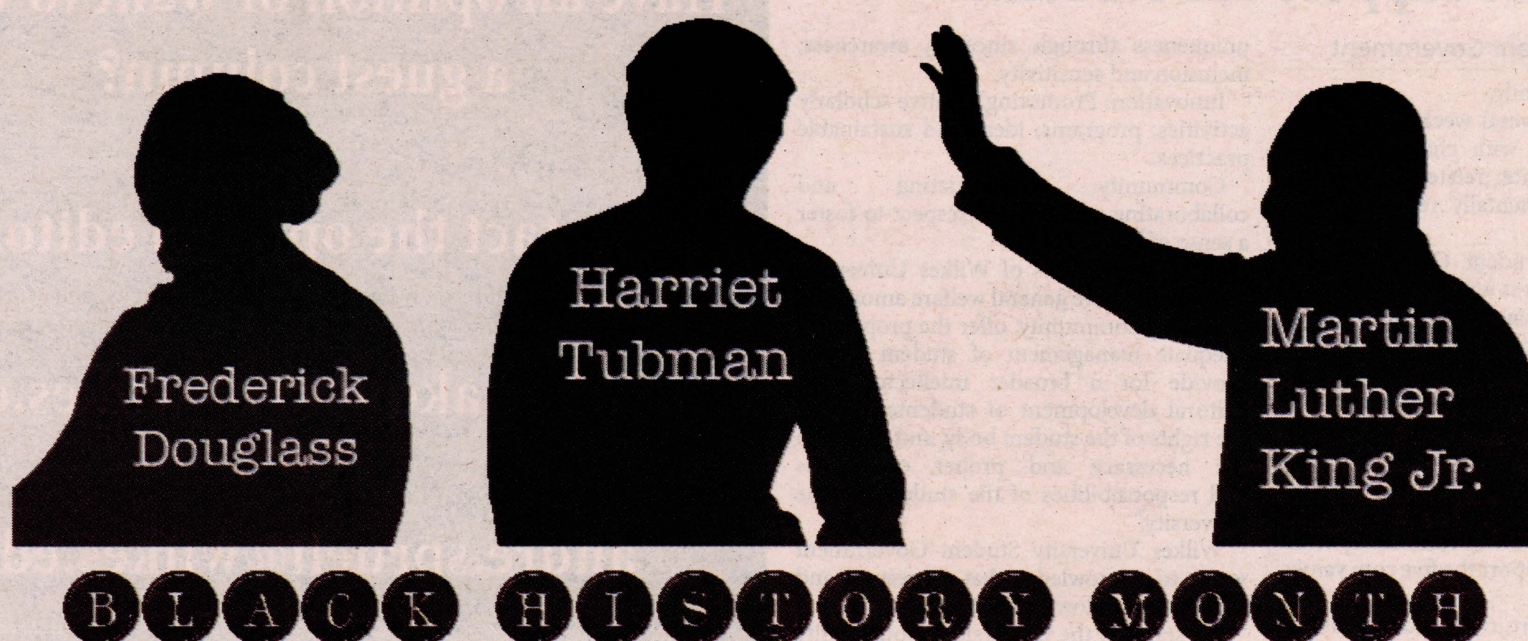
Honestly, just one of these reasons would be enough to encourage me to study abroad, but all five are inevitable along with so many more benefits. I never thought I would love it as much as I did, and now I would give anything to experience it over and over again. Take the risk- it will be well worth it.

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

Note: The views expressed
are those of the writer.

Should Black History Month still be a thing if no one cares?



By Andre Spruell
Opinion Co-Editor

Black History Month happens every February in the U.S., but honestly, it is typically forgotten about or ignored.

In my opinion, it is a great idea to set apart time to honor black Americans that have contributed so much to this society, despite their ancestors most likely doing manual labor on a plantation under the ownership of a white man.

As an Afro-Argentinean I have some African blood running through my veins because of my father. Even though I identify with my black ethnicity as well as my Hispanic ethnicity, every February I have that moment of realization, "Oh I forgot it is Black History Month."

That might sound awful because the month commemorates those that made it possible for me to obtain an education and set up opportunities that I would not have had if I was the same age living in the southern U.S. in the 1950s and 1960s.

Black History Month is America's way of apologizing for all the years of suffering that blacks were forced to endure as slaves.

Does anyone else find it ironic that February was chosen as the month to honor black Americans yet it also the shortest and coldest month? Many people in the "black community" have joked about this fact.

This holiday does not fulfill its purpose like it is supposed to.

Aside from black individuals, it seems that

no one really cares about it. It makes sense that black people care about Black History Month more than other races because it is the black culture that is being recognized and celebrated. However there are even black people who do not do anything for this holiday.

Black History Month puts black people in an awkward position because there is not much that can be done to celebrate it. It should be a festive holiday because it celebrates black Americans. The only thing black people can really do to show their appreciation is by simply saying thank you and making social media posts to commemorate some of the people who have helped pave the way for black people today.

Being an active member across the different platforms of social media, there are about five to 10 people who do daily posts throughout February honoring a specific black person that has made a significant contribution to society.

Although highlighting blacks that have done so much for the advancements of blacks throughout the last 100 or more years is important, singling out blacks for a whole month is not the way to go about it.

Granted there is also Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. The U.S. is referred to as a melting pot because of the all the different cultures that makes up this country. Singling out certain cultures and races by having months set aside for them does not express the idea of cultural diversity.

Although these two months highlight

two races that comprise a large number of the U.S. population, whites still account for over 70 percent of the population in the U.S. (source). Since that is the case, that means that most people in this country are not black, which means that the majority of the country could honestly care less about Black History Month.

Being half black myself, I had to find out on my own about the black culture because it was rarely ever brought up in school. I noticed that the only time central black figures were brought up in school growing up was during Black History Month in history class.

That was something that bothered me, especially in middle school, because there have been so many black people that have made major contributions to American society across multiple fields.

However many of those aforementioned blacks and people of other races rarely get mentioned in history textbooks because schools want students to know about American history which, according to almost every history book, is that Columbus founded the Americas; George Washington was the first president; and how America won its independence from the British. But what is never mentioned is how Columbus raided Indian villages through extremely violent means and that George Washington was a slave owner.

Those that are recognized during Black History Month fought for blacks today to have many more opportunities at success

than just during the slave trade and the race riots, which is true today because of the simple fact that black kids are able to get the same education as white kids.


As far as attitudes toward black people, that is something that has not changed and probably will not. That is disappointing because black people that have fought for their freedom and rights just to live in this country throughout the years are pretty much getting a slap in the face.

If someone who is not black were to ask a black person about one racist encounter they have had most, if not every black person, has a particular story to tell.

Even though I have a lighter complexion, based on what I was wearing when I went into a sporting goods store, the manager assumed that I was going to steal something and asked me to check my bag at the front of the store. To make things worse, a group of three white kids wearing clothes similar to me were not asked to check their bags.

With the racist attitudes toward blacks still occurring, especially the last few years with the incidents of police brutality and "Black Lives Matter" movement, Black History Month should not even exist.

Instead, it should be more incorporated throughout our education and celebrated on a daily basis rather than just for one month. Have blacks integrated into history textbooks more so people can really learn

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Letter to the editor

"We support our students"

Courtesy of Student Government

Dear Colonel Family,

Over the past several weeks, the nation has been involved with challenging and meaningful discussion related to the core values that fundamentally represent who we are as people.

On behalf of Student Government at Wilkes University, it is with great pride that we remind the student body of our support of all of our students. Student Government is here to "represent the entire student body, to act as a liaison between the students and administration, to plan and coordinate activities on campus, and to promote fellowship, scholarship, and uphold the name of Wilkes University."

We want the University community to be mindful that we support the five core values of the University:

Mentorship: Nurturing individuals to understand and act on their abilities while challenging them to achieve great things.

Scholarship: Advancing knowledge through discovery and research to better educate our constituents.

Diversity: Embracing differences and

uniqueness through sincerity, awareness, inclusion and sensitivity.

Innovation: Promoting creative scholarly activities, programs, ideas and sustainable practices.

Community: Appreciating and collaborating with mutual respect to foster a sense of belonging.

"We, the students of Wilkes University, stand to promote general welfare among the university community, offer the proper and adequate management of student affairs, provide for a broader intellectual and cultural development of students, protect the rights of the student body, and maintain the necessary and proper obligations and responsibilities of the students to the university."

Wilkes University Student Government wants to acknowledge that we respect and support our fellow student body.

We stand by the University's motto: Unity Amidst Diversity.

In Blue & Gold,

Wilkes University Student Government

If you would like to further this conversation, please contact us at studentgovernment@wilkes.edu.

Have an opinion or want to write a guest column?

Contact the opinion editors:

mark.makowski1@wilkes.edu

or

andre.spruell@wilkes.edu

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Want to explore writing? Have an opinion you'd like to share? Want to uncover the latest breaking news? Passionate about sports?

Join the Beacon!

Email Editor-in-Chief, Sarah Bedford at:
sarah.bedford@wilkes.edu

Colonels Talk Back

The 59th Grammy Awards

Interviews by
Peyton Neishman
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Photos by
Purvit Patel
purvit.patel@wilkes.edu

The Beacon asked Wilkes University students to give their opinion and thoughts about Adele acceptance speech during the GRAMMYS. Was it a positive or negative action made by Adele for sharing her award with Beyoncé Knowles?

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

Brooke Kubinski
Senior
Sociology

"I think it was great positive point that Adele made when sharing her award with Beyoncé. I think it was amazing to recognize the hard work and what her album stood for."

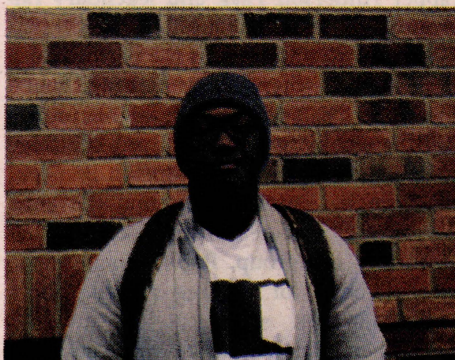


Angel Reese
Freshman
Undeclared

"I definitely think it was great thing what Adele did at the Grammy's. I think it was unique because it was never done before. I felt they both should have received the award for best album of year."

Aneal Knowles
Sophomore
Accounting

"I didn't watch the Grammys on television but I saw what Adele did on social media. I think it was positive point. I don't see it as a bad thing, if that where Adele gets her inspiration It was nice of her to share the award with someone who has inspired her."



Jerome Hannon
Sophomore
Communication Studies

"I see it as kind of cute. I respect that Adele is paying tribute. I don't find it anything else then that. I don't see it as race part of it and see it as monumental. I just feel that it was sharing an award with someone."

Heather Evans
Freshman
Accounting

"I think it was good thing what Adele did during her acceptance speech during the Grammys when she's shared her award with Beyoncé. I also that Bruno Mars tribute to Prince was fantastic."



Savannah Pinnock
Freshman
English/Psychology

"I think it was a very good thing. It promotes female empowerment. It was really good idea with the relationships between women. Many women have negativity between them and this show a positive moment. I felt it was nice of her to share her award."

59 th Annual Grammy Awards

Top Grammy Award Winners

Album of the Year

Adele - 25

Best Rap Album

Chance the Rapper - Coloring Book

Song of the Year

Adele - Hello

By Andre Spruell
Opinion Co-Editor

The 59th annual Grammy Awards took place and this year the show touched on a lot more than just music.

When it comes to musical award shows they follow the same format. Popular artists do live performances, celebrities give out awards and a host cracks jokes the whole night.

This year's Grammys were anything but average.

As for why the awards show was so entertaining, there was music history made and it also touched on political and social issues.

Aside from Beyoncé's record nine Grammy nominations, the star of the night was Chicago's own Chance the Rapper. He won three Grammys, including the most coveted Grammy in the rap industry Best Rap Album.

What was so special about Chance winning that award in particular is because his album, *The Coloring Book*, was a stream-only album, meaning that the album was free and had no actual hard copies. Along with that accomplishment, he also became the first artist to win a Grammy without being signed to a label, which has now opened the door for other independent artists.

His biggest hit off the album, "No Problem," is about how he is fed up with so

many record labels trying to sign him.

Chance was not the only one to make a statement. Busta Rhymes, another rapper who has been rapping since the early 90s, referred to current U.S. president Donald Trump as "agent orange" during his performance with Grammy nominated rapper Anderson Paak and legendary rap group A Tribe Called Quest.

What was unique about the performance besides Busta Rhymes' comment was when the rappers had people of different cultures walk down in two rows toward the stage to speak out against the "Muslim Ban" put in place by President Trump. The song performed was reminiscent of another legendary rap group, Public Enemy, who were famous for making records about social injustices.

Another social injustice that has been an issue in the U.S. has been with women's rights. Women have had a more difficult time getting the same treatment with male-dominated industries, but that has been overcome in the music business.

Women standing up for each other and recognizing each other's talent was shown when Adele won the coveted album of the year Grammy, she chose to share her adoration of Beyoncé and mention how Beyoncé's album *Lemonade* should have won because it was so great. Beyoncé then proceeded to embrace Adele in her arms with a giant hug.

Sports

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

Lady Colonel's take on Monarchs on Valentine's Day game Rivalry match ends in 78-61 in Monarchs favor

By Taylor Ryan
Sports Editor

On Feb. 14, Wilkes Women's basketball team laced up for the big game on their home court.

It's one of the biggest games of the season, it's the rivalry that former athletes have told you about since you decided to play for Wilkes, it is the game that is anticipated all year long, and it is here.

The King's College/Wilkes University rivalry is a tale as old as time. For the three women's basketball seniors this game was much more than another rivalry game, this was their last time to compete on their home court.

Prior to the start of the game, we caught up with the three seniors to discuss just how important this game truly is.

Emelie Meinhart, an entrepreneurship and marketing major, told us what this game meant, not just to her but to her team, she said.

"This is the most important game of my college career. Not only are we playing against our rival, but it's the last game that the seniors get to play on our home court. Getting this win is everything."

Marissa Oertner, an education and special education major, followed up with, "It's a game we know we can win and it would mean the world to get a win on our senior night."

This season the Wilkes Women's Basketball will graduate three senior athletes, Marissa Oertner, Emelie Meinhart, and Haley Mesaros. These three athletes came in their freshman year together and are finishing the same way.

On Tuesday night, senior night, they were able to celebrate a hard fought four years on and off the court. As four-year collegiate athletes, these three women were able to gain various experiences that most college students will never get.

While reflecting on their four years, all of them immediately looked at each other. It was clear what they would take from this experience, and that is each other.

Each were asked what their favorite

part about playing for Wilkes Women's Basketball, first Haley Mesaros, a Pharmacy major, stated, "My favorite part about playing for Wilkes Women's Basketball is the friendships that I have made."

Meinhart followed up with, "Definitely meeting the amazing people that I did over these last 4 years. If I wouldn't have played here at Wilkes, I wouldn't have these great friends that I have."

Oertner finished with, "I had an amazing four years playing basketball at Wilkes and although we may not have won as many games as I would have liked to, the friendships and the memories I made are irreplaceable; so other than maybe winning more, I wouldn't change a thing."

As a Division III athletic program, these relationships and friendships are inevitable to come about after all of the time that is required to be with one another. Aside from the amount of time that these athletes spend together, they also must go through some hard times together. It is your teammates that you rely on to push you through that never ending practice, it is your teammates that understand why that loss hurt even more than the last, and it is your teammates that make every point of the season worth it.

Although Tuesday night was a celebration of these three seniors three years, they were clearly very focused on the competition at hand.

The King's game is one that holds a special place in every Wilkes athlete's heart. I asked the seniors how they had prepared for this game, what it took to be mentally and physically ready to compete prior to Tuesday's match up.

Marissa Oertner discussed how the team had been preparing since their last match up with Kings College, previously in the season. She said, "We played kings earlier this season and it was a close game. We watched our first game and are better prepared this time around. We know just what to expect, and will use that as an advantage."

Wilkes entered Tuesday's match up with a 5-18 record for this season, holding a 0-12



The Beacon/Purvit Patel

Senior Haley Mesaros (23) prepares for a foul shot during the Wilkes-King's matchup on Feb. 14.

record within Middle Atlantic Conference play. While Kings entered the game with a 4-18 record, and a 2-13 record in conference play.

After the tough defeat, the women's team fell to a 5-19 overall record, and a 0-13 record within the MAC.

Wilkes Women's Basketball went into this game confident and excited. Meinhart, stated, "we were prepared, focused and driven. We all truly wanted this win, we just didn't connect those feelings on the court."

The team started strong, putting the Lady Royals on their toes, putting up a 9-point lead in the first three minutes of the game. They were able to hold the lead all throughout the first quarter of play.

While the Lady Colonels continued their hard fight throughout the game, they could

not keep up with the King's three point shooting, which ultimately led the Royals to their victory. The three Wilkes seniors were major contributors to the entire game. Mesaros exceeded her career high with 24 points and six rebounds, while Oertner was not far behind, contributing 15 major points, and seven rebounds.

Although the game did not end in the Lady Colonel's favor, the team did not hang their heads. They were able to take away a lot from this game, which they will ultimately take into the rest of their season.



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One senior and one captain: Casey Evans leads by example

By Danny Van Brunt
Sports Co-Editor

Casey Evans, the only senior on the men's basketball team, was recognized on Senior Night and his family was there to support him. Wilkes beat King's for the second time this season with a score of 84-68.

Evans' final season of basketball has been filled with ups and downs, but has ultimately been pretty good. He has noticed that the team has grown substantially this season. As far as his own performance, he believes he did his job. His strong defense enables the team's offense to perform better.

He was excited to play in the Marts gym environment against King's since the rivalry generates a lot of fans. Evans, however, noticed that there was not quite as many fans as last year because the game was moved from Saturday to Tuesday. He was proud of how prepared his team was for this game.

One of his fellow teammates, John Goffredo, called this night "Casey Night." Evans was very appreciative of his fellow teammates because they treated him like it was his day all day, even before the game. The night was special for Evans.

As the only senior on the team, Evans was chosen to be the team's one and only captain.

As the only captain, the rest of the players on the team look up to him. Evans leads the team by being the most poised and never breaking down mentally. After playing two years of basketball at the Rochester Institute of Technology, Evans likes to teach other players about basketball. He also helps his fellow players with school work.

The basketball team is very close knit, and they stick together outside of the Marts gym. Whether they are going bowling or eating, the team is always together. In practice, players are honest about each other's performances and they take each other's criticism well.

"It is awesome being able to play with my brother. It is something that we have dreamed of ever since we were little kids; playing college basketball. Both our dreams and goals were to play college basketball, but we never thought that we would be able to play on the same team again beyond high school," Evans said.

The two brothers play the same position, point guard, on top of being on the same team. Evans likes to practice at the same position as his little brother because they can play against each other in practice. He says that they get into battles during practice, and always wants to teach him more. He is proud to say that he will leave his brother behind

with two great coaches, Coach Metz and Thompson. Thompson was an All-American point guard when he played, which is a great opportunity for his brother to reach his maximum potential as a college basketball player at his position.

"It was nice on Senior Night that the coaches started me at the three-position over Mark Mullins to start the game because I had the chance to be on the court at the same time as Connor. That did not happen much this season," Evans said.

Casey and Connor look very much alike. People mistake them as twins all the time, even though they are two years apart. Since Evans has played football as well the past two years, football coaches and players have both mistaken Connor for Casey.

After two years at RIT, Evans' brother decided that he wanted to visit Wilkes. Evans went with his brother and his family to tour the campus. They picked the day that Wilkes basketball was playing at King's, and they went to watch the game. Evans vividly remembers the enthusiasm in the stands, and that was one of the deciding factors to come to Wilkes.

"When I came to visit Wilkes, I noticed how small the school was and liked it. I feel like I know way more people at Wilkes

than I did at RIT, and RIT is a much bigger school," said Evans.

For the past two years, Evans has played both football and basketball while pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering. He acknowledges that it can be difficult to have such a busy schedule, and this semester he is carrying 17 credits. He likes to stay busy though because it keeps him focused on his schoolwork. For his degree, his labs can take hours and he never skips a chapter in his book because his teachers test him beyond their lectures and readings.

"My commitment level to Wilkes athletics is very high. I'm not the type of person who would miss practice, show up late or even miss a work out. Both my football and basketball coaches hold us only to the highest standards. I believe that athletics have taught me a lot, and it transfers into the classroom," Evans said.

Evans will return to Wilkes for his third year next year, and he still has one more year of eligibility for football because he did not play football at RIT. He is excited for the players returning to the team next year.

"The basketball team has learned so much this year, and I expect them to win the MAC next year," Evans said.



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnick

From left to right: Head Coach Izzi Metz, Colby Evans, Chris McNitt, Casey Evans, Jamie Evans, Lisa Evans and Connor Evans gather for a Senior Night picture.

O'Hara lands role with MAC committee

By Luke Modrovsky
Asst. Sports Editor

For Sarah O'Hara, she competes on the women's basketball team, fighting for every victory. But on Feb. 3, she scored a victory off the court by being elected as President of the Middle Atlantic Conference Student-Athlete Advisory Committee for the 2017-18 academic year.

She was able to defeat her two opponents, one hailing from Eastern University and the other from well, the school on the north side of Wilkes-Barre.

According to a press release on GoWilkesU.com, the official website of Wilkes University Athletics, O'Hara will take over for current SAAC President, Eastern's Nick Jinks.

O'Hara plans to focus her term on the importance of community service among MAC athletes.

"I know we sponsor some of the same things in each individual SAAC, but I think coming together on the same day, and perhaps in the same location when possible, would be a great way to promote the MAC in a positive way."

Photo Courtesy of gowilkesu.com



Junior Sarah O'Hara

Although there is fierce competition on their respective playing fields, O'Hara said he goal is to bring the conference together during these activities.

"We may compete against each other, but at the end of the day, we're all student-athletes. We just wear different colors."

Head Soccer Coach John Sumoski, who serves as the advisor to the local Wilkes

SAAC, said that his goal is to let the leadership handle most items and only intervene when necessary. For the most part, he said this group has been one of the best during his time as the advisor.

"Sarah has been outstanding with our local group her and I can only imagine she will do well at the conference level," Sumoski said.

Some of the Wilkes SAAC's projects include: Project Standing Room only (Wilkes vs. King's Basketball), Girls in Sport clinics and a faculty appreciation luncheon.

After graduation, O'Hara plans to continue her education and pursue a career as a high school history teacher. When there, she hopes to inspire her students to take on more leadership roles and become future leaders in America.

"I think that holding this leadership position will be great to transfer into the classroom," O'Hara said. "(I) will also try to use my experiences to teach leadership and instill those ideas in my future students."



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WCLH 90.7 FM adds sports talk show

In an effort to revive their sports programming, WCLH has added a sports talk show for the spring semester.

The show will take place during the 1-3 p.m. time slot on Thursday afternoons. Hosts Luke "Mojo" Modrovsky and Benjamin Mandell will cover a variety of sports topics from the professional leagues to Wilkes athletics. Freshman Alex Kielar will also be joining in on the action later in the semester.

Wilkes athletics broadcasts for the spring semester games are currently being planned and will be announced when that schedule is finished. Men's lacrosse, women's lacrosse, baseball, softball and men's volleyball are potential sports to be put on-the-air.

Interested listeners can also tune in on the web via WCLH.org.

Anyone interested in joining the sports team as a play-by-play analyst, color commentator, pre-game/halftime show host, or control room board operator is asked to contact General Manager Kristen Rock at kristen.rock@wilkes.edu.

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14, 1 med- 1 topping
pizza & 2 drinks

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pizza & choice of
any sub

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sub, & an appetizer

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3 large 1- topping
pizzas

Getting to know...

Johnny Jan Jr.

Senior Men's Baseball Player

By Purvit Patel
Sports Writer

Name: Johnny Jan Jr.

Year: Senior

Major(s): Sports Management and Business Management

Hometown/High School: Germantown, Maryland/Northwest High School

Position: Pitcher

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

A. The driving force for my decision to come to Wilkes was for baseball. Our old head coach Matt Hollod saw me when I was a sophomore in high school and we kept in touch all through out high school. I knew since I was a little kid that I wanted to play college baseball. So when deciding which school I would want to play at and get my education, Wilkes seemed like the best fit for me.

Q. What are your hopes for the upcoming season?

A. My hope for this upcoming season is to win the MAC championship. I think it would be a great way to end my Wilkes career/baseball career a champion.

Q. When/Why did you first begin playing [Sport you play]?

A. I started playing baseball when I was 4 years old. I remember going down to Florida when my dad was covering the Baltimore Orioles Spring Training, and that is when I fell in love with the game.

Q. Do you have other sports/interest/

hobbies off of the field?

A. I love playing football, basketball and golf. Other than sports I like to hang out with my friends.

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

A. The most influential person in my life would have to be my dad. He taught me how to play baseball, how to work hard and what it takes to succeed. But along with that he also taught me to not take things so seriously and to have fun with everything that I do.

Q. A quote you live your life by?

A. "Don't take life too seriously. You'll never get out of it alive" - Bugs Bunny

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

A. "Be Colonel" means to represent yourself the best you can through your passion, commitment and dedication with everything you do. And at the end of the day have fun and enjoy what you do.

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

A. Cal Ripken Jr.

Q. Does the [name of sport] have anything they would like to inform the student body?

A. Come out and support our team next Friday where we start our season off at home against Penn State Wilkes-Barre.



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purvit.patel@wilkes.edu



The Beacon - February 21, 2017

Getting to know...

Nicole Cumbo

Junior Softball Player

By Purvit Patel
Sports Writer

Name: Nicole Cumbo
Year: Junior
Major: Biology
Minor: Chemistry
Hometown: West Wyoming, PA
High School: Wyoming Area
Position: Pitcher

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

A. My acceptance into the Early Assurance BS/MD Pre-Medical Scholars Program and softball.

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

A. I hope to accumulate more strikeouts than last year, have a winning record, and I also hope to make the MAC Spring Honor Roll and Dean's List.

Q. When/Why did you first begin playing softball?

A. I began playing softball when I was 5 because of my parents. I kept playing softball because of Joe Drach. He taught me how to pitch and I have never loved anything more.

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

A. I am an avid reader; my favorite series is Harry Potter. I hold a part time position as a certified nursing assistant at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center and I am also a part of the Wilkes University Dance Team.

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

A. Being colonel is being there for others, and being the best version of yourself that you can be.

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

A. My parents, they are there for me through all my endeavors. My mother works in the medical field, and inspired me to pursue a career in medicine, and my father's work ethic and commitment help me everyday to persevere through eight years of education.

Q. A quote you live your life by?

A. "We do not need magic to change the world, we carry all the power we need inside ourselves already: we have the power to imagine better."

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

A. Being colonel is being there for others, and being the best version of yourself that you can be.

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

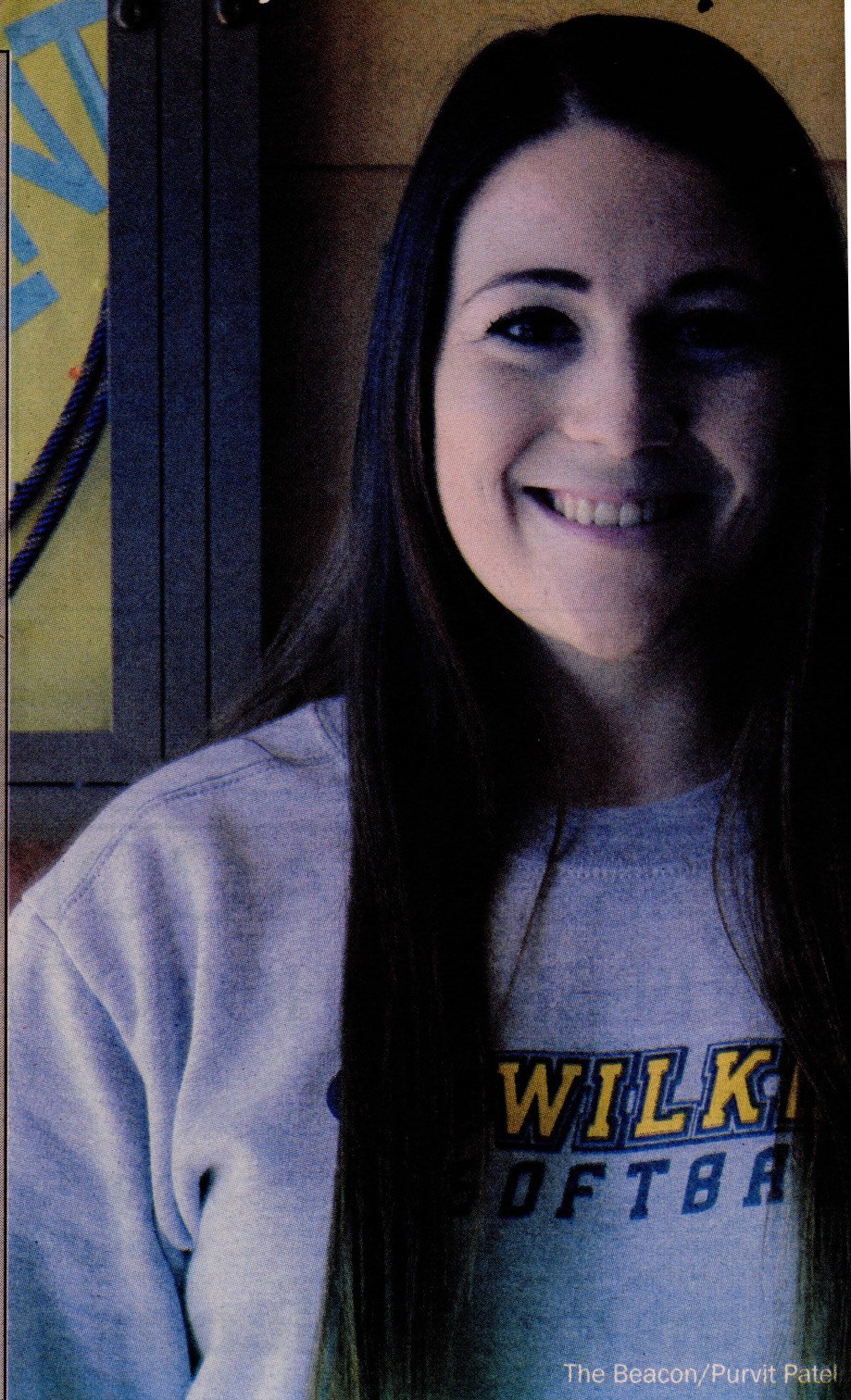
A. Marie Curie

Q. Does the Softball Team have anything they would like to inform the student body?

A. We may be a very young team, but we are working hard to build our program everyday. We are planning on having a winning season that you're not going to want to miss. Come out and support your Lady Colonels. Wear Crocs.



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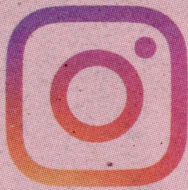
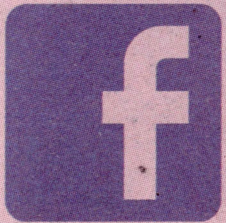
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