



Est. 1936
Pa. Newspaper
Association Member
Volume 70 Issue 03

THE BEACON

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.



Defending democracy: Green Party candidate

Jill Stein visits Wilkes

Full story on page 3

News

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

Beacon Briefs

ON Campus Challenge

Wilkes is currently in 4th place out of 88 teams in the ON Campus Challenge, and is seeking to continue to climb the ranks. To take over a Top 3 position, more Colonels and Community members need to sign up and log 1 or more activities outside within the next four weeks.

Some activities that students can log include eating outside, participating in yoga on the greenway or by simply taking a photo at a Wilkes outdoor sporting event.

For more information, contact Jill Price at jill.price@wilkes.edu.

Phi Beta Lambda seeking new members from all majors

Phi Beta Lambda's next meeting will be held on Thursday, Sept. 22 at 11 a.m. in UCOM 127.

The honor society encourages students from all majors to come to the meeting and learn how to help improve their professional skills and abilities.

Any questions can be sent to Brian Schumacher at brian.schumacher@wilkes.edu

Men's basketball team to host clinic

The Wilkes Men's Basketball Columbus Day Shooting Clinic (Co-Ed) will be held Oct. 10 in the Marts Center Henry Gymnasium. There is a fee is \$35.00.

Wilkes University Student Government notes

By Meghan Burns
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Wilkes University's Student Government held its weekly meeting. To begin the meeting, the Student Government inducted its new members. The new members included nine freshmen, three sophomores, one junior and three seniors.

Zebra Communications, the student-run public relations agency on campus, came in for week two of two.

Last week, the club requested \$1,300 to attend a national conference for the Public Relations Student Society of America in Indianapolis. The club presented its updates about two fundraisers they plan to hold in order to help with the costs.

A motion was put forth to approve the request for funds to Zebra Communications with the stipulation that whatever money is not used must be returned to Student Government. The motion was voted on and approved by the board.

The Wilkes University Dance Team came in to present its club report.

The dance team performs at men's basketball games, pep rallies and homecoming. The members reported that this year they hope to perform at the wrestling matches. Their fundraisers last year included a clothing sale and a Scentsy sale. For their community service, they hope to participate in various walks among the community and also participate in the Big Event.

The Wilkes University History Club came in for week two of two to present for its club reinstatement.

Students gave a brief overview of their presentation with their plans for the future of the club. They updated student government

about the great interest that was generated. The student government put a motion forward to approve the reinstatement, and the motion was passed.

The AMCP joined the student government to present their non-club fund request for week two of two.

The AMCP is requesting \$235 to attend the AMCP Nexus Conference. The money would benefit three students who are hoping to attend the conference. A motion was put forth to approve the request with the stipulation that if anyone cannot attend, the money will be returned to student government.

The Society of Automotive Engineers presented its fund request for week one of two.

The SAE is requesting funds to attend the national Baja Competition in Illinois. The competition allows the students involved to build a car from scratch and pass various tests. The competition is being held from June 7 to 10. The SAE is requesting \$1,250 for registration fees. They will return next week with updates.

Student government then discussed upcoming events and old business.

TREC presented updates. They discussed the awards system and how it aligns with the President's awards. TREC also discussed the possibility of updating the SRS forms.

SLAM also presented updates. They discussed the Title IX changes and how they are implementing them on campus.

The transition of over 40 bathrooms to all-gender bathrooms was a big change that the University has made. In addition, SLAM is working on the housing and sports changes in order to include everyone. They are considering putting into place a new system

of "roll call" in a classroom setting as well.

The Alumni Board of Directors met and student government presented updates.

President Leahy joined the Alumni Board for their meeting. In this meeting, he discussed his Gateway to the Future plan. This plan includes six pillars that will be implemented throughout six years. They also discussed the various updates to the facilities.

The Operations Committee discussed their updates as well. They reported that the restrooms will be ready for homecoming. They discussed a campus-wide three-phase project. This will include adding more signage in order to better help the Wilkes community. It will make all signs uniform, add directional signage and add corner signage.

The senior class reported they have scheduled the Downtown Establishment Tour and have set a tentative date of Oct. 2. They also reported selling 41 magnets at family day.

The juniors plan to send out a survey to their class in order to gain fundraising ideas.

The MSC reported its updates. The group had great attendance at their welcome back social and their fiesta events. They also announced their upcoming events.

Dean Allen joined the student government on Wednesday. He encouraged students to get involved on campus and with the election. He announced the University is seeking a campus interfaith coordinator.

The Treasurer's Report stands as follows: All College: \$6,444.48; General Funds: \$24,202; Conference: \$5,000; and Spirit: \$2,000 for a SG total of \$37,647.43.



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Defending democracy: Green Party candidate Jill Stein visits Wilkes

By Toni Pennello
Asst. News Editor

Green Party presidential candidate Dr. Jill Stein gave an address in the Henry Student Center Ballroom on Sept. 21 to a nearly packed house.

Stein's address focused primarily on domestic and foreign policy. She discussed her involvement in the protests surrounding the Dakota Access Pipeline, her views on how to prevent war, environmental initiatives, bailing out students in loan debt, ending the war on drugs and much more.

Stein put a large focus on the interests of college students, saying that if every young person buried in student loan debt voted for her, they could be bailed out. She asked if anyone in the crowd knew that, and very few raised their hands.

Stein received many cheers as she

“Democracy is not a question of who we fear the most and who we hate the most.”

-Dr. Jill Stein

discussed her views on ending fracking, legalizing marijuana, universal healthcare and proposing a “peace offensive,” which she said includes a weapons embargo.

The master of ceremonies during the evening was Gabriella Romanelli, a Wilkes alumna and member of the Green Party.

Her uncle is Carl Romanelli, who ran as a Green Party candidate for the US Senate in 2006. Gabriella described her experience discovering the Green Party in college.

“I was angry... that was me really becoming into feminism and green things. I would talk to [Carl] about the things that I was angry about and the things I was learning about politics, and I realized he was angry too,” she said.

“I learned from him that I didn't have to just be angry, and that there was a party that reflected my views,” she added.

Romanelli thinks that college age students have the power to bring the Green Party to the forefront of the election.

A popular topic at the address was the observation that many voters are making an effort to vote for the lesser of two evils, which Stein and her supporters think is a non-democratic result of a corrupt system.

During her speech, Gabriella shared a story about tenth and eleven graders that she was substitute teaching. The students were discussing politics.

“I noticed that they weren't debating who would be the best candidate, but who is the worse of the two,” she said.

This sentiment was shared by sophomore political science major Dominic Butchko, who sits on the city council in Forty Fort.

“I am a registered democrat... I was a Bernie supporter, and [Jill Stein] seems like the next best thing,” Butchko said. “I'm exploring my options, I think it's my duty as a good American. Country before party.”

Stein addressed the problem, saying “Democracy is not a question of who we fear the most and who we hate the most.”

Stein's speech was preceded by those of Jay Sweeney, Yahne Ndgo, and Carl Romanelli.

Jay Sweeney is Chair of the Green Party of Pennsylvania. He is running for state representative of the 117th District, and discussed his Green Party policies



The Beacon/ Gabby Glinski
Green Party presidential candidate, Dr. Jill Stein, spoke to a nearly packed house in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. Stein discussed foreign and domestic policy.



The Beacon/ Gabby Glinski
Before Green Party presidential candidate Dr. Jill Stein ended her speech, she and others made time to take a selfie.

such as sustainable energy, healthcare for all Pennsylvanians and support of the democracy in Pennsylvania. He also announced his support for Stein.

Yahne Ndgo is a singer, writer and public figure who has been featured on CNN for her political views and discourse. During her address, she discussed institutionalized racism and other forms of discrimination in The United States, advocated for the Black Lives Matter Movement, and explained that Jill Stein is the candidate that will be the best proponent for social justice.

She opened and closed her speech with a quote from Assata Shakur: “It is our duty to fight for our freedom. It is our duty to win. We must love each other, and support each other. We have nothing to lose but our chains,” she quoted.

Carl Romanelli shared stories about the Vietnam War to illustrate his anti-war sentiment before reiterating that the power of democracy is in the hands of the voters. He cited the outrageous support that Bernie Sanders received from college students and assured audience members that it doesn't have to end.

“The magic is not Bernie. The magic is you,” Romanelli said.



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“Herbal Opiate”: Why the DEA is critical of certain crushed leaves

By Toni Pennello
Asst. News Editor

What behaves like an opiate, doesn't have deadly overdose symptoms, reportedly boosts moods in low doses while acting as a sedative in high doses and is an herb related to coffee?

Kratom.

Kratom is a plant native to Southeast Asia that has historically been used as an herbal supplement to ease pain, boost mood and provide energy. Kratom is not a psychoactive drug and it is not a derivative - it is just a leaf.

Kratom can be sold in the form of leaves, powdered leaves, tablets filled with the ground leaves, extracts and more.

But not for long.

“Kratom is not a drug. Kratom is not an opiate. Kratom is not a synthetic substance. Naturally occurring Kratom is a safe herbal supplement that's more akin to tea and coffee than any other substances,” The American Kratom Association contends. “It behaves as a partial mu-opioid receptor agonist and is used for pain management, energy, even depression and anxiety that are so common among Americans. Kratom contains no opiates, but it does bind to the same receptor sites in the brain. Chocolate, coffee, exercise and even human breast milk hit these receptor sites in a similar fashion.”

In late August, the DEA announced that Kratom will be listed as a Schedule I drug beginning Sept. 30. This puts it on the same list as heroin, marijuana, LSD, mescaline and bath salts.

Drugs in this schedule are placed there because of their high potential for abuse, lack of accepted medical use in the US and lack of accepted safety for use.

As a result, the internet is ablaze with protest from former opiate abusers, people with chronic pain who are averse to prescription drugs and even people with anxiety and depression.

To support their decision, the DEA has cited 660 calls to the poison control center over the last five years (2010-2015) relating to the supplement.

Gary Smith, MD, who is the director of the Center for Injury Research and Policy at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, told Forbes in April that every 45 minutes, every single day,

poison control is called because of children ingesting laundry detergent pods.

Between 2013 and 2014, there were 62,254 cases of this reported in children under 6 years old.

These statistics are often cited by media when discussing the scheduling of Kratom, leading to the question “why aren't Tide Pods being banned, too?”

According to Jason Harlen, CEO of Wyoming Valley Alcohol and Drug Services, Inc. (WVAD), there have hardly been any cases of Kratom abuse in the area brought to their attention.

“We don't see a lot of it here, that people are telling us about anyway,” he said.

“Kratom behaves as a partial mu-opioid receptor agonist and is used for pain management, energy, even depression and anxiety that are so common among Americans. Kratom contains no opiates, but it does bind to the same receptor sites in the brain. Chocolate, coffee, exercise and even human breast milk hit these receptor sites in a similar fashion.”

- The American Kratom Association

“There really doesn't seem to be a lot of negative things associated with it, like ER visits and things like that... I personally have never seen anyone through my doors who was abusing Kratom.

“Is anyone going to counseling because they're socially drinking? No, because they don't see it as a problem,” Harlen analogized.

This is not for lack of use in the area, attested Bob Maculloch, owner of tobacco pipe shop Utopia, located on S. Main St. in Wilkes-Barre. Utopia has been selling Kratom for quite a while.

“It's very popular and the reasons why our customers like Kratom is in a big spectrum -- everything from people who like it for its natural energy, to customers who have expressed really heartfelt stories about using it to kind of deal with physical pain, to things like anxiety and sleep disorders and people who just like have every day stress,” Maculloch explained.

Maculloch describes the feeling of

Kratom as not quite a high, but rather a general feeling of euphoria and happiness. He explained that the worst that can happen in the case of an “overdose” is nausea and vomiting. The only deaths associated with the herb have been in conjunction with other substances.

“And then we have our customers that were addicted to opiates, whether it be prescribed medicine or illegal narcotics, that have tried everything else and haven't been able to manage it through anything but Kratom,” he added.

In 1994, legislation was made that stated any herbal supplements must be regulated by the FDA. Any supplements marketed

Kratom, and you don't even have to experience a Schedule 1 drug, you just know right off the bat that it's not something on that level,” he added.

“I don't have the scientific data to prove it, but from customer testimonial to being around people who do have problems with some of those really heavy drugs, whether it be meth, crack, heroin... I mean it's just a different world.”

The scientific data is where the issue comes in, says Alex Northrup, who is a recent graduate from University of Delaware with a chemistry degree currently working in the pharmaceutical industry.

“I think it's super important that it's only a temporary Schedule 1... that allows for a little bit of time for studies to be published since there are still very few, including on toxicology,” Northrup explained.

Northrup added that Kratom is not an over-the-counter medication, but people are using it as such without knowing everything about it.

“People are self-prescribing for things like pain and opioid addiction without knowing how it interacts with their body or with the medications they're already taking, and most science doesn't know yet either,” Northrup said.

He explained that while it is “unfair” to those who have found Kratom to be a successful treatment, their personal testimonies are not the clinical trials that are needed for verification that mass consumption is safe.

“While Schedule 1 may be a bit harsh, taking Kratom off the market until science catches up to its use is really important,” he said.

Many users still are not satisfied with this explanation, and are taking up arms on the internet.

The AKA proposed a call to action on their website asking that people who use kratom do things like call the DEA, petition the Whitehouse, email the Assistant Secretary of Health, and more.

For more information about the movement to keep kratom legal, visit americankratom.org.



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Wilkes Public Safety bans Samsung Galaxy Note 7 due to fire hazard

By Gabby Glinski
Co-Managing Editor

As of Sept. 19, due to recent safety concerns, Wilkes University has banned the Samsung Galaxy Note 7 cell phone from all campus buildings and vehicles.

Since the Galaxy Note 7's release, there have been 92 cases the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission attributed to fires caused by the phone's overheating battery. There have been an estimate of 1 million units effective due to a specific manufactured battery.

Like the hoverboard ban in early 2016, Public Safety banned the phone for fire hazard concerns; especially in residence halls where students would be charging the phones.

"It's a ban, but it's more of one that needs to be self policed," stated Justin Kraynack, Chief Risk & Compliance Officer of Public Safety, "Calling it a ban raises awareness about it."

On Sept. 15, Samsung Electronics announced a safety recall and exchange

program for the Galaxy Note 7.

According to Samsung, "Since the affected devices can overheat and pose a safety risk, if you own a Galaxy Note 7, it is extremely important to stop using your device, power it down and immediately exchange it using our U.S. Note 7 Exchange Program."

Since then, Samsung posted a guide on their website, samsung.com/us/note7recall, on how to check if a phone is defective. All newer units have identifiers; a special label on the new unit's packaging and a green battery symbol on the phone's charging screen.

Student Miriam Finkelstein, who has a defective Galaxy Note 7, is considering participating in the recall, "I was bummed but I knew the stores were going to get a new lot of them that didn't explode or have any issues. It was more of an inconvenience when the school banned them but it wasn't that inconvenient."

If a student has a defective Galaxy Note 7, Public Safety recommends taking it to the appropriate service provider for an exchange

or refund immediately.

The University may reconsider this ban if the danger of fire is eliminated in the future.



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Do you like to write?
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Write news for the Beacon.



Contact us!

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Wilkes University pharmacy faculty receive grant

Courtesy of Marketing Communications

Judith Kristeller and Dana Manning, faculty in Wilkes University's Nesbitt School of Pharmacy, have received a \$150,000 grant from the Cardinal Health Foundation. The grant, to be paid over three years, will expand a system for improving the transition of care and medication use for patients who are discharged from Commonwealth Health network hospitals to home.

The Wilkes grant is one of only 13 awarded by Cardinal Health from among 163 applications nationwide.

In addition, Kristeller and Manning have also been awarded a \$41,000 grant from the Moses Taylor Foundation that will further support the project.

The two grants continue work started in Scranton in 2013 at Moses Taylor Hospital in conjunction with the pharmacy department by Kristeller, a professor of pharmacy practice at Wilkes. She developed a model to connect hospital pharmacists, community pharmacists and physicians to ensure patients are educated about their medications, receive follow-up care for medication-related problems and receive evidence-based management of acute and chronic conditions. The effort focuses on improving medication safety, preventing medication-related problems and preventing hospital readmissions.

"The goal is to have a smooth hand off

to provide coordinated patient care related to medication management as patients transition from hospital to home," Kristeller explains.

The new grants will allow the model piloted at Moses Taylor to be used at a second site, Regional Hospital of Scranton, where Manning, an associate professor of pharmacy practice, maintains a clinical practice site. Both Moses Taylor Hospital and Regional Hospital of Scranton are affiliates of the Commonwealth Health network. Wilkes pharmacy students will gain experience by working with the two faculty in developing and expanding the program at both clinical sites.

"We are grateful to have such a good partner in Commonwealth Health," Kristeller said. "They have shown a commitment to support a model to improve the quality of care for patients. In particular the Departments of Pharmacy at Moses Taylor Hospital and Regional Hospital of Scranton have been essential to the success of this project. We would not have this opportunity without their leadership and dedication to supporting the Wilkes faculty and students."

The model initially targeted patients with COPD and heart failure, but it has since been expanded to cover more conditions. These include heart and vascular disease, stroke, diabetes, chronic kidney disease and patients who have a history of multiple falls. Patients are eligible if they take five or more



Courtesy of Marketing Communications
Judith Kristeller



Courtesy of Marketing Communications
Dana Manning

medications and live at home.

The Cardinal Health grant has the added benefit of placing all grant recipients in a learning community. The health care professionals awarded the grants will benefit from sharing results and feedback with each other, offering opportunities for more meaningful research outcomes.

In Kristeller's initial study at Moses Taylor Hospital, she found that the new model improved medication use and safety among

patients. By adding a second hospital, the effect of the expanded and improved service will be evaluated further. Kristeller and Manning, along with other collaborators within Commonwealth Health and pharmacy students, plan to publish their results in a peer-reviewed journal. In addition, they will be sharing their results at local, regional, and national meetings.

Wilkes University faculty and staff recognized with President's Awards

By Alyssa Mursch
News Editor

Five Wilkes University faculty and staff members were presented with new cross-university awards called the President's Awards for Excellence during Wilkes University's fall convocation earlier this year.

The awards, granted by President Patrick Leahy, promote and celebrate the University's five core values: scholarship, diversity, innovation, mentoring and community.

The President's Award for Excellence in Scholarship was presented to biology professor Michael Steele. Steele has been active in research during his years at Wilkes, and recently received the Opportunities for Promoting Understanding through Synthesis (OPUS) Award from the National Science Foundation. This award provides a grant to the recipient, which is to be used to produce a synthesis of their life's work.

"I'm truly humbled to have received this award," Steele said of the President's Award. "Especially given all the active and competent researchers (here on campus)."

Associate professor of English Helen Davis received the President's Award for Diversity. Davis has been involved in a variety of diversity-producing initiatives since she came to Wilkes in 2008.

Currently, she is the faculty adviser for the Gender and Sexuality Alliance. She also helped to co-found and co-facilitate the Safe Space program with Elizabeth Swantek and Erica Acosta, which promotes LGBT awareness and provides training. Davis also worked on a summer task force that analyzed how accommodating the campus was for transgender and non-transforming students, at which time the new all-gender bathroom initiative was decided. She is also helping work on the application for the Howard Hughes Grant, which focuses on diversity, and continuously tries to bring supportive programming on campus.

"Obviously diversity is something I care very much about," Davis said. "I do it because I care and want us to have as strong and supportive of a campus as possible."

"This award is a sign that our campus cares about diversity," Davis continued.

The President's Award for Innovation went to John Carlin, director of network and technology infrastructure, for his efforts in promoting programs, ideas and sustainable practices on campus.

Specifically, since he came to Wilkes in 2014, Carlin aided the campus in going from 243 to 646 Wireless Access Points, thereby increasing wireless connectivity across campus. Currently, he and others are working on trying to bring wireless to some outside areas, as well as working to have the last piece of the Firewall upgraded by next year to further increase internet connection.

"Even though my name is on the award, I would not have won the award if it were not for my team: Joe Wilk, Neal, Huhn, and Mark Kazokas," Carlin said. "These guys and myself have put a lot of time in behind-the-scenes... so it is nice to be recognized for our hard work that is put in."

Lt. Col. Mark Kaster was granted the President's Award for Mentoring for his efforts in nurturing individuals to understand and act on their abilities while challenging them to achieve great things.

Kaster is a lecturer in environmental engineering and earth science as well as a veterans counselor and the faculty advisor for the veterans club on campus. In this way, he has helped veterans get accommodated to their life after service and achieve their goals.

"I see it as a way for me to continue to serve," Kaster said of this position, which is part of what gained him the mentoring award. "It's humbling to receive this award, but I accepted it on behalf of a lot of people. I couldn't do what I do without the help of various other people; it's a team effort."

Kaster referenced his family, administration, the EES department, admissions and the registrar's office, as well as others, as those that he views as pivotal in the work he does, extending thanks to "all the people that support me so that I can support the students."

Director of athletics Addy Malatesta was to recipient of the President's Award for Community for her efforts in appreciating and collaborating with mutual respect to foster a sense of belonging on campus.

This is the first year the President's Awards have been granted, and university faculty or staff members had the opportunity to nominate anyone in the Wilkes community who embodied the spirit of each value. The nominations were then shared with administration for feedback, with the final decision determined by Leahy.



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Photo Courtesy of Wilkes University

Award winners are shown with Wilkes University President Patrick Leahy. From left, are Leahy, Michael Steele, Addy Malatesta, John Carlin, Helen Davis and Mark Kaster.

Parents or friends visiting campus? Suggest

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Life, Arts & Entertainment

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

The F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts turns 30

By Catherine Rose
Staff Writer

The F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts reached an impressive milestone on September 19: thirty years since the theater was reborn and opened to the community. Its rich history traces farther back than that.

In 1937 the Comerford movie chain chose the current location on Public Square as the site of the flagship of the M.E. Comerford movie chain in Northeastern Pennsylvania and New York. Elaborate plans, which included a lavish interior, rose-colored mirrors, and a chandelier called the "Giant Lavalier", soon followed.

The movie theater opened its door on August 18, 1938.

After an anti-trust lawsuit, the ownership switched hands and it was renamed the Paramount. The theater operated successfully for another 27-year as a "majestic, single screen movie place," even surviving the infamous 1972 flood, until economic hardship caused it to shut down in late 1977.

The theater went through a period of odd undertakings during the late 1970s and early 1980s. Once showing movies, the building was now home to televised boxing matches. The box office was gutted, lighting fixtures were sold, and the astounding architecture was dwindling away.

With no regard for historic value, it seemed that fate had demolition in store for the structure.

A group of locals joined forces to save the building. They coined their cause as the acronym STOP, standing for Save The Old Paramount. Through their dedication, the building was added to the National Registry of Historic Places in 1978, ensuring that it could not be knocked down.

The building was technically saved but remained abandoned until Albert Boscov, the owner of Boscov's department store, and August L. Simms came along to rally local businesses and community leaders to raise the necessary funds—\$3.3 million—required to bring back the theater.

Everyone from labor unions to little children responded.

The largest benefactor was Fred Morgan Kirby II and the building was named in honor of his father, a Wilkes-Barre native. On Sept. 19, 1986, the theater reopened with a ballet performance accompanied by the

Northeastern Philharmonic that kicked off its "Celebration Tour."

The community fought for the restoration of the theater decades ago and is certainly not foreign to the F.M. Kirby Center today. When asked what has made the theater successful for the last 30 years, Anne Rodella, the Director of Sales and Marketing, said that the "support of the community" is a tremendous factor.

She was quick to also acknowledge the "hardworking staff" that makes everything at the Performing Arts Center possible.

Lauren Menn, the Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator, agreed with Rodella. She says the Executive Director, William M. Beekman III is the "greatest person" for the building, remarking that the "risks he takes on shows give us a huge return. We're going strong."

Rodella commented on Beekman also, saying that he is "aggressive on bringing in events." He was especially zealous in booking Jake Shimabukuro, a ukulele player, for Nov. 18 this year.

The Kirby Center houses all types of events, from the big stars to the novices. As a few staff members said, Jerry Seinfeld doesn't know he's paying for the opera when he hosts a show here. The staff is more concerned with introducing a variety of events rather than merely worrying about the dollar signs.

The 2016-2017 season features several series: Wells Fargo Concerts & Comedy Series, PNC Celebrity Series, a Broadway series, and a Signature Series. There is also a circuit of shows that will be performed in the lobby area, which is called Live from the Chandelier Lobby Series. The Kirby Center offers a number of family and kids shows as well.

Splatterday, a day-long Halloween film series event will take place on Saturday, Oct. 26. A full listing of the schedule can be found on kirbycenter.org.

The success of the theater is recognized worldwide. Fans travel the distance to get to this beloved theater. In June, Poll Star ranked the F.M. Kirby Center number 99 in the world for ticket sales at a performing arts theater. IIBA listed it in the top 10 among theaters in big cities like New York.

Carole Antolik, who has been with the Kirby Center since the beginning (Day two, to be exact), reflected on volunteers who have touched her heart over the years. She has met every type of person while working

there and has "no complaints," adding that those who donated their time to the theater have made it so successful. "It is an excellent group of people."

Rodella feels lucky.

"It's not your average place to work. It's a family."

Antolik described the theater as "keeping

the city alive."

The city may not be the only thing it is keeping alive. "If it wasn't for this, I'd have been dead 10 years ago."

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The Beacon/Purvit Patel

Outside of the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK:

Crock-Pot Chicken Tacos

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 1/2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1 1.25 ounce packet of taco seasoning
- One 16 ounce jar of your favorite salsa
- For serving: use tortillas or taco shells of your choice of toppings such as chopped tomatoes, shredded lettuce, sour cream, shredded cheese or hot sauce

Design by Nicole Kutos

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Place chicken in the bottom of the crock-pot.
2. Sprinkle taco seasoning over chicken.
3. Pour salsa on top.
4. Cook on low (for 6-8 hours) or high (for 4 hours).
5. Just before serving, use two forks to shred the chicken.
6. Stir to evenly distribute salsa throughout chicken. Serve immediately with desired toppings.



Wilkes Student Chef, Josh Shepard made this delicious dish.

Recipe taken from: twohealthykitchens.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

amanda.bialek@wilkes.edu

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Multicultural Student Coalition hosts fiesta night



The Beacon/Theresa Couchara

Students enjoyed a recent fiesta night at Wilkes University. From left, are Cedthea McEaddy (Vice President of MSC), Santana Velez (President of MSC), Kala Walker (Secretary of MSC), Yan Mary Abreu-Tejeda (President of Spanish club), Summer Rivera (President of Latin American Student Association), Tina Doshi (Treasurer of MSC), and Conroy Yearde (PR/social media head of MSC).



The Beacon/Theresa Couchara

Paola Bianco, the advisor of Spanish Club and Coordinator of the study abroad programs poses with President of the Spanish Club, Yan Mary Abreu-Tejeda.

Vote for your favorite Wilkes room on campus

By Gracie Franko
Staff Writer

It's time to vote! Cast your vote, not for the next President of the United States, but for your favorite on-campus room.

Maybe you and your roommates have entered the contest already, maybe you know someone who has, or maybe you had no idea there was a contest. Regardless, now is the time to check out the Wilkes Facebook page "ROOM PHOTO CONTEST" and like your favorite decorated room.

The Admission Department has put together a snazzy prize package which includes Wilkes gear and a \$20 Barnes & Noble gift card for one lucky winner to share with his or her roommates.

A lot of talent is walking on the campus of Wilkes University. If you have ever

wondered what was behind the door of your neighbor, this might be your chance to take a peek. You might even pick up some first-rate ideas to use yourself. Plus, you will be helping a fellow student win a prize package.

It is voting season after all and every vote counts. Just one vote can make a difference. Think of this as a warm up to the big November election.

Stop what you are doing and visit the "ROOM PHOTO CONTEST" page now! It's fun, free, and easy. Let your voice be heard in selecting a one of a kind winner.

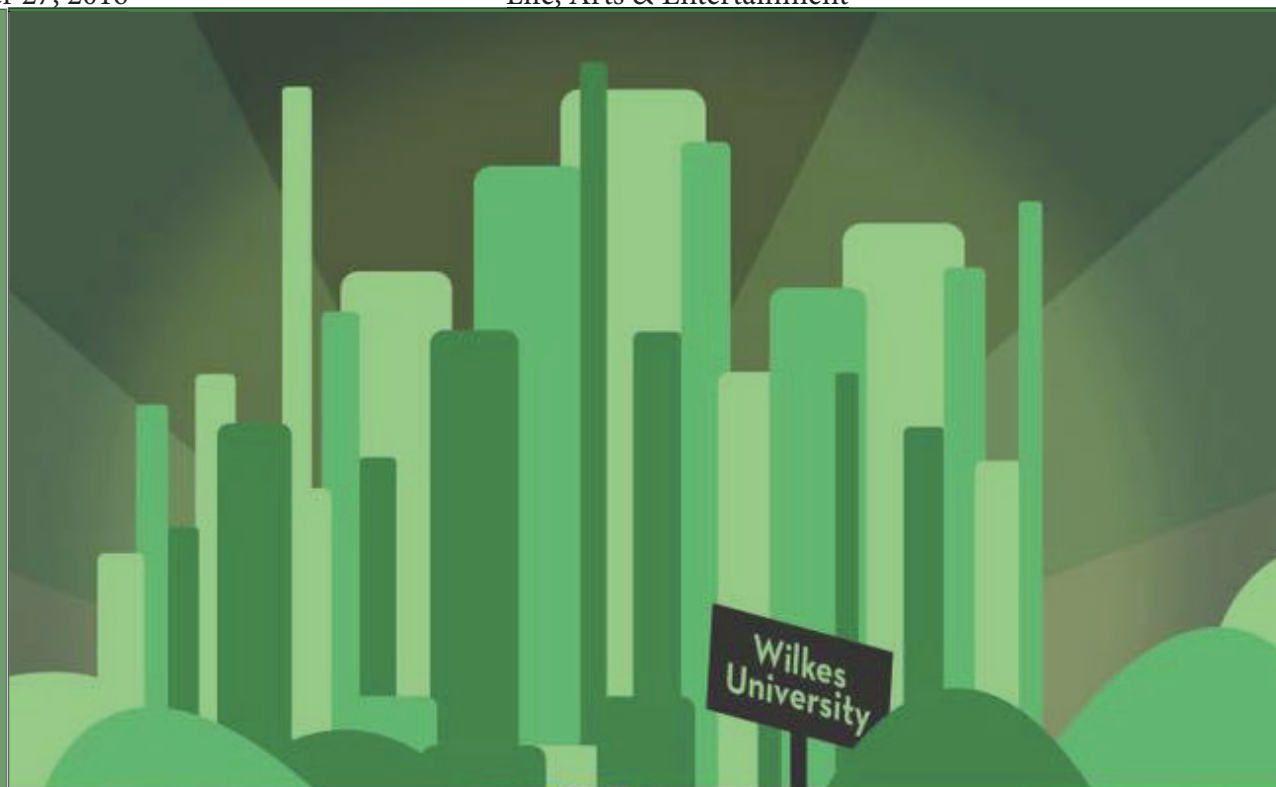


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Above is a bedroom in University Towers

The Beacon/Theresa Couchara



There's No Place Like Homecoming 2016

Thursday Sept. 29th 5-8pm
Greenway Pep Rally
Food ~ Prizes ~ Amusement
Music ~ T-shirts

Friday Sept. 30th
6-11pm Genetti's Dance
Dinner ~ Photobooth
Raffles ~ DJ
Sold Monday-Friday
\$5 each
Sales start September 12th

Saturday October 1st 1pm
Football Game Wilkes vs. FDU
Schmidt Stadium
at Ralston Athletic Complex
Announcement of 2016
King & Queen

Questions? Contact: Nicole Hughes
nicole.hughes@wilkes.edu



Wilkes Theatre Kicks Off Season with Irish “Playboy”

By Jacqueline Kurovsky
Staff writer

Why does the “bad boy” seem to get all the girls?

This question will be explored with a new twist of humor when Wilkes University Theatre opens its 2016-2017 season with *The Playboy of The Western World* at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center.

This revival of the 1907 comedy tells of an Irish man, Christy Mahon, who runs away from his farm after claiming to have killed his father. Village locals are more interested in hearing his story than in condemning him for the murder, and he even becomes a love interest in the process.

The lead role of Christy is played by freshman musical theatre major Kris Tjornhorn. He says his role in *The Playboy of the Western World*, his first show as a Wilkes student, is different from anything he has done before.

“Having only about a month between being cast and opening night has been a scary and difficult experience,” Tjornhorn

said. “But I have never had so much fun. My fellow cast members and I are always joking around backstage.”

This production is the best-known work of Irish playwright J.M. Synge. Being an Irish comedy heavily influenced by the poetic nature of the Irish language, this production did present some challenges for Tjornhorn.

“One of the most difficult parts about this show was probably remembering all the lines in the odd Irish dialect that this show called for,” he said. “I’m very excited to see it come together on opening night and I hope everyone enjoys it.”

Showtimes for *The Playboy of the Western World* are Sept. 29 and 30 at 8 p.m., Oct. 1 at 8 p.m. and a matinee performance on October 2nd at 2 p.m.

For tickets, call the Darte Center box office at 570-408-4540. Tickets will also be available on the night of the show. General admission is \$10 and student and senior admission is \$5.



@wilkesbeacon
jacqueline.kurovsky@wilkes.edu



Some of the cast members of the *Playboy of the Western World*, are, from left, Kris Tjornhorn, Melissa Berardelli, Taylor Lamerand.

Submitted photo

Stay up to date by following Wilkes Theatre on
Facebook.

HUMANS OF WILKES UNIVERSITY



The Beacon/Rachel Leandri

“I’m more than excited that fall has officially arrived. As an E-mentor, I am planning a trip to Roba’s Tree Farm with my freshmen group of mentees and we cannot wait to venture through the corn mazes and the pumpkin patch. In the spirit of Halloween and also my duties as an RA, we are looking forward to hosting a “Trick or Treat” multicultural event in Towers. Lots of fun activities to look forward to!”

-Kellie Palko
Senior Pharmacy major

HOMECOMING KING

NOMINEES



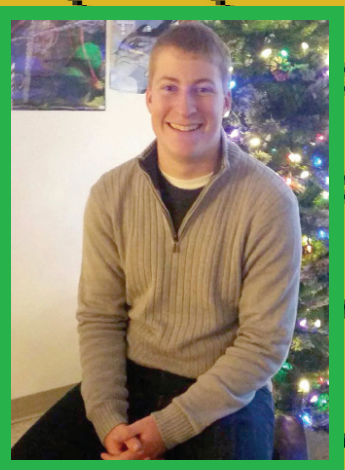
Scott Vandine
Criminology & Sociology
Nordmont, PA



Bryan Bilbao
Psychology & Neuroscience
Old Forge, PA



Woody Augustin
Psychology
Hewlett, NY



John Scalese
Finance & Accounting Major
Long Island, NY



Michael Conrad

Pictures for all nominees were requested but could not be obtained as of Monday morning. As such, *The Beacon* received some help from our favorite Oz characters.

HOMECOMING QUEEN

NOMINEES



Allie Grudeski
Pharmacy
Moscow, PA



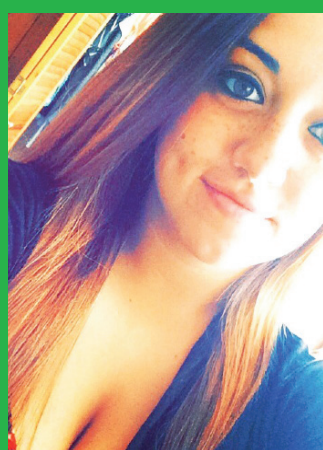
Kim Hein
Communication Studies
Bethlehem, PA



Kayla Hiryak
Pharmacy
Pottstown, PA



Ally Paskas
Early Childhood & Elementary Education
Rutherford, NJ



Jenna Graziano
Psychology & Criminology
Hawthorne, NJ



Nia Williams
Environmental Engineering
Baltimore, MD

Design by Israel Rodriguez

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

Bombings add fuel to the explosive racial debate



Ahmad Khan Rahami, 28, is believed to be responsible for the bomb threats in NY and NJ, authorities state.

By: Andre Spruell
Opinion Co-Editor

There are many things that go on throughout the day, whether it be good or bad. When two bomb threats occur 25 minutes away from you in opposite directions, how does someone go about that day?

The last two bomb threats that occurred in NY and in NJ were in locations less than 30 minutes away from myself. Not only are the bomb threats scary, but the scarier thing is the ignorance of many people in society.

Within the last few months, there have been bombings going on around the world, gun violence in the U.S. between the police force and African Americans and many other forms of terrorism that are going on.

Even though so many forms of violence are going on, many people in our society seem to be naïve and ignorant to what is really going on.

Officials say the man responsible for the bomb threats in NY and NJ is Ahmad Khan Rahami, 28. On Sept. 16, authorities say he allegedly set off a bomb in Manhattan, NY, that injured 29 people. About three days later,



Photo Credit: <http://www.amny.com/news/ahmad-khan-rahami-who-is-the-chelseabombing-suspect-1.12338646>

they claim he attempted to set off a bomb in Elizabeth, NJ, where Rahami had previously lived. Luckily for those in the city, the bomb was confiscated by authorities inside a backpack before it was able to cause damage.

According to published reports, when Rahami was found by police in Linden, NJ, a town nearby Elizabeth, a shootout ensued which ended up in the suspect and two officers getting struck with a bullet, but they all survived the incident. For more information on Rahami's background and motives check out the online CNN article entitled Ahmad Khan Rahami: What we know about the bombing suspect.

When it comes to terroristic threats, most people automatically associate Middle Eastern people are those who "look" Muslim. This fear towards people of this culture is known as Islamophobia. According to the University of California, Berkley Center for Race and Gender, the term Islamophobia means dislike of or prejudice against Islam or Muslims, especially as a political force.

Many Americans that fear Muslims stems from 9/11 as being an attack set up by a terrorist group led by Osama Bin Laden,

despite many people having different opinions on who actually perpetrated the attacks.

Typically, the profile created towards someone that is Muslim is a man or woman with a brown or light brown complexion, dark features, the men having full beards, the women being covered from head to toe, and both genders wearing turbans (different Islamic nations have different ways of referring to the turban).

As a result, those that are Muslim or Islamic face a multitude of backlash in the same way that African Americans and Hispanics do, most notably Hispanics of Mexican descent. Unfortunately, most of the disputes that have occurred due to racial tensions have resulted in violence and lives being lost.

Even though no lives were lost as a result of the recent bombing and bomb attempt, lives have been over other racially driven issues, most notably the Black Lives Matter movement, which started as a result of many innocent blacks being killed by police officers.

Continued on p. 15

Bombings add fuel

Continued from page 14.

Innocent black people getting killed by cops and framing it to make it look like the innocent victim was the perpetrator has been going on for many years, the only difference is that in today's world, there are videos to validate what really happens.

The whole Black Lives Matter, is an entirely different issue in itself, but it is another racial issues that many Americans know has existed for hundreds of years, but still fail to acknowledge as a problem just because slavery is not official anymore.

We as a nation must stop being so ignorant and start creating a resolution, instead of contributing to the problem, which we are doing by just sitting back and letting violent and inhumane things continue to go on.

Our attitudes as a society towards certain races is one way to help bring about change in our country when it comes to things like Islamophobia. Ridiculing anyone based on physical appearance defines being prejudice.

Having these negative attitudes towards certain races is something that is learned, so people must be taught from a young age not to hate.

Another thing that can be done is to simply educate people. In most schooling systems, when kids are taught about history, there is more emphasis on the positive aspects of American history and little emphasis when it comes to our lowest points in history. If people start to educate themselves on the reality of what is going on in this country, then maybe people will start trying to make a difference.


The biggest factor as to why there are so much racial tension is because people are not sensitive enough to realize the difficulties of being a minority in this country.

First or second generation Hispanics, Blacks, Muslim, and other races in the U.S. is very difficult, but many Americans forget that their grandparents and great grandparents came to the U.S. from another country in order to enjoy their freedom today.

Being mixed with Black and Hispanic ethnicities, I have experienced first hand ridicule about my ethnic background and have had a few racist encounters, even though I do not necessarily have a dark complexion. Unless someone has personally experienced something like racism, people will never know what it is like.

I would love to see change come about in our country but sadly, it will probably not happen anytime soon because of our ignorance as a society. Being a minority in this country, I do have a little fear when I am out in public by myself because I could be caught in the wrong place in the wrong time.

We must take an initiative, so there are no more innocent victims losing their lives.

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andre.spruell@wilkes.edu

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

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



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OTHER RECENT TERROR ATTACKS ON THE U.S. SINCE 9/11

- 1) BELTWAY SNIPER ATTACKS, OCTOBER 2002
- 2) UNC VEHICLE ATTACK, MARCH 2006
- 3) FORT HOOD SHOOTING, NOVEMBER 2009
- 4) PORTLAND CAR BOMB PLOT, NOVEMBER 2010
- 5) BOSTON MARATHON BOMBING, APRIL 2013
- 6) QUEENS, NEW YORK, HATCHET ATTACK, OCTOBER 2014
- 7) TEXAS ART SHOW SHOOTING, MAY 2015
- 8) ORLANDO NIGHT CLUB SHOOTING, JUNE 2016

Information from: <http://www.newsmax.com/TheWire/terror-attacks-radical-islam/2015/12/07/id/704847/>

Wilkes University's careful strive for energy efficiency

By: Austin Ely
Opinion Writer

With more attention being brought to the stability of our planet, and the environmental issues that threaten such stability; a vast amount of information is becoming available as to how people can be better at protecting the planet. Wilkes University is an example of a community that has taken the steps to become more environmentally conservative.

If someone were to take a walk throughout the campus, they would see many recycling stations near the entrance of most buildings. If they ventured inside The Cohen Science Center, they would find energy saving windows, motion technology that controls lighting as well as low-input fixtures and LED bulbs.

Computer labs and classrooms are outfitted with iMacs, which are energy efficient in themselves. All of these things promote positive strides toward making not only the campus energy efficient but also the surrounding Wilkes-Barre area energy efficient.

However, it is up to the people in the community to not only be aware of environmental sustainability issues, but also know how to begin to solve them. Having



The Cohen Science Center is one of the most energy efficient buildings on the Wilkes campus The Beacon/Purvit Patel

recycling stations, motion sensors and iMacs is but half the battle to better energy

efficiency. The other half rests in people to act and also educate others as to how to conserve that energy.

Where the community of Wilkes University is comprised of students, teachers and faculty there is a role that everyone can take up in order to continue to become more energy efficient.

Students who live in dorms that do not have motion sensor lighting should attempt to make a habit of turning off lights as well as other electronics when leaving for class or out to lunch with friends.

When finishing off water in a plastic bottle or soda in an aluminum can, try to save the bottle or can until it can be thrown into a recycling bin.

Teachers who are leaving their offices or a classroom without motion sensors can lead by example by ensuring lights are shut off. Projectors, equipped with power saving modes, are sometimes left on after a class uses them.

Turning off something like a projector, which uses significant amounts of electricity, in classrooms where they are left on would help a lot more than some may think.


Faculty, like food staff in the SUB or grounds keepers, can also have an impact by turning off equipment that is not in use. They can also monitor how others dispose of recyclable trash to a certain degree.

Where if anyone were to see a tissue or plastic bottle on the ground they could pick it up and dispose of it correctly; however, those

who monitor the campus grounds ensure this indefinitely.

Energy sustainability and the overall protection of the environment may seem like a lot for one person or even just a small group of people to work towards and accomplish,

However, if one person is able to teach another how to better take care of the environment then that knowledge can be spread and acted upon, not only by the campus community, but the entire city of Wilkes-Barre and beyond.

 @wilkesbeacon
austin.ely@wilkes.edu

What steps do you take to be more environmental and energy friendly?

Tell us on Twitter
@wilkesbeacon



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KEEP IT PLAYFUL

Colonels Talk Back

We asked: “Do the NYC bombings pose a threat to us locally?”

Interviews by
Luke Modrovsky
luke.modrovsky@wilkes.edu

Photos by
Jesse Chalnack
jesse.chalnack@wilkes.edu

During the weekend of Sept. 17, three locations within and close to New York City were targets of terrorism. Ahmad Khan Rahami was charged in connection with these bombings. Although Wilkes-Barre and surrounding areas do not have a history with terrorism, we asked members of the Wilkes Community to share their thoughts on the chances that terrorism strikes here locally.

Want to be in the next Colonels Talk Back? Email luke.modrovsky@wilkes.edu

John Walter
Freshman
Business Administration

“They definitely don’t make me happy. It’s scary to turn on the TV everyday and see news like this. It isn’t right for the people that live in New York City. It could head in any direction. Terrorists will target anything that involves the U.S.”



Morgan Zukowski
Sophomore
Engineering

“It sucks. It didn’t really impact me. We aren’t really in a major city area. But if we were at Temple, I’d be more concerned. My dad works right in center city.”

Emmett Jodon
Freshman
Undeclared

“I am frustrated with the whole situation. It’s hard to tell (if they could come locally). It seems to be a major city problem so I’m not too, too worried.”



Tim Petersen
Freshman
Electrical Engineering

“I was pretty surprised about the whole thing, especially living ten minutes from the Seaside bombing. I feel we are pretty safe here in Wilkes-Barre.”

Julie Murphy
Freshman
Sports Management

“It’s very sad. It’s actually disappointing, really. It’s a concern for everywhere because crime is bad. Being that my roommate is from New York, it really brings things into perspective but I do believe we will be safe here.”



Katie Stack
Freshman
Undeclared

“It’s very scary. People aren’t expecting it when it happens. It’s scary knowing that my dad is in danger every day. He was there on 9/11 as well. I’m not sure if anything major like that would happen here because it’s not as big.”

2016 Wilkes homecoming! Are you going?

By Olivia Macdonald
Opinion Writer

Homecoming is a tradition that Wilkes University hosts every year for alumni to come back to visit the campus and current students to come together to show their colonel pride.

Thursday night kicks off the weekend of festivities with a Pep Rally on the Greenway featuring the Wilkes University Dance Team's first performance of the year. Then Friday night is the time to get out your dancing shoes to shred the dance floor with your friends for the yearly homecoming dance, hosted by Student Government, for all students to attend.

Saturday will be when the alumni and future alum come together to root on our football team as they will be taking on Farleigh Dickenson University at 1 p.m.

There will be pre-game entertainment

for all attending the Alumni Tent, including another performance by the Wilkes Dance Team. During half time the class of 1991 will be welcomed back onto the football field, to represent the successful alumni of Wilkes University.

LeRoy Coleman, class of 1991, will be attending the weekend festivities and is most looking forward to being with his old roommates and daughter, Haley Coleman, who is a future alum.

Another halftime event, and my personal favorite, will be the crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen. Senior, Jenna Graziano is a contestant for 2016 Homecoming Queen which has her hype for the weekend.

"I feel honored that I was voted by my peers to be on homecoming court!" she said.

And the potential King Woodley Augustine feels that.

"Being on homecoming court is something special; it's not every day you get the opportunity to run for Homecoming King," he said.

If you are not a big football fan, all are welcome to participate in the third annual George Ralston Golf Classic with proceeds benefiting the Osterhout Library's children's programs. Post-game and tournament includes a Bar Crawl for the alumni, hosted by the Alumni Committee, to show off Wilkes-Barre's most current version of night life. Even though she won't be attending the Bar Crawl, Junior Madison Scarfaro says that she is "pumped for all of the events on campus and for the football game."


As a whole, it seems that with Wilkes being such a small campus, and very family oriented. There should be more activity during the week leading up to homecoming to show pride throughout

the university.

At my previous school, there was an event every day leading up to the homecoming game that gave students the opportunity to win gift cards to surrounding restaurants and the bookstore.

I feel like Wilkes has the resources to really embrace this campus event and have students be more involved with the school's activities. Instead of thinking about what they will be partaking in later in the night.

In all, make sure to embrace the events that the school prepares for your enjoyment, you're paying for them with your tuition dollars so might as well put them to good use!

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olivia.macdonald@wilkes.edu

Top 10 shows students must watch this fall season

By Peyton Neishman
Opinion Writer

1. American Horror Story

American Horror story has been a crowd pleaser for the past five years. Starring famous actors such as Evan Peters and Lady Gaga. This season is called "My Roanoke Nightmare". The story portrays a couple that move into a house in Roanoke, North Carolina. After a few nights, they start experiencing different paranormal activities throughout the house. I have been a fan of the show since the beginning. I enjoy that fact that each season has a totally different topic.

2. The Exorcist

The Exorcist is a new show premiering this month on Fox. Everyone has watched the Exorcist movies and almost peed their pants. Now, it's time for a series. The show will feature two different priests that take on a family's strange story consisting of demonic possession. I feel that this series will attract an enormous audience and be a success. Skeptics question is the subject matter of a show like this is real, asking if there's really abnormal spirits surrounding

us in the world? My advice is to check in to see for yourself.

3. Stranger Things

Stranger Things just finished its first season. It will be returning to Netflix for their second season soon. Talking to a few students on campus, it's no secret that this show is a must-watch. It reveals unreal mysteries such as supernatural forces and secret government experiments. After watching the first season, I'm beyond excited for the next chapter.

4. Empire

One of my favorite shows to watch every Wednesday night is Empire. Luscious Lyons and his family go through many challenging obstacles to keep their hip-hop enterprise afloat. The guest stars that perform on this show are out of this world. I like how this show incorporates the performing arts of dance and music.

5. Dance Moms

Dance Moms shows us the competitive life of dance and what goes on behind the curtain. This show is on every Tuesday on the Lifetime. Will this be the last season? Can the team survive without their star Maddy? Dance is a very competitive

sport, it can be stressful and strenuous to your body. And the controversy that happens in this show is relatable to real life of dancers.

6. The Walking Dead

The Walking Dead is based on a comic book series. The storyline of this is the time period during and after a zombie apocalypse. The humans become more immoral in society than the zombies. The effects and graphics of this show are flawless. The show is entering its seventh season and it is still extremely popular, I recommend watching it.

7. Speechless

Speechless is a family comedy and is new to ABC this fall. Disability affects different families every day. It's hard to overcome challenges obstacles in our world today with disability. Having someone sick in your family can be stressful.

8. Law and Order: SVU

SVU will be premiering its 18th season this month. I have been watching this show for years, and it never gets old. The cast list is insanely great. It's interesting to see what the NYPD goes through on a


daily bases. With crime being an ongoing and controversial issue in our society, it's hard not to get addicted to the dynamics of SVU, and of course, Olivia Benson.

9. Gilmore Girls Reunion Show

Gilmore Girls hasn't been on the air for ten years. But don't fret, Lorelia and Rory super fans! It will be returning to Netflix in November for a reunion show miniseries. It will show us what the Gilmore women are up to now. This was one my favorite shows when I was a kid. Lorelia Gilmore is a single mother who raised her daughter, Rory to become a successful young woman.

10. Pitch

Pitch is a new show coming to Fox this year. It is a drama series with a storyline of a young pitcher is the first African-American woman to play in the major leagues. History is being made in this fiction show. She will have to face many challenges as she is the only woman in all male sports league.

 @wilkesbeacon
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Sports

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

Wilkes falls to Widener; leadership shines, prepares for homecoming

By Taylor Ryan and Pankil Chander
Sports Co-Editor; Staff Writer

Following a hard-earned win against Misericordia University, Wilkes fell to Widener 25-23 this past week.

Now the team is gearing up for the homecoming game against Farleigh Dickinson..

The Wilkes football team now stands 1-3, 1-1 in MAC play. The atmosphere in Schmidt Stadium will be intense this weekend when the Colonels showcase their talent for alumni, family and friends.

On Sept. 17, the Colonels took on The Misericordia Cougars at home, and got the job done with a 46-23 victory. The win instilled the confidence they will need to continue to excel as the season progresses.

Senior standout, Jake Brook talked on the big team win saying, "although we were hoping on getting our first win earlier in the season, it is still a great feeling because we've all been working hard since we came for camp, plus to get it against a team that beat us last year shows that we are truly getting better and moving in the direction that we want to be going in."

As senior quarterback, Ryan Dailey, and senior receiver William Deemer led the team with nine connecting passes and leading to two touchdowns for the Colonels. While the offensive unit clearly shined all game, the defense was nothing short of impeccable. The Colonel defense held off the Misericordia offense until the third quarter, a difficult feat to accomplish and validation the squad is developing.

The defeat of Misericordia, and any team, starts Sunday every week, in preparation for game time on Saturday's. The Colonel's trusted in their training leading into Misericordia which transitioned into a stellar performance against the local rival on Saturday afternoon.

"We practiced well and the coaches put us in a great position to win the game. Overall we played well on offense, defense, and in the kick game which lead to the outcome that we wanted", said Colonel's running back Jake Brook.

Following this dominant showing by the Colonels, William Deemer was named as

the Offensive Player of the Week for the Middle Atlantic Conference on Sept. 18. This award not only speaks for Deemer's efforts as an individual, but also for the team and other 11 on the field. Several skilled players in the Middle Atlantic Conference are nominated every week, which makes it that much more notable.

Deemer dedicated this accomplishment and nomination to the rest of the team.

"I would have to say the team earned this one. I wouldn't have been able to play as well as I did unless they did what they had to in order to set everything up that happened."

On Sept. 24, luck changed for the Colonels. After falling behind 19-0 after one quarter, Wilkes outscored host Widener University 23-6 over the game's final three quarters only to come up short on two final game-tying or game-winning drives.

Widener stormed out to a 19-0 lead thanks to a rushing, passing and interception return for touchdowns. After a Pride field goal pushed the advantage to 22-0 early in the second quarter, Wilkes began its comeback attempt, according to the game recap.

"Our kids have been working their tails off and we challenge them every day to control their emotions and discipline their minds to have laser-like focus because we know with the hard work they put in over the summer their hearts can take the pounding, and their minds handle the grind." Harris stated.

The Wilkes University community is excited to welcome alumni back on campus for homecoming.

Still focused on improving one week at a time, one game at a time, the Colonels' highly anticipated homecoming matchup against FDU is constantly in the back of their minds.

The Colonels are set to square off against the FDU Devils at 1 p.m. on Oct. It will be a conference matchup as both teams are fighting to compete for a bid in postseason play.

Senior Linebacker Tanner Stengel leads the Colonels' defense with 16 solo tackles, while Junior Defensive Back Isaiah Robinson holds 12 with a pick-six under



Photo courtesy: [gowilkesu](https://www.gowilkesu.com)

Senior William Deemer obtained the Offensive Player of the Week for the MAC.

his belt. William Deemer ranks first in reaching the endzone for the Colonels with three touchdowns thus far. Senior Running Back Jake Brook stands right behind Deemer with two.

Deemer recognizes the significance of this matchup, yet it does not phase his approach as he is level headed going into the game.

"It's a big game for this school because it's our homecoming so I'm just going to handle it like any other game that we have and prepare the same way that I always

do," said Deemer.

Equally as collected, Brook will continue to lead the squad and bring intensity to each practice.

"Now we have a win to build on, and looking forward, we are just going to keep working hard" Brook said.



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pankil.chander@wilkes.edu

Key win ignites the Lady Colonel's appetite for playoffs

By Danny Van Brunt
Sports Co-Editor

In the volleyball team's second conference game against the 6-1 Manhattanville team, the 6-6 Lady Colonels shut them out for their first MAC Conference win of the season.

Wilkes won all the three sets 25-23, 26-24 and 25-21 in what appeared to be a very even match.

"This week's MAC win is a spark that has ignited the Lady Colonels appetite for their conference playoff goal. Once in the playoffs, anything can happen," said Head Coach Joseph Czopek.

Czopek has noticed the volleyball team build after this game, especially because his team has more first-year than returning players.

Czopek is also excited about how well his team was playing during the Manhattanville game. His new players are starting to get a feel for the game and his line-up is finally coming into place. The line-up that he had during that game has proven itself.

He wants to work toward developing a



#2 junior Alexis Morgan sets the ball up for #16 freshman Alex Ferrier.


The Beacon/Purvit Patel

quick offense while polishing the team's defense. On top of that, he has a deep bench that allows him to swap players in and out to rest players when needed.

"I have been here for four years and every year has been different. Some years there is drama and some years there is none. This year in particular, we have no drama and a great underclassmen group. If they stay together for the next couple of years, they can do some damage in the MAC Freedom," said senior Ally Paskas.

Junior Madison Scarfaro is impressed with her team's record because her team did it with various new players. The new players stepped up and won this game. This game was particularly important to Scarfaro because she was seeking revenge from last year's loss against Manhattanville.

Scarfaro wants her team to come together and always give 110% in every game. She is looking to the playoffs and truly believes her team can make it. For next season, Scarfaro wants to defeat Eastern because they have been the best team in the conference and always nationally ranked.

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The Lady Colonels all stand arm-in-arm before their game versus Manhattanville.

The Beacon/Purvit Patel

Long-time sports officials find way to "stay in the game"

By Luke Modrovsky
Asst. Sports Editor

The words designated throw-in spot and airborne shooter might be greek to the average sports fan. For longtime sports officials, John Leighton and Bruce Weinstock, terms like these constantly flow in their minds throughout the course of a game.

Thirty-eight years ago, now veteran NCAA and high school basketball official John Leighton said he had a choice to make. His playing days were now over.

Wanting to stay in the game, he could either coach or officiate.

"I thank my lucky stars I chose to be a ref after 38 years in the business," Leighton said, "I do it because I love it. I love the fact I'm still part of a game that I played on the scholastic and collegiate level."

Leighton's resume extends from working two high schools state finals up to calling a combined 19 years at the Division I level. Now 60, Leighton continues his success after he was again selected for the

NCAA Division II Basketball Championships.

Asked about the difficulty of working games with increased media coverage, Leighton says more cameras leads to increased critique.

"Every angle of the game is covered and if you screw up, you will be exposed."

38 years later, Leighton continues his career at both the college and high school levels.

A former Colonel, Bruce Weinstock, said his officiating career began in 1970



Beacon Archives
Officials work to halt the action during last year's Mayor's Cup game.

his freshman year at Wilkes when he was asked to work games at the nearby Jewish Community Center.

After working games at the local JCC, he decided he wanted to take his career to the next level and advance as far as he possibly could.

His mentor, Wilkes-Barre native Mendy

Rudolph, officiated the 1955 NBA Finals. Weinstock said we was grateful to learn from what some consider "best ref EVER in the NBA".

Weinstock entered the National Basketball Association Development Program and was then offered a job on the Continental Basketball Staff, similar to AAA minor league baseball.

Weinstock would return to his roots and has been a high school basketball official since 1974 and began calling soccer games in 1986.

He continues to officiate both sports to this day because of his passion for the game.

"The art of officiating is a 50/50 proposition in the public's eye. You are always right at least half of the time," Weinstock said of the craft, "With or without media coverage, when you put on the stripes, it just isn't easy."

Both officials say they plan to call games as long as their legs can handle it.

"The art of officiating is a 50/50 proposition in the public's eye. You are always right at least half of the time."

-Bruce Weinstock, Basketball/Soccer Official

Editor's Note: This is the first part of a two part article. Part two of this article will appear in next week's edition.



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Getting to know...

Ryan Rompolski

Senior Soccer Player

By Purvit Patel
Sports Writer

Name: Ryan Rompolski
Year: Senior
Major: Environmental Engineering
Hometown/High School: Shamokin, Pa./Shamokin Area
Position: Midfield

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

A: I came to Wilkes due to the fact that they offered Environmental Engineering and I also had the chance to play soccer.

Q: Post Graduation Plans in terms of a Career?

A: To work in the Environmental field and see where the opportunities take me.

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

A: To have a successful season and make it to playoffs.

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

A: I started playing soccer when I was 5 years old, it was the one thing that I naturally enjoyed and just stuck with.

Q: If you had to choose one thing about Wilkes' Soccer Program that you could improve, what would it be?

A: To have better team chemistry on the field.

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

A: Ping Pong, Basketball, and hanging out with the guys.

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

A: I would say that my father is the most influential person in my life because he would always push me to be the best I could be in everything I did.

Q: A quote you live your life by?


A: "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." – Wayne Gretzky

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

A: To be united with everyone around you on and off the field.

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

A: Ron Burgundy

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Getting to know...

Grace Boyle

Junior Volleyball Player

By Purvit Patel
Sports Writer

Name: Grace Boyle

Year: Junior

Major: Accounting with a minor
in Business Management

Hometown/High school: Andreas,
Pa. Marian Catholic High School

Position: Outside hitter

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

A: I loved the campus since
the first time I ever visited. The
whole atmosphere of Wilkes was
something I wanted to be a part
of.

Q: Post Graduation Plans in terms
of a Career?

A: After I graduate I plan to get
my CPA and work in public
accounting.

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

A: I hope that we make playoffs
this season.

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

A: I began playing volleyball when
I was in fourth grade. I started
playing volleyball because my

older sister played and I always
thought it looked fun.

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

A: Outside of volleyball I like
hang out with my friends Madison
Scarfaro, Ally Paskas, & my friend
Tony.

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

A: My mom is the most influential
person in my life because of
everything she has ever done for
me and the endless support she
gives me.

Q: A quote you live your life by?

A: Do(nut) worry be happy.

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

A: "Be Colonel" means to me to
take pride in everything you do
and to always do your best.

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

A: Abraham Lincoln



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